

(Covers the academic years 1966-67)

Parents' Association

Address by the Chairman B.E. Carter

The Chairman said that the object of the PA was to encourage co-operation between the Parents and the School Authorities for the benefit of the pupils. The Committee organised a wide variety of events with the social aspect and value of money being two important factors in their efforts to raise funds for a very good cause.

The Garden Party raised over £450 and was an important contributor to providing a Work-o-bus, which coincided with the school's 21st Anniversary. There was a buffet dance at Abney Hall in the April attended by 140 people. The Ladies Committee organised a Ladies' Evening at which make-up artists demonstrated the "cosmetic art". The season started with a Wine and Cheese Evening in October. In November, there was a presentation by Mr. James Lovelock on Potholing. There was the traditional Christmas Party in December and an illustrated lecture in January on the "American Way of Life and Death" which was not well attended. In February, there was the Sixth Form Debate and in March a careers evening with speakers from B.E.A., the Board of Trade and Central Electricity Generating Board. A Coffee Morning was held in March. The PA was looking forward to the Annual Orchestra Concert in June and the Garden Party on 15th July 1967.

The Treasurer and the Chairman of the Social Committee resigned as they were leaving the district. The Chairman thanked all who supported the PA, the members of the Committee.

School Plays

The School for Scandal J.M.N.

"From time to time every school finds that its most experienced actors have left at the same moment and that only a small number of boys who have done any acting remain. This was the situation of the Dramatic Society this year. Any production, therefore, was to some extent gambling on unknown material. For the first time, too, the school was being assisted by Kingsway Girls' Secondary School.

Comparisons may be odious but they are also inevitable and it was natural that the audience should think back to the powerful success of last year. However, the quite different material, the producer, Mr. Taggart, was able to achieve as fine a result once more.

Sheridan's sophisticated and delightful comedy largely depends for its enjoyment on the pace of its biting dialogue. It is highly amusing but the maturity, which its interpretation demands, might be thought to be beyond the scope of actors still at school. Outstanding, however, among a fine cast was Sir Peter Teazle played by Peter Harrison. His portrayal of the elderly aristocrat married to a young flirt was beautifully created. It is always difficult to play a part of someone considerably older than oneself but Harrison's picture was exactly right. He used his voice powerfully when he lost his temper, and displayed a rich sense of humour in his treatment of the part.

The two brothers, Joseph and Charles Surface (played by David Brown and John Conley), were well acted, although one suspected that Brown had more resources at his disposal, which he did not always use fully. Conley, however, with a very strong performance, dominated the stage on a

number of occasions, and, helped by Sheridan's lines, contrived to make the two most effective exits in the play.

Alan Sandall's portrayal of Sir Oliver Surface, who disguises himself in the characters of Premium and Stanley, was very good. He managed to handle the particularly difficult technique of speaking asides in the middle of speeches most successfully.

The four principal ladies in the play, Lady Teazle (Sharman Smith), Maria (Ann Roberts), Lady Sneerwell (Paulette Allen), and Mrs Candour (Elaine Fletcher), made a considerable contribution to the success of the play. As confidence grew, Lady Teazle improved nightly to give a splendidly sympathique performance by the end of the week. The ill-natured gossip and insincere hypocrisy of Lady Sneerwell and Mrs. Candour provided great amusement and not a little distaste for such characters. It was a pity that Maria did not relax a little more for, although her part is one of misery and despondency, one felt that she should have become radiant with genuine happiness at the end of the play.

Of the smaller parts two magnificent cameos deserve particular mention. Peter Phelps as Sir Benjamin Backbite gave a performance which was delightful. His effeminate foppery was nicely portrayed. One could wish only that he would have allowed himself to indulge in further excesses. Michael Stenton's acting of Mr. Crabtree was excellent. The melodramatic highlight of his invented account of the duel – "A pair of pistols lay on the bureau" – was one of those superb moments which will last in memory after many other details have faded.

Sincerity was the correct impression conveyed by Christopher Ousey who played Rowley. Perhaps Snakes (Peter Murray) could have been more unpleasant still, and Moses (Alan Todd) was seen to be a better performer by the end of the week. Andrew Corrie (Careless) produced an amusing auction scene and Timothy Coombes (Trip) in his one short scene was very good.

The servants (David Gough, Andrew Massey and Clifford Ogden) had a very important scene-shifting task. Some of our audience expressed surprise that the production made no use of curtains. Instead an ingenious swivelling set with bookcases and pictures to hang on the flats was put into place by the footmen in full view of the audience. The movements were executed with precision and smartness.

The set which Mr. Seed had designed was most impressive. It captured the elegance of the eighteenth century so that the audience were taken into the atmosphere from the moment of arrival. To construct a set under conditions which can scarcely be described as the most likely to favour verisimilitude of atmosphere and to achieve such convincing magnificence is a considerable success.

The person, whom most audiences tend to overlook, since he never comes into public view, is the producer. Anybody who has ever been associated with a dramatic production, however, knows that in the final analysis he is the person to whom the credit must go for much of a play's success. Mr. Taggart, in this play, achieved more than many would have considered possible. He gave us a play which was amusing and much enjoyed, where the actors displayed as understanding and insight beyond their years, and whose overall impression was of a delicate and eloquent quality which was a credit to all concerned."

Treasure Island M.D.T.

“On a fine, warm, summer’s evening in July last, disturbed only by the droning transport plane that appeared to be unable to locate Ringway, an audience of about two hundred was entertained by an exciting and ingenious performance of a dramatised version of Treasure Island, given on the lawn in front of the main school buildings, with the shrubbery in the centre forming a backcloth against which the action took place. The only aids the actors had in creating their illusion were costumes and hand-properties, and the areas of the stockade and the ship, the crucial locations in the story, indicated by palings and boards. Given this freedom from restrictive scenery, and the enthusiasm of the actors, the vitality of the story was bound to be transmitted to the audience. The setting was ideal for hidden dashes aboard ship, Jim Hawkin’s struggle on Hispaniola, hand-to-hand fighting, the assault on the stockade, and the caperings of Ben Gunn.

The briskness of the production and the vigour of the cast were much appreciated. All acted interestingly, and what distinguished the principals – Andrew Beall, David Gough, Barrie Holmes, Keith Lawton, Ian McEwan and Robert Smith – was an additional authority and control, in some cases quite remarkable. There were very occasional indications – usually ended by the producer’s voice rising on the evening air from among the shrubs – that rehearsals had in fact had to be curtailed. To attempt to prepare anything for the end of Summer Term is, of course, a difficult task, and the producer Mr. Newcombe, had been made fully aware of the variety of activity that could prevent his actors from being able to attend rehearsals. It might be school examinations, or it might be family holidays, or it might be school camp; and he found that it was unlikely that the members of his cast would let him know of their other commitments in anything like reasonable time.

I make these points not by way of excuse, for none is needed, but to emphasise how fortunate those of us who saw the performance were. Mr. Newcombe and his actors for a second year gave us a delightful evening’s entertainment.”

Junior Plays R.A.P.

“In the latter weeks of February, strange figures were to be glimpsed flitting phantasmically about the School, tophatted gentlemen, ladies in strange apparel, figures in Athenian garb, and even the rather deterring aspect of a policeman.

All this was evidence of the thorough rehearsing and preparation for the Junior Plays, which delighted an enthusiastic audience of the Junior School in the afternoon, and entertained equally successfully a more restrained but equally appreciative audience of parents on Tuesday evening, 21st February.

The pleasing feature of the plays was the crisp and confident manner in which they were presented. It was particularly gratifying to hear the dialogue clearly and distinctly – so many amateur productions betray themselves with careless and indistinct speech; but all four plays rose above this criticism.

We began with an entertaining intrigue of love and adventure, in which the hero, swallowing quantities of lime (the heroine’s plaster bust dissolved in a bucket of water) as an antidote to poison, administered by the sinister rogue, is found to be stiffened rigid by the unusual medicinal lotion. This was a delightful play and very entertainingly presented.

The topical note of the School was introduced by the Rehearsal. This was a play symbolic perhaps of the Junior School’s resentment at the supposed tyranny of prefects, depicted by the prefects’ gradual intrusion into the rehearsal of Junior boys for their play. The imagination of the

prefects is so thoroughly captured that eventually it is they who are rehearsing the play, and the Junior boys are evicted from the room. The play was tellingly presented, and aroused emotional outbursts of sympathy from the boys during the School performance.

Shakespeare featured again in this year's plays. This time it was the comic buffoonery of the Athenian workers, presenting their lamentable comedy to the Duke of Athens on his wedding day at night. This scene has been an undying attraction, and scope for humour and invention was fully exploited; for once even Shakespeare was enthusiastically received and appreciated by the Junior School. The ludicrous Athenians in their motieyed garbs provided hilarity, and in contrast we had the more austere, if somewhat cynical, aspect of the Athenian court also convincingly portrayed.

Finally a scene on the East-German frontier. The interesting aspect of the unexpected man eventually proving to be the spy and condemning the others seemed to be of secondary significance to the actual portrayal of the characters involved, which was very commendably effected. Each of the boys presented an interesting and convincing caricature of distinct personalities, and showed the conflicting temperaments very clearly.

It is encouraging to witness at the Junior Plays the enthusiasm of so many boys who are willing to rehearse their parts so thoroughly; and there are many others who helped off-stage. Credit and praise are particularly due to the masters who unsparingly give their time to direct the boys' enthusiasm, and achieve such polished and organised productions which never fail to entertain those who attend the performances."

SCHOOL TRIPS

SCHOOL CAMP, 1966 J.O.S.

"Because of the much greater popularity this year it was decided to try the experiment of running two camps simultaneously. Two locations were chosen, providing quite different facilities, and the boys were to spend one week at each. At Patterdale at the southern end of Ullswater was the sailing and canoeing camp, right on the edge of the lake. One could not wish for more beautiful scenery. An ideal site. The other camp, for climbing and fell-walking was positioned at Stonethwaite in Borrowdale, very close to some of the biggest and most rugged mountains in the Lake District – also an ideal site.

The trouble with ideal situations is that in practice the more ideal they are for one purpose the less ideal they are for another. The Patterdale camp, delightfully placed at the side of the lake, was also the headquarters and main breeding ground of all the mosquitoes in the North of England – or so it was generally believed at the time. Stonethwaite was not bothered by mosquitoes – it had sheep. The ewes raided the food store, the rams fought duels between the tents and one of the company who persisted, against all advice, in wearing his sheep-skin jacket wool-side out, was nearly rounded up by the sheep-dogs. It was unfortunate also that the first week of the camp coincided with the local monsoon.

I once complained to a local inhabitant about the rainfall in those parts and his reply was, "If we didn't get the rain we wouldn't have the lakes!" – which is true enough. One had to be philosophical about these things. As people kept saying, however, rivers and lakes are all right in their proper place. They referred, of course, to the river that began to flow through the Patterdale camp and the lake growing in the middle of the Stonethwaite settlement, both of which had to be crossed if one wanted any food.

It was decidedly unpleasant for three or four days and then the weather changed completely. There was "bright Summer", after our early discontent, for the rest of the four weeks.

The routine at camp followed the pattern now hallowed by tradition: up at about 6:30, a brief dose of P.T., followed by a swim – in the lake, at Patterdale, or the river at Stonethwaite; back to tents, change, square up bedding etc and then – BREAKFAST. Breakfast was very important. One had to take aboard a very large quantity of calories to see one through a rigorous day because the mid-day meal was Spartan; nourishing maybe, but Spartan nevertheless, and one did not really eat again until the evening. After breakfast and a final tidy up would come the day's business. At Patterdale there was a fairly leisurely start (because they were already right at the edge of the lake, they said). They would then spend the morning sailing or canoeing (according to which group they were in). In the afternoon everyone changed over. Of course when they started they were such landlubbers they couldn't tell the difference between a "top-gallant" and "sprit sail" – or even a "gaffe" from a "boob". Throughout the week, with expert tuition and plenty of practice they became more and more proficient, until the lake looked like a cross between Cowes Regatta and an Eskimo fishing expedition. Talking to Eskimos, I have it on good authority that Mr. Forbes is claiming he can now do an "Eskimo Roll" as well as the boys.

At the "hard" camp in Borrowdale, very shortly after nine o'clock groups would be setting off for a day's walking or climbing. Many were the adventures, and tales of dauntless bravery, or abject cowardice, abounded. One heard that, on his way up Scarfell, "Big Jim" took his party over Broad Stand. "He just stood there and threw them up, one at a time", someone said. It was described how Mr. Bescoby led his group over Glaramara in thick mist, bearing his map in front of him with a compass on it, as if it was a decanter on a tray, saying, "Left, a bit. Straight on twenty yards. Now down a little. Be careful here, there's a hundred foot drop just to your right –".

When Shepherd's Crag became boring, Mr. Turner took his climbers to Woden's Face where the footholds were harder to find. Of course someone didn't find one and "peeled off". Instead of hanging there he descended (comparatively) slowly to the ground. "It's nylon rope, it's supposed to stretch!" shouted Mr. Turner from the top.

During their stay at camp, every group went on an expedition, taking tents, cooking gear and food for two days. They were expected to use a map, to follow a circuitous route, given them before they set out, which would take them over fairly rough country. Some way along this route would be a check-point, where a master or experienced senior boy would be able to sort out any small problems that might have arisen such as "we've lost the map" or "Johnson has broken a leg!" or what have you. One luckless master sat on the top of a mountain, over which they were to pass, for three hours and no one came. He then walked along the ridge for some distance, looking into the valleys for any signs of his lost expedition. Eventually he arrived at a point where, with the aid of his binoculars, he could see the farm where they were to camp for the night. Surprise! Surprise! There were the tents already pitched, there was a little stove, kettle on the boil and there, sitting round it was a little group of contented boys who didn't look a bit tired after their journey!

SPAIN and MOROCCO, 1966 J.M.N

Small cameos remain in the mind.

A group of fifty-three boys and staff marching round Toledo with the unshaded temperature well over 100 degrees while all the local inhabitants were enjoying a siesta. The coach being stopped on a night journey by police, once to be ordered to switch its headlights off, once to be ordered to switch them on. Mr. Whalley putting on another sweater in the back of the coach as the slight breeze brought the temperature below 90 degrees. The group at the back of the coach who sang

their way through nearly 4,000 miles of travelling in our eighteen days. The group in the middle of the coach who proved that religion and politics are still the most vital topics of conversation. The group at the front of the coach who sometimes did not feel well.

The barren desert of grey-green clumps of grass surrounded by bare patches of brown earth with here and there a group of olive trees which made up the scenery for all fourteen hours of the Zaragoza Horror Journey.

The bartering in the bazaars in Tetuan and everyone being convinced he had bought a bargain. Mr. Thompson arguing in broken Spanish about the cost of replacing a broken bed. The long wait to pass through customs on the Spanish-Moroccan frontier, with cockroaches crawling from the cracks in the roof of the Ceuta coach every time we stopped. The hair-pin bends on the Pyrenean passes which our enormous coach succeeded in negotiating only by putting some wheels over the edge. Mr. Hawkesford, in violet shorts and sunglasses with a Spanish straw hat, wilting a little in the heat.

Four boys in a Spanish goal late at night, arrested on no charge, and released, since they were innocent, but causing some moments of anxiety. The coach being broken into in Granada within an hour of our arrival. The delightful Moroccan custom of being served tapa (small delicacies of various kinds) with any drink you brought. Eating octopus by the swimming pool in Madrid. Mr. Newcombe insisting that he seldom drank anything but lemon juice and denying that the sales of Cointreau had risen to any unusual level since his arrival in Spain.

The Alhambra in Grenada visited free on a Sunday and as impressive as any place we visited. The gearbox of the coach being replaced at two o'clock in the morning in the middle of our four day journey home, with the aid of a rope from a nearby flagpole. The incessant bumping on scarcely paved roads in Southern Spain. The cicadas whirring on the rock of Gibraltar where the apes had the sense to stay in the shade.

These, and many more, memories of a superb holiday linger on and will last for many years. As somebody remarked towards the end of our eighteen days, it was so much a holiday, more a bloody endurance test!

But it was wonderful.”

London, 1967 S.D. Heighway

“As has been the case for the last seven years, in February a party of boys and staff, this time nearly 100 in all, undertook the Sixth Form trip to London. The visit lasted from Wednesday to Saturday, and although this was one day shorter than last year’s trip, the organisers attempted to provide as many worthwhile activities as possible for those making the visit, which has become an invaluable part of the school curriculum.

Mr. Bagshaw was able to show his economists how economic theory is put into practice, by visits to the Stock Exchange, Lloyds, and Ford Motor Works at Dagenham. To the students of British Government, who composed a large part of the party, the usual range of visits was open. These included the House of Commons, the House of Lords, Clerkenwell Magistrates’ Court, Bow Street Magistrates Court, and the Royal Courts of Justice. For the geographers the programme was extended and studies were made of the urban regions and land use in London, as well as a comprehensive study of Dorking and the North Downs. Once again the museums were the focal point of the trip for the biologists and geologists.

Interest in the trip was not purely academic, however, and time was found in which to play two soccer matches and two rugger matches against London schools. Both the soccer and rugger teams proved a credit to the school.

The successful organisation of the trip was all the more remarkable considering the freedom given to the boys while they were travelling in London. On behalf of those who made the journey I thank all those members of staff who helped to make it so successful.”

Anglesey, 1967 M.S. Williams

“The annual Easter school trip to Trearddur Bay, to study marine life, has come to be regarded, in view of its success in previous years, as an integral part of the Sixth Form “A” level biology course.

The principal idea behind the visit is that it will enable the boys to see for themselves the relationship between the distribution of plant and animal life on the sea shore and prevailing environmental conditions.

On any rocky sea shore, however indistinct, there is a zoning of marine life depending upon the length of time each individual organism can survive the desiccating effect of the atmosphere. This means, in effect, that the plants and animals grouped around the high-tide mark can withstand prolonged periods of exposure, whereas, at the low-water mark, in contrast, those found are unable to spend more than a few hours out of water each day. Every stage is present between the two extremes.

One might well ask then, why choose Trearddur Bay and, in particular, why go at this time of the year? The reason for this choice is that the zoning there is of extraordinary clarity and the tides and currents associated with this stretch of coast have continued to give a favourable environment, with the result that there is a great abundance and also diversity of marine life. Easter is the time of the lowest Spring tides which uncover a greater area of the beach than is usually exposed. Tuesday afternoon, the day of arrival, was employed profitably in an attempt to relate natural and theoretical divisions of the shore. The second day commenced with a lecture, designed specifically to consolidate the findings of the previous afternoon. Lunch was followed by a trip, for some of us at least, to South Stack lighthouse, after which we left for Rhoscolyn with the express intention of concluding a quantitative survey of the beach. Thursday included a trip to Aberffraw to study the formation and successive stages in the stabilization of the sand dunes, in the morning, whilst the afternoon has passed, quite pleasantly, on an island looking for supposedly rare shells, some of which were found in vast numbers.

The success of the visit to Trearddur Bay lay in the fact that although its primary purpose was educational, a balance was achieved between work and relaxation.

I am sure that all the boys who went found it interesting and well worthwhile and would like to thank the members of staff who made the visit possible and acted as very competent chauffeurs.”

The Cairngorms, 1967 J.C. Higham

“After meeting at my house, which is rather inconveniently placed, we all squeezed into Mr. Dean’s Landrover and went to his flat where the rest of the equipment was collected. While the

rest were loading the Landrover properly Mr. Dean's friend, the renowned Tony Jones, with two others and I went into Manchester to buy a climbing helmet and ice-pegs, which boosted our morale tremendously. We also caused quite a stir walking down Market Street, as our clothes were not exactly bowler hats and pin-stripes. Immediately on our return we set off on the main part of our journey.

The next few hours are best glossed over as they hold painful memories. Landrovers are not the best travelling accommodation for a night, whatever Mr. Dean may say to the contrary.

We arrived at Aviemore where we were to camp just in time for breakfast, although most of us preferred to put the tents up and sleep for a couple of hours. Unfortunately the weather was too rough on the top and therefore we did a walk on some of the lower slopes getting used to the snow; but even here the wind whipped up the snow making it difficult for us to see. Perhaps our most notable lesson of the day was learning how to dig a Landrover out of the innumerable snowdrifts.

In fact it was not until three days later that we could at last go on to the heights and get some proper snow training in. A short walk up the valley of the Allt Corrie onto Sneachda (it is inadvisable to attempt to pronounce it) brought us to the corrie we were to climb. Duffy, a friend of Mr. Dean's, and Jones left us at this point, as they were going to climb a difficult gully, while we climber up via a steep snow slope.

Before we began climb, Mr. Dean showed us some of the basic snow-techniques, the most thrilling being the ice-axe brake, where the ice-axe is used to stop a slip on snow. It is essential not to let go of the ice-axe because if you do, as Keith Douglas found out, there is a tendency to keep on going until the bottom is reached.

After this interlude, we roped up in three, and zig-zagged up the slope, and apart from entanglements with Mr. Dean's rope we successfully reached the top. We returned to the Landrover by walking over the top of Cairngorm and by following the cairns to the ski-lift. Having become tired we took the easiest way down via a controlled slide down the ski-slope, much to the annoyance of the skiers.

We met Jones and Duffy at the bottom, who told us that just as they were climbing over the cornice at the top, the ice had given way and taken them and their belays. They then fell all way back down the gully, cascading over an ice waterfall and coming to an abrupt halt at the bottom after a fall of 300 feet. Luckily they had missed going over the cliff-face and so only suffered from severe bruising.

For the last day we managed to set out early (with a great protest from Mr. Dean) and walked back towards the corrie. But this time we were going to reach the top via the West ridge. The weather on the ridge was quite harsh and the rocks encrusted with rime which made climbing difficult, especially holding onto ice-axes and ropes. In fact it becomes difficult to decide whether your fingers are gripping the rock or not so that it was a great relief to put on gloves when we reached the top. This time, instead of returning across Cairngorm we glissaded down the slope we had climbed up the day before, getting soaked in the process.

Because of our rapid ascent and an even quicker descent we returned at the camp site earlier than anticipated so that we were soon on the way home. Even so it was three in the morning when we returned and I could at last crawl into a soft, warm bed."

“MEMORIES.....

The most striking thing about the Austria trip last Easter was that no boys were ill. Two masters were, but the boys remained in full health, no doubt partly as a result of the outstanding cuisine of the Hotel Seezpitz where we were fortunate enough to stay. Boys found many things to do: ski, walk, play cards, or partake (in moderation, of course!) of the cheap and plentiful B rgebr u. Mr. Schofield arranged trips to Innsbruck, Salzburg, and various cable-car lifts, using for transport our hired Godfrey Abbott coach. The great success of the trip was due, in part, to the willingness of Herr Kut and Herr Kimble, alias John and David Abbott, our drivers, who took us along endless autobahns in the snow, rain, and cloud, and who were always able to steer clear of the vast number of accidents which seemed to occur on roads in Germany and Austria. Most of us coped with the language difficulty by speaking English and hoping for the best.

Cross the Channel both ways we had very smooth journeys and there was little need of the ministrations of “Dr.” Whalley, although it was reassuring to know that his advice was always available, and on a number of occasions he sorted out minor ailments.

It amazed the non-skiers that none of the skiing party broke any limbs while skiing on the impressive Rofan. However, none did and they all enjoyed themselves (as one of them will say in a moment). We went up on their last day to laugh at them and to take photographs but had to admit disappointment at their proficiency.

Highlights of the holiday included our two chicken dinners, the free beer which Herr Told, the hotel proprietor, supplied on the last night in enormous glass Wellington boots, the pleasures of sunbathing in the snow, the apparently endless supply of popular music played by the coach’s tape-recorder, and even the German mechanic, looking in the boot, who exclaimed in a startled voice: “Vere ist de machinen?”

And the Pleasures of Skiing N.B. Kingston

Carrying our skis, we arrived exhausted, after battling through a swirling blizzard, at the entrance to the cable-car which was to take up to nearly 6,000 feet to the skiing area. There were seventeen of us altogether, including three staff, two wives, and two drivers. We were all novices as anyone could see by looking at our skis in one hand and lunch packets in the other.

We were led by our two instructors, a man and a young lady, to the nursery slopes where we spent the morning doing simple exercises and learning to walk on the skis which at that stage seemed anything but graceful. At mid-day we stopped for a two-hour lunch break after which we continued with harder exercises. Another two hours found us all very tired, extremely wet, but quite delighted by our first taste of skiing despite the constant blizzard. We left our skis at the top ready for collection next day.

Next day we progressed to a harder slope in rather better weather and, despite occasional falls, we all managed quite well. Among other things we learnt to make a “snow-plough” which allowed us to come to a halt, a somewhat elementary essential. This exercise caused us much hilarity, especially when some people found it impossible to stop without carrying on to the bottom of the slope and going up the other side before sliding backwards to a standstill. Mr. Newcombe insisted that he was only looking at the view but nobody believed. At least he claimed to have skied twice as far as anybody else, and there was a grain of truth in that. Eventually, however,

everybody mastered the technique and by the end of the second day we all felt pleased with our performance.

On the third and last day we merely practised what we had learnt, endeavouring to perfect our limited skills. We began learning how to turn and discovered that nothing is as easy as it looks. However, we were satisfied that all those who came to watch us on the last afternoon were secretly a little envious, and even grudgingly admired the fact that we could cope so well after only three days.

Altogether the inclusion of skiing in the holiday was a tremendous success and everybody was grateful to Mr. Schofield for negotiating the details on our behalf. Indeed, as the organiser of the holiday, he deserves all our thanks for a wonderful fortnight from which we returned fit and contented, and which left us many happy memories.”

Original Contributions

Prose

A Tale of Two Seasons	R.D. Vaughan-Jones, 6 Biology
Spring Walk	J.A. Sharp, 2B
Waste	J. Crawford, 3G
Silence	P.R. Boutinot, 3G
Return Journey	P.J. Temple, 6 Languages
A Georgian Encounter	P. Harrison, 6 Arts
The Steps	B.P. Freegard, 6 Maths
Introspection	R. Law, 4S1
Retrospection	F.V. Langton, 4S1
A Scholar's Plaint	J.N. Thomas, Lr. 6 Arts
A Master's Dream	A.P.A. Michaelides, 3S
School for Scandal – Inside Story	A. Sandall, 6 History

Poems

Life	A. Hanson, 5 Alpha
The Ideal	D. Truswell, 6 Languages
The Wind	D. Pearce, 3G
Cataclysm	J.S. Smith, 4A
The Moorhen	S.M. Hardy, 3G

Priory Road

S.J.M. Clarke, 1B

Art

Study of Sparrow Hawk

A. Stones, 6 Science

“Eucidean”

A.J. Taylor, 6 Arts

“Collage”

J. Bailey, 4A

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

The Historical Society T.B. Bromslo

“This season we have again enjoyed a varied programme, with the emphasis not always on historical subjects. The outstanding meetings of this year have been those dealing with, “The Origins of World War II”, “Psychology: Yesterday and Today”, “Ivan the Terrible” and “The Civil War in Cheshire”. We have had some eminent guest speakers this year and I should like to take the opportunity of thanking these and all others who have presented papers to the Society.

We have continued the popular practice of lectures illustrated with slides, and we hope this practice will be continued in the future. (Editor: How things have changed with PowerPoint!) Mr. Sunderland, a former member of the History staff, kindly returned to lecture to us, and after the meeting many old memories were revived.

Membership of the Society has unfortunately fallen slightly this year, but we have been compensated by the fact that many non-historians have joined us. Our weekly meetings have now been suspended and we are all looking forward to annual trip – this year to Yorkshire – at the end of the Summer Term.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the History staff for their co-operation, and especially to express our thanks to the officials of the Society for their invaluable assistance.”

The Debating Society D.G. Hughes

“This has been a very successful year for the Debating Society, with over half the meetings being held jointly with Cheadle County Grammar School for Girls.

The first debate of the year was a joint debate with the girls’ school, in which the motion “This house condemns the Abortion Bill” was defeated. In the other joint debates, it was decided that Hitler was a madman, rather than a genius, and that the sale of LSD should be banned.

The annual debate with Marple Hall Grammar School was once again a great success, when our speakers claimed that Parliament was nothing but a music hall, although their arguments were not strong enough to persuade the audience.

Two internal debates were held, one on the Pirate Radio stations and one on the Prefectorial System in schools. Neither the pirates nor the prefects were banned.

Once again the debate with the Parents' Association provided a very entertaining evening. The parents were invited to the Sixth Form common room, to take part in a debate in which the house regretted growing up. Although the parents made up the bulk of the audience, it was decided that growing up was a good thing.

The meetings, throughout the year were very well attended, and one of the most prominent speakers this year has been P. Ekstein-Frankl, who spoke at five out of the seven debates."

Senior Christian Union D. Johnstone

"The Senior Christian Union has had a year of varied programmes with more encouraging support. We would particularly like to see more support from other Christians in the school, and constructive criticism of the society is always welcome.

The weekly meetings have been used for three series of discussions and Bible study. We have studied the Churches in Revelation, the Ten Commandments and the set of discussion booklets by the Rev. David Sheppard. During the Autumn Term we showed the film "Facts of Faith" which was very well attended.

We had, as in the past years, several joint meetings with Cheadle County Grammar School for Girls. These meetings were taken by Stuart Briscoe whose subject was "Let's be Normal", and the Rev. Alan Godson who is leader of the Catacombe Coffee Bar in Manchester. We also showed the film "Question 7".

The Christian Union is affiliated to the Inter-School Christian Fellowship and we are grateful for suggestions of help and assistance from them and the other similar societies.

We also wish to extend our thanks to all the members of staff concerned with the society, for their enthusiastic help and support."

Intermediate Christian Union C.B.M.

"Why do they become Seniors? Naturally we are glad to see former members of the I.C.U. (Forms Three and Four) joining the Senior Christian Union activities and taking their part in the meetings, but for the Intermediate members this means that those who remain have the task of rebuilding interest in the society. Several of these have met each week to plan the meeting for the following Thursday.

Every member is given the opportunity to take part in the meetings, and they are often surprised at how well the programme goes. Our thanks to Mr. Forbes and Mr. Holmes who have again been available as "visiting speakers". There has been a meeting every Thursday, and members find the meetings very helpful in finding out what is in the Bible and what we can learn about following Christ.

Through the Inter-School Christian Fellowship we have links with other schools, and we meet some of them once a term at the regional rallies at Wythenshawe. This term rally became more ambitious and moved to Manchester, where the Missionary Aviation Fellowship's filmstrip "Mid-Century Martyrs" was the main item. Here we saw how Christian missionary work is keeping up-to-date in use of aircraft and radio for reaching difficult areas, and in the scientific study of languages as a means of speeding translation.

The highlight of the year was the Scripture Union's Centenary Rally in Manchester, where we heard and saw how God has worked through the Scripture Union in England and many other countries to help people enjoy and profit from personal Bible study."

Chess Club J.E.H.

"The past season has, undoubtedly, been our most successful. We have been in the happy position of being able to have a strong player on every board of the Senior Team. This is in spite of losing Moore and Freegard before the end of the season. The team results have been outstanding. We are through to the final of the Cheshire Competition, the semi-final of the Lancashire Competition; and to a play-off for the Championship of the South Manchester League.

As far as individuals are concerned, Stephens, Busby, Barton and Davies have represented the County; Stenton, Hawthorne and Lancaster, the Manchester League South Under-Fourteens; and Stenton the Combined Manchester under-Fourteens.

We are fortunate in our new membership: Davies plays extensively in non-school chess and is becoming very experienced, and Tebb has reached a high standard in a very short time. Busby, Barton and Vann have won almost every match game played and our top board, Stephens, has beaten several well-known players. Hardy and Burnham have been reliable reserves.

Senior record: Played - 17; Won - 15; Drawn - 1; Lost - 1.

The Junior Team has won only slightly more than half its games, but have been younger than most of the opposition. They should be virtually unchanged next season and their prospects are good. Apart from those mentioned earlier, the regular representatives have been K. Brown, Owen, Nelson, A. Booth, Palmer, Whittaker and Poulton.

The daily Chess Club has been well attended as usual. Busby has performed his duties as Treasury impeccably. It is hoped that it will be possible to arrange coaching for selected first formers before next season starts in earnest."

8th Cheadle (M.H.G.S.) Scout Troop D. Arnold, N. Boot, M. Lawson

The year that has passed since the Chedleian last went to press has been, to say the least, eventful.

The 1966 annual summer camp was at "great Towers" near Lake Windermere and was run in conjunction with 2nd Heald Green troop. This site proved ideal for practical scouting, for example, canoeing, hiking, swimming and pioneering.

The Troop has participated in several District activities including "Operation Firebrand", an exercise held with the help of the Territorial Army, and the Camping Competition in which they finished second.

During September we made a concerted effort to clean up the hut; windows were re-glazed, fittings painted and the roof tarred to stop it from leaking in the coming winter. We did not know that there was not going to be a hut, let alone a roof. On the evening of November 4th the hut was completely gutted by fire. All our equipment and some personal gear were lost. The Scouts decided to start building a new headquarters and work started the next weekend with clearing the wreckage. It was strange to find the occasional tool unharmed near to blocks of aluminium which had once been dixies.

The Scouters, scouts, parents' committee and parents rallied round and worked extremely hard to raise money by every conceivable means and soon as ideas for fund-raising were formulated, work on our new building started. By the tremendous efforts of scouts, Scouters and parents, the site was cleared, foundations laid and the new pre-fabs, erected. All this work was done by voluntary helpers in their free time, including the Easter holiday.

We continued our normal Friday meetings throughout this period and our programme included a party in conjunction with the guides, an evening ice-skating and several hikes, including a night hike around Kettlethulme in snow and ice.

We have not neglected our normal training and we gained six Queen's Scout and three Duke of Edinburgh Silver Awards. We also held our usual Easter camp, though under tiles in a farmhouse near Wincle, not under canvas.

The Seniors have organised their own programme, which consisted of many visits, re-building the canoes and practical badgework.

In all, this has been a trying year but it seems to have brought out the best in everyone."

Musical Notes H. Hitchen

"After nearly a week of intensive rehearsals at the end of the Autumn Term, the choir gave two very creditable performances at the school Carol Services in Cheadle Parish Church. Inevitably, Mr. Halstead again enhanced the proceedings by his excellent accompanying of us on the organ. Later that week, the choir returned to Church and recorded a number of Carols for Dr. Brown, who re-issued them on 33 1/3 r.p.m. records, to be bought by choir members.

On the 6th June there was a miscellany of instrumental solos, and a performance by the choir of selections from an eighteen-century Mass, formerly attributed to Mozart.

Despite the good attendance at instrument classes at school, we have been unable to continue the school orchestra because of a lack of enthusiastic string players in the lower school. Nevertheless, the school maintains its distinguished record by having two pupils who play in the Cheshire Youth Orchestra and one (who left school at Christmas) in the Youth Choir. These more senior musicians have far-ranging musical activities.

Every lunch-time and break a group of musicians meets in the music room, to play records, and perform music amongst themselves. Earlier this term the group was responsible for a spontaneous and very avant-garde performance, of the sayings of Mao-Tse-Tung (Accompanied, and punctuated, by various instruments).

Attendance at Hallé concerts with tickets purchased at school has maintained a moderate level throughout the year. (Incidentally, it is known that cheers from our boys at one of the concerts have echoed around Europe, via the B.B.C.).”

Aviation Enthusiasts' Club The Committee

“This year saw an increase in membership to 130 members and has proved to be highly successful and profitable in other fields as well.

We started the year by becoming agents for Profile Publications and have now sold well over one thousand of these extremely booklets. Encouraged by this success, we have since become agents for Ian Allan, Harleyford and MacDonald books and have enjoyed the same success with these.

We have also been kept busy organising trips. These included visits to the Farnborough Air Show; the Beagle Aircraft Works at Rearsby; London Airport; the Biggin Hill Air Fair. All these trips proved highly successful with the members thoroughly enjoying themselves.

This year we took over and reorganised the Aeromodelling Society, incorporating it into our own club. Membership is around thirty and meetings are held regularly with talks being given on modelling techniques.

Finally we would like to thank Mr. Townsend for the assistance he has given us with our films, Mr. Hayhurst for his patience and valuable support and, finally, those masters who have kindly accompanied our trips.”

SPORTS TEAMS

1st XV Rugby D. Goulden

Played 25; Wins 21; Draws 4; Lost 0

“Two seasons ago, when only one match was lost, it was written in the 1st Fifteen report that the record for that season would be difficult to equal and “well nigh impossible to surpass”. This season, the impossible has been achieved.

We were confident from the start that this was going to be the best season in the school's history, but none of really imagined the record at the end would be as follows: Played 25, won 21, drawn 4, lost 0. In those 25 games we scored nearly 350 points and had only 70 scored against us. Our line was crossed only eight times.

We have now compiled an enviable fixture list, playing first-class sides from Cheshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Birmingham and London. Only two new fixtures were added this season, those of Normanton Grammar School and Chetham's Hospital School. Unfortunately, the latter was cancelled because of bad ground conditions.

The matches against Normanton proved to be the toughest of the season. The first was drawn 9-9. The second, at home, was drawn 3-3.

Yorkshire schools always produce good sides who play hard, fast rugby (that seven schoolboys were selected for the England Under-19 Fifteen is proof enough) and in previous seasons we have often underestimated the "Tykes". However, this season has been our most successful against them. Heath Grammar School were soundly beaten 28-0 and Hipperholme Grammar School went down 19-8, after leading 8-0 at half time. Huddersfield New College were beaten 8-0 in a close game.

For the second year we drew with St. Edward's College in what, in my opinion was our best game of the season. Our forwards were magnificent in tying the game up, and throughout the game their three-quarters were denied "good ball". We may have been criticised but this was tactical rugby at its best.

With several of last year's colours back again this year we had the basis of a good team. We were not to be proved wrong. Throughout we played as a team though, and, as Mr. Turner said, it is teamwork which has proved results.

Once again we produced an outstanding pack of forwards who were never outplayed in either the loose or the set pieces. Riley who skippered the side, was always the driving force behind the scrum and if he was not frightening the life out of the opposition with his "electrifying bursts" (as he liked to call them), he was putting the fear of God into us if our play was below normal standard. I have yet to see a more awesome sight than Riley striding out, head down and shoulder ready for any would-be tackler. I am sure the Stockport Grammar School player who politely stepped out of his way when faced with the prospect of tackling him would agree wholeheartedly. His kicking, either for touch or goal, was always a morale-booster. I am sure the team is behind me when I congratulate him for being a fine Captain both on and off the field.

Riley's partner in the second row was Lord, playing his first season with the 1st Fifteen and filling the place admirably. Douglas proved himself again to be a real worker and derived great pleasure from "bending" his opposite number. Higham, the other prop, was another worker who would often burst from a line-out roaring like an express train. Much of our success is due to the fine Hooking of Blake who gave us plenty of quick, clean ball. On the back row, Sykes, Hindle, Kelly and Edwards performed their jobs admirably.

Behind the scrum, Morch was the complete scrum-half, giving a long accurate pass which gave his partner plenty of room to move in. At fly-half, Gordon had an excellent season. In attack and defence he showed himself to be a safe handler and kicker.

The centres, Jolleys and Galloway, often made good breaks but their finishing sometimes left something to be desired. On the wing were Swift and Goulden. Although lacking in true pace, we still managed to run in a few tries.

At full-back, Smithson showed us he had a fine positional sense and was without reproach in handling and tackling.

Riley is to be congratulated for reaching the Final Trial of the Senior Cheshire side, a somewhat astonishing feat for a schoolboy. Both Riley and Goulden were selected for the Cheshire Under-19 Fifteen and played in the County matches. Goulden was selected for the North of England side to play the Midlands from which he was picked as travelling reserve for the final England Trial 19 Group.

The team would like to thank the staff for their support and particularly Mr. Turner and Mr. Bagshaw for their invaluable training and coaching. We also thank all our supporters for coming to both home and away matches in all weathers; and finally our thanks go to Mrs. Davidson and all those concerned with the refreshments."

2nd XV Rugby M.A. Hodgson

Played 22; Wins 11; Draws 2; Lost 9

“Despite few victories in the first half of the season, the 2nd Fifteen showed much improvement as the season progressed. The strength of the team was in the pack, who were both strong and fast, and on many occasions played like a second set of backs.

Mason conjured up some very skilful moves, often deceiving the opposition, and sometimes fooling the rest of the team. He was well supported by Hindle, Clayton and Perry. Thomas was a very efficient hooker, useful in the loose as well as the set scrums. A mention should be made of Russell, who never ceased in his efforts to improve his play.

In January, the three-quarter line began to play more as a unit, Peters moving up into the centre to provide the thrust that had been lacking in earlier matches. Ransom was useful both in the three-quarter line and at fullback. Wadeson at scrumhalf showed promise, combining effectively with Harran, a very reliable fly-half.

The team’s thanks go to Mr. J.C. Smith for his unfailing support throughout the season, despite many setbacks.

To sum up: Although it has not been the most successful of seasons, it has been an enjoyable one, with team spirit in evidence both on and off the field. And the voice of Davidson, our leading songster in the changing rooms, will ring in our ears for a long time to come.”

Under 15 XV Rugby Report A.S. Freeman

Played 15; Wins 4; Draws 0; Lost 11

“Although this year’s results have not been as good as was hoped, the team has enjoyed the season and has gained a good deal of valuable experience.

Many matches were lost by only a few points and if greater determination had been shown during the final fifteen minutes we could have won at least seven more games. Also we have had the wretchedest luck possible with many injuries upsetting the balance of the team.

Only a few times during the season did the team really hit the peak of its form. The forwards fought really well to beat Rockferry High School 6-5. The victories against Burnage Grammar School and Manchester Grammar School were achieved because of some good strong running by the three-quarters. Another magnificent try against North Manchester Grammar School must also be mentioned in which all the backs handled at top speed in running the length of the pitch.

During the season the forwards have played quite well, with Dean and Walton always prominent, but have not been able to provide the clean possession which the backs needed. The three-quarters have proved themselves a considerable attacking force, in spite of few opportunities to take the ball, and some brilliant tries have been scored by Davies, Brown and Boardman.

On behalf of the team I should like to thank Mr. Mason for the way he coached and supported us, persevering in the face of tremendous odds, Mr. Cordwell for his excellent refereeing, and the few spectators who braved the elements to watch us.”

1st XI Soccer (Captain – S.D. Heighway) R.E.S.

Played 25; Wins 14; Draws 4; Lost 8

“School soccer has again had a good season with both Elevens playing attractive and successful football. Despite an unusual crop of injuries and illness, the 1st Eleven soon settled down into a useful footballing side. The forwards packed punch and backed by an attacking-conscious defence – there were many goals scored against them – the team scored 100 goals. The margin was narrow in all the matches that we lost, and where there was a return match the school either won or drew. One reason for our losing matches was a strange lethargy which gripped the side on some occasions. A new feature of the season was the two games played against London schools during the London trip. Both matches were full of entertaining soccer, though the mixture of late nights and strenuous activity did not suit some members.

Heighway (Captain and wing-half), although at his best as an attacking player settled down in the mixed role at half-back. Again, his excellent dribbling and fine use of the ball and space provided an excellent link between defence and attack. Paget (vice-Captain and centre-half), on form, dominated the mid-field, both in the air and on the ground. He became prone to some uncontrollable fits of attacking with his forwards, which did leave some defensive gaps. Eyre (goalkeeper) has been very competent, but he must make an effort to dominate his area physically and vocally. Hart (right-back) was normally an attacking player, who became a fast and reliable defender using the ball well. O’Neill (left-back) has developed into a good defender. Very sound on the ground, he gets up well to head the ball. Hampson (wing-half and inside-forward) was an extremely hard-working player, who covered, tackled and attacked soundly and intelligently. He was always an asset to his side. Breckwoldt (wing-half and inside-forward) was a skilful player, always trying to use the ball to some purpose. As a wing-half he must strengthen his tackling and tighten his marking. Fletcher (right-wing) was a strong player with a hard shot. He tended to be rather impulsive, and should give himself more time to think. Deighan (centre-forward) had his best season for the school. His speed and ball-control improved and he developed into an effective striker. Gooch (inside-forward) was a strong player who worked hard and was good in the air. With concentrated ball practice, he will improve steadily. Williams (left-wing) was a clever footballer, good with his head, who had the knack of scoring goals. He tended to concentrate on beating his back on the outside rather than cutting in. Parker (full-back) was a strong player who tackled hard and liked work. He developed into a sound centre-back and should develop even further.

Heighway, Deighan and O’Neill are to be congratulated on being selected for the Cheshire Schools’ Eleven.”

2nd XI Soccer J.A.S.

Played 21; Wins 15; Draws 1; Lost 5

“As the statistics show, the 2nd Eleven has enjoyed another largely successful season. The team chose to follow the national policy in adopting a 4-3-3 formation, and the only weakness in this has been the tendency for the middle three to play too far upfield. On the other hand, the forwards have benefited and the results have been close combinations, skilful passing movements, intelligent running into position and plenty of spectacular goals. The team has been a very settled one, nearly every week being chosen from the same twelve players.

Here is a brief account of the qualities of each. Cooper was an agile, fearless goalkeeper. He must practise more with high shots, but shows great promise. Parker was a very effective last line of defence. He enjoys a hard game and excels in tackling. Beall was a cool, competent defender who has not looked out of place when appearing for the 1st Eleven. Smith was a player whose strong points were his heading and distribution of the ball well. Gell was another robust defender who had a good positional sense and used the ball well. Wilson was a good Captain, though his preference is for midfield. He has a powerful shot. Ratcliffe was an excellent ball-player. Of the midfield players he had the best positional sense. Platt was a good tackler who also scored more than once by closely backing-up a team-mate. Bate was a good ball-player and skilful dribbler. He must be more assertive in using his gifts. Fowler was athletic, hard and skilful. He must learn when to part with the ball to advantage. Thompstone was a much more positive player than he had been a year before. He scored many goals and far from satisfied. Norman was a good striker, with, too, a keen appreciation of the need to help his hard-pressed defence.”

1st Eleven Cricket M.S. Riley (Captain)

Played 17; Wins 6; Tied 2; Draws 6; Lost 3

“In the past few years results have shown how powerful the first eleven has become, for in the 1964 and 1965 seasons only two matches have been lost. The 1966 fixture list revealed a great increase in the number of matches and therefore the challenge put before the team to maintain this fine record was immense.

Unfortunately, two of the first three matches resulted in defeats, the main reason being the total collapse of the side after the bowlers had dismissed the opposition for very reasonable and beatable scores. This batting weakness was immediately worked upon in the nets and a vast improvement occurred. So much so, that only one of the remaining fourteen matches was lost, and this, against Sir John Dean’s, by less than 10 runs. It proved impossible to keep the same team together in successive weeks and over the season thirty players were called upon. This produced its own problems; certainly fifteen of these were not experienced enough to be played in the 1st Eleven. However, it did mean that young players were introduced to a higher standard of cricket, and in future years the benefits should be evident.

Throughout the season the policy was to bat first and then bowl as many overs as possible at the opposition in the time left. In fact, the side only had second use of the batting crease on four occasions in a seventeen match season. Unfortunately this line did not always work for too many matches were drawn, or resulted in victories in the last minute.

The opening speed attack generally was led by Heighway (38 wickets) and Galloway (16 wickets). The former’s talents were not merely restricted to bowling, for it was he who topped the batting averages and his fielding was outstanding in every match. A common tactic, however, was to open the bowling with a slow bowler to prevent the opponents from settling in and on the whole this proved successful. Riley (50 wickets) with his left-arm spinners or Eyre bowling slow-to-medium-paced cutters provided this variety.

Gordon and Heighway, both stylish and fast-scoring openers, frequently gave the side a good start for other batsmen to build upon. Generally a big score developed mainly because of the consistent performances of Riley and Miller and the fine supporting innings of Sykes, Wilde and Taylor. One of the outstanding performances of the season came in the game against Poundswick Grammar School, when Heighway scored an unbeaten century in 105 minutes. The most exciting finish came in the staff match when the masters needing only 6 runs for victory with 6 wickets in hand, collapsed completely and the game finished a tie.

Riley and Miller were selected for the County side and therefore upheld a tradition that has been built up over a number of years.

Finally I would like to thank on behalf of the team Mr. Littler for his enthusiastic coaching and umpiring.”

2nd Eleven Cricket D.A. Wilson

“The 2nd Eleven had a mixed year. At least, I think so; but since our Captain of the last season may have – as someone certainly has – lost the scorebook, I cannot be quite sure. As I recollect, the outstanding players were our ill-famed Captain himself, who bowled, and among the batsmen Graham comes to mind. I suppose I ought to mention the weather which, as usual disrupted play; although not always: against Sale Grammar School, we batted in atrocious conditions to win. More than this I cannot say except that it was a mixed year.”

The Cross Country Clubs 1966-67 Season

“The 1966-67 season will be remembered as the year we had such a wet Christmas Term and such a mild Spring Term; as the year Bramhall School opened after Christmas and took several of our best runners; as the year several schools, with long histories of cross-country running, had to give up due to pressure of soccer and rugby; but most of all as the year we won all four age-groups in the League, in which ten schools raced five times.”

Senior Team (Captain - R. Taylor)

This team lost only three times in fourteen inter-school races. We would have won many more but some schools could not raise senior teams. Taylor, Kennedy, Kingston, Hamnett, Holmes, Ormiston and Pearson all raced most regularly and were much more of a team than our seniors had been in recent years. Taylor and Kennedy took turns at being home first. Kingston, though the youngest of seniors, made rapid progress throughout the season and finished the year with some really fast races. Ormiston also reached his optimum late in the season.

In the inter-house championship, Buckley won easily, Moseley just beat Hulme for second place and Etchells was fourth. Kennedy was school champion with Taylor 44 seconds behind, and Kingston just headed Ormiston for third place, with Stevens, Hamnett, Holmes and Pearson close behind.”

Under-16 Team (Captain - R. Donkin)

“This was our best team and it raced in the toughest age-group. In the inter-school races only Cardinal Langley could beat it and then only on its unusual course. The team won easily the Cheshire A.A.A. Championship and were just beaten in the School’s Cheshire by the all-conquering Stockton Heath team. They even won badges for fifth place, out of well over one hundred of the county’s best schools, in the Northern Schools’ Championship.

Donkin and McCormick missed only one race each throughout the season and raced consistently well. Howsam had a good first term. Of the Under-15’s who completed the team, the most

successful was Grave who usually led the team home and collected a hatful of medals in various championship races. Bateman had two spells of illness but was always there when we really needed him and must be our best natural athlete. Beatty very much deserved the cup he won for the most improved athlete of the year. Freegard and Marshall raced well each week to complete a team of which the school should be really proud.

In the School inter-house race, Buckley won easily, Hulme was second and Etchells just beat Moseley for third place.

The school champion was Grave, followed by McCormick, Donkin, Bateman, Beatty and Freegard.”

Under-14 Team (Captain – D. Allen)

“The team lost only to Cardinal Langley in the inter-school races, and its best race was in the Cheshire A.A.A. Championships, where it only just lost to a very fit Ellesmere Port team; but its greatest victory was when it took in its stride the loss of some of its most vital runners when Bramhall School opened. Evans, Shawcross, Batty, Hambley and Shields were all missed, but the first two had regularly finished in joint second place with Booth and so were most missed. Shawcross had such a successful season that he was only overtaken in the individual cup competition in the final race.

The loss was made good by several boys taking up running just before Christmas. They were Ferguson, Gillett, Grattan and Jepson, who have all trained hard and raced well.

Allen has continued to train very hard and so has won most of his races. On merit he ran for our School Senior Team four times and led home against Manchester University and was only four seconds behind Donkin’s remarkable time in the Bolton Road Relay, and these two times were half a minute better than the best two senior runners’. His best race was the School’s National when he was first for Cheshire and fourteenth in the race.

Booth improved a lot during the second term and deserves his win of the individual Cup Competition. Ferguson has had a fine season in spite of a troublesome knee injury.

Gillett only showed his true ability at the end of the season and so we look forward to next year. As always, Codling had his off days and his good days but on his day he’s terrific. Jepson had a fine first season; Grimsley and Jenkins have both had a good year with several fine races.

In the Inter-House Championship the Under-13’s raced separately from the Under-14’s, but Moseley won both. Etchells was second in the younger race and third in the older but Buckley was second in the older and third in the younger, and Hulme needed more runners and more training. In his Under-14 race, Allen broke the record and was followed by Booth, Codling, Grattan and Ferguson. In the Under 13 race, Smith won followed by Halsey, Firmin, Fine and Grimsley.”

First Year Team (Captain – I. Herd)

“This team could prove to be one of our best if they keep together in strength and train consistently. They lost in the inter-school matches only over Cardinal Langley’s precipitous course and beat them easily at home.

Herd won most of his races and was always first home. Marshall started late but made up for it by not missing a race once he had commenced and was a worth winner of the cup. McIntosh, Evans and Roxborough were the backbone of the team and all improved considerably at the end of the season. Wilson had real ability, but is unsure of himself. Reeve, Gregory and Roberts helped us in many victories but only ran in half the races. Lambert, though ill mid-season, and Heritage always fighting asthma, ran well and we hope will have a happier season next year.

In the Inter-House Championships, Etchells had its only win. Buckley was second, Hulme third and Moseley fourth.

Herd was Champion followed by Marshall, McIntosh, Evans, Holland and Wilson.”

The League Cross-Country Relays

“Herd, Allen, Grave and Taylor set the faster lap-times in their races and led their teams to victory, though in the First Year it was only a moral victory as the winning team went on a much shorter mistaken course, and won by only four seconds. We entered nine of the fifteen teams and all our boys raced well.”

Badminton M.S. Riley

Played 7; Wins 4; Draws 1; Lost 2

“The school badminton team has completed its most successful season after several years in the doldrums. The main reason for this revival has been the increase in the club’s membership and the greater competition that has developed from this.

In addition to Riley, Haywood and Walker, from last year, Miller, Ransom and Blake were introduced into the team. After losing the first two matches against St. John Deanes’ and The King’s School, Macclesfield, the side combined impressively and went through the remainder of the season undefeated. Frequently the opposition possessed superior players but hard running and enthusiasm enabled the school to win the day on most occasions. Unfortunately the side lost the experienced Walker at Christmas, but Douglas stepped into his position admirably.

It is to e hoped that the club’s progress will be maintained in the future, and as half of the team will be available next year a firm foundation should be assured.

The members would like to thank Mr. Newcombe for his coaching and encouragement, which certainly helped to develop the good team spirit that existed throughout the season.

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