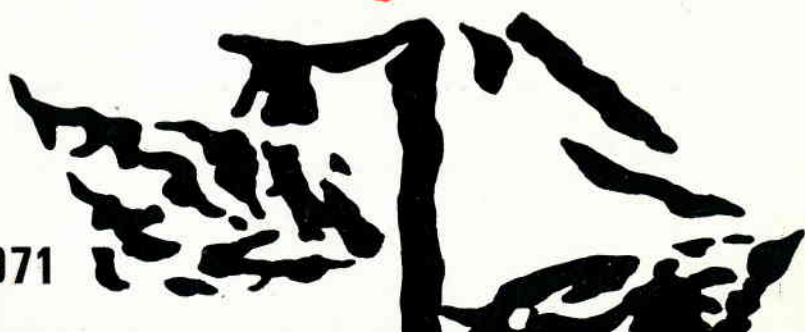
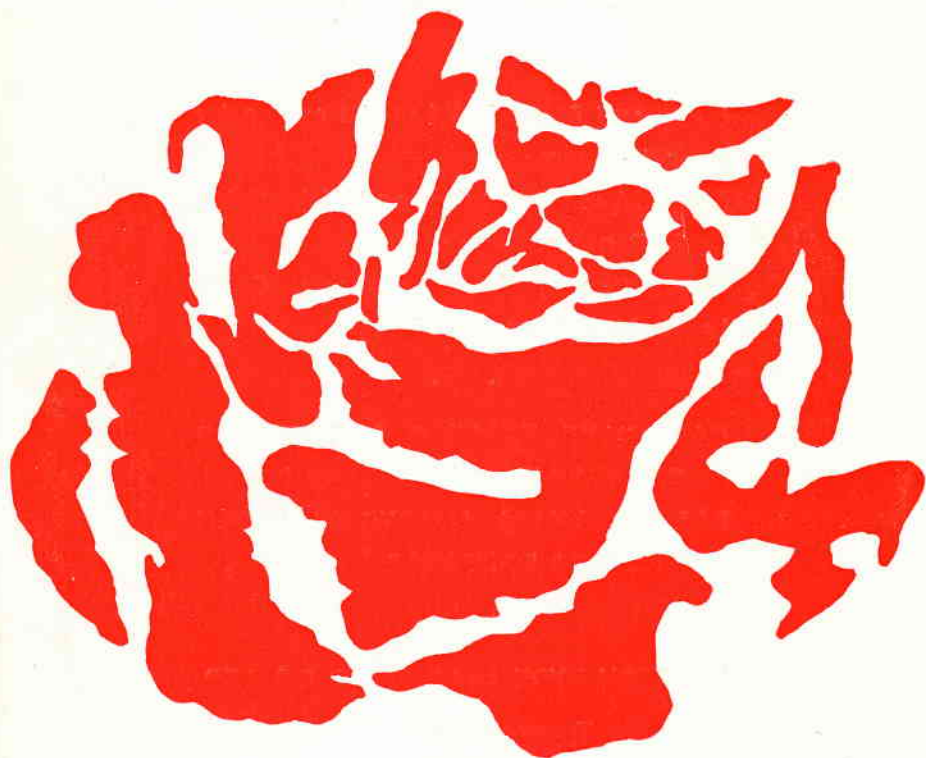


THE RED ROSE

50th YEAR



Vol. L
No. 3
July 1971



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THE RED ROSE

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SCHOOL NOTES

Members of the school will be sorry to hear that Mr. T. E. Lacy has had to retire on grounds of ill health. During his short time here Mr. Lacy has given invaluable service to the school in charge of Scripture. His encouragement of Voluntary Service by boys has also been a most fruitful endeavour and in particular his organisation of the Charity Walk last Autumn to raise funds for the Presfield School playground. He also organised all the work on the Adventure Playground himself assisted by over 150 boys in all and several other members of staff. It was most unfortunate that his illness came before this work was completed. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he will enjoy good health and many years of happy retirement.

Once again we are indebted to the Reverend M. D. Whyte who has temporarily taken over Mr. Lacy's post.

We welcome Miss N. K. Lambie to the English Department. Miss Lambie comes to us from Newman Comprehensive School, Carlisle, where she was Head of the English Department. In 1969 she held a visiting Schoolmistress Fellowship at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

We congratulate E. John W. Seddon on winning the William Simpson Exhibition in Geography and Economics at Manchester University. He has also been awarded the Dalton Hall Open Scholarship.

Once again a member of the school has been successful in winning one of the European Schools' Day Essay Prizes. Only ten of these prizes are awarded to sixth formers in this country. B. Searle, our winner this year, will take his prize as a ten day holiday in Austria, including the prize-giving which takes place in Salzburg. Searle is the tenth European Schools' Day Essay Prizewinner from King George V School in the last eleven years.

The school was awarded the Leverhulme Shield for the greatest number of Life Saving Awards won by any school in the Merseyside District during 1970.

We congratulate Mr. D. E. Williams on his first School Concert last March. Under his guidance the choir and orchestra reached a standard not hitherto attained at this school. The performance of the choir in Benjamin Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb", and of the Madrigal Group were difficult to fault even judged by professional standards.

The Parents' Association Annual General Meeting was held on April 29th, when Mr. Harry Seddon was re-elected Chairman, and Mrs. E. Ince Secretary. Mr. John Blackman was re-elected Parents' Representative on the Governing Body.

LONG RIGG AND THE JUBILEE FUND

The Jubilee Fund Accounts are published in this issue they show that Long Rigg is firmly established financially. The outstanding debt on the building is being repaid fairly rapidly and we still have money over to continue to improve the building. Some further work remains to be done on the recreation room. The Trustees feel that if at least fifty new 7 year Covenants of £1 are taken out by new boys' parents each year this will provide sufficient continuing income to enable us to run Long Rigg indefinitely.

A full programme of courses has been run during this year at Long Rigg and a total of 1226 overnight stays has been recorded. We are steadily extending the scope of the courses and becoming more ambitious. Each third form course in the second half of this term will be taken on a farm visit in addition to the other projects they undertake. As in previous years the hostel will be open throughout the summer holidays for the use of boys.

The Trustees are very grateful to Alderman Mrs. B. Pogson for a gift of books to the Long Rigg Library.

JOSEPH EDWARDS' MEMORIAL FUND

In its third year the Joseph Edwards' Memorial Fund proved to be an invaluable means of assisting boys to make sure that they are able to take part in school activities. A total of £78.63 was given to eleven boys. Distribution of money from this Fund is entirely confidential. Boys are not allowed to apply for help but members of staff may make recommendations if they feel that a boy or his parents are in difficulty in finding the means to enable the boy to take a full part in the life of the school.

THE MASON MEMORIAL FUND

The Trustees of the Mason Fund were gratified by the response of the school to the suggestion that the income from the Fund should be used to provide funds for boys to undertake expeditions of educational value during the school holidays. Eighteen applicants for scholarships were received. One of these was deferred until next year, six were thought to be not of sufficient value to be worth an award. The remaining eleven applicants were successful. A total of £220 in all was disbursed to these candidates as follows:—

T. F. J. Ashworth, V. O. Calland, I. A. Dunn, C. M. Hale, R. L. Lunt and C. M. Spencer for a biological survey of the Island of Sark.

P. A. G. Fitton and N. K. Holt to enable them to join an Inter School Christian Fellowship Work Camp at Chambon-sur-Lignon, France.

S. E. R. Nelson and D. I. Strang for a visit to France, Luxembourg and Belgium to undertake linguistic and historical studies.

G. E. Somerset to undertake a course in Oceanography at the University of Malta.

PRESFIELD SCHOOL ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

At the time of writing work on this project is nearing completion and we are hoping that the Adventure Playground will be ready by the time Presfield School is officially opened on 25th June. We are most grateful to Mr. Lacy for his leadership in the preparation of this Adventure Playground. He has been assisted by more than 150 boys in small parties at various times since January and since his illness Mr. Lunn, Mr. Abram, Mr. Long and several other members of staff have continued the good work. The response of the school has been most gratifying and the members of the school should feel very proud of the results achieved. The Adventure Playground is surrounded by an asphalt path and is divided into several sectors by concrete fencing. A large sandpit, swings, a climbing tower and various other pieces of apparatus are provided. About 90% of the work has been done by members of the school, professional assistance being called in only where the work was of such a nature as to make it extremely difficult for us to do it. A full account of how all the money has been spent will be published in the next issue of the Red Rose. It is not possible to do this yet because the bills have not yet all been presented.

This Playground provides a tangible proof that the boys of King George V School are ready and able to help others and we are delighted to present it to Presfield School in commemoration of our Golden Jubilee.

IMPORTANT DATES

Summer Terms ends Friday, 16th July
Autumn Term begins Wednesday, 1st September.
Half Term Wednesday, Thursday, Friday,
27th, 28th, 29th, October
Autumn Term ends Tuesday, 21st December.

SALVETE

B. Armstrong, J. A. Armstrong, D. F. Chilton, R. A. Fowkes,
A. P. Gascoigne, P. R. Harris, D. J. Macleod, S. R. Potter.

OLD BOYS' NEWS

- D. BAILEY (Ed. 1950-58), now lives in Welland, Ontario, and is senior Design Engineer for the International Nickel Company.
- W. BIRCH (R. 1949-56) will be leaving Southport to take up a teaching post at a boys' boarding school in Lodon Viti Levu, Fiji.
- J. S. CAVEN (G. 1964-69) is now a Trainee Manager in the Bolton branch of F. W. Woolworth.
- P. DODWORTH (Ed. 1951-58) was awarded the Air Force Cross in the 1971 New Year Honours List for his work on the Hawker Siddeley Harrier (jump jet). The medal was presented to him by the Queen at a recent investiture at Buckingham Palace.
- R. W. GANN (Ev. 1931-38) is now Deputy Town Clerk of Southport.
- R. M. GREENHALGH (M. 1953-60) now has a post with C.E.G.B., London.
- B. HOPPER (Le. 1947-52) will be leaving Southport in mid-June on his promotion to local manager of the Norwich Office of the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society.
- P. D. HYDE (W. 1956-61) now has a post with Lloyds Bank, Southport.
- K. E. MAYSON (Le. 1949-54) is to become assistant manager of the Midland Bank in Chester.
- C. E. MYER (W. 1961-65) has been awarded a place at the Royal College of Art for an M.A. degree in Film and Television. He is at present completing his studies for a Diploma in Art and Design at the London College of Printing.
- M. C. RIDYARD (Ed. 1944-51) has recently returned from India, where he was the parish priest of Ahmedabad.
- A. RODWELL (S. 1949-57) who is now a teacher of modern languages at Gateacre Comprehensive School, Liverpool, recently acted as interpreter during the official visit to Liverpool of the Mayor of Cologne.
- J. B. A. SHARPLES (M. 1942-46) has been appointed Publicity, Entertainments and Catering Manager for the Borough of Whitehaven, Cumberland.
- REV. F. THEWLIS (R. 1929-37) is undertaking a world preaching tour including Delhi, Calcutta, Hong Kong, Sydney, Adelaide, Perth, Fiji, Honolulu, Los Angeles, New York, Ocean Grove and Washington.
- K. J. WHITEHEAD (9W. 1958-65) has now been promoted to First Officer in B.E.A. and is flying a Trident Aircraft.
- J. S. WILLIAMS (S. 1960-64) who is a trooper in the Life-guards, recently spent a week in Southport at the Army Information Office giving talks to young men who are interested in joining the Army.
His regiment leaves shortly for Germany.



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VALETE

- RATCLIFFE, Robert M. U6MSch. Le. 1964-71 (G.C.E. A3, O6)
School Senior Prefect, 1970-71, House Secretary 1970-71,
Secretary of the Local History Society 1970-71.
Senior Librarian 1970-71.
- ROSE, Daniel U6ScSch. W. 1964-71 (G.C.E. A3, O5) Junior
School Prefect, House Chess Captain.
- BARRACLOUGH, Adrian M. L6M Le. 1965-71 (G.C.E. O4)
U15 Rugby Colours 1969, R.L.S.S. Intermediate Certificate 1968.
- DODGSON, Malcolm S. L6W W. 1965-71 (G.C.E. O5).
- WOOD, David W. L6B Ev. 1965-71 (G.C.E. O4).
- BEDFORD, Alan G. L6Sp. Ed. 1966-71 (G.C.E. O2).
- HAYNES, Alan N. L6M Le. 1966-71 (G.C.E. O5) Athletics
Half Colours 1970, R.L.S.S. Intermediate Certificate
1968, Junior Rugby Colours 1969.
- HOLMES, Michael A. L6S M. 1966-71 (G.C.E. O3).
- AITKEN, Ian M. L5M M. 1967-71 Under 13 XV colours.
- BOND, David S. U5B Ed. 1967-71.
- HODGKINSON, Mark A. L5M G. 1967-71.
- LONSDALE, Michael L5S W. 1967-71.
- GOODWIN, Martin L. L5S G. 1968-71.
- LEIGH, Michael A. 4B Sp. 1968-71.
- HANKS, Martin C. 3M Hon. 1969-71.
- HARVEY, Ian A. 3S Lu. 1969-71.
- WYMAN, Alan R. L5M M. 1969-71 Under 15 Rugby XV
Colours.
- CAVEN, Philip G. L5B W. 1970-71. Elementary Life Saving
Award.
- FLETCHER, Philip A. L6S G. 1970-71 (G.C.E. O8).
- LEGG, Graham H. L6W G. 1970-71 (G.C.E. O7).
- RICHARDSON, Anthony L6S G. 1970-71 (G.C.E. O6).
- WARING, David G. 2B, Sp. 1970-71.
- WYMAN, Stephen M. 2B M. 1970-71.
- WOOD, Andrew N. 3M R. 1971

Correction In the December, 1970 edition of the Red Rose,
the G.C.E. passes for R. N. Suffolk were incorrectly given.
They should read: G.C.E. O7 A1.

GREARS HOUSE REPORT

House Master — Mr. T. B. L. Davies

House Tutor — Mr. B. Mawer

House Captain — J. W. Wainwright

Vice Captain — R. Searle

Officials — Marshall, Morton, Fitton, Herbert, Carlter,
Beazley, Beresford.

Oh Boyo! Although Grear's haven't completed the Triple Crown or a League and Cup Double, it's quite obvious that it is not because of want of trying. I am quite certain that the greatest enthusiasm has been spent this year in every activity including "lates" and "detentions". The House Meetings we have, for the most part 99% on time, displays an active Lower Sixth, especially with Athletic practices and Fittons many Swimming practices. It is this spirit that I am sure will lift the Life Saving Cup for Grears next year. But let's examine the past and revel in glories or miseries as the case may be.

The standard of Twickenham and Cardiff Arms Park didn't seem to show itself in the Grears Senior Team. Three consecutive defeats at the hands of (and 'hands' is a euphemism) Leeches, Masons and Evans didn't help our ego. Such challenges as the Wild Hill, the vindictive Fletcher and Dickinson's greasy eyebrows did a lot to upset the Team. The Intermediate and Juniors have the same unsuccessful story. Mr. Davies has now threatened to take the pockets out of our shorts and replace them with elastic!

To balance out our 'success' we put up an excellent challenge to the Edwards contingent in the field of Life Saving. Outnumbered by many numbers!! we achieved a noteworthy second in life saving Awards. It was a — win the Junior Inter-House Cross Country, but a poor eighth and seventh in the Senior and Intermediate Sections of the House. In fact it seems as if the potential amongst the Junior Members of the House will prove a great factor in a future (Grear-dominated System). We have the brains, witness our impeccable Chess Record — first in the Junior Competition and . . . yes Senior Competition too. Rumour has it that Marshall (the Captain) was on amphetamines . . . but that's another story. Of course Grear's Chess Record has always been of a remarkably high standard.

Now this allows me to make the excuse that it doesn't take brawn and brute strength to make a House. Who cares about a Shuttle-Cock crossing a net. One member of the Staff seems to, but does that matter? Badminton never has been our great 'strength' and I doubt if it ever will be. Even the racket that Harris holds seems too big for him — no offence to the racket.

Here's another cliché — we must learn some of the tricks of the Harlem Globe Trotters for our Basketball Team. After Christmas with Salkie leaving (after gaining his well deserved Cambridge Scholarship — another first for Grears) we seemed to lose our drive. What drive we ever had! Wainwright acting as centre won most of the high and low balls, but it was our shooting power that was at fault. In all fairness I am sure Masons would agree, we should have done better than losing 11-10. Fair enough, Edwards displayed flair in their 46-32 victory — and Roger's (with the stamping Broude — no offence to his toes) 34-20, but Masons

Our Cricket horizon disappeared (I would say were bowled over) against a powerful Wright, Jones, Cartling partnership. Rob Fletcher's cheery face however soon cleared that heavy cloud.

The characters in the House still seem to have that remarkable individuality. The addition of some new faces certainly have given Grear's a more sprightly spirit. Fletcher, recently departed to other lands, managed in his short stay to acquire a broken leg and quite a reputation. Marks, Daglish, Berry and Bowden constitute a moderate Leftish faction, whereas Farm, Beazley and Co. are the Left.

Charity Work plays a great part in the life of the House, with Grear's collecting more money than any other House. Special mention must go to Herbert who has worked extremely hard especially over Voluntary service.

It remains to wish Mr. Douglas who left for a post as Head of the English Department in Skelmersdale Comprehensive School, all the Best of Luck, even though it is a little late. Wednesday morning House Meetings miss the rich tobacco smell and biting comments about Daglish, habits in Kew Woods. Of course his post has been filled by Mr. B. Mawer, whom we welcome to the fold. I am sure his stay will be a happy and rewarding one.

So that's it. A rather inconsistent year, but you can't be perfect. (By the way Wainwright has just told me we came third overall in the Swimming Gala and second in the Relay). Welsh spirit and rugged individualism AND OTHER TECHNIQUES have certainly given Grear's a fine standing. Mr. T. B. L. Davies deserves that. As Hardy stated "So do flux and reflux, the rhythm of change, alternate and persist, in everything under the sky".

B. SEARLE. VDM.

EVANS HOUSE REPORT

Housemaster — Mr. H. H. Long
House Tutor — Mr. E. T. Johnson
House Captain — S. E. Bentley
Vice Captain — S. H. Brownson

At last Evans have not been foiled by other leading kleptomaniacs, and have generally experienced a resounding success in scrounging more tin foil than any one else.

We returned Victors of the Interhouse Table Tennis competition under the inspiring captaincy of Brownson, and battling expertise of Hill. In Badminton, we shuttled into fourth position, Timbrell captaining the shrewd stroke players.

In cross country we had mixed success, the only creditably team performance coming from the intermediates, who finished second overall despite B. Rimmer winning and Ingram finishing second.

After a poor start the Senior Rugby Team continued well, comfortably beating Evans, and losing by the only try of the match to Masons, the eventual joint Winners. Halsall tried hard but at times suffered from lack of forward play.

Raw Scottish enthusiasm was inflicted by Mackay ably supported by Duncan in efficiently welding together the junior and intermediate Rugby sides; their efforts being rewarded by some impressive intermediate results.

Much to everybody's surprise the Senior Cricket Team defeated Edwards in the first round of the Competition. Credit must be given to Halsall and Ritchie for their expert batting and bowling performances.

Mention should be made of Gaunt, for his instruction and tuition of the Junior Boys in their Life Saving exams, and his formation of the House Swimming Team — his efforts being rewarded with 3rd place in both the Swimming Gala and the Life Saving Points, with Kubler excelling himself in the swimming heats.

The Junior Chess Team under the supervision and guidance of Calm, consisting mainly of first year boys, played well but were generally beaten by older and more experienced players.

The house has enjoyed some success this year, especially in the Intermediate age group, ably supported by Mr. E. T. Johnson.

S.E.B.

HOLLAND'S HOUSE REPORT

Housemaster — Mr. J. Ward.

1 Cross-Country

In the Cross-Country we came fourth overall, which is not a bad position, with Ian Halsall and Richard Sloman coming in the first ten. We hope to do better next year.

2 Tin Foil

Here, we give our Thanks to the Crompton brothers, who brought a heavyweight of Tin Foil which gave us a lead over the School for a few weeks.

3 A New Housemaster

Mr. Ward, Holland's new Housemaster is taking great interest in the House activities and we think that he is an excellent replacement for Mr. Holland who left at Christmas.

4 Chess

This was an outstanding performance, with Graham Hogg as Captain and first Board, Brian Sinclair as second Board and Ian Britstone as third Board. We did not lose a Game!

5 Rugby Fifteen

With Neil Hickson as Captain, the House Rugby Team has had a fairly good season, taking into account that the players have been unable to have a Senior Boy to Coach them.

After some convincing wins in friendly games, the Team was very unlucky to be drawn against a stiff opposition, namely Mason's House, in the actual Competition. The game was a lot closer than the score suggests, and after being way behind when it looked as though the House were going to be completely thrashed, they pulled back, scoring three excellent tries by Ian Halsall and Colin Bowden who have been the stars of the team this season, in quick succession.

6 Rugby Sevens

With Neil Hickson as Captain, when the Sevens started we were well off the mark and did extremely well, reaching the Final, after beating one of the favourite teams quite comfortably. Unfortunately in the Final, the same team which beat us in the Fifteens proved too good once again.

7 Life Saving

With Graham Hogg as Captain, we had another outstanding performance coming first in the new Houses with 46 points. We had several Elementary Awards and one Intermediate Award goes to Crosly.

8 Swimming

With Graham Hogg as Captain, the first year Andrew Palham got through to four Finals with one being the squad.

9 Cricket, Badminton and Athletics

These we have just started and hope to be as successful as all the other activities.

Graham Hogg 3M

ROGERS HOUSE REPORT

Housemaster — Mr. J. Clough

House Tutor — Mr. P. J. Comfort

House Captain — L. P. Broude, J. A. Smith

House Almoner — J. Cross

After surviving for many terms Mr. Clough's cliches, we have at last advanced in the right direction.

This year's House Table Tennis Team, under the leadership of L. P. Broude, jumped from last year's eighth position in the League to this year's third place. The cross country Team too, under J. A. Smith's excellent Coaching, although making no resounding victory, moved a couple of places forward.

With most of the House taking a life-saving exam, we took quite a respectable proportion of the Awards handed out to the School as a whole. In the Gala after a "gallant" attempt by C. J. Watson, who didn't attain his usual standard in the "breaststroke" We have once again managed to get a good proportion of our entrants through to the final.

None of our Rugby XV Teams reached the Final but it was not through lack of effort. The best results came from the Intermediate Side, winning two out of their three games. In the 7-a-side a better performance was shown all round with the Intermediates reaching the Final.

Under Watson's wing the House Basketball Team made a very fine effort in the hardest of the groups beating two of the three teams but, unfortunately, failing to qualify for the Final. The Senior Cricket Team was knocked out by Spencers in a close match with Whitaker, the Captain setting an example by taking 5 Wickets for six runs.

All in all a reasonably good year for the House. The outcome will have shown effort if nothing else, and a bright prospect for the future.

L.P.B. and J.A.S.

MASON'S HOUSE REPORT

House Captain — O. A. Dickinson

House Almoner — R. E. Ringer

House Vice-Captain — K. W. Jones

Other houses will tell you of their achievements; how they lost in the cricket to the eventual semi-finalists; how they just missed a place in the basketball final, or managed to win the intermediate hockey — but not Mason's! We happen to be more modest, more polite, more conscientious and hence more successful than any other house.

You may laugh at our short back and sides. You may mock our system of house numbers (Fletcher 78T65RA), but when you see how Mason's dominated the rugby matches, and the cricket, it becomes more a question of self derision. Mason's work as a team. No-one, except the captain (who kept quietly in the background, modestly organising the great machine) deserves more praise than another. Yet teams do not stifle individuality. The crowds were delighted by Fletcher's side step, Mason's six-hitting, Calland's thigh-stroke, Wright's scything, Nelson's cover fielding, and the captain's double dribbling.

There is no doubt that Mr. Smith, Mr. Radcliffe and Mr. Dickinson have produced a fine team. It now only remains to be seen whether the next few weeks can carry off the Jubilee Cup.

LUNN'S HOUSE REPORT 1970-71

Our 'small' house is now increasing in size, with the addition of another ten boys, bringing the total up to eighteen.

The year began with the cross country competition, but unfortunately we came fourth (out of the four small houses). Our new arrivals then turned their attention to volley ball but achieved only one victory from three games.

We finally achieved something worthwhile in the rugby competition. With Karl Mardon performing well as a player and as a captain, we came top of our group. In the semi final, the opposition proved too strong and too heavy and our interest in the competition ended at this stage.

The chess team would probably have won the league for small houses, but owing to the popularity of "Tom and Jerry" on the night of the crucial match, the team did not appear and neither did the points.

The final competition to take place to the time of writing was swimming. Stuart Crompton is to be congratulated on his fine performances in breaking records in the Butterfly and Breaststroke events (which he of course won) and also winning the Freestyle event. His successes and a sound performance from our under 14 freestyle team gained us second place amongst the small houses.

A pleasing feature of this year's activities has been the willingness of every member of the house to become involved wherever possible. We hope this will bring some measure of success in the coming cricket and athletics events as it did in the rugby competition.

M. J. WALSH, 3X (House Recorder)

WOODHAMS HOUSE REPORT

Housemaster — Mr. G. Berry
House Tutor — Mr. P. Stainton
House Captain — C. Brookfield
House Vice-Captain — Enright
House Secretary — M. E. Sheldon
House Almoner — Fox

Well, there I was casting around for some idea of how to write a witty House report for Woodhams, thinking, that ever since I had been in the House I had yet to read one. Now this covers a period of approximately six years which by anyone's reckoning is a long time to be without a laugh or two. There are Houses like Leech's who have a tradition of funny reports, so, I thought to myself if I was to make a lasting impression upon Woodhams, something by which I could be remembered after I had returned to that from whence I came here, surely was a worthy cause

This school year despite the valiant efforts of an elite, that select few who have been privileged to be given a position of coach or trainer of one of the House teams, the House has achieved little better success than it managed last year. The senior Rugby competition; last year seems to have been a high water mark in this department since after having beaten Edwards successfully in the final last year we succumbed to their machinations in a memorable conflagration being narrowly beaten, although we did have only thirteen men (excuses, excuses,). In the lower part of the House a similar picture was sadly painted on the mud strewn fields of K.G.V.

Perhaps, one could argue that Woodhams consist of individualists who are not easily welded into a team (we are lucky (?) to be graced by the company of a certain Mr. Stallard). The team spirit does not seem to gush forth as it should for the Cricket of all denominations can be seen to follow that of the Rugby.

In the swimming however, our hopes are high since we usually manage to win at least one section, although one can never tell in these days of upheaval.

In the Badminton department the light of fortune shone briefly upon our gallant players. We succeeded in defeating the opposition and actually won a Trophy.

In our other departments our motto could be:—

"we were so unlucky"

This applies to such things as Basketball, Cross Country Table Tennis and Athletics. Still, we have joined this Monolith of the Establishment to increase our knowledge and broaden our intellectual outlook and not necessarily to be brilliant athletes, and we are by no means disgraced on the 'mental' side of the House (take that how you will).

Without the following none of the above would have been possible:—

Mr. Berry, Mr. Stainton, Brookfield, Barnett, Carson, Birch, Tinsley, Liddle, Trickett, the lower Sixth, but most of all THE HOUSE.

M. E. Sheldon

EDWARD'S HOUSE REPORT

Housemaster — Mr. E. S. Gale
House Tutor — Mr. H. T. Marsh
House Captain — E. J. W. Seddon

Officials — G. D. Smith, R. G. Rimmer, P. J. Masters

We set out at the beginning of the year to achieve a new pinnacle of endeavour. After winning the Jubilee Cup for the last 3 years, and thus, by Jules Rimet's Standards, theoretically winning it outright, we intend to make it an all time record with a fourth successive win.

The Autumn Term saw us do well in the senior rugby final, drawing with a heavier team. The intermediate team, although starting badly, improved, like good wine, with time and were not disgraced. The junior team though basically inexperienced, showed promising potential. In the final, against a far superior team (in only weight and experience), they pulled off a magnificent display to draw and so share a trophy.

The autumn term saw us do well in the cross-country when we (if you'll excuse the pun) ran away with the trophy.

The badminton team with only one experienced player, finished second in the league without losing the game and won the knock-out competition. This was a fine achievement by the junior boys, who seemed certain to carry off the trophy in future years.

The life-saving trophy was won yet again by fine performances from us all, and at the time of printing we seem set for a "grand slam" in the swimming gala.

The senior cricket team suffered defeat at the hands of a temperamental team on a good day. The intermediate and junior teams have plenty of talent and should do well.

The greatest asset to us is our academic standard. The second and third forms (who number 18) managed to achieve all but three in the top ten of their respective forms.

J. Seddon with his scrutineering supervision of the fourth and lower fifth forms has enabled us to do well in both academic and sporting fields.

Finally, we are striving hard to maintain our position, and this cannot be done without co-operation. The senior boys have strived hard with the juniors, who in turn have co-operated and even helped in school activities.

P. J. Masters U6 B.

AMER'S HOUSE REPORT

Housemaster — Mr. M. E. Amer

The House is now in its second year and has eighteen members. We have now developed into a more co-ordinated House and have taken more of an active part in school affairs. This trend will continue next year and in future years and is certain that the House will make its mark on school records.

All the games' captains are to be congratulated on their efforts this year and include; Kay, captain of rugby; Halsall, captain of Cross-Country and Athletics; Ellis, captain of swimming; Mitchell, captain of cricket.

Special congratulations go to Eyes for setting a new under 12 backstroke record.

The first year team won the volley-ball competition and Amer's was the top new House in the swimming. The rugby team were unfortunate in the major Junior Rugby Tournament, but with our all round strength, we will surely do well in the future.

Congratulations to the twelve members who have represented School teams in various fields. Next year we will welcome Mr. Greenhalgh, who has been appointed as our House Tutor.

M. E. Amer

SPENCER'S HOUSE REPORT

Housemaster — Mr. S. Rimmer

House Tutor — Mr. J. Wohlers

House Captain — S. Bradbury

House Vice-Captains — A. Rawcliffe, E. Smith.

The second year of the Rimmer—Wohlers partnership started badly but has improved consistently throughout the year, and should reach its climax when we retain the Senior Cricket Trophy won last year.

Rugby this year has not been our strong point. The Senior team bravely led by E. Smith, lacked experience and could only win one match out of three. The Intermediate and Juniors showed signs of improvement and should do well next year.

In the Cross-Country we retained the Senior Cup, thanks to the efforts of N. Pulman, who won, and A. Kurvits, A. Rawcliffe and E. Smith, who all finished in the first ten. The Intermediates and Juniors finished well up but we were beaten into second place overall.

The Badminton team again came third, due to the consistent efforts of A. Peil, A. Rawcliffe, E. Smith and I. Jones. The Basketball team reached the semi-final, but lacked the size and strength to overcome Leech's side.

HONEYBONE'S HOUSE REPORT

Housemaster — Mr. D. Miley

We are leading the new houses in the points for academic work, a position we hope to maintain.

Sound performances in the rugby field earned us semi-final places in both the major and seven-a-side competitions, but we were unfortunate to meet the might of Masons in both tournaments. Although water was not to our liking, we managed to earn two points by finishing fourth in a relay event. Prospects for the other summer sports look promising. In all, eight members of the house have represented school teams.

Next year as the house grows in members, a warm welcome will be extended to Mr. Metford who will take up the position as House Tutor.

LEECH'S HOUSE REPORT

Housemaster — Mr. C. Flemming

House Tutor — Mr. C. Campbell

House Captain — D. I. Jackson

House Vice-Captain — D. P. Lucas

Here beginneth the 1st lesson of the Gospel according to St. Leech, Chapter 1, beginning of the 1st verse.

1 Through wisdom is an house builded and by understanding is it established.

2 Yeah, even through rugby and cricket does a House thrive be it not played on stony pastures.

3 And Deeley, Whittle, and Marriot caused a face to shine on us, and be gracious unto us, and lo, the intermediate rugby triumphed.

4 And the seniors, yeah even the juniors gathered to triumph even as their comrades had triumphed.

5 And it came to pass . . . and it passed, and there was much weeping and gnashing of teeth.

6 Then the "Jack" (Jackson) did appear before us saying "I beseech you therefore brethren, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, which is reasonable service."

7 And they all followed he who had spoken these words yeah even the doubting Farnworth.

8 And verily I say unto you, the House of Edwards fell to terrible ruin, being built only on shallow sands.

9 And the seat of Basketball, awful and wondrous, became, even unto us, a possession of great worth, and will remain, (we hope) with us always.

10 But afterwards, they turned, and let go free, they who had challenged the mighty House of Leech, and they reaped a horrible revenge.

11 For that same year, they captured that seat of Victoria, where Galas and riotous things occur.

12 And they smote the House of Leech, who had triumphed there so long. Though Lucas and our great tutorial leader blew their trumpets even unto the Cedars of Lebanon, their walls fell not, and fell we back to a miserable, yeah down-trodden second.

13 The campaigns in the land of the Crickets are far off and we await news from our ambassadors, to tell us of scattered and peeled Houses, beaten and trodden under foot.

14 And it came to pass, in this time of worry and torment, our noble master and tutor spoke well of he who never bears false witness, even unto his neighbour's bullock, known to us as the Court Chesster, Gray, whose dreams of glory and riches through his chessting came almost unto fruition.

15 Yeah verily, I say unto you, all ye that bear not false witness, that this House, even as cedar or stone, will stand the ferocity of any oppressor, for unto us we have received brave and noble leaders. So we being many, and are yet one body, and shall ever be, world without end, Amen.

N. Knowles. (Secretary)

BADMINTON

The senior school team had a successful season winning all but four games, three of which were to a strong Bolton side. This Bolton team had a greater depth of players of equal ability and overcame the schools side which put up a good performance. The schools side reached the final of the red-rose competition losing again to the Bolton team a disappointing 5—2, the score level was not a true indication of the school's ability.

The under 16 schools Team were fairly successful but lost to a very strong Glenburn team.

This competition has seen the school's side in the final in three successive years. In the first year we won beating a Manchester side 7—2. Last year the team lost unluckily to Lytham who won 4—3 after a very exciting game.

These results indicate the high standard of the school's side even though playing conditions at home are far from good. Jackson and Masters have played exceptionally well and Jackson has shown his ability in being chosen to represent the senior county side.

The house badminton league was won by Woodhams for the second successive year. This was a closely contested competition and Edwards lost only by one point with Masons coming third.

Next season the new houses of Amers, Honeybones, Hollands and Lunns will take part in this competition.

The knockout handicap competition was won by a strong Edwards side who beat Masons in an entertaining final.

The school's second team and U16 team played well and won many of their games with Weston, Timbrell and Hepworth playing well for the second team and Catterall, Hall and Whitely for the U16 team.

Results:

1st team beat Waterloo (9—0) (8—1), Hutton (9—0), Wigan (9—0) (9—0), Glenburn (12—6) (11—7), and Ormskirk (9—0).

The losses were to Bolton (4—5) (2—5) and (7—11) and also unhappily to Hutton (5—4).

The second team beat Ormskirk, Crosby, Bootle but lost at home to the latter (4—5).

The U16 team played well losing only to Glenburn and drawing at Smithills Bolton. They had victory over Hutton, Ormskirk and Burscough.

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LOWER 6th FOOTBALL REPORT

Record: P8. W4. D1. L3. F20. A12.

What a season it has been for the Lower 6th football team! After two 4—0 victories over the Junior Prefects and the Upper 5th they went on to their first test against the Masters XI. Despite big match nerves in front of a large crowd the team cruised to another resounding victory by 4—1. This was their best performance although playing against some crude tackling and niggling fouls. The crowd was impressed by the performance and entertained by Mr. Miley's interpretation of the "professional foul".

Filled with confidence the team put out a challenge to all-comers. Pride comes before a fall and the first of the all-comers was the Senior Prefects XI. An understrength side without the injured Wareing and Trickett, took the field to go 3—0 down shortly after half time. After using their substitute the team was further reduced by a bad knock on midfield line Catherall's ankle. However the team awoke from their early air of complacency to gallantly pull the score up to 3—2 before the final whistle.

Down, but not out, the team played away from the hallowed turf for the first time, at Christ the King. Luck was out again and a missed penalty and chances meant another defeat 2—1. The Catholic School also expressed how impressed they were by the team, particularly the defence with Ellis, an everpresent in the team, in command.

Convinced that the right results would come they played a Meols Cop side which was bent on causing injury to the team. Unscathed by this defeatist attitude the team cruised to a 3—2 victory with Johnson playing out of goal for the first time scoring the winning goal.

Travelling farther afield, the bone hard Carr Lane pitch saw another defeat for the whites as they had now become known, not only for their white shirts but also for their angelic behaviour on the pitch. Against Vauxhall Motors, Southport branch they fell 3—1. This was perhaps an unfair result as this team is managed by one of the Lower 6th XI, Brassey, who did not hesitate in telling his side the team's weaknesses. Appalled at the standard of refereeing they demanded a return to end the season with their only draw 1—1 with top scorer Ainsworth scoring his best of the season.

The enthusiasm for the team was fantastic with at least eighteen willing to turn up for each game. Next season it is hoped that more fixtures will be available. The Scorers were Ainsworth 7, Smith 4, Brassey 3, Mantin 2, Johnson 1, Moss 1, Pulman 1, Trickett 1. We would also like to thank Wilde, Teale, Hurst, Benedyk, Clarke and Allan who played an equal part in the season. Also thanking Allardyce, our supporter.

J. Brassey L6W

1st XV REPORT SEASON 1970—1971

It is often said that a team is only as strong as its reserves. Certainly this is true of this year's first XV. There was a general dearth of rugby playing talent at senior level. This meant that a weak first team was very much torn apart whenever injuries or illness cropped up. To be beaten heavily in its first five games did its morale no good either, though the team should remember that in Lancaster R.G.S., Blackpool G.S., and Cowley S., they faced three of the best sides in the North of England. These sides combined great individual talent with team power. Indeed in our opening four matches the opposition were far bigger and heavier than the school 1st XV.

However G. D. Smith as captain never gave up, to his eternal credit. And this brought its due reward at the end of the season when the team's play improved considerably as they aspired to higher standards. Indeed collectively they can look back, after the first team's disastrous start to some gratifying results. And individually some players improved beyond almost all recognition.

Generally speaking the forwards did not play as a unit and collective vigour was absent. Consequently possession, which is vital, was not forthcoming. But the two points where the forwards fall down was in their loose play and in backing up. Far too often a few forwards would just stand back and stare in wonderment at the intricate passing of the other players on the field.

But one cannot blame the forwards alone. There was a looseness of play about the backs, too. They were too generous to the opposition when defending, in that they played without vigour and in attack they lacked the coherence necessary to breach stubborn defences.

But all this paints too gloomy a picture. These were games when the forwards and backs together showed plenty of flair and panache, notably the games against Ormskirk G.S. (who were having a successful season) Calday Grange (who were unbeaten since Christmas) and the Southport R.U.F.C. when they were holding their much bigger and more experienced opponents to 0—0 at half-time.

Altogether thirty different people made appearances for the first fifteen, some of them admittedly only once or twice. Of these a dozen return next year. D. Smith, Hale, Fletcher, G. Rimmer and Wainwright were the only ones not to miss a game.

Appearances

P. Mantin (3), Ainsworth (1), Trickett (2), Teale (5) and Deeley (2), all return and are good enough as games players to help make the team successful. Of these J. J. Deeley, who was captain of the Under 15 side distinguished himself in captaining the Merseyside team, playing regularly for Lancashire and in gaining two England caps. We shall watch his progress with interest.

Characters of the First XV:—

G. D. Smith — Captain —wing-forward (Edward's)

Tall, strong and determined. He probably did not develop his own play fully as the cares of captaincy press hard on him. But nevertheless he was a real force in the side.

E. J. Seddon — Vice-Captain — wing-forward (Edward's)

Big and strong, but he does not make full use of his strength. Handles well.

P. Rigby — Full-back (Edward's)

Came in at Christmas when Frampton was injured but soon made the position his own. His positional play has still to improve a lot but he tackles fearlessly. He has the ability and physique to become a fine full-back in two years' time.

D. Davies — Wing and utility back (Evans)

Played in every position in the backs. At the moment lacking in physique but nevertheless a skilful player. With increasing confidence he will be a force in the future.

M. B. Carson — Wing (Woodham's)

A fast winger of good games ability if only he had the confidence to use it.

K. Jones — Wing or centre (Mason's)

One of the season's most improved players. Very good in attack though still hesitant in defence. Runs forcefully and handles well; can kick goals.

E. L. Smith — Centre (Spencer's)

Distinguished himself by being a member of the 1st XV and also captain of Hockey. Very sound in defence. Quite clever at being offside behind the referee's back!

D. Halsall — Centre (Evans)

A very promising young player. Fast, hard and very direct he was the season's top scorer and a very useful goal-kicker. If he returns he should develop into one of the finest centres in Lancashire.

A. Beresford — Stand-off (Grear's)

Another young player of promise. Quite fast, and a very deceptive runner. Handles well and tackles well.

C. Hale — Scrum-half (Edward's)

He had a very mixed season. When on top form he could be very good, as at Ormskirk. Always brave and willing. Has a tendency to give away penalties at the scrums!

E. K. Aspinwall — Prop. (Edward's)

A young player of fine physique, who improved tremendously as the season progressed. Mobile and handles well. Catches the eye in the loose and tackles with his robust play.

A. O. Dickinson — Hooker (Mason's)

A fast and clean striker for the ball, he generally more than held his own against the opposition. Very fast in the loose, and to lose his temper!

G. Afford — Prop (Edward's)

A young forward of fine physique. It took him a long time to settle down to the demand of first team football, but by the end he was turning into a promising player who should do well in the future.

R. Fletcher — Second-row (Mason's)

Big and strong, he too came on tremendously during the season. He is now beginning to use his strength and mobility to good effect. Next season's captain.

J. Wainwright — Second-row (Gear's)

A tall forward who was at his best in the line-out where he jumped well. Though he tried valiantly, his lack of bulk prevented him from being more forceful in the set pieces.

G. Rimmer — No. 8 (Edward's)

A fiery player of fine physique, he enjoyed the change to No. 8. He always tried to go forward and made up for any failings with his robust play.

Also played

S. Wright (1), P. Frampton (6), A. Haynes (4), P. Buckley (2), N. Barnett (7), P. Fletcher (2), J. A. Smith (1), C. Brookfield (1), D. Jackson (1).

Next season possession from all set pieces and in particular from the loose will be vital as the value of a try will now be four points. And one can only score tries with the ball. This constant support for the player in possession and correct timing of passes will be the objective.

RUGBY — UNDER THIRTEEN REPORT

This young team is now beginning to fulfil its earlier promise and is playing effective yet attractive rugby. They had a successful season with 238 points for and only 68 against. 58 tries were scored with 15 against. It looked at the beginning of the season as if this would turn into a two man show with N. Pickering (Woodham's) and C. Matthews (Mason's) doing all the scoring. But as the season progressed all the boys gained experience and confidence with the result that it was nearly always a first-rate team effort that produced the results. This is greatly to the credit of both Pickering and Matthews who continually strove to bring the best out of the players around them. These two gained their Junior Rugby Colours.

Most fixtures were arranged at this level than ever before with several matches for a 'B' team as well. The Balshaw's game was "given" away, as was the second match against Arnold when complacency has settled on the team. They were also rather unfortunate to lose their first match against Arnold as they crossed the try-line at least four times only to have the scores disallowed.

It would be invidious to name the other members of the side or the very competent reserves in the 'B' team. Indeed the only reason why the two already named have been mentioned is that they already were awarded their Junior Colours. There is so much individual and collective talent in this team that I am sure many more will earn colours. Indeed, when they reach the senior end of the school, they should be a real force in Lancashire schools rugby.

Another feature of the season has been the loyalty and vociferous support of parents to the team no matter what the weather.

Results—

- v Lancaster R.G.S. (Home) Won 32—0
- v Blackpool G.S. (Away) Won 64—0
- v Manchester G.S. (Home) Won 24—3
- v Arnold S. (Away) Lost 3—11
- v King Ed., VII Lytham (Home) Won 31—3
- v Kirkham G.S. (Home) Won 9—0
- v Cheetham's Hospital (Away) Won 15—0
- v Balshaw's G.S. (Home) Lost 8—14
- v Ormskirk G.S. (Home) Won 21—8
- v St. Edward's Coll. (Away) Lost 3—14
- v Arnold S. (Home) Lost 0—3
- v St. Joseph's Coll. (Away) Lost 0—11
- v Southport R.U.F.C. Colts (Away) Won 23—0

T. B. L. Davies

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HOCKEY

The sun sinks slowly behind the gasworks, the newly acquired goal-nets are dismantled for the last time this season, and eleven battered and somewhat disillusioned hockey players, resplendent in their new maroon shirts retire to the dining hall to drown their sorrows in school chips. So ends another hockey season.

In fact this has not been a bad season for the hockey teams, with some good results. Notable among these was a 2—3 defeat at Calday Grange, who are acknowledged as the best team in the north-west, and who cannot remember conceding two goals before. Another highpoint was the exorcism of the Liverpool Collegiate ghost, beaten (at last) by 1—0 in the Liverpool Hockey tournament. But on the other hand there were some bad results, Against Arnold G.S. the defence had a disastrous opening ten minutes and conceded three goals. Despite dominating the rest of the game the team was only able to pull one goal back. The forwards were unable to hit the mark in the game against Formby C.S., a team that should have supplied little more than match practice.

It is difficult to point out any reasons for the loss of form in the Spring term. The occasional lack of concentration in the defence led to some disasters, the half-backs did not always give the forwards sufficient support, and the forwards themselves did not have enough penetration to score many goals. The inclemency of the weather meant that the team had to go long periods without any form of match practice, an important consideration. Injuries also played a part. Blistered feet slowed Searle down, while Moor managed to strain his shoulder, and then injure the other one as soon as he was fit again. Smith suffered from a strained back.

Special mention must be made of the 2nd XI who have had an exceptionally successful season. They have been a young side and have played with a marked enthusiasm. The record stands at Won 4 Drawn 3 Lost 1 In two seasons time they will form another high standard 1st XI.

Next season should be an interesting one since nearly all of the 1st XI will be leaving so there will be plenty of opportunity for the younger players to make the grade. Good results from the 2nd XI give cause for optimism.

A large "Ta" must be given to Mr. Amer, who despite crises and trials, has resolutely devoted so much of his spare time to hockey. Similar thanks go to Mr. Comfort who has done sterling work with the 2nd XI, and to Mr. Fleming, who is helping to raise future talent lower down the school. Thanks of a rather grudging nature to the Old Boys who supplied a team of such great talent.

The regular 1st XI consisted of:

"Beau" Bentley (Full colours)

An aggressive goalkeeper, who has pulled off some remarkable saves this season. He has a very strong kick and his ferocious charges have upset many attackers as well as worrying his defence.

Graham Rawlinson (Full colours)

A competent defender who works well with Gayton. He has a strong hit and can be relied upon to deal with any loose balls on the wings.

Chris Gayton (Full colours)

Very similar in his style of play to Rawlinson, and equally as competent. The occasional lapse of concentration among both full-backs, however, has led to some confusion at the back.

Mike Haddock (Lancs. Schoolboy, full colours)

Previously a lazy player, he has found new reserves of energy this year and has even been seen running and tackling back. Playing at half-back, he combines well with his winger.

Ian Whittaker (Lancs. Schoolboy, fixture secretary, colours re-awarded)

A full-back last year, he has moved into his new position of defensive centre-half very well. He is formidable in the tackle has a strong hit and distributes the ball intelligently. A loss of form during the early Spring term led to a fiery differences of opinion with Moor, but no love was lost.

Mike Lowe (Full colours)

An exceptionally skilful player capable of tying the opposition in knots. Usually plays at half-back although he is frequently seen loping down the wing, golden locks flowing out behind him. He is a master of the flick and has a very hard shot, although it is rarely on target. He frequently terrified the opposition with his remarkable undercutting.

Alan Partington (Full colours)

Graduated from the second team this year and has proved himself worthy of a place. Deceptively unenthusiastic he was at his best at the end of the season. Very skilful, he has a good shot and is equally at home in the half-back or forward line.

Barrie Searle (Vice-captain, full colours)

A burly inside-forward who continues to frustrate his colleagues by his obstinate refusal to hold his stick correctly. The result of this is a lack of ball-control and an inability to hit the ball, although this has not prevented him from scoring many valuable goals. His physical style of play is a constant deterrent in the tackle.

Dave Moor (Secretary, full colours re-awarded)

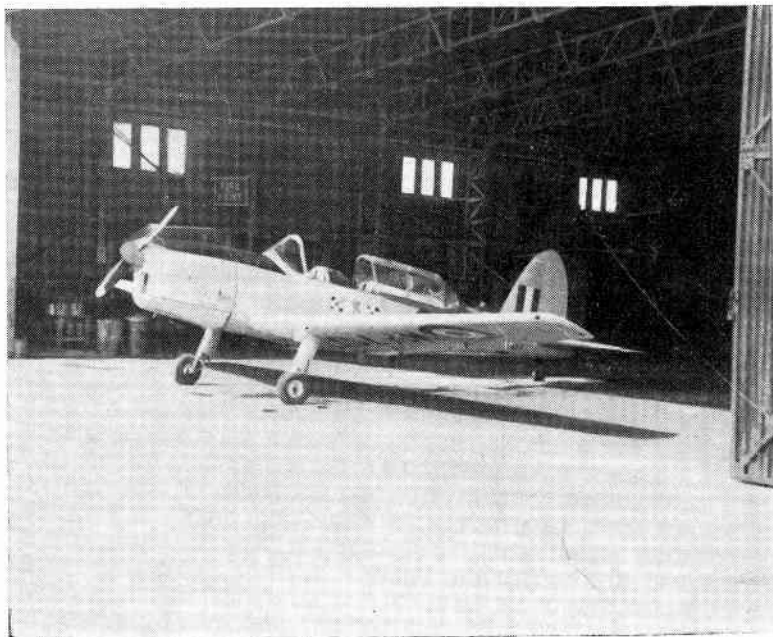
A centre-forward whose distinctive head-band visibly worried opposing defences, but his flair for goals seems to have disappeared. His determination to win the ball, encouraging gestures and calling make up for a slight inability to control the ball. He organises the defensive rings very well using everything he has to stop the ball.

Ed Smith (Captain, full colours re-awarded)

Ed has taken on the responsibilities of captain with great success. A very skilful player capable of keeping the ball under close control at speed, except when he falls over. His persistence in the tackle and marshalling of the team made him a valuable asset whose presence was sorely missed at the end of the season. He has a great future in hockey. (Is that okay, Ed?)

Nigel Weldon (Full colours)

A much improved winger who has found the confidence to take on his full-back, and has met with due success. His ball control is not as good as it might be, but he has acquitted himself well. Always the first to admit a mistake.



THE R.A.F.

Prologue

The following report on the Royal Air Force is intended as a guide to you. (If you intend to join the R.A.F. when you leave school). It is also to state the facts about the R.A.F. clearly, so one might form an opinion as to how powerful the R.A.F. really is, that is if "powerful" is the word.

After all, in modern warfare Air Superiority is as important to any nation as the Navy was to Britain two hundred years ago.

Is the R.A.F. up-to-date enough and strong enough to defend Britain? Read on for our views and those of others.

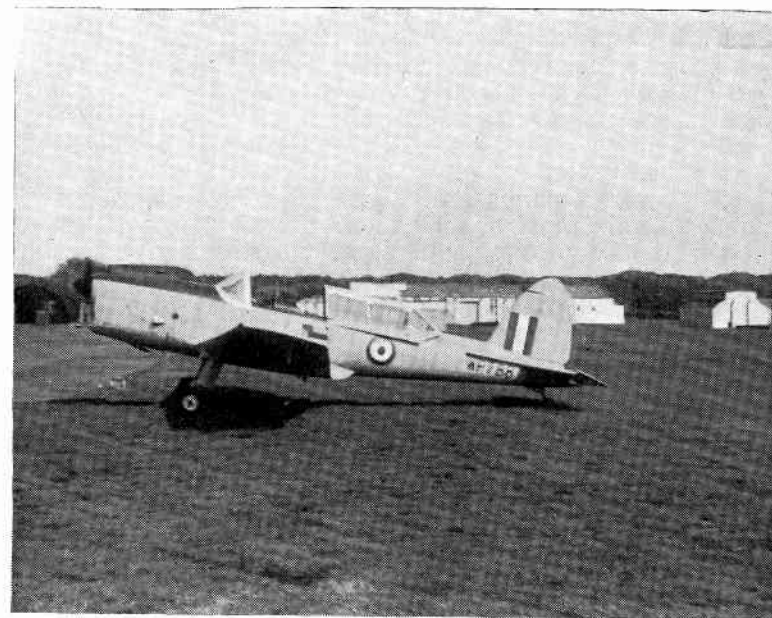
Your Career in the R.A.F.

The Royal Air Force is the most powerful military organization which Britain has at its disposal. The number of people involved exceeds 100,000 and there is still room for more. As in any large and complex force of this nature there are countless jobs available, and it would be impossible to describe them all in the little space available.

Generally speaking there are two distinct groups—Commissioned (Officers), and non-commissioned. To attain a non-commissioned post, one does not need any qualification but, of course, these will help. However, an applicant does have to pass a very strict medical test before entering. For a commissioned post, five "O-levels" including English Maths and a language or science subject are necessary together with two "A-levels" such as Maths and Physics.

If you are concerned about pay, well "The Pay," Squadron Leader Withington said, when asked his opinion, "is in keeping with outside industry." No doubt this is true, though we think that being happy in your job is probably more important than the pay. It was clear to us that the people that we met from the R.A.F. were very happy in their jobs.

Going back to pay, a large increase in salaries was brought about on the 1st April 1970, and one must remember that in the armed forces one does not have to pay for his keep. It is more and more popular for families of servicemen to live in or around the service stations, on housing estates built for servicemen and their families. These estates are very modern and have such accessories as shops on the site.



The state of the R.A.F.

In order to get a good picture of what the R.A.F. is, we must go back to the beginning of military aviation in 1911.

The Air Battalion of the Royal Engineers was formed in 1911, and The Royal Flying Corps was formed in 1912. In July 1914 the Admiralty formed the Royal Naval Air Service and the R.F.C. virtually became part of the Army. However, the R.F.C. and the R.N.T.S. were not good enough separately so it was proposed to set up a completely new military force. As a result, the Royal Air Force came into being on 1st April 1918. Since then a lot has been achieved by the R.A.F. Twelve days after its formation a Captain H. W. Woollet shot-down six German aircraft in a single day. An R.A.F. officer won the Schneider Trophy in 1931. Another officer broke the world height record in 1937. The R.A.F. won the Battle of Britain in 1940, shooting down 60 aircraft with Hurricanes and Spitfires on September 15th. The R.A.F. also took part in the Berlin Air-lift, and it was the first Air Force to employ a V/Stol combat aircraft, this being the Harrier.

There is much more to tell, but there is not the space here. At the moment 100,000 people are in the R.A.F. It takes the skill and devotion of forty men and women on the ground to keep one pilot in the air. Government expenditure on the R.A.F. exceeds £200 million per year, and the English Electric Lightning's are due for replacement soon, they are 11 years old. This means more money but the main task of the R.A.F. is to keep the peace. To do this it needs advanced equipment, soon, or it will slip behind other Air Forces.

The R.A.F. compared to other Air Forces.

At the present moment the Royal Air Force is, compared with foreign Air Powers, in a strong position. This is mainly due to new equipment and aircraft such as the V/Stol Harrier, and the Phantom which have been introduced in the last two years.

However, complications arise, the Americans openly admit that the most sophisticated aircraft in the R.A.F. at present, the MacDonnell Phantom, is extremely vulnerable to the new Russian Mig 23, the Foxlat. This means that we will probably need a new, faster and more heavily armed aircraft soon. The answer to this would have been the TSR-2 but this was never put into service.

These kind of complications arise over every aircraft at some time or other and so it is imperative that the continuation of the development of new aircraft and accessories does not stop. It is always unsafe to speculate about a military force, since plans are never disclosed in full, but there is little doubt that if the R.A.F. remains under its present command and if the proposed introductions of the Anglo/French Jaguar and other aircraft take place, then our Air Force will remain a sufficiently powerful deterrent to an enemy for some time to come.

R.A.F. Woodvale

We visited R.A.F. Woodvale on 12th May 1971, to talk to the Commanding Officer, Squadron Leader Withington, and by doing so to obtain his views about the Royal Air Force, and the part it plays in the world to-day. We found out about the History of R.A.F. Woodvale, and obtained information for this report. During our visit we took a number of photographs which appear in this report.

We found the history of Woodvale interesting and so we are putting it in this report:

'Woodvale was opened in 1941, thus taking over the task of defending Merseyside from Speke Airport. During the war a number of planes were stationed at Woodvale at some time or other. These included; Spitfires, Hurricanes, Defiants, Mosquitoes and Oxfords. In 1945 Woodvale came under R.N.A.S. command but returned to the R.A.F. in 1946. In 1951 the first jets arrived. These were Meteor 4's and 7's. In 1952 the unit with the Meteors moved to Hooton Park and was replaced by No. 19 Reserve Flying School with Ansons, Chipmunks and Tiger Moths. However, No. 19 R.F.S. disbanded in 1953 and was replaced by No. 5 Civilian Anti-Aircraft Co-operation Unit in 1958. This unit operated Meteor T.7's and F.8's No. 5 C.A.A.C.U. is one of the four units now operating at Woodvale. Both Liverpool and Manchester Universities have connections at Woodvale, they have a Squadron of Chipmunks each. Woodvale continues to play a very active role in Training Command with a large number of aircraft movements every day, seven days a week.'

Twelve members of the Royal Air Force are stationed at Woodvale. Another use of the station is to give Air Cadets flying experience, for this six Chipmunks are provided.

Epilogue

In this report we have given a glimpse of careers in the Royal Air Force.

We have given some logical and accurate views on the Royal Air Force and its role in world affairs to-day.

In summing up, it is only fair to say that the men and women of the Royal Air Force deserve great thanks for their hard work and endurance throughout the years, and it is because of their effort that citizens of the future will be able to enjoy peace.

We would like to thank Squadron Leader Withington, Royal Air Force, and M.D. Houghton for their help in making this report.

G. S. La Court L5M N. P. Cornish L5S

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VISITING THE DENTIST

Nobody enjoys visiting the dentist, I no more than others and I suppose that the worst moments are those spent waiting to be treated.

Invariably, the time of entering the house is worst, when you walk into the reception room and take a deep breath of the surgery air. That special air impregnated with the scents of disinfectants, antiseptics and anaesthetics which go directly down to the stomach, making the slight 'butterflies' great sickly twinges turning the insides over and over in ever-increasing, nauseating circles.

'Timothy Patrick?' Good. Walk this way please. We won't keep you a minute. Sit down. There's plenty to read'.

As if taken aback by this sudden rush of verbal action, I mutter 'Ta', and stumble into the nearest lumpy, squeaky, uncomfortable chair to try and relax. The sounds of whining and moaning from the piercing drill slowly drift into the room. The drill that, after this trial on a practice molar, will soon be boring it's way into that tooth. Yes, that tooth that is the cause of the present situation. Suffer now and don't suffer later — what's the difference? Always the faint sounds of cars coasting past and mumblings in the distance. Quiet, simple, dark — death itself when suddenly a sharp click and a long swoosh and — 'Walk this way please. Stephania, Peter and Mrs. Clark? Good. Sit down please. Thank you'. Swoosh — Click!

The unwelcome trio tramp to the settee and sit down with a squeak. The young boy crawls over towards the pile of Magazines, crawls back and says innocently, 'Mummy, I've got a comic. Hey Mummy? What's this say . . . Mummy, what's that boy's name? Do you know Mummy? Do you? I'll ask him Mummy, shall I? Can I ask him? Mummy I'm going to ask him, Mum! I'm going to ask him'.

'Hello'.

'Hullo'.

'What's your name?'

'Tim'.

'Mummy, his name's Tim. Mummy, his name's Tim. Did you know that Mummy? Did you?'

With a heavy groan I heave my heavy legs over towards the pile of books and pick one up without looking to see the title. After flopping back into position I lift the book up to read 'Reader's Digest 1961. Will man reach the moon? Startling figures released today show that by 1980 70% of the World's population will be wearing false teeth.'

Groan!

Staring blankly at the blurred paper I hear mummings in the distance. 'Who's my next victim?'. Is that what he said? No. The drill is still whining so he is still occupied. Abandoning the book, I begin to stare around the room. Bobo Bunny brushes his teeth twice a day, do I? When suddenly — a rush of blood. 'Timothy Patrick? Walk this way please'.

T. J. Patrick. L5X.

LONELINESS

After the first six months I knew for the first time what loneliness really means. It was well known during the sixties that a nuclear war could begin at any time at the press of a button.

For a start there was the Cuban missile crisis which very nearly sparked off a World War three. The Cuban missile crisis in nineteen sixty-two was caused by a number of Russian ships being stationed in Cuban waters. When the ships were asked to leave, they refused. This stirred up quite a controversy between the countries and World War three almost began there. The one man behind the trouble, Fidel Castro, who became a makeshift leader set an ultimatum for the departure of the ships. Castro would have attacked the ships with missiles only the ships withdrew at the last moment.

Then during the Viet-Nam war which has lasted many years, there have been a number of scares which could have sparked off a nuclear war. It was said that if the war had not ended by nineteen sixty-five then an atom bomb would be dropped on Viet-Nam. However, this threat was not carried out.

A treaty was signed between the large powers, America, France, Russia, Great Britain and China. Under this treaty, no nuclear missiles and bombs were to be set off in certain well defined areas. The first was South America, the second was all of Africa except the Sahara Desert and the third Australia with the exception of the Desert land. Obviously, no bombs could be exploded in populated and inhabited countries.

On March ninth nineteen seventy-four China exploded a hundred megaton atomic bomb in South America, a violent and deliberate breach of the treaty. Long talks began at the United Nations in America. Then, surprisingly and incredibly, while those talks were under way, the Chinese exploded yet another atom bomb this time a two hundred megaton bomb. This explosion caused extensive damage in some parts of the surrounding area.

The other countries took offence, and instead of waiting for talks to begin they decided to attack. There was great opposition to this, but with all the four powers against China what chance did they have?

Under agreement the first missile was to be a simple conventional missile. This exploded causing quite extensive damage to many towns. As was expected China retaliated and sent over a fifty megaton missile which destroyed half of Manhattan island. This was it and everybody knew it would come the Third World War, a nuclear war.

There was widespread panic and as more and more suicides were committed the battle raged. China would not weaken and great cities were wiped out. Many countries were involved, nearly all of Europe against China. China was proving to be a greater enemy than was expected.

Many people in England still had hopes of survival, although, after two weeks, London and Manchester had been destroyed. Some people sought shelter in the basements and cellars but they stood no chance against the intense heat and radio-active bombardment of an a-bomb.

My attempt at a shelter proved successful, I dug a hole about five feet deep and five feet in each direction. A concrete floor was put in and the side walls went up one foot above the ground level this gave a total headroom of six-feet. The roof was concrete built around steel rods, this by itself, would not be sufficient to protect me from the intense heat and radioactivity. The whole inside was lined with asbestos and then lead. Equally with the floor. The outside was painted in a heavy lead paint. An outside aerial painted in heat-resistant paint was wired into a radio so I could come out at the end of the war. After all I wouldn't want to be stuck in this hole for longer than possible. Room for provisions was made in the walls. I had a sleeping-bag and I also had a supply of fresh water running from the pipes.

From inside only faint occasional rumbles could be heard. I made sure to bring plenty of literature.

I received the reports on the progress of the war every day and from what I understand the outlook was bad. There was no chance of a settlement. Britain was exhausted of missiles as were France and Russia. There was some suspicion about Russia, it had run out of weapons too early for everybody's liking. Everybody was right! Russia turned on America and shot missile after missile at them. England was used as a hostage by Russia. The warning was that the British Isles would be eliminated from the face of the Earth if America did not cease fire. Naturally, this was a cause of great concern to Britain, America, and the remaining people of the world. If America did surrender their weapons then Russia would, with China, rule the world. Then a proposition was made by a leading American politician. He said that Russia had overshot, by at least twice, the estimated number of nuclear missiles she had and China had also overshot by a large amount. So, was it possible that Russia and China were bluffing, and that they had very little or no

sounds overhead but I have found out that its only me imagining things optimistically I used to try to read but the cold penetrating into my bones forced me to move and try to get warm though I sometimes think there is no such word in this this place — I can find no appropriate word for the ugliness of the landscape. I used to hate Liverpool and all the big cities because of the grime and dirt shutting off the natural brightness and the filthy sludge pouring into exhausted rivers and killing fish so unmercifully but even so I'd love to return and just talk to a fellow human. Out here you have to speak to yourself if you want company. Sometimes when I try to sleep I hear voices, voices of people conversing and enjoying themselves. It frightens me but though I want to cry out I know its no good, nobody will hear me so I try to blot them out. All I can ever hear, in this infinite white land is the steady rhythmic beat of my own footsteps punishing the snow and leaving temporary traces of my boots.

Now as I go faster and begin to run I begin to get sense back in my legs and feet. Like two divided companions my inside tries to get heat to the exterior but its a hard battle and only exercise can win it for me. Thump . . . thump thump thump, thump, thump, thump, thump my pace quickens, like a pulsating steam engine I run along. The sun dancing up and down seems to give me hope I must run, I tell myself but my legs don't want to and I am forced to slow down. How far must I run I ask myself. Surely now I must find a route to civilisation away from this abundance of freedom and space. Surely I am I going mad or is that an aircraft I hear. Through frost dripping eyelids I cast an eye to the sky. Somewhere hidden in the blue veil I can see the distinctive shape of a helicopter with whirling blades cutting the air and keeping it airborne. Now it is coming clearer, at last I can actually see something moving. This time my eyes aren't deceiving me for my ears are in agreement with my eyes. Suddenly I find myself bouncing up and down for joy waving my arms. There is two hundred yards between me and a human being for the first time in six months. But beneath all the excitement I must remember my poor companions who didn't have a happy ending.

C. Newton L5B

NO RELIGION, NO POLITICS, NO MORALS

Such were the first words Mr. John Hilton, lending librarian at the Atkinson Central Library greeted me with when I visited his home on a wet winter's afternoon with a flat battery.

Of course, one could not be dogmatic about the workings of a library, added Mr. Hilton. Anything could happen from one day to the next. Naturally there were certain routine jobs that ensured a smooth running of the library, but with the Southport public, and Southport was emphasised in good humour, he never knew what to expect. One rather misguided lady once asked in Tony Blackburn Style, "Have you seen a man called Peter?" Mr. Hilton stopped and looked at the sympathetic and inquisitive face, so serious and did not know what she was talking about. Then it dawned,—the title of a book.

The specific qualities, he felt, that were essential for a good librarian included an orderly mind, a good memory, and more important the ability to communicate. Diplomacy was exceptionally important for one has to be an interpreter, a lip reader, with a good knowledge of sign language. The hardest job was to extract exactly what people meant and what they required. This only came with experience and kind understanding, qualities which Mr. Hilton, I am sure has come to terms with.

An interesting comment about school teachers struck me as quite astonishing. They are the ones, according to Mr. Hilton who control and try to teach the librarian mainly because of their background. In fact, Mr. Hilton has that rare quality of knowing exactly who is who, and what is what usually from the words first uttered. (He assured me there would never be another ME!) At times Jane Austen could not better. Psychology often enters into this occupation, although Freudian studies do not appeal to Mr. Hilton.

No vocational inspiration attracted into librarianship. He never considered any specific career and was lucky enough to drop into the world of books. He himself is an avid reader especially of historical fiction. Unlike the chef who dislikes his own food, he enjoys the biography. Of course to read all books would be impossible, but he always made a mental note of what came in and out. In his position he found it difficult to recommend any books to inquisitive new comers, for one man's meat is another man's poison. At least even if he had full control over the buying of books, the Southport shelves would not be solely filled with biographies and historical fiction. I then suggested what these shelves should be filled with, but with a modest smile, he did not think it was such a good idea.

Many library users must have noticed the abundance of attractive young ladies, stamping books and taking payment with fines. Mr. Hilton felt he was little distracted by them and the system worked well, although he felt sorry for the male juniors under the girls.

On censorship he felt it should be free. The library had its very own "LIMITED CIRCULATION CASE", for these books could well get into the wrong hands. As well as a protection against men with flat caps and raincoats from sincere old ladies had been received and subtly dealt with.

After a cup of coffee, Mr. Hilton explained his "El Dorado" library. The library service could be improved with a reader's advice system, a more severe time limit with a quicker turn-over, more space for display purposes and last, but by no means least, more money for books.

Southport Opera lovers will note that Mr. Hilton has appeared in the Little Theatre's production of "THE MIKADO". His other are films and the theatre, although he has no tendencies toward literary criticism, which was surprising. The writing of a book did not appeal to him.

A second cup of coffee, much a refresher, ended our little chat which has enlightened my views on the library system. By the way, Mr. Hilton can always be recognised by a cheerful smile and a pleasant word, for anyone interested in having a quick chat.

I would finally like to thank him for this interview and the coffee !

B. Searle

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I. R. Whitacker.

The end of term was brightened by a film show on Bretagne, by Mr. S. Smith. Slides were shown of various places of interest in this extremely individualistic province of France, ranging from the recent power station, to the Chateaux and the pre-historic ruins at Carnie. Mr. Smith told of the customs of Bretagne, the folklore, the famous Bretagne **crepes** and oysters, and enlightened us on its inhabitants. The Meeting was both informative and interesting, and the Bretagne's way of life although so short a distance from our native shores, contrasts markedly with our own.

Our last Meeting took the form of a joint discussion group with the High School on the present 'A' Level French Text 'Candide ou' Optimome'. Talks were given by Lauren Strang and Deborah Newman on the philosophy put forward by the novel, and B. Searle attempted to show the universality of Voltaire's theme by a comparison of the 18th and 20th Centuries topics of interest. Afterwards a discussion was started about Voltaire's style of writing, his humour and resolutions, and M. Cahin ventured to put forward his already controversial idea that 'Candide' was not a book to laugh at.

No more Meetings are envisaged this term due to the stealthily approaching exams. However, the Society would be glad to hear at the beginning of next term of anyone who has visited any interesting place abroad.

I would like to thank the support given to us this year and we all hope that the Society may continue in Voltaire's words to "culliver son jardin".

M. J. Wilding, U6B.

ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman — B. Searle

Vice Chairman — P. Aplin

Committee — E. Smith, J. Wainwright, M. Tinsley,
C. Gayton, G. Rawlinson, G. D. Smith
(6th Form Council Intermediary)

Despite remarkable apathy within certain 6th Form Circles, debate, argument and blows, an Entertainments Committee finally emerged one late Friday evening from a heated 6th Form Council Meeting with A. J. Rawcliffe fight-

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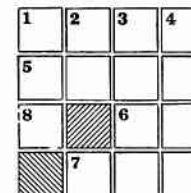
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DEBATING SOCIETY

Chairman — P. R. Frampton

Secretary — A. C. Williams

Publicity — D. I. Spencer



Across

- 1 Dopey but he doesn't want to know why.
- 5 Debated in a wintry scene.
- 6 The End
- 7 Newton's main characteristic.
- 8 is for trips of that Chairman who cried, Power stems from the barrel of a gun.

Down

- 1 Decoration for Mr. Searle.
- 2 The religious debate didn't turn anybody here.
- 3 Prefects on trial (+S) but not for smoking it.
- 4 Sheepish followers of women's lib.

P.R.F.

MUSIC SOCIETY

The various branches of the Music Society had a very hectic Lent term in preparation for the Spring Concert. It was pleasing to find so many first year boys so enthusiastically involved, and the success of the concert was due in no small part to their keenness and industry.

The former "Madrigal Choir has now successfully cast off its old misnomer and the School Choir and Madrigal Group are now two separate entities, the former acquitting itself admirably in Britten's cantata "Rejoice in the Lamb" a most original work with complex vocal rhythms and a demanding accompaniment played very well by John Morris with solo sections skilfully sung by Colin Mason, Nigel Knowles and Mr. Edwin Twigg.

The madrigal group sang four madrigals, including Morley's "Sing we and chaunt it" with a high degree of polish rewarding their term of Thursday lunchtime rehearsals, and the project which the first year had been working on all term, "The Midnight Thief" by Richard Rodney Bennett, a cantata for voices and percussion gave an opportunity to the entire second formers of taking part in the presentation of an item of their own.

On the instrumental side, the school orchestra, managing with members of the school only, coped valiantly with their four items, opening the concert suitably with the short but effective "Springtide Overture" by Woodhouse. It is hoped that the introduction of Mrs. Davies' junior string orchestra will help to solve the problem of a numerically inadequate string section next term. The VI form string trio in their performance of a Haydn Divertimento overcame the difficulties of intonation in the faster movements, which makes string ensemble work a tricky medium for concert performance.

Wind ensemble playing was well represented by the newly-formed Junior Recorder Group, comprising mostly first year boys, who, like the members of the Brass Ensemble gave a good account of themselves. It is hoped that in the future a complete recorder ensemble will be possible with the introduction of bass, tenor and lieble instruments.

As well as the ensemble and choral performances the solo items in the concert added much to its success and variety of entertainment. Bruce Wooton in his playing of Telemann's Sarabande and Figue shewed him as a cool performer capable of producing a rich tone on his instrument.

John Morris played Chopin's Fantasie Impromptu with great confidence, acquitting himself well in the brilliant opening and closing sections. It is a pity that neither this performance nor the school choir's fine presentation of "Rejoice in the Lamb" were included in the press account.

Colin Mason on the treble recorder shewed himself as a player of promise in the Telemann work, the runs in which present a formidable challenge, while Bruce Fox skilfully managed the changes of tone required in the Mozart Allegro from the 3rd horn concerto, and Glazunov's "Reverie".

The Mayor, who was present in the audience gave a vote of thanks and expressed her enjoyment of the concert and we should like to add ours to all who took part, not least. On the administrative side to Mr. Comfort and Mr Clough for overseeing the box office and smooth house-management.

Summer term, notoriously difficult for organisation of extra curricular activities, has seen the successful preparation with the School Choir of two works by the 16th century composer Gabrieli for performance with the choirs of Holy Trinity Church and the Southport Bach Society in the main concert of the Trinity Festival at the beginning of June. Despite 'O' and 'A' level school exams, trips to Long Rigg, and a shortened lunch hour choirmembers have risen most commendably to the demands made on them, giving up considerable free lunchtime to make possible the learning of these works in 5 weeks. At the time of going to press we are very much looking forward to the combined effect when all three choirs, positioned in various points in Holy Trinity Church join together with the brass instruments playing from the West End Gallery. This we hope will be the first of many occasions when K.G.V. is represented in the Trinity Festival, and we hope to be more and more involved in the town's music in the future. The school, as part of this plan has been invited to give a mid-day recital in the Art Gallery next Lent term, whilst nearer to home plans are now underway for a St. Cecilia Concert in November, to commemorate the day given to the patron saint of music.

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FOX SOCIETY

Chairman — Mr. Ward

The last two terms have seen the place and time of society debates change from the library after school, to Room 9 in the dinner hour. Most people found this to their liking as it meant that they could get home on time. However anyone who has tried to make a speech with constant munchings and chompings coming from the rear of the room soon realises that it has its drawbacks.

The First debate of the spring term gave everyone the chance to air their views on the people they hate most. The debate, "This House Believes Prefects are Wonderful" brought with it an attendance of 48 pupils who all sat back and listened while the motion was, predictably, heavily defeated. The next debate took up the more serious subject of strikes with the motion, "This House Supports Strikes", when not for the first time either, the number of abstentions outweighed the number of those supporting the motion, which was again heavily defeated.

The third debate of the term, and perhaps the most successful, was the termly Balloon Debate in which 6 people took part ranging from the highly intelligent Egbert Entwistle to the poor Montgolfier Brothers who were doomed from the very start. But the outright winner turned out to be Mr. Fitton posing (as ever) as Johanon Gamblepudding (Copyright reasons prevent the publication of his name).

The final debate of the spring term, "This House Believes in Ghosts", was used as an excuse by most people to tell their favourite ghost story to the audience. Not surprisingly, as the leader for the proposition was himself the ghost of "Nigel Toshack III" the motion was carried unanimously.

"This House Condemns Professional Football", the first debate of this term, saw a sad decline in the numbers present. Despite the lack of support the debate was very interesting and the motion was narrowly defeated.

At the time of writing, it is known that the next meeting which will be held in the library, will be the annual society Extemporary Debate and that the debate following that will be the final of the Lower School Inter-Form Debating Competition.

Thanks are extended to all who have spoken in debates and in particular to Mr. Fitton and Mr. Mooney for their posters, Mr. Davies for his leadership and well-meaning minutes and of course all those who came to the debates, without whom nothing would have been possible.

T. J. Patrick.

PREFECTS REPORT 1970-71

A Dictionary of Senior Prefects

Acknowledgements

Usually a dictionary maker, unless he is a monster of omniscience, must deal with a great many matters of which he has no first hand knowledge. (In this case I am fortunate, I have lived (and died) with these merry lads and each one is known personally to me). Also such a man, if guilty of errors or omissions will soon learn of them after publication, sometimes with gratitude to his enlightener, sometimes otherwise. In completing this collection, helpers have been many - some with systematic but utterly useless lists, others with a few isolated but valuable quips. That some of them are no longer with us to receive my heartiest thanks is fortunate for all.

Vocabulary

The words, or senses of words is normal - understandable by all S.P.'s and other intellectuals.

Spelling

The spelling adopted is for the most part, but not invariably that of the S.P.'s generally established by the dialect of Mr. D. Jackson - to him my profound thanks....

Pronunciation

Phonetic spelling is placed in brackets immediately behind such words that need it. (In layman's terms, speak it as it reads!) Having prior knowledge of the Country Bumpkins of "Monty Pythons Flying Circus" will be invaluable.

Abbreviations

S.P.'s	—	Senior Prefects
P.R.	—	Prefects room
P.M.	—	Prefects meeting
P.D.	—	Prefects dinner

A

Aplin (Paul)

Pertaining to high position! Causing apoplexy and gout. Prone to writing detention sheets when a certain person forgets! Supplier of dazzling gas-filled light-bulbs and handy lab-coat cloths!

B

Barnett (Nigel)

One of the new radicals. A fine baby-sitter — especially on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday and other nights when S.P.'s had duties to perform! Put other S.P.'s to shame with his "chic" appearance.

Bentley (Bo-peep)

A radical, wishing to form a more broad-bottomed administration — but the Old Corps proved hard to convince.

Birch (M.J.)

The amphibian pilot. Turned an apathetic ear to S.H.E.L.T.E.R. (although he fancied the bird). Reliable to the last and although (after rough treatment threatened never to give anyone a lift again, he was gradually persuaded to others way of thinking! R.I.P. Martin!

Brown (Paul)

another christmas gift from Spencer's. Reserved but determined. Together with Pook (his co-driver) formed the basis of the field patrol.

Brownson (Y-i-n)

A friendly and faithful servant "service with a smile". Famed for supplying the garages with bodywork!

Broude (Les)

Always good for a laugh — leader of the left-wing (sssh — you know what!) faction. Reliable but prone to attacks of "Sorry Dek, not this dinnertime, I'm playing football !!

Bradbury (Bradbwe)

(as usual in the wrong place!)

Surprisingly lasted the year through. As cricket captain, had a good following. Leader of dissention in the ranks. "Basher Bradbwe" — the maniacal smasher of the P.R. Motto "Any type of damage done at small fee"!

A stout Woodham's man. Thick in the arm, but not thick in the head. Claimed the title "Killer" after the S.P.'s Football match.

C

Calland (Vic)

Silent but deadly Vic. Shone in S.P. Court of Honour, and ever-present to attack proposals at P.M.

Carson (Kitty-Kool)

Despite fears of suspected sadism, and uncontrollable fits of laughter, took the rough with the smooth (or bitter with the mild), and a major part in the footballing and less educational parts of prefect's life.

D

Dickinson (Ozzy) — (O-Zee)

Prone to exaggeration although relentlessly tried to curb it — as it stretched from 'ere to 'ere. A putter of pluck (especially with a No. 2 iron on the 3rd hole).

E

Enright (Les)

A wiff of clean air in the stuffy atmosphere (incidentally it was often stuffy). Reliable and tough — like his new shoes.

F

Fletcher (Big Rob)

1 of the BIG FOUR. Someone described him as Early Wennonian — doubtful! Famed for festering abilities and as cool as a cucumber on 'Raven Crag'. Has been known to clear the P.R. in 3 seconds flat — even with the windows open! Could prove obstructive but bribed by a position on "The Buns" gave no more trouble. Founder member of Mr. J. W. Fan club!

Frampton (Pendulum Phil)

Started the year well (proved a good dangler) but responsibilities of all major societies and pressure of writing (as you will have seen) most of this — magazine, turned him to the writings of a certain Mr. J. Ruebens — man-like WOW! Gone to Cornwall — 40 beds need him.

J

Jackson (K.E.K.S.)

The centre of venting of the S.P.'s 'musty superfluity'. Has been known to lose nearly everything — news of his state of undress spreads almost as fast as he can clear the P.R. Wearer of disturbing "grunnies". Last seen hitching to Southampton after many broken romances!

Jones (Ken the Cat)

Often seen climbing through windows — at extremely unusual times. The £300 window bill is due almost entirely to him, but he's found his life's vocation — glazier! S.P. Footballer of the year. Led many choruses of "If I were the marrying kind!"

K

Knowles (Nig)

Seen here and there, now and then or when its fine, or when I've got history. Largely a tale of woe. Sparks of happiness when involved in antics of the newly acquired "Studio Couch".

L

Lucas (Dave the Rave)

Takes the title of "adviser of the year". Expert on me, you, us, we, it, then, there, now, before, etc., etc. Showed determination especially at that function (which must remain nameless) at christmas, when we just couldn't keep him out of the water!

M

Mason (The MUG)

Shouts of "Mine's a coffee Geoff" greeted this poor lad every day. Even prices rose with decimalisation. We salute you Geoff for your services to humanity!

Masters (Phil — soul brother)

Often seen in P.M. rising and rendering "Voice your Choice" by the Radians or "Blowin' in the Wind" by Stevie Wonder. Joker of the year and faithful to the last to the Old Corps.

R

Rawcliffe —

Known only by his surname. Held title "Moaner of the year" for the whole of the summer term. Last seen running to cover with pockets bulging with golf balls.

Rimmer (Toofy)

The fifth member of the Big 4, with Bradbwe could be relied upon for confusion — indeed often utterly confused himself. Noted for his gentlemanly conduct at Easter, last seen on Hands and Knees looking for left molar!

Mr. Bun himself.

S

Searle (Baz)

A reliable "Key-man" — did little else but laugh and win European essay competitions — much to a certain person's surprise and horror. Ability in flying trousers from light attachments — wanted by Horse Guards.

Seddon (John)

Second member of the Big 4 and "second in line for the chop". But 4 seems to be his lucky number — 5 means carry me home! Hardy and studious, but too much a house man to worry about the trivia of prefects life.

Smith (Ed "Shorts")

The perennial mug. Renowned for his command of the Oxford pronunciation. Had little time for shoes, or shorts or shirts, or trousers !! Tempted my Sandhurst — in order to return to Kenya and initiate a coup! Hail Present Lawrence!

Smith (Arthur)

Developed a huge right bicep from practice on the "pumps" but with modification, had the strongest digit in school.

W

Wainwright (Shane)

Often mistaken for that fine 2nd row man, S. J. Whinwright — but really no likeness. With tips from H.H.L. he designed and built a fine construction looking strangely like a rabbit hutch — in fact three pet shops have been in hot pursuit of it. Last seen picking lettuces! Last member of the BIG 4 and you know, is full of it! like!

Watson (Chris W)

Like Bo-peep a Sans Souci cool-cat. Proved amusing at the P.D. when he didn't spill a drop during acrobatic antics. The Prince of Wales screen will never be the same again.

Whittaker (S.O. Else)

Congrats to Ian on receiving colours from Lancs. Stout and resolute in P.M. Determined in cricket but his box was seen to split at Ormskirk! Although he swore he hadn't worn glasses the tell-tale tidemark proved he'd been having a spot of treatment.

Wright (A-W-A-G.)

Always provided laughs (and loot) throughout the year. Had a persecution complex — always thought I wanted him to read! Totally confused, after the Christmas festivities, when seen jumping into a glass of Brown-mixed!

Addenda

Apart from the characters of the prefects, certain incidents stand out. Bo-peep and a few others turned to arson to relieve the boredom. Special mention must be made of the supporters in Sid Powell and M. J. Farnworth — my thanks to them for their services. I must not forget those who were with us before Christmas — J. G. Tighe, R. Salkie, B. Ashton P. Buckley — the bright lights of the outside world proved too strong an attraction!

G. D. Smith U.6B

About the Author

Derek Smith took over after the departure of J. G. Tighe at Christmas and whilst keeping the inhabitants of the P.R. amused with a constant flow of jokes and antics, has also maintained the supply of Radios, sports gear, motor car and "yellow slips" etc — for repeated mutilation by the masses.

"Congratulations" to him on his choice of "Summer Holiday". He will be sailing in his own ship the S.S. ADDIDAS to walloa in the monsoon of some other coffee saturated place!!

J. Seddon U.6B

THORNLEY SOCIETY

Chairman: N. Knowles Secretary: P. Frampton
Vice-Chairman — in charge of Vice: J. Seddon
Toastmaster General: R. Fletcher
Climber and Mad Mobile Driver: J. R. Powell
Novices: F. Gorse, R. Blackman, A. Briscoe, S. Melville

'For I have said that the medium of some men is paint or stone or boats or a schoolroom, or engines, or paper and ink; that of a few is rocks and snow and the uphill movement of limbs'.

Wilfred Noyce

The Thornley Society is alive and well and living in Langdale. Having been left leaderless since last summer when the great 'Bone left us and frightened off another prospective candidate (we must have been too hard for him!) we have fallen on hard times (in more ways than one).

However, despite this miserable lack of material for the van the Thornley has been active. Standards have been raised to unprecedented heights and even our illustrious chairman honoured us with his presence on a meet in Wales — complete with kilt — though no climbing was actually done due to heavy precipitation and a recent cardiac job on Dick Powell.

At Christmas the 'really hard' men rallied forth to spend several days in Arctic type conditions in Langdale. The weather was rather cool for the time of year and the food wasn't too good either. One would get up before dawn to find a layer of frost on the inside of the tent; melt some ice in last night's unwashed curry tin and have tepid coffee and a fight for your hunk of bread for breakfast. Apart from these minor ailments two ascents of Jack's Rabe were made including a rescue of four young lads who had got stuck halfway up. On the last day relief arrived in the form of a blue land-rover containing John Seddon. He could later be seen (from the batteries of powerful telescopes at the O.D.G.) leading several unwashed and emaciated figures on the first direct winter ascent of the East face of Crimble Crag. Lower down the valley our resident crag rats — Mase Dow and Rob Fletcher also completed an epic ascent of Ninevah a V.S. in sub-zero conditions.

During the Lent term some new blood was initiated into the mysterious ways of the Thornley and at Easter a meet was held at the R.L.H. which the 4 novices, the headmaster and three 'others' (climbers ? ? ! ! !) attended. Once more the, by-now-famed, Langdale-mad-mobile, streaked up and down the valley including several having trips given by the, as yet, unlicensed Fletcher, which helped keep everyone's adrenalin level high and left the owner a nervous, shivering wreck staring in disbelief at his reflection in the bald tyres.

Some climbing was also done including a trip to Scafell where two excellent climbs were ascended and to Dow Crag where the 'others' made an ascent of the classic, Murray's Route. The novices showed promise especially two members who look like following in the steps of that greatest of swingers — Pendulum Phil — when they came to traverse the collie step. They also climbed well, each managing to record a hard V.Diff., which is quite an achievement for beginners on their first climbing expedition.

At the time of writing the hard men are engaged in somewhat duller work. But plans for the summer have been made and the bets already laid on how long four new tyres will last up in Scotland — one week . . . two . . . ? ? ! !

J. R. POWELL

CHESS REPORT

Secretary: C. A. Marshall

Captain: A. J. Rawcliffe

The School Chess team has had mixed results this season. Before Christmas the school team did very well. The good results obtained by the team enabled them to enter the top zone of the Wright Shield. In this stage of the season only one match was lost this being to Liverpool Institute II team. This was something of a surprise result as the school had already beaten their 1st team two weeks earlier. However after Christmas there was a marked decline of the team's results. This was partly due to the departure of our captain W. H. Ashton.

The record of the school team is as follows:

Played 11 Won 7 Drawn 2 Lost 2

After Christmas A. J. Rawcliffe took over the captaincy. He undoubtedly filled his role well.

On Board 2 C. Thomas played well and was probably the most consistent member of the team.

C. A. Marshall on Board 3 played well earlier on in the season although towards the end there was a decline in performance.

On Boards' 4 and 6, I. Rodgers and J. Morey played consistently throughout the season. J. Morey did exceptionally well considering it was his first season for the school team.

On Board 5, N. Stallard's results were reasonable. It is a pity though his chess game is not as good as the verbal battle which he always enters into.

Thanks also to S. Dean, P. Mooney and M. Liddle who also played and congratulations to the team on a successful year.

C. A. MARSHALL

JOINT SIXTH FORM FILM SOCIETY REPORT

President: Mr. Ward

Chairman: C. Brookfield

Secretary: M. E. Sheldon

Anyone who knows anything about the Film Society might wonder why there should be a report from it in the Summer Term, since we have no Meetings in this Term. The same thought crossed my mind when I was asked to make this report, but, apparently, it is traditional, and no-one is allowed to go against tradition, so, here it is for what it is worth.

The main event this term has been unseen by the majority of our ticket holders. It has consisted of three lengthy meetings with the High School side of our Society and its officials to pool our collective talents in order to bring a passably enjoyable programme to this year's Upper Fifth and Lower Sixth Forms next year. In this effort I believe we have succeeded to a remarkable degree, I hope those who will have to suffer our decisions next year will agree with me, and if they don't will they let next year's Committee know, for what is needed in this Society is more feedback between the organisers and the consumers.

During the year the Society has managed to obliterate last year's ignominious attendance record, (for the ignorant amongst you this means, translated, a few more members managed to attend this year than last). However, we were not without our financial difficulties which we only managed to overcome by holding a "Discotheque" and putting up our Admission charge, so that we are now again passably solvent (until next year?).

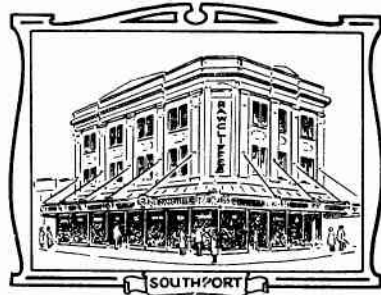
Anyone who wishes to show their appreciation of our films both past and future should not hesitate to contact any member of either Committee who will take note of the general feeling, write it down, and throw it away.

The thanks of the Committee go out to Mr. Ward who has given us the benefit of his film experience this year.

M. E. SHELDON

To RAWCLIFFES

AND THEN



To SCHOOL

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RAILWAY SOCIETY REPORT SUMMER 1971

President: Mr. D. E. Radcliffe

Chairman: G. M. Sanderson

Secretaries: N. R. George, A. S. Ryder

Tours Organiser: D. R. Geering

Committee: A. Tate, J. Whitehead

The end of this school year sees the end of the term of office of another chairman, who now gets the "golden handshake". My term of office as chairman has been most enjoyable, apart from a few differences of opinion over future policy, but at least this showed me that all committee members were taking an active interest in the running of the society, and not just lying dormant, as do some. I would like, therefore, to offer my thanks to my committee for their support, and wish them every success with the running of the society in the years to come.

Activity this term has been at a rather lower level than usual due to those major inconveniences, commonly called examinations. However, two trips have been run this term; to Dinting Railway Centre and Crich Tramway Museum and over the narrow gauge in Wales. Meetings have consisted of a very interesting (though I say so myself) if rather poorly supported talk by the Chairman on "Railways in Europe", illustrated by slides and a film-show about narrow-gauge railways in Wales.

Once again my thanks to my committee and to Mr. Radcliffe for their untiring support. G.M.S.

[Harry Jubb, who has sent us this article, left school in July, 1970, having been awarded an Open Scholarship in History at Pembroke College, Oxford — Ed.]

... AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

Leaving school with a free year before going to university, as I did last summer, presents you with something of a problem in finding an outlet during the intervening period which will sustain your interest. Having dismissed VSO through age, and France through difficulties in obtaining a work permit, I was fortunate enough to be offered a job in an English language school in Spain, and at the beginning of October arrived in Pamplona, where I worked until the beginning of April.

The school I worked at is the third in an organisation already established in Madrid and Zaragoza. The director, a language graduate in his late twenties, has settled down in Spain, but the two other teachers (who had both just finished university) were, as I was and most teachers do,

working for no more than a year. The majority of the students are working adults, which means that the bulk of the teaching takes place in the evening (though not at weekends). As regards finances my wage of £54 a month, with no deductions, (in Spain you don't pay tax, you avoid it) was quite sufficient to cover living expenses, whether you live in a 'pension' (a type of boarding house) or, like me, in a rented flat. Teaching English to Spanish adults is not too difficult once you have mastered the technique of teaching a language you have hitherto taken for granted. By and large, however, the students are quite receptive and enthusiastic. In fact, English is rapidly replacing French as the Spaniard's second language (I'm not trying to take credit for a single-handed conversion). As a job, the teaching enables you to get to know people and the more advanced classes give you some scope for discussion.

Pamplona itself, only some forty miles from the French border to the north, is perhaps best-known for the week in July, when bulls are let out into the street, and those locals and tourists courageous (or foolhardy) enough try to 'run' them. A walled city, it contains both the old and the new (on the one hand a cathedral, on the other a new university). It is the central town of the region of Navarre and also the 'capital' of the Spanish Basque country, though the real heart of Basque culture and feeling lies to the north in San Sebastian and Bilbao, in which was centred the major unrest at Christmas at the trial in Burgos of the twelve Basque Nationalists.

The region as a whole is not so well known as other parts of Spain largely, I suppose, because of the climate. Many people were genuinely surprised that I didn't come back with a fantastic sun-tan — winter in North Spain can be just as cold as anywhere in Britain. I was able to visit quite a few places including a skiing centre at Candanchu (the compensation for wintry weather). San Sebastian, which is a great centre in summer for sun-seekers and water-sports enthusiasts, and Bayonne, just over the border in France. Generally speaking, however, it is the countryside rather than the town's that is the most attractive feature of this part of Spain.

Probably the greatest advantages of working there — in addition to escaping the effects of the electricity, though not the postal, strike and apart from the remarkably low cost of the local brew — was being able to learn a little more about Spanish life and people than you could otherwise and gaining greater experience of self-reliance as a prelude to university life.

HARRY JUBB

RAMBLING CLUB

Chairman: P. R. Frampton Vice-Chairman: S. G. Wright
Chief Guide: R. A. Fletcher
Secretary: E. J. W. Seddon Treasurer: O. D. Uss

The Glossop ramble in March saw a record attendance for the Rambling Club when of the fifty-two walking not one was late. We must thank the driver for hauling the huge but cramped fifty one seater coach through Manchester to the Peak District.

The Chairman led a merry dance through some parched country stopping at tractors, Robin Hoods Dicking Rod's, streams, hills, swings and taps.

The Vice-Chairman got lost in Glossop but reached Kinder Scout without gracing the peat-bogs.

The Secretary took one look at the Doctor's Gate and turned back though the Chief Guide must learn to act first and laugh later at the sight of four foot of legs and torso disappearing in six feet of bog.

The rest of the Committee had an 'OFF' day racing through the mud in pursuit of several alluring sirens.

Mr. Radcliffe, who we thank for accompanying us, will testify to the excellent Grouse well in evidence and consequently well attended to.

To be greeted at 8-00 a.m. on a sagging Sunday morning by a Mason's vice-captain in pink and white lace pyjamas and an hour late is no joke. Especially so when you have risen at 3-00 a.m. to sprint out to Rufford to commandeer the coach. It is for these services and others that we must thank Mr. Mawer, Miss Tress, Mr. Wohlers, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley.

'When after hours of walking
you discover suddenly
the body of the woman pacing beside you
wasn't intended
for travel or wear.
That her thighs become heavy
and her buttocks shift like a weary flock,
you swell with great joy
for the world in which
women are like that.'

Yehudi Amichai

The great and grand joint ramble with Hillside High who lapped it up so fast they came back panting for more. Not

that any of them really made it. Only one party reached the top of their assigned mountain. They arrived in Sedbergh and found Toad Hall, (Toad Lane Hospital) summer residence of the Beetles, Flies and Mice, guarded by the three Musketeers, Don Juan, Giovanni and Quixote. Hereupon at the sight of these heavy, unshaven, hangovered, hosteliars, the party split.

That other laughing cavalier Dektignon didn't make it at least not with the rest, for he volunteered to take an ailing Miss Landau back to Toad Hall leaving the budding Snow White in bed. Sleepy (S. Wright), leader of the seven dwarfs discovered Miss White asleep upstairs, left her unmolested and descended to stoke the fire, settling in for a four hour vigil party (led by two of the Musketeers) concluded their mountain had grown 3,000 feet overnight and went in search of the caves which, as luck will have it, they never found.

As all the parties returned to Toad Hall it was filled with an air of good feelings. Bodies bustled to and fro, Xandy, Andy (Rawcliffe) bridging the gap with his ping-pong. Making use of the excellent facilities at the HOSTEL the guys and gals tucked in to sausages and butter with bread and coffee, so little was left untried if not eaten. With hearty farewells and R. G. Rimmer moaning (this chewing gum tastes like rubber) we almost left Frankly Fran and Simply Simon rolling in the road.

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THE BALLAD OF TREASURE ISLAND

It started with an old sea chest
In which I found a map
With details of Flint's treasure hoard
In a place called Skeleton Gap.

We set to sea one sunny day
For a dark and distant shore,
My friend was Long John Silver
But he was rotten to the core.

The crew had planned a mutiny,
By chance I heard the news,
We decided to defend the ship,
Those were the Doctor's views.

The pirates went ashore that day,
There were six left on the ship,
I jumped into the jolly boat
And gave the squire the slip.

When we landed I ran off,
Into the fevered wood,
I stopped to rest beneath a bush,
Then wondered if I should.

For Long John would not spare me
If he knew of what I'd done,
I ran again and then I met
Silver's foe, old Ben Gunn.

Meanwhile Squire Trelawny
Had gone to the stockade,
Although I knew they'd joined me,
I could but be afraid.

Ball after cannonball landed
Outside the stockade wall,
We were alright until I heard
Thomas Redruth call.

He'd been killed that was a fact,
Been shot right through the head,
We all went out to bury him
And then we went to bed.

Again I planned some mischief,
I would have to use Ben's boat,
I would try to sink the schooner
If I could stay afloat.

Just then the ship veered over
So I put away my knife
And held on to the bowsprit,
Clinging for dear life.

I saw my craft drift slowly by
 So I kicked it out of sight
 And grabbed a rope just o'er the stern
 And climbed with all my might.
 I talked to Israel, said I was boss
 And steered towards the land,
 Then went into the cabin and saw
 A knife in Israel's hand.
 I leaned against the mizzen mast
 Trying to load my gun,
 But Israel hurled his weapon,
 I thought that I was done.
 Israel he came after me,
 Running for the mast,
 I raised my gun and fired it
 And hit the rogue full blast.
 I ran into the island
 And made for the stockade,
 Unfortunately I walked
 To where the pirates layed.
 Next day we looked for the treasure
 And we had to walk up a slope,
 Carrying the picks and shovels
 It was hard to cope.
 Half way up the hillside
 We heard Flint's spirit talk,
 It made the pirates frightened
 And made the parrot squawk.
 We set to work with shovels
 And saw the hole was bare,
 "Someone's been before us",
 And all we did was stare.
 The pirates went for Long John
 To have a "bit of fun"
 Tom Morgan came to kill me
 When the Doctor fired his gun.
 Two lay dead upon the floor,
 The rest ran off in fright,
 Because they were outnumbered
 They did not stay and fight.
 Then we went to Ben's cave
 And found the treasure there,
 He'd been and taken all the gold
 Back to his mountain lair.
 We loaded it on the schooner
 And sailed on the same day
 With Long John Silver the pirate
 And Ben Gunn the castaway.

ANDREW HOLGATE, 2B

THE CRASH

The air was rent with a thunderous roar,
 The wheels lifted high off the track,
 The lights in the carriages wavered about
 Casting beams as if asking for help.
 The screams and the cries as the two trains met,
 Were lost in the noise and the clash,
 As in slow motion the great giant rolled
 On its side as the dust rose high.
 For seconds the silence could almost be felt,
 The smoke from the engine still puffed,
 A wheel here and there still turning around,
 Till suddenly it too had stopped.
 The heat from the engine was fierce and hot,
 The metal all twisted and black,
 The crash had been heard for many a mile
 The express its last journey had run.

DAVID HITCHEN, 2M

THE TRAIN CRASH

The train was travelling through the night.
 Over the bridge and past the river.
 The icy wind blows snow and hail
 Rattling on the frozen track.
 Coming to the bend the driver brakes
 But cannot stop.
 The train skids, jack-knives and plunges.
 It rolls and with dreadful noises
 Crashes to the dyke below.
 Partly sinking into the mud.
 Faint voices can be heard screaming for help.
 Diesel oil leaks from the hot engine
 And the engine erupts into flames
 The flames spread quickly,
 Engulfing dead bodies and the train.
 The shining rails were twisted and broken.
 Another train was due!
 The second train driver put on the brakes slowly.
 It might just make it.
 Dangerously the train lumbers up a bent rail,
 Tipping on its side but does not fall,
 Pouring into the blizzard to help the others.
 Shouts and cries were heard above the blizzard.
 Gradually the survivors are rescued.
 The fire put out and all that is left is a charred wreck,
 Nature had done her worst.

T. J. NELSON, 2M

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A VISIT TO TAU CETI TWO

by a Buck Rodgers fan

"Dex One 5,380 metres per second, accelerating", the radar technician said.

"Acceleration due to gravity 900 centimetres per second squared, compensated 10% by atmosphere, and increasing", said the assistant pilot.

"Altitude 90 kilometres on Dex One. Entering ionosphere", the radar technician was speaking again. Doppler on radar shows we're gaining slightly".

I turned to my flight technician. "How is she?" I asked. He didn't look up from the computer CRT display as he answered. "Dex One will land. She can't help but land now", then he muttered to himself, "some way or another".

"How's that again?" I said.

"She'll hit the ground — probably in bits", he replied dolefully.

I communicated with the mother ship, which was laughably christened Dexter. At that time I didn't feel like laughing at anything. "This is Dex Two. Dex One is going down, we're following. No radio contact with Dex One". I said this last sentence half a statement, that we had no contact with Dex One, and half a question, that of had the mother ship made contact.

"No voice contact. Docking radar just cut out. Telemetry is on again: indicates they're in a mess and all the radar's on. We're watching you both going down". A bleep as I spoke again. We're going to stick close and read her with everything we've got. I am going to try to use command radio override on 2119MHz to put her down, and we'll land as close as we can. They'll need a lot of help". Bleep. "Roger", came the reply.

My co-pilot interrupted. "We're sticking close, but it may get hot". His words were illustrated by a heavy bump that shook the spacecraft as it hit the denser layers of the atmosphere. I looked about me at my crew. I was nervous and sweat moistened my brow, as I studied each panel of the darkened cabin, darkened so that every bulb and illuminated dial glowed more clearly. On my far right, almost behind me along the starboard side of our tiny craft, was the radar and radio bank, attended by the radar technician, Sonny James, who was strapped in his harness. James was a thirty year old flying engineer with a sole inhuman interest in electronics. Next to me, standing at the helm, was my closest friend Jeff Jacobs, or J.J., as I sometimes called him. He was a short, fat forty year old man with a deeply lined face, and he was the most reliable, competent and

likeable man I knew. Then there was myself, commander of Dex Two, and behind me was the flight technician, Don Holden, standing by the computer bank on the port side.

We were beginning to feel gravity with a vengeance now, a combination of deceleration and the terrestrial pull of this planet, Tau Ceti 2; the first real gravity we had felt in months, and how it hurt. "Ionisation outside spacecraft beginning" said the radar technician. "External temperature 200°, rising fast". I didn't like this descent one little bit; it was too incautious to zoom down to a planet surface on a moment's notice. As I licked the salt moisture off my upper lip I thought about how we had got into this mess . . .

Dex One and Dex Two had been sent out six months ago to make a simultaneous interferometric reading of the interstellar distance for the aid of the navigation of the super-vessels, and radio communication with them, with Earth (though this was not often since electromagnetic transmissions were only marginally faster than the S.V.s, and the quality of the received message left much to be desired) and within the Tau Ceti system. Our Master Station for this series of measurements was the mother ship, orbiting around Tau Ceti 2, to which we returned every month to be refurbished. Also, at the end of each monthly patrol the crews were replaced by fresh men, while the other crewmembers rested for a month. It was a monotonous job that required a lot of patience at doing nothing but making sure that the antennae were picking up something and checking your position. We had another six months to go, then it would take another few weeks or a month to interpret all the magnetic tape recordings of the currently approaching S.V.s transmissions at the end of which time the S.V. would be decelerating at the distance of a few light-days.

I had been on Dex Two on the first month shift and on the third, but not on the fifth, as the flight plan controller in charge of this mission, for some reason of his own, had decided to send out Dex Three with a freshly trained crew. Therefore I got two months leave before month six. That month was now passed and the two of us, Dex One and Dex Two, were returning to Dexter; Dex One was to dock first, and as she closed on the docking facility, rather rapidly I thought, an agitated voice burst through my headset: "The RCS is firing like mad!" It was the voice of the commander of Dex One, and he sounded damn worried. I looked out the viewport and saw Dex One gyrating and spinning, smoke and flame shooting from the control quadrants, and hurtling like a meteor towards Dexter's hull. There was an intelligible shout from the co-pilot, then: "I can't shut it off. The pressure . . . fantastic!" It was very confusing. I heard

Dexter ask urgently the nature of the malfunction. "Pressure in RCS . . ." Then there was a loud thump in the headset, coinciding with a flash from Dex One. At that moment one corner of the small craft blew to fragments. However, the explosion averted a worst accident. It blasted Dex One off its fatal trajectory towards the docking facility, but it just, and only just, by mere centimetres, missed the curved receding hull of Dexter, and disappeared under the mother ship.

At the time of the explosion three things suddenly happened. Most notable to me was that my headset became as quiet as a tomb. Out in space I saw that Dex One had stopped spinning and firing the RCS* and instead it had shot off, out of control, on a path angled downwards to the planet. Where Dex One had been was now an expanding sheet-like cloud of vapour and debris.

Dexter was calling: "Dex Two?"

"Roger, this is Dex Two".

"Can you see Dex One?"

"Negative, not now, Hidden by Dexter. Dex One heading down".

"Fix yourself so you can track her".

"Roger", I said, and immediately took hold of the control handles, left for throttle, right for altitude. "Sonny, stand-by to watch Dex One, and prepare for landing radar procedure".

Probably the malfunction on Dex One was one of these snowball faults where something doesn't work making something else go wrong and so on till before you know it you're in real trouble. Maybe a loose connection on the thermostat of the helium tank had caused the pressure in the fuel tank to be too high. Dex One's co-pilot had said the pressure was fantastic. The liquid helium would have vapourised and the pressure, normally used to force small amounts of hypergolic propellants* together to create thrust in the RCS quadrants, had fed too much fuel into the system and jammed the control vents open. These vents were operated by small solenoids running on low power, but in an emergency such as this the solenoids could be over-loaded at the same time activating a failsafe device that would shut the vents hydraulically from a contingency helium tank, and keep it shut. However, when the co-pilot had tried this, the consequent build up in pressure had blown up, like an over-filled balloon, either a fuel tank or a helium tank; either way, it meant that Dex One had only its main motor left, and was otherwise helpless, even if the crew were not injured. They could just as easily be dead.

(*RCS: Reaction Control System, used to position and manoeuvre all spacecraft)

Dex One, we now knew, had life on board still because she had altered her trajectory by using her main motor. This was obviously damaged however, as I had seen the burn from Dex Two before the re-entry glow got too great, and it was very much underpowered. Those on board were preparing to land but whether they were on course or not we could not yet tell. However, as the main motor cut out never to burn again, we entered radio blackout and were out of contact with Dexter and with Dex One, whose signals were relayed from Dexter. Nor could we see Dex One owing to the external glow.

It was Sonny's job to watch the radar, and Don's job to watch the flight systems, and to state what was happening for the benefit of the pilots, thus: Sonny: "11 minutes to touchdown, mark. 2 minutes to end of radio blackout. Standing by to re-establish radio contact". Don: "Cabin pressure 7.5 p.s.i."

"Time for IMU* helmets, you first, Sonny", I said.

"Roger".

"Don next".

"Okay".

I decided to be next at donning a helmet so that I could return to the controls as soon as possible.

"Take her, J.J. . . . Okay time for your brain-bucket".

"ECS* on", Don said, then he noticed a dial in front of him, "Condensate tank in ECS is full. Shall I dump it?".

"Okay", I said.

"Coming out of radio blackout", Sonny said. "Dexter restoring relay contact with Dex One. Releasing radar chaff* Command and Communication System with Dex One is responding on 2282.5MHz".

"Good. Don, can I release the heat shield on their 'chutes, and their radar chaff?".

"Yeh . . . on 2108.8MHz".

"Dexter calling Dex Two, the radar chaff has released from Dex One".

"Hey!" I said, "We're picking up no telemetry from Dex One. What's the frequency?".

"2276.5MHz, but it's dead", was the emotionless reply. If that fairing didn't jettison, and without telemetry we couldn't tell whether it had, Dex One would meet Tau Ceti at hundreds of feet per second.

"Our landing sequence has begun", said Sonny.

It's a long way to a planet surface, a very long way. Unpowered, we fell like a stone, each of us concentrating on his instruments and uttering curt statements on our observations

"Altitude 10,000 feet, speed 200 f.p.s., pilot deploy", J.J. said.

*Hypergolic propellants: ignite on contact

"Hey!" Sonny shouted, "Telemetry's on again; Dex One's parachutes are still cased up!".

Now what was I to do? Jacobs was controlling us now, compensating for a slight drift away from Dex One by using the Attitude Control System. We were slowing up now and our craft would land by itself. So would Dex One, but in a radically different manner.

"2 minutes", Don muttered. We were almost down.

"I think . . ." said Sonny uncertainly, "yes, someone on Dex One is . . . Her chutes are open . . ." The jubilant note in his voice was cut short by a gasp of anger. "Too late!" he screamed. "They were too bloody late!" Dex One had hit the ground at over 100 feet per second.

Once we had landed we kept our IMUs on, for outside a wind of cyclonic proportions at a temperature of 35° C was stirring the dust into a frenzy. I and J.J. found Dex One, a heap of wreckage like an egg with its smooth shell broken and its yolk spilled out. A liquid oxygen tank, fractured, had blown out of the craft with a fiery bang and was burning fiercely ten yards away. At least that was the only fire. Probably the crew had dumped the fuel on the way down.

Dex One had landed slightly on one side deep into the dust. The Equipment Module was mere tangled junk, the aft storage bay had been crushed flat together with whatever had been in it, the landing legs smashed off. The elliptical ribs of the pressurised cabin had all snapped at a point diametrically opposed to the impact side, and were sticking up like the twisted prongs of some giant fork. I struggled over a spherical tank of something that was still attached by tubes, wires and bits and pieces of framework structure to the main hub of the wrecked craft, and hauled myself and my Portable Life Support System up the heat blasted sides of Dex One, seeking purchase from the numerous breaks, cracks and holes in the hull. In doing this I caused the hull to shake to such an extent that an ACS nozzle cluster flush with the hull suddenly toppled down towards me, taking a considerable chunk of the hull and the spacecraft innards with it. I pressed myself against the craft and prayed that my PLSS didn't jutt out too far, as the debris fell to the ground. Later J.J. found amongst the

(*IMU: intravehicular mobility unit, pressure suit worn inside craft)

(*ECS: environmental control system, air supply and purification)

(*Radar chaff: metal foil thrown from craft to assist radar tracking)

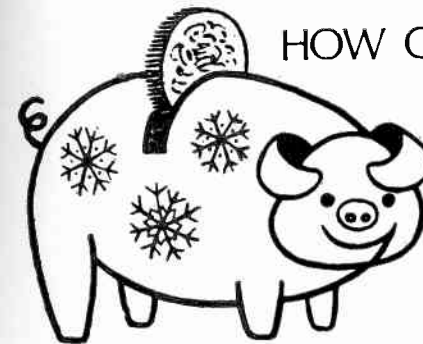
scattered fragments of this item, after it had hit the ground, the helium pressure regulating module which had obviously failed to function. Meanwhile I crawled through the hole the ACS cluster had created into the mangled and mutilated cabin.

One side was buckled inwards, or rather the floor had met the roof, where the ribs had broken, thus killing the radar technician and the co-pilot. The captain was trapped by his legs by this and by the front bulkhead, which seemed to have sunk through the floor. Dangling in mid-air by his harness was the flight technician, the floor under his feet had gone, ripped out by some bulky fuel tank from below. The visor of his helmet was cracked and stained with blood, but the intake regulator on his ECS connection indicated that he was breathing steadily. Considering how they had landed they were very lucky indeed to be alive, or even in one piece.

We had just freed both of them and lowered them to the sand when Don and Sonny called me on the EVA radio. "Captain, we've had no contact with Dexter since we landed", he said, a little apprehensively. "But get this", Don interrupted, "Somehow we purged all our fuel on the way down. We've not one drop left!" To say that I was stunned was an understatement. I didn't care to ask myself how it had happened. Someone, in that unbearable tension of the descent, had pressed the wrong button and dumped all our fuel, and, unbelievably, had not even noticed. None of us had. We were stuck here till Dexter sent a rescue craft.

In the meantime we administered medical aid to our comrades, the survivors of Dex One. Then we waited. With six of us remaining food supplies would last about ten days at normal rations, longer if we stretched them out. Anxiously we listened for the radio to say, Dexter calling, but it stayed obstinately silent. Maybe, in this disastrous series of jinxes, we had jinxed that too.

PETER H. BIRD, U5S



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