



THE HULMEIAN

1978

The HULMEIAN

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SCHOOL NOTES AND NEWS

This year we say goodbye to a larger number of staff than has been usual of late.

Dr. Powrie leaves us for a well-earned retirement. He joined the staff nineteen years ago as Head of Chemistry and under his guidance the numbers taking it at 'O' and 'A' level have risen steadily, and the equipment and facilities of the Chemistry department have been extended and developed. Our best wishes to him and Mrs. Powrie for a long and happy retirement.

Dr. Hignett has left to pursue chemical research in an oil company. An athlete of international standing, he contributed widely to the school on and off the sports field.

Mr. McNair leaves us for a career in commerce. As well as furthering our contacts with Oxford and Cambridge he developed our Squash Club and enlivened the social gatherings of the staff.

Mr. McDonald leaves us after ten years in the Geography Department to pursue a career in Accountancy. After overcoming his serious illness of eighteen months ago, he flexed his muscles in preparation for his vocational training by getting a distinction in 'A' level Economics in record short time.

Mr. Percival, after sterling services in the P.E. Department, and especially in the development of swimming and water-polo, leaves us to work in the oil industry.

Mr. Fogg after a year in the English Department returns to the theatrical world.

Mr. Cole emigrates to Australia after five years in the Maths Department and a year as Gaskell House Master.

Mrs. Johnson leaves us to begin family life in earnest after teaching French and helping with the organisation and supervision of tennis. Our best wishes to her and her baby.

Mr. Murray, after six years in the school which have seen him in charge of Rugby and an invaluable C.C.F. Officer, leaves to become Head of P.E. at Loreto College.

Mr. Daniels moves to Leeds Grammar School after four years in the Maths Department. He leaves behind him a flourishing Chess Club as a tribute to his enthusiastic work in the school.

Mrs. Thompson, after stepping in upon Dr. Hignett's leaving has decided to pursue a post-graduate course in Education.

We welcome to the staff in September 1978, Mr. T.J. Knight (English), Mr. R.A. Ballantyne (History), Mr. P.C. Hallworth (Geography), Mrs. I.B. Wright (German), Mr. G.B. Moss (Physical Education), Mr. C. Seddon (Physical Education), Mr. H.M. Symonds (Mathematics), Mr. L. Sharp (Mathematics), Mr. I.D. Lewis (Chemistry) and Mr. A. Simkin (Chemistry).

We congratulate Mr. Cole on his marriage, Mr. and Mrs. McDonald on the birth of a daughter and Mr. & Mrs. McNair on the birth of a daughter.

Founder's Day 1978 was held on the 7th February when the school was addressed by The Rev. Canon J.R. Smith, M.A., Rector and Dean of Bury.

The following Open Awards were won during the year: D.S. Cordingley, Abbot's Scholarship in Mathematics, Brasenose College, Oxford; N.M. Mitson, Exhibition in Physics, Keble College Oxford, and Woollam Scholarship; R.N. Morris, Exhibition in Classics, Clare College, Cambridge.

P. Collins, D. Fraser, S. Gilbey, G.R. Hepburn, and N.R. Pond were appointed prefects during the course of the year.

The Head of School 1978-9 is N.W. Hewitt and the prefects are: J.M. Boyle, D.A. Campbell, S. Chantler, O.C.D. Cooper, R.K. Cox, H.S. Davies, D.A. Hanley, M.R. Hawkins, J. Holden, S.J. Keeling, D.C. Loynes, G.H. Mills, D.M. Platts, N.R. Pond, P.A. Rainford, D.G. Richards, J.M. Reed, M.J. Sandy, A.J.C. Sidebotham, P.G. Turner, and K.J. Wadsworth.

OBITUARY

Sir Herbert John Seddon, Kt., C.M.G., D.M., M.A.(Oxon), M.B., B.S.(London), F.R.C.S. (England), Hon. F.A.C.S., Hon. LL.D(Glasgow), M.D. (Honoris Causa, University of Grenoble and University of Malta).

Sir Herbert Seddon died on December 21st., 1977 at the age of 74. He was one of the most distinguished men ever to have been educated at William Hulme's Grammar School and, though he left the Manchester area when he left School, he always kept up his interest in the School and in the Old Hulmeians Association to the end of his life.

He was born in Derby, but his family moved to Heaton Moor in 1913, and he attended the School from the September of that year through the difficult years of the first World War until June, 1920. His family then moved to the London area and he became a student at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He had been a prefect in his last year at School, active in all the activities that were possible in those days of war and post-war troubles, and a regular attendee at the Harvest camps that were part of the School's war effort.

After an exceptionally distinguished undergraduate career at St. Bartholomew's, including the award of the coveted University of London Gold Medal, and after the usual post-graduate junior hospital appointments, he chose to follow the speciality of orthopaedic surgery. He went for two years to the University of Michigan for further study in that subject and there he met Miss Mary Lytle. They married in 1931, and he never failed to acknowledge his enormous debt to her for her support and for her unflagging faith in him as he proceeded on his remarkable career. He came back to Britain in the year of his marriage to take up the post of Resident Surgeon at the Country Branch of the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital and it was there, at Stanmore, that he became an outstanding authority on the treatment of crippling diseases, especially those affecting children and particularly paralysees and tuberculosis of bones and joints. In 1939 he accepted the post of Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery in the University of Oxford where, during the second World War, he organised a special centre for the treatment of service-men whose wounds affected the nerves of their limbs. It was on the basis of this work that he later published the standard text-book on the treatment of nerve-injuries.

During the War he was summoned to deal with a devastating epidemic of poliomyelitis in Malta when that island was already sorely tried by continuous enemy bombing. His unique organising skill, and his remarkable knowledge of the care of paralysed patients enabled him and the few local surgeons to cope with this disaster despite their very limited resources and all the difficulties of enemy attacks. Later, he was called to meet a similar crisis when a severe epidemic of poliomyelitis struck Mauritius and, later still, to advise the government of Argentina when that country met its first severe outbreak of that disease.

In 1946, the University of London inaugurated an Institute of Orthopaedics, and Seddon, the Institute's immediate choice as its first Director, left Oxford to return to the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, in which the Institute was housed. Later, he became the first Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery in the University of London, retaining his directorship of the Institute. His magnificent work in that post led to even greater national and international recognition. Appointed C.M.G. in 1951, he was knighted in 1964, and he was in constant demand all over the Western World and the British Commonwealth; there were few governments, including that of Britain, which did not call upon his advice from time to time. Among his more celebrated patients were Sir Winston and Lady Churchill when they, in turn, fell victims to serious injuries.

A devout Christian, he took great pride in his appointment as Reader in his Parish Church in Stanmore, where tribute was paid to him in a crowded Memorial Service in January. It was characteristic of him that he had expressed a strong desire that any such service should be held in his own Church and conducted by his own Rector, and not in one of the perhaps more celebrated central London churches.

Seddon was a considerable wit; an excellent lecturer, a delicate and careful operator, a good

classical scholar and, when younger, a keen climber. His loyalty to the School and to the Old Hulmeians Association was demonstrated on many occasions. Despite the travelling involved, he was a School Governor from 1964 to 1972, when, partly because of increasing deafness, he felt compelled to resign. He was President of the Association in 1961-62.

It is difficult to write dispassionately of a very great man who was a loyal friend, an excellent colleague and a man of the utmost personal integrity. If the School had produced no other man of distinction, and it has produced many, it should still boast that it was the Alma Mater of H.J. Seddon.

PRIZE GIVING, 1978

On July 12th, the Chairman of the Governors welcomed Mr. P.G. Mason, the retiring High Master of 'the other Grammar School in Manchester' to address us and distribute the prizes. A hundred years ago, Mr. Griffiths said, Manchester Grammar School objected to our foundation, particularly since we were then a school in the country, but within a few years they moved from the city, following our lead, and since then there has been no hatchet to bury.

The Headmaster paid tribute to Mr. Mason's distinction in the educational world as a prominent advocate and defender of Independent Education and the ex-Direct Grant Schools, the architect of the assisted place scheme of the present Opposition, a member of the Councils of Manchester University and Salford University, and the Chairman of the Council of the British Volunteer Programme, and of the Council for Education in World Citizenship.

The Headmaster reported on a second year of independence in which very large numbers had applied for entry, resulting in a slight increase in our entry for September 1978, and welcomed the initiative of the Greater Manchester Council in providing a Trust Fund to assist significant numbers of parents in sending their sons to us. The School's Appeal Fund, the Headmaster was pleased to report, had also been able to provide valuable help to large numbers of parents.

In public examinations, the Headmaster reported, we obtained three awards and six places at Oxford and Cambridge, and at 'A' level an improvement on 1976, especially in the numbers of grade 'A' passes. 65 boys obtained three passes each, and 27 obtained two each. At 'O' level 69 boys passed in seven or more subjects, and 16 in five or more. This was not quite up to 1976's record level, but still very pleasing. 68 boys went on to degree courses at Universities and Polytechnics.

In reviewing the year's games programme the Headmaster made special mention of the highlight of the cricketing season: a three week visit by a party of seventeen boys led by Mr. Wilde and Mr. Shaw to the Caribbean. He congratulated them on their hard work in mounting and financing the venture, worthwhile in itself and valuable to the school.

The C.C.F. Contingent, the Headmaster reported, though down somewhat in numbers, had put all but five boys through the Army Proficiency Certificate Course and had made an impressive showing at the annual inspection.

On the drama side the year saw a resurgence of vitality, particularly in the House Plays and in the activities of the Drama Club. The Musicians produced a well attended concert and achieved a 100 per cent pass rate in the Associated Board examinations.

The Headmaster said goodbye to the members of staff leaving and thanked them for the many contributions to the School's life.

Turning to the Parents' Association, the Headmaster thanked them for their donations and contributions so valuable to the School community and the welfare of the boys in it.

Reverting to the theme of independence the Headmaster welcomed the continuing trickle of donations and covenants to the Appeal Fund and deplored Central Government's forbidding two Local Authorities' taking up places in the School. It was important, he said, that links should be maintained with the State sector and that we should avoid isolation.

Mr. Mason in his address reminded us of the origins of the tradition of education in which our School and Manchester Grammar School stand in the intellectual and cultural ideals of the 16th century Humanists, Erasmus, More and Fisher. The values inherent in this tradition are not often made explicit but learnt by a process of osmosis. The Humanists had seen the need to educate professional people, the clergy and lawyers, in something much wider than the techniques of their vocations. The motto "Godliness and Good Learning" pointed to something more important than academic achievement – integrity. This tradition, which produces people, not experts, is still the backbone of English education.

It is now under attack as 'elitist', but, Mr. Mason insisted, no society can exist without élites. The word is essential and complimentary but élites have to be unselfish and possess integrity. The Direct Grant Schools had fostered social mobility and kept the professional classes in touch with the whole people. Schools, he said, are not a convenient tool for social engineering, and selection is inevitable. Too much stress on equality threatens other liberties, and it is essential for the health of the community that an educated public capable of discussing the great issues of, for instance, politics, religion and sex, should have its loyalties to a variety of educations and backgrounds. The Direct Grant Schools, he said, are not defeated but retreating in strength.

PRIZE LIST 1978

First Forms: English—A.B.N. May; French—G.A. Humphreys; Latin—M.L. Artley; History—G.A. Humphreys; Geography—N.E. Hussey; Mathematics—M.L. Artley; Chemistry—M.L. Artley; Biology—M.L. Artley; Music—M.L. Artley; Craft—P.I. Price; Religious Education—M.L. Artley; The William Taylor Memorial Prize—M.L. Artley.

Second Forms: English—D.I. Jaquiss; French—J.M.D. Sealy and M.J. Taylor; Latin—M.J. Taylor; History—A.D. Emsley; Geography—R.D. Hardern; Mathematics—C. Smith; Physics—R.D. Hardern; Biology—I.C. Thompson; Music—I.C. Thompson; Art—S.J. Barratt; Religious Education—A.M. Zaidi.

Third Forms: English—A. Prestwich; French—M. Crowther; Spanish—F.N. Hussain; Latin—J.R. Kay; History—A.J. Scully; Geography—I.R. Jones; Mathematics—P.A. Stepanek and M.J. Elston; Physics—F.N. Hussain; Chemistry—A.N. Simpson; Music—K. Price; Art & Craft—C.R. Manka and I.G. MacMillan.

Fourth Forms: English—P.G.A. Gartner; French—S.J. McNicholls; German—H.S. Brooks; Spanish—A.J. Moffat; Latin—S.J. McNicholls; Greek—R.J. Wakefield; History—E. Livingstone; Geography—P.G.A. Gartner and J.N. Hemy; Mathematics—R.J. Artley; Physics—A. Reece and A.J. Moffat; Chemistry—G. Fish; Music—M.H. Kreissl; Art—S.J. Bradshaw; Craft—D.L. Evans.

Fifth Forms: Parents' English Prize—R.J. Artley; Caiger French Prize—I.M. Smith; German—T.A.M. Maula; Spanish—D.B. Lister; Latin—I.M. Smith; Greek—A.D. Hoffmann; History—I.P. Grange; Hewlett Geography Prize—W.S. Whipp; Mathematics—A.D. Hoffmann; Physics—A.P. Leech; Chemistry—A.P. Leech; Music—M. Etchells; Art—A.N. Phillips; Craft—D.A. Parry.

Lower Sixth Forms: English—G.L. Lowe; French—M.F. Packman; German—M.F. Packman; Latin—J.P. Marland; Greek—R. Jones; Ancient History—S.J. Malcolm; History—M.L. Bankes; Geography—S. Keeling; Mathematics—P.J. Needs and P.J. Latham; Further Mathematics—M.A. Puddephat; Physics—P.J. Needs; Chemistry—P.J. Needs; Biology—J.W. Reed; Human Biology—G. Mills.

Middle Sixth Forms: Forrest English Prize—I.R. Fishwick; Hawley French Prize—D.R. Tracey; German—D.R. Tracey; Latin—D.A. Campbell; Greek—G.J. Davies; Ancient History—N.R. Pond; History—D.M. Heaton; Geography—R.A. Porter; Mathematics—F.L. Chaudhri; Further Mathematics—N.J. Roberts; Physics—W.J. Shepherd; Chemistry—P.S. Jones; Biology—D.A. Hanley; Music—R.K. Cox.

Upper Sixth Forms: Knoop English Prize—J.C. Mayoh; Vlies Modern Languages Prize—J.P.B. Sandy; Dorrington Latin Prize—J.I. Sherman; Dorrington Greek Prize—R.N. Morris; Dehn History Prize—J. Beesley; Lymer Mathematics Prize—N.M. Mitson; Allman Further Mathematics Prize—S.D. Cordingley; Palmer Physics Prize—N.M. Mitson; Old Hulmeians' Biology Prize—G. Jeffries.

Special Prizes: D.Ll.Griffiths Prize for Medical Subjects—A.K. Bose; Aspinall Religious Knowledge Prize—D.R. Tracey; Original Verse Prizes—D. Storey and M.E. Prideaux; Powell Scripture Reading Prize—D.A. Campbell; Anderson English Essay Prize—G.L. Lowe; Watkins Prize—P.G. McNaught; Graham Johnson Memorial Prize—D.M. Heaton; Eric Barnes Memorial Trophy—N.W. Hewitt; J.A. Barber Prize—N.W. Hewitt; J.A. Barber Prize (Proxime Accessit)—R.K. Cox; Woollam Scholarship—N.M. Mitson; Caswell Scholarship—S.D. Cordingley; C.H. Jones Prize—S. Gilbey; Gradus Prize—M.P. Evans; James Gozzard Prize for Craft—A. Jones; Halpin History Essay Prize—R.A. Porter.

Leavers, 1977-78

U6A

J. Beesley, Selwyn College, Cambridge, Archaeology & Anthropology.
D.R. Blagden, King's College, Cambridge, History/Law.
J.R. Brodie, Manchester Polytechnic, Chartered Accountancy.
R.H. Evans, Van Mildert College, Durham, Geography.
R.C. Higham, Birmingham University, Law.

M6A-1

C.J. Andrew, General Accident Fire & Life Corporation, Trainee.
P.B. Conway, Sheffield University, English.
D.P. Coutts, Stockport College of Education, Art & Design Foundation Course.
R.D. Leak, Swansea University, B.Sc. Economics.
J.M. Parsons, Blackpool Polytechnic, H.N.D. Institutional Management & Hotel Catering.
P.L. Sherlock, Preston Polytechnic, Journalism.
P.A. Stockton, Williams & Glyn's Bank Ltd., Bank Clerk.
R.P. Todd, Hull University, American Studies.

M6A-2

I.D. Endlar, Hull University, Law.
D.R. Nicholson, Durham University, Anthropology and Psychology.
K.H.S. Swanson, York University, English.

M6A-3

P.D. Barker, Salford University, Geography.
R.A. Boyd, Newcastle University, English.
S.A. Brauner, Applying to University, 1979.
D.S. Dodd, Liverpool Polytechnic, Quantity Surveying.
S. Gilbey, Manchester Polytechnic, Accountancy Foundation Course.
G.I. Heads, Manchester Polytechnic, H.N.D. Hotel Catering and Management.
G.R. Hepburn, Aston University, Birmingham, Business Administration and French.
A. Wibberley, Williams & Glyn's Bank Ltd., Bank Clerk.

U6C

P.G. McNaught, Birmingham University, Law.
J.C. Mayoh, York University, English Literature.
R.N. Morris, Clare College, Cambridge, Classics.
S.J. Sherman, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, Classics.
S.J. Wild, New College, Oxford, Law.

U6L

A.M. Mills, Bristol University, French and Italian.
J.P.B. Sandy, Exeter College, Oxford.

M6L

T. Lyons, Grey College, Durham, French and German.
C.J. Wrigley, Leeds Polytechnic, Business Management.
H. Zadora-Skwarczynski, London University, Russian.

U6M

S.D. Cordingley, Brasenose College, Oxford, Mathematics.
M.S. Hobbs, Bristol University, Maths and Physics.
G. Holland, Durham University, Physics.
N.M. Mitson, Keble College, Oxford, Physics.

M6M

S.M. Haythorne, East Anglia University, Mathematics.
A.J. McLaren, Liverpool Polytechnic, Nautical Studies.
A.B. Polding, Bradford University, Civil Engineering.
A.U. Shaikh, Manchester University, Computer Science.
M. Standring, Manchester University, Computer Science.
S.R. Winstanley, Exeter University, Engineering Science.

U6S

S.J. Seddon, University College of North Wales, Bangor, Electronic Engineering.
D. Shah, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Dentistry.

M6S(MPC)-1

H.M. Beighton, Birmingham University, Electronic Engineering and Physics.
J.S. Bradley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Economics and Accounting.
F.L. Chaudhri, St. Bart's College, London, Medicine.
J.S. Clough, Leeds University, Mathematics.
P. Collins, Sheffield University, Medicine.
D. Fraser, Manchester University, Mechanical Engineering.
P.S. Jones, Manchester University, Chemistry.
J.D.P. Kissack, St. Bart's College, London, Medicine.
S.W. McLaren, Bristol University, Aeronautical Engineering.
M.W. Richardson, North Staffordshire Polytechnic, Electrical Engineering.
W.J. Shepherd, Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge, Natural Sciences.
M.J. Spittal, Leeds University, Medicine.
J.D. Tricker, Salford University, Engineering Metallurgy.
I.M. Wallwork, Manchester University (1979), Mechanical Engineering.
P.R.H. Wilson, Liverpool University, Chemistry.

M6S(MPC)-2

S.J. Clough, Manchester University (1979), Mechanical Engineering.
M.K. Hunt, Midland Bank Ltd., Bank Clerk.
B.M. Wilkinson, Birmingham University, Civil Engineering.

M6S(PCB)

P.N. Carrington, University College of North Wales, Bangor, Zoology/Marine Zoology.
R. Hall, Trent Polytechnic, Nottingham, Applied Biology (Degree).
J.F. Morton, University College of North Wales, Bangor, Marine Biology.
R.E.J. Timmins, Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester (1979), Rural Estate Management.
C. Waldon, Stirling University, Physics.

L6A-3

A.C. Tippman, Manchester Police Force, Cadet.

L6S(MPC)-2

J.D. Carp, Openshaw Technical College, T.E.C. Diploma – Audio, Radio and Television.

M.C.W.J. Manning, George Wimpey & Co., Trainee Site Engineer.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

C.F.F. NOTES

The past year has been one of great satisfaction for all concerned: the standard of training remained at a very high level, and our various activities were both numerous and exciting.

The Easter Camp, to mention but one, must have been the wettest in living memory. There being a separate article on this, I will say no more, except that despite having been an Instructor in Snowdonia for over three years, I have never before experienced such bad weather. This alone should emphasise the atrocious conditions.

The Annual Inspection this year was carried out by Colonel Greenwood from North West District. The Contingent's good performance left him in no doubt as to the efficiency of the various platoons. We ended the morning with a March and Shoot Competition which was won by Sergeant Loyne's platoon in a cracking time.

Annual Camp was an attachment to the 1st King's Regiment at Colchester. Training was progressing steadily when the Battalion were put on immediate standby, and all personnel were recalled from leave. The reason for the alert was the Israeli talks at Leeds Castle. It disrupted our training, but we were able to complete a programme of our own making which was very rewarding.

We look forward to the New Year with our highest recruit intake for a number of years. A grand total of sixty one should keep out N.C.O.'s busy for the first six months.

We say goodbye to Mr. Murray and Mr. Percival who are moving to other positions. They both gave loyal service to the Contingent, and we shall miss them. We wish them both luck in the future. Mr. Fisher will be joining us this year, and I am sure that he will settle in quickly and enjoy the future years with the Corps.

J.F.C.

C.C.F. EASTER CAMP, MARCH 19th to MARCH 27th, 1978

The advanced party of the W.H.G.S. Combined Cadet Force arrived in Snowdonia to discover all possible camping sites flooded. . . not a good start to a planned week of living under canvas! The conditions were so dreadful that it was decided that camping was impossible and Capt. Chudleigh managed to persuade Capel Curig Army Training Camp to find accommodation for Officers and troops inside centrally-heated wooden huts.

On the following day, the remainder of the School party arrived on the lower slopes of Snowdon and pitched camp. It was now snowing lightly, but the cadets set off for a recce of the surrounding area with Mr. Murray. Meanwhile, the snow had turned to rain and began to cascade down the mountain slopes.

When the cadets returned – two hours later – the campsite was a Nile Delta with water careering through lumps of canvas. The tents were wrung into their bags and the cadets marched back to Capel Curig Army Training Camp.

Tuesday the 21st was in complete contrast to the weather of the two previous days and the cadets enjoyed seven hours walking in the Reinoggs, practising map and compass work. Most of the recruits were very quick to learn the various techniques required, but A. Bowyer attempted to lead the recruits off the top of "Clip" at 610 metres, where the contours were closest together! J.M. Parry suggested the use of parachutes to Bowyer, but the idea of holding your cape above

your head and leaving the mountain gracefully was rejected by Mr. Clark.

The rain continued to fall on Wednesday 22nd, and Snowdonia was too dangerous for an expedition. Not wanting to go home, the Officers and recruits arrived at the School cottages at Hardraw early in the afternoon and began to prepare Thursday's walking over Widdale Fell to Ribbleshead and camping at Chapel-le-Dale.

In the morning the surrounding fells were covered in snow, but the sun was shining and the cadets moved out at 09.00 hrs. Widdale Fell provided fabulous snow-walking, but on arriving at the top of Sandy Hill a blizzard forced the cadets to abandon their planned exercise and return to the cottages.

Friday the 24th proved to be a very successful day with the two cadet sections walking around each other's orienteering course, on the lower slopes of Dodd Fell. The evening was spent preparing routes across Ingleborough and Wharfedale to arrive in Dent at 17.00 hrs.

Ingleborough gave no problems, and the cadets left Chapel-le-Dale at 13.00 hrs. to walk over Wharfedale. Unfortunately, the weather played its part again, and a severe hail-storm forced the boys to return to Chapel-le-Dale. The hail-storm turned to snow and the cadets were driven back to Hardraw in blizzard conditions.

The final day for walking was Sunday the 26th and the next target was Wharfedale. Snow was still very obvious on the tops of the Fells, but the cadets made excellent time to arrive on the summit at 15.00 hrs. On the way to the transport the cadets had a snowman building competition... the final reproductions of C.C.F. Officers were quite artistic!

Despite the terrible weather conditions, the cadets walked 75 miles in six days, with an average of 5½ hours walking each day. The morale of the whole C.C.F. party was exceptionally high, and thoughtful leadership from Cpls. Hawkins, Sutcliffe and Tippman, and Cadet Davison ensured a positive attitude from all the boys throughout the eight days away. Indeed, the recruits performed admirably on every occasion, despite the weather's attempt to sabotage the Easter Camp of 1978.

A.J.P., Lt.

RICHARD OF GLOUCESTER

The School Play, 1977

This year's play, produced by Mr. P.J. Callaghan, was Gordon Daviot's historical drama *Dickon*, presented on the evenings of December 7th, 8th and 9th, 1977 under the title *Richard of Gloucester* to make its theme more explicit. It shows King Richard III, not as the villain with whom we are familiar in Shakespeare's version, but as a kindly and responsible politician and family man, tough only when necessary and wielding power from altruistic motives. Historians differ as to which of the two conflicting images of Richard is nearer the truth, but it is fascinating to see a foil to Shakespeare's demon, and the script, though often trite and thin, explores with delicacy the impact of a saintly Richard on those around him. Its large cast of thirty-one and its wide variety of characters give scope for many boys of all ages and talents to take part, and thus the choice of play was doubly welcome.

D.M. Platts in the title role conveyed with equal conviction the many changes in mood demanded — geniality and tenderness with Anne, Elizabeth and Lovell; more restrained warm-heartedness with the guildsmen of Gloucester; concern tempered by deference with Edward IV; firm authority and righteous indignation in the confrontations with the Woodville faction and later with the openly critical Buckingham. A lesser actor would have lapsed into petulance in these last-mentioned scenes, and risked inaudibility in his more introspective sequences, but Platts avoided such dangers. He electrified the atmosphere with his stunned but never over-played reactions to unexpected news — Edward's death, Buckingham's outburst which leaves the King "cold with shock", the malicious gossip that he plans to marry his niece. A performance to remember.

C.S. Rogerson was Lovell, Richard's devoted follower. He managed well the unusual blend of fearless bluntness and total loyalty. Rogerson has gained enormously in stage presence of late. His contribution in the crucial closing lines of the play was particularly memorable.

B.J. Kumeta as Buckingham was appropriately forthright and unpolished, ironically urging Richard in Act I to assume the very power with which he will himself be later so disenchanted. His magnificent outburst in Act II Scene I captured well the regression to the same childish level of emotion as that displayed in the first act by the young prince, and his yielding to the oily-tongued Morton during his subsequent sulks came through splendidly. In his scene with Lovell in Act II he captured the contrast between his hang-dog appearance as a prisoner and his still unquenched fiery pride.

Stanley and Morton were both deliberately under-played, to great effect. N.A. Jackson made a haplessly goofy Stanley, his studied imbecility providing the perfect defence against anyone who might accuse him of backing the wrong political horse. M.J.P. Jeffries as Morton spoke with a sanctimonious dead-pan whine to cloak his Machiavellian intrigue. The discrepancy between his tone and what he was saying saved his delivery from monotony.

The other main conspirators, Rivers and Hastings, played by P.M. Bowers and A.J.C. Sidebotham, provided a suave urbane contrast to Buckingham. When provoked to draw his sword in Act I, Sidebotham preserved not only his pride but his self-assured arrogance, and Bowers compensated for his light voice by an acid incisiveness which made his challenge to Rivers' power carry conviction. G.L. Lowe's Archbishop of York was bumblingly throw-away.

J.I.S. Sherman played the episodic though vital role of Edward IV. His task was a difficult one, since the first scene (the only one in which he appears) lacks impetus, but he projected an easy-going debauchery and it was no surprise to learn shortly afterwards that he had eaten and drunk himself to death. A.J. Moody struck a pose of cynical detachment in keeping with the callow young Grey. I.D. Helsby was faced with what is for any boy the greatest challenge on stage — the part of a middle-aged woman. He played Queen Elizabeth with haughtiness in the first scene, and later in sanctuary with the peevish dignity of one who must suffer hardship beneath her station.

The four youngsters in the play were interpreted by a quartet of very promising third formers all "discovered" last year. R. Taylor as Prince Edward was perfect as the boy poised on the threshold of adolescence, yearning at the same time for the respect and affection of his uncle and the independence of adulthood. His swing from love to hatred of Richard when the latter is forced to criticise his mother's family was most moving. D.J. Hartshorne's authoritative portrayal of Princess Elizabeth showed perfectly that her assumed ebullience was a mask for her deeper insecurity*—and sure enough, under Richard's penetrating gaze in Act II Scene 4 the mask was discarded, one of the most moving moments of the play. The two young squires, D.A. Hulmes as the sensitive dreamy Clement, and J.E. Hytner as the hard-headed opportunist Mark, complemented each other beautifully.

M.H. Kreissl's performance can only be described as brilliant. He played the comfortably placid Ann Neville, Richard's wife, shaken out of the even tenor of her domesticity by the bewildering succession of reverses in her husband's fortune. In his scene with Elizabeth he glowed with the restrained amusement of the older woman at the sight of adolescent impetuosity, and in his two major scenes with Richard he generated intense but controlled grief with the minimum of outward display. An outstanding interpretation.

The scene between Richard and the tradesmen of Gloucester improved every night and by Friday, D.M. Lee was well-received as the devoted, but clumsy Bob Thacker. N.S. Crossley (Willett) and J.Q. Killip (Kemp) gave him excellent support, Crossley really making the audience believe that the casket of gold was heavy.

Small or non-speaking parts do not steal the limelight, but they are an essential part of the play. Princess Cecily (M. Crowther), Richard's servant (R. Latham), the monks (J. McFarland and M.J. Scoltock), mine host (T. Smith), the furniture removers (I. Jackson and K.L. Price) and the

men-at-arms (A. Perkins, M. Sandy and R.K. Wakefield) added authenticity and spectacle to the production.

This play involved nine scene changes, with the attendant drawback of long pauses between scenes. But the splendid sets and the efficiency of the scene-shifters, at least on Thursday and Friday, made this sacrifice well worth while. Mr. Fisher's properties were legion, and his hours of work both before and during the show were amply rewarded.

Any medieval play depends enormously on costumes for its success. Special congratulations are due to Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Hempstock and Miss Green for their sterling and painstaking work.

G.J.T.

HOUSE PLAY COMPETITION, 1978

The House Play Competition for 1978 was held on two consecutive Friday evenings in March. Gaskell, Dalton, and Byrom presented their entries on the 3rd, Fraser, Heywood, and Whitworth on the 10th. It was universally agreed that this year's competition was the best for many years, if not the best ever, and was an overwhelming success. The only disappointment was that not more people attended. Those who did not missed two extremely entertaining evenings and six very different productions, all of a very high standard.

One of the most pleasing aspects of the competition for the judges — Mr. Timm, Miss Green, and Mr. Fogg — was the willingness of all Houses, except possibly Dalton, to tackle demanding plays by reputable authors. Stoppard, Simpson, Kopit, Ayckbourn and Chekhov make up a formidable list. Norman Holland, Dalton's choice, suffered a little against such illustrious competition. Nevertheless his play, *Runaway*, though melodramatic at times, offered two strong, contrasting roles for actors, and in this it was a fair choice.

The first play in the competition was *After Magritte* by Tom Stoppard — Gaskell's choice. This is an extremely difficult play, even for top professional companies, Stoppard's verbal gymnastics requiring a precision and expertise that is beyond most actors. Similarly, the play itself with all its leanings towards the surreal and the absurd demands a light and deft touch.

With a very young cast — which augurs well for future House productions — Gaskell made a brave stab, but were unable to sustain the pace and the attack the play requires. Even so the audience were constantly alert and often amused. Young M. Crowther, casting off all inhibitions, showed great promise as Thelma, while D.C. Storey, as the tuba-playing Mother, gave a truly comic performance. D. Hartshorne, however, in the crucial, commanding role of Holmes and N.S. Crossley, as the harassed Harris, failed to supply the necessary authority, and as a result much of the word play and punning did not come across with sufficient clarity. However, Gaskell must be commended for an imaginative yet simple use of props which is so much a part of this play of course.

Dalton's play, *Runaway* came next. A heavy and, as I have said, often melodramatic play, it told the story of a conflict between two men, Simon and Dunstone, both runaways in their own different ways. Largely a two-hander, the play's success depended totally on the conviction of the two actors concerned.

In G.L. Lowe, Dalton found an actor of great presence, who strode restlessly about the stage like a caged animal, exactly capturing the desperation of a man on the run with nowhere left to go. In the part of Simon, the weak, frightened and rather unstable householder whose privacy is invaded, P.M. Bowers did not quite convey the underlying menace of the character, though in many ways it was a much more subtle and demanding part than Lowe's, in that it is always more difficult to sustain a passive role.

Byrom then offered Chekhov's *The Wedding* — a typical example of his much neglected comedies, mildly satirising the petty bourgeois values of the Russian middle classes of his day, but with comments that pin-point even today the hypocrisies of social climbing.

In contrast to Dalton's, this play contained a large cast — fourteen in all — and producer P.B. Conway deserves credit for assembling and handling so many on the small confines of the Hulme stage. However, it must also be said that his grouping of characters was not always as clear as it might have been and furniture too often proved to be a hindrance to the movement of the actors. Despite these difficulties there was an authoritative performance from J.E. Hytner as the Bride's Mother, Natasha. After his cameo role in the School Play, there are high hopes of his being a leading light in future productions.

The highlight of the play — and indeed of the evening, if not the competition as a whole — was the performance of A.C. Tippman as Revunov-Karaulov, a retired Navy commander. His growing outrage and offended dignity at the behaviour of all around him gave rise to some truly comic moments and his bold characterisation took the audience by storm. His exit from the stage brought a huge, spontaneous burst of applause, which was thoroughly deserved.

With their appetites whetted, the judges and audience convened for the second half of the competition the following Friday. Fraser were first with *The Form* by N.F. Simpson. Full of Simpson's usual bizarre events, surprising turns of phrase, and zany wit, the production avoided the temptation of overplaying and achieved just the right balance of normality and acceptance by the actors, which is the essence of Simpson's style — the most unusual happenings and characters taken perfectly for granted.

With a keen eye for detail, Fraser managed what could have been a difficult split-level set with ease and assurance, and the direction by M.J. Sandy had a smoothness and polish which placed it head and shoulders above the other Houses. Sandy also played the leading role of Mr. Whimby with enthusiasm, skill and great timing, reminding audience and judges alike of a muted John Cleese — harassed, bewildered, but unshakeable.

He received excellent support from I.D. Helsby as the super-efficient secretary, Miss Haviour, whose facial expressions were a joy to watch. This was an object lesson in underplaying. So much can be expressed with a turn of the head, or the raising of an eyebrow. B.J. Kumeta managed well the transition from authority to confusion as Mr. Chacterson and young J.E. Kaye showed great promise as Miss Ongew.

Fraser were followed by Heywood in what was unquestionably the most unusual presentation in the competition — a double bill of very short plays by Arthur Kopit, that sadly neglected American playwright.

The double-bill as an idea was a total success and indeed a courageous choice, for Kopit's plays are highly unconventional, to say the least. In *The Hero* no words are spoken, but a man and a woman meet in a barren desert. Stricken with poverty and hopelessness as they are, they share what little they have. It is a touching, poignant little piece which emerges after a highly comic beginning which is reminiscent of silent movies. D.R. Nicholson as the un-named hero totally captivated the audience with his mime — his actions and expressions always clear and explicit. He was ably supported by M.C.W.J. Manning as The Woman.

The Conquest of Everest, which begins with the voices of a man and a woman behind the cutout of a mountain, was perhaps less successful. Certainly the incongruity of the situation as the two American tourists arrive at the summit complete with cameras, sun glasses, bright shirts and Bermuda shorts, was highly comic, while the later entrance of the two Chinese soliders fully kitted out in oxygen masks, climbing boots, ice picks and ropes almost brought the House down!

The production by M.J.P. Jeffries, however, did not quite get to the play's heart and much of the audience was baffled, while the judges felt it was a shame that J.P. Marland and R.J. Taylor as Almenstar and Almense did not attempt the American accents which would have added considerably to the overall effect.

The final presentation was by Whitworth — the House Play Winners of 1977. With a huge cast of 23 they gave Alan Ayckbourn's *Ernie's Incredible Hallucinations*. This is not one of Ayckbourn's better plays (he is a vastly over-rated playwright anyway), for it cannot seem to

make up its mind what it is trying to do. Structurally it has a typical Ayckbourn gimmick: a visit by Ernie and his worried parents to a Doctor complaining about Ernie's rather disturbing talent for turning his imagination into reality. As he recounts each escapade, it is acted out before the audience.

As with all Ayckbourn, the acting needs to be sharp and the staging precise. Unfortunately, neither was the case in this production. D.M. Platts tended to over act in the part of Mum, while J.I. Sherman certainly did in the part of Auntie May, though he did raise several laughs in the process. T.A.M. Maula did not have the necessary authority as Ernie while several of the other actors, notably R. Smallwood as the Doctor, were practically inaudible. However, the crowd scenes, particularly the Fairground, were lively and enthusiastic.

When it came to the placing, the judges were unanimous over the winners, but the middle places were only arrived at after a great deal of debate and discussions.

Gaskell were placed sixth, though the judges wish it to be noted that after seeing *After Magritte*, which was the first in the competition they were extremely pleased with the standard, and it was only placed sixth in comparison with the others.

Whitworth was placed fifth, but deserve special praise for their ambition and for assembling such a large cast.

There was great debate over the third and fourth places between Byrom and Dalton; the one with a large cast; the other with a small cast. Both had an excellent central performance: that of Tippman, that of Lowe; one highly comic, the other strong and dramatic. After much discussion, Dalton were placed fourth and Byrom third.

Heywood's ambitious and successful double-bill earned them second place, while the overall consistency of the acting, the detailed staging, and the stylish direction earned Fraser an un-challenged first place.

It is to be hoped that next year's competition can live up to the standard of this year's, and that as a result of its undoubted success, more people will attend the two evenings.

1. Fraser 2. Heywood 3. Byrom 4. Dalton 5. Whitworth 6. Gaskell.

C.H.F.

MUSICAL NOTES

As usual the first public activity of the Music Department was the October Concert. This event has become fairly well established giving opportunities for boys to play solo whilst also using some groups.

The String Orchestra opened the concert with a performance of excerpts from *Orfeo* by Monteverdi. This was followed by a Sinfonia from *The Fairy Queen* of Purcell. Originally this piece was written for two trumpets and strings but on this occasion two clarinets were substituted; A. Jones and S. Redford, both third year boys, played the solo parts. The Recorder Group played, later in the concert, two pieces: one for six parts, *La Marinona* by Legrenzi, and the well known Fantasy on "Polly Oliver" and "Gathering Peascods" by Stanley Taylor for recorder quartet. To close the concert the Choir sang six movements from the oratorio *Saul* by Handel. Mr. Golder directed the performance and also played the piano.

Solo items were well played and well received. R. Cox played two pieces for trumpet with Mr. Golder accompanying. E. McHale played a set of Five Short Pieces by Logy on guitar; a movement from a Scarlatti Sonata in E minor was played on the violin by J. Pollitt with Mr. Bamforth accompanying and finally J. Furniss (clarinet) played the second movement of Mozart's

Clarinet Quintet with Mr. Golder. A new venture was the performance of three pieces for four clarinets. These were by Hummel, Mendelssohn and Foster played by R. Evans, S. Redford, D. Emsley and P. Goodier.

Tuesday, December 6th 1977 saw the Choir give its annual Carol Recital at lunch time in St. Anne's Church, Manchester. These lunch time Christmas concerts at St. Ann's are always well attended by people from the many offices in Manchester and 1977 was no exception.

On the following day three second Form boys took part in a performance of *St. Nicholas* by Benjamin Britten. The performance was given by the University of Salford Choir with the Manchester Mozart Orchestra conducted by Herbert Winterbottom, Director of Music at the University. The three boys concerned, Michael Harris, David Harries and Alistair Pollock, acquitted themselves well in the performance and had a very enjoyable day at the University.

The Annual Founder's Day service at Manchester Cathedral was held on Tuesday, February 7th. This year the anthem, sung by the Choir, was "Be Still, My Soul" to music by Jean Sibelius. As usual many hundreds of people thronged the Cathedral.

The Spring Concert took place on Wednesday, March 8th. Although the Strings, the Band, and the Choir took part there was also plenty of room for more solos. P. Furniss played the Minuet from the Clarinet Quintet with Mr. Golder at the piano; N. Grunfeld played Allegro ma non presto by Vivaldi on the violin with Mr. Golder. P. Atkins played the first movement of the Piano Sonata in C Major K545 by Mozart, and A. Pollard played Two Minuets in G by Bach on the violin with Mr. Callaghan accompanying.

A small group of singers led by D. Heaton sang three Madrigal by Morley, "Weep, o mine eyes", "Fair Phyllis I saw sitting all alone", and "April is my mistress' face". The Strings began the concert with two pieces. *Tarantella* by Glinka and Little Suite for Strings by Kenneth Platts showed that the group as a whole were obviously increasing in confidence and it was pleasant to see that numbers were larger; Mr. Bamforth conducted. The Choir, conducted by Mr. Golder, sang a very popular set of pieces: "I'd like to teach the world to sing" by Bacher, *Edelweiss* by Rogers, *Eleanor Rigby* by Lennon-McCartney and the famous Cachucha from *The Gondoliers* by Sullivan. The Band ended the first half in popular style with three marches: *Light of Foot* by Latann, March from *Scipio* by Handel and *Bacada* by Starke. Mr. Golder conducted. The crowning performance (*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd-Webber) came at the end of the concert with a large group of Junior Boys, A. Booth and I. MacMillan as narrators, piano played by Mr. Bamforth and Mr. Golder conducting. Whenever this piece is performed it is a winner, with lots of very catchy tunes and plenty of rhythm.

At the end of the Summer Term came the House Music Competition. This year the Adjudicators were Mr. Phillip Goodwin and Mr. Richard Percy. The standard is getting better and the variety is always enormous. Houses are asked to prepare a thirty minute programme under various categories of music, solo, duet, trio etc. It was no exception this year to find House Music Organisers very cunning in their use of the material available. In a very close finish Whitworth were winners by only one point.

Throughout the year eighteen candidates were entered for the practical examinations of the Associated Board and all were successful. Some eighty-six boys were having lessons in School each week and it is hoped that the new Session will bring many more boys to examination standard. The Orchestra is to be reformed in the new Session.

D.A.B.

BRITTANY, 1978

The first Modern Languages trip abroad for three years took us to Dinan in Brittany during the Summer Holidays. The party consisted of forty-six junior boys and four Masters, namely Messrs. Clark, Fisher, Timm and Turner. At half past three on the morning of July 25th, we set off by coach from Springbridge Road.

We were unable to stop for breakfast at a motorway service station because we had insufficient time, and it was therefore eaten late on board our ship, *Viking Venturer*. At half past ten we steamed out of Southampton harbour. The crossing to Cherbourg was smooth and sunny, and we drove onto French soil at half past four French time, which is one hour in advance of B.S.T. We still had, however, a further 240 kms to cover before reaching Dinan.

It was half past eight that evening when we drew up in the car park of the Lycée La Fontaine Des Eaux. After sixteen hours of travel the short walk to the cafeteria was welcome, but the food inside — Potage à l'Ail, Shepherd's pie, salad and gooseberries — was disappointing.

On Wednesday, after a French breakfast of bread, jam, and hot chocolate or coffee, we walked round Dinan. As in most towns of its era the streets are narrow and the overhanging houses half-timbered. We soon found that most French children have few manners but this is hardly surprising if you consider the precedent of their elders! Another difference immediately noticeable was the absence of graffiti on the walls, although vandalism itself is by no means absent.

In the afternoon we visited Fort La Latte, a small thirteenth century fortress built high on a promontory above the rugged coastline, and then we went on the cliffs at Cap Frehel. That evening Mr. Fisher gave a talk about L'Usine Marémotrice or tidal hydro-electric power station which we were to visit the following morning.

This unique 750m. long power station is built across the River Rance just above its mouth. The tremendous current created by the six sluice-gates, and the whirlpools caused by the power units illustrated the immense power of water: the twenty-four underwater impellers generated 540 million kilowatt hours per year.

After lunch we walked round the old walls of St. Malo, then relaxed on the beach which fortunately had not been polluted by oil from the Amoco Cadiz. In the evening Mr. Clark talked about the Bayeux Tapestry and the allied invasion of Europe, 'Operation Overlord'. One particularly interesting fact which we learned was that William the Conqueror used seven thousand men to invade England in October, 1066, yet on just one day, June 6th, 1944, six thousand U.S. soldiers were killed.

The four-hour coach journey to Bayeux, nearly 160 kms. from Dinan, meant that we had to get up at seven o'clock to facilitate an early departure. The journey was broken up by a quiz which was won by M.J. Taylor. At Bayeux we hired Ecouteurs to provide a narration as we walked round the tapestry (which is, in fact, an embroidery). We were not able to look round the cathedral, unfortunately, as it was shut for some repair work.

We ate our packed lunches, then went on to Arromanches where Port Winston, the Mulberry harbour used to land supplies for the invasion forces, had been. We watched a contemporary film about this harbour, then looked round the permanent exhibition, where a few sharp-eyed members of the party noticed that one of the superb reconstructions showed Centurion tanks being unloaded, although these were not in production at the time.

On the way back we stopped at the Pointe du Hoc where a tragic breakdown of communications led to the 2nd Battalion U.S. Rangers being shelled by their own navy. Even today, thirty-four years later, shell craters are clearly visible. In the evening Messrs. Timm and Turner arranged a quiz on the recent visits. M.L. Artley and R.D. Hardern won the First and Second Form prizes respectively.

Saturday, the last fine day, was spent on the beach at Dinard. Several boys hired two-seater paddle boats for half an hour. At half-past four we set off on a boat trip round the mouth of the Rance which lasted about an hour. This gave us some very different views of Dinard, St. Malo and the H.E.P. station.

On Sunday, which is more conscientiously observed in France than in England, we stayed in Dinan either shopping or exploring. Several boys had a narrow escape from one very vicious dog, and a small group went for a walk along the river with Mr. Fisher. After dinner, Mr. Turner talked

to us briefly about the Mont-St.-Michel which we were to visit the next day.

Monday morning was misty, and although the abbey looked mysterious, the view from the top was ruined. In the afternoon most boys braved the torrential rain to buy last-minute presents in Dinan.

The return journey on August 1st was long and tedious, and our ship, *Viking Victory*, rocked slightly on the choppy seas. During the crossing the 'Carnets' (sort of 'I-Spy' books) were judged and the prizes were awarded to Taylor and Artley. Only three Masters returned on August 1st because Mr. Clark stayed behind with Pollard, who had undergone an appendectomy on Sunday morning.

Mr. Turner took over one hundred photographs in his capacity as 'official' photographer for the trip, and there was also a competition for the best photograph taken by a boy.

No account of the trip would be complete without some mention of Steve, our coach-driver. He always drove us safely and with good humour, and his cassettes made the many hours spent in the coach shorter and more enjoyable.

Overall the trip provided an agreeable yet informative glimpse of the French way of living. Mr. Clark and Mr. Fisher arranged an excellent and varied itinerary which filled the week well. Thanks are also due to Mr. Clark for looking after the trip's finances throughout. Everybody who went (except, perhaps the luckless Pollard) would surely feel that it was a trip well worth repeating, and indeed arrangements for a similar trip next Summer are already well under way. Finally, all the Masters deserve thanks for organising and looking after the boys so efficiently and patiently.

R.D.H.

THE CARIBBEAN CRICKET TOUR: OFF THE FIELD

The overall benefit of our visit to the Caribbean came in personal terms. The cricket of course was central to all we did and those not selected for any game were always very disappointed, even though they knew it was only fair. Several of the touring party had not been abroad before and our drive from Vigie airport to our "home" in the Morne Fortune College, high above Castries, was a chastening experience. We rapidly realised that the tourist brochures gave a false impression of life in the West Indies, for many people live in very ramshackle homes and, at least in St. Lucia, tourists are fair game for beggars, drug pushers, and can be a target for hostility, particularly from young people bound up with the Rastafarian movement.

Equally, however, we found that the vast majority of those we met made us extremely welcome, especially when they found out that we were cricketers. The ubiquitous George Delmede in St. Lucia arranged everything for us with superb efficiency and also played host to us at a party, when his daughter Sabena had to manhandle Thorpe on to the dance floor. We played golf at La Toc Hotel, swam on a surf-swamped beach and played beach cricket with deep mid wicket beyond the breakers, made calls on the Mayor, the Minister of Education and other friendly welcoming officials with whom we discussed Mrs. Thatcher's immigration policies. An unsuccessful visit to the beach at Pigeon Island resulted in sea urchin spines in the feet for Barron and Boyle but these were the worst of the injuries and illnesses we suffered. Camera shutters clicked, myriads of socks were washed, post cards were written, "Dear Snuggles. . ."; and a remarkable sense of togetherness developed.

A departure at 5.30 a.m. took us on to the green island of Grenada where we made a stuttering start at the Police Training College — a bankrupt hotel taken over by the government but in need of cleaning and renovation. Its disadvantages were mosquitoes, an erratic water supply, lizards and corrugated mattresses, but the cooking of Barbara and the lady in the pink hat plus the superb Grande Anse beach, fifty yards away, made up for everything. Transport into St. George's was cheap and varied: a dangerous Toyota minibus, a water taxi which presented problems of disembarkation in the waves, a lift on the ancient school buses or hitching a lift in Beach Boys style with a buggy cart. We had a little more time off in Grenada and visited the

Annandale Falls, watched the Windwards against the Australians at Queen's Park, were entertained by an Old Hulmeian on the cruise liner *Cunard Countess* and played golf, tennis, water rugby and pool. The Holiday Inn was an expensive but pleasant meeting place in the evening.

The humour which grows in any touring party ran through every hour of every day and characters such as An-An and Chi-Chi, the Ferret, Terry, John Moron, Rick Bailey Senior, the dangers of Rastas and Mambas and thigh pads, the Alison syndrome, not to mention the incredible Yallop made our conversation totally unintelligible to outsiders, as it is no doubt to the readers of this paragraph. Above all it was the variety of experience which meant a great deal to us in personal terms — the same day could bring swordfish for breakfast, a valued letter from home, a successful innings, being propositioned on the beach by a prostitute, a cocktail party at Government House and the disappointment of not being selected for tomorrow's game. It is trite to say that we lived a lot for twenty-two days, but that is exactly why we enjoyed ourselves so much.

J.W.

RAISING THE MONEY FOR THE CRICKET TOUR

Last year's cricket tour was obviously a quite remarkable venture, but the fund raising for the tour was in itself to prove, perhaps surprisingly, a fascinating and worthwhile exercise. Our intention was, that no boy selected for the tour on merit should be unable to go for financial reasons. Thus, individual Tourists' contributions were minimised, and pressure on them to work hard to achieve their "trip of a lifetime" was increased. We recognised that inundating parents, boys and friends with draw and raffle tickets and sponsorship forms for walks, swims or table-tennis marathons was highly undesirable. We also decided that we had an excellent opportunity to present a number of functions, all worthwhile in themselves to which people would want to come, and which would enrich the social life of the School.

Two folk concerts were held, the first in October, with Harvey Andrews, a singer-songwriter presenting a programme which was both amusing and thought-provoking. He was supported by Ad Hoc, old favourites at School concerts for many years. March saw the unlikely combination of Roger McGough, the Liverpool poet (ex-Scaffold), and folk singer Jake Thackray, of T.V. fame. The chemistry of the occasion proved just right on the night, and between the two of them, they directed the moods of the audience with wit, banality, pathos and poignancy in their songs and verses. Between these two "folk" evenings came the Christmas Jazz Concert and Chris Barber with Britain's premier jazz band.

Variety was to be the keyword in our fund raising functions, and interspersed with our musical evenings were a fascinating mountaineering lecture, with some remarkable slides, on Doug Scott's ascent of the Ogre in the Himalayas, and his incredible descent with two broken legs; a slightly more light-hearted gathering of mums, girlfriends and sisters for a fashion show presented by the Georgian Boutique of Sale; a Stamp and Coin Fair which attracted dozens of dealers, who displayed their numismatic and philatelic delights to several hundred interested buyers and collectors and a most successful Sports Forum with Martin Buchan, Derek Hodgson, Dave Watson, Peter Lever and David Davies, giving us all an insight into the world of the professional sportsman at the highest level.

All these events helped to break the back of our money-raising problem, and we are most grateful to all the people who supported these functions, and the Tour. We are indebted to artistes, guests and audiences alike, although it must be said that the Touring Boys worked extremely hard at *all* of these occasions.

While these functions were the most publicised and obvious fund raising activities, there were, of course, many other sources of revenue. Commemorative brochures with specially written articles by Mike Brearley, Derek Randall, Frank Hayes, Clive Lloyd and Jim Laker, were printed and sold. The parents of boys going on the tour held coffee mornings, collected waste paper, made handicraft products of all sorts to sell, and ran a jumble sale. They were also a constant source of support and encouragement to Mr. Wilde and myself, and I am glad of the opportunity to record our thanks to them. Local cricket clubs sent donations. The McAlpine Trust at Lords,

our own Old Hulmeians Association and the J.G. Bird Travel Fund, all made generous donations. The Touring Boys ran a shop in the lunch hour which sold sweets, drinks, crisps, records, books, bus-pass holders etc. Finally, there were countless Old Boys who made generous personal donations. Again, simply to pass on our thanks seems somewhat inadequate.

And so, after all the hard work, fund raising (an experience in itself), and interviews on Radios Piccadilly and Manchester; after T.V. coverage on Look North with a most helpful and interested David Davies, and numerous photos and snippets in the local press, the Touring Party left for the sun.

You may have already read an account of the Tour elsewhere in *The Hulmeian*. Let me close, by saying that, having the help and involvement of so many boys, masters, parents, friends, domestic staff, local cricket enthusiasts, personalities and celebrities, the Touring Party were truly representing the School in the widest sense possible when they left for the West Indies, and were privileged to be ambassadors for William Hulme's Grammar School, and for Manchester. I.J.S.

COMPUTER UNIT

The Computer Unit continued to flourish this year with the emphasis on the teaching of computing at 3rd and 5th form levels. From each of these age groups an enthusiastic body of boys has developed a working knowledge of the BASIC language and of machine techniques. The programs developed, after the initial language learning, were mainly simulations of games play; noughts and crosses, cricket and pontoon being popular for making mathematical models and their associated computer programs. A few boys in the third year carried their computing a stage further by learning the FORTRAN language.

Programming in the Lower Sixth form did not reach the same depth as in previous years and no major project was undertaken. It is hoped that computing at this level will strengthen next year as the knowledge of the present fifth formers is used in the sixth form. M.L.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

The Senior Committee under the presidency of Mr. Turner was as follows:

Secretary — N.P. Heron

Debate Chairman — K.H.S. Swanson

Debate Vice-Chairman — S. Wilde and S. Gilby

Entertainments Officer — J.D. Tricker

Publicity Officers — J.D. Carp and A. Tippmann

Committee Members — S. Sherman (U6); A. Krawiecki (M6); D.B. Lister, A. Prestwich and R. Silver (Middle School)

During the Michaelmas Term the Society flourished with a total of six debates, an average attendance of over thirty, an unparalleled eighty for one meeting, as well as over twenty boys speaking in or chairing debates.

Among the subjects discussed were the value of history, the state of the Monarchy, and the role of school as a preparation for life.

In the Lent Term attendances dropped, and debates became less frequent. However, a successful "Any Questions?" was held with a panel of "experts" comprising K.H.S. Swanson, G. Lowe, N.P. Heron and Mr. Callaghan. Two enjoyable inter-school debates took place, with Manchester High School on the topic "A Woman's Place is in the Home", and with the Manchester Schools Sixth Form Debating Society on the light-hearted motion that "Christopher Columbus has a lot to answer for".

K.H. Swanson was successful in the Public Speaking Competition held by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, qualifying to compete in the Regional Final.

The final event of the year was a most entertaining Joint Debate incorporating a student of the school, a master, an old boy and a parent. The motion, "It is better to say what we think than to think what we say", was proposed by Mr. Wilde and Mr. C.E. Bryans, and opposed by N.P. Heron and Mrs. P. Daber. This now annual feature rounded off a successful, if at times controversial, but always enjoyable season of debating. N.P.H.

THE JUNIOR SCHOOL DEBATING SOCIETY

At the beginning of the Michaelmas Term, Miss Green took over the presidency of the Junior School Debating Society. A Committee was formed consisting of A. Ahmad, J. Hogg, M. Levy, A. Pritchard and I. Whittell, although many other junior boys helped in organising and running the debates. J. Hogg was Chairman until Christmas, and A. Ahmad took over in January. Thanks are also due to P. Donald of 3L for his help and guidance in the early part of the year.

During the Michaelmas Term the debates were consistently well attended. The most popular was the motion "This House believes that Father Christmas is an unsuccessful gimmick". It attracted an audience of well over a hundred boys and several members of staff.

In the Lent Term the Society, now under the Chairmanship of A. Ahmad, was for a while still able to hold debates every fortnight. A. Ahmad led the Committee with great enthusiasm, organising raffles and so on, and at the same time ensuring that the debates were run smoothly. The debate "This House believes that Vivisection should be abolished" again drew an audience of over one hundred, and although no meetings were held in the Summer Term, no debate in the whole year was attended by fewer than seventy boys.

We should like to thank Miss Green for all her hard work and encouragement throughout the year. J.H.

DRAMA CLUB

After a year of informal development the Drama Club was organised this year on a more formal basis. At the beginning of the Lent Term a committee was elected by the members, with D.M. Platts as Secretary and M.J.P. Jeffries as Treasurer.

Although in its first year membership of the club was open only to third formers and above, considerable interest in drama was shown by members of the Junior School. A junior section of the society was formed, vigorously supervised by Mr. Turner and Miss Green, while Mr. Callaghan continued to run the senior section.

The society as a whole has had a very active year. The committee organised several "workshop" sessions, where members met and discussed acting techniques such as vocal expression and stage movement. These sessions proved very worthwhile, and it is to be hoped that more boys will benefit from them in the future.

On February the 9th and 10th the Juniors presented two evenings of music and drama which revealed a wealth of acting talent among the first and second forms. Four short plays were produced, and our thanks go to Mr. Turner, Miss Green and Mr. Fogg for their entertaining productions. During the second half the juniors sang that perennial favourite, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, conducted by Mr. Golder with Mr. Bamforth at the piano. It was performed again at the School Concert in March, with a running commentary provided by I.G. MacMillan and A.P. Booth.

Towards the end of the Midsummer Term the society presented two evenings of plays involving boys from both the senior and junior sections, produced by Mr. Callaghan, Mr. Turner, and Miss Green. These successful evenings helped to boost the society's funds enabling us to add to our growing library of play scripts, already increased by a generous donation from the Parents' Association. D.M.P.

GLENCOE, WHITSUNTIDE, 1978

For the first time in years our annual pilgrimage to the Highlands coincided with a spell of fine weather, a veritable heat-wave in fact.

The party consisted of Messrs. Barnes, Booker, Cole and Clark together with M.R. Hawkins, M.J.P. Jeffries, D.P. Johnson, S.J. Keeling, D.H.A. Southern and M. Sutcliffe. Dr. and Mrs. Barker travelled separately and joined us at our campsite on the shores of Loch Leven.

The party tended to divide itself into two groups: the climbers and the walkers. However, the division was not hard and fast and many of the so-called walks included quite a lot of scrambling, for instance on the Aonach Eagach ridge and the Carn Mor Dearg arête. Other mountains climbed were Buachaille Etive Mor, Garbh Bheinn in Ardgour, Bidean Nam Bian, Stob Coire Nan Lochan and Aonach Dubh via Dinnertime Buttress. There was still a fair bit of snow about and a lot of fun was had descending the snow slope into the Lost Valley from Bidean.

The rock-climbers did some classic routes, notably Tower Ridge on Ben Nevis, Agag's Groove on Buachaille Etive Mor and the Clachaig Gully. Also climbed during the week were Centurion on Nevis, Scimitar and Razor Slash on Garbh Bheinn, and Hammer on the imposing Trilleachan slabs in Glen Etive.

All in all it was a wonderful holiday and we can only hope that we shall be as lucky with the weather next year.

M.R.B.

M.Y.C.S. GROUP

In September, 1977 Sarah Angel, a Junior Sixth Form pupil at Manchester High School for Girls, contacted our Head Boy, P.G. McNaught, who at that time was the organiser of the School branch of the Manchester Youth and Community Service, with a proposal for uniting our two groups. The idea proved very popular with the boys, and so the Manchester High—William Hulme's Roadshow was formed. This was a comparatively new venture, because previously Community Service had involved such things as re-decorating houses and doing gardening for old age pensioners, and we believed that the Roadshow would be of greater value since it would benefit old people collectively rather than individually.

Our first ever performance took place at a home for ex-servicemen, and despite our lack of practice they seemed to enjoy it all, and we left greatly encouraged.

Since then many more homes have been visited, almost always on Fridays after school. The show consists of a sequence of acts which includes community singing, comic sketches, musical turns, poems and dances, and afterwards we stay and chat to our audience — in the event of any of them being still awake. The course of the show can never be predicted, and mishaps such as muffing one's lines will always occur, but the old people take this in very good spirit which adds to the happy atmosphere.

During the Easter holiday we put on three shows in one day at homes in and around Bowden. This was an extremely successful experiment which we hope to repeat during the course of the next School year, and we are grateful to Sarah Angel and her parents for allowing us to use their house as 'base camp' for the day.

A bonus to the satisfaction of performing for the old people is that it has become obvious that the staff of the homes enjoy the show at least as much as their residents. This is especially true of the more subtle sketches such as 'Big Spender' and 'the Lumberjack Song'.

As well as the travelling show we have helped the girls to run two parties, both held at Manchester High School. The first, which combined a traditional Christmas party with a variety show, was for elderly people living in the vicinity of the High School, and, as in previous years, was a great success. The second party, held a week before the end of the Summer Term, was for nine and ten year old children whom we brought along from a primary school in Moss Side. We knew that this party was going to be a success even before it had begun when one little girl was

heard to say, "I've been looking forward to this for weeks and weeks!". The party games were excellently organised by one of the Sixth Form girls and an abundance of prizes was awarded to the children throughout. On the announcement of tea there was a stampede in the direction of the dining tables, but the girls were sufficiently firm to ensure a fair distribution of the food. After a sumptuous tea, the boys went outside to play football in the drizzle, some of the less energetic girls remained inside to play 'pass the parcel', and Goodman searched (successfully) in the wet grass for one of his contact lenses. The party was thoroughly enjoyed by all those involved, and after the children had been taken home a celebrational bottle of Pomagne was opened, and promptly finished off by the now legendary Upper Fourth girls.

After one of the Roadshows an old lady stood up and thanked us, saying that she was ninety that day, and that this was the best birthday she had ever had! This sort of response is obviously very gratifying, and reflects the pleasure that even such a transient break in routine can bring to the residents of these homes.

The group has consisted chiefly of P.G. McNaught, R.D. Leak, M.J.P. Jeffries, R.K. Cox, C. Waldon, S.R. Jones, J.D. Tricker, J.I. Sherman, D.M. Platts, D.M. Goodman and A.J. Surkes.

At the end of the year five members of the group left School, and I sincerely hope that their replacements will be as talented and enthusiastic as they were, so as to ensure another successful year's activities.

Our thanks are due to all the M.Y.C.S. girls at Manchester High, to the two former organisers of the William Hulme's branch, Leak and McNaught, and, of course, to Mr. Fisher, our driver, number one fan, and Master-in-Charge of the group. M.J.P.J.

MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY

After a couple of years on our own, we now have a master in charge, Mr. Bamforth. Thanks to a generous donation by the Parents' Association, we have been able to build a worthwhile layout. As a consequence of this, the membership has now almost doubled. Having adopted the smaller scale in which most members model, we now have a permanent running layout in the 'Hovel', on which members can run stock at will. S.J.B.

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

To cater for the growing interest in all forms of outdoor activities, a Mountaineering Club was formed in October 1977 and has proved a great success. Boys of all ages have been introduced to the delights of vertical rock and freezing cloud-covered mountains, and to our surprise nearly all have become regular attenders at the many and varied meets held during the year.

Introductory rock climbing courses run by Dr. M. Barker, with the assistance of Drs. D. Barnes and J. Clark, have been held at Wilton Quarries, Bolton; Windgather Rocks, Whaley Bridge; the Roaches, Leek; and Castle Naze, Derbyshire. As a result we now have several boys capable of climbing at very severe standard.

A weekend meet was based at Hardraw in February and we were blessed with interesting winter conditions which turned the hills of the Yorkshire Dales into a real challenge. The highlight of the year was the week long camping trip spent in the Glencoe region of Scotland, held during the Whitsuntide holiday, which coincided with days of endless sunshine. The many interesting achievements of the climbers and walkers on this trip are described in detail elsewhere in *The Hulmeian*.

An evening of slides depicting earlier school activities on the mountains of Scotland was presented to the Parents' Association in February by Dr. D. Barnes, Dr. J. Clark and Mr. M. Booker. This resulted in a most generous and welcome gift of one hundred and eighty pounds to the Club. With this we have been able to equip the Club with another tent, a stove, a climbing rope, other rock climbing equipment and some ice climbing equipment.

We are now in a position to look forward to another year of increasing standards of skill and safety. D.G.B.

NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

The society's activities have been very varied this year, ranging from after-school lectures and recorded television programmes to a variety of outings and holidays. The outings have included visits to Martin Mere Wildfowl Sanctuary, where a pair of fairly rare Black Terns were seen, and a day out at Styal Woods where we saw a badger set. All the longer trips this year have been spent at Grizedale Forest in the Lake District. Activities there have included long walks and serious wildlife observations. The society hopes next year to take a trip to the School buildings at Hardraw, where there is a multitude of dippers and other water birds and mammals. All new members are welcome to the meetings which are usually after school on Wednesdays.

Our thanks are due to Mr. R.S. Moore who organised and led the trips and gave most of the lectures. P.F.D.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Again it is possible to report that the Philatelic Society has had a very successful year, under the guidance of its Chairman, D.B. Lister and the encouragement of Mr. C.P. Langford.

The year began with a series of informative trips to various Manchester postal establishments. These were followed by a new venture for the society when it contributed to the success of the February Stamp and Coin Fair. The year was terminated with the third exhibition on Speech Day which proved to be even more of a success than last year's, valuable experience having been gained from previous exhibitions.

I would like to thank, Messrs. I.M. Silver, J.P.W. Hutchinson, R.G. Mee, J.L. Jackson and A.L. Landes for their helpful support throughout the year. N.T.H.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This year has been a rewarding one. We made a good start but the membership tailed off, especially during the last term, despite a series of very popular practical demonstrations.

Competition entries have continued at the same high standard as last year, although the total number in each competition has not been as high as was hoped.

Sales of film have risen, and the addition of some new equipment in the darkroom has made it a better place in which to work.

Above all our thanks must go to Mr. Wilde and to Mr. Murray for sponsoring our end of Term competitions. S.J.B.

STAGE STAFF REPORT

The role of the Stage Staff in providing a unique 'dogsbody' service to the various organisations within the school has led over the past two years to an increasing strain being placed upon the small band of – sometimes – hard-working members. The number of members has been rising and this has, unfortunately had a detrimental effect on the overall discipline of the group. Consequently, when in deference to the new curtains, the New Hall stage could no longer be used as headquarters the permanent Stage Staff was reduced after the school play to the four senior posts. Additional members are recruited for specific productions, it being hoped in future to involve non-acting members of the Drama Club in this way, as well as other boys interested in this field.

The School Play in December provided ample opportunity for scenery construction, painting and for scene and lighting changes which required much rehearsal, this latter being extremely well done by the hastily-convened stage hands. However, it is regrettable that this is the first occasion during my time at the School on which members of staff have been forced to take an active part in stage and props. management during performances. My experiences this year with this rather demanding play have made me even more aware of the excellent job done by boys acting as stage managers in the past.

The scene itself was of the fixed box-set type, depicting various rooms; the changes being achieved by the moving around of props and furniture and the substitution of one scenery flat which was in turn fireplace, window and tent opening. The flats themselves along with many sections of the equipment are in urgent need of renovation and it is anticipated that funds will be available for the more urgent work very shortly. The prospect of an entry from the quad to the hall (fire doors in fact) in the position where the organ now stands has been greeted with enthusiasm by most producers, for it will facilitate access to the side of the stage which is at present reached via the back of the set.

In February D.A. Hanley was appointed Stage Manager with J.M. Parry as his assistant, W.F. Nolan taking over the Sound Effects from M. Standing; S.T.G. Smith is Chief Electrician and the only person to survive my Stage Staff pruning exercise of the previous term. All immediately set about the House Plays with commendable vigour despite much intransigence from the various producers and were seen to do an excellent job (or rather were not seen, as good work in this direction should pass unnoticed – unless the acting or dialogue is of poor quality and the audience begins to look elsewhere). Numerous concerts and events were also staged by the boys in addition to the normal unseen workload of tidying-up, maintenance etc.

The sets of the Drama Club presentations of the Summer Term were managed in general by third and fourth year boys with only a little guidance from the seniors – electricians and sound effects managers excluded. Some inexperience was in evidence at the beginning of the work but they appeared to do a creditable job during the actual performances. The term finished with the readjustment of the Stage to provide a suitably curtained amphitheatre for performances by pupils of a Prep. School during their Speech Day and with preparations by Mr. Furniss and the Physics Department Technical Staff for the dismantling of the stage lighting switchboards in readiness for modern (i.e. safer) dimmer arrangements which will remove the prospect of melting dimmers or electrocuted electricians. The old Language Laboratory control console will be considerably modified and rebuilt by Mr. Furniss's department and placed on stage to act as a sound effects console next to the new switchboards, so that with more lighting barrels placed in the New and Upper Halls, the staging of performances can be much more easily and effectively accomplished.

With these improved facilities and a new-look Stage Staff we look forward to even greater epics on stages throughout the School next year.

G.N.G.

DONNER LIBRARY

The Library has benefited, as so often previously, from the generosity of Mr. Haynes, in giving a number of books during the year. Our thanks are also due to Mr. Wilde, Mr. Callaghan, and to Mr. J.R. Hinnells, who presented the book on Hinduism of which he is joint author. Special mention must be made of a valuable and much appreciated gift of a collection of historical and 'Folio' edition books presented by Mr. J.D. Evans. A 'leaving present' was thankfully received from J.G. Williams, with which books have been purchased.

Mr. D.L. Griffiths, Mrs. F. Barlow and R. Silver have continued to supply periodicals: our thanks to all three.

F.J.S.

JUNIOR LIBRARY

The Junior Library has been considerably reorganised during the past year. Some 500 books, many of them from the old Prep. School, have been discarded, and great efforts have been made to refill the many empty shelves. By the end of the year over 350 new books had been acquired, most of them thanks to the great generosity of individual parents. It is gratifying to report that, as a result, the number of books borrowed showed a marked increase on the previous year.

My thanks, and indeed those of the whole Junior School, are due to those who have been librarians during the past year, especially to J. Hogg, who has been a most efficient Head Librarian.

I should like to offer my best wishes to Mr. A.C. Crane, into whose capable hands the care of the Library now passes.

P.J.C.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The Bonfire

A scraping sound breaks the silence,
A match explodes into life,
A careful hand guides it to the awaiting bonfire,
And a small tongue of flame
Slices out like a knife.

The orange glow and yellow flame roar upward,
There are cracks and thunderous crashes;
The wood falls victim to the hunger
Of the new-born baby,
And a once proud tree is humiliated,
Burnt to ashes.

An onlooker delights in the beautiful but wicked spectacle,
Another joins in to see.
A mass of blazing wood and leaves
Seems so beautiful,
And yet, not so, within the evocation
Of memories, stored
In the parent tree.

J.Q. Killip, 4Y

The Old House

I stared out of my window,
I turned back in disgust,
Twenty beautiful houses,
Knocked to specks of dust.

Memories came back
Of parties and arguments,
With the neighbours.

I looked around the room
Empty, cold and bare,
I looked around the room
That would soon no longer be there.

I thought what it would be like,
Living in a flat.
I decided not to like it.

Dad came upstairs,
"Come on, we're going."
"Are we?"
I said.

We left our house.
As I took
One last look,
A tear met my eye.

R.A. Ogden. 1D

Hard Frost

The hard frost freezes the ground,
And the windows are turned to crystal patterns,
Stalactites hang from every eave,
Plates of glass cover the pathways.

A cold wind sweeps across the garden,
And rustles the solemn trees.
Leaves seem white as they lie on the ground.
Ponds like miniature ice-rinks.

I. Thorpe. 2D

Aspect of a Modern City

Like a tumour on the land,
Choking nature and itself,
A kind of man-made regurgitated waste.
In the tumour a myriad parasites dwell,
Scurrying, gabbling, polluting to survive.

Like a synthetic ice-age reforming,
Green is sucked in. Black is exhumed.
Man has lingered far too long,
His future bounded by chimneys,
Rivets and steel.
The land is now scarred by his
Thumb-prints, the buildings.

A. Jones. 3B

The Mistiness of Night

As the cool, dark mistiness of night
Runs and wraps itself around me,
As I trample through the misty night,
I feel a loneliness,
A loneliness as if my soul has abandoned me.
I feel as if the whole world has stopped,
And is avoiding me.
I feel as if I was dead.
All I hear is the soft whisper of the wind,
Blowing leaves to my feet.
All I see are flies flying around house lanterns,
As if to touch a lantern would be to gain immortality.

G. Smith. 2D

HOUSE LETTERS

BYROM HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

The following appointments were made at the beginning of term:

Head of House—N.P. Heron.

Deputy Head of House—J.F. Morton.

P.G. McNaught was appointed Head of School and M.R. Walker became a School Prefect.

House Prefects—N.L. Lord, N. Roberts, N. Jones, M. Kohn, H. Zadora, G. Clement, P. Conway and C.M. Petch.

Captain of House Rugby—M. Kohn.

Captain of House League Rugby—N.P. Heron.

Our Senior side in the rugby league showed good spirit, but was weak and lost most matches. We had a strong knock-out side, but lost to Heywood, whose kicking of penalties was superior. Our captaincy was at fault and we failed to exploit our strength in the centre-backs.

The Juniors also lost their first round match, but happily the third form team was undefeated in its league, all its members were awarded colours.

The following members of the House played for School teams:

Senior Squad—C. Petch, M.R. Hawkins, D. Richards, A.J.C. Sidebotham, M. Kohn, D. Watmough, S. Cooper, C. Rogerson, N.L. Jones and A. Johnson.

U.15 XV—P. Keddie, S. Brown, A.W. Smith.

U.14 XV—C.P. Robinson, P.R. Hunt, J.P.P. Hill, A.P. Booth, C.A. Stubbs, N.R. Williams and I.M. Powell.

Cross Country—N.P. Heron, J.D. Burden, A.D. Burden, C.A. Stubbs, D. Kissack.

Lent Term

The following appointments were made:

House Prefects—S. Jones, D.G. Richards, A.J. Sidebotham, J.P. Burden.

Captain of House Lacrosse—M.R. Hawkins

Captain of League Lacrosse—J.F. Morton

Captain of Cross Country—N.P. Heron

Producer of House Play—P. Conway

In both League and Knock-out competitions our Senior sides were weak. The inclement weather severely curtailed league lacrosse and our poor performance in the first round curtailed progress in the Knock-outs.

The Juniors, however, played well under the leadership of S. Brown. P. Keddie and E. Livingstone were outstanding. Unfortunately we lost in the second round of the Knock-outs.

Chekhov's *The Wedding* was Byrom's entry for the House Play competition. A very competent cast performed well under the direction of P.B. Conway and an excellent production came third to Heywood and Fraser, who presented outstanding plays. A.C. Tippman provided one of the highlights of the competition with his portrayal of an eccentric, retired Russian sea-captain. C.S. Rogerson, A. Polding, S. Jones, J. Hytner, M. Scully and A.J.C. Sidebotham all made notable contributions.

In the House Cross Country, Byrom came second thanks to the splendid effort of our 4th and 5th years in the middle of the relays. A.D. Burden, J.P. Burden, S.J. McNicholls, M. Prideaux, S. Cooper and R.A. Sargent all ran well.

Mid-summer Term

M.R. Hawkins, D.G. Richards and A. Sidebotham were appointed School Prefects.

D.G. Richards, N.J. Lord and J.F. Morton went on the Cricketers' Caribbean Tour and were awarded 1st XI Colours. S. Dickinson soon established himself as an outstanding opening batsman.

U.15 Cricket—A.W. Smith and A.J. Walker played.

U.14 Cricket—I.M. Powell, C.A. Stubbs and J.E. Hytner played for the team.

Byrom did well to reach the Final (Senior) beating Gaskell and Fraser en route. S. Dickinson played one outstanding innings. Our batting collapsed sadly in the Final against Dalton and we could only muster 55 in answer to Dalton's 155.

The Juniors got through the 1st round, but lost in the 2nd.

On Sports Day we came a close second to Fraser. The following won events:

Senior 800m and 1500m—N.P. Heron.

Middle 200m—C.J. Rogerson.

High Jump—R.I.J. McDermott.

Shot and Discuss—P.R. Hunt.

The Junior Rugby team won their event.

Our congratulations go to S. Brown for his success in the Manchester Schools' Swimming Association's finals.

At long last Byrom were displaced from a long record of success in the House Music Competition. In the absence of several key performers (presumably pianists) we still came third. Invaluable contributions were made by R.E. Humphreys, A.C. Tippman, H. Tyzack and P.J. Needs and the more melodious tones drowned the more raucous voices of pseudo-miners in the choir's rendering of the Rhondda hymn. Our thanks go particularly to J.G. Evans whose personal contributions and whose organisation in the face of great difficulties were so important a part of the whole effort.

Finally my personal thanks and the good wishes of the whole House go to N.P. Heron in whom we found yet another outstanding Head of House. He provided forceful leadership, personal example and conscientious efficiency. Would that he had enjoyed the support he deserved from some quarters.

A.M.B.

DALTON HOUSE

Head of House—S.D. Cordingley, P. Maddocks.

School Prefects—P.R.H. Wilson, P. Collins.

House Prefects—S.M. Haythorne, R. Jeffries, A.H.P. Morton-Smith, S.J. Seddon, A. Wilde, C.J. Wrigley.

Michaelmas Term

The principal satisfactory feature of the Michaelmas Term, and one in which many members of the House took a significant part was the winning of the House League. All four teams scored vital victories and both the 3rd year side and the House first XV were unbeaten, the latter scoring 197 points against 19 in its seven games and playing very fast, exciting rugby. Outstanding

amongst the backs were Latham and Wilde, who ran particularly strongly, Waldon, whose tackling was ferocious, and Chantler, who usually managed to attack from the full-back position. Patton gave good service from scrum-half and Cordingley captained the side very well, aided by Collins, who led a big, well-organised pack of forwards. The line-out work of Morton-Smith, Reed, Barnes and Laker was outstanding at all times.

This team also had to do service as the Knockout team for though there was a reasonable quota of School team players in the House, most were injured on the day of the first round. The team played very well against a strong Fraser side and lost by what most people agreed was a margin flattering to the opposition. The Junior Knockout side was not so successful and was convincingly beaten in the first round.

Regular School team players were as follows:

1st XV—P. Maddocks (Capt.), D.C. Loynes, P.R.H. Wilson.

2nd XV—A. Keddy.

Under-16 XV—M.A. Etchells.

Under-14 XV—D.M. Bretnall, S.J. Smith, M.L. Wilson.

At the end of the term G.L. Lowe and P.M. Bowers appeared in the School Play *Richard of Gloucester*, and the term finished on the best of notes when we learnt of the award of an Abbot's Scholarship at Brasenose College, Oxford to S.D. Cordingley.

Lent Term

House teams did not fare as well in the Lacrosse league, which was anyway severely curtailed by the weather. The Junior Knockout team also met with a similar fate to that of the previous term. However, the Senior Knockout team reached the final with two good victories, only to be totally outplayed by the very strong Fraser team. School team representation at Lacrosse was again quite strong at Senior level:

1st XV—P.R.H. Wilson.

2nd XV—D.J. Barnes, P. Maddocks, P.J. Latham.

A. Keddy was unfortunate to miss selection due to illness and A.H.P. Morton-Smith and C. Waldon would certainly have been selected in a season less demanding than this one. Not many of the Juniors aspired to School-team selection at Lacrosse, though R.M. Phillips was one exception on the Under-14 XII, for whom R.M. Bent also turned out as reserve goalkeeper on occasion.

The Juniors did outshine the Seniors, however, in the Road Relay, run towards the end of term. D.I. Howarth and G.P. McDonough, along with the other 3rd and 4th formers who ran, put the team in a good position at first, but the Senior runners were unable to maintain this.

The House Play, produced by G.L. Lowe, was an unusual entry for the Drama Competition, in that it was a serious play throughout, and it reflected great credit on the main actors, G.L. Lowe and P.M. Bowers. The audience received it as seriously as the actors performed it and a high dramatic tension was maintained. Fourth place was considered by many to be a poor reward for as good a production as we have entered for the competition for several years.

Midsummer Term

Once again performance in the accumulation of standards points over the term was poor, and inevitably the final placing in the Athletic Sports competition was low. There were good individual performances by D.C. Loynes, D.I. Howarth and M.L. Wilson, but, as often before, too much was left to too few. Similarly, small bands of enthusiasts tried their luck at House Tennis, Swimming and Music Competitions but often with little support from the main body. It is hoped that placing some of these competitions at other times of the year will do something to disperse the apathy which sets in in late June.

The term was of course not without success : the Cricket Knockouts have become very much a Dalton province over the last few years. G.L. Robinson, who was awarded the trophy for the best fielder on the School Under 15 XI, led an enthusiastic Junior side which just failed to reach the Final, and the Senior side won the trophy for the third successive year, with three very good wins. Only Heywood really extended them, and the team, though including mostly only 2nd XI players, always looked in command. Once again the advantage of being able to field a full eleven of cricketers was obvious, particularly in the final where Byrom, aiming for 140 to win, were 54 for 3 and 55 all out! J.H. Allen, S. Chantler, A.P. Laker, G.H. Morrison, J.L. Patton, I.M. Wood and C.J. Wrigley all played for the School 2nd XI.

Finally it is well worth noting that just as much pleasure was gained from the excellent 'A' level results of sixth-formers in the House this year, particularly those of R.A. Boyd, D.R. Tracey, G. Jeffries, P.S. Jones and D.A. Hanley. C.P.L.

GASKELL HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

The following appointments were made at the beginning of term:

Head of House—T.G. Jones.

Deputy Head of House—N.M. Mitson.

T.M. Batchelor, N. Brimmell, I.R. Fishwick, S. Gilbey, M.C. Hope, M.K. Hunt, R.B. Johnson, T. Lyons, N.R. Pond, D.C. Storey and R.P. Todd were appointed House Prefects.

Captain of Rugby—T.G. Jones.

Captains of House League Rugby—M.C. Hope and N.M. Mitson.

All the league teams, both Senior and Junior, performed with enthusiasm and often success, especially the 2nd XV who won all their matches. We were placed third in the final league table. Special mention should be made of the efforts of the 1st and 2nd XV Captains, M.C. Hope and N.M. Mitson, who led their respective teams with drive and distinction.

The knockout teams had no success, however; the Seniors, lacking school team players, lost to Heywood and the Juniors perhaps unluckily lost a close game against Fraser.

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The following represented the School at Rugby:

1st XV—T.G. Jones.

2nd XV—S. Manger, S. Mann.

U.16—T.H. Jones, A.J. Moody.

U.15—B. Cooper, P. Cotterill, P.W. McLoughlin.

U.14—N.S. Crossley, W.N. Roberts.

At the end of term the following awards were made:

School Rugby Colours—T.G. Jones.

House Rugby Colours—M.D. Greaves, M.C. Hope, S.J. Malcolm, N.M. Mitson, A.J. Perkins and N.R. Pond.

The House extends congratulations to N.M. Mitson on gaining an exhibition at Oxford University.

Lent Term

At the beginning of term the following appointments were made:

School Prefects—S. Gilbey, N.R. Pond.

Deputy Head of House—S. Gilbey.

Captain of Lacrosse—T.G. Jones.

Captains of House League Lacrosse—M.C. Hope and J. Horwich.

Captain of Cross-Country—S.J. Keeling.

All Lacrosse teams played with commendable spirit and skill and we narrowly failed to win the league, but had to be content with second place. Again the 2nd team were undefeated. Unfortunately, our lack of success in the knockouts was also repeated.

This year's house play was Tom Stoppard's *After Magritte*. The performance was well received, but we finished in 6th place, since the overall standard was very high. This fast-moving farce needed an experienced cast to have the conviction needed to carry it off, yet our young actors did well — especially M. Crowther — and D. Storey gave an excellent performance as Mother. The production was well handled by A.J. Moody.

The House produced an excellent all round performance in the Road Relay. Every runner gave of his best and the entry was well-prepared and organised by S.J. Keeling — the House finished 2nd overall.

At the end of term the following awards were made:

School Lacrosse Colours — T.G. Jones, O.C.D. Cooper.

School Squash Colours — O.C.D. Cooper.

House Cross-Country Colours — D.M. Bradshaw, N.A. Hepworth, S.J. Keeling, A.J. Moody, D.A. Parry and R.P. Todd.

House Drama Colours — A.J. Moody, W.F. Nolan and D.C. Storey.

The following represented the School at Lacrosse:

1st X — T.J. Jones, O.C.D. Cooper.

U.15 — S.R. Brown, B. Cooper and R.J. Mitson.

U.14 — N.S. Crossley, W.N. Roberts.

Midsummer Term

The following appointments were made during the term:

Temporary School Prefects – O.C.D. Cooper, S.J. Keeling.

Captain of Cricket – M.C. Hope.

Captain of Athletics – S.J. Keeling.

Captain of Swimming – C. Hoy.

Captain of Tennis – O.C.D. Cooper.

In the Senior Cricket Knockouts we lost a high-scoring game against Byrom by the odd ten runs after a good team performance, well captained by M.C. Hope with D.B. Wright leading the chase for runs. The Juniors were hopeful of success and beat Dalton easily enough in the first round, but lost after a disappointing performance to Whitworth in the Final.

With few School-standard swimmers, the House nevertheless competed hard in every event and this excellent attitude was rewarded when the Relays were well won – not least because the House had a team in every relay. Our outstanding individual swimmer was C. Hoy who was second in both the Senior backstroke and freestyle.

Owing to the unfortunate absence of the School Tennis Captain, O.C.D. Cooper, the House teams were not at full strength and met a strong Fraser team in the first round. Despite a spirited performance by the second pair, who won 10–9, we were knocked out by the eventual winners.

Although the House achieved a creditable athletics standards total (1004 points), the entries on Sports Day were not strong enough to sustain this position. Absences, general bad luck, but also a certain lack of enthusiasm from some members of the House go some way towards explaining our bad showing on the day. Both the standards and Sports Day entries were excellently organised by S.J. Keeling, who was our best performer against strong senior opposition.

The mainstay of the programme in the House Music Competition was again T.M. Jones, ably supported by M.C. Brackley, D.J. Hartshorne, H.B. Parker, N.R. Pond and B.J. Rosenberg. The House was perhaps unlucky to finish third, though the adjudicators thought most highly of S.G. O'Brien's piano solo, and with several musicians absent it was a creditable performance. It is encouraging to note the increased enthusiasm shown and we can look forward to success in the future.

At the end of term the following awards were made:

School Cricket Colours – C.H. Thorpe (half-colours).

School Tennis Colours – O.C. D. Cooper.

House Cricket Colours – M.C. Hope, D.B. Wright.

House Swimming Colours – M. Bamber, C. Hoy, S.J. Keeling, J.H. Shaw and D.M. Hainsworth.

House Athletics Colours – S.B. Carter, S.J. Keeling and S.J. Logan.

The following represented the School at Cricket:

1st XI – C.H. Thorpe, D.B. Wright.

2nd XI – D.A. Bishop, S.J. Malcolm;

U.15 – P.A. Barker, B. Cooper, P. Cotterill, G. Fish, R.J. Mitson and J.S. Wade.

U.14 – N.S. Crossley, J.F.R. Ingham and W.N. Roberts.

This year has been rather disappointing in terms of successes, though there has been no lack of effort. There are many talented Juniors and I am sure that the House can look forward to the future with confidence. Mr. Cole left at the end of the year and the House would like to thank him for his help and encouragement and to wish Mr. and Mrs. Cole all the best for their future in Australia. I would also like to welcome Mr. Chudleigh as the new Housemaster of Gaskell and wish him every success with the House for the future.

T.G.J.

HEYWOOD HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

At the beginning of the School year, the following appointments were made:

Head of House — A. Wibberley.

School Prefects — D.S. Dodd, M.S. Hobbs, B.M. Wilkinson, A. Wibberley.

House Prefects — P.D. Barker, J.C. Dale, G.J. Davies, J.B. Friedlar, R. Hall, G. Holland, D.R. Nicholson, R.A. Porter and M.J. Spittall.

After last year's success in the House League this year was rather disappointing. Despite one or two admirable victories against much stronger teams, the House was placed low in the league table. However, the Senior and Junior Knockout teams fared much better than in the past, both reaching the finals of their competitions. The Juniors, having had a bye in the first round, went on to beat Whitworth in the second round and then a strong Fraser side in a close-fought final. The Senior team under the captaincy of J.C. Dale had less success, being beaten by a Fraser team which in the main consisted of School team players.

The following boys represented the House on School teams:

1st XV — J.C. Dale, B.M. Wilkinson.

2nd XV — P.D. Barker (Captain), D.S. Dodd, G.M. Mills, D.R. Nicholson, A. Wibberley.

U.16 XV — D. Haworth, S.P. Holloway, R. Zemurs.

U.15 XV — N.S. Tucker, K.D. Murray, J.M. Parry, A. Stainsby, R.P. Flamank.

U.14 XV — J.C. Adderley, N.J. Firth, D.K. Smythe, W.D. Edwards.

P.D. Barker, J.C. Dale, D.S. Dodd, A. Wibberley and B.M. Wilkinson were awarded School Colours for rugby.

At the end of the term M.S. Hobbs and G. Holland left the School and the House sends them best wishes for the future.

Lent Term

At the beginning of term the following appointments were made:

Captain of House Lacrosse — J.C. Dale.

Captain of League Lacrosse — D.R. Nicholson.

Captain of 4th Year Lacrosse — J.M. Parry.

Captain of 3rd Year Lacrosse — N.J. Firth.

Captain of House Cross-Country — M.J. Spittall.

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For the House League Lacrosse teams this term was one of very limited success. The weather, as in previous years, forced many cancellations and those matches that the House played usually ended in defeat.

The lack of success was also reflected in the Knockout competitions where both Junior and Senior sides were beaten by stronger, more experienced teams.

The Road Relay competition, better known as the "cross-country" event, provided M.J. Spittall and his team the opportunity to show their strength and the House finished a creditable third.

In the House Play competition, M.J.P. Jeffries surprised the audience by producing not one, but two plays : *The Hero*, a mime, and *The Ascent of Everest*, a comedy. Both were novel and excellently produced and acted, gaining the House a well-deserved second place in the competition.

The following boys played for School Lacrosse teams:

1st X – J.C. Dale, G.H. Mills, B.M. Wilkinson.

2nd X – D.S. Dodd, D.C. Haworth.

U.15 X – J.M. Parry, K.D. Murray, R.P. Flamank, N.J. Tucker.

U.14 X – N.J. Firth, S.P. Robinson.

J.C. Dale, B.M. Wilkinson and G.H. Mills were awarded School Colours for Lacrosse.

Midsummer Term

The following appointments were made at the start of term:

Captain of Knockout Cricket – R.A. Porter.

Captain of 4th form Cricket – M.S. Ashfield.

Captain of 3rd form Cricket – D.K. Smythe.

Captain of Tennis – A.H.G. Dannatt.

Captain of Athletics – S.P. Holloway.

Although performing much better than in last year's competition, the senior cricket team was beaten by a strong Byrom side whilst the juniors lost to Gaskell.

In the House swimming competition we came third in both the relays and the individual events.

Once again, on the athletics field the enthusiasm of the younger members of the House earned us a large number of standards points, but on Sports Day we could only finish in fifth place : a disappointing result considering we were second the year before.

I would like to thank both M.S. Hobbs and his successor D.S. Dodd for their valuable assistance as Deputy Heads of House, and of course Mr. Booker for his lunch-time supervision of standards attempts in the Midsummer Term and for his touch-line coaching in all weathers during the Michaelmas and Lent Terms. A.W.

I would like to express my appreciation of the excellent job A. Wibberley has done as Head of House this year. M.R.B.

WHITWORTH HOUSE

Michaelmas Term

At the beginning of term D.A. Campbell and N.W. Hewitt were appointed Head and Deputy Head of House respectively. A.J. McLaren, A.K. Bose, M.A. Hallworth, G.R. Hepburn, P.A. Stockton and J. Aldred were appointed House Prefects.

The House was fortunate to have an abundance of Senior Squad rugby players and was

expected to perform well in the Knockout Competition. This indeed was the case, for although Whitworth were beaten 6-10 by a very strong Fraser side in their first match, this clash was by far the most skilful and exciting in the competition. It was perhaps nervousness and over-eagerness which were responsible for many of the mistakes which occurred.

The Junior team, ably captained by J.M. Adams, was given a series of coaching sessions by Senior rugby players, and this, coupled with the team's enthusiasm, was certainly responsible for their victory over Dalton, and for their plucky performance against Heywood.

The House League teams suffered from a general lack of ability and, despite one or two good performances, finished fourth.

At the end of term S.J. Sherman left to pursue his career at Cambridge University: we wish him every success.

Lent Term

At the beginning of term N.W. Hewitt was appointed Head of School and D.A. Campbell was appointed Deputy Head of School. D.M. Platts and N.A. Jackson were appointed House Prefects. During the course of the term G.R. Hepburn was appointed a School Prefect, and was appointed Deputy Head of House.

The House was not blessed with many School team Lacrosse players, and accordingly did not make much headway in the Knockout Competition: having beaten Gaskell, the House was heavily defeated by an extremely good Fraser side. The Junior side, again captained by J.M. Adams, performed well: they reached the final of their competition before being surprisingly but, it seems, inevitably, defeated by Fraser. In the House League competition, however, all the team performed consistently well, and A.J. McLaren in particular deserves great credit for the way he captained and organised the Senior teams. McLaren collected the trophy with a huge smile, and Mr. Callaghan clutched the School organ as if in disbelief that we had actually won something.

Unfortunately, the apathy prevalent amongst certain sixth-formers throughout the term was most evident in the Road Relay, where despite fine runs from P.E. Stanley and I. Wheeldon, the House finished last. An extremely unfit Head of House achieved the dubious distinction of losing a 150-yard lead over the whole field and coming in tenth.

The House Play, which has perhaps come to be regarded as Whitworth's forte over the past couple of years, was this year produced by D.M. Platts and J.I. Sherman, two able actors from many School Plays. Entitled *Ernie's Incredible Illucinations*, it was thought to stand a good chance of success, especially in view of the almost unprecedented size of the cast, which numbered over thirty. Although the audience enjoyed the fast-moving romp immensely, it was disappointingly placed fifth.

Midsummer Term

As the House League has been abolished, the Knockout Competition had to be relied upon to provide a cricket trophy. Although the House had N.W. Hewitt, the School captain, the lack of depth of talent in batting and bowling were not adequately compensated for by the team's enthusiasm, and a strong Dalton side beat Whitworth in the first round.

The Junior team provided one of the most pleasing surprises of the year, when they won the Junior Knockout. The zeal and obvious enjoyment with which they played may well have inspired A.P. Brown, R.G. McLaren and N.M. Shaw to performances in the Final which perhaps they did not expect.

Despite the efforts of N.A. Jackson and P.E. Stanley the House finished last in the House swimming competition.

During the 'A' level examinations D.M. Platts was appointed Acting Head of House and P.G. Turner his deputy. The House Prefects appointed in this period were N.A. Jackson, G.A. Rogers