U.15 XI-P. G. Turner.

U.14 XI-P. D. Sargent, A. J. Hepburn and T. S. Ryman.

In both House Swimming Competitions the House came a disappointing, but not unexpected, last.

The House gained a very high total of 393 standard points, second only to Gaskell. On Sports Day itself the House Team acquitted itself very well, finishing in third place behind Fraser and Gaskell.

Special mention must be made of T. S. Ryman, who came very close to winning the Junior individual trophy.

During the term the following were appointed House Prefects: D. E. N. Harris, C. D. Lightfoot, D. J. Eaton, J. Gowans and N. J. Bradfield.

Whitworth's record in the House Music Competition is not a glorious one, but thanks to excellent organisation of the entry by J. Gowans and D. M. Platts the House moved from its traditional sixth position to fourth place. This achievement is all the greater, since we had only 13 entries, whereas the winners, Byrom, submitted 35 entries.

On Speech Day of the Special Prizes, J. N. B. Bennington won the J. A. Barber Prize and G. T. Gillespie the Powell Scripture Reading Prize.

Though Whitworth has won only one trophy in the last two years, many members of the House have tried hard in all activities and have come close to success on several occasions. We are confident of achieving greater things next year.

Finally, we welcome all new members of the House and wish those leaving all best wishes for the future.

P. D. S., G.T.G., and A.C.V.

I should like to express my thanks to P. D. Stanion for his work as Head of House during Michaelmas Term and to extend to him our congratulations on being awarded a place at Pembroke College, Oxford. Thanks also to G. T. Gillespie, who has been an outstanding Head of House and to A. C. Vaughan and C. D. Lightfoot, who have directed House activities since June.

P.J.C.

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GAMES

FIRST XV RUGBY

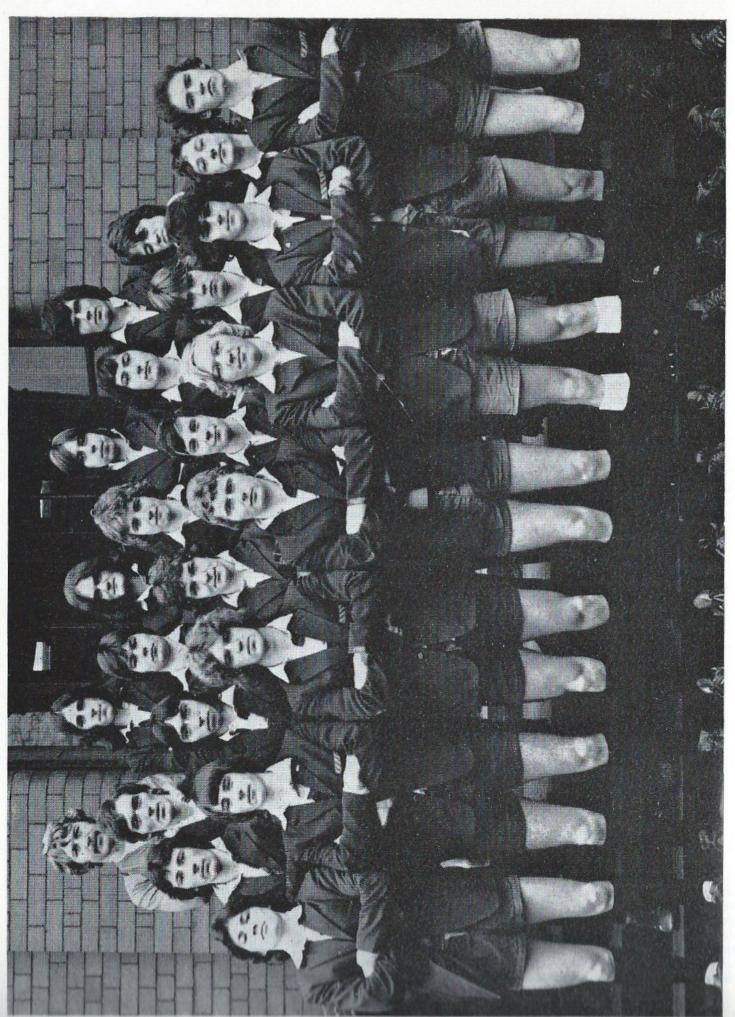
Played 19, Won 6, Drew 2, Lost 11. Points For 232, Against 303.

v. Stockport G.S	A	L	15—17
v. Major Watkins' XV	Ā	W	8-6
v. Sale G.S	H	W	27 4
v. Q.E.G.S., Wakefield	H	D	7— 7
v. Bramhall H.S.	H	W	28-3
v. Birkenhead School	A	L	9-11
	H	W	15-10
	H	L	0-12
	A	L	14-30
	A	W	19-16
	A	L	6-13
	A	L	3— 7
	A	L	6-36
	A	L	12-29
	H	W	14-7
	H	D	6-6
	A	L	25-28
	A	L	12-24
v. Old Boys' XV	H	L	6—17

The season began most satisfactorily with early season training during the summer vacation and warm-up matches against Kersal Colts, Bowden Colts, Ashton-upon-Mersey Colts, Heaton Moor Colts, and St. Bede's College, all of which schools I would like to thank once again for their hospitality. N. Harrison was appointed Captain of the XV, and he led the team well until late in the Term, when he allowed too many people to voice their opinions during games.

The XV was built around the 10 players from last year's 1st XV squad. The front row was very solid and M. S. Butterworth excelled in his aim of destroying the opposition's put-in, much to his opposite prop's and sometimes the referee's annoyance. D. J. Heine played in all but one game as hooker and showed outstanding technique. The loose-head prop was either D. J. Foster, who looks a very aggressive player, R. G. Sinclair, who sounds a very aggressive player or J. Almond, who needs to be a very aggressive player. J. Beesley and M. R. Boyle played at lock. The back-row players were chosen from P. Maddocks, M. J. Scovell, M. K. Bradbury, G. T. Gillespie and J. N. B. Bennington. All of them worked tirelessly when they played. At half-back, N. A. Milton and S. G. Tarpey formed a strange partnership. Both are excellent players individually, Milton very strong at the base of the scrum, a natural footballer, Tarpey outstanding on the break, with a very accurate right foot, but together they rarely shone. They never seemed to make the threequarter line move quickly, and it was rare indeed for the backs, despite their speed, to cross the gain line from a handling movement. However, their natural skill and ability to make something out of nothing made Milton and Tarpey very important members of the XV. At centre R. A. Heaton and N. Harrison were a match for any opposition. Heaton began the season looking a potential international, but several hard knocks and resulting loss in confidence reduced his ability. However his natural talent was always evident. Harrison played well throughout the Term; he has a fast break and tackles well, his only weakness being his timing of a pass. On the wings, J. P. Whiteside played regularly, being leading try scorer and showing determined running and tackling at all times. Other wingers included T. G. Jones, M. S. Kelly, P. P. Williams and M. Chatterton, all of whom performed well when they played. The full-back was G. Jones, who showed himself to be an outstanding player of great potential. His only faults are inconsistency with his place kicking (we only converted 6 of our 31 tries!), and a lack of adventure when attacking and joining the threequarter line.

With so much talent available the XV looked set for a memorable season, and so it began. The first match against Stockport Grammar School was a closely run affair, School being thwarted by two late tries from P. Jackson, Stockport's international forward. Tries from Whiteside, T. G. Jones and Tarpey had shown the threequarter line's potential provided they got sufficient ball. Against a very strong Watkins' XV, the School played exceptionally well. The forwards conjured ball from situations where the physique and experience of the opposition should have denied it, and the backs used their extra pace to get around the Watkins' XV defence. In the end, however, only fine cover defence kept our lead of tries from Milton and Whiteside as the 1st XV forwards tired in their battle against the odds. The match against Sale Grammar School will be remembered by those fortunate enough to have seen it, not for the largest win of the Term, but for the best example of attacking rugby played by the School all Term. The next opponents were Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield, against whom School have not recorded a win for many years, and so it remains. Despite a territorial advantage, we were still losing 4-7 with a few minutes to go, when we were awarded four penalties inside their 25 and decided to run them all, to no avail. Only a last minute penalty goal saved a game that could and should have been won. An easy victory over a weak Bramhall High School XV was followed by our usual defeat at the hands of Birkenhead School, who always have too much teamwork for our individuals to cope with. A dull and unenterprising win over a very young Cheadle Moseley Grammar School XV left the School with the excellent start of having played 7, won 4, drawn 1 and lost 2 (both by only 2 points). Then the rot set in. Not, however, until after a gallant performance against King's School, Macclesfield, who produced yet another huge pack that completely dominated the forward part of the game. Despite almost limitless possession they failed to score a try, thanks to outstanding cover defence by Bradbury, Butterworth, and Heaton. Terrible tackling followed against De La Salle. The forwards gained the upper hand, only to see great holes appear in our threequarter defence.



It is now usual for the School 1st XV to return from their half-term tour full of team spirit and showing a greater understanding of each other's play. This year the body was willing but the spirit was weak and quickly disappeared after the first set-back during a game, and there followed a couple of what should have been close-fought games resulting in ignominious defeats. Against Crosby and Arnold the team gave only token resistance to sides which, although possibly superior, were not 30 points better. A much better performance in a closely fought game against Lytham followed, when Heaton in particular regained his old form. Manchester Grammar School provided their usual stern opposition, but being generous we found a way of handing them a last minute try to allow them a draw they did not deserve. There then followed the most unusual game of the season. Against a good Cheadle Hulme XV, School played very well to lead 14-13 at half-time, despite giving away two tries. The match was there for the taking, but within 15 minutes of the restart School found themselves 14-24 down. They then showed the sort of character that had been missing recently, and forced their way into a 25-24 lead. School continued pressing, and a confident coach slipped away for an appointment, only to discover on his return a dejected School XV 25-28 behind at full-time. The match against Mount St. Mary's involved many changes in the team, and a creditable defeat was suffered against a well drilled and fit opposition. The last match of the Term, against an Old Boys' XV, was hard-fought with School making excellent use of limited possession, but finally failing to hold a very strong pack and scrum-half combination.

The season was disappointing in that, after such a promising start, results and enthusiasm were hard to come by, and the captain's task made very difficult by unnecessary bickering before and during games. It is interesting to note that only two home matches were lost and only one away match won. The team were poor travellers! The obvious excuse is lack of mental preparation of the team, always difficult to achieve, especially by the players themselves, in the absence of the coach. The other possible reason for the team's decline is the strength of the opposition. We will never be able to compete on equal terms with teams receiving two-terms' of rugby, or the intensive coaching given by the Public Schools to their boarders. Under these conditions it is going to be an exceptional 1st XV that manages to win even half its games.

Finally, I would like to thank all the boys who played, especially those coming up from the 2nd XV; Messrs. Cole and Booker for their help and uncomplaining acceptance of late changes in their teams; the numerous parents and masters for their invaluable support at home; and all those who helped cover my numerous absences from matches.

The following boys played for the 1st XV:

J. P. Whiteside, D. J. Heine, G. Jones, N. Harrison, N. A. Milton, R. A. Heaton, J. Beesley, M. R. Boyle, M. J. Scovell, D. J. Foster, M. S. Butterworth, M. K. Bradbury, R. G. Sinclair, S. G. Tarpey, G. T.

Gillespie, P. Maddocks, M. Chatterton, J. Almond, L. J. Wharton, D. Coy, J. N. B. Bennington, M. S. Kelly, T. G. Jones, R. Byrne, P. P. Williams, S. C. Reid, R. D. Bailey, R. K. Cox, and M. S. Hargreaves. M.M.

2nd XV RUGBY

Played 12, Won 6, Drawn 1, Lost 5. Points For 207, Against 109.

v. Stockport	A	W	18— 4
v. Sale G.S	H	W	32-4
v. Q.E.G.S., Wakefield	H	W	16-14
v. Birkenhead School	H	L	4-12
v. King's, Macclesfield	H	L	0-24
v. De La Salle	A	D	7— 7
v. Merchant Taylors', Crosby	H	L	12-16
v. Arnold School	A	L	4- 7
v. King Edward's, Lytham	A	W	48— 4
v. Manchester G.S	H	W	16-6
v. Cheadle Hulme	A	L	4-7
v. Parrs Wood H.S	A	W	46 4

The impression that remains after a successful term's rugby is of a side which played throughout with great enthusiasm, determination and team spirit but which always remembered that, although the game is to be taken seriously, it is also to be enjoyed. This is a credit to all those involved, but special mention must be made of the contributions from the captains, J. N. B. Bennington (for the major part of the term) and I. N. Gosling.

One highlight was a crushing 48—4 result against a Lytham side who showed in the latter stages that they could play good rugby but were overwhelmed by powerful and skilful play from every member of the team. This was a match where the team was at its strongest, but against Arnold School the reverse was true. For several players it was their first game and the side should have been very weak indeed. Instead the team played with remarkable fire, scored an excellent try and were only beaten 7—4, a penalty deciding the issue. In this, as in all the games, the lack of a consistent goal-kicker was keenly felt. All those who played did well and, more important perhaps, enjoyed their rugby.

Those who played were J. Almond, R. D. Bailey, J. Balcombe, J. N. B. Bennington, M. K. Bradbury, P. D. Boyle, R. Byrne, M. Chatterton, R. A. Cooper, D. Coy, D. J. Foster, G. T. Gillespie, I. N. Gosling, M. S. Hargreaves, N. W. Hewitt, M. S. Hamilton, G. Jones, T. G. Jones, M. S. Kelly, P. M. Kennerley, A. M. Krawiecki, T. C. Kwan, P. Maddocks, D. M. Paton, C. H. M. Petch, S. C. Reid, S. N. Roberts, M. J. Scovell, R. G. Sinclair, A. C. Vaughan, L. J. Wharton, D. J. Wheeldon, and P. P. Williams.

M.C.

UNDER-16 XV RUGBY

Played 6, Lost 6, Points For 22, Against 224.

v. Denstone College A L 0—58 v. Birkenhead School..... A L 9—29 v. King's School, Macclesfield H L 3—52 v. Merchant Taylors', Crosby H L 7—45 v. Arnold School, Blackpool A L 0—22 v. Mount St. Mary's, Sheffield A L 3—18

The team's failure to win a single match stemmed primarily from the inability or unwillingness of many of the players, especially the backs, to tackle properly, if at all. This weakness was soon exposed at Denstone where the side suffered their heaviest defeat. Against Birkenhead we played the first half without enthusiasm as though expecting to lose, but in the second half, after switching A. Wilde to fly-half, the spirit and quality of our attacking football improved. Although camped in the Birkenhead 25 for long periods we only managed to score one try, from P. Maddocks, which was converted by Wilde, who also added a penalty goal. Unfortunately we gave away five silly breakaway tries simply by not tackling.

It was much the same story in the home game against King's School, Macclesfield, and our only points came from an enormous penalty kick by Wilde from within his own half. The match against Merchant Taylors' was a third team game and several lower and middle sixth boys were included in the side; all to no avail however! The losing sequence continued at Arnold School and on a frost-hardened pitch at Mount Saint Mary's.

The side was captained by N. W. Hewitt, and chosen from J. Aldred, P. D. Barker, J. S. Bradley, D. A. Campbell, P. Collins, R. A. Cooper, R. K. Cox, J. C. Dale, I. D. Endlar, D. Fraser, W. B. Grant, S. M. Haythorne, G. R. Hepburn, T. Hunt, T. G. Jones, M. S. Kelly, P. M. Kennerley, A. M. Krawiecki, T. C. Kwan, P. Maddocks, A. M. Mills, D. M. Paton, S. J. Prior, S. N. Roberts, A. C. Vaughan, J. A. Wadsworth, N. J. F. Warner, D. J. Wheeldon, and A. Wilde.

M.R.B.

UNDER-15 XV RUGBY

Played 13, Won 4, Lost 9. Points For 164, Against 298.

v. Stockport Grammar School	A	L	6-20
v. Sale Grammar School	A	L	0-39
v. Queen Elizabeth G.S	A	L	3-66
v. Denstone College	A	L	3-34
v. Birkenhead School	H	L	10—14
v. Cheadle Moseley School	A	W	35-0
v. King's School, Macclesfield	A	L	0-46
v. De La Salle School	A	L	0-12
v. Merchant Taylors', Crosby	H	L	15-21
v. King Edward's Lytham	H	W	17— 6
v. Arnold School, Blackpool	H	W	16-8
v. Manchester G.S	H	W	39— 4
v. Cheadle Hulme School	A	L	10-28

The following represented the team: N. J. Adderley, A. K. Bose, S. Chantler, O. C. D. Cooper, H. S. Davies, D. A. Hanley, M. A. Hallworth, M. R. Hawkins, J. Holden, N. A. Jackson, N. L. Jones, A. Keddy, D. Loynes, S. Manger, S. Mann, G. H. Mills, A. J. Perkins, N. R. Pond, D. G. Richards, A. J. C. Sidebotham, R. N. V. Tarr, C. M. Weaver, B. M. Wilkinson (capt.), and P. R. H. Wilson.

This is rightly regarded as a weak side. On most occasions their opponents were bigger and more skilful. Sometimes they were also more determined, though our players could not often be criticised for lack of effort. In spite of these deficiencies, however, some progress was made. The team won more games than last season, and at times showed much enthusiasm. If the game against King's, Macclesfield, was a very low point, then that against Arnold, Blackpool, was a corresponding peak. Generally the three-quarters were too small and too slow, and the forwards were not robust enough to win very much of the ball. When the team did play well (particularly against Birkenhead) it was because of an upsurge in team spirit and a willingness to play for each other.

The best individual player was D. Loynes. Tough, fearless and aggressive in the right sort of way, he always played intelligently. The most improved player was N. A. Jackson, while M. R. Hawkins was capable of good work, but was hard to motivate. Among the backs A. Keddy showed promise, but was not really big enough to make use of his skill. Finally, the captain, B. M. Wilkinson, led the team with calmness and tact, often in trying circumstances. Whether on the wing or in the back row, he played with skill and enthusiasm and set an excellent example of sporting competitiveness.

P. McN.

UNDER-14 XV RUGBY

Played 14, Won 7, Lost 6, Drawn 1. Points For 235, Against 288.

v. Stockport G.S	H	W	16- 6	
v. Sale G.S	A	L	12-28	
v. Q.E.G.S. Wakefield	A	L	0-70	
v. Birkenhead School	H	W	15-4	
v. Parrs Wood H.S	A	W	36-0	
v. Cheadle Moseley	A	L	0-64	
v. King's School, Macclesfield	A	L	0-70	
v. De La Salle College	H	D	10-10	
v. Arnold School, Blackpool	H	W	26-0	
v. King Edward's, Lytham	A	W	20-12	
v. Manchester G.S	A	W	42-0	
v. Cheadle Hulme School	H	W	46- 0	
v. Mount St. Mary's	A	L	12-24	

The team was selected from the following boys: J. L. Patton, J. W. Beswick, R. I. Davison, M. A. Etchells, K. Hussain, P. J. Latham, T. S. Ryman, N. A. Hepworth, R. M. Wadsworth, S. P. Holloway, J. Connor, K. Wadsworth, D. A. Bishop, H. S. Davies, S. R. Cooper, C. S. Rogerson, A. J. Hepburn, J. N. Pollitt, A. Johnson (captain), A. P. Laker, D. M. Hainsworth, H. A. Shawdon, R. Zemurs, D. J. Barnes, S. R. Reubens, D. Watmough, A. Doudal, M. N. Davidson, D. C. Haworth, M. F. Packman, P. D. Sargent, M. Elliot, and T. A. Jones.

By the end of the Christmas Term, this year's Under-14 XV were a strong, mobile and skilful team. The results during the first half of the term were variable, but once a more balanced side had been developed, the School played with a great deal of determination and ability. This point is well illustrated by the results in the second half of the season.

Full credit must be given to the forwards for their constant efforts throughout the Christmas Term. They were a heavy pack and, when working together, were capable of outplaying the majority of other school team packs. Their major strength was the ability to provide high quality second-phase possession for the three-quarters. A serious weakness, however, was set-scrummaging, which must be improved early on in the next season.

The lack of good quality first-phase possession from the forwards led to the three-quarters having to defend for most of each game. This situation highlighted the lack of tackling ability in the backs and in the forwards. The three-quarters did improve in many aspects of back-play and by the end of the season they had the ability to score tries from individual breaks and by creating an overlap situation.

The outstanding players were H. Davies, R. M. Wadsworth, K. Wadsworth, T. S. Ryman, and D. Watmough.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. D. R. Clark for his continuous help and encouragement; Mr. W. Jackson and Mr. G. Hignett for refereeing; and Mr. D. Fisher for accompanying the team to Manchester Grammar School.

A.J.P.

UNDER-13 XV RUGBY

Played 11, Won 6, Lost 5. Points For 156, Against 192.

v. Stockport G.S	H	W	22-12	
v. Sale G.S.	A	W	18—4	
v. Parrs Wood H.S	A	W	52-10	
v. Cheadle Moseley	A	W	14- 6	
v. King's School, Macclesfield	A	L	0-30	
v. De La Salle College	H	L	4-38	
v. Merchant Taylors', Crosby	H	L	4-30	
v. Arnold School, Blackpool	H	L	4-22	
v. King Edward's, Lytham	A	L	4-40	
v. Manchester G.S	A	W	12-0	
v. Cheadle Hulme School	H	W	20-0	

This team played all season with great enthusiasm which helped to overcome their lack of ability in some departments and the general lack of size in the forwards. The backs in particular improved steadily and they scored several fine tries late in the season. Promising performances were produced by J. M. Adams, S. Brown, P. Cotterill, R. P. Flamark, A. J. Padkin, C. G. Pass, and N. S. Tucker.

D.G.B.

UNDER-12 RUGBY

Played 8, Won 4, Lost 4. Points For 104, Against 86.

v. Parrs Wood H.S	Н	W	26-0
v. Cheadle Moseley	A	L	4-16
v. De La Salle College	A	L	19-22
v. Merchant Taylors', Crosby	A	L	0-36
v. Arnold School	H	L	3-12
v. King Edward's, Lytham	H	W	34-0
v. Manchester G.S	A	W	26-10
v. Cheadle Hulme School	H	W	18-10

In spite of a number of defeats during the term this team is certainly going to prove to be one of the best for many seasons. A most encouraging sign for the future is the quality of talent available, especially in the forward positions. The basic skills have been learned well, and when these are coupled with individual flair and experience, the side will be a force to be reckoned with.

SENIOR SCHOOL RUGBY TOUR, 1975

The tour party, consisting of Messrs. Murray, Cole, and Percival, and 21 boys, set off in convoy to Marlow in Buckinghamshire for the opening game against Sir William Borlase's School. Having arrived early, we inspected the small, dusty, sloping pitch, and decided our tactics. Against small but lively opponents School had to work hard, but 2 tries, 1 conversion and 3 penalties, aided by a late missed penalty by the opposing full back, brought us victory. After-match refreshments followed, then it was off to Maidenhead to find our Hotel. The next day we visited Douai School where we were treated to an excellent lunch before facing the Douai XV in front of the whole School. Douai were exceptionally large and fit and finally wore School down to defeat, but not before G. Jones had astonished the crowd by kicking a penalty goal from the touchline inside his own half. We emerged bleary-eyed next day from previous exertions and fielded a very tired XV against Windsor Grammar School. Against rather weak opponents we could rarely raise a gallop and lost 3-7. Old Windsorians Rugby Football Club provided us with dinner, and the final evening of the tour we spent being entertained by our hosts and Almond and Heine. On reflection, it was a highly successful tour, both socially and sportingly, although perhaps three games in three days was too much. Finally, many thanks to the many people who acted as our hosts, and gave us such a splendid reception: Sir William Borlase's School, Douai School, Windsor Grammar School, Old Windsorians Rugby Football Club, and the staff of the Riviera Hotel, Maidenhead.

M.M.

HOUSE RUGBY

Once again very few games had to be cancelled and a great deal of very good rugby was played. The first teams were of a particularly high standard and some excellent players emerged. The Middle School did not show the same ability or spirit, especially at fourth-form level and a significant improvement is hoped for.

The League was very keenly contested and Fraser and Gaskell soon appeared at the top, in that order. As the term progressed, Gaskell gradually overtook Fraser until, with two weeks to go, a 10-point gap separated them, and in spite of a great effort by Fraser that was the gap at the finish.

Result: (1) Gaskell 160 points (2) Fraser 150 ,, (3) Heywood 83 ,, (4) Dalton 76 ,, (5) Byrom 62 ,, (6) Whitworth 43 ,,

KNOCKOUTS

The Knockouts were again very keenly fought, though the standard was not up to recent years, largely owing to defensive football. The skills were there but the open football which was expected just did not materialise, and as a result, the games, though exciting, were rather dull at times.

Result:

Senior	Gaskell beat Whitworth Fraser beat Byrom	10— 6 20— 4
2nd Round	Fraser beat Heywood Gaskell beat Dalton	28— 4 24— 0
Final	Dalton beat Fraser	7— 6
Junior	Whitworth beat Gaskell Dalton beat Fraser	
2nd Round	Heywood beat Byrom Dalton beat Whitworth	20— 8 20— 4
Final	Heywood beat Dalton (after extra time)	19—13

1st X LACROSSE

Played 13, Won 6, Drawn 1, Lost 6. Goals For 190, Against 119.

v. Stockport G.S.	H	D	9-9
v. Urmston 'B'	A	W	12 5
v. Rochdale	A	L	12-14
v. Old Hulmeians 'A'	H	L	10-12
v. Cheadle Hulme L.C	H	L	11—14
v. Mellor 'B'	H	W	21-7
v. Oxford University	A	W	18—11
v. Cambridge University	A	W	20—14
v. Ashton 'A'	H	W	29— 5
v. Stockport G.S	A	L	5—15
v. Cheadle Hulme School	A	L	12-13
v. Old Hulmeians	H	L	16-19
v. Sheffield University	H	W	15—13

The 1st X was usually selected from M. J. Scovell (Captain), J. Beesley, R. Byrne, D. J. Foster, N. Harrison, G. Jones, S. N. Roberts, J. P. B. Sandy, R. G. Shelmerdine, S. G. Tarpey, and L. J. Wharton. The following boys also played on the team: D. M. Baxter, J. N. B. Bennington, M. K. Bradbury, D. E. N. Harris, D. P. Schofield, and P. P. Williams.

Our traditional opening fixture against Stockport Grammar School provided a splendid start to the season. In a game that was a fine advertisement for the game of lacrosse, Stockport held the School to a draw. Excellent skills, endeavour and excitement were in evidence right until the closing seconds when Jones won clean possession from the middle, broke clear and fed Sandy, who levelled the scores with not enough time left to restart the game.

The following week saw us in the first round of the Lancashire Junior Cup at Urmston, where the Urmston 'B' team presented few obstacles to our progress in the competition. The second round of the cup pitted us against a Rochdale side who left nobody

in any doubt of how they intended to beat us. The whole side played good lacrosse until the final whistle, and never allowed the Rochdale tactics to provoke anything but greater effort. But beat us they did. We were out of the Cup, and no matter how well we took this defeat, the initial loss of an important game by 2 goals out of 26 was bound to have an effect on the side's morale. Two more close games followed against Old Hulmeians 'A', and Cheadle Hulme (a second division side) and although the School played well in patches they seemed to have lost the confidence to overcome early setbacks, and they lost by two and three goals respectively.

By this time in the season a pattern was beginning to emerge in the team's play. The defence were susceptible to the fast break and were often drawn too far away from the goal, leaving defence men isolated in dangerous positions. The midfield, particularly when Jones was playing, ran intelligently and cleared the ball well. But the attack, although on occasions they produced exciting individual moments, did not see the necessity constantly to run past defenders without the ball to create openings for their teammates. Sandy, Beesley and Tarpey revelled in their decimation of the Mellor 'B' defence. Beesley defied the laws of gravity to score one exceptional goal, and Tarpey disdainfully threw the ball into the net extremely hard from long range. But the attitude towards playing against better sides must change if chances of this sort are to be created at a higher level.

The tour of the Southern Universities at half-term began with an unfortunate experience. The breakdown of a van meant that the fixture against London was cancelled. We look forward to being able to make amends by playing them this year. Apart from the transport difficulties, the tour was wholly successful with a solid performance against Oxford and an excellent fight-back from 10—14 down to 20—14 in the last quarter against Cambridge despite a fine display in the University defence by a promising young Hulmeian.

In the second half of the Term the results were just as mixed as in the first. An easy win against Ashton was followed by a heavy defeat at the hands of Stockport Grammar School in easily our worst display of the season, and then by a much improved performance against Cheadle Hulme School, losing by 1 goal in 25.

The fixture against the Old Boys was played shortly before their appearance in the Senior Flags Final. This was perhaps our best performance, given the quality of the opposition, and we did well to lose by 13—16 with the result in doubt until the closing minutes. The season closed in foul weather conditions, but the team carried on the improvement of the previous week and stole the game against first division Sheffield in the last quarter after being 6—10 down at half-time.

My thanks are due to M. J. Scovell for his efforts and assistance during the season and to the whole team for their endeavours.

I.J.S.

2nd X LACROSSE

Played 9, Won 4, Drawn 1, Lost 4. Goals For 97, Against 77.

v. Stockport G.S. 2nd	A	W	14- 6
v. Oldham and Werneth 'A'	H	W	19— 4
v. Stockport 'C'	H	L	6-8
v. Old Waconians 'B'	H	W	14 4
v. Sale	A	L	8—16
v. S. Manchester & Wythen-			
shawe 'B'	A	L	5—12
v. Woodhouse Grove School	A	D	6- 6
v. Old Hulmeians 'A'	H	L	6-19
v. Stockport G.S. 2nd	H	W	19— 2

The 2nd Team was usually selected from D. E. N. Harris, J. N. B. Bennington (Captain), R. Byrne, C. D. Lightfoot, D. Wheeldon, A. P. Waring, M. K. Bradbury, L. J. Wharton, D. P. Schofield, D. M. Baxter, P. P. Williams, and D. Coy.

The following boys also played: N. Ashton, P. Maddocks, S. P. Kettlewell, A. T. Murphy, N. W. Hewitt, T. G. Jones, P. M. Kennerley, and M. S. Hamilton.

The season began on an extremely muddy Stockport Grammar School pitch, and after we had got over a shaky start we outplayed a rather weak Stockport side. The Team's run in the David Beesley Cup started promisingly with a convincing win against Oldham. It was short-lived success, however, for the following week we were surprisingly beaten 8—6 in an exciting match in which we had, at one stage, a 6—1 lead.

We recovered from this setback with a good win over Old Waconians but then suffered two defeats at the hands of very capable and experienced teams. It was pleasing to see that the Team was never overawed by the prospect of playing such teams and the matches should serve as useful experience.

The Old Boys' 'A' Team recorded a 19—6 victory over us, but we were able to end the season in fine style with the return fixture against Stockport Grammar, which we won 19—2.

Special mention must be made of the goalkeeping of Harris, often under severe pressure; the exemplary captaincy of Bennington; the solid defence play of Lightfoot and Byrne; and prolific goal scoring of Baxter.

Finally, my thanks to all the squad who helped to make my first season of Lacrosse a most enjoyable experience.

M.E.P.

UNDER-15 XII LACROSSE

Played 12, Won 9, Lost 3. Goals For 130, Against 64.

v. Stockport G.S	A	W	16-1
v. Tameside Juniors	H	W	8 5
v. Wellacre School	A	W	11-3
v. Stockport Juniors	H	L	4-5

v. Stockport G.S. (Juniors & Schools' Cup) A	W	12— 3
v. Cheadle Hulme Sch. 2nd XII A	L	4— 8
v. W.H.G.S. Under-14 XII		
(Juniors & Schools' Cup		
Semi-final) H	W	14-2
v. Stockport G.S H	W	18— 7
v. Tameside Juniors H	W	10 6
v. Broadway School H	W	11-2
v. Cheadle Hulme Sch. 2nd XII H	L	6-12
v. Tameside Juniors (Juniors and	W	16-10
Schools' Cup Final at Old		
Hulmeians L.C.).		

The victorious Team in the Juniors and Schools' Cup Final was as follows:

D. A. Hanley, P. R. H. Wilson, M. R. Hawkins, G. H. Mills, B. M. Wilkinson (Captain), M. J. Sandy, A. Keddy, O. C. D. Cooper, M. A. Hallworth, C. M. Thorpe, P. A. Barron, and H. S. Davies.

In addition to the above, M. P. Evans, N. A. Jackson, J. Odum, R. N. V. Tarr, D. Watmough, and C. Wilkins also played on a number of occasions, and J. Holden and D. G. Richards acted as dependable reserves.

The strength of this year's team is indicated by the number of different reserves who came into consideration in order to build the perfect combination for the Juniors and Schools' Cup Final. Success in this competition is not the divine right of the School in the present state of Under-15 Lacrosse, where strong club sides mix with the usual school opposition which we have always had in recent years from Broadway and Stockport Grammar School and which appears to have revived at Cheadle Hulme. The fact that the team won the Juniors and Schools' Cup, and in such fine style by playing excellent open lacrosse, should make up for any sense of disappointment that only Hawkins and Cooper were selected for Lancashire.

Selection always presented a problem, except perhaps in the defensive sector, where Tarr, though developing a sound goalkeeper's technique and eye for the ball, did not challenge seriously the spectacular Hanley, whose reflex saves are an inspiration to all, and where Mills, Hawkins and Wilson developed a sound sense of team-play and covering. Their differing styles combined perfectly, if never at high speed, and they were always prepared to join their goalkeeper in taking the ball backwards in order to make sure of progress forwards!

The midfield places, however, were much more difficult to fill with certainty: Keddy is what is known in many sports as a 'terrier', which I take to mean a small, persistent, mobile player of the sort which people hate to play against. He also scores two goals a game with complete consistency. He made himself essential. Cooper immediately takes the lacrosse player's eye as a player of speed, strength and class, but unfortunately he has long quiet periods of non-motivation when he still needs touchline encouragement to produce the best. His best is very good indeed. Sandy and Wilkinson had periods over the season

when they seemed to disappoint themselves by imperfect handling and shooting. However, they are both positive players who move quickly forward with the ball, draw cover from a defence, and know how to exploit the extra men thus created. Hallworth is a fast runner with a hard shot. He is also rather predictable in his play, which could explain why he ran into a number of quite dreadful fouls which certainly affected his confidence by the end of the season. These five players gained their places in spite of the challenge of Odum, a good handler in need of some more experience and a yard or two more of speed; Jackson, a hard, bustling player, who ran the midfield on a narrow pitch at Wellacre, virtually single-handed; and Watmough, whose speed, hard shot and excellent ground technique will greatly benefit next year's Under-15.

Similarly in the attack there were players who had good games but did not make the final selection: Wilkins, left-handed but rather lacking in height and still in need of more confidence in his catching and shooting, and Evans, who seemed prepared in the first round Cup match to win the trophy singlehanded. These were finally passed over in favour of Davies, returning after a year's absence and eligible for the Under-14 team, who soon struck his best scoring form. Convincingly ambidextrous and with a very hard shot, he made a great deal of difference to the team's scoring potential which earlier in the season relied too strongly on the midfield. The feeders were Barron and Thorpe, the former playing mostly behind goal, the latter running with the ball from the sides and drawing cover before making the lay-off.

The whole season seemed to me very constructive. All the players improved their game and their appreciation of the tactics and problems of lacrosse. I hope that they will retain the style and attitude they showed throughout this season in the harder world of the senior game.

C.P.L.

UNDER-14 XI LACROSSE

Played 11, Won 9, Lost 2. Goals For 120, Against 50.

v. Stockport G.S	H	W	15-2
v. Wilmslow G.S	H	W	18— 1
v. Audenshawe	A	W	10-4
v. Wellacre	A	W	8-4
v. Marple Hall	H	W	11-4
v. Wellacre	H	W	5-4
v. W.H.G.S. Under-15	A	L	2-14
v. Stockport G.S	A	W	18—1
v. Wilmslow G.S	A	W	14-7
v. Woodhouse Grove	A	W	12-4
v. Mellor	A	L	5-9

The Team was chosen from the following:

D. J. Barnes (Captain), S. C. Bickerton, H. S. Davies, A. Dowdall, M. A. Etchells, D. C. Haworth, M. A. Jones, P. G. M. Jessup, A. Johnson, P. J. Latham, M. F. Packman, J. L. Patton, K. J. Wadsworth, R. M. Wadsworth, and D. Watmough.

There is a lot of Lacrosse ability in this age group, and it was usually shown to the full. Most of the victories were relatively easy, though after H. S. Davies and D. Watmough were promoted to the next age-group the defence lost some of its bite, and the attack much of its imagination. This is why the team's best efforts were not enough to overcome a strong Mellor side.

All the players did well at times, and most of them improved. Worthy of special note are A. Johnson, who though very small, scored a goal a match and embarrassed many large defenders; the Wadsworth twins, who always made every effort and were our principal match-winners; A. Dowdall, who was an alert and reassuring goal-keeper; and D. C. Haworth, who was the fittest and most constructive defender.

Finally, much of the credit for the success of the team is due to D. J. Barnes, the Captain. He led the side very well, and his steadiness and coolness were an example to the others.

P. McN.

UNDER-13 LACROSSE

Played 11, Won 8, Lost 3. Goals For 105, Against 51.

v. Stockport G.S A	W	9-2
v. Poynton Juniors H	L	8—11
v. St. Augustine's H	W	18— 1
v. Wilmslow G.S H	W	13-3
v. W. Hulme's U12	W	13-3
(Centurion Trophy Round II).		
v. Cheadle Hulme School A	W	19—1
v. Stockport G.S A	L	6-9
(Centurion Trophy Semi-final).		
v. Stockport G.S H	W	7-3
v. Wilmslow G.S H	L	0-14
v. Stamford School H	W	5— 2
v. Broadway School A	W	7— 2

The following boys represented the School:

A. J. Padkin (Captain), I. Keating, G. Keating, C. D. Bradbury, J. M. Parry, A. D. Brown, J. M. Adams, B. Cooper, A. W. Smith, R. M. Phillips, S. Brown, S. R. Brown, K. D. Murray, R. J. Mitson, P. H. Newton, N. J. Firth, T. A. M. Maula, and N. B. Wiltshire.

Leading Scorers: Cooper, Newton 23, Padkin 12, S. Brown, S. R. Brown 11, Adams 10, Murray and Mitson 9.

Junior Colours were awarded to Padkin, Adams, Bradbury, Cooper, G. Keating, I. Keating, Smith and Newton.

Mr. Langford wrote in last year's *Hulmeian* of the Under-12 side: "Most players are still much behind schedule with their handling and will have to put in a lot of practice before the start of next season." It may fairly be said that it was faulty handling which caused the rather patchy record of the Under-13 team. To catch and throw accurately, when under severe pressure, is the basis of a top-class side and this age-group still has some way to go. Only a certain

degree of improvement can occur during a comparatively short lacrosse term, so those players who want to become first class must devote much of their own time to constant practice.

Any Under-13 side which does not win the Centurion Trophy is instantly dubbed a failure, but this is hardly fair. Our defeat at the hands of Stockport's centre Powell (for he scored seven of their goals) was unexpected but decisive. The following week a fine containing performance in the first half by Smith and Keating on Powell enabled a much more determined team to gain a good revenge with a 7—3 win. Ironically we also beat the Centurion Trophy winners, Wilmslow Grammar School, early in the season, but later on they beat us decisively and we failed even to score. There were two good wins over Stamford and the once-dreaded Broadway, a courageous defeat from an over-age Poynton side and the usual collection of easy victories.

There was no individual star of the year but all those who won their colours played consistently well. In goal I. Keating had a fine season, while his brother, G. Keating, in straight defence, together with Bradbury, always played coolly under pressure. Cooper was tried in various positions and used his strength and persistence to finish equal top-scorer with Newton who scored many fine individual goals. The successful early season partnership of Adams, Padkin and Smith, was interrupted by illness and this upset the rhythm of the team. No really convincing straight attack combination was found and this will be a major problem to be solved next year. From the Under-12s Phillips, Firth and Brown acquitted themselves well in some of the later games. This look at the 'big time' will help them next year.

My thanks are due to Mr. Bonnick for his unfailing enthusiasm, to Mr. Shaw for assistance with driving and refereeing despite his 1st X commitments, to a very keen group of parents who supported the team in every game, and to the team who tried hard and most of the time.

P.J.W.

UNDER-12 XII LACROSSE

Played 8, Won 6, Lost 2. Goals For 100, Against 38.

v. Stockport G.Sv. William Hulme's Under-13 (Centurion Trophy).	Н	W L	13— 5 3—13
v. Wilmslow G.S	Н	W	18— 2
v. Wilmslow G.S. v. Stockport G.S	A	W	19— 1 11— 0
v. Mellor Juniors	H	W	18— 1
v. Wilmslow G.S v. Cheadle Hulme Under-13	H	L W	15— 7

The players, with goals scored, were:

R. M. Phillips (12), N. J. Firth (27), A. D. Brown (2), E. Livingstone (11), W. J. H. Murray (1), R. G. McLaren (8), R. P. Thornton (5), T. C. Smith (14), I. G. MacMillan (4), W. A. Sandy (8), N. S. Crossley (1), W. N. Roberts, C. P. Robinson, D. A. Thorpe

(2), D. M. Bretnall, C. N. Dodds, P. D. Winterbottom (1), J. B. McFarland, A. P. Booth (2), W. D. Edwards (2), I. M. Powell, R. Taylor, and M. J. Scoltock.

A very good season was enjoyed by the team. Early season practices in good weather helped produce some competent players very quickly. A strong squad of 14 was supplemented regularly by other useful players, and there was often the problem of whom to leave out of the team. A very high standard of play was set throughout the season, and there were several other keen players, close to selection, who would have enjoyed success in a slightly less able squad.

The early Centurion Trophy game against a more experienced side showed how hard the team had worked at its handling and passing. The Under-12 kept the score to 2—4 by the end of the second quarter, but found that they could not negotiate a packed defence and finally lost the game despite playing well.

The team was led throughout the season by R. M. Phillips, a strong runner from midfield and a good handler, who scored in every game. Midfield was always a strong section of the team and the defence seldom had much work to do. The attack players, however, could not always provide consistent support to N. J. Firth, who turned out to be very sharp in front of goal and scored eight in the final game of the season.

Several new players were given the opportunity of a game against Wilmslow. Phillips, Firth and A. D. Brown, a tall strong central defender, each played two games for the Under-13 XII late in the season, when Firth scored three goals. The strong squad should do well as an Under-13 side.

M.D.W.

HOUSE LACROSSE

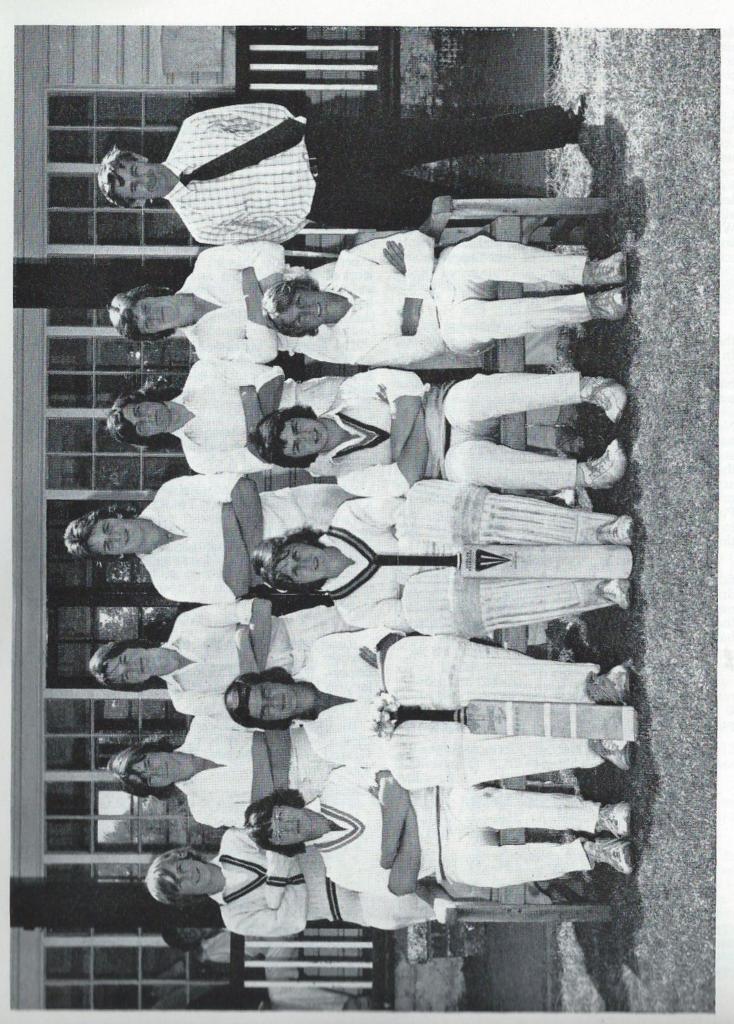
Reasonable weather and a very high standard of lacrosse made this a satisfactory term in almost every respect. The incidence of unfair play was, however, far too high, and action will be needed next season to stop it.

By half-term, Fraser and Gaskell were well clear of the field, but in spite of a determined effort by Gaskell, Fraser extended their lead and emerged worthy winners.

Result: 1st Fraser.
2nd Gaskell.
3rd Dalton.
4th Heywood.
5th Whitworth.
6th Byrom.

KNOCKOUTS

The Knockouts as usual, produced the keen and determined play that we have come to expect and, although none of the games could be called vintage, some excellent lacrosse was to be seen.



Results:

Senior

Fraser beat Byrom	13-0
Gaskell beat Whitworth	7— 1
Fraser beat Heywood	10- 5
Dalton beat Gaskell	5- 2
Fraser beat Dalton	15-4
	Gaskell beat Whitworth Fraser beat Heywood Dalton beat Gaskell

Junior

First Round	Whitworth beat Byrom	8- 6
	Heywood beat Gaskell	
Second Round	Fraser beat Whitworth	17-4
	Heywood beat Dalton	6-1
Final	Fraser beat Heywood	17- 4

LACROSSE SIX-A-SIDE

Decent weather is essential for this Competition, and once again we were very fortunate. A very pleasant day enabled the matches to be played without the usual discomfort between games. A total of 56 games were played, involving 288 players, 14 referees and 340 goals.

Result: 1st Fraser.

1st Fraser. 2nd Gaskell. 3rd Heywood. 4th Dalton. 5th Byrom. 6th Whitworth.

CRICKET, 1976

This year's strong batting side often failed to build big scores, but reacted to failure by bowling and fielding with a tenacity which sometimes snatched victory from strong opponents who must have thought the match was theirs. T. Picken, this year's gifted Captain, was one of the best fast-medium bowlers the School has had. He was well supported by the tall M. Mills who bowled accurately and took 40 wickets at 12.87 runs each (he will be even better when he delivers from closer to the stumps). N. Lord, a left-arm medium-slow bowler of rich promise, capable of throwing in the ball which moves into the batsman, was a useful first change.

Cricket is a team game and the success of these three owed much to the help of the safe catching of wicket-keeper D. Coy and the best slip-gully combination I can remember (since 1950!) of N. Hewitt, C. Manning and T. Picken. In N. Warner, D. Hoey and J. Beesley we had outstanding out-fielders and Hoey's returns swung three matches at crucial phases. P. Lindsay ranked amongst the best close-in fielders, in front or square, that the School has ever had: an ample girth, which blocked scoring short, belied the agility which plucked prodded defensive strokes from the air to dismiss batsmen.

We were deficient in spinners, but P. Hall, who lacked experience, won at least two matches with his left-arm deliveries. R. Bailey was an all-rounder who often 'chipped in' with an invaluable contribution with bat or ball.

Our talented batting was a problem and, although the scriptural allusion will probably be lost on our cricketers, the admonition over burying one's talent is not an abjuration of the principle of 'digging in' as the basis of a good innings. J. Beesley played a number of excellent innings, as did T. Picken, but neither achieved consistency over the season. Apart from his fine 50 against Manchester Grammar School, P. Lindsay had a poor season until the tour. C. S. Manning, once he was promoted to opener, drove fluently and proved a consistent front-foot player of medium-pace bowling. N. Hewitt can hit the ball hard, but he showed character in batting with grim determination to hold the side together in tight situations, often swinging the balance in our favour. N. Lord and D. Coy played a number of useful innings, as did D. Hoey on tour. N. Warner, in my opinion, shows every indication of becoming an outstanding batsman.

Finally, it is difficult to speak too highly of T. Picken as Captain. A gifted all-rounder with an unruffled temperament, he inspired the team (never more so than when things had gone wrong) by his own example as a fast bowler and an agile fielder. His stature as a player and captain commanded respect from both the opposition and his own team. Picken finished the season with a tally of 50 wickets at a cost of 11.12 runs each and topped the batting averages at 24.4 runs per innings.

A.M.B.

This year's team was selected from the following: Colours 1976—T. N. Picken (Captain), P. S. Lindsay (Vice-Captain), J. Beesley, D. Coy, N. Hewitt, N. J. Lord, M. Mills, and C. S. Manning.

Half-Colours 1976—D. W. Hoey, N. Warner, R. Bailey, and P. Hall.

The following also played: G. Jones, M. G. Holland, J. P. B. Sandy, S. Ogden, A. G. Schofield, C. Parkyn, and L. J. Wharton.

MATCH REPORTS

Played 22, Won 9, Drawn 7, Lost 6.

v. Stockport Grammar School (H.).

Drawn.

School 154 for 6 dec. (J. Beesley 53, D. Coy 40). Stockport 61 for 4.

- J. Beesley and D. Coy rallied well after our bad start. Beesley hit hard and scored seven boundaries. Stockport began well, but abandoned the chase for runs after losing their star batsmen cheaply.
 - v. King Edward VII School, Lytham (A.).

Won by 5 wickets.

Lytham 106 (T. Picken 5 for 12). School 108 for 5 (T. Picken 55 n.o.).

This match was dominated by T. Picken's fine all-round performance. His fluent hitting saw us home as time was running out.

v. Rydal School (A.).

Lost by 119 runs.

Rydal 188 for 7 (Leach 105 n.o.). School 69 (J. Beesley 32).

This was our worst performance. On a good wicket we bowled well to contain Rydal to 74 for 5. Then after an interruption by rain Leach cut loose and hit our bowling all over the field. A demoralised team never got going in reply and only J. Beesley offered resistance of note.

v. Arnold School (H.).

Won by 8 wickets.

Arnold 97.

School 100 for 2 (P. Lindsay 20, J. Beesley 23 n.o., T. Picken 34 n.o.).

This was a new fixture and we always looked the stronger side. After dismissing Arnold for a low score we got the runs in 34 overs.

v. Queen Elizabeth G.S., Wakefield (A.).

Drawn.

Wakefield 124 for 2 (Young 68 n.o.). School 84 for 6 (T. Picken 27, N. Hewitt 31 n.o.).

A good opening partnership put Wakefield in a strong position and a sporting declaration kept the game open. We lost three quick wickets and, although T. Picken and N. Hewitt chased the runs, we were always behind the clock, and after Picken's dismissal could only play out time.

v. A. M. Blight's XI (H.).

Won by 29 runs.

School 140 for 6 (T. Picken 61 n.o.). A. M. Blight's XI 111 (E. Broadhurst 50, N. Warner 25).

Against a rather weak attack we should not have lost 6 wickets. Some of Mr. Fitt's short deliveries were punished severely by T. Picken, who restored respectability to our innings. The game hung in the balance as long as Broadhurst occupied the crease, supported by Warner, but a brilliant run-out by D. Hoey cut short the threat of a close finish.

v. Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby (H.).

Won by 17 runs.

School 114 (C. S. Manning 29). Crosby 97 (M. Mill 3 for 10).

- C. S. Manning enjoyed some luck, but went for his shots successfully. However, our middle order failed. M. Mills and P. Hall broke through Crosby's middle order and T. Picken mopped up the tail.
 - v. Whalley Range C.C. (A.). 30 overs match. Lost by 27 runs.

Whalley Range C.C. 124 for 7 (E. W. Mitchell School 97 for 7.

It was probably a mistake to put the opposition in, as we faced a large total, a bumping pitch and a fading light with a weakened side.

v. Woodhouse Grove School (A.).

Lost by 20 runs.

Woodhouse Grove 149 for 6 (A. Lawson 68, M. Mills 5 for 35). School 129 (C. S. Manning 35, J. Beesley 25,

T. Picken 32).

This was a fine game played in dismal conditions. Lawson hit our attack forcefully, but Mills persevered well. Exams meant we were some batsmen missing, but we chased the runs to the end and the result was an exciting finish. The game was a credit to both sides.

v. Old Hulmeians (H.).

Match abandoned—Rain.

Old Hulmeians 77 (N. Warner 5 for 17). School 39 for 0.

The highlight of a wet afternoon was a Mr. Winfield asking Mr. Blight, "Is that two legs, Badger?" The game was temporarily held up as a mystified team tried to sort out this zoological reference. The Old Boys struggled to a low score and an easy win was ours when the Badger performed a rain dance and badgered the umpires into retirement.

v. Parents (H.).

Won by 8 wickets.

Parents 85 for 4 (Mr. Wright 36 n.o.). School 89 for 2 (J. Beesley 37, T. Picken 33 n.o.).

We pursued the runs against the clock and T. Picken finished the match with a six against the science block.

v. Birkenhead School (A.).

Lost by 119 runs.

Birkenhead School 178 for 9 (Plimley 100 n.o.). School 59.

We could not contain Plimley and on a good wicket we failed to graft for runs and our batting failed dismally.

v. Batley Grammar School (A.).

Won by 54 runs.

School 171 for 9 (P. Lindsay 38). Batley 121 (P. Hall 6 for 48).

We batted well, and when Batley chased the runs they fell to good catches in the deep as they attacked Hall's flighted deliveries.

v. King's School, Macclesfield (H.).

School 146 for 5 (D. Coy 43 n.o., C. S. Manning 42, N. Lord 24 n.o.).

Macclesfield 121 for 7.

Manning hit their opening attack all over the field, but their leg-spinner mesmerised us until tea. D. Coy and N. Lord under pressure of time then hit out with confidence. King's began well, but tight bowling put us back in control and they played out time.

v. The Masters' XI.

Drawn.

School 134 for 6 (N. Hewitt 57 n.o., Mr. Percival 3 for 20).

Masters 132 for 9 (Mr. Mitchell 34, Mr. Percival 33).

A highly entertaining match. Mr. Percival's pace broke our early batting, but N. Hewitt saved the day. The Masters chased the total to the end and four runs were required from the last over, but Mr. Langford just failed to make it despite a full toss from Picken on the last ball.

v. Manchester Grammar School (A.).

Lost by 1 wicket.

School 139 (P. Lindsay 50). Manchester Grammar School 143 for 9 (N. Lord 6 for 36).

In an exciting match P. Lindsay played fluently for a fine 50. Manchester looked set to win till N. Lord was introduced belatedly into the attack. Victory looked to be ours, but their last pair managed to score 14 runs, an achievement which merited their win.

Our thanks to A. T. Bowyer who scored for us, and to the Dining Hall staff and the Parents who catered for us. Finally, our thanks go to Mr. Blight for all his hard work during the season. He is retiring from 1st XI cricket and his services will be missed. Our best wishes go to Mr. P. J. Wilde, his successor.

T.J.P. (Captain)

CRICKET TOUR, 1976

After nine years' organising a tour of the West Country it is difficult to avoid nostalgia in this report. I was very grateful for Mr. E. W. Mitchell's help once more and to the boys who made this such a successful and enjoyable final trip.

We journeyed to Chepstow, progressing to Bruton next day. King's have always been one of the weaker sides. We were in for a shock. Their cricket had improved enormously and we lost by 10 runs, as our middle order collapsed. On then to the beautiful Allhallows School on the Dorset coast, renewing acquaintance with Mr. G. B. Jones, who was back running their school cricket. Fortunately P. Lindsay ran into form, but our score of 122 was scarcely adequate. However, P. Hall had his day and took 5 for 19 and we won, dismissing them for 71.

We continued our travels to the Beeches Caravan Site, whose caravans have provided such pleasant accommodation on the coast at Blue Anchor for eight years. Not only did R. Bailey's singing bring an end to the drought, but his T-shirt attracted a phenomenal plague of ladybirds. However, the traditional soccer match was played on Minehead beach with the Junior van triumphant.

Monday brought us to face the formidable Monmouth side, unbeaten and anxious to preserve that record. Their fast attack shattered our batting, but T. Picken (36), played some glorious strokes and N. Hewitt grimly batted through for 27 not out. Ninetyfour seemed a hopeless total, but T. Picken bowled with real venom and his 7 for 19, supported by M. Mills' 3 for 56, brought us an incredible victory, as they were out for 77.

Against Exeter School we batted really well, with a fine revival in the middle order. T. Picken (23) batted well, but the outstanding innings was graced by some fine stroke play by N. Warner (44) and D. Hoey at last went on to the attack to score a good 25. We declared at 165 for 9.

M. Mills shattered Exeter's early batting, bringing three balls back sharply and Picken bowled their other opener. Alas, at 24 for 4 prolonged rain kept us off the field till 6 p.m. and the pitch was then dead. We took only two more wickets and the match was drawn.

Haberdashers' Aske's, Elstree, is a very strong cricketing school. Unbeaten for two seasons and with a Middlesex 2nd XI batsman as captain they were our most formidable opponents. Thanks to another fine innings from P. Lindsay (34) and an invaluable stand between D. Coy (20) and D. Hoey (15), we mustered 120, just enough to give us a chance on a lively pitch.

T. Picken's 'swan-song' was another great bowling performance—5 for 28. With Mills, Lord and Bailey each collecting a wicket, D. Hoey finished off their innings for 97 with a fine run-out.

The Bristol Bedouins' game was an anti-climax, particularly as the captains had a mutual misunder-standing over the finishing time. We scored 105 for 4, D. Hoey (33 n.o.) and R. Bailey (23 n.o.) and the Bedouins reached 99 for 8 in the last over (T. Picken 4 for 43, M. Mills 3 for 18).

Postscript:

After running School cricket for 12 years, I would like to thank all those colleagues who over that time have given unstintingly of their time and energy. I feel it has been difficult—at times impossible—but in the last analysis well worthwhile. It is with some sadness, but also with a feeling of gratitude and a sense of satisfaction in having continued the work of Mr. Dennis 'Pecker' Williams and 'Chas' Morley that I hand over the reins to Mr. Wilde and wish him all the best in running School cricket.

Mr. Bird once commented on Mr. Morley's inability to recognise rain in the cricket season and

some colleagues have suspected the metaphysics of my meteorology. I hand over to a man of unlimited enthusiasm, confident that only fog will curtail School cricket in the future. My decision to retire was confirmed on this year's tour as I stood for a whole hour, unmarked, off-side, and disregarded in front of a vacant goal on Minehead beach, sadly realising that the tide was coming in and it was indeed time to go.

A.M.B.

2nd XI CRICKET

Played 12, Won 6, Drawn 5, Abandoned 1.

v. Stockport Grammar School (A.).

Won by 10 runs.

School 110 (Schofield 51). Stockport 100.

v. King Edward VII School, Lytham (H.).

Won by 74 runs.

School 115 for 4 dec. (Wilde 49 n.o.). Lytham 41 (Bailey 4 for 14, Hope 3 for 4).

v. Rydal School (A.).

Match Drawn.

Rydal 121 for 7 dec. School 92 for 5 (Holland 44).

v. Arnold School, Blackpool (A.).

Won by 73 runs.

School 123.

Arnold 50 (Hope 14·3—7—8—7).

v. Queen Elizabeth G.S., Wakefield (H.).

Match Drawn.

School 76 (Warner 36 n.o.). Wakefield 76 for 6 (Wall 4 for 11).

v. Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby (A.).

Match Drawn.

School 96 for 9 dec. (Ogden 42 n.o.). Crosby 63 for 5 (Sandy 4 for 12).

v. Woodhouse Grove (H.).

Match abandoned.

Woodhouse Grove 117 for 7 dec. School 26 for 1.

v. Parents (H.).

Won by 5 wickets.

Parents 57. School 58 for 5. v. Birkenhead School (H.).

Match Drawn.

School 126 for 7 dec. (Ogden 51). Birkenhead 76 for 4.

v. King's School, Macclesfield (A.).

Match Drawn.

School 124 for 6 dec. (Schofield 40 n.o., Boyle 37). Macclesfield 86 for 5.

v. The Masters' 2nd XI (H.).

Won by 43 runs.

School 182 for 6 dec. (Ogden 67, Wilde 39). The Masters 139.

v. Manchester Grammar School (H.).

Won by 6 wickets.

Manchester G.S. 68 (Holland 5 for 12). School 71 for 4.

As in 1975 the 2nd XI enjoyed a season unbeaten: they have now played 28 matches since their last defeat in June 1974. While this is clearly an admirable state of affairs, it must be said that the natural desire of the players to maintain their unbeaten record did lead to a disappointing number of draws—6 of the 10 games against other schools produced no result. Indeed, it may be that a defeat early in the season would have led to more positive cricket. The blame for this cannot be placed entirely at the door of Boyle's captaincy; he performed his duties quietly and efficiently and improved tactically as the season progressed, after an early tendency to make panic decisions rather than to pursue a planned strategy.

The problem stemmed more from the inability of our early batsmen to score quickly enough to provide for a promising and yet reasonably safe declaration. Almost invariably Boyle himself had to take on the job of 'sheet-anchor' as wickets fell quickly. Those of his partners who criticised his slow scoring should remember this. As openers, Collins and McLaren looked promising but failed regularly, as did Wharton, who suffered from unlucky dismissals. Only Holland, on occasion, took control of the bowling from the first over. In the middle order Wilde and Maddocks both showed that they could hit the ball very hard, but both infuriatingly tended to lose concentration and were out hitting across the line. The best batting predictably came from Warner, whose technique and flair rightly led to promotion to the 1st XI. For opportunist, match-winning innings we had to look to Ogden, Schofield and Hope, all of whom shamed their colleagues higher up the order. Schofield's experience and enthusiasm proved valuable assets throughout, as did his wicket-keeping, particularly when standing up to Hope. The last match of the season provided a highlight in the comfortable defeat of Manchester Grammar School, when Schofield took over the captaincy against a side led by his brother.

The bowling was in general tidy and occasionally very good to watch, though in the few matches we played on good wickets, it lacked penetration against batsmen with sound technique. The opening attack consisted in the main of Hope and Holland. Very different in style, they both bowled with great persistence and skill, thoroughly deserving their wickets. Jones, when on loan from the 1st XI, could not match their accuracy, but his added pace was an adequate compensation at this level: at Blackpool, he and Hope bowled 30 overs for just 23 runs.

The 2nd XI should give an opportunity for slow bowlers to come to the fore: we were fortunate to enjoy the talents of Morton, Sandy and Wall, not to mention Warner, who was sadly under-used.

The first three provided an interesting contrast in styles, with Wall firing the ball in economically at leg and middle and Sandy varying his angle and pace intelligently. Morton's experience this season should stand him in good stead. He is a left-arm bowler who really spins the ball and is capable of sustained accuracy; what is more, as a slow bowler he is not afraid to bowl slowly! He is now beginning to construct more varied overs and will need to attack with greater conviction as he meets batsmen who are powerful enough to carry the fight to him and try to knock him off a length.

All in all this has been a good season: the players have enjoyed their cricket and have, I hope, benefited from their mistakes as well as from their successes. Next year we will have lost the services of several old hands who have, over four or five seasons, contributed much to School cricket. On the other hand, several of the younger members of this side will find more responsibility placed on their shoulders. They have shown already that they have ample talent; I hope they will realise that concentration, application and consistency are equally relevant to success on the cricket field.

The team was usually selected from the following players: P. D. Boyle, A. G. Schofield, P. Collins, G. R. Hepburn, D. W. Hoey, M. G. Holland, M. C. Hope, G. Jones, P. Maddocks, A. J. McLaren, J. F. Morton, S. B. Ogden, C. D. Parkyn, J. P. B. Sandy, S. G. Tarpey, R. L. Wall, N. J. F. Warner, L. J. Wharton, and A. Wilde.

J. Holden and D. G. Richards of the Colts also helped out and gained experience of Senior cricket. In addition, the thanks of the side are due to the 3rd XI, who took the field en masse against Woodhouse Grove when our regulars were unavailable because of G.C.E. examinations. It turned out to be a miserable match, played in persistent rain against unenterprising opposition, but the unbeaten record was preserved.

My thanks also to those colleagues who helped with umpiring, and to those second-formers who gave up their time to score for us. K. R. Paterson of 2D, with his multi-coloured masterpieces, is clearly a natural successor to Bill Frindall.

UNDER-15 XI CRICKET

Played 20, Won 11, Drawn 5, Tied 1, Lost 2, Abandoned 1.

v. Stockport Grammar School (H).

Won by 4 wickets.

Stockport 91 all out (Barron 4 for 27). School 93 for 6 (Odum 25).

v. King Edward VII School, Lytham (A.).

Won by 91 runs.

School 161 for 5 dec. (Barron 41, Rainford 36, Turner 32 n.o.).

Lytham 70 all out (Rainford 4 for 8, Manger

3 for 11).

v. Arnold School, Blackpool (H.).

Won by 108 runs.

School 180 all out (Rainford 56, Barron 38). Arnold 72 all out (Rainford 7 for 3).

v. Queen Elizabeth G.S., Wakefield (A.).

Match Drawn.

School 100 all out (Barron 52). Wakefield 93 for 5.

v. W.H.G.S. Under-14 XI (H.).

Won by 79 runs.

Under-15 XI 154 all out (Barron 40, J. Patton 5 for 28).
Under-14 XI 75 all out (Manger 4 for 6).

v. Hulme Wanderers (H.).

Match Drawn.

School 149 for 5 dec. (Odum 42 n.o., Barron 36, Richards 30).

Wanderers 140 for 8 (Richards 3 for 16, S. Ogden

30).

v. St. Bees School (A.).

Match Drawn.

School 181 all out (Richards 41, Rainford 30, Manger 30).
St. Bees 79 for 7 (Richards 3 for 21).

v. Sedbergh School (A.).

Match Abandoned.

Sedbergh 59 for 2.

v. Barnard Castle School (A.).

Lost by 6 runs.

Barnard Castle 99 all out (Rainford 5 for 22), School 93 all out (Boyle 22).

v. Durham School (A

Match Drawn.

School 114 all out (Rainford 32, Chantler 26). Durham 91 for 5.

v. Merchant Taylors', Crosby. (H.).

Won by 154 runs.

School 203 for 7 dec. (Richards 77, Thorpe 44). Crosby 49 all out (Richards 5 for 19).

v. Woodhouse Grove School (H.).

Won by 38 runs.

School 107 for 6 dec. (Thorpe 35). Woodhouse Grove 69 all out (Rainford 3 for 22, Barron 3 for 4).

v. Birkenhead School (A.).

Lost by 5 wickets.

School 80 all out (Thorpe 23, Richards 22). Birkenhead 81 for 5.

v. Batley Grammar School (H.).

Won by 3 wickets.

Batley 40 all out (Rainford 5 for 15). School 43 for 7.

v. King's School, Macclesfield (H.).

Won by 63 runs.

School 114 all out (Odum 45).

Macclesfield 51 all out (Richards 6 for 37,
Rainford 4 for 11).

v. Burnage High School (A.).

Tie.

Burnage 75 all out (A. Evans 4 for 10). School 75 for 8 (25 overs).

v. Manchester Grammar School (A.).

Match Drawn.

Manchester G.S. 116 all out (Richards 5 for 44, Rainford 4 for 33). School 42 for 3 (Boyle 26 n.o.).

v. Wilmslow Grammar School (H.).

Won by 85 runs.

School 114 for 4 dec. (Boyle 36, Richards 30 n.o., Odum 25).
Wilmslow 29 all out (Richards 5 for 7, Rainford

5 for 13).

v. Whalley Range C.C. (A.).

Won by 8 wickets.

Whalley Range 58 all out (Rainford 4 for 8). School 59 for 2 (Boyle 44).

v. An Invitation XI (H.).

Won by 1 run.

School 145 for 5 (40 overs) (Odum 40 n.o., Turner 39 n.o.).

Invitation XI 144 all out (40 overs) (Allen 3 for 9, Barron 3 for 26).

The team was usually selected from:

J. H. Allen, P. A. Barron, J. Boyle, S. Chantler, A. C. Evans, J. Holden, S. Manger, J. Odum, P. A. Rainford, D. G. Richards, C. M. Thorpe, P. G. Turner; M. P. Evans, D. A. Hanley, and B. M. Wilkinson also played.

The statistics speak for themselves: two games lost out of 20; an average score of 160; the opposition failing to average 10 runs per wicket; Barron and Boyle scoring over 300 runs each, Richards and Odum over 250, Thorpe and Rainford over 200; Rainford taking 54 wickets at less than 5 runs each and Richards 36 at less than 10 each; six other regular bowlers averaging between 9 and 14; eight fielders with 6 or more catches; Turner taking 5 'victims' in the final match of the season.

All of which makes anything less than excellence stick out like a sore thumb: amidst all the congratulations it is as well to remember the missed catches against Hulme Wanderers and the missed run-outs against Manchester Grammar School; neither game was lost, but both should have been won. And how was it that Barnard Castle were 20 for 5, and how that we were 40 for 0 in reply? How can you win a game twice, and then lose it?

But enough of all that—cricket is after all the splendid sporting example of that essential truism that "you can't win 'em all". How lucky we were to have a season as free of disappointment as possible... and as full of splendid moments.

Chantler starts the season by throwing down the Stockport captain's wicket in the first over. Rainford boosts morale by hitting the ball further than you would think possible at Lytham, and then repeats the treatment against Arnold. Manger saves a match at Wakefield with a running, diving, one-handed catch on the uphill boundary. Odum slaughters Staff bowling in the Tour warm-up match. Seaside slogging at St. Bees . . "I've never seen a team with so many batsmen!" said square-leg to mid-wicket. A perfect wicket and surroundings at Durham. A Crosby humorist lowers the flag to half-mast in the hope of reviving his side following a severe thrashing from Richards; it fails. Uninterrupted play in the pouring rain against Woodhouse Grove. Defeat averted by positive play from Turner against Batley, but he can't get the one required off the last ball at Burnage. Rainford and Richards hit form together and dispose of Macclesfield, Wilmslow, and most of Manchester Grammar School. The catch of the year by Odum saves a square-leg umpire from injury. Boyle's square-cut destroys Whalley Range. And finally another of those Invitation match results which would make Cricket the all-popular game it deserves to be if all matches could end in a similar way and be played in a similar spirit.

The team must have enjoyed the season. It certainly deserved to, for a lot of effort went into every performance, and even if there was a certain lack of practice when the season got under way, this is quite reasonable when one takes into account the amount of work done by all these players as the Under-13 and Under-14 team of the previous seasons. Individual net-practice with careful supervision and instruction is an essential requirement of a young side trying to built up the difficult arts of batting and bowling. It is also important that each individual knows he has a part to play in the team's style and tactics, for cricket is as much a team-game as any, and the squad representing the School as Under-13, 14 and 15 over the last three seasons has deserved its eventual success, not easily earned, by virtue of its complete co-operation and its application to the game. I hope all its members will continue in School and Club cricket for many years to come.

C.P.L.

UNDER-14 CRICKET

Played 13, Won 6, Drawn 4, Lost 3.

v. Stockport Grammar School (A.).

Drawn.

School 136 for 6 dec. (Dickinson 45 n.o., Laker 32). Stockport Grammar School 74 for 5 (Wheeldon 3 for 9).

v. King Edward VII School, Lytham (H.).

Won by 1 wicket.

Lytham 114 all out (Johnson 5 for 26). School 116 for 9.

v. Two Trees Comprehensive (Cricketer Cup) (H.). Won by 5 wickets.

Two Trees 50 all out (Dickinson 3 for 4). School 51 for 5 (Laker 28 not out).

v. Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield (H.).

Won by 2 wickets.

Queen Elizabeth Grammar School 74 for 8 dec. School 75 for 8 (Dickinson 32).

v. Hyde Grammar School (Cricketer Cup) (A.). Won by 7 wickets.

Hyde 83 for 9 (Patton 4 for 10). School 84 for 3 (Wright 34 not out).

v. Altrincham Grammar School (A.).

Won by 7 wickets.

Altrincham 35 all out. School 37 for 3. v. Merchant Taylors', Crosby (A.).

Drawn.

School 130 all out (Dickinson 40). Crosby 53 for 7 (Patton 5 for 14).

v. North Cestrian Grammar School (A.).

Lost by 5 wickets.

School 45 all out. North Cestrian 46 for 5.

v. Woodhouse Grove School (A.).

Won by 43 runs.

School 104 for 7 dec. (Laker 36 not out). Woodhouse Grove 61 all out (Dickinson 6 for 37).

v. Manchester G.S. (Cricketer Cup) (H.).

Lost by 2 runs.

Manchester Grammar School 105 for 9. School 103 (Wright 42, Watmough 30).

v. Batley Grammar School (A.).

Lost by 7 wickets.

School 93 (Watmough 37). Batley 94 for 3.

v. King's School, Macclesfield (A.).

Drawn.

King's School, Macclesfield 124 for 9 dec. School 119 for 7 (Wright 64, Davies 32).

v. Manchester Grammar School (H.).

Drawn.

School 108 for 9 dec. (Patton 47). Manchester Grammar School 102 for 7 (Patton 5 for 35).

A new Captain, D. B. Wright, was appointed early in the season and soon afterwards we had two regular opening bowlers, a third 'seamer' and two spinners. Moreover a regular batting order was soon established. The team lacked a little confidence at first, but as the season progressed and a pattern was adopted, the boys began to play far more sensibly and with less fear of total collapse and defeat.

Above all considerations of the team's performance this fact must be made clear: a cricket team can only improve if each player assesses his own playing capability, thinks about the strokes he plays, thinks about the length and line of his bowling and thinks about where he is fielding and why. This group of lads has, like other teams before, some talent, but too often a lack of thought and consideration of relevant aspects of performance. I insist that the team watches the game; no in-coming batsman should need to ask, "What is this man bowling?"; he should have been

watching from the pavilion. In the same way a bowler should work out a batsman's weaknesses and strengths and try to bowl accordingly. These points are made as advice to all schoolboy players who, after all, must learn this difficult game if they are to succeed in playing it.

The captain opened the innings regularly and was the most successful batsman, scoring 222 runs; he was partnered mostly by J. L. Patton. The other leading batsmen were A. P. Laker, S. P. Dickinson, D. Watmough and H. S. Davies, who returned from the U.S.A. and played with a remarkably cool temperament. Watmough can hit very hard but should select the bad balls more carefully. Dickinson has a touch of 'class' and can look forward to many big innings in the future. Laker must play more freely and learn to run. Wright, especially at Hyde, showed that patience is an admirable batting virtue and he has all the strokes of a really good player. He should score many more runs and the other boys in the team should watch him and learn from his outstanding talent. A promising discovery was I. M. J. Wood, who has a determination unequalled by anyone and a technique better than most.

The bowling was mainly in the hands of P. A. Tittle (who took 22 wickets), Patton (who took 30 wickets), A. Johnson, Davies and Dickinson. The quicker bowlers were very consistent and, with more pace, will form a strong attack. Tittle, especially, improved as the season progressed. Davies and Dickinson are very useful spin-bowlers who will, I hope, learn to vary their flighting of the ball and bowl more carefully to their fields. As an extra medium-paced 'trundler' Johnson is very accurate.

Our best displays were against Hyde Grammar and Woodhouse Grove; in each case the team played well together, following the lead of Dickinson, Davies and Wright. Patton will remember his 5 wickets and 47 runs in the match against Manchester Grammar School, and Dickinson's 6 for 37 at Woodhouse Grove was another highlight. We nearly beat Manchester Grammar School on two occasions. It was very pleasing to see that the boys no longer feared the opposition and it must be their chief aim next year to defeat our old enemy. A wonderful game at Macclesfield in hot conditions was remarkable for an umpire in swimming trunks and a very close finish; we failed by only 5 runs to score 124 runs to win in 100 minutes.

Catching and fielding varied from the brilliant to the feeble, as one might expect of 14-year olds. P. D. Sargent became the first-choice wicket-keeper, but we still need to look around carefully for reserves; we are woefully short of good 'keepers in the School at present. I hope K. N. Hussain, I. Wheeldon and A. J. Hepburn, among others, still strive for places in the team next year—there is plenty of opportunity. I would like to thank H. A. Shawdon for his scoring efforts and the statistics he has provided. G. H. Morrison also scored a number of games.

E.W.M.

UNDER-13 XI CRICKET

Played 8, Won 2, Drawn 0, Lost 6.

v. Arnold School, Blackpool (A.).

Arnold 131 all out (Murray 3 for 7, Shaw 3 for 25).
School 36 all out.

school so all out

Lost by 97 runs.

v. Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield (A.).

School 24 all out. Queen Elizabeth Grammar School 27 for 1.

Lost by 9 wickets.

v. Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby (A.).

School 58 all out. Crosby 61 for 6 (Mitson 3 for 5).

Lost by 4 wickets.

v. North Cestrian Grammar School (H.).

North Cestrian 144 for 5 (25 overs) (Cotterill 3 for 25). School 108 all out (Keddie 25, Gibson 23).

v. Toft C.C. Juniors (H.).

Toft 43 for 6 (25 overs). School 44 for 8 (Fish 25).

Won by 2 wickets.

v. Batley Grammar School (H.).

School 53 all out. Batley 54 for 1.

Lost by 9 wickets.

v. Manchester Grammar School (A.).

Manchester Grammar School 121 for 5 dec. School 47 all out.

Lost by 74 runs.

v. Burnage High School (H.).

Burnage 67 for 7 (25 overs) (Gibson 3 for 23). School 68 for 4 (Gibson 29 n.o.).

Won by 6 wickets.

The Under-13 Cricket XI were rather weak this year. They had few players with the ability to deliver or deal with a good ball. Their batting was invariably timid, especially against fastish bowling, and far too erratic against accurate bowling. They themselves bowled with some accuracy, though usually short of a length, but they lacked penetration. On the whole, fielding was not of a high standard, owing to lapses in concentration and an instinct for self-preservation.

On the credit side, R. J. Mitson, the Captain, led his side quietly and reasonably competently, although he is inclined to feel that he must please the team by giving everybody a bowl. He will become a good batsman when he can learn to hit a ball rather than prod at it, and his bowling was accurate enough to take wickets. Gibson batted and bowled with enthusiasm and a general disdain for his opponents. G. Fish defied many bowlers with his forward defensive push, and frightened many batsmen with his calling and running. P. Keddie and A. W. Smith occasionally walloped the ball around the field. B. Cooper will no doubt one day score the runs he always seemed capable of. P. Cotterill has much ability with bat and ball despite his ungainly appearance. K. D. Murray took wickets with several gentle straight balls. N. M. Shaw and M. L. Morgan bowled well at times, very badly at others. G. L. Robinson's ground fielding was a delight to watch. The XI should not be disheartened by their results: improvements will be made in their techniques, and there is always the memory of turning the previous year's 8 wicket defeat by Burnage High School into a 6 wicket victory. My thanks go to all the players for an enjoyable term; to Mr. Bonnick and numerous parents for their support; and to the following boys who at various times played, scored and carried kit: P. G. Barker, S. Brown, S. R. Brown, A. J. Padkin, A. T. Walker, and H. P. Luft.

M.M.

UNDER-12 XI CRICKET

Played 8, Won 4, Lost 4.

v. Toft C.C. (A.).

Won by 33 runs.

School 83 for 7 (Smythe 30 n.o.). Toft C.C. 50 (Thorpe 3 for 2).

v. St. Bede's (H.).

Won by 29 runs.

School 64 for 4 (Thornton 24 n.o.). St. Bede's 35 (Thorpe 2 for 3, Smythe 2 for 5).

v. Lymm Grammar School (A.).

Lost by 6 wickets.

School 50 for 1 (Ingham 23 n.o., Thornton 20 n.o.).

Lymm Grammar School 51 for 4 (Smythe 4 for 7).

v. St. Bede's (A.).

Lost by 26 runs.

School 17. St. Bede's 43.

v. North Cestrian (H.).

Lost by 15 runs.

School 62 for 7 (T. C. Smith 13). North Cestrian 77 (Roberts 3 for 4, Brown 3 for 21). v. Manchester Grammar School (A.).

Lost by 46 runs.

School 62 (Fryman 20, Brown 15).

Manchester Grammar School 108 for 7 (Smythe 3 for 16).

v. Burnage, H. S. (H.).

Won by 6 wickets.

School 72 for 4 (Thornton 16, Crossley 14). Burnage H.S. 71 (Thornton 3 for 8).

v. Toft C.C.

Won by 18 runs.

School 100 (Brown 34, Bretnall 17). Toft C.C. 82 for 3.

The following boys represented the Under-12 XI:

H. I. Fryman, R. P. Thornton, N. S. Crossley (Captain), W. N. Roberts, A. D. Brown, D. K. Smythe, J. F. R. Ingham, R. G. McLaren, I. M. Powell, D. A. Thorpe, T. C. Smith, R. M. Bent, D. M. Bretnall, C. N. Dodds, C. A. Stubbs, J. C. Adderley, J. E. Hytner, R. Taylor, E. Livingstone, W. D. Edwards, D. I. Howarth and M. D. Binns.

The Under-12 XI played eight matches against five schools and one Junior Cricket Club XI. Each game was limited to 20 overs per team, the XI scoring the most runs in their overs being the winner. The results were average, but the season was a success in terms of team and individual improvement.

The Captain, N. S. Crossley, is a fine all-round cricketer, and he indicated his enthusiasm for cricket both on and off the field. His captaincy, however, was made fairly easy owing to the above average ability of the bowlers and batsmen.

The new ball was given to A. D. Brown and R. G. McLaren in every game, and they were able to take one or two early wickets or prevent the opening batsmen from scoring too many runs. Both players improved their accuracy and consistency as the season developed. A. D. Brown is a genuine fast bowler, and R. G. McLaren a very good seam-bowler. The accurate bowling from these two opening bowlers enabled N. S. Crossley to give all the other bowlers two overs each. W. N. Roberts and D. K. Smythe were two useful spin bowlers. The most successful was D. K. Smythe who took 10 wickets in 20 overs against Lymm Grammar School, St. Bede's and Manchester Grammar School with an average of 5.4 per wicket. The medium-pace bowlers were R. P. Thornton, D. A. Thorpe, I. M. Powell and D. M. Bretnall. All four had the ability to bowl a good length, but too frequently they strayed from the correct line. D. M. Bretnall achieved the best average of 5.3 runs per wicket, and R. P. Thornton the most wickets.

The Under-12 XI batting performance was variable, but the School averaged between 60 and 70 runs per innings—the highest score being 100 runs. Considering that the innings were only 20 overs long,

these scores were acceptable. The best average was achieved by A. D. Brown with 21 runs per innings. D. K. Smythe, R. P. Thornton, J. F. R. Ingham and H. I. Fryman were the most consistent batsmen and all of their averages per innings were between 10 and 15 runs. The major improvement in the batting technique of several players was the ability to play each ball on merit. At the beginning of the Summer Term most scoring shots were placed on the on-side, but by half-term the opening batsmen and middle-order batsmen were able to score runs on both sides of the wicket.

The major weakness of the School Team was their fielding. Despite several excellent catches in the early part of the season by D. K. Smythe and R. P. Thornton, many players did not concentrate enough while fielding. The result was dropped catches, misfields, and poor over-arm throws from the players in the out-field.

I would like to express my thanks to Dr. M. Peek for all the organisation and umpiring throughout the season.

A.J.P.

HOUSE CRICKET

For the first time the Seniors have not been involved in the House League. The few short weeks before the Whitsuntide break and the disruption to games caused by the G.C.E. examinations made their involvement rather pointless. The Middle School therefore competed for the trophy with great enthusiasm, and the very good weather made it a most enjoyable term.

Result: 1st Heywood. 2nd Fraser. 3rd Byrom. 4th Dalton.

5th Gaskell.

6th Whitworth.

KNOCKOUTS

The Knockouts produced some very weird games; scores of 45 and 38 in one game, 76 for 2 in another and the most exciting final for years. Dalton scored 114 all out and Heywood seemed well on the way to reaching that figure. There was a sudden collapse in the middle batting and their final wicket was taken just one run short of the target.

Result

Senior:

1st Round Gaskell 76 all out, Byrom 67 all out. Whitworth 75 all out, Fraser 76 for 2.

2nd Round Fraser 45 all out, Dalton 48 for 0. Heywood 47 all out, Gaskell 38 all out.

Final Dalton 114 all out, Heywood 113 all out.

Junior:

1st Round Byrom 110 all out, Dalton 112 for 6. Gaskell 84 all out, Heywood 85 for 4. 2nd Round Dalton 132 (30 overs), Whitworth 72 all out. Fraser 55 all out, Heywood 59 for 4.

Final Dalton 60 all out, Heywood 38 all out.

SENIOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Before Summer Half-term, Senior School Athletics prospered, with matches against Marple Hall School, King's School Macclesfield, Sandbach School and the Public Schools Relays meeting at Denstone.

Results:

Under-19
v. Marple Hall School H L 55—64
v. King's School, Macclesfield A L 71—104
v. Sandbach School A W 71—69
Under-17
v. Marple Hall School H L 50—75

v. Marple Hall School H L 50—75 v. King's School, Macclesfield A L 79—103 v. Sandbach School A W 79—69

At these meetings it was pleasant to see boys competing in more than one event, and often in events completely alien to them. There were some creditable performances during the Term, especially in the sprints in which J. P. Whiteside clocked 12.1 secs., N. Harrison 12.2, R. A. Heaton 12.2 and T. G. Jones 12.5. Two Under-17 middle distance athletes performed well: J. D. Tricker achieved 2:16.1 for 800 metres and N. P. Heron, 4:34.0 for 1500 metres. In the field events, N. Harrison and A. P. Waring jumped well, and J. P. Whiteside managed 141 ft. 11 in. in the jayelin.

The highlight of the season's efforts were the performances at the Public Schools Relays. School entered three events and came fifth in each. The best result was in the 4 x 100 metres relay, in which Heaton, Jones, Whiteside and Harrison were only a few metres behind the winners in a 'blanket' finish. Another good effort was in the 4 x 1 mile relay, where a young team of P. J. Nelson, R. D. Leak, Tricker and Heron showed promise for future years.

Athletic Colours were awarded to the following:

N. Harrison, J. P. Whiteside, M. S. Butterworth, R. A. Heaton, A. P. Waring and H. R. Pierce-Jones. M.M.

UNDER-16 ATHLETICS

Matches 4, Won 0, Lost 4.

v. Marple Hall School H L 40—127 v. North Cestrian G.S. . . . H L 40—91 v. Denstone College A L 50—73

v. King's School, Macclesfield A L 47-97

The team was made up from a core of about five boys. Unfortunately this was not enough to make a strong team, but they have the enthusiasm to do a lot better in future years. S. J. Keeling in particular always produced good performances in the middle-distance events.

UNDER-15 ATHLETICS

Matches 7, Won 1, Lost 6.

v. Marple Hall School	H	L	39-103
v. North Cestrian G.S	H	L	39-104
v. Denstone College	A	L	50-76
v. King's School, Macclesfield	A	L	63-97
v. St. Augustine's G.S	H	L	68-93
v. North Manchester H.S	H	L	68-93
v. Cheadle Hulme School	H	W	65-49

The results do not truly reflect the enthusiasm of this team. The win against Cheadle Hulme School was particularly encouraging at a time when the team was just beginning to be sorted out. R. Wadsworth in the 1500 metres improved nearly every time out and this resulted in his second placing in the Manchester Schools West Area Championship and his subsequent selection for the West Area Schools team. K. Wadsworth also produced some fine performances in the 400 metres, gaining third place in the West Area Championships and also representing the West Area Schools. Other fine performances came from S. P. Holloway (400 metres), D. M. Goodman (800 metres), K. N. Hussain (long jump), C. S. Rogerson and S. R. Reubens (discus), A. D. Carroll (200 metres) and T. S. Ryman (triple jump and high jump).

UNDER-14 ATHLETICS

Matches 6, Won 1, Lost 5.

v. Marple Hall School	H	L	47-107
v. North Cestrian G.S	H	L	47-95
v. Denstone College	A	L	49-90
v. St. Augustine's G.S	H	L	65-72
v. North Manchester H.S	H	L	65-106
v Cheadle Hulme School	LI	XXZ	67 59

This team was ably led by P. Cotterill who captained the team well with some inspired running in the 800 metres and 1500 metres. The enthusiasm of other team members was excellent and I look forward to some excellent matches in the future from what is basically a strong team. Fine performances have been produced by J. M. Adams (100 metres, 200 metres, long jump), A. Stainsby (shot, discus).

UNDER-13 ATHLETICS

Matches 6, Won 0, Lost 6.

v. Marple Hall School	Н	L	45—82
v. North Cestrian G.S			
v. King's School, Macclesfield	A	L	72-108
v. St. Augustine's G.S	H	L	67—71
v. North Manchester H.S	Н	L	67-71
v. Cheadle Hulme School	H	L	48-54

The keen rivalry between D. J. Hartshorne and R. Furniss always produced fine races over 1500 metres. They continually pushed each other to personal best times throughout the season and both must have a good future in this event. D. I. Howarth (71.1 secs. 400 metres in the West Area Championships) has always run well and M. L. Wilson (100 metres, 200 metres), N. S. Crossley (100 metres), R. M. Phillips (200 metres), M. D. Binns (triple jump), S. A. Leadbeater (high jump), and P. R. Hunt (cricket ball), have all produced some excellent performances. Many boys have been given the chance of representing the School and it is hoped that all these boys will form the basis of a strong team in future years.

G.H.

ATHLETIC SPORTS, 1976

SENIOR		1st	2nd	3rd
200 metres 400 metres 800 metres 1500 metres Relay High Jump Long Jump Triple-Jump Shot Discus	12.2 secs. 24.9 secs. 56.0 secs. 2 min. 16.1 sec. 4 min. 56.0 sec. 50.3 sec. 5 ft. 2 in. 18 ft. 10 in. 38 ft. 8 in. 35 ft. 8½ in. 94 ft. 7 in. 137 ft. 6 in.	R. A. Heaton (D) R. A. Heaton (D) M. J. Scovell (G) P. J. Nelson (B) P. J. Nelson (B) Byrom D. M. Baxter (G) A. P. Waring (G) J. Beesley (F) J. Beesley (F) D. K. Wallwork (G) J. P. Whiteside (B)	J. P. Whiteside (B) J. P. Whiteside (B) J. N. B. Bennington (W) M. K. Bradbury (D) J. Sandy (F) Fraser S. V. Tindall (H) N. Harrison (B) M. J. Scovell (G) S. G. Tarpey (F) D. J. Foster (D) G. J. Waring (G)	S. G. Tarpey (F) G. M. Davis, (F) M. K. Bradbury (D) G. Jefferies (D) J. A. Wadsworth (F) Gaskell D. J. Heine (G) J. N. B. Bennington(W) S. V. Tindall (H) D. J. Foster (D) S. G. Tarpey (F) R. Higham (F)
MIDDLE				
200 metres 400 metres 800 metres 1500 metres Relay High Jump	12.3 sec. 24.6 sec. 57.7 sec. 2 min. 10.4 sec. 4 min. 27.7 sec. 52.3 sec. 4 ft. 6 in. 16 ft. 8 in.	I. J. Endlar (F) I. J. Endlar (F) N. R. Leak (F) N. P. Heron (B) N. P. Heron (B) Fraser J. M. Parsons (F) N. J. F. Warner (D)	D. J. Leinhardt (G) T. G. Jones (G) C. D. Lightfoot (W) J. D. Tricker (F) J. D. Tricker (F) Whitworth M. Kohn (B) D. J. Eaton (W)	T. G. Jones (G) D. J. Leinhardt (G) G. I. Heads (F) N. R. Leak (F) M. J. Sandy (F) Byrom C. J. Wrigley (D) J. A. Gubba (G)

Triple-Jump Shot Discus Javelin	35 ft. 11 in. 34 ft. 9½ in. 87 ft. 8 in. 109 ft. 6 in.	1st D. J. Eaton (W) J. S. Bradley (F) P. M. Kennerley (D) T. G. Jones (G)	2nd J. D. Tricker (N. A. Jackson D. Fraser (F) J. C. Dale (H)		D. Fra G. H.	3rd F. Warner (D) aser (F) Mills (H) McLaren (W)
JUNIOR						
100 metres 200 metres 400 metres 800 metres 1500 metres Relay High Jump	13.1 sec. 26.6 sec. 59.6 sec. 2 min. 16.8 sec. 4 min. 42.2 sec. 53.5 sec. 4 ft. 11 in.	S. P. Holloway (H) K. J. Wadsworth (F) B. M. Wilkinson (H) S. J. Keeling (G) R. R. Wadsworth (R) Gaskell T. S. Ryman (W)	T. S. Ryman (S. D. Carter (CK. Wadsworth K. Wadsworth S. J. Keeling (Fraser B. H. Wilkinson	G) i (F) i (F) G)	C. S. I S. P. I B. H. I. J. W Dalton J. Odu	
Long Jump Triple-Jump Shot Javelin Discus	14 ft. 6¾ in. 35 ft. 6 in. 33 ft. 3 in. 84 ft. 1 in. 90 ft. 0 in.	K. N. Hussain (G) T. S. Ryman (W) D. A. Watmough (B) J. Gould (D) A. J. Perkins (G)	H. S. Davies (P. J. M. Jessup A. J. Perkins (P. D. Sargent S. R. Reubens	o (W) G) (W)	D. C. P. D. M. A. J. G. J	Loynes (D) Carroll (D) Etchells (D) Evans (F) Patton (D)
Н	OUSE POSITIO	NS	INDIVID	UAL WI	NNERS	
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.	Gaskell 25 Whitworth 20 Dalton 16 Byrom 14	76 52½ 03 66½ 47	Senior Middle Junior	S. G. T C. D. T S. J. K	Tricker	(F) (F) (G)
	JUNIO	OR SCHOOL ATHLETIC	C SPORTS RES	ULTS, 19	76	
FIRST FOR	M					
100 metres 200 metres 400 metres 800 metres 1500 metres	14.1 sec. 30.5 sec. 70.5 sec. 2 min. 36.7 sec. 5 min. 13.1 sec.	M. L. Wilson (1a) M. S. Crossley (1b) P. E. Stanley (1d) T. C. Smith (1c) D. J. Hartshorne (1b)	N. W. Mellor A. Prestwich (C. P. Robinso R. J. Furniss (R. J. Furniss (1c) n (1b) 1b)	R. M. D. I. C. P.	Smith (1d) Phillips (1c) Howarth (1c) Robinson (1b) Stanley (1d)

100 metres	14.1 sec.
200 metres	30.5 sec.
400 metres	70.5 sec.
800 metres	2 min, 36.7 sec
1500 metres	5 min. 13.1 sec
Relay	59.2 sec.
High Jump	4 ft. 1 in.

28 ft. 1 in.

202 ft. 7 in.***

D. J. Hartshorne (1b) 1D P. Wright (1a) 4 ft. 1 in. 12 ft. 9 in.

N. W. Mellor (1d) S. A. Leadbeater (1d) P. R. Hunt (1a)

1B S. A. Leadbeater (1d) K. P. McDonnell (1b) P. R. Hunt (1a) M. A. Wilson (1a)

P. E. Stanley (1d) 1A J. I. Whitfield (1a) M. D. Binns (1c)

S. D. Slifkin (1c)

A. D. Brown (1d)

S. G. O'Brien (2c)

SECOND FORM

Long Jump

Cricket Ball

Shot

100 metres 14.0 sec. J. M. Adams (2a) 200 metres 28.2 sec. S. R. Brown (2d) 400 metres 64.0 sec. S. R. Brown (2d) 800 metres 2 min. 29.4 sec. P. Cotterill (2a) 1500 metres 5 min. 7.9 sec. *** P. Cotterill (2a) Relay 59.6 sec. 2CHigh Jump 4 ft. 3 in. S. Brown (2b) Long Jump 13 ft 8 in. R. P. Flamank (2b) Triple-Jump 29 ft. 2 in. M. L. Morgan (2c) Shot 30 ft. 4 in. A. J. Padkin (2a) Discus 58 ft. 6 in. C. D. Bradbury (2a) Javelin 69 ft. 6 in. D. L. Evans (2c)

D. C. Potts (2a) S. A. Taylor (2d) S. A. Taylor (2d) J. M. Adams (2a) R. P. Flamank (2b) M. L. Morgan (2c) A. T. Bowyer (2c) A. J. Padkin (2a) A. D. Burden (2d) A. T. Bowyer (2c) 2B 2A N. M. Shaw (2c) M. Tucker (2a) P. Cotterill (2a) J. M. Adams (2a) S. R. Brown (2d) R. A. Sargent (2d) B. J. Rosenberg (2d) J. M. Parry (2b) A. J. Padkin (2a) J. M. Parry (2b)

***School Record

FIRST FORM POSITIONS

1D 71 points 1B 62½ 1A 60 99 1C 511

SECOND FORM POSITIONS

2A 104 points 2D 56 57 2C 2B56

P. W. McLoughlin (2d)

SWIMMING

Match Results:

U12, 13, 15, 19 v. Cheadle Hulme School (H.)	Lost
U12, 13 v. Manchester G.S. (A.)	Won
U12, 13 v. Royal R.S. for Deaf (A.)	Won
U12, 13, 15, 19 v. Manchester G.S. (H.)	Won
U13, 15, 19 v. Bury Grammar School (H.)	Lost
U12, 13, 15, 19 v. Cheadle Hulme School (A.)	Lost
U12, 13 v. N. Cestrian G.S. (H.)	Won
U12, 13 v. Royal R.S. for Deaf (A.)	Won
U12, 13, 15, 19 v. N. Cestrian G.S. (H.)	Won
U13, 15, 19 v. Wright Robinson H.S. (A.)	Lost
U19 v. Welbeck College (H.)	Lost
U12, 13, 15, 19 v. N. Cestrian G.S. (H.)	Won

In the second year of regular competition, the School Swimming Club has established itself as an important School activity. The Club participated in 12 inter-school matches, a match against Keon Park Technical School, Australia, and five other Manchester schools, the Area Championships of the English Schools' Relay Championships, and the Manchester Schools' Swimming Association Championships.

Under-19

In the matches against other schools the Under-19 swimmers were D. J. Heine (Captain), R. Byrne, J. Bradley, S. V. Tindall and D. Dodd. D. J. Heine performed extremely well throughout the season, improving his 50 yds. Freestyle time from 28.8 to 26.8 secs. In the Breastroke, R. Byrne was rarely defeated, and he had strong support from S. V. Tindall and J. Bradley who often gained a 2nd or 3rd place. Both the Backstroke and Butterfly events continued to be the major weakness and despite R. Byrne's ability in the Backstroke, D. J. Heine and D. Dodd were unable to gain good positions in the 50 yds. Butterfly event.

Without question the Squadron and Medley Relay Events were the strengths of the Under-19 Age Group. The team reduced their time in the Squadron Relay Event to 1:51.2, beating last year's time of 1:57.4. The determination of J. Bradley in both events illustrated the enthusiasm of the whole Under-19 Age Group Swimming Team.

Other boys who competed for the Under-19 Team were C. Prince, G. Jefferies and W. J. Shepherd. C. Prince left in January to go to Welbeck College, and he brought a Swimming Team from his new school to compete against the Under-19 Team. The match was very enjoyable, and Welbeck managed to defeat the School by only 4 points in a very close match.

Under-15

The most consistent swimmers in the Under-15 Age Group were J. W. Reed, N. A. Jackson, J. Whalley, K. J. Wadsworth, R. M. Wadsworth, S. R. Cooper, and J. C. Bonser. Five of these boys were Third Year and only two were Fourth Year. This lack of Fourth Year swimmers led to the younger

boys having to swim against more experienced and stronger opposition. The results, therefore, must be viewed with this situation in mind. The Under-15 Team achieved well deserved victories against Manchester Grammar School and North Cestrian Grammar School but they suffered heavy defeats against Bury Grammar School, Cheadle Hulme School and Wright Robinson.

This group of enthusiastic and cheerful boys have gradually improved their times since joining the School Swimming Club. J. W. Reed has reduced his 50 yds. Freestyle time by 10 secs. in two years, while N. A. Jackson has improved his 50 yds. Backstroke time by 7 secs. in 18 months. The two Wadsworth brothers competed extremely well throughout the whole year in all the four strokes and the Team Relays. J. Whalley deserves a special mention for his continuous enthusiasm and dedication this year. He has slowly improved both his times for the 50 yds. Freestyle and Butterfly, and he has attended almost every training session. In the next few months S. R. Cooper will be among the best swimmers in this Age Group, and J. C. Bonser and M. N. Davidson will be challenging the above for regular places in the Backstroke and Freestyle Events respectively.

Under-13

The results for this Age Group in Inter-School matches were well above average and a definite improvement upon last year's performances. They had victories against Cheadle Hulme School, Manchester Grammar School, Bury Grammar School and the Royal Residential School For The Deaf, and were defeated by Wright Robinson High School and North Cestrian Grammar School.

The major strengths of this Team were in the Freestyle and Backstroke 50 yds., events in which S. Brown gained 1st place regularly, and M. Harris and G. P. McDonough were either 2nd or 3rd. The most difficult selection problem occurred in the Breaststroke, but as the season progressed M. P. Brown and I. W. Keating secured their places over G. W. Keating. In the Relay Events, K. R. Paterson, P. Keddie, C. D. Bradbury and A. J. Walker were frequently selected, and they showed a great amount of determination in the "B" Team Individual Events.

Under-12

An enthusiastic and dedicated Under-12 Team won 7 out of 10 matches. They defeated Bury Grammar School at home, and three other schools—Manchester Grammar School, North Cestrian Grammar School and the Royal Residential School For The Deaf and were beaten twice. Wright Robinson High School had a narrow victory against the Under-12s, but Cheadle Hulme School defeated them on two occasions.

This is an exceptionally good group of swimmers. Their technique has improved significantly, and their times for 25 and 50 yds. events have been reduced. If they maintain their regular attendance at training sessions, this team will achieve further success.

The Team was selected from the following: P. E. Stanley, R. P. Taylor, P. D. Winterbottom, R. P. Thornton, C. P. Robinson, S. A. Leadbeater, M. J. Scoltock, I. M. Jackson, N. J. Firth, A. P. Booth, K. P. McDonnell, N. A. Hoskinson, H. B. Parker, N. A. Smith, J. B. McFarland, and I. G. MacMillan.

Keon Park Technical School, Australia v.

Manchester Schools

The School Under-13 and Under-15 Swimming Teams were among the six Manchester Schools selected to compete against a visiting swimming team from Keon Park Technical School, Australia, on Saturday, 24th January, 1976. The Australian team was managed by Mr. D. Gilham and coached by Mr. J. McDonald, Captain of the Scottish Olympic Swimming Team in Rome, 1960. The School visited most areas of England during their tour and were accommodated by parents of the boys who swam in the Galas. I would like to thank the parents who looked after the two Australian boys allocated to William Hulme's Grammar School.

The Gala consisted of 15 events and each school competed against the other six schools. The Under-13 and Under-15 Teams competed against Keon Park Technical School, Bolton School, Burnage High School, Manchester Grammar School, Moston Brook and Wright Robinson. In the Under-13 events S. Brown did particularly well to win the 73½ yds. Backstroke in 46.5 secs. The outstanding Under-15 swimmers were R. M. Wadsworth in the 73½ yds. Breaststroke—he came 1st in 52.8 secs.—and K. J. Wadsworth who came 2nd in the 4 x 36½ yds. Individual Medley in 1:48.1. Both teams came 3rd in the Team events, and the Under-13 Team defeated Keon Park, who came 4th in the Under-13s and 2nd in the Under-15s.

The Manchester Schools' Swimming Association Championships

In order to gain a place in the heats of the above Championships, the School swimmers have to reach high standard qualifying times. To obtain a place in the final, the swimmers have to record one of the six best times in their event. Six boys—S. A. Leadbeater, K. J. Wadsworth, R. M. Wadsworth, S. Brown, R. Byrne and D. J. Heine—reached the finals. R. Byrne was 2nd in the 100 yds. Breaststroke and 3rd in the 100 yds. Backstroke, while D. J. Heine came 3rd in both the 100 yds Freestyle and 50 yds. Butterfly events.

The outstanding performance for the School was by S. Brown in the Under-13 50 yds. Backstroke final. Swimming against six top swimmers in the Manchester Area, Brown held off their challenge to win the J. Dixon Cup in 32.2 secs.

All the Squadron and Medley Relay Teams from all three Age Groups reached the finals. The best performance came from the Senior Squadron Relay Team who came 2nd to Wright Robinson High School by only 3 yds.

The Manchester Schools' Team

This year four boys were selected to swim for the Manchester Schools' Team in the County Championships. They were R. M. Wadsworth, K. J. Wadsworth, S. Brown, and P. Stanley.

A.J.P.

WATER POLO

Results:

C				
2	e	n	1	OT

v. South Manchester Swimming			
Club U18	A	L	5-6
v. Manchester Grammar School			
v. South Manchester Swimming			
Club U18	A	L	4-9
v. Bury Grammar School	H	W	3-2
v. South Manchester Swimming			
Club U18	A	L	6-7
v. Cheadle Hulme School	A	L	4-6

Water Polo Tournament

Group Matches:

Group materies.		
v. Cheadle Hulme School v. Wellacre School	W	6—1 1—0
Semi-final v. Wright Robinson H.S	W	1—0
Final v. Moston Brook School	L	0—4
v. South Manchester S.C. U16 A v. South Manchester S.C. U16 H		
Under-14		

Senior Water Polo

Water Polo was continued throughout the year and the standard of play improved significantly. The fixtures played against other schools showed that the School Team ranks highly amongst school teams in the Manchester area. A number of fixtures at varying age levels were held against South Manchester Swimming Club, and although these games generally ended in defeat, they created the opportunity for all teams to gain experience against good quality opposition.

v. South Manchester S.C. U.-14 H L 1-10

The highlight of the year was the Water Polo Tournament held at School at the end of the Lent Term. Six schools, plus ourselves, took part and 13 short-period games were played. It was at this Tournament that the School Team played their best polo. They succeeded in reaching the final and were only defeated by the strong and experienced Moston Brook side after a keenly contested match.

D. J. Heine captained the side and made rapid progress as a goalkeeper. Despite being small for a water polo goalkeeper, he worked hard at his game and was perhaps the pick of the seven goalkeepers on view at the Tournament. Owing to the absence of A. T. Murphy, who played particularly well on the few occasions that he was able to play for the Team, G. Jefferies was able to try the centre-forward position. He has an unorthodox but effective style and possesses a very strong back-hand shot. Although he is not a natural front crawl swimmer, G. Jefferies worked hard all season and ended up as the most improved player. His enthusiasm and dedication were an example for all the other players to follow. R. Byrne was the mainstay of the Team in the middle of the pool. He has a great deal of talent, and his only weakness was a lack of confidence to go forward and finish off moves he had begun deep in the field.

These two players not only played Water Polo for the School Team, they spent many hours designing and making two water polo goals, and they were always prepared to coach the Junior teams.

J. S. Bradley developed a mature attitude to the game as the year progressed. He is tall and physically strong with a good defensive technique, and he is willing to move forward to shoot at goal. In the early part of the year J. Reed played in goal, but his promise in mid-field was soon recognised in training sessions. He must concentrate on developing swimming-speed to add to his defence qualities. N. Jackson played with much vigour, but his ball-handling techniques need immediate attention. J. Odum possesses a very strong shot and he distributes the ball capably from the centre-forward position. His swimming ability, however, is below standard which has led to his being immobile in the water.

It should also be noted that C. R. Prince and B. Heil, both of whom left at Christmas, were regular members and contributed a great deal to the success of the Team in the Michaelmas Term. Other players

who played well within limited opportunities were: W. J. Shepherd, J. Whalley, D. G. Dodd, R. N. Tarr, D. J. Barnes, and D. M. Hainsworth.

Junior Water Polo

A great deal of interest in Water Polo was indicated by the number of boys that attended the early training sessions. Despite the difficulty of obtaining fixtures, the boys remained enthusiastic until the end of the Summer Term.

Several players: R. P. Thornton, S. A. Leadbeater, I. W. Keating, and G. Keating showed much promise during the whole year, but more players are required to produce a skilful and powerful Under-14 Team.

M.K., A.J.P.

I would like to thank several people for their help, enthusiasm and encouragement during the three School Terms.

The Captain, D. J. Heine, has not only performed to a high standard in the Water Polo and Swimming Teams, but he has helped in the organisation and administration of the Swimming Club. I hope he continues to remain active in this sport, and that his ability is transferred into many other areas.

Secondly, I would like to thank Mr. Heine for his regular help with transport to Water Polo matches, and his continuous support throughout the last two years with the revival of the School Swimming Club.

Finally, I wish to thank Mr. Kirkman who has coached the Senior Water Polo Team throughout the year. His work at training sessions has led to a significant improvement in this sport, and his approach to the training has given a great deal of enjoyment to many boys.

A.J.P.

SWIMMING RESULTS, 1976

SENIOR		1st	2nd	3rd
Breaststroke Backstroke Butterfly Freestyle Medley	37.1 sec. 35.6 sec. 14.9 sec. 27.5 sec. 82.2 sec.	G. Jeffries (D) R. Byrne (H) D. J. Heine (G) D. J. Heine (G) R. Byrne (H)	S. V. Tindall (H) C. W. J. Wilson (D) S. G. Tarpey (F) G. Jefferies (D) T. J. Peet (B)	M. A. Wooler (D) K. Barclay (W) T. J. Peet (B) S. V. Tindall (H) T. A. Simpson (G)
MIDDLE				
Breaststroke Backstroke Butterfly Freestyle Medley	37.5 sec. 33.5 sec. 15.1 sec. 31.8 sec. 76.9 sec.	J. S. Bradley (F) N. A. Jackson (W) J. W. Reed (D) D. S. Dodd (H) J. W. Reed (D)	H. W. Evans (G) P. R. Fairclough (B) P. R. Fairclough (B) M. Lynch (D) J. S. Bradley (F)	M. K. Kohn (B) P. R. H. Wilson (D) M. K. Kohn (B) R. K. Cox (F) D. S. Dodd (H)
JUNIOR				
Breaststroke Backstroke Butterfly Freestyle Medley	36.9 sec. 37.2 sec. 15.9 sec. 30.1 sec. 76.5 sec.	R. Wadsworth (F) R. Wadsworth (F) K. Wadsworth (F) J. Whalley (D) K. Wadsworth (F)	S. R. Cooper (B) J. C. Bonser (W) R. I. Davison (H) M. N. Davidson (B) J. Whalley (D)	N. C. Herbert (D) M. N. Davidson (B) D. M. Hainsworth (G) T. A. Jones (G) S. R. Cooper (B)



FINAL RESULTS

1.	Dalton							38	points
2.	Fraser							35	
3.	Heywood							29	,,
4.	Byrom							27	"
5.	Gaskell							21	,,
6.	Whitworth							14	

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

D. J. Heine (G) and R. Byrne (H)

JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS, 1976

FIRST FORM		1st	2nd	3rd
Breaststroke Backstroke Butterfly Freestyle Squadron	39.4 sec. 38.0 sec. 13.3 sec. 36.3 sec. 74.1 sec.	S. A. Leadbeater (1d) P. E. Stanley (1d) P. E. Stanley (1d) C. P. Robinson (1b) 1B	R. P. Thornton (1b) C. P. Robinson (1b) R. P. Thornton (1b) A. P. Denham (1d)	A. P. Denham (1d) I. M. Jackson (1c) S. A. Leadbeater (1d) I. G. Macmillan (1b)
Medley	62.5 sec.	1D	1B	1C
SECOND F	ORM			
Breaststroke Backstroke Butterfly Freestyle Squadron Medley	40.0 sec. 33.5 sec. 15.4 sec. 33.3 sec. 64.1 sec. 68.9 sec.	M. P. Brown (2a) S. Brown (2b) S. Brown (2b) M. Harris (2a) 2A 2B	R. P. Flamank (2b) P. Keddie (2b) P. Keddie (2b) G. P. McDonough (2d) 2B 2A	G. W. Keating (2a) C. D. Bradbury (2a) M. Harris (2a) A. Stainsby (2d) 2D 2C

RESULTS

LI	RSI FORM	SECOND FORM
1.	1D39 points	1. 2A
2.	1B35 ,,	2. 2B32 "
3.	1C26 ,,	3. 2D14 ,,
4.	1A 2 ,,	4. 2C 6 ,,

CROSS COUNTRY

The past year has brought about a marked improvement in the standard of cross-country running within the School. A great deal of the credit for this must be given to J. T. Wadsworth, Cross-country Captain, for the tireless way in which he tackled the job.

It is pleasing to report that our running at Senior level was of a very high standard and much appreciated by schools which treat cross-country running as one of their major sports. N. Heron, J. Tricker and P. Nelson did a great deal with their outstanding individual performances to bring about this situation.

Once again the Juniors have come up with possible stars of the future. R. Furniss turned in many outstanding performances during the year, and we are hoping the standard of competition will be raised even more with the introduction of D. Hartshorne into the cross-country team.

J.F.C.

GOLF

Once again we entered a team into the Schools Aer Lingus Golf Tournament and put up a creditable performance. Unfortunately, we were first out and

started the round in torrential rain and strong winds, which did not abate until we were almost half-way. So, the luck of the draw proved to be rather a handicap, as the weather improved considerably as the day progressed. We finished in fifth position which, although not good enough to qualify, was golf of a very high standard.

It has been noticed that we have a number of boys round the School who have taken up the sport, so let us hope that this means there will be a play-off for team places in next year's competition.

TENNIS

First Team:

Played 11, Won 7, Lost 4.

The overall success of this season was particularly gratifying to players who had to endure many a disappointment last year as a young and comparatively inexperienced side. The competition at this level is often of a very high standard and we had notable victories over old rivals such as Birkenhead School and King Edward VII School, Lytham, while we lost only narrowly to such traditionally strong teams as Bolton School and Bury Grammar School. Our defeat in the first round of the Glanville Cup, again at the hands of Bolton School, was at least made memorable by some of the best tennis that we played all season, and we were outclassed only once, by a team from Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby, which was exceptional even by their own high standards.

The team was fortunate to enjoy a long run of relatively stable and complementary pairings. O. C. D. Cooper, still only in the fourth year, produced some virtuoso performances in the first pair. His is an exceptional talent and his list of tournament wins this year is impressive: Cheshire Under-16, Manchester Under-16, Isle of Man Under-18 Championships. It is greatly to his credit that he has not allowed his individual success to detract from his team play and he has proved an excellent foil to the steady and determined play of the Captain, M. S. Hargreaves.

We were fortunate to have as second pair two such improved and competitive players as I. M. Jefferson and G. Neild, while in the third pair M. K. Bradbury's consistent form was particularly valuable at a time when his partner, R. C. Higham, struggled to find the true range and power of his game. We are indebted too to S. D. Cordingley and S. F. G. Skinner who played in the first team, often at very short notice, with considerable success.

The following represented the School First Team:

M. S. Hargreaves (Captain), M. K. Bradbury, O. C. D. Cooper, S. D. Cordingley, R. C. Higham, I. M. Jefferson, G. Neild, and S. F. G. Skinner.

Second Team:

Played 7, Won 4, Lost 3.

Under-15 Team:

Played 4, Won 2, Drawn 1, Lost 1.

Considering the experimental nature of the Second Team and its selection this year, the results were surprisingly good. Wherever possible, the policy was to choose junior players with obvious potential in preference to less-gifted, though possibly more crudely effective, seniors. In fact the percentage of wins was slightly higher than that of the considerably older side of a year ago, and several promising young players have gained the sort of experience that they would otherwise have waited years to acquire.

The Under-15 performances were most encouraging. The team has players of outstanding ability in A. Keddy, A. H. G. Dannatt and N. J. Grunfeld (a first-former of especial promise) and the enthusiasm for the game and keenness to do well shown by the whole side have been a delight to see.

The School Second and Under-15 Teams were chosen from the following:

N. J. Adderley, P. A. Barron, A. H. G. Dannatt, A. S. Dyson, N. J. Grunfeld, M. S. Hamilton, A. Keddy, M. J. Sandy, D. Schofield, J. Wadsworth, and C. Wilkins.

The season ended with a series of matches between School, Parents and Staff, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part. For the record, the Staff came out on top, with narrow wins over the Parents and a School team (deliberately weakened), while an almost full-strength School side had a comfortable victory in their match with the Parents.

Thanks are due chiefly to M. S. Hargreaves for being all that a captain should be; to Mr. D. Fisher for his supervision of the Second and Under-15 Teams; and to Mr. A. Burden for organising the Parents' teams and two splendid teas.

J.H.C.

VOLLEYBALL

The number of boys playing volleyball during the autumn and spring terms increased considerably and a House Competition added spice to the games.

In the first part of the autumn term six teams, each containing a member of staff, played in friendly competition on a league basis. This enabled younger boys to learn the game in the company of more experienced players. The Fourth Form Competition which followed towards Christmas gave evidence of the improvement in handling, though receiving serve is still a problem to many boys. 4L won this competition narrowly.

In the spring term the House Competition produced a high standard, particularly from Fraser for whom Beesley, Sandy and Hunt excelled. In the Junior Competition Dalton, spurred on by the enthusiastic Hanley and Loynes, did well to reach the final, but there met their match in a Heywood team with six good players.

The Under-15 players beat Reddish Vale School two sets to one in a friendly game. 12 players were used under the captaincy of Richards. The Under-15s also played an exhibition match outdoors on Fête Day, followed by another game between Staff and School. The very hot weather made it difficult to play well but the crowd seemed satisfied.

My thanks to all those colleagues who have played and helped with organisation. I hope that in the coming year we shall be able to continue our expansion of the game.

P.J.W.

HOUSE VOLLEYBALL COMPETITION

Seniors:

Preliminary Rounds:

Byrom 45 pts., Whitworth 47, Fraser 50. (Pool A). Gaskell 21pts., Heywood 39, Fraser 60. (Pool B).

Semi-finals:

Heywood beat Dalton 11—1, 11—1; Fraser beat Whitworth 11—4, 7—11, 11—1.

Final:

Fraser beat Heywood 11-3, 9-11, 11-8.

Fraser Team:

P. A. Howarth (Captain), J. Beesley, P. S. Lindsay, J. P. B. Sandy, N. L. Morris and T. Hunt.

Juniors:

Preliminary Rounds:

Whitworth 20 pts., Fraser 53, Gaskell 58 (Pool A). Byrom 26 pts., Heywood 50, Dalton 55 (Pool B).

Semi-finals:

Heywood beat Gaskell 11—5, 11—0; Dalton beat Fraser 11—3, 4—11, 11—10.

Final:

Dalton beat Heywood 10-11, 11-1, 11-5.

BASKETBALL

During Lent Term, School Basketball Teams competed against North Cestrian Grammar School and Two Trees High School with limited success.

Results:

Under-14 Played 3, Won 2, Lost 1.

Under-15 Played 3, Won 0, Lost 3.

Under-19 Played 2, Won 0, Lost 2.

Although greatly inexperienced, all the teams performed well. At Under-14 level, J. L. Patton dominated play and was ably assisted by D. Watmough, P. G. M. Jessup and D. B. Wright. They lacked

thought at times during their build-up and often hesitated at the vital moment when given shooting opportunities.

The Under-15 Team showed little improvement from the previous year. Their basic skills were fallible under pressure and their shooting was at times inaccurate. They stuck to their task, however, and never complained. The Under-19 Team were young and inexperienced. They lacked the technical ability of unit attack and defence to cope with their opponents and had to rely on their individual skills which, although of a high standard, were insufficient to win matches.

M.M.

SQUASH

The School has had the advantage of using two of the Y.M.C.A. courts three times a week and the benefit to the keener players has been very marked. Under the S.R.A. Proficiency Scheme, G. Keating and I. Keating passed the Intermediate Certificate, and D. C. Haworth and H. S. Davies passed the Elementary Certificate. It is to be hoped that they will continue to develop their skills, and that other young players will follow in their footsteps. It has been a deliberate policy to concentrate coaching efforts on Junior boys, in order that in a few years time there will be a fair number in the School who are able to play at a reasonable standard and help others. All boys are encouraged to try and play, including complete beginners.

P.McN.

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OLD HULMEIANS' ASSOCIATION NOTES AND NEWS

Although the *Newsletter* has now become the only official magazine of the O.H.A., *The Hulmeian* is delighted to record the continuing success of the Association in so many of its activities and to acknowledge the closeness of the ties between the Association and the School. Old Boys have had the opportunity of expressing this relationship in practical terms by responding to the Appeal launched earlier in the year, and a list of Old Hulmeian subscribers appears with this report.

Undoubtedly the major sporting success of the past year was the victory by the First Lacrosse Team in the North of England Flags Final, when they defeated South Manchester and Wythenshawe by 12—8, their first important success since 1968. In addition the "A" Team won the Third Division Championship by a handsome margin, losing only one league match throughout the entire season. These successes reflect the confidence and optimism which have steadily raised the morale of the Club and are exemplified in the increased attendance at meetings and social functions. New members will always be welcome, and anyone seeking information about the Club is cordially invited to contact Colin Langford at School.

Other sections of the O.H.A. report continuing support. The Golf Society had a record number of 47 players at its Ascension Day meeting; it also holds a September meeting and enters a team for the Lancashire Old Boys' Golfing Society meeting in June. Anyone, whether an Old Boy or a boy presently at School, who would like further information about the Society's activities is asked to get in touch with W. Allman at 292 Withington Road, Manchester 21.

The Rifle Club reports an increased membership and a more successful season. Its continued existence owes a great deal to the unflagging enthusiasm of Alan Wilson, who will be only too pleased to give information and advice to anyone who is interested in shooting.

The Association's social functions, including the September Reunion, the Annual Dinner Dance and the Annual Dinner (to be held next year at School on 17th April) were all reasonably well attended, although all these functions need the support of the younger end of the Association's membership if they are to retain their vitality.

At the Annual General Meeting on 15th September, the retiring President, Harry Andrews, at the end of a very successful year in office, handed over the reins to Stanley Thelwall, and Alan Wilson succeeded as Deputy President.

Any Old Boy wishing to receive any information about the Association and its activities is warmly invited to get in touch with the Association's Secretary, Frank Pickup, 19 Wenlock Road, Leigh, Lancs. (Tel. Leigh 72681) or if he is visiting School or in its vicinity, with C. J. Lowe.

APPEAL FOR INDEPENDENCE

Whether you are a pupil, parent or Old Hulmeian, you will be aware that starting with the September term the direct grant system will not be available for new boys. In anticipation of this event the Governors, in deciding that the School should resume its independent status, launched an Appeal last Autumn to provide a fund, the interest from which would enable a number of Bursaries to be awarded and so remit part of the fees in deserving cases.

The response to date has been really magnificent. With the assistance of professional fund raisers, some 2,000 appeal letters have been sent out, resulting in 412 gifts amounting to a total of £142,014 inclusive of the tax reclaimable, from the following:

Parents and Former Parents . . £99,650 Old Boys, Governors and Others £33,081 Industry £ 9,283

The following Old Hulmeians have subscribed to date (20th September, 1976):

11200000	
W. Allman	
H. W. Andrews	
E. P. Appleton	
J. W. Avery	
E. Barnes (Mrs.)	
G. E. Barnes	
J. B. Barnes	
G. E. Barritt	
G. W. Battersby	
G. Beaumont	
T. W. M. Bland	
G. G. Bolton	
G. P. Booth	
P. R. Bradshaw	
A. C. Broome	
D. J. Charnock	

Messrs.

G. G. Bolton
G. P. Booth
P. R. Bradshaw
A. C. Broome
D. J. Charnock
J. A. L. Clarke
C. B. Clegg
G. Cocker
R. Cocker
R. Craddock
G. Crowe
A. L. Dennis
B. S. Doff
J. Ekserdjian
D. Erskine

J. E. Evans

M. R. Evans

W. Flunder

Messrs.

S. B. Foulds J. G. Gibbons S. Gill T. H. Graham P. A. Greenhalgh D. LL. Griffiths J. P. R. Gutteridge J. D. Hague S. Hall W. C. Harris J. P. Hawley N. E. Hawley G. Heap R. B. Herbert D. D. Hilton F. H. Holmes J. B. Holt M. H. Homer J. N. Hopwood D. C. Hume E. B. Jackson C. H. Jones G. Kettlewell G. Lindsey D. W. Lomas V. H. Lucas F. M. McClinton L. T. Malia

F. H. Marshall

Messrs. Messrs. Masonic Lodge P. M. Smith J. R. Sternberg A. J. Moore M. A. Morris A. Stewart B. D. Norris I. M. Stewart G. A. Norris G. H. Stockdale D. M. Parren H. M. Stockwell J. E. Peters E. S. Taylor H. M. Taylor F. E. Pickup C. H. Porter C. H. Templar E. G. Thomas J. H. Porter D. W. Preston G. R. Vlies N. M. Walmsley G. E. Preston J. B. Reid E. J. Warburton K. W. Watts T. H. Weir J. K. Robertson P. Rogers H. A. Whatley A. G. Williamson J. V. M. Rubin J. Short J. H. Winskill A. G. Sidebotham J. H. P. Slade J W. Yates

(This list does not include Old Hulmeians who have sons in the School and have donated as Parents.)

The Fund is to remain open indefinitely, and a single donation or a donation tied to a covenant will still be most welcome. For example, a sum of £4 per month with a seven-year covenant would produce £517 for the Appeal.

C. H. JONES Chairman, Appeal Committee

UNIVERSITY RESULTS

The Editor would be pleased to receive further news of Old Hulmeians' University results. The following have been reported to him:

M. Bowker	2i in Modern Languages, Wol-
	verhampton Polytechnic.
I. E. Clark	2ii in Physics, Manchester Uni-
A. C. Crane	versity. 2ii in French, Hull University.
N. I. Greensmith	2i in Geography, Cambridge
IV. II OICOIDIII	University.
A. Hamilton	2i in Chemistry, London Uni-
	versity.
D. C. Hume	2ii in Electrical Engineering,
	Birmingham University.
A. J. McKeon	1st in History, Cambridge Uni-
D C 3 CH-44	versity.
P. C. Millett	1st in Classics, Cambridge Uni-
J. Poland	versity.
J. Poland	2i in Botany and Zoology, Hull University.
I. Price	2ii in Italian, Hull University.
H. J. Self	2i in Law, Manchester Univer-
Alt of Do.	sity.
R. Shires	2i in Civil Engineering, UMIST.
J. C. Spruce	1st in Mechanical Engineering,
	UMIST.
P. G. Webster	2i in Geography, Leicester Uni-

versity.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

We began our programme in September 1975 with the first of what we hope will be many talks by Mr. Filleul entitled "The School as a Community". The evening was well attended by a very appreciative audience.

Early in October a very successful Junior School Cheese and Wine Evening was held, attended by Masters of the Junior School and enjoyed by all. It is the ideal opportunity for Parents of new boys to meet the Masters and chat with them in an informal atmosphere.

The Parents' Association organised a new event in November, namely a Hoe Down. The evening, mainly organised for the Middle and Upper School, was an unqualified success; there have been many requests from Parents for a repeat performance. It is the intention of the Parents' Committee to hold a Hoe Down as an annual event and, where possible, to include two such evenings in the Social Calendar. Mr. Haynes presented his annual slide-show and talk in November. It was entitled "William Hulme's on Holiday—Past and Present". The Upper Hall was full to capacity as always and everybody enjoyed an entertaining and humorous evening.

The very popular Christmas Party and Dance ended 1975 for us. It was an entertaining evening enjoyed by Parents and Staff alike.

Our 1976 programme began with an evening of talks by Mr. Wilde and Mr. Bryans. It was particularly pleasant to welcome Mr. Bryans back, even if only for an evening. Mr. Wilde's talk covered a Scottish Highland trip and Mr. Bryans' talk concentrated on Camping and Walking in the Mont Blanc area. Both items were illustrated by excellent slides. It is pleasing to note that the boys who go on these trips are accompanied by such experts as Mr. Wilde and Mr. Bryans.

On 20th March we held our Annual Dinner Dance at the Piccadilly Hotel, Manchester, and though the attendance was less than last year, we still showed a profit and had a most enjoyable evening. It is regretted that we have been forced, for obvious reasons, to increase the price of this function, but we hope that Parents will bear with us and give this particular function more support.

The Garden Fête held at School on 3rd July, 1976, was an outstanding success, thanks to the great efforts of Parents and Masters. Many side shows and attractions drew such a happy crowd that we have been spurred on to repeat this event next year. The weather was really on our side and our profit from the Fête and Evening Dance was £2,100.

Sporting events between the boys and Parents played an important role during the year: Shooting, Tennis, Cricket, Badminton and Golf matches were played.

The Annual General Meeting held in May was followed by a Cheese and Wine Evening. At the meeting the following were elected to the Committee for 1976-77:

President: Mr. R. Leak
Chairman: Mr. A. Frost
Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. B. Buxton
Hon. Secretary: Mrs. J. R. Roffey
Treasurer: Mr. A. Wadsworth

Committee: Mrs. M. Kettlewell, Mrs. J. Murphy, Mrs. J. Worth, Mrs. V. Cox, Messrs. D. E. Nicholson, A. Burden, D. N. Barber, and C. P. Haworth.

Co-opted Member: Mr. P. McDermott.

Four Committee members left us at the end of the year: our President, Mr. G. D. Caldwell, Mrs. M. Haffenden, Mrs. A. Williams, and Mr. T. Dandy. We wish them and their sons success in the future.

A full programme has been arranged for the coming year and we hope we shall have the pleasure of meeting all our members at one or all of the events.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. J. R. Roffey, 2 St. James Road, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 4RE. Tel. No. 061 432 6539.