



the shirburnian

edited by Charles Tomson and Nigel Douglas
drawings by I. G. Craig

The School Magazine

Last term a census was taken from one house, the question being 'How would you improve the school magazine?'

—fourteen blank pages with a note; 'this was YOUR space'.

—cut the games reports

—put more photographs in

—don't censor it (to date nothing received is worth a censor's attention)

—put more literature in. Is 'literature' going to fall from the Abbey tower? Is it going to spout like crude oil from the stagnant pool of Sherborne's creative thought? The house in question has so far produced a grand total of **five** pieces of literature. Some have produced none. This is Sherborne creativity

We record petty history. Concerts: Lectures: Societies: Games. It takes little thought to write up a concert, but take the following conversation.

scene: an informal concert

time: five to eight

EDITOR: Will you write this up for the school magazine?

A SCHOOL PREFECT: No, I'm tone deaf.

Obviously concerts are more of a social occasion than was previously thought. Eventually the head of school agreed to write it up. One week later I was informed that no report was forthcoming since this great personage had walked out after his own item. No comment.

We have to say goodbye to **Mr. Burrows** and acknowledge a real loss to the School; he made an outstanding contribution to the teaching of Geography and was active in many non-academic areas of School life, notably in the Corps, in adventure training, in Cross Country and in the Canoe Club (which regrettably has to go into a temporary state of suspended animation). We hope that after four years in Sherborne he and his wife will be well prepared to train the intending teachers of Papua; our best wishes go with them.

We thank **Mr. Randolph** who has filled the space temporarily left by Mr. Higginbottom, whom we welcome back next term. In a similar position is **Mrs. Elliot**—the only master's wife teaching at present. We also welcome back Mr. Barker, hopefully and refreshed by a term's sabbatical leave—his pigeon hole has been crammed for weeks.

Congratulations to Mr. Knight on playing for England and also managing to continue teaching here.

Also to E. A. Stigant on getting a letter into 'The Times'.

It is a tribute to our teaching staff that a total of twenty university awards were gained last term: congratulations to all concerned. May this feat be repeated.

It has been an uneventful term—this will take up less room in the wastepaper bins of most and on the shelves of some. No apology is made—the fault lies in the dark mass of subdued intellect called Sherborne. Soon we hope to be able to change the format—to quote from my predecessor, the Shirburnian is in your hands. May it survive.

features

THE TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES CENTRE

This term saw the setting up of the new Technical Activities Centre, which is housed in the old Maintenance Workshops in the Devitt Courts. Although it was hoped that it would be in full use by half-term, the installation of power, machinery and equipment took much longer than expected, and by the end of term only a few classes, and some seniors doing their own projects, had worked in it. Much of their time was occupied by such tasks as painting and varnishing the benches, cleaning the machines, putting handles on the files, and moving the stock of metal, so very few made much progress.

The equipment is excellent and more modern than that of most schools. It includes two Maximat metal-turning lathes, one with a vertical milling unit, a Senior universal milling machine, a surface grinder, an angle grinder, a drilling machine, buffing and grinding machines, an injection moulding machine, brazing hearth, oven, circular saw, bandsaw, planer, universal woodworking machine, a mitre-cutter and a mortising machine, and a double-beam oscilloscope, in addition to the usual small tools, accessories, and equipment. All the measuring facilities and tools are metric; such things as inches and British Standard threads are nowhere to be seen.

Next term it is hoped that the planned programme of classes will take place at Second and Third Form level, where Technology will play a similar role to Art, while seniors will be able to carry out project work at certain times both in and out of school. The Technology master, Mr. A. J. Harris, has a wide range of knowledge and the activities will probably be diverse. Metalwork and woodwork will be taught as class subjects, with some emphasis on work in plastics and electronics later on. Prospects for the future include creative work in collaboration with the Art Department and work in the Applied Physics field, on such things as electronics, hydraulics, and properties of matter.

Projects currently in progress include various pieces of electronic equipment, ranging from noughts-and-crosses machines to photographic processing timers, making a telescope, building a wind tunnel, and restoring a church clock. Next term, with all the facilities in full use, this list should be greatly extended. The closure of the old workshops four years ago created a gap which has been much regretted by those wishing to pursue technological hobbies, and the TAC should fill that gap, at the same time creating an interest in craftwork in the School. I think it will prove an outstanding success.

A. L. James

THE TRIP TO GREECE

As the Headmaster announced at lists last term, a party of six boys and Mr. Glen spent half their Christmas holidays together far away from home on the Good Ship Uganda seeing bits of ancient Greece and Italy at great speed (e.g. The Acropolis in ninety minutes).

The Cruise Itinerary gave our approximate movements on the ship at least. Having waited at Stanstead Airport for nine hours, we were diverted from Venice to Dubrovnic because of fog. Once there we stayed the night in a luxurious newly built hotel with its own private beach since the boat didn't come till the next morning. We waited two days in Dubrovnic while the rest of the 800 students and 300 cabin passengers arrived. The time was divided between arranged visits to the Old Town and the surrounding countryside and independent sightseeing which meant that we were quite free to do anything we wished on shore but could only come back on board in the presence of one of our party leaders; this was apparently to stop all the stow-aways in Europe joining the ship.

The third day we spent at sea and 'school' began. This meant that we had so many lessons which were one of the following types:

- 1 with party leaders—spent mostly reading through sheets of paper about what was to happen in the next few days.
- 2 Deck games—while playing hockey the puck frequently disappeared over the side.
- 3 Private study—no one studied much, mostly we relaxed in the Students' Common Room or wrote letters or postcards.
- 4 Lectures given by the five guest lecturers of considerable repute on subjects connected with that which we were about to or had just seen.

There were also seminars and voluntary lectures by these scholars for those who wished to further any point.

The following day we anchored off Itea, went ashore in the Ship's boats and were taken in buses to Delphi where we were hurried through by a guide (Mr. Glen, having experience of these horrors, 'got lost' and spent much more time there than the rest of us); we then 'did' the museum which meant standing on tiptoe for a few seconds to try and see The Charioteer and then settling down to listen to the guide's instructive monologue. After this we ate our packed lunches and drank Greek coca-cola which tastes just the same. Having rested for an hour we moved off down to Itea through the Olive Groves on foot—ten miles, but very enjoyable.

The pattern of independent and organized sight-seeing was more or less the same throughout. After this we went to Pylos where Nestor's Palace is; harbouring in the Piraeus we saw the theatre at Epidaurus, the citadel and beehive tomb at Mycene, Corinth and Athens in the two days that we were there; we sailed to Santorin—an island where ancient Minoan houses have just been found and which was and still is a volcano which, in the 15th century B.C. blew up (experts say that the explosion was four times as big as Krakatoa). From here we not only left Greek waters but also good weather—we had had ten days of unrelenting sunshine—and sailed to Naples from whence we visited Herculaneum, Pompeii and Rome. The Headmaster of the Ship, Mr. Harris, an Old Shirburnian, took us that evening to the opera and then to supper, a very kind gesture which we very much appreciated, clams and spaghetti being a welcome change to the food on board. From Naples we sailed up to Leghorn and flew from Pisa Airport after a brief visit to the Tower.

Much of the Cruise was not strictly educational—in the evening there were no Halls, instead we had a discotheque every night (I should mention that the fairer sex outnumbered the men by 4:1 which made life very pleasant) and also some other form of entertainment, films such as *Love Story* and *Puppet on a Chain* were shown and there were such things as Folk evenings.

We slept in a twenty-bed dormitory which was cramped if more than five people wanted to move around at the same time, but was satisfactory from the plain sleeping point of view. This is one of the things that was in great demand as the Company had the policy of value for money—bed never before 2 a.m. but revaille never after 7.20 a.m. and frequently before. The food was not too good but it played such a minor part in the action-packed life on board that it didn't matter too much.

If the School decides to try this sort of thing again, I would recommend it to anyone who has a mere £70 to spend: very good value and an experience very much worth having.

Q.J.B.

plays

the winter's tale

With the room temperature arctic, a loud drum bong summoned us to our shuffling feet. We huddled into our seats again, pricked by the fanciful rendering of 'God Save the Queen'; and the curtain parted to reveal an Arcadian scene. The happiness quickly vanished. Thunder clouds scattered the picnickers and we were whisked to Silicia, to hear of those two Kings, Leontes of Silicia and Polixenes of Bohemia, that as children had done everything together. Before the assembled Court Hermione succeeded, where her husband had failed, in persuading Polixenes to extend his stay. At this point our reaction was 'What sumptuous costumes! and what vast hats!' The richness of the velvets was astonishing, their striking ensemble effect, matched by practised grouping, suggested a lavishly warm oil painting; for the record the style was Charles I.,

But harsher thoughts succeeded. Against our will we were being swept into the horrible realism of a most severe Othello-like attack of jealousy. Despite all denials, Leontes decided that Hermione and Polixenes were lovers, and the play seemed to be going hell-bent on the determined path of tragedy. The actors successfully conveyed the mood. Leontes (William Clark) was bitter, angry, and rash. Hermione (Mrs. Rawlinson) was superbly patient and restrained, seeming to rise above the crisis, to be ennobled by suffering. Camillo (Crispin Evans) tried to be loyal both to his sovereign and to what was right. Paulina (Mrs. Hatch) defended Hermione with courage and colossal nerve. Her contempt for the King, matched by her showmanship, could not, however, move him. The play was most compelling and most interesting at this point, and the complexity of the verse feelingly expressed, especially by the fluent women.

The Interval brought us a respite in tension—but no increase in room temperature. There is much to be said for the Elizabethan habit of performing the plays in the afternoon! The accent of the second part of the evening was not on tyranny but romance—and things pastoral. The black curtains went and let in a seascape of green hill with steps leading up to a ruined temple, and the air was light blue. The music (composed by Mr. Witchell) altered also. Autolycus (Niall Hoskin) snapped up admirers by his confident singing and easy manipulation of the Shepherd (Quentin Braddock) and Clown (Nigel Williams). The latter made a charmingly confused, well-intentioned, plain pair.

The young lovers, Perdita, (Elizabeth Leslie-Jones) and Florizel (Mark Dickens), representatives of the next generation and part agents of reconciliation, were unashamedly absorbed in each other. Perdita especially caught the mood of pastoral innocence. Around and amongst them, their fellows, the shepherds, shepherdesses and satyrs, danced sang and feasted—on buns, affirming the joy and freshness of life. That is until the heavy-handed Polixenes (Andrew Higgins) spoilt everything. The verse in the Bohemian scenes was less well handled but the audience had plenty of varied entertainment. As they did in the closing Sicilian scenes which provided more clowning; in a dignified Statue Scene when Hermione sat with her back to us and the music underlined the magical tension of the moment. Finally, a mellowed, contrite Leontes expressed the return to harmony, love and mutual trust by taking Hermione's hand and placing it in Polixenes'.

The play over, Leontes paid tribute to all who had helped in the production. I would only add how sensitive and painstaking Mr. Glen's production was, a tribute to the rich variety of the play. The result was a triumph, the outcome of excellent teamwork. Our thanks must go to Mrs. Ditmas and Lord Digby's School and also to the audiences. With so much promise among the younger members of the cast, future audiences are assured of good acting for at least the next few years.

C.J.H.

the lyon house play: the birthday party

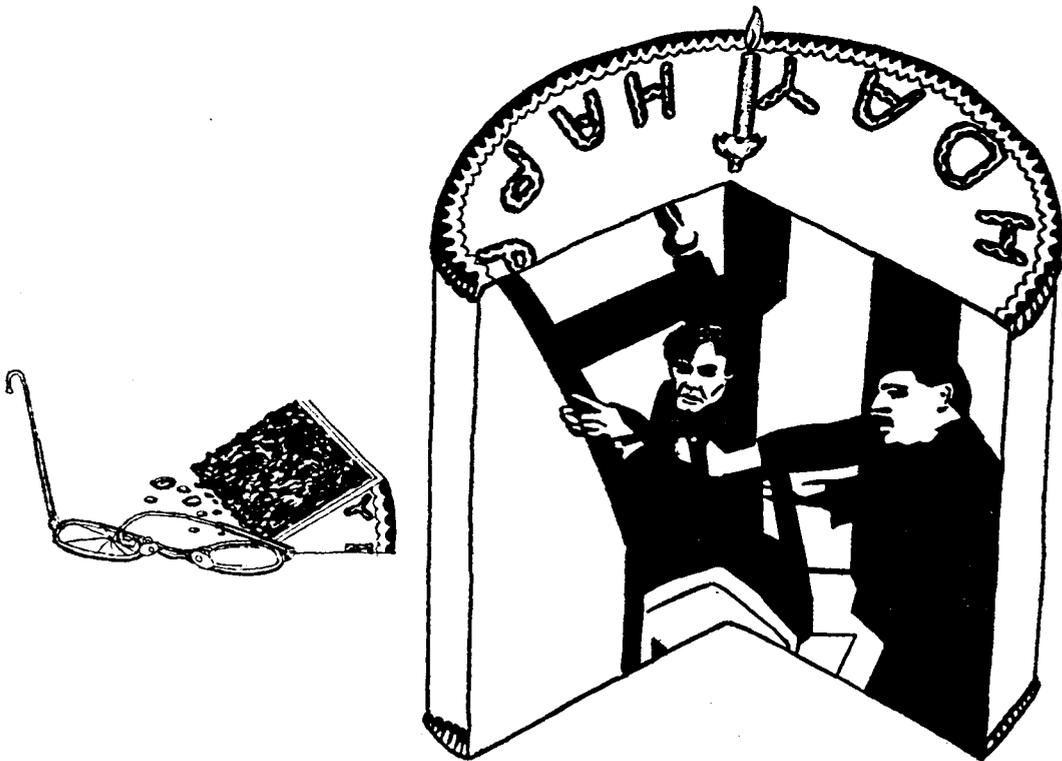
Pinter can be a ferociously difficult author, hard on actors, producers and audience alike, particularly in the obscurity which won't allow audiences to grasp and rest easily in any obvious 'meaning': even sympathetic and helpful audiences find the plays difficult unless they can be induced to 'rest in uncertainties', to respond to the plays moment by moment, and to accept violently contrasting moods of the comic and the tragic. To these difficulties must be added the problem for a school producer of working with inexperienced actors, especially so with a House play when a major School production is mounted in the same term. It was, then, rather an unexpected pleasure to see such a polished achievement as this year's Lyon House play: the performances of the actors were all at least competent and some remarkably assured, and they combined into a coherent and unified whole with sensitive and unselfish teamwork. The set, perhaps helped in this play by the tightly claustrophobic hall, was again ingenious (as it has to be in such a confined space), and, apart from some gratuitous mystery provided by doors with minds of their own, was entirely adequate in its tatty how-the-other-half-lives authenticity. In the absence of a curtain the lighting was handled inventively both within the play and, especially, in the 'curtain' calls, imaginatively presented as tableaux in the style of cinema stills.

Of the actors, Jeremy Brown was extremely convincing as Meg, moving obliviously on her own very modest level of consciousness; he conveyed her simpleness, sometimes comic sometimes touching, in a very exact and consistent way. Jules Wilkinson fitted his part comfortably, while remaining Jules Wilkinson throughout, and Rob Sewell's Stanley was a well conceived mixture of fierceness, mystery, unease and vulnerability. It was, though, in the parts of McCann and Goldberg, played by Hugh Leman and Michael Wetherall, that Pinter's characteristic menace, obscure and powerful, was most clearly felt; Leman's McCann, despite occasional waverings in his brogue (and the difficulties of audience participation when he sang), seemed to find almost exactly the disciplined stillness and tautness that the play demands of its actors (some of the other actors found it hard not to jiggle a limb now and again which is even more disturbing in Pinter than usual). For fairly obvious reasons Simon Wood, though visually not unconvincing, was less successful as Lulu: it required a more than usually willing suspension of disbelief to accept Lulu's femininity, and this is, anyway, not an easy part to play.

The audience on Saturday night clearly wished to encourage the actors by a readiness to laugh in appropriate (and inappropriate) places; inevitably familiar faces in the unusual dramatic context caused amusement, and some passages of the play are of course meant to be comic, but it was a pity that the tense darkness scene and the blindfold game lost force by being taken the wrong way—the production deserved better. Still, Pinter *is* funny in both senses.

This excellent production owed a great deal to the enthusiasm of Lyon House, both actors and stage staff, but above all the producer, Mr. Wellby, with his assistant, Mark Todd, must be congratulated on a thoroughly successful and satisfying performance. This was Mr. Wellby's first play in Sherborne and his interest in modern drama will clearly strengthen the already distinguished and energetic dramatic side of the School's activities.

D.W.A.R.



Volpone: the fifth form play

By the light of six candles and two hurricane lamps (later reduced to one hurricane lamp by a too impetuous entrance), members of the Fifth Form English Specialists (surely a contradiction in terms) gave a most enjoyably vigorous performance of Ben Jonson's amusing but really rather nasty comedy. Hardly a touch of common humanity relieves this portrait gallery of rogues and gulls, whose motives are the lowest possible; the two virtuous characters are ciphers (despite Nigel Beaham-Powell's valiant efforts to turn Bonavio into Bertie Wooster in the last scene), and the ferocity of the punishment of the main sinners removes all geniality from the final scene of justice done.

One need not remind oneself of the shortness of the time in which the play had been got up; the performance needed no such excuse, except momentarily in the last scene, where too much uncertainty over cues and lines halted the momentum at times. The informality of the excellent staging (Messrs. Edelston, Toombs and Smith) and the good humour of the audience gave good support to a series of clearly sketched characters; the quality of the acting was at times very high. The two largest parts, Volpone and Mosca, were given with great gusto and personality by Nigel Williams and Roland Roome; at times, though, their enjoyment of their villainy made one perhaps sympathise too much with them; Volpone in particular had a kind of innocent high spirits that made one regret his downfall. Of the other parts, perhaps, the most striking was Tim Wardlaw as Voltore; he has considerable presence, moves well and has an excellent voice; with more experience he could be a commanding figure on the Sherborne stage. The neurotic obsession of Corvino (Pryer) and the futile senility of Corbaccio (Waite) made their scenes credible and effective; Lady Politick Would-Be (Gordon) had her moments of twittering persistence, and the brief appearance of her maid (Thornhill), a downtrodden figure with hands dangling like bobbins before her, was sheer delight. Celia, a hopeless character, was decorative in defence of dull virtue; of the three judges all scored some good points. The electricians (Messrs. Higgins and Sheaf) mostly rested.

A delightful evening, against considerable odds. Congratulations to Mr. Bruce and his cast, and to an intelligent, helpful audience.

R.S.G.

societies

chataway society

Owing to the pressures of mock 'O's only two meetings were held this term. The motion of the first was 'This house would prefer to live in the present'. The future seems to hold many attractions for the members of the society; they firmly rejected the motion. Jacobsen and Francis represented the present while Bett and North opposed.

The next meeting was to debate the motion 'This house would welcome a decline in the influence of the family'. It soon became apparent that many members are supporters of the commune The arguments of Mr. Starkey and Rich (opposing) found little support and the House carried the motion easily, siding with Mr. Wellby and Almy (proposing).

N. M. Jacobsen

biology society

18th January at J.R.L.'s with six or so members of the Girls' school:

Dr. Short gave a talk on population with all the usual figures including several new ones to me; coupled with this was information from behind the bamboo curtain on the failed attempt to use the giant propaganda machine of the Peoples' Republic to curtail the Chinese population—how much more difficult will it be for the West? After showing us some newly developed contraceptive devices he closed on a note of cautious optimism. Afterwards it was disclosed that he was heading an investigation into birth control in Edinburgh.

3rd January at J.R.L.'s

Mr. Wilson, a member of the Royal Dorset Agricultural College, gave an illustrated talk on careers in agriculture, touching on the types of career available and the qualifications necessary, and the work done at the college, giving an impression of the training involved and the types of work possible—an informative talk.

16th March at J.R.L.'s

Mr. Irvine, four years an O.S., now studying Biochemistry at Oxford gave an enthusiastic if high-powered talk on Oxidative Phosphorulation with a secondary theme of 'don't believe the textbooks'. An enjoyable talk if only because of the speaker.

A. R. Higgins

music club

The society met once only this term, on the 7th February: Niall Hoskin gave a paper entitled 'Nationalism in Music'.

geographical society

Although it is hoped to hold the meetings postponed this term next term, the society has only had one meeting, on the 9th February: Peter Toyne of Exeter University gave a paper; 'Perception Analysis in human Geography'.

united services

There have been two meetings this term. At the first the speaker was Major David Radband, R.A., who spoke about the situation in Ulster from the point of view of the serving soldier. Having been on three tours in Northern Ireland he was familiar with Londonderry and the Bogside and gave a fascinating first hand account.

The second speaker was Sir Eugen Millington-Drake, who was British Minister in Montevideo at the time of the Battle of the River Plate. For such a distinguished visitor the meeting was made open to the whole school but the attendance was poor. Nevertheless, Sir Eugen, well into his eighties, gave a splendid lecture on the raider cruise of the Graf Spee and the battle which ensued.

J.P.R.

whitehead society

The two meetings held this term were both attended by members of the Girls' School; 27th January: A. L. James gave to the society a paper entitled 'The great Pyramid, Stonehenge, and the Cabbala'. 14th March: the MAASA contest.

polyglots

M. Francois Busson gave a paper entitled 'La vie culturelle en France' and N. P. Hoskin gave one entitled 'Hermann Hesse'.

Many reports have not been received: look to the secretaries involved.

the war game

This term the school saw this film, which had been banned by the BBC. It was a dramatic documentary trying to show to some extent the probable effect of a thermo-nuclear atomic bomb landing on Gatwick a few years ago. It was totally realistic and very frightening, not omitting to pour scorn on the government's feeble efforts to provide some measure of precaution for its citizens. A proper report was expected but not received.

apology

To A. R. Marriot and R. G. Draper for not acknowledging the authorship of their photographs in the last magazine.

lectures

Sir Arthur Norman: Industry and Society

Sir Arthur, (Chairman of De La Rue; Governor of Sherborne School; Vice-President of B.O.A.C.; former President of C.B.I.) began with some definitions: 'Society is a living Human organism with good and bad parts.' And then added the Tory Party slogan 'Evolution rather than Revolution in the free and open Society.' Industry was next to be defined; 'Industry,' he said, 'is the creature of society and serves the changing needs of society.' Industry is as old as mankind itself, and has changed alongside the changes of man; when it came to the changes of the future (and here came the inevitable mention of the Common Market) Industry can move forward faster when combined. Though Sir Arthur did stress the fact that small concerns are numerous, and are necessary to progress.

Is it possible to halt the progress of Industry, the creation of society? The answer to this question was no; but it is possible to modify Industry as in the case of pollution. With more and better education and when the effort and the price required were produced, all the problems of Industry, such as pollution, would be solved. Sir Arthur felt that unemployment is a necessary evil: saying that it is better to undertake a course of retraining, in the second line of battle than to be employed in the front line with the whole labour force; that was like putting all of one's eggs in one basket. It was impossible, he said, in any profitable economy for the whole labour force to work at jobs that they enjoyed.

Society stands for qualitative gains such as more and better schools, hospitals, (even prisons and playing fields) and the riddance of sub-standard housing, and aid to less developed countries. All of this and more can be gained if there is more wealth creation; thus Industry must be made more efficient, it needs the best people in society and then the wealth can be better applied. When Industry is weak then society is also weak. The people that society needs, that Industry needs, must be well trained, independent, and full of courage; resistance, a willingness to learn, and above all have the qualities of leadership.

J.M.G.E.

Vernon Scannell: 'The Making of Poetry'

The lecture was made up largely of Mr. Scannell reading his own poetry out of a recently published volume. The poems were, as he readily admitted, of no great depth but this only meant that they afforded pleasure at the first hearing. The subjects of most of his poems came from his surroundings; two poems at least were inspired by newspaper articles and another by his war experiences. They were all written in lively style and things were done rather than thought. One noticeable weakness in his poetry was the rhyming which was often obvious and once descended to the level of 'cat/mat' but since this was a poem about a cat coming into a room, it was hardly surprising. Sadly he dwelt a long time on the written poetry and only touched on the writing of it which was a slight disappointment. All the same he provided an enjoyable afternoon if not an informative one.

Q.J.B.

music

Julian Bream

The acknowledged master of the classical guitar also proved to a full house that he was an accomplished lutenist by playing a selection of 16th century lute music, including some beautiful songs by Luis de Narvaez and two fantasises by Luis Milan. The second half of the concert was more suited to the tastes of the audience, including guitar music by Villa-Lobos—a Partita by Weiss—a contemporary of Bach—a set of Impromptus by Richard Rodney Bennett—written in 1968 which to most—to quote a Newsboard reviewer—seemed ‘a complete waste of time’. Others found them more meaningful—or pretended they did. And then the encores—a piece by Granados from ‘Goyesca’, and another modern piece, this time more successful. Overall this was probably the best of the Concert Club concerts this year.

Charles Tomson

Brahms' Requiem

The Abbey, Wednesday, 1st March 1972

Brahms was always happiest, said his friends, when he could sing ‘my joy is in the grave’ and the quip finds some justification when in the Requiem the words, ‘behold all flesh is as the grass’ calls forth the composer’s grandest inspirations.

Like Handel, Brahms selected the texts himself with deep care and insight and he created a masterpiece which is consistently inspired. Unlike Handel he wrote no set pieces for Soloists alone but used the chorus in every number almost continuously.

Great demands, therefore, are made on the singers who bear the main responsibility for the quality of the performance. They must have stamina and technique or acquire them and the Musical Society after long and arduous rehearsals, were not found wanting in either. Difficulties surmounted, they were able to sing with confidence and inspiration, giving one of their most memorable performances in the Abbey.

The Soloists were new to Sherborne. The Soprano, Iris Bourne, used her clear, soaring voice to beautiful effect and the Baritone part, which demands a singer with a big resonant voice of wide range, was impressively sung by Robert Bateman.

The Requiem’s Orchestra is very large and includes a Harp and Organ. It was fortunate that so many able players could be assembled and formed into a cohesive body during one day’s rehearsal. Brahms’ craftsmanship as an orchestral composer is warmly appreciated by players and on this occasion the singers were not slow to respond to the splendid sonorities delivered by their orchestral colleagues.

R.B.F.

informal concert: monday 13th march

The concert opened well with a performance of the March from Bizet's *Carmen* and two movements of Telemann's Viola Concerto, (the soloist was Peter Walker) by the second orchestra under Mr. Davies; if at times this item in a programme has been grim, this is no longer so. Next followed a pleasant flute solo from Mumford, an impressive performance on the Bassoon by Kennard, a dramatic if not entirely correct performance of a Brahms Rhapsody from Humphreys and a bewildering rendering of Paderewski's 'Chants du Voyageur' from Foster. A string octet preceded two percussion ensembles—this idea is here to stay . . . long live Peter Witchell and Stockhausen. In sharp contrast, the First Orchestra played the second movement of Schubert's great C Major Symphony well, if not brilliantly, played. The highlight solo followed—Chopin's Ballade in F followed played by James with conviction and spirit. Then a wind ensemble playing modern music—very well! The Brass ensemble was better than it has been on previous occasions. Though many left in anticipation, the Band was considerably better than last term's effort, and approached the success they have enjoyed in previous terms.

Charles Tomson

opera for all—il seraglio—mozart

Like many, I first caught the 'Opera bug' at a performance given by the 'Opera for All' company. These valiant singers tour around the country giving obscure townships such as East Bergholt, Alwiche and Bula the only sniff of opera they are likely to get. 'Opera for All' helps to stop up some of the gaps in a country where two of the four main companies are based on the capital. Unlike other European countries, where opera receives vast subsidies, in England the medium is looked on as not worth the enormous expense. Wherever one lives in Italy or Germany or even France, one is tolerably near a professional opera house. Were it not for 'Opera for All' the nearest many would get to opera would be an amateur production of 'The King and I'.

Since the conditions these artists work in are so hard, and since they render such a great service in bringing opera to so many people. it would be churlish to criticise the performance harshly. Robin Bell as Constanze sang well as did her lover played by Keith Macdonald. More memorable, however, were the Pedrillo and Blonde of John Gill and Daphne Bell, both of whom had the stage presence and the personality to bring the characters alive.

The scenery combined the need to be easily transferable with style, while the costumes exactly captured the eighteenth century air of the piece.

I hope the 'Opera for All' troupe return to Sherborne since their visits help to remind a school, apt to ridicule the art form, that opera, can (to quote the programme) 'make you forget your personal problems and the weather and transport you to a brighter, gayer world,' and for some it can do even more.

Stephen Latimer

games

HOCKEY 1972

For the first time ever, hockey was played throughout the Lent term at Sherborne. This brought us in line with all the other schools in the area and meant that we were able to meet them on a far more equal footing and, as might have been predicted, brought us the most successful season for many years. The fixture lists of every team were expanded and for the first time the school fielded an under 14 team: the fact that this was unbeaten speaks abundantly for the success of this venture.

On the house front the picture was less rosy, because the weather was so bad that for many boys a trip to the hockey fields was a rare experience. The Hyle House hard court is a very poor substitute and the need for an all-weather surface has never been better demonstrated. During the three months of the Lent term, Sherborne had rain in great abundance, but hardly any frost, and had an all-weather pitch been available, we could have played on it almost every day. At the end of term the rain abated at last, to give us 2 glorious weeks and during this time a very successful under 15 competition was inaugurated. This, like the Seniors final, was won by Lyon, the Juniors cup going to Abbeylands.

1ST XI

Results:

v Dorset 'A'	L	1-2
v Dauntseys	D	1-1
v Bryanston	W	4-2
v King's Taunton	W	4-0
v Taunton	L	0-5
v King's Bruton	W	4-2
v Pilgrims	W	3-2
v Monkton Combe	L	2-3
v Canford	D	1-1
<i>Midland Tour</i>		
v Stanford	L	1-2
v Oundle	W	1-0
v Oakham	L	1-2

The comparatively moderate result of the '71 rugger and cricket teams showed only too clearly the lack of really talented games players at the top end of the school and this was bound to have a considerable effect on 1st XI hockey. As it was, the school had a thoroughly reasonable season, but the presence of just one or two class players could have made the side into a great one. The defence, which looked amazingly fallible at the

beginning of the season, improved immensely, with Pertwee an occasionally brilliant goal-keeper and Floyer as steady (and sometimes as hard) as a rock at left back. Hume, at right back was perhaps the best hockey player we had, but he never quite cut out the occasional bad unforced error. The half back line never really dominated the middle of the field, although Keable-Elliott was a tireless worker, while the attack never quite lived up to its potential. Wilkinson scored a lot of goals early in the season, but as the marking got tighter he became less effective. Even so, he was the only person who really looked like scoring goals and if either of the two inside forwards had found the goal-scoring touch we would probably have won all the last four games instead of just one of them.

The end of term tour to Oundle was arranged because this was our one year in four away from Oxford. Although the results could have been a lot better, the tour as a whole was a great success, made so by the extremely efficient organisation and friendly cooperation of everybody concerned at Oundle.

Next year a number of the 1st and 2nd XI are coming back, so with a very successful Colts side, we might have the material for a good season. Team: R. Pertwee, C. Hume, M. Floyer, R. Spickernell D. Keable-Elliott, M. Marriott, S. Yates, D. Wilson (capt.), J. Wilkinson, J. Burridge, T. Wardlow.

I.R.E.

2ND XI

Played 8 Won 4 Drawn 2 Lost 2

The team started well with good wins over Dauntseys, Bryanston and Milton Abbey. The defence settled down quickly and Parker-Jones, at centre forward, was soon scoring goals. The first defeat was by Claysmore who played good hockey on the Upper; it was unfortunate that Jackson, the captain and right wing was missing for this match. In subsequent games the team rarely captured the fire of the beginning of term and there is no doubt that they missed the practices with the 1st XI. Play became slower and the defence, although basically sound, did not give the forwards the necessary close support. The insides worked hard, but as individuals, and the scoring power fell away towards the end of term. The blend of promising young players and the experience of Parker-Jones, Jackson and Parker produced a well knit team whose overall performance was encouraging. The basic faults of inadequate stickwork, slow reactions and poor running off

the ball have not been cured but much good hockey has been played.

M.J.H.

3RD AND 4TH XI's

An increased fixture list for 3rd and 4th XI's gave more incentive to the Lower game and there was an encouraging amount of competition to play in the match games. The 3rds won against Monkton Combe and Canford, and lost to Yeovil G.S., drawing the match with Dauntseys. The 4th XI lost to Clayesmore 2nds and won at Yeovil and against Milton Abbey.

Team (3rd XI): Harvey G., Darling (capt.), Kimber, Howard, Hunter, Tudor-Williams P., Stebbings, Noyes, Smorthwaite, Morgan, Bryer Ash.

Team (4th XI): Todd, Sinclair (capt.), Reynolds, Mathews, White-Hamilton, Ingram, Wingfield Digby, Coldrey, Taylor, Cox, Gordon, Niker.

P.R.S.

COLTS

Played 6 Won 5 Drawn 0 Lost 1

Despite the early set-back due to the wettest January and February for years, and a defeat in the last minutes of a curtailed game against Bryanston in torrential rain, this has been a very successful season. The side was talented and prepared to work hard and developed quickly despite the delayed start. The defence was sound which gave the forwards scope to attack and, ably led by I. J. Rosser, the latter matches produced some good moves and the goals they deserved. It would be invidious to pick out any members of the side as outstanding since all played their part admirably but I would like to congratulate R. J. Blackwell on his goalkeeping which showed a lot of courage and coolness under attack.

v Bryanston	lost 0—1
v Hardye's School	won 4—1
v King's Bruton	won 1—0
v Taunton School	won 3—2
v Monkton Combe	won 4—1
v Canford	won 4—0

Team: I. J. Rosser (capt.), R. J. Blackwell, M. J. N. Brennan, M. J. Higgins, M. J. Hussey, T. C. Norman, J. Powe, D. C. D. Ranrin, A. V. Rix, D. C. T. Sim, J. P. Sugden.

JUNIOR COLTS

A start to the season not only bedevilled by the frustration of the weather but also by a lack of life and urgency in the team. The modern term is, I believe, 'ball hungry' and they were not. The fact that both King's Bruton and Bryanston won their games with the last hit of the game seems

symptomatic of something, perhaps the ill luck that I so dislike believing in.

Up to this stage the whole-heartedness of two players has stood out considerably—the two wing halves, Salvage and Whiteley and on the latter's moving to centre forward everything clicked into place, goals started coming and nothing seemed impossible. While Whiteley scored goals at one end Salvage was responsible at the other for regular magnificent feats of covering and from the efforts of these two sprang a team that, having lost to three fairly poor sides, then proceeded to confound their reputation by beating three better sides, leaving hopes higher for 1973.

v Hardye's	lost 0—1
v King's Bruton	lost 1—2
v Bryanston	lost 0—1
v Taunton	won 2—1
v Monkton Combe	won 4—3
v Canford	won 2—0

Team: Cuthbert, Hughes, Strong, Tompsett, Marshall, Salvage, Jackman, Farrer, Whiteley, Donald, Saunders, also Craigen and Samler.

UNDER 14

Played 6 Won 5 Drawn 1 Lost 0

The main strength of the team was the way they played as a unit. Each knew instinctively where the others were and so rapid passing was possible. Mumford, Blackshaw, and Martin showed great technical skill as well as good positional play and so it was not surprising that of the six matches played five were won and one drawn. The defence was extremely sound with Dowding and Martin outstanding and the evidence for this was that they conceded only one goal. Mumford was the dominant player providing the link between attack and defence and making the middle of the pitch impervious to the opposition. The attack, spearheaded by Cobb, built up attacks well but missed too many opportunities in the circle. We should have beaten Bryanston and Canford more easily and should have beaten Monkton Combe but against this we beat Taunton who were technically better but who could not acclimatise from their all-weather pitch to our grass in the snow.

Team: Dowding, Martin, Cockman, Holman, Mumford (capt.), Thomson, Price, Thompson, Cobb, Blackshaw, West.

FENCING

The standard of fencing has undoubtedly improved due to the greater degree of experience gained by the team over the last year. We pulled off several unexpected victories and made the

semi-finals of the Somerset team championships, being knocked out by Millfield.

The style of fencing has improved with J. Tillyard perfecting his very dangerous riposte which won us many points. P. Jones used his long reach to great advantage together with somewhat unusual footwork.

There seems to be great promise for the future.

	1st foil	1st Epee	2nd foil
v King's Taunton	lost 6-3	lost 6-3	
v Clifton	won 6-3		lost 5-4
v Taunton School	won 5-4		lost 5-4
v Queen's Taunton	won 5-4		lost 5-4
colours—D. A. B. Smith			
R. J. C. D. Pertwee			
J. H. H. Tillyard			
P. H. R. Jones			
D. A. B. Smith			

GOLF

This term's Golf was highlighted by our entry into the Aer Lingus International Schools' Championship. The team of C. Nevill, I. Rosser, R. Francis and M. Prager did well on a completely foreign course to be runners-up to Millfield.

Scores: C. Nevill	79
M. Prager	83
T. Rosser	85
R. Francis	85

Our three other fixtures against Canford (4-1), Milton Abbey (5-0), and Allhallows (6-0) were all comfortable victories.

Of note were Prager and Waite, the former putting up a tremendous performance in the Aer Lingus, while the latter played very well in the Eclectic—which Francis won with a very impressive score of 58.

Both Prager and Farley have been awarded their colours, and it seems that under the already successful management of P.T.C. and the Bursar, our prospects for the summer are very high. Team: C. Nevill, R. Francis, I. Rosser, M. Farley, M. Prager, J. Whately-Smith.

C. G. Nevill

FIVES

After last year's disastrous season (we failed to win a match) this one has definitely been the best for the School's Fives for many years. The first team suffered only one defeat by another school, at Blundell's, and this was mainly due to the inability of the team to get used to the courts—which are difficult ones—rather than any lack of skill. It has certainly been the overall standard of the 1st IV rather than any individual skill that

has supplied them with five wins. (All members have gained their minor colours for the sport).

The other teams: a third pair to make a first VI, and two colts pairs were less successful, but their matches will be useful preparation for future years.

Many thanks to C. J. H. and P. M. W. for their very valuable assistance. The teams were:

1st VI: G. P. H. Smith
E. B. Wilson
R. D. Knight
R. F. J. Faulkner
R. Buckler
A. J. Davies

Colts: Alexander, Burden, Roome, Hockley, also Hamersley.

E. B. Wilson

SQUASH RACKETS

The statistics might appear to make the team seem better than it actually was. The general standard of the Schools we played was poor, and often there was little to beat. The only really good team we met was Marlborough, and we were not in the same class as they were. They were so well balanced that their fifth string would probably have won had he been playing at No. 2.

Our weakness lay in our lack of a good third string. We were unbeatable at No. 1, strong at No. 2 and had several competent fifth strings, one of whom had to play at No. 3 and another at 4. Had C. W. E. Hume been available, on all but rare occasions, he might well have been able to fill the gap but, when in good company, the last three strings we could usually play found winning very difficult.

In School matches, J. R. Garforth-Bles met only one opponent worthy of him, when we went to Marlborough, where he did very well to fight back after trailing 0-6 in the fifth game. He is a very good first string indeed now. T. R. Wallis was a much improved player this year and had a good season at No. 2. R. W. Bensted-Smith retrieved with the utmost determination and had some good wins at No. 3, but he would have been happier lower down the order. The same applies to P. J. Tomlinson, a very promising Colt, who usually had to play at No. 4. The following also played in some of the games: C. W. E. Hume, J. C. Gordon, B. C. Symondson and R. A. L. Leach.

During the Summer it is hoped that both Courts will be repaired and repainted, and we hope especially that the Appeal is a great enough success to warrant the building of the badly-

needed extra courts. We are also negotiating for the services of a Professional. Now that we no longer have a Master on the Staff currently of County standard, such help is badly needed.

The record for the whole season reads as follows:—

All First Team matches:	Won 11, Lost 6		
Inter-School matches only:	Won 9, Lost 2		
Colts matches:	Won 2, Lost 2		
'A' Team matches:	Won 1, Lost 0		
Novices' matches:	Won 1, Lost 0		
1st Team	v. The Mercurians	lost	1-4
	v. Merriott S.R.C.	lost	2-3
	v. Marlborough	lost	1-4
	v. Downside	won	3-2
	v. Taunton	won	5-0
	v. Dorset S.R.A.	won	2-1
	v. Clifton	won	5-0
	v. King's Taunton	lost	2-3
	v. Blundells	won	3-2
	v. Winchester	won	4-1
	v. R.N.C. Dartmouth	won	5-0
	v. Sherborne Pilgrims	lost	2-3
'A' Team	v. Milton Abbey	won	3-0
Colts Team	v. Marlborough	lost	0-3
	v. Milton Abbey	won	2-1
	v. Taunton	lost	1-2
Novices Team	v. Hazlegrove House	won	5-0
	M.R.G. E-D.		

CROSS COUNTRY

The inter-house competition was won convincingly by School House and, individually, by E. C. Stenton (a): the curtain raiser of a splendid season.

The first VIII won all its matches, on one occasion having all eight men home before the first opposition runner. The highlights of the season were undoubtedly the defeating of Allhallows and Hardye's, the latter by the narrow margin of three points, and Stenton's remarkable individual performance in winning every single race. Colours: Stenton, Stephenson, Hall, Sewell, Neville, Hargreaves, Kerr and Andrews-Speed.

Congratulations also to the second VIII who defeated all the second VIII's they ran against. The Colts too did well with young and small side to win against five out of the seven teams.

My thanks to A. J. H., J. R. J. B. and R. G. for the many miles covered in training runs!

Results:

Inter-House	1st School	2nd Westcott	
Sherborne v.:	1st VIII	2nd VIII	Colts
Canford	won	won	lost
Clayesmore		won	won
Allhallows & Blundells	won	won	won
Hardye's & Milton Abbey	won	won	won
Downside & Bryanston	won	won	2nd
Monkton Combe	won		
Taunton	won		won
			D.M.D.

SOCCER

With the inception of a full-time soccer squad, run on a minority basis, the opportunity for a few unofficial matches was made available, and these injected a greater purpose and enthusiasm into the game. Of the four matches played the team won one and lost three, none of the scores being particularly close. Next year an improved balance between the opposing sides will be more easily created, and we look forward to some tighter contests.

There is clearly a good nucleus of footballing talent in the school, and the principal defects were those of lack of experience, anticipation, and ability in the basic skills. More surprisingly, at times, one felt a certain tendency to ball-shyness although this was probably due to overconcentration on the tactical aspects of the game. Team from: Dudley, Clarke, Harvey, Todd, Wilson, Maconchy, Pilcher, Higgins, Evans, Bridger, Edleston, Quinn, Burridge, Morgan, Jackson, Petrie, Cox, Roberts.

M.L.M.

Departures

School House

N. P. Hoskins
N. D. Miller

The Green

R. N. MacLeary

Lyon House

P. St. V. Hammick
D. A. Keable-Elliott
M. R. B. Wetherall

Westcott House

G. F. Holborn

The Digby

A. S. Coldrey

Arrivals

School House

R. Barrett (e)
M. T. J. Carden (e)
S. Clothier (e)
C. R. de Mattos (e)
T. J. H. Devitt (e)
W. J. Hooper (e)
J. L. Mowll (e)
O. C. M. Ross (e)
J. N. G. Smith (e)

Abbey House

S. C. Smit
A. N. Whiteway
P. J. Whiteway

The Green

N. C. Howard (e)
A. J. May (e)
T. A. Taylor (e)
R. M. C. West (e)

Harper House

W. A. E. Farndon
A. R. Hodgson
A. C. F. Maitland
M. E. Rawlins

Abbeylands

J. A. H. Craw (e)
C. J. L. Thompson (e)

Lyon House

J. M. Gossip
T. C. Keable-Elliott
S. J. Kingston
P. de J. Michelmore
M. G. Oakshott
S. Sutcliffe
A. M. C. Uloth
C. P. Wetherall
B. J. Williams

Westcott House

J. C. S. Barker
A. M. Marshall
J. J. Powe

The Digby

S. G. N. Brauer
J. G. Scott
G. S. Streeter
A. B. Tobey