



**shirburnian 72: 3**

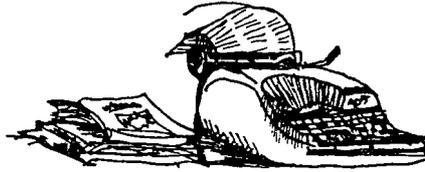




# **the shirburnian**

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and R. G. Draper

# sherborne



Things have changed a great deal since 1931. This thought came upon me one Sunday when it became clear that there was a lot of typing to be done and not much time to do it in, so I went to seek encouragement in a shelf of pre-war Shirburnians, and found, amid a cloud of dust, that in 1931 the magazine 'took off its hat' (boater?) to an unfortunate newboy who had had the insolence to ask the Head of the School if he had 'Latin after break'.

One of the big physical changes in the school has, however, only just got under way; it was this term that the rebuilding of Abbeylands, a scheme dear to the heart of the Appeal, began. The various buildings have been welded into one by a series of external corridors that have taken a huge bite out of the yard and smothered the rest with unused cement so that it is now a sort of moonscape; at the other end of the central school buildings, building has begun in the school house gardens to stave off the lack of classroom accommodation: so far it has reached the stage of a concrete platform littered with puddles, apparently waiting for the rest to come on a lorry. And, of course, nobody can have failed to notice the exodus of the masters to the Lower Library, which is explained by the present interior rebuilding of their Common Room.

Some of us might have noticed that the B.S.R. is less icy than in the past thanks to the new heating system. And the House Kitchens have had £10,000 worth of improvements.

The societies have flourished this term, judging by the length of some of the reports. The most notable event was the return of Mr. Powell who came to talk to the Interpretes about 'Freedom'; the secretary celebrated the occasion by delivering a special report, but seemed to think that was an excuse for writing the termly report in Latin.

The lectures, mostly held late on Saturday mornings for the Seniors, were very varied in subject matter and quality, Lord David Cecil's being, unfortunately, inaudible from my numbingly hard bench at the back through the chorus of wriggles; but John Pardoe, who came as a reply to a conservative who came a little while ago and a Trades Unionist who didn't come at all, made up for any faults in the others.

The harrassed Oxbridge candidates had their courses livened up by the innovation of extensive co-operation with the Girls' School, which was plain for all to see between lessons.

A series of field days crowded on top of each other in the middle of the term, their distinctive feature being usually that nobody else ever knew where the lucky bus-load was going, and people tended to feel they were missing out on something. The most flagrant of these expeditions was a trip to the neo-classical exhibition, but the C.C.F., the biology specialists, and the geographers all had a look-in.

The chapel also managed to wake up the sleepier half of the school when the bearded

Brian Dawe appeared in the pulpit and poured scorn or praises on subjects ranging from Stirling students to Pubs, and it seems that the attitude to chapel will never be the same.

This term saw the arrival of several new masters, as is usual in the Autumn term:

**Mr. Baker**, who has taken over the Art Department (which will eventually move to the present San, it is hoped);

**Mr. J. R. G. Beavon**, who joined the Science Department;

**Mr. R. A. Howard**, a geographer;

**Mr. D. P. Jones**, also a geographer, and rugger coach;

and **M. Pizet**, the French assistant this year.

We thank **Mrs. Elliott** for her Mathematics teaching and send her our good wishes.

The sole departure this term is **Mr. Rosser**, who returns to Lancashire and about whom more is said; his tenure of office as Head of the English Department has been marked by imaginative decorations in his classroom and by hard work from his pupils who have reason to remember his lashing tongue striking at anything unsatisfactory. Ex-editors of the Shirburnian will also remember him for his gentle guidance since the departure of Mr. Gourlay.

The term ended with one of the best school concerts in living memory, involving the Orchestra, Mr. Witchell's Madrigal Society, and the Band, all except the last in conjunction with the Girls' School, an idea that should develop into a tradition in a little while; and the house suppers will, of course, erase any remaining hard feelings and endue us all with Christmas Cheer.

### **D.W.A.R.**

In *The Loom of Youth* (if that title still rings a bell in Sherborne) the Bull would preface his expostulations to the XV with references to the number of times he had played rugger for England. Certainly many school masters build their careers on past academic or athletic successes even when these are of a modest nature. The combination of a distinguished academic career, the captaincy of the Cambridge XV, and several England caps would seem to establish an almost unparalleled claim to distinction. But no such claim was ever made in David Rosser's case. It was not past achievements that made him such an exceptional schoolmaster, but present attitudes; he could talk directly to boys and elicit a direct response. The mental, the human development which followed could be seen by any aware pupil or outside observer.

But even if he were not such an outstanding teacher he would be sadly missed outside the classroom, for his part in rugger coaching, in journals, in debates, for his humour whether uproarious or sardonic, for his forthrightness and his tact, and for all the warm-hearted hospitality at St. Stephen's.

In ten terms he has made an impact here that was both forceful and pervasive. One hopes and believes that he and his wife and family will be happy, successful and highly valued in their new surroundings up in Lancashire. But he will leave a great gap in Sherborne.

L.E.C.B.

# lectures

## Senior . . .

Lectures have now become an integral part of the School's academic programme and have been fitted into Subsidiary time in the Sixth Form. Sherborne has thus come somewhat belatedly to what so many other schools have long been doing, but this in no way lessens their importance or the positive nature of their meaningful role.

The object of the lectures is fourfold. First, they bring into Sherborne a continual succession of outside speakers who inject the cloistered atmosphere of the school with a breath of the outside world. There is ever the danger in a boarding-school as isolated as Sherborne in many ways is of a too introspective attitude, of a loss of a proper sense of proportion, of ignorance of the real world outside the parish bounds (or even inside them). This lectures hopefully can at least in part remedy.

Secondly, lectures should, up to a point, be entertainment, relief that is from the regular routine of school life and even on occasion, as with Jimmy Blades' brilliant demonstration on percussion, an opportunity to laugh heartily. They must, thirdly, provide intellectual stimulation. They must awaken new interests (or at least give the opportunity for this to happen), and cause boys and (perhaps staff) to question their beliefs and gain new insights. This must surely be the most important function of all. Fourthly, the lecture programme does provide the school with an opportunity of opening its doors to the other schools in the area, and it's been a particular pleasure to welcome people from the Lord Digby's School, Foster's Grammar School, Leweston and the Girls' School. One only wishes the first two were able to come in greater numbers. The connection with the last has been particularly fruitful since their lectures too have been thrown open to us.

No doubt everyone will have his own ideas as to how far the lectures the past term have satisfied these criteria. But there is no denying that the lectures have been numerous, and diverse in subject matter. Leaving aside the Junior Lectures which are described elsewhere, there have been nine altogether, as follows.

The term started in a most civilised way with a discussion by Lord David Cecil on Thomas Hardy. Set in the comfort of the New Digby Hall in Hound Street, it proved one of the pleasantest and most enchanting hours in this long and crowded term. Lord Cecil was witty, eloquent and, above all, such an enthusiast for his subject. Jimmy Blades next talked on 'Percussion' to a highly appreciative audience in the Big Schoolroom. This apparently frail old man threw off the weight of his years and not only gave a most interesting talk, but broke through the sombre and over-earnest pall that seems for ever to be threatening to swamp us and made people laugh to their heart's content.

Lieutenant Curtis, with the aid of a film, an overhead projector, slides and a Bombardier (accounted at the end in full riot gear) described with maximum effect the life of a soldier in Northern Ireland. It was a highly professional and most revealing affair, and was probably the best received of all the term's lectures. It was a pity Juniors were not also present.

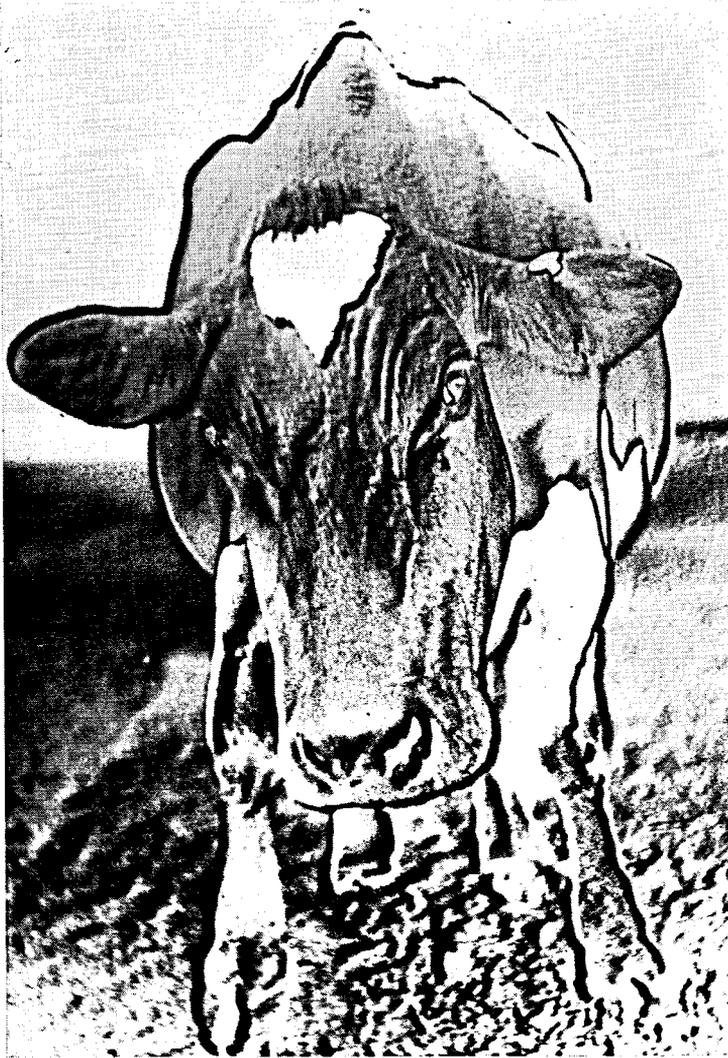
The last lecture was by an O.S., John Pardoe M.P., who, following the lecture by Peter Hain on the Young Liberals and Edward du Cann on Conservatism, spoke of the



A. R. Marriot



R. G. Draper



R. G. Draper



A. R. Marriot

merits of Liberalism. He was most eloquent and amusing, and put up a strong case not just for a small radical third party, but for a Liberal party that might even one day know power. On this, as on all occasions, the questions were many, apt and well phrased. Indeed the excellence of the audience was a thing commented on by all speakers.

There were in addition four lectures at the Girls School, all good in their several ways, even though discussion afterwards was not always what one might call flowing. Margaret Lane, Countess of Huntingdon, spoke on 'Selina, Countess of Huntingdon,' and with the use of slides, presented the most startling contrast between aristocratic finery and gaunt Methodist enthusiasm. Daphne Oran demonstrated the growth and possibilities of Electronic Music and Joan Hassell dwelt on the craftsmanship of Thomas Bewick. Best of all was Mrs. Sam Woods, a New Zealander, who gave a most fascinating account of the Maoris, of how they came to New Zealand from Central Asia and how they are faring now.

When the three Junior lectures are added to these, one can see what a rich diet the School was offered. That is good, but no reason for complacency, for several questions yet remain to be answered. Might not lecturers be more fully employed? Should there not be discussion between boys and lecturers in smaller groups? Should not the boys at least meet the lecturers more—in the J.C.R. over coffee or beer? Might not the lecture be better integrated into the strange hotch-potch that consists the subsidiary timetable at the moment? When other schools do come, might we not take more notice of them?

### . . . and Junior

This term we listened to three lectures, on the subjects of Greenland, the history of Percussion, and Japan.

On the first, Mr. Spenceley gave a narrative description of his Expeditions into the frigid interior of Greenland, the object being to reach a group of mountains sited on the east coast. The lecture was well illustrated, but Mr. Spenceley's narrative was not up to the quality of his slides.

One got a fairly clear impression of what a modern day Polar expedition involves, and learned what equipment is required to survive these frighteningly cold temperatures; and one had to admire the courage of him and his team as they battled their way across endless snowy wastes. However, I found his task unenviable. The lecture made an interesting start to the term's series.

Mr. Blades's lecture on the history of percussion was certainly the best this term. It made a great contrast to the last one, bringing to life a subject which could so easily be dull and boring to the non-musicians in the audience.

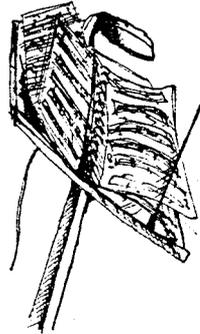
Beginning with the most primitive of rattles, he worked through in the most enjoyable way to the intricate percussion instruments of today. All of the instruments on show were skilfully demonstrated by a man who is plainly a maestro, notably the Chinese gong and the Xylophone. The audience marvelled at the versatility of his playing. Mr. Blades's patient assistant who not only played the piano accompaniment but also manoeuvred the instruments all over the improvised stage also deserves a mention.

Mr. Blades's unusual method of delivering the lecture kept the audience fully focused on what was happening and he gave a well worthwhile and entertaining afternoon.

The final lecture by Patrick Barnes on 'Japan' came as an anti-climax. It was illustrated well with some fascinating slides but Mr. Barnes himself did not show any outstanding lecturing skill. It was a pity because the subject matter could have been very instructive.

A. B. Tobey

## music



### **The Annual School Concert**

After the sound opening by the Orchestra with Brahms's Academic Festival Overture under the customary baton of Mr. Ferry, I was prepared for an enjoyable evening, and I was not disappointed. They followed up with the first movement of Schumann's A minor piano concerto with Peter Witchell as the competent soloist, the applause before being almost as long before as after. The delicate parts of the movement came out as clearly as with no less than the more rumbustious parts. Those of us who were not in the know had no idea where the percussion section was sited, it being tucked away behind a curtain—until the March and Waltz when it became all too obvious; this part of the concert in particular impressed me because of the no doubt immense difficulty in keeping all the instruments, all playing their utmost consecutively, in time. Britten's interpretation of the original Rossini composition had a distinct modern flair to it, which appealed to most of the audience.

An innovation to these concerts, the Madrigal society performed next, and their contribution was of a very different sort. The variety of songs was impressive, and the piano duettists, M. Pryor and D. B. Tyrrell, who accompanied Mr. Witchell's composition, also deserve a mention. The society made a good debut, and I hope we see more of them.

The term's hard work by the band was not without reward. Their rendering of a suite from 'My Fair Lady' was of a high standard if divorced from its context.

The extent of girls from the Girls' School participating in the concert was very noticeable, and no doubt it helped in the production of this high-standard performance.

Michael Farley

### **The Informal Concert**

The informal concert this term was marked by a very poor attendance, but by all accounts it was an outstanding performance. It was opened (as usual?) by G. J. P. Heath with Marcello's Sonata in G. After a long tune up, he was followed by an ambitious J. W. Mumford with Saint-Saens' Allegro Appassionata on the cello. It was however too screechy and consequently not very successful.

This was followed by two piano solos; first A. C. L. Butler with Ferguson's three Bagatelles. It was not an enrapturing performance, but pleasant enough. C. R. V. Tomson followed with Gershwin's Periods in C sharp minor, and as catchy tunes do it went down quite well. J. C. T. Holroyd, after a squeal on the first note, gave a good rendering of Adagio by Wagner on his clarinet, although he ended up out of breath and wheezing.

R. J. Kennard performed an impressive piece of bassoon playing with Rondo from a Mozart concerto in B flat with a great deal of self-confidence. He was followed by D. B. Tyrrell who attacked the Piano armed with Bartok's Allegro which the audience appreciated.

A percussion ensemble played variations by George Self described by one musician as 'a series of sounds which keep you wondering what would come next', but it could only be listened to once. A. J. Pelly played Fiank's Panis Angelicus on his brand new trombone in a manner to console us on the impending loss of J. H. Candler, his only equal in that field. The evening was rounded off by the second orchestra who showed that they are a going concern after the addition of their wind and percussion sections. They performed two pieces: their Haydn piece, the familiar St. Anthony Chorale and its companion the minuet were a little too familiar to be outstanding, but the Offenbach Barcarole nearly reached its ambition of, in Mr. Davies' words, 60,000 feet up. The second orchestra is at last a great deal more than a training ground for prospective orchestra strings players. Their main difficulty seemed to be to get any noise out of the horns. Mr. Davies can be proud of his brainchild.

The concert was generally agreed, by those who bothered to attend, to be the best for a long time, well organized by Mr. Ferry, and with a very high standard all round. It was a pity that so much of the audience was composed of third and fourth formers trying to dodge Hall.

C.N.S.

### **The King's Singers**

As is usual the hall was packed and the heat, whether artificial or not, proved considerable. This was a truly professional concert given by accomplished musicians who have become increasingly popular over the last few years.

Several aspects struck me throughout the programme: the quality and resonance of tone together with precise balance plus perfect intonation through the sextet was outstanding. Every syllable was clear.

The programme opened with four English and German motets sung with brilliant clearness of tone. The contrast in dynamics added to the smooth texture of the singing. Following the motets came four madrigals which were light and humorous—they were all much appreciated by the audience.

Richard Rodney-Smith was the composer of the last item in the first half—'The House of Slepe'. The words were taken from Arthur Golding's translation of Ovid's 'Metamorphoses'. The solo sections were accompanied with discordant harmony; there were many glissandos and the piece was full of plainsong melodies, all painting a picture of Ovid's primitive world. The second half of the concert began with a 'Shakespeare Sequence' by Carl Davis. Here, the singers had to double as actors: this was amusing,

and the singers enjoyed themselves to the full.

This was followed by 'Five arrangements in close harmony'—five folk songs sung in a lighthearted way, and they were greatly enjoyed by the audience, who demanded two encores. The atmosphere was very happy and everyone enjoyed a worthwhile concert.

R. J. Kennard

### **The House Singing Competition**

To everybody's (except possibly their own) surprise, the winners this year were School house, for both song types.

Most people I spoke to agree that the start of their songs were woolly and indecisive, and their glee was vaguely unharmonious. On the other hand, their impression of contrast was extremely good.

The Green sung a familiar song extremely competently, despite passengers in the second row, which is probably what made the judges spurn them. Their glee was swamped by the drone of the altos.

The Digby sung their unison song, as is their habit, with confidence, and it was a potential winner despite the unrelieved emphasis of a catch phrase every bar or two.

Lyon house did their best with both songs. But neither was a very fortunate choice. The Cowboy Carol sagged in the middle.

Westcott's 'Table and The Chair' seemed a fair competitor, but the judges doubtless thought it relied too much on Lear's verse.

Abbey house seemed to have the field open to them, certainly for their singing of 'Verrat' by Brahms.

Harper and Abbeylands both sung something different. Lands tried something too classical in 'Ave Maria' and Harpers 'Captain Noah and his floating Zoo' was fun but not a competitor.

Mr. Ferry heightened the tension by leaving the scoring till last, the Abbey's till last of all. The judges decision was not universally applauded; Mr. Knott could only utter 'Ah well, there's always next year!'

## **societies**

### **Chataway Society**

At the end of last term Mr. Bruce resigned his post as chairman, after two years as the founder-chairman, giving devoted service to its future welfare. He has been succeeded by Mr. Wellby.

The debates this term have been well attended and the quality of the speeches has been abnormally good. Our first debate was on the subject of sterilization. Mr. Beavon and Mr. Rosser produced outstanding speeches dealing with opposite sides of this topic. The accompanying speeches from the floor were intelligent. The house voted by a small majority against sterilization.

The second debate was concerned with the future of international sport; Mr. Glen

and Mr. Knight provided the house with food for thought and provoked plenty of lively discussion. Our final debate of the term in a lighter vein, summoned the wit of the seventh form, in the unmistakable shapes of Quentin Braddock and Stephen Latimer. The motions brought puns and terse verse to the lower library, and on this promising note the society brought the term's debating to a close.

P. L. R. Lane

### **Interpretes, 7th November**

At this meeting, R. W. Powell, Esq. read a paper on 'Freedom'.

He chose an interesting subject, and delivered it competently and thoroughly digestably. The theme of the paper was the destruction of the early 19th century Romantic poets' ideas of Greece, and more specifically, Athens, as the home of freedom and liberty. Since our aspirations about this are supposed to be based on the same poets' ideas, he made an excellent job of demonstrating (to the unconverted), and convincing us, that Athenian liberty and democracy applied only to Athenians, and that to anybody who was unfortunate enough to be a member of the Delian 'League', it was little less than subservience and tyranny.

He proceeded to indicate the philosophy and character of the Athenians; their severe rationality combined with a complete lack of 'gravitas', and their distaste of anything that was not entirely theoretical. This gave an excellent background to their actions as a people, and led on to other topics of Athenian life. In this, he finished with a short account of the effect of this type of character on their art, mathematics and science.

Throughout, he illustrated his talk with amusing anecdotes and stories, some of which the non-classicists among us may not have heard before. What made it interesting for me was the personal touch of the speaker, and the original angle from which the topic was observed. If any non-classicist did not enjoy the evening, then he certainly ought to have done.

R. Leeper

### **The Green Ribbon Club**

The society continued its record of vigorous activity with no less than six meetings this term. At the first meeting, Edward Stigant talked on the Turkish revolution of 1918-1922. The paper was amusingly delivered despite tendencies to become a list of the virtues of Mustapha Kemal—it was later warmly received at the Rotary Club.

Dr. A. L. Parker of Queen's College, Oxford, the first of a series of Queen's men bagged by Mr. Barker, presented a detailed and balanced account of 'Appeasement' as seen through the eyes of the Cabinet Papers of the 1930's. This was by general agreement an excellent paper and it stimulated a great deal of discussion.

This was followed by a discussion of the arch opponent of appeasement, Sir Oswald Mosley, by the Secretary, who stressed Mosley's far sighted proposals during the slump.

A completely new topic, for most of the society, was broached by Mr. W. Golant when he talked on 'Gandhi and the policy of passive resistance'. This may account for a flaccidity in the discussion, but a few interesting points resulted.

For the academic finale of the term, Lord Blake presented a detailed exposition on

'The Conservative Party, 1872-1972. Due to a certain lack of critical analysis the paper did not fulfil members high hopes; but the subsequent discussion, which mainly consisted of a dialogue between Lords Blake and Boyd, was enlightening and enjoyable.

An 'Edwardian Evening' made a suitably light-hearted and enjoyable conclusion to the term's proceedings. As ever our thanks go to Mr. and Mrs. Barker for their unfailing enthusiasm and hospitality.

T. J. G. Ash

### **Les Philosophes**

The society met three times this term, the first speaker being R. P. Roome on '18th century French Art', which, although only a short introduction, acted as a powerful stimulant to an involving discussion on the function of art. Is this Literal style of representation by painting an art or a craft? The second evening R.S.G. delivered a study on his pet-subject: the mystery of Thera. Lastly J.P.R. talked on 'Physics and Philosophy, an intriguing analysis on the search for certainty: 'I think, therefore I am, or am I?' Above all the society retains the distinction of being the only one to drink tea instead of coffee—and out of Georgian silver Tea-pots.

R. P. Roome

### **Biology Society**

The society continues to flourish under the auspices of Mr. Lloyd; so much that members have to be turned away to limit numbers. Two 'external' speakers, N. R. Dunn and Dr. Richards, talked about Marine Biology of the Red Sea and Medical Biology respectively. Mr. Beavon gave us some idea of the complexity of Folic Acid (a vitamin), the subject of his research at Aston University. In the latter half of the term, two seminar evenings were held, as always at Mr. Lloyd's house, on the countercurrent principle and its applications in biology.

Peter Hetherington

### **Music Club**

The music club met three times this term—first, to hear a paper by G. M. J. Taylor on Debussy, in which he drew several interesting parallels between Debussy's music and art and literature of the period. He illustrated his points with several recordings including excerpts from the opera 'Pelleas et Melisandre'. The second meeting was a recital by Mary Kennard (violin), and Isobel Bedlington (piano), appreciated by those present. This included Brahms's A major Sonata, and Vaughn Williams's 'The dark ascending'. The last meeting was a concert given by members which included Bach's Toccata from Pastita No. 6, played by M. H. Pryor; a Poulenc Clarinet Sonata by J. P. S. Burn; a Quanz flute Sonata by S. H. Mumford and a piano duet by R. G. Humphries and D. G. Tyrrell performing Ravel's 'Mere de l'Oie', the centrepiece of the concert. Mr. Witchell's percussion ensemble gave a rendering of 'Garnett' by George Self, and the concert finished with a Barbirolli oboe concerto played by D. B. Tyrrell accompanied by strings. In spite of the amount of new blood in the society at the beginning of term, this concert has shown there is a lot of talent, and it promises for the future.

J. M. Foster

### **The Geographical Society**

The Society had a useful and varied programme this term and held a total of four meetings. At the opening session, which was attended by members of the Girls' School, Professor Michael Chisholm of Bristol University presided over a discussion on 'Geography—A Useful Subject?' Professor Chisholm's introductory talk and the lengthy discussion which it provoked was most interesting and stimulating to the Oxbridge candidates and to some members of the Upper Sixth, although several of the less experienced geographers present were clearly somewhat lost by the end. For the second meeting, D.P.J. and his wife kindly entertained the Upper Sixth discussion group at a seminar on 'Should We Give Overseas Aid?' The Oxbridge candidates (J. H. Candler, P. R. Handcock and the Secretary) began by putting forward their own conflicting views on the subject, and after some quite heated discussion the motion 'This house believes that overseas aid, in its present form, is criminal, utterly incompatible with the concept of conservation and a menace to the general well-being of mankind' was carried by 16 votes to 6.

After half term, Friar Ambrose Lambert of Downside School delivered a most interesting lecture on 'The Headwaters of the Amazon' which was accompanied by some excellent slides. To conclude the term's activities, D.P.J. took a party of members down to Bournemouth to hear Peter Hall, Professor of Geography at Reading University, lecture on 'Planning for Recreation in the U.S.A.' Overall therefore, a fruitful term and our thanks to the Chairman (R.A.C.K.) and to D.P.J. for their diligent organization.

J. M. C. Jefferies (Hon. Sec.)

### **Film Society**

After showing a grand total of seven major films (not to mention some minor cartoons including Pink Panther, Tom and Jerry and Donald Duck, which provided additional light relief) the Film Society can surely be said to have flourished this term. Not only has the quantity increased (more films were shown than ever before) so also has the diversity of the entertainment provided. A very wide variety of films have been screened in an attempt to cater for all tastes ranging from action-packed drama with plenty of thrills and spills in 'Puppet on a Chain' to the more stimulating theme and subtly woven complexities of 'Vanishing Point'.

To give full credit where it is due, the role of firstly the new heating system in providing a more comfortable environment in which to pass the free hours of Saturday evenings and secondly of the new projector in partially overcoming the vagueries of the Big School Room acoustics and giving a much clearer and brighter picture to the audience must not be neglected.

In addition our thanks must be recorded to Mr. Hatch for his masterly administration and supervision and to P. L. R. Lane for his diligence in never failing to provide a lively yet comprehensive Newsboard review of every film.

R. G. David (Hon. Sec.)

### **Polyglots**

The society met twice this term, both meetings being held in the Digby. At the first meeting S. M. Coase gave a talk on the life of the German authoress Annette von Droste-Hulsoff, quoting from both her poetry and her prose works. The talk was illustrated by a few slides of the 'Munsterland', where the authoress lived nearly all her life. At the second meeting A. F. Cox and J. B. Jackson gave a talk on 'Die deutsche

Novelle'; A. F. Cox dealt with the romantic period, with special reference to Tieck and Eichendorff. J. B. Jackson dealt with the period of Poetic Realism, with special reference to Keller.

Both meetings were attended by members of the Girls School, and were enjoyed by all those present. We record our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson for their continued hospitality.

S. M. Coase (Hon. Sec.)

### **The James Rhoades Society**

Three meetings were held during what was, on the whole, a good term for the society. A dramatic reading of Oscar Wilde's play 'Lady Windermere's Fan' gave members an enjoyable first meeting. Shortly afterwards, C.J.H. gave an interesting illustrated talk on the Pennine Way (along which he and a party of stalwarts from the school had walked during the summer holidays) and the Secretary showed some slides and gave a commentary on various aspects of Malaysian life and the activities of its people. At the third and final meeting towards the end of term Tim Gauld read an excellent paper on Norway after which Philip Andrews-Speed described his experiences on an expedition in Greenland, backing up his talk with some superb slides. Many thanks from all members to Mr. and Mrs. Harvey for providing a venue for the Society at their home and entertaining us all so capably on three Sunday evenings of the term.

J. M. C. Jefferies (Hon. Sec.)

### **C.C.F. Report**

The winter term is the time for plenty of hard work towards Proficiency and this has produced excellent results in the exams of all three Sections.

After all the hectic activities of the summer term, last term was relatively quiet. The main outing was the Field Day week-end. The R.N. Section divided into two, some going by submarine from Plymouth to Portland, others by frigate from Portsmouth to Portland. From the Army Section some did a three day adventurous training exercise on Dartmoor, some went canoeing on the River Exe, while others went on the Ranges at Mere and orienteering at Bovington. The R.A.F. section chose the Mendips for camping, a night exercise and orienteering.

Activities outside Wednesday afternoon have been restricted by the weather. No parascending has been achieved for a variety of reasons and bad weather has led to the cancellation of all air experience flights. There was, however, a very successful tactical exercise one Sunday at Bovington, there has been a limited amount of canoeing and orienteering, some shooting and two lots of films on Sunday evenings.

During the summer holidays there was a good deal of activity. The R.N. camp consisted of a sea training cruise on a Fleet Tender from Portsmouth to Dartmouth. One member attended a Navigation course at H.M.S. Dryad. The Army camp was held in Germany with 26 Engineer Regiment at Iserlohn and was a great success. From the R.A.F. Section Carrow, Toombs, Wilson and Wray started their flying scholarship training and three of them now have their wings. Flt. Sgt. Carrow spent three weeks in Canada as part of the International Air Cadet exchange scheme—one of twelve C.C.F. cadets selected from the whole country.

Awards during the term included a Naval Scholarship to Tobey D. and Reserve Cadetships to Davenport, Jackson and Stocker, and Army Scholarships to Lane C. and Stephenson. Butler T. passed the aptitude tests at Biggin Hill and now enters the Flying Scholarship competition.

J.P.R.

## features

### **The Neo Classical Exhibition**

This term a large group of boys from the school who study History and History of Art for 'A' level visited the Neo Classical Exhibition, in London. There was a large collection of paintings (particularly French), sculpture, a large film coverage of architecture throughout Europe and a selection of architectural drawings and moulds, all at the Royal Academy, plus neo classical furniture at the Victoria Museum. It was the largest ever exhibition of a single European movement internationally illustrated. So after a while it became difficult to take in all the radically different ways in which the movement was used; the different levels of neo classicism in different countries was hard to follow.

Except in a few highlighted galleries containing really very important works such as the 'Oath of the Horatii' at the Royal Academy there was very little inducement in the mounting and other decoration to consider individual works. In some cases exhibits were obscurely placed, and although room space must have been the limiting factor I felt that a larger section like the Victoria and Albert could have been used for the occasion. Technicians would have benefited from a visit to the brilliantly selected exhibitions of the Ethnological Department of the British Museum at Burlington House.

Though some of the effect may have been lost by these flaws, the message of humanitarianism was understood better than a whole term in a classroom could have imbued. No one can have fallen into the trap of seeing neoclassicism just as its name implies, and we learned how the spirit of the age moved the artists of the time, giving us a basic impression of the age. Mr. Barker and the organizers of the trip should be encouraged by its success.

Andrew J. Forbes

### **The Gramophone Society Outing**

Were an outsider to read the society's suggestion book, which contains some of the most insulting prose ever written this side of decency, he would not have highly rated the chances of the day being a success. He would have been wrong, however. Twenty of us congregated at the main gate on Thursday 12 October and the atmosphere was so genial that we even regretted the absence of the other thirty members.

The purpose of our venturing away was a tour of the E.M.I. factory at Hayes on the outskirts of London. On our arrival we tumbled out of the coach to meet a man by the name of Webb. He was so charming that he never once became impatient, even when our hints for free samples became more than hints. He stayed with us the whole time, explaining the function of each department, though in some of them he could have, as he said, saved his breath to cool his porridge. The noise was fearful, though this was pardoned when we learned it was necessary to press the record.

We then went on to the testing laboratory. Here each new release is sampled both by a machine that becomes upset if it hears a nasty sound, and by human ears. If there are no flaws, all well and good: if there are, I suppose the batch is destroyed.

Next, tea time. Here we asked questions of Mr. Webb. He was happier with the finance and technology of it (I imagine that only when talking finance can one put von Karajan in the same category as Marc Bolan). When the questions took an artistic turn we moved on to the store room, a treasure house where thousands of records are stored. The sight was ear-watering in the extreme, and some might blush when remembering their comments when still in ear shot of Mr. Webb.

Then, we returned to our coach. If empty handed, we were fascinated at, and impressed with, the fact that we had seen the largest record factory in Europe.

Stephen Latimer



### A Letter from Cambridge

It is difficult to make any sensible comment on life in Cambridge when you've only completed one term, but certain things do stand out. At school one hears something of the brilliance of civilization at Cambridge; consequently a newly arrived Shirburnian initially avoids his old companions, in a sort of search for something a little less worldly, but sooner or later finds he reverts to his old circle of friends and the comfort of a similar outlook on life.

One of the first things I found was that the 'Values' induced in me by public school life are still radically different from what others believe in, though we thought this was less so since public schools stopped trying to 'build character'. Your beliefs in the most fundamental things become challenged by those who see such beliefs as the result of an isolated and privileged education, and therefore disapprove of them, and you soon find they are not always wrong.

You soon learn that the lecturers are not the exalted geniuses of legend, and also that Cambridge has no special power to turn you into one too. Shirburnians do not seem to cling to old habits—most start rowing and there is very little sign of people continuing their studies along the lines of, say, the technology workshops.

Societies along the lines of the school societies are rare, though there is to be a phoenix-like birth of a Blue Room; the Union society is more of a self-perpetuating clique, and brilliance is not among the credentials of the members.

Politics is not frowned on here; most Shirburnians become part of the 'Apathetic Right', though more distinguished people swing to the left; many questions are reviewed here with respect to their benefit on the proletariat; and there are plenty of consciencious people ready to remind the average student of his 'rights'. However, many people reject politics because of the seriousness with which the leftists regard their lives.

All the same, I think that Sherborne gave me a certain cultured notion of life that I might not have had otherwise.

Jamie Darke

**The Loom of Youth—Alec Waugh**

Republished, 1972: Bess, £1.60.

"After trying hard to avoid it I have read the 'Loom of Youth' and find it amazingly clever and well-written for a lad of seventeen, but devilish, sensual, unthinkable, destructive of and mocking at all ideals, battering on profanity, Baudelaire and bawd—not liberty but licence". The verdict of the headmaster of Winchester, in a letter to Charles Scott-Moncrieff in February 1918, must meet with incredulity from the modern reader. Of 'bawd' there is perhaps one page (Gordon's secret expedition to Pack Monday Fair); to the 'sensual' one can only detect a few oblique references; and anyhow, the fact that it is 'unthinkable' invalidates all subsequent remarks in this passage.

However it does confirm two impressions received on reading the 'Loom of Youth': firstly that the book is remarkably well-written and well-constructed—a mature style and a wide range of vocabulary, combined with a notable capacity for sharp characterization, produce a chronicle of Public School life which is mercifully free from repetition but nevertheless has a remarkable cohesion. Through the meanderings of the narrative we never lose sight of Waugh's central argument, namely that the 'Public School System', as he experienced it at Sherborne between 1911 and 1915, was not only ineffectual but also actively harmful to the development of the individual personality. This message had especial force when the novel was first published in July 1917—as Thomas Seccombe suggested in his excellent preface, regrettably excluded from the new edition, perhaps the key to an understanding of August 1914 lay in an examination of the 'Public School System'—but its impact and relevance are still considerable today.

Although 'the cult of athleticism' no longer dominates (the cachet of the XV colour today is nothing compared to the tyranny of the 'bloods' which Waugh describes at length), and although academic endeavour is no longer held in the ridiculous contempt which is then received (for instance, Gordon Carruthers's 'succinct' answer to the exam question 'To whom was the unification of Italy due?' . . . 'Cavour'), the kernel of the psychology which he so accurately described remains true to the experience of Sherborne today. The lasting fascination of the novel lies in the fact that 'It was to all intents written by a boy still in the school atmosphere', but, as Arnold Lunn (himself the author of another school novel, the controversial 'The Harrovians') continues, 'a very exceptional boy in that he could reproduce and analyse the point of view of which most boys possess, subconsciously'.

The acuteness and veracity of Waugh's observation was demonstrated not only by the anger and bitterness which his novel and undisguised characterizations provoked in Sherborne (a little of it well deserved, for quite a few of the characterizations were coloured by personal prejudice to the point of tastelessness), but also by the reaction of men like the Headmaster of Winchester—his verdict, 'destructive mockery of ideals', is a clear admission that Waugh had in fact correctly identified the 'ideals', and illusions like Public School Honour, language, and morality of the Public School master. Those 'ideals', and those illusions have changed a great deal since 1917; but there is still enough that is relevant in the 'Loom of Youth'. Ferrer's cry; 'Oh, I wish we could smash those cracked red spectacles through which every Public Schoolboy is forced to look at life', at least finds a sympathetic echo today, although the glasses are blue tinted now.

When Gordon Carruthers left Fernhurst he 'felt himself well equipped and fortified for the long littleness of life', but he felt so despite the ethos and system which he had

rejected, seeking rather his way and calling in the study of literature. It is the greatest merit of the 'Loom of Youth' that, although much has changed, its warning comes through as clearly and as forcefully as ever. If you value the individual for what is in him, according to his own inclinations and potential, then beware the system which 'wishes to take everyone, no matter what his own ideas or tastes might be, and make him conform to its ideals'; a system whose first concern is the production of a 'satisfactory type'.

T. J. G. Ash

### **The Arctic Riviera**

The British Schools Exploring Society was founded in 1932 by a Surgeon Commander Levick, a member of Scott's Antarctic Expedition. Its objectives were formidable and included such ideas as 'To encourage and inseminate among young people a desire to acquire and display endurance and physical fitness'. However, despite these formidable aims the main objective is to have a good time.

Last summer I spent four weeks with the B.S.E.S. on an expedition to south-west Greenland. Clear skies and near-70 degree temperatures made it seem like a Mediterranean holiday, the only difference being the icebergs in the fiord tending to make swimming rather cool, and a load of seventy-odd pounds on you back with the flies buzzing round. In arctic regions many species of fly abound; in winter they hibernate under the blanket of snow, but during the short summer they emerge with pent-up fury. One of the things these flies taught was us that they need blood every twenty-five generations; as we were the first living creatures to venture into that area for some time we were the object of an orgy of feasting. Eating outside was a painful business and those who had the courage to take a bath in a stream found they had to dress very quickly. The botanists on the coast had a hard time with the flies, but the glaciological party, to which I belonged, was spared most of the agony, and instead we had low temperatures thanks to a strong wind off the glacier.

Despite these minor irritations and the absence of any undue comfort, life was very enjoyable. This was mainly due to the companionship and unending humour of members of the expedition, all of whom, as it happened, were from State schools.

C. P. Andrews-Speed

### **Aldhelm's Children**

After a long day's work at the Karnbalda nickel mine, deep down under in the West Australian bush, the men sitting down in the mess for the evening meal, begrimed and weary. Amidst the babble of a hundred different tongues, two miners stared at each other over their heaped plates, each strongly suspecting the authenticity of the others marked Strine accent.

"Owyagoin, mite" one enquired.

"Comin' rite, son"

Silence. Deepening suspicion. Suddenly from both:

"What school did you go to?" And simultaneously from both came the reply: "Sherborne!"

This strange encounter occurred in June to Adam Brodie, who left Sherborne in 1965, and to Toby Grey who left Abbey House last year. And the ensuing discussion

# literary



## To a Friend

Though you don't know, I love you all the time,  
Much more than can be said by words that rhyme.  
I love you as I see you lying there  
Your face hidden by locks of golden hair.  
I love as I hear you talk to me  
And in your eyes my reflection I see.

Please don't leave me now you're so near  
We can always be laughing where there is no fear;  
Come closer now, for the wind will bite so cold,  
And you must let me your frail hands hold.  
So as the white silent snow falls around  
We'll know that the perfect love has been found.

Anon.

**I Am Them**

I am the boy with the back and no front,  
With the socks hanging down and the shirt hanging out,  
I am the boy with the long unkempt hair,  
The dirty old shoes and inquisitive stare.

I am the boy you'll never see,  
Everywhere there's a schoolboy, there I'll be,  
I am the one with the green, tilted cap,  
The food splattered blazer, and ink in his lap.

To you I'm the schoolboy who always flicks ink,  
Who blows up the labs, who puts mice down the sink,  
To you I'm the team that mucks up the pavilion,  
In fact I'm myself—a boy in a million.

J. P. T. Marmion

**Upper Class**

Stereotyped pieces in a puzzle,  
All fitting (supposedly) neatly.  
On school, on school, on school, on school,

On . . . .

Working hard, noses to the grindstone,  
Grind, grind, grind, grind, grind, grind, grind, grind, grind,

Stone . . . !

$x+y=3$ , square root 34 . . .  
et Caesar cum legionibus . . .  
merci beaucoup, j'avais d'un tellement  
NO! stupid boy, je m'avais, get it right,  
get it right, get it right, right . . .

On . . . !

Hurrah for ruggger; ruggger's the game,  
Ruggger makes us all the same.  
Come on house, come on house,

House, House, House!

Oh well done Sidwell, on with the ball  
Yes on with the ball, on with the ball;

On with the . . . get on with your work, boy!

And are we people, Oh yes, perhaps,  
But that doesn't matter, so long as we're chaps!

Mephistophiles

**The Garden**

This one was going to be a problem—four feet now, but it would grow to all of ten feet in about six months. What would he feed it on? True, he could coax the odd stray cat or dog in, but the plants did not thrive on them, they looked drawn—so why should this one accept a low calibre diet?

Once there had been a tramp, he reflected, but they were thin on the ground now, and anyway he ought to save some delicacies for the Venus Fly-trap. When ordering it he had requested a large plant, but when it came he had been disappointed, it had been only about eight feet across and of course it was hard to measure accurately—one of the delivery-men had lost an arm.

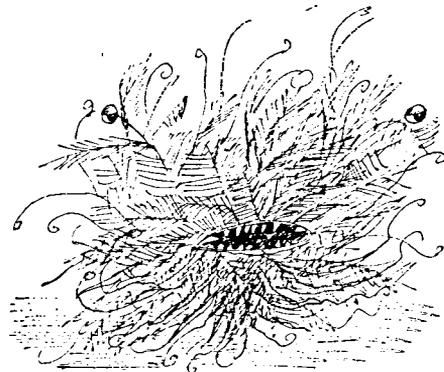
This, however, he had found in a graveyard, drawing life from some nameless nourishment beneath the headstone, like an H. P. Lovecraft fantasy.

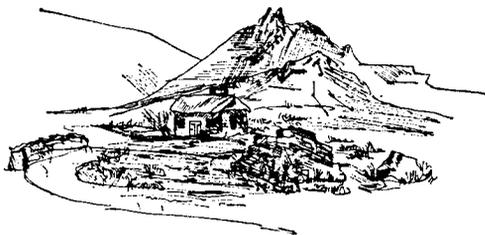
He dug it up with great care, partly not to damage it, and partly because it had taken the first spade he used, savouring it like an hors d'oeuvre; maybe it ate anything, he thought, he could try scrap iron later, it might want something substantial for the night.

He turned into his gate. In the potting-shed he selected a spade and marched out. He dug a fine hole, and gently lowered the thing into it; then he sprinkled some water into it and filled it in. It seemed quite content, he would feed it later.

As he went in, he noted, with interest, that the 'Misastropia Atropis' in the front garden, had caught a cyclist.

P. A. Rawlins





### My Life in Inverness

Crisp snow and craggy tops  
 A blank space, fog.  
 This inhuman place  
 Sheep huddle, creep.  
 Wind-smitten walls,  
 Bare and loose  
 The fresh rise, gashed sky  
 Spilled crimson splashed.  
 A scampering hare, turns down.  
 Piercing ring, crack.  
 Then the dart, this way then that,  
 Gone, missed.  
 Slushy puddles, the village.  
 Wrinkled faces fiery red,  
 Broad accent, Gaelic tongue.  
 Tweed jackets, a woven cap  
 Coarse laughter.  
 Smoke rises, whisps; chopping  
 Thatched roof, dull curtains  
 Whitewashed walls, crumbling.  
 Fierce barks, a trudge,  
 Shuffle, a greeting.  
 Mushy oatcakes, sleep.

C. Lloyd-Jones

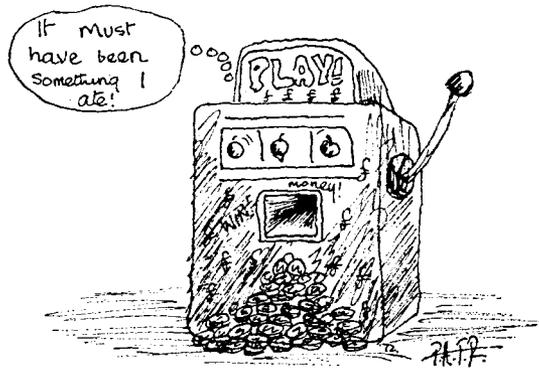
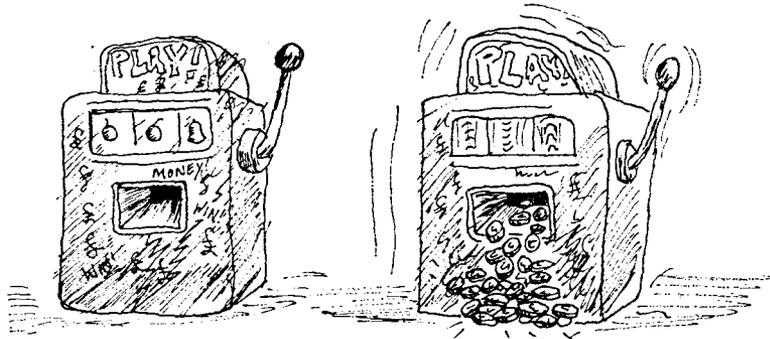
**Statement of Policy**

Here I am, a middle class, public schoolboy  
Leave me alone.  
Don't disturb me with the problems of my fellow-man,  
What are they to me?  
I want to leave my 'good' school for a 'good' job,  
Have a good time,  
Sure in the knowledge that I am fortunate  
Above average.  
How can I suffer for the hungry?  
I have never felt hunger.  
How can I suffer for the world's sick?  
I am now in health.  
How can I worry about the world's affairs?  
Mine are all in order.  
Go away, let me enjoy myself in peace,  
I've my own life to live  
Let other people keep their misery, just  
Leave me alone.

N. Jacobsen



Tailpiece



## games

### FOOTBALL 1ST XV

<i>Results:</i>		W	L	D
Canford	Won	13-7	4	0 0
Blundell's	Lost	12-17	34	15 7
Taunton	Drew	0-0	16	10 3
Cheltenham	Won	13-6	10	7 1
King's College Taunton	Lost	8-11	2	1 0
Downside	Lost	6-22	38	32 7
Marlborough	Lost	4-15	22	15 2
Radley	Lost	4-12	18	7 1
Clifton	Won	16-6	24	12 6

This moderate set of results is a fair reflection of the quality of football played by the XV and in particular represents the failure of the side to achieve any kind of forward dominance, apart from their performance against Clifton. It was especially disappointing that the side flattered to deceive in beating St. Luke's heavily in the second match of the term; in retrospect that victory must be put down to the poor organization of St. Luke's and, as subsequent matches proved, any side can play only as well as its opponents will allow. The forwards suffered from lack of both weight and experience, the Captain being the only returning colour in the pack; so, despite their strenuous efforts in practice, the forwards always found themselves struggling to hold bigger, and usually older, opposition packs. Only in the lineout, where Leman match after match won a stream of good possession, did the side achieve anything like parity, and even here our tight forwards found it impossible to give the jumper the kind of protection he must have if possession is to be productive. In the backs the most effective part of their game was the tackling throughout the term; occasionally, as in the Clifton game, they were able to run with some freedom and in these regrettably rare moments produced fluent and convincing running. Jackson, Symondson, Humphries, Rosser—once he had moved to the wing—all had their moments but the single outstanding footballer of the side was BurrIDGE; he caught and tackled with courage and skill throughout and his running was the most penetrating and exciting part of the term's football.

Canford played rather a robust and aggressive

game, using their battering ram forwards in a crude but effective way to establish position; having done so much, however, they threw away good chances by simple errors and were finally beaten in the backs by the speed and wit of Jackson. The Blundell's match was disagreeably bad-tempered and notable chiefly for the number of petty infringements that ensured a plentiful lack of flow in the match. At Taunton the whole game hinged on which side would take best advantage of a strong wind down the pitch; the School missed its penalties and just failed to score through BurrIDGE in the first half, while Taunton won all worthwhile possession in the second half, which they spent in the School 25 and still failed to score. A draw was a just result: neither side deserved to win. Cheltenham provided few ideas despite evident pace in the backs; even so this was still a very close match, being made safe only in the last movement of the game. The same might be said for the match against King's Taunton; their big and violent set of forwards had been held—just—to 8-8 when a thoughtless piece of play at the set scrum gave King's an easy penalty to win the game. Downside played a strong committed game to win deservedly, though they might have felt flattered at the score, and certainly Marlborough benefitted from some rather officious refereeing in their victory. In the last two home matches the side played disappointingly in losing to an undistinguished Radley XV before going on to play a controlled and satisfyingly intelligent game against Clifton.

Not a memorable season, then, but one marked by the usual Sherborne endeavour and honest toil; Ellis had a difficult job in captaining a side which lost its buoyancy in the middle of the season, but he led his team well by example; it was a great pity that he had to miss the last victorious game.

Team: R. J. J. Ellis (Captain); G. H. Humphries (Secretary); J. G. St. P. BurrIDGE; J. B. Jackson; B. C. Symondson; I. J. Rosser; D. J. Wilson; T. P. Wardlaw; G. P. H. Smith; M. J. Owen; H. R. J. Leman; G. C. Mc N. Harvey; R. G. Spickernell; R. C. Bradford; C. V. Whiteley.

## SKETCHES OF THE XV



**JEREMY ELLIS**—His forthright and determined play gave his side a leadership and urgency that kept them going even through the more dismal patches of the term. In fact the team could be said to have been completely skippered. Off the field, his well known charm formed a necessary balance to his imaginative administrative methods.



**JOHN JACKSON**—played outstandingly in all the Saturday games as a snapper up of unconsidered trifles but, as he spent most of the Tuesday games switched off, he nearly failed to make the side at all. Our top try scorer with eight to his credit.



**GEOFF HUMPHRIES**—As Secretary he brought steadiness and purpose to the team, especially the backs; his own play, unpolished but pugnacious, frequently threatened the opposition and his crucial try against Clifton was a deserved reward for hard work during the term.      **DWAR**



**BEV SYMONDSON**—was perhaps our most exciting three-quarter prospect at the start of the season and, although he often ran aggressively, his charity in giving other people the pleasure of doing his tackling for him detracted from his overall performance.



**JOHN BURRIDGE**—was our only consistently thrustful player. He took the position usually reserved for the perennial Sherborne 17th Colour and performed as to the manner born: reliable in defence, elegant and potent in attack.



**IAN ROSSER**—had a season of ups and downs; when he was fly half he looked slow and barren of ideas but when he moved to the wing he became fast and penetrative.



DAVID WILSON—was content to twinkle fairy-like around the Upper for two months, but when he was finally nursed into something resembling concentration he found he was rather good after all.



MICK OWEN—technically skilled but hardly suited to close-in work till he fills out a bit. He was often seen bouncing around the field between breakdowns.



TIM WARDLAW—blinded us all with his dynamic dive pass, both with and without the ball; his game made up in obscurity what it lacked in style, and his contributions to the School games were seldom less than crucial. He took a great deal of stick but always regained his place in the Saturday side.



HUGH LEMAN—rose to great heights this term. He had an almost unfair advantage in the lineout and even when he came across an opponent of comparable stature showed a remarkable ability (not usually found in such tall chaps) of actually being able to leave the ground.



GUY SMITH—seemed to enjoy the physical aspect of being prop, although he obviously regarded himself as more of a back row forward.



GUY HARVEY—a strapping lad, well suited to the lock position, and indeed to the rather exclusive wild bunch of chaps whose company he enjoyed.



RICHARD SPICKERNELL—unusually light for a No. 8 but effective nonetheless in his fiery and energetic approach to the game.



RICHARD BRADFORD—a very useful, tough and conscientious member of the team whose crunching tackling was a feature of the season's play.



CHRIS WHITELEY—came into the side late in the term but fully justified his place if only for his uncanny ability to *almost* catch opposition half backs.

R.J.E.  
G.H.H.

## 2ND XV

Won 6      Lost 3

As usual, the 2nd XV won more matches than they lost, but it was not an outstanding year.

The threequarter line started with a bang at Canford, scoring 42 points with very little help from the forwards, but once D. J. Wilson had defected to the 1st XV all the speed and incision seemed to depart from the line. This was not helped by the fact that everyone except Dickens normally wore spectacles or contact lenses off the field.

The forwards were a different proposition altogether: they started off as a rambling, uncoordinated rabble and ended the season by shoving much heavier packs all over the field. Fitzgerald's stirring, if uncouth, leadership was a great factor in this enormous improvement, but many of the forwards showed that they would not have been out of place in the 1st XV. Fox's tireless work in the second row and Ingram's fearless falling and running are worthy of special mention.

The outstanding game was obviously against Canford, especially as later in the season they came nearer than anyone else to beating the all-conquering Downside 2nd XV: it was just a great pity that forwards and threequarters never seemed to both play well in any one match.

Team: R. Leach, P. Handcock, S. Stephenson, E. Stenton, M. Dickens, J. Holman, J. Parker-Jones, M. Todd, I. Fitzgerald, D. Sim, R. Fox, A. England, R. Roome, C. Edleston, K. Ingram, J. Tillyard.

I.R.E.

## 3RD XV

Won 3      Lost 4      Cancelled 1

In terms of results the 3rd XV had rather a mediocre season, but I would think that the overall standard on the Lower was as high as it has ever been. There is no doubt that the Grammar Schools, who provide most of our opponents, have improved and are now of a more consistently high standard. They tend to be bigger sides too, and the matches lost against Poole and Bournemouth brought out the best from our team.

Where the team were less effective was in the ability to take control of a game that they really had won; this resulted in a poor performance against an ordinary Blundell's side and a narrow defeat by Downside in a tight and closely fought contest. It has been said that Sherborne are sometimes *too* gentlemanly in their School Rugger; perhaps it is rather more the amateur in a pro-

fessional world—not that this is all bad by any means, and certainly contributes to the fact that Sherborne teams rarely have a really bad season.

In detail the team always played with enterprise and individually with considerable enthusiasm, and determination. Our real strength was in the centres Redgrave and Jackson, and in the fly-half Burridge S., who could develop into a good player as his confidence grows. The tackling of Burridge and Redgrave outside and Gibson in the forwards was also a significant factor. As the term progressed the forwards began to play really well together and the outsides were given enough good loose ball to show their paces. The season ended on a high note with a good win against Shaftesbury in difficult conditions.

My thanks to the Captain, N. A. S. Jacob, for his major contribution all through the season, to Harben and Scott who provided much of the drive up front, to the whole team and perhaps particularly to those who only played in some matches but always gave of their best, however short the notice. It is true to say that the final 15 could have been chosen from any of about 20 boys.

Team: Edwards, Jacob, Redgrave, Jackson, Floyer, S. Burridge, Sugden, Bown, P. Kerr, David, Scott, Baughan, Sutcliffe, Harben, Gibson.

M.H.

#### 4TH XV

The team had five matches and were defeated only by Canford's 3rd XV. This was the first match of the season and the team learnt from this defeat when, after allowing Canford to score twelve points in the first ten minutes, they did not quite manage to score the final try which would have given us victory, though we kept the game in their half most of the second half.

The most satisfactory result in many ways was a draw 16-16 against Downside whose first four XVs had won every other fixture.

The team remained nearly the same throughout the season and developed a considerable esprit de corps under the able captaincy of Wallace.

Team: Evans, Butler, Knight, Quinn, Burden, Wallace, Waite, C. H. Wilson, Neville, Bone, Alan-Williams, Toombs, Cull, Crocker, Hesse, D. Kerr, Alexander, Rix.  
P.M.H.W.

#### COLTS RUGBY

The potential of the side is considerable; its great strength lay in its willingness to train hard and to learn the lessons of experience. Nowhere was this more evident than in the loose play, and in most matches the ball kept appearing on our side with delightful regularity. All this was all the more surprising because the side was physically small. Indeed, it requires very careful consideration whether School players should be risked in House matches just before the event.

The side eventually selected was: Gates at full back, with Mackean and Ellis on the wings; Rankin and Marshall in the centre, both a great success. At half back there were problems, for Powe tended to be outstandingly good one minute and abysmally bad the next, though some of the trouble may have been caused by the variety of scrum halves carried off by an assortment of injuries, and luckily Hockley made a good deputy to Hofmeyr.

In the ranks of the forwards Haley, Coleman and Cuthbert made an unbeatable front row that was never outhooked; in the second row and at centre and front of the line out were Curnow and Almy. The back row, an outstanding combination, were Hamilton, Whiteley and Nicoll.

The season began against Canford, where the removal of Hofmeyr prevented any further scoring higher than ten points up. We lost the Blundell's match under a barrage of penalties, while the Taunton match was a bruising contest. King's Taunton and Downside were good examples of how to win while Marlborough was a disaster. Bryanston was beaten by the agency of good luck on our side.

#### Results:

1st XV	Canford	Won 10-0
	Blundells	Lost 12-15
	Taunton	Won 33-8
	King's Taunton	Won 54-3
	Downside	Won 27-0
	Marlborough	Lost 6-16
2nd XV	Bryanston	Won 9-8
	Poole G.S.	Won 13-4
	Hardyes	Won 22-6
	Wadham G.S.	Won 20-16
	Clayesmore	Won 25-4

#### JUNIOR COLTS RUGBY

Played 8 Won 5 Drawn 1 Lost 2

This has been a mixed season. The record was an improvement over that of this team as an

U14 XV, and only lost to Blundell's and Downside, both on foreign soil. The performance of a team is determined only in part by its natural ability—a more important factor by far may be termed its appetite for the game. At the beginning of the season this was a team of poor spirit with too many players enjoying their role in attack, but shirking the physical contact needed in defence. As the season wore on attitudes changed, and by the end the team were working better as a unit when under pressure.

There was a certain amount of attacking ability in the outsides, but difficulties and injuries at half back meant that this potential was often only realised in counter attack, and many tries were scored by the skilful opportunism of Davies and Edwards in the centre.

Physically the forwards should have been able to dominate the opposition but they lacked pace and rarely worked with the fire and cohesion hoped for. Tomson and Lloyd-Jones both led the side well and they were two forwards who played with determination and spirit throughout the season. They were well supported by Mackeith who showed good anticipation especially when dealing with the loose ball.

The most improved player in the side was Cockman at full back—he hardly missed a tackle the whole season, and his catching of the high ball and falling on the low one were equally commendable. Twenty boys played more than one game for the team and they should provide a good core for next year.

Team: Lloyd-Jones, Tomson, Cockman, Pascoe, Edwards, Davies, Walkey, Lee, Saunders, Mills, Bennett, Martin, Griffiths, Cobb, Dampney, Mackeith, Swallow, Hannay, Clothier, Mason.

#### MINICOLTS RUGGER

Played 8    Won 4    Lost 3    Drawn 1

This has been a mixed season. The forwards, particularly the front five, dominated the opposition in all matches except against Downside when they were very sluggish. They won most of the lineouts and the loose and provided the backs with a lot of good ball. However, the outsides lacked penetration and their defence in the earlier matches was too often suspect. The side was ably led by Moorhouse who set a fine example which was closely followed by the others. The sight of the pack in full cry was demoralising to the opposition and if only the backs could have matched their skill and determination all the games would have been won. Johnson at fly half

improved steadily and Gates became a sound and fearless fullback. Moorhouse and Williams worked tirelessly and Hughes and Barrett tackled with ferocity. The best performance was against Poole G.S. when the whole team played with considerable fire and skill. This was a hard close game of an extremely high standard.

The 'A' team provided valuable "cannon fodder" in practices and won their only match. Rose and Powe adequately filled places caused by injury.

Team: Gates, Pralle, Short, Madley, Waterfield, Johnson, Saville-Deane, Carter, Ball, Carroll, Moorhouse, Williams, Hughes, Barrett, Wightwick.

G.H.J.F.

#### SAILING CLUB

The major event this term for the Sailing Club has been the purchase of two '420' dinghies. The arrival of these new boats means that the basic plans for the Club can be outlined with some certainty: it is hoped to buy four more 420's (two each second year) so that the list of boats will eventually read: 6 Larks, 6 420's, 3 Cadets, and 1 minisail. The Larks will be used at Sutton Bingham in the Summer, the 420's at Sutton Bingham in the Winter terms and at Poole in the Summer. We are also now able to compete in the 420 class racing at Sutton Bingham in the new boats. With the above in mind the Club has two Firefly dinghies for sale at £65 each (both genuine bargains!)

The membership of the Club is nearly 200, and there are vacancies for more boys. We were again fortunate this term to be able to sail with members of Sherborne School for Girls on Saturdays. Another encouraging feature of the term has been the amount of sailing done. Some house representatives ran a 'coaching scheme' which resulted in success in the classification test, and subsequent promotion from crew class. Is it too much to be hoped that this example will be followed and that more of the crew and cadet class will soon be racing Larks and 420's? The classification test in the Lent term will be on Tuesday, 13th February. Lark class members may now wear the tie of the Lark Class Owners Association.

The School entered for various competitions in the Summer holidays. Michelmores finished 82nd out of 102 in the Lark Nationals at Plymouth and with Scott he also entered the National Junior Championships at Weston. Church and Kendall sailing F18 failed to achieve much success

in the Public Schools Firefly Championships at Itchenor. The weather was frustrating but the beer was good!—our thanks to Mr. Anderson for transport and spiritual support. Alan-Williams, Power and D. Smith refuse to disclose their final position in the Schools and Universities sailing at the Gareloch, but apparently did not disgrace themselves. Church and Kendall had better luck at Bembridge in the competition for the Sir Terence Langrishe Cup, finishing second to Bryanston—our thanks to Mr. Yorke for transport (this time by sea) and accommodation aboard 'Vltava'. Lastly the achievement of Smith and Sparks must be noted. They sailed their Fireball, fully laden with camping gear, from Poole to Portsmouth in one day.

Back to this term, the inter-house sailing had to be held over until the Lent term due to exams, exams, Rugby, etc. The record of School matches is only one of mixed success: two teams braved the assault of the O.S. at the beginning of the term, and won with flying (and at times sinking) colours. Despite allegations of sabotage (not upheld), the atmosphere remained competitive and informal. Our thanks go to The Old Shirburnian Sailing Society for their help and interest. We always enjoy our matches with them and also the cruising weekend in the Solent. It is to be hoped that most keen sailors leaving the School will join the O.S.S.S. The Secretary is Dr. R. H. Reynolds, Stan Hill, Charlwood, Horley, Surrey. A team of eight beat Chilton Cantelo convincingly, showing the depth of skill available for matches, ironically one of the reasons for indifferent results. Sadly the match against Sherborne School for Girls had to be cancelled much to the annoyance of our spectators. The matches against Bradfield and Bryanston in November were both close and lost; the first ending in suspense and murky darkness, the second in a force 7 which struck when the School was in the lead. Finally against Dartmouth we lost in windless and aggravating conditions. The number of those who sailed for the School highlights the need for more regular team practice. (At present, availability limits the cohesion of a potentially strong team.)

Our thanks to Dr. Russ, whose precision and tact marked the racing, Mr. Yorke whose energy and good humour encouraged all, and Mr. Rouse (a fair-weather sailor) who even now is gathering strength for the arrival of what hopefully will be a better Summer than the last.

Team from:

D. Alan-Williams, T. J. E. Church, M. W. T.

Davies, S. W. Golledge, R. J. Kendall, R. W. Michelmore, C. V. Whiteley, C. G. A. Wray, J. Whiteley, S. Griffiths, Kinder, T. Butler, R. A. Scott, T. Barker, Christie, Coleman, C. J. S. Jackson, Stocker.

*Results:*

v. O.S.S.S. (Home)	Team A Won 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ –23 $\frac{3}{4}$
	Team B Won 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ –26
v. Chilton Cantelo (Home)	Won 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ –25
v. Sherborne School for Girls* (Home)	Cancelled
v. Bradfield (Home)	Lost 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ –20 $\frac{1}{4}$
v. Bryanston (Home)	Lost 24 $\frac{1}{4}$ –20 $\frac{1}{4}$
v. B.R.N.C. Dartmouth* (Away)	Lost 11 – 9 $\frac{3}{4}$

\* New fixture

R. J. Kendall

### THE GYMNASTICS CLUB

The arrival of an agility/crash mattress, floor mats and a modern trampette and the appearance of new recruits on a Friday afternoon augurs well for the future. The standard of gymnastics this term has been improving steadily and reached a peak for the match against Allhallows School. Both the team and reserves worked extremely well to perfect their routines for this fixture and they enjoyed a comfortable win.

During the Lent term, matches have been arranged Downside School, King's School Bruton, and there is a proposed match against Queen's School Taunton. The captain R. P. Roome, has been an inspiration to the rest of the team, and colours have been awarded to B. C. Symondson, W. A. J. Randle, and D. Andrews.

P.M.K.

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**We congratulate the 16 boys who won awards to Oxford and Cambridge in December (full details will be given in our next number) and all who have been successful in Examinations.**

