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H. A. Wrenn, M.A., F.R.S.A., Christ Church, Oxford. (Headmaster)
I. J. Nicholas, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford. (Second Master)
R. Armstrong, B.Sc., Hull.
W. A. Bates, B.Sc., University College, Southampton.
R. Bentley, B.Sc., Birmingham.
P. E. Cameron, B.Sc., Swansea.
M. S. Cheale, B.Sc., (Eng.), London.
A. R. Chesters, B.Mus., A.R.C.O., Manchester.
R. A. Farey, B.Sc., Birmingham.
T. C. Goodman, Borough Road College of Education.
J. W. Huddart, B.Sc., Manchester.
J. P. Hyde, Loughborough College.
K. Parkinson, B.Sc., Manchester.
H. C. Phillips, A.R.C.A.
R. B. Taylor, King Alfred's College, Winchester.
T. G. Tomlinson, Loughborough College.
M. S. Vann, B.Sc., Durham.
N. P. J. Way, B.A., Goldsmith's College, University of London.
N. S. F. Wills, M.A., Magdalen College, Oxford.
D. S. Wilson, B.A., Leeds.
M. K. Wright, B. A., Birmingham.
SCHOOL NOTES

It was with a deep sense of loss that the school said goodbye this year to Mr. I. J. Nicholas, Mr. H. C. Phillips and Miss N. Bavin. This is definitely the end of an era, the retirement of three members of the small group who some forty years ago started a Grammar School from scratch, then made it into a fine school and kept it that way. Whatever changes may be impending the School will for many years retain the character and sense of purpose which its founders stamped on it from the outset.

The death of Alderman E. A. Steele, D.L., J.P., was a sad blow for the School. Until his retirement last year he had for fifteen years been Chairman of the School Governors and his keen interest in and support of the organisation and cultural activities of the School were invaluable. Three of his grandsons are past or present members of the School, and to Mrs. Steele and her family we all extend our sincere sympathy.

Mr. T. J. C. Sulch succeeds Mr. Nicholas as Deputy Headmaster in September. Mr. M. S. Vann of the Chemistry Department left at the end of the Summer Term to become Head of Department at Richmond School, Yorkshire. He is to be further congratulated on his marriage during the Summer vacation. In his place we welcome Old Grammarian Brian Gilbert. Another new master this Autumn Term is Mr. B. Emerson to teach Modern Languages and replace Mr. C. H. Stevenson, who left at the end of 1972 to become Head of a large department at Belfast Academy. We also welcome Mr. M. D. Webster who has taken the place of Mr. Phillips in the Art Department.

Warm congratulations are extended to Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Buckby and Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Goodman on the birth of daughters.

The dynamic duo — Mr. A. J. B. Tussler and Mr. A. J. L. Alden — has produced yet another cartographical triumph, a “Mapbook of West Germany”.

At the end of the Spring Term we said goodbye to “Joe” Eales and “Wilf” Burrell who retired from the caretaking staff after each giving the School twelve years excellent service. Their places are taken by Mr. R. Honeywood and Mr. A. Campkin.

At Prize Giving this year the Chief Guest will be the Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King, former Speaker of the House of Commons and now Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords.

I. Lutter achieved the distinction of reaching the trial stage of the England 16–19 Rugby Group.

J. E. Desborough captained the under 15 County Cricket XI and T. A. Gray, M.P. Rush, M. D. Bond and S. E. York were in the team.

P. W. Haddon was awarded the County Swimming Rose.

J. P. Hustwait won the Wellingborough, Rushden and District Athletics Cups for the Boys’ under 15 Discus and Shot Putt.

THE LIBRARY

Chief Assistant: S. A. Rogers
Assistants: M. W. Cleaveley, J. Murray, M. Leeding

Our thanks are due to Rogers, who retires this term from the position of chief assistant, and whose efficiency has been responsible for the smoothness with which the library has run for the last year.

A disturbing factor which has become more noticeable recently is the reluctance of senior boys to return books on time. It shouldn’t be necessary to chase them all over school before library books are given back, and it argues against their
consideration for other people. Lack of co-operation in this matter more than any other makes our job more difficult.

When the library opening hours were extended this year to include break we found at first that we became a haven for the “nethouse plants” who were allergic to fresh air. This was a little surprising, because the heating arrangements in this large room, as everyone knows, are at best minimal in winter; in fact, it is often colder in than out. However, as might be expected, as the ambient temperature increased so the breaktime population decreased, until we saw eventually only those boys who were in for honourable reasons.

The now-regular visit of Books for Students was again satisfactory for them (money) and us (books). It was mentioned to us that the school might consider setting up its own paperback bookshop, but it was decided to postpone any decision for a while. Turnover for such a venture would need to be higher than seems at the moment to be probable.

We have again been donated books, or the money for same, by boys who are leaving school, and these have been particularly welcome at a time when an average case bound book is reaching in the direction of £5. We thank Miss Bavin for her collection of theological commentaries, and we thank also R. W. Freestone, D. Mills, B. A. Maksym and D. W. Cole.

Mr. I. J. NICHOLAS

Mr. I. J. Nicholas and Wellingborough Grammar School have become synonymous, and it is difficult to imagine the Grammar School without him. Since the mid 1930’s ‘Nick’, as he has come to be known, has been a part of the place; a man respected by all who knew him through any connection with the school or any of his many other varied activities and interests. It is with Rugby Football, of course, that most Old Grammarians associate him. This has been and still is his great love: his own contribution to the game has been tremendous. From being a player of no mean ability, and competing against some of the best men of his day, to becoming a top level administrator of Schools’ Rugby. Above all, he will remain the man who introduced so many Old Grammarians to the game in the first instance, and continued to teach them much of what they know. One only has to be at a game or function where leading personalities in Rugby Football are present to appreciate the esteem which is afforded to Mr. Nicholas.

His talents, however, have not all been centred around the games field, as the cream of his Latin pupils would confirm. Those who were less academically endowed were happy not to be deprived of his immense range of teaching abilities as he steadfastly instructed them in English, divinity and history.

From 1939 to 1945 he was in command of the school Air Training Corp unit, and supervised the Fire Watching activities of the staff and senior boys. He was also entrusted with parties of boys to supervise in the fruit picking fields of Evesham.

In his younger days Mr. Nicholas was a playing member of the Wellingborough Cricket and Rugby clubs, and on various occasions local choral societies have called upon him to join their ranks. Yet, in spite of all these outside interests, his loyalty to the School has always taken precedence, and this loyalty has also resulted in his keen interest in the Old Grammarians’ Association to which he has devoted much time and energy. He has been an active member of the committee since its formation some 30 years ago. During this time he has always been available when required, and continued to give sound and constructive advice on any problem which has arisen.

It is most fitting to say at this time of his retirement, “Wellingborough Grammar School will be the poorer for his leaving, but the richer for his influence”. We wish him the long and happy retirement he deserves.

An Old Grammarian
SCHOOL RUGBY

1st XV

A poor season for a team which, although not abounding with talent, should have won far more matches. Too often matches were just lost when they could so easily have been just won. This was undoubtedly due in no small part to an apathetic attitude shown by some towards team practices. With a team of moderate ability it was essential that the side was well drilled, but throughout the entire season a practice by the selected fifteen was never achieved. This meant the team took a long time to settle down and it was nearly Christmas before it played rugby of any quality.

The return of Lutter to the pack after missing the first five matches helped considerably, not only because of his playing ability but also because of his enthusiasm for the game. Flint, Wilson and Austin all showed similar keeness in practice and in matches which made it all the more disappointing that they were not fully supported.

The backs lacked pace and confidence but a number of well contrived tries were scored and showed that perhaps with rather more ball greater things could have been achieved.

Bellamy at Stand-off was very steady with a good pair of hands and a sound football brain.

The infrequent appearances of Lawson at centre meant that too often there was little thrust in attack and little solidarity in defence.

The wings, Barford and Davies, with limited opportunities both ran hard and the latter tackled especially well. Clews, in a strange position for him, at full back started shakily but in the latter part of the season was playing well. His tackling throughout was first class and he saved many “certain” tries with fine last ditch efforts.

Of the younger players, Mitchell at scrum-half showed much promise and maturity in his play and he could well be a most useful asset next season.

Lutter had an excellent season and is to be congratulated on his selection for the County 1st XV and subsequent selection for the Midlands XV. Austin and Bellamy played for the County 2nd XV.

Results:

1st XV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alderman Newton G.S.</td>
<td>L 0-47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity G.S.</td>
<td>L 3-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King's Peterborough</td>
<td>L 0-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering G.S.</td>
<td>L 6-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon's Peterborough</td>
<td>W 18-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyggeston G.S.</td>
<td>L 3-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponne</td>
<td>L 12-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunsmore</td>
<td>L 10-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge G.S.</td>
<td>L 0-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oundle 2nd XV</td>
<td>L 4-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northampton G.S.</td>
<td>L 10-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity G.S.</td>
<td>L 3-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King's Grantham</td>
<td>L 0-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Sheriff</td>
<td>L 0-46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalen G.S.</td>
<td>L 4-6</td>
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</table>
House Matches

First Round

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senior</th>
<th>Lions 8</th>
<th>Stags 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gryphons 6</td>
<td>Dragons 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Lions 60</td>
<td>Stags 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gryphons 32</td>
<td>Dragons 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Second Round

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senior</th>
<th>Dragons 10</th>
<th>Lions 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gryphons 12</td>
<td>Stags 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Dragons 0</td>
<td>Lions 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gryphons 60</td>
<td>Stags 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Third Round

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senior</th>
<th>Gryphons 8</th>
<th>Lions 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dragons 64</td>
<td>Stags 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Gryphons 18</td>
<td>Lions 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dragons 24</td>
<td>Stags 10</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Final Placings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Dragons</th>
<th>22 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lions</td>
<td>14 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Stags</td>
<td>12 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2nd XV

Played 13 Won 6 Lost 7 Drawn 0 For 211 Against 284

This has been our worst season for some years, and once again potentially we had a very good side who were only allowed to play together for odd games. The calls of the senior side and illness made selection farcical.

The pack played well throughout the season, although 'play patterns' naturally suffered. There was a distinct shortage of backs and conversion jobs were the order of the day.

The side was fairly young and this should provide for the future, but until we can improve the available pool of players we shall always face the straits of this season.

Results:

2nd XV

| Alderman Newton G.S. | L | 3–19 |
| Trinity G.S. | W | 52–3 |
| King's Peterborough | W | 12–3 |
| Kettering G.S. | L | 36–25 |
| Deacon's Peterborough | L | 3–40 |
| Wyggeston | L | 0–22 |
| Bedord Modern | L | 16–28 |
| Sponne | L | 0–36 |
| Dunsmore | W | 12–11 |
| Cambridge G.S. | W | 10–6 |
| Oundle Extra 'A' XV | L | 4–70 |
| Northampton G.S. | W | 26–0 |
| King's Grantham | W | 44–0 |
| Radcliffe | W | 44–0 |
| Magdalen G.S. | W | 44–0 |
UNDER 15 XV

This season saw a maturing of the team. Owen, York and Ashley used their weight to good effect and Coleman, Bryant, Smart and Pickard were adept at stealing the ball in the tight, Wyldes, White and Rush gave their usual non-stop performance. In the threequarters Bond and Desborough linked well at half back with Taylor, Parish and Elderton running strongly. Congratulations to Desborough, Rush and Taylor who played for the County.

The results, Won 8 Lost 9, showed a large number of close games, for example, Kings Grantham W 16–4, Dunsmore L 14–16, Trinity L 14–16. Kings was notable for the howling blizzard while at Dunsmore with continuous possession we were unable to score the winning try. Facing an undefeated Trinity we were completely outplayed in the first half the score being 12–0. However, Taylor with three interceptions gave us the lead 14–12 with full time up. In injury time we still managed to concede a try. The highlight of the season was the 18–0 win against Kettering Grammar who had been undefeated at U.13, U.14 and U.15 level.

Results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Under 15</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alderman Newtons</td>
<td>L 16–24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushden Comprehensive</td>
<td>W 19–16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity Grammar School</td>
<td>L 4–34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacons Peterborough</td>
<td>L 16–22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering Grammar School</td>
<td>L 10–24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedford Modern</td>
<td>W 6–0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings Peterborough</td>
<td>L 4–6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponne</td>
<td>W 34–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunsmore</td>
<td>L 14–16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge Grammar School</td>
<td>W 30–12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering Grammar School</td>
<td>W 18–0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northampton Grammar School</td>
<td>L 10–15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity</td>
<td>L 14–16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings Grantham</td>
<td>W 16–14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radcliffe</td>
<td>L 16–26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Sheriff</td>
<td>W 24–10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNDER 14 XV

The season started well with excellent wins against Trinity and Deacons. At this stage the team was playing well with good ball being obtained by robust forward play and intelligent use of it being made by the backs.

A temporary lapse of concentration gave a succession of poor results culminating in a trouncing by Dunsmore which, if nothing else, gave us a lesson in how to play the game correctly. The final results of equal wins and losses for the season is an indication of the capabilities of the side. We look forward to a more successful season as Under 15’s.

Hustwait is to be congratulated for his work as an excellent team captain.
Results:

**Under 14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>For</th>
<th>Against</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trinity Grammar School</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacons</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bedford Modern</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushden</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings Peterborough</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponne</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Lea</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunsmore</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>104</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Lea</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northampton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trinity</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kings Grantham</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>66</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Sheriff</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**UNDER 13 XV**

Played 13 Won 8 Lost 5 Drawn 0 For 257 Against 193

The results for the season do not give a true reflection of the high quality of junior rugby played. The side did not really settle until the fourth match of the season when they earned a hard-fought victory over Kettering. Two games worth special mention are the Bedford match which was lost in the final minute after some great defensive work and the victory over King's Peterborough where threequarters and forwards combined to produce excellent running rugby.

The side as a whole are to be congratulated on their efforts and their constant will to win. The forwards particularly in the second half of the season combined well. McDonald, Pickard, Richards and Danss were outstanding in the rucks. Green, the captain, set a fine example, bashing from the front and scoring eighteen tries. He with Groom (eight tries) and McDonald dominated the line-outs. The back-row proved to be the real key to the forward success, however, with Pickard harassing the opposition into many mistakes and both McDonald and Eelbon providing able support for him. Unfortunately the one weakness in the pack was in the position of hookers where Allen and later Harrison both worked hard, but were unable to supply the necessary possession for an attacking side.

Behind the scrum Seaton at full-back improved with every game, to become a very sound full-back with a fine pair of hands and a strong tackle. Stromdale and Manning were very useful wings with the former an elusive runner, but lacking just a little confidence in his own considerable ability to beat a man and the latter showing great strength when near the line. Both became very sound tacklers.

The real strength of the side, however, was found in the centre where Joseph and Conway combined effectively. Conway's reading of a game was excellent and his shrewd kicking kept sides in trouble. Joseph on the other hand proved to be the stronger partner and the only disappointment is that he was limited to sixteen tries, when he was capable of scoring far more. His speed off the mark and strength must make him a force to reckon with next season.

At half-back the partnership of Elstow and Short gained in ability as the season progressed. Despite their disadvantage of size both were willing to take on the opposition, but being in important positions they must learn to time their kicking and breaks to give their three-quarters full advantage.

One must also mention the players who were not regular members but were ready to turn out at a moment's notice, such as Whymon, Woodford, Hillson, Brealey and Annis.

Providing the side continues to combine as a team both on and off the field there is no reason why more successful results should not follow next season, under the leadership of McDonald and Stromdale.
Results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alderman Newton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushden</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deacon's Peterborough</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kettering</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponne</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dunsmore</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Rushden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cambridge G.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bedford</td>
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<td>Kettering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Sheriff</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>King's Peterborough</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Magdalen College</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCHOOL CRICKET 1973

1st XI

Played 10  Won 2  Lost 5  Drawn 3

The full potential of the 1st XI was never realised, at least not until the final match of the season against the Masters. Then we saw a fine exhibition of determined batting and steady good length bowling. Had we performed like that earlier in the season our playing record would surely have read very differently.

At the beginning of the season it seemed that we had considerable batting strength, but little in the way of really penetrating bowling. As things turned out, we managed to take wickets and our batsmen failed to make enough runs. Mantle, and later on Rush and Gray, bowled economically, and even menacingly on occasions, rarely giving much away and always making the batsmen play at the ball. The burden of responsibility they carried was a heavy one, but their shoulders were young and broad. We can look forward to next season with confidence.

It was disappointing to see so much batting talent achieve so little. Hind had several useful ‘knocks’ but seemed unable to build a large innings. As he gains experience and confidence in himself he will become a very good Club batsman. Mitchell and Coleman, both young and promising players, had a poor season. Neither was able to show the consistency required of a 1st XI batsman, although both had at least one innings. Clews, inspite of his lack of a sound defence, played several attractive innings. His calling, running and attacking attitude provided a fine example for the younger players. In addition to relying heavily on Mantle’s bowling, we also came to rely on him as a batsman, and so well did he serve the side, especially in the second half of the season, that next year we can hope for important contributions from him as an opening batsman.

Our ground fielding was generally good, and in this department Bellamy, the captain, set himself and his side a high standard. There were many outstanding catches, and one remembers particularly some really scorching drives that Mitchell got his hands to and clung to with his customary tenacity.

York, Rush and Gray, stalwarts of the Under 15 XI, played in the last five 1st XI games. All performed superbly, and their enthusiasm, as well as their abilities with both bat and ball, gave a much needed fillip to a side that was becoming depressed with its playing record. These, together with Sharrock and Desborough who played admirably in the match against the Masters, should provide the nucleus of a young but highly talented side next season.

A special mention is due to Bellamy who in his quietly efficient way captained the side through a difficult season. The credit for the team’s success in its final match must go to him and his perseverance.
Team: C. Bellamy (Captain); G. Hind (Vice-Captain); P. Mantle (Hon. Secretary); S. Mitchell; N. Coleman; M. Elliott; D. Hey; S. Clews; M. Rush; S. York; Gray.

Also played: A. Flint; P. Barford; E. Davies.

Results:

- v Bedford School 2nd XI, lost by 19 runs
- v Northampton Grammar School 1st XI, Match drawn
- v Oundle School 2nd XI, Match drawn
- v Lawrence Sheriff, Match drawn
- v Deacon’s School, Lost by 3 wickets
- v King’s School, Match drawn
- v Trinity Grammar School, Lost by 7 wickets
- v Kettering Grammar School, Lost by 10 runs
- v Dunsmore School, Rugby, Won by 30 runs
- v The Masters, Won by 3 wickets

2nd XI

The last fixture that we played against Deacon’s was the only game that we won this season. This was a disappointing summer, in which players of potential failed to achieve it, when given ample chance to do so.

Batsmen first: Boxall thought he should be better than he was, but gave little hint of being so. His weaknesses to anything that was straight were never overcome, and the amount of energy he expended in playing and missing was considerable. He wasn’t as fit as he could have been, either, because he was soon puffing and blowing after a couple of quick singles. Cox, who captained effectively throughout the season, could hit out well occasionally, but had a wish to play back and glance, thus failing to dictate to bowlers. Nevertheless, quick running between the wickets, aided by his own clear and forceful calling, gained many valuable runs.

It was only after these two openers were out that the weakness in depth of our batting became obvious. Sparrow (against Deacons) served sensibly and well, which was what he should have done elsewhere, but didn’t. Graham, who was a neat bat, as well as a quick and accurate mid-fielder, was too often kidded into playing over a good length ball. Poole could hit out well, yet going back found him prodding. It was unfortunate that Clarke, who was one of the keenest, always went in the middle order, because he was particularly strong to the off side, as left handers so often are. Ellson and Bayes failed to overcome their fears of fast bowlers and gave up before they went in, and Hanson never openly admitted to being a batsman, although after his winning thruples at Deacons he might change his mind.

The weaknesses of the batting were complemented by those of the bowling. Boxall will never bowl fast or accurately whilst he bowls off the wrong flat foot, because he will not control the length of pitch. Graham will make an effective bowler when he controls the flight well. Bayes produced some good tweakers when he thought about his over and mixed his deliveries. Cox was erratic on length, and like the others would be good with real practice: but save Cox and Boxall, who was to be seen on the field after school bowling away at a handkerchief? It’s not enough to turn out for matches and hope for success. You have to work at it.

Fielding was reasonable. Sparrow’s blindness to leg, and inattention, was a disadvantage. No-one was as good as Hanson when it came to throwing back, and many fielders were content to stand and wait for the ball to come to them. Why? Who practised throws? Cox’s pleas for more action too often met with half-hearted answers. It may have been the warmest summer for some time, but it wasn’t that hot.

So, it was not a good season. Nor was it very encouraging. Without more drive to win no team can hope to rise above mediocrity.
Players: Cox (Captain), Sparrow, Hanson, Matthew, Clarke, Smith, Graham, Ellson, Bayes, Boxall, Ali, Partridge, Knight, Poole.

Results:
- v Bedford
- v Northampton
- v Oundle
- v Lawrence Sheriff
- v Laxton
- v Deacons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Abandoned: rain</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Won</th>
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</table>

UNDER 15 XI

After losing only two matches in two seasons, we looked confidently forward to a rewarding season. Yet although enjoyable, it was disappointing. Five matches lost with the batting letting down generally good bowling and sound fielding. There are valid excuses for this. Eight of eleven matches were at home where we played in some par pitches. Also, we badly missed some of our top players, whether from absence e.g. the captain Desborough at the beginning of the season, or because York, Gray and Rush represented the First XI in its later matches.

Yet there can be no excuse for some of our batting. We relied too much on the admirable openers, Sharrock and York. Most distressing was the lack of backbone shown by some batsmen in the face of adversity. Not enough players wished to ensure any responsibility for victory or defeat. The old faults of batting technique remained. Footwork and the close use of bat and pad were not good and we suffered particularly against inswing bowlers who pitched the ball up. Bowlers regularly got between bat and pad on the front foot and there was not enough close inspection of the ball on the back foot. The middle order and tail contributed few runs. Sharrock's front foot technique was outstanding and, unlike most of our players, he scored well off his legs, especially with pulls to square leg.

The present weakness lies in not watching inswingers on the back foot. York scored quickly and powerfully and is developing his drives and cuts. He must however use his feet more to pull the ball on the leg side, like Sharrock, rather than clip it into the air. Rush always looked full of runs and, like Desborough, his defence has improved. But he is too often LBW, because his stance is incorrect. His right foot moves across to the off before the ball is bowled, thus impairing his ability to turn properly to balls on the middle and leg stumps. Desborough is gaining in confidence and power and becoming a fine strike maker. His backlift, however, is too slow and he is unable to be bowled by faster bowlers. He must start his backlift before the ball is bowled to give himself time to move his feet and play the shot. Gray now plays straighter and his fine timing enables him to drive and pull with surprising force. He must concentrate on closer watching of the ball and clearer calling. All these batsmen should contribute a good number of runs to the First XI next season.

The other batsmen disappointed, apart from Nightingale from the Under 14s, who played very correctly off the front foot and swung well to leg in his three innings for us. Bond, potentially so good, too often did not play with his bat near his pad and was bowled. He plays over easy balls on the leg side and does not step out far enough on the front foot. He knows his mistakes and only serious practice will restore his confidence. The first XI will need batsmen next season, he should make a determined effort to get into the side on his batting. Pendered, after a fine start, lost interest and confidence, did not get to the pitch of the ball and pushed up easy catches. Too much was left to the tail-enders. Only in the last match, did Bryant show real determination and his ability to drive hard. Although few runs came from the tail, the gritty attitude of players like Walker and White was impressive.

We were saved often by bowling and fielding. Stevens was the most consistent wicket taker. I would like to see him in the First XI next season because he turns his offbreaks and pitches well up, forcing the batsmen into error. However, he
needs to work in the winter on his batting and ground fielding. Murray again bowled with great heart and accuracy this season and deserved more wickets. His length and in swing get his wickets, not speed, unlike Lee, who will develop into a fine fast bowler. His round arm action results in inaccuracy and a failure to bowl an outswinger. He must work at straightening his arm and making his acceleration up to the wicket smoother. If he worked during the winter, there is no reason why he should not open the bowling with Mantle next season. Gray turned his off breaks prodigiously and bowled superbly. At his pace, he must beware of bowling short, however, particularly to left handers. Rush bowled very tightly and intelligently mixes his bowling. He is particularly dangerous when pitching accurately in middle and leg stumps. Bond too is an intelligent bowler with a good outswinger. He proved very economical although, like Rush and Murray at medium pace, he must concentrate on accurate length and line. Sharrock wandered in line this season but he is too talented to forsake bowling. Towards the end of the season, he recaptured his old form, while Walker, one of the newer players, came into the attack and bowled promisingly.

The fielding was generally good and at times outstanding. Rush and Bond could develop into exciting fieldsmen in any position. Gray looks a fine slip while Desborough fielded excellently close in. Lee, Walker and Sharrock have obvious potential as outfielders. Bond and York kept wicket capably but Desborough emerged as the most promising keeper. With very little experience, he moved into the First XI Keeper’s position and did well. He needs as much practice as possible with the slower bowlers like Gray, however, especially with bowling down the leg side, before next season.

This has been the third enjoyable year with this team. I admire their toleration of my (I hope) constructive criticism and perhaps bizarre at times interpretation of the LBW laws. I have enjoyed their humour and general interest. Much of their enthusiasm and success has been due to three excellent captains, Gray, Desborough, and Bond.


The following have represented the County Under 15 XI: J. Desborough, S. E. York, T. A. Gray, M. P. Rush, M. Bond. Desborough was also chosen as County Captain.

Results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Result</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>v Bedford School</td>
<td>89 for 6</td>
<td>Lost by 77 runs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedford 88 (Sharrock 3 for 19, Stevens 3 for 21, Bond 3 for 10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>W.G.S. 89 for 6 (Pendered 32 not out)</td>
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<tr>
<td>v Northampton Grammar School</td>
<td>124 (Gray 5 for 26)</td>
<td>Lost by 77 runs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northampton 124 (Gray 5 for 26)</td>
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<tr>
<td>W.G.S. 47</td>
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<tr>
<td>v Oundle</td>
<td>85 (York 24, Desborough 25)</td>
<td>Lost by 10 wickets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oundle 86 for 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>v Lawrence Sheriff</td>
<td>91 (Murray 6 for 25)</td>
<td>Won by 7 wickets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Sheriff 91 (Murray 6 for 25)</td>
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<tr>
<td>W.G.S. 95 for 3 (Sharrock 38, York 21)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>v Laxton</td>
<td>88 (Sharrock 25, Gray 26)</td>
<td>Won by 32 runs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laxton 56 (Stevens 4 for 2, Lee 2 for 5, Gray 3 for 13)</td>
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</table>
v Deacons, Peterborough                       Won by 41 runs
W.G.S. 121 for 7 (Gray 36 not out, Rush 20)
Deacons 80 (Rush 5 for 21, Gray 2 for 3)

v Kings, Peterborough                       Lost by 40 runs
Kings 94 (Stevens 4 for 18)
W.G.S. 54

v Kettering G.S.                             Won by 3 wickets
K.G.S. 74 (Rush 4 for 25, Murray 3 for 20)
W.G.S. 75 for 7 (York 28, Rush 20)

v Trinity                                    Lost by 59 runs
Trinity 87 (Bond 6 for 23)
W.G.S. 28

v Kettering Grammar School                  Lost by 3 wickets
W.G.S. 33 (Nightingale 17)
K.G.S. 34 for 7 (Gray 3 for 6, Rush 3 for 12)

v Dunsmore                                   Won by 25 runs
W.G.S. 63
Dunsmore 38 (Stevens 4 for 12, Bond 4 for 11, Sharrock 2 for 1)

UNDER 14 XI

A dismal opening to the season, when four matches failed to provide a single victory, was succeeded by a period when only the debacle at Kings was a fly in the ointment.

During the course of the season, a group of enthusiastic, but raw, boys have developed into a useful team, with much promise for next year at Under 15 level.

The bowling has always been the strongest aspect of the side with Lambert, Gregory and Hamilton performing very well. Lambert’s 26 wickets, at a cost of less than 7 each, point to a consistently good performance, marred only by a tendency to bowl too short a length. Hamilton has settled down after a poor start, and has been rewarded with 19 wickets. It seems unfair to allow Gregory to bowl at times, since the fact that he sounds a good length and can turn the ball puts him in a class above any opposition batsman encountered this year.

Batting has suffered from 3 things! Lack of technique, lack of application and bad umpiring – the latter against schools employing a rota system to find umpires. Here, Nightingale and Hamilton have had most success, with good support from Hustwait and Whitney.

In support there has usually been fielding of a high standard, with some very good catches taken, notably by Hustwait, a most intimidating close fielder.

Team Representatives: Hamilton, Yeo, Pearce, Hustwait, Gregory, Lambert, Whitney, Nightingale, Bradshaw, Peverell, Agostini, Cox, Burton, Sharrock, Conway, Robins (scorer).

Results:

v Bedford School                             Drawn
Bedford 99 all out (Lambert 3 for 24, Gregory 3 for 16)
W.G.S. 74 for 6

v Northampton Grammar School                Lost
W.G.S. 69 all out (Whitney 20 n.o.)
Northampton 70 for 3 (Lambert 3 for 33)

v Lawrence Sheriff                          Lost
Lawrence Sheriff 69 all out (Lambert 4 for 20, Gregory 4 for 16)
W.G.S. 58 all out

v Rushden                                    Lost
Rushden 51 all out (Lambert 5 for 13, Gregory 3 for 4)
W.G.S. 40 all out
v Deacons
Deacons 58 all out (Lambert 3 for 9, Hamilton 3 for 18, Whitney 3 for 6)
W.G.S. 62 for 6 (Hamilton 21 no. Yeo 17)

v Kings
W.G.S. 21 all out
Kings 23 for 3

v Trinity Northampton
Trinity 25 all out (Lambert 4 for 14, Hamilton 6 for 8)
W.G.S. 29 for 1

v Kettering Grammar School
Kettering 25 all out (Sharrock 4 for 10)

v Dunsmore
Dunsmore 108 for 7 dec. (Gregory 3 for 13)
W.G.S. 104 for 4 (Hamilton 21, Nightingale 49)

UNDER 13 XI

This has been a very enjoyable and successful season. Very well led by Conway, the side had produced a high standard of junior cricket and all the matches were played in a spirit of real competition. Only in the penultimate match did the side taste defeat, at the hands of local rivals Kettering, and then only because of a rather premature declaration.

The bowling was excellent all season. Fitzhugh led the attack with a left-arm action which was very quick and accurate, and he thoroughly deserved his twenty-two wickets, his last performance being five for nine against Deacons, Peterborough. After the first match of the season Scrivener opened the attack, this was adventurous cricket which paid dividends. Scrivener, a slow off-spinner grew to the challenge as the season progressed and although his line strayed down the leg-side at times, he fully deserved his twenty-five wickets. His best performance was six for three at King’s, Peterborough. Griment proved to be a very important support bowler for Fitzhugh, with his smooth quick action. Unfortunately he pitched too short too often and did not get the wickets he deserved. Joseph, Stromdale and Conway all operated as change bowlers and were used rarely but effectively.

The batting, if not as good as the bowling, was safe and dependable, despite some poor calling, particularly in the John Lea Match. Scrivener topped the averages, and rarely looked troubled in any match. He must learn to accelerate his score, however, when the chances arise. Short proved to be an excellent opening partner, being more aggressive and adventurous. Conway, however, was the mainstay of the attack, being particularly strong with his surer drives, his only weakness lies in chopping the ball back on to his wicket. He must now concentrate on strengthening his leg-side play and developing his concentration so he can bat for long periods of time and build substantial innings.

Unfortunately Fitzhugh did not find his batting form till the last two matches of the season, when his strong hitting produced two excellent scores. Joseph lacked style but when he made contact with the ball he scored quickly. Seaton and Griment never fulfilled their early promise despite the latter’s excellent forty-eight in the first match of the season. Both Bounds and Pickard batting low in the order produced very valuable runs at the right moment. The tail-enders lived up to their name. Coles hit the ball hard and on the ground and showed a lot of potential for the future. McDonald improved as the season progressed, while Stromdale was always willing to swing at the ball, despite his limited number of batting chances. One of the encouraging developments at the end of the season was Tamplust, an under-12s player who looked a useful bat particularly on the leg-side.

13
Fielding varied from brilliant to extremely poor. Fortunately there were a number of very dependable players, the best of which was Conway, who continued to prove that he is one of the best close-in fieldsmen in the school. He took eight catches and was unlucky not to have more. Seaton also showed he was very capable in the field with four catches. The ground fielding was dominated by one player, Stromdale, whose picking up and returning to the wicket were excellent. The rest of the side must face criticism in that although many walked in correctly, they re-acted slowly and gave away many valuable runs. There must be improvement in this section of the game.

Coles performed extremely well behind the stumps and improved with each game. He made a number of useful leg-side steps and had a hand in many important run-outs.

Finally the thanks of the whole side must go to Waterfield the scorer and Mr. Wilson who gave up a lot of his valuable time in preparation of the square.

The team was selected from: Conway, Scrivener, Fitzhugh, Short J., Coles, Joseph, Seaton, Pickard, Stromdale, Grimmett, Bounds, McDonald, Lambert.

Results:

v Northampton G.S.  Won by 72 runs
W.G.S. 113 (Grimmitt 48, Conway 20)
N.G.S. 41 (Fitzhugh 5 for 14, Scrivener 2 for 2, Stromdale 2 for 0)

v King's School Peterborough  Won by 9 wickets
King's School 19 (Fitzhugh 4 for 12, Scrivener 6 for 3)
W.G.S. 20 for 1

v Rushden  Won by 47 runs
W.G.S. 94 for 5 (Scrivener 40 n.o., Short 27)
Rushden 47 (Grimmitt 4 for 11, Scrivener 4 for 13)

v Deacons Peterborough  Won by 58 runs
W.G.S. 107 for 9 (Scrivener 13, Joseph 24, Bounds 12, Pickard 16)
Deacons 49 (Fitzhugh 5 for 9, Scrivener 4 for 20)

v John Lea  Won by 31 runs
W.G.S. 62 for 8 (Conway 30)
John Lea 31 (Scrivener 5 for 12, Grimmitt 2 for 1, Joseph 2 for 14)

v Kettering G.S.  Lost by 1 wicket
W.G.S. 102 for 6 (Scrivener 17, Short 18, Fitzhugh 20, Joseph 25 n.o.)
K.G.S. 106 for 9 (Fitzhugh 5 for 37, Grimmitt 4 for 24)

v Dunsmore  Won by 26 runs
W.G.S. 74 (Conway 15, Fitzhugh 26)
Dunsmore 48 (Fitzhugh 2 for 19, Scrivener 4 for 23)

UNDER 12 XI

The U.12's have maintained an unbeaten record and crushed the opposition without being extended.

Lambert an excellent captain has played a dominant role in both batting and bowling. He was ably supported by Grimmitt and Fowler who open the bowling and the batting. Osborne and Innis, powerful hitters of the ball contributed high scores. At the tail end Hemington and Prescott both useful bowlers have not bowled often due to the excellence of the opening attack.
Behind the stumps Reading has shown himself to be capable and in the later matches developed into a straight batsman. The middle order, Dunkley, Merrill, Flawn, Harvey and Gilbert looked precarious but luckily were never called upon to supply runs.

Fielding and catching were good with Innis and Lambert being outstanding.

Results:

v King's Drawn
W.G.S. 100 for 8 wickets (Osborne 33, Lambert 17)
King's 46 for 6 wickets (Lambert 4 for 28)

v Rushden Win
W.G.S. 83 all out (Grimmitt 21)
Rushden 40 all out (Lambert 5 for 15)

v John Lea Won
W.G.S. 107 for 3 wickets (Lambert 56 n.o., Innis 18 n.o.)
John Lea 33 all out (Grimmitt 7 for 10)

SOCCER

In many respects this year was less hectic than the previous one, although it was pleasing to see so many boys still fully involved. Due to the sheer impossibility of fulfilling all the fixtures, it was decided at the outset not to participate in the local schools' league at U.13 and U.15 levels. Next season, however, it is proposed that each school will only play one league match at each of the various age groups, which will facilitate our return to those competitions.

Another plus in the school's favour has been the acquisition of a pitch on Roseacre. It proved rather small for the U.16 team, but in all other respects was a great boon. A combination of good weather and beginning our fixtures after Christmas meant that there was actually grass in the goalmouth at the end of the season!

The Under 16 team once more reached the final of their league cup competition, only to be beaten at the last hurdle again, this time by Wollaston. After being 3–1 up at half-time, not entirely on the run of play, we then proceeded to give away two more goals, eventually to be beaten by a worthy match winner. A comparison of the half-time and full-time scores is comment enough. During the season Mitchell was a very skilled and capable captain; very little got past him at the back, even when he was under extreme pressure. John Lea, after a hesitant start, grew in confidence, and apart from odd moments of panic proved more than adequate. When he felt like it, Sparrow could win matches by himself; when given adequate support from Graham and Rush, we saw a formidable mid-field trio. The forwards often proved disappointing, although Briggs used his strength to good advantage later in the season, and Mantle and Brooks began to run with more purpose. Mayes and Darnell both noticeably improved, and Cox played well wherever he was positioned.

The under 15 side was often stricken with clashes of basketball and soccer fixtures, which meant they never had a settled team. Murray and Desborough played competently, although the former needs to quell his over-enthusiasm. Sargeant and Underdown always played safely, and Bryant did a lot of useful running. A number of others in this side were keen, but their close control skills and passing left a lot to be desired. The later inclusion of Bradshaw and Lazienko gave some extra strength.
There was an unprecedented number of first years all pressing for a place in the under 13 games. Lambert was without doubt the outstanding player and he shows a lot of potential for the future. Innis too proved to be a skilful winger, and Flett, despite his diminutive size, was a clever and free-scoring centre forward. Joseph had a curious but effective lethargic style and a keen eye for the ball. Seaton was an excellent find in goal and his kicking improved, which helped his team when they were under pressure. Mitchell, Raven and Ellson all worked hard, and Spencer’s captaincy often calmed flustered defenders. In all, they look like being a promising side for the future, with a number of players who will be eligible to play at this level next year.

Our thanks once more to parents who in some way supported teams or helped transport them from place to place. A word of thanks also to those who contributed to U16 losers’ medals, as mementoes of the game.

G.B.D.

TEENNIS

Once again, the House Tennis Competition resulted in a great deal of participation and interest, especially among the seniors. Three players stood out in the singles. Rush, although unfortunately playing little tennis this year, showed again what a fine service action he has. With practice, he would have the best service in the school. He also has the courage to rely on volleys rather than the backcourt game which our slow top courts are apt to foster.

Rush lost to Massomin in a three set semi-final in which Massom blocked Rush’s serves and chased everything down. Although more awkward and unbalanced, Massom hit fine passing shots on the forehand. Massom went on to play Mantle in the final. Mantle had played a similar kind of player, the stubborn Homans, in the semi-final but the first set of the final could have gone either way. Once Mantle had won it, he displayed the increasing maturity and range of his game. His topspin forehand remains his best shot but he has added a slice and topspin backhand. He remains calm and prepared to play long rallies and look for the openings. He also stop volleys and lobs intelligently. The aspects of his game he must work on now are his smash serve and backhand volley. Probably a change of grip would improve these shots.

The Doubles was less of a contest with the steady, mature play of Mantle consolidated by the powerful topspin serve and smash of Barford. Rush and Cox were the losing finalists. Although they volleyed well, both proved too erratic on the serve. Yet they did well to beat the steady Lewis and Flint in the semi-final. Flint is another player who with practice could develop a really formidable service.

Due to various factors, it was not possible to arrange proper Junior tennis sessions and this affected the standard of the Junior Competitions. Both were dominated by Wyldes, whose enthusiasm and hardhitting on the forehand and steady volleying overcame Raven in the singles. For Raven, two years the younger, has a fine forehand and reliable serve, although he is apt to play too much on the baseline. Wyldes should now concentrate on properly balancing himself to play his shots and to lean into the ball rather than away from it. His service action also does not make the most of his strength.

In the Junior Doubles, Wyldes did most of the running and hardhitting while Pallett stayed at the net and used his height. White and Raven tried hard and both hit good forehands. White is another promising player as are Packwood and Walker.

The only match, played against Kettering Grammar School, resulted in a victory for our team captained by Lewis.
Results:

Warner Cup House Tennis Competition:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dragons</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gryphons</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lions</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stags</td>
<td>25</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Winners of:

- Senior Singles: P. F. Mantle
- Senior Doubles: P. F. Mantle and P. V. Barford
- Junior Singles: R. T. Wyldes
- Junior Doubles: R. T. Wyldes and A. Pallett

BADMINTON

Interest in badminton increased this year, even though no matches were played against other schools. A team of boys and members of the staff did however play in the Mens Division II of the Rushden League, which we for a time led. Of the boys, Wyldes particularly impressed with his enthusiasm and determination. A good partner, he smashed particularly well and by the end of the season, was confident enough to develop his short serve. The backhand clear is the shot he should now try to develop. Patrick too played splendidly, although he and Wyldes are too apt to rely on a predictable deep serve. Patrick showed a remarkable flair for low crosscourt drop shots and had a good smash. He must concentrate, however, on clearing the shuttle right to the back of the court.

Sixth Form sessions with members of staff were held weekly with Lewis, Massom, Mantle, Ellson and Poole attending. Sessions were characterised by Lewis' wrist, backhand swish and hotheaded plunges towards the net and Mantle's uncanny knack of running the shuttle along the tape into his opponent's court. The latter tended to overshadow his flair for dropshotting and all round potential.

Also, a weekly Junior session was held with entertaining and promising results. Badminton should be a game of constant movement. An ability to play shots into open spaces and a willingness to run are more important at this stage than a dynamic smash or a backhand clear. The Grimmitt brothers, in particular, impressed with their enthusiasm, good smashes, their running and natural flair. Several players from the Second and First forms like Davy and Underwood played well.

I hope these sessions continue to be well represented. Provided you have a racket, there are no other costs. All are welcome, whether beginners or regular players. I would certainly like to see more tennis players, Seniors and Juniors, taking up this game in the winter.

SCHOOL BASKET BALL

The fluctuating standards between school years has never been better illustrated than in the past season. Our Senior team was built anew with boys who had not played at this level before, the Seconds played through the season almost on enthusiasm alone and the Under 16's team was abandoned for lack of worthwhile support. Meanwhile the Under 15's showed real strength in depth at the game and promise much for the future.

Within the school the Senior House Cup was won by the Lions and the inter-form competitions were won by 5A, 3B and 2A in their respective years. A report of the Basket Ball Tour to Canada appears elsewhere.
SENIORS BASKET BALL

Bellamy was the school’s most outstanding performer. He played in every game to provide the side with accurate shooting and very competitive spoiling and “hustling” in defence. Altogether he is probably the best player we have seen at school.

He was nobly supported by Lutter whose natural height made him a player to have on your side but eventually, the better standard of opponents meant he had to improve to be in the game. The remaining stalwarts were Lane, Richards, Bernacki and Galloway, the latter managing to Captain the team with a panache and style befitting the smallest player. The reliability of this group made the season worthwhile and enabled the School Team to complete their year in the Northants Senior League Division II in 4th position.

By their efforts those already named gave the side the cohesion so essential in any team game. Lawson, Mitchell and Staden also played but not as regularly as all would have liked. Mitchell in particular managed to translate his own brand of stubborness into aggressive defensive play. He will have to play a more versatile role in future or find himself more on the bench than on court.

SECONDS BASKET BALL

With a playing record of 16 defeats and 4 wins and a bottom but one position in the Northants League Division III there could be no hiding from reality amongst our school second team. Somehow the players still managed to enjoy their games which is shown by the regular attendance at matches of all the squad. The easy going nature of the players was both one of their more endearing characteristics and their biggest playing weakness.

Brown, Hill and Smith gave the team most of its scoring power, closely followed by Barford and Osborn, but lack of control under pressure spoilt more scoring chances then should be allowed. Panic actions appeared all too quickly. This fact was never allowed to pass unnoticed by Cleaver whose apt comments eased many situations. Mayes for the whole season, and Andrews and Briggs since Christmas have been the other team members.

Those remaining from the School Seniors and Seconds will combine into one team next year to produce competition to earn a game. It is hoped all will continue to enjoy their Basket Ball for the policy of playing in the Senior County Leagues is to be continued with inter-school matches as extra fixtures.

UNDER 15 BASKET BALL

Results usually speak for themselves, 17 wins out of 20 games and victory in the final of the County Knock-Out Competition gave our Under 15’s the best playing record of current teams. There is no doubt that the boys concerned have worked hard to achieve success but continued effort will be required to enjoy the same rewards in future. The overall standard in the County at Under 15 level has not been as high as previous years and this means that next year, when kept together as Under 16’s, the side will be more severely tested as they play in place of our School Seconds in the Senior County League Division III.

Rush, as a set shooter, and Douglas, on rebounds, have been the main scoring power in the team each averaging over 10 points a game. Desborough has enjoyed himself in the role of chief defender and his scoring potential should be realised next year as the team switch from man-to-man to zone defence. Not being on court long enough has undoubtedly prevented Parish, Scott, York, Bryant and Bond from scoring more than they did, for all possess an accurate shot. Bryant in particular “came good” in the second half of the season but all have played their part in the teams success including the three smallest, Picken, Gray and Underdown whose confidence should be much improved for next season.

During the season Bond, Bryant, Desborough, Douglas, Parish, Picken, Rush and York were selected to play for the County Schools Team.
UNDER 14 BASKET BALL

A seemingly enormous number emerged as potential players in this group. The ability has been very evenly spread with over-eagerness a very pleasant problem to be overcome. Disappointing results should not deter this group who have many games to play next season, with the ever-increasing number of Under 15 Competitions.

The following played for the Under 14's:- Agostini, Aitken, Bradshaw, Brown, Burton, Colson, Cox, Gleghorn, Hamilton, Handshaw, Jones, Joy, Lazienko, Litchfield, Sharrock, Yeo and York.

CROSS-COUNTRY

The Senior Team this year has been very much a make-shift affair and we had to run one or two fourth year boys in the two matches we had. (In fact they were our best runners). We ran against Kettering Grammar School and the Police Team, narrowly losing on both occasions.

The Juniors, however, did very well. Cross-Country is a sport which requires hard work and dedication if reasonable results are to be obtained, and four boys who trained regularly (two or three times a week) during the autumn term reaped their just rewards. They were Murray, Douglas, Robertson and Picken. They ran in the Corby League meetings and their team finished in second place out of eleven. Considering that we were bottom of this league two years ago this was a very pleasing result. The standard at some Corby Schools is very high, with groups training every day.

In the Corby League there is an individual championship. The best three positions of each boy being added up, and a league position worked out. The first five positions were as follows:-

1st  Moodie (Lodge Park) (1st, 1st, 1st) total 3 points
2nd  Best (Kingswood) (2nd, 2nd, 3rd) total 7 points
3rd  Murray (W.G.S.) (2nd, 3rd, 4th) total 9 points
4th  Robertson (W.G.S.) (1st, 5th, 8th) total 14 points
5th  Douglas (W.G.S.) (3rd, 5th, 6th) total 14 points

Since more than 100 boys ran in one or more of the meetings these were excellent results.

The first and second year team did not do very well in the Corby League but several boys showed some talent. In fact if boys like Pickard, Stromdale, Gibson, Savage, Hawkins and Knight can be persuaded to form a 'training squad' as did the fourth year boys this season then 1973–74 should be an even better season than this one.

HOUSE NOTES

DRAGONS

House Masters:  Messrs. C. A. Pine, A. E. Sparrow, M. Vann
Head of House:  J. M. Wilson
House Secretary:  C. P. Bellamy

It has been another indifferent year for the house as far as achievement is concerned. Although a high standard was maintained in the Rugby competition, with the house regaining first place, other competitions found us sadly lacking the necessary enthusiasm. The Senior Basketball team were largely responsible for their runners-up position in the Grant Cup. The performance of the Juniors in most forms of the sports competitions left much to be desired. This lack of enthusiasm
for the various house activities must be rectified immediately next year, and a more united effort must be made. Special thanks must go to Davies and his assistant for handling the unenvied task of house music so admirably. Finally thanks to Wilson and Barford who have contributed so much to the success of the house in the last few years.

LIONS

House Captain: A. P. Flint

This year Lions approached their tasks in various sports with great enthusiasm and determination. All participants gave their best, and through this the Lions achieved many honours. Congratulations.

Unfortunately, the house Rugby Cup, which we were defending went to another house but Lions finished second, and this shows that we are good competition for anyone, provided the effort remains. Lions achieved second place again for the house drama but once again we won the chess competition. This is a relatively new event but Lions won hands down. Hard work earned Lions a first place in the house basketball competition — an event in which we always do well. By far our best, and most outstanding performance came from athletics, where we obtained two second, and two firsts out of four cups. Our first placings were from the Warwick Hurdles Bowl and the Sheehan Bros Athletic cup. Lions also won the house music, but cricket and tennis were both slightly disappointing, although competitors cannot be faulted for their efforts. When all is said and done, it was a successful year for Lions, and the main reason for this is the great spirit shown by all participants in events.

A warm greeting is extended to all newcomers, and we hope you will help in this spirited fight for greater honours.

STAGS

House Masters: Messrs. M. K. Wright, G. B. Dean, P. E. Cameron
Head of House: S. A. Rogers

Last year was a year of mixed fortunes for Stags. In the Rugby and Cricket, Steve Clews guided both senior teams to a respectable position. His efforts were also important in gaining us second place in the Basketball Competition. The inaugural year of the Chess Competition saw Stags in third place behind Lions and Gryphons.

In Music, however, we were disappointed. The result of 4th place was not a reflection of the amount of work put into the competition by Paul Langland, and all credit must go to him for his dedicated work through the term. In Athletics also, we were at the bottom of the field: Sports Day was not one of the happier memories of the term. Homans deserves thanks for organizing Stags House Tennis teams through the summer term, and it was only a close finish by Dragons and Lions that prevented a higher position for Stags.

The House Drama Competition was one of the closest in recent years. Strong performances came from Lions and Dragons, but the Stags play, "My Proud Beauty", took the cup. Special thanks go to Mark Coleman, who stepped in at short notice and played a leading role in the success of the play. The producer also would like to extend his thanks to all those who helped Stags win the Cook Cup for the first time in many years.

Finally, we said goodbye to Mr. H. C. Phillips at the end of last term. Mr. Phillips has been with Stags for a considerable time, and we are all grateful to him for his hard work and enthusiasm in his capacity as House Master.
GRYPHONS


Again the House has excelled in its team spirit and overall enthusiasm for success.

This spirit has enabled us to achieve remarkable results on the athletics field, for yet again, the House has taken the first position in this sphere. We also won the Relay Cup, thanks to the perseverance of the competitors.

Di Stefano and his colleagues, despite a truly valiant attempt, managed only a third position in the House Drama Competition, but here again, all-round effort was seen from all concerned.

Musical competence was shown by the whole House, especially Di Stefano, Wharton and Huddart, which resulted in a first place in the choral piece and a second position overall in the competition.

Perhaps the less said about the cricket the better. A fourth place awards all due credit to the players.

Generally speaking, though, some excellent results were produced due to the all-round enthusiasm of our members. Let us hope that we shall continue to have success in some fields, and improvement in others, in the coming year.

6-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

The annual 6-a-side tournament got off to a dramatic start when Athletico Parathanaisham were surprisingly beaten by Woochch. In spite of the subtle prompting of P. C. H. (who can’t wait for the day when feet transplants will be available so that he can exchange one of his left feet for a right one), the “explosive” runs of R.P.T., who was always ready to experiment, the fine positional sense of N.S.F.W., who was more successful in passing comments than the ball, the sophistication and poetry of movement of N.P.J.W. the finesse of R.P.B., and the acrobatics of the veteran J.P.H., they were defeated only because the opposition scored more points. Their sporting spirit was a highlight of the game as they always apologised after deliberately kicking an opponent. Mr. R. Buckby again gave away a penalty and in his comments to the referee revealed a fine command of the English language. Mr. B. Way scored a goal that was described as “magnificent” and “out of this world” — descriptions used only by Mr. Way himself.

Woochch then went on to beat Six Stars and Nick’s Whiffs, and in the semifinal came up against the number two seeds, Road o’Cobras. This was the best game of the competition with much good football. The only score at half time was one corner when an attempted clearance by Lutter (who is clearly more at home playing with one of those oversize eggs) cleared the tree behind his goal. An early goal by Cox in the second half looked like bringing victory, but Woochch came back strongly to win 11–6.

In the other half of the draw the Experts had a hard opening game against Grype Type and Several Things, who played very well. Goals from “Sniffer” Parkinson saw the Experts through. In the next round they had a comfortable victory over Head & Shoulders and in the semi-final came up against Farmborough United. Two quick goals put the Experts in a good position but in the second half Farmborough United came back strongly. Only a goal two minutes from time by R.B.T. (to cries of “Look, he can run”) took the pressure off the Experts.

The final was disappointing as Woochch did not produce the form of the semifinal. Their problems were increased when Lutter sustained an injury and had to leave the field. However, Woochch continued to try and played in a fine spirit but the odds were too much against them.
Thus victory came to the number one seeds, clearly everyone's favourites. What were the reasons for their victory? There was the supreme fitness of R.B.T., the only captain who required oxygen after tossing the coin. There was the lethal shooting of K.P., shooting that was lethal to everyone except the opposing goalkeeper who was in the safest place on the pitch. There was the speed of R. "He'll bite yer leg" A., and the tenacity of P. "We'll keep a welcome in the hillside" E.C. There was the handling of G.B.D. (It is true that the only thing he can catch is a cold?). Then there was one other, the only Diamond not in Elizabeth Taylor's collection, who was only there to make up the six.

T.W.L.

‘THE ROYAL HUNT OF THE SUN’

Each year the producer of the school play has to undergo some sort of mental torture deciding what will be a ‘suitable’ production, both for an audience to see and for the actors to perform. These two demands are not always easy to reconcile. There are times when the audience is indulged, but there is little intrinsic interest in the play as far as the actors are concerned: there are other occasions when the actors are presented with satisfying and complex roles, but the audience has to be patient and seriously attentive in allowing the play to unfold before them. Last year’s school production of Peter Shaffer’s ‘The Royal Hunt of the Sun’ probably veered towards the latter concept, but was justified by the high quality of acting skills and technical expertise which emerged.

Shaffer’s script demanded a great deal from the boys who took part. Francisco Pizzaro, a hardened Spanish general, riddled with cynicism and wracked with pain, the legacies of former campaigns, embarks upon his last mission of conquest. He has much to prove to his monarch, his country and himself, but the flesh is rapidly feeling its age and the spirit has weakened. David Bamford, who now seems a veteran of our stage, brought his long experience but also a new maturity to his playing of this part, and in two performances rose to the heights of emotional intensity and truly felt pathos that would have been the envy of a number of actors. He sometimes flitted too easily from mood to mood, and is occasionally prone to some eccentric, idiosyncratic physical jerks, but usually showed a lot of control and command, and was always the pivot of the company.

Opposed to him, contrary in many ways, was Mark Austin as the character of Atahualpa, the Emperor/God whose lands Pizzaro intends to steal. His size and bearing added a dignity essential to the part, and realistic flashes of wondering anger successfully smoothed over those few places which he was less able to handle. The conflict between the two men always convinced.

Dereck Hornbuckle as de Soto, Pizzaro’s lieutenant, wore the puzzled quizzical air expected of a loyal man who cannot understand his leader. He often found the quieter moments difficult to cope with, but his anger and passion could be quite fearful. Much the same can be said about Stephen Rogers in the part of Old Martin Ruiz, the narrator of the story. He proved to be a forceful and totally credible story teller, very popular with the ladies of the audience. He had the ability to pour venom into his later lines, although he had to be careful to avoid a natural tendency to flattening the tone of his voice. Ivan Wildman as Old Martin’s younger self was often too diffident and nervous, but his wide-eyed wonder and enthusiastic chasing after a romantic illusion contrasted well with the dashed ideals of the older man.
It was not only the driving force of discovery and conquest in the name of the king which sent these men to the Americas. Sometimes, and more ruthlessly, there was also the motivation of the Church's greed for power and souls. In Shaffer's play that august body is manifested in the persons of Valverde and de Nizza, two priests who would proudly have graced the Inquisition. Stuart Simpson and Stephen Stringer, respectively, presented horrific characterisations of these figures, passing easily from sanctimonious sermonising to feverish demands for blood-letting. Their native counterparts, played by Martin Wilson and David Stenhouse, were not such well-drawn figures, although both boys made as much of their roles as they could.

Arend Hoogervorst's pompous, sycophantic emissary of the Spanish king is also worth a mention. His contemptuous turn of the shoulder would have been enough to have incensed any leader. There was a solid performance too from Martin Smith as the wholly immoral Venetian mercenary, the only man to admit he was on the campaign for his own ends.

The many minor characters performed their parts well in creating this piece of 'living history' which placed its focus directly on personalities and not on events. One thinks particularly of pike-toting soldiers, and of the chanting Indians sowing their idealistic realm. Both groups helped to fill the stage adequately, and gave a good impression of excited crowds. All these Mr. Wright handled well, and he can be well pleased that the play often rose above the level of 'school-boy' drama. It was a brave choice, but one which in the final outcome succeeded well. His production had continuity and flow, even at those times of the play when the great chunks of dialogue threatened to overwhelm all present, and his lucid cutting allowed each actor to work within his limits.

The stage staff too are to be highly praised for their help in the full realisation of what was a most exciting visual spectacle. The careful use of lights on a virtually bare stage added many new dimensions to each scene, and the motif of a blazing sun was an appropriate symbol of the whole play. A special word of praise must be extended to Mrs. Dean for the splendid costumes which she designed and made herself. They added a finishing touch to a most remarkable enterprise.

**HOUSE PLAYS 1973**

The performance of the House Plays this year saw two that were worthy of merit, and two which struggled to achieve any real standard. The winner was Stags' "My Proud Beauty" which has appeared before in this competition. Stephen Rogers' production lacked the edge that Misselbrook brought to it on the previous occasion, but still made an impact with its melodramatic acting. However, whilst Rogers himself as the villain leered and ground his teeth to near exhaustion, he carried the play because the other performances lacked bite. Clews as the introducer started it all well, and injected the required amount of wit, but Cobley as the father was rather too flat and slow, and Wildman as the mother had difficulty suggesting age with any conviction. Coleman as the blushing bride pouted well and looked pretty, and managed successfully with a part that, true to House Plays tradition, he had taken very recently after the illness of Derek Hornbuckle. Austin, fresh from Peru, played the "goodie" with stone-faced charm, and Higgins as the re-imported Australian emigrant shone brightly by courtesy of too much make-up, a bush hat of dubious origin, and a shapely pair of knee-caps.

David Bamford's play displayed his usual characteristic: an attempt to do more than was strictly probable. Rhymed pantomime, "Alladdin" was long and had a silly ending. No-one would fault Bamford for trying an extensive production, but the fact remains that his actors found themselves in situations beyond their capabilities. Forskitt in particular had difficulty with the Princess, and remained inaudible, and though M. Smith leaped with abandon as the name part, he seemed to forget that when you are not in the main part of the action, you should be still. Carrea and Hoogervorst created a striking impression between them, and were given some imaginative stage placings, and Stringer took on the audience to effect.
The Dame is usually played in this way, and is used as a link between the scenes, but the lack of space in front of the traverse hampered him considerably. Lindsay as the Crude Genie spoke strangely but looked at his boots, and Simpson simpered well but was inaudible, as was Murray as Hoo Sit. Basic skills such as these can easily spoil a good production if they are lacking.

Of the other two plays, "Ernie" was the more effective, suffering heavily, however, by having on stage many actors who had little to do and didn't know how to do that very well; and Barford's "Make Your Play" was a series of sketches tenuously linked, which was supposed to be witty, but wasn't. Re-written, it could be a lively play.

The afternoon was by no means a failure, but as always there seemed a clear division between the productions that were well engineered, and those which were woolly in concept. The difficulties that producers face in gathering their casts for rehearsals have to be seen to be believed, and in some cases the shambles seemed to be insurmountable. It is to the credit of all four producers that they stuck to their jobs in face of the troubles which they encountered.

The adjudicator was Mr. Gilbert Gordon, the County Drama Advisor.

CANADA

In 1972 statements like "it all happens in Blackpool!" were thrown about as an enticement to boys to join the annual School Basketball Tour. Enticements were not required for 1973 as the School received an invitation to visit The Chateauguay Valley Regional High School, in Ormstown, Quebec Province, Canada. Although certain adjustments had to be made we eventually travelled with our Seniors and Under 15's as the representative School Teams.

Dark was the hour (5.00 a.m. on Saturday April 7th) when the coach began its journey from Northamptonshire to Gatwick and our flight out to Toronto. The flight took in an unscheduled stop at Prestwick making us over 1½ hours late on arrival, which in turn caused us to miss our train connection for Montreal. This added a further hour to our travel so that when we reached Ormstown we had been on the go for 25 hours.

Obviously everyone was quite travel weary but it did not prevent the occasional smile and nervous good manners from emerging as first introductions were made. There was also the shock for some that they were to be hosted by girls, attractive ones too. No wonder David Frost claims that world travel is very educational . . .

A very necessary day of rest and acclimatisation was Sunday's programme and on Monday we encountered the Canadian Educational System. In a school with no apparent rules of dress our uniform created a very favourable impression that was to last throughout our stay. The catchment area of the school is nearly 80 square miles and all 1400 pupils are brought to school by special buses. One of these with Bob Ness the driver, was our transport throughout and on the first Monday he took us on a tour of the valley region. We soon realised why the pupils come from such a wide area for it could not be more rural, so overwhelming was the feeling of space and vast countryside with very few buildings. Our day out included a stop at one building to see maple syrup being prepared in an isolated farmer's "sugar shack".

For our first two days the sun shone out of a clear blue sky while the met. men were forecasting 4 to 6 inches of 'blowing' snow and sure enough, on Tuesday we all woke up to a mild winter's day by local standards. To us however, stepping outdoors was like stepping into a windy refrigerator but everyone in our party enjoyed watching their snow clearing equipment at work.

During our first week the serious business of playing matches was arranged and our Seniors found themselves in some difficult games. Easily our best performance at this level was on Tuesday against our hosts who beat us 48-45, though a repeat match on the final day of our stay saw them defeat us more heavily 37-22. The two nearest High Schools provided opposition in our other matches defeating us 36-18 and 55-38. Altogether the greater ability in depth within the Senior age group was too much for us to cope with successfully.
The Under 15’s meanwhile found the opposition less taxing with two wins 22–18, 24–21 and two defeats 38–45, 8–18. They also played two challenge games against the junior and senior girls teams of the Chateauguay School. Divided into two groups of small and tall players they drew 8 all and won 46–8 respectively in two most enjoyable games. A video-tape of one Under 15 game was taken and shown to all the participants. No commentary was made but occasional comments from the crowd came through very clearly, especially that of one young female who drooled, “Oooh the number 4, isn’t he a doll?” We all agreed he was, but had our doubts about “the gripper”. These two certainly made an impact on their contemporary Canadians as did the special biology lesson provided late one night on the two staff members and 1 lone English boy.

Accompanied by our hosts, three full one day trips to Ottawa, Quebec and Montreal filled our middle week, enabling us to see the different parts and people of Eastern Canada. In Ottawa we were shown round the Parliament Buildings including a trip up the “Peace Tower” very similar to London’s Big Ben, providing a panoramic view of the city and nearby Hull. The historic associations of Quebec City were all visited, especially the heights of Abraham, and our main problem here was that 98% of the people are French speaking.

Montreal, the nearest of the 3 major cities, had already been visited for a trip to watch the Harlem Globetrotters play in an exhibition match. This game had been played at the home of “The Canadiens”, Montreal’s famous ice hockey team. Throughout our stay the ice hockey final play-offs were taking place and progress in the competition for the “Stanley Cup” depended on results in a best of seven match series. Every time they played a T.V. channel showed the game in its entirety, usually lasting 2½ hours, and everything else stopped. When in Rome, do as the Romans, so quite happily, we became hooked on ice hockey along with our hosts.

Built on an island in the St. Laurence river, the city of Montreal was far too complex for the majority of our party. We spent most of our day in the shopping and main tourist centres. We also saw the world famous ship canal, St. Laurence Seaway, when during our visit to the locks at Beauharnois a large sea-going vessel passed through. To see this ship raised 40 feet will certainly be one memory for all to keep.

Mr. Robert Gill, the Chairman of the School Board, and his delightful wife Margaret, gave a dinner in honour of our party which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. He also ensured that all arrangements made by Mr. Dave Hardy, Head of the Schools P.E. Department, functioned smoothly. The members of our party will be eternally grateful to both of these gentlemen for all the hard work they put in on our behalf.

No account of our stay should omit the day of Galloway's birthday, when cider, Canadian Cottage Pie and Chicken were devoured in vast quantities. Thanks go to his hosts Mr. and Mrs. Hooper who excelled with their homely hospitality.

Emotional scenes were on view at our departure from the school on Wednesday evening, April 25th. Included in our journey home was a trip to Niagara Falls on Thursday before our flight home and needless to say the cameras were out in force to record yet one more landmark on a truly remarkable journey.

**FOLK CLUB**

The Folk Club as ever, meets in Room 6 (darkened on occasions) at 7.45 every alternate Wednesday. This year a number of guests was a reflection on the amount of interest shown locally in the club.

Some very good folk singers have greeted us during the past few months. Brian Bentham played some stirring blues numbers in January to the delight of the assembled multitude. Perhaps the most popular of all guests proved to be Bob Cuttings, whose rendering of “The Viet-Nam Blues” never ceased to bring the
House down. In March, we managed to grab The Widdershing, and they eventually agreed to play for us. The effort was well worth it, for the group were the most professional of our guests with a great variety of instruments and vocals. Alan Hurst came on several occasions and exhibited true guitar playing. While Brendan Maclaughlin did the same on the banjo. Roy Harris was eventually enticed from Nottingham this year, and showed why he is one of the best floor singers around, on the club circuit at the moment. Dave Lewis, John Kelly and Roger Grimes also proved popular, as they have in the past.

Now for school talent. Adrian Higgins was one of our “finds” of the season. His rendering of Irish ballads was the highlight of an evening which also saw Andrew Ray playing vivacious jigs on his fiddle. Tack Boulton and Neil Verow, treated us to some tremendous musical genius with a steel guitar and dulcimer/mandolin duo. R.P.T. usually opened up the evening.

The Committee this year consisted of Julia, Jane, Steve Rogers and Graham Andrews. They have all performed a great variety of tasks from lighting candles to facing a half-visible crowd of (would-be?) “folkies”.

CHESS CLUB

The Spassky-Fisher confrontation in Iceland caused a tremendous increase in our membership early last year but the number of regular members (including the girls from the High School) eventually settled down to about thirty.

This year has been mainly one of experiment. We had a ladder competition, which, despite some interference with the position cards, was very successful, with over sixty people taking part.

We also held a House Chess Competition for the first time and for this a cup was kindly donated by Mr. Ralph. Lions were the first winners.

In the Wellingborough and District Schools Chess League we were unlucky not to win, being narrowly beaten by Wollaston, despite winning more individual games throughout the season than that school. (See table below). In fact because of this anomaly the scoring system has now been changed.

We entered two teams in the Sunday Times Competition; our ‘A’ team lost in the first round and our ‘B’ team in the second round. However we gained useful experience and hope to do better next year.

Thanks are due to Mr. Turville for his help and to G. Carrea, this year’s captain and a major source of enthusiasm.

In conclusion we may say that last year saw a general improvement in standards and some interesting innovations.

The club meets every Friday in Room 15, at 4.00 p.m. Come and join us.

Results:

Final Wellingborough League Table

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<th>Drawn</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>For</th>
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RADIO CLUB

The past year has been a great success for the Radio Club. We now boast four members licensed to transmit around the world, these being Steve Homans (call-sign G4BNM), Mike Sinclair (G4BVF), Paul Knight (G4CEC) and Bob Chettle (G8HGX).
Two or three short-wave listeners are also well on the way to becoming licensed ‘hams’ and several more have been elected to Associate Membership of the Radio Society of Great Britain.

Speech Day last year saw a special event station put on in Room T, using the call-sign G3RLV/A. Many foreign stations were contacted, the highlights being stations in Tokyo, Southern California and Brazil.

Since then the club has moved into new premises under the bridge where a short-wave station has been set up for use by members.

Unfortunately the club has now lost Mr. Vann and we would like to thank him for his hard work and enthusiasm in forming the club into a viable entity. We wish him the best of luck in his new position. We would also like to thank our new patron, Mr. Huddart, for volunteering to take over the running of the club.

All prospective members are welcome at any of our meetings on Tuesday evenings. But beware: once the bug has bitten, you stay bitten!

73, P.V.K. (Hon. Sec.)

STAMP CLUB

This year has been a very successful one for the club. Meetings have been held regularly and have been well attended. The number of serious collectors has increased considerably.

We hope to continue next term with our twice-weekly meetings — on Mondays at 4.00 p.m., and on Thursdays during the lunch hour — in Room F.

All interested, young or old, are welcome.

R.B.

GEOLOGY CLUB

As last year the club largely functioned in the Autumn term. This was a result of the master in charge also being very heavily committed to the running of school sports teams. Despite the lack of time, however, some useful progress was made.

The main trip for the year was a Sunday visit to the Geological Museum, where the new exhibition “The History of the Earth” was the highlight. Prior to this trip lectures were given by various members of the club. This included Verow on “Continental Drift”, Marriott on “Radio Active Minerals” and Mr. Tussler on “Valuable Minerals”.

The present membership of the club totals twelve, but any new members will be only too welcome. In future it is hoped that other members of staff who have an interest in the subject may help to keep the club operating.

TOC-H

This year has been a relatively successful one for Toc-H. We have been seriously handicapped, though, by a lack of members. ALL NEW MEMBERS WELCOME IN THE LIBRARY ON WEDNESDAYS AT 4.00 p.m.!! and consequently our efforts have been curtailed.

Our house-to-house collection for the Blind was most successful with a record £22 being collected. We were also able to help in a house-to-house collection for the Wellingborough Chest Care Committee. Unfortunately we were unable to assist in the ‘Help the Aged’ collection owing to the G.C.E. examinations.
The Toc-H District ‘Knock-Out’ Quiz was held during February, March and April and we reached the semi-finals before being eliminated. This was a fairly good effort considering that this was our first year of participation. We shall be involved in the Kingsway Play Group Scheme, to be held during August. We have had very little experience in this form of social work so the results should be quite interesting.

Once again, I cannot stress enough the importance of increasing our membership. We now have the necessary close contacts with the Toc-H central organisation and we can break away from the old “jumble sale–tea in the library–doing nothing” image and increase the scope of our activities. So any new members in the fourth, fifth or sixth forms would be very welcome indeed.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The Christian Fellowship has joined with the High School for all the meetings this year. The group consists of Christians who like to discuss their beliefs, in their Saviour Jesus Christ, and have fellowship together. Highlights have included films, outside speakers, and an evening meeting. We thank Mr. Phillips very much for all the help he has given the fellowship over so many years, and we also thank Mr. Chesters who has agreed to take over. Brian has been a keen committee member for the last two years has now left and we thank him for all his help. The end of the summer term saw a united effort in the form of a Sponsored Swim. Over a thousand lengths of the High School Pool were swum and the money raised, over £100, will go towards talking books for the blind. New members are always welcome at our meetings.

SCOUT TROOP

We are now somewhat recovered from a decline in activity, which has plagued us for over a year. There is encouraging enthusiasm amongst our new members, and our more advanced Scouts have shown considerable perseverence, as well as understanding of the less knowledgeable, resulting for the troop in a steady return to former health. The recommended consumption of hot tea, in times of stress, has been proved to be a reliable remedy!

Early in the year, a degree of reluctant enthusiasm for making rope, was developed, and the infernal machine used to manufacture it is still giving good service.

The school provided hospitality, once again, for the annual Silverwood competition, and although regrettably we did not enter a team, the event was otherwise as successful as ever.

The County Camp was held during the Whitsuntide holiday, at Low Farm, Bozeat, and the troop was represented by a group of us anxious to improve on the cooking and digestion of beans, bangers, etc. The enthusiasm shown for the possibility of having more stewed rhubarb was but one of the mistaken impressions gained by the local press. We enjoyed taking part in the camp competitions, and actually reached the final in the tug-of-war. We were so encouraged by the success of this camp, that we intend to have a further week in August, at Walesby, near Nottingham.

Since half-term, four new members have joined us, and we welcome them to the troop.

J.W.H.
MUSIC NOTES

AUTUMN TERM 1972 — CHRISTMAS MUSIC

For the first time for many years, the end-of-term programme of Christmas music consisted of the traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols, presented by the Junior and Senior Choirs, with lessons read by representatives of each year throughout the school, from first form to sixth, and ending with the Head Prefect, Miss Bavin and Mr. Nicholas. Settings of two carols and a ‘Magnificat’ by Mr. Chesters were included, the former ‘Eia, eia’ and ‘A babe is born’ being sung by the Junior Choir, and the Magnificat in four parts by the Senior Choir.

This made an effective change from the usual concert and a seasonal end to the term. A retiring collection of more than £14 was taken and donated to “War on Want”.

Earlier in the term, a party of some 40 pupils and staff from the Grammar School, the County High School and Wellingborough School, visited the Royal Festival Hall on Thursday 19th October, to hear a concert by the London Philharmonic Orchestra. In the programme were Schubert’s “Rosamunde” Overture, Elgar’s Cello Concerto (soloist, Paul Tortelier) and the “Enigma” Variations, and a suite, “The Rising of the Moon” by the modern British composer, Nicholas Maw.

This was a very successful event, but none-too well patronised by our own boys who have not yet, it seems, learned the value of the added dimension of ‘live’ music, never captured by the recorded product, however much more available and convenient this may be. (Perhaps the next visit of this kind should be on the initiative of the pupils, rather than the staff).

A number of boys from last year’s Junior Choir, together with eight instrumentalists, presented a programme of music at Victoria United Reform Church on Saturday 4th November. The preparation of this programme was made especially difficult by the fact that Guy Fawkes celebrations this year fell on a Sunday, so that many bonfire parties were held on Saturday 4th November instead. However, in the end, more than 24 boys, showing considerable loyalty, gave a good account of themselves in a very varied programme of songs and instrumental music lasting something over an hour and a half.

SPRING TERM 1973 — HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION — Friday 2nd March

In past years we have been pleased to welcome two old boys of the school to adjudicate House Music: Richard Bradshaw in 1967, and John Forster in 1972. This year we were visited by old grammarian Michael Lambert, who is now Head of Music at a large comprehensive school in Staffordshire.

Again this year, House conductors were given freedom of choice in their selection of music, and we had a variety of pieces for S.A.B. and S.A.T.B. choirs. Dragons began with “Under Sail”, a sea-shanty arranged in 3 parts by Mr. Vann, which was sung with good style and diction, but with some rather flat high notes from the trebles. Stags followed with an arrangement of “Golden Slumbers” by George Mitchell, which they sang unaccompanied. This led to some rather shaky intonation at the beginning, but this improved as the piece went on. Mr. Lambert’s main criticism was of the style, “too fast, and not legato enough”, hardly the cradle song it was intended to be. Another sea-shanty from Gryphons came next. A very large choir of sixty or more voices sang “New York Gals”, in a four-part arrangement by Mr. Chesters, with solo by R. Huddart. The idea of having the choir in shirt-sleeve order and without ties may have been appropriate to the song, but it gave the adjudicator an impression of a “motley crew”, not too well disciplined. However, they gave a lively performance, well prepared, and the tambourine accompaniment was a good idea.
After this, Lions piece seemed almost tame: Purcell's "Shepherd, shepherd, leave your labours" arranged for S.A.B. Choir, was sung with good diction and fair intonation, but with a rather weak bass line. However, the choir looked good, and sang with enjoyment. In the adjudication, Gryphons, despite their appearance, were judged best with 38 marks out of 50.

In the instrumental solos we had from Dragons a cornet solo by K. Belton, a very promising 1A boy, who played "Song of the Heart" by P. Catelinet; from Stags, the first movement of Haydn's Trumpet Concerto, well played by A. Higgins; from Gryphons, another cornet solo by M. Billingham, "Dio possente" by Gounod, (this, the adjudicator thought, was very well played, but was rather in-adventurous music for someone of as advanced a technique as Billingham's). Finally, Lions gave us a rest from the brass section, and A. Ray played the second movement of Handel's violin Sonata in F (Op. 1, No. 12). This gained 18 out of 20, and Ray was placed first in this section.

In the Ensemble class, there was considerable variety of choice in the items presented. Dragons had a trio, consisting of A. Sibley (clarinet), K. Belton (cornet), and A. Lovell (piano), in an arrangement of a Gavotte by Boismortier. From Stags there was some accomplished playing from the brass quartet of A. Higgins, S. Andrews, P. Thompson and P. Kirk in "Comrades in Arms" by Adolphe Adam. Gryphons had an S.A.T.B. vocal group to sing another sea-shanty, "A-roving", arranged by Roger Fiske, and Lions presented a movement of a "Sonata da chiesa" by Corelli for two violins and piano, played by A. Ray, G. Carrea and I. Mcllroy. The brass quartet were given best in this class with 23/30 marks.

As usual, the compositions were crucial in the final result, the Juniors' being won by Dragons (J. M. Pearce–3A), and the Senior by Gryphons (E. P. Wharton–5A). They made it a very close-run last lap between Gryphons and Lions, but in the end Lions triumphed by one mark: 91 to 90, and R. A. Higgins received the Appleby Cup for his house.

An enjoyable competition this year, showing some quite promising musicians coming up the school.

Results:

1st Lions 91 marks
2nd Gryphons 90 marks
3rd Dragons 88 marks
4th Stags 81 marks

Conductors were: R. A. Higgins (Lions), J. di Stefano (Gryphons), A. G. Sibley (Dragons), and P. Longland (Stags).

WELLINGBOROUGH AND DISTRICT SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

The school was again well represented at this bi-annual event, held this time on Thursday 19th March at High Street United Reform Church, Wellingborough.

The Senior Choir took part in the massed singing of some five hundred children from primary and secondary schools in the area, learning some seven songs by heart and also taking part in the final item, "The Daniel Jazz", which was accompanied by Mr. Ghesters (honky-tonk piano), with Odell and Carrea on drums and assorted percussion. (Some memorable shouts from 500 throats of "We want Daniel").

The school was well in evidence also in the items played by the District Band and Orchestra. The festival received enthusiastic support from a large number of schools, and the music presented was overall of a very high standard. Thanks to Mr. Tyler for a very enjoyable evening.

At the invitation of Mrs. Temple, the Junior Choir joined with the boys and girls of her choir at Croyland C.P. School on the morning of Thursday 5th April, to present to Croyland school and staff, a selection of items from the Festival programme. Most children not in the choir had been unable to attend High Street Church, owing to restricted audience accommodation.
This event proved so successful that we were invited to join in Croyland's end-of-term concert on 12th July, to sing "Animal Magic", songs from "Mutiny on the Cutty Sark", and repeat "Daniel" yet again.

SUMMER TERM 1973 – COMMEMORATION SERVICE – Friday 25th May

The preacher this year was the Vicar of Higham Ferrers, and the Senior Choir's contribution to the service consisted of an anthem: "Praise" by George Dyson, and Psalm 121, to a chant by Walford-Davies.

Although two further events remain to be chronicled, the Summer Concert on Tuesday 10th July, and the Junior Choir's contribution at Croyland School on Thursday 12th July, these reports will now have to await a future issue.

In concluding these notes, I would like to thank Miss Bavin for her gift of a tape recorder for the use of the Music Department. She has always shown a keen interest in the musical life of the School, and this generous gift, on the occasion of her retirement, will help in the recording of future events also.

A.R.C.

PARENTS' COMMITTEE

President: Mrs. M. B. Wrenn
Hon. Sec.: Mrs. R. Crawley

The Committee has been very active during the year in promoting functions for the Parents and in raising funds for the School Amenities. The Committee has been able to disburse well over a hundred pounds to School Societies during the year.

The support from Parents at all the Meetings organised by the Committee has been tremendous, particularly on those evenings when Parents are able to consult individual Masters.

AWARDS

Lord Kitchener Memorial Scholarships:—
G. HIND (History)
I. L. DAVIES (Medicine)
S. A. ROGERS (Town Planning)
D. P. W. SALISBURY (Physics)
M. J. SINCLAIR (Communications Engineering)
A. H. WATERFIELD (Medicine)

I. R. UNDERWOOD Charles Newton Memorial Scholarship for training as a Civil Air Pilot at Sywell
D. P. W. SALISBURY Scholarship in Physics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London
R. A. HIGGINS Choral Scholarship at Ripon College of Education
G. LEES Scholarship in Modern Languages at Christ Church, Oxford
V. V. Morgan University Prize

LEAVERS

C. G. AITKEN, Lloyds Bank
R. M. ALLEN, K. B. Carriers Ltd.
R. C. AMBRIDGE, S.S. Mark & John College of Education
D. J. ATTLEY, Birmingham (Mod. Languages)
N. A. BARGE, Hunter Penrose
N. J. BARLEY, Culham College of Education
M. BENNETT, King's College, London
D. J. BENNING, Transfer to Middlesex
D. P. W. SALISBURY, Imperial College, London
M. P. SCHOFIELD, Liverpool (Geology)
C. J. SCROXTON, Banking
J. SELMAN, Agriculture
J. M. SHEEHAN, Thames Polytechnic
C. A. SMITH, Trent Polytechnic
I. D. SMITH, Thornton Baker
N. SMITH, R. A. E. Bedford
G. STURGESS, Agriculture
S. C. TIVEY, Commercial Union
R. E. TUNN, Queen Mary College
R. T. TYLEY, Transfer to Judd School, Tunbridge
S. J. TYMAN, Frames Tours
I. R. UNDERWOOD, Leicester College of Dom. Arts
M. E. UNDERWOOD, Gray, Rushden
N. VEROW, Bath University
A. E. WALTER, Marriotts
K. WAIS, Barclays Bank
A. H. WATERFIELD, St. Mary's Hospital
B. J. WATSON, Tesco
T. W. WEBB, Haynes, Northampton
S. J. WHITBREAD, Steeple Press, Earls Barton
R. S. WHITEMAN, Wellingborough Rural Council
A. WHITTAKER, Banking
M. E. WILSON, Chettles Ltd
R. WINDSOR, Father's Business
P. WOOLHOUSE, National Westminster Bank
G. N. YORK, Copeland & Jenkins
P. K. YORK, College of Education

OLD BOYS' DISTINCTIONS

P. C. NEWELL, Fellow of St. Peter's College, Oxford
M. A. COX, Clay Research Scholarship to Bedford College, London
S. R. HUDDART, M.B., B.S., Westminster Hospital, London
A. W. JESSOP, I Hons. Maths Tripos, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge
J. T. SCHOFIELD, Exhibitor in Physics, Balliol College, Oxford
E. H. GREENHALE, I Hons, Civil Engineering, University College, London
H. L. DAVIES, I Hons, Maths, University College, London
A. M. GEORGE, III Hons. Biology, Queen Elizabeth College, London
C. E. JONES, III Hons. Economics, Sheffield University
B. L. ANKER, III Hons. Spanish, Birmingham University
B. HODGKIN, III Hons. Forestry, Bangor University
J. D. RAINNEY, III Hons. Estate Management, Reading University
A. PALMER, III Hons. Geography, London University
R. C. SCOTT, III Hons. Sociology, 'London School of Economics
A. W. WARNER, III Hons. Applied Physics, University College, London

IN MEMORIAM

12th February, 1973: TERENCE JOHN COLLIS (1946–53)
26th January, 1973: Mr. W. HOLMES (Senior Science Master 1944–60)
Although in great pain during his last few years at School, Mr. Holmes never gave in, and built up a very strong Science Department. Very many Old Boys will remember him with gratitude.
GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

KEY:— Lang.—English Language; Lit.—English Literature; F.—French; S.—Spanish; H.—History; G.—Geography; M.—Mathematics; F.M.—Further Mathematics; P.—Physics; C.—Chemistry; B.—Biology; Met.—Metalwork; E.D.—Engineering Drawing; A.—Art; Mus.—Music; L.—Latin; Ec.—Economics; Geo.—Geology; Ger.—German; B.C.—British Constitution; E.—English; I.—Italian.

ADVANCED LEVEL

P. ARROWSMITH: Ec. G. P.M.
D. J. BAMFORD: E.
P. V. BARFORD: G.
C. P. BELLAMY: H (Merit). Ec. G.
M. D. BRIDGEFORD: E. G. A.
R. A. CLEAVER: E. G.
S. C. CLEWS: E. H. G.
A. P. FLINT: E. H. (Merit) G.
A. J. HOOGERVORST: Ec. G.
K. JOHNSON: F. S. Ec.
D. W. LEWIS: Ec. G.
J. LINDSAY: E. F. S.
T. J. LOCKE: Ec. G.
D. M. C. MADDAMS: E. H. G.
R. R. MARTIN: H. Ec. G.
R. A. MASSOM: E. H (Merit). G.
A. D. MATTHEWS: H. Ec. G.
S. J. MITCHELL: E. H (Merit). G.
G. R. OWENS: H. Ec. G.
S. W. PACK: E. H (Merit). G.
S. N. SAWFORD: H. Ec. G.
P. L. SMITH: H (Merit). Ec. G.
R. E. SPENCE: G.
T. STIMSON: H. Ec.
S. STRINGER: F. Ec. G.
M. R. WIGGLESWORTH: E. G.
S. L. COPSON: F. S.
R. A. HIGGINS: Mus.
G. HIND: H (Merit). B.C. G.
S. A. ROGERS: H (Merit). B.C. G.
J. M. WILSON: H. B.C. G.
M. BANHAM: M. F.M. P. E.D.
I. J. CAMPBELL: M. P. C.
R. CHETTLE: M. P. E.D.
J. C. CLAYTON: M. C.
J. A. COX: C. B.
M. C. ELLIOTT: M. F.M. P. C.
A. E. FORSKITT: M. E.D.
A. J. GUNNING: M. P.
P. HANSON: P. C.
S. W. HOMANS: P. C. B.
P. V. KNIGHT: M. P.
A. S. LANE: M. E.D.
P. R. LONGSTAFF: P. C. B.
R. A. MILLER: M. F.M. P. C.
K. W. MOORCROFT: M. F.M. P.
A. R. PARISH: M. F.M. P. C.
R. F. PIGGOTT: M. F.M. P. C.
C. V. PRUSAKOWSKI: B.
C. OUASHIE: M.
R. RYCZKOWYCZ: M. P. E.D.
S. D. SIMPSON: M. P. C.
P. M. SMART: M. E.D.
C. S. SMITH: B.
ORDINARY LEVEL

J. R. LEE: Lang. G. M. B.
M. D. BOND: Lang. M. B.
J. E. DESBOROUGH: Lang. G. M.
P. J. DOUGLAS: Lang. H. G. M.
T. W. N. DOUGLAS: Lang. M.
J. D. ELDERTON: Lang. Lit. H. G. M.
M. INGAMELLS: M. P. C. Met. E.D.
I. D. MANNING: M.
T. I. NEWTON: Lang. M.
G. OWEN: Lang. M.
A. V. SCOTT: M. A. E.D.
N. P. TOMPKINS: Lang. M. P. B. E.D.
M. A. WODZAK: Lang. Lit. M.
J. A. W. WRIGHT: Lang. F. M.
S. J. BEAN: Lang. Lit. F. G. M. A.
S. BROWN: Lang. Lit. G. M. P. B.
M. W. CLEAVELEY: Lang. Lit. G. M.
A. J. COBLEY: Lang. G. M. B. E.D.
The following added subjects to their existing certificates

C. P. BRIGGS: G.
N. J. FORD: L.
A. P. KNIGHT: P.
E. A. LOWE: G.
P. F. MANTLE: L.
P. W. NORMAN: L.
J. A. SANDERS: B.
P. W. SMITH: G.
P. R. UNDERWOOD: M.
M. R. BAMFORD: L.
P. A. GIBBONS: G.
M. J. SHORT: L.
A. R. BAYES: B.
G. A. BOXALL: P.
S. COLES: P.
P. J. LILLEY: L.
M. P. MILES: G.
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| M. R. Bamford |
| D. A. J. Brooks |
| P. F. A. Conway |
| P. A. Gibbons |
| J. Harbour |
| D. G. Hey |
| P. Kirk |
| S. J. Leeding |
| J. K. Margetts |
| P. D. Osborn |
| I. W. Parkinson |
| M. A. Poole |
| S. Rose |
| M. J. Short |
| A. G. Sibley |

| **L6 ii** |
| G. |
| G. C. Andrews |
| A. R. Bayes |
| G. A. Boxall |
| E. P. Crawley |
| C. S. Ellson |
| M. W. Ferry |
| R. Huddart |
| R. J. Lilley |
| N. P. C. Mayes |
| M. P. Miles |

| **UVI** |
| I. Ali |
| P. Arrowsmith |
| M. J. Austin |
| D. J. Bamford |
| P. V. Barford |
| C. P. Bellamy |
| M. D. Bridgeford |
| R. A. Cleaver |
| S. C. Clews |
| J. DiStephano |
D. W. Morris  
I. J. F. Savage  
M. A. Sparrow  
R. P. Steele  
D. C. Swailes  
T. R. Waterfield  
N. D. White  
R. Worrell  

A. P. Flint  
A. J. Hoogervorst  
K. Johnson  
D. W. Lewis  
J. Lindsay  
T. J. Locke  
D. M. C. Maddams  
R. R. Martin  
R. A. Massom  
A. D. Matthews  
S. J. Mitchell  
G. R. Owens  
S. W. Pack  
S. N. Sawford  
P. L. Smith  
R. E. Spence  
T. S. Stinson  
S. Stringer  
M. R. Wigglesworth  

U6
D. Abbott  
S. P. Andrews  
M. Banham  
I. J. Campbell  
R. Chettle  
J. E. P. Childs  
J. C. Clayton  
J. A. Cox  
M. C. Elliott  
A. E. Forskitt  
A. J. Gunning  
P. G. Hanson  
S. W. J. Homans  
P. V. Knight  
A. S. Lane  
M. O. Lawson  
P. R. Longstaff  
J. Lowe  
S. Merrill  
R. A. Miller  
K. W. Moocroft  
A. R. Parish  
R. F. Piggott  
C. V. Prusakowski  
C. A. Quashie  
R. Ryczekowicz  
S. D. Simpson  
P. M. Smart  
C. S. Smith  
A. G. Tucker  
T. J. Tucker  
D. A. Wrigley  
C. A. York  

VI3  
S. L. Copson  
R. A. Higgins  
G. Hind  
S. A. Rogers  
J. M. Wilson  

63  
T. E. Amey  
G. Carrea  
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