

JANUS

Woolverstone Hall

1976

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*Woolverstone Hall
School Magazine*

1976



Editor: Mr. R. J. K. CROMARTY

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Editorial

The School Magazine comes to you in a new guise. We thought that we were not fully exploiting the advantages of the transfer to the Plaistow Press. So last Spring, the Headmaster set up an Editorial Committee. Charles Cowap became Deputy Editor, leading a team including Ken Davis, Gavin Williams, Roderick Kentish and Chris Bennett.

The aim of the Committee was to collect articles and creative writing covering every aspect of the life of the school. This aim has been only partially realised. But it is good to have an ambitious target and, with luck, it will produce a succession of better magazines in the future.

When the new term started in September only Ken Davis was left of the original Committee. The other members are Richard Crawshay, Paul Cornish, Roger Scarlett-Smith, Michael O'Driscoll and Nigel Tregear. John Robinson that rising short-story writer from the village has kindly joined us as an adviser. Messrs Biggs and Conroy have promised to help with art work.

We should like to point out that contributions may be published anonymously or under a pen-name if so requested but must be signed as a mark of good faith.

Staff Notes

Mr. Stephen R. Corner retired at Easter. He had a long career as Head of Science. He was one of the original housemasters, as the name of Corner's House bears witness. He took over the running of G.C.E. examinations from Mr. Rowland and continued in this exacting work until December 1975. He also had a long association with the Cambridge University Local Examinations Syndicate as an Examiner and was able to judge standards by the national level, a valuable corrective to the inward-looking tendency of a boarding school.

One term later came the retirement of Mr. Charles Thomas from the post of Head of Chemistry. Like Mr. Corner he always believed in high standards of scholarship and behaviour and personal integrity.

"Seven dog-days we let pass."

Naming queens in Glen Machas"

sang an Irish poet. It would need just as long to recall Mr. Thomas's varied activities in the school and the varied motor vehicles he has driven, scrapped, cannibalised, designed or reconstructed.

When Mr. Corner left, Mr. Cox became overall Head of Science. Mr. Hawes became Head of Biology. On Mr. Thomas's retirement Mr. Skailes took over as Head of Chemistry.

Mr. Cromarty took over responsibility for examinations and in the heat of the recent summer nearly suffered dehydration as he attempted record times on the course between the Northern Group and the Gymnasium. To lessen the danger of such activities the Headmaster has put Mr. Shakeshaft in charge of the School Examinations, while leaving the Public Examinations and "Mocks" with Mr. Cromarty. The mysterious store cupboard where Mr. Corner used to preside over all forms of school stationery and writing materials is now in the care of Mr. Evans.

Mention should also be made of Mr. Goetzee relinquishing the Housemastership of Hanson's at the end of the summer term, 1976. Mr. Goetzee was originally Assistant Housemaster under Mr. Hanson until 1962. Then he became Housemaster and had Mr. Poole as his Assistant. Mr. Goetzee however has not moved far afield. He now resides in the old Schoolhouse, attached to the Village School.

In the domestic, stoking and gardening departments 1976 has witnessed many retirements. The first to retire was Mr. Arthur Podd in January with 21½ years service. Even this length of service was exceeded by Mrs. Palmer who was Domestic Assistant in the Sick Bay (28 years service). After 25 years service Mrs. Wells who was Principal Domestic Assistant and must have organised hundreds of boys' team teas, relinquished these exacting duties and moved over to be Sewing Lady (Johnston's and Corner's). She has taken over as Sewing Lady there from Mrs. Walker who served for 22 years. Of the gardening staff mention must be made of Mr. George Crack who retired on 13th July after 15 years. Mr. Dawdry left after 2½ years.

Mrs. Butler, Library Assistant for 8 years, left in the summer to join her husband Arthur Butler in Yorkshire. She has been succeeded in the Library by Mrs. Peggy Bailey.

Mrs. O'Leary has taken over from Mrs. Wells as Principal Domestic Assistant.

Mrs. Nichols has been Housematron at Johnston's since January 1976.

Head Boy's Letter

Woolverstone may seem to some an institution inhabited by slothful, drunken anarchists. This is to some extent true and it is unfortunate that this is what people outside can see of us.

Woolverstone has much to offer to both the individual pupil and to the life of the community as a whole. However, there will always be some people for whom self-gratification is more desirable than constructive action. Most people would agree that the more you put into Woolverstone, the more you get out of it. Those people who have nothing to contribute to the community will benefit neither themselves nor the school and will inevitably feel frustrated and antagonistic. Nevertheless, for the majority life at Woolverstone is a unique and valuable experience. The school offers the individual a chance to extend his faculties in the field to which he is most suited. I would urge people to make the most of this unique opportunity.

I would like to think that the correct values will assert themselves and people will see the essential merits of the school. Perhaps it is too much to hope for but if everyone is prepared to commit themselves positively to life at Woolverstone, both academically and socially, there will be a general gain for all concerned.

P. Cornish

Examination Results, 1976

General Certificate of Education

Advanced Level

D. Bannister	Maths, Physics, Chemistry
C. Bennett	Art
B. Bhogal	Physics, Chemistry, Biology
D. Brown	Maths, Physics, Chemistry
J. Budden	English, History, Geography
J. Cini	History, Art
K. Davis	English, History, Geography
J. Eades	Geography, Art
M. Ellen	Physics, Biology
T. Evans	English, History, Geography
T. Gardner	English, Geography, Art
A. Gibson	Geography, Maths, Physics
S. Halliday	Physics, Biology
R. Harffey	English*, History, French
D. Harrison	History, Geography
J. Hayter	Maths
S. Ireland	Maths, Physics
G. James	Maths
I. Jessup	English, History
D. Jones	Physics
S. Kelleher	History, Geography, Art
R. Kentish	English, History
S. Joyce	English, Art
R. Matthews	Biology
P. Miller	English, History
R. Mills	Physics
A. Parker	English, History, Geography
A. Pickford	Physics, Biology
D. Plant	Physics
J. Rolfe	Maths, Physics
M. Ruffle	English*, Geography, Art
R. Seecoomar	English, History
S. Singleton	Physics
R. Smith	Maths, Physics, Chemistry
D. Steer	English, History, French
J. Sykes	Physics, Biology
N. Tregear	Physics, Chemistry, Biology
A. Warne	Maths, Physics, Chemistry
N. Watson	English, French
C. Wheeler	Physics, Chemistry, Biology
G. Willows	History, Geography
A. Dixon	Art
J. Matthews	(left '74) Geography

*indicates Grade A

Ordinary Level

S. Halliday, D. Healer and C. Roberts secured eight passes (Grades A to C).

The following secured seven passes (Grades A to C):

N. Aziz	N. LI. Jones
A. Biggs	R. Scarlett-Smith
M. Comer	N. Stock
D. Fordham	N. Tregear
M. Howell	

Woolverstone Hall — 1930s

Woolverstone Hall has seen many changes, both in the way of life and the use of rooms, since 'Squire' Berners died in 1934. Many of the rooms in the Hall now used as classrooms and dormitories must have had, in the early Thirties, an atmosphere similar to that of the TV programme 'Upstairs and Downstairs', and from local people who were House servants and Estate workers a picture of the life and conditions at Woolverstone can be envisaged.

'Below stairs' the House servants consisted of a Butler, two Footmen, Housemaid/Cook, three Housemaids, two Kitchen Maids, a Still Room Maid, a Scullery Maid and an 'Odd Job' Boy. The Kitchen Maids were paid £32 per year (1931 figure) and were required to provide their own dresses and aprons, one to wear during the morning and one for the afternoon. The Maids commenced work at 6.00am (if there were guests in the House they would start work at 5.00am) and finished at 10.00pm. They were allowed half an hour in order to change their dress in the afternoon, and the only other free time allowed was every other Sunday afternoon!

Outside the House 74 other persons were employed — in the kitchen gardens, dog kennels, laundry, estateyard, dairy, stables and as gamekeepers.

'Upstairs' the Squire entertained a good deal during the early years but in the later years this decreased because of ill health. Mr. Berners had all the traditional love of sport of the Country Squire, being noted outside Woolverstone as a Sportsman and Country lover, and in the Village he was respected as a unique character. He made Woolverstone a centre for County Cricket weeks and was Master of the Eastern Counties Otter Hounds, housing the pack on his Estate. He was also the Host of many shooting parties.

At Christmas, Mr. Berners would attend the Village Hall and distribute 2lb of beef per adult and 1lb of beef per child to each Estate worker and their families, together with 3 loaves of bread and a brace of pheasants.

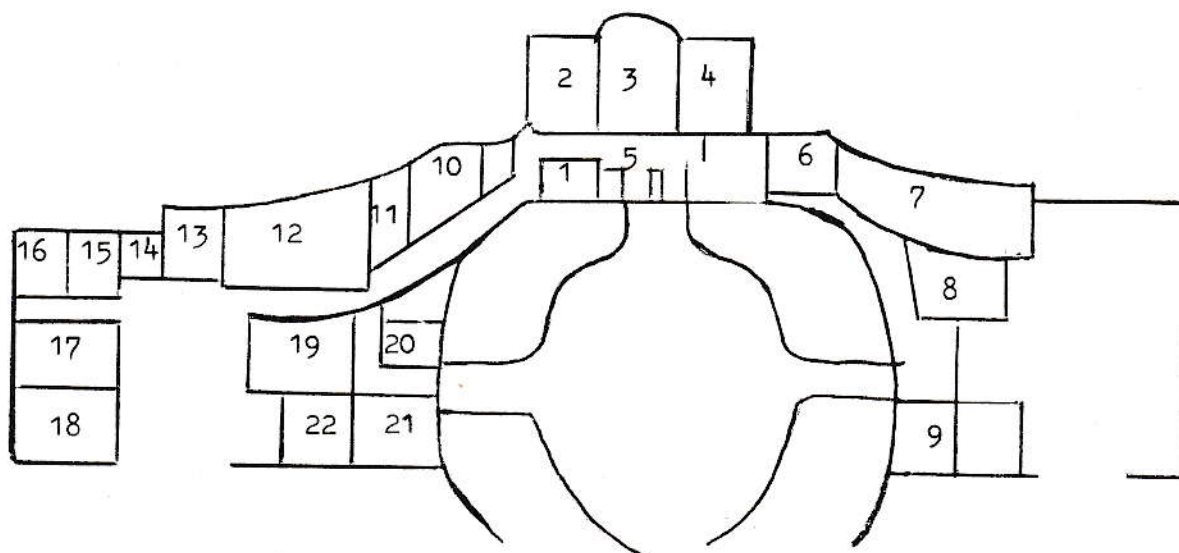
John Berners died in March 1934 and the Estate was inherited by his son Geoffrey who, for personal reasons, sold the entire Estate in December 1937.

The plan below shows how the rooms on the ground floor was used in the 1930s.

Brian Mann

Rooms

- 1 Study
- 2 Dining Room
- 3 Music Room
- 4 Drawing Room
- 5 Entrance Hall
- 6 Morning Room
- 7 Orangery
- 8 Billiard Room
- 9 Guest Room
- 10 Silver Cleaning Room
- 11 Still Room
- 12 Kitchen
- 13 Scullery & Kitchen Maids' Dining Room
- 14 Bread Making Room
- 15 Kitchen Maids Work Room
- 16 Room for Meat Hanging
- 17 Footmans Sitting Room
- 18 Gun Room
- 19 Housemaids and Footmen's Dining Room
- 20 Butler & Cook's Dining Room
- 21 Butler's Sitting Room
- 22 Housekeeper's Sitting Room



MUSIC AND DRAMA

MUSIC REPORT — JANUS

As is always the case at Woolverstone, music played a major role throughout the year, being practised by all forms and on many different levels.

In the "classical" field, Mr. Salmon again succeeded in helping to keep culture alive in the school by presenting two Music Circle Concerts, in the Spring and Summer terms (efforts were focussed on the play in the winter). Unfortunately, a single orchestra has now replaced the Senior and Junior Orchestras of late. This was found to be necessary when the school's more advanced musicians either left the school or gave up all at the same time — we now await a new influx of talent from the lower forms. However, such an influx will only materialize if beginners can force themselves to practise regularly and often to get over the initial barriers of technique and thereby benefit from their tuition. Punishments have to be imposed on lesson absentees all too often, and until attendance becomes habitual, the present downward trend will continue. Violinists are always in great demand — those thinking of taking up an instrument please note! Nevertheless, bearing in mind the relative inexperience of the orchestra, the performances were notable achievements — as those who bothered to support the efforts of others will agree. The choir also performed in its usual spirited way, taking on the somewhat ambitious task of arrangements of Beatles' songs in the later concert and adding a Caribbean atmosphere to the first. All credit to Mr. Salmon for the Concerts' success.

Mr. Thornbery's madrigals continued to thrive, and their reputation continued to spread following a number of concerts given outside the school. At the time of writing they are preparing for a tour of the Scilly Isles, and I am sure the best wishes of the school go with them.

The Inter-House Music Competition was won by Orwell for the second consecutive year but, this time the Cup was much more fiercely contested, Hanson's running a close second.

There was also a singing concert in which the Madrigals, the Rugby Choir, and the ever-welcome Mrs. Elizabeth English participated. Thanks to Mr. Thornbery for such an entertaining evening.

Rock music got its fair share of attention throughout the year, and the resulting concerts were invariably well attended and subsequently praised. At the moment, Phil Taylor and his usual musicians, are devoting their time to a second production of 'Jesus Christ, Superstar', to be performed at the end of the summer term.

Finally, Walthew must be commended for attaining a distinction in his Association Board, piano examination. For the first time for many years, he was the only one to reach such a standard. He is in the first form — a good sign for the future? Let us hope that others will follow his example in the coming year.

N. Pearson

Madrigals

The Madrigals began their year ambitiously by working at the Allegri 'Miserere', a work for two choirs of five and four parts respectively and a unison plainsong choir. All three can be managed by the one choir but it is fairly taxing and we did not quite pull it off. We might have persevered with it had Farrant, the solo treble who has to sing top C, not left at Christmas. We performed it three times — at a Choral Matins in Woolverstone Church, at a Library concert and at our concert at Ardleigh. It was a rewarding piece to study but it left us little time for other things.

Besides the above concerts we performed at the Songs of Praise service and the school carol service and sang our usual Advent Carol Service in the church on Advent Sunday.

In the Easter term we revised 'My Soul There is a Country' by Parry and learnt several sections of Bach's 'Jesu, Priceless Treasure'. These were sung at the two singing concerts in the middle of the term.

The summer term has been devoted to preparation for the Scilly Isles trip but we gave a concert at The Old Hall, East Bergholt and took part in the Music Circle concert.

Among those few leaving at the end of this term mention must be made of Colin Fludgate. His alto singing has been of a high quality and whatever standard the Madrigals has achieved has been due to a great extent to his own musicianship. I think it will be a long time before we find his replacement.

Works performed

Sections of 'Jesu, Priceless Treasure'	Bach
Laudate Nomen	Tye
Cast Thy Burdens	Mendelssohn
Miserere	Allegri
Genitori genitoque	Vittoria
Rejoice in the Lord Always	Redford
Ecce, Quomodo Moritur	Jacob Handl
Little David, Pay on Your Harp	Sargent
I Know Where I'm Going	Russell Smith
The Lass of Richmond Hill	Willcocks
Linden Lea	Vaughan Williams
The Cloud-Capped Towers	Stevens
My Soul There is a Country	Parry
Matin Responsory	Palestrina
In Dulci Jubilo	Bach
Up Good Christen Folk and Listen	Woodward
The Three Kings	Cornelius
O Little One Sleep	Bach

The Madrigals

Trebles

P. Middleton
C. Ruffle
P. Harwood
A. Cartwright
M. Hutton
K. Thirkettle
A. Beams
T. Bates
L. McGlue
D. Clark
G. Stuckey
M. Walthew
R. Farrant

Altos

C. Fludgate
Mrs. Richardson
M. Patten
S. Thomas

Tenors

C. English
N. Wermter
D. Jones
R. Hunt
I. Woollan

Basses

Mr. D. Hudson
F. Abberley
N. Pearson

MUSIC AND DRAMA

The Madrigal trip to the Scilly Isles

The trip started at Paddington Station at 1.55 am when the sleeper left for Penzance. After an uneventful trip we got off at Penzance station and with luggage on a wagon we trooped off to the boat. The R.M.V. Scillonian was like an old battered merchant navy boat, and unfortunately for us, she had no stabilisers. We bid 'bon voyage' to Mr. Thornbery and Mrs. Richardson (who were going by helicopter to avoid the heavy seas) and set off on an unforgettable trip. All of us, bar Mr. Richardson and a few others, were sea sick! Fortunately the boat had an inexhaustible amount of brown paper bags.

When we arrived Mr. Thornbery was there to meet us, and we all, rather shakily made our way to the church hall where we were staying. After having lunch, and viewing the various washing up rotas, we set off to explore the island.

The island we were on was called St. Mary's. It had one big town (Hugh Town) and a radio station. This was the main island and dotted around it were six islands the main ones being Tresco, Briar and St. Agnes. On all of these were various fortifications. These were built at the time of Charles II and Cromwell. On St. Mary's was a long wall, going around half of the island and a big star castle. It was possible to see cannons and be shown round the various strong points. From Sarcastle it was possible to see all the islands, and a famous light house called the Bishop's Rock which has been on T.V. The islands had their various attractions. Tresco had a world-famous garden to which plants had been brought from as far away as New Zealand. Annet was a famous bird sanctuary, and St. Agnes, with its crystal clear water, and ideal swimming conditions, was a great place for a picnic.

We had 2 concerts and 3 church services. Our first, which was a pilgrimage to Tresco church was called off, because of bad weather. This was to be outside and was very disappointing for all, because it would have been an ideal practice. The second thing we did was our own concert. This consisted of all the songs we had done and lasted about an hour. Unfortunately the audience was comparatively small with 15 people turning up. We put this down to the gig races which are the islands' boat races and are very popular. Our next performance was for St. Mary's church on Sunday where we sang some anthems and acted as a choir. Unfortunately we didn't know the responses and we attracted several funny looks. We also, that Sunday, sang at the old church on St. Mary's in the evening. This charming church had no lights except candles and no organ and was smaller than Room 'C'. We enjoyed ourselves very much in this beautiful church.

Our final concert was on Tresco, in their church. After Mr. Thornberry had treated us to a meal we set off in a boat in the rain to Tresco. We arrived on Tresco about half an hour early. When the concert eventually started we had an audience of about 50 people. This was our best performance and we all had a great time. We didn't get any applause though, despite Mr. Richardson's efforts, until Abberly played 'Gorrilla'. This was a fitting end to a tremendous time.

When we boarded the R.M.V. Scillonian for the last time, we shuddered at the voyage to come. However the sea was like a millpond and after Mr. Thornbery had treated us to a fish and chip supper we set off for London.

M. Patten

The Rugby Choir

This year the Rugby Choir increased in size and improved a little in quality. The full strength was fifty, though it was seldom this number that turned up at 8.30 in the mornings to rehearsals. 8.30 in the morning is not the best time for singing and it was never until about five to nine that we began to make anything approaching a reasonable noise. However, those last five minutes did the trick and the choir was able to perform several pieces creditably on various occasions during the course of the winter. They performed at the Songs of Praise service in October, the school carol service and the Singing Concerts in the Easter term.

Works performed

Creation Hymn
Deus Salutis
Tydi a Roddaist
The Farmer's Boy
While Shepherds Watched

Beethoven
Mansel Thomas
Arwell Hughes
Vaughan Williams
Walford Davies

D. T.

Ballroom Dancing

It was with some trepidation that Mrs. Norman and I embarked on the Woolverstone Palais de Danse every Friday after Christmas. However the venture proved a reasonable success with about ten members of the second year sixth tying themselves in knots with the intricacies of the Waltz, Jive and Cha-cha-cha — plus such joyous variations as the Farmer's Wife and the Gay Gordons. The year finished with an intimate dance in the Library which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who came. We were very grateful for the help of Miss M. and Miss P. Dobie, and Mrs. Nicholls, not forgetting Deborah, Katy, Annabelle, Louise and Rachel. If the current year is anything to go by, the dance bug has bitten in Woolverstone because numbers are higher than before.

BN/MARP

DRAMA

Drama — Xmas Production '75

Ten weeks, or so, fermentation in the Autum term saw the unveiling of the latest home-brewed dramatic concoction and its decantation into three performances.

'A Collection For Christmas', for want of a better title, met with varied approval; greater, on the whole, from the parents than the boys. Perhaps the excuse "Well you can't please all the people all the time, etc" is valid here, but we would make no attempt to pretend that impressing the audience isn't generally of secondary importance. The prime concern is to enable as many boys as possible to experience something of acting on a stage to an audience, whatever their merits. Those interested in lighting, sound, building sets and stage-management are also provided for. If we can entertain the audience as well, that is all the more rewarding.

This particular play aimed at departure from the norm of set texts, total flexibility of cast numbers and above all, creativity, the chance to submit ideas, write, collect and perform material. With healthy contributions in this manner and a few preconceived ideas from our most able directors, Messrs Neil Clayton and Phil Taylor there emerged various visual vocal and musical interpretations (and criticisms) of Christmas as ranging over the centuries, from being a period to be dreaded to an altogether pointless affair in the indifferent eyes of A. J. P. Taylor.

The production was unique in several ways. The set was on this occasion at one end of the assembly-hall rather than, as normal, on the actual stage and apron, which were considered lacking enough height, breadth and depth.

'A Collection For Christmas' included two plays-within-a-play along the same theme for the first time. The short First World War piece, written by Phil Taylor and Mick Ruffle, enabled the latter to make his debut on stage with cigarette and cockney accent and was altogether well-received.

The Second Shepherds Play (one of the traditional Wakefield Cycle of Miracle Plays) met with dubious acclaim. The shepherds' bizarrely coloured capes and floppy hats and the set with its foliage backdrop worked just as well as the B.B.C.'s representation of the Chester Mystery plays with their chronic superimposure of actor on painted background (Tom Courteney remains aloof from any adverse comment as he is a favourite actor of mine and, Irving on Barnes Common, might accost me whilst I'm taking the dog for a walk).

Another precedent, I believe, was set in 'A Collection for Christmas' of a director actually performing in his own play. Behind tinsel, mask and acoustic guitar (even if you couldn't make out the words) sang Phil Taylor, harmonised by Craig Price and electrically propelled by Ugg (who shall remain nameless).

It is a pity that audiences don't witness other facets of Woolverstone drama, namely the impromptu acting that is so much a part of rehearsals and the annoyance of directors and Thursday morning, fifteen-minute or blue plastic seat theatre which very often prove to be funnier than anything we offer to the parents.

Whether it be interesting news or an early warning, Shakespeare's 'Richard II' should be next term's offering. Nevertheless, in the meantime, long live Plastic Jesus.

Toby Radford

1st XV

Results

v. R.G.S. Colchester (H)	Won	20 - 16
v. Duke of York's, Dover (A)	Won	19 - 14
v. Northgate (H)	Won	50 - 10
v. Norwich (H)	Won	80 - 3
v. Culford (H)	Won	30 - 0
v. Burton (H)	Won	46 - 3
v. St Brendan's, Bristol (A)	Lost	6 - 23
v. Millfield (A)	Won	11 - 4
v. Reading (A)	Won	19 - 10
v. Framlingham (H)	Won	58 - 6
v. Woodbridge (A)	Won	16 - 0
v. St Joseph's College (H)	Won	22 - 6
v. Wymondham (A)	Won	12 - 0
v. Royal Navy 19 Group (H)	Won	18 - 0
v. Ipswich School (A)	Won	35 - 10
v. Gosforth (H)	Won	30 - 0
Played 16; Won 15; Lost 1; Points for 472; Points against 105.		

There were many memorable moments in this very successful 1st XV season. After two close matches against Colchester and Duke of York's, the team grew in confidence and fitness and recorded some big wins before half term. The real highlight of the year undoubtedly was the half term tour, with the intense disappointment of the loss at St Brendan's, in a game that was far closer than the score indicates, balanced by the satisfaction of the win at Millfield, long to be remembered for Kelleher's overall play and the 'Ruffle tackle', and, indeed, for the remarkable defence of the whole team against almost continual pressure. During the season Big Tom's surging runs and powerful mauling, David Thomas's sidestepping try at Woodbridge, our inability to convert tries, Reg Grimley's work-rate, Stephen Halliday's catching in the Gosforth match and his tackling throughout the season, were just some of the memories. Perhaps the most abiding memory is that of the whole school defeating Gosforth; the crowd, at its most vocal and encouraging, inspiring the team to possibly their best performance of the season, with running, handling rugby in the best Woolverstone tradition.

Many players performed consistently well without always gaining the praise often heaped upon the more obvious 'stars'. Amongst the forwards Hayter, Davis and Budden always contested well, and in the three-quarters Thompson and Halliday overcame lack of size with skill, judgement and courage, while Whiteman and Thomas linked well towards the end of the season and scored some dramatic tries. However a great deal always depended on the reliable Parker who was the most effective of the out-sides. The real strength of the team however, lay in the power of the forwards. The immensely solid front-row of Thomas, Ruffle and Grimley, always gave the opposition forwards a difficult time; there was plenty of height and strength in the second row, and a variety of skills in the back-row, so that we nearly always had the advantage in both the set pieces and loose play.

Over all this presided the captain, Sean Kelleher, who, with his toothless inspiration and great skill, played a huge part in the team's success; his example in training and in matches encouraged others to a greater commitment and higher standard of play. He is to be congratulated on his progress through the representative matches to the final England Trial and we all shared his disappointment when injury deprived him of the final honours. Others represented E. Counties—Andrew Parker (also London Counties), Ray Thomas, James Hayter at u/19 and Adrian Thompson at u/16.

This year's 1st XV was always competitive, and practised and played hard and with enthusiasm. The best matches were those in which the support play was such that forwards and backs complemented each other, kept movements going, and scored tries by good handling and

fast running—it was this that made the victories over Burton, Gosforth and the Navy so satisfying. Several matches were hard and tense, and particularly against Colchester and Wymondham we were glad when the final whistle went.

The following are to be congratulated on being awarded 1st XV colours this year: J. Budden, K. Davis, R. Grimley, J. Hayter, D. Brown and M. Ruffle.

7 A - sides

In the Ipswich competition we defeated Framlingham, Holbrook and Culford before coming up against Ipswich School in the final. After an inconclusive first half we eventually ran out the winners 22 - 4.

For the first time Woolverstone was entered for the Rosslyn Park 7's, and over 3 days the team did well to get through to the last 32 by beating Magnus, St Joseph's (Ipswich), and Blackpool. We then threw away several good scoring opportunities and allowed St Benedict's, Ealing (who were eventually beaten in the final) to score two break-away tries and win 10 - 0.

The next day we were at Oxford where we immediately gained revenge over St Benedict's by defeating them easily; victories were also recorded over Christ's College, Brecon and King's Macclesfield to reach the semi-final of the A group—the furthest point ever reached by a Woolverstone senior team. However we were then beaten convincingly by St Edward's, Liverpool (16 - 6) who went on to beat Rydal in the final. It had been an exhilarating week and the team had done well to get so far in these two major tournaments. The following played: S. Kelleher, A. Parker, D. Thomas, T. Mirza, J. Hayter, R. Grimley, A. Whiteman and M. Ruffle.

J.C.M.

2nd XV Report

Entertainment and success, were the aims of this year's 2nd XV; both were achieved, and I challenge next year's XV to better our performance. There can never be enough self praise for the captain, coach and players who made everything possible.

A little must be said of our coach, Mr. Skailes. He was the *best possible* coach ever to supervise a 2nd XV, as he adopted new and inspired methods of coaching, such as no extra training sessions and team meetings on the bus to away matches. We owe our success to a coach, who gifted with the foresight of a genius left the team to develop its own style in its own time.

The team consisted as follows: Upper sixth: G. Willows (Captain and mastermind behind success), A. Gibson (useful when things were easy), T. Gardner (Shortest winger in Bexley Heath), S. Singleton (useful in a loose maul) T. GEades (very useful in a loose maul), and finally Colin (The Boot) Fludgate (Too much has been said of him already).

Also ran: Radford, Critchley, Bates, Massey, Marchant, O'Driscoll, Zeffert, H. Cole (before he left for Porridge) P. Evans, Whiteman.

Guest Appearances by: M. Ayres, K. Davis and J. Budden.

The team in action has been described as 'poetry in motion' by its most fierce critics. Mr. Richardson, we can claim was our most ardent supporter and was continually known to yell 'Get them going, Gav' at regular intervals throughout the home games. This year 2nd XV will be an example to future XV's of the school, and their triumphs will resound through the corridors of the main building for decades.

RUGBY

Results (Please disregard Duke of York's score as there were mitigating circumstances)

		For	Against
R.G.S. Colchester	(H)	3	3
Duke of York's RMS	(A)	0	34
Deben High School	(A)	48	0
Norwich	(A)	48	0
R. H. S.	(H)	20	0
Culford	(A)	22	7
Framlingham	(H)	16	10
Woodbridge	(A)	32	16
Wymondham	(H)	10	9
St Joseph's	(H)	68	0
Felsted	(A)	9	6
Brentwood	(H)	38	3
Ipswich	(A)	17	16
		<hr/> 331	<hr/> 94

Won 11; Drawn 1; Lost 1.

The 2nd XV would like to acknowledge the help of the following without whom none of this would have been possible;

Pat at the Butt
The staff at the Foresters
The Red Lion
Mr. Mayes and the Ground staff
Tolly Cobbold
Watney
and of course yourselves.

Gavin Willows

2nd XV Rugby—Postscript

I have not been allowed to read the foregoing, for reasons I can only guess at, but I want to add a few remarks. Except for the initial debacle at Dover, played in a Force 9 gale with a young and inexperienced team, the team played with great spirit and discipline all season which is probably why they won their close matches. One of the main reasons for this was GAVIN WILLOWS, never weeping but ever supremely stalwart, who fitted in well to the splendid dynasty of Woolverstone Hall 2nd XV Captains and led the side extremely well.

P.R.S.

3rd XV

Results 1975

v. R.G.S. Colchester	Home	W	36 - 0
v. Northgate G. S.	Home	W	36 - 4
v. Norwich School	Away	W	45 - 3
v. R. H. S. Holbrook	Home	W	19 - 12
v. Culford	Away	W	17 - 8
v. Framlingham	Home	D	10 - 10
v. Wymondham	Home	W	19 - 0
v. Felsted	Home	W	14 - 0
v. Brentwood	Home	W	34 - 0
v. Ipswich	Home	W	21 - 4

Played 10; Won 9; Drawn 1; For 251; Against 41.

4th XV

Results 1975

v. R. H. S. Holbrook	Home	L	0 - 30
v. Woodbridge	Home	W	18 - 0
v. St. Joseph's	Away	W	50 - 0
v. Felsted	Home	L	6 - 7
v. Ipswich	Home	W	37 - 4

Played 5; Won 3; Lost 2; For 111; Against 47.

M.J.C.

Fifth XV

C Group rugby was a strange affair this year. Seldom did the set comprise more than sixteen players—frequently fewer; so that when we played a match practically the entire set was selected to play and had somehow to fill all the positions. Furthermore all our matches were on days when the other senior teams were playing so that we were always subject to last minute promotions up to the fourth fifteen.

However, those who chose to play the noble game instead of going on cross-country walks, played with vigour and skill and took their three matches seriously. The first two, away against Holbrook and Felsted, we lost, and the last, at home against Ipswich, we won.

With a less demanding alternative to rugger now available to the senior boys it seems unlikely that we shall be able to field a fifth fifteen in future. It was in any case an experiment which reached its zenith of success last year when we were able to divide the set into two equal teams and toss up to see which played the next match.

D.R.W.T.

UNDER 15 RUGBY

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
11	11	0	0	424	40

A satisfying and unbeaten season, one that be longed without doubt to the backs. There is no wish to belittle the contribution made by the forwards, who battled away each match performing trojan feats and providing a steady stream of ball for our free-running backs. Stokes' magical hooking, Jones' drive and work-rate, Grant's strength in the mauls and Hopkirk's authority and finishing power.

It is with the backs and the three-quarters in particular that my memories of the season remain. The wings Carr and Towells and Samson at outside-centre scored over fifty tries between them and on several occasions one or other of them notched individual hat-tricks. The ball was always moved along the line smoothly, Withers feeding his man with fine timing or on a rare occasion going it alone with telling effect. One wonders where the JPR's of the next generation are hiding, but Ruffle's impossible side-steps were retrieving situations towards the end of the season and he substituted well for someone unused to the position.

It is unfortunate in many ways that we do not see our year teams maturing together after their under-fifteen season but their contribution to senior sides is noticeable this year and that must suffice.

Well done Colts 1975.

A.W.

Under 14 Rugby

The under 14 XV enjoyed another successful season, winning all of their matches. The closest game was that versus St. Joseph's College (A) which was won by 20 - 19, although the closeness of the result was mainly due to our inability to convert our tries, together with a tendency to give away penalties in easy kicking positions. In all of the other games, the margin of victory was in excess of 20 points. The following team represented the school on most occasions: J. Barry, D. Baldwin, R. Bannerman, S. Berry* (Capt), C. O'Garro, J. Bulpett, N. Evans, N. Patten, T. Wistow, T. Prior, S. Brennan, R. Davis, M. Chin, R. Chandrasakara, J. Lee.

Although the essence of the successful side was good teamwork, special mention must go to the following people, who all played exceptionally well in the harder games.

Backs: Evans, Bulpett and Berry

Forwards: Wistow, Davis, and Chin.

J.M.T.

Under 13 Rugby

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
1st team	7	7	0	0	318	24
2nd team	2	1	1	0	24	12

'A good big 'un will always beat a good little 'un' is a well worn adage, never better demonstrated than by this team last season. It would have required a cunning exponent of the oriental arts of self-defence to prevent the twin colossi of Jones and Stanton from scoring their forty tries. What opposition these two were unable to batter aside, Offiah would run around at great speed. Hooker Volpe and flanker Callow were consistent performers, and Young at full-back was usually cool in a crisis, but one was left with an overall impression of a lack of pattern, of disjointedness, and of glaring weaknesses.

Only one game stood out during the season: the home match against St. Joseph's, if only for the closeness of the result at no side. There is no justice in this cruel world Brother Bennett, perhaps there is in the next. The big scores meant very little and I should have been happier with a season of close results if it had meant more skill and greater flair on the field of play.

A.W.





Under 12 RUGBY

The Under 12s played some nice rugby within their limits this year. There were few really powerful or really fast players, few players, that is to say, capable of breaking through or away and scoring tries. For success the team had to depend too much on Gilbert, Fry and Patterson. Only against Copleston did the three-quarter line play in a cohesive, penetrating style with the result that they notched up a good score. Against Colchester on a foul wet and windy day they were paralysed with cold, against St. Joseph's they tended to move backwards rather than forwards, and in the two matches against Holbrook—after a period of eight weeks without a match during which they inevitably went off the boil—they were disconcerted by the quick and keen marking of their opponents.

The pack—not a particularly big or heavy one, and midjets compared with last year's—played with great gusto, bound tightly and shoved low in the scrums. In all the matches they had the better of their opponents and gave English at scrum half plenty of the ball. Bower was outstanding—in defence more than in attack never shirking the tackles or the falls and nearly always being first at the loose ball. Nunn and Tatchell, too, played with courage and determination.

The whole set has had a promising start to its rugby career. They will need to develop more tactical sense if they are to make full use of their resources and there will be no room for idlers; a number of people this season, even in the team, played at half pressure for considerable periods of time.

Match results.

St. Joseph's	(H)	Won	6 - 4
Colchester	(A)	Won	8 - 3
Copleston	(H)	Won	38 - 0
Holbrook	(A)	Lost	6 - 4
Holbrook	(A)	Lost	3 - 0

Team: Bates, Luter, Fry, Martin, Latham, McGlue (J), Daffarn, Gilbert, English, Tatchell, Patterson, Astley, Baker, Tabner, Adeyemi, Channer, Bower, Nunn.

D.R.W.T.



1st XI

The 1st XI of 1976 was predominantly a young side, and perhaps this accounts for the somewhat mixed season. The results show that the season started very badly with defeats by Holbrook, Colchester and Wymondham. But it says a good deal for the determination of the team and to leadership of Richard Harffey, ably supported by Rohan Seecoomar, that the results in June improved enormously; and although the results at the end of the season were poor, the standard of cricket played in most of the later games was good. 1976 was the hottest summer on record but bowlers and fielders stuck well to their tasks and morale remained high. Eight boys who played regularly will still be here in 1977 and there are some promising players in the present 5th year.

R. Harffey's undefeated century was the highlight of the season's batting, but he played several other good innings; and Sean Kelleher, Stephen Halliday and Adrian Thompson batted exceptionally well on occasions, although not as consistently well as we hoped. R. Seecoomar was an outstanding wicket-keeper in his fourth season in the team. It was unfortunate for him that he missed the last six games of his school career through illness. Halliday was a good substitute and should do very well in the next two years. Nigel Tregear, an off-spinner, and Jonathan Zeffertt, a leg-spinner, were the best of the bowlers. Tim Gardener, Simon Marchant, Andrew Parker and, occasionally, Harffey bowled well. Other promising players were Penn, Crawshaw and Mirza, all of whom will be here next summer. Fludgate played several valuable innings and fielded very well. N. Anderson did a good job as scorer.

We thank Mr. Mayes and Mr. Sadler for their coaching and much needed support, and Mr. Mayes for all his work on our pitches.

We look forward to another enjoyable season in 1977 but we shall never have weather like 1976 again.

Colours were awarded to S. Halliday, S. Marchant, N. Tregear and J. Zeffertt.

Results

Played 15, Won 4, Lost 8, Drawn 3.

- v. Deben H.S. (H) Won by 6 wickets
Deben H.S. 80 (Gardiner 3-15; Tregear 4-30)
W.H.S. 84 for 4 (Harffey 20 not out)
- v. Woodbridge (A) Drawn
W.H.S. 126 for 7 dec. (Harffey 39)
Woodbridge 118 for 7 (Gardner 3-35; Tregear 3-35)
- v. R.H.S. Holbrook (A) Lost by 20 runs
R.H.S. 102 (Tregear 3-7; Marchant 3-22)
W.H.S. 82
- v. Woolverstone Park (H) Drawn
Woolverstone Park 157 (Gardner 5-45; Tregear 4-45)
W.H.S. 105 for 8
- v. R.G.S. Colchester (A) Lost by 122 runs
R.G.S. 175 for 3 dec.
W.H.S. 53 (Harffey 21)
- v. Wymondham (H) Lost by 103 runs
Wymondham 178 for 8 dec. (Parker 4-50)
W.H.S. 75 (Marchant 27)
- v. Rohan Seecoomar's XI (H) Won by 31 runs
W.H.S. 204 for 6 dec. (Thompson 40; Harffey 33;
Fludgate 28 not out; Penn 22)
R. Seecoomar's XI 173 (J. Morris 55; J. S. Nolloth 25;
R. Thomas 20; Tregear 4-30, Gardner 4-44)

- v. Northgate G.S. (H) Won by 112 runs
W.H.S. 225 for 8 dec. (Harffey 100 not out, Kelleher 35, Thompson 33)
Northgate 113 (Tregear 4-10, Zeffertt 3-27)
- v. St. Joseph's (A) Drawn
W.H.S. 131 (Parker 32)
St. Joseph's 120 for 7 (Tregear 3-28)
Rain stopped play
- v. Old Boys (H) Won by 17 runs
W.H.S. 157 for 9 dec. (Fludgate 44)
Old Boys 140 (Tregear 5-47; Zeffertt 5-53)
- v. Suffolk Club and Ground (H) Lost by 1 wicket
W.H.S. 152 (Fludgate 39; Kelleher 26)
Club and Ground 153 for 9 (Gardner 4-41; Zeffertt 3-34)
- v. Framlingham College (H) Lost by 9 wickets
W.H.S. 101
Framlingham 103 for 1

Tour matches:

- v. Dover College. Lost by 4 wickets
W.H.S. 167 for 7 dec (Halliday 63; Zeffertt 31;
Kelleher 22)
Dover 168 for 6 (Harffey 3-46)
- v. Duke of York's. Lost by 96 runs
Duke of York's 147 for 9 dec. (Parker 4-37)
W.H.S. 51
- v. Kent College. Lost by 6 wickets
W.H.S. 130 (Kelleher 51; Crawshaw 26)
Kent College 131 for 4.

Batting:

	Inns.	N.O.	Total	H.S.	Av.
R. Harffey	15	2	300	100*	23.1
C. Fludgate	9	1	139	44	16.6
S. Kelleher	13	0	209	51	16.1

Bowling

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Av.
N. Tregear	157.3	43	420	37	11.4
T. Gardener	200	62	482	29	16.6
A. Parker	69.3	8	241	13	18.5
J. Zeffertt	79.1	16	264	13	20.3
S. Marchant	130.2	35	355	15	23.6

Catches: 10-Harffey; 9-Seecoomar; 7-Halliday, Thompson;
6-Gardner; 5-Zeffertt
Stumpings: Seecoomar 5.

2nd XI Cricket 1976 Season

A very disappointing season, with the 2nd XI having played seven matches without winning one. In the first match, against Woodbridge School, Woodbridge scored 150-9 in 2½ hours (Watson 5-26), leaving the school only 1½ hours to win. However, we were all out for 52 in a short space of time, due to some very indifferent batting.

The following match against the Royal Hospital School was an improvement with the school scoring 127 (Watson 46) and the R.H.S. just managing to hold on for a draw; they were 112-9 at the close. However, the next two matches against Colchester and Wymondham were both total disasters; the first being lost by 99 runs and the second by 9 wickets. The combined score for both the matches was just 101 runs.

The match against Northgate started a general improvement. The school scored 171-4, thanks to an unbeaten century from Crawshay who was ably supported by Critchley, Budden and Watson. Northgate, however, also batted well and managed to hold on scoring 92-6. Against St. Josephs, we again batted extremely well, scoring 184 for the loss of only 2 wickets (Fludgate 59; Budden 46; Mirza 35 not out). Unfortunately, however heavy rain washed out any hopes of a win. When it was finally abandoned, St Joseph's had scored 49 for 5 wickets.

The final match against Framlingham was spoilt to some extent by a pitch which was not up to their usual high standard. However, the match itself became very exciting, with any of four results possible. The school scored 84 runs, and Framlingham, when stumps were drawn, had scored 75 for 6. Even though the scores were low, it was a good finish to the season.

The following played for the 2nd XI during the season: J. Budden, N. Watson (Joint Captains), T. Critchley, A. Gibson, N. Pearson, R. Taylor, T. Mirza, R. Crawshay, J. Crees, R. Scarlett-Smith, L. Jowers, K. Chalmers, S. Kelleher, C. Fludgate.

R. A. Rabjohn

Cricket Under 15 XI

- v. Woodbridge (A) Lost
Woodbridge 94-7 (Crawshay 4-32)
Woolverstone 33 (Jardine 5-15)
- v. Holbrook (A) Won
Woolverstone 122
Holbrook 37 (Hopkirk 4-13)
- v. Coppleston (H) Won
Woolverstone 104-7 dec. (Hopkirk 33, Stewart 32)
Coppleston 13 (Langham 6-7)
- v. R.G.S. Colchester (H) Lost
Woolverstone 46
Colchester 47-7 (Langham 7-21)
- v. Wymondham (H) Won
Wymondham 82 (Langham 5-47)
Woolverstone 84-8 (Hopkirk 36 n.o.)
- v. Framlingham College (A) Lost
Framlingham College 99 (Langham 9-38)
Woolverstone 78
- v. Deben H.S. (H) Won
Deben H.S. 95 (Penn 4-43)
Woolverstone 97-2 (Ruffle 45; Stewart 32 n.o.)
- v. Northgate (A) Drawn
Northgate 119-7 dec.
Woolverstone 112-9 (Stewart 33)

- v. Culford (A) Won
Culford 75 (Penn 6-25, Langham 4-40)
Woolverstone 76-0 (Penn 43 n.o.; Ruffle 29 n.o.)
- v. St. Joseph's (A) Won
St. Joseph's 120-3
Woolverstone 124-4 (Penn 78 n.o.)
- v. Ipswich (H) Lost
Ipswich 129-9 (Bryden 56, Bailey 51)
Woolverstone 86 (Ruffle 51 n.o.)
- v. Holbrook M.S. (A) Won
Holbrook M.S. 63 (Langham 6-19)
Woolverstone 66-0 (Penn 38 n.o., Ruffle 24 n.o.)

Played 12 Won 7 Lost 3 Drawn 2

Averages:

Batting:

	Inns.	N.O.	Total	H.S.	Av.
Penn	10	4	229	78*	38.1
Ruffle	12	3	213	51*	23.6
Stewart	10	1	133	33	14.4
Hopkirk	9	1	103	36*	12.8
Spencer	10	1	110	31*	12.1

* not out

Bowling

	Overs	Runs	Wkts.	Av.
Langham	148	394	51	7.7
Penn	101	289	20	14.4

During the season the team played well, the fielding was not always up to standard though. Langham bowled well throughout the season collecting 51 wickets. Ruffle batted well on occasions, Penn also scored runs quite consistently. Our thanks to Mr. Clayton and Mr. Mayes for the coaching.

The team consisted of Penn (Capt.), Langham, Stewart, Hopkirk, Ruffle, Gobin, Spencer, Goodwin, Neighbour, Emmerson, Carr, Anderson.

C. A. S. PENN

Cricket for the benefit of the Americans

"Its quite simple. You have two sides — ours and theirs, one out in the field and one in. Each man in the side that's in goes out; when he's out he comes in and the next man goes in until he's out. Then, when they have all been in and are all out, the side that has been in the field comes in and the side that has been in goes out and tries to get the men coming in out. When both sides have been in and out, including the not outs, that's the end of the game. . . See?

Robinson (Halls)

Under 14 XI Cricket

Rather a disappointing season for the U14 Cricket team. Although the playing record was fair, with exactly half of the games won, the team tended to collapse in the harder matches.

The season started on a high note with a fine win over Woodbridge School in the first round of the National Knock Out Competition. Although Woodbridge scored 127 in their 40 overs, J. Bulpett and R. Hornshaw shared in a fine century stand to enable us to win by 7 wickets.

In the second round of the competition we had a fairly easy win against Farlingaye H.S. but in the local final against Ipswich School, we were heavily beaten — mainly owing to some poor batting performances.

During the season, R. Hornshaw and S. Robinson both scored a lot of runs, but unfortunately did not receive a lot of support from the other batsmen.

N. Sykes was easily the most effective bowler along with S. Robinson.

Playing Record

P11, W5, D1, L5

J.M.T.

Cricket — Under 13

RHS 47 (PENN 4 for 16, GIBBONS 3 for 14)
Woolverstone 22 Lost by 25 runs

Woolverstone 50 (PENN 37)
RHS 51 for 8 (PENN 4 for 11)
Lost by 2 wks

Woodbridge 86 for 8 declared (PENN 7 for 32)
Woolverstone 23 for 2
Rain stopped play — drawn

Woolverstone 87 (PENN 30, STANTON 23)
Ipswich 88 for 3
Lost by 7 wks

Northgate GS 51 (PENN 4 for 14, GIBBONS 4 for 4)
Woolverstone 52 for 9
Won by 1 wkt

RGS Colchester 126 for 6 declared (RAMSEY 46)
Woolverstone 75 for 9 (GIBBONS 33 not out)
Match drawn

Woolverstone 112 for 6 declared (TEIGER 21)
Copleston 48 (PENN 5 for 12, OFFIAH 3 for 10)
Won by 54 runs

St. Joseph's 154 for 6 declared
Woolverstone 133 for 9 (GIBBONS 40, PENN 27)
Match drawn

Woolverstone 79 (STANTON 20, GIBBONS 19)
Ipswich 82 for 1
Lost by 9 wks

Woolverstone 131 (GIBBONS 39, YORK 20)
Culford 85 for 9 (McCall 4 for 12)
Match drawn

Woolverstone 140 for 4 declared (GIBBONS 79, YORK 53 not out)
Deben H.S. 110 (OFFIAH 4 for 45)
Won by 30 runs

P10, W3, L4, D3

This was rather a perplexing and confused season, with consistency being very hard to come by, probably reflecting the fact that the standard of local schools' cricket varies widely (with Woolverstone at about the middle). Early on there was some excellent bowling, but atrocious batting; later much better batting but sometimes an inability to get the opposition out in time. Gibbons captained the side and batted well in the second half of the season; he is also an alert fielder and good leg-spin bowler. Penn often threatened a big innings but never produced it, and failed early too often through carelessness. He bowled with great penetration on several occasions, but when he was off form the attack was weak. Offiah, converted from wicket-keeper, became a useful opening bowler, and a variety of replacement wicket-keepers were tried, none being completely satisfactory. McCall is becoming an accurate medium pace bowler, and did the hat-trick against Culford.

The draw against St. Joseph's was easily the most exciting game, as Woolverstone tried to get in 95 minutes and steady rain, the total the opposition had accumulated in 2½ hours. Ipswich Town manager Bobby Robson witnessed the exciting chase and tight finish, and saw a memorable six by Andrew Penn that nearly felled a cedar tree at square leg. In the later stages the batting was strengthened by some lusty imports from Mr. Thornberry's B Group.

Players: Gibbons, Penn, Stanton, Stuckey, Offiah, Jones, York, Young, McCall, Edwards, Currie, Teiger, Hutton, Eyre, Zefferett, Flowers, Stewart, Robertson, Volpe.

P.R.S.

Under 12 Cricket

Results

v. R.H.S. Holbrook Lost by 24 runs
R.H.S. 55 (Gilbert 5-19)
Woolverstone 31

v. Northgate Won by 61 runs
Woolverstone 104 (English 25)
Northgate 43 (Fry 6-22)

v. Woodbridge Lost by 3 wks
Woolverstone 52
Woodbridge 56-7

v. Ipswich School Lost by 3 runs
Ipswich 105
Woolverstone 102 (Latham 27)

v. R.G.S. Colchester Lost by 9 wks
Woolverstone 34
Colchester 35-1

v. R.H.S. Holbrook lost by 53 runs
R.H.S. 119-9 dec. (Bower 7-37)
Woolverstone 66

v. St. Joseph's Won by 5 wks.
St. Joseph's 81 (Kysow 5-14)
Woolverstone 84-5 (English 50 n.o.)

v. Ipswich School Drawn
Ipswich 175-2 dec.
Woolverstone 83-7 (McAdam 22)

v. Culford Lost by 3 wks
Woolverstone 114-6 dec (Daffarn 33, Latham 31)
Culford 115-7

CRICKET

v. Deben H.S. Won by 67 runs
Woolverstone 159-7 dec (English 92)
Deben 92

v. Holbrook M.S. Won by 10 runs
Woolverstone 84-6 (20 overs)
Fry 38 n.o., Baker 23 n.o.
Holbrook 74-5

v. Coppleston Lost by 7 wkts
Woolverstone 73
Coppleston 77-3

Played 12; Won 4; Lost 7; Drawn 1.

This was not a very successful season, due mainly to our inability to bowl consistently. Several bowlers did well occasionally, but none could be relied upon, thus the opposition often scored many more runs than we could hope to score ourselves. The batting relied very heavily upon N. English (who also tried hard as captain), although several other players batted well occasionally — Latham, Fry, McAdam, and Baker all looked promising. The fielding, as always, ranged from the miraculous to the inept; by the end of the season Latham was developing into a very competent wicket-keeper.

SAILING

Sailing Club Notes:

Autumn Term 1975:
Results :

1st VI. v. Brighlingsea — Lost : 13½ : 28
1st VI v. WHOBSA — lost : 15½ : 26

With the task of team rebuilding a major one, these results were very much as expected. The Brightlingsea Cadets were at home in the Mirror dinghies with which they had won several open-meetings, while the old Boys brought a very strong team, well trained and organised, to avenge the defeat of the previous term.

Winter work:

The boat workers, under the able guidance of A. Ireland, did their usual efficient paint and varnish job in the huts; a particular feature of this was the standard of the gear done by A. Pickford and R. Smith.

The hard party, led by Stan ("The Rescue") Cunningham did yet another area of concrete to complete the dinghy park, and also built a retaining wall to prevent the bank collapsing. In all without the activities of the winter working parties the running of the club would be much more difficult. It is a pity that sometimes the other Club members tend to forget this.

Summer Term: 1976

1st VI results:

v. Norwich — home — drawn 20¾ : 20¾
v. Norwich — away — won 13¾ : 16¾
v. Ipswich — home — won 15½ : 26
v. Greshams — home — won 13½ : 28
v. WHOBSA — home — lost 25 : 16½

Team from : S. Ireland (Capt.), A. Warne, D. Bannister, T. Evans, M. Gibbons, A. Critchley, N. Stock and S. Halliday.

It is to be hoped that next summer (perhaps when temperatures are lower) this group will be more ready to practise hard and attempt to improve; there appears to be some potential, but this year it remained rather hidden.

Mr. Mayes, as usual, worked tremendously hard in the gym and on the field, with coaching and the preparation of wickets, and we would all like to thank him for all that he does for cricket in the school.

J.C.M.

A feature of this very successful season was the willingness of regular members to sail as a team, and as a pair working together. Team practice produced a good team spirit and an awareness which was refreshing. Starting techniques improved, giving the team an early psychological advantage in all their matches even against a strong Old Boys' Side. No one member stood out above the rest as has so often been the case in the past.

2nd VI results

v. Norwich — home — lost — — 29 : 12½
v. WHOBSA — home — lost — 28 : 13½

Inexperience and lack of hard match practice explains this indifferent record, and it is to be hoped that more can be done next season to remedy the situation.

Team from D. Brown (Capt), M. Ellen, M. Porter, N. Stock, M. Mills and C. Roberts.

Internally there was a new departure in the House Match Competition which took the form of an American tournament, providing a day of sailing which was enjoyed by everyone who took part, however unsuccessfully. Eventually Hanson's scored the victory in the final.

The Enterprise Cup was won by S. Ireland after an exciting two race final.

The Cadet Sweep went to M. Mills.

The P.G. Cannon and the Yachtsman of the Year trophies went to M. Gibbons, the incoming Captain.

As for the Novices' Plank, this was a mixture of the grotesque and the sublime, protests galore, good weather, bad tactics and a competent winner in G. Brewster. However the spirit of racing was much higher than in the previous year.

Finally the Old Boys/School team trophy, as last year provided a day of very competitive and entertaining sailing enjoyed alike by competitors and spectators. The eventual winning team being Jim (Star Cross) Stewart, and Tony (less Piers) Warne who reached the final after a very well presented protest put in by Jim.

Our thanks go to many people for a successful season. To Derek Steer our ever present assistant race officer, to Stan Cunningham who made the rescue boat his own for so many years, to Mrs. Wells who alas, no more on our side, provided our match teas, and finally to Mr. Hudson, Mr. Everitt and Mr. Poole who, as ever have devoted so much time, patience and energy to the activities of the club and without whom the pleasure and relaxation enjoyed by the members of the club could not continue.

S. Ireland

P.S. Rumour has it that Mr. Poole is looking for his own loud-hailer instead of borrowing Mr. Evans' for the odd occasion. Things just won't be the same.

S.I.

The Captain of Sailing

Simon Ireland — following in the steps of the old sea dog — did a good job as captain, welding six individuals into a team, and taking a lot of the day-to-day running of things off my shoulders. My grateful thanks.

M.A.R.P.

ATHLETICS

Athletics Report 1976

This season was very successful for all the school athletes.

Once again Woolverstone retained the inter-school trophy, with no help from the judges who, after many talks with Mr. Evans, finally succeeded in disqualifying some of our athletes. But in spite of this Woolverstone managed to put up a good fight and successfully beat the school in second place by a clear 100 pts. Particular mention must go to Rice, Carr, Davis, Towells, Jones, Berry and Young, who came first in their respective events. Unfortunately Samson was not able to obliterate the high jump competition as he accidentally spiked himself.

Lots of thanks must go to Linton-Smith who, despite not being allowed to compete in the non-existent pentathlon, looked after his little boys very well and solved all of their queries, well most of them.

At the area trials Woolverstone dominated the field getting 6 1st's, 10 2nd's, 2 3rd's and 3 4th's. Samson participated in the 800m, as well as the high jump, and set a new school record of 2 mins 13 secs, breaking Grimley's previous record which had stood at 2 mins 15 secs. for three years.

Of the people who entered the area trials 13 went on to the Suffolk Schools and from there, Grimley, D. Jones, Berry, Samson and Towells went on to the Six Counties. Jones came 3rd, Samson 2nd and Towells 2nd. Obviously the most outstanding athlete this season must have been A. Howell, who managed to come 1st in the high jump on three consecutive occasions. Let us hope next year somebody else enters the high jump at the A.A.A. meetings.

Once again sports day was a very closely run thing and Johnstons and Orwell were constantly changing places in the table. The highlight of the day was the 400m leg of the medley relay where Whiteman ran very well. Finally I would like to thank all the judges and helpers on Sports Day, and especially Mr. Evans, Mr. Coulter and Mr. Farley Pettman for all the work they put into athletics this past season. Also I wish A. Howell (The Secretary of Athletics for 1977) the best of luck in the forthcoming season.

G. JAMES

Athletics Results 1976

Suffolk A.A.A.

Junior Boys

H.J. : Howell, 1st

L.J. : Thomas, 3rd

Youths

Jav : Towells, 6th

Jav : Whitmarsh, 7th

100m Hurd : Bates, 2nd

H.J. : Page, 3rd

H.J. : Samson, 1st

100m : Rice, 4th

100m : Jones, 6th

Shot : Jones, 1st

T.J. : Plant, 5th

800m : Flannery, 8th

200m : Towells, 5th

L.J. : Plant, 7th

1500m : Samson, 3rd

1500m : Berry, 10th

Boys

Shot : Davis, 3rd

L.J. : Brown, 5th

100m Hurd : Berry, 2nd

Jav : Evans, 3rd

H.J. : Berry, 1st

200m : Berry, 4th

400m : Davis, 2nd

Southern Area trials

Seniors

100m : Whiteman, 3rd

1500m : Grimley, 2nd

110m Hurd : Jones, 1st

H.J. : Howell, 1st

L.J. : Thomas, 4th

Shot : Eades, 2nd

Intermediates

100m : Berry, 5th

100m : Rice, 1st

200m : Berry, 5th

200m : Page, 4th

200m : Rice, 2nd

800m : Samson, 2nd (2m. 13s new School Record)

100m Hurd : Bates, 2nd

H.J. : Samson, 2nd

H.J. : Whitmarsh, 5th

L.J. : Towells, 1st

Shot : Jones, 1st

Jav : Towells, 2nd

Juniors

100m : Berry, 2nd

200m : Berry, 2nd

400m : Davis, 3rd

L.J. : O'Garro, 4th

Shot : Davis, 2nd

80m Hurd : Berry, 1st

Suffolk Schools

Seniors

100m : Whiteman, 3rd

1500m : Grimley, 1st

110m Hurd : Jones, 1st

H.J. : Howell, 1st

Shot : Eades, 2nd

Relay : Whiteman 1st (& area team)

ATHLETICS

Intermediates
100m : Rice, 5th
H.J. : Samson, 1st
H.J. : Whitmarsh, 3rd
L.J. : Towells, 1st
Shot : Jones, 2nd
Relay : Rice, 1st (& area team)

Juniors
80m Hurd : Berry, 1st
Shot : Davis, 3rd
Discus : Chin, 3rd

Six Counties
Seniors
110m Hurd : Jones, 3rd

Intermediates
L.J. : Towells, 2nd
H.J. : Samson, 2nd

Hippburn Trophy Meeting

H.J. : Samson, 2nd (N.S.R. 1.78m)
Shot : Jones, 1st
100m Hurd : Bates, 2nd

Inter-Schools Match

	4th Form	3rd Form	2nd Form	1st Form
100m	Rice	O'Garro	Offiah	Fry
	1st	2nd	—	—
200m	Carr	Lewis	Stanton	Adeyemi
	1st	4th	2nd	4th
400m	Ruffle	Thomas	Callow	—
	2nd	—	3rd	—
800m	Samson	Davis	Young	Astley
	2nd	5th	1st	10th
1500m	Samson	Jowers	—	—
	—	7th	—	—
H.J.	Samson	Chin	Young	Aina
	3rd	—	4th	4th
L.J.	Towells	Baldwin	Rooney	Luter
	1st	5th	5th	2nd
T.J.	Plant	Badwin	York	Luter
	2nd	3rd	—	3rd
Shot	Jones	Davis	Penn	—
	1st	1st	2nd	—
Jav.	Sullivan	Evans	Sieferhi	Bower
	6th	3rd	5th	5th
Disc	Hopkirk	Chin	Penn	—
	2nd	2nd	—	—
Hurdles	Grant	Berry	York	York
	3rd	1st	3rd	—
Relay	1st	1st	1st	3rd

CROSS COUNTRY

1976 was a very active season for the cross-country club as, in addition to the annual inter-house competition in February, school teams also ran against the Royal Hospital School, Ipswich School, and twice against the Old Boys. It was very encouraging to see the increasing enthusiasm and self discipline adopted by boys representing the school or their houses.

The results of the inter-hours competition were as follows:

JUNIORS

	total places	points
1st Corner's	73	6
2nd Johnston's	93	5
3rd Hanson's	104	4
4th Orwell	125	3
5th Halls'	140	2
6th Berners	200	1

INTERMEDIATE

	total places	points
1st Hanson's	38	6
2nd Berners	88	5
3rd Johnston's	103	4
4th Corner's	129	3
5th Orwell	175	2
6th Halls'	177	1

SENIOR

	total places	points
1st Corner's	62	5½
Orwell	62	5½
3rd Berners	109	4
4th Johnston's	121	3
5th Hanson's	163	2
6th Hall's	210	1

The final placings, were 1st Corner's 14½ points, 2nd Hanson's and Johnston's 12 points, 4th Orwell 10½ points, 5th Berners 10 points, and 6th Hall's 4 points. The individual positions were, in the Juniors; 1st Offiah (16 mins 25 secs), 2nd Young and 3rd McCall. In the Intermediates, 1st Samson (16 mins 32 secs), 2nd Woodruff and 3rd Sullivan. In the seniors, 1st Grimley (22mins 17 secs), 2nd Fludgate and 3rd Dixon.

In the school match against the old boys the positions were, 1st Grimley (WH), 2nd Samson (WH), 3rd Hitchins (OB), 4th Fludgate (WH), 5th D Howell (OB), 6th Dixon (WH), 7th Thompson (WH), 8th James (WH), 9th Jones (WH), 10th Dawlings (OB), 11th Marshall (OB), and 12th B. Chalmers (OB). Although the school team won on this occasion, the old boys trained for five months for revenge (led by J. Dawlings who trained with Ian Thompson) which came at the end of June.

In the hottest weather recorded by Mr. Hyde since he was born in 1946, J. Dawlings led the Old Boys to victory as his disciplined fighting force had more stamina than the school team who could not provide enough finishers to qualify.

Both the Under 15's and over 15's lost away to The Royal Hospital School, although only marginally. In the Over 15's Grimley came 2nd, Thompson 6th, Jones 9th, Dixon 10th, James 13th, Linton-Smith 14th, and A. Howell 15th. In the Under 15's Samson came 1st, Woodruff 3rd, Davis 9th, Cooke 11th, Stuart 12th, Thomas 13th, Steele 15th and Young 16th.

The Under 16's and Over 16's also ran away from (rather than to) Ipswich School; the different nature of their course to our own largely contributed to our defeat but we hope to beat them on our own soil next season. In the Over 16's Grimley came 1st, Dixon 6th, Pereira 8th, James 10th, Jones 14th and Chalmers 15th. It is believed that A. Howell is still in the process of completing the course (as he does not like to give up). In the Under 16's Woodruff came 4th, Stuart 9th, Towells 10th, Steele 11th, Thomas 12th, Davis 15th, and Berry and Sullivan are probably shortly behind A. Howell.

I hope that, because of the increasing interest in the sport, next season will be both more successful at inter-school level, and more rewarding at inter-house level (which is already of a very high standard).

G. James and I would like to thank all the boys who ran for the school this season (and hope that those who have not left will offer to run again next year), and I would also like to thank Mr. Evans, Mr. Coulter and Geoffrey James for the invaluable encouragement and organization they contributed to the club throughout the season.

Alwyn Howell

FENCING

Fencing Club

The highlight of last season was undoubtedly the successes of Adrian Thompson. His main achievements were becoming the United Kingdom U16 Foil Champion and then gaining his English U16 Colours in the match against Scotland. But this could not have been possible without the support and experience he gained fencing against other members of the club; so that everyone contributed to, and gained from, his success. However this should not overshadow other things which were also taking place in the club; matches against a very strong Felixstowe club were fought and usually lost, various competitions entered and there were the normal coaching and practising on club nights.

In the individual competitions, various results were:

U14 Eastern Section:— qualified for National Finals in Eastern Section Team : W. Hesse and J. Barry.

U16 Eastern Section :— qualified for National Finals in Eastern Section Team : A. Thompson.

Woolverstone Championships :—

Junior: 1st J. Bulpett, 2nd R. San Jose, 3rd T. Teiger, 4th A. Waller.

Inter : 1st A. Thompson, 2nd W. Hesse, 3rd N. Lee, 4th M. Anderson

H.J.R.

AND OTHER SPORTS

Swimming

Woolverstone has not taken part in local swimming events in recent years as these have taken place in distant parts of Suffolk and often after the end of our term. However, following on local government reorganization, swimming for the area is now centred on Ipswich and two Schools' Galas are held, one for 1st/2nd Form, the other for 3rd/4th Form. We entered this year for the first time and came 4th (out of 12) and 2nd (out of 10) respectively, a very pleasing start. R. Davis and R. York had the best individual results (2nd in their finals) but the all-round performance was good with a high proportion of finalists. School representatives were:

4th Form : G. Brewster, S. Samson, R. Forrest, M. Johnstone

3rd Form : R. Davis, N. Evans, S. Berry, M. Chin

2nd Form : J. McCall, A. Penn, N. York, S. Callow

1st Form : R. York, P. Tatchell, D. Channer, K. Astley, I. Hutchison

P.R.S.

Canoeing

Last year looked bright for the future of the club owing to the opportunity of a three-weekend course on canoe techniques and rolling. Hopefully those who took part on the course will spend a little of their time teaching the younger members of the club; thereby improving the general standard. There was not a canoeing trip last year owing to transport difficulties and the drought conditions but a lot of valuable experience was gained on the river thanks to the supervision and tuition given by Mr. Hawes and Mr. Watkins. It is hoped that there will be a trip this year to North Wales to do some sea canoeing. I would like to thank Mr. Turner who has organised the building and maintenance of the canoes during the year.

R. Steiner



BADMINTON REPORT

Last season's badminton proved to be enjoyable, as well as successful. The 1st VI lost only two matches out of nine and ended up third in the league.

Seecoomar and Gardner made up the first pair and played consistently well throughout the whole season; losing more than half their six games in only one match. This did not go down too well with Parker and Kelleher who made up the third pair. Although Parker's short, fat legs were a big disadvantage, Kelleher's exceptional talent for cheating made up for this and unlike on previous occasions we had a good, strong third pair. Sykes and D. Thomas made up the second pair and played skilfully in almost every match.

Penultimately I would like to mention Mr. Shakeshaft who gives up an enormous amount of time coaching and officiating at matches, but whose completely unselfish attitude is rarely appreciated.

Finally I want to thank both Mr. and Mrs. Shakeshaft for providing such a wonderful dinner, for so many, people at the end of the season.

The people who also played for the 1st VI were:— S. Ireland, S. Halliday, D. Steer, J. Hayter, M. Gibbons, M. Porter and R. Taylor.

R.S.

Orienteering

On looking through the results of the past year the school appears to be showing great improvement at this sport. This can be seen from the results of the Suffolk Youth Orienteering Championships which took place in May. Out of the 115 runners who took part on the course, Gibson came 3rd and Scarlett-Smith 9th. The competition was also judged on team placings and again the School's name was near the top of the list. Our A. Team came 2nd, C team 10th, B team 12th, and D team 15th. Perhaps next year we may even reach the top of that list and bring a trophy back to the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Taylor for all the work he has put into the club, and secondly, to wish Mr. Goetzee, who has now taken over the organising of the club, the best of luck for the future.

R. Steiner

Tennis

The season has seen a further involvement of the school in competitive tennis in the area. An under sixteen squad entered the unfortunate newly formed U16 league, which looks like being doomed, but apart from a ride in a cloudburst in the unparalleled comfort of the school van to an abandoned match and a run out to Felixstowe for a quick thrashing by Deben High School it was a frustrating time for the squad. Next year it looks like U15. Next season I am also hoping to enter a senior league, but as I think we will discover, there is extremely tough opposition in the area. Still it should be fun. We all need to dominate the net much more and use the full width of the court.

The U13s had an enjoyable season again especially the delights of sticky buns in the drawing room of Old Buckenham Hall. Nicholas English only comes along for the refreshments, I'm sure Young has improved very well this season and Hutton is setting himself high standards. The final game of the season saw the substitution of Adeyemi for English, and this was the only game we almost got a result, against St. Joseph's. Next season the U13s must go out to win, and that is what I am now looking for in players. Casual elegance is definitely out if it brings no results.

School competitions were increased this year, by the addition of singles championships. These were won by Young (13), Lee (14), Halliday (U16) and Gassman (Senior). Each champion received a box of balls and I hope next year to see interest stimulated even further.

The Exmouth Cup needs changing in form somehow. In its three years history this was the worst year for co-operation. The final between Corner's and Orwell was played on a sultry Sunday morning. Finest sight of the morning was the golden back of a girl called Annabelle, rivalled only by the fine duel between Thomas and Ellen. John Lee just gets better and better. If he ever learns to move his legs he will be good. Thanks to Corner's for drumming up enthusiasm and atmosphere on the day of the final, even though they lost.

We send Seecoomar our best wishes. His stroke playing was sorely missed.

John Robinson

Cold Cairngorm Warm-up

It was to be a sort of practice session for the climbing meet in the Alps, the argument being that although the Woolverstone climbers have a fair amount of experience in rock-climbing, this is not the case with snow and ice techniques. Thus a half-term meet in February in the Cairngorms, where snow is guaranteed, would give us valuable experience.

By special dispensation the party left a day early, amid raised eyebrows from those whose half-term had not begun. There were ten of us, JMT (to whom thanks for organizing the whole thing), KF-P, AV and L. Watkins, DJH, Alex Gibson, Bruce Chalmers (OW), Chippy Parker, Paul Cornish, Phil Evans. The journey was long, boring, and uncomfortable (Ford designers have made sure that no passenger can sleep in a Transit, though the driver, having a more comfortable seat, might easily drop off) and broken in the middle by a few hours doss-down at the house of John Taylor's parents, near Newcastle. On again at about 5.30; Sarah Taylor left her favourite doll in the transit (rumoured that Alex took it to bed with him nightly), and Phil Evans left his wallet in a cafe at Birnam, where there were lots of trees, MacDuff's army notwithstanding. The transit behaved itself and gave of its all; the strong oily smell was eventually traced not to a faulty oil seal but to KF-P's special oiled anorak, newly dipped in Castrol GTX.

The Loch Morlich campsite, reached at about 1.00p.m., is about 1000 feet up and can be chilly in February. One night it went down to minus 16°C which made frozen boots difficult to put on in the morning. Tony Watkins, who has influence in high places, managed to get us the use of a hall for cooking, so the meals at least were draught-free. The menu had a certain sameness about it but Woolverstone spontaneity managed to introduce interesting gastronomic variations, (like potato-powder in the tea, milk powder in the stew,) to delight the palate.

Since the building of the ski facilities, access to the Cairngorms has become much easier, the car park being just about the height that the snow begins. Thus we had time to take a preliminary walk round Coire Cas on the first day. Not very far, but at least we were in the mountains, and once the ski-lifts are left behind, you are walking by compass, and the winds blows below freezing, you begin to realize what the Cairngorms can be like when the weather really gets bad.

In fact the weather was kind to us from start to finish. The cloud level was usually high, and the snow hard-frozen and in good condition for our purpose. It didn't actually snow much, but in the corries the spin-drift (wind-blown snow) was somewhat trying. But then there were those moments on the high Cairngorm plateau, round about 4000 feet, when the cloud cleared and the sun shone and you could see right across dark Strathspey to the Monadhliath mountains with their brilliant white tops. Then it became without any doubt *the sport*.

Our second day was such a one, and we used it in Coire an Lochan practising our snow techniques—use of ice-axe, kicking steps, using crampons (for those who had them) up the easier slopes on the back wall of the corrie. Sandwiches in Jean's hut, a bothy which has no comfort and lots of graffiti but did at least keep the wind off. On the way down there was an encounter with some ptarmigans, a pteriblyptame sort of high mountain grouse which waddle off croaking like bull frogs when you get within about twenty feet of them.

Day three. Weather less good. More snow-slope practice, this time with ropes and deadmen (in-appropriate term for a type of snow-anchor). A few, with crampons, went on to the top of Cairngorm (4084 feet, the visibility being zero in driving snow).

In the evenings we sampled the delights to be had in Aviemore. These consisted of the Younger's Tartan in the 'Blinking Owl'. By contrast there was the Tartan in the 'Viking' and another place which definitely had a name too.



Andrew and Phil became darts champions of the Aviemore district—or was it the whole of Scotland?—so they let us know. Once we tried ice-skating in the local rink; who were more frightened, ourselves or the locals, was not clear. The oldest member of the party was seen clutching at least three people in an embrace at once, one of them male: he said it had something to do with balance.

The number of people on the ski slopes, always large, increased many times over at the weekend. Rumour had it that no fewer than eighty people had broken their legs in one week. Of our party, Linda Watkins had been skiing daily. Tony Watkins did so on several occasions, and on the last day half the party went skiing, though out of modesty they took good care to keep out of sight.

For the climbers, the last two days turned out to be perhaps the best. On the Sunday there was a long ridge walk in superlative conditions, culminating on the summit of Cairngorm. On the Monday there was a (for us) quite steep snow and ice climb up the backwall of Coire Sneachda. It was no doubt easy for the experts, but at least we had to 'front point' with crampons and it was a good preparation for anything we were likely to meet with in the Alps. And that goes for the meet as a whole.

D.J.H

THE ITALIAN JOB

Venice trembled as flight Delta Alpha 1160 touched down at Treviso airport early one afternoon last April. Spilling down the flight steps came twenty frenzied members of the Woolverstone Hall ski-ing party, faces fixed in maniacal grins and a cry on all their lips of 'Where's the snow?' Something is terribly wrong. The sun is shining, it is 70°F and the humid stillness is only broken by the whine of our flight's jets and an occasional waft of decomposition from the Venice lagoons. Where is the snow? We had seen plenty on our excellent flight as we banked over the central peaks of the Pennine Alps—the Monte Rosa, Weisshorn, Dent d'Herens and the Matterhorn, glistening like a ghostly pyramid transported a thousand miles from its home. Snow seems a meteorological impossibility on the tarmac of Treviso. 'Don't panic chaps, there's plenty just up the road.' Our luggage collected, we piled into the transfer coach and—one case missing you say, Roy Steiner's. Never mind, we'll soon find it. It's traced Sir, to Clermont-Ferrand and will be here directly, well, by next Thursday.

EXPEDITIONS

So we negotiated the customs and the Mafia, and with the indomitable Steiner caseless set off up the road towards Bolzano and the Dolomites. Beautiful countryside just waking up to Spring. Old men and women in their tiny fields, almond blossom and daffodils and the hills looming larger and larger until suddenly we're running through a steep gorge with a crystal torrent rushing along beside the road. Dolomite scenery is magnificent, the hard double carbonate weathered into fantastic spires and pillars which convey an overwhelming sense of verticality. Huge walls that have been training grounds for some of Europe's greatest mountaineers. S-bend follows S-bend as we begin to climb and soon we reach the Passa di San Pelligrino. Snow at last, thin but white and people are ski-ing in the distance. Spirits soar (Ruffle's duty-free) and we press on the last twenty kilometres to the Val di Fassa and Moera.

Our hotel is small but friendly (this is beginning to read like a Thompson's brochure) but the food is fair and the fine local wine 30p a litre. We collect skis and boots and are ready to go after a night's sleep. The ski-ing in Spring is on the Alpe Lusia, reached by a two stage cable-car about three kilometres outside the village. The first morning our coach driver decides not to wait for us, unpredictable like their footballers, but we get big Jim to have a word with him and all is sorted out. Ski-classes take place all morning and then its cheese rolls or cheese rolls for lunch. After a couple of days we're struggling down the mountain in fits and starts, a crash or three with head and shoulders buried in the snow but managing somehow. The sun is scorching and ski-ing is hard work. At the middle station of the cable-car the melt water is gurgling and splashing away down the Alp and the snow is disappearing rapidly. Crocus and pasque flower parade their attractions in the warm sunlight. The last hundred yards to the are water-skied and by the end of the week this is four hundred yards and spring is very much here. We have all done well, especially some of the non-athletes, and one or two star 'Scuola di Ski' badges adorn lapels.

The little memories that make a holiday remain very clear. Mark Ellen's impersonation of Manuel in Fawltly Towers, Mick Ruffle's impersonation of Mick Ruffle on holiday, the moon step and the last tango in Moera, unusual entrances (and exits) to the Pensione Vallechiora, Sergio the W— and Roy Steiner's outfit! Tee shirt by Linda W., trousers by Farley-P. (they may need taking up a shade sir) socks anonymous, underwear by, well we won't go into that.

Thank you experts Ellen and Rice for all your help and thank you everyone for a very enjoyable week. Dolomiti superski had its own meaning for us.

AW.

The Woolvo Stompers Pennine Walk

The journey up to the Pennines was rather uneventful with only one exception. Someone, who shall remain nameless, was travel sick. Anyway, we camped somewhere north of Newcastle, at 2am. To add to this we had to do 40 miles before breakfast.

We set off from Keilder Head after breakfast, while Mr. Farley-Pettman took the tilley to our next camp where he could deposit some food with some kind farmer. A friend of his, maybe?

That meant we were on our own and as you could have guessed we were soon very lost. Our only direction finder was a rather large stream. However, we were very fortunate because we met Mr. Farley-Pettman at a point where our stream ran very close to the proper path. This was around lunchtime; for the rest of the afternoon we walked to the camp site which was situated at Catcleuch reservoir. We made our supper while Mr. Farley-Pettman took the tilley to the end of our walk. We heard him traipse back about 3 hours after we had "hit the hay". Things looked as if they were growing worse.

We set off the next morning and collected our food. This made our rucksacks even heavier which displeased us, but we would lose most of it on the way. We picked up the Pennine Way at Byrness and walked for the rest of the day uphill. We had no water and were very happy to set up camp. We were not so happy when he heard that although there were plenty of dead sheep, there was very little water and even that was very dubious. Anyway we made do. We had no choice.

We set off the next day to find that we would be zig-zagging across the Anglo-Scottish boarder for the rest of our journey. By now we were so thirsty that we were forced to drink bog water. While walking Samson decided to take a short cut across the bogs, which seemed to stretch for eternity, and he fell into a hole. He was up to his waist in mud. We soon sorted this matter out and were walking to our next camp site, the foot of Mt Cheviot, the second highest mountain in England. We found there, fresh running water for the first time in two days. It was lovely.

The next morning, six boys climbed the Cheviot leaving two behind to have more breakfast. We really enjoyed it. When they had come back we set off. We were really anxious to get to Kirk Yetholm, the end of our journey. We stopped at a small hut on the way which was meant to help people stuck in bad weather. We made sure our signatures and motto "The Woolvo Stompers" were left. We were, more or less, going down hill all the way and we were nearly running. We finally got to Kirk Yetholm where we saw the tilley outside a PublicHouse. Suspicious, isn't it? We made our way to the Northumbrian coast just opposite the Farne Isles. We had a rather normal evening except for encountering the law.

Some of us wouldn't get out of the tilley and had to be bribed but we refused to put up the tents and so slept in the tilley.

The next day we made the long journey home to Woolvo but I would like to thank Mr. (I'll hitch, back) Farley-Pettman for the beer, Chocky, and the meal on the way back.

I would also like to thank Sinne (where's the Beer) Bromley, Grant (I'm home) Brewster, Gray (cold beans) Emmerson, Steve (I'll take the short cut) Samson Dave (my pack's just as heavy as anyone else's) Jones, Sean (wait for me) Thurgood, and Mike (Emillio) Woodruff.

We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves afterwards, although not at the time.

T. Hegarty

Waltham Walk

The Waltham walk is a 30 mile walk taking two days including the overnight camp. It is organised by the Boys' Brigade and the army give a lot of help in organisation. The course is situated in Essex around Ongar.

Last year the school sent three teams A, B and C. These consisted of: Samson, Sullivan and Jones, Kenny, Mason and Schroer and Brewster, Bromley and Warner.

We set out at 6 a.m. on Saturday 22nd of May. We were driven down to the start by Mr. Taylor.

On our arrival we were given the order of starting; but first there was a checklist to answer and points were awarded for a good selection of equipment. We were then given a list of checkpoints through which we had to pass; but the route we took between them was left to our discretion.

Finally we set off at 8.45 and walked twelve miles to the lunch stop. We arrived at lunch at 1.00. There was a half-hour break for lunch after which we set off for the last eight miles.

At each check point there was an initiative test for which points were awarded. These included such things as, crossing a river by a rope, climbing a tree as fast as possible by a rope and running through a waist deep river, a dangerous occupation at best, because of submerged barbed wire (unknown to the organisers).

We arrived at the camp site around 4.45 and after collecting ourselves we pitched tent and prepared to cook our tea. Points were awarded for the standard of cooking and the order and appearance of the tent.

After a good nights' sleep we started walking at 8.45. We had completed the last 12 miles by 3 o'clock, and with some joy sat down to a meal at a school in Ongar. After this meal we hobbled out for the prize-giving.

The results were: (out of 80 teams): —

team A 13th

Team B 25th

Team C 9th.

I am sure the other members of the teams would like to join me in thanking Mr Taylor and Mr, Farley-Pettman for their help and cooperation.



CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

DEBATING SOCIETY

"Since Geraint Howell complained of the low attendances at the Debating Society in the 1966 edition of 'Janus', our support has almost been halved. He was, at least, able to complain when under forty people attended, whereas Phillip Laughton, Mr. Cromarty and myself would wax enthusiastic at an attendance figure of over thirty-five! "What a shame it was that so many excellent speeches were marred by the fact that a mere handful of the senior school were there to hear them".

So S. L. Parperis wrote in 1967.

It is now 1976.

The present Debating Society would 'wax enthusiastic' at an attendance of twenty.

This means it is not worth having a Debating Society. There is insufficient interest. For what is still a grammar school this is unacceptable. I can only wish luck to my followers: yours is a hard and uphill task.

As usual the school Public-Speaking Competition took place this year; attracting an entry of four contestants. Ramachandran took the cup from Charles Cowap, who had held it for two years. Micheal Mills and Micheal Cunningham spoke well on their subjects.

Again, a team was sent to the English Speaking Union Annual National Competition in Ipswich. Richard Harffey chaired the team, the thanks was proposed to Nicholas Watson, the speech given by Charles Cowap. By what is generally agreed to be a travesty of justice the team finished unplaced, and did not qualify for the next heat of the competition.

There seems little point in telling you this — you do have to pay for 'Janus', and you are obviously not interested in Deb Soc! I have, therefore, tried to be as brief as possible.

C. D. Cowap

Animal Club

No Animal Club notes appeared in the 1975 issue of Janus. However, the Club continued to flourish and for this we are grateful to Mr. Thomas who took over during my year of absence.

During the past school year 30 members have, daily, cared and taken responsibility for their own animals. The type of animal kept has varied, but gerbils seem to be as popular as ever. The attraction of these small mammals is undoubtedly their friendly inquisitiveness and the ease with which they can be handled. At the last count there were 26 gerbils including 7 of the unusual albino variety. Two guinea pigs, two rabbits, one rat, one ferret and one tortoise made up the total.

Members who own gerbils may like to be reminded that there is now a National Mongolian Gerbil Society which caters for both standard gerbils and pets. Standard gerbils now include 'dilutes', 'albinos', 'white spots', as well as 'normals', and can be exhibited at Alexandra Palace where they are judged to show standards.

C.J.H.

Films

The first senior film of the year was "The Outrage". It was entertaining, though it became slightly tedious towards the end, and was very well acted. Paul Newman played a bandit who was accused of raping Claire Bloom and then murdering her husband. The film deals with four accounts of the "outrage", each of them varying with the other. The good performances from the two actors (Newman and Lurence Harvey — as the husband), raised the standard of the film.

"The Last Ten Days of Adolf Hitler" was a film recreating the last days of the dictator's life. Alec Guinness played Hitler very well but the script of the film was very weak and there was no enthrallment at all. The film was over long and became very tedious!

"The Trap" was an extremely entertaining flittrng relationship between a trapper — played excellently by Oliver Reed — and the wife he has bought for himself — played rather feebly by Rita Tushingham. Amusing as well as touching, the film was fairly satisfying entertainment.

"The Friends of Eddie Coyle" had a respectable start, which at some stages could be termed enthralling, but it had me fooled — it turned out to be one of the least interesting films ever to be seen by the Seniors. The plot of the film is basically about a crook who has come out of prison and is immediately approached by other crooks to go back to his dishonest ways. But he wishes to inform the police of the crooks' undertakings; and from this stage of the film onwards, the story jumps from place to place and gets far too complicated. It is a very anti-climatic film and has absolutely no tension. It was disappointing to see Robert Mitchum in such a degrading film.

The first film of the winter term was either the best or second best film of the year. "Soldier Blue" was an excellent satire on how badly treated the Red Indians were by the U.S. Cavalry after a battle. It has romantic undertones, also dealing with the relationship between an officer in the cavalry (Peter Strauss) and a white woman who had lived with the Indians for a number of years — played by Candice Bergen. It was very interesting to see the reactions of the cavalry officer as he learnt more and more about the savagery of his own companions.

The final massacre sequence, one of the bloodiest scenes ever to be filmed, brought a great impact on the viewers and also brought forward views which the director wanted. Very good performances from Peter Strauss and Candice Bergen and an almost excellent film.

"The Ruling Class" was an extremely interesting allegorical satire, not only on the 'Ruling Class' but also religion. It is about the son of a millionaire (deceased) who believes he is Christ. An excellent performance from Peter O'Toole as the "lunatic" who cannot convince his friends of what he believes. The film mainly deals with their efforts to bring O'Toole "back to his senses". It had a very good first half, but the film was spoilt by the director trying to include too many satires into the film. The ending was a memorable one.

"Fright!" was a chiller/thriller with all the necessary ingredients, badly cooked. When a husband and wife decide to go celebrating, they hire Susan George as the babysitter. But trouble starts when the wife's first husband — who has been locked up in a lunatic asylum — escapes and revisits the house. The film has its gory moments, but the impact which one expects at the end of the film doesn't arrive. Honor Blackman acted well as the endangered wife of the lunatic played very well by Ian Bannen. An above average chiller which is lifted above normal by the plot, rather than the actual film.

"Chinatown", in my opinion, was the best film of the year. An absolutely superb performance from Jack Nicholson as a Private-eye who gets tangled up with the affairs of the rich, but beautiful, Faye Dunaway, whose husband has been murdered. The film deals with Nicholson investigating some suspicious land-buying — land which had belonged to the dead husband. As the story progresses — at the same time getting a big tangled up — Miss Dunaway's father comes into the story, as well as a girl whom Miss Dunaway is protecting. However, all is explained in the end — and the ending is very surprising and emotive which gives the film a great impact. Excellent acting, excellent plot and excellent directing brought the film its well deserved 10 Oscar nominations.

Anon.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Reports of individual activities carried out as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Scheme can be found elsewhere in the magazine.

The highlight of the year was the attainment of seven Gold Awards—the first gained at the school. The boys were presented with their badges by Bobby Robson, the manager of Ipswich Town F.C., and will attend a reception at Buckingham Palace next month to receive their certificates from the Duke of Edinburgh. The seven boys concerned are: Andrew Parker, Sean Kelleher, Charles Cowap, Alex Gibson, Tim Gardner, Ian Jessup and Gavin Willows.

Other awards gained include four Silver and eighteen Bronze.

Since the last issue of Janus we have also arranged two challenge twenty-five mile walks, the first of which was sponsored, and raised a total of over £200 for the equipment we so badly need. Many thanks to parents who sponsored someone on one of those walks.

J.M.T.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award: more adventures

We're still here. Somehow we managed to get the award, and in a small ceremony in the school assembly hall we were given our badges by Mr. Bobby Robson, the manager of Ipswich Town Football Club. After two speeches—by Mr. Robson and Charles Cowap—it was over: we'll tell you about Buck House next year.

One was naturally inclined to reflect on what we had done to get this badge: three expeditions, some social work, a hobby and some P.E. Not a lot on the face of it, but, looking back, immensely enjoyable. I think we all learned something from it.

If it is for the badge and the certificate one does the award then it must ultimately be an anti-climax. However, these are not people's motives. Blisters are certainly a result, but so is something else—quite what I don't know. It seems to amount to something like an inner tranquillity, inner contentment. This is gained because most of one's ambitions and aims, hatreds and loves, are put into perspective.

All seven of us have, I think, much to be grateful.

C.D.C.

Photography

Last year saw the reopening of the school photography club. It has shown great promise from the start with growing attendance and enthusiasm. Already several members are developing their talents, the results of which can be seen on the club notice board. The development of the club has been largely due to the patience and organisation of Mr. Turner to whom we are very grateful. The club, situated in the old sports store is very well equipped with five enlargers, a first class drier and numerous other assets. These are the result of a generous donation from the Old Boys' Association and a gift from Mr. Hanson to whom the school is greatly indebted.

R. Steiner and A. J. Murray

Field Studies

1. Pollution Study notes:

Work on the pollution of the Orwell and Stour estuaries has temporarily come to a halt. No pollution studies were undertaken during my year at Reading; and last year, although several attempts were made, we were unable to contact Roger Stenner who was carrying out the more complex chemical analyses for us at Bristol. It is hoped that work will recommence just as soon as Roger can be contacted.

Meanwhile the results of the work being done on the River Orwell by the University of East Anglia (School of Environmental Studies) are being noted with interest. Based at Woolverstone Hall during the last two Easter vacations, and using the School's biology laboratory, groups of students have been making hydrographic and sedimentological measurements between Constantine Weir and Collimer Point. We look forward to exchanging data with the group in the coming year.

2. Pond reclamation :

Two years after reclaiming the pond which lies just to the north east of Woolverstone Church (Fig. 1) a small group of the VI form are enthusiastically involved in restoring the 'bamboos' pond to its original glory (Fig. 2). A victim of neglect, pollution and vandalism this pond had virtually disappeared. Now much of the overgrown vegetation has been removed and the concrete rim has been cleared all the way round (no small feat considering that some of the bamboo clumps removed weighed upwards of 2 cwt). Work has also begun on removing 30-40 years accumulation of silt, leaves, muck and rubbish. To date 2½ tons of materials have been manually carted away and 'treasures' found have included the remains of what appears to be the old Nautical School mast, a Nissen hut boiler, numerous kitchen utensils and a large glass lens. Who knows what we may unearth during the coming year!

3. Other activities :

- A further visit was made to the Red Crag pit at Shottisham TM 317457 (see James 1971 and 1972) and specimens were recorded and collected. One member is following this up as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award.
- A light trap for studying insect populations has been kindly loaned to us by Rothamstead Experimental Station. Mr. Watkins, who will be supervising its use, expects it to be ready for operation by Christmas.
- Recent acquisition of an environmental comparator means that measurement of oxygen content, pH, salinity, conductivity, light and temperature can now be carried out directly in the field during the course of an investigation. Thanks are due to the headmaster for making its purchase possible.

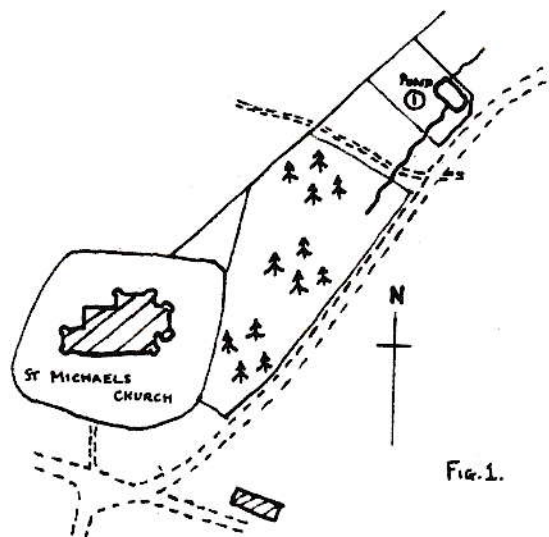
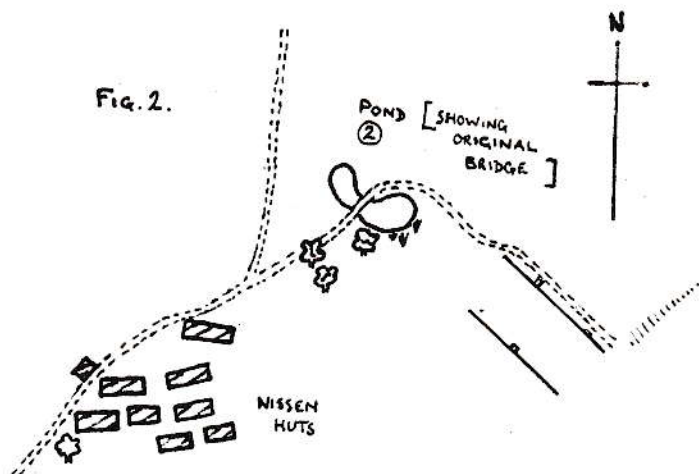


Fig. 1.



A LETTER FROM A FRIEND

I only wish that letter had got lost in transit. There was nothing else for it, I shall have to leave, after cornflakes and grapefruit juice of course, but I shall have to leave.

That was the worst breakfast I ever did have. Only that soft cuddly, smelly little turd of a white rabbit seemed to enjoy itself. Why should it enjoy itself and me not?

I swept off its head with the paper cutter.

"The human society and white rabbits nauseate me" I shouted out of my top window at a passing coalman.

I packed my executive brief-case and left for the airport. Men and women laughed at me because my suit was out of fashion. I became embarrassed, so I slid down the nearest drain hole into the maze of underground passages. The rats seemed to be more hospitable than the humans above. I became tired so I sat on a ledge to type out this story.

I emerged at night to find that the human had not changed, just the same. I stood on an orange box on the corner and started preaching to passing people.

"The human society is no better than the white rabbit itself". They clapped me for an outstandingly funny performance.

I was assaulted twice by beatniks before I fell down at the feet of a customs official. He didn't help me he just asked me if I had anything to declare. I said, "Yes," I carefully opened my black with silver lined brief-case, and handed him a decapitated white rabbit.

He just looked panicky and called for assistance, but I escaped them all and was soon in the process of flying to America.

A beautiful wench sat in the next seat but one. I tried to attract her attention but I think she was deaf.

A stewardess offered me a fruit sweet from a silver platter, I scooped the lot into my waistcoat pocket and returned her contemptuous grimace.

I was not offered any food on that plane; when all the other passengers got legs of synthetic chicken. I got so tired of crawling around on all fours gnawing left-overs, that I looked into my brief-case for something to appease my hunger. And I found it, a sizeable section of the white rabbits larynx. I gnawed with ferocity, much to the horror of my fellow passengers.

I finally decided what tactics to take with the nice lady the seat but one away from me. I threw a lemon chew at her to attract her attention and when she turned around, I stared lustfully at her. She just gave me one of those 'Your a loony looks' and moved to the opposite end of the plane.

We arrived at New York, and I stepped off the plane very close behind the deaf lady.

I began to walk around New York's shops. I found it very interesting really. I developed a relish for plastic carnations, I bought thirteen bouquets as souvenirs.

Then suddenly a purple van drew up and the stewardess and the deaf lady jumped out and said, "There he is," and began to frantically wave their arms in my direction.

I turned as if to run but I was transfixed when I saw the remaining contents of the van come out, they were tall thin men with glasses and white coats and they were stroking white rabbits. I knew they wanted me for a laboratory specimen so I ran away.

I finally got away from 'them' and I sat in the gutter resting. Then suddenly, a voice spoke behind me saying

"Letter for your sir". I span round and immediately realised that it was the postboy that gave me the last letter. He was gone before I could ask him how he got here. I opened it and began to read aloud, I read two sentences and crumpled it into my fist. It said exactly the same as the last one. I'll have to move on again.

So I changed my name to John Smith and boarded a

boat to Argentina.

The cruise was quite nice but I was displeased by the fact that the liner had no defences against Russian spy trawlers. So I stole empty wine bottles from the ships drunkard, and placed myself in one of the lifeboats and stood ready to take evasive action.

We were just putting into Argentina, when I noticed those white rabbit stroking men standing on the jetty waiting to get me.

I jumped ship and swam for a beach further up, and ran away into the rain forests for three months four and a half days.

I spent most of that time hunting for white rabbits. Then one day, I was walking along when that post-boy stepped out from behind a tree and said,

"Letter for you sir," and went. It said the same as before.

My life continued as usual, but one day, my quest for a white rabbit drew me to a large white mans house, it had a whole building full of white rabbits. I crept up slowly at first and then breaking into a trot.

"What do you want?" said a voice behind a double barrelled shotgun.

"White rabbit, just one, after all you've got so many" I said.

"I really think you should . . . hold it, is this letter for you?" he asked.

"Why yes," I replied, "Who gave it to you?"

"Oh! A small post-boy," he said.

I read it, same as usual a court indictment.

"Did he leave a message?"

"Well sort of, he just said, the kids are all right, but if you don't go to court soon, the divorce will never get through."

I left for the rain forest again thinking that if I joined a white rabbit colony, the court would have no jurisdiction.

A. Cornish

(A passage from A. Cornish's 20,000 white rabbits.)

A Comment on Intermediate Assemblies

During the year the assembly hall held many assemblies. However it is with one particular group's set of assemblies in mind that this article has been written: the intermediate assemblies held every Wednesday.

These assemblies generally consist of a short humorous reading. Alas, the serious readings given are often confused with the humorous ones. This happened recently with Brown's and Foley's well inspired talk on the words we ought not to use, and why we use them.

Halls' third form are the only group that can be remembered to have covered a serious topic. It bored everyone, and thus failed. We have ultimately concluded that for the assemblies to be effective in their main task - of entertaining and educating those watching - they must contain humour of a type suitable for the age group. They must not be censored. Therefore, inter assemblies must contain material we all have a common interest in. Yet we all have enough time to talk about this material during our free-time. We have calculated that approximately 85% of our assemblies are a waste of time.

One of the uses that the assemblies was put to was that of bringing in news from third- and fourth-form school council representatives. This is what they should be used for — telling us about things in and out of the school that affect us; things that have a bearing on the audience.

So get off your potties, you second and third formers graduating into third and fourth formers and put some effort into making these ensembles worth having before they fade out, shrivel up and die.

Brett Price and Felix Schroer

Fun

People think it's super fun,
Watching rabbits on the run.
See them bounce and run and roll,
To disappear down a hole.

But put yourself in its place,
And think of seeing an unknown face,
Looking down to the ground.
You would not sit you'd run around.

Now throwing bricks at a hare,
You'd think it was so very rare.
But people do it all the same,
They think it is a great new game.

A weasle caught up in a snare,
Is something I just cannot bear.
To see it struggling to get free,
Does not appeal at all to me.

Dog and ferret, fox and cat,
Kestrel, mouse and even bat.
Have a right to live a life,
Without us adding to their strife.

S. Daffarn

Nature Poem

The squirrel swaying in his dray,
High above the pinewood grey,
But when death calls, the squirrel falls,
And doesn't live to see the day.

The thrush flies low over a small hill,
The stoat jumps up for the kill,
Mouth full of feather and meat,
Spilling out the beak and feet.

D. Butler

Summer Term '76

The dire effects of the summer heat on a) character and b) scansion are indicated by this poetic effusion. Editor.

The droning of a hungry fly
Penetrates the stagnant, sweat-filled sky.
Alighting on a blistered back
It nimbly avoids each weary attack,
Human steaks roasting slowly in the sun
Provide a meal for everyone.

Out of the fire of the sun, into the frying pan of the gym,
Like a kamikaze pilot each burbles out some hopeful hymn,
Holding back each salty-flavoured tear,
He realizes that the end is much too near.
The blue paper announces he's been G.C.E. examined,
He'll join the countless legions of the damned.

Chewed-up pencils, discarded finger-nails
Pile up; another nibbling scholar fails.
While others in the swimming pool
Are chlorine-eyed, but oh so cool!

The sun stares down on centre court,
Where battles are lost, and advertising bought.
I prefer to watch them play on telly;
It gives me time to sun my flaccid belly,
And dream of a long cool beer
Ice filled, of course! And oh, so near!

Big Tom

I like the look of funny things,
Bats with feet and dogs with wings,
Pens with legs and arms to grab
Other things about the lab.

But up until last Saturday,
Everything had gone their way.
For then their luck just had to stop,
They found a hippo that could hop.

Big Tom bounced for days and nights
Giving people dreadful frights,
(Big Tom being the hippo's name,
That he desired along with fame)

He hoped and bounced all around,
Crushing everything on the ground.
Until at last the army came,
And tried to kill, but in vain.

And then the air force came along,
but nearly everything went wrong.
The bombs were dud, the bullets missed
And all the people stood and hissed.

Big Tom bounced about in rage,
When he saw the great big cage.
That they were going to keep him in,
If the army got to win.

Big Tom hopped and killed some men,
Until at last a man called Len,
Took his place at the fun,
And shot big Tom up the Bum.

S. Daffarn

The Old-Boys have gone, and the free drinks too;
Dredge up from your pockets some cash, found anew.
Then fight off the flies and down to the 'Butt',
Don't let yourself get caught in the rut
Of French and Maths and exams and things.
Listen as the siren sings,
Enticing you onto the rocks of your ruin,
And you've got the excuse that it wasn't your doin'.

The names that this summer will raise on high
Will be 'The Bandbox' and 'The Cock and Pie',
Tennis champs and movie stars
Are second seed to these public bars,
Where relief from torrid heat is sought
And heaven, on tap, by the pint is bought.

But that's not all that happens this year:
J. C. will rise again I hear,
There was a play on Joan of Arc,
And a music concert lit up the dark
Of uncultured Woolvo, with a radiant light
Which no one saw: it was a Saturday night
And they'd all gone to town,
And were hoping to get 'just one more pint' down.

Some people played cricket, some people sailed,
Some took exams; most of them failed,
Some threw spears, or ran around the track,
While others nurtured sunburn on a lobster-coloured back.
A few were left to make the poems rhyme
While all hoped for a much more temperate clime.

In twenty years time, if we dare look back,
These days will be golden that are now carbon black.
The flies and the heat and exams will all fade
Beneath the paradise of memories that we've made.
We'll suddenly find that it was all bliss;
Just one long sun-tanned, ice-cream flavoured kiss.
And though that moment will arrive no doubt,
Now we just sit tight and sweat it out!

Wolf R. Stone (no relation)

G.C.E. Exams

Well hallo, and here we are at the Woolverstone Hall Summer Olympics for 1976. As I have just taken up my position as an unbiased 6 commentator having just mutilated a French translation paper.

As I gaze across to my left I see 6² engaged in Physics; this one I'm told will really sort out the men from the boys. There's over an hour to go and the candidates are well beyond the brow-furrowing, pencil chewing stage. In fact one of the candidates has already reached the "dashing-the-head against-the-wall stage" blood oozing out; incoherent ramblings; threatening behaviour to the invigilators, it's all happening here today. He climbs up the wall-bars, and dives with window-shattering precision on to the concrete stairs outside. One down plenty to go.

Inside things are pretty quiet; the invigilators are doing the usual smarmy "Any more papers? How's it going? Hard luck old boy?" routine; they really know how to make people sweat. A restraining hand clamped down on the quavering hand which encloses a half empty bottle of sleeping pills, prevents the sudden demise of candidate number 2 — a quick stomach pump and he'll be back in time for the multiple choice.

I'm sorry but I'm getting message from my semi-literate compatriot in would-be French sitting in front of me. No I'm very sorry I really haven't the faintest idea what the Nicaraguan duck-billed platypus of Jewish extraction is in French (or English come to think of it). The "A" level boys look in fine form, its only 167F. in here and they look like they'd make a wonderful lobster cocktail.

Just to the left right of the "A" levels one sees the remainder of this morning's 'O' levels. I feel a touch of nostalgia as I see the pile of discarded finger-nails and pencil-shavings. I remember last year I went through four 2Bs before the exam started — and that was in a revision period. One of the 'O' level boys is slumped forward in his chair, his face is rather purple and he seems to be acting a little bit dead. These exams do affect people in funny ways. Heart attack I should think. If they can clean him up in time he might even make a guest appearance in the Biology Practical Exam.

From the agitated scrabbling of nibs I would say it has reached the do or die stage for the physicists. With a last despairing scream the candidate at the front throws down his pen, drops his head and begins to sob convulsively.

Well my own time is drawing to a close, and it's time to pull together all the strings. It looks as though we're not in for an awful lot of surprises; casualties will be lighter than expected, though we may get a few gold-medals in dehydration, perhaps a record for under the breath obscenities, the coffins from woodwork practical will be in great demand, as will forged G.C.E. certificates: available from your's sincerely for a nominal fee calculated on a grade-desired basis. Even as I talk the candidates shuffle out, shoulders-drooping and whimpering, nothing very unusual, but then I suppose one can't expect anything too dramatic in this weather. Still you've got to hand it to these brave British lads they really tried (and failed). Anyway, it's goodbye until next year when I will personally be indulging in the festivities and will be able to give you a world (News of the) exclusive of the terrors which the ordeal involves.

Anonymous

NEWS FROM HOUSES

HANSON'S HOUSE NOTES

The end of the summer term saw the retirement of Mr. S. Goetzee from his duties as Housemaster of Hansons, a position he has held since 1911. During this time, Hansons has had it's successes and it's failures, but has always managed to maintain an atmosphere of friendliness and determination.

Although Mr. Goetzee has retired from his position as Housemaster, he will continue to teach mathematics at the school.

His new accommodation will be the cottage which adjoins the village school.

We would all like to wish him a very happy retirement from the exhausting but rewarding job of Housemaster, and hope that he will be comfortable in his new home.

Mr. Taylor will be taking over, and we wish him every success in his new role of Housemaster.

M. Frost

BERNERS HOUSE NOTES

Berners House came within one conversion of finishing first equal in the house rugby. Only one thing could stop us — Parker's bootlace, which tripped him up at a vital moment. That was the only trophy we came near to winning (though we were never out of the top six). Even so we did come second in the one house(?) sailing matches, and we did manage to win our first junior rugby match for two years.

Last year was also the first year and we did not win the Exmouth Cup. Well we cannot be selfish can we? Some individuals did do well though, A. Parker played for the U.19 London Counties XV, and A. Stewart played for the Suffolk schoolboy counties XI. P. C. Grassmann and S. Halliday won their singles tennis competitions while C. OOffiah strolled in to win the Junior Cross-country (he was told to run it).

It may come as a surprise, but we also did some work last year. S. Halliday, N. Tregear, M. Corner, N. Aziz and N. Stock all got eight O-levels and Bhogal got an A in A-level Biology. These results were spoilt though by a few bad sets of results by other fifth formers.

Before I forget, I had better mention Mr. and Mrs. Sadder, Mr. Watkins and part-timers Mr. Hawes and Mr. Shakeshaft for running the house so well. I would also like to thank Mrs. Mayes, especially for her work during the Scarlet fever outbreak. (Some people are still suffering). Finally I would like to thank G. Willows for leaving my room and J. Neighbour for leaving us in peace and moving to the Courtyard. As for next year, with a bit more hard work and sporting success, my successor may not have to waffle as much as I have done this year.

P. C. Grassmann

CORNERS HOUSE NOTES

Last year was another of those 'almost' years in Corner's: we 'almost' did everything and eventually settled for rather less. Nevertheless we had our moments. The Senior Cricket Team (?) (a motley crew under the auspices of Mick Ruffle) staggered into the house-match final, leaving behind a trail of stumped opponents uttering that maxim of Woolverstonian Sportsmanship;

"We waz robbed!"

Can anyone forget Derek Steer's jeer-silencing six? Or Sean Joyce emerging from years of apathy and indolence in time to take a catch from Nick Watson? the team disguising themselves as cricket-players (well some of them wore white shirts) capitalized on the element of surprise and eventually surprised themselves by their prowess. The awe-inspiring stature of Roy Steiner provided the inspiration for our victory in the cross-country cup. Unfortunately incapacitated (honest, Roy) I was there to at the finish-line to cheer on what looked like the end of a lemming-migration.

However on the rugby-field things did not go so well. We lost the first game 0-3 ("we waz robbed" of course) but then we found our true form, pulverizing, decimating and decapitating with true skill. Jim Eades and Dick Hayter soon persuaded people that it was easier to hand the ball over peacefully, which helped a great deal. Mick Ruffle's tireless energy and realistic expertise proved as invaluable as Colin Fludgate's "je ne sais quoi" (note the cosmopolitan touch), and Chris Aitken propped against Reg Grimley and lives to tell the tale. We eventually shared the Twickenham trophy with Johnston's. In the "Bombay Ball" we were pipped at the post by the ubiquitous Johnston's. The juniors did not achieve all they might have done despite consistently good performances by Jonathan Bulpett and Justin Barry (cheques or postal orders only please, lads). On sports-day we didn't exactly steal one show, but we avoided disgrace, and are still convinced that we could have taken on the world in an egg-and-spoon race.

Every year ends with the departure of 6²¹ and last year proved no exception (profound stuff). As Head of House Jim made an important contribution — an orange lampshade which now hangs ceremoniously in my room — thanks Jim. Thanks also to Kram Ellen who aided and abetted Jim in fostering an interest in photography and some of the more nefarious pastimes of last year. They certainly set a high standard and did their best to ensure that the correct standards prevailed. Tony Warne occasionally emerged from behind a bottle of "brown" and put down his guitar to face the world. One such occasion resulted in a house disco which was memorable (the common-room wall has now been replaced). Derek could be shifted from the television set after closedown despite rumours to the contrary, and Dick could be found collecting beer-bottles and filling them with a mysterious and potent liquid.

David Healer, Niall Wermter and Nick Lee left from the 5th form (allowing 6¹ room to breathe in their new abodes). We wish them all the best of luck in their new-found freedom.

At the end of the year Mr. Thomas also left Corner's. I am sure his absence will be felt in the house and our best wishes for a happy retirement go to him. The usual thanks must go to Mr. Ramsay, Mr. Rabjohn and to Matron for putting up with a lot.

There remains little else to say, except that this year, with a new house-football, new lino, and the possibility of a new piano, Corner's begins the year in an even more favourable position than last year, and who knows . . .

M. J. O'Driscoll

A report on the 1st XV match against Gosforth High School, Northumberland. Broadcast on Radio Orwell on 23rd February 1976.

"Good schools rugby is in my opinion the most entertaining to watch and today I was fortunate enough to witness a game between Woolverstone Hall, Suffolk and Gosforth High School from Northumberland. Woolverstone are certainly one of the strongest school sides in the South of England and can hang the scalps of Millfield School, Somerset, Reading School, Berkshire and the Duke of Yorks, Dover on their belt. They faced a school which has only lost three matches in the North East, an area with a number of famous rugby-playing schools. The game certainly lived up to expectations: Woolverstone playing educated, forceful and direct rugby on the day were certainly the best team. They were physically stronger, and with good direct running made full use of their strength and excellent command of the basic skills. Gosforth whose tackling and rucking were outstanding in the first-half gradually wilted under the intense pressure Woolverstone exerted in the second half and were finally defeated by twenty-nine points to nil.

Trevor Vaughan-Griffith
Radio Orwell

STOP PRESS

OLD BOYS' NOTES

By gambling with printers' deadlines I am able to report on the 1977 O.B. Winter Weekend.

Squash O.B.s	3	School	2
Cross Country O.B.s	1st, 2nd, 5th	School	3rd, 4th 6th
Rugby O.B.s		School	
1st XV	36		9
2nd XV	28		12
3rd XV	14		4

There was a hypothesis in circulation that the above O.B. triumphs were due to the visiting teams being conveyed throughout the weekend by luxury coach and being lodged in style at the Great White Horse Hotel. Other theories were also put forward e.g. that the visitors were fitter owing to their Wednesday evening circuit training and/or that they were drinking less beer (there was half a barrel of Tolly C. left over on Saturday night!) The official and indeed the most likely version from the Rugby Club is that the amalgamation of Ealing Teachers and O.B.s was finally paying off and with 11 wins and only 2 losses so far this season to the 1st XV's credit, E.T.O.W.A. is rapidly gaining a reputation as a first class North London club. It can only be hoped that this reputation, together with the Club's excellent social facilities, will encourage more School leavers to join us.

The School, too, had its victories over the O.B.s back in the summer, when once again cricket proved not to be our forte. The Masters trounced us at squash, although our sailors and cross-country runners kept us afloat and in the running respectively with deserved wins. O.B.s also excelled themselves at the sport which requires lying flat in the hot sun with one ear listening to the faint cries of Howzat and the other ear deafened by people belly-flopping into the nearby swimming pool.

For both these enjoyable weekends, we should like to thank the School and Patrick Richardson for the warm welcome and our gratitude goes to Derek Thornbery for the invaluable help he gives in all the detailed arrangements.

The A.G.M. was once again held at the Acropolis in the Cut. One or two new faces were added to a largely unchanged committee. After a short period of fund-raising and cost-cutting W.H.O.B.A. is now well and truly out of the red.

Other events in what proved to be a very busy year included the Annual Dinner at the Barley Mow in Horseferry Road where we said "Farewell" to Charles Thomas, and an O.B. disco in November at the Crown, Edgware Road where almost a hundred people jigged to the sounds of Mighty Murmur.

We look forward to another full year in 1977 — there's even a rumour about O.B.s' net practice.

Philip Bennett

Poems from "Poetic Licence"

("Poetic Licence" is an internal magazine edited by R. L. Scarlett-Smith and Michael B. A. Belcher) Ed.

The Calculator

The pencil and paper
Are things of the past,
Electronics lead the field,
The electro-logarithmic die is cast,
Pencil and paper must yield.

The black leather case
Conceals within,
Circuits by the score,
Adding, dividing and subtracting
Thousands and millions and more.

Before you go and buy the box,
Made in some grimy factory,
Please, consumer, bear in mind
That a pen doesn't need a battery.

P. Swann 4Y

DEATH

A faint patchwork of freckles fails to hide
The insidious pervasion of grey;
Hair brushed neatly from the now-hollow skull,
The soft and fragrant wisps of the living man.
The chest with blue, Marks and Spencer pyjamas
Buttoned to the neck, has ceased to stutter;
Lod-like it bolsters the creaseless blankets.
A boy, subconsciously compelled, steps forward,
Spontaneously, his lips make contact
With the luke-warm forehead. Resilient,
The skin has a strangely rubbery texture.
The grey-blue-red lips are parted slightly.
But no more sanguineous mucus shall
Splutter past them. The boy does not cry. A nurse
Announces her presence with a slight cough,
And leads the boy briskly to the hall.
The hem of her acrylic dress rustles
In time with the squeak of her patent-leather shoes
As she strides along the blue grey lino
Corridors. It is Tottenham Court Road.
The concrete mixers and traffic below —
They are building a new Y.M.C.A.
People pass, laughing, talking and smiling.
The boy feels somehow lonely, exposed.
On the way home, on the bus, over there,
Across the building site the boy sees the room,
It is the only one with curtains drawn
On the corner of the hospital on the seventh floor.
A light, grey drizzle darkens the pavements.
The boy has great difficulty finding
Change for the conductor. His diaphragm trembles,
Now beyond control. Air rushes in and out
Through his clenched teeth.

R. L. Scarlett-Smith 6/1

THE PRISONER (Return to Zenda)

Sitting alone in your hotel room
Listening to the knocks at the door
Remembering the concert, it was like a tomb
Hearing all the fans call for more.

And though there's hundreds of people just aching to see you
You can't talk to anyone at all
You're alone in the crowded hall.

So you dance, and you pose
And go through your motions,
Just the way your manager said.
But you've no chance
And he knows
From your false emotions
He'll get rich and you'll end up dead.

Smiling as much as your tears will allow
At all of these actors playing your friends,
And can you help wondering though they all scream now,
Will anyone cry, at the end?

THE GOLDEN EAGLE

Golden Eagle, regal bird
High in the cliff, face set
Silhouetted against the setting sun
Which slowly disappears behind.
The slow crescendo of the dive of death
For one spectator can provide a thrill,
But for the vermin catatonic
In your crippling grasp,
Does beauty of expression
Justify this end?

P. A. Towells

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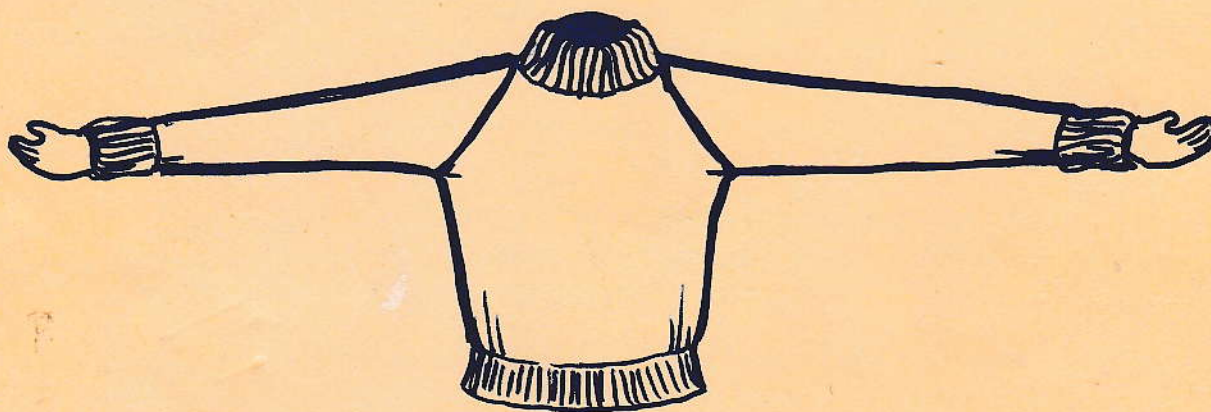
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