

438

# The Kirkhamian



FEBRUARY, 1961

VOLUME III    NUMBER 3

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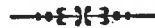
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# THE KIRKHAMIAN

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February, 1961

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# Editorial

Chairman: Mr. Wilson

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Bellis

Editor: W. J. Harvey

Committee: G. C. Box, J. Morgan, G. R. Moores, A. D. Kirby

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As the reader has perhaps noticed, the Kirkhamian is "under new management". The most striking omission from the list at the top of this page is the name of Mr. Middleton. For some years now he has rendered untiring service to the magazine. There is a certain difficulty in maintaining a balance of power between the master who is Chairman of the magazine and his editor and the members of the committee. While it is evident that the magazine should be the work of the boys, nevertheless a suggestion, or a piece of judicious censorship can be invaluable to an editor. Again in financial matters a master's advice and guidance are welcome and needed. Mr. Middleton did his job perfectly. He seldom if ever offered advice which went unheeded and he always maintained a good and fruitful relationship with his editor and committees. Above all he upheld and improved the standard of this magazine which, under his chairmanship, has gone from strength to strength.

The present committee has no doubt that Messrs. Wilson and Bellis will continue in the high tradition set by Mr. Middleton. Of course being new to the job of editing and producing a school magazine we are bound to have new ideas. Some appear in this edition, others will no doubt be incorporated in future magazines. Although we have no "policy" nevertheless we hope to broaden the scope of the magazine somewhat. The committee wish to thank all who have in any way contributed to the magazine and to encourage all those who are reluctant to do so.

The Editor wishes to acknowledge the receipt of the following magazines: Rossallian, Arnoldian, Georgian, Blackpool G.S. Magazine, Vereyan, Magazine of Queen Mary School, Preston G.S. Magazine, Hoghtonian, Preston Park School Magazine, and The Lancastrian.

## Acknowledgement

The School wishes to place on record the great debt of gratitude it owes to Mrs. R. Royles, wife of the late Richard Royles (K.G.S. 1879 — 1883) of 53, Preston Street, Kirkham, for donating most of the early copies of the K.G.S. Chronicle to the school library. These have been bound along with copies of The Kirkhamian, and placed on the Reference Section shelves in the school library, where they form a most interesting and lasting record of the early activities of the K.G.S. Old Boys Association.

# House Reports

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## Ashton House

House Master: Mr. H. B. Wilson.

Assistant House Masters: Mr. T. Jackman, Mr. R. Cheeseborough.

House Captain: H. Taylor.

House Prefects: G. R. Clark, M. C. Kirkham, A. J. Lewis,  
W. J. Harvey, A. J. Williams, I. D. Ascroft, J. Catterall.

At the beginning of the new school year, we extend a welcome to all the new members of the House, especially to Mr. Cheeseborough, our new Assistant House Master. We must also extend our best wishes to all the members who left at the end of the last school year, in particular last year's captain, J. J. Bamber; as the House will miss the spirit of sportsmanship which he brought to us.

All of last year's House Prefects have returned to school this year, however we must congratulate Ascroft, Catterall, Harvey and Williams on their appointment as House Prefects.

Since the last edition of the magazine all of last year's House Competitions have been completed.

The House was placed fifth in the Shooting Competition, A. J. Lewis attaining the highest individual score.

In the Swimming Sports, somewhat contrary to tradition, the House achieved considerable success in being placed fourth. This achievement was all the more praiseworthy, since before the Sports the House was only in sixth position in the standard points.

In the Chess Competition the House finished third; an excellent performance by all those concerned, especially by the captain of the team, M. C. Kirkham, who seemed to inspire the whole team to greater efforts. Unfortunately in the Work Cup the House was placed sixth, a very disappointing result.

This term the House has been concerned with four of the House Competitions.

In the Chess Competition M. C. Kirkham is again the captain and with two matches played, one win and one draw, the House is placed second, and we are hoping the team will continue on its path of success.

In this year's Work Cup Competition we are unfortunately in fifth position, a not very pleasing position. We can but hope for better things in the future.

The House has done extremely well in the Gym Cup this term and it is thought that the House is in second place behind School. G. R. Clark must be mentioned in this respect, as up to now, with only one term gone, he has scored a total of over a hundred points, which should be an example to the rest of the House.

Finally, the only other competition in which the House participated is the Senior House Rugby. We have played one match against Fylde which resulted in a victory for the House by 68 points to 0. The House Rugby team, captained by A. J. Lewis and containing seven 1st XV players, must surely be one of the strongest House Teams ever fielded at K.G.S. However, names on a team sheet do not bring victory, but it is hoped that in the rounds yet to be played the House will prove itself beyond all doubt. Next term we look forward to many more House activities and we hope that the House will continue to build on the solid foundations laid this term.

H.T.

## **Fylde House**

House Master: Mr. B. Coates.

Assistant House Masters: Mr. I. J. Kremer, Mr. D. Butterworth

House Captain: A. Thistlethwaite.

House Prefects: J. G. Brownbill, G. W. Ibbison, J. G. Worden.

We should like to begin by extending a sincere welcome to all new members of the House, and we hope that their stay will be an enjoyable one. The House is somewhat unfortunate this year, having lost Mr. Brunt and all four of last year's prefects, however we send our best wishes to them all.

Since the last issue the House has had no complete success in any of the House Competitions, but in spite of this we still keep the usual good spirit. In the Junior Cricket the House, represented by what appeared to be quite a good team, was convincingly beaten by the School House. The Senior Team, which also looked quite good on paper, was beaten also by the School House.

In the House Debating Competition we were a little more successful. We obtained a bye into the semi-final where we met the Preston House. Our representatives, P. J. Holliday and W. A. Coward, made very good speeches and won the debate by 22 votes to nil. In the final we met the Lytham House who defeated us by 207 points to 194 points.

The Shooting Team shot very well indeed and it was only due to Gregson being disqualified on one of his targets that the team lost the cup to the Kirkham House.

In the Work Cup at the end of the Summer Term we were lying fourth; however, due to a magnificent effort by the seniors in the G.C.E. examinations we pulled up into second place.

As usual the Winter Term was rather quiet as far as House Competitions go. In the Senior Rugby we were drawn against the Ashton House who beat us convincingly, being a far superior

team. We are a little more optimistic about the Junior Team, which has had two practices and looks quite promising. In the Work Cup we must show a little more effort, having slipped from second place to third in the last half-term.

The Chess Team has played one match, against the Kirkham House, which it lost by 14 pts. to 10 pts.

The Shooting Team holds a practice every Wednesday and promises quite good results.

We look forward to a more active, and perhaps more successful, term ahead.

A.T.

## **Kirkham House**

Housemaster: Mr. H. J. Reay.

Assistant House Masters: Mr. L. A. Redman, Mr. A. Baldwin.

House Captain: P. N. Carmont.

Prefects: D. Shearman, P. J. Cresswell.

House Prefects: J. R. Butterworth, C. R. Broadbent, G. Parkinson.

On the first house meeting of the school year the absence of Mr. Crane was noted with regret; and the whole house would like to thank him for all the interest shown, and all the work he has put into the house activities. We also hope he enjoys his stay with Preston House.

However the house welcomes Mr. A. Baldwin, and hopes his connections with the house will be pleasant.

Since the last magazine several members of the house have left school and our best wishes go with them, especially last year's captain, Eric Parkinson, who is now at Durham University. The House also welcomes all its new members.

The final result of the (1959-60) Work Cup Competition came as a bitter disappointment, after the house had led throughout the year, and only after the G.C.E. results fell back. The final position was fifth, but congratulations should be given to all those members of the house who gained consistently high marks in their terminal examinations. This term we are back in the lead again and the house should make a prolonged effort to maintain this position.

Owing to the lack of standard points, for the third year in succession, the house finished second in the Swimming Sports. The team acquitted itself admirably and was unlucky to be finally beaten.

Last term, the Shooting team under the captaincy of D. K. Jackson beat Fylde House in a very close final by one point, and so carried off the second trophy of the year for the House. The

keenness of the team was 100% and they deserve hearty congratulations.

Returning to this term's events; the chess team under the captaincy of D. J. Shearman started well in the opening fixture by beating Fylde House by 14 points to 10. The juniors showed extremely good form and all looks well for future games.

The Senior House Rugby team obtained a bye in the preliminary round of the competition and is looking forward to meeting School in the semi-final.

P.N.C.

## **Lytham House**

Housemaster: Mr. C. K. Lee

Assistant House Masters: Mr. R. T. Bentley, Mr. J. Murray,  
Mr. Verity.

House Captain: G. C. Box

House Prefects: D. Moore, J. Huss, P. Walmsley.

At the beginning of this year we were happy to welcome Mr. Verity as a new Assistant Housemaster. Our new captain R. J. Denchfield, after showing great promise, left us prematurely. We were sorry to see him go and wish him good luck in his new job with an Insurance Company. We also send our best wishes to R. W. Ogden who was our House Captain for one year and has won a Scholarship to Manchester University.

In the inter-house Rugby competition we played Preston House and lost 9—0. The team as a whole performed well, in spite of the lack of Seniors, and had good support from the Upper Fifths. Unfortunately the game was fought under bad conditions. Our Captain was T. J. Fulford-Brown who did a good job.

In the House Chess competition though heavily defeated at first, through lack of time to get a full team, the second match was drawn against the very strong opposition of Ashton House after some practice, and we hope that that practice and interest will remain.

At the end of the Winter term the House was doing well in the Work Competition. It was lying in second position with 432.4 points, well in front of the house behind it. However, it will have to increase its efforts to catch up with the leaders who have 492 points.

G.C.B.

## **Preston House**

House Master: Mr. S. Crane.

Assistant House Masters: Mr. G. H. Boocock, Mr. I. W. McKerrow.

House Captain: D. W. Garnett.

House Prefects: J. R. Butterworth, C. R. Broadbent, G. Parkinson.

It is fitting that the opening of this report should concern the important change which has taken place this term. Mr. Middleton, on taking up the position of Deputy Headmaster, has had to withdraw from that of House master. At this point it would be the least the house could do to express its thanks, on behalf of both past and present members, for his untiring services. The house is now in the very capable hands of Mr. Crane who appears to have infused his own enthusiasm into the members of the house, and as keen a spirit as ever seems to prevail.

In the last house report mention was made of the house's ability to be runner-up in competitions. At that time, the house had reached the finals of the senior cricket and stood in a challenging position in the work cup. It is pleasing to note victory in both these competitions.

In the former the house had the dubious advantage of starting slight favourites, over School house, having defeated the original strong favourites, the Ashton house, in the preceding round. School batted first on a soft wicket and seemed to be progressing steadily without difficulty until J. R. Butterworth broke through their defence and with J. F. Harrison's help dismissed them for 74. Butterworth finished with a very creditable 6 wickets for 23 runs. School dismissed M. E. H. Barnes, rather surprisingly, for he had recorded a score of 35 against the more hostile bowling of Ashton. However D. W. Garnett who failed to trouble the scorer in the previous round, scored a valuable 45 and still remained when the team had passed School's total for the loss of five wickets.

In the Work Cup it is noticeable that it was due to the External Examination results of the Seniors that the house finished again in first position. In fact, the trophy has been won by the house on every occasion since its inception three years ago.

The story of the two other events of the last school year is easily told. In the Shooting, only five members of the team managed to finish in the allotted time, and so the House finished inevitably in the sixth position. The swimming was no better, our position in standard points gained before the sports was sixth, a fact which compares most unfavourably with the position of the house before the Athletic Sports. The house finished in the same position as it started.

Now to this term. The main sporting activity of the house has been the Senior Rugby. No one could have asked for a better pairing, and the whole of the match justified this comment, especially the first-half, the score sheet being blank at half-time. It is true to say that it was due more to team spirit than to skill that the house came out eventual winners 9-0. The house now looks forward to meeting a strong Ashton team in the semi-final next term. It is to be hoped that the team spirit prevails so that the house may surprise many by beating these clear favourites.

Excluding the Winter term examination results, the house lies in fourth position in the Work Cup, over a hundred points behind the leaders. These marks do not include those of the senior boys. In this competition the amount of points for these boys to gain has increased year by year, and it is interesting to note that the house was a mere 20 points ahead of the Fylde house last year. A bigger effort is needed if the trophy is to be retained for the fourth consecutive time.

The two other competitions currently in progress are the Gym Cup and the Chess Cup. In the former the house is in a customary low position, whether through lack of skill or endeavour is yet to be discovered. In the Chess competition, although two houses have a match in hand over us, the team lies in a creditable third position, having lost to Ashton and drawn with School, creditable because they are perhaps the two strongest in the competition.

In closing the house looks forward to a bright Spring term in which it hopes to give its new housemaster much to enthuse over.

D.W.G.

## **School House**

House Master: Mr. R. A. Knowles.

Assistant House Master: Mr. G. Bellis.

Captain: D. B. Rogers

Prefects: M. Leaney, W. . Molyneux, J. Montgomery

The close of the 1959-60 school year saw the House in possession of the Junior Rugby, Junior Cricket, Swimming and Gymnastic trophies.

The Juniors undoubtedly made a fine effort in bringing both trophies to the House. The Senior Cricket XI reached the final but were defeated by Preston House.

The Swimming Cup was retained in the House due to the outstanding performance of the whole team, ably captained by M. A. MacCartney, and after a leading position had been gained by the House in standard points.

The Gymnastic cup was retained through the efforts of every member of the House.

The end of the year saw the departure of several members of the House to whom our good wishes go, especially Mr. Wilkinson, and last year's House captain M. A. MacCartney.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr. Wilkinson's successor, Mr. Knowles and Mr. Bellis, the assistant house master to the House. We hope they will enjoy a long and pleasant stay with the House

So far this year the House has only been involved in the chess and work-cup competitions. The chess team is doing quite well and the House wishes them good luck in the coming matches. In the work-cup the House is at present lying in sixth position, from which we intend to climb in the next two terms.

The Junior and Senior Rugby matches have yet to be played; we are looking forward to competing and have confidence in being successful in both competitions.

J. Montgomery and W. D. Molyneux are to be congratulated on their 1st XI places and the House has been very well represented in all school rugby teams.

The House looks forward with enthusiasm to the challenges of both classroom and playing field.

D.B.R.



# **The Societies**

---

## **Geographical Society**

Chairman: Mr. R. A. Knowles.

Secretary: M. Leavey.

Treasurer: J. Montgomery.

Committee: G. R. Moores, H. Whitlock, D. R. Moor, F. B. Cross.

Owing to a very limited choice, we have had only one film show this term, but the attendance was so good that it is hoped there will be several more in the near future. The subject of rubber, whilst being instructive, proved to be quite entertaining.

The society gives its thanks to Mr. Baldwin for his lecture on "A Journey to Rome". The excellent colour slides which he showed us were informative and very interesting, and this method of sharing his experience was much appreciated, especially by those who do not often have the chance to travel extensively abroad.

Any suggestions for our future programme would be most welcome, as we hope that you will continue to find our presentations both interesting and useful.

M. Leaney (Sec.)

## **Badminton Club**

Chairman: Mr. R. A. Knowles.

Captain: D. W. Garnett.

Secretary: R. A. Irving.

Treasurer: D. R. Moor.

Last term the club had only two matches, no match unfortunately being arranged against King Edward's School. But in spite of this everyone thoroughly enjoyed the two fixtures.

The first match, against the masters, ended in a victory for the boys who won six games to the masters' three.

However in the match against Hutton the result was reversed, Hutton winning the six games. At first it looked as though Hutton were going to win more easily but K.G.S. fought back. The last game in particular was very thrilling. Our second pair managed to catch up from being 16-7 down to win by the narrow margin of two points.

R. A. Irving (Sec.)

## **Scientific Society**

Chairman: Mr. Baldwin.

Secretary: T. J. Huss.

Committee: D. A. Lomas, P. Wallbank, I. A. Wright, H. W. Lomas,

Treasurer: R. O. Maddock.

G. R. Moores.

This term we would like to extend our greetings to our new chairman, Mr. Baldwin, and we hope he will settle down into our way of life very soon and enjoy being with us. Although we are "Under New Management," no radical changes will be made, the majority of the last year's committee remaining to carry on their good work.

Unfortunately we have had only two meetings this term, both of which were film shows, but this was unavoidable as we had to settle down under our "new management," before we could do anything about arranging meetings, but at the moment, I think next term will be very successful.

T. J. Huss.

## **Chess Club**

Chairman: Mr. Wilson. Secretary and Treasurer: M. C. Kirkham.

Committee: A. J. Williams, P. N. F. Carmont, M. Leaney,  
G. Worden.

Once again the club has attracted a large membership, the keenness and enthusiasm of the juniors being particularly noticeable.

House Chess matches ran with their usual smoothness, and this year the competition promises to be exciting and close.

The annual knock-out competition has just begun but unfortunately the Winter term is so filled with other pressing activities that little progress can be reported.

## **Photographic Society**

Chairman: Mr. L. A. Redman.

Secretary: D. B. Rogers.

Treasurer: H. Taylor.

Committee: P. Allison, A. D. Kirby, D. Lomas, T. M. Smith.

Soon after the beginning of term, at a general meeting of the society, membership cards enabling boys to get a 10% discount on all photographic materials purchased at Peter Anthony's were issued.

Once again the dark room has often been used during the dinner-break and after school, the society's equipment proving a great asset to members.

The cine camera has been in action only once during the term, to record the highlight of the Old Boys Rugby Match. Next term it will be widely used, no doubt, with events such as the Easter Fair in the school calendar.

Two lectures were arranged for this term. They were given by Mr. W. F. Greay, an old boy of the school, the first lecture on different types of cameras and their uses, and the second on "Photographing Still Objects". Mr. Greay illustrated his second lecture by taking a photograph of the new work cup. Both lectures were open to the whole school, and the attendances were very encouraging.

D.B.R.

## **Music Society**

Chairman: Mr. Murray.

Secretary: G. R. Clark.

Treasurer: A. J. Lewis.

Committee: J. Catterall, W. Harvey, D. Parkin, G. Parkinson.

The Society has continued to flourish this term, the Carol Service by the Choir in Kirkham Parish Church culminating the activities.

The concerts in Preston given by the Hallé and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestras have been quite numerous, but not one ticket has been bought through the Society for them, people preferring to buy unreserved tickets at the door.

The School Orchestra has met regularly during the term, and the new members have been introduced to the difficulties of playing in tune, whilst Room 5 has also been the scene of uncertain harmonies.

The meetings next term will be spent in rehearsing for the Easter Concert and the Inter House Festival.

G.R.C.

## **Table Tennis Report**

Chairman: Mr. Boocock.

Secretary: J. R. Butterworth.

Treasurer: A. J. Lewis.

Committee: H. Taylor, D. W. Garnett, J. Dewhurst.

Although the membership of the club is slightly lower than usual, 29 compared with 40 at the same time last year, the general interest in the game has far from waned. In fact the rush from the canteen in the first few weeks of term was at least the equal to that of last year: the "sacred ground" becoming far more

barren of grass. The keenness of the Lower VIth for the game has not dwindled as it usually does, and it is to be hoped that the membership of the club in the Spring term will reach double figures.

The pleas for a knock-out competition and a ladder were incessant last year but neither came into being. However a knock-out competition has taken place this year, D. W. Garnett being the worthy winner and also a ladder has been functioning quite smoothly. The hopes of the club have once again been dashed as regards a match against the masters. We have assured Mr. Boocock that we shall give them a hard game but offers have not been forthcoming.

J.R.B.

## **Student Christian Movement**

Chairman: Mr. H. H. Wood.

Secretary: G. Parkinson.

Committee: J. Catterall, J. O. Morgan, T. J. Huss, B. J. Walters,  
W. H. Owen.

This has been the most successful term ever for the S.C.M. The record attendance has twice been broken, and it has been an interesting feature of the term that there has been an influx of new "converts".

Six meetings have been held, and three of these have been addressed by visiting speakers. To the second of these we welcomed the Rev. Bill Bathman, an American and an ex-dirt-track rider, who spoke on the subject of "Is Christ Real?" In this context we received an answer to the question of whether a brighter Church would attract greater congregations. This colourful American filled the art room to capacity — no mean achievement on a bright autumn day. "Miracles" and "Superstition in the Church" were subject of interest but lacked the glamour of an American speaker.

On 2nd November a new venture was tried, and it succeeded admirably. An open invitation was given to all members of the upper school to come and learn more about the Christian Faith from a panel of "experts". Four members of the S.C.M. group shared this "hot-seat" — the questions were more suitable for a professor of theology than a group of schoolboys — and were successful in staving off burning, although they may have been a little singed in places. The questions which were asked ranged from reincarnation to the Trinity, and belief in God to the proof of His existence.

It is interesting to note that only half the S.C.M. group believe in the supernatural, but, however, they all affirm that "Christianity is relevant today."

Next term we are going to try out some new ideas, and we hope that more "converts" and agnostics will enter the sacred confines of room 12 on Wednesday lunchtimes.

On Friday, 18th November, nine members of the S.C.M. group, along with sixth-formers from the Park School, Preston G.S., Hutton, G.S., Chorley G.S., and Penwortham Girls' G.S., gathered together to hear two lectures on the subject of "The Trinity," given by the Rev. W. H. Vanstone. A very enjoyable afternoon was spent at the Park School, and our thanks are due to Miss Le Gros Clark, the organizer, the Rev. L. Minhinnick, the chairman, and Miss M. Shanks and the sixth-formers of the Park School for the efficient organization of this very instructive conference.

G.P.

## **Debating Society**

Chairman: Mr. G. H. Boocock.

Secretary: Mr. G. C. Box

Committee: T. J. Huss, G. Parkinson, W. Harvey, M. Leaney,  
P. N. Carmont

The Society has held five debates this term. They were, "This House has no Faith in the United Nations," "Science does more harm than good," "Boxing is a Degrading Sport," "Britain should Disarm Now," "Advertising is Degrading." There were the usual complaints at the beginning of the term about the subjects for debate, but the Committee prides itself upon the range of subjects debated and reminds members that the Committee welcomes every suggestion. At first attendance was disappointing, however, it soon reached its old level with an average of about sixty.

Less pleasing was the lack of speeches from the floor which have declined from previous years, and on one occasion there was a long silence. The Society hopes that in future more junior members will speak and next term it hopes to arrange more junior debates which have been very successful in the past. However, it realises that much of the blame for lack of speeches must be placed on the Sixth Form, a majority of whom do not attend at all and those who do rarely speak. Whilst the Committee appreciates the attendance of the Junior members, it considers that they take the traditions of debate to excess on occasions.

For the fourth year the Debating Society will be running its highly successful Debating Competition during the Spring Term. This year, as an experiment, it is introducing adjudicated decisions in all rounds if this is possible. The Committee is considering various proposals for innovations, such as an Old Boys' Debates, further debates with other schools, and a School Election. The Committee welcomes constructive suggestions and comments, either concerning new ideas or changes in the regular procedure of debate.

G.C.B

## **Library Report**

Librarian: Mr. B. Coates

Secretary: M. Leaney

Treasurer: G. C. Box

Sub. Librarians: J. R. Butterworth, D. W. Garnett, G. Ibbison,  
M. C. Kirkham, W. J. Harvey, D. I. Parkin, G. Parkinson, S. W.  
Richards, D. J. Shearman, A. J. Williams

The number of issues this term excluding holiday loans is 1148 which compares with 1020 for the Winter term 1959. The most used sections in order were the Junior, the Mathematics and Physics section, the Geography Section and the History section.

202 new books have been accessioned and the list has been posted on the notice board. All the money granted this term by the General School Committee has been spent.

Private Study periods in the library have shewn a definite improvement in the maintenance of silence, but the Committee is still not happy about the way books are being put back on the shelves by the borrowers themselves . . . in many cases any place seems to serve.

The Committee decided to discontinue getting The Woodworker and The Musical Times as they felt that interest shown was not enough to warrant their purchase. The Committee is still considering whether further magazines of a political nature should be purchased. The Committee decided to have on view in the library copies of The New Left Review and the Socialist Commentary. The question will finally be decided at the beginning of the Spring term. It was decided to ask the General School Committee for a grant to purchase Le Figaro newspaper. However the G.S.C. refused. The increasing number of satchels being left in the library at dinner time was disturbing, but after an announcement the situation much improved.

The Librarian reported to the Committee that a School Library Inspector on an unofficial visit to the School compared the library favourably for tidiness with many Public Schools and complimented the Library on its selection of new books.

G.C.B.

## **Dramatic Society**

Chairman: Mr. Kremer.

Secretary: W. J. Harvey.

Treasurer: Mr. Redman.

Committee: D. B. Rogers, M. Leaney, A. J. Williams,  
R. G. Brownbill.

After some difficulty over the choice of play, which is always a problem, the society settled down to some strenuous rehearsing of the "Merchant of Venice".



THE TRIAL SCENE FROM "THE MERCHANT OF VENICE"

The play was performed on December 10th, 12th and 13th in the school hall. The audiences were appreciative and the play was generally well received. As is usual with a Shakespeare production, the society only managed to break even financially; this difficulty was increased this year because of the bad weather on December 12th.

It only remains to say that the members of the society greatly enjoyed this production and to thank all those part-time members who join us at the end of the Christmas term and without whom there could be no school play.

W.J.H.

## "The Merchant of Venice"

The three performances of "The Merchant of Venice" marked the climax of much hard work and effort by the Dramatic Society. During the last week of term the hall had been transformed into a busy hive of activity, in which nearly all the sixth form was engaged in putting up the stage, fixing up the lighting, or putting final touches to the scenery. All this time, too, the members of the cast had been going through endless rehearsals, under the eye of the producers, Mr. Kremer and Mr. Wood. But now the curtain was about to go up on the opening performance, when many weeks of labour were to bear fruit.

The first thing which struck me about the play was that the fullest use was made of somewhat limited facilities. The small area of the stage was a problem, and the producer had to go to

great pains to ensure that all the characters could be seen by the audience. At the same time, the production had to be full of movement, as a play by Shakespeare without it would inevitably get dull and boring. The fullest use of movement was undoubtedly made by Shylock and Bassanio, the two leading rôles, and also by the two comic characters, Gobbo and Launcelot. I was aware that the play never seemed to get "stale" or "lifeless," although there was a danger of this in the lengthy Trial Scene.

The acting, too, was of a higher standard than one usually expects to find in a school production. The credit is mainly due to Messrs. Kremer and Wood, the producers, who spent endless hours moulding the various characters into shape, instilling into them that important thing called stage technique. The result was an extremely smooth-running performance throughout, without any missed cues or mumbled lines. Indeed, by the third night the actors had got so much into the swing of things that they could add little touches all of their own, which must have delighted the heart of Mr. Kremer.

I would single out for special mention from the cast the leading character, Shylock, played by W. J. Harvey. Most of the play revolved round him, and he had the task of carrying the whole production along. And carry it along he did, and gave us a very good performance indeed. I couldn't help feeling that it was he who had the complete mastery of the Trial Scene, and who won the audience over to his side. Also deserving special mention among the actors are B. R. J. Walters, the most convincing Tubal ever seen, and the two leading rôles of Bassanio and Portia, played by M. Leaney and A. J. Williams.

Finally, a word about the backstage work. The lighting was excellent, better than I have seen on many permanent stages, and the work of the electricians under D. B. Rogers went absolutely without a hitch. Much hard work by the Art Department went into the scenery and scene changes were quite effective, but obviously hindered by the cramped proportions of the stage. The idea of having opening music for each act was most effective, and it added to what was undoubtedly a great success. I can only say that if the audience got half as much enjoyment out of it as the people who were concerned with it did, then the school play proved a very worthy ending to the term.

J. Morgan, L.M.VI.

## ***French without Ears***

Brimful of rash confidence brought about by French conversation periods, certain linguists of UVa and the VIth form visited Blackpool Winter Gardens on the 15th November.

The programme of two French one act plays, "Le Medecin Malgré lue" by Molière and "L'Anglais Tel Qu'On Le Parle" (a



hopeful title) by Bernard, was presented by La Troupe Française who are at the moment touring the North-West.

The company gave a polished and fluent performance of these two French plays — "Too fluent by far," groaned one Upper Fifth from the depths of an ice-cream carton, during the interval.

Fortified by the cooling effects of "la glace," and helped by the "English" character in the second play who spoke French at a less bewildering speed, certain sat back and relaxed and even managed to imitate the gentlemen of the sixth who appeared to understand the plays.

Thanks to the smooth organisation of Mr. Reay and Mr. Boocock this enjoyable and instructive excursion was an undoubted success but certain less studious types thought the forthcoming visit to Macbeth a more hopeful proposition, as they had been told that this was by an English playwright.

A. D. Kirby, UVa.

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

C.S.M.: G. R. Clark.

S/Sgts.: A. J. Lewis, D. B. Rogers.

Sgts.: P. N. Carmont, D. W. Garnett, H. Taylor, I. D. Ascroft, R. A. Irving, D. K. Jackson, R. O. Maddock, H. Pilkington, J. R. Sowerbutts, R. A. Walmsley, A. J. Williams.

Cpls. K. Halstead, P. R. G. Langley.

The two major events that took place this term in the C.C.F. calendar both proved most successful. The first was a Field Day on October 20th. As before two programmes were arranged, one for the senior cadets, the other for the junior cadets. The former attempted a Map Reading Course over Bleasdale, which finally proved to be the best ever exercise of its kind. The following cadets are to be congratulated on being the eventual winners:—

GROUP 1. Cadets Edmondson, Chrystall, Barclay, Parkins and Norton.

GROUP 2. Cadets Wright, Kennedy, Robinson, Food, Dent.

Congratulations must also be given to Cadets Shearman, Thistlethwaite, Brownbill and Cresswell who gave up a great deal of their time to help to organize the scheme.

The juniors, Platoons 6 and 7, also had a most successful day in Brock Bottoms, taking part in various Field Craft Exercises which they thoroughly enjoyed, especially the camouflage exercises which demanded the use of mud. Thanks are due to the C.S.M. and N.C.O.s whose efforts contributed to the success of the occasion.

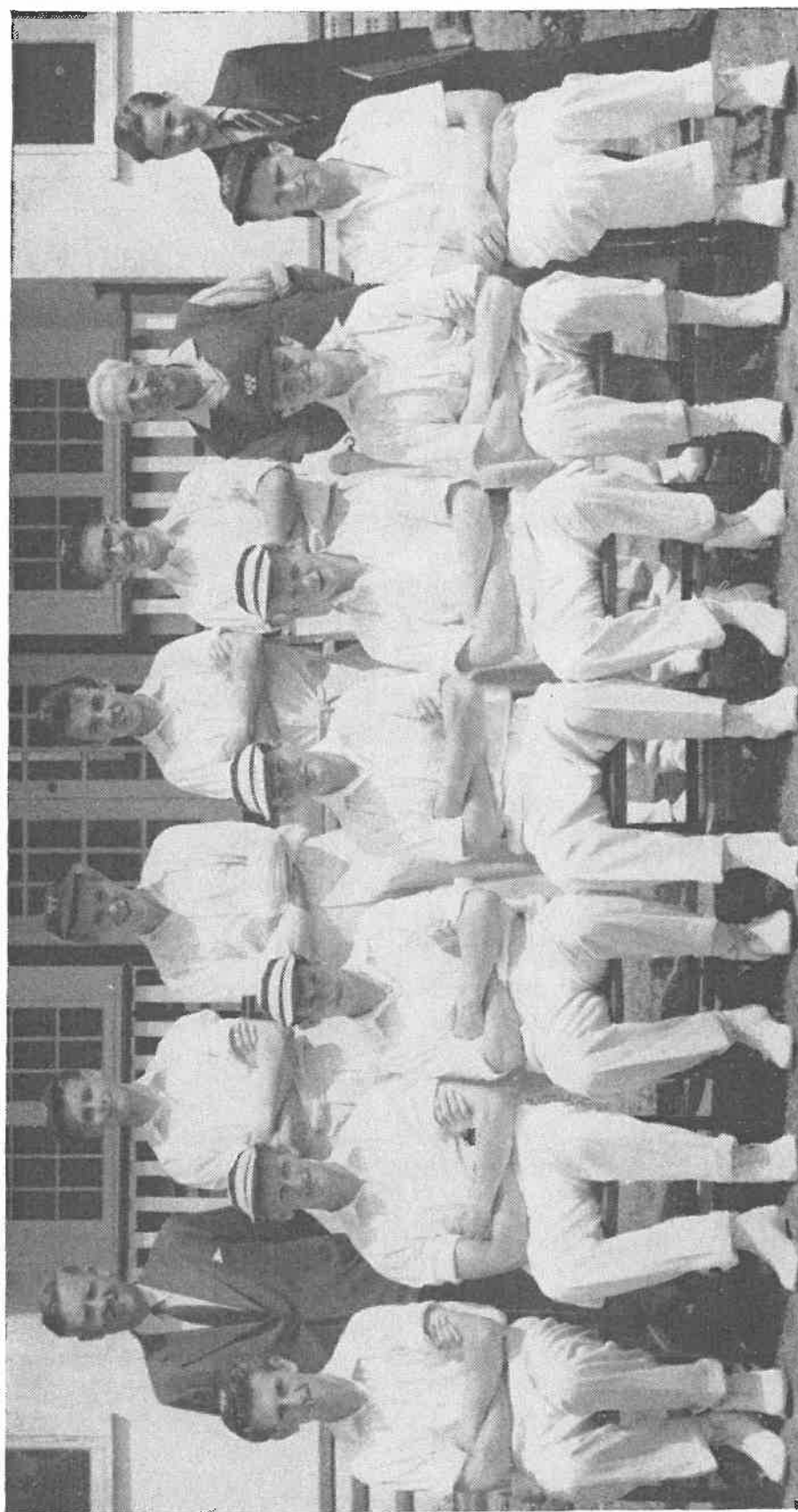
The other major event was an Army Proficiency Certificate Examination which was held on December 6th. Thirty-seven Cadets paraded on the square at 0915 hrs., and out of these 35 were successful. The examining Board (5th Loyals Bolton) afterwards congratulated the candidates on their results and also special mention was made about their turnout which seems to augur well for future N.C.O.s. The outstanding feature of this examination was that two cadets obtained "Credit Passes" — the first in the recent history of the contingent. The following are to be congratulated on their success:—Montgomery, J.; Parkinson, G. (CREDIT PASSES), Broadbent, Brownbill, Carmichael, Catterall, Cross, Dewhurst, Harvey, Helm, Meazey, Midgley, Richards, Thistlethwaite, Whitehead, Parkin, Cresswell, Shearman, Lay, Abbott, Halliwell, Hargreaves, Barnes, Bridle, Chrystall, Edmondson, Hemingway, Kirby, Kirkham, Leaney, Mackleden, Moore, Robertson, Whitlock and Wood.

Next term we hope to start an N.C.O.'s Cadre, a long-awaited M.T. Section and Adventure Training for cadets with the Army Proficiency Certificate.

### **Summer Camp 1960**

On the 14th of July, 1960, Kirkham Grammar School C.C.F. arrived at a small Welsh city — Brecon. The crashing of boots on tarmac as 65 cadets stretched themselves and stamped the stupor of sleep out of their limbs, and the commands of the five officers and twelve N.C.O.s anxiously try to form the cadets into a squad quickly and march them off to a waiting meal, announced our arrival. After a walk of about 1 mile we were faced with our home for the next week. As we had opted to go to a camp where we should have to do everything ourselves we did not expect to find a very attractive camp. But the accommodation that we did find far exceeded our expectations; we were allotted three wooden huts for the cadets, one store hut and one small hut for the officers. The site was very pleasant, and the camp was very small with green fields in and around it. In fact the only bad part of the accommodation was the Cook-House. Here in spite of many trying difficulties the two army cooks helped by Sgts. Carmont and Taylor made some very good meals.

Again the programme was split into two, Adventure Training for the seniors and Basic Training for the juniors. The former, which is always very popular and successful, took up practically the whole week and although the weather was terrible, spirits were very high at all times. Cooking by themselves on open primus stoves, and bivouacing on Brecon Beacons, which could hardly have been more hostile with their mists and rains, the cadets admirably completed their cross-country course. But, as always, the highlight of the whole Adventure Training was the Initiative est, in which every cadet excelled.



KIRKHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL 1st XI, 1960  
 Mr. Crane, A. J. Lewis, P. M. Whitehead, R. W. Ogden, H. Taylor, F. May, W. H. Owen,  
 D. W. Garnett, J. Montgomery, I. Elliot, J. J. Bamber, D. R. Moor, G. L. Holmes, M. E. H. Barnes.

The juniors took part in Basic Training around the camp, in which the miniature range proved to be a highlight; there being an unending queue to fire. One day was spent on Cwm Godi on the extensive .303 range, and although the weather here was terrible the cadets showed tremendous enthusiasm all the time. One night they were introduced to the technicalities of camping but were perhaps softened a little by having some chips prepared for them by Sgt. Taylor on a very small stove.

As last year, one day was spent in quite an unorthodox manner of training—a trip by coach around Hereford, Tintern Abbey and part of the Wye Valley which, needless to say, proved extremely popular.

Unfortunately July 22nd came all too quickly and we had to leave but the camp at Brecon will always be remembered, not only for the training but in other ways such as Morning Service in the Cathedral, soccer in the adjoining field and the quiet of the evening in Wales.

### **C.C.F. CENTENARY PARADE 1960**

The School Contingent was represented at the C.C.F. Centenary Parade in the grounds of Buckingham Palace on Friday, 22nd of July, 1960, by C.S.M. G. R. Clark and Sgt. P. N. Carmont. H.M. the Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, inspected the parade and later took the salute at the March Past. In the afternoon a service was held at Westminster Abbey, a fitting conclusion to a memorable occasion.

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## **Cricket**

### **11th JUNE — K.G.S. v ST. JOSEPH'S (HOME)**

#### **K.G.S. 99, St. Joseph's 22 (Elliott 5'5)**

Batting first, K.G.S. lost a quick wicket. However, Barnes, Bamber, and Moor improved the situation for K.G.S. by putting some runs on the board and with the help of batters lower down the list K.G.S. were able to finish with a score of 99.

When St. Joseph's batted the K.G.S. bowlers soon got on top. Elliott proved to be very troublesome and was well supported by Garnett. With such bowling it was not surprising that St. Joseph's batsmen could only raise 22 runs.

### **15th JUNE — K.G.S. v. BLACKPOOL G.S. (HOME)**

#### **Blackpool G.S. 50 (Moor 3/5), K.G.S. 52 for 8**

Due to the K.G.S. bowlers, Blackpool G.S., when they batted first, were unable to score very freely. Wickets fell quite frequently

to Moor, Whitehead and Elliott. By the tea break Blackpool G.S. found themselves all out for 50.

After tea the early K.G.S. batsmen collapsed, the only resistance coming from Elliott. In no time K.G.S. were 8 wickets down with only 24 runs on the score-board. In a very exciting finish K.G.S. were able to grasp victory thanks to a stand between Lewis (13) and Montgomery (15), both not out. An interesting note is that this was the first time this season that all the K.G.S. batsmen were not called upon to bat.

**18th JUNE — K.G.S. v. QUEEN ELIZABETH'S, BLACKBURN  
(AWAY)**

**K.G.S. 93 (Elliott 39), Q.E.G.S. 34**

Having slumped to 25/4, Barnes (16) and Elliott (39) set successfully about the task of retrieving the situation. Losing the opener did not deter Elliott, and he only left at the 9th wicket, after an invaluable innings.

The home team batted in a fashion that seems to be quite common against our bowlers (Moor 7/14), and were all out for 34, only one batsman exceeding 3.

**22nd JUNE — K.G.S. v. ARNOLD SCHOOL (AWAY)**

**Arnold 104, K.G.S. 105/2 (Bamber 63 n.o.)**

Arnold accumulated a satisfactory score, 104, against our weakened attack. The bowling deficiency gave rise to a spirited effort by Bamber (3/21), ably backed up by Garnett (5/29).

Set to knock off the runs well against the clock, the Arnold score was passed with three minutes to spare. Dryden (19) batted most capably, but even his show was completely overshadowed by a brilliant 63 from Bamber in 55 minutes.

**2nd JULY — K.G.S. v. BALSHAW'S G.S. (HOME)**

Only Elliott (18) and Holmes (12) succeeded in reaching double figures in a very fair total of 62. This was due mainly to an accurate opening Balshaw's attack.

Once more our bowlers broke through, and dismissed the visitors for 39; Whitehead being most successful. This was the fourth time our opponents have failed to reach 40.

**7th JULY — K.G.S. v. KING EDWARD'S, LYTHAM (HOME)**

**K.G.S. 98 (Holmes 33), K.E.S. 71/6**

Having crumbled to 15/3, K.G.S.'s position was considerably brightened by Holmes (33), Elliott (16) and then Taylor (11), so that 71 runs were on the board before the 5th wicket fell. Once more the tail wagged, but failed to push our total past the hundred.

Having lost three cheap wickets, K.E.S. "put up the shutters," and proceeded to play out time with dour batting. This policy paid handsome dividends as our bowlers could only claim three more wickets. Montgomery had three dismissals to his credit, from the six wickets.

Results:—

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
1st XI .....	11	8	2	1
2nd XI .....	8	3	4	1
Under 15 .....	6	1	3	2
Under 14 .....	5	—	5	—

It has been another very enjoyable season, due partly to the splendid weather and partly to the many good performances by the 1st XI.

The 1st XI's success derived mainly from keen and accurate bowling backed up by very good aggressive fielding. I. Elliot had an exceedingly successful season with his fast right arm bowling and also coming to the rescue of the batting by some timely innings. He was well supported by J. R. Moor, P. Whitehead and D. Garnett, and in fact these four represented the best attack seen at the School for several years. In the field, J. Montgomery behind the wicket was outstanding and set a splendid example to the fieldsmen by his keenness. J. Bamber led the side extremely well. He was the best and most stylish of the batsmen and his score of 63 not out at Arnold will not soon be forgotten. Apart from the batsmen already mentioned, G. Holmes and D. R. Moor played a few good innings whilst much is expected of D. E. Moore and M. Hill. In short, the 1st XI is to be heartily congratulated on its displays and its splendid spirit at all times.

The results of the 2nd XI and the Under 15 XI give rise for some anxiety for the future. The 2nd XI played and practised with spirit at all times, but the batting broke down far too often whilst the bowling was rather lacking in length and direction and variety. W. Coward and J. Sowerbutts were the most successful of the batsmen, J. Harrison a useful all-rounder, whilst P. Blunt had at least one good bowling feat to his credit. In the Under 15 several members failed to fulfil the promise of earlier years and only M. Hill, the Captain, when not required by the 1st XI, and B. Williams are worthy of mention as batsmen, whilst the bowling never became more than mediocre during the season. The Under 14, on the other hand, show much promise. They did not manage to win a single match, but at least the batsmen looked like batsmen and the bowling was adequate. Above all, they were tremendously keen to learn and to practise and should produce a good side in a few years.

The School House are to be congratulated on their fine spirit in winning the Junior Cricket competition and the Preston House on regaining the Senior trophy.

Finally the Cricket Committee would like to thank all scorers and curators for their hard work during the season, Mrs. Kennedy and Kathleen for their hospitality in the Pavilion, and all those who have contributed anything to making the season so successful and enjoyable.

At a meeting of the Cricket Committee at the end of term, Full Colours were awarded to J. Bamber, T. Elliot, J. Montgomery and D. R. Moor and Team Colours to M. E. Barnes, D. Garnett, G. L. Holmes, A. J. Lewis, H. Taylor and P. Whitehead.

## **Swimming**

The season has followed the same pattern as in previous years—disappointing in matches against other schools, but with the great majority of the School being able to swim. In matches, we were again heavily defeated by Hutton, and although we put up a slightly better performance at the Inter School Gala at Blackpool we again finished in last place. The outstanding swimmer in the School is undoubtedly J. Marshall who thoroughly deserved his award of Team Colours, whilst P. Crabtree and C. Gardiner have shown much promise. On the credit side, however, is the fact that more than 92% of the School can swim at least 10 yards, whilst of the 92% well over 50% secured maximum points by swimming 150 yards. The new boys are especially to be commended for their keenness to learn and by the end of term they had only four non-swimmers out of a total of nearly sixty. However, until something can be done about arranging regular team practices the School will continue to fare badly in competition with other schools.

After a very lively competition, the School House retained the Swimming Trophy for another year. The presentation was made by Mrs. Watkinson, wife of the Chairman of the Friends of K.G.S.

## **House Gymnastic Trophy**

It has been another keen and interesting competition and the School House is again to be heartily congratulated on retaining the Trophy, running out easy winners, but all Houses are mostly to be congratulated on their efforts.

1. School.
2. Kirkham.
3. Ashton.
4. Preston.
5. Fylde.
6. Lytham.

## ***Certificate of Physical Education***

The following were successful in gaining the Certificate of Physical Education, having reached the necessary standards in Cross Country Running, Swimming, Gymnastics, and Athletics.

Lower VI: M. Ibbison, C. Broadbent, J. Montgomery, P. Blunt.

UVa: J. Dewhurst, J. Gregson, J. Harrison, A. Irving, D. Jackson, W. Kirby, H. Pilkington, P. Whitehead.

UVb: J. Boothman, P. Cookson, I. Elliot, J. McCarthy, N. Moss, B. R. Walters.



## Founders' Day, July, 1960

The School was very fortunate in choosing what was almost the only fine day of the summer for its Founders' Day. The custom of having a C.C.F. parade, inspection, and march past was revived this year. At 9-45 the smartly turned-out Guard of Honour welcomed Brigadier Miller who afterwards inspected the contingent. The C.C.F., followed by the rest of the school, then marched down to the parish church to the sound of martial music. The service, which is a focal point of the school year, was well attended. This act of remembrance and also of looking ahead to the future is contained in a simple and moving ceremony which expresses all that Kirkham Grammar School stands for. The long tradition of wise and well-delivered sermons was continued this year by the Rev. R. Brown, of Whittle-le-Woods, Chorley. As we have come to expect the Choir under Mr. Murray's direction were excellent. The Vestry Introit was a beautiful piece which was well sung. The Brahms Anthem, a difficult yet compelling music was also sung competently.

As the crowd came out into the sunlight after the service I think everyone felt proud and glad that they belonged to this community of Kirkham Grammar School which has enhanced and moulded the lives of so many of the men of the Fylde.

A pleasing little ceremony took place in the early afternoon when Mr. J. W. Saunders (Master 1932-41) presented, on behalf of his wife and himself, to Mr. F. H. Jolly, President of the Old Boys Association, a badge of office to be worn by Presidents of the Association. Mr. Saunders explained that he and his wife were doing this in memory of the late H. C. Turner, and out of the affection, friendship and admiration they felt for him. For more than thirty years he had rendered signal service to the school he loved as scholar, Old Boy, Secretary of the O.B. Association, and latterly as Governor. Mr. Jolly on behalf of the Association, gratefully accepted the badge and suitably responded.

The Old Boys cricket match provided a fitting end to the day. The first eleven won the toss and put the Old Boys in to bat. Outstanding bowlers were Elliott (6-25) for K.G.S. and Wilson (6-31) for the Old Boys.

The hero of the match was undoubtedly R. O. Wilson who propped up the Old Boys' batting when a collapse seemed imminent, and made a valuable 32 runs. Renshaw, after a shaky start, also contributed a useful 19.

The K.G.S. reply opened soundly, with G. L. Holmes getting the highest score of 18. However, Wilson struck again, and with a spell of slow but deceptive bowling soon changed the confident K.G.S. attitude into one of dire desperation. Montgomery (5) and Lewis (16) offered some hearty resistance when all seemed lost, but

K.G.S. only managed to make 63, Wilson taking 6-31. Thus with a fine all-round performance and shrewd captaincy the latter ensured a well deserved victory for the Old Boys by 15 runs.

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## **Old Boys' Rugger Matches**

### **Wednesday, 7th September; v a Fylde XV**

This match produced a dour and stern struggle. Neither side entrusted the ball to the back very much but preferred to battle it out between the two packs of forwards in a fashion which was very commendable for two scratch sides so early in the season. Craigie (who has now gone to Uganda) was perhaps the most noticeable in a pack where every member did well, but for the spectators the delight of the evening was an almost faultless display at full-back by the bearded Dewse whose catching, kicking and tackling brought round after round of applause. The Old Boys XV won 8-0, the scorers being Bamber (penalty goal and a conversion) and Craigie (a try).

Team: Dewse; Hinton, Howard, Robishaw, Carpenter; Bamber, Plaster; Jenkins, Fenton, Hankinson, Parkinson, Robinson I. K., Craigie, Wilcock and Hewitt.

### **Saturday, September 24th; v The School**

The Old Boys took this match much more seriously than in previous years as was proved by the fact that they had (a) done a good deal of practice; (b) played at least one match together before; and (c) had arrayed themselves in spotless white garb. On a very fine day the play was even until Bailey on the wing went through to score the first try for the Old Boys. This was not converted. Later in the first half, Dewse came up from full-back, took a pass and handed on to Carpenter who scored the second try for the Old Boys. Once more this was unconverted. At one point Clark looked as if he was going to score for the School but Sidebottom just got the touch down.

In the second half the play was still very even though the School pressed harder. Carmont, at scrum half, made a fine break, passed to Lewis who scored a well-deserved try, but injured his finger in doing so and had to leave the field. Robishaw scored a good try for the Old Boys and Bamber converted which concluded the scoring and left the Old Boys winners by 11 points to 3.

There was a very good turn up of spectators, familiar faces amongst whom were:—Lean, Lawton, Wilkinson, White, Whitaker, Ogden, Coward, Vardy, Barnes M. E. H., Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Fielding and Mr. and Mrs. Norwood.

Teams:—Old Boys: Dewse, Bailey, Sidebottom, Robishaw; Carpenter, Bamber; Plaster, Bullock, Brook, Penrose (capt.), Parkinson, Barton, Wilcock, Fenton, Barnes P. J.

School: Worden, Fulford-Brown, Kirkham, Whitehead; Harrison, Hill; Carmont, Clerk, Lewis (capt.), Cookson, Molyneux, Montgomery, Ibbison, Dewhurst, Taylor.

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## ***Carol Service, December, 1960***

For perhaps the first time since its inception the Carol Service took place when there was snow on the ground; admittedly it was a very thin layer, nevertheless it added to the Christmas atmosphere which is so much a part of this occasion.

As usual the service began with "Once in Royal David's City," a carol which never fails to get the congregation and the choir singing well. After the Lord's Prayer the choir sang "In the Bleak Mid-Winter," a simple and beautiful carol. The first lesson was read by a third former, Jackson, A. P. "Angels from the Realms of Glory" followed and then the second lesson, read by Brown, R. B. The third lesson was read by W. Kay. The three carols by Benjamin Britten were well sung by the choir considering that they were new and rather difficult. The fourth and fifth lessons were read by W. J. Harvey and the School Captain, G. R. Clark. The congregation then stood to sing the Magnificat.

Mr. F. Jolly, an old boy, delivered the sixth lesson, after which the choir sung the old Basque carol which is now a firm favourite, "Sing Lullaby."

Mr. F. S. Benson, secretary of the Friends, read the seventh lesson and Mr. S. Middleton the eighth. The choir then gave us "Peter Cornelius," "Three Kings from Persian lands afar," a beautiful Christmas song in which the soloist was M. Briars.

Everyone stood for the ninth lesson, read by the Headmaster, which was followed by "O Come All Ye Faithful" and the blessing pronounced by the Rev. W. A. P. Francis, Vicar of Kirkham.

There can be no doubt that the 1960 Carol Service at least lived up to the high standard set in earlier years.

## ***Prefects' Carol Party***

On December 19th fourteen prefects and four cars assembled outside Mr. Kennedy's house. After a quick inspection by (C.S.M.) Clark the contingent moved off. Thus began an evening of carol singing at masters' houses in Kirkham and Lytham St. Annes. Thanks to the military precision of G. R. Clark, the evening passed off without a hitch.

We hope the masters enjoyed our singing as much as we enjoyed their hospitality, for which we sincerely thank them. We are above all grateful for the contributions to the Shepherd Street Mission Appeal which amounted to £5 13s. 6d.

## ***L'inondation***

Tous les touristes étaient ravis de St. Marcellin. C'était un petit village, très charmant et joli, qui se trouvait au bord du fleuve Isière, caché au pied des hautes Alpes. Il avait sa petite église, blanchie à la chaux, devant laquelle il y avait la place du marché, où se rassemblaient deux fois par semaine les fermiers et les paysans des fermes voisines, qui venaient s'occuper des affaires pressantes. En été arrivaient les touristes, et tout était amusement. On louait un bateau pour faire du canotage sur les eaux du fleuve, pour admirer la beauté naturelle du pays d'alentour, pour se lever les yeux émerveillés aux montagnes majestueuses. Mais tout cela avait lieu avant la terreur de l'inondation de '93, la grande catastrophe.

Ce soir-là, le 18 septembre, la nuit tombée, tout le village était endormi, tout était plongé dans le sommeil. A ce temps-là les touristes étaient partis, car c'était l'automne, l'hiver s'approchait, et il devenait froid. Les ruelles étaient désertes; — pas d'agitation, pas de bruit: tout gardait le silence. Le village dormait profondément.

Soudain, un cri, un cri de terreur:

"Inondation! Inondation! Le fleuve s'avance!"

Un moment plus tard, le village fut pris de panique. On alluma des bougies, on s'habilla vite, on éveilla les enfants, on entendit sonner les cloches de l'église, on se précipita frénétiquement dans la rue sans savoir ce qui se passait: on avait peur. Le mot de terreur se fit entendre à chaque oreille: "Les berges du fleuve se sont rompues, les champs sont dévastés, les eaux s'avancent précipitamment! Nous sommes perdus; cette nuit le bon Dieu nous demande nos âmes!" Les visages des femmes exprimaient l'horreur soudaine et profonde qui avait saisi tout le monde, la terreur et la peur de la mort imprévue qui s'approchait.

Une foule confuse se rassembla à la place du marché. Des enfants pleuraient, des chiens hurlaient d'un ton pitoyable. On entendait au loin un grandement sourd, qui grandissait à mesure que les minutes passaient, le mugissement de l'inondation et l'approche d'une mort certaine. Un homme s'écria: "Pas de fuite! Il n'y a qu'une seule sortie du village, et la route a été barrée par les pluies! Nous sommes perdus!" La réalisation terrible leur vint qu'il ne leur restait qu'attendre la mort, et qu'ils ne pouvaient rien faire pour se sauver, rien pour s'échapper.

Le grand silence retomba, la foule devint muette. Quelques-uns se tenaient debout, les yeux regardant dans le vide, quelques autres se baissèrent la tête, les lèvres en prière à Dieu. Il faisait noir, et les petites flammes des lanternes tremblotaient à chaque coup de vent. Personne ne bougea plus; pendant qu'au loin le mugissement devenait de plus en plus grand et sourd, et l'heure de la mort devenait encore plus proche, encore plus proche.

J. M. Morgan, L.M.VI.



## ***Hitch-Hiking to the Olympics—1960***

Our first steps to Rome were really made early in May when we wrote to "World Sport" in London, applying for tickets for the Athletics on September 1st and 2nd — costing 26/- each. At this stage the Olympic Games in Rome seemed a long way off.

On 20th August, after a calm crossing from Dover we landed at Ostend, and took a direct route to Brussels. We camped just outside the city, after a tour of Brussels by night. Next day we passed on to Cologne, where we enjoyed half a chicken each, and admired the beautiful Cathedral. During the next two days we made our way down the Rhine Valley, passing through Bonn, Koblenz, Karlsruhe, Baden-Baden and Freiburg. After leaving Germany we entered Switzerland at Basle and travelled to Berne where we caught the mountain railway for Kandersteg, and stayed in the Y.H.A. for two nights.

At Kandersteg is situated the International Scout Camp Site, and here we met, by previous arrangement, a Rover friend who had flown from Manchester. He had arranged interesting trips for us up the Ochinensee chair-lift and a mountain railway visit to Brig in the Swiss Alps. After saying farewell to our friend, we trained to Domodossola — the first station on the Italian side of the Swiss Alps, and later got four good lifts to Reggio, passing through Milan and Piacenza. At Reggio we visited a Communist International Festival. Just outside the town there was an excellent camp site with a special cafe and swimming baths. This day ended a full week of travel and we were quite satisfied with our progress.

After an early morning swim we got off to a good start and by lunch-time we unexpectedly found ourselves on the Adriatic coast, which we thought as good a place as any to spend the weekend—being a mere 400 miles from our destination. We stripped to our trunks and sunbathed and swam all the time, the temperature being about 105 degrees Fahrenheit.

On Monday, 29th August, we set out, determined to reach Rome early in the week. After a five hour wait we were picked up by a young German who was on his way to Rome. He had been on holiday for sixteen months and had toured the British Isles and could speak a little English. He was driving an old ambulance Mercedes, in which he slept at night. His name was "Fred," which strangely enough reminded me of a friend at K.G.S.

By Tuesday lunch time we were in Rome and still with Fred. We spent the rest of the day looking at the various stadiums and the Olympic village — as well as meeting some British contestants. We spent the next day viewing the sights of Rome. For example, Vatican City, Arch of Constantine, Arch of Titus, St. Sebastian Catacombs, the Colosseum, the Pantheon, and many other buildings of great interest.

By 3-0 p.m. on Thursday, September 1st, we were in our seats ready for the athletics. We saw Radford win his bronze medal in the 100 metres men's final, and felt he might have done better had it not been for three false starts. We were thrilled by the fine sprinting of the negro American girl, Rudolf; and cheered Carol Quinton when she won a silver in the women's 80 metres hurdles, and Dorothy Hyman a silver in the 100 metres.

In the evening we spent our time at the Boxing stadium, staying until the early hours of the morning shouting for O'Brien of Ireland and other British contestants.

On Friday evening we said "goodbye" to Fred (in Italian, of course) and only managed to get a lift some 30 miles out of Rome, where we camped in a vineyard — which we made full use of for supper and the next morning's breakfast. By 10-0 p.m. on Saturday we were in Bologna after some excellent lifts through Viterbo and Florence. By Sunday lunch time we were in Basle. After a recommendable meal on the station we set off northward bound. By 10-0 p.m. we were in Strasbourg and stayed in the Y.H.A. (2/10, not including any meals).

After a poor start on Monday we managed to get to Cologne in six lifts by 8-30 p.m., where we were dropped in an awkward position for hitching — so we camped in the middle of the autobahn. By 8-15 next morning we had been told to get on our way three times by police! After six hours wait at Cologne we got two lifts to Brussels. Here we decided our time was running short, so we took a train to Ostend, and caught the 1-15 a.m. boat back to England.

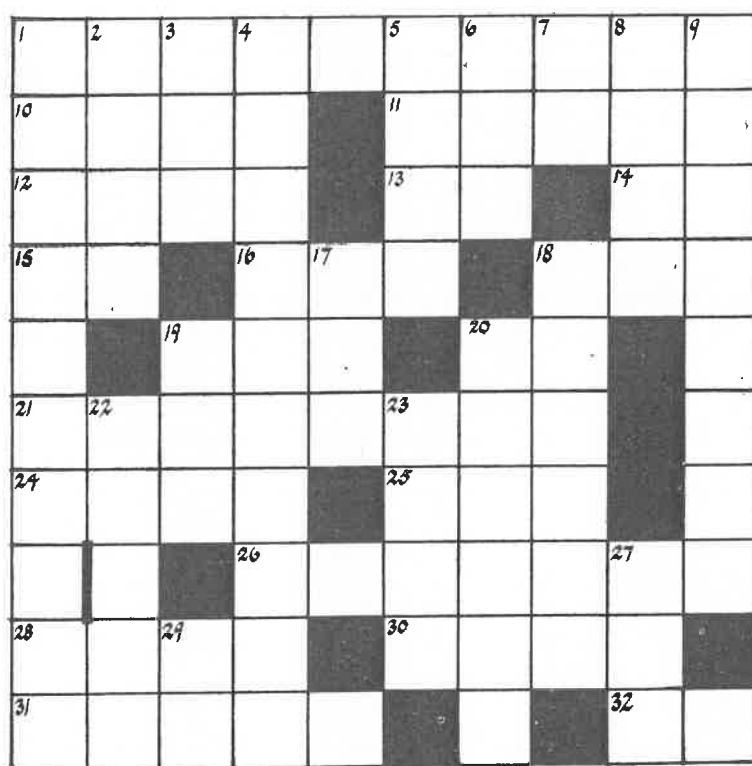
After only "forty winks" on the boat we arrived in Dover at 7-30 a.m. rather tired. Finding hitch-hiking slow and difficult at this stage, we caught a train to London, and took stock of our financial position. We decided we could just make it, and caught another train to Preston.

When we reached home at tea-time on September 7th, we shared 4½d. between us after a memorable and most enjoyable holiday.

C. R. Broadbent.

# The Kirkhamian Crossword

Compiled by  
J. R. Morgan, LMVI and  
G. Moores, UVA



## CROSSWORD CLUES

### ACROSS

1. Can one win the chirp in the chalice? (7, 3)
10. They are used by artist and mechanic alike (4)
11. A drink containing vigour (5)
12. Hey Mr. Harris! Watch that kangaroo! (4)
13. Was the game carried for a record, only to be shortened? (2)
14. It has been omitted from the middle (2)
15. Brings a bang after "T" (2)
16. It's another sort of skull (3)
18. It makes a short arrival (3).
19. "He hath showed strength with his ———." (3)
20. Cut down something tiny to find us (2)
21. Railways don't come into this flagsman's field (8)
24. Little rousers in trousers! (4)
25. Describes that masculine river (3).
26. Weighty years (7)
28. Ye Olde way of making money (4)
30. To eject (4)
31. Not important enough to break any tea-service (4)
32. See 20 across (2)

### DOWN

1. The cereal breaks up (10)
2. If you run, you'll disturb the peace (4)
3. "———fares the land"—Goldsmith (3)
4. This woodman believes in blowing his own trumpet (1, 1, 8)
5. In Chinese vernacular (4)
6. The point is given the wink (3)
7. Found on page 900 of all good Latin books (2)
8. "Which of the two?" asked Caesar (4).
9. It's warmth from Scotland (8)
17. Although in the Army, their weapon is the syringe (3)
18. "That pious man" (6)
19. One of 24 across (3)
20. Hard Fruit! (6)
22. Sun's vapour seems to be this (5)
23. That's not stereo! (4)
27. A geographer of recent renown (3)
29. One wouldn't steal this answer (2)

The solution to this crossword will appear in the next edition of  
The Kirkhamian



## **K.G.S. Old Boys' Association**

President: J. Tomlinson, Esq.

Committee: P. S. Aikman, P. J. Barnes, J. Crozier, J. Davy,  
Dr. G. Hunt, F. H. Jolly, S. Middleton, E. Smith, R. O. Wilson.

Hon. Secretary/Treasurer: P. T. Hodgson.

285 Norbreck Road,  
Little Bispham,  
Blackpool.

Dear Old Boys,

The affairs of your Association have passed from Keith Thornton's capable hands into my care for the time being. I am employed by the District Bank Limited at their Cleveleys branch at which office you can contact me if necessary (Tel.: Cleveleys 3089).

During the last few years the Association has gone from strength to strength mainly through the support accorded to Keith Thornton's efforts towards the young members. I sincerely hope that you will continue to take an increasingly active interest in the Association and its functions.

To continue to thrive an Association must run profitable events and this cannot be accomplished without wholehearted support from its membership. Its finances must be strong in order that these events can be properly organised. Our finances are not in a strong position and as those members who were present at the Annual General Meeting will have heard, we are continuing to eat into our capital year after year. With this situation in mind the scheme to enable a member to become a Vice-President by a single payment of £5 has been adopted by the Association.

Briefly, take a keen interest in the Association and attend its functions, pay your subscriptions promptly, due on October 1st, and if you can become a Vice-President.

From the foregoing you will doubtless have formed the opinion that money is my main concern. Of necessity it is, but also do remember that your suggestions regarding possible future events will be readily accepted and discussed by your Committee and acted upon if at all practicable.

Now for some news of Old Boys:—

P. TOMLINSON, 1949-56, is serving with R.A.F., Akrotiri, until late 1961.

GEORGE DUCK, 1943-49, was married in September and is Staffing Officer with Lancashire County Planning Department.

MICHAEL G. MARGERISON recently passed the final examinations of the Institute of Landscape Architects and has been appointed Technical Assistant (Landscape) with London County Council.

M. D. WILDING passed his B.Sc. with second-class Honours in Physics at Leeds University last summer and is now doing Research for Ph.D. in Physics at Sheffield University.

JOHN L. SCOTT, 1949-57, came out of the R.A.F. last September and has started working for B.B.C. in London.

Further news of DAVID MATHER is that he is leaving the Commonwealth Bank in Australia and moving to Rabaul in New Britain for a six months course prior to taking over a Primary School in New Guinea to teach children of natives who still practise cannibalism on their special festivals.

I shall be pleased to continue to relay any news of Old Boys through these articles, space permitting, so send in the news.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

PETER HODGSON.

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### ***Annual General Meeting and Dinner***

This year the above function was held on Friday, December 16th, at the Bull and Royal Hotel, Preston, when about 80 guests, including the President, F. H. Jolly, the Headmaster, Mr. W. H. Kennedy, the former Headmaster, Mr. D. Norwood, and representatives of the Old Boys Associations of King Edward VII, Arnold, Blackpool and Baines Grammar Schools were present.

Two important amendments to the rules of the Association were adopted by the meeting; one, that a President-elect should be elected annually; and two, that "a life-member may become a Vice-President upon a single payment of £5." The following officers were elected:—

President: J. Tomlinson.

President-elect: Reg. Haworth.

Hon. Sec. & Treasurer: P. T. Hodgson.

Committee members: F. H. Jolly, D. R. G. Hunt, J. W. Crozier.

Hon. Auditor: J. Ward.

Area Rep. (Liverpool & Southport): J. C. Kinlock,  
Belcroft, Long Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk.

A very good dinner was enjoyed in the newly decorated ball-room of the Bull & Royal Hotel, and the air was thick with conversation of schoolfellows meeting after several years. Though

the number was not as big as last year's, the spread of age-groups was particularly noticeable, covering more than forty years. After the Loyal toast, Alf. Tomlinson proposed the toast of "The School," and reminisced of his time at school forty years ago, of his lack of prowess at woodwork under Mr. Williams, and of the value of a study of English to an air-borne bricklayer. Mr. Kennedy, in replying, reported on the school's sporting successes, the progress of the building extensions and the gift from the Friends of K.G.S. of a very handsome Work Trophy, which trophy, after having been adequately insured, was displayed to the assembled multitude.

The formal proceedings were interrupted at this point to enable the President to make a presentation to Mr. B. Stevenson to mark the appreciation of the Old Boys of the 38 years' devoted service which B.S. had given to the School. The present consisted of a tape-recorder and Mr. Stevenson, who had travelled up from Dorset to receive this gift, spoke of the great pleasure it had given him and would give him in the future when he recorded the voices of the twin grand-daughters which he had been presented with that very day.

Mr. H. J. Reay, in a speech which mingled French and English, wit and wisdom, affection and irony, truth and near-truth, proposed the toast of the Association, and the retiring President, F. H. Jolly, also in reminiscent mood, replied. (Why, when old boys are recalling old unhappy far-off things and lessons long ago do they remember most vividly the shortcomings, and even insobriety of their former masters?)

C. Plaster proposed the toast of the Visitors and mentioned the friendships he had formed in sporting encounters with neighbouring schools. Mr. T. Winder, President of Baines Grammar School Old Boys Association, responded.

The last event of the evening was the investing of the new President, J. Tomlinson, by the retiring President, F. H. Jolly, with the badge of office, reference to which insignia is made in the account of Founders Day.

### **Profile No. 7**



**K. THORNTON**  
(1945-1952)

### **Profile No. 8**



**P. T. HODGSON**  
(1940-1945)

The Old Boys Association is almost wholly dependent for its vigour and strength on the personality and energy of the Secretary/Treasurer. H. J. Rigby and H. C. Turner did sterling work in this dual office during the first thirty years of the Association's existence, and they were followed by George Bates and Jack Davy who had the difficult job of resuscitating the Association after the interruption of the war years. Keith Thornton, who took over the secretaryship in 1956, has now resigned and Peter Hodgson has taken over this important and onerous office.

We cannot be too grateful to Keith Thornton for the work he has done. His was a good appointment in the first place. He was truly representative of the younger post-war old boys, and managed to attract his own generation to the affairs of the Association. He was full of ideas for increasing the scope of the Association's activities, and two ideas of his — the "Worsley" dance and the extra football matches — seem to have caught on and to have become established as regular annual events. He worked hard at the recognised events of the annual Dance and Dinner, and the fact that, for the first time in history, the numbers at the 1959 dinner exceeded 100 was due in no small part to his drive and energy. He was never deterred by the humdrum secretarial work and thought nothing of sending out 500 circular letters three or four times a year. The very good show put up by the Association when the appeal for the Building Extensions was launched was largely due to his optimism, foresight and hard work.

The reason for his relinquishing the post is quite in character. In the late twenties, with a wife and three children, he has given

up his job and embarked on a course at King's College, Newcastle, which we all fervently hope, will lead him to a degree in Agriculture. He has set up house at 4, Sandringham Avenue, Benton, N.U.T., 6, and it is hoped that this magazine will arrive at the above address bringing with it the sincere thanks of the members of the Association for all the good work he has done in his years of office, and their heartiest good wishes for and complete confidence in his success in his new career.

Peter Hodgson, the newly elected Secretary/Treasurer, lives at 285 Norbreck Road, Blackpool, and is employed at the District Bank, Cleveleys. He was at school during the war years, 1940-1945, when he lived in Station Road, Kirkham, and was a useful, left-arm slow bowler in the XI. The Association is grateful to him for undertaking this big job, and all who know him are confident he will carry out the duties of his office with the same energy and success as his predecessor achieved.

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## **Friends of Kirkham Grammar School**

President: Rev. A. R. Allen, M.A.      Chairman: Mrs. E. Smith.  
Secretary: Mr. F. S. Benson.      Treasurer: Mr. W. N. Harvey.

With the Garden Party, the Annual General Meeting and the Dinner Dance well behind us, another "official" year in the life of the Friends is on its way and we are reminded once more how swift is the passing of time.

Our last article ended with an appeal for good support at the Annual General Meeting and for volunteers to serve on the General Executive Committee. It is pleasing now to record that the meeting was quite well attended and that so many Committee volunteers were forthcoming that an election had to be held. We like to interpret these as indications that the Association is flourishing vigorously, and if further proof be needed it suffices to state that we gained over 90 members from parents of new entrants to School so that our membership figure is now well in excess of 600.

Those who attended the Annual General Meeting could surely not complain of boredom. Apart from the excitement of the election we were again treated to a stirring address from our President, whose attendance at the meeting is always a source of pleasure and encouragement to us all. This year Mr. Allen gave the Friends a threefold message of congratulation — for material support to the School and Governors; for publication of the School's good name; and for the happy friendship engendered by and amongst the members. Finally the meeting endorsed the

appointment of our second lady Chairman. We welcome Mrs. Smith and wish her a happy and successful year in the office to which she has already brought her own charm and dignity. The new General Executive Committee is a happy blend of former stalwarts and fresh faces and we hope the Association will thus not suffer unduly from the loss of the faithful band of workers we mentioned in the last report.

The Association's 1959 Project for School — the provision of a Work Trophy — is now complete. Our former Secretary and

Chairman, Mr. Watkinson, spent many hours of thought and trouble in seeking a craftsman capable of designing and producing a Trophy which would capture the spirit of the Work Competition. Eventually he located Mr. A. Simm of Fulwood who is a lecturer in metal work. The finished Trophy is a tribute to the patience of Mr. Watkinson and the skill and devotion to his craft of Mr. Simm. Standing 12 inches high, the Trophy is of solid silver and is mounted on a base presenting the curvature of the earth. On this stand three contemporary figures symbolic of the lower, middle and upper School, all of whom play their part in gaining the Trophy. The figures hold aloft a sphere which symbolises the three facets of School life — the Arts, the Sciences and the Humanities. Within the Sphere are replicas of the Windmill from the School Badge. The whole is a magnificent piece of work and a Trophy which is very personal to Kirkham Grammar School.



The Association's 1960 gift to School — benches for the Quad, books for the Library, and a portrait of Mr. Norwood for

School Hall — is now also complete and the Committee has decided for 1961 to make a contribution to the provision of a suitable machine to assist with the mowing of the School Playing Fields.

The Dinner Dance was again a big success thanks to the Social Sub-Committee and some members were rather overwhelmed to find themselves subsequently featured in the glossy magazines! Another popular Whist and Domino Drive completed our 1960 Social programme, and so on to 1961 for which there are already plans — a dance at Samlesbury Hall and other social events, and for May a grand Careers Exhibition which it is hoped will provide guidance and interest to a wide range of people.

This article has sought to give some indication of the work—and pleasure — of the Friends of Kirkham Grammar School. Perhaps the picture is one of an active body doing useful work, giving needed help, and finding much friendship and joy in the doing. If so this is as we would wish. But let us never become complacent. The hope for 1961 must be that the School will find us ever increasingly helpful, and if this is to be so there is a need for more funds, more support, and new ideas. There is, too, always room for more enthusiasm, more workers, and a widening of the circle of friendship. Let us all resolve therefore that in 1961 we will do that little bit more for the Friends of Kirkham Grammar School.

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