

The
KIRKHAMIAN



JULY 1969

VOL. IV NO. 8

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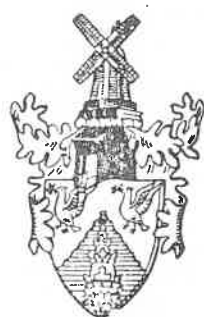
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THE KIRKHAMIAN

The Magazine of Kirkham Grammar School

Founded 1549

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EDITORIAL

CHAIRMAN: MR. H. B. WILSON.

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EDITOR: I. HIRD.

COMMITTEE: D. E. COWELL, R. E. PIGOTT, J. G. GRIMBALDESTON,
T. L. ARMSTRONG, D. I. LITTLE.

It is certainly a competitive, one-upmanship sort of world in which we live and this competition and one-upmanship is probably never so prevalent as in so unlikely a place as a school magazine.

The House Reports provide a classic example of this—a refusal to concede defeat, a refusal to admit inferiority:

... Although the score was 58—0, the Junior Rugby team played extremely well and were unlucky to lose. They should not be disheartened and we look forward to better results as the team gains in experience. ...

The Society Reports provide a similar sort of outlook; as each secretary does his utmost to stimulate interest in his society to the total exclusion of all others.

... This term has been the most successful in the history of the society ... a regular programme of films ... meetings every lunch hour ... visits arranged ...

Even the C.C.F. Reports provide an annual competition as the R.A.F. Section and the Army Section continually vie with one another with their claims to be the superior section.

Only the Crossword, with a solution given, provides a respite from this competition.

I should like to congratulate D. E. Cowell (Senior) and P. H. Butterworth (Junior) on winning the prizes for the best contributions in last term's Kirkhamian.

The Editor wishes to acknowledge receipt of the following magazines:—The Rossallian, The Arnoldian, The Poultonian.

DENIS NORWOOD

All past and present members of K.G.S. were shocked to learn of the sudden death of Mr. Norwood on the 7th of May, 1969. Headmaster of the School from 1945 to 1959, he was well loved by all who knew him. Always ready with help and advice at whatever the cost to himself, he carried his love of service to his fellow men into his retirement.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Mrs. Norwood and family.

CONTRIBUTIONS

A Violent Death

"You are a cheat, sir, a liar and—it may be—a coward. For the last, we will see". The young speaker raised his hand and struck the astonished listener's cheek.

A party was being held at a prominent business man's estate in the north of Lancashire. It was a cold winter's evening and the snow was falling steadily, unrelentlessly. Most of the guests were already dancing and the house was crowded. Yet the incident, although taking place in the centre of the spacious hall, was seemingly unwitnessed by the guests. There was no sudden gasp, or cry of horror, no drawing back to the wall. The scene remained; the tuneful music of the violin, the smokey coal fire and the strange dreaminess of the whole setting made Cooke think, as he stood towering above his youthful assailant, how unnecessary this affair was. He was at his friend's house to be merry, for it was nearing Christmas.

But no man had ever struck him and had no answer.

"Not here", he said, frowning at Mackensie, who was now breathing so fiercely as though driven on by some tremendous emotion. "Behind the house is a green. I will join you there in an instant".

Mackensie turned swiftly on his heel and disappeared into the crowd. Cooke watched him leave. Oh!, how desperately he wished that this had not happened. But he must find a second. It must be someone not from this part of the country. The less that this was known . . . He turned towards the door and saw the pedlar standing against the wall, smiling ironically, seeming to be the only one to have noticed the incident.

"You can do me some service", Cooke said. The pedlar followed him out.

Mackensie was waiting patiently on the green. Next to him stood his friend and second, Dorset, a thick-set young man with a dark complexion and thick coat, heavily furred. He walked up to Cooke.

"For God's sake, this must be avoided . . .". His teeth were chattering.

"Too cold to talk", said Mackensie.

The two men faced one another. It was indeed bitterly cold. The frost seemed to creep upon the flat stones that lay about the field. A little wind ran over the grass, fluttering the light snow that lay loosely on the ground.

They advanced. In a moment, Cooke knew his opponent was no swordsman. He was also aware that he must control the creature

in his hand. He must not harm the impetuous boy. He parried and thrust again and again, and soon he was saying to himself, "Come, let us be friends".

He forgot the boy and felt only the snow falling on his broad shoulders. He did not want to fight. He lowered his penetrating blade and stepped back. A moment later his cheek was covered from temple to chin. He fell to his knees, his face flooded with blood. A deep riven cut was made in his arm. He dropped his sword, the green spinning round like a top. He heard Dorset cry "enough!" as the blade was driven into his stomach cutting him up to his neck, and the hard, frosted ground leapt up and darkness befell him.

I. HUNTER, U.V.b.

Night

The night was still,
No sound we heard,
As the pale blue moon,
Stole through the cloudy sky,
But there—and then—
And look again—
Was it just an old owl flying by,
Or was it some weird shape that caught my eye,
Could it be—
Could it be that I—
Let my imagination fly,
Like the wind that's so keen,
Remembering once more that it's Halloween.

J. KELLY, IIIx.

Hydro

The stream plunging in my garden
Has waters gurgling and fresh
Which surround the body in a living rainbow
Whose cool caresses soothe the flesh
Its waters are inviting me to enter
To lose myself within their mass
'Believe in me and I will show you
Forests strewn with unknown paths'
In my dreams the stream is dancing
Prancing over stones and hollows
And so this thread of blue I follow
To its source within the mountains
And there I live and breathe a lifetime.

A. CROSS (PRE.)

Hypocrisy

But why do they cry
Death is not to die
His soul lives on (Or so they say).
Tears trickle from his dimming eyes
For his soul they will pray
Visit his grave every day
For to them he is gone.
But why do they cry
Death is not to die
His soul lives on (Or so they say).

A. J. WALSH, U.VI.m.

The Beetle

The ugly, yet beautiful, six-legged monster came trundling towards me like a moonman on stilts. Its proportionately small feelers groped around in the air like a television aerial gone mad, and its head twisted and turned with spring fever.

It was beginning to get dark, and dusk was approaching. There was the smell of summer fire, and the sun shone gold in the sky. The birds had gone to roost, and the leaves fluttered in the cool breeze.

Then, like a flash, the beetle flew into the sunset his wings glistening in brilliant green and purple shades.

I watched him until he was but a speck on the distant horizon. My little robot was gone never to return again.

J. A. BLAIKIE, IIIy.

In the Beginning

Flames
Spitting fire
The volcanoes
Roar.
A sphere of fire
Breaks loose.
One million years pass,
Maybe two.
This ball
Cools.
Water forms
On the surface.
One-celled creatures
Form.
They divide
And divide again
And again.
Two—then three—then four—
Celled creatures form.
Then the fishes.

M. J. WATKINSON, IIIy.

The end of the world

Charles Mathews wanted some peace and quiet. In the past three years he had never had a holiday, or, for that matter, rarely been out of the city at all, except to go to some conference or other. Now he had finally decided, he would take a holiday no matter what anybody else said. He thought for a moment and then pressed a button on his intercomm.

"Miss Clarkson."

"Yes, sir?"

"I want a seat on the first train out of Waterloo after twelve o'clock to the thirteenth station along the line, and have a self-drive car waiting for me there."

"But what about your meeting this afternoon?"

"Cancel it! Cancel all my appointments until I get back! Now, get that reservation."

"Yes, sir."

So, Charles Mathews was on the first train out of Waterloo after twelve o'clock with a ticket for the thirteenth station. Thirteen had always been his lucky number and his great grandfather had been killed at Waterloo. The train ground to a halt and he got out on to the platform. His first impression was that it was not a station at all, just a hut by the line. There was a name-board but the paint had peeled off so much that the writing was illegible. There was no porter to carry his luggage but that did not worry him as he only had one suitcase. The barrier was open and no-one came forward to collect his ticket as he walked through, but the car was there and the keys were in place. Mathews got into the driving seat, slung his case into the back and started the engine.

He headed along a narrow country lane towards a group of houses about a quarter of a mile away. As he drove he looked to either side of him; all he could see were rolling moors, stretching away to the horizon. He stopped the car outside a building which should have been classed as an ancient monument. The sign, swinging gently in the breeze, proclaimed 'The End of the World' to all and sundry. As he walked inside the place seemed deserted, he had to stoop considerably to avoid hitting the low oak beams as he walked to the bar and rang the bell.

Mathews looked around the dark room. What little light there was came through two small windows, one either side of the door. Old fashioned oil lamps hung from the ceiling at intervals and either side of the staircase next to the bar. He rang the bell again.

"Yes, sir, can I help you?"

Mathews swung round to face an old man who had entered unnoticed through a door partly concealed in the panelling.

"I should like a room for a few nights."

"Certainly sir, what name please?"

"Mathews."

"Right sir, just sign the register here. Thank you. Here is your key. Second on the right at the top of the stairs. Dinner is served at seven thirty."

Mathews accepted the key and carried his case up to his room and sat down. He looked at his watch, it was a quarter to seven. He started unpacking and changing for dinner.

At dinner he found, much to his surprise, that he was the only person staying at the hotel, except for the old man who did everything about the place, including cooking and serving the meal. About nine o'clock Mathews invited his host to join him for a drink. They started talking, and Mathews soon broached the subject of the moors beyond the village.

"Now why would you be wanting to go out over the moors?" asked the innkeeper, "That's a bad place if there ever was one. Why I came here forty years ago and since then only five people have been out on the moors, and none of them have been heard of again."

"Why was that?" questioned Mathews.

"The mist" was the reply. "It comes in from the sea over the cliffs. It comes quickly but it can last for days, or even weeks, but that isn't all about the moor. There was that farmer and his wife, about twenty years ago; just disappeared completely they did. The old farmhouse is still there as far as I know, but no-one ever goes there now. There was stories going round at the time that it was the devil himself who had carried them off, but I didn't believe that sort of thing. Still, there is something strange about the moor."

Mathews thanked him for his story, but far from being put off he was very determined to go and see that farm-house.

After a good night's sleep he packed a knapsack with food for the day, took a compass and a map of the area and set off. He found the house on the map and started to walk towards it by compass. By twelve o'clock he reckoned himself to be about three quarters of the way there and making good progress. He opened his lunch pack and ate as he walked. It was a funny feeling, being out on the moors like this, miles from anywhere, being so utterly alone, and yet not quite alone. It was a feeling he had never experienced before.

Towards two o'clock there was still no sign of the building, and he started thinking that he must have passed it. He checked his map and compass. They were both all right. He looked up and gazed around him. It seemed to be getting a bit hazy towards the

coast, still, it was a warm day and could be expected. He stood up and started off again. He did not notice the rock until his foot caught it and he fell. As he picked himself up, the broken bits of his compass stared him in the face. Well, he would just have to manage without it.

Mathews picked up the map and decided to turn back. He aligned it along where he thought the coast was, to get the general direction in which to walk. Funny, that haze seemed a little closer. He started walking in the new direction. Two hours later he noticed something in the grass and bent down to look at it. A broken compass! He quickly looked seaward. The mist was getting closer and thicker every minute. He was sure he could see it moving toward him as he hurried on. A quarter of an hour later it was all around him and he could barely see the ground he was standing on.

He had been walking for some time when he looked up. He could have sworn that there had been a light over there a second ago. He broke into a trot and a minute later, a dark shape loomed out of the mist; it was the house. Mathews stopped at the door. Well, if there had been a light, then there would be someone in. There was no light showing now, so he tried the latch. It moved and the door swung slowly inwards. He walked in and shut it behind him.

"Hello! Anybody there?" No answer.

A beam creaked behind him. "Who's there? Where are you?"

He slowly controlled himself and tried to think clearly. Apparently he had imagined the light, so now what could he do? He felt for his knapsack but it was empty. No food! For the first time in his life Charles Mathews was worried, very worried. How was he going to get back through the mist with no compass? "It comes quickly but it can last for days." The words of the innkeeper flashed through his mind . . . it can last for days." Then there was that awful feeling that he wasn't alone. Now he was getting scared. ". . . disappeared completely . . ." What had happened to that farmer and his wife? There was a noise behind him. He whipped round. Two green eyes stared at him out of the darkness. He wrenched open the door and ran.

Ten minutes later he was still running. He tripped and fell, but stumbled to his feet and staggered on. Suddenly there was nothing underneath him except the noise of the sea on the rocks getting louder and louder. As he fell, he slowly realised why the moor always kept its secrets.

In the farmhouse, the two green eyes gave a loud 'me-ow' and curled up in a knapsack someone had dropped.

K. R. IRVINE, U.V.I.s.

The model racing club

The Model Racing Club has now been in operation for well over a year, yet during this period it has experienced successive changes in fortune, and at one time it looked as if the General School Committee might force the club out of existence.

Our club was first started by three people, J. Dugdale, A. Mackie and myself, and after first seeking the advice of Mr. Kennedy (who thought it a good idea), we formed the Scalextric Society. Mr. McKerrow kindly consented to be chairman when asked, and our first meeting was held on the night of the Dress Rehearsal of the school play. Enthusiasm was so great at this meeting that we forgot the time and carried on until half past six—half an hour after the time when all day boys must have left the school premises!

Later, we changed our name to the Model Car Racing Club, and at the following Easter Fair we organized an exhibition. About this time we decided to apply for recognition as a school society by the General School Committee. When our application was successful we felt that our troubles were over. They were really only beginning.

During the Easter Holidays we left part of our equipment in a cupboard at school. When we returned from the holidays, we found to our horror that much of it had been smashed or stolen. Also, many of our original older members gradually left the club, while new members to replace them were not forthcoming from the junior forms. The General School Committee discovered this, and they decided that our club needed investigating. Consequently, they gave us a term to prepare a report on our activities.

During this term, however, we managed to attract more members, and we also began a competition, for which fifty people entered. Our name was changed back to the 'Scalextric Club', and then again changed to its present form, the 'Model Racing Club'. Members of the General School Committee came to our meetings, and their reports to the Committee finally saved the club.

We now have a large and enthusiastic membership, the officials of the club are becoming more experienced, so that previous difficulties due to our inexperience and sometimes to our carelessness are now solved, and generally, the club seems to be following a smooth course. After changes in name, a change in chairman, and above all changes in fortune, our difficulties now seem to have been overcome.

P. CAPPER, U.V.b.

Life from a room 5 window

A prefect gazes blankly out of the window.

"Wish I could join in that game of footie. But it wouldn't do. No! Got to maintain a bit of the old decorum. Mind you, those were the days, back in IIIa . . ."

Behind him a game of 5-minute chess is being feverishly played, each of the participants cheered on by an excited audience.

"Huff him, Bill. Huff 'im."

"It's chess, John."

"Oh!"

Arnie is deep in thought in a remote corner, wondering how to deal with the new L.IV manifesto, "In Place of Detention." He calls over his Inner Cabinet. Muffled discussions. "Definitely, Arn. Polo embargo it is!"

The Sergeant-Major staggers in, pale, a terrified look in his eyes. As he collapses into a chair, a crumpled document falls from his trembling hand.

"They want me for Vietnam."

"Hurray," the cry goes up.

At the table, huddled over a map, the Mini/Triumph/Egg Van Works Team plans its itinerary for the K.G.S. "Rallye Internationale des Pubs de la Fylde."

"Okay, then. George, Dagger, pit-stop Derby Arms, lunch Boar's Head, refuel at the Highgate, finishing line—the bar at the Grapes!"

"Can't we include the Railway?" asks Trev.

"Anyone for coffee?"

"Yes, please," screams an anguished Duffy, vainly trying to wriggle out of Bob's double arm wrist-lock and strangle hold.

Outside, the football goes on. Attack after attack is launched by the untiring players.

"Hope nobody's going to read this," thinks that same prefect.

D. COWELL (PRE.)

The loneliness of the long-distance cyclist

The white handkerchief was raised, the rider held up a hand in acknowledgment and adjusted his goggles then away he roared. The smoke belched from his exhaust as he changed up a gear and settled down to profound concentration on the circuit he knew so well. He looked at his watch and it spelt one thing. If he was to join the others in the hall of fame he would have to complete the course in six minutes, a great task for even this travelled man. On the second hand of time hinged his chances. Already he knew the crowds would be gathering and waiting for the master. From the dark shade of tall trees he appeared round the tight right-hander over the new section of the course to the run in. He sped round the blind left-hander through the narrow gate causing several stragglers

to jump to all sides. He raced up the straight past the spectators' car park and over the finishing line. A few young spectators welcomed him but he took little notice as his job was not yet over. He rushed from the pits lined with bikes on both sides and toward the Clerk's Office, where he was to clock in. But alas time had beaten our brave pioneer, the common room was empty, the masters had gone and Mr. Bently was late for assembly.

C. R. TYLDESLEY, L.V.x.

K.G.S. in Norway, 1969

Easter Monday had arrived at last. The sun shone down on the crowds of well-wishing parents in the school drive who were fighting to get near enough to their sons to say goodbye. It was quite a relief when the coach came with the Fleetwood party, and we then left Kirkham behind.

The journey to Newcastle was uneventful, the coach stopping for one hour in Ripon so that we could have lunch. As we neared Newcastle, and the beginning of our sea voyage was imminent, the excited chatter grew louder but stopped abruptly as the embarkation procedure was carried out.

Once aboard the S.S. LEDA, we found our cabins and prepared for the voyage. The crossing was, happily, very calm and we went ashore in Bergen at eleven o'clock the next morning. We were twenty-six hours and six hundred miles away from Kirkham.

We had some free time and an excellent meal in Bergen and at four o'clock that afternoon we were all standing by the platform of Bergen's crowded railway station. The train was on time and we packed ourselves into the coach reserved for our group and the party from Fleetwood Grammar School.

The train journey was a little tedious because the Norwegian railway system is modelled on the London Tube system which meant that the sixty-nine mile journey consisted of one tunnel broken by fifty-five beautiful views.

Arriving at Voss, we said goodbye to our travelling companions and boarded a coach to Myrkdalen.

At seven in the evening we arrived at the hotel which was to be our home for the next week and after a hearty meal we retired for an early night, exhausted.

The next day we began skiing and during the next four days most of our party became proficient skiers. The causes of this we attribute to our overworked and long-suffering instructors, whom we suspect could ski when they were three.

On the fifth day, which was Sunday, the party was taken, with all the other schoolchildren staying at the hotel, on a trek to the summer pastures. These were high on the other side of the valley and it took the party about two hours to reach these barren expanses of snow but only about half an hour to return to the hotel.

The next day, the fifty pupils staying at the hotel went to Voss to try their skill on the fast slopes there. The coach journey was very hair-raising because the poor surface of the road was made to seem much worse by the banging of the skis in the rear of the coach.

Once in Voss, we ascended the steep valley sides by cable-car and then by chair-lift to the ski slopes. These luxurious methods of ascent were a new experience to many of the party and all found them very exciting.

After a hard day skiing, we returned to the hotel for a final night and were entertained by a local group of folk dancers. Other entertainments of the holiday had included a film show, a slide show and two evenings of music.

Tuesday, alas, was our final day skiing and in the morning all the parties staying in the hotel had a skiing exam which everyone from Kirkham Grammar School passed and won diplomas, and two achieved their one star badges.

In the afternoon we left the hotel, rejoined the party from Fleetwood Grammar School and retraced our way back to Bergen. In this port we spent one night on the boat while it was still in harbour. Next morning we were allowed a few hours freedom in the town.

Reboarding the boat, we found all our friends from the hotel waiting for us. The return crossing of the North Sea was not as calm as our outward journey had been but the atmosphere on the boat was, however, one of gaiety and enjoyment.

Next morning we bade a final farewell to our friends from the hotel and set out for the customs shed through which we passed without any trouble. We left the dingy terminal building and walked to our coach which was a striking contrast, sparkling blue and cream against the dark dockside background.

The return journey seemed very short and by half past twelve we were standing once again outside the school gate awaiting the arrival of our parents to collect us and our baggage.

While we waited, we echoed our thoughts of the whole return journey which were that this was the best holiday every one of us had ever had.

J. SIMON, U.VI.m.

The Fylde sixth form association

Yet another pleasure of sixth form life!! Please note all ye prospective sixth formers, life is not all work sheets and P.S. periods, now there is the added attraction of built-in social life.

Several weeks ago the grammar schools of the Fylde area decided it was about time they got together and did something with the ammeneties each school possessed. For diverse reasons ("Arni" won't tell us!) a SIXTH FORM association was formed. Each school was allotted its own activity. In the case of K.G.S.—we were allotted Drama—although nothing "dramatic" has happened so far. But don't musunderstand me. Kirkham, although not flourishing in drama, has had its hand in everything else. When I say everything . . . The most notable and successful of the association's functions so far have been the two dances held at the Majestic Hotel and the Casino. Although a few complications were found at the first dance (ask Arni!) the second ran extremely smoothly.

Many other activities have been flourishing however, among these the infamous hiking society. One Sunday each month a large coach packed with a mixed bunch (mixed being the operative word), disappears to destinations unknown somewhere in the Lake District. And as that well-known orator once said "They came out two by two" or was it "came in?"

The debating society has proved to be another resounding success for the association helped along by K.G.S. who by the end of June will have taken an active part in two of the debates to date.

Two car rallies, or treasure hunts as we told those in authority, have taken place so far, the "K.G.S. works mini team" led by "Clive" came an easy second in the last rally.

On the whole the association is proving well worthwhile and for those members of next year's sixth form it should be even better.

D. I. STOTT (PRE.)

SCHOOL EVENTS AND TRIPS

House music festival

More than ever before, this year's House Music Festival was the competition it was intended to be. In previous years there has always been a favourite, an 'odds-on' winner; but not so this year. Although there was the usual bustle and nerve racking experience for the performers, the atmosphere was more relaxed and the players were able to portray an accurate account of their talents because the musical content of most houses was unknown.

Worthy winner's of the competition were Lytham house, whose inspired performances were both polished and entertaining.

Noticeable, too, this year was the influx of folk music; a pleasant, refreshing change from the usual choral offerings rendered by the various house choirs. The singers appeared happy in their work and lending their own personalities to their song, brought a light-hearted side to the competition.

The competition also brought out the personal achievements of the individual, and in particular the performance of a violin soloist which was courageous and competent, and a great credit to his House.

Altogether, the Music Festival proved to be a valuable contribution to the life of the school, and was a very worthwhile afternoon for everyone, audience and performers alike.

T. L. ARMSTRONG, L.Sc.VI.

Easter fair 1969

This year, the weather was kinder than it has been in recent years, and a damp morning gave way to a dry, but overcast, afternoon. This enabled many of the outside activities to operate, a factor which helped to make this year's Easter Fair financially the second most successful in the history of the event.

As always, a great crowd of people came ready to spend their life-savings in one wild afternoon. This, anyway, was Mr. Wilson's theory and, while it was not true, the ever-broadening smile on the treasurer's face as he raked in the money was a joy to watch.

A refreshing feature of this year's Easter Fair was that prices were generally down while takings were generally up. The Easter Fair has, in the last two years, appeared to be rather "money-grabbing." This year was an exception, however, as prices were down overall and the emphasis seemed to be less on taking money and more on enjoyment, so that the Fair improved as entertainment.

The stalls and exhibitions were the usual favourites, most of them being highly successful. One of the most successful, financially speaking, was again the bottle-stall, proving conclusively Mr. Bellis's all round talents with bottles. Perhaps one slight criticism would be the lack of originality in the stalls. There were few new ideas at the Fair, but, while no one can be blamed for this, everyone can help by offering suggestions for new stalls.

Nevertheless, congratulations and thanks must go to everyone concerned, especially to Mr. Wilson and the prefects for organising the Fair, all those who helped to erect the stalls, those who served and to School House who took the stalls down on the Saturday night.

J. G. GRIMBALDESTON, U.VI.m.

HOUSE REPORTS

Ashton house

House Master: MR. H. B. WILSON.

Assistant House Masters:

MR. G. S. CHEESBROUGH, MR. D. E. WORTH,
MR. G. T. BROWN.

House Captain: R. E. PIGOTT. *Vice-Captain:* J. P. SMETHURST.

Prefects: A. CROSS, T. MUSSON, W. R. J. MCQUEEN.

At the beginning of the Spring Term the House carried off the remaining Rugby Cups. The Seniors beat Preston House in the Final 26—0, leaving behind an impressive score sheet—v. Kirkham House 15—0 and v. School House, 44—0. This reflects the good tackling and tireless defence from forwards and backs alike.

In the 7-a-side Rugby competition the House won comfortably, winning four games and drawing one, mainly due to the depth of talent in the team—seven 1st XV players. The team will be virtually the same next year so there will be no excuses! So, having won all three Rugby cups (Junior Rugby won in the Winter Term) the House had created a new record in this field of Inter-House sport.

With the close of the rugby season and cross-country events already overlapping, it wasn't long before the Junior Cross Country event. The Juniors failed to improve on last year's sixth place. Still you can't be good at everything! However the Seniors, with three well-seasoned school Harriers looked favourites in their event. Although T. Musson, P. Bamber and M. D. O'Neill gained high places it was quite a while until the remainder of the team found their way home and the House was narrowly beaten into second place by an excellent team effort from the School House.

The Music Competition was held this year on the 17th March. After weeks of practising and rehearsing under the expert tuition of T. P. Buckley and C. D. Anderson our musicians and singers must be congratulated on gaining a complementary third place behind the Preston and Lytham Houses. I hope next year in this competition they will come out on top. On the 25th March Ashton House met School in the 1st round of the Debating Competition. Our team of A. Cross and B. Smurthwaite were unconvincingly beaten when a split decision unluckily went against them. Still in this field of competition, T. L. Armstrong, R. Reid and A. Cross must be congratulated on reaching the final of the Public Speaking Competition.

In the Chess League the House has improved considerably from last year's defeats. Now we have two school representatives in W. R. J. McQueen and P. G. Duxbury. The results so far are that the House beat Fylde, lost to Kirkham and School and drew with Preston. In the Tennis Competition the House is through to the Final which is against Kirkham House. The team is the same as

last year when we won the cup. It contains five of the six in the School Tennis Team of which W. R. J. McQueen is captain.

The 14th May witnessed the Inter House Athletics Sports when we narrowly beat Preston House by eight points to win the cup. The leading positions were:—

1st ASHTON . . . 87½ pts.
2nd PRESTON . . . 79½ pts.

First places went to A. Cross in the Pole Vault, to R. E. Pigott in the Senior High Jump and Senior Discus, to M. Dawson in the Inter 100 yards and Inter 220 yards, to P. Mitchell in the Junior 100 yards and 220 yards, to D. C. Stevens in the Junior 100 yards Hurdles, and to K. Aitchison in the Inter 440 yards. But it wasn't until the Junior and Inter Relay teams won that victory was definitely ours. This was a truly great success for Ashton House because it is only by the means of overall team effort that this cup can possibly be won.

Last and not least we are leading in the Work Cup by an almost unassailable margin due mainly to the 'O' and 'A' level mock results from the Spring Term, so if the House continues to do its best academically this cup could be ours again. This Term sees the Junior and Senior Cricket and also the Swimming Competition. The Juniors have beaten Fylde by eight runs and they go on to meet the School House on the 16th June.

R.E.P.

Fylde house

House Master: MR. D. H. BUTTERWORTH.

Assistant House Masters:

MR. J. A. SUTCLIFFE, MR. F. W. SAYER.

House Captain: J. R. PORTER.

House Prefects: D. JOHNSTON, R. M. PATTERSON, G. P. ROBERTS, A. J. WALSH.

First of all, I should like to congratulate Mr. Butterworth on being appointed House Master, and also to welcome Mr. Sayer; I hope he enjoys being with us.

The Easter Term brought our first trophy of the year when the House tied for first place with Preston in the Junior Cross Country. They all trained very hard and packed well on the day, giving a fine example of superb running.

In contrast, the Senior Cross Country was dismal. With poor attendances at practices, it was little surprise to see the House finish last.

However, the seniors put up a better show in the Seven-a-side competition, winning three out of their five games. The young, but experienced side were much underestimated and that's how they beat Kirkham. But with six points they finished third behind Ashton and Preston. I would like to thank "Joe" Curwen for turning out as linesman during the matches.

At the end of the Easter Term we were placed fourth in the House Music Competition. There wasn't much between the houses and we mustn't be too disheartened. All those who took part gave a 100% effort. But I must pick out Bagshaw for his superb violin solo.

So far the Summer Term has proved unsuccessful, the House having been knocked out of the tennis competition by Lytham, and the debating competition by School.

In the Junior Cricket we were narrowly defeated by Ashton in a very tense game. Having only three upper fourths, the team should do well next year. Birch, Holland, Davies and Ray all played well, in fact the whole team ought to be congratulated on a valiant effort.

The Athletics team did well on the whole, being placed third on Sports' Day. The best effort on the day was the Senior Relay Team in being placed second. With more training the team could have won, but shouldn't be too disheartened by the result.

Still to come we have Cricket, Swimming and Shooting. We have held quite a few shooting practices so the team should do well.

Finally best wishes to all those who face exams. May all their wishes come true in whatever field.

J.R.P.

Kirkham house

House Master: MR. J. REAY.

Assistant House Masters:

MR. L. A. REDMAN, MR. A. R. BAINES.

House Captain: I. HIRD.

Vice-Captain: A. SMITH.

House Prefects: C. BAINBRIDGE, P. J. COOPER, S. W. PEMBERTON, D. A. SHEPHARD, T. S. WEST.

This is the second consecutive Whitsuntide that has seen Room 3 devoid of House Trophies. However, last year, we won three in the "home straight" and this year we have a good chance of pulling in six, such is our strength in the Summer Term. But we are digressing, this is a report, not a prophecy, so we must concern ourselves solely with what has been and not with what has yet to come.

The Spring Term opened with the Seven-a-side Rugby Competition, in which we finished 4th with two wins and one draw. The crucial match of the competition, as far as we were concerned, was against Ashton, the eventual winners. The team probably played their best rugby in this match and led 5-0 at half-time, but, in the second half, the opposition began to play more as a team and just merited their 6-5 victory.

Next came the two cross-country competitions and with them the annual contrast between the Juniors' enthusiasm and the Seniors' languor, although I would point out that there were some members of the Senior team who showed a commendable

degree of enthusiasm. The Seniors finished 5th—a position which was more or less expected, and the Juniors, who seemed to have an outside chance of winning their cup, came 3rd, close behind the joint winners. Unfortunately, Kirkham (1st), Fisher (5th) and Berry (7th) were very much on their own and the next man home was 17th, although it is worth pointing out that all eight runners finished inside the first thirty.

On a less promising note, the House was placed 6th in the Music competition. All three items were both entertaining and well-performed, thanks to much practice under the watchful eye of Simpson but, even so, the general standard of the competition was so high that we finished a long way behind the winning house. I should like to take this opportunity to congratulate the mothers of the choir members on choosing whiter-than-white detergents, unfortunately the white shirts only served to emphasize the sullen back cloth of faces.

Throughout the year, the Inter House Chess competition has been contested and, with only one or two individual games remaining, it seems extremely likely that we shall regain the trophy. We have had four victories to date: Ashton 14—10; Fylde 20—4; Lytham 15—9 and School 16—8. In the remaining match against Preston House, we are leading 10—4 with three individual games to be finished. The general standard of K.G.S. chess has never been so high as it is now and the whole team is to be congratulated on a fine performance.

A very young Tennis team has gone from strength to strength. After gaining a winning 6—0 lead over Preston House, we went to play our best tennis against a surprisingly strong School House team to win 7—2. We now play an Exceptional Ashton House team in the final.

Rather disappointingly, owing to the luck of the draw, the Junior Cricket team had to begin their defence of the cup against Lytham House in a match which was, in effect, the final. Lytham, with seven U.XIV's in their side, won the toss and put us in on an extremely ill-prepared wicket, but sound middle-order batting from Jenkins (14) and Berry (12) saw us to the modest total of 43. It appeared that all was lost when good batting from Grundy and Allen quickly took Lytham to 20 without loss. But then Berry, bowling with real pace, sent back four men in one over and finished with the phenomenal analysis of 8 wickets for 2 runs, to dismiss Lytham for 36—a seven run victory. Now it would appear that only over-confidence can prevent us from winning this cup for the third year in succession.

I.H.

Lytham house

House Master: MR. R. T. BENTLEY.

Assistant House Masters:

MR. J. BRADBURY, MR. J. MURRAY, MR. G. B. TAYLOR.

House Captain: D. G. EDMUNDSON.

House Prefects: M. B. HUSS, K. W. ROBERTS, R. MOLLOY, C. J. ROSSALL, S. E. RUDDLESDEN.

The Spring Term opened with the seven-a-side Rugby competition. Unfortunately, we were unable to field the same side more than once, and finished sixth.

In the cross-country an extremely young team finished in fourth place in the Junior event, whilst the Seniors lifted themselves from sixth to fourth place in the Senior Competition.

This minor success was emulated when the house played and sung its way to its second successive Music victory. This was almost entirely due to Hill who performed in every act. This good fortune, however, did not continue into the Summer Term, for we were defeated in the Junior Cricket, even though we have seven "under 14" cricketers, and finished sixth in the Athletic Sports, even though Huss, Meakin and Redman represented the school at the Inter-School Sports.

In the Tennis Competition a well-deserved 7—2 victory over Fylde House was nullified by a 2—7 defeat at the hands of Ashton House.

With several trophies still to be contested, the House chess team, with only one defeat, is a very strong challenger. The Debating Team, after eliminating the favourites, now meets Kirkham House in what should be an interesting semi-final.

After a shaky start, the House has been improving its position in school competitions as the year has progressed. And with the increased House spirit, Lytham House should prove a strong contender for this year's remaining cups, as well as those of the future.

D.G.E.

Preston house

House Master: MR. T. JACKMAN.

Assistant House Masters:

MR. R. M. CLARKSON, MR. D. C. FEARNEHEAD.

House Captain: D. E. COWELL.

Vice-Captain: C. A. H. MASSEY.

House Prefects: D. I. STOTT, D. HOGGARTH, W. McTAGGART, I. L. NICOL, J. B. R. N. SYMS, D. G. MAYOR.

Since the last edition of the Kirkhamian, there have been successes and near-misses, leading to the House being dubbed appropriately or not, the "Champion Runners-Up."

On the rugby field we have twice been thwarted by Ashton in our search for trophies. At the end of the sevens competition, the house was second in the table, having played 5 games, won 3 and drawn two. In the final of the Senior House Rugby Competition, the house was beaten by Ashton 0—20, after playing some hard, entertaining rugby.

The house musicians gave a very polished performance in the Music Festival to come second, with 249 points, behind Lytham. The programme consisted of a short selection from "Iolanthe," sung by the House Choir, a Piano solo from I. Ledsham, and a couple of "trad" numbers from the House folk group. Congratulations to Ledsham and the Folkie Trio for being selected to perform at the concert.

One event where we were not content with second was the Junior Cross-Country race. Running exceptionally well and as a team, the juniors came home equal first with Fylde. Congratulations to the whole eight and many thanks to Massey whose tuition and practices proved invaluable.

The Senior event took place the following day, and with a reasonably strong team the house came a very creditable third behind School and Ashton.

The Chess team has continued to play well, drawing 12—12 with Ashton and, at the time of writing, putting up a strong fight against tough Kirkham opposition.

In the Debating Competition, the house unfortunately made an early exit, after being unable to convince the adjudicators that "a literary education is preferable to a scientific education."

Our Tennis team, weakened by illness, was not a strong one and went down to a superior Kirkham six by 6 matches to 0.

In the Work Cup, we have dropped to fourth position. This has been due to the small number of sixth-formers we have and the generally poor performance of the "Mock" candidates. However, with a final effort in the Internal and External examinations, we can easily be back amongst the leaders.

The climax of this term has obviously been the Inter-House Athletics Sports. After a very exciting afternoon, with magnificent performances from all athletes, we were just pipped by Ashton, 87½ pts. to 79½ pts., the final outcome having depended on the relay races. Congratulations to all the team on a truly wonderful effort i.e. 11 first places, 6 seconds, and 7 thirds. Next year should see the trophy definitely in Preston's grasp!!

Cricket, Swimming and Shooting lie ahead of us, and let us hope we can maintain our very creditable record in these competitions.

Preston House's revival, begun last year, has definitely been sustained and, with the present enthusiastic approach and team attitude, we can only reach even greater heights in the forthcoming years.

D.E.C.

School house

House Master: MR. R. A. KNOWLES.

Assistant House Masters:

MR. G. BELLIS, MR. S. C. CROOK, MR. S. COOPER, MR. J. A. SUTCLIFFE.

House Captain: M. E. ROBERTS.

House Prefects: J. S. ALEXANDER, M. J. KETT.

This term has been one of more success for the house. The Senior cross-country cup was again won by the house and creditable places were gained by Roberts (first), Little and Lewis (equal seventh) and Brandon (tenth). The Juniors however didn't live up to their early promise and finished fifth. Credit must be given however to the team as it was very young and promises much for next year.

In the work cup the house has tottered this term dropping from second to third, I look forward however to the 'O' and 'A' levels with great optimism, hoping that the results achieved will bring the cup our way for the first time.

In the world of chess the house finished the season with a resounding victory over Fylde. This was not however good enough for us to win the cup, but the overall standard attained by the house is good. Aitchison has again represented the school in chess and I hope more will join him.

Turning to the world of athletics the house again won the standards trophy but owing to bad weather the cup has not been awarded. On Sports Day, the house came fourth and although the general standard was not as high as we would have liked there were some good individual performances, notably from J. S. Alexander, M. E. Roberts, S. Christie and T. Morris.

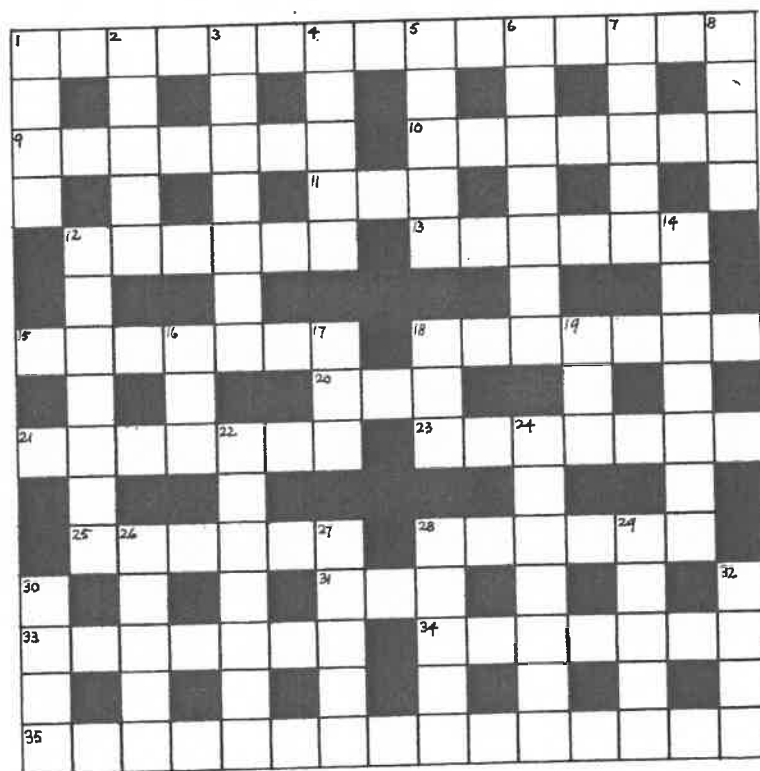
I am pleased to record that the house has reached the final of the debating cup for the first time in many years. This was achieved by beating Fylde in the semi-final. Our debating team is G. Lonsdale and M. Heyes and the house wishes them luck in the final.

The house has still only had minimal success this term and we look forward to winning the cups still to be contested for.

M.E.R.

THE KIRKHAMIAN CROSSWORD

Compiled by I. Hird



Solution on page 393.

CLUES ACROSS.

1. Isn't it a solid art that makes them old-fashioned (15).
9. Paying to dispose of the rubbish (7).
10. Rail men are neither animal nor vegetable (7).
11. What's due to a poet, we hear (3).
12. Half the street are to clear the vapour (6).
13. Use a doctor on the side to clear a passage (6).
15. Sold pie?—that's ruined it! (7).
18. The general idea is that a hundred formerly did exercises (7).
20. A performance causes quite a disturbance (3).
21. Intend to alter the end as decided (7).
23. The type of jacket a T.T. rider wears? (7).
25. Cavalry-man gives nothing away to George's opponent (6).
28. Where ghosts hang out? (6).
31. The cold part of the Arctic eddy currents (3).
33. Very genuine after the queen returned (7).
34. A hunger for calcium phosphate, we hear (7).
35. Go too far in crossing the line (8, 3, 4).

CLUES DOWN.

1. Where one can see some art at Eastertime (4).
2. Quite enough electricity for the French (5).
3. The first letter (7).
4. Casting other metals gives a gold bar (5).
5. Specified one man returning to another (5).
6. Later, two Poles could light the way (7).
7. Grips a small branch (5).
8. A seasoned sailor? (4).
12. The theologian eats the fruit and comes out in spots (7).
14. The quickest newspaper in town (7).
16. Never out of the hotel (3).
17. Add a bit of variety for father (3).
18. A fish that is never given any credit? (3).
19. Where one finds the corn (3).
22. A gun fired downwards gets lumps of metal (7).
24. Cry in anguish at the mince Lulu consumed (7).
26. Wash the siren (5).
27. A French relative? (5).
28. The centre of the artist's masterpiece (5).
29. A gait adapted for walking in the forests (5).
30. Gone solo? Capital! (4).
32. Not the sailors' favourite vegetable (4).

SOCIETY REPORTS

Gym club

Chairman: MR. D. E. WORTH.

Captain: T. S. WEST.

Secretary: R. E. PIGOTT.

Committee: G. A. FARRAR, D. J. RAWCLIFFE, A. CROSS.

With so many of the team participating in the more popular sporting activities associated with this time of the year, it seems unlikely now that we will carry on with the arrangements for a match with Rossall School. But no doubt we shall be giving a demonstration of our skills at the Garden Party.

R.E.P.

Badminton club

Chairman: MR. J. A. SUTCLIFFE.

Captain: I. HIRD.

Secretary: R. E. PIGOTT.

Committee: W. R. J. MCQUEEN, D. E. COWELL, B. S. HAYTON.

This season has been one of contrasts. On the one hand the Seniors won six matches with 42 games for and 12 against and also lost five matches with 14 games for and 31 against. This state of affairs is due to our search for better competition and which we found when playing K.E.S., Lytham. We played four matches against them, losing all four. Next season the team will have to put in extra practice if they are to stand any chance against one of the best teams in Lancashire.

The Juniors played four games, winning three and losing one. In this team there are some very promising and talented players for the future.

R.E.P.

Model railway society

Chairman: MR. R. M. CLARKSON.

Secretary: J. S. DAVISON.

Treasurer: T. R. M. JONES.

Committee: P. G. RAY, B. WHITE, I. N. CLEMENT, N. M. FISHER.

The society held its first meeting at the beginning of the Spring Term 1969. Meetings have been held every week since then, taking the form of general discussions and lecturettes. A small working layout and static display were exhibited at the Easter Fair, and we hope to produce a better exhibition for next year.

A quiz was held at the beginning of the Summer Term, and a competition has been arranged. The society hopes to publish a small magazine towards the end of this school year and is busy organising a magazine reference library.

On Saturday, 10th May, the society gained official recognition by the General School Committee. We hope that our plans for the future may be fulfilled as our membership increases.

J.S.D.

Model racing club

Chairman: MR. G. T. BROWN.

Secretary: P. R. CAPPER.

Treasurer: A. M. MACKIE.

Committee: A. M. HIRD, L. HOULDEN, M. BOWSER.

The Spring Term saw Mr. Brown take over as chairman and since then we have kept up with meetings etc. There was a bit of trouble with the G.S.C. which was eventually rectified. In the Spring Term we started a Racing Competition which drew in very nearly fifty entrants—a welcome relief after the flop we had in the circuit designing competition.

The Summer Term up to half-term was empty of actual race meetings, but there were some committee meetings to decide what was to be done in the future. Firstly, we changed our name because of the move away from Scalextric equipment. Then we decided that a semi-permanent layout would be bought and the Scalextric sold, and, thirdly, we decided to challenge other schools to race meetings. The first and last of these have been done. We do not yet have enough money to buy this semi-permanent lay-out. The Scalextric equipment can be bought on application to myself. Now we look forward to an active Winter Term, as the Summer Term cannot be properly organised because of the examinations.

P.R.C.

Railway society

Chairman: MR. S. C. CROOK.

Secretary: P. R. W. Ashworth.

Treasurer: D. A. LITTLE.

Committee: M. J. HIGGS, D. CONROY, C. R. TYLDESLEY, M. POWNALL.

The Railway Society is now just over a year old. In the year the Society has held regular meetings under the chairmanship of Mr. Crook.

The Winter and Spring Terms saw the inauguration of the Society's Photographic Competition. There were two sections; the first was for moving subjects, the second for a record study. The first section was won by T. Jones with a photograph of a Fairlie 0-4-4-0 locomotive of the Festiniog Railway and the second by D. A. Little with a photograph of a Stanier 8F at Rose Grove.

The Society was also host to two members of the Lakeside Railway Society, an organisation formed to re-open the railway line between Plumption Junction (Ulverston) and Lakeside (Windermere). Messrs. Percy and Cooke, old boys of K.G.S., gave an illustrated slide talk about the line which the L.R.S. hopes to re-open shortly. The meeting was well-attended and enjoyed by all. The Society would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Percy and Mr. Cooke for a most interesting talk.

Next term the programme of films, colour-slide shows and quizzes will continue and anyone interested in the Iron Horse is invited to attend.

P.R.W.A.

Music society

Chairman: MR. J. MURRAY.

Secretary: J. R. PORTER.

Treasurer: C. D. ANDERSON.

Committee: T. BUCKLEY, J. A. DUCKWORTH, R. H. SIMPSON.

The Spring Term saw the spirit and keenness shown in recent years for the music competition and the school concert. The music competition was well won by Lytham for the third year running. Preston, Ashton and Fylde were close behind. The best items were selected for the school concert, besides the orchestral and choral items. The choir gave its usual high performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pirates of Penzance" and the orchestra gave a superb performance of Mendelssohn's "War March of the Priests."

The Summer Term, as usual, is a hectic one. The orchestra featured in the C.C.F. General Inspection. For the march past they played a medley of marches including part of the "Dambuster's March" and Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance No. 1" or for those who haven't heard of the piece before, "Land of Hope and Glory."

The choir is now practising hard for the Founder's Day service. They will be singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" as the anthem along with a few modern hymns.

J.R.P.

Chess club

Chairman: MR. J. BRADBURY.

Captain: I. HIRD.

Secretary: K. W. ROBERTS.

Committee: W. R. J. McQUEEN, C. A. H. MASSEY, J. BRANDON, R. M. PATTERSON.

This has been a very good year for chess at K.G.S. Great keenness has been shown throughout the year, ranging from the School Chess Team down to the younger members of the school in the Junior Chess Competition.

The School Chess Team has had an excellent season in the Blackpool and Fylde Chess League. To date 13 matches have been played and 12 have been completed. Of these 10 matches have been won and only 2 have been lost. In the other match the score is 3—3 with two matches to be adjudicated. It is on the result of this match, against Blackpool Chess Club, that the League title hopes of the team rest, with the team needing to win the match for the League title. However, we have as yet one more match to play against St. Josephs, which, having beaten St. Josephs 8—0 already this season, we are confident of winning.

The inter-house competition now nears completion, but there are still many individual games to be completed before the end of term. Kirkham now look set to win the title with second place still open for the taking. I would like to mention that the house teams have practised hard during the season, especially the juniors concerned.

We are now down to the semi-finals of the Senior and Junior Chess Competitions, which we hope to complete before the end of term. So far the competitions have been marred by a reluctance to complete the games on time, nevertheless both competitions have been enjoyable.

K.W.R.

Library

Chairman: MR. B. COATES.

Secretary: I. HIRD.

Treasurer: J. P. SMETHURST.

Committee: P. J. COOPER, D. E. COWELL, A. CROSS, D. G. EDMUNDSON, J. G. GRIMBALDESTON, B. S. HAYTON, M. B. HUSS, G. J. S. LONSDALE, C. A. H. MASSEY, W. R. J. MCQUEEN, T. A. MUSSON, R. M. PATTERSON, R. E. PIGOTT, G. P. ROBERTS, D. A. SHEPHARD, N. M. SUMNER.

In recent years reports on the school library have usually run. . . . Day to day running going smoothly . . . accessioning parties held regularly every Tuesday . . . more books in the library than ever before . . . Punch is the most popular magazine . . . and so on. All this is as applicable now as it ever has been, but what I feel is more important is the almost indefinable change which the library has undergone. It is becoming less of a place where one learns (although I would not like to give the impression that learning has ceased in K.G.S. library) and more of a place where one becomes educated. Not only is there a far wider selection of magazines for both relaxation and information but also the library is obtaining more extra-curricular books on all subjects so that the interested student may read round his subject and any other, thus broadening his outlook and his education. This I feel should be the primary aim of any library and I think that K.G.S. is moving towards that aim.

I.H.

Natural history society

Chairman: MR. A. R. BAINES.

Secretary: D. O. SLACK.

Treasurer: C. A. LEWIS.

Committee: T. R. BALL, J. A. BLACKIE, C. E. TAYLOR, C. C. WEBB.

This is our first report as a society recognised by the General School Committee. We are also members of the Association of School Natural History Societies.

The Spring Term is one of the busiest for the school, as it is terminated by the Easter Fair. As usual, the Biology Department contributed its share with the Biology Exhibition, which was, perhaps, better organised this year owing to the added help and enthusiasm of the Society.

We were kept equally active during the term by regular weekly meetings which included several films and lecturettes. Films included were, "The Desert Community," "Woodland Ecology," "Living things in a drop of water" and "The Mystery of the Deep." Lecturettes presented were: "Project '69" by D. W. Sowerbutts, C. J. Rossall and D. C. Johnston, "Migration by J. N. Sumner and "Chromatography" by Mr. Baines.

The exhibition itself was very successful. Its theme was genetics, the study of heredity and was planned in twelve sections. The layout consisted of a varied number of models and diagrams, and an interesting addition was a number of tests concerning taste, sight and probability and their relation to human heredity. Another highlight was a home-made kymograph, assembled by members of the upper sixth.

The rest of the term? During June will be members' free-time to follow projects of their own. One more film, "Sea Shore Ecology" will be seen, then our A.G.M. will be held on 8th July when activities for 1969-70 will be discussed.

D.O.S.

Dramatic society

Chairman: MR. G. BELLIS.

Secretary: D. E. COWELL.

Committee: A. SMITH, J. C. COLLINS, R. M. PATTERSON, J. R. PORTER, C. E. TAYLOR.

After laying dormant for two terms, the Society is once again turning its attention to the Christmas production. It is hoped, if a licence is obtained, that we will be able to present "The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew" a play which we think you will find, if nothing else, unusual!!

D.E.C.

Tennis club

Chairman: MR. R. T. BENTLEY.

Captain: W. R. J. MCQUEEN.

Secretary: C. CHEETHAM.

Committee: D. G. EDMUNDSON, I. HIRD, D. E. COWELL, M. E. ROBERTS, J. R. PORTER, D. REYNOLDS.

The school team started the season rather unsure of themselves after very limited practice and consequently went down by $3\frac{1}{2}$ matches to $5\frac{1}{2}$ at King Edward's. Despite this early setback the team won the next two fixtures quite convincingly, 5 matches to 4 against Hutton G. S., and 6 to 3 against Preston Catholic College. The team for the first two matches was: McQueen & Reynolds (1st pair), Musson & Cheetham (2 pair), Reid & Robinson (3rd pair).

The Inter-House Tennis is well under way; so far Kirkham have eliminated Preston 6—0, and Ashton put out Lytham 6—1.

The school team still have three school matches to play, and a match against the Old Boys towards the end of this term.

C.C.

Auto society

Chairman: MR. D. BUTTERWORTH.

Secretary: C. CHEETHAM.

Treasurer: D. G. ELLIOTT.

Committee: D. I. STOTT, D. I. PILKINGTON.

The society has experienced a rather dormant term but later this year we hope to show three Castrol films (in September and October) and there is also the possibility of a trip to the Ford Factory at Halewood early next year if there is sufficient support.

C.C.

Geographical society

Chairman: MR. R. A. KNOWLES.

Secretary: W. MCQUEEN.

Treasurer: D. I. LITTLE.

Committee: J. H. HALL, C. R. TYLDESLEY, J. KIRKHAM.

Although we were unable to hold an "Oxfam" conference last term, it has still been a successful year. The response to our Christmas quiz was very encouraging, particularly among the juniors, and I should like to congratulate not only the prize winners, but also, everyone who submitted an entry—all of which showed that a lot of research had been done.

As usual we showed a programme of films last term, and these were appreciably better in quality than those of the Winter Term—a fact well reflected in the increased attendances.

W.M.

The fencing club

Chairman: MR. F. W. SAYER.

Secretary: T. D. HARRIS.

Treasurer: R. FISHER.

Armourer: M. DAWSON.

Committee: J. BRANDON, R. FRANKLAND, P. BROWN.

The Club was started in January of this year and has had a very successful start. At the moment there are about sixty members engaged in learning to fight foil. Some of the senior members are also learning to fight sabre.

We are very grateful to the Tuckshop Committee and to the Friends of Kirkham Grammar School for giving us generous grants in order to buy equipment. We are now well provided with foils and masks and plans are afoot for the purchase of some jackets.

The club has had fixtures against Fulwood County Secondary School, St. Michael's School, Chorley and Stonyhurst College. Out of six matches the club has won four and lost two, a very creditable start.

During the Easter Vacation the Club sent six representatives to the North West Schools' Fencing Association Novice Tournament. In this event T. D. Harris was placed second in the junior section, winning the silver medal. M. Dawson was placed fifth in the senior event.

We hope to send representatives to the N.W.S.F.A. Team Tournament in Cheshire during the summer term.

All the members of the team have fought well and trained hard and will be attending a weekend training course in the near future. With more experience the club should rapidly improve the standard of their fencing and produce good results in both matches and tournaments.

F.W.S.

C.C.F. REPORT

C.S.M.: D. A. SHEPHARD.

Sgts.: R. E. PIGOTT, D. COWELL, J. SMETHURST, D. JOHNSTON, P. ROBERTS, C. A. H. MASSEY, A. SMITH.

Cpls.: G. PAPE, P. COOPER, M. ROBERTS, D. STOTT, T. MUSSON, J. GRIMBALDESTON.

L./Cpls.: A. COX, P. JONES, T. ARMSTRONG, M. O'NEIL, P. MATTHEWS, P. SUNNER, J. PIGOTT, P. DERNIE, D. LITTLE, M. HEYES, C. ANDERSON, A. MOLE, N. HURST, R. FISHER, R. REID.

The main event of the Easter term was the Army Proficiency exam. The results were encouraging with the pass rate of 65% being achieved and the cadets of Platoons 1 and 2 are now taking part in Adventure Training and the activities of the R.E.M.E. section thus widening their interests.

During Easter 15 N.C.O.'s and senior cadets went on their annual Easter Arduous Training Camp under the leadership of Major Reay and Captain Butterworth followed later by Mr. Clarkson and Mr. Sayer (*see later report*).

The main event of the summer term so far has been the Annual Inspection on the 22nd May, the Inspecting Officer being Major General C. W. Dunbar C.B.E. G.O.C. N.W. District. In his address to the Contingent on completion of training he said how much he had enjoyed his visit. The Major General was very much impressed by the varied and extensive training programme including abseiling under the supervision of Sgt. Massey, M.T., under Cpl. Stott also lifesaving, map reading, weapon training, section in the attack, fieldcraft, compass work and bren gun instruction. The inspection in line and march past ran smoothly thanks to a fine performance by the school band under the leadership of Mr. Murray, which makes a vast difference to the inspection. In his report the General said that the keenness of all cadets and N.C.O.'s was the main basis of such an efficient contingent.

Training continues on Thursday afternoons and during the A-level and O-level examinations when all senior N.C.O.'s and cadets will be away, the training will be supervised by the Junior N.C.O.'s after their impressive teaching on the Annual Inspection.

Later in the Summer term, on the 3rd of July, senior cadets and N.C.O.'s will go on a day's shooting on the open ranges at Altcar, while the junior cadets will have an overnight camp. At the end of term the annual Summer camp will be held at Brecon in South Wales.

D.A.S.

C.C.F. Easter camp 1969

Undaunted by the loss of one member before even leaving Kirkham station, a party of thirteen cadets set out for Easter Camp in the Cairngorms—via Wigan! As the delightful strains of “Where do you go to my lovely” (which turned out to be a very appropriate song for the occasion) died in the waiting room, the overnight train for Perth rolled into the station.

The following morning, fourteen rather bleary-eyed cadets (the party now having redeemed its original loss) stepped out onto the platform at Aviemore to meet the acclaim of a certain senior officer, who if nothing else seemed pleased to see that we had in fact caught the night train and had not ended up in a siding at Wigan.

After a day of acclimatisation, the cadets, with differing degrees of enthusiasm made their way up the slopes of the Cairngorms complete with skis. The skiing itself was met with different success, but Taylor C.C. must be especially commended for eventually going down the slopes on his skis. The skiers however, were never at any stage, lacking in spirit, which was more than could be said for the instructor, whose comment of “You horid, wee beastie” was well justified, when one cadet, having attempted every other method of stopping, ran straight into him. The skiing continued with a varied programme for the next three days, whilst the more fragile sergeants turned to walking.

Back at the camp-site, the men of the “Big Green Tent,” must be congratulated on the devoted attention which they paid to their C.S.M. in his time of need, and there was no truth in the rumour that his relapse was due to the home-made porage, prepared with loving care by you-know-who. Thanks also must go to ‘Duffy’ Craddock, whose soufflets turned out to be almost as good as his Scottish accent.

The final day of the camp brought about a fitting finale, as the cadets prepared for an attempt on the south face of Cairngorm—24,000 feet (have you spotted any deliberate mistakes recently?) Complete with ice-picks and fearing the worst, the party set off up the snow slopes under the leadership of Sherpas Johnstove and Roberts, and first base was eventually established at 17,000 feet in the main cafeteria on the ski slopes. After a somewhat dubious and sarcastic radio conversation with base on the merits of the camp, the party set out for the summit. Onward, onward and after the sixth different claim that we had actually reached the summit, we arrived there, amid howling winds and a snow blizzard. Despite this a great sense of achievement was experienced by all.

At this point, the efforts of our irrepressible leaders Messrs. Clarkson and Sayer must not be overlooked, and their map-reading

and compass-work proved to be of the highest order. However the origin of the comment "I don't care where the hell we are, get us off this mountain side," is still somewhat in doubt. Finally we must not forget Major Reay and Captain Butterworth, who, on the base radio were transmitting for more hours than the B.B.C., and whom we have to thank for a most enjoyable camp.

J. P. SMETHURST (PRE.)

R.A.F. section

Flight Sgt.: I. HIRD.

Sgts.: C. BAINBRIDGE, J. R. PORTER.

Cpls.: J. S. ALEXANDER, M. J. KETT, J. E. MELLOR, R. M. PATTERSON, S. W. PEMBERTON.

The most outstanding feature of the year for the R.A.F. Section has probably been the examination results. In the Ordinary Proficiency only one person out of 22 failed to pass first time, while seven gained distinctions and six credits. The Advanced Proficiency, a group of only seven, surpassed all previous efforts in this exam, by obtaining four distinctions and three credits. These results are so high above the National Average that it is pointless to try to make comparisons. Clearly, the cadets concerned have put in no small amount of work, but I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Senior Cadets who, along with the N.C.O.'s, put in a considerable amount of time and effort instructing.

Field Day again provided an opportunity for some of the cadets to spend a day (and night) at an R.A.F. Station—R.A.F. Lindholme, while the remainder had a very interesting half-day at B.A.C. Warton.

Easter Camp was a very successful one—for those who went! Out of a section of 80 cadets it was disappointing to see only 16 at camp, the majority of these being more senior cadets. Admittedly, family holidays and examination revision must be taken into consideration, but, even so, there are still many people able to go who simply do not know what they are missing. Everyone who went thoroughly enjoyed himself and contributed toward the success of the camp. So, C and D flights, read the camp report which follows this and, next year, at least sample an Easter Camp.

I.H.

R.A.F. Easter camp

On 26th March 1969, the R.A.F. Section of K.G.S. started on a ten-hour journey down to R.A.F. Chivenor in North Devon. We had two masters, Flight Lieutenant Cheesbrough and an unidentified flying object, Mr. Brown.

At 17.24 we arrived at Wrafton Station and were then speedily driven to the camp. After half an hour, we had a good meal followed by a talk by the camp commander and the fire chief. That night we hardly got any sleep with our old friend Austin getting a welcome from his old school, Blackpool.

The next morning, we were fortunate enough to go flying and after continuous half-hour flights from 7.30 to 1.30, none of our 16 cadets were short of their breakfasts.

During the six days that followed, we went shooting on both 25 yard and 100 yard ranges where numerous badges were obtained; we had a visit to Barnstaple and a ride in 'Ducks' at a local army camp at Fremington. We visited a Hunter Squadron where we were shown round by F/O D. Moore, an old boy of K.G.S., and also an Air Search and Rescue Helicopter Squadron. Perhaps one of the more fortunate aspects of the camp was the weather. On the whole it was cold, but fine, except on Sunday when it poured with rain from very low clouds and our fifteen-mile walk on Exmoor had to be cancelled. What a shame!

In the field of sport, we played football against other schools and convincingly thrashed all the opposition, even when we loaned them several of our best players.

So on April 2nd at 11.21 we caught the train for our return journey to Kirkham after a successful, enjoyable camp.

R. F. TAYLOR, L.V.X.

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1. Traditionalists; 9. Tipping; 10. Mineral; 11. Ode; 12. Demist; 13. Dredge; 15. Spoiled; 18. Concept; 20. Ado; 21. Planned; 23. Doublet; 25. Dragon; 28. Haunts; 31. Ice; 33. Sincere; 34. Apatite; 35. Overstep the mark.

DOWN: 1. Tate; 2. Ample; 3. Initial; 4. Ingot; 5. Named; 6. Lantern; 7. Sprig; 8. Salt; 12. Dappled; 14. Express; 16. Inn; 17. Dad; 18. Cod; 19. Cob; 22. Nuggets; 24. Ululate; 26. Rinse; 27. Niece; 28. Heart; 29. Taiga; 30. Oslo; 32. Leek.

SCHOOL SPORTS

Rugby 1968-69

	P	W	D	L	F	A
1st XV	18	12	0	6	279	97
2nd XV	15	9	0	6	191	102

The first XV began the season well and won the opening seven matches with little difficulty. They then had a run of defeats after losing to a strong Cowley side in one of the best matches of the season, by 14 pts.—22 pts. The most surprising defeat was by Hutton when the team played well below form.

A strong pack of forwards, particularly the back row players, whose speed about the field in both attack and defence was outstanding was the basis of the team's success. The forwards supplied good ball to the backs at all times, but lack of speed in the three-quarters meant that the best use was not always made of this advantage.

The 2nd XV played well throughout the season, with much success. A good set of three quarters took every advantage of the ball that the forwards won. When the 1st XV suffered from a number of injuries, 2nd XV players filled the positions very ably, and in some cases retained a first team place.

Next season, we should have eight or nine players returning from this year's first XV, and hopes must be high for another good season.

	P	W	D	L	F	A
U15 XV	11	2	0	0	60	160
U14 XV	10	3	0	7	116	228
U13 XV	8	1	1	6	83	181
U12 XV	4	1	0	3	24	62

The junior teams never really produced the results expected of them and the U13 team was particularly disappointing. However, towards the end of the season, both the U14's and the U15's produced some very good Rugby. The U14's beat Blackpool G.S. in their last match, a very creditable achievement. Whilst this was a good team effort, it was also due to individual ability. The inclusion of Aitchison, who came to the School after Christmas, at stand off, provided the team with a footballer of natural ability who could open up the game to allow the centres, Allan and Berry, to use their speed. There is much ability in the U14 team, and I hope that they will have a more successful season next year.

The U15's improved as a team throughout the season and towards the end of their fixtures showed that with a little more confidence they could have been a very successful side. The forwards were the main strength, with players like Young, Suttle, Whittle and Taylor all developing well. Behind the scrum, the main lack was of a scrum half, but the other three's all show great promise.

County Football

This has been a good year for the School in the County. Three players, R. E. Pigott, J. Pigott and D. A. Shephard represented the School in the County Side against Yorkshire and Cheshire. During the Easter holidays, the County side toured the North-East and played matches against Durham and Northumberland and then against Ulster. All three K.G.S. players again were in the team, and A. Smith, the School 1st XV Captain was also selected. When a School of our size produces four County Players, it must reflect the enthusiasm and ability in all teams.

R. E. Pigott was selected to play in the Final England Trial, and although he was not chosen for the England Team, his efforts deserve every success.

7-a-side

The seven-a-side competition produced some good rugby and all games were fiercely contested. Eventually Ashton House won the competition by winning their last match.

In the Fylde Sevens, the School team lacked R. E. Pigott and M. Bibey, but put on a good display to beat Manchester Grammar in the first round, but lost to Marple Hall, the eventual finalists in the 2nd round.

Colours

Re-Award Full Colours:

A. Smith (Capt.)
J. R. Porter
D. A. Shephard
D. Cowell

New-Award Full Colours

R. E. Pigott
J. Pigott
P. E. Matthews
T. L. Armstrong
J. G. Grimbaldeston

New-Award $\frac{1}{2}$ Colours:

S. N. Jenkinson	P. Roberts
J. Cowell	J. S. B. Martindale
J. Smethurst	G. C. Pape

Re-Award $\frac{1}{2}$ Colours:

S. Pemberton

Harriers

	<i>Run</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>
Seniors	13	12	1

The Harriers continued their successful run in the Easter term. They won matches against Hutton, Blackpool, Blackpool and Baines in a triangular fixture, King Edward's Arnold and Hutton in a four-sided fixture, and Stoneyhurst and Queen Elizabeth's,

Blackburn, in another triangular match. Their only defeat came in the Inter Grammar School Cross Country at Stanley Park when they finished a close second to Rossall.

In other cross country events the school has acquitted itself well. A Junior team from Kirkham won the South Fylde Secondary School Cross Country against Ansdell, Carr Hill and St. Bedes. From this competition four senior harriers—Roberts, Massey, Musson and O'Neill—represented the South Fylde at Barrow in the Lancashire Schools Cross Country Championships and finished fourth in the team event. Finally, the same four represented the school at Bolton in a road relay race and finished seventh.

Once again the runners have all given excellent service at all times and thus it was all the more disappointing to lose the Inter Grammar School race.

The Inter House Cross Country results were as follows:—

SENIOR

1. SCHOOL HOUSE . . . 59	4. LYTHAM . . . 118
2. ASHTON . . . 66	5. KIRKHAM . . . 157
3. PRESTON . . . 109	6. FYLDE . . . 203

Places

1. Roberts 32 min. 25 secs.
2. Massey
3. O'Neill

JUNIOR

1. FYLDE . . . 63	4. LYTHAM . . . 153
2. PRESTON . . . 63	5. SCHOOL . . . 187
3. KIRKHAM . . . 74	6. ASHTON . . . 203

Places

1. Kirkham J. 22 min. 11 secs.
2. Russell
3. Beaven

Athletics 1969

The athletics team have enjoyed a good season, and have produced some very good results. The team has been strong all-round, particularly in the throwing events, and in middle and long distance track events. The U16 team, however, has not done as well as expected. There is a lack of athletes in the U.V., and in all competitions half the team was made up from the L.V. It is very difficult for the L.V., who are mainly under fifteen years, to compete against boys a year older, but in all matches they have given 100% effort.

INTER SCHOOL MATCHES

May 1st—K.G.S. v. Rossall v. Lancaster R.G.S.

In this, the first school match of the season, we fielded a strong Senior Side, but the U16's were rather weak. The whole team lacked practice as poor weather preceding the match had not allowed them to use the fields. In an enjoyable match, the Senior

Team was leading until the relay team over-ran the take-over boxes in the final event, and was disqualified, leaving Rossall the winners by one point. The U16's were outclassed by both visiting schools.

RESULTS

SENIOR

1st	ROSSALL	. . . . .	96 pts.
2nd	K.G.S.	. . . . .	95 pts.
3rd	LANCASTER	. . . . .	90 pts.

U16

1st	LANCASTER	. . . . .	104 pts.
2nd	ROSSALL	. . . . .	97½ pts.
3rd	K.G.S.	. . . . .	82½ pts.

May 9th—K.G.S. v. Stoneyhurst College

Apart from P. Beaven, and M. Roberts, the Senior team was the same one that completed against Rossall and Lancaster, but the Junior team was considerably strengthened by the "discovery" of several U.V. athletes, and gave an excellent performance. The Senior team won all track events except the 220 yds. and 440 yds., and these would probably have been K.G.S. victories had P. Beaven been running. Both teams showed much ability, and although the Senior relay team again failed to change over cleanly, individual "legs" were fast.

RESULTS

SENIOR

K.G.S.	. . . . .	81 pts.
STONEYHURST	. . . . .	67 pts.
U16 K.G.S.	. . . . .	75 pts.
STONEYHURST	. . . . .	72 pts.

The inter-school matches should have been concluded with a six-sided match at Bolton School, during the half-term, but this was cancelled because of the bad weather and poor track conditions.

May 14th—Inter-House Athletics

The Inter-House Athletics competition was held, to everyone's surprise, on the afternoon of May 14th. After a week of showers, the skies cleared, and we were fortunate enough to have a fine, warm afternoon. Although the track was wet and heavy there were some good performances. A change in the method of scoring, whereby all events gained equal points made for a closer, and I hope a more even competition. G. Banks Esq., a lecturer in Physical Education at Chorley Training College presented the Trophy and awards. Outstanding performances came from P. Beaven 1st in the 100, 220, 440 yards; J. Martindale 1st in the long jump, triple jump, and 2nd in the 220 and 100 yards, and R. Pigott 1st in the Discus, High Jump and 2nd in the Shot.

RESULTS

	<i>Pts.</i>		<i>Pts.</i>
1st ASHTON . . .	87½	4th SCHOOL . . .	44
2nd PRESTON . . .	79½	5th KIRKHAM . . .	29
3rd FYLDE . . .	53	6th LYTHAM . . .	22

May 21st—Inter Grammar School Sports

After four years, we feel that the Senior Cup is back in its rightful place. In the Inter Grammar School Sports, the Senior Team gave a wonderful display to win the trophy by six points. This was a fitting climax to a good season's athletics, and a real reward for some hard training. The school athletes gained places in all but three events. Outstanding was P. Beaven who broke the record for the 440 yards (by almost a second) and won the 100 yards.

100 yards P. Beaven 1st (10.2 secs.)
440 yards P. Beaven 1st (50.7 new record)
800 yards T. Musson 3rd
Mile M. E. Roberts 2nd
120 yards Hurdles S. Redman 4th
Shot R. E. Pigott } 2nd
Discus } 1st
Jav. J. S. Alexander 1st
High Jump A. Cross 2nd
Long Jump J. S. Martindale 2nd
4 x 110 yards Relay 2nd P. Beaven, J. Martindale, S. Redman, M. Huss.

This was a tremendous team effort by all athletes in the senior team, and they deserve every congratulation.

The U15 team was outclassed in the competition, and finished in last place, scoring only two points. These were gained by H. Metcalf in the Discus.

RESULTS

SENIOR	<i>Pts.</i>	U15	<i>Pts.</i>
1st K.G.S. . . .	38	1st BLACKPOOL . . .	30
2nd HUTTON G.S. . .	32	2nd BAINES . . .	27
3rd ST. JOSEPH'S . .	28	3rd ST. JOSEPH'S . .	23
4th BLACKPOOL G.S. .	27	4th ARNOLD . . .	20
5th LANCASTER . . .	18½	5th HUTTON . . .	19
6th BAINES G.S. . .	12	6th FLEETWOOD . . .	11
7th ARNOLD . . .	7½	LANCASTER . . .	
8th FLEETWOOD . . .	2	8th K.G.S. . . .	2

County Sports

Several Boys have been entered for the County Sports, to be held at Liverpool University track.

Senior R. E. Pigott—Discus
J. R. Porter—Shot
J. S. Alexander—Jav.
M. Huss—100 metres
M. E. Roberts—Mile

Inters. P. Beaven—440 yards
J. Martindale—Long Jump

We wish them all every success at this meeting.

COLOURS

Re-Awarded Full Colours:

R. E. Pigott (Capt.)
J. R. Porter
J. S. Alexander

New Award—Full Colours:

P. Beaven

Re-Award— $\frac{1}{2}$ Colours:

A. J. Walsh
M. E. Roberts

New-Award— $\frac{1}{2}$ Colours:

J. S. B. Martindale
M. B. Huss
A. Cross
S. Redman
T. Musson

CRICKET

1st XI v. Blackpool G.S.

BLACKPOOL 53—4—K.G.S. 52

The First XI's lack of early season match practice was soon evident in the first match of the season. K.G.S. batted first and soon lost a couple of quick wickets. However, Hird (15) and Stott (17) batted well to make a reasonable score but with the last 5 wickets falling for 4 runs, the team was all out for 52.

In Blackpool's innings, the 1st XI bowlers dismissed 4 batsmen before Blackpool scored the winning run.

1st XI v. Preston G.S.

PRESTON 61—K.G.S. 50

Preston batted first and after a strong opening partnership looked set for a big score. But the school's spinners got to work and ripped through the Preston batting Hird taking 5 for 4 and Roberts 3 for 24 Preston were all out for 61 runs.

In reply the first XI batted very badly, many batsmen getting themselves out. Hird (16) the captain, was the only batsman to reach double figures and the First XI were all out for 50, losing by 11 runs.

1st XI v. Hutton G.S.

HUTTON 134—K.G.S. 73—8

Some improvement was shown in the third match against Hutton G.S. Hutton won the toss and elected to bat first. Hird again bowled well taking 5/39 but Hutton made the big score of 134, leaving the 1st XI about two hours to get the required number. The loss of the first four batsmen cheaply made this target extremely difficult. Although Shephard batted well for his 24 runs, the match ended with the ninth-wicket pair playing out time without looking in any danger of losing.

1st XI v. St. Joseph's

ST. JOSEPH'S 20—K.G.S. 21—1

The improvement continued against St. Joseph's, although the latter team were weak opposition. St. Joseph's batted first and wickets fell regularly to the opening bowlers Simpson and Fisher. At one stage St. Joseph's were 9 runs for 8 wickets but eventually they made a total of 20. Fisher, only a L.V, took 6 wickets for 13. This score was no trouble to the school batsmen and they lost only one wicket in reaching the St. Joseph's score—the first victory of the season.

P. WORRALL, L.VI.m.

K.G.S. OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

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Hon Secretary: A. R. BAINES,* ESQ., 'Glencoe', Marshalls Brow, Penwortham, Preston, PR1 9JA. Telephone: Preston 44861.

Hon. Treasurer: D. LYON,* ESQ., 4 Chapel Street, Preston. PR1 8BU. Telephone: Preston 52540.

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**Ex-Officio Committee Members.*

Current Affairs

1. Oops! It was brought to my notice that a piece of Old Boys' news in another mag. had reported that one of the members had 'taught himself to drive out of his own pocket.' Quite a neat trick but these mistakes are easily made and I need to apologise to members in two ways. First of all that the calendar card for 1969/70 arrived so late that the Easter Fair and School Concert were over before most members had these cards. The proceeds from the Easter Fair were almost another record and the School will benefit greatly from them. Once again our 'Information Bureau' was open. It proved much general interest for visitors in our regalia and history and we captured one new Life Member, one new Annual Member and sold two ties. The display was photographed and a decent print has been obtained. A similar display will be set up on Monday, July 7th at 12.05 p.m. in the hall when Association representatives will meet the school leavers. This year Mr. P. T. Hodgson (1940-45) and myself will be canvassing these potential members and the result of our efforts will be in the circulars.

Secondly, in the February 1969 magazine, I reported the death of Mr. James Swarbrick in May, 1968. This was J. D. Swarbrick's (1944-52) father and not David himself.

2. Missing Life Members. My thanks are due to several members who responded to the request for information about such missing members, a list of which was sent to you all in February. Progress has indeed been made in this matter. The original list which the Committee dealt with first had a 135 names on it. The February 1969 circular had 119 names and now the total is only 99 with still some investigations in the pipeline. Most of the rediscovered Life Members have been found to be alive and well. Our total membership to date is 650, and I (and I hope you) have every confidence in

achieving 700 PAYING members for 1970. Our finances are healthy too. We are about £50 better off now (May) than twelve months ago. This is mainly due to several annual members becoming life members before the increase in subscription rates comes into effect on 1st July 1969. I hope you seized the opportunity.

3. The 3rd Southern Meeting and Dinner. This was held at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, on Saturday, 19th April, 1969 at 7.30 p.m. This year 24 people attended this function and these comprised members, ex-K.G.S. staff members and current K.G.S. staff members. The final roll call was: A. R. Baines (1950-57; 1967-); J. J. Bamber (1953-60); D. T. Bowe (1949-57); J. O. Bullock (1946-54); S. Crane (1936-); P. M. Dawson (1957-64); D. I. Inglesent (1946-52); J. W. R. Jefferey (1946-54); J. Kirkham (1938-44); J. Kremer (1952-66); P. J. Lambert (1957-65); J. R. Lance (1949-54); I. W. McKerrow (1953-68); S. Middleton (1928-66); D. Norwood (1945-59); C. R. Plaster (1949-58); H. J. Reay (1953-); D. J. Sharrett (1951-58); Dr. E. Sidebottom (1949-57); B. Stevenson (1922-60); Dr. C. H. Thorp (1946-54); R. M. Wilcock (1951-59); G. Williams (1938-45); W. Woodhead (1939-45).

We gathered at 7 p.m. in the Embden room for sherry. The dinner itself was held in the small, but impressive college hall, the menu being Cream of Asparagus Soup, Grilled Salmon, Cucumber and Tartare Sauce, Duck with Orange Sauce, New Potatoes and Peas, Ice Cream Gateau, Dessert (fresh fruit) and Coffee. All this plus sherry, red wine, white wine and port for 45/-. Approaching 10 p.m. we repaired to the buttery and after a prolonged and lively get-together into the wee (sic) small hours—about 3 a.m.—we joined the rest of Oxford in sleep. The memories of hazardous games of darts didn't help one to sleep but as all the visitors were staying the night at the college or nearby the 80 mgms. per 100 ml. was of little importance—save that it promoted many a drugged sleep.

After bed, the breakfast (at 21/- the pair), then either a stroll, carrying a newspaper in search of a place to read it or punting on the river Cherwell. About 11 a.m. we were Dr. and Mrs. Eric Sidebottom's guests for morning coffee at Iffley Road, Oxford. The Kirkham contingent was home for tea having come via the Bull ring, Birmingham.

This was my first Southern Dinner and I enjoyed it very much indeed. I hope that these details will encourage more members to attend the Fourth Dinner which has been provisionally booked at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford for Saturday, 18th April, 1970. Is your name and address on the organisers mailing list? His details are: Dr. E. Sidebottom, 335, Iffley Road, Oxford OX4 4DP. Tel. Oxford 40668.

The 1969 Southern meeting will have taken on a special significance for those who were lucky enough to be present. It was the last occasion on which they saw Denis Norwood. It will always be for them a happy way by which to remember him for he so

obviously enjoyed himself and his company. Dr. Sidebottom has asked that the deepest sympathy of the southern contingent (and surely I can include all our membership here) be extended to Mrs. Norwood and her family. We are profoundly grateful for Denis Norwood's unceasing efforts on behalf of the school and this Association.

4. Sports Day. The 70th Annual Athletic Sports were held on Wednesday, 14th May at 2.15 p.m. Further information is elsewhere in this issue but the presence of members supporting their sons endeavours is always a pleasing thing to see showing as it does a continual link through the generations.

5. 1970. The next magazine will be the February, 1970 issue. We may have already experienced some of the forecasts of others which I have reproduced here over the past 18 months. My final selection is: 18 million vehicles (12 million of them cars) on our roads; Miss World that year will be 840-590-865 instead of 33-23-34; Oxford and Cambridge will be rowing in their 116th race; we shall have known of land-rovers for 22 years; there will be no more half-crowns; the Queen Mother will be 70 and Harold Wilson 54; on St. Andrews Day 1970 the Argyll and Southern Highlanders may disappear as a regiment; the Somerset House recording system will be 133 years old; Prince Andrew will be 10 years old; George Elliott (and Marion Evans) will be 151 years old; Queen Elizabeth II will have been on the throne 18 years and she and Prince Philip will visit Australia and New Zealand in connection with the bi-centenary of Captain Cook's Discoveries; Newcastle will have giant computers to work out all our pensions.

Your Committee is planning well for our Golden Jubilee year. Could I, at such an early stage, suggest a New Year's resolution to you? That sometime in 1970 you visit the school, preferably by attending one of our functions, or write to me something for publication or a telegram of Good Wishes to be read at the A.G.M. and Dinner which that year will be held in the school itself. It would be nice to know that our Overseas Members do get their mail for instance. Also, what about becoming a Life Member and/or a Vice-President (we have only 16 of these) in the Jubilee year?

It is hoped that a film record of our activities in 1970 will be made. This could be used to recruit members when we meet school leavers and form part of a little film show along with two films now in existence which most members will not have seen, one dealing with the annual C.C.F. inspection and the other with Founders Day.

Our section in the magazine will show some changes and a new feature will recall events as recorded in the Chronicle, and later the magazines, of 50 years ago. Items like this extract from a report on Kirkham Free Grammar School dated 1824—that scholars should come to school clean, should speak latin, should, if not born in the Parish pay 5/- a quarter to the upper master, 4/- to the

second master and 2/6 to the usher, that the boys should not act in any plays unless these are approved by the vicar. Again in 1914 it was reported in a local paper that K.G.S. was to retain the services of a German science master in the face of severe criticism from outside organisations and the K.U.D.C. decided to send a resolution to the Governors deploring their action.

One thing which will not be the same in 1970 is the name of our Hon. Treasurer. David Lyon, who has held this post for two years will be resigning at the A.G.M. in 1969. No successor has yet been found but I hope that you will have the necessary information in the circulars. Thank you David for the work you have done for us.

Eponymous Heroes?

Spring time. The time when a young married man's thoughts are forcefully directed towards decorating and Spring cleaning. For decorating I have always found that a pile of old newspapers is a 'must'. During a permitted tea-break from my Rolf Harris-like routine last Easter, something caught my eye. The topmost paper in the pile was an old copy of the Radio Times for the week beginning 13th May 1967. It was open at the Third programme schedules for Sunday 14th and, fatefully, perfectly encircled by a ring of black paint was 6.55 p.m., 'The Old Boys'. Could any self respecting Officer of this Association have not read on?

It turned out that this was the title of a 75 minute play for radio adapted from the novel of the same name by William Trevor. Already this was the second broadcast. When the domestic pace had slackened off a little, duty bound, I went to the Public Library, took out the book and read it. It may be that other members would like to do the same but if not . . . Readers of the world—DIGEST!

The book deals with the private lives of the eight gentlemen who form the committee of the Old Boys' Association of an independent public school some five hundred years old. These gentlemen (the chairman is a baronet) are "free, white and over 21." Since they are in fact between 70 to 75 years old this description is certainly correct in the last two particulars. But free? Most of them in a sense have never left school.

It is part of the Association's etiquette that committee members shall be of the same generation, should have been at the school at the same time and that there must never be a committee of younger men. As one character puts it 'one's chance to serve comes later in life'.

The committee meets twice a year and its members serve for two years. In the meeting they 'discuss this and that and survey the implementation of past proposals', 'interlacing business with reminiscences'. However, with them, their service is certainly not taken as a hobby.

It is Committee procedure to elect one of its members as the next President thereby maintaining 'a perpetual link'. However,

the current committee is at liberty to break this rule and invite the new committee to choose its own President but to date, we are told, this has only happened once in the Association's history.

One of the current committee members has every expectation of being elected as the next President until, with a schoolboy cunning reinforced by the fanatical patience of the old, one of the other members begins to challenge the former's position. In his school-days the challenger was the fag of the expectant candidate for the office of President and he has ancient reasons for wishing to thwart him. The feud spreads from the committee room into the private lives of the eight committee members as the two protagonists weave their fantastic plots and counter-plots. All this leads one character to declare 'the world's the school gone mad'.

Fortunately there is a lighter side to things in this unhappy story. On rugby someone recalls his 'horror of the muddy ellipsoid' saying that he avoided it as often as he could and 'cradled his head in terror beneath a collapsed formation of heavy limbs and flaying boots'. Cross country running was dreaded by everyone. The cricket match versus the school was always won by the latter. Comments are made on the O.B. day about the new classroom block and the new bicycle sheds. Applause at the speeches at the dinner later on that day was expected to be given 'by beating the table with ones right hand'. New members were guilty of doing it with brandy glasses and even spoons!

The wives of members express their views in no uncertain terms. 'Why do women not make such a fuss about their schooldays?' one asks and her own conclusion is that 'there is more in a woman's life and we are more sensible than men'. Such disloyalty is frowned upon so that after many years getting nowhere this wife's comment on all her husbands pronouncements on O.B. activities is 'I'm delighted to hear it'.

The book begins 'The meeting was late in starting . . .'. Its final sentence we might take as a rallying call as we lead up to our Golden Jubilee in 1970 and think about the future. Sitting together, husband and wife, she says 'Come now, how shall we prove we are not dead?'

The book again? 'The Old Boys' by William Trevor published by Bodley Head Press at 18/-. Well, that was the Easter Holiday 1969 that was!

PROFILE No. 27



OSWALD AIKEN (1909-11)

In Sept. 1909, "Ossie" Aiken left Wesham Primary School and came to K.G.S. on one of the two scholarships which were offered each year. In doing so, he followed his elder brother who had won a scholarship the previous year. In those days of course the school buildings were situated down by the Parish Church, although he remembers using the new playing fields from 1910 onwards.

When Mr. Aiken left school, he joined British Railways as a clerk at Ansdell. Unfortunately, this career was shortly to be interrupted by the 1st World War and, in August 1914, he joined the army as one of "Kitchener's first hundred thousand." While he was at K.G.S., he had been in the Cadet Corps., where they did drill under Octavius "Hoc" Fleetwood. This was a far cry from the C.C.F. of today but it meant that he joined the army with a knowledge of the rudiments of service life and discipline with the result that he was promoted to Sergeant after only four months!

After two years in France (when we was wounded in the leg), Mr. Aiken was posted to British East Africa with the 1st/3rd King's African Rifles—a native regiment; and finished the war as C.S.M., which rank was partly due to his having gained a fairly fluent knowledge of Swahili.

On being demobbed in 1919, he returned to the railways and, as a result of various promotions, found himself at Ansdell, Lytham, Blackpool and Poulton in fairly rapid succession before the second World War intervened. Then he became Organiser of the Local Defence Volunteers (B.R. Section) for the area between Preston and Blackpool. When the danger of the air-raids had passed, in 1942, he joined the Special Constabulary and became Sectional Staff Officer of the Kirkham section until the end of the war.

Once again moves within British Railways came thick and fast, and the ten years after the war saw Mr. Aiken at Warrington, Preston Docks, Preston District Manager's Office and Chief Goods Clerk at Preston, to finish as Goods Agent of Blackburn and Darwen (where he was in charge of ten goods stations, and a staff of two hundred and fifty) after fifty years with the railways.

A few years before his retirement, Mr. Aiken foresaw a void of inactivity looming before him and to fill this he decided to stand for election to the Kirkham Urban District Council and in 1959 was elected to serve as a member for the West Ward. In 1963, the Chairman of the Council, Mr. Joe Whiteside, died and Mr. Aiken succeeded him for the eight months he had still to serve, and after that was elected chairman for the next full year.

Despite this very busy public life, Mr. Aiken always finds time for his favourite hobbies, "do-it-yourself" and gardening—a fact readily shown by the colour and order to be seen in his large garden. He has also been a member of the Kirkham Parish Church choir for a "long time."

He left the school at the age of fifteen, but even then he was a regular member of both the Soccer and Cricket 2nd XI's and occasionally made the 1st's at cricket. He continued with both sports after school and played Soccer for Wrea Green, either on the wing or at inside forward. More important than this, however, he was a prominent member of Kirkham Cricket Club's Palace Shield-winning side of 1935 as both batsman and fast bowler.

One of the first seventy life members of the Old Boys' Association, Mr. Aiken jumped at the opportunity of furthering his already close connections with K.G.S. by becoming a governor of the school when offered the position six years ago.

NEWS OF OLD BOYS

- J. B. ALLCOCK
(1953-60) John is now a lecturer in Social Sciences at Bradford University. He received part of his education in Canada and lectured for a time at Leicester University, where he took his degree (B.A. and S. Bennett B.Sc.). John is married with one son, Andrew.
- P. L. ARCHER
(1960-67) He is a student at Seale-Hayne Agricultural College, Newton Abbott, Devon.
- L. H. ATKINSON
(1918-21) Leslie, a Life Member of the Association living in Southport, died on April 6th, 1968.
- J. J. BAMBER
(1953-60) John studied P.P.E. at Oxford obtaining a B.A. Degree. Since then he has worked for the Imperial Tobacco Group in the marketing (Brand Management) section. He plays rugby for Notts. R.F.C. and cricket for his firm. He is married with one son.
- R. BENSON
(1951-57) Roger is a senior lab. technician at Whittingham Hospital, Goosnargh, Preston.
- J. O. BULLOCK
(1946-54) John obtained a B.A. degree in Physics at Oxford. He worked with English Electric for a time and for four years worked on guided weapons problems. He is now with I.B.M. Computers as Market Manager. He is married with one son.
- S. BURY
(1922-29) Mr. Bury is the Headmaster of Brookfield School, Kirby, Liverpool.
- F. H. CHARNLEY
(1938-45) Fred has been established in Luton as an Estate Agent for ten years. In April 1969 he was appointed the sole United Kingdom agent for El Tosalet, Javea, Alicante, Spain, a very exclusive residential estate. In Luton he is handling the proposed re-development at Marsh Road, which may include an underground cinema, shops and offices and a below ground car park. Recently Mr. Charnley visited New York and called to see John Sims (1938-45). He reports that John is now a fully fledged American,—crew cut and all!
- S. CLITHEROE
(1951-56) Sam lives in Ansdell. He is a Quantity Surveyor for Costain's Ltd. and left England for the Seychelles in February 1969 to begin work on a £4 million international airport project for the island. This is to enable the island to be developed as a tourist centre. Sam had been working on the M1 motorway in Yorkshire for the past twelve months, and

was a former playing member of Fylde Rugby Club. But he expects to be away from both for nearly 3 years. His wife and two children left England in March to join him on this island in the Indian Ocean.

M. B. COTTOM
(1940-47)

After fifteen years as missionaries in Nigeria (they left England in 1954) Maurice, his wife and five children have returned home. Maurice had been working for the Sudan United Mission but his post as Warden of Gindhiri (an educational establishment including a T.T. College, two Secondary Schools, a Bible School, a school for Blind children and a primary school) was taken over by a Nigerian. Maurice was made vice-principal of the school in 1957 and Principal in 1961. In 1968 he was appointed full time Warden to this educational complex which is some 300 miles from the war zone. He is now teaching in Flintshire, North Wales.

B. DAVIS
(1952-57)

After leaving K.G.S., Barry enlisted in the Royal Navy for 12 years as a Radio Operator. During this time he went all round the world. He is now a commercial traveller for "Dom Products" (Building Fixings). Barry is married with two children (one boy, one girl), and is now living in Wesham.

J. DAVY
(1916-22)

A former secretary/treasurer of the Association, a committee member of long standing, a vice-president and past-president, Mr. John Davy has been Headmaster at Catforth Primary School since 1942. He was trained at Chester Diocesan Training College and was previously a master at St. Andrew's Primary School. Mr. Davy is chairman of Catforth Summer Football League and this with his interests in gardening and golf (and K.G.S.) he hopes will keep him busy after his retirement in August 1969.

R. DICKSON
(1949-56)

Ralph joined the R.A.F. after leaving K.G.S., signing on for 3 years. He achieved the rank of Corporal-Technician in the Catering Corps. spending the final 18 months of his service at Freckleton. He is now a Director in the family business (Lantern Bakery, Lytham), is married with two children (one boy, one girl) and living at Warton.

I. DORIS
(1954-61)

Ian, a former medical student of Edinburgh University where he graduated in July 1966, is now a Surgeon Lieutenant in the Royal Navy. He is currently serving as Medical Officer on H.M.S. Leander, a Frigate currently operating in the Persian Gulf.

R. E. FISHER
(1928-35)

Bob is a works manager at a local garage and horticultural firm. He was a candidate in the May elections for a seat on the K.U.D.C.

W. A. GORST
(1912-14)

Formerly of 'Castle Farm', Garstang, Mr. Gorst, a life member of the Association, died recently.

R. HULL
(1949-56)

Bob was the conductor and chorus master for the production of Mendelssohn's 'Elijah' given at the Public Hall, Preston in March 1969 by the combined choirs Penwortham Girls G.S. and Hutton G.S.

J. D. R. JEFFEREY

After leaving Manchester University (1955-58) with an L.L.B. degree John was articled to a solicitor at Crosby (Borough Council) for two years. He then moved to Warrington succeeding another Old Boy, J. J. Gardner in the Town Clerk's Office. After being at Hendon for a time John moved to St. Albans where he is Deputy Town Clerk. He is married with one son.

J. KIRKHAM
(1938-44)

After doing his national service in the army John took a degree in chemistry (A.R.I.C.) at London University. He is now a research chemist with U.K.A.E. (Aldermaston). He is married with four children.

C. J. LAW
(1918-22)

This member is an Estate Agent in Colwyn Bay or Rhos-on-Sea, North Wales. Further information to Hon. Sec. please.

D. LYON
(1947-53)

David is captain of Wrea Green Cricket club this season.

T. MATTHEWS
(1918-22)

Mr. Matthews is a F.C.A. and expects to retire in 1970 when he will probably live in Portugal. After leaving the Phillipines he was in the Dominican Republic for a time before returning to Columbia. He and his brother (John Ross) attended the Annual Dinner 1968 when Tom was on his bi-annual long leave and John a major in the R.E.M.E. stationed at Woolwich, was also on leave.

- R. E. MELVILLE
(1934-40) Mr. Melville was a Life Member of the Association. He collapsed at his home on 8th February 1969—he died very soon afterwards. The following week he was to take up the position as manager of his firm's Kirkaldy office. He leaves a wife and three children. Mr. C. Danson who was Mr. Melville's best man at his wedding and another Old Boy, attended the memorial service at St. Chad's, Poulton-le-Fylde.
- H. W. MONTGOMERY
(1925-28) Since April 1st 1969 when the new, united Lancashire police force came into operation, Chief Supt. H. W. Montgomery has been Divisional Police Commander for Lancaster.
- D. E. MOORE
(1953-60) Derrek is an instructor on Hunter Fighter aircraft with the O.C. Unit at the R.A.F. station Chivenor, Barnstaple, Devon. He has done service in Aden. Whilst at school he was opening batsman for the 1st XI.
- D. NORWOOD
(1945-59) Mr. Norwood died in the early hours of Wednesday, 7th May 1969. He is to be remembered through a Memorial Fund at K.G.S. Further information about this will be passed onto members by the Association when it is available.
- R. RUSSELL
(1930-35) A Life Member and Vice President of the Association Roy has moved from Brookmans Park, Hertfordshire to Fetcham Park in Surrey. He has now written over seventy scripts for television, amongst them episodes for "The Troubleshooters", "Man of Our Time", "The First Lady", "The Borderers", "No Hiding Place" and he wrote the early B.B.C. 2 serial "Fothergale Co. Ltd." For children he has written serials for "Sexton Blake" and adaptations of two books into the nine-part "The Queen Street Gang". Roy Russell is a Council Member of the Writers' Guild of Great Britain, and was one of its delegates in the Conference with the Writers' Guild of America in January 1969.
- DR. G. R. SAGER
(1943-51) Dr. Sagar acted as chairman at one of the meetings of the Weed Control conference held at Brighton in November 1968.
- J. S. SAMPSON
(1911-16) James S. Sampson of Bournemouth, died on December 6th, 1968.

Corp. Signals and served in India and was finally put in charge of a high speed wireless section. After leaving the army, Stanley went to work in the Treasurer's Department, St. Annes Corporation. In May he became the new Registrar in the College of Further Education, St. Annes.

R. M. WILCOCK

Roger obtained a M.A. at Oxford University and a Diploma in Economics he also represented the university at cricket and hockey and was awarded a blue for rugby. He has worked for Esso Petroleum (management trainee) and Bovis Houldings (construction co.) as management consultant but he is now managing director of his own company Polish Meat Products.

T. WILKINSON

Sergeant Tom Wilkinson will be retiring at the end of May after 30 years with Preston Police Force. He has six commendations for good police work and was promoted sergeant in 1958. He has been station sergeant for the past two years and has spent most of his service in uniform except for six years in plain clothes duty. He is married with two daughters.

W. H. WOODHEAD
(1939-45) /

Wilf took his Higher Certificate in Biological Sciences at Salford. He then did National Service for two years and went to Liverpool University 1952-56, obtaining a B.Sc. (Hons.) degree. He then joined the staff at Southend Technical College, then moving to Westham T.C. before coming to Oxford College of Technology where he is senior lecturer. He is a member of the council of the Inst. of Biology and has been a member of the Education Committee of this body for the last six years. Wilf is married with two children.

I have been asked why some members in these notes are referred to by their Christian names and some merely called 'HE'. The source of the information is important here. The few members who do supply a few egotistical details about themselves do it thoroughly. Newspaper accounts are usually good too. But vague memories of chance and hurried meetings or a face in a photograph produce little more than the conviction that 'HE' was at K.G.S.—and perhaps a nick name! Christian names are used for clarity, to convey a friendliness etc. whether the person is known to the Hon. Sec. personally or not.

More news of old boys overseas

After spending 4 years in London I decided the Metropolis was not for me, so I returned to Preston to work for English Electric. There I qualified as a cost accountant becoming an A.C.W.A. in December 1960.

I then recommenced my wanderings and worked in Northwich, Cheshire for 2 years before going to St. Neots in Huntingdon for the next 6 years. Here I ran into Terry Miller and Steve Wilcock at various times.

In 1968 we finally took the plunge and on May 8th my wife, myself and our three boys left Gatwick by B.U.A. flight BR211 for Ndola where I am now Senior Cost Accountant with the R.S.T. group of companies and am currently Acting Group Cost Accountant during the G.C.A.'s absence. The R.S.T. Group is currently mining in 6 areas of Zambia and produces some 350,000 tons of copper per annum (a turnover in excess of £175,000).

We shall be returning to England for a short holiday in September and to place our two eldest sons in Ardingly College in Sussex (Robin the eldest will in fact have already have spent a term there) so I am hoping we shall be able to get to K.G.S. and see what it looks like after all this time.

There are a considerable number of people from the Fylde here in Ndola, and I bumped into an old Huttonian the other day who was at Hutton G.S. when relations between K.G.S. and H.G.S. were re-opened in 1949 but, as far as I am aware there are only 2 ex K.G.S. in Zambia at the moment, the other old boy, I believe, is Lori Jameson (now re-christened Chipete).

Best wishes to K.G.S. and the Old Boys' Association.

Sincerely,

PIERS DUNKLEY (1943-1950)

P.O. Box 1608,
Ndola,
ZAMBIA.

FRIENDS OF K.G.S.

President: REV. W. A. P. FRANCIS.

Chairman: MR. J. A. SCOTT.

Secretary: MR. K. GREGORY.

Treasurer: MR. K. H. RICH.

Once again time for a letter in the "Kirkhamian" and time for reflection on the past and a look to the future. In the life of the association we have provided help in many ways to the school and look forward to increasing the assistance in the future. With rising costs and cuts in the government grants, I feel that the Friends can make a more worthwhile effort in helping the school.

May I take this opportunity to thank all our members for their support in the past at the various events which included the Annual Dinner Dance, Raffle and the now annual Supper Dance at Samlesbury Hall and ask for their continued support at future events.

We will shortly be preparing the nominations for the new committee and would request any member who would like to serve on the committee to contact me.

I once again appeal to members to support the various events in our calendar and if they are not receiving notices please notify me so that this can be rectified.

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