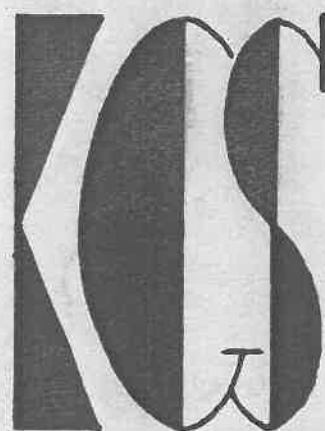


The
KIRKHAMIAN



FEBRUARY, 1969

VOL. IV NO. 7

Official Outfitters

TO THE SCHOOL

All wool Blazers for
the Average Scholarship
size at **77/6**

School Cap **11/6**
and Tie **7/11**

Sports & Gym Kit
at
Competitive Prices



Navy Raincoats, Pullovers,
Shirts, Scarves, Stockings,
Satchels & Shoes available
in
good hardwearing qualities

Lingus

**LINGUS HOUSE
PRESTON - TEL. 53535**

THE BANK FOR SAVING IS THE

PRESTON TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANK

Head Office : CHURCH STREET, PRESTON

ORDINARY DEPARTMENT

5/- to £5,000

Interest $2\frac{1}{2}\%$.

The First £15 of interest is Free of Income Tax.

SPECIAL INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT

A Total of £5,000 may be deposited.

Interest $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ on 3 months' notice.

Interest 6% on 1 months' notice.

Cheque facilities available; full particulars on application.

Branches: Adelphi Street, Preston; Ashton; Bamber Bridge; Barrow-in-Furness; Bispham; Blackpool; Cleveleys; Dalton-in-Furness; Fleetwood; Fulwood; Preston; Garstang; Kirkham; Lancaster; Layton; Leyland; Longridge; Lytham; Morecambe; Penwortham; Poulton-le-Fylde and St. Annes-on-Sea.

COOKSONS



BREAD and CAKES

Are produced under very strict standards of Hygiene and are renowned for their High Standard of Quality. They may be obtained Fresh Each Day from your Grocer.

Exhibition Bakery, Lytham

Phone 4131 (5 lines)

WALKER'S

(Newsagents)

4 Station Road

K i r k h a m

Greeting Cards

Tobacco

Sweets

Toys

Telephone: Kirkham 2358

The HILL Pharmacy

Chemists and Druggists

Wine and Spirit Merchants

Wide range of Photographic and
Toilet Requisites always in stock

68 Poulton St., Kirkham

Tel. 3259

Adventure, world travel and a great career

Yours in today's Royal Navy

If you want an active, exciting life of scope and opportunity you'll find it in the Royal Navy.

Today's Royal Navy has a vital, world-wide role to play. It offers you an assured and rewarding future.

As a specialist or technician, you'll have a good trade with good pay and excellent prospects. And you can add in world travel, sport in plenty, fine company—and an average of 6 weeks' holiday a year. You can join at 15. Or at 16 you can become one of the Navy's soldiers of the sea in the Royal Marines.

How you can become an officer. If you are aiming for a degree, 'A' levels, or expect to get 5 or more 'O' levels you could well qualify for a permanent or short service commission as an officer in the Royal Navy or the Royal Marines. And there are schemes which can help to pay your school and University expenses too. *Even if you are only 14, you should enquire now!*

For full details write to—

**The Royal Naval Careers Service (25OL1),
Old Admiralty Building, London, S.W.1.**

Please give your full name, age, school and qualifications achieved (or expected).

Royal Navy





THE KIRKHAMIAN

The Magazine of Kirkham Grammar School

Founded 1549

Volume IV, No. 7.

February, 1969

Contents

EDITORIAL	297
CONTRIBUTIONS	298
SCHOOL EVENTS AND TRIPS	310
CROSSWORD	313
HOUSE REPORTS	315
SOCIETY REPORTS	320
C.C.F. REPORT	325
SCHOOL SPORTS	328
PROFILE No. 26	336
FRIENDS OF K.G.S.	338
OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION	339
SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD	351

EDITORIAL

CHAIRMAN: MR. H. B. WILSON.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: MR. G. BELLIS.

EDITOR: I. HIRD.

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

During the compilation of last year's magazine, a little boy came up to me and asked me why there was no report from the magazine committee in the Kirkhamian. Well, little boy, this entire magazine is our report—a report on the work of the school, the sport of the school, the life of the school and any other activities connected with the school.

This report is too great a task for one man or even one committee, and so we ask the whole school to help us make it. This you do with greater enthusiasm year by year, especially with original contributions and, this year, the contributions section not only maintains pride of place in the magazine, but it has expanded to an unprecedented size, so as to give a true reflection of the quantity and the quality of the contributions. Unfortunately, such is the demand for space, that several extremely good articles cannot be included in this edition. So worthy of publication are they, however, that every effort will be made to publish them in the July edition.

Even the official reports of houses, societies, C.C.F., sports and school trips would be impossible without the boys who participate in these activities. Thus, each member of the school contributes something to the Kirkhamian before he even lifts his pen.

Enjoy reading *your* magazine.

The Editor wishes to acknowledge the receipt of the following magazines:—

The Balshavian, The Poultonian, The Rossallian, The Arnoldian, The magazine of the Collegiate School for Girls, Blackpool.

CONTRIBUTIONS

A War of Nerves

It was a bright Monday morning as I arrived at the Government Buildings, in Warbreck-Hill Road, Blackpool. I hadn't a care in the world, well only one, as I got out of the car and entered the Waiting Room. Yes, the Driving Test, two words that inflict fear and anguish into every learner driver. My fellow candidates were four females. As I sat there shaking with fear I thought to myself, "How can she fail with a figure like that?" and began to wish that I had put on my mini-skirt.

The door opened and in came the examiners and before I had time to collect my thoughts I was sitting behind the wheel. As I turned the starting handle the engine roared into life. They certainly don't make cars like that anymore (fortunately). As I was waiting in the queue of learners trying to emerge from the driveway of the test-centre I got the impression that the young lady in front of me was rather nervous. This could possibly have been because she proceeded to stall the vehicle three times before getting under way. A marvellous start! Just what I needed to give me a little confidence. With my right foot (or is it left; I seem to have forgotten) shaking the clutch pedal I managed to make a clean getaway.

I think that the examiner took a very definite dislike to me. This wasn't helped by the fact that I tend to have rather swift reflexes and the gentleman hurt his head somewhat when he hit the wind-screen on the emergency stop. Undeterred, I continued. On the reverse turn I got the distinct feeling that I had mounted the kerb. On the other hand, it could have been that the car always leans to one side like that.

Then my favourite manoeuvre: the hill start. On the way up a hill, at least 1 in 2, he asked me to pull up at the side of the road, and then, when I had stopped, he told me to move off again. So I did, and even though I say it myself, my reversing was pretty good as I rolled to the bottom of the hill.

I never found out what the examiner wrote on his sheet as I overtook a cyclist. He had plenty of room, and in any case eight inches should be ample clearance for a safe passage. He also became rather frantic when I approached a cross-roads at a steady 40 m.p.h. and then saw the broken white lines across the road. Quick as a flash I thought back to my Highway Code. Now what did it say? Ah! I remember: Give way. Phew! Nearly too late. In any case it was a good way of showing him how good I was at emergency stops. I think that by that time he had had enough, so we went back to the test-centre. Then came the crunch:

"Well, Mr. Jones, I'm afraid that you haven't reached the standard set by the Ministry of Transport in order to pass the driving test."

I can't begin to imagine why! What did I do wrong? If anyone has any ideas, would they please contact the undersigned.

P. G. JONES, (LVI.M).

C/o Institute of Advanced Motorists, Blackpool branch.

"Because I do not hope . . ."

"What?
Should talent wither
Through the restrictions of a modest heart?
Are you mad, that you sit and smile
Contentedly,
And let the opportunity of greatness pass?
Tarry not, but take your flower and nurture it
In that palm, delicate and soft."
"Little do you know, friend,
Of the workings of the soul.
Let well alone. My home
Is not with them that sit in the
Exalted places.
'One to swell a progress.' One to laugh,
To love: to cry;
Assured of popularity, oh yes!
But lacking the inspiration,
The original thought that captures, transfixed,
In that momentary instant,
Significance and truth.
Call me not tragic, nor brand me hero.
Call me good fellow,
And leave well alone.

D. E. COWELL (Pre.)

"Thought for the day"

The jawing morons cackle
And paw the air,
Transmitting their empty nonsense
From gawping, gaping mouth
To eager ear.
In the room, the foetid, sickly vapours
Rise from the lips,
Like the steam of winter;
Choking, stifling, strangling.
Next door, the earnest young man,
With exuberant conviction,
Expounds his hypothesis on man's condition.
"Now man, endowed with a brain and . . ."
His partner sits idly by, inattentive,
Surveying the floor through the
Spiralling haze of his cigarette-smoke,
Picking out the pattern on the lino.
A muffled bell is heard.
Silently,
All shuffle out.
A man enters with brush and bucket.
He's come to clear up.

D. E. COWELL (Pre.)

The decision

The FIRST OLD WOMAN is sitting in a shabby arm chair in the living room of an old terraced house. The SECOND OLD WOMAN is sitting at the other side of the room. She fidgets for her coat on the back of her chair.

Silence

SECOND: I'd best be going 'ome now; I best be making tracks back 'ome.

FIRST: You going now then?

SECOND: Yes, I think I should be going 'ome, I don't want to be too late. If I get 'ome too late, I can't get to sleep—not like I do if I go 'ome early.

FIRST: No, you never could get to sleep quick when you go 'ome late. I think you get thinking more of bad things when you are going 'ome late, and you can't get to sleep for thinking of them . . . *(Pause)* . . . You can't get to sleep for them because you think they're there, but really they aren't there; there isn't nothing there at all, but you think there is.

Pause

SECOND: You been down to the river today?

FIRST: No—you been there or something?

SECOND: Me? Oh no, I never go down to the river . . . *(Pause)* . . . You know I never go down to the river, not since I thought I saw that man.

FIRST: What man?

SECOND: You know—that man; the man who chased me when I was going 'ome that night. Chased me down the road, all the way 'e did.

FIRST: I don't remember no man. You never told me about 'im before.

SECOND: I've never seen 'im since, thank 'eavens.

Pause

FIRST: Do you want your biscuit now, or shall I keep it for tomorrow. I'm keeping mine for tomorrow, then I can 'ave it with my cup of tea . . . *(Pause)* . . . Well, do you want it now or later?

SECOND: I'll 'ave it tomorrow with my tea then, if that's what you're doing.

Pause

FIRST: Yes, that's what I'm doing. I like my biscuit with my tea.

Pause

SECOND: I'd best be going 'ome now. I best be making tracks back 'ome.

FIRST: You going now then?

SECOND: Yes, I think I should be going 'ome. I don't want to be too late. I can't get to sleep, not like if I go . . .

Curtain.

P. H. BUTTERWORTH LVX

The wall

And yet something about the wall attracted Karl. It seemed to raise in him a lust for conquest, adventure; or was it just curiosity. A wall which stood some fourteen feet high, losing itself to left and right in thick, ice-cold mist. A wall which seemed to concentrate his will, and test his curiosity.

Yet it was late. A palish moon gave a weak, phosphoric glow over a landscape surreal in character. Karl turned from the wall; hesitated; and began to move away. But an icy breath pricked the nerves of his neck. The wall had eyes that fixed him and pierced his being. The dew-drenched grass chilled his feet. He turned and eyed the wall. He wanted to go, but he remained immobile. The wall, towering over him, demanded an explanation. Was it just the lateness of the hour that dragged him away—or fear?

He examined the wall. Its deep-indented grey stone and colonies of spongy moss. He felt his body tremble. He had to go—he wanted to go; and the cold, icy wall just stood there displaying strength.

He knew he would go, but then the fire—a reddish halo shimmering in the leaves, once lifeless green, transformed to life—full red; and the wall, the barrier between hope and a thousand despairs. The laughter? Children of the night? Using a medium others failed to see so significant.

The wall became the source and object. His nails dug into the fleshy moss-covered stone. He tore his fingers, supporting the weight of life, while toes scrambled for a hold. The flat concrete on the top of the wall slowly came down to meet him. He was soon to accept its invitation with outstretched hand.

And then, gasping on the top, he felt his lungs burning in his chest, greedy for the cold, damp air. He waited—time stood still—but the fire had gone. His hopes—hopes for what?—fell crashing like an egg. He was part of his surroundings, but his surroundings were only hostile to him. What was left for him but to return to people he had determined to forsake. He had been betrayed, and the wall stood, laughing. . .

A. CROSS (Pre.)

Ode to all knits

Upper sixth modern are proud to announce the completion of a twelve mile long scarf.

The latest craze is knitting boys
It really is quite new;
If you've n'er tasted of its joys
Its cult you should pursue
And so some dinner-time perhaps
A group of boys you'll see,
A—knitting scarfs and fancy caps
For this academy
And then, who knows, we may one day
Deem it as right and fitting
Boys enter school free, and defray
Their fees in fancy knitting.

A. J. WALSH U.VI.M.

"Goodbye before we go"

Only six hundred history work sheets to go. The Palace shall remain and the English department shall 'mellow'. But soon. Alas! too soon the Upper Mod.VI shall be no more. So emerging from the realms of serious study and Punch, we say goodbye!

Unwept, unhonoured and unsung
We leave this home of rest
Wherein for years our pen we've swung
More often cursed than blessed
We wonder why we're left unhung
Too oft bad jokes we've stressed
Our only plea is, we're still young
And only did our best.

A. J. WALSH, U.VI.M.

Existence

men from beyond the waves of time
have strived to win
the price which thinking-man must pay
must not be him
but time is relative and new
to all who must
by choice
review
Existence.
clouds that roll across a lumpid sky
must now precipitate and
die
for life to men may be the
lie
that hides from him
Existence . . .

A. CROSS (Pre.)

Elliman's run

The Crocker's Vth Rugby Team were an experienced bunch—on the whole—and their success was founded on their phenomenal talent and devious inventiveness. They could for example make success out of defeat simply by gambling the result on 'eleven-bull-six' when they had the services of 'Bull's-Eye Brown', a flighty full-back cum wing forward—scrum half—winger. Crockers had never since their initiation in 1929 turned out with more than ten men at a time, thus a need for special talent rarely found in top class rugby.

The most experienced player was Lionel Weatherspoon, 'The Lion' to his friends, for he was the proprietor of the hotel of that name. Lionel was one of five past-it-keep-fit fanatics who formed the hard core around which the remainder of the team was moulded. These player's average age was forty-seven and their weights in battle order ranged from seventeen stone (Lionel) to eight stone (Rudolf—a dashing stand-off half).

On one particular Saturday afternoon in late January, Crockers were about to perfect a move never before tried or even dreamt of in rugby circles. A certain young man from university was going to play for the team. His name was Abraham Elliman. Now this fellow had played second row for the Crockers one year previously, when a very strange thing happened.

At the first scrum Abraham was just about to take up his position when for no apparent reason he suddenly jumped straight up in the air coughing and wheezing and then ran off the field screaming and shouting.

The Captain on that occasion was Basil O'Rafferty, a kind considerate chap who, finding Abraham in the sanctuary of the pavilion after the match, asked him if his religion had anything to do with his actions or if the rest of the team had once again left himself out of a new strategic plan of action. It was neither. Abe explained with much anxiety that he was extremely allergic to strong smells and that sensing these resulted in instant panic.

Basil decided to investigate. It was a well known fact that Willie John McTavish was a dope-addict, for he was hooked on Doc Lock's home-distilled Square Deal Energizer and he would drink his health with Doc Lock and Clothes Prop (a French linesman) before every game. Basil thought and thought and he became deeply intrigued with Abraham Elliman's case and after much questioning and cross-examination he discovered that Willie John, the other second row on that occasion, had not only drunk but also applied a liberal amount of Doc's Energizer on a strained muscle. That was indeed the answer.

On the Friday preceding what was to be a memorable match Basil passed on his information to 'Schemer' Sidebottom so that Abe might not be humiliated again under this Saturdays' tactics. By the way 'Schemer' was a hooker and it was his job as secretary to 'fix' the matches. 'Schemer' got together with Lionel Weather- spoon on that Friday night and they thought of the plan for Saturday.

Knowing that Doc's Energizer smelled potent to say the least, Rudolf, Doc, Willie John, 'The Lion' and 'Schemer' covered themselves from head to foot in the liquid an hour before the match and cocooned in sheets, gloves and stockings, to preserve the aroma, they rushed at great speed down to their pitch and hid behind the hawthorne hedge bordering the touch-line.

The other team, Filed-upon-Sea came out soon after and were all ready for the game when only five Crockers sauntered out of the pavilion, one being Abraham Elliman. Basil looked most perturbed thinking something was afoot. After a delay of ten minutes Filed kicked off and were soon pressing Crocker's line hoping for an early try but time and time again Crockers were saved by Basil's splendid diving neck tackles which never failed to put the recipient out of the game for a while. At half time it was still no score and time for a quick smoke under the posts. Basil and his team were running short of ideas. How long could they last out? Crockers started the second half surprisingly well but

had no answer to Filed's spearhead formation (cribbed from Crocker's tactics a few weeks before) which resulted in an unconverted try for Filed-upon-Sea. Filed were winning and the score remained 3—0 till five minutes from the end, when, seeing that Abraham had caught the ball in some open space and having noted a down-wind, Rudolf, who was stationed on the far touch line, showed a leg—Abe turned in mid air and sprinted diagonally across the pitch, jumping and swerving, towards where Doc Lock lay in waiting. Realising that his deterrent was needed he ran onto the pitch, took off his shirt and shroud and hugged poor Abe for performing such a wonderful run—Abe rushed off in the opposite direction and suddenly found himself face to face with 'The Lion' so he headed screaming and shouting straight for Filed's line. No-one could stop him, they stood dumbfounded or were left flat footed in the wake of Abe's fantastic run. Abe remembered to touch down under the posts and Basil had no trouble converting the try. Then the whistle went and Abe had saved the day for Crockers.

Abraham Elliman never played for Crockers again, yet his name lives on to this very day, since Doc Lock renamed his Energizer to you know what!

R. E. PIGOTT (Pre.)

In transit—Bombay

After having asked "Excuse me is this the plane to Bombay?," I finally arrived there and found myself to be in transit i.e. waiting for the next aircraft to Kuala Lumpur.

"All those in transit please to be following me." Accordingly I followed and crammed myself into the bus(?) which was to take us to the Sun'n Sands Hotel.

"Only quick quick journey, only going to be taking 15 minutes."

The "quick quick" journey lasted 45 minutes during which time the driver quite forcibly demonstrated his humanity by nearly running over 3 dogs, 5 chickens, 2 goats and a Sikh; his prowess in the abuse of his native tongue which he showed off by pouring a constant stream of invective out of the window, or rather through it as it had no glass, and his total ignorance as to the existence of the brake pedal. I changed my seat for one nearer a window.

The Indians aboard took the whole journey in good faith (Hindu, of course) and tried to start conversations. The conductor said,

"Only yesterday I am visiting New Delhi."

Only yesterday my troubles seemed so far away, and his compatriot's nonchalance inspired me to grip my seat even tighter. To cheer myself up I hummed "The Inner Light."

At last the driver—may his toenails drop out—found the brake-pedal and practically put his foot through the floor in showing us that he had done so. Showing perhaps too much eagerness, we all hurriedly disembarked. Before us we had five hours of solid ground and we tried to forget that the return journey was still to be faced.

R. S. HOBBS, U.VI.M.

The news 1968

The Postmaster General made that same old plea—"post early for Christmas. He guarantees that the 5d. post will take a maximum of three days and the 4d. post, five days, but it would help the sorting office if you didn't put a stamp on at all. He also guarantees that if you put a pound note on the envelope, he'll pinch it.

The Minister of Transport tells us accidents on the roads are down, but there has been an increase in hit and run cases.

Thirty Vietnamese gorillas were shot today—R.S.P.C.A. switch-board jaumed.

Centuplets were born in Hong Kong on the new fertility drug 'Rent-a-crowd.'

The Beatles released their new LP with the controversial cover. John Lennon commented, "We'll spell censored how we want."

The Minister without Portfolio has bought one on the Prime Minister's orders.

Finally, there was a love-in at London Zoo, on the arrival of the two pandas from China—zookeeper reports Chi-Chi and An-An are going steady.

And now, the weather—it will be mostly sunny with a few patches of fog or mist; the occasional shower will develop into heavier rain with isolated thunderstorms. There'll be snow and sleet in places, the odd heat-wave, gale or hurricane, cloudy in places, hail at times and even the occasional dull patches here and there. Outlook: Variable.

C. R. TYLDESLEY, L.V.X.

The end

Two friends were quietly minding their own business, with all their other little friends, one day, when their world was turned upside down. A thunderous blow struck their world and shook it back and forth. A blinding light appeared above them and all their little friends panicked falling over one another in the process. Our heroes remained unmoved as the masses of distorted shapes fell on them in a great heap.

Their world was taken again as if by some giant hand and turned completely upside down. The two friends found themselves falling into the blinding light which still seemed to shine from above them. Suddenly their fall was stopped, just as abruptly as it had begun. They lay motionless with their compatriots on a hard cold surface that seemed to rise gently above them on all sides. Before they had time even to look round about, never mind recover from their initial shock, a great downpour fell on them from above. A whitish liquid came down in one wide stream for a short while before it too ceased. This was enough. The enemy, whoever he was, had won. Most of the defenceless friends had been drowned by the

liquid and the survivors were soon pounded to death by a shower of huge white crystals, faintly resembling snow. A massive metal monster then dug deep into the pile of motionless bodies and lifted them, still wet, up into the unknown heights above their graveyard.

Thus, our two brave cornflakes died.

G. R. TOMLINSON, L.V.Y.

The loaded dice

I am a bachelor at heart, always have been and always will be, as they say. I have resisted the siren's call although I must confess that at times I have been dangerously near those rocks not having properly learnt the art of stopping up one's ears with wax.

Like many others of my dwindling species I have been tempted with eyes that invite but promise nothing and alliances permanent or otherwise; haply I have not fallen and am still free of those matrimonial tentacles.

Since that memorable day when I took the vow of Bachelorhood I have had further proof that in accepting that form of life I decided for the better. The case of Ian Pettigrew was no different than countless others I had known; unhappy marriage; inquisitive mother-in-law and unfaithful wife. Pettigrew poured out the whole, sorrowful tale to me at our club one day.

"I can't take much more of this you know," he had said staring into his half-empty glass; whether he was speaking of its contents or of something quite different, I did not know. But I soon found out.

"It's her blasted mother. Keeps on coming to our . . . I mean, my house. Middle of the night sometimes."

I doubted whether he would be able to distinguish the difference in his present condition, but I said nothing and patiently waited for the remainder of his story. It did not come. His spirits, fighting a losing battle against those of a more alcholic nature surrendered and he collapsed.

I never saw Pettigrew for several months after that, but I did hear about him. He resigned from the club because of the "awful outrage done to his person" by two members who had kindly offered to escort the inebriated Pettigrew home. After enduring many harrowing months of his mother-in-law and the infidelities of his wife, he tried suicide—sleeping pills and gas.

It was a pleasant Sunday afternoon, early in October when, after having glanced through all the newspapers at the club, I set off for the Park determined to squeeze the utmost out of the dying summer. After feeding the water-fowl, filling the vacant lapel-hole of my jacket, and generally admiring the view I left the Park and had tea at the "Black Gate Cafe."

"Remember me, I am Pettigrew?"

The voice over my shoulder startled me and when I had recovered my composure the owner of that impressive name had seated himself before me and was helping himself to my tea and muffins. I was completely nonplussed and blurted out the only thing I could think of at the time.

"I was sorry to hear about your accident."

"Accident! It wasn't an accident and you very well know that," he shouted.

"Yes . . . , well I'm sorry anyway," was my feeble reply.

"What's there to be sorry about. I tried to remedy my problem but it didn't work, that's all there is to it."

"What do you mean 'remedy'? I ventured to ask.

"You don't think it was a genuine suicide attempt, do you?" he said, his eyes widening at my obvious embarrassment.

"Well, I thought . . . pills and gas . . . well," I stammered.

"Well, you're wrong. I don't hate life that much. It was a calculated action. You know; scare her; Diplomatic Revolution and all that. Would have put the willies up her mother alright!"

He could see my growing incredulity and went on.

"I knew what would happen. What do you think I am, a bloody cretin? The effect that gas would have on those pills, read it in a book—"neutralization of two agents" they called it. Thought that my suicide attempt would scare the living daylights out of her. You know, make her change her ways so that I could get some peace again. Ages since I had a decent dinner."

"And has she changed," I cautiously asked.

"Nope, not a jot. She's still the same old bitch."

"Then it was all in vain, a waste of time."

"Depends which way you look at it" he mused. "She's come back to me so I suppose that's something, but so has her mother! "Darling Ian you gave us such a fright. Is your work getting you down?" Stupid idiot. But it's different from before, you know, not so comfortable. But in spite of that you must admit the tale will make an interesting after dinner story at the club. I'm back in it. Accepted those two fellows' apologies. Most kind about it they were. Do you think I should have let them off so easily?" Pettigrew grinned and popped the last fragments of my muffins into his mouth.

R. S. HOBBS, U.VI.M.

A rugby match

The day of trial was here at last
The flag fluttered on the mast
The crowds they came to shout the name
And see the Kirkham team again.

The Changing rooms were full of boys
Shouting, screaming, what a noise!
I've lost my boot came a doleful cry
Six boots came flying through the sky.

The team was dressed and all composed
They formed themselves in tidy rows
Out to the rugger pitch they ran
Dodging many a screaming fan.

The team ran out on to the pitch
The ball was there in the ditch
The captains met with the ref.
The coin was spun and we went left.

The ball from the middle rose
Their prop caught it on his toes
He pushed and scrambled through our line
We brought him down in the nick of time.

20 yards 20 yards 20 yards onward
At their line we hurtled forward
Supporters let off such a cry
As we went through and scored a try.

The match began to liven up
You'd think we had a Kirkham Cup
The backs came up and had a try
Their scrum leader tackled high.

The Kirkham forwards won the ball
But our scrum-half took such a fall
Their fly-half broke through our rank
Over our line and down he sank.

Once more our forwards saved the day
A good high drop-kick showed the way
The pack raced forward and kicked it on
The winning try by Jenkinson.

The whistle went to end the game
The Kirkham team have won again
Muddy, tired, in they run
Glad of showers, tea and bun.

A. PRICE, L.IV.Y.

It's natural—(History of course)

Since he arrived at K.G.S. the "Man from Room 17", has been frequently reminded that there was no Society for the "Naturalists." Oh NO SIR, not NUDES and things!

In the Summer Term of 1968 the enthusiasm of certain L5 members won the day and a rather esoteric group mapped various habitats and compiled species lists and created Nature trails till the holidays claimed them.

At the beginning of the Winter Term 1968, it was proposed that a Natural History Society should be formed. This would be open to members of the 3rd's to the U4th's though the Society would be "run" by more senior boys. In no time a Committee was formed and an opening meeting was held at which weekly "meets" for the whole term were planned.

Although deficient in funds the N.H.S. has been surprisingly active. N. W. Cross and A. A. Blake have given two well illustrated lecturettes on "Conservation of Wild Life" and "Zoos." C. A. Lewis spoke to us about Man and his relationship with dogs as pets, calling his talk "Man meets Dog." Mr. A. R. Baines conducted a demonstration on how to prepare and mount animal bones into whole skeletons called "Dem. Bones, Dem. Bones."

D. O. Slack borrowed and presented a film entitled "Life in Nigeria" to a joint meeting with the Geographical Society. Seventy people attended that meeting but otherwise, to date, the average attendance of the N.H.S. has been twenty-four.

D. O. Slack followed this with a talk on "Prehistoric Animals," while J. A. Blaikie and T. Ball spoke on the R S.P.B. and the Y.O.C. Mr. I. W. McKerrow gave the last individual talk on "Farming in Winter" and the term ended with a N.H. Book exhibition entitled "What to do with those Christmas book tokens."

During the Spring and Summer Terms of 1969, the Society hopes to do more. There is the challenge of the Easter Fair for instance. To enable the Society to do more a membership fee of one shilling has been introduced.

Long may it continue. Will you help it to do so?

C. E. TAYLOR, U.V.A.

2068

Legendary city of London found,
Negro runs at speed of sound.
Robots to enter Olympic Games,
Bluebird wins veteran race again.
Critics bill sex film 'terrific',
Another negro swims Pacific.
Catholics at last get a man in heaven,
Everest demolished for U.S. pen.
Hitler's still alive we're told,
But still no cure for the common cold.

C. R. TYLDESLEY, L.V.X.

SCHOOL EVENTS AND TRIPS

Speech-day 1968

This year, K.G.S. maintained the aristocratic trend of 1967, and was honoured to welcome as its guest at the School Speech-Day, Lord Kitchener. In his address, he stressed to boys leaving the school the need to replace supervision by hard work, and the danger of producing in themselves an over-negative attitude by discarding the wise advice of their 'elders'. Requesting the customary day's holiday, Lord Kitchener hoped that the school would continue on the excellent lines it had set up: facts clearly reflected in the Headmaster's report.

The academic achievements of the year, notably the university and 'O' Level results, had been some of the best ever recorded. Throughout the school, the year's activities—sport, C.C.F., drama, continental excursions, Old Boys Association, Friends of K.G.S.—all had been successful and were continuing to thrive. The staff, those valiant few, had, by their devoted and unselfish service, helped the school and the Head in every way. But it was with deep regret that Mr. Kennedy had to announce the departure of Mr. McKerrow—a man who was not only admired for his 15 years of warm-hearted, unstinting work for the school, but who was sincerely liked by everybody through his amicable personality.

One of the very few disturbing points of the Headmaster's report was the school population, which now stands at a record 418. Surely such a state of affairs gave the school "a strong case for financial help?"

However, the year's accomplishments have shown even more clearly that K.G.S. is a personal institution where people count most and human values are all important.

D. E. COWELL, (Pre.).

French culture hits the sixth

Transport is a minor problem once Mr. Reay has paid for the tickets! So, armed with a suitable map and braving the cold Saturday morning air of half-term, all arrived safely in Lancaster. Seats were chosen; the conference began . . .

A Lancaster University lecturer, having been introduced by the chairman, launched forth into a discourse on Beaumarchais and his play, "Le Mariage de Figaro." Although most was comprehensible and interesting, attention was often drawn to numerous sheets of notes, which dwindled in height as time went on.

A recording followed, featuring Albert Camus, who read an extract from his novel, "L'étranger." This dealt with the climax of the story and helped to emphasize Camus' superb sense of style. Next followed a wide selection of French poetry which, by its length, tended to depress the initial interest in it. No-one prophesied that the songs which followed, although lively, would make the charts.

A suitably "recharged" audience reassembled after dinner to see the film of "Le Mariage de Figaro", as performed by the Com-

edie-Francaise. This was, however, marred by poor presentation, and sub-titles proved an inadequate substitute for poor sound reception.

All must agree, however, that it was a profitable day, adding to both knowledge and experience and giving one an insight into the university medium. For this our thanks must go to the organisers and speakers.

A. CROSS, (Pre.).

"The government inspector" by Nikolai Gogol

It is a long time since "real girls" appeared in our school play. The following incident admirably portrays the revolutionary importance of this.

A certain parent on seeing Erica Town remarked, "He looks more real than real."

His thirteen year old son however was quick to point out that it was a "proper girl" who had been "brought from Queen Mary's." The father's reply was "By Jingo!"

Now to the play itself. Cowell and Collins were extremely convincing in their respective roles. Collins played the aristocratic Hlestakov to a gimlet of perfection and he adapted himself well in the bragging-scene although he did have a little competition from Hold.

It is difficult to give Cowell an appraisal which does him justice and my task in this respect is unenviable. The least I can say is that he was commanding and his interpretation of emotion most creditable.

I find it equally difficult to write about the two "proper girls." Their entrance certainly caused a stir in the audience, particularly among those long-standing members who had expected something quite different. I thought Elaine Elderton perhaps a little too nagging and Erica Town a little too fidgety. Nevertheless their performances were interesting. The latter's performance in the love-making scene was perfectly delightful to watch and her come-and-get-me-no-I'm-playing-hard-to-get attitude had the audience laughing.

Although the main characters dominated the majority of the play, there were times when the other characters shone forth. Cooper was fascinating, Patterson's letter-reading hilarious, Hold's wine-pouring amusing, Stott's bashfulness unbelievable and Massey's panting performed with the true vigour of a Harrier. Falkner, the other half of that celebrated pair was also marvellous.

Grimbaldeston completely mastered the "Who?-me-Sir?" attitude much resorted to in the lower school, and consequently was much appreciated together with Arnold Smith's booming off-stage voice. Porter gave his usual inimitable performance complete with superb facial expression.

The whole play was most enjoyable. Its' humour was prolific and with responsive audiences only a little managed to pass unnoticed. If we wish future plays to be of the same standard the experiment begun here with such success must be repeated.

R. S. HOBBS, U.V.I.M.

Carol service

On December 6th at 2.45 p.m. the capacity congregation of Kirkham Parish Church rose to the strains of "Once in Royal David's City." The tradition of a IIIrd former singing the first verse seems to have died out, and Mortimore, Taylor and Ledsham each sang two lines. After the next carol, "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" during which the orchestra was prominent, Sproates, a IIIrd former, read the first lesson, and managed to throw his voice through the church very well. The congregation then sang "God Rest you Merry Gentlemen", which was followed by the second lesson read by Bamber.

Then the very popular "Ding Dong Merrily on High", was sung with great alacrity by the congregation. Collins read the third lesson with conviction, and the congregation was then subjected to a long period of inactivity whilst the choir sang three carols.

The first of these was the "Zither Carol" the strains of which reached the far reaches of the church very clearly. Hird then read the fourth lesson which was followed by "Torches", a carol first introduced last year. This is a marvellous carol and was performed very well. Smith, the Captain of the School, read the fifth lesson, and the next carol, "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" was followed by Mr. Baines' lesson.

The congregation then seemed reluctant to sing, even after their long rest, and the "First Nowell" sounded quite thin. Mr. Scott, the Chairman of the Friends, kindly read the seventh lesson. This was followed by "Away in a Manger", a beautiful carol, performed very well by the trebles. Wells sang a solo in the second verse, and the harmony in the last verse was particularly effective.

Having come within a few moments of the end of the service, the school at last showed its vocal capabilities with "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." This was followed by the eighth lesson read by Mr. Crane, the Deputy Headmaster. This was followed by "The Three Kings." Once again the soloists were Mortimore, Taylor and Ledsham.

For the final lesson, read by Mr. Kennedy, the instructions were to remain seated. However the choir stood up, and the congregation followed. This tradition appears to be particular to the north.

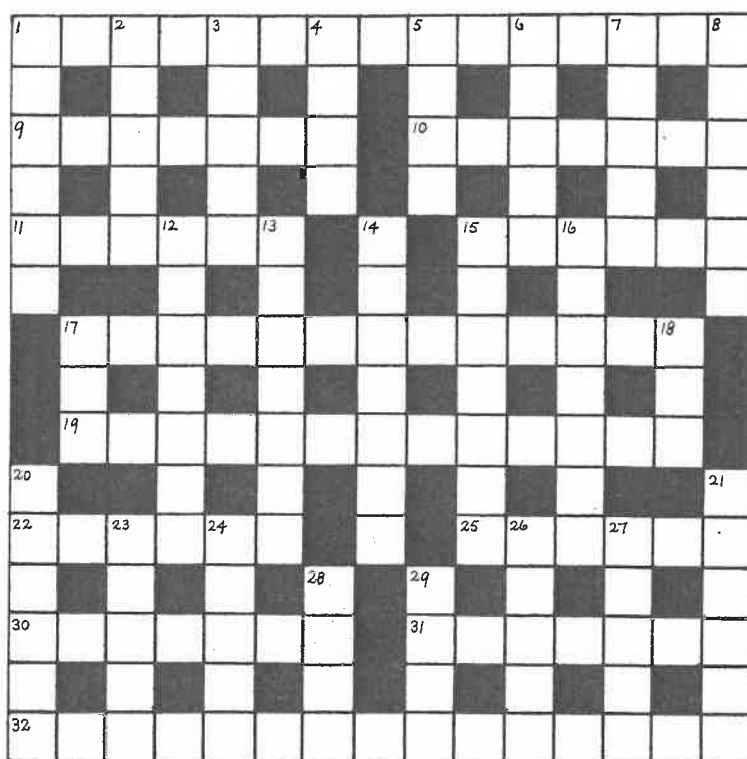
The congregation finally reached its peak on "O Come All Ye Faithful", and the Rev. W. A. P. Francis, Vicar of Kirkham offered the final prayer and blessing.

Unfortunately the majority of the congregation missed what, for us, was the highlight of the afternoon Mr. Murray's rendition of Bach's famous Toccata in D. Minor. Praise and thanks must go to Mr. Murray, the choir and the orchestra, who provided, in the words of Mr. Lee, "A particularly good Carol Service."

G. C. PAPE, U.V.I.M. J. N. SUMNER, U.V.I.M.

THE KIRKHAMIAN CROSSWORD

Compiled by I. Hird



Solution on page 351.

CLUES ACROSS.

1. A case of a soldier helping the Government (8, 7).
9. Ninth go—but still the result is zero (7).
10. Take out a portion (7).
11. A return goes round and rotates (6).
15. A drink to put one in a trance? (6).
17. Existence or non-existence—that's the question (2, 2, 2, 3, 2, 2).
19. Indivisible clergyman in charge of the government (5, 8).
22. Too rich (6).
25. Danger lurking in front of your house (6).
30. A pale rap is sometimes worn (7).
31. With a lick it is very superficial (7).
32. Flawless person whom one has never met (7, 8).

CLUES DOWN.

1. Very small interval of time . . . (6).
2. . . . but not now (5).
3. Cheap food (5).
4. A tantrum just because of a gear-change (4).
5. Capable brother we hear (4).
6. Heading for nobility (5).
7. How one might sing a psalm in some enchanting country church? (5).
8. Drag out of Latin for a French mistake (6).
12. Almost a mashie (7).
13. Mischief among the upper branches (7).
14. His charge lives in a stately home (7).
15. Meshing after tax deductions (7).
16. A Highland farmer (7).
17. Hit on some staple diet or other (3).
18. Wander in erratic circles (3).
20. Recaps and re-organises the defence (6).
21. The finish of an organ makes one popular (6).
23. This stunt requires a hat with some hesitation (5).
24. Regal, but transformed into something great (5).
26. The smell comes from Rome—Latin of course (5).
28. Agglutinate! You fool (4).
29. Detect a flaw (4).

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, W. R. J. MCQUEEN, T. MUSSON.

Firstly let us welcome eight new members to the House and a new assistant House Master, Mr. G. T. Brown. Also we send our best wishes to last year's officials who have all attained places for Further Education.

Last year ended successfully with three trophies having been won—The Work Cup, Tennis and Junior Rugby Trophies. The 'O' and 'A' level candidates must be especially congratulated on contributing so many valuable points towards our total for the Work Cup. At present we are lying second in this competition.

The Winter Term has been extremely successful for us on the sport's scene, mainly due to rigorous training and a great House spirit. In the first round of the Senior House Rugby we played School House, winning 44-0, and went on to meet Kirkham House in the semi-final, winning 15-0. Our Senior Rugby team is one of the strongest sides ever fielded by any House, containing no less than eight 1st XV and two 2nd XV members. We look forward to meeting Preston House in the final. The Junior Rugby team gaining a bye in the first round dealt with School House in the semi-final by winning 3-0, a fine try by A. Pigott. The team went on to win the Cup in the final against Kirkham House, gaining a just reward for many practices and hard training. The score was 13-8.

In the Gym Competition Ashton won the Cup in fine style with Cross A. and Armstrong T. first and third in the Seniors and Short D. first place in the Juniors, all with outstanding performances. The whole team can feel pleased with a truly creditable display.

After the Chess team had regained consciousness from last years resounding defeats, we started off well last term, under the able leadership and management of W. R. J. McQueen, beating Fylde and then losing narrowly to Kirkham. With no particular House outstanding at Chess this year, it looks like being a close finish!

This term the Music, Cross Country and Senior Rugby trophies are contested. Having organised last year's House Music proficiently, Anderson C. D., Buckley T. P. and Co. will be able to use their experience to good advantage this term. Things look rosy for the Senior Rugby and also for the Cross Country with M. O. O'Neill, T. Musson and P. M. Bamber continually arriving home in the first five for the School Harriers.

R.E.P.

Fylde house

House Master: MR. I. W. MCKERROW.

Assistant House Masters:

MR. J. A. SUTCLIFFE, MR. D. H. BUTTERWORTH.

House Captain: J. R. PORTER.

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

It was a sad note on which the Winter Term ended. The House would in future, be without one of its most enthusiastic members. We take this opportunity to express the thanks of both past and present members of the House for the untiring services of Mr. I. W. McKerrrow.

At the end of last year we finally won the Debating cup. This was due to the fine speeches given by Atkin and Nelson, who were well backed up by the Senior All Male voice choir.

The Winter Term got off to a good start with a well earned victory over Lytham House. Radcliffe was the player of the match at scrum-half. Unfortunately we lost to Preston House in the semi-finals after a very exciting match which could have gone either way. Fylde never gave up. The die-hards like G. P. Roberts and Rawstrone never gave up fighting for the ball. It is true to say that the team's spirit was very high.

The Junior rugby team lost to School House in the first round. They fought hard right until the final whistle and gave a very good performance. The team comprised mainly of L.VI.'s. With this in mind the prospect of winning next year's competition is very good.

The chess matches have been rather disappointing. The two matches played against Ashton and Preston houses have both been lost. More practices must be held in order to gain victories. So anybody who can play chess must attend them.

We entered a very young team in the Gym competition. Each member of the team, which was placed fifth, gave a creditable performance. We hope that the team will do well in the future.

We now look forward to the brighter weather and the activities in the following weeks.

J.R.P.

Kirkham house

House Master: MR. H. J. REAY.

Assistant House Masters:

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

House Captain: I. HIRD.

House Vice-Captain: A. SMITH.

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

In recent years, the Summer Term has been the best for Kirkham House and last year was no exception, although we had to wait until the last fortnight of the term before winning a single cup. In that space of time, however, we won three: the Junior Cricket, Swimming and Shooting.

With six members of the U14 XI in the House, we began as favourites for the Junior Cricket Cup, but the margins of the victories must surely have surprised even the staunchest Kirkham House supporter. Even in the final, we obtained a nine wicket win over Lytham House: Lytham 24; Kirkham 25 for 1. Congratulations to the whole team on their enthusiasm and sharpness in the field, and especially to Fisher and Berry. Fisher handled his team astutely and returned a bowling analysis of 7/5 against School House, while Berry, only a lower fourth, scored 77 runs without once being out and took 15 wickets for 31 runs in the three matches.

In the Swimming Competition we had to concede the recently-introduced Standards Trophy to School House, but we had no difficulty in retaining the Swimming Cup proper for the sixth consecutive year. Thanks to individuals like West, Smith, Kirkham, Irving and Purnell and also to much talent in depth, Kirkham House were able to win two thirds of the races and finished 56 points ahead of the second house.

The Shooting team emerged victorious from the range after scoring 873 points. Bainbridge (170) and Dornie (164) contributed most to this total, which was enough to beat School House into second place by eight points, thus avenging a narrow defeat in last year's competition, in which there were three recounts.

Both Rugby teams showed considerable skill and remarkable enthusiasm before losing to Ashton House. The Seniors, without Pemberton, were up against an exceptionally strong team but, thanks to untiring performances from Smith and Shephard, were able to hold them to 15-0. The Juniors, having competently disposed of Lytham, faced a much-fancied Ashton team in the final. Things did not all go Ashton's way, however, and, after Kirkham had pulled back to 13-8, Ashton had to struggle hard to keep us out for the last quarter of an hour.

The Gym team gave a very good account of themselves and finished in second place only a few points behind the winners. West, who finished 4th individually, spent a lot of time coaching the team, especially the juniors, and was rewarded by Kirkham and Berry coming second and third respectively in the junior section.

Last, but by no means least, Chess. The House has played two matches this term, beating Lytham 15-9 and Ashton 14-10. The enthusiasm for practices, which was lost last year, has now been recaptured and with it have come these extremely encouraging results, which should help us to regain the Chess Cup which we temporarily loaned to Preston House last year.

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, R. MOLLOY, K. W. ROBERTS, C. J. ROSSALL, S. E. RUDDLESSEN.

I would like to welcome Mr. Taylor to the House and hope he enjoys his stay at the School and especially in Lytham House.

In the Summer Term the House is at its strongest and 1968 was no exception. Although no cups came our way the House did reach the final of the Junior Cricket (where we were beaten by Kirkham) and the final of the Senior Cricket where the team was beaten by Preston House in one of the best finals for many years.

The Rugby competitions of the Winter Term have been our failing with the Seniors losing to Fylde House in the first round. However, prospects are good for future years because only four of this year's team are prospective leavers. In the Junior Rugby the House beat Preston by 25 points to 14 in extra-time after trailing 14-6 until five minutes from time. Unfortunately in the semi-final a weakened side met the powerful Kirkham House and lost by 13 points to nil. In all matches and practices the Juniors showed keenness and Allan (Captain), Holmes (Pack leader) and Hunter deserve mention.

In the Gym Competition it was hoped that the House could field five of last year's team but due to the lack of keenness from the seniors four new members had to be brought in. This meant that five juniors and one senior had to make up the team of six and that last year's performance could not be followed by a similar performance this year. However, the members who did compete performed exceptionally well and Allison and Meakin should be congratulated for coming into the team at the last minute. D.G.E.

Preston house

House Master: MR. T. JACKMAN.

Assistant House Masters: MR. R. M. CLARKSON,
MR. D. C. FEARNHEAD.

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.

Mr. Clarkson has now replaced Mr. Smith as assistant House-master and I would like to wish them, on behalf of the house, both success and enjoyment in their respective new posts.

The house returned this term, still flushed with the victories of July, when, after a near-miss the previous year, we defeated Lytham house in a dour final to the Cricket Shield, our first trophy for several years. The win was a fine team effort, although Bignell and Benson (now Old Boys) and Worrall must be congratulated for their excellent performances. In the same week, the chess team

won their final match, and secured the Chess Cup—a well-earned reward for a hard-working team in a sport that does not share the glamour and excitement of other activities. Eluding our grasp, however, was the Debating Cup, which went to Fylde after a closely-contested final.

This term has seen the effort sustained, and success recorded in a variety of competitions. Perhaps the most pleasing has been the Work Cup, where, after the first half-term results, we were lying second, a mere .5 point behind the leaders Ashton. In the second half-term, four firsts, two seconds, and four thirds were obtained by boys, which promises an excellent overall result.

The Senior Rugby team beat the Fylde house 9—8 in an exciting game, all the team working hard and playing together. The Juniors were unfortunate to lose their game against Lytham 14—25 after a draw had necessitated extra-time.

The Chess team has continued its winning ways beating school (13—11) and Fylde (20—4). No doubt the well-attended, weekly practices under the supervision of C. A. H. Massey have contributed to this success.

Hard work and house spirit earned us 4th position in the Gym Cup. It was very encouraging to see the enthusiasm displayed at practices, notably in the Juniors; and congratulations to C. J. Riley on coming second in the individual senior competition.

The house has supplied members for virtually all school teams, and D. I. Stott is to be congratulated on being appointed captain of the school 2nd XV. The performance and attitude has been particularly pleasing, and they should be a great asset to the house in future years.

I hope the achievement of this term can be maintained throughout the year and that we will win more trophies with which to decorate Room 9. The results have served to demonstrate how team-work can bring about success, and how every individual, by making use of his own personal talents, can play an important role in house activities.

D.E.C.

School house

House Master: MR. R. A. KNOWLES.

Assistant House Masters: MR. G. BELLIS, MR. S. COOPER,
MR. J. A. SUTCLIFFE, MR. S. C. CROOK.

House Captain: M. E. ROBERTS.

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

This term has not been one of success for the House. In both the senior and junior rugby competitions the House was beaten by Ashton. In the gym cup the House came third—Aitchison coming 4th overall in the junior section. In the chess competition the House has suffered two rather unlucky defeats against Lytham and Preston. However, we are hoping for better things next term.

Throughout this term members of the House have represented the school in the rugby and cross-country teams. Bibey and Pape have represented the school in the 1st XV, whilst Roberts and Kett have represented the school in the Harriers.

M.E.R.

SOCIETY REPORTS

Auto-society

Chairman: MR. D. H. BUTTERWORTH.

Secretary: D. I. PILKINGTON.

Treasurer: D. G. ELLIOTT.

Committee: D. I. STOTT, R. V. R. V. HEATH, C. CHEETHAM, A. D. S. HALL.

Although this term the society's activities have been limited, we have found that there has been support from a wide section of the school.

The term began well and the first film, about the construction of the M6, attracted quite a number of boys.

The society feels, however, that a good deal more support could be raised, and with this in mind we are planning a series of films for the Spring term.

D.I.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 year we have more fixtures than ever, mainly due to last year's success when we only lost one match out of eight. To date the team has played five fixtures winning three and losing two. We beat Hutton G.S. 8 games to 1, Arnold G. S. 8 games to 1 and Blackpool G.S. 8 games to 1 but lost to K.E.S. 4 games to 5 and 2 games to 7.

From these results it can be seen that K.E.S. are our real opposition and the two remaining fixtures with them should prove to be very close indeed. The Club has its own U.16 team now who played Arnold G.S. and won 7 games to 2 at home, and lost 2 games to 7 away. Further U.16 fixtures are to be arranged for next term.

Finally the Club would like to thank Mr. Sutcliffe for his support and enthusiasm.

R.E.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.

The Chess Club this year has entered the newly formed Blackpool and Fylde Chess League. This is in an attempt to find stronger



Photo. by courtesy of the Lancashire Evening Post.
THE CAST: "THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR"

competition from clubs rather than schools. The school having won the Fylde Schools Chess League for the past five years. The team has played two matches this term, against King Edward's and Pelham Mount. The first match against King Edward's was won by 14 points to 2 points, in spite of the fact that King Edward's played a master in their team. The second game against Pelham Mount was won by 10 points to 6 points. To date, the following have represented the school in the league: I. Hird, K. W. Roberts, W. R. J. McQueen, C. A. H. Massey, J. B. R. N. Syms, P. G. Duxbury, M. P. Cunningham, J. Brandon and N. Fleet.

On the home front, the inter-house competition is again proving to be very close between Kirkham, Preston, and Ashton Houses. At present, Preston lead Kirkham by four points, but have had considerably easier matches so far.

Once again, a tremendous response to enter the School Chess Competition has been followed by an equally tremendous reluctance to play matches before the date stipulated. In this respect, the Junior Competition has progressed better than the Senior, although neither can be said to have progressed satisfactorily.

K.W.R.

Dramatic society

Turning our backs on Shakespeare W., (shame!) and wary of the hazards of another revolutionary campaign, the Dramatic Society this year theatrically breached the Iron Curtain and presented "The Government Inspector" by Nikolai Gogol. You will already be acquainted with the story and will no doubt have noticed the presence of two female females.

For the selection of these parts, the services of one Mr. J. A. S-T-L-F-E were engaged, a man whose perceptive eye and vast experience in these matters qualified him admirably for the task. After several evenings of "harrowing" auditions, J.A.S. returned, face aglow, to announce "Mission accomplished."

The same perceptive eye guided, coaxed, implored and bellowed us through our parts, successfully demonstrating the real significance and character of our various roles. Another gentleman, who prefers to go under the pseudonym of "the John Boulting of Wrea Green" was often present, adding his own brand of wit and scathing sarcasm to the cast's own repartee.

First night soon came upon us.

"Who's flogged me sword?"

"How about a bit more rouge on my cheeks, dear?"

"Cor!! These trousers! Are you sure they're 31. inside leg?"

"No, you fool!! That's one of the real girls!!"

The four nights all too quickly passed, leaving the cast savouring the real "showbiz" atmosphere—the glare of the footlights, the smell of the greasepaint . . . On Saturday night, J.A.S. waxed lyrical, and it was with great difficulty that the cast managed to hold back tears from make-up blackened eyes!

Indeed, the occasion, although one of rejoicing and relief, was truly tinged with sadness. Mr. McKerrow, one of the stalwarts of the Dramatic Society for the past 15 years, was attending his last performance in his capacity as stage-manager, and it was with much appreciation and deep regret that the society presented him with a small token of their gratitude.

All in all, a successful production. Who knows, next year's production—"Hair"?

D.E.C.

Geographical society

Chairman: MR. R. A. KNOWLES.

Secretary: W. R. J. MCQUEEN.

Treasurer: D. I. LITTLE.

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

This term, as usual, the society has shown a programme of films—five in all. These have ranged in quality from a very good one on Bilharia to a poor one called "Station 307." The Society has also published a "Christmas Quiz", with interesting questions and articles which should be made available to most of the Lower School.

Next Term in addition to showing films we hope to hold an "Oxfam Conference" at the school, to which local schools will be invited.

W.R.J.M.

Library

Chairman: MR. B. COATES.

Secretary: I. HIRD.

Treasurer: J. P. SMETHURST.

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

Owing to the great demand for space in the library during P.S. periods, resulting from our largest ever sixth form, the old, glass-faced book-cases have had to be withdrawn from the library to make way for another table. The ancient volumes which used to be housed in these book-cases have been distributed round the lower shelves of the library, but as soon as the oldest edition had been found their popularity rapidly dwindled. The book-cases themselves are now being used by the Art and Biology departments to provide extra cupboard space.

At the end of last year, the General School Committee approved a grant of £100 to supplement our yearly grant from the County for the purchase of new books. After much consideration and reference to the "Suggestions Book" a list of books has been compiled and orders placed with various booksellers. Some of these books have already arrived and the remainder are expected in the

very near future. The sub-librarians have worked very hard to make as many as possible available for the G.C.E. 'mock' candidates and the remainder will be accessioned as soon as possible.

Music society and orchestra

Chairman: MR. J. MURRAY.

Secretary: J. R. PORTER.

Treasurer: T. P. BUCKLEY.

Committee: C. D. ANDERSON, R. H. SIMPSON.

The main event of the Winter Term was the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols taking place at Kirkham Parish Church. The service featured both the choir and the orchestra, the former now having a membership of over seventy, which is about a sixth of the school's population. The membership of the orchestra is ever increasing due to a good number of juniors learning woodwind and brass instruments.

We now look forward to the end of the spring term when the Inter-House Music Competition and the Easter Concert take place.

J.R.P.

Scientific society

Chairman: MR. J. BRADBURY.

Secretary: W. McTAGGART.

Treasurer: D. JOHNSTON.

Committee: D. HOGGARTH, K. IRVINE, G. J. S. LONSDALE, J. B. R. N. SYMS.

This term has been a very active one for the society. The usual programme of weekly films has been shown and, due to their popularity, the membership of the society has greatly increased. Our thanks to Mr. Knowles and U.V.B. for the use of their form room.

For the first time in some years, a Christmas Competition has been held, with prizes for both Junior and Senior sections of the school.

W.M.

Table tennis club

Chairman: MR. D. C. FEARNHEAD.

Secretary: C. CHEETHAM.

Treasurer: P. A. CARTWRIGHT.

Committee: P. J. DERNIE, J. PIGOTT, D. I. PILKINGTON, E. PATTON, S. CLEGG.

The clubs suffered a disastrous start, having only four reasonable bats between twenty-five to thirty boys, but quickly picked up with four new bats and a dozen balls which have just managed to last the term, despite continual, sometimes unnecessary, battering.

The club is a big one this year but I am glad to say a good deal of sense and consideration has been taken by the majority of members, and I hope this standard is maintained next term.

C.C.

C.C.F. REPORT

Army section

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

Sgts.: G. P. ROBERTS, A. SMITH, J. P. SMETHURST.

Cpls.: P. J. COOPER, D. E. COWELL, J. G. GRIMBALDESTON, D. C. JOHNSTON, C. A. H. MASSEY, T. A. MUSSON, G. C. PAPE, R. E. PIGOTT, M. E. ROBERTS, D. I. STOTT, A. J. WALSH.

L/Cpls.: A. W. COX, P. G. JONES.

The main event since the last issue of the Kirkhamian was the annual summer camp at Menai Bridge, Anglesey. At the summer camp senior cadets took part in an arduous training programme of canoeing and fell walking. The juniors carried out many activities such as a night exercise normally outside the scope of the contingent's resources.

The end of the summer camp saw the departure of S/Sgt. J. R. Hughes to Sandhurst Royal Military Academy and of Cadet Strong to Welbeck College, the contingent must congratulate them on their achievements.

The major event of the term has been Field Day on Thursday, 24th November. The juniors had an active programme, with a map reading course in the morning followed by various fieldcraft activities in the afternoon. The seniors took part in a map reading exercise which ran smoothly partly due to several radio sets brought by R.S.M. Spencer which proved valuable as the day progressed. Also on Field Day about thirty cadets spent the day at Altcar using a variety of modern weapons.

Meanwhile Thursday afternoon training goes on satisfactorily. The cadre (expertly instructed by R.S.M. Spencer) has already been given experience in handling the younger cadets. Platoons 2 and 3 are busily preparing for their Proficiency exam in February. A new item in the training programme is the M.T. Section under the supervision of Captain Butterworth. The contingent has recently acquired an army landrover, and alterations to the old cadet hut have produced the necessary garage with the result that about 15 senior cadets are now instructed by Captain Butterworth, aided by Cpl. Stott on various M.T. subjects, thus expanding the scope on the contingent.

The contingent, after a good start, hopes to carry on its success by obtaining good reports and good results in future dates: Army Proficiency, Annual Inspection, Altcar, Easter and Summer Camps.

I must also take this opportunity in thanking last years C.S.M. G. Cartmell who is now studying at St. John's College Oxford, for all the work and effort made by him, and his work was clearly shown by the success gained by the contingent.

D.A.S.

Summer camp 1968: Menai Bridge

To most people at K.G.S., Friday 12th July meant the end of term, but to a few upper fourths it meant their first C.C.F. camp. We left Kirkham Station at 0814 hrs. and arrived at Bangar Station at 1138 hrs. From the station, coaches took us across the Menai Suspension Bridge to the town of Menai Bridge and our camp on the island of Ynys Gaint. The "island" is in the Menai Strait and is connected to Anglesey by a causeway.

On Saturday, we started our activities with fieldcraft in Snowdonia. Even if it was not a very successful exercise, it was certainly enjoyable. The surrounding scenery made every activity there an experience not to be missed. This included the canoing which we did the following morning.

Monday saw us on a 12-mile map-reading walk on Anglesey. Again the countryside allowed no comparison with any exercise in the fields around the school.

The following morning, we took to the water again—this time in two coastal reconnaissance vessels which took us north-eastwards along the Menai Strait almost as far as the sea. That afternoon we went to R.A.F. Valley in two 3-tonners. While we were there we learnt a great deal about advanced training, air traffic control, fire-fighting and R.A.F. Rescue. Ten cadets were chosen to be winched up into a Westland Whirlwind H.A.R. 10 helicopter.

On Wednesday morning we ascended Snowdon—on foot! When we reached the summit, we could see most of Snowdonia and, beyond, Aberystwyth. In the afternoon, we descended to a bivouac site where we existed for a day on 24-hour rations. That night, we did an exercise on the hill-side, in the dark, and thus were extremely tired during the "section in attack" which was the following day's programme.

For the last day we went to Ty Croes where there is a range. We shot mostly .22 rifles there, although some cadets were old enough to fire .303's. This was the first time that one or two had fired a rifle.

And so came Saturday, when we had to return to Kirkham, exhausted but with many enjoyable memories.

A. TOWNSEND, L.V.Y.

R.A.F. section

Flight Sgt.: I. HIRD.

Sgts.: C. BAINBRIDGE, M. A. BIBEY, J. R. PORTER.

Cpls.: J. S. ALEXANDER, J. E. MELLOR, I. L. NICOL, R. M. PATTERSON, S. W. PEMBERTON.

Four years ago, when thirty cadets from the lower fifth opted to join the R.A.F. Section, there was a major upheaval upon the

parade ground—a second flight had to be formed and, for want of a more original system of nomenclature, it became known as B Flight. Three years later, a C Flight was necessitated and this year sees the introduction of D Flight, so great was the number of new entrants.

Once again, on Field Day, it was basically a choice between flying at Woodvale and an overnight stay at R.A.F. Lindholme, although a selected few were able to go to Altcar and shoot various types of guns. It was a pity that we are unable to go to a station other than Lindholme, but, even if the place is the same, the activities there are always different and even the “old faithfuls” must admit to having a completely varied programme each year.

Lastly, it is with deep regret that I have to announce the departure of Flight Lieutenant McKerrow who is going to teach at Windsor. If this report continued to the end of the magazine, it would be impossible to include all the invaluable work that he has done for the R.A.F. Section, so I do not intend to try. On behalf of the entire section I shall merely say—quite inadequately—“Thank you, Mr. Mac.”

I.H.

SCHOOL SPORTS

Cricket 1968

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
1st XI	10	2	4	4
2nd XI	7	2	4	1

Neither 1st nor 2nd XI's were too successful during the season, and the two games won by the 1st XI were against a weak Old Boy's side, and a depleted staff team, sadly out of form.

Lack of practice in the early part of the season, coupled with a shortage of cricketers with real ability led to the failure of both teams. The batsmen never looked confident, and bowlers had little success, finding length and direction elusive. The first XI lacked a really good opening bowler—Alexander and Simpson were too erratic to be dangerous when attempting to bowl fast, and the spin bowlers Hird and Roberts, although full of promise bought wickets too dearly. The batsmen promised much at the start of the season and Cartmell and Bignell began well with good opening partnerships against Preston G.S.; St. Josephs, and Hutton G.S., but they were rarely supported by the other recognised batsmen. However, towards the end of the season there were signs of improvement, due to the number of matches they played in a short spell.

The 2nd XI's failure stemmed from the same causes as the first team, although several players in the 2nd's show promise for the future.

I. Hird, G. Cartmell and K. Bignell were awarded full colours.

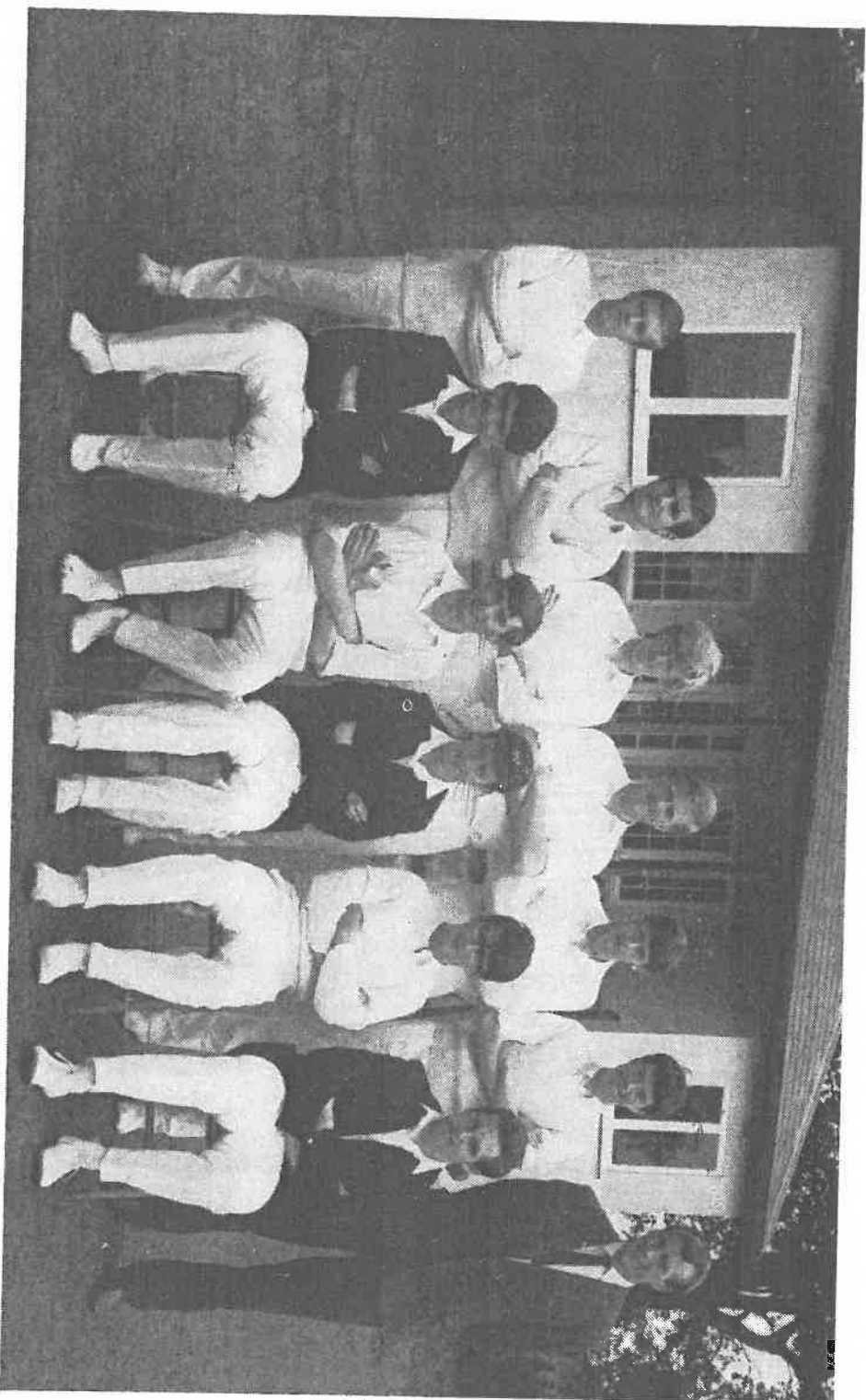
	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>
U. 14 XI	4	0	4	0

The Under 14 team had a disappointing season, failing to win any of their four games, and scoring a total of only 106 runs. Lack of early season practice through bad weather did not help, but the main cause of the failure was a lack of resolution in the batsmen. Too many players expected to score "ducks" and duly obliged, few were prepared to build the foundations of a large innings, and the highest individual score was 13 by M. Hird. S. Berry who had promised well in 1967 failed to score runs, but should do better in the future. The most successful bowler was R. Fisher who took 10 wickets at 6.4 runs each.

The U. 15's played one match against Balshaw's G.S. by 70 runs to 22. Top scorer was J. D. H. Smith (35), and successful bowlers were Brandon (5 for 16) and Farrar (4 for 5). With conscientious practice some of the U. 15's will make useful 1st XI players in the coming seasons.

Inter-house cricket

The Inter-House matches provided some entertaining cricket and in the final Preston (147) beat Lytham (112) to win their first cup for four years. Benson scored 54 for Preston, and Cartmell 34 for Lytham.



THE FIRST ELEVEN, 1968

BACK ROW (*from left*): P. Worrall, D. A. Shephard, J. S. Alexander, D. E. Cowell, D. J. Benson,
K. W. Roberts, D. E. Worth Esq.

FRONT ROW: G. Cartmell, J. A. S. Hunter (Vice-Capt.), I. Hird, (Capt.), R. H. Simpson, K. M. Bignell.

K.G.S. 1st XI v. Old Boys' XI

K.G.S. 81—6—OLD BOYS 79.

The Old Boys won the toss and elected to bat first; however, both openers were back in the pavilion with only 8 runs on the board. Wickets fell regularly throughout the afternoon and only Rayton (17) offered any worthy resistance to the school bowlers. Shortly after the tea-break the Old Boys were finally dismissed for 79, thanks mainly to Roberts (5/26) and Hird (3/22).

In the School XI's innings wickets also fell cheaply and at one stage 3 were down for 25. However, Hunter (24 n.o.) provided the backbone of the innings and, with support from Worrall (11) and Benson (13), saw the School to victory with 4 wickets to spare.

P. WORRALL, L.VI.M.

K.G.S. 1st XI v. Masters XI

K.G.S. 133—4 dec.—MASTERS 38.

The Masters, brimming with confidence, won the toss and put the 1st XI in to bat. Their gamble seemed justified when Cartmell was out to the second ball of the match. However, the School batsmen gained the upper hand and began to attack the bowling. There were two fifty partnerships, between Bignell (32) and Hird (66 n.o.) and between Hird and Hunter (24)—the latter realising 70 runs at almost two runs a minute. Mr. Worth (3/46) was the most successful of the Master's bowlers.

This, the final match of the season, was the one game in which all the principal school batsmen finally made good scores, and their attractive display allowed the captain to declare with the score at 133—4. A total made in 136 minutes.

The Masters seemed to be starting soundly, but, after Mr. Fearnhead's dismissal, with the score at 14—2, his contribution being 10, the batting collapsed dramatically and 6 wickets fell for 16 runs. It took the school bowlers, in particular Roberts (5/9), only 74 minutes to dismiss the Staff XI and ensure a comfortable victory for the 1st XI by 95 runs.

P. WORRALL, L.VI.M.

SWIMMING

INTER-GRAMMAR SCHOOL SWIMMING GALA

For a long time, swimming at K.G.S. has been regarded as a very minor sport, but at last after some intensive training, the swimmers have gained the success they deserve. In the Inter Grammar Schools Swimming Gala, the Senior team were second to Blackpool G.S., a feat never before achieved by a K.G.S. swimming team. The result rested on the final relay, but Blackpool proved too strong for us. The Seniors gained places in every individual event, A. Smith coming first in the 55 yards Breast Stroke and Butterfly events, and T. S. West first in the 110 yards; and second in the

55 yards free style events. J. Kirkham was third in the 220 yards free style, and T. Irving fourth in the 55 yards Back Stroke. The Free Style relay team (Smith, West, Pigott R., Ward J.) was third. In the Junior Events Smith R. (2nd) was our only success.

Next year, the same team will represent the School, and perhaps a win will result, if the enthusiasm shown during the season is maintained.

Inter-house swimming

This year, two cups were presented. The Standard Points having been separated from the points gained in the competition. This proved to be successful, and the Standards Cup was won by the School House. As all teams started level in the Gala, it depended on performance on the day, rather than on one house having a lead over the others by virtue of more standard points.

Kirkham House, hard pushed at the start, and in most Junior events, eventually proved to be too strong in the Seniors and won quite easily. Mrs. Dernie (Assistant Secretary to the Friends Soc.) presented the trophy.

RESULTS—STANDARD POINTS COMPETITION

- 1st SCHOOL HOUSE
- 2nd KIRKHAM HOUSE
- 3rd ASHTON HOUSE
- LYTHAM HOUSE
- 5th PRESTON HOUSE
- 6th FYLDE HOUSE

SWIMMING COMPETITION

- 1st KIRKHAM HOUSE 108 pts.
- 2nd SCHOOL HOUSE 52 pts.
- 3rd LYTHAM HOUSE 41 pts.
- 4th ASHTON HOUSE 31 pts.
- 5th FYLDE HOUSE 29 pts.
- 6th PRESTON HOUSE 26 pts.

RUGBY

1st XV	.	.	.	.	.	P	W	D	L	F	A
						15	10	0	5	227	111
2nd XV	.	.	.	.	.	12	7	0	5	147	80

Both senior teams quickly found their form of last season and were soon on the winning trail. Playing good, fast rugby they scored many points. The second XV so far has proved to be one of the best for several years, and of the five games lost, only two have been by more than three points. Ably led by D. Stott, a most improved player, the pack has shown much spirit, and won a lot of ball for some able backs. In the back row, C. Rawstrone and J. Brandon have been outstanding, and J. Smethurst, promoted to the 1st XV, has been a safe full-back.

Both 1st and 2nd XV's played their best games against Blackpool G.S., the only side to beat last year's 1st XV and it looked as though we were about to have another long, unbeaten run. The next match, against Cowley, soon put an end to these hopes. The 1st XV whilst playing good rugby had no answer to the speed and skill of the Cowley XV, although the 2nd XV were unlucky to lose 0—8 points. This began a period of uncertainty for the 1st team, and four defeats followed.

The first team, ably led by A. Smith can, however, congratulate themselves on a good term. They have regained their composure, and finished this term's fixtures with a fine 31—0 points victory over St. Joseph's College. In this game they played the best rugby of the term—fast, interpassing between backs and forwards.

County trials are now underway and I congratulate R. E. Pigott, A. Smith, D. Shephard, J. Pigott, and J. Martindale on their selection for the Mid-Lancs side. I hope that they do well in the future Trials, and that K.G.S. will be well represented in the County Team.

	P	W	D	L	F	A
U. 15 XV	10	2	—	8	55	157

Despite the poor record, the team's play has improved during the term. Only once has the team been at full-strength, injuries occurring regularly throughout the term. Three matches were completed with only fourteen fit men, and the final match played with six reserves. Tomlinson has led the team well with good support from Buckley, Leeming, Metcalf Suttle, Thomas and Thompson. Young is a most improved player, and has used his height well in the line outs. A. S. Taylor has been outstanding, and his tackling is exceptional. He well deserves his place, with G. R. Tomlinson, in the Mid-Lancs. U.15 team.

	P	W	D	L	F	A
U. 14 XV	9	2	0	7	95	210

Under the captaincy of N. G. Allan, the team started enthusiastically and won two easy victories. However, injuries to several key players reduced scoring potential, and confidence was shaken. S. J. Berry took over from Allan, who broke his arm, and had to cope with a depleted pack and inexperienced backs.

Superior physical stature of the opposition has been a big factor in many games. Nevertheless, with Allan back in the side, and Bamber kicking goals well, a change in fortune may come in the new year.

	P	W	D	L	F	A
U. 13 XV	7	1	1	5	68	161

This season has not been as successful as was first anticipated, due to lack of leadership in the early stages, and too many individuals being reluctant to share possession with their team-mates. They must realise that individualism must be moderated to suit a team game and that there is little chance of winning matches unless

possession becomes a team effort. Tackling was weak at the start of the season, but has improved considerably. Outstanding players have been Worthington (pack leader and captain), Jenkins, Stevens, Bramwell, Birch and Dickinson.

	P	W	D	L	F	A
U. 12 XV	2	1	0	1	15	17

The U. 12's provide the only ray of hope at the moment. They have taken naturally to rugby, and there are some very promising players in the side. Wright, Wood and McGregor have been outstanding in the backs, and Collins, Hunter and Bellamy in the forwards have shown great ability.

K.G.S. 1st XV v. Old Boys XV

RESULT: K.G.S. 17 pts.—OLD BOYS 3 pts.

The two teams went warily on to the sodden field, making unpleasant allusions to the dependable British weather, dependable because it was then, as always, raining. Undaunted, thirty-one men (the referee was brave too) decided to fight the weather, and the opposing side. The game would obviously be centred on the forwards and in the first ten minutes both teams shoved, heaved and cursed strongly, the Old Boys coming off best. However they gave away innumerable penalties and, somewhat disheartened they ebbed to the powerful tide of the 1st XV. Pemberton scored the first try from a loose scrum after a hard, penetrating run. Both full-backs handled the wet ball exceptionally well in the first half but the dreary weather meant that spectacular slides provided the only enthralling moments in the first half. However 'la deluge' deigned to abate for the 2nd half and the Old Boys started well again, Hobbs, at scrum-half, made an elusive break which was luckily stopped by a bone-jarring tackle from Pemberton. Nevertheless the 1st XV's superior fitness soon reasserted itself and a break by Bibey led to a try by Armstrong. Feeling rather indignant the Old Boys gathered their sapping strength and Kerby started a forward rush by the Old Boys which was finished with a try by McIlldowie. The 1st XV drove back and Pigott R. kicked a penalty. The closing stages drew nearer and just before the whistle went Martindale crossed the line after the forwards had worked the ball out of a loose scrum; an almost identical performance was repeated within the next two minutes and Martindale crossed again. Pigott converted and the game finished. The two teams trooped off the muddy pitch, the 1st XV smiling happily and the Old Boys smiling ruefully, knowing that under such conditions even superior skill cannot match superior fitness.

J. N. SUMNER, U.VI.M.

Harriers 1968

	R	W	L
SENIORS	7	7	0

The Harriers have enjoyed an excellent term. Matches have been held against the following schools:—Hutton, St. Joseph's, King Edward's, Preston Catholic College, Blackpool Grammar School, Baines Grammar School and Stoneyhurst. All these matches resulted in victories for the school, and only in the matches against Blackpool Grammar School and Stoneyhurst was the margin of victory really narrow.

The most successful runner has been Roberts M. E. who has had an excellent term. He has been first home either alone or with other runners on every occasion except against Blackpool Grammar School when he finished second. On five occasions Barton finished with him, on four occasions O'Neil was with him, and Musson came in with him three times. Of the other members of the team, Massey, after a poor start with injury has begun to show something of his old form. Beaven has maintained some very consistent performances, Hunter has made an almost incredible improvement and Rawcliffe and Kett have given very valuable support. The reserves, Murphy and Bretherton, although never having represented the school, have trained and always been available for selection.

In summing up the greatest asset of the team has been their ability to run together. Our victories have all been made possible by some excellent grouping. Finally a tribute must be paid to the excellent captaincy, the good work of the secretary and the tremendous spirit of the runners which has increased over the term.

INTER-HOUSE GYMNASTICS

During the last weeks of this term, most houses have been holding practices to prepare for the gym competition, and because of this intensive preparation, the competition produced a very high standard of performance. It was perhaps, the best competition we have had, with all competitors showing ability and control, as a result of the many evenings spent in practicing the agilities and vaults required.

By way of a change from previous programmes, two new activities were introduced. The Seniors had a compulsory sequence, designed to show control of simple gymnastic movements, and the Juniors were asked to apply their skill to working on a set arrangement of apparatus, instead of the usual sequence up and down a mat. This produced some of the best gymnastics in the competition. D. S. Short, J. Kirkham and S. Aitchison were particularly outstanding and gave polished and well-practiced performances.

The Seniors competition produced some upsets. T. S. West, leading after the compulsory work and the floor sequence, was beaten into fourth place on the free vaulting. A. Cross who eventually won the Individual Competition produced two superb results to put him into this position. C. Riley and T. Armstrong, surprised both competitors and themselves by finishing second and third, and deserve every credit for good performances.

Mr. J. Browlee, Area Physical Education Organiser was present to judge the competition and present the trophy. He said, in summing up, that he had been impressed with the enthusiasm shown by competitors and spectators alike, and by the high standards of performance of the competitors.

Results

	<i>Points</i>
1st ASHTON	331
2nd KIRKHAM	313
3rd SCHOOL	293
4th PRESTON	281
5th FYLDE	270
6th LYTHAM	234

Individual results

Senior:

	<i>Points</i>	
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Possible</i>
1st A. CROSS . . .	76	90
2nd C. RILEY . . .	71	90
3rd T. ARMSTRONG	69	90
4th T. WEST . . .	68	90

Junior:

1st D. SHORT . . .	52	60
2nd J. KIRKHAM . .	46	60
3rd S. BERRY . . .	43	60

PROFILE No. 26



IAN WILLIAM McKERROW 1954-68

In writing a profile of a popular figure there are obvious difficulties. By being complimentary, there is a danger of presenting an unreal image, and the description might be discounted as merely an act of parting courtesy. But the case of Ian William McKerrow provides a remarkable example of how one person can command both respect and affection, through his own sincerity and personal participation in school activities. In his fifteen year stay at K.G.S., he has always been a favourite of the boys and has always been known simply and amiably as "Mac."

A native of Birkenhead, Mr. McKerrow, during the years prior to the outbreak of the Second World War, was a pupil at Birkenhead School. In 1942, at the tender age of 18, he joined the R.A.F., and served five, most eventful (!) years, finishing in 1947 with the rank

of Flight Lieutenant. The now-famous moustache no doubt originated from his sojourn with the "Glamour Boys!"

Back in "civies", Mr. McKerrow was undecided about a career. He finally chose teaching, and his natural interests in agriculture led him towards biological study. From 1951 to 1953 he was a student at Durham Training College, a stay which saw the start of his long friendship with Mr. Butterworth. Then, in 1954, Mr. McKerrow came to K.G.S., joining the staff at the same time as another "young" master, Mr. Reay.

From that time to the present, Mr. McKerrow has been involved in all spheres of school activity. On the sports field, he has contributed to the success of school teams by his experienced coaching, as well as playing rugby himself for Old Birkonians and taking part in Palace Shield cricket. No doubt Mr. Crane has miserable memories of the occasion when he was run out by a well-aimed throw from I.W.M.!

C.C.F. is another activity which Mr. McKerrow has enjoyed and for which he was well-suited after his war-time service. He can recall many memorable camps; one, especially, when he had to severely restrain one cadet from continually pestering a Group Captain's daughter. Camps also gave him an opportunity to do some fell-walking, and boys will certainly remember the fearsome twosome, "Mac and Jack" on those Cultybraggan romps!

Strong were his connections, also with the Dramatic Society, which, since its more primitive days of hessian back cloths and timber scenery has now become a flourishing company, complete with the theatrical intricacies of flats and furniture.

House competitions have brought I.W.M. even more into the centre of school life: Fylde house, especially, will be most sorry to see him go.

At K.G.S., Mr. McKerrow's teaching syllabus has been a varied one, progressing from Agricultural Science, through General Science, finally to Biology, the subject which he is going to teach, as head of department, at Windsor Secondary School.

However, he has not been dominated by school, and with his wife and three children, derives a great deal of pleasure from his family life, as well as from his numerous hobbies, which include golf, listening to music, and Do-it-Yourself.

Let it be hoped that he will enjoy himself and be as contented as he has been at Kirkham, safe in the knowledge that his own wonderful personality has secured him a place in the memories of 15 years of schoolboys and masters.

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.

The Garden Party this year was opened by a K.G.S. old boy, Mr. P. Wyndham Hall, J.P., County Councillor, who in his opening speech reflected on the past of the school, pointing out that a school was judged by its former pupils, and the support of parents. This, whether coincidence or not, made the Garden Party one of the most profitable on record, much to our former Treasurer (now Chairman) Mr. Scott's joy.

The "Friends" official year began with the Annual General Meeting, when some new members were elected onto the committee. These new members are very welcome, as they bring with them new ideas which stimulate the growth of the Association. The social season followed with a Whist and Domino Drive in October, then in November our Annual Dinner Dance at the Clifton Hotel, Lytham. The guest this year was Mr. Irving, a founder member and a former Chairman of the "Friends". This event was attended by 80 members and guests.

Once again we must congratulate Mr. Pilkington on the running of our Christmas Draw, which in spite of the G.P.O. rises in costs, showed the profit to be comparable with the high standard that Mr. Pilkington always sets.

Looking forward to 1969, the Social Committee is endeavouring to provide a more varied programme which will include an old favourite, the Supper Dance at Samlesbury Hall in March. The Project for 1968/69 has not as yet been finalised, but I would like to emphasize, that only your support enables us to provide the equipment which, in these days of cuts and squeezes, the school needs to carry on its good work.

My attention has again been drawn to the fact that some members have not been receiving notices of the various events. Would the persons concerned please contact me so that this matter can be rectified. Occasionally changes of address do not get to us.

14 Ribblesdale Close,
Kirkham,
Preston PR4 2HT.

K. GREGORY,
Hon. General Secretary.

K.G.S. OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

President: 1968-69—W. J. LOFTUS,* ESQ.

President, elect: 1968-69—D. NORWOOD,* ESQ.

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. J. E. AXTEN, A. CLIFT, J. DANDY, J. DAVY, A. HOWARTH, R. HAWORTH, F. H. JOLLY, W. J. LOFTUS, J. F. MORSE, J. K. PLATT, J. A. RICHARDSON, R. RUSSELL, J. TOMLINSON, C. C. TOYNE, E. O. WALTON AND R. O. WILSON.

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

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

Committee Members: Messrs. S. CRANE, J. DAVY, P. HODGSON, G. HOWARTH, D. R. G. HUNT, F. JOLLY, W. H. KENNEDY* (*Headmaster*), R. E. KITCHEN, W. D. MOLYNEUX, M. MYRES, J. PENROSE, H. REAY AND E. SMITH.

**Ex-Officio Committee Members.*

Current affairs

1. THE ANNUAL RUGBY MATCH against the School 1st XV was held on Saturday 21st September, 1968 at 2.30 p.m. Some earnest work by sixth formers and ground staff earlier in the morning had seen to it that, even though the new steel rugby posts had not arrived, there would still be the old wooden ones to aim at. If both sides 'tried' hard that is.

Our able rugby football secretary, P. E. Clark, had got together what, on paper at least, looked like a very competent side. Their prompt appearance on the rain-soaked pitch bore out this impression. They looked fit and powerful. Their colourful kit emphasised that they were all regular participants in the game elsewhere, come to put an edge on their play (at the expense of the School team we hoped) after a summer spent at a more leisurely pace. A fine spirit was abroad amongst them too, several team members having travelled many miles to oblige us. Most of them had had to choose between attending this game, followed by tea in the canteen and the A.G.M. followed by dinner at the Dalmeny! Finally, they felt that the torrential rain of the past week, which eased a little during the play, would create conditions better suited to them than their opponents for the next 80 minutes.

This year our team was: S. Willcock (1946-54), T. Redfern (1958-66), K. Howard (1952-60), J. Rayton (1959-66), T. Akeroyd (1964-66), G. Worral (1958-66), M. Hobbs (1957-63), J. Kerby (1961-68), P. Fenton (1950-58), G. Wellens (1956-61), A. Pilling (1960-67), P. Jeffery (1958-65), S. Hemmingway (1963-65), P. Clark (1958-66), J. MacIldowie (1957-64). The referee was Mr. A. J. Harrison of the Manchester Referees' Society, a former hooker for Rochdale. This was the first time that a member of the K.G.S.

staff had not been in charge of the game. Mr. I. W. McKerrow (1953-68) had refereed this match for the last 11 years and 'Sch . . . you know who' before him for 'SCH . . . you don't know' how many years!

For an account of the game please read 'Sumners Summary' elsewhere in this issue. Suffice it for me to record that the final score was School 17 points, Old Boys' 3 (try by John Kerby).

2. THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER was held at the Dalmeny Hotel, South Promenade, St. Annes on Sea, on Friday, 27th September, 1968 beginning at 6.30 p.m. (Dinner, 7.15 p.m.). The A.G.M. was attended by 45 members and the business went very smoothly indeed. Two items need mentioning here however. First, will members please note that the area representative for Blackpool in place of Mr. J. Kerr (1934-39) who has moved to Wharles, will be Mr. P. Hodgson (1940-45). Peter's address is 81, Norbreck Road, Little Bispham, Blackpool. Secondly under item 5 on the agenda (Revision of subscription rates) the following proposal by the Committee was adopted;

'THAT as from 1st July, 1969 the Annual Membership Subscription be TEN SHILLINGS; that the Life Membership Subscription be TEN GUINEAS (in accordance with Rule 12 of the Association); and that the Vice-President subscription remain at a single payment of FIVE POUNDS. Further, that the Life Membership subscription may be paid in TWO instalments each of FIVE GUINEAS provided that the second instalment is paid WITHIN THREE YEARS of the first'.

Will members please note that it will be cheaper to become a Life Member before 1st July 1969 since, until that date, the current Life Membership fee of FIVE GUINEAS will be in force. Annual Members should contact the Hon. Treasurer directly and at once so that he may inform them what balance they need to pay to convert their Annual Membership to a Life Membership at the cheaper rate. Hurry, hurry, whilst these bargain prices last!

The Annual Dinner was being held for the first time at the Dalmeny Hotel. 113 people attended the dinner (25 of whom had left K.G.S. during the last three years—only one third of last years numbers in this category; 81 other members and 7 guests). The Chief Guest who proposed the toast of 'The School' was Dr. I. C. R. Byatt (1943-50). Some of the 'confessions' he made were that as Captain of the 1st XV he had led the team to many memorable defeats; for not drinking his milk he had been severely reprimanded as this was regarded as being 'wicked wartime waste'; a hand in painting the Pavilion and subscribing to the Canteen bell. Dr. Byatt thanked K.G.S. for having developed in him what he called 'intellectual honesty'—working a problem out to the end for one's personal satisfaction. Mr. W. H. Kennedy replied to the toast. In referring to the Deputy Headmaster's illness in July he likened the bevy of helpers Mr. Crane had had to the "Siege of Sidney's Street." About general education matters he said that in his opinion too much was being attempted too fast.

Mr. G. Bellis, who for the past eight years has perpetuated one particular K.G.S. tradition, that of a Welshman teaching English, proposed the toast of 'The Association'. His speech was both entertaining and comprehensive. Mr. R. O. Wilson (President 1967-68) replied to this toast whilst Mr. D. Norwood (President-Elect 1968-69) proposed the toast of 'Our Guests'. He recalled that guests had first been invited to this function in 1956 when the Presidents of Blackpool G.S.O.B. Assocn. and Old Arnoldians had been present. This year we were able to welcome their representatives once more along with those of Baines G.S., Lytham G.S. and Hutton G.S. O.B. Assocs. Mr. M. E. Ellacott, Accommodation Officer at Lancaster University and President 1968-69 of Old Huttonians, responded.

Many of our regular attenders at this function agreed that this has been one of the best venues we have had for the Dinner. Messrs. J. E. Axten (1938-43) and H. H. Binns (1929-35) would like to see more of their contemporaries next year. Financially the Hon. Treasurer reported a surplus of almost £10 at the October Committee meeting. We shall be there again in 1969. The committee hopes that none then will find the menu 'unimaginative'—by perhaps introducing a 'bird' during the evening?

Looking to the future

1. It is now late November 1968 as this copy is handed on to the Editor of the Kirkhamian. To date the Membership is 630 and, apart from our overseas contingent, all second class, fourpenny ones I might add. Over the last two years therefore we have gained about 50 members. This represents a slow, sure growth, but I do hope for 700 PAYING members for 1970. May the July 'harvest' be a good one and may the committee have success with its project of trying to trace over 125 missing Life Members. But the future looks rosy and it was not altogether inappropriate perhaps that one morning last summer I received a circular telling me that I really should not be without the 'Fort-Knox high security safe with the new and revolutionary revolving door built similar to the breech of a Battleship gun'. Well, perhaps a telephone first . . .!

2. They're coming. The 1970's that is when the M6 extension between Carnforth and Penrith will be completed; on February 15th, 1971 Decimalisation Day will be celebrated; in Munich 1972 the Olympic Games will be held whilst in Preston it will be Guild Year; the Morecambe Bay barrage may be built; there may be a 35 hour week with six weeks holiday a year; the new Royal Mint will be being constructed in Wales; Blackpool may have its Municipal Zoo at Stanley Park and a Hovercraft Terminal elsewhere; Tachographs may be just 'one of those things'. Oh yes and our Association will be 50 years old on January 21st, 1970. Sign on now to join in then. We do not take any pride in a waiting list here. Whilst I am Secretary I like to think that it is the easiest thing in the world to become a Member.

News of Old Boys

- G. ANDREWS
(1959-66) Graham was awarded the Henrici Medal for Mathematics of the City and Guilds of London Institute. He is a student at Imperial College, London.
- H. BASTERFIELD
(1946-51) Harry is teaching English & Mathematics at Longridge Secondary Modern School. He is a Member of Fulwood C.C. 1st XI.
- A. J. BENNETT
(1952-58) After leaving K.G.S., Alan went straight up to Edinburgh where, for $9\frac{1}{2}$ years, he worked as an actuary for a Life Assurance Company. He has now joined a large Group Pension Broker in Croydon and was married in October 1968. Mr. & Mrs. Bennett are living in East Grinstead, Sussex.
- R. BENSON
(1947-53) As Chairman of the Kirkham and Fylde Round Table, Richard presented the new children's playground at Kirkham to the Mayor on the occasion of its official opening by Arthur Lesley (alias 'Jack Walker', mine host in 'Coronation Street').
- J. C. BLOSSOM
(1952-59) Joe was married in August 1968 to Miss Janet Ruth McKie (sister of another Old Boy, Dr. N. I. P. McKie (1953-59).
- M. N. BOWTELL
(1951-56) After teaching R.E. at Longridge Secondary Modern School Michael moved to Clevedon, Nr. Bristol. He now works in the Sales Dept. of "Avery" Scales.
- W. L. BRIGHTMORE
(1940-44) My apologies are due to this member whose 'death' was recorded in the last issue. In fact it was his father who had died and Bill, now retired from the police force, is now 'mine host' at a 'pub in the Clitheroe area'. My thanks to J. R. Gill (1936-42) for this information but can anyone add to it?
- B. BROADBENT
(1949-55) Brian, his wife and three sons live in Sheffield. He is a representative for the firm of "Spear & Jackson."
- J. CATTERALL
(1950-56) John teaches music at William Temple School.
- S. J. CHAMBERS
(1934-41) On September 1st 1968 Stuart took up the Headship of Moredon High School, Swindon.
- B. CONSTANTINE
(1952-57) Bryan was married on August 3rd 1968 to Miss J. A. N. Rawstron of Lea.

- J. COPLEY
(1946-53) John is an assistant in Education Administration in South Shields.
- A. COTTOM
(1944-50) Tony lectured to Preston Travel Club last September about his visit last year to see his brother Maurice who is an administrator at a mission school in Northern Nigeria.
- P. FENTON
(1950-58) Peter did the surveying for Kirkham's new adventure playground opened on August 24th, 1968.
- M. GILES
(1961-68) Michael gained a first-class honours degree in physiology at Liverpool University last year. He is studying medicine at the University.
- R. C. HARRIS
(1963-68) He was awarded a Rolls Royce Scholarship last year.
- E. JOHNSON
(1941-46) He works for the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and recently moved from Bournemouth to Stockton Heath in their employ.
- A. C. KENNEDY
(1956-63) He obtained a B.Sc. in Engineering from Manchester University in 1966.
- A. D. KIRKBY
(1956-64) In June 1968 Andrew graduated M.A. in Social Science with 2nd class honours in Geography from St. Andrew's University. He is now studying for an M.Sc. in Urban Planning at the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology in Cardiff.
- A. J. LEWIS
(1953-61) He is now a lecturer in Statistics at Leicester Regional College of Technology.
- G. LLOYD
(1951-56) Geoff. teaches Geography at Ribbleton Hall School where he is also Careers Master. He plays cricket for Fulwood C.C. 1st XI.
- D. LOMAS
(1955-62) David teaches Mathematics at Burnham Secondary School, Essex. After leaving K.G.S. he trained as a schoolmaster at Culham College where he founded a Table Tennis Club of which he became secretary and Vice-Captain. Soon after reaching Burnham he was quickly recognised as one of the district's best known players. He now plays for Burnham Sports Club, the league champions and was made Press Officer and then Secretary in 1967. At present he is acting secretary for the Essex Schools' Table Tennis Association. In January 1968 he took up football refereeing, passing the necessary

exams in March '68. He is now registered with the Lancashire F.A. and has refereed matches in Preston. In the summer months he is a keen cricketer.

J. W. MARSHALL
(1956-62)

Jim works for W. L. Cookson Ltd. (monumental sculptors) as sculptor and sales representative. He was married on September 14th to Miss S. E. Bulley of Preston. Jim is a keen swimmer and a member of Freckleton F.C. though he and his wife now live at Bamber Bridge.

H. R. MAYOR
(1952-60)

Hugh studied at St. John's College, Oxford where he obtained a B.A. in Politics, Philosophy and Economics. After this he did further studies and gained a Diploma in Statistics. Called to the Bar, Grays Inn, last year is to go into Chambers at Leicester. Before practising Law he had been a lecturer in Economics at Leicester University where he obtained a M.A. degree in Economics.

W. A. MAYOR
(1949-57)

Bill now works in insurance for a Manchester firm.

T. NOTON
(1955-60)

Terrence was married last year to Miss Maureen H. Throp of Clifton. He works for Leyland Motors as a clerical assistant.

J. B. PYE

Jim teaches Art at William Temple School.

D. W. STIRZAKER
(1960-66)

He is an Assistant Manager with Associated British Cinemas Ltd. at one of their Manchester Cinemas.

K. G. TOWNSEND
(1946-53)

George teaches English at William Temple School and plays cricket for Fulwood C.C. 1st XI. Married, with two children he now lives in Penwortham.

E. TWELVES
(1957-64)

He left this country in September 1968 to join an Antarctic expedition.

M. WILDING
(1950-57)

For the past two years Malcolm has been a lecturer in Physics at Szlford University. In August 1968 he started work as a research chemist for Courtaulds Viscose Research Laboratories, Coventry.

CAPT. J. WILLIAMS
R.A.M.C.
(1954-61)

Jeffrey is M.O. to the 1st Battalion The Royal Hampshire Regiment serving in Cyprus. He returns to this country in April '69.

It is with regret that the Hon. Secretary has to record the deaths of the following Members: (a) C. H. Morley (1936-43). Colin was a Life Member and Vice-President of the Association. Whilst returning from Kaduna (Northern Nigeria) with his General Manager (Colin worked for the British Cotton Growing Association) both gentlemen were killed as the result of a motor crash. His wife and two children have now returned to this country.

(b) J. Venables (1945-51). John died in Perth, Australia in September '68. He was a schoolmaster and had emigrated to Australia from St. Annes with his wife and two children just twelve months previously. John had trained at the Chorley Training College and had obtained qualifications in English, English Literature, P.T. and R.E. He was teaching in a Technical College in Perth. Whilst in St. Annes he played for the Y.M.C.A. football and tennis teams. He also refereed junior football in the Fylde. It was only a few months before his death that he discovered that he was suffering from an incurable cancer.

News of Old Boys overseas

Out of a total membership of 630 (271 annual members 359 life members) 24 former K.G.S. Students are working and/or living in foreign countries. They are Messrs. T. J. Fulford-Brown (1955-61), U.S.A.; G. L. Holmes (1954-60), Nigeria; R. Hudson (1929-35), Canada; D. Mather (1945-55), Australia; E. Parkinson (1952-60), Nigeria; H. S. Taylor (1946-49), Australia; R. H. Wood (1956-63), Canada. All these are annual members. The life members abroad are Messrs. S. C. Allen (1918-22), Portugal; C. Batt (1916-20), Holland; J. Carmont (1949-54), Brazil; R. Clayton (1931-34), Pakistan; B. J. Clifton (1949-56), U.S.A.; M. B. Cottom (1940-47), Nigeria; N. P. Embley (1927-30), Australia; T. Howarth (1925-30), Canada; F. L. Jones (1918-20), South Africa; T. Matthews (1918-22) last heard of in the Phillipines; P. B. Myerscough (1948-56), Canada; A. P. Roberts, Belfast; R. Singleton (1938-43), last heard of in Ontario; Rev. G. A. Tate (1944-48), Jamaica; E. G. Thompson (1945-52), Canada; F. G. Townsend (1939-45), Canada; and E. O. Walton (1910-16) Bermuda.

These members find themselves segregated in my files, the address plates of the life members being a discrete bundle because of the different postage rates for them. I confess to discriminating against them in another way for, on becoming Hon. Secretary in 1966, I enclosed the following letter with their copy of the February 1966 "Kirkhamian."

Kirkham Grammar School Old Boys Association.

"Glencoe",
Marshalls Brow,
Penwortham,
Nr. Preston, Lancs.,
ENGLAND.
February 1967.

Dear Member,

In an attempt to get more news about Old Boys into the pages of the "Kirkhamian" I am writing to ask for your help.

It seems to me that, in these days of the 'Voluntary Service Overseas' and 'Peace Corps' organisations, more young people are being attracted towards work, albeit temporarily, in Foreign Countries. These young people have visions, ideals and ideas and are enthusiastic and energetic enough to think that their contribution will be of real worth. Some of them are K.G.S. Old Boys—this issue of the "Kirkhamian" gives us a short account of the work of two of them. (J. B. Blossom (1952-59) and M. H. Robinson).

I feel sure that, whilst information you might be able to supply would be of general interest to other Old Boys—particularly your contemporaries—such information could stir the imagination of many "Kirkhamian" readers.

Therefore, would you care to write to me at the above address enclosing information about yourself since you left K.G.S.? The nature of your work abroad, life there, its advantages and disadvantages with any advice you might have for others who might follow are suggested topics. This would definitely find space in the "Kirkhamian" and could be either in the form of an open letter, an autobiography in note form or just a few lines. Anything would be welcome at any time.

Hoping that you will eventually be able to oblige.

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR R. BAINES,
Hon. Secretary.

P.O. Box 194,
Rawalpindi,
WEST PAKISTAN.
10th December, 1967.

I left Kirkham Grammar School in 1934, spent some months with a private tutor and at the (then) Harris Institute, Preston. The fillip thus given to a completely non-mathematical mind enabled me to attain an appointment through the competitive entrance examination to the Port of Preston Authority. Here, I toyed with evening classes until 1939 when I was mobilised with the Territorial Army and was in France in September, that year as driver-instructor. I saw service with Intelligence, also, prior to returning to the U.K. in June, 1940. I then transferred to Movement

Control where I remained until my release in 1946 from service with the Multi-lingual Traffic Office, British Military Mission, Brussels. Returning to the Port of Preston Authority I persuaded my parents (who needed little persuasion) to emigrate to Australia. There, I started a business in Perth, cleaning carpets and upholstered furniture and restoring antiques. (I learned the tricks of the trade from a Chinaman with whom I got friendly in Perth). Tiring of this, I sold out the business and bought a cafe at Lae, Australian New Guinea. This was a complete failure and I lost a great deal of money.

After salvaging what I could from the cafe I took a job as mechanical crane-operator for the Australian Government in New Guinea—the only snag being that the crane was lying under three feet of water in the New Guinea Highlands and had to be made serviceable before I could operate it. However, it was more than a one man job and though I had no experience of this kind of thing, a week or so spent on my back in a mountain stream under the direction of an Australian mechanic soon gave me a working knowledge. The machine was put into working order, loaded onto a low-loader then—hey for the open track, as we thought. Well, we managed to travel five miles: then the low-loader stuck in a river bed. While we walked the ten miles for assistance it rained. Unfortunately, the shovel and the low-loader have never been seen again, so far as I am aware. So they made me a ganger!

I bossed a gang of about forty ex-cannibals for a month or two and drove a truck in between. I was then asked if I would take over the administrative work for the Project—pay, personnel, stores, health, housing, etc., for more than 3,000 Melanesians and a smaller number of people of every ethnic group the Pacific can produce—Malays, Javanese, Polynesians, Koepangers, every kind of Caucasian—including a few Lancastrians, quite a few! From 1948 until 1951, therefore, I was Administrative Officer, Wau-Labu Road Project, Territory of Papua-New Guinea.

In 1951 I was offered a job by the East African Railways and Harbours and, since I felt that almost four years in New Guinea without leave was enough, decided to investigate the offer. Arriving in Kenya in January, 1952, after Christmas in a Lloyd Triestino ship, and a prolonged stay at Aden and in the Yemen, I decided not to join the East African Railways and Harbours but to take up another offer I had, from the Mowlem Construction Co. Ltd., Nairobi, a subsidiary of John Mowlem Ltd., London, and of Unilever. This was as Accountant and Depot Manager, controlling the rate of progress of civil engineering projects throughout East Africa and maintaining supplies of raw materials. Early in 1953 I decided to join the Colonial Service (as it then was) and did so as Accountant for the Ministry of Education. From 1953 to 1964 I served Kenya to the best of my ability and, in 1957, became an Assistant Secretary. At the same time, I was appointed Chairman of the Relief of Distress Committee, the Kenya equivalent of the Public Assistance Board. My Assistant Secretaryship at this time was that of Social Welfare and I was responsible for correlating

the work of voluntary organisations throughout Kenya, including those organisations primarily concerned with Muslim and Hindu communities. At the same time, I was called upon to draft legislation on welfare matters: plan, build and administer Homes for the Aged. Orphanages, etc., and carry out many other administrative functions. I later became Assistant Secretary Local Government, then Defence and, finally, Assistant Secretary, Housing and Secretary to the Central Housing Board, a body which controls building societies, itself lends money to local authorities and any other organisation, maintains a research team and carries out building works. In these capacities I was required to direct the team of experts—civil engineer, architect and the like, liaise with organisations throughout the world and direct the trend of Government's legislation. In addition I was charged with special responsibility for convening and administering the largest international conference held on the African continent—the Conference on Housing and Urbanisation, held under the auspices of the Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa in 1959. My last post in Kenya was that of Chief Accountant to the Ministry of Education.

In 1963 I decided to retire when Kenya became independent: I was allowed to 'elect' as they say, premature retirement because of constitutional change. While I don't wish to leave Kenya—by that time it was my home—I knew that it would become harder for me to find another career if I waited too long so I made the break and left Kenya in 1964, making a round trip to South Africa on my way to the U.K.

I was unemployed in Britain for almost a year since most of the offers I received I found unsuitable for one reason or another. In the event, I bought a share of a business and became a company director. However, I found the life intolerably boring and was very pleased to accept an offer from the United Nations.

In June, 1967, therefore, I became what is known as a 'Technical Assistance Expert'. This is a job, well-paid, I confess, with no security whatsoever except for the period of the contract for which one is engaged. In most cases this is for one year in the first instance, with no guarantee of renewal. I have been sent to Pakistan to administer 'Pre-Investment Studies for the Promotion of the Petrochemical and Fertiliser Industries' which entails the control of a multi-million project and the training of Pakistani staff. Life is seldom dull and it is amazing the difficulties which can be encountered over a simple matter of language since, in addition to myself and about eighty Pakistanis, there are Yugoslavians, Russians, Dutch, Italian and German nationals employed by the United Nations on this Project alone.

Well, as briefly as possible, that's my career to date. No, I don't have any qualifications whatsoever except an ability to get on with people, a sense of humour and a good deal of administrative experience. On the other hand, I must have some drive or I wouldn't be wanted.

Although, being human, my principal objective has been to make a living, I have always managed to obtain the loyalty of my subordinates because I have rewarded them according to their efforts. I believe that I have left each country enriched myself and with a slightly greater heritage of tolerance and efficiency for those who worked with me. I was able to introduce the first Kenya Africans to the Parliamentary system of government since I was charged with training the two first African Ministers.

I have had the good fortune to live in Kenya and New Guinea, two of the most beautiful countries in the world with delightful climatic conditions. I have visited all continents except South America: the number of countries visited is too long to list. I have had lion and crocodile in my garden together with mamba, various kinds of buck, giraffe, et al., and hornbills on the verandah. For me, all the advantages are in living in underdeveloped countries. Perhaps a man with keen interests in current affairs or sport in Britain would miss the opportunity to follow up these things but, personally, I am interested in world affairs more than local matters and do not feel myself deprived. Again, many people, I know, like to feel round them the security of the welfare state. I must confess, I believe that such an organisation stifles initiative. In the countries I have visited it is often necessary to teach one's staff—quite senior staff, too—such elementary matters as the way to post a letter. This can be trying. Again, there is usually no one to whom to turn for assistance in even the most elementary everyday matters—electricity connections and the like. The life, therefore, is to me stimulating, to some horrifying.

There is so much to say about so many places that I can only suggest to anyone who is interested and who would like advice—tell me what is under consideration and I will advise to the best of my ability.

In conclusion, I'm afraid I don't know where I shall be a year from now. I could still be here—or in New York; Rome; Geneva; Dakar; Bolivia—even in the United Kingdom, hunting for another job! Remember that a degree won't make you better or worse at your job but it'll make life a lot easier: in the next few years the double graduate will find things easier still.

RODNEY CLAYTON (1930-34).

So you want to be a Canadian?

Some reflections from one who did

The decision to leave Britain hadn't materialised suddenly, rather was it a step taken after the pros and cons had been carefully considered over a period of several months. Then followed the procedures of immigration.

Looking forward to negotiating them appeared rather formidable at times but in retrospect the whole process was, in fact, surprisingly easy. The easy-going attitude in the Embassy in London in many ways belies the truth and in others is downright misleading. Their portrait of Canada as the land of plenty with boundless opportunities is perhaps a little exaggerated, but if anyone is prepared to work then a just reward is there for the taking.

After leaving our jobs my wife and I had about a fortnight in which to travel around the country and see as many relatives and friends as possible. We return to London three days before our embarkation date only to find more packing to be done and a few household chores. We even discovered that another case was required to contain all our belongings.

Finally, to coin a phrase, the day arrived.

Passing through H.M. Customs Liverpool we were asked by a rather benign looking gentleman whether or not we had exceeded "Uncle Harold's currency limit." We were then allowed on board. After about an hour finding our way about the ship and saying goodbye to our parents we were finally on our way.

One incident worthy of mention during this period concerned our cat which, to many people's amazement, we were taking with us. Enquiring at the purser's desk we were told that the person in charge of the animals would be down soon to take the cat up to the kennels. As an after-thought we asked "who looks after the animals?" With a grin the purser replied, "the ship's butcher." This statement conjured untold fears in our minds as to the likely fate of our cat. But when we saw the gentleman concerned these fears were completely dispelled. He was a short, tubby and very genial Irishman whom we found in the ensuing days had an infectious sense of humour. It turned out that the animals in his charge were, in fact, treated most royally.

The journey over on the Empress of Canada was notable for its uneventfulness. By most ocean-going standards the Empress of Canada and her sister ship, the Empress of England, are quite small. The "Canada" is a mere 27,300 tons, with a length of 650 feet and width of 86.5 feet. The effect of this, or should I say, the effect of the sea on this small ship was brought forcibly to our notice later on during the voyage.

At this point, it may be fitting to say something about life on board the ship, with regards to entertainment. The whole process at first seemed too much like a holiday camp with leaflets on the day's activities put under one's door in the morning. A typical morning's activity would be dancing lessons, given by the resident dance instructors, or just simply a game of Bingo! Apart from that there was the swimming pool, which was uncomfortably heated to about 70°F, or table tennis on the promenade deck. In the afternoon, there was often a film show or a discussion.

The remainder of our trip was particularly uninteresting except for one small incident two days out from Montreal. We were going down to breakfast when there was an announcement over the tannoy system that if we were interested there was an iceberg about 150 yards off the starboard bow. Several murmurs were clearly audible, and no doubt many were thinking of the Titanic. However, many people, including ourselves, hurried upstairs, sorry, up the companion-way, only to find that by the time we reached the deck the ship was enshrouded in a North Atlantic sea-mist. Although we could not see the iceberg the sound of it breaking up was clearly audible. It was, quite frankly, the most eerie sound that I have ever heard, a cross between the tearing of cloth and the sound of distant thunder.

Two days later we arrived in Montreal and the real adventure began. The holiday had finished and now we had to get down to the work of setting up home in a new country and where possible reaping the benefits. I'll tell you about that later.

R. H. WOOD, (1956-63).

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1. Military Attache; 9. Nothing; 10. Extract; 11. Turner; 15. Nectar; 17. To be or not to be; 19. Prime Minister; 22. Sickly; 25. Garden; 30. Apparel; 31. Promise; 32. Perfect Stranger.

DOWN: 1. Minute; 2. Later; 3. Tripe; 4. Rage; 5. Abel; 6. Title; 7. Chant; 8. Extort; 12. Niblick; 13. Rookery; 14. Mansion; 15. Netting; 16. Crofter; 17. Tap; 18. Err; 20. Escarp; 21. Endear; 23. Caper; 24. Large; 26. Aroma; 28. Clot; 29. Spot.

WE'LL BE 85 THIS YEAR . . .



Generations have looked to the *Lancashire Evening Post* for excellent news coverage and advertising. We reach many of your friends and relatives each evening (nearly a half million people read the *Post*); and for the money we are the best advertising media . . . from classified announcements of births, engagements, marriages, etc. to large display advertisements. Our rates are very favourable; give us a call. We wish to serve you for many years to come.

Lancashire Evening Post 127 Fishergate, Preston
Tel. 54841 Want Ads 58831

J. HUMBER & CO. (Chemists) LTD.

FOR ALL YOUR



**PHOTOGRAPHIC
VETERINARY
SURGICAL AND
BABY REQUISITES**

at 75 Poulton Street, Kirkham. Tel. 2132

also 20 Station Road, Wesham. Tel. 2278

B. E. HOLMES

Groceries

Noted for Best Danish Bacon

Good Selection of Cold Meats

Speedy Self Service

Greengroceries a Speciality

Flowers

Modern Refrigeration Throughout

11 POULTON STREET

KIRKHAM

Telephone 2360

E. C. JOHNSON

Newsagent, Tobacconist

DELIVERIES TO ALL AREAS

Agent for Meccano, Tri-ang,

Pedigree Prams, Corgi and Lego

Britain's Model Animals, etc.

Timex and Service Watches

26 POULTON STREET

KIRKHAM

Phone Kirkham 2308

W. H. CLEGG & SONS

TOWN END, KIRKHAM

Telephone: Kirkham 3101

HIGH-CLASS FOOTWEAR

AGENTS FOR LOTUS & K. SHOES

**WELLINGTONS & HEAVY BOOTS ALWAYS
IN STOCK**

— REPAIRS A SPECIALITY —

The Preston Herald

For Print and Publicity

Everything for the Office

Pens, Biro-Pens, Pencils

Wedding Stationery and Greeting Cards

Children's Books and Games

Dial Preston 55094 for service

or call at our office

Avenham Street, Preston PR1 3BN

Joint Official Outfitter
*for your School Uniform
and General Clothing*

* *

EVERY ESSENTIAL ITEM FOR BOARDERS
AVAILABLE FROM STOCK

* *

SCHOOL BED-LINEN, TRUNKS, HOLD-
ALLS, VALISES, BRUSHES, Etc.

* *

WELL-MADE WOODEN TUCK BOXES
WITH STRONG METAL BOUND
CORNERS, PADLOCK AND KEYS

* *

BOARDERS' NAMES MARKED FREE OF
CHARGE ON EVERY ARTICLE BOUGHT

FROM

GILBERT TAYLOR

13-15 GARDEN STREET — ST. ANNES ON-SEA

TEL. 22569

Printed by

THE PRESTON HERALD PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO. LTD.

AVENHAM STREET . PRESTON PR1 3BN