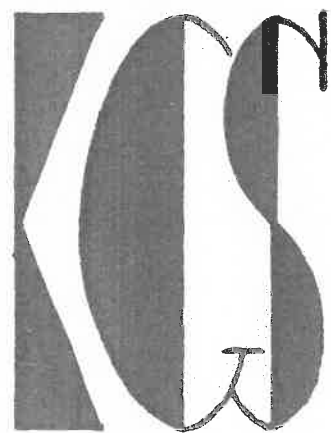


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JULY 1971

VOL. IV NO. 12

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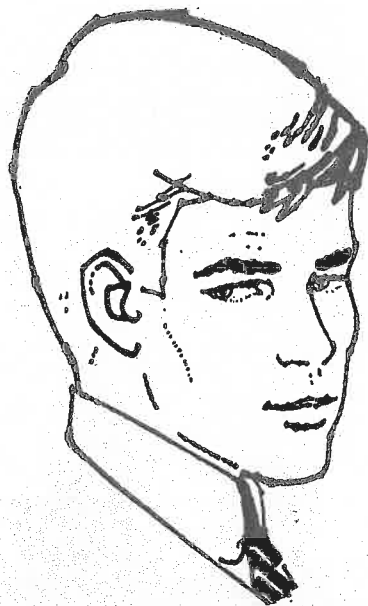
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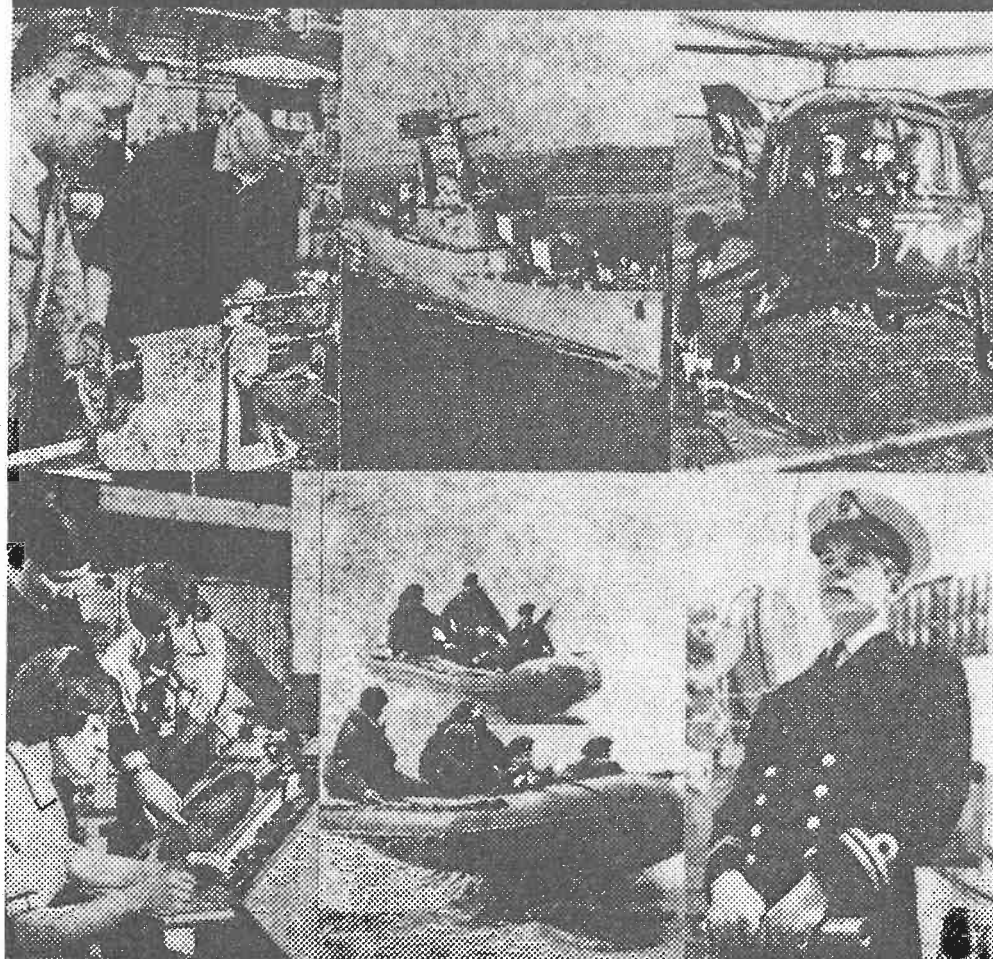
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THE KIRKHAMIAN

The Magazine of Kirkham Grammar School
Founded 1549

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EDITORIAL

Chairman: MR. H. B. WILSON

Co-Editors: M. G. CLEMENT, C. R. TYLDESLEY

Committee: R. A. COSSINS, G. R. TOMLINSON, P. H. BUTTERWORTH

The most mind-blowing job an editor has to do is to write an editorial. The frantic last-minute dash to gather all the reports and contributions together pales to insignificance beside it. Bewildered by dubious advice ('just paraphrase last year's editorial—no-one ever reads it, anyway') he sits, while the minutes tick by, with rolling eyes, flecks of foam on his lips and his hair slowly going grey.

His is a position of power. Whatever he says, it is bound to be included in the magazine, printed in the most prominent position. The opportunity to say something would be perfect—if only he had something to say. Here is his big chance to strike a telling blow in the struggle for Schoolboy Power, longer holidays, and the abolition of rice pudding. The temptation is almost too strong . . . But no. He must just find a new and better way of saying nothing—and dream of what might have been.

Our best wishes go with Mr. Murray in his retirement. As Music master at K.G.S. for the last quarter of a century he will be sorely missed and fondly remembered.

The Editor wishes to acknowledge receipt of the following magazines:- 'The Pomfretian', 'The Arnoldian', 'The Rossallian'.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The Fire

Waking up in the middle of the night, head thumping and smelling fire. Without thinking about it, knowing that the building was on fire. Getting out of bed fast, but not as fast as I do when I oversleep on a week-day.

Fire knocking on my door.

Smoke blocking the corridor.

Fire knocking like a friend waiting to embrace you and envelop you.

Just then, thinking about the girl below, sleeping and unaware. Putting on my best 'rough-look' pullover, I open the window and climb out. Looking down but feeling safe, I climb down onto her ledge unnecessarily smashing her window with my foot and hurling myself inside (like they do in films).

Seeing her there, only newly awakened, I go up to her. Shaking her now, telling her of the fire. Throwing her a blanket, taking her out onto the ledge. Suddenly it seemed high, noise much louder, ledge much smaller. Ruffling my hair and pulling my jumper out of shape, I carry her down to the next ledge, and then onto the one after that, almost remembering about the man in the other room. The man she used to smile at and talk to sometimes, but who never smiled back. She always used to smile at him, always.

Trying to forget about him. She looks so lovely when she smiles too. Not being able to forget about him. Thinking about his room, there, right in the middle of the fire. The girl cringes as she sees the black clouds ascending from his window.

We didn't speak for the next few moments.

Gently turning to me, the girl smiles and smooths my hair. I held her more strongly, then as we climbed onto a lower ledge, and down onto a wall, two arms stretched out to take the girl. The girl smiled, two strong masculine arms.

P. H. BUTTERWORTH, U.VZ

Peregrine

The tranquil peace of July,
Rooks in the meadow below.
Flocking pigeon
A lark
Twitters.

Floating in the azure beyond,
A peregrine hovers
Unnoticed
In the lazy buzz
Of afternoon.

The cross-bow silhouette
Flutters,
Then glides
The glide
Lengthens.

The valley below
Senses,
Subdues,
Signals . . .
Then . . .

The clamorous
Battling bustle
Spews forth
Into climacteric uproar
The tiercel waylays the kill.

Again he lingers,
Poised,
His cold eyes
Frozen,
His head
Still.

Tension grows
And grows.
The dark body
Hesitates,
Then . . .

Abruptly the peregrine
Stoops.
In a torpedo
Falls like a stone,
Ruptures the thin air,
Projects in a definite
Trajectory.
Falls true.

Impact.
The talons rip.
A pigeon
Is stung by the blow,
Falls
Fluttering,
Dead
To the ground
The peregrine
Reflects.

J. D. BLAIKIE, U.IV.Y

Variations on the Ancient Mariner

(with apologies to Coleridge)

I sailed below the southern cross,
(So ran the seaman's song),
A pestilential albatross,
Followed us all day long.

The creature's aspect was so grim,
And it oppressed me so,
I raised, then on a sudden whim,
I lowered my crossbow.

The weather grew exceeding thick,
The sullen tempest roared,
A dozen of the crew fell sick,
The rest fell overboard.

The skies were so devoid of light,
We could not see to pray
The parson administered bread each night,
To keep the rats at bay.

We set the live men swabbing decks,
The dead men manned the pumps,
The cabin steward changed his sex,
The captain had the mumps.

The cargo shifted in the hold,
The galley boiler burst,
My hair turned white, my blood ran cold,
I knew we were accurst.

I helped the purser dig his grave,
On the deserted poop,
Then leapt into the foaming wave,
And swam to Guadeloupe.

And there (he said) I nibbled moss,
Beside the stagnant lake,
I should have shot the albatross,
That was my big mistake.

C. R. TYLDESLEY, L.VI.M

The Smile

And it was the smile
That stayed in my mind
All the while.
The smile
Of a princess,
Of some long-forgotten belle.
A smile
Too immortal
Too divine to tell;
Yet the artist had somehow
Transfixed
On canvas, in paint
A hint
Of the godly,
And yet somehow quaint.
A smile
Patronising,
Yet not vile
As the false, toothy grins
Of famous politicians.
She wore that smile
As though it belonged
(Which it did);
But what was it
That was hid
From our eyes
That amused her
So much?
A juggler, a monkey?
It must have been very special
To amuse Leonardo's Lisa.

M. J. WATKINSON, U.IV.Y.

Soldiers

The sad legacy of war
Allows men to lose
Their legs, their arms, their sight, their minds.
But who knows—or cares?

The few survivors
Of gas, bayonet, and shrapnel, are gone,
Some people think—
But they are there.

Many brave men who fought
In the great world wars,
Are dead, and in Heaven,
For they lived their lives in Hell.

Children play with wooden guns,
Falsely 'kill' each other.
But, once, it happened,
And it happened that way.

P. D. CRICHTON, U.IV.Y.

The Sun

Pulsating life,
Giving off light.
Spectrum colours,
Natural to sight.

Mass of energy,
Mass of fire,
Radiant heat,
Never seeming to tire.

Centre of the system,
This burning ball,
Whom men have worshipped,
God of all.

R. M. WOOD, U.IV.Y.

HOUSE REPORTS

Ashton House

House Master: MR. H. B. WILSON

Assistant House Masters: MR. G. CHEESBROUGH, MR. G. BROWN,
MR. D. WORTH.

House Captain: T. A. REEDER

House Prefects: J. K. COWELL, A. A. BLAKE, D. C. AITCHISON,
P. M. BAMBER

This year the House has been passing through a period of transition, this being caused by the departure of about thirty boys (mostly seniors) at the end of last year and at the beginning of the present year. Two of these leavers were the 'senior statesmen' of the House, T. L. Armstrong and R. J. Reid, both of whom begin their University careers in October. I would like to congratulate them on their success and thank them for their service to the House throughout their school lives.

Despite these losses we still managed to retain the Senior Rugby Trophy with a convincing 40-3 victory over Preston, after previously defeating Fylde by 46-0. These scores reflect the magnificent team play of the Ashton side, with every player making a major contribution to the game, both in defence and attack.

In the Junior Rugby Final however, Preston gained some degree of revenge by defeating us by 17-15 in a game that was decided by a last minute penalty. Special mention in this game must go to Collins and Bellamy, who between them scored all 15 points and did not deserve to be on the losing side.

In other activities, however, the results have thus far been rather disappointing. In the Junior and Senior Cross Countrys we came 3rd and 5th, despite good performances by Bagshaw and Ashworth in the Juniors and Dawson in the Seniors, and in the Gymnastics we came 3rd with a very young team, and congratulations must go to Short who won the senior competition again.

Perhaps the most encouraging performances, though, have come from the Music and Chess competitions. In the Music, with a team consisting entirely of U14's and below, we came a very commendable 3rd; and the chess team, led by P. Duxbury are at the moment 2nd in the House table.

Therefore, considering the many young boys in all the House teams at the moment, it is with considerable optimism that I look forward to the future.

T.A.R.

Fylde House

House Master: MR. D. H. BUTTERWORTH

Assistant House Masters: MR. J. SUTCLIFFE, MR. F. SAYER, MR. B. GORNALL

House Captain: S. WRIGHT

Vice-Captain: E. PATTON

House Prefects: H. METCALF, M. HOLD, G. TOMLINSON, A. TOWNSEND

Since the last report some hopes have materialised and others have faded but despite the mishaps Fylde House has continued to go forward.

The latter half of the Spring term saw the Senior and Junior cross country teams finish in the lower positions in their respective competitions. These results were due to a general lack of fitness and this is an event which obviously needs improvement in the future. Greater success was provided by the 7-a-sides when the team included such established players as Patton, Metcalfe, Hughes and Tomlinson. The team were unfortunate only to draw with Lytham and Ashton when wins were deserved by attractive, open rugby. School and Kirkham were easily beaten and the only defeat was at the hands of Preston; the final placing was 3rd, a creditable performance by all members and especially encouraging for the future were Lambert, Atkinson and Ward.

The gymnastics cup has never been a Fylde House strong point but with determined practicing and enthusiasm a skilled team was produced. In the actual competition the team was 2nd before an unfortunate accident caused the loss of one of the junior members; subsequently the house finished 4th, again, a creditable performance.

This term so far has seen one of our best performances when 2nd place was gained on Sports' Day. There were many good results such as Patton (1st in pole vault, shot and 2nd in 100 yards and long jump), Atkinson (1st in 100 yards, 200 yards and long jump), Hughes and Schofield also gained 1st places. These were ably supported by a host of 2nd and 3rd places. Our thanks must go not only to those who scored but also to everyone who competed and made the day worthwhile for Fylde house.

At the time of writing the tennis team has already beaten School House and are confident in reaching the final (via Lytham House), and perhaps win the cup for the first time for the House. The senior cricket prospects, with such improved players as Dennis, Bamber, Hughes and Holland, look hopeful. These, plus the junior cricket, shooting and swimming, are yet to be decided so the future looks very bright, but only time will tell.

Even if the term ends without a trophy for Fylde House the effort put forward by all members in their respective activities throughout the year have ensured that it has all been anything but futile. It only

remains for the skill and, more important, the enthusiasm, to be converted into trophies which on so many occasions have been so near.

S.W.

Kirkham House

House Master: MR. H. J. REAY

Assistant House Masters: MR. A. R. BAINES, MR. L. A. REDMAN

House Captain: D. L. ROBINSON

House Prefects: G. R. PURNELL, S. P. J. WHITE

Since the last report the House has unfortunately not won any trophies. However, with spirit always high, the Summer term augers well and successes will be accomplished.

In the Cross-Country events the seniors and juniors gave mediocre performances, with both teams finishing fourth. Mention should go to Kirkham and Fisher R. of the seniors, and Fletcher of the juniors for commendable performances.

The House Music Festival is always wide open and Kirkham House finished a creditable equal third behind School and Lytham. It was encouraging to see a junior choir, who appeared to be enjoying themselves, and thanks must go to Carter and Loxham for their untiring efforts for the House.

In the Gymnastics Competition, history was achieved, since this was the first time that we had won this competition. The House came first with 588 points against School's 577½ and Ashton's 569. In the seniors, Hird, Berry and Kirkham were outstanding coming 3rd, 5th and 6th respectively, while in the juniors Fisher D. came a commendable 6th to ensure a magnificent all round performance.

This term has started off well for the House, with practices starting early. The athletics competition however was rather disappointing in that the House came 6th on the day with 28 points. The only people to gain places were Fletcher, Gardner, Harris, White, Blaymires, Kirkham and Dickinson D. J. This is mainly due to the lack of practice and enthusiasm, and this must be remedied if the house is going to do well in this competition.

The Tennis team, however, well-led by Robinson, D. L., the captain, appear to be the only talented team in the competition, after disposing of last years champions, Ashton, by 5 sets to nil, the team is waiting to meet a cocky Preston side in the semi-final.

The Junior Cricket squad have been practicing hard under the guidance of Fisher, while the Chess team lost to School House, who are the favourites in this year's competition.

Finally, the efforts of the Juniors in the Work Cup should be mentioned, at present the House is lying 2nd to Preston, only 2 points behind, and a sustained effort is needed, if the House is to regain the Cup.

D.L.R.

Lytham House

House Master: MR. R. T. BENTLEY

Assistant House Masters: MR. J. BRADBURY, MR. J. MURRAY, MR. B. F. TAYLOR

House Captain: P. SUMNER

Vice-Captain: S. CLEGG

House Prefects: J. R. COSSINS, J. S. DAVISON, S. HILL, G. MEAKIN, D. O. SLACK

Junior House Captain: N. HUNTER

At first glance this year seems to have been quite a successful one for Lytham House with two trophies under our belt and a great chance of carrying off two more. However, I am afraid our successes have been mainly due to a few people who whenever asked would play or work their hearts out to bring glory to the House, the remainder, I am sorry to say are content to watch these people without giving any help or encouragement.

The seven-a-side competition was the House's most surprising and well deserved victory with the House finishing in first place gaining a total of 9 points out of a possible 10. We must congratulate Clegg, Redman, Farrar, Hall, Fisher, Heath and Allan for their fine performance.

Our second success was in the Music Competition, this victory was mainly thanks to Hill who by his marvellous work in training the choir and arranging the music returned the cup to Lytham House with 99 points out of a possible 100.

In the inter-house athletics we were placed fifth with Redman winning the hurdles and Meaking finishing joint first in the triple jump. I would also like to thank Cossins and Hempstead who were both asked at the last minute to take part in the senior and junior 800m respectively and although neither of them was placed they both ran till they literally dropped.

We must now look forward to the rest of the year, we stand a wonderful chance of winning the senior cricket and the debating competition providing our luck holds out and the boys concerned work for the competition.

At least next year's House Captain will not be redundant on Speech Day.

P.A.S.

Preston House

House Master: MR. T. JACKMAN

Assistant House Masters: MR. R. M. CLARKSON, MR. S. J. COOPER

House Captain: S. J. B. MARTINDALE

House Prefects: T. R. M. JONES, I. B. TAYLOR, J. G. BARTON, P. M. BEAVEN, A. J. DIXON

In the last Kirkhamian report hopes were high of success in 1971. These hopes were not misplaced for Preston has since won four trophies, the Senior and Junior Cross-Country, Junior Rugby and Athletics.

In both the cross-country races we had the first man home—G. Russell in the Senior in a new record time of 32 min. 35 secs. and W. Bramwell in the Junior. In each race the first five runners for the House finished in the first twenty assuring Preston of victory.

Next came the Junior Rugby Final in which Preston beat Ashton by 17–15. Although the team had several key players missing the reserves who played demonstrated the obvious depth in strength in the junior section of the house. An even score-line at half-time promised a very exciting second half. P. Wright led the team well by example and showed that he is undoubtedly a player of outstanding ability. He was ably supported in the backs by Sproates, McGregor, Jones and Gascoigne while Crane and Rostron were prominent in the forwards.

Soon after this fine win the seven-a-side matches were to be held and the House seven played extremely well in their first four matches winning them comfortably. Lytham House too had a fine run of victories and the competition was not decided until the last match in which Lytham beat an injury-hit Preston team.

Leaving a very successful Spring term behind Preston were confident of further triumphs in the Summer.

Again the House managed to win the Athletics Trophy on Sports' Day by a convincing margin of 35 points. P. Beaven excelled in the Seniors, Worthington and Kitchen in the Intermediates, and Duckworth and Crane in the Juniors. The whole team should be congratulated on a fine performance being placed in all but 6 of the 36 events!

The House has also done well in the Debating competition beating Kirkham House and Ashton to reach the Final. Although the duo was changed after the first round the combination still proved to be too good for the opposition. One outstanding feature was the willingness of speakers from the floor to stand up and support the main speakers—this is of course where debates are often won and lost!

Later in the term we have the senior and junior Cricket trophies to defend and a chance of victory in the tennis, shooting and even swimming.

So far the House has enjoyed success so let us hope this may continue through to the end of the school year.

S.J.B.M.

School House

House Master: MR. R. A. KNOWLES

Assistant House Masters: MR. G. BELLIS, MR. S. C. CROOK, MR. T. E. H. CAPPER

House Captain: J. C. BRANDON

Vice-Captain: J. F. COOMBER

House Prefects: M. J. HIGGS, J. C. V. HAYNES, C. E. RAYNER, B. STRONG

A lot of water has passed under the School House bridge since our last report and this has brought success and failure as it does every year. In the senior house rugby we were defeated by 17 points to 11 by Preston House but full credit should go to a tireless side who played the second-half with only 14 men, Higgs and Hunnisett having outstanding games.

Following the rugby came the inter-house gym competition, always an interesting occasion and the House was again narrowly beaten into second place by Kirkham House. Our congratulations go to P. Witting who came first in the junior competition. Following this event came the competition we'd all been waiting for—the House music competition. Due to a lack of budding Bachs and Beethovens, our success in this competition had been rather non-existent but the arrival of T. Irving from Kirkham House boosted our urge to emulate the aforementioned men and the house achieved second place! Well done lads!

The junior and senior cross-country events were raced and the House did creditably in each despite losing runners through injury, the seniors came out 2nd as did the juniors. Meanwhile, academically, the house last term was in the same position as at the last report. More effort is required to achieve success in the Work Cup competition.

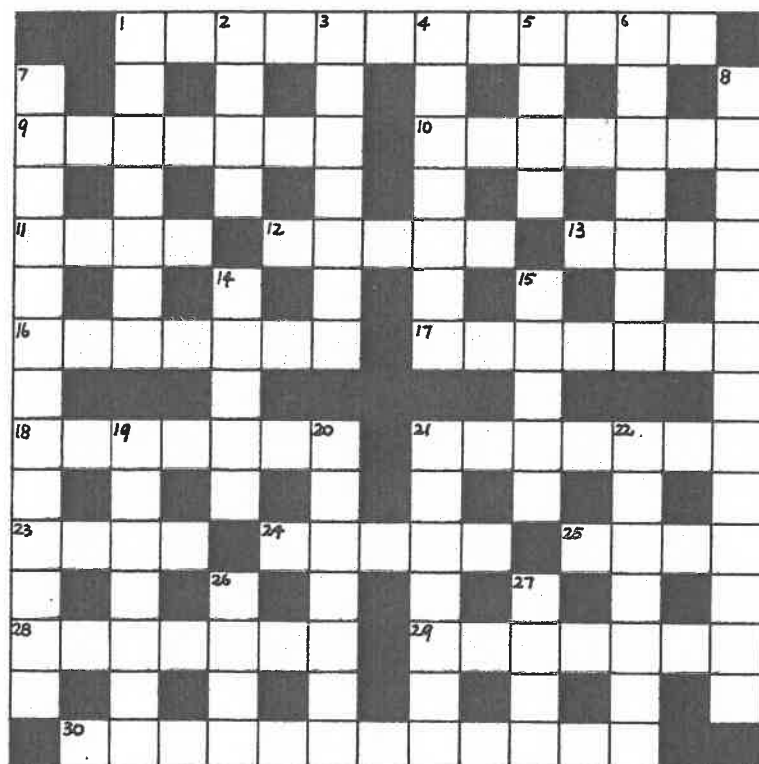
On the chess front, J. Coomber has led the House team through the competition as yet undefeated and the championship is now almost retained. Our orators, Tyldesley and Falkner have this term won through to the semi-final of the debating competition and need to prove that Adam should have kept his rib to himself in order to get to the final. Athletics and cricket have been the main activities this term and in the athletics standards points competition, the House won by over 200 points. On the day of the sports the House competed well and finished fourth, closely behind Ashton House. The cricket season also being here, members of the House have represented school cricket teams, Strong B. being captain of the 2nd XI, aided by J. Coomber and C. Tyldesley, the 1st XI's only representative has been J. Brandon, however I feel there is still much undiscovered talent in the House this year. Later on this term are the cricket and swimming competitions and we hope to do well in each, particularly in the swimming which we won last year.

My thanks go to all members of the House for the tasks completed around the school and to the industrious and keen way they have set about these tasks. This spirit will fire the House to, I hope, even greater effort and renewed success.

J.C.B.

THE KIRKHAMIAN CROSSWORD

Compiled by W. M. Bramwell L.V.X



Solution on page 643.

CLUES ACROSS

1. Account for cement in Dorset (8, 4).
9. Your sister might be superior in this (7).
10. Soldier's condition after battle, or his uniform (3, 4).
11. One of those light circles (4).
12. Seat for saint twice negative before the lake (5).
13. Brewers' dances? (4).
16. Weather forecast for London (7).
17. Bad turns are his speciality (7).
18. Trying to get the fish cornered? (7).
21. To add up and agree completely (7).
23. Careful, it may be catching! (4).
24. Turn up one's nose with indifference (5).
25. Just one part of the whole community (4).
28. Dim, rude—adapted to insult the more soiled (7).
29. The average French is most low and nasty (7).
30. Ultimately how the fast bowler develops pace (2, 3, 4, 3).

CLUES DOWN

1. A change in replays is demanded for this saucy herb (7).
2. Picturesque result of losing all your money? (4).
3. Boat that is not so heavy on the petrol? (7).
4. Fresh wine from the Isle of White (7).
5. Keeps people out of the saloons? (4).
6. A sound warning from the crow's nest (7).
7. Visiting Greenwich during the same moments? (2, 3, 4, 4).
8. Wrecked in an apologetic country (2, 1, 5, 5).
14. As tin this material sounds as if it was a replacement (5).
15. Money-making plants (5).
19. The boy carried inside could please you (7).
20. In most cases, lean Reg is in the army top brass (7).
21. Seems to be juggled in any tomb! (7).
22. Lighter—Chinese or magic? (7).
26. Part of itself is hooked, by a person, perhaps? (4).
27. Where to have some honest fun (4).

SOCIETY REPORTS

Chess Club

Chairman: MR. J. BRADBURY

Captain: P. G. DUXBURY

Secretary: J. F. COOMBES

Committee: J. BRANDON, S. AITCHISON, M. GRUNDY, D. PRICE

Having not yet finished the season, the club has already done four times as well as it did last year winning three of its matches. The retention of most of the team for next year provides a solid basis for what should be a very good team in two years time.

In the house competition School house again seem to be favourites with three school players in their senior team. Ashton and Fylde house are running close behind having each only lost once.

J.F.C.

Debating Society

Chairman: MR. J. A. SUTCLIFFE

Secretary: M. G. CLEMENT

Committee: A. A. BLAKE, G. R. TOMLINSON, R. PURNELL, J. R. COLLINS, C. R. TYLDESLEY

This year the debating society has been less active than usual though the debates held have been of a high standard. Last term the motion that 'This House Prepares to Meet its Doom' was defeated; this term, three debates have been held in the inter-house debating competition. The debate between School and Fylde was well attended, but in the other two (both involving Preston House) support was sadly lacking.

The position now is that School meet Lytham on the 26th May in the 2nd semi-final ('This house believes that Adam should have kept his rib to himself') and the winner of that meets Preston in the final (This house believes [?!]).

M.G.C.

Geographical Society

Chairman: MR. R. A. KNOWLES

Secretary: J. H. HALL

Treasurer: C. R. TYLDESLEY

Committee: J. KIRKHAM, W. M. BRAMWELL, T. LEYLAND, I. V. GASCOIGNE

Since the last report, the Society has shown a series of Films. However last term, the activities of the society were to a large extent curbed by the postal strike. The society did show three films, all of which were attended by over forty people. The three films were 'Pembrokeshire, People and Industry', 'Desert Road', and 'Return

to Norway', and each of these was very entertaining. The first one was concerned with the building of the oil refinery at Milford Haven, and the effect of the project on the people. 'Desert Road' gave an account of a journey across the Sahara Desert, pointing out the hazards. Finally, 'Return to Norway' described the changes that have taken place recently in Norway converting the country from a primary producer to an industrial nation.

The Quiz held at the end of the Winter Term was won by Blaikie, with White second and Leyland third. Congratulations to them. I would like to express my thanks also to T. R. M. Jones, our projectionist, whose services have been greatly appreciated.

J.H.H.

Library

Co-Chairmen: MR. S. CROOK AND MR. S. CRANE

Chairman: J. F. COOMBER

Treasurer: J. S. DAVISON

Committee: S. CLEGG, P. A. SUMNER, D. C. AITCHISON, J. C. BRANDON, M. G. CLEMENT, R. A. COSSINS, J. R. COLLINS, J. C. V. HAYNES, M. J. HIGGS, S. R. HILL, T. R. M. JONES, C. A. LEWIS, C. RAYNES, D. L. ROBINSON, A. STIRLING, B. STRONG, S. WRIGHT

Temporary librarians have been chosen and I would like to thank them for their help under the guidance of H. Newton and A. Townsend during the examination period.

The situation as far as books is concerned seems to be good although the full outcome will not be known until the end of the year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all people concerned who have given up their time in helping to run the library this year.

J.F.C.

Model Railway Society

Chairman: MR. R. M. CLARKSON

Secretary: J. S. DAVISON

Treasurer: T. R. M. JONES

Committee: G. K. GREGORY, T. RAY, D. O. SLACK, S. J. WELLS

Since it was founded in February 1969 this society has suffered many setbacks, and for over one year it seemed that the aim to build a portable model railway would never materialise. However, as a result of the perseverance and enthusiasm of the members, the society can now claim to be well on the way to completing construction of the layout. The response to my plea in the January 1971 issue was such that we were able to provide a working layout at the Easter Fair.

The reference library has also shown signs of expansion, partly due to the purchase of the monthly issues of the 'Railway Modeller'; and it is hoped that next year more members will make use of this facility.

It is also hoped that next winter term all members will help to complete the building of the society layout.

I should like to thank the sub-committee, in particular T. R. M. Jones and G. K. Gregory, for their endless support and enthusiasm.

J.S.D.

Music Society

Chairman: MR. J. MURRAY

Secretary: S. HILL

Treasurer: C. E. TAYLOR

Committee: I. LEDSHAM, I. B. TAYLOR, D. J. MORTIMORE

These past few months have been the busiest time of the year for the Music Society, for we have held both the House Music Competition and the Easter Concert.

We were fortunate in being able to arrange for Mr. Dodd, music teacher at Hutton, to come and adjudicate the Music Competition, and he was very helpful in all his criticisms and remarks. The final marks out of 100 were:- Lytham: 99, School: 94, Ashton: 93, Kirkham: 93, Preston: 89, Fylde: 87.

The following Saturday, the 27th March, the Easter Concert took place, in which many House items performed. I would particularly like to thank C. E. Taylor and I. Ledsham for their support in arranging the programme. In the second half of the evening, the School Choir sang selections from the 'Mikado' by Gilbert and Sullivan, which was well received by the audience.

All our thanks must go to Mr. J. Murray for his continued efforts and successes throughout the years in which he has been music master at K.G.S. We sincerely wish him much happiness in his years of retirement.

S.H.

Natural History Society

Chairman: MR. A. R. BAINES

Secretary: D. O. SLACK

Treasurer: C. C. WEBB

Committee: S. R. BEAVEN, A. J. BEDFORD, J. A. BLAIKIE, D. C. BOYS, I. P. HALL

The Society has held the following meetings: 'Conservation' (a talk by T. R. Ball of U.V.Y. in which he told us of work he has done during the past two years as a member of the Conservation Corps); 'The Revealing Eye' (film); 'Rocks' (A. N. Gray, U.4X); 'Cultures' (a demonstration lecture by Mr. F. W. Sayer on their preparation and uses); 'The Ruthless One' (film); 'Biological Beverages' (A. J. Bedford); 'Water Birds' (film); 'Second and Third Forays' (walks

around the School gardens and greenhouses—thanks to Mr. J. Collins—and 'Use of a Flora' in the 'field' respectively); 'Unseen Enemies' (film); 'Darwin and the Insects of Brazil' (film) and 'Project Preparation' (Mr. A. R. Baines with illustrations by L.6Sc. Biology students). Thus, despite the postal strike, we hardly missed a meeting. Why did you miss coming so often?

Since the Society started, we have been very fortunate in having for our Secretary D. O. Slack. His position will be difficult to fill for he has been an efficient and thoughtful officer over the last 5 years. Perhaps one day he will return to us as a guest lecturer? We hope he reaches such heights.

The Society also thanks Mr. R. A. Knowles and the U.5Y for the use of room 11, and T. R. M. Jones our projectionist this year. Finally, in the hands of D. C. Boys (L.VX) our publicity has been very sound indeed.

Two big events from the immediate past:

1. The Christmas Competition—which attracted only six entries however. It was too hard and too long and other things were going on, agreed, but more might have tried. Another Competition is planned for Xmas '71, a more light hearted affair based upon 'Biological Howlers'. But last year's winners (R. M. Wolstenholme L.4X, 1st prize of 75p; P. A. Haynes 3X, 2nd prize of 37½p) are to be congratulated.

2. Easter Fair 1971 when our exhibition was put together between 4 p.m. on the Friday and 12 a.m. on the Saturday (R. I. P. Saturnalia). Room 17 had about 130 visitors and the Norwood block (including the Scientific Society Exhibition in Room 18) made a profit of £15.22. This year the theme of the N.H.S. exhibition was 'Dissection'.

A.R.B.

Photographic Society

Chairman: MR. L. A. REDMAN

Secretary: T. R. M. JONES

Treasurer: P. H. BUTTERWORTH

Committee: A. TOWNSEND, N. M. FISHER, M. C. OVENS

This term has been the busiest for the society with Sports' Day and most of the team photographs being taken and printed.

The fine sunny day for sports' day brought out the amateur photographers and it was good to see so many people recording the day in black and white.

By the time the magazine is published our A.G.M. should have been held to elect next year's officials and discuss the societies activities in the future.

Finally I would like to thank A. Townsend for taking over the society during the G.C.E. exams.

T.R.M.J.

Railway Society

Chairman: MR. S. CROOK

Secretary: T. R. M. JONES

Treasurer: J. S. DAVISON

Committee: D. O. SLACK, M. J. HIGGS, G. N. ROTHERY

This year has been quite good for the society. The main activity has been showing about 5 films per term. The attendance has been good despite the competition from football in the good weather.

At the present moment (May) there is an idea of running a trip to Carnforth and Lakeside at the end of term if there is sufficient support to enable us to hire a coach at a reasonable cost.

By the time this magazine is published the A.G.M. will have taken place and next year's officials should have been appointed.

T.R.M.J.

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1—Portland Bill; 9—Nursing; 10—War-worn; 11—Halo; 12—Stool; 13—Hops; 16—Mayfair; 17—Twister; 18—Angling; 21—Totally; 23—Trap; 24—Snubs; 25—Unit; 28—Muddier; 29—Meanest; 30—In the long run.

DOWN

1—Parsley; 2—Ruin; 3—Lighter; 4—Newport; 5—Bars; 6—Lookout; 7—In the mean time; 8—In a sorry state; 14—Satin; 15—Mints; 19—Gladden; 20—General; 21—Tobyman; 22—Lantern; 26—Fish; 27—Fair.

SCHOOL SPORTS

'School sport is the voluntary expression of compulsory activity'. Perhaps this is not quite true in these days of free choice and a wide range of activities, but the fact remains that the school teams are composed, in the main, of boys who want to compete. Experience has shown that it is impossible to make boys take part in team activities.

Too many boys in the school, however, seem to believe that options and choice of activities include doing nothing during games afternoons, never making the effort to represent the school, or trying to force the organisation of activities which they wish to take part in.

This attitude has been particularly prevalent amongst the upper school—the fifth and sixth forms—during the short athletics' season. It is difficult to weigh up the attitude of these people as they appear totally selfish in their outlook. In the past we have been able to organise golf coaching sessions at the school—this year only two people wished to take part. We have had difficulty in filling places in the 2nd XI, and this has had to be done by playing boys in the Lower Vth.

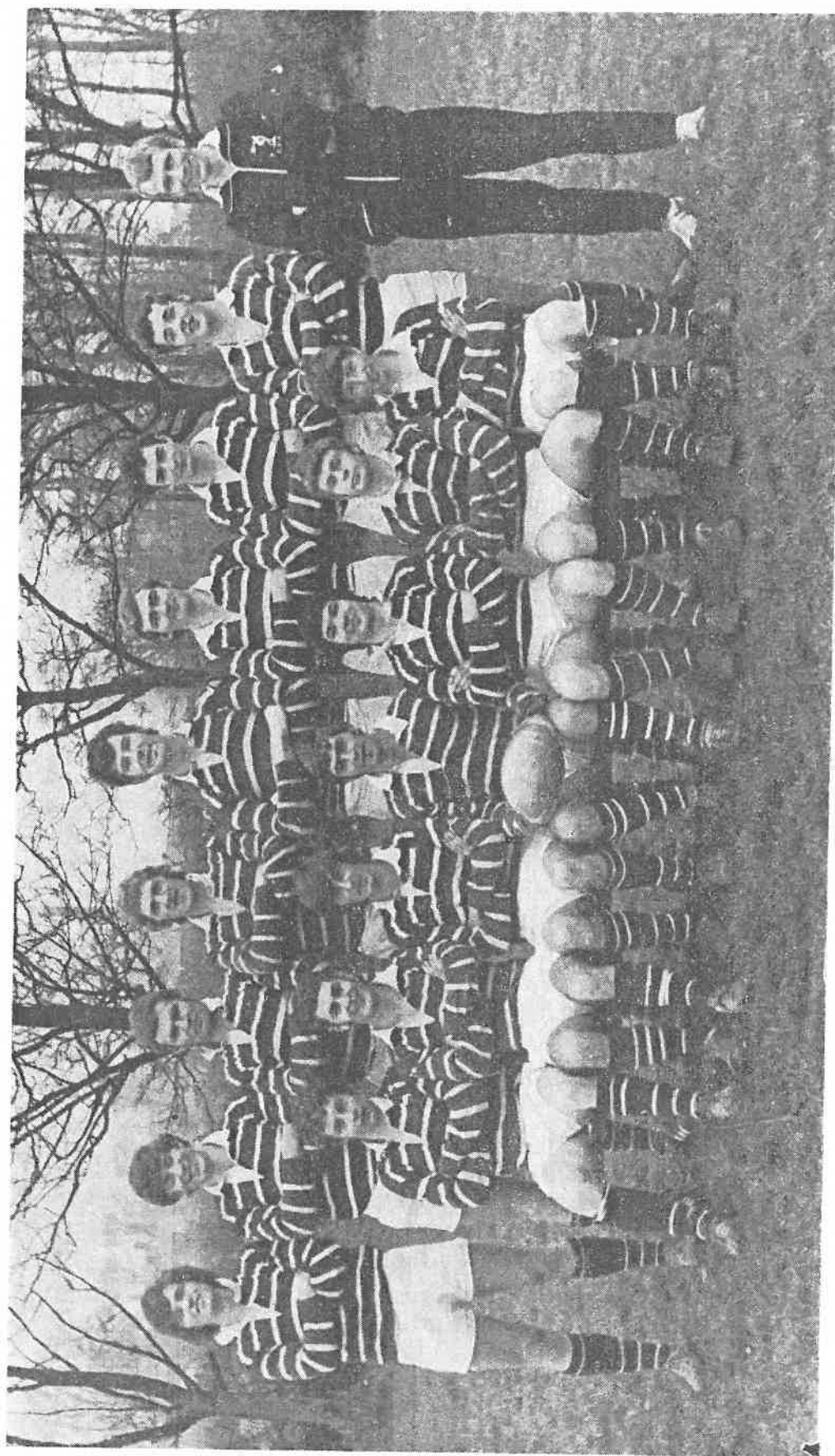
This must not detract, however, from the majority of boys who enjoy sport, take the trouble to practice and try to gain places in school teams. It is on these that the success of the school teams has depended.

Rugby 1970-71

	<i>P.</i>	<i>W.</i>	<i>D.</i>	<i>L.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>A.</i>
1st XV	20	15	0	5	460	190
2nd XV	18	13	0	5	365	119
3rd XV	6	3	1	2	52	66
U.15	17	14	1	2	366	92
U.14	16	11	1	4	244	110
U.13	14	6	1	7	168	134
U.12	9	6	2	1	142	35

The teams generally finished the season in fine style. The 1st XV lost only one school match at Blackpool G.S. where they led at the interval. The 2nd XV continued their good season suffering a single surprise defeat at the hands of Kendal G.S.

The Junior XV's continue to improve and this season's U.12 and U.14 teams have players of tremendous talent. In the U.14 team Collins, Bellamy, Green, Wood, Hunter and Wright will provide a sound core for next year. The U.13 team after an indifferent start improved sufficiently to raise future hopes. Booth and Bamber struck up a good partnership at half-back and Duckworth, Morgan and Houston all played their part in the team's revival.



K.G.S. 1st XV. 1970-71.

Back Row (l to r) J. BARTON, J. MARTINDALE, R. REID, C. HUGHES, J. COWELL, S. REDMAN, A. PIGGOT, G. WHITTLE,

MR. D. WORTH.

Front Row N. ALLAN, T. ARMSTRONG, G. FARRAR, J. BRANDON (Capt.), E. PATTON, G. LEEMING, K. AITCHISON.

The Under 15's after three years of defeats have finally realised their tremendous potential this year with the best record in the school. The forwards are exceptionally strong and mobile notably Morgan, Lambert and Worthington. Bramwell and Kitchen have emerged as two elusive half-backs and the strength at speed of Mitchell and Atkinson has been a telling factor.

Three of our 1st teamers Martindale, Cowell and Leeming reached the final County Rugby Trials at Ansdell, the former being chosen to play on the wing where he has scored on a number of occasions. Sadly, Hughes who played both for England Under 15's and last season for Yorkshire Under 19's was not considered for selection. In the U.15 trials Morgan played and Bramwell was a travelling reserve for the Final Trial, and both were unlucky to be ignored by the selectors.

Many thanks go to all the players who made 1970-71 a successful season, and particularly to J. Brandon the captain, J. Martindale, the vice-captain and E. Patton who led the pack, for their enthusiasm and help both on and off the field.

Seven-a-Side Rugby

The school's seven-a-side ventures have met with varied success this year. At Edge Hill the side playing only moderately well beat Ellesmere Port G.S. to reach the final, where they were defeated by Blackpool G.S. In the Parkes Trophy at Ansdell they promised greater things defeating a phenomenally strong St. Edward's School, Liverpool on their way to the semi-final. Here they lost to Crossley and Porter's School with a comparatively indifferent display. At the Manchester University Sevens they lost in the first round to Whitehaven G.S. by a late and disputed penalty but went on to win the President's Plate. The Junior Sevens showed great promise. The U.17's reached the final at Southport where K.E.S., Lytham surprisingly beat them and at Fylde the U.15's lost to Blackpool G.S. in a final played in pouring rain.

Inter-House Sevens

These were held late in the Easter Term and produced some very good rugby, the result being in doubt until the last round, when a very talented Lytham team beat Preston House who had been highly fancied to win. Fylde were third, two points behind Preston and a point clear of Ashton. School beat Kirkham to clinch fifth place.

D.E.W.

Senior Rugby Final

ASHTON 40 PRESTON 3

Despite being three points down after only two minutes, Ashton House recovered to win their third successive Senior Rugby Final, their sixth since the war. They combined a strong, efficient pack of forwards with a talented back division and consequently scored five goals, three tries, a penalty and a drop goal to Preston's solitary penalty.

Preston's early enthusiasm forced the rather complacent Ashton team into a string of frightening errors. After only two minutes Thomas was spotted entering a loose ruck from the wrong side, and I. B. Taylor thankfully put over the penalty kick from 25 yards. Although this shook Ashton they continued to spoil their wealth of possession with indecisive and careless rugby, and Short knocked on with the line at his mercy.

But Preston were gradually being pushed onto the defensive. Their main hopes obviously lay with Martindale's strength and speed, but his two young half-backs Bramwell and Kitchen couldn't give him the desired service, being constantly under pressure behind a retreating pack. Leeming's hooking was ruined by the superior Ashton forward drive, and Piggot dominated the line-outs at will. Preston used shortened lines to some effect thanks mainly to Hart's bravery, Kitchen and Bramwell for all their inexperience made one glorious break each and Martindale threatened miracles at times, but a series of quick Ashton scores before the interval made Preston's task herculean.

Stevens finally equalised getting down first after Preston had hooked the ball over their own line. Then as the Ashton three-quarters found their feet D. Aitchison and Young crossed for their first tries and P. L. Bamber, besides kicking a conversion, put over a penalty kick to make it 14-3 at the halfway stage.

The second half became more and more of a formality. Stevens gave K. Aitchison all the room he needed to practically dictate the game. Outside him Reeder kicked and prompted with all the wile of a half-back, and D. Aitchison, Young and P. M. Bamber finished strongly scoring thrice, twice and once respectively. Short more than made up for his early mistakes, backing up a Piggot dribble to get his try. P. L. Bamber kicked four more conversions and K. Aitchison dropped a goal at the third attempt. In the pack Whittle and Thomas rampaged round the field causing wilful and malicious damage in the loose scrums. Indeed a half century might have been run up but for I. B. Taylor's solid rearguard and the cover of Hart who worked like a seaside donkey.

For Preston there was much promise in a side which contained outstanding young players like Kitchen, Bramwell and Worthington, and for Ashton the undisputed fact that for the moment they are dominant in Kirkham rugby.

C.R.T.

The Junior House Rugby Final

PRESTON 17 ASHTON 15

In what was a little less than emotional finish, Preston House won their first Junior House Rugby title since 1953 thanks to a last minute penalty goal by Wright. It was perhaps fitting that Wright's boot should settle the issue, it being the deciding factor in a match in which Ashton scored five tries to their opponents' three.

The game itself was packed with tactical interest since it was destined to be a battle between the Ashton pack and the Preston three-quarters. For a very long time the former held the upper hand, largely dominating possession. The Ashton line-out forwards stood like a long row of telegraph poles, dwarfing their Preston counterparts, and Bellamy had the better of his hooking battle with Crane. The loose play was very untidy and the rucks resembled 'love-ins' rather than fierce mauls. Nevertheless Collins emerged as a giant, striking panic wherever he appeared and, in the bargain, loping casually to three incredible solo tries. Bellamy, who crossed twice, Ashworth and Moore added their weighty contributions against only isolated bursts of resistance from Ainsworth and Haddleton.

Meanwhile the Preston backs were moving smoothly enough but minor heroics from Gardner, Milligan, Morgan and McCann kept them at bay. Indeed Gardner even found time for several deft attacking touches too.

Most of what Preston did stemmed from Wright. After seven minutes he set up a ruck from which Sproates put McGregor over, and five minutes from time he crossed for a fine solo try. In between times he kicked a penalty and a conversion, and of course stepped up to put over the vital kick in the final minute. Preston's other try resulted from Duckworth's phenomenal speed, he scored in the corner just before the interval.

As the game progressed Sproates and McGregor found more and more room in which to work their tricks and Preston emerged supreme in those exciting closing stages, but it could well have been a different story if McCann, Collins and Bellamy had put over the vital conversions for Ashton.

C.R.T.

Harriers

Over the second half of the season the Harriers gained victories over K.E.S., Lytham, K.G.V., Southport, Arnold, Hutton and finished second in a triangular with Stoneyhurst and Blackpool G.S. In the Inter-Grammar School Race at Stanley Park we were third behind Rossall and St. Joseph's and Russell came sixth, a very creditable performance.

Our runners have performed very well and whilst one might single out Russell for special mention, Lewis, Fisher, Beaven, Dawson, Rayner, Samways and Townsend have all contributed greatly to another successful season. We also must mention Blake and Tyl-desley who have run so well when required. Preston carried off both house trophies with School twice runners-up. Russell won the Senior Race and Bramwell the Junior.

R.M.C.

Athletics

At the time of going to press the School teams have taken part in three matches. Of these, the only team to win has been the Senior team in the match against St. Joseph's at the beginning of the season. More in evidence this season has been the lack of really strong second string athletes. When the teams have competed in a 'one competitor per event' meeting, then they have proved equal to most schools.

The Seniors have always registered with the most success. In April they defeated St. Joseph's comfortably, Hughes producing a notable throw of 50m 80 in the javelin. In mid-May they took on Rossall and Lancaster R.G.S. without Beaven and finished only ten points behind the winners. Redman recorded 15.3 secs for the 110 metres Hurdles, 0.2 secs. inside the Lancashire record. Martindale carried off the 400m and we won all three throwing events thanks to Patton, Cowell and Hughes.

The Under 16's lost their two fixtures but Piggot, Harris, Aitchison and Allan are all good athletes. The Under 15's went down to St. Joseph's, Bramwell in the middle distances and Gardner in the high jump being two of the only highlights. The Under 14's lost narrowly with Bellamy, Collins, Wood and Duckworth showing promise.

The Inter-House Sports

These were held on Wednesday 12th May in warm sunshine. Unfortunately, for those who had hoped to see close finishes to the track events, most ended as expected and there were no surprises. In the Senior events Beaven took first place in the 100, 200 and 800m. In the intermediate events Atkinson won the 100 and 200m., long jump and triple jump, the latter in a new record distance. Bramwell won the 1500 m and set up a new record time for the 800m of 2m 17.8 secs. Worthington won both Shot and Discus Events. In the Juniors Duckworth won 100 and 200m closely pressed by Bamber in both.

Dr. M. T. Lucking, a member of the Great Britain Olympic Teams of 1960 and 1964, Commonwealth Games Shot Putt Champion 1963 and a member of the Great Britain Athletics team until last season, presented the trophies and certificates and to him I offer sincere thanks and I hope that he enjoyed his day at Kirkham.

RESULTS—SPORTS DAY

				<i>Standard Points</i>
1	PRESTON	.	.	113
2	FYLDE	.	.	73
3	ASHTON	.	.	49
4	SCHOOL	.	.	43
5	LYTHAM	.	.	26
6	KIRKHAM	.	.	21
1	SCHOOL	.	.	484
2	PRESTON	.	.	258
3	FYLDE	.	.	221
4	ASHTON	.	.	209
5	KIRKHAM	.	.	180
6	LYTHAM	.	.	144

Inter-Grammar School Sports, Stanley Park May 19th

It was with high hopes that both teams arrived at Stanley Park, but the writer's calculated gamble for points in Senior Track Events was foiled by the afternoon timetable. Consequently we had the unfortunate coincidences of Redman having to run a 200m final immediately after winning the 110m Hurdles in record time, and Beaven a 100m final minutes after another record breaking 800m. These excesses only served to slow down the same runners in the relay and in spite of setting up the fastest heat time with little effort they only finished third. Martindale was third in the 400m and Russell ran second in that very arduous race the 1000m Steeplechase. In the field Hughes, Patton and Piggot threw well for places in the javelin, shot and discuss and 14-year old Witting produced a magnificent performance, coming fourth in the Senior Pole Vault.

The U.15 team performed very creditably to come fourth. Atkinson and Bramwell ran well at their various distances and Massam, Kitchen and Gardner performed admirably in their respective field events.

The Gymnastics Competition

The Gym Competition was held at the end of the Easter Term which left much more time for practice, time generally well used. It is interesting to ponder on the standards which could be reached, if some of the better gymnasts had both the time and the personal drive to develop their talents to the full.

Kirkham carried off the cup, thanks largely to their senior team led by Hird, Short and Farrar came first and second in the senior individual placings. Witting took the junior prize with a fine voluntary vault, and it was most pleasing to see two first year boys, Whitehead and Gardner in the top five.

D.E.W.

Tennis

The year's fixtures have started disastrously for the tennis team with two large defeats against Arnold and Hutton. However the scores are an injustice to the team for the sets themselves have often been very close, but the luck has not been with us.

Credit must go to C. Robinson and A. S. Taylor for winning our only set so far and to D. L. Robinson and N. Channon for their 100% effort at all times. Finally with only one of the present team leaving after this term, it is hoped that next season will bring better results.

D.H.S.

Cricket 1971

1st XI

28/4/71 K.G.S. 57 Blackpool G.S. 53-9—Match Drawn

A promising start by Brandon (16) and Dennis (10) was spoilt by poor middle-order batting which carried the Kirkham total to a modest 57. Fisher (2-20) and Berry (1-6) both made early strikes into the Blackpool line-up so that an exciting finish seemed imminent. Reeder and Farrar took a couple of cheap wickets each and Meakin held four catches, but at the close of play the tail-enders held out for a draw.

5/5/71 K.G.S. 113-9 dec. Hutton G.S. 62-9—Match Drawn

Time again foiled our bowlers from clinching victory at Hutton. A fine total of 113 was notable for the number of good performances. Meakin (20), Russell (17 n.o.), Reeder (17), Brandon (15) and Fisher (14) all made useful contributions to the score. A fine opening spell by Berry (3-10) had Hutton reeling, but with only one wicket remaining the close of play saved the home side.

15/5/71 K.G.S. 75-8 dec. Baines G.S. 16—K.G.S. won by 59 runs

Victory came at last with the visit of Baines but only with three minutes to spare. After a disappointing start Russell (19) and Reeder (17 n.o.) pushed the score up to the declaration total of 75. Fisher and Berry were given only an hour in which to bowl out the visitors but they did it with phenomenal success. Fisher took 5 wickets for 2 runs and Berry 5 for 9, all of which were clean bowled.

**19/5/71 Preston 6th Form Coll. 111-6 dec. K.G.S. 113-8—
K.G.S. won by 2 wickets**

The first team continued in their exciting mood by beating Preston College with two balls remaining. The College batted well, Horton and William putting on 50 for the 4th wicket. Loxham (2-9) had some success with his spin but the target of 112 in 90 minutes looked a bit steep. Brandon and Berry made 42 in even time in the opening stand and were followed by Meakin's colourful 32 with two sixes and four fours. In the dying minutes it was Hill who hit the winning runs off Seedat.

C.R.T.

SCHOOL TRIPS

School Party to Gaschurn, Austria 4-13 April

Chemists will tell you that anything ventured under the guidance of Mr. Bentley is likely to produce exciting results. When the venture is a ten-day ski-ing expedition in Central Europe, unpredictability is the order of the day. Perhaps that is why we enjoy his S.T.S., holidays as much as we do.

Take the prelude to this holiday for instance. British Rail, in their infinite wisdom, had ripped the line up between Kirkham and Preston and consequently boys expecting to catch the Sunday morning train at Kirkham station as planned found only a Ribble bus to take them to Preston. We proceeded 'Inter-City' to London Euston, following a special Sunday detour via Coventry which put another on our time. A dash across the London underground was followed by another delay-ridden journey from Victoria to Folkestone where we boarded the 'S.S. Cote d'Azur' at 5.50 p.m. We dined on board and reached Calais nearly two hours later. From here we took a French sleeper train to Basle on the Swiss border where we breakfasted at the unlikely hour of half past five. We returned to the station two hours later for a picturesque journey across the breadth of Switzerland into Austria and Bludenz, only 40 minutes coach ride from Gaschurn and our hotel 'Pension Sonnblick'.

The hotel was adequate in most respects. The food was simple but generally substantial, and the rooms, while not entirely spacious, provided bed and board, their primary function. The establishment was run by a race of super-humans especially one female, fondly knicknamed 'Muscles', who dug up roads and broke rocks in her spare time.

The weather was absolutely fabulous and the town's Nivea and Ambre Solaire sales rocketed. The sun in fact had melted much of the snow and we had to ascend a ski-lift to a height of 7000 feet to the main slopes. Our ski-instructor Gunter was a difficult character to assess. His preoccupation with the opposite sex and his somewhat immature English tried both his and our patience at times. But those who persevered found him likeable and indeed humourous and nobody will ever forget his prize lingual blunder of saying 'hello' at every farewell.

There was a good crowd at the hotel too, notable a draft-dodging American, an 8-year old German boy who became known as Herman and a rather older German girl in hot pants who became known as several things. The town itself had few social centres. The Cafe Christine took an unaccountable dislike to Dean and we took a very accountable dislike to the prices at most other places. The Catholic

Church was the focal point of the town and a mad bell-ringer whom we imagined to be the original Quasimodo kept us awake all night from the tower. There was an 18-hole crazy golf course which Worthington completed to the par of 47 and for which Price held the record with 105, including a 21 at the infamous 4th.

The return journey differed little from the outward one. Hankinson was floored by a spectacular Dean foul in a game of football with a Pepsi bottle top on Basle station and we spent eight hours in Zurich, an enchanting city set on a large lake in Switzerland. At Victoria there were sad goodbyes to Chris Ray who left for Ipswich never to return to K.G.S., a pity because only after living with him for a week did one realise what a subdued and level-headed person he was.

Many, many other memories come to mind, some which only a select few will understand, but I'm sure if you ask them they'll expand. Who could forget Price's infatuation for hurling objects out of windows, Hankinson's antics on skis and his love for frogs, Metcalf's pyjama games, N. Cooper's staunch abstention from membership of our exclusive club, Bailey's kon-tiki expedition on Lake Zurich, R. Fisher's dislike for Swiss linemen, Worthington's hobby of herding runaway skis, Haynes's lust for jumping out of hotel windows late at night and Mr. Bentley's cowering under a black cloth to change his film in Central Zurich. Mr. Bentley celebrated his birthday during the week, and if he and his wife can continue to engineer so much enjoyment for us let's hope it's many happy returns.

C. R. TYLDESLEY, L.VI.M

Brathay Field Studies . . . A week to remember

The three of us met early on Wednesday the 3rd March at Preston Bus Station, loaded down with suitcases full of warm woollen clothing for the expedition ahead.

We arrived at Brathay Hall, Ambleside early in the afternoon, and took all afternoon to unpack and to find our way round. The other students arrived during the afternoon and we talked with some from a school near London who had started their journey at about 6 a.m. However they had not come to study geography, but to study that minor branch science of geography, namely biology.

We looked round the different rooms and found the library stacked with many excellent textbooks, including the one and only Monkhouse. Obviously they expected the girls from Queen Mary's to be coming.

At about 6 p.m. we were given a briefing and told the rules of the house. These rules were often rigid, but the majority of them were

necessary to run the house smoothly. This briefing set the mood for the rest of the week and we knew then, it was going to be hard work.

The work started slowly enough, but eventually we nearly filled a whole geography exercise book with notes.

Every day we were awakened by a bell, and from then to the end of the day there was hardly a moment to spare, for we were kept busy from dawn to dusk, except Saturday when we had the night off.

The field work, every day was very interesting and enjoyable, but on certain more arduous climbs, a certain member of our trio lagged behind the rest of the party with a complaint of blisters.

The week passed quickly with lectures most nights and fieldwork all day. Despite the work and the little sleep we had, all three of us enjoyed it, and learnt a lot from our experiences at Brathay Hall.

D. H. SYKES, L.MVI

H. E. NEWTON, L.ScVI

G. R. TOMLINSON, L.MVI

C.C.F. REPORT

Army Section

C.S.M.: P. A. SUMNER

Sgts.: J. BRANDON; J. F. COOMBER; T. R. M. JONES; B. STRONG;
D. L. ROBINSON.

Cpls.: J. G. BARTON; R. A. COSSINS; R. DALLEY; D. FISHER; M.
GREGSON; M. B. HOLD; T. E. IRVING; S. J. B. MARTINDALE;
H. R. T. METCALFE; S. L. REDMAN; T. A. REEDER; C. J. SOBEY;
G. R. TOMLINSON; C. R. TYLDESLEY; S. P. J. WHITE.

It is always a pleasant task to congratulate somebody in a report such as this, and so on behalf of the whole contingent I would like to start this report by congratulating Mr. Reay on being promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Easter Cup this year was held in the Cairngorm Mountains, and our best wishes must go to T. L. Armstrong, the previous C.S.M., who returned as an instructor to help the boys enjoy some excellent mountaineering, we were all very pleased to see him. The much feared lack of snow in the area eventually turned out to be a blessing since the boys were able to undertake a much wider scope of activity such as walking, rock-climbing and even ice-skating, as well as the usual ski-ing. Our gratitude must go to all the officers who by their organisation made it one of the most successful camps yet undertaken.

The U.V. have now almost completed their proficiency examinations under the new 'Apex Scheme' with just the self-reliance test remaining, all the boys so far have done extremely well and a high pass rate is expected. Captain Mileham and the N.C.O.'s in charge of these boys deserve a good deal of praise for their competent instruction.

This year has also seen the return of the General Inspection with Group Captain Baillie, O.B.E., R.A.F. undertaking his first inspection of a cadet force. He appeared to be a very thorough officer but was justly impressed both by the turn-out of the boys on parade and by the training in the school fields. The training which included ab-seiling, camp-craft, first-aid and battle-craft using blank ammunition was described as exciting and imaginative. Obviously a lot of work went into preparing for this and the parade with the turnout of the L.V's being exceptionally good. Although we have not yet received the official report I am sure it will be full of praise for the boys and the officers.

Summer Camp this year will be held on Monmouth which in previous years has proved to be a very popular location. The surrounding countryside provides opportunities for such activities as canoeing, walking, rock-climbing and field work, so there is something for everybody, let us hope for a record attendance.

P.A.S.

Easter Camp—Cairngorms 1971

On the 20th April, a dull, overcast morning, 17 cadets and Mr. Capper assembled on Preston station to await the arrival of the train to Scotland.

When we arrived at Aviemore one Land-Rover greeted us. The lucky ones got in first; the others had to start walking.

It was drizzling slightly on the Glen More camp site as we arrived and the mountains were covered in mist but by the morning the mist had cleared and there was a magnificent view of Cairngorm. That day we walked up the mountain from the car park and back again along a horse-shoe shaped route. Two intrepid mountaineers, C.S.M's Tommy Armstrong and Pete Sumner planned to dig and in fact dug a snow-hole in which they hoped to spend the night within 100 feet or so of the summit but they were recalled later by anxious officers. During the rest of the week there was an orienteering course, some rock-climbing and ski-ing which proved to be the high-point of the camp. We were fortunate to have the services of an Army Sergeant Major ski instructor with the result that after two days skiing even Robert was able to get around fairly proficiently in spite of some blizzard--like conditions and it did everyone's heart good to see a certain cadet bring the instructor down on the ski-tow.

I would like to thank, on behalf of the boys who went to the camp, Messrs Raey, Butterworth, Clarkson and Capper for such an enjoyable camp.

P. G. DUXBURY

R.A.F. Section

F/S.: A. A. BLAKE

Sgts.: D. O. SLACK; P. C. SAMWAYS

Cpls.: J. H. HALL; J. R. COLLINS; J. C. V. HAYNES; C. A. LEWIS;
A. J. DIXON

The two Easter camps were both reported as very good and three cadets, Newton, Aitchison and Crowley gained gliding certificates during the holidays.

The inspecting officer at this year's general inspection was Group Captain Baillie, so the R.A.F. section were called upon to provide the Guard of Honour. The cadets selected did an excellent job and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for the effort they put into their drill and general turn-out.

The results of the proficiency and advanced proficiency exams, have also been received since the last report; two distinctions being gained in the advanced proficiency by cadets Whittle and Robinson.

R.A.F. Section—Easter Camp

As is usual at this time of the year 14 cadets, 5 NCO's and 2 Officers (Flt/Lt G. S. Cheesbrough and Lt. F. W. Sayer), set off for R.A.F. Ternhill in Shropshire.

We arrived safely at noon and were briefed by our A.C.L.O. (Air Cadet Liaison Officer). We were housed in Barthrop House which was very good compared to other camps I have been on, the only trouble was the hot water, which did not arrive till Friday morning and when it did it poured out of the overflow onto the patio.

It did not take us long to settle into our routine of beans and tomatoes in between the frequent exercises. It was the most ambitious programme I have ever seen, and it was so full that it was difficult to find time to go to the toilet.

On Wednesday afternoon we went on a quick trek up the local crag (see Cpl. Ellis), called 'The Reakin' with Lt. Sayer. It was quite uneventful except for the fact that we almost got shot on the range, and some of us had to go up the hill twice to find Cdt. Dennis who ran up to the top and got lost.

On Thursday morning we were split into 4 syndicates, with other schools. A friendly Flt/Sgt told us that we had to march everywhere and not wanting to disappoint him on our first day we marched over to breakfast and back again after half an hour of drill on the Parade Square. The time was now 7.45 a.m., and we had half an hour to clean up the billets, we did this but unfortunately C flight lost. The rest of the morning was spent with a welcome by the C.O. and a photograph for M16 records. In the afternoon we were sent on our first exercise—'Bos'uns Chair' which involved map reading, a 5 mile walk along a canal bank, and building an aerial runway across a 20 foot part of the Shropshire Union Canal. Unfortunately C flight lost this part of the competition also, mainly because the next syndicates knew what to do. However we made up for this by winning the Friday morning inspection.

Friday was a relaxing day and we went flying in helicopters in the morning—Sioux and Whirlwind—and then had a quick look around the hangers. In the afternoon Captain Cox showed us the effects of 40 years of Army food, and also tried to persuade us to join the army—unsuccessfully, at the same time he showed us around the Central Ordnance Depot at Donnington. We were shown around an artillery museum, the assault course, the range, and the soldiers billets. Friday night was spent in the Gym where C flight showed their skill in ball games by winning, even though 2 of our players were booked and 3 were sent off.

Saturday (our free day) included a 3 hour trip to Snowdon which we climbed, and Saturday night was spent in Market Drayton where a couple of cadets got as far as the 5½ index on the Slack Sloshed Statistical Symbol—(1. Dry and Decent; 2. Delighted and Devilish; 3. Delinquent and Disgusting; 4. Dizzy and Delirious; 5. Dazed and Dejected; 6. Dead Drunk; 7. Dead).

Sunday morning was a good morning because we were allowed to sleep in till 7.00 a.m. The barrack inspection was drawn, and we were now in the lead. In the morning we went to R.A.F. Shawbury (K.G.S. went there 4 years ago with Fred Taylor—they won the inter school shield) for a flight in a chipmunk. In the afternoon we went shooting with 2 well spoken aircraftsmen who did not think much of our shooting despite the wide variety of badges. We then had to participate in Ex. 'Naverone'—climbing over an air raid shelter without touching it, then crossing a river and climbing a 15 ft. wall with a river 9 ft. wide in front of it while carrying a 50 gallon oil drum half filled with sand. We were only allowed to use rope and 5 poles about 20 feet long. Of course C flight won this event and we went further into the lead.

On Monday we went to the baths at Shrewsbury in the morning and Jodrell Bank in the afternoon. We had to be back early because of the Drill Competition at 18.00 hours. This was not our forte and we were placed last, as we were in the morning inspection (the officer came round too soon).

Tuesday was our last day at the camp and in the morning we went on the Station visits, a Rectification Flight, the safety, electrical, instrument, and fire sections besides a trip up the Control tower. In the afternoon the rooms were inspected and our final position was a draw with B syndicate. So we decided we would have half share in a plaque, as we raced to R.A.F. Shawbury for more flying. Unfortunately the weather was unfavourable so a florid Flt/Lt. talked to us about flying and the R.A.F. in general.

When we got back to camp for the prize giving we found out that the shooting had been taken into account (this had previously been cancelled due to the bad way in which it was run). So B flight were the eventual winners. This was mainly due to the fact that the Camp Commandant was an Old Boy of Kimbolton P.S.—so it was only fair that they should win?

And so we left for Crewe, completing 27.5 hours of bus rides, after 21 helpings of beans and ants, at 08.30 hours on the 7th of April, with the final chants of 'It's not small by any means', 'You shouldn't spray that on objects or food', 'That was a silly thing to do can't you see that', 'He's right you know', 'Don't worry lads', and 'A one legged chicken and a knock-kneed hen'.

It really was a very successful camp, and it only remains for me to say thank you to the officers who made it so enjoyable, and in particular Flt/Lt. Allen our very able and competent ACLO who still say's he isn't a B???, and to our good friend Flt/Sgt Davies (from God's country?—Israel), who made it such a good camp.

Sgt. D. O. SLACK

R.A.F. Bruggen—Easter Camp 1971

'Never before have so few done so much to so many'.

The aircraft touched down at R.A.F. Wildenwrath at 15.30 hours and Germany cringed visibly; cries of 'lock up your tochter', split the air and the K.G.S.—B.E.F. had arrived. Our famous blue bus drove Pilot Officer Brown and our 11 cadets to R.A.F. Bruggen, where with 27 other cadets we were officially welcomed. This was really a welcoming-cum-warning which would have struck fear into the hearts of the ubiquitous members of Alcoholics Anonymous but such trivialities could not dampen our spirits (pun) and all characters in authority were immediately assessed and suitably named.

Training and drilling at the hands of Sergeant Dean and the indefatigable Joe Hilter was both enjoyable and beneficial.

A section of the programme entitled 'Organised Games' turned out to be a 6¼ mile run in which a K.G.S. team were beaten into second place by 10 yards. The following day cruel fate struck again and a criminally harsh penalty of 15 minutes incurred quite obviously through bad race management (the case for professional referees is strengthened) shattered a magnificent time of 42 minutes for a 3 mile orienteering race put up by this same magnificent K.G.S. squad.

Cologne provided a welcome break from routine and gave us some impression of the German way of life, and we are still wondering how the German tram services can ever make a profit with such ridiculously low fares . . .

Visits in Holland on the remaining two days saw our famous blue bus parked firstly alongside the other World War Two relics at the Overloon War Museum where the bus received many admiring glances.....could it be that visitors thought it was part of that exhibition of wrecks? and secondly in completely different surroundings at the remarkable Philips Exhibition at Eindhoven.

Of those little unimportant things, surely all 11 will remember Sergeant Dean's camels, lancers, soggy arms and the bull's he hit; or if not those, then the immortal words of Eric, 'Right, fine, yes, well er at long last we've er er managed to arrange some flying for you'. (And indeed he had—20 minutes in a Wessex on our last morning).

Happily the return was far more eventful than our outward journey but even so the great coup de grace of hi-jacking the bus to meet R.T.B. in Austria didn't quite succeed. Anyway to shorten the story; Wildenwrath was fog-bound, we went to Dusseldorf and waited four and a half hours as the plane had broken down, eventually landing at 18.15 at Gatwick.

As a last word our thanks must go to Pilot Officer Brown and all who flew with him.

C.J.R. L.VI.M

PROFILE No. 31



Mr. J. MURRAY, (1946–1971)

Mr. Murray always seems a leisurely sort of person. One imagines that after the odd orchestra or choir practice he has very little to do outside school hours. This, I must admit, was my view until I tried to get an interview with him for this profile. About a week after asking him I was approached by a young third former in the corridor who announced that Mr. Murray had a quarter of an hour to spare and would now see me. But if he is a man who is constantly occupied in a hectic life he certainly doesn't show it; Mr. Wood describes him as 'unflappable'. After correcting a prospective Miles Davis at the front of the hall he settled down in a chair, lit his pipe and began to modestly relate his life at Kirkham Grammar School to me.

He came to us in September 1946 having taken a course at the Royal Academy of Music in London. When he arrived the school music department was in a sorry state, there was no choir and no instruments, never mind an orchestra. But things didn't remain that way for long, he tutored a dozen trebles to sing at the first Carol Service that Christmas and has since introduced other voices to make up today's 60-strong choir. This has performed with almost monotonous excellence at Carol Services, Founders' Days and Concerts, performing everything from the conventional Gilbert and Sullivan to that near revolutionary highlight of Christmas 1965, 'the Cowboy Carol'. Individual choristers have been invited to sing in cathedral services as a result of their ability realised under Mr. Murray's guidance.

The orchestra got under way in the mid fifties with piano, recorders and violins. Mr. Murray recalls Mr. Norwood's reluctance to expand so wild a venture, but Mr. Kennedy's arrival saw an influx of brass and woodwind. Since then the orchestra has admirably supplemented the choir and starred in its own right at concerts and C.C.F. Inspection Days.

The Inter-House Competition was started in 1957. Mr. Baines says that it was basically the creation of Ashton House who were winning absolutely nothing at the time, but who had several good musicians in their ranks. Indeed Ashton have won seven of the fifteen competitions, as has Mr. Murray's own house Lytham, with Mr. Baines's Kirkham House taking the other.

But Mr. Murray is of course a teacher by profession, and by the looks of the Honours Board in the Hall a very good one at that. Only three years after his arrival A. Tomlinson gained a Stocks-Massey Scholarship in Music at the Royal College of Music in Manchester and J. F. Nourse an organ scholarship at St. John's College, Oxford. Mr. Murray's life away from Kirkham Grammar School is equally eventful and distinguished. He has been the organist at Saint Cuthbert's Church, Lytham for the last 15 years and has made other telling contributions to the music of the Fylde since his arrival from East Lancashire. He relaxes on the bowling green, where he has won prizes, or in the snooker room, and enjoys a bit of decorating at home.

The future holds, not complete retirement, but rather more select private tuition. It would be inconceivable to expect Mr. Murray to stop passing on his great musical knowledge and ability to others, it has become second nature to him. But one won't hear about it because he is too modest to tell us, he prefers to carry on his good work under a dim light. For once let his qualities be brought out into the open, as I propose an enormous thank you to Mr. Murray, and good luck in the future.

K.G.S. OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

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President-Elect: 1970-71—P. T. HODGSON, ESQ.

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

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**Ex-Officio Committee Members.*

Current Affairs.

1. A Last Issue

This sub-heading refers to (a) the previous magazine (b) the fact that there will be only ONE 'Kirkhamian' printed per year from now on and (c) almost my last public act—in print—as your Hon. Secretary.

I hope you all received the last magazine, circulars and Calendar Card eventually although the postal dispute made many advertised items on the Calendar of only academic interest. But you will be able to read about them in this issue and in the special addendas sent with it to all members. The Hon. Treasurer and I are glad to report some response to the item on Association Finance in the last circular. A slow trickle of subs., a few enquiries from members in arrears or wanting to change their membership status; and one new L.M. and two new V.P. plus a small donation. Every little helps cash-wise of course but such indications of your **interest** are particularly welcomed by your Honorary Staff. However 14 magazines were returned worded 'gone away' or with some similar legend. Our 'missing members' file certainly increases much more rapidly than our current membership list. Let us hope that in particular July 5th 1971 will see a sudden change in this situation.

Hardly incidentally but I think you should know that the last package you received from the Old Boys cost the Association over £80 and this item presumably will cost the same. Surely this is more than nibbling at our financial reserves?

2. Easter Fair 1971

This year this was an affair which re things to do and see and buy and eat was much more than 'fair'. Again the event was a financial success especially when the proceeds of the DRAW organised by Mr. S. Crane were added to the Fair figure and the takings of the Concert the following Saturday. One item on the programme of the latter event enabled several of our members to show off their musical talents. Messrs. A. R. Baines (Cuckoo and Quail), R. T. Bentley (Rattle of a Simple Man), S. Crane (Fiddler on the Hoof), J. (Mr. Piano) Murray, and H. J. Reay (Drum Major) joined with Messrs. D. H. Butterworth (Night In Gale) and R. M. Clarkson (the Eternal Triangle) and Master M. A. Scholey (Voluntary Trumpet) in a performance of 'The Toy Symphony' by Hadyn. The School Governors were glad to hear that we did not bring the house down that night.

3. Fifth Oxford Dinner

This was held at Corpus Christi College, Oxford on April 17th, 1971. Those who attended this year were: Messrs. A. R. Baines (1950-57; 1967-); N. S. Jackson (1953-59); C. R. Plaster (1949-58); Dr. E. Sidebottom (1949-57); Dr. J. Stevenson (1948-56); I. W. McKerrow (1953-69); Dr. C. H. Thorp (1946-54); L. Rathbone (1941-48); S. Crane (1936-); J. Gill (1936-42); G. C. Wilson (1916-20); J. L. Roscoe (1926-34); B. Stevenson (1922-60); S. H. Kirkham (1938-44); H. J. Reay (1953-); S. H. Wilcock (1946-54); P. Myerscough (1948-56); J. C. Renshaw (1948-56); R. Fielding (1955-60); D. T. Bowe (1949-57); R. T. Bentley (1950-); P. Dawson (1957-64); H. Midgley (1956-62); W. H. Kennedy (1959-) and J. C. Emmett (1959-66). Total: 26 sober men and true (this is not a SIC JOKE—but that one is!) certainly before the meal at any rate. The Menu was Consomme; Sole arlesienne (a real test of your dissection technique!); Chicken paprika, Petit pois and Duchess potatoes; Pineapple Sultan; Coffee. Wines served during the meal (on top of sherry served before it and under much drunk afterwards) were Niersteiner Domtal 1968; Clos de L'Ean 1964 and L.B. Noval. Memories of what happened after the formal proceedings are judiciously (a la Sports Day) vague but the odd phrase sticks in my mind viz 'When I was at Mars . . . (S.H.W.), 'I've got a beetle' (B.S.), and 'Thank God for peristalsis' (Anonymous). 'Do come next year' (all 26 of us!).

4. Calendar Card Corrections

- a. June 8th Association Committee meeting.
- b. July 5th Meeting with School leavers.
- c. July 9th. There will be no Founders Day Church Service this year.
- d. September 24th. A.G.M. & Dinner at the Dalmeny Hotel, St. Annes.

Please make these adjustments NOW! Come along !

The School Inter-House Sports however went on as advertised and we were glad to see a fully recovered Mr. S. Middleton (1928-66) enjoying them.

5. Just Fancy

- a. Laboratory Steward Mr. 'Bill' Griffith who worked at K.G.S. from 1965-70 is now doing a T.T. course at Chorley Training College. His successor is Mr. 'Bill' Darnell formerly a Laboratory Technician at Chester T.T. College.
- b. Clearing out a file recently I came across a letter from Mr. H. C. Turner (Hon. Sec. and Treasurer of the Association from 1946 to mid fifties) thanking a new member for his first subscription. The letter was dated 21.3.51 and the member was P. T. Hodgson (1940-45) our President for 1971-72.
- c. In a local newspaper's 'In the long ago' column recently appeared (i) 1945—Rev. C. Cresswell Strange, Headmaster of K.G.S. for 26 years retires. (ii) 1895—A former pupil of K.G.S. Mr. E. G. Holden of Preston was a successful candidate in the 'recent' preliminary examinations of the Incorporated Law Society.
- d. Did even those who visit Room 12 frequently, know that on a wild night in 1549 Benvenuto Cellini cast his bronze statue of 'Perseus'? Meanwhile in Kirkham (England) . . .

A Step into the '70's

This was the title of a coloured brochure—'Lithographed in England'—posted to me by a local garage last year. I had received it supposedly at the request of Sir Alex Issigonis, creator of the famous Mini (vehicle not vestment) so that he could explain how he had designed the Maxi—'the only logical answer to motoring in the 70's'. The garage management were offering me a test-drive in this '5 door, thoroughly dual-purpose car'.

So much for an invitation into the future. May I extend one to you, as our Golden Jubilee Year draws to a close, to step backwards into the '70s? Back to 1870 in fact? What of the Educational Scene then particularly at K.G.S.? There is a record of some of it.

1970, amongst many other things, was the year to celebrate the Centenary of State Education. In 1870 the Government asked local Authorities, through School Boards, to make good any deficiencies in the provision of Education in their areas. The 1870 Education Act made available 'education for all' though it did not make it compulsory. Before this Act, most Schools were run by the Churches, the parents being asked to pay 1d. or 2d. a week for their children's education. What was going on at K.G.S. in that eventful year?

Mr. Harold Pearson (1888-1892) our oldest Association member has loaned to me a booklet of some 20 pages entitled 'Reminiscences of K.G.S. 1870-72' by Wm. Munro (and printed by J. Rigby of Kirkham). As 1970 has been a particularly nostalgic one for our Association, members would perhaps like to know something of the contents of this booklet?

William Munro's father was a widower living in Fleetwood, and the time came when he began to plan for his two sons' final years

at School. A local builder, who already had a son at K.G.S., seems to have finally convinced Mr. Munro Senior that K.G.S. was just the place for his two boys to 'finish their curriculum as the ground-work was about as much as they could obtain in Fleetwood'. It was necessary that all applicants for entering the Grammar School at Kirkham should first appear before the Governors, with whom rested the decision whether the boys were suitable or not. According to the rules then, candidates were required 'to have some instillation of learning or their admission would not be sanctioned'.

The boys eventually appeared before the 'most Honourable Board at Kirkham' (one of the Governors at the time being a Mr. Birley—'a large shareholder in a line of steamers to Belfast controlled by my father' writes William). The brothers were asked in turn to read a short lesson and both came through the ordeal with flying colours 'for we were accepted as likely to shed a lustre on the School' says the author.

It was arranged that the two boys were to stay with Mr. Robert Charlton, the Second Master, who kept boarders. These came mostly from Lytham, Blackpool and Fleetwood it seems but a few had families in Clitheroe and Whalley. 'Lytham boys always went home the weekends, but a few from the more distant places waited over the Sundays, and only saw their nesting places during the holidays'.

Because their mother had died a short time before they came to K.G.S., the Munro brothers first appeared at the School in 'deep mourning'. They were at once christened by the other pupils the 'Black and Tans' but they were soon to receive the nickname which they would have until K.G.S. days were over. In a Latin lesson with Mr. Charlton, he asked the boys the meaning of the word 'nuncio'. William answered that it 'has something to do with the Pope'. Munro, Nuncio? From that day William was 'Big Munch' and his brother 'Little Munch'—'until the day of our exportation from the Fylde' writes William. Deciding to get his own back I suppose William goes on to claim that 'I invented more nicknames at Kirkham than any other boy during the period of my sojourn there'.

In these times there were 3 Schools making up the Grammar School—Top, second, bottom (or Upper, Middle and Lower). French and Drawing were taught twice a week by M. Desquesnes who travelled from Blackpool to teach these 'special subjects'. Not long after the Munro boys began school days at Kirkham, a new School building was erected 'at the entrance to the playground' and the Top form moved in there from the main building. Prior to this move however, the Top School was reached from the Middle School i.e. both were one stair up and the whole of the ground floor was occupied by the Lower School. Here all the pupils met for prayers every morning and then the Senior pupil called the roll. In William Munro's time the Senior pupil was Andrew Winstanley (his father had a painter's business in Kirkham). The correct response 'to Roll' was Here, for anyone to call our 'Present' would have caused a

great sensation, 'and perhaps punishment would have been handed out to the ironical offender for thus inciting his mates to laughter'. Christian names were never used, thus suffixes of Senior, Junior, Quintus, Sextus and even Septimus had often to be applied. Prayers and Roll over, the boys marched to their respective classes. 'If anyone was caught gossiping or was in anyway inattentive to his lessons, the delinquent was not spoiled by sparing the strap', administered on the palm of the hand it seems. The boys regarded another punishment as being much more serious—being kept in during play hours to learn a Chapter of the Bible off by heart (e.g. 20th Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles). William received this particular punishment for 'being caught putting a drop of oil in some ink bottles so that the pens would not absorb the ink'.

At the foot of the playground was a stagnant pool which was separated from the play area by a 'slim wooden fence'. The pond was 'living with frogs and toads and other specimens of natural history'. Munro W. found this less than exciting—'the laws of paritition cannot have been too well developed in these dark ages', (he comments), 'or such an abortion would not have been permitted to exist as being a danger to public health'. But the boys were kept healthy by playing 'cricket, rounders, foot-and-a-half, leap frog and such like'.

Mr. Munro writes of 'the kindly Doctor up the Street'—this was Dr. SHAW—and he remembers that one of the day boys had lunch regularly at Mr. Charlton's house. 'He was a big, sturdy-built boy from Freckleton and on his doctor's orders (not Dr. Shaw this time) he had a bottle of stout for lunch each day'. The nearest our author came to such bliss was 'a spoonful of brandy with my Arrowroot administered by Mrs. Charlton when I was in bed for a day or two with a slight ailment'.

Saturday morning meant SCHOOL if you were a student at K.G.S. 'but the Wednesday afternoons were substituted for recreation in lieu of this'. At these times the boys were at liberty to explore the surrounding country and many spent these afternoons at the farm houses where the day scholars lived.

Everyday during Whit-week the pupils were marched in procession over to the Parish Church where, whilst the Vicar read the prayers, 'when our heads were devoutly bowed we were more busily engaged learning our lessons than in following the service'. Such irreverence also punctuated lights out too'. I can recall the hot battles at pillow fighting between the Fleetwood and Lytham contingents. 'As the bedrooms of the former groups were nearest the top of the stairs these boys heard approaching footsteps first. The Lytham house boys were often caught out though and got several hundred lines of English History to learn by heart as punishment'.

Finally what of the staff at K.G.S. in 1870? Apart from Mr. Charlton (who was Secretary of Kirkham Horticultural Society in his off duty hours) there was Mr. Benjamin Stuttard who taught in

the Lower School; Mr. John Burroughs, M.A., who was in charge of the Top School where he was assisted by a Mr. Golby. The role of M. Desquesnes has been referred to earlier. Mr. Stuttard was nicknamed Betty—anticipating the 1914–18 war years when Misses Ashford, Budden, Stevens and Watkins helped in a depleted Staff Room. Mr. Munro gives thumb nail sketches of all these men and many more personal memories of this period 1870–72. He does not—or could not—record anything like the events of some schools of that time in whose history, researched for the 1970 Celebrations, one finds items like the following: *a.* (Written by a head teacher)—‘I had to reprove the monitors for firing a small canon in the classroom’. *b.* (written by a headmaster)—‘Not a stroke of work had been done and the teachers were playing round the blackboard. I can depend on neither of them’. *c.* (Written after an inspection)—‘There were dreadfully dull teaching methods—and a terrific lot of absenteeism and sickness when epidemics were on’. *d.* (Written by a headmaster)—‘One girl has had her teeth knocked out—the youth who hit her has been expelled’. ‘Ingredere ut Proficias’—All the Old Boys of this School like to think so.

A.R.B.

News of Old Boys

Before getting down to chapter and verse in the usual style of this section two groups of Old Boys will be best dealt with as such.

1. And did those feet in ancient time

Thanks to Messrs. B. Coates and T. Jackman I can tell you of the whereabouts of several of last years (1963–70) school leavers i.e. R. Bagshaw—awaiting the results of an application for Officer-Cadet in National Air Traffic Control Service); C. R. Butterfield (started 3 year B.A. Hons. Course in Environmental Studies at Lancaster University); A. W. Cox (now a first year student of History, Politics and Philosophy at Lancaster University); J. A. Curwen (now working at Guardian Royal Exchange, Lytham, in the Life Dept. Actuarial Section); P. J. Dernie (now completing a year of farm work prior to going to Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, to study Estate Management); J. H. Duckworth (now at the University of Birmingham, Faculty of Sciences and Engineering for an Hons. Degree in Physics); D. G. Elliott (taking a Sandwich course leading to a B.A. Degree in Business Studies at Lanchester Polytechnic, Coventry and obtaining practical training as a Senior Commercial Trainee with B.A.C.); D. J. Garstang (started a three year course leading to a Teachers Certificate at St. Martin's College, Lancaster, main subject, geography); J. A. Hough (articled to Preston firm of accountants and doing a 1 year pre-service accountancy course at Manchester Polytechnic); P. G. Jones (started a 3 year course in French at Nottingham College of Education); G. E. Poole (started a Sandwich course in Mechanical Engineering, a 1st year with B.A.C. then 3 years at Birmingham University then

back to B.A.C. for final year of this undergraduate apprenticeship); B. Smurthwaite (now at St. Martin's College, Lancaster for a 3 year T.T. course); D. W. Sowerbutts (now at Salford University on a Joint Hons. Science course); C. C. Taylor (now on a Business Studies course at Lanchester sponsored by B.I.C.C. Ltd., Prescott); A. Turner (now a technical assistant with B.T.R. Industries Ltd.); K. Youde (now at Bishop Grosseteste College T.C. Lincoln).

2. Local Government

Recent press photographs of Local Council Officials show many faces of Old Boys amongst them e.g. with Wesham Parish Council are the clerk L. Herrington (1949-54) and Couns. D. Jones (1959-64) J. G. Eccles (1937-42), W. Tunstall (1910-12); with Kirkham Urban Council Couns. O. Aiken (1908-11), B. Hodgson (1940-45), R. H. Fisher (1931-35) and the clerk W. S. Buck (1930-34).

3. Not playing the round ball game?

R. Reid (1963-70) was one of six boys to play in a Preston Senior schools XV. A. D. Mole (1963-68), now a student at the Harris Technical College, Preston was in the same team whilst R. E. Pigot (1962-69) and A. Smith (1961-69) played many games for the Preston Grasshoppers 1st XV.

Now for the chapter and verse!

A. G. COTTAM (1944-50)	Tony has now received the degree of M.Sc. in management studies from the Management Centre, University of Bradford. He is also a Cost and Works Accountant and has been appointed as Group Cost Accountant to the Ditchburn Organisation at Lytham.
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L. DYTHAM (1963-69)	Les was this years rag secretary for the Lytham College of Further Education student rag activities.
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J. G. ECCLES (1937-42)	Coun. J. Eccles has been a member of Wesham C.C. for four years. He was born at Greenhalgh and after leaving school his first job was in the haulage contracting business. During the war James served with the R.E.M.E. but now he works as a dairyman. He is a member of Kirkham and Fylde Round Table and with his wife and two children lives at Wesham.
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A. ENTWISTLE (*1908-12)	A L.M. of the Association, Mr. Entwistle died in January 1971.
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R. H. FISHER (1931-35)	Coun. Robert Fisher is one of the nine couns. which make up Kirkham U.D.C. He is a member of the Kirkham and Fylde Citizens Advice Bureau, Joint road safety committee and Kirkham Joint Chamber of Trade. Robert
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- is a works manager at a Kirkham garage and he and Mrs. Fisher live in the town and have a married son and daughter.
- P. GILL**
(1948-55)
Peter is Assistant Prof. of Microbiology at the University of Montreal.
- R. W. GOUGH**
(1946-52)
Robert emigrated to South Africa 12 months ago and has settled down to the way of life in Johannesburg. Robert works for I.C.L. South African as a sales executive for the computer bureau.
- M. E. GREENHALGH**
(1959-66)
Whilst still at K.G.S. in 1965 he won the Prince Philip prize for an essay on Zoological Field Work (entitled 'Ruff migration on the Ribble Estuary'). He obtained a 3rd class Hons. B.A. degree at Lancaster and then did the Diploma in Education at St. Martin's College (during which time he did teaching practice at Arnold School). He has been teaching biology for one year at King George V School, Southport.
- P. W. HALL**
(1936-43)
County Coun. Peter Windham Hall, J.P. with the help of two sons farms the 220 acre Hale Hall Farm at Wharles, Nr. Kirkham. He has served on the Lancs. C.C. since 1961 being a member of many sub-committees. Peter is also chairman of Myerscough Agricultural College and is a member of the Fylde Div. Health and Education committees. He was appointed a J.P. in 1960, is president of Kirkham Conservative Club and of the town's branch of the British Legion. He is also a Governor of K.G.S.
- M. C. HOBBS**
(1957-63)
Mike hoped to leave for Australia in early June 1971 with his wife and baby son Michael-Jason. He is rejoining N.C.R. in Sydney on the operations side of this firm's Century series computers. We shall miss him in the Rugby XV.
- P. J. HOSKER**
(1951-58)
Peter is a solicitor in Preston and recently became the new president of Preston and District Junior Chamber of Commerce. He will also be our representative speaking to the school leavers in July and he will also be proposing the toast of 'The Association' at the Annual Dinner in September this year. Mr. and Mrs. Hosker their two children live at Barton, Nr. Preston.

R. HULL
(1949-56)

Robert conducted the Preston Cecilian Choral Society performance of Dyson's 'Canterbury Pilgrims' in Preston's Public Hall in March.

D. R. JONES
(1959-64)

Coun. Derek Jones is the youngest member of Wesham Parish Council and maybe one of the youngest serving members in the Fylde. Derek is a telephone technician in the South Fylde area and has been married for two years. He was elected to the parish council in June 1970.

M. KIRKHAM
(1956-63)

Michael was married in April to Miss Pauline Brierley at Thornton Parish Church. After a honeymoon in Majorca they now live in Hambleton.

PROF.
E. LAITHWAITE
(1931-40)

Eric Laithwaite is Professor of Heavy Electrical Engineering at Imperial College, London. On 7th May on B.B.C.2 (with the help of Rupert 'Maigret' Davies) Eric gave readings of his personal choice of poetry and prose before an invited audience at the Gustave Tuck Theatre, University College, London.

MEMBERS' LETTERS

The Sun Never Sets on the Reindeer

by C. C. TAYLOR, (1963-70)

I stood on a narrow promontory looking across the lake and the tall conifers to the opposite bank, black and menacing beneath the brilliance of the fiery sunset which cast its ruddy glow over the darkening lake. In awe I stumbled across the rocks and around the silver birches to reach the tiny boulder strewn shore where I witnessed one of the most beautiful scenes imaginable.

So this is Finland? Twelve hundred miles from home I remembered the happy chain of events that had brought me to what was truly a foreign shore.

I was officially here to teach Timo and his family how to teach English. Fortunately for me Timo was bone idle, and the family spoke no English at all nor did they seem very interested in learning any, so my days were devoted to talking to Timo, when he was awake. However, his English was already very good and much more grammatically correct than mine. My only other task was to cut the grass once a week, which took me two hours. For this I received my board and lodging and twenty marks (£2.00) pocket money per week.

Timo and his family live about two miles from Jyvaskyla (U-vasku-la) in a village called Jyska (U-ska). They have a large modern house backing on to a typical Finnish forest, and a strawberry patch

so big that you could eat as many as you could pick. On the forest floor bilberries grow in so great a quantity that my stomach could hardly believe my eyes. The house, like most Finnish houses had a Sauna, and they also owned a newly built Summer Cottage some ten miles away on the shores of a beautiful lake. The possession of a summer cottage is a very common Finnish practice.

I was all set for the most wonderful five weeks of my life!

I was very quickly assimilated into Timo's family and soon joined his circle of friends. In making up for the lost months of winter we never went to bed before 1 a.m. and in consequence usually slept until noon. Very unlike the life I had been led to believe existed: that of rising at 6 a.m. chasing reindeer all morning, felling forests until tea, and chasing blondes round the log fire all night. (Actually, I was somewhat disappointed as I saw no reindeer, but the blondes really did make up for this slight omission).

The way of life is much simpler than that in England. You can easily drop out of any rat-race at weekends by going into the fascinating countryside where every turn in the road presents a different view across unpolluted lakes, blending with forests that seem to stretch for ever into the setting sun. Fishing is a popular hobby, either for pike (which is very good to eat), or perch. Rapu, a small fresh water crayfish is considered a delicacy, and a poor excuse for drinking parties of monumental proportions.

Food in general is very expensive (home produced butter 8/- per pound, Mars Bars 1/6), and meat which is one thing I really missed, was rarely served apart from in stews. The coffee, however, was delicious compared with what I must, after consideration, call our English Mud. On the whole the cooking is not as appetising as that at home, cakes in particular were often tasteless, and one can become tired of regular diet of open sandwiches made with black bread.

The roads in Finland reflect some of the feeling of emptiness, in a country the size of England inhabited by only four and a half million people. All minor roads are unsealed dust tracks and after driving along them for five weeks one can easily see why the Finns produce such good Rally drivers. Every Finn has to be a rally driver to survive.

Like every visitor to Finland I fell in love with the Sauna (pronounced 'sow [as in pig] na') (not 'saw-na') and certainly my first was the best. After being roasted in a temperature of 100C we all dashed through a rainstorm and dived—stark naked—into a lake. If heart failure does not result from the initial shock you live to experience the most fantastic feeling of inner glow that makes everything beautiful. So much so that on our first time out a French lad and I had five saunas each, leaving the faint hearted Finns to wonder at these mad foreigners who outstayed them. This was followed by

drinks all round (weak Finnish beer) and as much hot sausage as we could eat, 'Magnificent'. No subsequent sauna really compares with the first. I just live in hopes that someday I may have another equal to it. The ritual beating of each other with birch twigs is not as barbaric as it may seem and fairly infrequently used, but the effect is to give you a very pleasant tingling when struck, and is in no way painful.

It is fortunate for the rest of the world that only the Finns speak Finnish. Their language contains no less than 16 different cases, (remember the 6 in Latin), and is totally different from English, e.g. kaupunki (cow-punk-i) means town, to give but one easy example. To compensate for using such an awkward language, many Finns speak English, which is the only common language when a party of Finns, Yugoslav, Turks, Germans, French and English all want to make themselves understood to each other. This all means that you can easily get around in Finland, until you discover that the story is only partly true and scattered round the country in strategically inconvenient places (buses, railways Cafes etc.) are Finns to whom English is double Dutch. They just smile and shake their heads when asked politely if they speak English. Imagine, if you can, trying to explain to a rather irate passenger that bus fares double after 11 p.m., when neither passenger nor driver can speak the same language and cannot guess and are not much good at making the right signs.

I finished my trip to Finland with a day DOING Helsinki. Timo's cousin, with whom I was staying, took me to have an evening meal in the island fortress of Svanelinua, and on the menu was a dish of Reindeer Hooves!! This visit to Helsinki was an excellent and fitting end to a marvellous holiday.

The total cost of my five weeks in Finland this summer, including air fares both ways, was about £90. Other English students I met at a weekly Club (English speaking) all enjoyed themselves as much as I, but of course, all their experiences were different. I can strongly recommend anyone who wants to really see a foreign country and does not consider a package holiday sufficient, to join this scheme in future years. You have to be over 16 years, speak English as your mother tongue and be ready to adapt to a different environment. The return fare, at Student rates is about £45. For the holiday of my lifetime it would have been cheap at twice the price.

FRIENDS OF K.G.S.

President: REV. W. A. P. FRANCIS

Chairman: MR. T. WAREING

Treasurer: MR. K. H. RICH

Secretary: MR. K. GREGORY

The past year has been a very full one in the social calendar of the Friends, and since the last issue of the Kirkhamian we held a Family Evening in the School Hall on the 20th February. This evening was well attended and enjoyed by the members present, and included a Beetle Drive followed by a film show. On March 5th the now Annual Supper Dance was held at Samlesbury Hall and was once again a 'sell out' in spite of the postal strike.

Once again we have to thank Mr. & Mrs. A. W. Smith of Warton Hall, Lytham for allowing us to hold a Sherry Evening there on Saturday the 1st of May, and was enjoyed by both parents and friends.

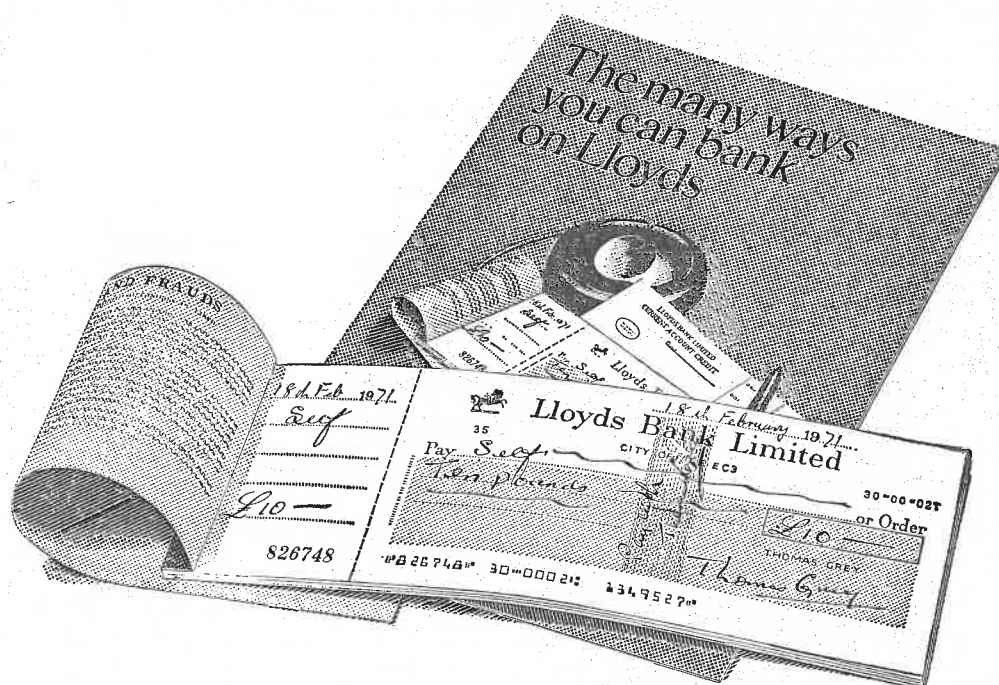
Looking forward to next year I would ask all our friends (members and non-members) to help us in any way they can in view of the reports in the press that the future of the school is in the balance, as by assisting us in our efforts you will enable us to provide assistance to the school in what ever form it may be needed, when required.

In conclusion, I wish to ask once again, parents or friends who are not receiving their circulars to let me have their address.

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