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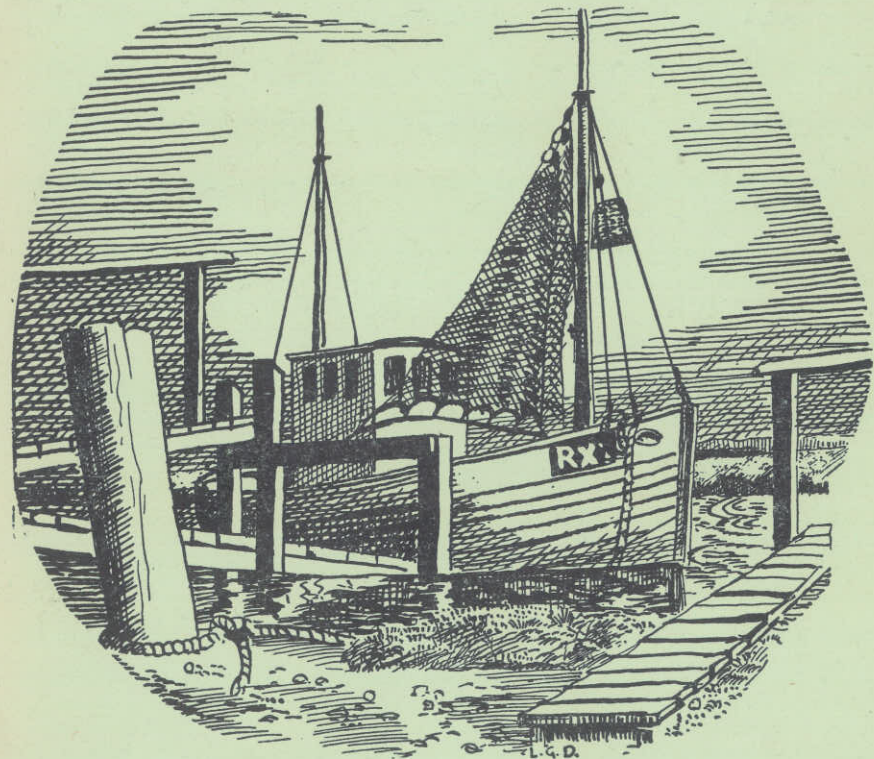
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# R X

THE MAGAZINE OF THE RYE COUNTY  
SECONDARY SCHOOL



NUMBER ONE - WHITSUN 1960

## STAFF

Headmaster R. S. Rothwell  
Deputy Head Miss M. M. Welsh

### Heads of Department:

Practical Subjects L. F. Holmes  
Science G. Scott-Smith  
English G. W. Blacker

J. E. Blacklocks	Miss V. Gladman
Miss A. Bottle	A. J. Hicks
Mrs. J. A. Boulwood	J. R. A. Huxstep
P. Care	Mrs. G. L. Johnson
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L. G. Davie	P. Mitchell
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L. E. Fulluck	Miss J. R. Scogings
Mrs. R. Fulluck	M. R. Stunt
School Secretaries	Mrs. E. Rogerson
	Mrs. E. Rundquist
Canteen Supervisor	Mrs. B. E. Homard
School Keeper	B. J. Piggott

## SCHOOL HONOURS

Head Girl—J. Davies      Head Boy—R. Cutting

### PREFECTS

Girls		Boys	
A. Turk	L. Rolfe	B. Bottomley	M. Kavanagh
D. Griffin	H. Griffin	P. Piggott	P. Goundry
D. Greenhalgh	M. Lewis	H. Simpson	J. Cooke
C. Martin	L. Hayes	C. Killick	J. Eldridge
H. Zich	J. Jenner	J. Lockyer	F. Scott
J. Sharpe	M. Oliver	A. Sydney	G. Philpott

### HOUSE CAPTAINS

House	Girls	Boys
Lion	L. Hayes	M. Kavanagh
Landgate	H. Griffin	P. Piggott
Mermaid	D. Greenhalgh	B. Bottomley
Watchbell	J. Jenner	I. Cooke

### SCHOOL GAMES CAPTAINS

Hockey—M. Taylor      Football—J. Lockyer  
Netball—V. Ades, G. Andrews      Rugby—C. Killick

## "R.X."

Most people who live in Rye will recognise the significance of the letters "R.X." as the name of this magazine. It is only right that a school bearing the name "Rye" should be aware of the importance to the town of the part played by the sea, both now and in the past. We have chosen this name because we realise that the registration letters of our fishing boats are a sign of one of the many Rye activities, with which we are pleased to be associated.

## EDITORIAL

The Rye County Secondary School magazine is appearing for the first time and it is hoped it will continue to make an annual appearance.

Among the many problems raised in publishing a school magazine is the form it should take. In this issue we have provided reports and accounts of School events for the period Easter 1959-60, together with some essays and poems.

It is hoped that this edition will be read not only by parents, but also by friends and those interested in education generally. Modern education has its critics, and an account of our activities during the past year should make the work of this school better known and appreciated. An attempt has been made to make the contributions representative of the whole School. Many accounts of school events such as the Harvest Festival, the visit of the Intimate Opera Company and the visit to the Careers Exhibition, have been omitted because of lack of space.

Our thanks are due to all who submitted items for publication, even though they may not have been printed; to our advertisers for their patronage; to Mr. L. Davie for the cover design, and to Lesley Rolfe for her tireless energy in collecting in the various articles. May we commend the firms advertising in this magazine, because their generosity goes a long way towards making this publication possible.

G.W.B

## GET CRACKING !

There is an old French proverb which goes: "You cannot make an omelette without breaking eggs"—But of course !

Yet, you know, there is a great deal of meaning and truth behind this apparently silly saying, for nothing that is really worth while can be achieved without effort and, often, without the sacrifice of less important things.

Certainly, in the year that has passed, a very great number of eggs has had to be broken. In order that we may have a better school building we have all had to put up with noise and discomfort and interruptions to our work and play. In order that we may have a swimming pool of our own we have all had to make great efforts to collect the necessary money and shall soon have to make even greater efforts of a different kind. In order that the children shall look smart and be a credit to their school, parents have made sacrifices to provide them with an attractive uniform, and in order that they may, later on, enjoy the advantages of reaching a higher level of knowledge, many boys and girls have given up their spare time for extra study at home.

But when the time comes to taste the omelettes that all these broken eggs have produced we shall enjoy their flavour all the more for knowing the trouble we have been put to in preparing them. And now comes our latest omelette—our own School Magazine. Both children and staff have had to break more eggs to achieve this too, but I am sure that the excellent taste of it will have made all the effort worth while.

Good luck to it and to you all and...go on breaking your eggs !  
R.S.R.

## SCHOOL EVENTS, EASTER 1959-60

### April

- Visit of Mr. James Blades. Illustrated lecture on percussion instruments.
- Girls visited Wembley to see Hockey International.
- Jumble Sale.
- Derby Sweepstake in aid of Swimming Pool Fund.
- Junior football team won the Hastings Intermediate League Championship and were runners-up in the Hastings School Shield.
- Fourth Year children assist in the Archæological Excavation at Udimore.
- "General Election" of the new School Council.
- Chess team were runners-up in the Hastings Junior Chess League.

### May

- A very large party of children visited Ford's Motor Works, Dagenham.
- Visit to the White Rock Pavilion for the special Children's Concert given by the London Philharmonic Orchestra
- Visit to the Hastings Telephone Exchange and Rye Borough Council.
- Educational holiday in the Lake District, 20th to 29th May.

### June

- School Young Farmers' Club wins 7 First, 9 Second and 7 Third Prizes at the Rally held at Bexhill.
- Eighteen Fourth Year girls pass Mothercraft Certificate, twelve in the "Credit" class.

### July

- County Athletic Colours awarded to Diana Greenhalgh.
- Annual Sports Day held on 24th July. Presentation of awards by Mr. A. W. Blackman, former Headmaster of the School, followed by an Open Evening.
- Forty children visit Sussex Agricultural Show at Eastbourne.
- Young Farmers' Club provides demonstration team for the Royal Show at Oxford.
- Belgian Tour begins, 31st July.
- Lecture to Senior Girls on the Art of Make-up.

### September

- New School Uniform introduced.
- G.E.C. results reported by Headmaster as most encouraging.
- New technical courses commenced.

## October

Harvest Festival on 6th October. 130 large parcels distributed to the old folk and the sick.

General election held for the School Council.

Record sum of £96 presented by the School at the Festival of Queens, Hastings, in aid of the National Children's Homes

## November

The Hon. Daphne Courthope, the Chairman of the Education Committee, presented the prizes on Speech Day, 18th November  
Special Service of Remembrance held on 5th November was attended by Brigadier Gardham and members of the School Governors.

## December

The Annual Carol Service held on 17th December was conducted at St. Mary's Church by the Vicar, Rev. O. E. Brooks.

The School Dramatic Society presented "The Bishop's Candlesticks" and "A Christmas Carol."

The Angling Society formed by Mr. L. Davie.

## January

A party of 300 went to the London Coliseum during the Christmas Holidays, to see Cole Porter's "Aladdin."

Mr. Wilfred Pickles visited the School to broadcast "Have a Go."

## February

Rye Branch of the National Farmers' Union presented a tractor to the School.

Fifty children visited Royal Festival Ballet at Brighton.

Navigation and Seamanship branch of the technical course visited the Prince of Wales Sea Training School at Dover.

A group of 25 girls attended South versus East England at hockey. Rugby Football introduced.

## March

Work began on the the Swimming Pool.

Chief Education Officer for East Sussex, Mr. Braithwaite, talked to the Parent Teacher Association about Education in E. Sussex.

Seven pupils attended G.C.E. lecture at the London Zoo.

## PRIZEGIVING

On Wednesday, the 18th November, we held our annual Prize Giving in the School Hall. The day was fine, thus enabling a large number of parents and friends to attend our prize giving. Among the guests were Brigadier H. P. Gardham, C.B.E., our Chairman of Governors, the Honourable Daphne Courthope, who presented the prizes, and Mr. A. W. Blackman our former Headmaster.

During the afternoon we were entertained by the School Choir who gave very beautiful renderings of a folk song entitled "The Nightingale" and a two-part song "The Lullaby" by Brahms. The Headmaster then gave his report. In it he was glad to announce the starting of the new buildings, some of which are now near completion. Then came the presentation of the prizes. Nineteen fifty nine will long be remembered as the first year in which a large number of pupils of the school were awarded their General Certificate of Education.

After the prize giving, Patricia Masters who was the Head Girl at this time, proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Courthope and presented a bouquet to her. David Simpson, the Head Boy, thanked the Chairman of the Governors for presiding and for his work for the School. The National Anthem concluded a highly satisfactory afternoon.

R. Sargent, 4G

## HOUSE NOTES

### LANDGATE HOUSE

House Masters: Mr. Smith, Mr. Fulluck, Mr. Huxstep, Mr. Dipper

House Mistress: Miss Gladman

Girls' House Captain: H. Griffin      Boys' House Captain: P. Piggott

Sports Captains: Senior Girls': J. Dore      Senior Boys': C. Killick

Junior Girls': D. Killick      Junior Boys': L. Swann

Landgate has done very well during the last three terms. In the Summer term the house received the Good Conduct Shield and we still have the lowest number of conduct cards in the School. The total number of conduct cards is 67. The House has received a good number of house marks, and at the moment we are running a very close second in the competition for the most house marks. The total number of house marks collected in the last two terms is 1,153.

The results of the Boys' Games have not been very promising because we have lost nearly all our football matches. We have only won one and drawn one. The cricket matches were also lost, but at all times the teams never lost heart and played with great confidence and determination.

The girls have had a very good season at all sports. The Hockey team has won all its matches in a very decisive manner. The results of the Hockey games played are—Landgate 1, Mermaid 0; Landgate 4, Watchbell 0. The Senior Netball results are as follows—Landgate 8, Mermaid 9; Landgate 1, Watchbell 4. The Junior Girls have also done very well with the following results—Landgate 11, Lion 2; Landgate 12, Mermaid 5; Landgate 5, Watchbell 8.

All the members of Landgate would like to thank the following staff who have helped the House—Mr. Smith, who has helped with the house marks, Mr. Huxstep, who has helped with the boys' sports, Mr. Fulluck, who has looked after the girls' sports, Mr. Dipper who has done general work and Miss Gladman who has looked after the girls' house marks.

Clive Killick, Form 4G and  
Helen Griffin, Form 5

## LION HOUSE

This year the girls of Lion House have improved immensely in their school work, by putting in more effort. The house mark total has risen from 450 to 521. This is a great improvement on last year's results. Although we did not succeed in winning the Good Conduct Shield, we are sure we shall succeed in the near future. Fewer report cards have been given to the House, which shows an improvement in behaviour.

Looking back on the year's fortunes it appears that the House is on the upgrade. In general Lion House has improved and with the full support of its members it will soon be recognised as Champion House.

We would like to thank all members of staff who have done so much for the good of the House and who give up such a great deal of their spare time for our pleasure.

Lion stoolball team showed determination and fielding was quick. Batting was excellent, especially that of P. Masters, M. Penfold and M. Jones. All the matches were enjoyed by everybody. Lion did not win but the results were close.

The rounders matches were fast, keen, and competition was good. Lion had a strong batting team. In particular M. Penfold and P. Masters played very well. Although we did not win we enjoyed our matches.

The hockey team also put up a good fight and played extremely well, in spite of losing Pat Masters, who was the back bone of the team. Pat Bowler played a good game as goalkeeper, and S. Jarrold and L. Hayes played well on the field.

At netball, Lion team came out with the team spirit and a strong determination to win. Although we did not succeed in winning our matches, the team played very well.

We found the opposition was very good at football. Of the 12 matches played we won 4, lost 4 and drew 4. The First Year Boys showed great promise in winning their matches.

On Sports Day the House finished last in the House Competition. However the results were much more encouraging than last time and the team spirit will show in the future.

Brian Barden, 4g and  
Loretta Hayes, 4G

## MERMAID HOUSE

Last year Mermaid won the Champion House Shield for the second year in succession, and the Jordan Shield which they have not held for several years. Mermaid have still to win the Good Conduct Shield and a great effort will be needed to capture it.

The girls have had a very good year for sports. We fought hard for the Rounders Cup, but eventually we shared it with Landgate. This also applies to netball, which was keenly contested. The whole team was smartly dressed for each match, and showed good house sportmanship.

Judith Breeds, an enthusiastic and reliable member of the House, won the Chairman's prize for outstanding effort and we were very proud of her. We were also very pleased with Marie Taylor who won the Champion Athlete's Cup.

Mermaid Boys who won the Football Cup last year, are well on the way to winning it this season. Roy Cutting distinguished himself by winning the Senior Boy Athlete's Cup and also gained his Chess Colours. He is the present Head Boy.

We would like to thank Miss Ordish, Mr. Pierce and other members of the staff for all they have done for the House.

M. Lewis and B. Bottomley

## WATCHBELL HOUSE

This year Watchbell girls have worked hard and have achieved a grand total of 505 house marks. These three girls have done extremely well—M. Smith, S. Care and V. Pilcher. Against this we have only a low number of report cards. These have been given to a particular group of girls who have lately tried hard to reform their ways.

The boys report a year of mixed fortunes. We have had successes as well as failures and we have acquired a mascot. Last year we won the Conduct Shield, but this year we are sliding badly. Nevertheless, effort in School seems to be improving and so far we are leading in the House Effort Competition.

Watchbell girls have worked very hard at sports. They have always put up a strong fight, although quite often they have been defeated. Their appearance and determination have been very satisfactory but despite that, we would like a little more enthusiasm from the senior pupils of the school.

On Sports Day, Watchbell girls arrived on the field full of determination to help the boys win the Sports Shield. The girls did very well with Jane Skinner winning the Junior Athlete's Cup and with Christine Bishop missing the Senior Cup by one point. We succeeded in winning the Sports Cup.

At rounders Watchbell came second, winning two games and losing one. The hockey and netball results have not yet been announced.

Last season we came second in the House Cricket League. Pope, Winchester and Hickmott played very well and the fielding of the whole side was keen. Practices were well attended.

Last July we won the Athletic Shield. Igglesden won the High Jump and in doing so broke the School record. Hickmott and Goundry also did well and Newstead became Junior Champion.

We fought hard for the Football Shield, the result resting on the last senior game, which we lost 2—1 to Mermaid. Our Senior team played particularly well. Vocal support was rather weak and often the team had to fight on without the encouragement of spectators.

Watchbell won the Cross Country Championship.

Thanks are due to Hickmott and Cooke and Janet Jenner as House Captains; Dawn Griffin, Joan Griffin, Igglesden and Goundry as Sports Captains, and to Pope and Newstead for their work for the Juniors.  
B. Kirby, J. Jenner and D. Griffin

## GIRLS' SPORTS REPORT

For the Autumn and Spring Terms, 1959/60

Hockey 1st XI—This has been a very successful season, the team having played eleven matches, won eight, drawn two and lost one. They also took part in two tournaments and managed to come second in both.

Goals for the School—52      Against—12

The team was selected from the following—M. Taylor,\* J. Sharp,\* D. Griffin,\* H. Griffin,\* D. Greenhalgh,\* C. Bishop,\* G. Booker,\* F. Pope, J. Breeds, L. Hayes, J. Dore,\* J. Jenner,\* A. Turk, J. Davie.

\* Indicates girls who have gained School Colours

Hockey 3rd Year XI—This team has also been fairly successful, having won two matches, lost two and drawn two.

The Junior 2nd Year XI, which has only played hockey this season, had only one match which they lost, but they show signs of being a very promising team.

Netball—Although this report is not so good as that for hockey, nevertheless the First VII has had a fairly successful season, and even if the Junior VII has been very unsuccessful, they showed determination and fighting spirit, even when they were completely outclassed. Towards the end of the season the team greatly improved and the matches were very close. The First Year VII played very well and won their matches. The First VII went to the tournaments and managed to get into the finals in one, and were only beaten by an odd goal scored in the closing minutes by Hastings Secondary Modern School.

The Senior Netball team was selected from—  
P. Stemp,\* G. Andrews,\* V. Ades,\* L. Hayes,\* M. Lewis,\*  
C. Bishop,\* J. Breeds, I. Packham.

\* Indicates Colours gained this season and last year

### Visits to Matches

Two visits were arranged this season, one to watch the South draw 2—2 against the East, at Brighton, and one trip to Wembley to see the International match, Germany against England. In both cases the party had a very enjoyable outing and were able to see how hockey should be played.

### House Hockey and Netball

This year we have been able to have two rounds in this competition, one in the Autumn term and one in the Spring term, which meant that each House played each other twice in both hockey and netball (Senior and Junior Netball). Next year we also hope to have Junior Hockey matches as well.  
J.S.

## FOOTBALL REPORT 1959-60

This has not been a very successful season for the School team, and our playing record shows that most of our matches have been lost. The fact that matches have been lost is in no way disappointing, because the majority of players have been Third Year boys who will now have benefited from playing in a higher grade of football. It is to their credit that they kept to their jobs when forces were overwhelming, and no doubt their experience will be of great value next season. In fact the improvement of the team this term has been noticeable and we have been unlucky not to win on several occasions.

J. Lockyer, the team captain, has been outstanding and his high standard of play has been an example to the rest of the team. C. Pope must also be highly commended for the way in which he has kept goal and for his undaunted spirit despite the heavy defeats

encountered in the earlier part of the season. We must also congratulate him on his selection to play for the East Sussex under fourteen Eleven. Several Second year boys have also played well for the team.

The following have represented the School—J. Lockyer, C. Pope, M. Tree, B. Bottomley, C. Cooke, M. Dixon, C. Bull, D. Bryant, B. Barden, M. Bell, M. Kavanagh, I. Newstead, R. Payne, L. Swann, C. Sydney, R. Igglesden, R. Jones, I. Cutting, R. Cutting, F. Twine, R. Brooks, M. Edwards, P. Goundry, J. Gould, R. Winchester.

Playing record. Played 15, Won 3, Drawn 2, Lost 10

## RUGBY REPORT 1959-60

Rugby Football has recently been introduced to what has hitherto been a soccer stronghold. Although we have no recognised pitch of our own it has been possible to play two matches away to Claverham School, Battle.

Considering the short time in which these boys learned the rules and skills of the game, their standard of play was very good. Both games were treated as an introduction to rugby and many rules were explained during breaks in the play. This did not interfere with the normal course of the game, the enthusiasm of the players saw to that! Clive Killick has been an able skipper, leading his players with enthusiasm, and off the field a very good administrator. In fact, it has been whispered that 4g room is becoming a tactical centre for rugby supporters.

The following have represented the School in matches this term—C. Killick (Capt.), J. Lockyer, B. Bottomley, B. Barden, M. Tree, B. Kirby, E. Streepton, P. Goundry, C. Pope, D. Bryant, I. Foster, R. Bishop, M. Hall, J. Brewster, E. Seymour, R. Cutting, A. Sydney, R. Taylor.

Record. Played 2, Won 1, Lost 1

## JUNIOR FOOTBALL

The enthusiasm of the Junior Boys has had a marked effect on football in this part of the School. Consequently I can report on a most successful season.

The team has combined well, so that some good football has been played. L. Swann, the team captain, and J. Evans have both been hard workers in defence, while C. Paine, G. Ewart and J. Gould have been outstanding in the forward line. In fact, Paine at centre forward has been top scorer.

Towards the end of the season, several first year boys were included in the side. Outstanding were M. Baddeley, A. Wilson and V. Goldsmith, the latter scoring a hat trick against Rye Grammar School.

The following have represented the School—Swann (Capt.), Williams, Wyatt, Playford, Fitzhugh, Unicombe, Ewart, R. Payne, Newstead, C. Paine, J. Evans, Gould, Kewell, Brayell, Curd, Chillingworth, Haddock, Wilson, Wood, Goldsmith, Baddeley, James, Ashbee.

Played 14. Won 8, Drawn 1, Lost 5  
First Year Matches. Played 2, Won 2

## CROSS COUNTRY

The School has only had one fixture. This was a race against Claverham School, Battle, which we lost by the narrow margin of seven points. P. Goundry and M. Dixon ran particularly well, the former taking second place. The following represented the school—P. Goundry (Capt.), M. Dixon, B. Oldfield, I. Newstead, D. Davies.

## INTER HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

Practically the whole of the Senior School lined up for the start of this race. Although there were some notable absentees, eighty five boys started and finished, which is a creditable performance. From the start, the race was going to be a battle between three boys. At the half way stage, Dixon led with Oliver and R. Cutting close behind, the rest of the field stretched out a long way behind. However on the final stretch Cutting took the lead and held on to the finish. Oliver and Dixon followed in second and third places respectively.

The Junior Race included a field of seventy five competitors. The battle of this race took place in the middle positions where boys were more evenly matched. D. Davies ran strongly and finished a comfortable first with a good time of 12 mins. 12 secs. for the course, which is two miles. C. Paine and G. Williams were second and third respectively.

House positions. 1st Watchbell 397 points; 2nd Landgate 408 points;  
3rd Lion 426 points; 4th Mermaid 457 points. H.E.

## SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

"To be or not to be." These words were much in our minds immediately prior to Sports Day. This poser was due to our normally lush, green sports field resembling a well paved terrace owing to our record summer. However, the team of groundsmen, supervised and assisted the willing hands which filled in the seemingly bottomless major hazards and many of the minor ones.

In the previous week each house had selected its team after heats, semi-finals and finals, for each event. This gave the majority of the school an opportunity to show its athletic prowess.

On July 24th each house entered one competitor for each of the thirty five events, except in relay races in which teams of four competed. No competitor was allowed to enter more than three events. All thirty five events on the programme were keenly contested and judges were kept busy with three or four events running simultaneously. For the first time competitors were wearing running vests with distinguishing colours for each house, which made the events easier to follow for the spectators, and thus added excitement to the afternoon.

The Prebble Shield for athletics was won by Watchbell House with 117 points, Mermaid being second with 103 points. Individual awards on the results of the competition were awarded to Jane Skinner (Junior girl), Jane Dore (Senior girl), Ian Newstead (Junior boy), R. Cutting (Senior boy).

The above awards were presented by Mr. A. W. Blackman who recently retired from being Headmaster of the School. R.H.

## THE CHESS CLUB

The Club's main interest has again been in competition with the schools of the Hastings Junior Chess League. A change in age limits made it necessary for us to enter the "A" section of the competition. A grand start was made in the campaign with striking successes against Bexhill Grammar School, Skinner's School Tunbridge Wells, and The Grove School, in pre-Christmas encounters. This gave the team great hope of topping the league. It was doubly disappointing to lose both matches after Christmas, first to Hastings Secondary Modern School and then to Hastings Grammar, but in both of these the team never really overcame match nerves. Roy Cutting was undefeated in the series and Michael Kavanagh and Michael Hall played with a great measure of success. Ian Cooke and Ian Cutting did rather less well, but deserve special mention for putting up gallant performances against very able opponents.

In ordinary club meetings we have been glad to welcome new members, and some of these show distinct promise. Their need is sure to be felt when Cutting and Kavanagh leave school. In the Club individual Championship an interesting final seems likely between Ian Cooke and Roy Cutting.

The Club has also been honoured by invitations to R. Cutting and M. Kavanagh to play for Rye Chess Club, and they have done very well on these occasions.

Results of School Matches—Against Bexhill Grammar School, 4—1 Won; against Skinner's School, 3½—1½ Won; against Grove School, 3—2 Won; against Hastings Secondary, 2—3 Lost; against Hastings Grammar, Lost.  
H.J.P.

## THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

With the arrival of the new Headmaster came the suggestion of a School Council. Mr. Rothwell thought this would make life much fairer, and it certainly does. As he has only been at the School for a short time, we are only in our second year of the Council.

The members only hold office for one year unless re-elected. For each class in the School there are two members elected to represent each form. They must be one boy and one girl. These children must bring forward to the chairman at the meeting any disagreements or suggestions that the form has. These matters are then discussed and a verdict obtained from the meeting. Other than form representatives, the Head Boy and Head Girl are automatically members of the Council. Members of the Staff also attend the meetings. All these details are clearly stated in the constitution.

At the beginning of each School Year the Council elects a secretary. The first year it was Christine Trill, but this year I have been appointed, with Dawn Griffin as assistant secretary. For the first year of the Council, the members were elected in an ordinary way in the classrooms, but at the end of that year Mr. Rothwell dissolved the Council in a very proper and formal way. New members were elected in the right and proper way, using the same methods as those used for the election of Members of Parliament.

Our first meetings were held in a class room as private meetings, but now they are held in the hall, and other members of the School may sit and listen, but may not vote or take part in the discussion.

We consider that this develops a fairer life at School because we all get a chance to voice our complaints to the people in authority, especially if the form representatives are carefully chosen and speak sensibly and well.  
J. Dore, Secretary



## A COUNCIL MEETING

The usual first Monday in the month had come once again and the meeting of the School Council was to be held at four o'clock. Every classroom was full of excitement, discussing the agenda which should be sent to Mr. Rothwell for approval. In the evening the small group of representatives arranged themselves round the Chairman, Mr. Rothwell and the Secretary, Jane Dore. The minutes were read and then the meeting was "in full swing."

Everybody was eager to have their complaints discussed by the full Council and often they would lead to stirring speeches between a battling form representative and a member of staff. The Headmaster gave a decision, agreed to take action, or deferred the matter until later. The next day during English, the representatives reported to their classes the results of the meeting.

This is a typical example of a School Council meeting and we think it is a valuable innovation to our school life.

D. Griffin, Asst. Secretary

## THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

The society has now been in existence for a year. Mr. Rothwell is President and the four groups are run by Mr. Blacklocks (Meteorology), Miss Bottle (Nature Study), Mr. Smith (Biology) and Mr. Stunt (Agriculture). Admission to the Society is selective and competition for membership is keen.

J.B.

### The Meteorological Group

This group was founded by Mr. Blacklocks in September, 1958. Since that time it has developed and we are now exchanging monthly reports with four other schools in different parts of the country: Beccles in Suffolk, Falmouth in Cornwall, Windermere in Westmorland and Ryton in Durham.

Each morning one of the three groups read all the instruments at 9 a.m. and again at 12 noon. The readings are carefully recorded and give us a good picture of the daily weather. Some members also come in at week ends and during the holidays to make the readings complete.

The instruments we use are the maximum/minimum thermometer (which tells us the highest and lowest temperatures each day), the solar thermometer (which tells us the highest sun temperature), the rain gauge, the barometer and the hygrometer (which measures the humidity of the air). We also make visual observations of the wind direction and speed and the amount of cloud.

The most exciting surprise we had was the arrival of a meteorological balloon which landed on the edge of the School field. We were able to learn a great deal about it before we sent it back to the Meteorological Office.

Jennifer Brett, 2A and  
Barbara Phillips, 2A

### The Nature Study Group

The School bird watching group is run by Miss Bottle and has twelve members. We go to many different places to watch, sometimes along Military Road as far as Hythe Canal. In the hedges along the side of the road we watch for hedge sparrows, tree sparrows, wrens, thrushes and blackbirds. In the fields along the road we have seen snipe, magpies, sanderling, field fares, pee wits, crows, blackbirds, starlings and wheatears.

Along the River Rother we have seen many different gulls—blackheaded, common, herring, great black backed gulls and terns. We have also seen a number of wading birds, such as the red shank and snipe. On Broad Water we saw sheld duck, the heron, sea gulls, moor hens, coot and grebes.

Among the winter migrants we saw, was the field fare which come in large numbers during the cold January weather. The wheatear is a summer migrant which we saw till mid October. We were very lucky to see the Greenland wheatear, a much bigger bird, in late October. We went to many pools along the Camber Road looking for wading birds and we were in luck. We had a fine view of a flock of sanderling feeding and a close-up view of two snipe. We also saw many redshanks.

We have been very fortunate to have birds which have been found and brought to us. One of these was a guillemot which we fed on sprats. Not such a happy event was finding the dead body of a male common scoter, the only all black duck that there is.

We are fortunate in having much open country around us for watching birds.

Jeanette Bowdler, 2A and Jean Sherwood, 2A

### The Biology Group

We have only visited the local ditches for newts and what else we could find. We kept the two species of newts until they produced their eggs, then we put them back into one of the ditches.

We still have the crayfish which we caught at Chilham in August, 1959. They have both shed their skins since then, one very recently. We have collected the Brook Bond wild flower series and are now collecting the freshwater fish cards. We are making a collection of pressed flowers and have already pressed several.

Two weeks ago we went to East Guldeford and caught eight sticklebacks. We gave four away and kept four. We are hoping that they will rest and breed. In the Easter holidays we are going fishing in the Brede to catch lamprens.

B. Baverstock, 3A

### Agricultural Group

This group was formed in October, 1959, with twelve members. Its aim is to study different methods of farming in the Rye area. At the moment two farms are being studied, Tibbs Farm, Udimore and Salts Farm, East Guldeford. Reports of the activities on these farms are sent regularly to other schools in England.

On July 9th, 1959, 40 pupils and 2 members of staff visited the Sussex County Agricultural Show at Eastbourne. An instructive and entertaining day was enjoyed by all. M.R.S.

### THE ANGLING SOCIETY

This Society was inaugurated in the Autumn term. About 60 boys attended the first meeting. Meetings are held in the art room every other Thursday evening. The society has now settled down to about 24 members who are all very keen indeed and it is a great pleasure to meet them and discuss the many aspects of this "Way of life," as it is often referred to. One of the more pleasant aspects of the sport of course is the endless discussions which it provokes.

Activities so far have mostly been confined to indoor meetings. Before Christmas two talks were given on tackle, with many items on show. Early in January we attempted a complete survey of local waters. It was plotted on large Ordnance Survey maps kindly lent by Wilkowski in 2b. A film show was arranged for February and an excellent film entitled "Coarse Fishing Galore," obtained from the Irish Tourist Office was shown. It was in colour and provided a pleasant and instructive entertainment for the Society members.

On March 4th an outing was arranged for the Friday evening on the Brede, just above the lock at Rye. Six members fished, but although there were plenty of fish only one was caught by the boys. This was largely due to deficiencies in tackle. Most boys were trying to make short spinning rods do the work of a roach rod, and the result was that striking was far too slow and fish were lost.

Mr Evans has also shown two short fishing films at the end of the Easter term. Now we look forward to the Summer term and the opportunities it offers for further outings. L.G.D.

### THE PARENT/TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The P.T.A. continues to flourish, though the paid membership is only 61, which is not large when we consider there are 656 children in the school. At the Annual General Meeting on 16th October, 1959, after the formal part of the meeting, money raising activities, school uniforms, conditions in Secondary Modern Schools, facilities on school buses and future meetings were discussed.

An enjoyable social evening was held on December 17th when two plays "A Christmas Carol" and "The Bishop's Candlesticks" were presented. The choir led carol singing, then followed games arranged by members of the staff. On January 29th, 1960, about 40 parents were present to see two films "Children's Charter" and "Education Today." An excellent discussion followed.

A very large audience gathered on March 25th to hear the Chief Education Officer, Mr. Braithwaite, make a very comprehensive survey of "The Future of Secondary Education in the Rye Area."

Our thanks go to Mrs. Homard and members of her staff, Mr. Piggott and girls of Form 4T who willingly and efficiently helped with refreshments throughout the session. M.M.W.

### THE YOUNG FARMERS' CLUB

Our School's Young Farmers' Club has a membership of forty three boys and seven girls. It is held in our School hall once every fortnight during the winter. The subscription is threepence per year. We learn how to handle and care for livestock and films are shown to help us learn something about agriculture.

Our livestock consists of three bee hives, five geese, twelve Romney Marsh sheep and one broody hen, which is useful for hatching goose eggs. We put seven eggs under a goose, but she failed to hatch them. The sheep are being built into a pure bred flock and are now being fed with extra food before lambing. This is known as "steaming up." Each sheep is marked with an ear tag. These have numbers on them so that each of the animals can be identified if injured or mislaid. All lambs when born, are marked, weighed and recorded.

Our rural crafts are fence making and making hurdles. They are used for penning in the sheep. Broom making and other crafts are carried out by the boys, meanwhile the girls are making thatching dollies.

We have recently been given a tractor by a local garage owner and the boys are learning to drive it.

All activities are paid from the profits of the School Farm. In 1958-1959 we spent £76/2/6. Our income was £74/13/5. Cash at the bank is £157/17/7. The value of our livestock is £54/0/0. The master who teaches us about farming is Mr. Holmes.

Susan Waugh, 1B and Lilian Arkley, 1B

### CHOIR REPORT

The Choir's first performance under the direction of Mrs. Evans was on the 18th November, when the School held its Speech Day. They sang two songs "The Nightingale" in unison and "Lullaby" by Brahms in two-part. Their performance was highly commended by members of the audience and by the school governors.

On December 17th we held our carol service and apart from singing with the rest of the congregation, the choir, which had increased considerably in number and quality, sang the descant to "While Shepherds Watched." They also sang "Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light" by Bach, "Whither's Rocking Hymn" and "Gloria in Excelsis Deo."

Their most recent performance was when they entered the Hastings Music Festival. The songs were set, and for the first, "A Countryman's Song of Praise," they gained 75%. The second "The Hag" was a canon, and for this they gained 80%. My impression of the choir is that they are improving and that they are easily up to the standard of other schools in this district.

K. Carter, 3A

### THE RECORDER CLASS

The recorder class was started by Gayella Eldridge who left school last term. Mrs. Evans now takes the pupils in the class.

The recorder class has two different kinds of recorders. One is the descant recorder and the other is the treble. There are seven children playing the descant recorders and they have played three times in assembly, each time accompanying a hymn. Mrs. Evans teaches these children and Miss Gladman teaches the children who play the bigger, treble recorders. These children have also played in assembly.

The recorder class meets every Monday in the Music Room at 12.45 and the class practises various hymns to play in assembly.

Angela Boots, 1A and Gloria Page, 1A

### THE STAMP CLUB

The Stamp Club is run by Mr. Care and is held in 3A room every Tuesday. On club nights there are about twelve people. Each week we try to do something different. Some weeks we have film strips about different kinds of stamps. Another week we would have a quiz. This quiz would be made up by one or two people who are in the Club. The rest of the members would split up and compete against each other. Mr. Care might put up a drawing of a stamp and we would have to name the parts. We exchange stamps with each other and look at other members' albums. At the end of the club meeting, Mr. Care puts stamps on a table and we are given a number. As each person's number come up, he picks a stamp which he wants. The Stamp Club is enjoyable and we would advise those interested in philately to join.

Jennifer Brett, 2AX

### THE COUNTRY DANCING SOCIETY

On 3rd March, 1960, the Country Dancing Society began its meetings again after having been in abeyance during the Winter Term, owing to the difficulties of its members in getting home on very dark nights. Over one hundred members, old and new, attended the first meeting which proved crowded, but enjoyable. Several members of staff have attended the meetings including Mr. Dorman, Mr. Evans and Miss Scogings. Mr. Holmes and Mr. Doe have given valuable help with the music.

The Club, which is run by Miss Welsh, has put on many performances in the past. This year we hope to revive our Country Dancing Party.

K. Carter, Secretary, 3A

### THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY

1959 was a very successful year for the Dramatic Society. They produced two plays, "The Bishop's Candlesticks" and "Christmas Carol." These plays were presented on two successive dates. The first performance was presented on the evening of 17th December and the audience was Parent-Teacher Association. The second was on the following afternoon and was performed in front of the School.

The leading actors in "The Bishop's Candlesticks" were Clive Killick, Dawn Griffin and Graham Ewart. They all played their part admirably and were well supported by Kathleen Carter, Raymond Sargent, Graham Williams and Martin Wright. Both performances of the play were very successful.

In the other play, "Scrooge" was played by Barry Kirby. The other actors were Anthony Sydney, Camilla Weller, Martin Wright, Denis Holland, helped by those members of the Society who played the parts of the Cratchitt family. Both plays were well produced by Mr. Dipper. The members of the Dramatic Society enjoyed acting these plays very much and look forward to future productions.

Clive Killick, 4G

### THE TECHNICAL STREAM (Boys)

At the beginning of the last school year it was decided to start a course for senior boys which should have a bias towards navigation and seamanship. Living near the sea as we do and with Rye's traditional link with the sea, it seems only right that ours should be the first school in East Sussex to attempt such a course.

As far as possible all subjects taken by pupils on the course are correlated to the sea, ships, trade routes and navigation. They also study seamanship and navigation for twelve periods a week.

The main aim of the course is not to produce seamen, although on a visit we made to the Prince of Wales Sea Training School at Dover recently, life in the Merchant Navy appears to be a very attractive one. Working conditions and pay, seem good. The staff and boys at the school were most hospitable and took a great deal of trouble to show us all aspects of life and work in the school.

More recently, four boys attended a week-end course at Stafford House. The subject for study was "The Merchant Navy." Captain Course, a retired Captain in the Merchant Navy, was resident tutor and gave us a good insight into conditions at sea from the days of clipper ships, to modern times. We visited "The Rangatiki" one of the passenger-cargo liners owned by the New Zealand shipping line and we were impressed by the luxury accommodation in this thirty year old ship.

The language of the boys on the course is not too nautical, but they have learnt to navigate a ship on a Mercator chart of the English Channel, and to fix the ship's position. On a firm, steady deck they have been very successful in this, but on a rolling chart table, who knows?

Much valuable signalling and rope work have been enjoyed by members of the course and we hope soon to add practical boat work to this.

R.H.

### THE TECHNICAL COURSE (Girls)

The girls' side of the technical course has been improving very much lately. We did not expect very many changes at the beginning, but we did expect to have them gradually, as we are now. None of the form lessons we have could be changed as they all help us in one way or another. We need at least two lessons of Mathematics and English each day and as many of the girls have already said, these need no alteration.

The needlework is very good and there are many signs of progress such as the making of a layette for Mothercraft. The Domestic Science is interesting but we have mostly theory, whereas next term it will be divided equally into practical and theory work.

The craft work is very valuable as it helps us with our needlework, although two lessons a week are adequate. Hygiene and Biology are two similar subjects which help us very much, especially the girls who wish to take up nursing. We are very pleased with the way our course has led us during these last two terms and we would advise other girls to come into Form 4T because we think it has been very helpful to us.

Jeniffer Wickenden, 4T

### THE SCHOOL ELECTION

On 7th October, 1959, the day before the General Election, the children of the School were due to vote for their new School Council. The election was to be carried out in exactly the same way as a Parliamentary election. Each class was to elect two members, one boy and one girl. Canvassing was enthusiastically carried on throughout the School for the different candidates. Posters adorned class room walls and speeches were given. The correct forms were filled in by each candidate, duly witnessed and posted in the room of the Chief Citizen.

On polling day each child recorded his vote by ballot, using the proper booths. Every class had its own presiding and returning officer and many also had a policeman. The voting continued throughout the morning until half past ten, when each class counted the votes and announced the successful candidates. The newly elected Council Members followed this by giving a short speech thanking their supporters and the losers also gave a speech congratulating the winners. The teacher in charge of the class acted as Mayor of the town.

The morning had an exciting conclusion when the Independent Television cameras arrived to take shots of people recording their votes. The local newspaper also sent a reporter and photographer to report on the morning's events. The morning was well enjoyed by all and also instructed us in the ways of an election. Janet Jenner, 4G

### THE "FORM FIVE DANCE"

The present Form 5 upheld the one year old tradition of holding a Christmas Dance. Naturally it was in aid of the Swimming Pool Fund. They organised a dance on 11th December, 1959. After many hours of hard work on the part of all members of the form the great day arrived.

Although the arrival of only a handful of dancers by 8 o'clock caused anxiety, the worry lines soon vanished as the hall became packed with people. The evening now proved to be enjoyable and smooth running, and ended far too soon, at midnight. However, the results of the dance were voted successful both from the entertainment and profit points of view. The money given to the Swimming Pool Fund was approximately £45.

H. Griffin, 5

## THE SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE

St. Mary's Church, Rye, dominates the town and is one of our most beautiful buildings. It is a pleasure to walk around the Church studying the old names and objects. Even more of a pleasure is to attend a Carol Service. In December 1958 we went to the School's first Carol Service and it was a beautiful experience. Again in 1959 the School held another Carol Service at the Church, on December 17th, in aid of the Church Repair Fund. The service commenced at half past two and finished an hour later. The junior pupils of the School were very excited when they were called to start filing up to the Church. When they arrived the prefects ushered them to their seats in a dignified manner.

The service was opened by a carol, then a First Year pupil read a lesson. We then had another carol which was sung by the choir. They sat in the sanctuary, in the choir stalls and appeared very smart in our new School uniform. Their voices echoed through the Church and even those children who are less enthusiastic about music sat intrigued by the beautiful singing. In the middle of the service the prefects collected the offerings and they were taken up to the Vicar and blessed. The lessons which followed lead us to the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ and finally Mr. Rothwell read a lesson on the birth of Jesus.

Afterwards our Headmaster thanked the Vicar, Mr. Brooks, for conducting the service. There were many visitors in the congregation.  
Dawn Griffin, 4G

## THE YOUNG FARMERS' COUNTY RALLY

This rally was held at Bexhill in May, 1959. A team of eight boys from this School entered various events. We travelled by Dormobile to the showground which was by the Bexhill Gas Works. When we arrived we set up entries such as garden hurdles, birch brooms, walking sticks, which we carved in many designs, goose eggs, ducks eggs, chicken eggs and photographs.

On the showground, pony club events were taking place and there were small stalls exhibiting various objects, and a round-about and swings. It was rather like a small fair ground. There were also new tractors standing on the side with hordes of little boys swarming over them and generally running them.

Some of the events we entered were tractor driving, grass cutting with a swop hook, straw dolly making, thatching and span making with a hand bill. We won seven firsts, nine seconds, seven thirds and two reserve prizes. There were many other events such as magneto timing and bowling for the pig. We left the showground feeling very satisfied that we had done well.  
I. Eldridge, 4G

## WILFRED PICKLES VISITS THE SCHOOL

It was on January 19th, 1960 when Mr. Wilfred Pickles—usually called Wilfred—and his wife Mabel, visited Rye for an edition of "Have a Go," which was to be broadcast from our School. Of course we were very excited and proud because he was coming to Rye.

The day arrived and we made ready for him. We were all assembled in the hall and a special show was arranged for us. At the correct time we went into the hall and waited for Wilfred. He was late but only by a few minutes. First of all came Harry Hudson the pianist, and as Wilfred and Mabel came in, he struck up the tune of "Have a go" and we all sang to his accompaniment. The show was a quiz carried out in rather the same way as the actual broadcast programme. Questions were asked and the first person to answer each was given five shillings. As there was a great number of us we were divided up into age groups. At the end of the show the teachers were asked a question and this was won by Miss Gladman. She too won five shillings. The question was "What month has 28 days?" The answer was, "All of them."

It was rather interesting to see Wilfred and Mabel in person and to see if they were different from what we imagined. I thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment and in the evening listened to the programme on the wireless.  
Margaret Oliver, 4G

## ROAD SAFETY

I am pleased to record that during the past twelve months, 223 bicycles were examined at the school. Of these, 211 were found to be in good roadworthy condition. Diplomas and coloured discs were awarded accordingly. Please convey my thanks to your Fathers for adjusting your brakes, etc.

I have now the necessary equipment to commence your cycle proficiency training. In view of the present heavy traffic it is most essential that you should all become skilful riders and know your road signs and signals. I hope to start training those who hold the amber discs within the next few weeks.

For those pupils living in the country, arrangements are in hand to inspect cycles at your villages either in the evenings or on Saturdays.

A most successful Road Safety Poster competition was held at Rye Schools last year, followed by an exhibition of the posters. Several prizes were won by the Rye Secondary School pupils.

The Chief Constable is deeply concerned at the mounting number of motor cycle accidents. A word to the senior pupils. "Before buying a motor cycle, buy a crash helmet"—it may save your life. I have several damaged crash helmets from recent accidents. In each case the owner escaped with slight injuries.

Sgt. Crew (East Sussex Constabulary)

## ANOTHER RYE COUNTY SECONDARY SCHOOL VENTURE

As the white cliffs of Dover faded away into the distance a new adventure began for forty three children from Rye County Secondary School. We were sailing into foreign lands, namely Holland and Belgium to spend a week touring the countryside and studying the people. After two hours rough sailing the low lying sand dunes of the Belgian coast came into view, taking our thoughts away from our tormented stomachs and filling us with renewed interest. Another forty five minutes passed and we reached our destination—Ostend.

"Rubens"—this famous name remained in our minds as we entered the St. Baron Cathedral, Ghent, with the intention of seeing some of his paintings, and also the brothers, Van Eycks' paintings of the "Adoration of the Lamb." A sudden side street brought us to the splendid 'Castle of the Counts,' rising picturesquely from the still water of its moat. Here the party split, half went with the teachers and the remainder went into the castle. To enter the castle one had to pay five francs, but if accompanied by a teacher only two and a half francs. Being artful, we decided to get in for half price, so we unanimously elected George Hickmott to be the teacher and by devious means passed the unsuspecting gate-keeper. Once inside we followed our teacher until we were out of sight and then went our different ways. There followed an exciting time peering into deep, dark dungeons, looking at torture instruments, studying the skeletons of two women said to have been imprisoned in the dungeons, and viewing Ghent from the battlements.

'Begonias galore' greeted us when we visited the largest begonia garden in the world, at La Pinte. After viewing the glass house we looked for the Colorado beetles which are so common that one can squash dozens of them as one walks.

Antwerp, with its four miles of docks, was the next place we visited. It stands on the left bank of the River Scheldt, which is a mile wide at this point. Our first journey was to the house of Rubens, where typically Flemish rooms of the period were displayed. After lunch we proceeded to the Cathedral to study some of Ruben's finest works including "The Descent from the Cross" and its companion work "The Ascent of the Cross."

The most beautiful sight, which was seen on the journey, was at Bruges, where the canals and buildings of this lovely city were all floodlit. In the Chapel of the Holy Blood, we were given the great experience of seeing what is believed to be some of Jesus's blood.

The highlight of the trip came on the penultimate day. A big coach ferry took us to Flushing, on the island of Walcheren in Holland. From Flushing we travelled to Middleburg, where on Thursdays, farmers, peasants and sightseers alike, flock to the little town for the famous Thursday market. Here we saw what I know delighted the girls—Dutch ladies and children in their attractive national costumes.

All too soon the journey came to an end and the dreaded day came when we set off for home, tired, regretful, but happy. We are very grateful to the poor and hard-working people of Belgium for opening our eyes to a new world of beauty, friendship, kindness and courtesy.

Jane Davies, Form 5

## THE SCHOOL VISIT TO FORD'S FACTORY

Alongside the pier at Charing Cross was moored a gleaming white pleasure launch and embarking were a group of bustling school children. Once everybody had settled down the launch proceeded on its way. Almost directly after leaving the pier, photographers were harmlessly hunting their prey. Some preferred the modern Festival Hall to the majestic dome of St. Paul's which dominates the London skyline.

Once under Tower Bridge we were in Dockland, although we had not passed through much water. The cranes were everywhere, pricking the sky with their ever moving jibs. The warehouses blocked nearly all the superstructure of the ships, leaving the funnels and the tips of the masts protruding above the roofs. Soon after passing through Dockland, the factories seemed to wane and their places were taken by the far reaching housing estates of suburbia. About thirty minutes after leaving the dock we passed the tremendous pylons which carry electricity for the National Grid over the Thames. After rounding the next bend the gigantic car factory of Ford's loomed up before us. Within the next few minutes we were moored up against their pier, which we shared with a few dozen tractors bound for different parts of the world.

The first part of the vast factory we visited was the smelting works. Here the little hopper trucks plied back and forth from the ship bringing the iron ore to the blast furnace. The roar of the furnace was unbearable. The hottest part of the factory was our next port of call. It was the moulding works. Here the molten iron is poured into moulds. This is truly a picture of the underworld, with masked men pouring sizzling white hot liquid metal. Incidentally to come back to earth again, the water fountains provided for the workmen came in useful now for the visitors. Next we watched one of the

easiest tasks undertaken in the factory. This is in the machine shop and the job is pressing a button. When the button is pressed a certain part is machined to exactly the right shape. This example of automation was very impressive. By this time the questionnaire with which we had been provided by the Headmaster was well on the way to being completed.

The most fascinating part of the factory was the assembly building. Here the cars are quickly assembled, all the parts being brought by overhead conveyor belts. Each man has one job to do. Some put on two or three bolts whilst others might fit on a wheel or some other such process in building a vehicle. Once completed the body is painted in a special oven by spraying, and at the end of the assembly line the cars are driven off under their own power.

We returned home by the same launch and on this we had our tea. The return journey was made via Hastings and we arrived back at Rye at about nine o'clock.

C. Killick, 4G

## THE ZOO VISIT

We were waiting for Thursday, March 17th, 1960 to hurry up and arrive. Although we were missing a day from School, it was a G.C.E. lecture we were off to.

It was a cold morning, but luckily no rain could be sensed in the air. The number attending was 21 and when we arrived at Rye Station to catch the 7.56 a.m. train to Ashford, we could see through our blurry eyes that everyone was there. Mrs. Rogerson was well wrapped up in her gorgeous fur coat, and Mr. Smith, well, he looked as if he would take any weather that came. The train journey going was a bore as most of us had to stand. We had a rush to get on the Underground. Mr. Smith thought we would be a little late, but we arrived at the lecture hall just a minute or two before the lecture commenced.

The lecturer was handsome and planned his talks well. The first lecture was on Fish and Mammals. The lecturer spoke of differences between fish and humans. He also spoke a great deal about seals. He showed us coloured slides and also mentioned the wonders of the deep and of the shore. It was most definitely an interesting lecture. When he had finished we went to the Aquarium. It is divided into three sections, first the fresh water hall, secondly the marine hall and finally the tropical hall. We spent quite a time there and it was most interesting. We then had time to eat lunch and look around. Our next lecture was about the cat family and its way of living, finding food and the way it walks. Coloured slides helped to make the lecture understandable. We then had guides to take us round the various houses which the lecturer had mentioned. When the instruction was

completely finished we had about an hour and three quarters left to ourselves, which we used by looking around. We all split up into little individual parties and really enjoyed ourselves.

After a happy and instructive day's outing we had a pleasant journey home. The night was cold when we arrived in Rye, and we were relieved to get home to our warm homes. Mary Lewis, 4G

## THE ROYAL SHOW

A team of four boys from the School Young Farmers' Club was asked by the National Federation to demonstrate rural crafts on their stand at the Royal Agricultural Show between the seventh and tenth of July. This was not only an achievement and honour for the club, but the School also, to have been chosen from Kent, Sussex and Surrey for a second time, to demonstrate at such a distinguished agricultural show—the biggest in the world.

The four boys, Ian Eldridge, Christopher Fryer, Bernard Bottomley and Colin Lamb, together with Mr. Holmes, the Club Leader, undertook the journey to Oxford, on the Monday before the show. They took with them work benches, a large variety of tools and many show pieces of the work that they would be demonstrating. When they reached the show ground which was just outside Oxford, they found it near to completion and they soon set to work preparing their stand for the opening day. In the afternoon they began to look round the Show, which covered one hundred and forty acres and cost the Royal Agricultural Society a thousand pounds an acre to prepare for the Show. In the centre of the showground there was a show ring where all the fat stock and show jumping competitions were to be held.

The team left the show ground in the evening to travel into Oxford to go to Brasenose College where they were to stay. Each member of the team had a study and bedroom to himself and every facility from modern showers to a coffee bar in the basement of the College.

Every morning a coach would take us from the College with other Young Farmers from all over the world, to the show-ground. Two boys would be demonstrating while the other two would look round the show. The crafts we demonstrated, varied and included making trugs, walking sticks, hay rakes, hurdles and birch brooms. On the third day His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester visited our stand.

At the end of the day we would catch the coach back to the college for the evening meal in the large dining hall with the other Young Farmers and Officials staying at the college. In the evenings we spent our spare time sight seeing or boating on the River Cherwell.

On the Friday evening when we had to pack up we were all sorry that it had to finish so soon, and I know that not one of us would have missed it for anything.

B. Bottomley, 4G

## A VISIT TO DEAN'S FACTORY

On March 30th the girls of 4T and 4RI visited Dean's Rag Book Factory in Rye. The morning broke cold and cheerless and remained dull until a quarter to eleven when it decided to brighten up. When we arrived at Dean's we split into two groups of twelve and thirteen. Mr. Gould took one group around the factory and Mr. Nye took the other group.

First of all we went to the top storey of the building and Mr. Nye Senior sat at the desk where he kept all papers and files. Also in the room were eyes, noses and faces for teddy bears and dolls, and these seemed rather out of place among the office equipment.

The next room was where they cut out the material which was then passed on to the machinists, where they were sewn into shape. Most of the articles were teddy bears, rabbits, dogs, pandas and horses.

We went down another flight of stairs to the stuffing room. There we could see foam, straw and cotton wool stuffing. The people had to stuff twelve toys in sixty six minutes and they were paid by the number they make and stuff. They were then passed to the other side of the room where they were sewn up after the stuffing had been put in. They then had ribbons and markings put on them. Also some dogs and pandas were put on bases so that they may be pushed along. After they are finished they are sent to a brushing-up room where all the fur is made to look its best, and they are then put in storage.

The bottom room was where they made the rag books. They were folded and machined and then pinked to stop them fraying. They also were printing flags for a firm who required them. We were there about 40 minutes and it was a very enjoyable visit.

Christine Martin, 4T

## A VISIT TO THE BALLET

On Wednesday, 17th February, a party of girls of whom there were fifty five, and two teachers, Miss Welsh and Miss Gladman, travelled by train to Brighton. They were to see the London Festival Ballet perform a programme of ballet in the Hippodrome Theatre.

Our seats were on the side of the top circle and we had a lovely view of the stage. The theatre is extremely large and well accommodated with seats. The fittings are rather beautifully made of red material with velvet and gold cord and tassels. The stage was large and well lit.

The programme consisted of excerpts from 'Swan Lake,' 'The Witch Boy,' 'Harlequinade' and 'Prince Igor.' The dancers performed with exquisite grace and skill and daintiness. Their steps were well timed and their characters well expressed.

The costumes were extremely lovely. The Wizard's costume was very effective. The girl dancers in 'Prince Igor' were very colourful and lovely. The dancing in this was exceptionally good.

The dances were very much enjoyed by everyone and we were lucky to be able to go.

C. Weller, 2A

## THE SCHOOL TRACTOR

On Wednesday, February 10th, I went to the Market with six other boys and Mr. Stunt and Mr. Holmes. We went to get a tractor. When we arrived there we waited for a man to bring the tractor. The Mayor came and sat on the tractor and we stood around it. Then Ian Eldridge drove the tractor out of the Market, Another man drove it along a lane beside the School. The Rye National Farmers' Union gave the tractor to the School. Mr. Johnson took all the class out to have a look at it.

Francis Warren, 5I

## WHO KNOWS ?

What are ohms, volts and amps,  
How much electricity in a thousand large lamps ?  
Why is the population density low in Spain,  
Where is rice found on the Italian Plain ?

Who flicked those ink pellets around the room,  
How many miles from the earth to the moon ?  
Which bone connects your shoulder and head,  
Where can you find the best ore for lead ?

Did the Peace Treaty of 1856 settle the causes ?  
Split this passage into six clauses.  
Where is your homework from last night ?  
Who caused the King, Saxons to fight ?

The only question which now remains,  
Is whether the answers are easily obtained.  
Well, let's be reasonable, let's be kind,  
Let's say if they weren't on the child's paper they were in its mind.

Helen Griffin, 5



## THE HUNT

The meet was held on a crisp, frosty morning. One by one the horses and riders arrived. Great hunters, small ponies and beautiful thoroughbreds, all turned out at their best. Muscles rippling under satin skin, the rhythmical creak of the saddles, the jingling of bits was like magic. As we set off along the lane, I was astride Warrior, and the sunlight through the trees dappled the backs of the horses.

The hounds were now drawing a coppice and the huntsman was encouraging them by crying "Leu in, leu in there little ladies! Ki, try for him." Then Gladsome spoke and the huntsman could be heard to call, "Huic, huic, huic." Soon Rattler, Vampire and Valiant were speaking too; another moment and almost the whole pack had given tongue. A "whip-in" halloed from the downwind side of the coppice. The fox had broken cover and was now streaking with tail outstretched towards a field of kale. Then the hounds picked up the scent and we were soon hunting in the kale. Very soon a fox came out, a large dark fox, which we could all see from where we stood. We galloped forward and flew over a hedge and into the ploughed land beyond. There the hounds checked and then they were again running uphill to where some footsloggers were enjoying a wonderful view.

Following some of the field I rode Warrior at a hedge. As we landed I saw a murderous strand of wire. Thanking Providence for a horse which jumps well, I turned and yelled "Wire! 'ware wire." Down the other side of the hill rich farmland lay before us, acres and acres of it, and in the far distance, a gas works and grey factory chimneys. We were now heading for the river, where the hounds almost lost the fox in some osier beds. Now clods of earth flew under galloping hooves, then a triumphant kill—and another brush.

Riders were now dismounting stiffly from their steaming horses. I loosened Warrior's girth for him to cool down, before I hungrily ate my sandwiches. In a little while I reached home, rubbed Warrior down gave him a feed of bran mash and left him to rest. As I wandered back across the yard to the house I pondered over the adventures of a most wonderful day.

J. Taylor, 1A

## WHEN I GROW UP

When I grow up I'd like to be  
A doctor in a surgery.  
I would sit and wait each day  
For patients who should pass my way.

I'd smile and ask them what was wrong,  
And write prescriptions all day long.  
Into the night I'd study books,  
And go to bed with tired looks.

I'd like to be a surgeon too  
And operate the whole day through,  
And lecture students so to tell  
How they could make their patients well.

When I grow up I'd like to be  
All these things, but it's hard for me.  
Examinations—what a fuss!  
Thank goodness I've done with the 'eleven plus.'

Valerie Westley, Form 1B

## THE BARN OWL

The owl looks so grave and solemn that he has always been thought to be very wise. He looks at you straight, not sideways with with one eye at a time like other birds. Round each eye is a great circle of soft feathers, almost like big spectacles. This makes him look so serious and rather shocked and surprised. Those big eyes can see in the dark and the owl can drop on a mouse in a field from quite high up. Daylight is too strong for them so the owl sleeps by day and flies about and hunts at night.

The barn owl is the commonest kind of owl found in this country. It has been called the 'barn owl' because he likes to live in barns, where rats and mice come for grain (the barn owl lives mostly on rats and mice). He sits upright, sleeping all day, but at the slightest sound, an eye is opened, and if a mouse moves in the half dark barn, he drops on it silently and seizes it in his talons. Then he swallows it whole! The skin and bone he afterwards throws up in round pellets. He sometimes eats small birds and at night they are afraid of him, but if he goes out in daylight they often chase and annoy him.

On a nest of a few sticks the female lays five or six rough white eggs. She lays first two or three; then a few days later a second two or three, so that the young birds are all different ages. K. Smith, 2A

## THE GHOSTS OF HAMPTON COURT

There are not many ancient palaces or dwellings of kings which do not have at least one traditional ghost. The Tower of London has many of these spine-chilling horrors and it is truly a place in which many bloodthirsty deaths have occurred. Hampton Court is one of the most famed for supernatural activity. This beautiful Tudor palace with its many galleries, bedrooms, state apartments and gardens, was built by Cardinal Wolsey, who never lived long enough to enjoy it.

Two renowned ghosts are said to haunt a gallery which has been named after them—"The Haunted Gallery." They are Lady Jane Seymour and Queen Catherine Howard. Lady Jane is sometimes said to have been the cause of Ann Boleyn's death. Perhaps she had a guilty conscience and wished to talk the matter over with Ann. Whatever the reason may be, she still glides gently through the gallery, not looking the least bit guilty.

The ghost of Queen Catherine is less serene, but this is understandable when we remember she was found by her husband, the king, in the arms of her lover. King Henry VIII regarded this with the utmost severity and acted with speed, showing no mercy. One day when they were both at the palace, Catherine was arrested, to be taken to a condemned dungeon at the Tower of London. Henry was praying for her soul in the Chapel when she tore away from her guards and rushed in, to make a last appeal for her life. However, the guards were following close on her heels, and dragged her away shrieking and hysterical to the headsman's block. From time to time her blood curdling screams are heard in the Haunted Gallery and sometimes a figure in a shimmering white cloak is seen there.

There are many more stories of ghosts which haunt this remarkable Tudor palace, and today you may wander around it yourself looking for supernatural beings—but do be careful, for who knows—you may find one.  
Lesley Rolfe, 4G

### THE STAFF

The Staff at this school varies so,  
There's good and better as we all know.  
There's some we know we can't provoke.  
While others easily take a joke.  
Some have favourites we can tell,  
Our faith to them we cannot sell.  
There's some we like for whom we work  
And very rarely try to shirk.  
Some moan as we step in their room  
Which fills our heart with awe and gloom.  
We're not allowed to play with ball,  
Wear our shoes into the hall.  
We've pleasant things which are quite clear  
Like our school journey once a year.  
On the whole Rye School is fun,  
It couldn't be otherwise with 4 R.I

Vera Ades, Class IVR

### THE BALLET DANCER

Once there was a young girl named Gina. Her ambition was to be a ballet dancer. Her parents were very poor, so Gina could not afford to go to ballet classes. She sat and watched the people in the ballet class and dreamed of herself dancing there.

One day after the evening classes had finished, she crept in and put the gramophone on softly and began to dance in bare feet. The dancing teacher heard the music and came into the room surprised to see Gina dancing so beautifully to the music. Gina told the lady why she had come in and of her ambition. The teacher said she could come to the dancing classes and pay half price. The other girls welcomed Gina and they became great friends.

After a month Gina was to play the leading role in a performance they were doing. All went well and she was given a new pair of ballet shoes and the costume she wore. Gina grew up to be famous, and when she was twenty one she opened her very own dancing school, and with the money she made her family grew very rich and the name of Gina's Ballet School grew more and more famous.

Lorna Young, 2C

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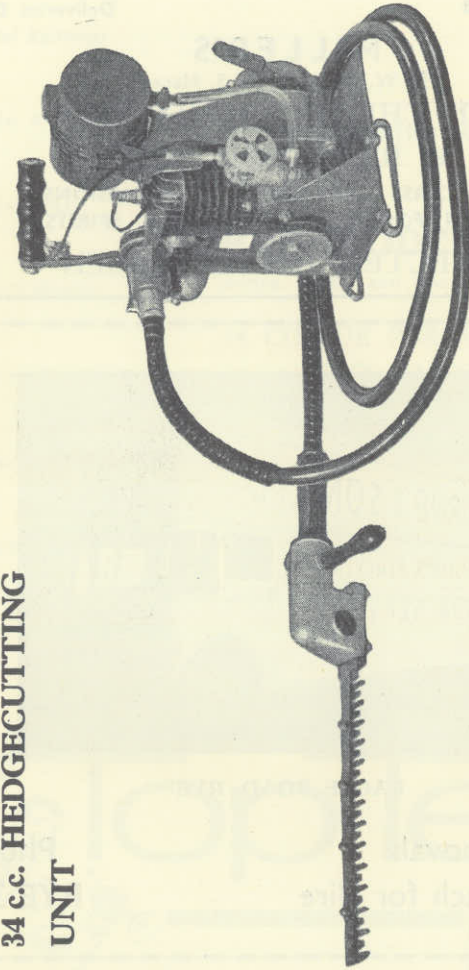
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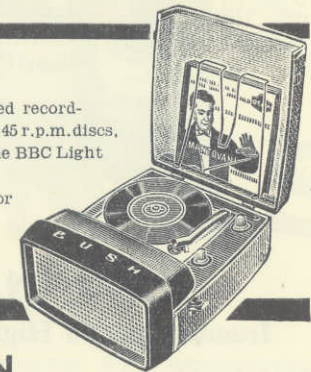
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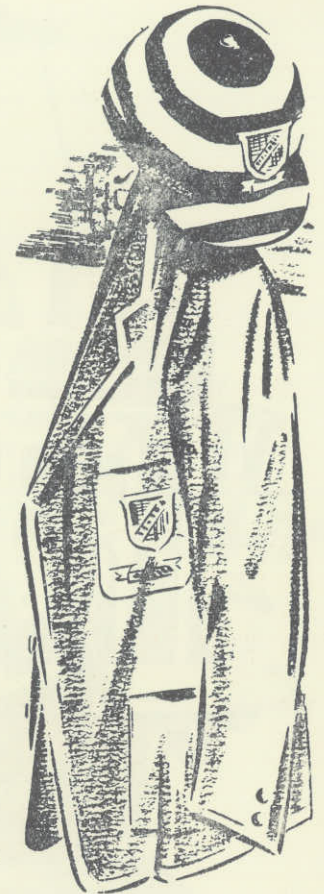
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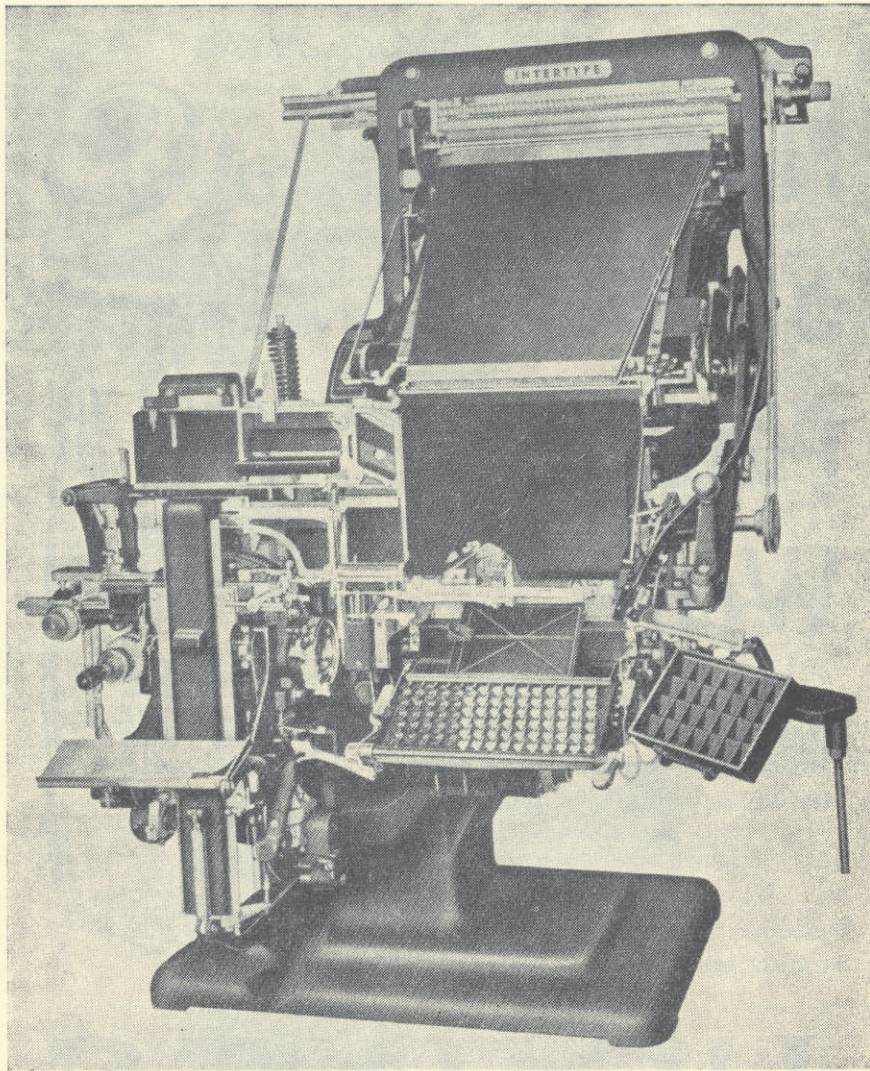


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