

# "Nova Rya"

No. 9



"Aut Disce, Aut Discede"

Summer Term, 1943

# NOVA RYA

(Founders: A. W. J. AMBROSE, R. G. BURNETT, G. G. SMITH, A. J. W. THIRD)

THE MAGAZINE OF RYE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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*Editors :*

J. S. L. PULFORD

T. G. H. POLLARD

HELEN METIANU

B. DAWSON

JEAN POPE

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## EDITORIAL

When a school has been evacuated for three years people are apt to wonder whether it has managed to maintain its pre-evacuation standard of achievement, or even attempted to maintain them; in other words, whether the school has succeeded in retaining its former vitality. Now we think that the test of a school's vitality lies in its ability or inclination to maintain existing activities and to create new ones. Under evacuation there are, of course, definite handicaps upon some activities, for example, the annual School Play, but hopes of producing the latter in the next School year have not yet been relinquished. However, there have been definite achievements during this School's evacuation, the main ones being the re-organising and revitalising of the Scout Troop, the foundation of a School Ranger Company, the reviving of the School Committee, a great progress in the standards of the Speech and Music Competition, and a rise in the number of swimming pupils in the School.

The Scout Troop was weak and unpopular when the School was evacuated, but, as with other things, the departure from the old way of life raised a new enthusiasm in the Troop, and when Mr. Douglas and V. Apps set to work the group of young boys who had enrolled was turned into an active and efficient band of Scouts. Fortunately, the enthusiasm has not died and the Scouts continue to produce very good results in Troop work and promising concerts on the club side of their activities (that side which is such an essential part of any British youth organisation). However, at the same time, most of the senior Scouts have joined the A.T.C. or the Cadet Corps. This has had a rather retarding effect upon the Troop in the last few months, for, bereft of leaders, younger and more inexperienced boys have had to step forward. Nevertheless, we know that the latter do their best, and that when conditions return to normal they will make all the more competent leaders.

Conforming to the Government's plea for the organisation of youth for pre-service training, the Home Emergency Service has been started in the School, being arranged under the auspices of the Guide Movement. The girls wishing to participate in the H.E.S. have formed, within the last year, a Ranger Company, under the leadership of Miss Thomas. Already three girls have been awarded the H.E.S. armlet (out of six armlets gained in the

whole of Bedfordshire), the tests for which are severe and exacting. The girl who gains an armlet may be fairly reckoned to have more than the average efficiency in all matters relating to the H.E.S. work. At its present state it seems that the H.E.S. is the kind of organisation which will be wanted for older girls after the war. The Scout and Guide Movements are often robbed of good leaders in the middle teens by the cinema and dance hall, and it is only organisations similar to the H.E.S. which will retain their loyalty.

The School Committee is another body which has been rejuvenated during evacuation, especially during the last year, and it is fervently hoped that the Committee will prosper. Its constitution has been thrashed out very thoroughly and is probably the best that can be made, but it is not the constitution which is most important in our view. The constitution is but the skeleton of the Committee, and it is plain that a skeleton is useless without flesh; and blood to animate it. This flesh and blood with which the constitution must be strengthened is really the vigorous and enthusiastic support of the School, and as the human body is weakened through lack of flesh and blood, so also will the School Committee's strength be impaired through lack of support. Will the School take this little homily to heart? During the School year, the last term especially, the Committee, with its dependent sub-committees, has done valuable and constructive work in School matters, but far more help from the scholars in general is needed, and perhaps it would be a very wise step to make the School Committee come before all other outside-school-hours activities. For after all, the School Committee is not established, as some people fondly imagine, to govern the School, but to give us that knowledge and experience of community and civic life which is so vitally important in a democratic country.

We remember, four years ago, when the Speech and Music Competitions were inaugurated, how many boys and girls were sceptical and contemptuous of so genteel a pursuit. To-day, however, a genuine and earnest rivalry takes place between the Houses for the distinction of gaining the Shield, a rivalry which takes form in the shape of months of preparation (for the lower forms, at least) during School hours and several hours from each competing pupil's spare time. Furthermore, we can state, as did the Headmaster, when he announced the results of this year's competition, that the last four years have seen an immense improve-



ment in the standard of performance. This last achievement will be found to bear fruit when the School once more produces an Annual Play (a gap in evacuation which at least two School Captains wish they could have filled). For the moment, the Speech and Music Competition counter-balances the weight of physical activity, but, when it becomes possible to produce again the Annual Play, the School will have a strong dramatic and intellectual side to its "out-side" activities.

From being a mere annual "flash-in-the-pan" at Hastings Baths, the School Swimming Sports have now come to be recognised as the culmination of a year's intense swimming activity, entered into by a large percentage of the scholars. Swimming is no longer the insignificant sport that it was at Rye, but is a dominant and important activity for most pupils, and with some of them it is the acclaimed favourite. Thus, this improvement in the quality and quantity of swimming in the School is something to be proud of, and we gratefully acknowledge our indebtedness to Miss Thomas and Mr. Morgan. One thing, however, must not be forgotten—that there is no swimming bath at Rye, and therefore our swimming standards are likely to fall when the School returns to Rye. It is the duty, then, of each pupil to impress upon his parents and upon influential persons in Rye the need for a swimming bath for Rye and district, so that, when we return to Sussex, there will not be the long and weary period of haggling which is so often the prelude to any reform.

THE EDITORS.

## OBITER DICTA

Miss Thomas is leaving us this term. During the years which she has been at the School she has worked hard for the Guides and has achieved many valuable results, including the formation of a School Ranger Company. We wish her much success in her new post and extend the thanks of the School for all she has done.

During the term Mr. Wells, the School caretaker, left us to take up his old duties at his former school. Certainly one of the most popular caretakers the School has ever had, he caused us many regrets through his departure and on behalf of the School we offer our most hearty thanks and best wishes. We also wish to extend our thanks to Mrs. Wells for her assistance at all times.

In Mr. Wells's place we welcome Mr. Tysoe and hope that he will find his sojourn at this School a happy one.

Ruth Morris, the Guide Company Leader, is to be congratulated on obtaining her First-Class Badge and All-Round Cords.

Three Rangers, Joan Hoad, Eileen Munday and Rosalie Green, obtained three of the first six Home Emergency Service Armlets to be won in Bedfordshire.

The Guide Patrol Shield was awarded to Kingfisher Patrol and the Scout Patrol Shield to Raven Patrol.

Swimming Colours, awarded this year for the first time, were obtained by Julia Smith, Fellows, Jury and Wood.

Eileen Munday, Joan Hoad and Helen Mills received Tennis Colours.

Cricket Colours were awarded to Dawson.

Gymnastic Colours were obtained by Helen Mills, Maureen Samaden and Julia Smith.

Three A.T.C. Cadets, Dawson, Caister and Bull, are to be congratulated on obtaining their Proficiency Part I.

The Cock House Shield was won by Sanders House, while Meryon obtained the Work and Merit Shield by a margin of eleven points over Sanders.

The Royal Life Saving Society's Bronze Medallion was won by Allen, Catt, Wood, Julia Smith and Bull, and the Intermediate Certificate by Pauline Baker, Sheila Houlston and Clare Rhind. Fellows, Pollard, Mead, Daphne Breeds and Pamela James obtained bars to their medallions.



## A HISTORY OF THE EVACUATION

This issue's "History" will be necessarily short because, besides the fact that much of its material has been dealt with in the Editorial, the Summer Term has not seen the intrusion of many outside events, for much time has been taken up with the various competitions and the all-dominating external examinations. Nevertheless, the School has had several talks upon topical happenings, one of the most enjoyable of which being that given by Major Wallis, of the Eighth Army. Nominally a talk upon the British method of attack in Libya, the Major enlivened it with accounts of personal experiences and adventures. There was the tale of the night patrol which, close to the German lines, perceived dark shadows nearby and, after a long, tense period of waiting and indecision, made a charge—to find only bushes! We consider that England has many flies this summer, but Major Wallis's description of how to drink a cup of tea while swallowing the minimum number of insects, made us think again. On the whole, the Major's geographical, military and personal accounts of his life in Libya made the talk a most satisfactory one for both boys and girls.

The reciprocal attachment between the Rector of St. Cuthbert's, the Rev. W. Lane, and the School has again been manifest this term, and taking my cue from many comments and remarks I can say how truly delighted the School is to have Mr. Lane as its Chaplain. The Rector has made more than one appearance at Russell Park Hall this term to tender us a few words of advice or goodwill, and on Ascension Day he came along to give us a short explanation. It must also be mentioned that Mr. Wooding, a prominent member of Bunyan Meeting and a worker on the side of youth, explained to us, one morning after Assembly, the origin, aims and purport of the Religion and Life Week in Bedford.

It was in connection with the latter that the School attended a special service for schools on Thursday, June 24th, at St. Paul's Church. The speaker was a Quaker (Mr. Geoffrey Hoyland, a headmaster and well-known educationist), addressing the congregation from an Anglo-Catholic pulpit, and perhaps this, as well as anything, summed up the spirit of the Religion and Life Week. Taking an unusual but provocative line (to young people, at least), Mr. Hoyland declared that St. Paul's was a dangerous place, in fact, a resort of outlaws. Everybody who joined the Christian

fellowship was an outlaw from society, but an outlaw who had a certain task to perform.

Perhaps parents already know that Church of England members of the School attend a Holy Communion Service the first Sunday of each term, and the first Sunday after half-term. By this method there are ensured at least two services at which a fair proportion of the School is represented. Then, of course, there are the services which the scholars attend individually.

J.S.L.P.

## HOUSE NOTES

### PEACOCKE

<i>House Master :</i>	MR. MORGAN.
<i>House Mistress :</i>	MISS LETCHER
<i>Boys' Captain :</i>	P. J. MEAD
<i>Girls' Captain :</i>	HELEN METIANU
<i>Prefects :</i>	P. J. MEAD, JOAN HOAD, HELEN METIANU, JEAN POPE

On the whole this Summer Term has not been too successful for Peacocke, both in respect of work and sports. In the Work and Merit Competition Peacocke is standing bottom.

In the Athletic Sports, after a hard fight, Meryon just obtained second place before us; in spite of the rather unpromising prospects, the spirit of the House was high, which goes to show that the fighting spirit is not lacking even if the talent available is not up to standard.

In the House Cricket matches a certain amount was achieved, the Seniors beating Sanders, but losing to Meryon. The Juniors were even less successful, however.

Victory has been achieved in one field at least, for the girls, after a hard competition, have won the tennis House matches. Before the Swimming Sports the House was already down on points and, although pulling up tremendously during the actual sports, failed to surpass the lead which Sanders and Meryon had previously obtained. In the music section of the Speech and Music Competition Peacocke came first, and managed to keep a high level of marks in the speech section. However, the result of the whole competition was that Peacocke was beaten by .2 of a point, but our achievement augurs well for the future.



This disappointing record is a sure indication that the House is slipping back into its old ways. If the House in the next year is to achieve the standards set by itself in 1941, when Peacocke was Cock House, a great deal of hard work and co-operation is required.

P.J.M.

### SANDERS

*House Master :* MR. DOUGLAS  
*House Mistress :* MISS SEED  
*Boys' Captain :* T. G. H. POLLARD  
*Girls' Captain :* MAUREEN SAMADEN  
*Prefects :* ROSALIE GREEN, EILEEN T. D. MUNDAY,  
 E. A. FELLOWS, T. G. H. POLLARD,  
 J. S. L. PULFORD.

In spite of our not being very successful in the Summer Sports, with the exception of Athletics, we managed to maintain the lead which we gained in the winter sports and won the Cock House Shield. Our success in the Athletic Sports was partly due to the fine performances of Jones, Fellows, Eileen Munday and Stephanie Gain.

Another of the House's achievements was to win the Speech and Music Competition. In the Work and Merit Competition we kept the second place to Meryon.

This term we are sorry to lose J. S. L. Pulford and Eileen Munday who, besides being prominent members of Sanders House, have served the School well as School Captain and Senior Girl, respectively. We are very fortunate not to lose more than two members, so we hope that next year the House will benefit by having many senior leaders.

T.P.

### MERYON

*House Master :* MR. BROOME  
*House Mistress :* MISS TUNSTALL  
*Boys' Captain :* C. J. WEBB  
*Girls' Captain :* DAPHNE BREEDS  
*Prefects :* W. COLVIN, B. DAWSON

Meryon has had a fair measure of success, both in work and games, winning the Work and Merit Competition, the Cricket Shield and the Boys' Gymnasium Competition. The Swimming Shield was won by Meryon on the last day of term, beating Sanders

by forty-five points. The Shield was presented by Mrs. Broome in the absence of Mrs. Jacobs. The results for the Work and Merit were Meryon 227 points, Sanders 216 points, and Peacocke 198 points. The girls have not been very successful, coming third in the Tennis and Girls' Gymnasium Competitions.

The collections have been continued, but more support is needed.

J.O.B.

### RESULTS OF THE HOUSE COMPETITIONS, 1942-43

Football	.....	Sanders	Meryon	Peacocke
Hockey	.....	Sanders	Peacocke	Meryon
Netball	.....	Peacocke	Sanders	Meryon
Cricket	.....	Meryon	Sanders	Peacocke
Tennis	.....	Peacocke	Sanders	Meryon
Cross-Country Run	.....	Sanders	Peacocke	Meryon
Athletic Sports	.....	Sanders	Meryon	Peacocke
Gymnasium (boys)	.....	Meryon	Sanders	Peacocke
Gymnasium (girls)	.....	Sanders	Peacocke	Meryon
Swimming	.....	Meryon	Sanders	Peacocke
Speech and Music	.....	Sanders	Peacocke	Meryon
Work and Merit	.....	Meryon	Sanders	Peacocke
House Championship	.....	Sanders	Meryon	Peacocke

Thus, in the three years of evacuation, each House has been Cock: Peacocke, 1940-41; Meryon, 1941-42; Sanders, 1942-43.

The points for the Work and Merit Competition were Meryon, 227 points; Sanders, 216 points; Peacocke, 198 points.

### SPORTS DAY

After several postponements, due to the uncertain character of the weather, the Athletic Sports were held on Wednesday, 16th June. The detailed results were as follows:

Event	Individual Result	House Order
100 yds., Senior, Boys		
1 B. Jones (S), 2 E. Fellows (S), 11½ secs.		S. M. P.
100 yds., Junior, Boys		
1 G. Roberts (S), 2 G. Burt (S), 12¾ secs.		S. M.=P.
100 yds., Senior, Girls		
1 Helen Mills (M), 2 Joan Hoad (P), 12¾ secs.		P. M. S.



<i>Event</i>	<i>Individual Result</i>	<i>House Order</i>
100 yds., Junior, Girls	1 Stephanie Gain (S), 2 Angelina Andrews (P), 14 secs. S.=P. M.	
80 yds., Boys, under 12½ years	1 P. Webb (M), 2 J. Dunster (M)	M. S. P.
80 yds., Girls, under 12½ years	1 Beryl Brakefield (P), 2 Rosemary Wells (M)	P. M. S.
220 yds., Senior, Boys	1 E. Fellows (S), 2 J. Jury (M)	P. S. M.
220 yds., Junior, Boys	1 S. Chappell (P), 2 G. Roberts (S)	P. S.=M.
880 yds., Open	1 P. Mead (P), 2 T. Pollard (S)	P. S. M.
High Jump, Senior, Boys	1 E. Fellows (S), 2 R. Marshall (P)	S. P. M.
High Jump, Junior, Boys	1 K. Bullen (M), 2 S. Chappell (P)	M. S. P.
High Jump, Senior, Girls	1 Helen Mills (M), 2 Julia Terry (S)	M. P. S.
High Jump, Junior, Girls	1 Stephanie Gain (S), 2 Joan Hobden (P)	S. P. M.
Long Jump, Senior, Boys	1 W. Colvin (M), 2 T. Pollard (S)	M. S.=P.
Long Jump, Junior, Boys	1 G. Burt (S) and J. Dunster (M)	M. S. P.
Standing Broad Jump, Senior, Girls		P. S. M.
Standing Broad Jump, Junior, Girls		S. M. P.
Hop, Step and Jump, Senior, Boys	1 P. Wood (M), 2 T. Pollard (S)	M. S. P.
Hop, Step and Jump, Junior, Boys		M. S. P.
Hop, Step and Jump, Senior, Girls	1 Helen Mills (M), 2 Pamela Whiting (S)	M. P. S.
Throwing Cricket Ball, Senior, Boys	1 P. Wood (M), 2 P. Caister (S)	M. S. P.
Throwing Cricket Ball, Junior, Boys	1 A. Shearer (M), 2 D. Morris (P)	M. S. P.

<i>Event</i>	<i>Individual Result</i>	<i>House Order</i>
Throwing Rounders Ball, Senior, Girls	1 Eileen Munday (S), 2 Julia Smith (P)	P. S. M.
Throwing Rounders Ball, Junior, Girls	1 Stephanie Gain (S), 2 Clare Rhind (M)	M. S.=P.
Relay, Senior, Boys		S. M. P.
Relay, Junior, Boys		M. S. P.
Relay, Senior, Girls		P. S. M.
Relay, Junior, Girls		S. P. M.
Relay, Senior, Mixed		M. S. P.
Relay, Junior, Mixed		P. S. M.

The result of the Competition was that Sanders House won the Shield, which was presented to the two Captains by the Headmaster. Meryon obtained second place by a narrow margin over Peacocke.

## SWIMMING REPORT

This year swimming has taken a more important part in the School sports. Forms II, IIIb and IIIa have been able to have swimming lessons each week during school-time and the whole School has had the opportunity of using the Modern School Baths on Saturday mornings. The result of this extra time given to swimming was seen both in the increased numbers of people who can swim and in the improved speeds and styles at the Swimming Sports. Every girl in Forms IIIb, IIIa and IV can now swim.

Before the actual sports, points were gained for swimming distances, for style and for diving as well as for life saving. Five further Bronze Medallions and three Intermediate Certificates were gained and five pupils received their first bar to the Bronze Medal.

The Swimming Sports were held on the last Wednesday afternoon of term. Besides the Inter-House competition a swimming display was given by students from Bedford Physical Training College. The motive of the display was mainly instructional and Miss Angus, who was in charge of the girls' team, explained each performance, which included demonstrations of swimming styles and diving.

The result of the Sports confirmed Meryon's lead which that House had gained on points during pre-Sports Day competition,



so that in the final results Meryon was nearly fifty points ahead of Sanders. Peacocke, although it remained at third place, greatly improved its number of points and was only twenty-two behind Sanders. Unfortunately several events had to be scratched because of illness and absence of a sufficient number of competitors. Peacocke suffered in this and all three Houses could enter only two Senior girls each, with a result that the girls' diving, two lengths free style and other events had to be abandoned.

The details of the events were :

Non-swimmers' Race—D. Streeter (M)	M. P. S.
Beginners' Width, Girls—Joan Hobden (P)	P. S. M.
Beginners' Width, Boys—J. Ashwin (P)	P. M. S.
100 yds., Senior, Boys—P. Wood (M)	M. S. P.
1 Length, Senior, Boys, free style—P. Wood (M)	M. S. P.
1 Length, Open, Girls, free style—Clare Rhind (M)	M. S. P.
1 Length, Junior, Boys, free style—A. Shearer (M)	M. P. S.
1 Length, Open, Mixed, breast stroke—R. Frehner (M)	M. P.=S.
1 Length, Open, Mixed, back stroke—B. Douglas (P)	M.=P.=S.
Diving, Senior, Boys—P. Mead (P)	P. M. S.
Diving, Junior, Boys—S. Chappell (P)	P. S. M.
Life Saving, Mixed, Open—Meryon (L. Allen and Daphne Breeds)	S. P.
Style, Crawl, Open—R. Wigg (P)	P. M.=S.
Style, Breast Stroke, Open—J. Bull (M)	M. P. S.
Junior Mixed Relay	P. M. S.
Senior Mixed Relay	M. S. P.

## A.T.C. REPORT

The last term has been rather an uneventful one for the A.T.C. as we have had only one visit to an air station because we have been transferred recently to Eastern Command.

Normal routine has, however, continued in our weekly training, which has been carried out at the Modern School on Tuesdays and at the Riverside Tennis Club on Saturday mornings. The number of sections has, however, been reduced owing to a decline in numbers, Section 1 consisting of all proficient cadets, and Section 2 of all cadets waiting to pass their proficiency tests.

The actual training has been on similar lines to previous terms, with the addition of squadron drill and theory of flight. Two cadets sat for their proficiency test in June and one of them was successful. Other cadets took the necessary tests for first-class and one of these has been entitled to wear the appropriate star; next term it is hoped that all cadets will be wearing this star.

On May 16th a number of cadets, accompanied by Pilot Officer Pigrome attended St. Paul's Church in uniform on the occasion of Empire Youth Sunday.

It was on the 13th June that all cadets not engaged in external examinations paid a visit to a local station, with high hopes of having a "flip," the first for the majority, but everything proved a failure, as the machine concerned failed to arrive and many of the cadets returned to Bedford still without having made their maiden voyage above the clouds.

In the holidays five cadets are going to camp at a station for a week in order to receive their first tastes of R.A.F. life and habits, and it is hoped that their week will prove an eventful and interesting period.

A number of new cadets will be joining the Corps next term and I am sure they will help to make the next year a record one concerning tests and attendance.

CADET.

## A FLEETING MEDITATION

From an evacuee's heart I come  
To tell of his longing for home  
How he longeth for Sussex, for Rye, and the sea  
With its surf, and the spray, and the foam.

"The sky o'er the channel is calling me home  
For 'tis sunny, and bright, and gay.  
And the seashore that once was so crowded with folk,  
Can no more hear the children at play.

Oh! for the sea-breezes that come soft and sweet  
And the ancient old town of Rye,  
With its countryside fair and its quaint cobbled streets,  
And the Rother, so dear, flowing by."



From an evacuee's heart I come  
Oh! soon may his wanderings be o'er  
When Jerry is beaten he'll soon be at Rye  
At his home he will be evermore.

A line I would write in conclusion  
For the grand folk who've welcomed us here  
And thank them each one, for all they have done  
And wish them Good Luck and Good Cheer!

R. E. HULBERT, *Form V.*

## SCOUT REPORT

During the last year the troop seems to have been mainly concerned with attempts to draw money out of their schoolfellows and billetors for the B.-P. Memorial Fund; or to put it more clearly, two whist drives and a concert have been held since the beginning of this School year.

The two whist drives have together realised about £2 10s. od. and the concert £3. Unfortunately the concert was rather swamped by other entertainments which also came at the end of term, and as it was also held on the very last evening in Bedford when some scholars had gone home and others were packing their belongings, the hall was not packed so tightly as at previous concerts. This was probably a great relief to the audience, who showed their appreciation by contributing generously to the fund.

So much for entertainment. Now we must turn to the grimmer side of life—work. Proficiency badges have been the chief aim of the Troop. Those gained include gardener, cyclist, handyman, entertainer, electrician and ambulance-man badges. The last is a triumph because it is a difficult badge to gain and the Scouts concerned passed with flying colours, knowing much more than was necessary. The Juniors have not seemed to be as keen on passing their second-class as the Seniors have been to gain proficiency badges, and as they cannot obtain badges before this important test has been passed it is advisable that they gain this badge as soon as possible.

Another important thing has happened this year. Camping has been introduced to the Troop and has been given a good welcome. Week-end camps have been held at regular intervals throughout

this last term, and about half-a-dozen boys have attended them each time. At the end of this term about sixteen Scouts are going to camp for a week at Haversham, near Wolverton, for which purpose three tents have been bought for the Troop.

We have been lucky in having the services of Mr. Allnutt, who has accompanied us on all our field days, and has consented to come to help us at camp, at which he will act as Troop banker.

In closing I should like, on behalf of all the Scouts, to thank Mr. Douglas for all the unfailing energy he has put into making arrangements for the camp. In these days it is no easy matter, but he has managed to overcome all difficulties and, consequently, the Scouts who are going camping will have probably the most enjoyable week they have ever spent (if it doesn't rain).

L.A.

## A WEEK-END CAMP

A week-end camp was held by four of the R.G.S. Scouts from 22nd to 23rd May. They were Troop Leader J. Jury, Patrol Leader S. Chappell, Second L. Samaden and Second B. Douglas, plus the Scoutmaster.

We started out on the Saturday at about 2 p.m., minus Douglas, who was taking the tents, billy-cans, etc., in his boat. We arrived at the site, between Oakley and Pavenham, to find Douglas already there with the tents up and a fire on the way. The site was an island, which could only be reached by means of a perilous bridge formed from a fallen tree-trunk—our bicycles could not be brought over this so they were taken over in the boat.

The next thing to do was to procure some water and Chappell and Sammy fetched some from a neighbouring farm in a canvas bucket and a four-gallon can. Douglas and Jury finished making camp and coaxed the fire into a cheery blaze. When the water-carriers returned, moaning about the weight of the four-gallon can, we all had a drink. Much to our disgust it tasted unmistakably of petrol and Douglas, who had supplied the can, had to dodge many cups of water thrown by the water party, and then a billy-can was put on to boil with water from the canvas bucket.

At about 4 p.m. we were pleased to welcome Mr. Douglas, the Scoutmaster, and had a jolly tea of salad, bread and jam and cheese, with cups of hot tea.

After tea Douglas took Jury, who was rather sceptical as to the stability of the boat, for a trip upstream, and quite convinced him that it was O.K.



Our appetites at tea had sadly diminished our bread store, so Douglas and Samaden went to Pavenham hoping to get some more loaves and an evening newspaper for the Scoutmaster. By the time they returned, triumphant, from their expedition, more water was needed, so Stan and Sammy went for some. Then we all had a short bathe in the river, after which we retired to bed—three sleeping in the big tent and Jury and the Scoutmaster in individual small tents. Immediately there arose from the big tent a noise that was supposed to be a reproduction of the Scout concert, with Stan and Sammy as soloists, but soon silence reigned supreme, except for the swishing of the wind in the trees overhead.

At the early hour of 5.15 a.m. Douglas put his head into Jury's tent with a request for matches, and soon a fire was roaring, while all the Scouts sat round swathed in blankets, toasting their bare feet. We saw to it that Mr. Douglas had an early cup of tea! By 7 a.m. we had all washed ourselves and were enjoying our breakfast of shell eggs, fried potatoes and baked beans. That finished, we fetched more water and did the washing up.

After this we tossed up to see who were to be "cooks" and who could go to church. The toss resulted in Stan and Sammy staying, while the other two accompanied Mr. Douglas to church at Pavenham. The sermon was on "Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord," and was well illustrated by the Vicar. On the way home we looked at many interesting plants and herbs, explained by Mr. Douglas, who is the science master in "outside" life.

We arrived back to a welcome dinner of "soup," omelet, potatoes and beans, followed by blanc-mange and some Sussex apples supplied by Jury. After dinner and washing up, Mr. Douglas went to Bedford to fetch his wife and small son, while the early risers, regretting their early "get up," had a snooze in the big tent.

We all had a grand tea, with some delicious tarts kindly supplied by Mrs. Douglas, after which her small son gave a demonstration of how to pour water from one billy-can into another and back again!

Then we struck camp, with sorrow in our hearts, because, as one of us put it, "As soon as we get started we have to pack up." As we went home along the road we could see Douglas on the river paddling downstream, with the Scout flag at the mast, and paddles flashing in the sun as they dipped in and out of the water. Then—school next day. But we are all looking forward to a longer week-end at Whitsun.

B.D.

## LEST WE FORGET

The "Lightnings" flashed, the "Mustangs" rolled  
And all the air was shaken,  
While down below the prisoners came,  
They'd run to save their bacon.

The town of Tunis lay below,  
Bizerta had been taken,  
The "Thunderbolts" were diving low,  
And so the "Wops" were shaken.

The long, drear months of gory scraps,  
At last, are nearly over,  
And now, with pins at rest in maps,  
We'll just sit back in clover.

But stay, the Premier speaks again,  
What is it he is saying?  
"We can have nought but sweat and pain,  
Till Europe's free from slaying!"

P. WOOD, *Form IIIa.*

## THE GUIDES

### RANGER REPORT

The Rangers have had a very successful term, during which the Home Emergency Service test took place on Friday, 4th June and Sunday, 6th June. The test on Friday was held at Ixworth Court and on Sunday at the fire field in Newnham Avenue.

To pass the test entirely at least seventy-five per cent. of marks had to be obtained in every subject. Out of our seven Rangers, Joan Hoad and Eileen Munday are to be congratulated on passing the test, thus obtaining their armllet. Rosalie Green failed in fire lighting only, but she has already taken it again, so obtaining her armllet. Jean Pope failed in fire lighting, drill and signalling, Pamela Whiting in message carrying, and Kathleen Batehup in drill, but they all hope to retake them soon. Unfortunately, Daphne Breeds was able to take only half of her test owing to illness, but we hope she will be more fortunate next time.

At Whitsun three of the Rangers went to a Ranger camp at Bromham and spent the week-end there.



On Saturday, July 17th, the Rangers had a garden fête in the garden at Ixworth Court. Billetors and friends were invited. In the afternoon there were stalls and competitions in the garden followed by tea. After tea an entertainment was provided, which ended at 7.30. The fête realised the sum of £16 5s. od.

The Rangers are all very sorry to lose Miss Thomas, who founded the Ranger Company and who has been a great help in all its activities. We all wish her good fortune in her new post.

K.N.B.

### GUIDE REPORT

Although we have had only one Court of Honour this term we have continued to work with as much energy as before. At the first Court of Honour, Betty Ford was elected temporary secretary during Ruth Morris's absence. Miss Thomas suggested that if all were agreeable Julia Smith should become Court of Honour secretary and Ruth Morris Company recorder and treasurer.

Every third week Miss Thomas has taken the leaders and seconds for training and the rest of the Company has been preparing for tests with Miss Letcher.

During the past year the leaders and seconds have, on the whole, faced their responsibilities well and we hope that next year's leaders will do the same. Several Guides have been working hard and second class badges have been obtained by Angelina Andrews and Betty Chapman. There has not been any official badge examination this term, but Betty Ford and Pamela James are to be congratulated on gaining ten points for their patrols by passing the signaller and emergency helper badges respectively. Extra points have been given for the following badges: signaller, emergency helper, life saver, hiker, pathfinder, needlewoman and swimmer.

This term we have to say good-bye to Miss Thomas, who is leaving us to go to Gloucestershire. All the Guides wish her the very best of luck and thank her for all that she has done for the Company.

RUTH MORRIS.

### THE RANGER CAMP AT BROMHAM

FRIDAY. Start packing in evening. I'm sure I'll never get all the things in. Black bag full of rations. Basket full of blankets. More blankets and clothes, etc., on back. 7.15 p.m., ready at last. Mount bicycles. Very wobbly! Wait for J. at Russell Park Hall.

Start off 7.30. Arrive at Bromham. Set up tents. Phew, isn't it hot? 10.15, have supper. Put equipment tent up. Nearly collapses on us. Go to bed at last. Rather hard. Talk till someone comes and says it is time we stopped. What is the time? 11.45!

Wake up in night. Rather cold. The river's making an awful noise. A lot of planes going over. Thuds! Bombs? Hear later it was practice.

SATURDAY. Awoken by shouts from K. "There's a cow coming in the tent!" Jump up, arrayed in blanket. Some other girls have chased him away, but he's run into the store tent and split it. Must be time to get up, as we've to get up at 7.00 to cook the breakfast—J.K. and I. Get up and dress. Ask Miss T. the time. 6.30! J. very indignant, as K. woke her up when she was having sweet dreams of someone. Anyway, we start to light fire. I put up a new store tent. 7.45. Prayers and a hymn. Then breakfast—bacon and fried bread, bread and butter and tea.

I'm in group of cooks for this morning. Four of us decide to make a sundial. Do so, and are quite pleased with result—only half-an-hour out. For dinner we cook sausages and mash potatoes, rice and syrup. Tastes O.K. Pat ourselves on the back.

After dinner wash up and tidy up in general. Consult sundial. Something queer's happened. It ought to be about four o'clock, and it's two o'clock. Adjust sticks and await results. Ride into Bromham with K. Manage to purchase two glasses of lemonade. Very tasty! very sweet! (no lemons in them). During afternoon must have an hour's rest—lie down in sun.

High tea at 6.30. Corned beef and dried eggs mixed, and prunes. Later on had camp fire and songs.

SUNDAY MORNING. Go to Holy Communion at Biddenham at 8.00. Breakfast—have bacon and fried eggs, cereals and bread and butter.

No carrots for stew! Go to greengrocers. No luck. Ask several people if they have any—still no luck. Return to camp. Think the stew will have to be carrotless! Not so tasty, not so sweet. Bright idea—we'll go to the Guide camp and ask them. Go up there. They've also got stew for dinner and have used all their carrots. Decide to try the Hall. It's a lovely old house, lawns, trees and yellow water lilies on the river, which runs by the side of the house. See Mr. S., who is feeding three white pigeons. He kindly allows us to ask his cook for some carrots. Return in triumph to camp, bearing carrots.



11.30. A Rangers' Own. Two Rangers are enrolled and we have two foreign visitors. I show them round the camp. They seem very interested.

Dinner-time at last! The stew is good and tasty. Thank you Mr. S. ! After the stew we have stewed rhubarb, gooseberries and custard. Am in group of cooks again for this afternoon and evening. Cut up sandwiches and cake for tea, as we are going up with the Guides and have tea with them.

Tea-time! Did K. say she put eleven spoonfuls of tea in the pot? It looks more like tinted milk. Tea is finished. Return with empties (tins, of course!) to the camp.

Tidy ourselves for church. It's 5.55 p.m. Service starts at 6.00. Hurry up J. ! Now what's she lost? Hair clip. There it is! Don't fluster so much, keep calm like me. She's ready at last! Run to church. Isn't it lovely to hear the bells. The church is almost filled with Rangers and Guides. It's a very pleasant service.

After service I look round church. It has many interesting features. (Belonging to architecture class I can show off my knowledge to accompanying friend.)

It's 7.45. Must return to camp to prepare supper. Have baked beans on toast, cheese and cocoa. Just time for camp fire. Have several rounds. Time for bed, hope I'm warmer tonight. Anyway, J. makes one bed. Have three blankets underneath and nine on top. Very tired, but it's much warmer tonight. Sleep well. Happy dreams.

MONDAY MORNING. Wake up, feel very comfortable. K. gets up. What say you J. ? Shake on it, remain in bed. 8.45. I suppose we have to get up, every one else seems to be. Rise slowly, but soon hurry up as it's rather nippy in parts.

Breakfast—fried bread, bacon and tomato. Three different kinds of corned beef, picnic roll and gelatine. It's been kept in a larder, but I find a few earwigs' eggs—rather a bright colour.

Dinner-time—salad and spotted dog and custard. Goes down well. Clear away quickly as the Sheep Dog Trials are on this afternoon.

Go to Sheep Dog Trials. Hundreds of people. These dogs are certainly clever. One dog called J. Our J. very interested in her, but she's not as good as some of the other dogs. Owd Bob is there. He's quite small compared with some of the others.

It's tea-time. Return to camp. Very nice tea. Last one we'll get at camp for some time.

After tea take last look at the horses, who have entered for horse competition. Return to camp in pouring rain.

Have to strike in the rain. Water is shooting through my toes in fountains (that's what it feels like). Finally finish about 9.00. Say *au revoir* to all and mount bicycles. Arrive in Bedford at 9.20, after a splendid week-end. P.I.M.W.

## FIELD DAY

The weather on the morning of Tuesday, May 25th, proved to be warm and sunny, in spite of a heavy rainfall the day before. The Rangers were split up into three groups, our group being directed to bus out to a village called Barton-in-the-Clay, a few miles from Luton. Accordingly, four of us, equipped with haversacks containing sandwiches and mackintoshes, left Bedford at 11.15 a.m.

We had been given a letter from an imaginary American soldier, who required an answer and who had asked us to inspect "Jeremiah's Tree" and find out all about it, to discover a Roman road and to inform the reason for the village being called Barton-in-the-Clay, and to find out what a "Hoo" was. Thus it can be imagined that we had a full programme.

When we reached Barton we discovered a grassy hillside near a small wood, which commanded a beautiful view of the surrounding countryside. Here we ate our lunch, and were refreshed by lemonade, purchased at the village shop, after faithful promises to take the bottles back (which, of course, we did).

Our meal over, we began to explore and searched for the tree and the ancient road, but we were unsuccessful. However, we did find for "Sam Yankee" an ideal spot on which to build his house after the war, which he had also requested us to do. We also made a brief inspection of the pretty little church which we passed on our walk through the village.

However, all too soon, it was time to catch the bus home and when it failed to stop at our frantic hailing we decided to begin to *walk* home, as the next bus was not due for another four hours. Then, quite naturally, it began to pour with rain, so the "macs." came into use, but the two we had did not go very far between the four of us. Our plight was indeed a sorry one—fourteen miles from Bedford, with no hope of returning to our billets until long after



the time we had promised to and rain pelting down unmercifully on our unprotected heads. Here was a real emergency to be dealt with in the true Ranger manner. But before we had time to invent a plan of action a passing car had stopped and, at the invitation of the driver, we all filed into the back seat and heaved a deep sigh of relief. Our rescuer took us as far as a crossroad, where we thanked him most enthusiastically. From here we were lucky again and, after making friends with a lorry-driver, we all crammed into the front seat of the vehicle, which was anything but roomy. A certain member of our quartet, in her eagerness to board the lorry, very thoughtfully broke the windows of the door as she slammed it shut. Fortunately for us the driver seemed quite used to this occurrence so all was well.

At Ampthill, where the lorry dropped us, we easily caught a bus into Bedford and arrived soon after 6.00 p.m., still a bit damp and very hungry. However, we all agreed that, as can be gathered from the above, we had had a simply smashing time.

R.E.L.G.

## A VISIT TO GREAT DIXTER

On Tuesday afternoon, April 20th, a most delightful visit was paid by the majority of the architecture class to Great Dixter, a lovely old Elizabethan house in Northiam, owned by Mrs. Lloyd, who was very kind in giving us the opportunity of looking over this interesting old house.

On arriving we went round the grounds, which were very picturesque, being covered with daffodils, and observed the old moat which is now quite dry. After having gone completely round the house, we entered the front door, observing with interest the wooden porch, very similar to the church porches of the fifteenth century, with a seat at each side which was almost completely open.

Once inside the door, which contained spandrels in the corners, we hurried to the right and found ourselves in the hall, which was very large, compared with the rooms of to-day. At the upper end of this hall, near the place where the dais should have been, was a large oriel window. The fireplace was situated at the other end of the hall, which is rather unusual, as it was generally placed as near as possible to the dais where the lord of the house and his servants sat, but the shallowness of the room may be the reason for this oddity.

At the upper end, above the site of the dais, was a small window which overlooked the hall. This belonged to a private room used by the master of the house, and from it he was able to see that all was going well. Later we inspected this private room.

After we had thoroughly examined the hall we went straight on into a small room adjoining the upper end. This was also used as a private room. One interesting feature which we observed was some Latin carved in the oak beams.

Next, we went upstairs and on the way admired the lovely tapestries hanging on the walls of the staircase. We first went into the room overlooking the hall, which was being used as a library, and we looked through the window on to the hall below. This room contained some lovely pieces of furniture, which the boys were able to appreciate more than the girls, thanks to their woodwork classes, but the girls were able to admire some exquisite needlework.

After leaving the library we went into a small bedroom situated over the porch. The most interesting feature here was the four-poster bed, with wooden boards going from the bed to the floor.

We then went downstairs to see another room at the back of the house at the end opposite to where the hall was situated. In this room was a boarded window in the interior wall, which showed the absence of glass in those days, but the bars of wood placed on a slant took its place.

On leaving this room we came into a small stone courtyard, surrounded by a small stone wall. From here we overlooked the moat. We descended the steps and returned to the front of the house where, after thanking Mrs. Lloyd, we left after a most enjoyable and beneficial afternoon.

Very recently one of Mr. Lloyd's books on the Architecture of the English House has been acquired for the library.

P.I.M.W.

## TWO PHILOSOPHIES

(IN THE SPENSERIAN STANZA)

### YOUTH

When autumn sun doth touch with mellow rays  
The golden leaves, then grow I sad awhile  
And think of happy youth and childhood days,



Of fleeting Time, who doth with mocking smile  
Crush the fresh-op'd bud with scythe-like missile ;  
How deadening Care, the hoary dame of Years,  
Wilts the courageous schemes which life doth pile,  
And by her cold disheartening grip brings tears  
Which speak of blank despair, and soul at strife with fears.

But hence, dark thoughts ! and hither, vaulting hopes !  
Hopes which, from high Ambition born, endure  
Like hallow'd stones strong-built on grassy slopes,  
And, when the mind is dark, shall still ensure  
That Faith is kept untouch'd by Death's grim lure.  
Then fall, sere leaves ! and fade, autumnal sun !  
Come, winter drear, with snow so white and pure,  
For nought thy meaning is, life's race well-run,  
If Faith and Hope remain, these two, united, one !

#### OLD AGE

As year by year the sands of life run out  
My brain is wrenched by conflicts sharp and weird,  
Which raise, with honour as the stake, a doubt  
Concerning former things oft shunned and fear'd—  
The very mind doth reel like savage spear'd.  
And aching grief and disillusion blank  
Control the heart, from whose soft core is rear'd  
The weed of black Despair, of growth so rank,  
That even Faith and Hope I soon omit to thank.

Oh, Faith and Hope ! my mind in vain looks back  
Across the withered years to try to find  
Some vestige of these two in life's wide track,  
For to the dreams of Youth I thought them kind—  
But *now* I know how far they were behind.  
So, with death near, and having learned to rave  
No more about the things for which Youth pined,  
I long for the sleep of the peaceful grave,  
And give myself to joys which only age can save.

J. S. L. PULFORD.

## MUSIC AND SPEECH COMPETITION

On Friday, June 25th, the whole Speech and Music Competition took place. The Music section of the Competition was won by Peacocke, Sanders and Meryon coming second and third respectively. On the whole the Speech Competition was a great improvement upon any previous year and it is a pleasure to note the enthusiasm which was put into the various recitations and plays. It must be admitted that the Competition is now an established yearly event in the School, and it is hoped that the standard will become higher and higher. The detailed results of the Speech section of the Competition are as follows :

#### FORM II.

*Choral Recitations* : "Wind's Work" by T. Sturge Moore and "The Wind" by Eleanor Farjeon. 1st, Sanders ; 2nd, Peacocke ; 3rd, Meryon.

*Dramatized Ballad* : 1st, Meryon and Sanders, 2nd, Peacocke.

*Bible Reading* : "David and Goliath." 1st, D. G. Alford (S). 1st, Sanders ; 2nd, Peacocke ; 3rd, Meryon.

#### FORM IIIb.

*Choral Recitations* : Scott's "Pibroch of Donuil Dhu" and Kipling's "The Way through the Woods." 1st, Sanders ; 2nd, Meryon ; 3rd, Peacocke.

*Dramatized Poem* : Browning's "The Pied Piper." Meryon, Sanders and Peacocke tied.

*Reading* : Passages from Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress." 1st, Mary Frostick (S). 1st, Peacocke ; 2nd, Sanders ; 3rd, Meryon.

#### FORM IIIa.

*Choral Recitation* : Flecker's "The Golden Journey to Samarkand." 1st, Sanders ; 2nd, Peacocke ; 3rd, Meryon.

*Reading* : Passages from Conrad's "Youth." 1st, P. Boyce (P) tied with L. Allen (M). 1st, Peacocke ; 2nd, Meryon ; 3rd, Sanders.

#### FORM IV.

*Recitation* : "On Westminster Bridge" and "England and Switzerland" by Wordsworth. 1st, Lorna Crouch (M). 1st, Meryon ; 2nd, Sanders ; 3rd, Peacocke.



FORM V.

*Recitation*: Macbeth's Soliloquy, Act III, Scene 1. 1st, Ruth Morris (P). 1st, Peacocke; 2nd, Sanders; 3rd, Meryon.  
*Reading*: Ruskin's "A Blade of Grass." 1st, Cynthia Cade (M). 1st, Meryon; 2nd, Sanders; 3rd, Peacocke.

FORM Vr.

*Recitation*: Macbeth's Soliloquy, Act I, Scene 7. 1st, Jean Pope (P). 1st, Peacocke; 2nd, Meryon; 3rd, Sanders.  
*Reading*: Wood-Jones's "Of a Horse Muster." 1st, Maureen Samaden (S). 1st, Sanders; 2nd, Meryon; 3rd, Peacocke.

FORM VI.

*Reading*: J. B. Priestley's "A Dream." 1st, J. S. L. Pulford (S). 1st, Sanders; 2nd, Peacocke; 3rd, Meryon.

The final result was very close, Sanders winning the Shield with 310 points, Peacocke a close second with 309.8 points, and Meryon gaining 273 points.

## CRICKET REPORT

### SENIORS

The First XI this year has been fairly successful and has very much improved since the previous year. The chief reason for this improvement was the loan of a Bedford School practice net of which full use has been made by the Seniors on Friday evenings. The team have played seven matches of which two were won, two were drawn and three were lost.

The two most exciting matches were those against Owen's School and the Royal Engineers, both of which ended in draws. In the latter match the last four wickets fell for no runs.

Colvin (captain) has been re-awarded colours, while Dawson has gained his during the season.

May 15 v. Mr. Blake's XI, lost.

*Mr. Blake's XI*—107 for 6 (Colvin 5 wkts. for 30 runs); *School*—28 (Paine 10 not out).

May 19 v. Harpur Central School, won.

*Harpur Central School*—38 (Wood 1 for 2, Dawson 6 for 14); *School*—60 (Jury 16, Simpson 18, Fuggle 11).

June 9 v. Owen's School, tied.

*Owen's School*—51 (Colvin 4 for 20); *School*—51 (Fuggle 14, Dawson 11).

June 17 v. Mr. Blake's XI, lost.

*Mr. Blake's XI*—86 (Fuggle 1 for 0, Dawson 6 for 42); *School*—39 (Jury 10, Wood 13).

June 25 v. Owen's School, lost

*Owen's School*—68 for 7 (Dawson 4 for 9); *School*—58 (Fuggle 11, Colvin 10).

June 30 v. Harpur Central School, won.

*Harpur Central School*—33 (Wood 5 for 10, Fuggle 2 for 0); *School*—39 (Dawson 17, Jury 8).

July 1 v. Royal Engineers, tied.

*Royal Engineers*—38 (Colvin 3 for 4, Wood 3 for 11); *School*—38 (Colvin 14, Fuggle 6).

W.C.

### JUNIORS

During the past season the Junior XI has played eleven matches, winning seven and losing four.

Two of our most interesting games were against Mr. Blake's Junior team. Each of these resulted in a narrow win for our opponents, but in a third game we easily beat them.

Our other defeats were at the hands of London Bunyan and Owen's Schools, but in each case we defeated them in the return match, the Owen's victory being our best win of the season.

Rushmoor School and the Bedford School Preparatory Department were each beaten twice, the second match against Rushmoor providing a very keen struggle.

May 20	School, 22	London Bunyan, 33
,,	28 School, 50	Mr. Blake's XI, 52
,,	29 School, 121	Rushmoor, 32
June 6	School, 49	Owen's School, 72
,,	21 School, 87 for 4 (decd.)	Bedford Sch. Prep. Dept., 37
,,	24 School, 119 for 9 (decd.)	Owen's School, 12
,,	28 School, 51	Mr. Blake's XI, 54
July 2	School, 61 for 3	Bedford Sch. Prep. Dept., 58
,,	5 School, 79	London Bunyan, 40
,,	13 School, 69	Mr. Blake's XI, 28
,,	14 School, 60	Rushmoor, 45

R.G.R.



## TENNIS REPORT

The First VI played four matches during the season: won against "The Cedars," Leighton Buzzard, 66—33; and the Convent School, 53—46; lost against the Modern School, 44—55; and the Modern School (return), 38—61.

There was one unfinished match (owing to the weather) with the Modern School, 42—41.

The Second VI lost to the Modern School Second VI, 36—63; and the Junior VI lost to the Modern School Juniors, 37—44.

The play of the First VI improved during the season. Helen Mills and Joan Hoad played steadily and well, and Eileen Munday made great improvement in hitting hard and with increased accuracy. These three well earned their colours. Julia Terry has also become much steadier and should do very well next season. Kathleen Batehup earned her place in the third couple and made marked progress during the latter part of the term. Betty Ford played brilliantly in her first match, but was not quite as steady on other occasions. She should be a good player with further practice.

In the Second VI, Julia Smith, Ruth Morris and Pamela Whiting played very well, and next season *should* see them in the first team. Ruth Oyler must be congratulated on her improved play towards the end of term.

For the Junior VI, Barbara Catt and Stephanie Gain both played well and have made very good progress during the season.

O. M. THOMAS.

## THE RANGER AND GUIDE GARDEN FÊTE

For the first time since our coming to Bedford a real garden fête was held on the lawn at Ixworth Court on Saturday, July 17th and, taken on the whole, it proved a very good success. If such affairs were judged by the amount of time and toil put into their production then this fête certainly would come out on top. The whole morning was spent in arranging chairs and tables, sorting out flowers into buttonholes and bouquets, ticketing and pricing the articles on the white elephant stall, making preparations to provide the visitors with tea and the scholars with refreshments.

Towards 3.00 p.m. foster-parents and friends began to stroll into the garden and glance nervously at the various stalls and booths. Many exhausted their supply of pennies by trying to cover, with a penny, a sixpence at the bottom of a bucket filled with water. Others ventured into one of the shelters to hear their fortunes told by a veiled Ranger with an inexhaustible store of prophecies; others vainly strove to pin a pig's tail to the appropriate spot, but were rather daunted by the fact that one boy had scored a success with the first attempt of the afternoon. Meanwhile, the flower stall had sold all its buttonholes and was rapidly clearing its bouquets and quasi-bouquets, and the white elephant stall, charging exorbitant prices, was doing a roaring trade—at one end lavender bags, a pyjama-case, ties and Christmas cards lay basking in the sun, while a second edition of *Oliver Twist*, Seeley's *Ecce Homo*, and a startling book on Soviet Russia stood in a friendly group at the other.

On opening the garden fête, Miss Thomas explained that the Guide International Service was an organisation in aid of the people of occupied Europe. After the war the G.I.S. would enable Guides to go abroad and help the distressed peoples, and Miss Thomas hoped that the fête would raise a useful sum of money which would help to defray the expenses of the Guides volunteering to go out.

For over an hour the visitors amused themselves at the various stalls until, responding to nature's iron laws, the pupils began queueing up for refreshments at the garden shed and the visitors drifted into the Library and Room 6, which were tastefully decorated with flowers for the occasion. The providing of tea was accomplished swiftly and expertly by three or four Rangers, who also managed to perform all the subsidiary tasks necessary to that operation.

Tea finished, the visitors seated themselves on the lawn and prepared to enjoy the ensuing entertainment. The latter began with the dancing of the "Circassian Circle" and the "Durham Reel" by the Guides and this was followed by some fairly adroit squad drill by the Rangers. There then followed more country dancing by the Guides, the dances being "Rufty Tufty," "Hey Boys" and "Thady you Gander." Backward drill, made all the more humorous by the mistakes, was then performed by the Rangers, to be followed by more dances by the Guides, "Goddesses" and "Haste to the Wedding." After gymnastics by the Rangers, in which Peacocke and Meryon defeated Sanders in a friendly



competition, there was a grand finale of country dancing, in which both Rangers and Guides took part.

A skit entitled "The Rules of Health" was then acted by the Guides of Form IIIa, and a certain amount of good acting was apparent here. Anyway, there was plenty of enthusiasm and the different parts were played with much zest.

Another play was the last item of the evening, entitled "The New Order." It depicted a Guides' camp and the appearance of King Arthur and his Knights after the Guides have departed from their camp. After discussing the future the Knights saw a "damsel in distress" being helped by a Guide, and thus being assured that purity and goodness were safe for the next few generations, the Knights submitted their swords to King Arthur.

After the close of this play Miss Thomas thanked all who had helped in preparing the garden fête (including the boys who had made themselves very useful) and all those who had come to support it. Miss Thomas, who is leaving, then received presentations from Ruth Morris and Eileen Munday on behalf of the Guides and Rangers. It is now known that this unusual enterprise (in Bedford, at least) raised the sum of £16 5s. od.

J.S.L.P.

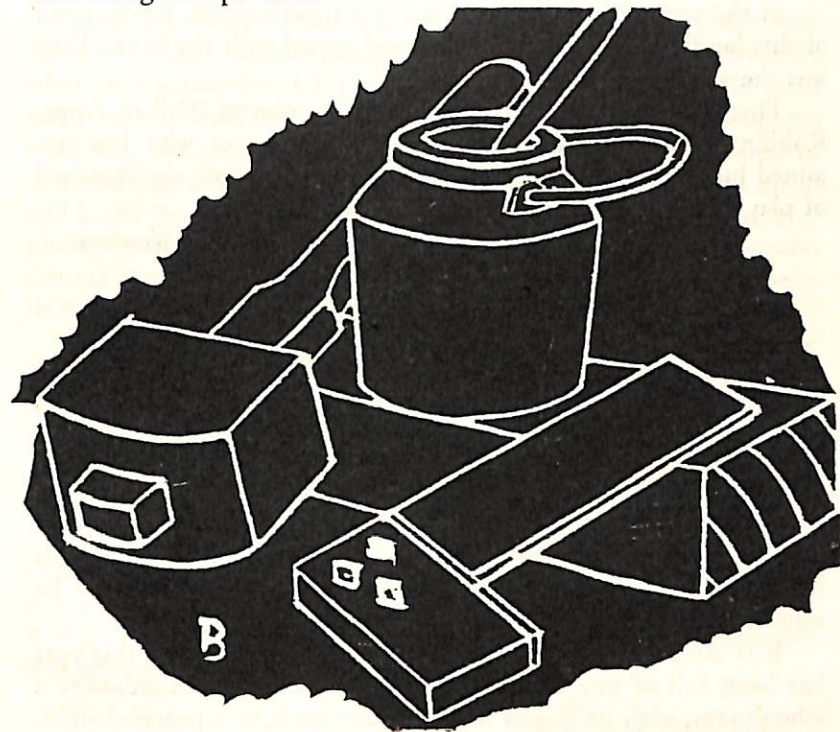
## THE CRAFT SOCIETY

Our most notable activity this term was a visit to a factory in the vicinity where all types of electric bulbs are manufactured. We were received by the firm's Industrial Welfare Officer, who introduced us to one of the engineers who, with extreme patience and thoroughness, conducted us through all departments of the factory.

The greater part of the work is carried on in a well-lit shop of enormous floor-space. Here, apart from being aware of the general feeling of orderliness and tidiness, we were very conscious of its high temperature; this was due to the heat given off by the numerous jets of coal-gas flame used in the many mechanical tools which shape and weld the interior of the glass bulbs. Much of the delicate work is still done by hand, and we watched with awe the quick, confident movements of the women operators as they deftly fixed the fine filaments in position.

We were shown the special room where flasks are carefully washed in acid baths, and the packing department where, in spite

of paper shortage, so much care and cardboard is spent to ensure that each bulb reaches its destination safely. We would have liked to have spent longer in the neat workshop where a few skilled craftsmen repair and even, when necessary, construct the elaborate machines and appliances used by the firm. After this we had an appetising tea in one of the factory's "workers' canteens." We are very grateful to the managing director of this firm for making our interesting visit possible.



Lino-cut by John Bull

On another occasion we cycled to Biddenham to pay an impromptu call on the village smith. We found him at work in his delightfully-situated forge and, in spite of the fact that he was doing some intricate acetylene welding, he was most hospitable and devoted half-an-hour or so to explain to us some of the more interesting features of his work.



## CHESS CLUB REPORT

There have been two Chess Tournaments this term, the first taking place on May 25th, followed by another on June 22nd.

In the first tournament, Apps and Robbins tied for first place with Walker and Burt as close runners-up. Apps and Robbins played a game to decide who was to be the victor and Apps won the prize.

In the second tournament Apps was handicapped, but in spite of this he did very well, coming second, equal with Robbins. Burt was the winner and Walker fourth.

There has been great improvement in the play of Walker, Apps, Robbins, Fletcher and Beeching, while Simpson, who has not joined long, has made rapid progress. On the whole the standard of play in the Chess Club has much improved.

G. BURT (*Secretary*).

## LETTER TO THE EDITORS

White Fox Lodge,  
Udimore,  
Sussex.

Dear Editors,

*July, 1943.*

I suppose it is in this month more than any other that the thoughts of Old Scholars return to the School, particularly if they have only left a short while. School Certificate or Higher Schools has no longer any horrors for them, even though there may be other trials looming ahead.

It is almost a year since I left your ranks and for me this year has been full of interest and new experiences. To an onlooker a schoolroom, with its pupils busy at their work, is a peaceful sight. Here, inside four walls, there is not the scurry and bustle as in the outside world. The larger and more worrying things of the grown-up world are unknown. The things that matter, the things that fill the horizon of the infant's mind are such things as the tragedy of "the doll with measles, who cannot be brought to school." Yet this peaceful order in the classroom is not so easily attained as one might imagine. Careful preparation is needed to ensure that the work will run smoothly during the day. It might even be said that half a teacher's work is done out of school hours, and the lower the class concerned the more true this will be.

At first it was strange and even difficult to reach down to the minds of the little ones. I will not say "lower one's mind to that of the infant," for their sense of justice and their faith in the world in general is uplifting, an outlook which, if possessed by more of the grown-up world, would do away with much of the misery that prevails to-day.

One of the greatest joys of an infant teacher's life is, I think, to see a smile of intelligence dawning on a dull child's face, or to see his great joy when he can recite his numbers without prompting. Does this seem trivial or absurd to you? Perhaps it does. However, when you realise—and I find it hard to realise this myself, even now—that a child enters school, not only without knowing his numbers, but also without the least conception of the meaning of 1, 2 and 3 or a, b and c, and then finds himself able to count up to and know the value of ten and knows that "apple begins with 'a'," perhaps you can more fully understand the joy of the teacher who can say that those weeks of drudgery and repetition have not been in vain. "Blessed be Drudgery."

Teaching children is like watching flowers grow. Slowly the buds unfold, carefully tended by the gardener. The roses of the schoolroom open in the sunshine of education and it is the teacher's privilege to train them upwards and to encourage the stragglers. Who knows what prizes will be gained by these young buds? Only the future can tell.

In closing, I would say that teaching is a grand profession, imparting knowledge that knowledge might be gained. Are any of you contemplating teaching as a career? You will enjoy it. But if it is a "soft" job you want to steer clear, for there is no room for you among the ranks of teachers.

Yours, etc.,

IRENE J. HULBERT.

## VALETE!

It is the intention of the Editors as far as possible to create a permanent record of the distinctions and achievements gained by pupils of the School.

It is hoped that the record below is accurate and we apologise for any omissions or errors.

We begin this record with those people who have left since July, 1942.



- A. W. J. AMBROSE. Entered School 1935; Meryon House Secretary, 1939-40; School Certificate, 1940; Old Scholars' Prize; School Prefect, 1940; Oxford and Cambridge Higher School Certificate, 1941; T. Phillips's Prize for Mathematics, 1941; Oxford Higher School Certificate, 1942; Mr. Jenkins's Prize for Mathematics; Co-founder and Editor of *Nova Rya*, 1940-1942; A.T.C., 1941-42; State Bursary at New College, Oxford, 1942.
- T. R. COWPER. Entered School 1936; Winner of Cross-Country Run, 1940, 1941, 1942; School Certificate, 1941; School Prefect, 1941; School 1st Football XI, 1940-42; Gymnastic Colours, 1942; Peacocke House Captain, 1941-43; A.T.C., 1941-43; obtained Engineering Cadetship, January, 1943.
- JOYCE HULBERT. Entered School 1940; School Certificate, 1941; Editor of *Nova Rya*, 1941-42; Bronze Medallion, 1942; good work in the Library Guild, 1941-2; School Prefect, 1941; left July, 1942.
- M. S. LANSKY. Entered School 1939; School Certificate, 1941; Old Scholars' Prize, 1941; Captain of Sanders House, 1941-42; Bronze Medallion, 1942; School Prefect, 1941; A.T.C., 1941-43; Naval Short Course at Oxford, 1943.
- PAULINA METIANU. Entered School 1935; School Certificate, 1940; Prefect, 1940; Peacocke House Captain, 1940-42; School 1st Hockey XI, 1940-42; Hockey Colours, 1941; Gymnastic Colours, 1941; Girls' School Captain, 1941; Hockey Captain, 1941-2; Acting Lieutenant of the Guide Company, 1941; Higher School Certificate, 1942; Science Prize, 1942; Trollope Medal, 1942; Reading in Science at University College, London, October, 1942.
- OLIVE PAINE. Entered School 1935; School Certificate, 1940; School Prefect, 1940; Patrol Leader in Guides, 1940; House Captain of Sanders, 1941-42; Editor of *Nova Rya*, 1942; School Hockey XI; Bronze Medallion, 1942; Higher School Certificate, 1942; History and English Prize, 1942; Senior County Scholarship, 1942; Place at Bishop Otter College, Chichester, October, 1942.
- G. G. SMITH. Entered School 1935; School Certificate, 1940; School Prefect, 1940; Meryon House Captain and Secretary, 1941-42; Lower Sixth Prize, 1941; Co-founder and senior Editor of *Nova Rya*, 1940-42; School Captain, 1941-42; A.T.C.

- Sergeant, 1941-42; Higher School Certificate, 1942; English Prize; Senior County Scholarship, 1942; Reading in English at Balliol College, Oxford.
- JOAN BEASLEY. Entered School 1937; 1st Tennis VI, 1940; Tennis Colours, 1941; School Tennis Captain, 1942; 1st Hockey XI, 1940; Meryon Girls' House Captain, 1941-42; left 1942.
- JOYCE BULL. Entered School 1937; 1st Tennis VI, 1940; Tennis Colours, 1941; won Senior Tennis Championship, 1941; 1st Hockey XI, 1940; left 1942.
- GLORIA BRAY. Entered School 1940; 1st Hockey XI, 1942; Gymnastic Colours, 1942; School Certificate, 1942; left 1942.
- JOYCE DUNSTER. Entered School 1937; 1st Hockey XI, 1941-42; 1st Tennis VI, 1942; Meryon House Secretary, 1941-42; School Certificate, 1942; left 1942.
- VALERIE FINCH. Entered School 1937; 1st Hockey XI, 1941-42; 1st Tennis VI, 1942; Tennis Colours, 1942; School Certificate, 1942.
- J. O. BOREHAM. Entered School 1937; 1st Football XI, 1940-42; 1st Cricket XI, 1940-42; Cricket Colours, 1942; School Certificate, 1942; A.T.C.; left 1942.
- F. FOSTER. Entered School 1937; 1st Football XI, 1940-42; Gymnastic Colours, 1942; in charge of Stock Cupboard, 1941-42; School Certificate, 1942; A.T.C. Corporal, 1941-42; left 1942.
- H. KENNARD. Entered School 1937; 1st Football XI, 1940; Football Captain, 1942; Football Colours, 1942; 1st Cricket XI, 1941; Cricket Captain, 1942; Cricket Colours, 1942; Gymnastic Colours, 1942; School Certificate, 1942; A.T.C.; left 1942.
- A. E. MARSON. Entered School 1940; 1st Football XI, 1941-42; 1st Cricket XI, 1941-42; executed cover design of *Nova Rya*, 1941; Bronze Medallion, 1942; School Certificate, 1942; left 1942.

## OLD SCHOLARS

Allan Smith has now obtained a commission in the Hampshire Regiment.

We have heard from G. Ashdown that he and P. G. Shearer are both in the Royal Corps of Signals. Writing from the Head-



master's favourite moors, Ashdown tells us that he has been captaining a football team there.

Peter Swaine has been down with a slight attack of malaria after his exertions in Madagascar. J. Mewse visited him while he was in hospital.

G. R. Smith (School Captain about a decade ago) has been in the Highlands with the Royal Engineers.

Having obtained his Ph.D. at Reading University last autumn, Percy Allen, F.G.S., is reported as having been appointed Reader in Geology at the University.

Tommy Brann (1933) has been in the Coast Defence of Malta and now has a commission.

G. G. Smith, who has just completed a year at Balliol College, Oxford, expects to enter the Army shortly.

Mr. Bagley, who left the School, where he was Mathematics and Games Master, in March, 1941, is now in the R.A.F. in Yorkshire.

Margery Smith has been doing great work in A.T.S. sports.

Marjory Jezzard is still with the A.T.S. in South Wales.

Jean Austin expects to take up a position in Pembury Hospital soon and we have been glad to welcome her in Bedford for a week or two.

Peter Cooper is in the Navy, undergoing training in wireless and telegraphy. He has had several successes in cross-country running at his camp.

J. Moore and T. Finch, having been awarded Engineering Cadetships, are at the Technical College at Brighton, in company with Rex Cowper.

Len Offen has obtained his wings and may be expected home from Canada shortly.

We enjoyed Bruce Simpson's recital of his recent experiences in the Merchant Navy. After spending a day in Bedford he has again returned to his ship.

"Stoker" Barden came to see us one day towards the end of term, and mutual information was given about scholars who were in the School about five years ago.

We were pleased to welcome Will Dunlop in Bedford again this term. Regarding him as the backbone of the Old Scholars' Association, and thus as one of the chief supporters of the School, we should like to express our gratitude for all that Will does.

Letters, for which the Headmaster and the Editors are very grateful, have been received from Winnie Allen, Joyce Hulbert, Marjory Jezzard, Olive Paine, Margery Smith, G. Ashdown, P. Cooper, T. R. Cowper, Will Dunlop, J. Mewse, A. F. Smith, Bombardier John Smith (Falkland Isles), G. R. Smith, G. G. Smith, Peter Swaine and G. Tayleur.

Visits have been made to the School by the following: Jean Austen, Joyce Hulbert, Margery Smith, P. Abbot, "Stoker" Barden, R. Huxstep, B. Simpson, Morton Smith and G. G. Smith.

### CAPTAIN ARTHUR ADAMS

The School heard with great sorrow of the death of Captain Arthur Adams, one of its most widely known and most popular old scholars. Educated in the old school buildings under Mr. J. Molyneux Jenkins, he remained associated with Rye during the whole of his active career. An outstanding athlete in his youth, he represented his County at football, was a good cricket captain and interested himself in all kinds of sport. During the last war he served with the Royal Sussex Regt. in France, Egypt and Palestine. He was wounded several times and received the rank of Captain. He devoted a great deal of his time to public service and any charitable or other cause which might benefit his native town was sure of his warmest support. Among his many activities he was for a time a member of the East Sussex County Council and one of the Governors of the School. He was a familiar figure for many years at the annual School Sports, which he invariably made a point of attending whenever possible. This interest in the School was not confined to sporting activities, for when the Old Scholars Association was formed he was its first Treasurer and he acted in that capacity for several years. Many old scholars, too, who received it, will cherish in his memory the prize for English Composition which he gave each year.

The standard which he set of sportsmanship, kindliness and service may well serve as a source of inspiration to others.

E.R.P.

### STOP PRESS

We have just received two letters, from P. Mewse (a very faithful correspondent) and Andrew Dunlop. The latter's gentle reproachings touched our hearts, and we make full apologies for placing him in the R.A.O.C. His real Corps is the Signals.



## TO FRIENDS AND OLD SCHOLARS

Copies of back numbers of *Nova Rya* are still obtainable and the Editors are always pleased to forward copies to those who desire them. News of old scholars who have not recently figured in the magazine or the *News Bulletin* is always gratefully received.

Our address remains :—

Ixworth Court,  
41 Kimbolton Road,  
Bedford, Beds.