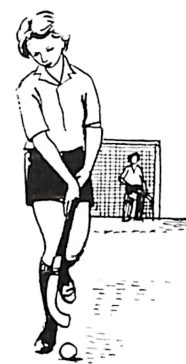


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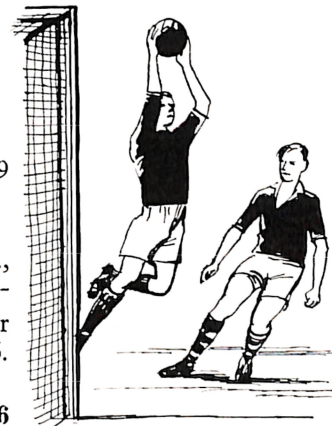
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Magazine of Rye Grammar School
Autumn 1961

EDITORIAL

Looking back over the last three or four years when the new school hall had just been completed and the main building as then, stood cold and grim with its scratched green paint and old furniture, contrasting badly with the modern architecture of the new school hall, we are astonished that in such a short space of time a piece of waste and overgrown ground should have been transformed into a block of modern, well equipped departments of education, surrounded by delicate shrubs and the promising start of an expanse of lawn.

Bearing this in mind, we should be foolish and incorrect to attribute all the additional luxuries which the school now enjoys, to the generosity of the East Sussex Education Committee ; for in fact, our gratitude should go to our Headmaster, whose sheer determination and concern over the conditions in which his staff and pupils work, has played a leading part in ensuring that we obtain new facilities for the school.

It is true, on the other hand, that our working conditions in past months have been trying, if not exasperating to all concerned, but we think that is most commendable that the staff, whose job under normal conditions can be nerve-rendering, have withstood all the additional noise and inconvenience in good spirit. It is now our duty as a school to show our gratitude for all that has been done for us, and tolerated on our behalf, not by mere thanks, but by showing that we can make good use of the newly gained advantages, and honour our school motto—

‘ Aut Disce, Aut Discede.’

SCHOOL NOTES

At the beginning of this term we welcomed three new members of staff—Mrs. Johnson to teach French, Miss Banner to teach Geography and Mrs. Sutton to teach Chemistry.

Our warmest congratulations to Mr. M. H. Allmond and Miss A. Ward, both members of the staff, who have recently become engaged to be married.

We are pleased to welcome Susan Morley as Chief Editor of the magazine, who has taken over all her responsibilities most efficiently. We also welcome Jacqueline Ovenden, Doreen Maclean, Lane and Girdlestone to fill the vacant places on the editorial staff.

Gillian Sewell has brought honour to the school by being chosen to play for the All Sussex Ladies' Hockey Team. V. Pennell has been selected to play for the Sussex Intermediate Football Team. Jennifer Bather gained a place in the East Sussex Junior Hockey Team, but unfortunately she was not selected to play for All Sussex.

OBITUARY

We regret to record the deaths of Canon Hilton Wright, former Chairman of the Governors, Dr. W. E. Edwards, formerly Senior History Master, and Robin Curtis (R.G.S. 1946/1952).

THE GOLD AWARD

It is five years since His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, inspired and lent his name to a scheme which he hoped would encourage older boys to spend their leisure time in a healthy, productive and rewarding way. No doubt his own early training was the reason for the infusion into this scheme of an air adventure, an encouragement to live it rough, and, innate in most, the desire to create. With such a person as Sir John Hunt of Everest fame to act as secretary and other of like attributes to assist and advise, this scheme offered a challenge to the youth of today.

This term, David Robinson and Victor Pennell, both Flight Sergeants in the Air Training Corps, have been invited to St. James Palace to receive from His Royal Highness the coveted Gold badge and certificate. This achievement came as no surprise to those connected with the Squadron, for, throughout their training, both cadets have shown a sense of responsibility, strength of character and determination well above average.

Many have heard of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award ; few know what it entails. There are three stages; normally termed the Bronze, Silver and Gold. Entry to the Gold must be preceded by successful accomplishment of the Silver. In each stage, four sections have to be successfully completed. A pursuit, or hobby, has to be followed for six months in connection with the Silver, and nine months for the Gold. Both Robinson and Pennell undertook model making in this section, Robinson concentrating on railway and Pennell on aero-modelling—no doubt the School remembers the excellent craftsmanship to be seen in the model aeroplane which was on exhibition at the beginning of term. Another section tests their Physical Fitness and general interest in sport, standards becoming more difficult to achieve as the higher stage is reached. A Public Service must be offered with actual service for the Gold. In this case, both cadets attended lectures



Lino cut by John Sheppard, M2

at the local St. John Ambulance and were awarded the adult certificate of this organisation, together with a statement from their Commanding Officer as to the high standard of instruction offered to the younger cadets of the Corps for their actual service.

Perhaps their greatest test of all was to be found in the Expedition, which, for the Gold, had to be undertaken in country specified by the Award Board, and selected by them for its rough, open and wild nature. It was arranged that this final test should be done on Dartmoor under the supervision of the County Youth Organiser of Cornwall. Fifty miles on foot with heavy pack and camping out for three nights under trying weather conditions was successfully accomplished by both boys. Just how difficult and trying was this test can best be understood from an extract from the daily log of David Robinson, who, having described the journey, goes on to paint a small portrait of each of the boys accompanying him: "...and Victor; after the first day he had blisters. By the end of the second both his heels were one large blister, and the balls of his feet were the same. How he managed to stand, let alone carry a pack and walk, I shall never know. He had great courage and staying power." This surely was the spirit which the Duke of Edinburgh wished to kindle in all undertaking the scheme. Whatever these cadets have yet to achieve in life, they will always remember with a great deal of justifiable pride the attaining of their Gold.

PEACOCKE HOUSE REPORT

House Mistress :	Miss Allen
House Master	Mr. Thompson
Girls' Captain :	Linda Southerden
Boys' Captain :	J. Evans
Secretary :	Alison Norris
Treasurer :	M. Hollindale
Prefects—	Gillian Sewell (Head Girl), Linda
	Southerden, Alison Norris, Tina Newnham, Helen
	Griffin, Gillian Blair, Evans, Maskell.

This term has not been a very successful one for the house. We lost the Netball Shield, are lying only second in the football, and came a very near second to Meryon in the lower school Speech Competition. We hope to be able to make up the lost ground in the Upper and Middle School Competitions. We have, as usual, paid our subscription towards supporting our Leper child, and have also sent a subscription to the East Sussex Hospital Comforts Fund. Members of the house have been selling greetings stamps to help the spastics.

We welcome all new members to the house and thank Miss Allen and Mr. Thompson for their work and help this term.

Alison Norris (Secretary)

MERYON HOUSE REPORT

House Master : Mr. Allnutt
House Mistress : Miss Topliss
Boys' Captain : V. C. Pennell
Girls' Captain : Jennifer Bather
Secretary : Louise Dalby
Treasurer : C. H. Knowles
Prefects—Edwina Hatcher, Jennifer Bather, Louise Dalby, Helga Starns, M. Winter (Head Boy), V. Pennell (Deputy Head Boy), C. Knowles, D. Beckerson, P. Beaney, G. Jones, A. Harris, A. Duncan.

This term has been very successful for Meryon. We won not only the Netball Shield, but also the Lower School Speech Competition, and we are well on the way to winning the Work and Merit Shield. We hope to add to this record success in the Music Competition, but so far Knowles's and Girdlestone's efforts in organizing and training the choirs have met with poor response especially from the Juniors.

We have made our usual annual contribution to the Rye Comforts Fund of the Royal East Sussex Hospital.

We thank Miss Topliss, Mr. Allnutt and the Committee for their loyal support of the House.

Louise Dalby (Secretary)

SANDERS HOUSE REPORT

House Master : Mr. D. P. Darby
House Mistress : Miss M. Getley
Boys' Captain : S. Cole
Girls' Captain : Valerie J. Sales
Secretary : Susan M. Morley
Treasurer : D. Beaney
Prefects—Valerie Sales (Deputy Head Girl), Janet Williams, Eileen Sargent, Susan Morley, S. Cole, P. Cumming, D. Beaney, R. Beaney, A. Baird.

This term we welcome Miss Getley as our new House Mistress in place of Miss Hale. There have been few competitions this term, but the house acquitted themselves well; in the netball we came a close second to Meryon after a tense game, and in the football we lost 1—0 to Peacocke after a close match. The practices for the Music Competition are going well, and the enthusiastic choirs are attaining some unity. This term will see an improvement in collections for charities after a new scheme has been instituted.

We owe our thanks to Miss Getley and Mr. Darby for their constant guidance and encouragement this term.

Susan Morley (Secretary)

SALTCOTE PLACE REPORT

We are very pleased to welcome six new boarders and our new caretaker and cook, Mr. and Mrs. Clements, to the house this term. We have played a junior and a senior table tennis match against Leasam boys, but unfortunately we lost both of them rather badly. We arranged a hockey match against the boys but owing to the awful weather it had to be cancelled, and we played basket ball in the gymnasium instead. We have been making our customary visits to Leasam on Saturday evenings to teach the boys to dance. On December 8th there will be our annual Christmas dinner, and we can be sure of a sumptuous fare.

We would like to thank Miss Nelson and Miss Turner for their unfailing help, and the domestic staff who have met our every need.

P.N.

LEASAM HOUSE REPORT

The Autumn term has always been one of the most active times at Leasam, and this one has proved no exception. At the beginning of term we were pleased to welcome ten new juniors and three new prefects, Hollindale, Winterson and Stiles, making, for the first time since Leasam's opening, a prefectorial body consisting solely of Sixth formers. We returned to a house scaled by workmen who were painting the exterior, and within three weeks both the house and farm buildings looked very much the better for their face-lift. By this time however, another load of workmen had arrived to start building a new cattle-yard, which is a Tyler construction of asbestos and concrete, walled with breeze blocks. It is much larger than the existing yard, and will be more effective in that it is totally covered, has adequate feeding facilities and will be easier to clean out mechanically.

In early October we entered some lambs and a pork carcass in appropriate classes at the Rye Livestock Show. Although we gained no distinction with the lambs, the pork carcasses, in a slightly larger class than previous years, won us first prize against some good competition. It is unfortunate that our small acreage deters us from making competitive progress with the lambs.

With regard to our dairy herd, the two Friesian heifers Winir Baby and Magnolia have been doing very well and yielding over six gallons a day each. Our four home bred heifers Lucy, Pam, Pat and Betty are yielding steadily, but will, we hope, improve in their later lactations.

The pigs continue to do us justice and we have sent a steady number of porkers to the market and baconers to the factory. With regard to the baconers, we were informed they were over-weight, when in fact

they were not. However, on investigation, it was found that the killing out percentage weight, that is the weight of carcase minus useless entrails was well over the 75% which is reckoned to be good. Perhaps the most startling and welcome of this term's events was the much needed resurfacing of the lane. Bearing this in mind it will be appreciated that the high cost of bicycle maintenance will now be reduced.

There have been a number of social activities this term including the weekly dancing lessons with the Saltcote girls. We thank the girls very much for coming along despite the weather, and Miss Nelson for permitting them to do so. Two table tennis matches have been played with senior and junior teams; one at Leasam, the other at Saltcote. In both of the matches success has come our way, although the Saltcote teams put up good competition. A hockey match was also arranged between Leasam and Saltcote on the 24th October, but owing to impossible weather conditions, had to be abandoned. Instead a basket-ball match was hurriedly arranged, and although the Saltcote girls lost all the four games played, they showed their never failing sportsmanlike spirit.

We held our annual bonfire night celebrations on the evening of November the 2nd, and would like to thank Mr. Anderson for making it possible for us to hold them once more.

At the time of writing this report there are three weeks left of term, during which our Christmas Dance will be held. However, knowing how much work has been done towards this occasion and our end of term Christmas Dinner, I should like to thank, on behalf of the house, Matron and the kitchen staff, whose work behind the scenes is most unrewarding, and Mr. Anderson, Mr. Allmond and Mr. Cawkwell for their unfailing help and services rendered to us throughout the term.

M. K. Maskell (Head Boy)

1st XI FOOTBALL REPORT

This term the 1st XI football team has not been very successful. Of the twelve matches played, we have won two, drawn one, and lost the remaining nine. Unfortunately, many matches were played without a full side, owing to injury or other circumstances.

The highlight of the term was undoubtedly the Six-a-Side Tournament at Brighton, which Mr. Jones and seven players attended. The team consisting of Pankhurst, Cumming, Seeley, Beaney D., Hollindale and Pennell, played well but could not manage to score any goals. We were nevertheless easily the better side, and managed to win on corners. In the second game, Beaney scored our only goal a few minutes from time, and so winning 1—0 we were entered for

the quarter-finals. We then played a team who were not as exhausted as we were, and an unfortunate goal of theirs eliminated us from the competition.

Cumming and Pennell entered for the County Trials at Brighton, and Pennell was selected to play for the County team for the third time running.

GIRLS' GAMES REPORT

This term has been a very successful one for the hockey teams. The first XI have only lost one match, being defeated by the Convent of the Holy Child, Mayfield 3—2. For the first time for many years both the first and second XI's have beaten their opponents from Ancaster House, winning 2—1 and 2—0 respectively. The first XI were also able to beat Ashford Grammar School both at home and away. The second XI have won all but three of their matches and the under 15 XI have won one match and drawn one match of the four matches that they have played.

The netball teams have had some very keen opposition this term. The under 14 VII have won one out of four matches, the under 13 VII won four out of seven, and the under 12 VII have won both their matches very promisingly, the scores being 18—0 and 13—1.

Our success is due to Miss Ward's coaching and we would like to thank her for all the work she has put into raising the standard of our games, especially hockey.

THE COMMEMORATION SERVICE

This annual Service held to commemorate the Founders of the School was held in the Parish Church on October 10th, where it was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. O. E. Brooks. The address which was given by the Rev. L. D. Patterson, Vicar of Rye Harbour, pointed out that one of the founders had been a Non-conformist, and one a member of the Church of England—a fruitful combination. These men, although not in Holy Orders, had been 'Men of God,' who had founded our school to further His work. Mr. Patterson went on to exhort us, their heirs, to carry on the fine work our founders had begun, to carry on this work both in our schooldays and afterwards in this world, where we all labour together in His vineyard.

To the choral side of the Service, the School Choir contributed a Tudor Introit by Farrant, 'Call to Remembrance,' and a modern anthem by Bairstow, based on the Irish Hymn tune, 'The King of Love.'

MUSIC SOCIETY REPORT

The chief work this term for the School Choir has been the preparation of music for the end-of-term Carol Service, when we hope that the results will be pleasing and worthy of the occasion. The Choir has grown in numbers by enlistment of younger voices from forms L1 and L2, amongst whom there has been a most welcome enthusiasm for singing. The chief drawback is still a shortage of alto and tenor voices. The latter seem virtually unknown in this part of England, but surely many girls could become useful altos. The most important requirement is the ability to read music, rather than having a wonderful solo voice. Many pianists could learn quickly an alto part. Any volunteers next term?

Eliminations for the Music Competition have gone on steadily during the latter part of the term, and it will be possible to issue all next term's finalists with copies of the music they are to perform, to give them the opportunity during the Christmas Holidays of practising towards a higher standard on the day of the Competition which will be early next term at the end of January.

The violin class under Mr. Booth has continued to meet on Fridays. Although these are early days in the class, it is very encouraging to record that four members (two of them after only a year's tuition) were invited by Mr. Booth to take part in the Sussex Rural Schools' Day Festival at Lewes, where a concert was given by the orchestra made up of violin pupils from all over Sussex. They were Margaret Richards, Christine Oates, Gillian Rothwell and Elizabeth Cadwell.

Congratulations to E. Girdlestone on passing Grade VIII Organ (Trinity College, London), with distinction. His marks, 92% was the highest gained in England. Congratulations also to two ex-pupils of the school. To Olga Clark (Soprano) who sang the solos in Bach's 'St. Matthew Passion' with the Hastings Choir last month, and who is making a name for herself as a soloist in many well-known oratorios; and to Sylvia Swan (Contralto) who is training in London under Roy Henderson, and has already sung successfully in several large-scale performances of Oratorios in Yorkshire, London, and the Isle of Wight.

LIBRARY REPORT

A large number of books have again been added to the Library this term, including five of Aldous Huxley's novels and

Ethics and the Gospel—T. W. Manson

India and the West—Barbara Ward

The Collected Poems of—Lawrence Durrell

La Peste—Albert Camus

The Tate Gallery—John Rothenstein

The Physics and Chemistry—Editores Varii

The New English Bible: The New Testament—

Editores Varii

We thank Miss B. M. Hale for presenting 'The Elegant Carriage' by Marylian Watney on her leaving the school, and Monica Pearson and Mary Small for the books they presented recently. The annual stock-taking which took place at the end of term, reveals that an alarmingly large number of books disappears from the Library each year; borrowers are not conscious enough of their obligations when borrowing books.

I am grateful to the Library Staff for all the hard work they have done during the term.

Librarian

AIR TRAINING CORPS REPORT

The term began with promotions and the admission of probationer recruits. Sergeant Pennell became the Squadron Flight Sergeant, Corporal Heighes was promoted to Sergeant and Cadets Clarke, Kingdon, Perry and Russell became Corporals. We welcome the recruits and hope that the term's insight to the work of the Corps will interest them to remain with us.

Early in the term expeditions on foot were made as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Sergeant Heighes, Corporal Clarke and Cadet Bourne camped out for two very rainy nights and walked thirty miles in the area between Northiam and Westfield as part of their test for the Silver award. During the same week-end four other cadets, Hills, Leybourne, Marsh and Nicolle who are attempting the Bronze award, were in the Wittersham area where they camped for one night and walked fifteen miles. All of them are now working on the other activities which make up their stages in the series of awards.

The whole squadron went to the Royal Air Force station at Manston near Margate in Kent for flying in two-seater Chipmunk aircraft. The coach journey was spent speculating on whether the rain falling at the time would prevent flying from taking place and although drizzle continued for most of the day every cadet was able to make an individual flight, lasting in some cases for more than half-an-hour. During flight briefing cadets were shown the fitting of parachute harness, and as we were near enough to the coast to fly over the sea the "Mae West" life-saving jacket had also to be fitted and worn. Those cadets with previous flying experience were allowed by their pilots to take over the controls and so actually fly the dual-controlled aircraft. This exciting day was made possible by the skill and efforts of Flight Lieutenant Hall and his pilots of No. 2 Air Experience Flight.

We were paid a visit by the Army this term. A platoon of the Royal Sussex Regiment gave a demonstration of a simple infantry attack and the subsequent "mopping-up" of their enemy. This spectacular

display with its accompaniment of noise and smoke was followed by an opportunity for us to inspect some of the support weapons, including the anti-tank projector the "Mobat," of a modern infantry battalion.

Aircraft recognition is an interest of many cadets. Our squadron's team of "spotters," Sergeant Heighes, Corporal Russell and Cadet Harris, came third in a competition among the eighteen squadrons of the Sussex Wing of the Air Training Corps. This was a test of their ability to recognise photographs of fifty types of aircraft shown in various positions on a screen, each for five seconds only.

Although no football has been played between the squadrons of the Sussex Wing, Flight Sergeant Pennell recently played for the Eastern Region of the Air Training Corps against the Royal Air Force College at Cranwell. He had previously given an exceptionally good performance in a game at the Eastern Regional trial.

On most afternoons after school in recent weeks the rifle range has echoed the sounds of practice firing. A team chosen from these practices has since been firing on competition targets for the "Battle of Britain" Trophy; it seems, however, that the fact of firing in a competition has affected the temperament of our marksmen whose score-cards have been under the good standard of their practices.

The activities of the signallers has increased with the arrival of an ex-R.A.F. transmitter and receiver. This is being set up in the Headquarters hut and a call-sign has been allotted to us. When the signallers have become more expert in handling the equipment they will be able to make wireless contact with the other squadrons on the Sussex Wing frequency.

In addition to these activities the normal training programme has been going along well and in November five cadets, Bourne, Clarke, Leybourne, Nicolle and Roszkowski, passed their Proficiency examination. The Air Ministry has revised the syllabuses of cadet examinations and cadets have been issued with new and comprehensive text-books covering the whole of our training.

Our thanks go to Flight Lieutenant Thompson, Flying Officer Huxstep, Mr. Parkhurst and to Flying Officer Maby, who joined us this term to take up the appointment of Squadron Adjutant, for the help and encouragement they have given us; and we are especially grateful to Heather Bather, Pauline Hartwell and Diane Williams who are so diligent in providing us with teas at our Friday parades.

RED CROSS REPORT

At the beginning of the school year we welcomed Mrs. Mair as our new Cadet Officer in place of Miss Hale who has gone to Nigeria. At the end of the Autumn Term there were twenty-one cadets in the Detachment. We have been having regular lectures from the District Nurse, and hope to take the examination for the first part early in the



Lino cut by Phillippa Duncan, M3



Flight Sergeants David Robinson and Victor Pennell,
Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award

Spring Term. Then we intend to have a short rest for about three weeks, probably with lecture on 'Accidents' from the Police, or on Life-Saving. After that, back to work with another course of lectures. We also intend to make a scrap-book exchange with some Red Cross Detachment abroad. On Tuesday, 28th November, we had our Field Day. We went to the Babies' Castle at Hawkhurst, a Doctor Barnardo's children's home. We had all been busy making soft toys for the children who seemed to be very pleased with them. We then returned to Mrs. Mair's home for a scrumptuous tea which we thoroughly enjoyed. We must thank our kind Cadet Officer for organising this outing, and also all the people who lent their cars to take us to and from Hawkhurst. We must thank Miss Dann for all her help and encouragement, and Mrs. Mair for giving up so much of her time to us.

G.B.

GUIDE REPORT

This term we were pleased to welcome Miss Banner who has taken over as Captain of the Company. On November 17th Miss Kingdon the District Commissioner, very kindly came over and enrolled eight recruits, and Miss Dann invested two second class guides as patrol leaders. At the beginning of the term we attended a Youth Service at the Methodist Chapel and paraded our colours at the Remembrance Day Service in Rye Parish Church. Our marching, thanks to the instruction from the A.T.C., was much improved.

Our thanks go to Miss Banner for taking over the guides, to Miss Dann and to all the guides who have helped the Company to continue.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY REPORT

The dramatic society, now with many new and welcome faces, met early in the term for the initial reading of this year's school play, 'The Knight of the Burning Pestle,' by Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher. To produce this play, a large cast is required with several additional non-speaking parts. However, with Miss Allen and Mr. Gaunt as our producers once again, they soon set to work with their accustomed energy and enthusiasm, to start casting. And so it was that at the second meeting of the term, with the play now adequately cut, auditioning began. Within one week the parts were officially allotted and work was evidently about to begin in earnest. Among the list of major characters appeared several new names. We hope that they can suffer without protest and age gracefully. Susan Morley with her new-found capacity for Cockney repartee, has the part of the ignorant wife of a coarse London Merchant, T. Barden. Both of these parts hold wide scope for the persons concerned.

M. Hollindale, who stole some amusing moments in 'The Taming of the Shrew' last year, has the part of Merrythought, a jolly old drunkard. The part requires complete lack of self-consciousness as it entails boisterous bouts of song, which must essentially sound ridiculous. Mrs. Merrythought is to be played by Christine Oates, another new and talented member of the society, who will, we feel sure, do her part justice.

The job of dictating the moves of the play has been dealt with during the latter part of the term, and at the time of writing this, acting has only just begun. It is important that one should appreciate the technical details which the producers have to deal with before acting can start. Dramatic art is not so much a combination of mere words and actions as it may seem, but initially an exercise in theoretical appreciation, which if lacking, can do much to ruin a production.

Although the producers might have noticed an apparent lack of enthusiasm for the play on the part of the cast, we can assure them that now we are beginning to realise what scope our individual characters hold for us, no effort will be spared in trying to make this year's play as great a success if not greater, than last years.

Finally, I should like to express, on behalf of the society, our deep gratitude to Miss Allen and Mr. Gaunt for their hard work in planning the basis of the play and being so patient in these early and difficult rehearsals.

M. Maskell

SIXTH FORM SOCIETY REPORT

This term the Sixth Form Society held four meetings on Tuesday evenings. The first meeting was a recital of Classical Music and Jazz, given by E. Girdlestone, R. Beaney, and D. Beaney. Most of us appreciated their very interesting talks and about fifty members attended the meeting. The second meeting took the form of a mock trial in which P. Holmes was accused of stealing the school cat. After a very amusing evening the jury declared the defendant 'Not Guilty.' The highlight of the term was a Hallow'en Barbecue which was a great success, being the haunt of divers witches and the Devil himself. The fourth meeting was a discussion prompted by a newspaper article concerning the meeting of the Catholic Hierarchy in the U.S.A. Although our numbers were few, the discussion, which covered a variety of topics made a very enjoyable evening. It is hoped that one more meeting will be held, which will take the form of a social. On 16th December, a part of forty members is going to see 'Luther' by John Osbourne at the Phoenix Theatre, London.

This term has been very successful, and we owe this to Miss Topliss and Mr. Darby for their help and support. We are also very grateful

to Valerie Sales and V. Pennell as very hard-working chairmen, to B. Heighes as Treasurer, and to Eileen Sargent who has catered so well for us.

J. Ovenden (Secretary)

TABLE TENNIS AND BADMINTON SOCIETY REPORT

This term we welcomed a large number of new members. More people have been playing badminton at the request of Mr. Holness. An added attraction in the Society was the presence of the trampoline in the gymnasium, to which many members owe bruised knees, strained backs, and cracked elbows.

J. Williams (Secretary)

BALLROOM DANCING SOCIETY REPORT

This term, owing to the number of people who wished to join the society, two groups were formed and these met alternate Wednesdays after school; but because of the excess of boys in the Lower Vth, the two groups were amalgamated early in the term and the meetings have proved very successful. On Wednesday, December 15th, we are holding a Christmas Social, which will conclude the meetings for this term.

Our thanks are extended to Miss Ward and Mr. Brydon for their endless patience and courage in attempting to teach us to dance !

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY REPORT

We began the term by welcoming two new members, N. Hatcher and J. Cawdron.

It was decided at a meeting at the beginning of term to have a subscription of threepence per person, per week, to help to cover the cost of paper, chemicals, etc. It was also decided to hold meetings on Tuesday evenings and to process on alternate weeks. On the other evenings it was decided to hold demonstrations, talks, and outings. Among the events which took place on these occasions were the following:—

1. Talks on the Principles of Photography by Mr. White and Mr. Cawkwell.
2. A demonstration of mounting by Mr. Parlett of the Rye Photographic Club.
3. A demonstration of intensifying by Mr. Cawkwell.

We also made some experiments with table top photography at one of these meetings.

As can be gathered from this report we have had a most interesting term, and our thanks go to Mr. White, Mr. Cawkwell and Miss Getley for making all these things possible.

R. Spencer (Secretary)

MODEL AIRCRAFT SOCIETY REPORT

This term the Society has remained largely inactive with only occasional flying. This is partly due to the fact that about half of the keen members left at the end of last term. The flying has been done on Sunday afternoons at Rye Harbour and on the big field.

J. Walmsley (Secretary)

SPRING

The trees are bursting into leaf,
The gorse shines yellow on the heath,
The grass is spangled with morning dew,
And the watery sun come shining through.
Nature is awakening from winter sleep.
From their holes and burrows creatures creep.
Flowers appear upon the earth
And the first spring lamb is given birth.
Some nesting birds, a babbling brook,
There's heaven, if you'll only look.

S.J.M., UVa

DOWN IN THE BOG

Down in the bog when day awakes,
The sun bends down and gently takes
The veil of mist from the purple land,
And birdsong rises on every hand.
Down in the bog in noon day heat
The workmen save the good brown peat.
Among the heather the rabbits play,
And willows dance in the breezes gay.

Down in the bog at evening's fall,
The dusk is filled with the curlew's call
Till night creeps up on quiet feet,
To wrap the heather and the bird and peat.

Pamelia Tolkien, L2

LIMERICKS

There was a young man from Sark
Who tried to fillet a shark,
The shark was not dead,
It bit off his head,
So he finished the job in the dark.

There was a young lady from Chester,
Who had an old cat called Sylvester,
The cat caught the mouse
Who was plaguing the house,
And then found it hard to digest 'er.
Elizabeth Marshall, LVa

WORLD PEACE NURSERY RHYME

Kruschev Druschev sat on a wall,
Kennedy Dennedy had a great fall !
All Mac's horses and all de Gaulle's men
Could not put the world together again.
Amy Yates, UVa

HORSES OF THE SEA

The silver sea began to swell and lash upon the shore;
The silent stillness of the night was broken by a roar;
The waves which had a moment since been calm and shining bright,
Became a fierce and raging mass that echoed through the night.
When suddenly from out the deep, a wet and gleaming band
Of milk-white horses pranced in sight and pounded down the sand.
With tails held high and nostrils flared, they raced in all their pride;
A snowy stallion out in front, their one and only guide.
The pale full moon, a crystal sphere, shone clearly from the sky,
And sparkled on their silvery coats as they sped madly by.
They reached a grey out-jutting rock and with a piercing neigh,
The stallion whirled, now flecked with foam and moistened by the spray.
He reared, he bucked and thundered on, returning with his herd,
Of wild and restless half-grown mares as swift as any bird.
Their steel-shod hoofs beat loud and hard, their manes flowed long
and free,
And snorting at the breaking waves they plunged into the sea.
Isla Browne, LVa

EYES DOWN

The babbling noise of the crowd
Is stopped by two important words,
'Eyes Down.'

Silence is gained, the atmosphere heated,
And again those magic words are repeated,
'Eyes Down.'

The numbers swim before your eyes,
At once a nervous woman cries,
'Bingo !'

At last, when everybody's seated,
Those magic words are repeated,
'Eyes Down.'

L. Igglesden, LVa

LIFE IN THE MIDLANDS

Can life exist in the smoky morbidness of the Midlands
among those coarse harsh men and women
and their language ?

What emptiness and dull triviality fills their minds ?
What ignorance of love and life
and truth ?

They exist—no more—
and in existing die ;
move in a world of unbelief, distrust,
the blind habitual prejudice
of ignorance.

Jacqueline Ovenden, L6

THE CALL OF THE SEA

O, sailing is the life for me,
With the salt spray in my face,
The pull of the rudder in a choppy sea,
And the thrill of the ocean race.

The gentle sea with a rolling motion
And the wild scream of the storm;
These are the calls of the mighty ocean
Which draws me from the warm.

When the long race is done and the sun it set,
Then we turn our bow to the port,
To the welcoming lights, with no regret,
Where hot rum can be bought.

Jonathan Kingdon, L2

THE BIRTH OF THE V.C.

It was in the battle of Balaclava
That Lord Cardigan came to fame,
And for many years after
A household word was his name.

It was he that led our cavalry
On, through shot and shell ;
Many of his men would not return,
And they knew that full well.

But still they charged the Russian guns,
Onward to meet their fate.
It was a mistake ! They must be halted !
But the warning came too late.

They advanced at a trot, so calmly,
That gallant body of men.
Their deed would for long keep busy
Many a writer's pen.

Although they were few in number,
Their leader went on with a shout ;
But the Russian cavalry charged them
Just to complete the rout.

So great was the confusion
That the Russian guns fired again ;
And out of the smoke came the piercing screams
Of horses and men in pain.

Back from the valley of death
Came but few of the light brigade.
But we shall remember forever
The glory that they made.

That day saw the birth of a medal,
Awarded for valour, I hear,
And they were the first to win it—
The men who knew no fear.

D. Newman, M2

"LUTHER"

The Sixth-Formers and Staff who went to London on Saturday, December 16th, saw what is undoubtedly the most exciting and stimulating play that is at present in the West End; namely "Luther" by John Osborne. This play traces the spiritual and intellectual development of the Augustinian monk, Martin Luther, who began the

Reformation movement at the beginning of the 16th century. With historical accuracy, the author presents Luther's questioning of Papal authority, his individual interpretations of Holy Scripture, and his final Excommunication from the Church. In fact the whole controversial question of the break-up of United Christendom is treated with manifest impartiality. The abuses of the Church, many of which were later abolished by the Council of Trent, are exposed in all their ungodliness; but at the same time the Papal Legate, Cajetan, persuasively argues against any interference with the Catholic Church, which, he says, "is the apex of the world Spiritual and Temporal." No final judgment upon the merits of the Reformation is attempted, and the play ends on a note of uncertainty. Osborne seems, however, to criticise Luther for deserting the cause of the German Peasants, and his anti-German prejudice is apparent when he speaks of the beginning of German nationalism, for which Luther was largely responsible. Only occasionally is the dialogue offensively coarse, and we willingly overlook such slight blemishes in the light of the deep impression upon our imagination which is produced by the imagery:

"God is an ogre. He chews me up, and then spits me out in lumps."

One of the finest achievements of the writing, is the idea of the birth of the Modern World out of the ruins of the Medieval, which is conveyed by, for example, the contradistinction of the Monastic piety and religiosity with the Protestant worldliness and dullness.

The title-role is extremely demanding. Albert Finney's performance as Luther exhausts with its emotional intensity; he suggests his constipation—mental as well as gastric—so realistically, that his hysterical outbursts are a relief as much to the audience as to the actor. The scene following his first celebration of Mass is one of his most impressive; although both Luther and his disappointed father, Hans, try to avoid a quarrel, their attitudes to life are so opposed that they are soon violently abusing each other. But it is in the confessional outbursts and the Sermons that the strength of Finney's interpretation is most striking.

Albert Finney is well supported by the rest of the cast, with the exception of Meryl Gourley who is weak and insipid as Katherine. Memorable performances are given by John Moffat as the suave Cajetan; and by Charles Kay as Leo X, surely the most charming, but least saintly, even of the Renaissance Popes. As Hans, Bill Owen's performance is well sustained, but is slightly too much forced for it to be entirely convincing. Peter Bull makes the very most of the delightful comic part of Tetzl, the Pedlar of Indulgences.

Tony Richardson's direction is fluent and unobtrusive, but not outstandingly imaginative. The permanent stone-wall set, designed by Jocelyn Herbert, is unremarkable; although it is suitably austere for the convent at Erfurt, it is too rigid and monotonous to allow for the costumes and groupings to produce their full effect of pageantry. The principle upon which the Director has worked, however is



Lino cut by Philip Wood, M2

correct: that the play should speak for itself, without the aid of technical inventions. The main responsibility for the success of the play must be shared between the author and leading actor. Much as we may admire the writing, it is impossible to imagine that any other actor could be as convincing in the part as is Albert Finney. "Luther" shows that John Osborne is a mature dramatist, and allows Albert Finney to prove himself as one of our finest actors. Such combination of talent as this play demonstrates is indeed rare.

M.W.

OBITUARY

**William Eaton Edwards, B.A. (Wales), Ph.D. (Cantab.)
1903—1961**

It is with regret that we announce the death of Dr. Edwards, who came to R.G.S. in 1949 to teach History. He left in 1956 and went to Skegness Grammar School, where he taught French. He retired in July and died in Wales at the end of September.

The Rev. W. Hilton Wright

The Rev. Hilton Wright was in his young days a schoolmaster at Wellington College, and after his pastoral work as a priest education was his one great passion. When he came to the Diocese of Chichester he was appointed a Diocesan Inspector of Schools and was also the Diocesan representative on the East Sussex Committee. Towards the end of the last war when he had moved from Cuckfield (where he is still remembered with great affection) to Icklesham, he was appointed Governor of Rye Grammar School. How seriously he took his duties is shown by his visit to the school in Bedford although we were near the end of our exile. Soon after our return he was appointed Chairman of the Governing Body.

It was a difficult time for the school, settling down again and with plans for expansion afoot—probably the most difficult one in the school's long history. How fortunate we were to have at the helm such a stout friend and such a powerful advocate for us on the Education Committee. His move to Bexhill made no difference to his loyal service to the school. He never failed to answer a call for help—usually within an hour of a telephone conversation he would arrive at the school on his motor-cycle. He had such boundless energy that it was difficult to realise his age. The only complaint I had against him was that he always felt it his duty to visit the school on the first day of term!

He could be devastating at times. Pretentiousness he abhorred and he could get to the heart of a problem like lightning. Only once did I see him rattled and that was my fault, when I was taking a line that

was contrary to my nature. Experience as Head is limited to one school but I cannot imagine a Chairman who was wiser and more considerate.

When he retired (I could never believe he would) and went to live with his son at Marlsford, the Bishop of Oxford soon had him in in action again and he gave the same meticulous attention to the problems of the village school there as he did to R.G.S. His mental as well as physical energy was surprising for a man of over eighty. I had visited him there several times and only a few days before his death he paid us a visit in Brookland. Typically he died in harness, thrown from his motor-cycle whilst turning out of the drive of his lovely little church into the busy Reading-Oxford road after celebrating his last Communion on St. Luke's Day.

We of Rye Grammar School must give thanks to God for his fruitful life amongst us.

A.R.J.

Robin Geoffrey Curtis
1934—1961
R.G.S. 1946—1952

When I heard that Robin was dead, killed while cycling home, with no-one there to help what would in all but the millionth case have been a first-aid matter, I thought of him from his time in the Middle School to the last time I saw him perhaps a month before he died.

I found the records of his life in the school from the time that he was put down as 1st in Form II, 1st in Form III, to the comment of the Head when he was trying for the University: 'He was one of the best boys on the Science side I have known in my twenty years as Head.' He went on to Kings' College, London, read Chemistry, and was researching for Marconi when he was killed.

The records do not convey at all the charm, the mischievousness, the brightness of the boy or the gaiety of the young man. One sympathizes with his mother and father, who have followed their boy's progress with love, and with Dorothy whom he met at school and with whom he shared a very happy married life of three years. They know better than any outsider what has been lost in Robin.

D.P.D.

OLD SCHOLARS' NEWS

MARRIAGES

Margaret Best (a member of the school for a short time before it was evacuated) to the Reverend G. A. Satterly.
Otella Barwood to Ronald Marsh.
Barbara Burridge to David Bendon
Susan Dobbie to Brian Baker in Sweden, where they are now living.
Joan Hole to Rodney Matthews who is an old scholar himself.
Rosemary Jenner to Colin Bradford.

Ethel Lawrence to Robin Levett.
Marjorie Stoodley to David Gow.
Jennifer Upston to Edward Caister.
Wendy Yearde to Herbert Phillips.
Dennis Colegate to Jill Jury.
Derek Kimpton to Patricia Parish.
John Masters to Cherry Carman.
Anthony Polhill to Brenda Vidler.

BIRTHS

Jempson. To Pauline (née Wallis) and Harold, a son,
October 1st, 1961.
Simmons. To Rita (née Prickett) and Geoffrey, a daughter,
August 12th, 1961.

GENERAL NEWS

Bernard Monk was ordained as a Baptist Minister recently. Shortly after, he announced his engagement to Barbara Standen, and later he was inducted as minister of Rockingham Road Baptist Church, Kettering. The charge to Bernard was given by the Reverend A. E. Easter, a former minister of Rye Baptist Church, who was his chief adviser whilst at school.

Janet Hickman is doing her small part in the running of her parish church, for after some years as a Sunday School teacher at Camber, she has become organist as well.

Now to the world of commerce:

David Morris is taking over the advertising side of Rye Potteries after doing work in this sphere for Unilever Brothers.

Christopher Melchers is taking up a post as accountant at the Bird's Eye Depot, Eastbourne. His contemporary, Geoffrey Sutton, whose mother is now a member of the school's staff, is at Amersham Grammar School which is about to be turned into a boys' school, and it is rumoured that Brian Bellhouse is returning to Oxford to take up a Research post.

Anne Bunkin who has left her post at Upminster for one in London, has just obtained her Diploma in Sociology and Claire Filgate, after a secretarial course at Brighton Technical College and a short time at an Estate Agents, has now completed part of a five year course which will make her a Chartered Auctioneer and Estate Agent.

J. Milham has, for four years, been travelling all over the world in 'Shell' tankers and has now come ashore to take his final A.M.I.Mech.E., in London.

Several people must have taken up teaching posts since July. We know that Len Banister is enjoying himself at the school at Wimbledon, and Michael Greenhalgh at Ashford.

As usual, some Old Scholars are seeking work abroad. Brian Fort has returned to Italy where he is an apprentice footballer, hoping to

play for Venice eventually. Sherry Mott is going to Nice for six months before starting work as a secretary. Richard Dengate is soon to leave England with his wife to take up a Government post in Tanganyika. Jane Tuely, on the other hand, has returned from Greece to seek a post in England.

Of more recent leavers we learn that Mary Cheesman is working as a qualified Hotel Receptionist in Brighton; Vivian Payne proposes to take a modelling course; Lyn Johnson proposes to study Occupational Therapy and Kathleen Hole hopes to go to St. Thomas's Hospital, London. Margaret Guymer has come out of the W.R.A.F., but we hear that Sheila Jones has joined up, and Peter Hobson is hoping to leave the bank in Battle where he has been working to take up a post in the Overseas Bank in London. Janet Davie was almost exhausted when she wrote to Miss Dann, for she has been pulling mangolds and doing other heavy work on a farm near Maidenhead. She is hoping eventually to go to the Seale-Hayne Agricultural College.

SCHOOL LEAVERS

R. Russell is going to do a year's practical farming.

M. Winter is waiting to hear if any University will accept him.

S. Cole hopes to travel for eight months before entering the University in October.

Beryl Moon hopes to do secretarial work of some kind.

Ann Mephram is going to train to be a Dispensing Optician.

Derelyn Hopkins will work as secretary to her father on their farm.

EDITORS

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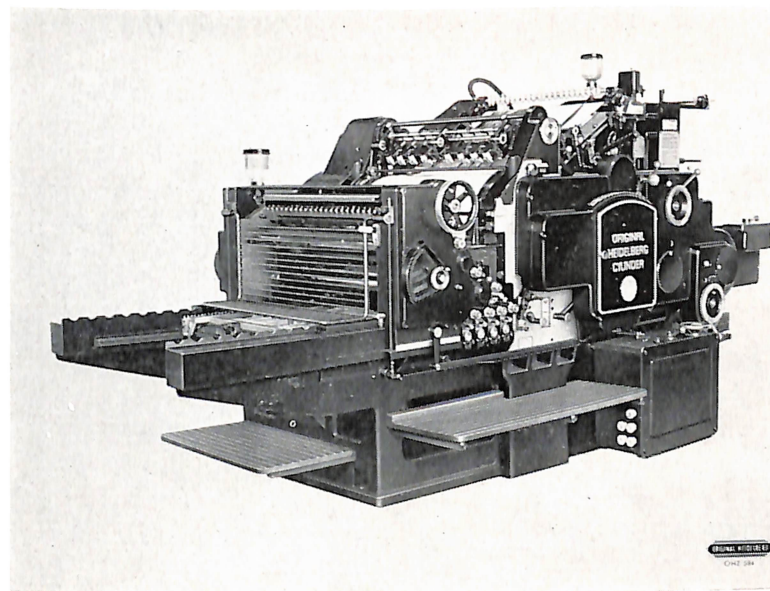
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