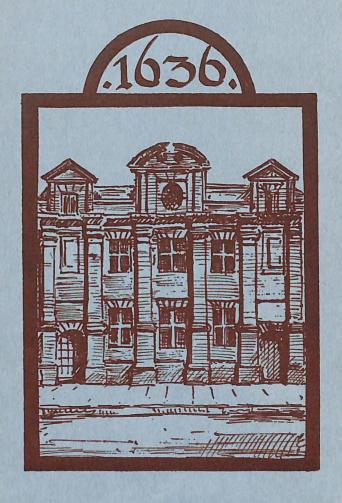
"RYA"



MAGAZINE OF RYE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
AUTUMN
1958

EDITORIAL

Every generation is a prey to dangers; of which it is almost invariably not fully conscious, and which differ according to the age in which the particular generation is born. Since the dangers are the product of the times, most people cannot fully apprehend them, for an age, which can see others in perspective, can never see itself in such a way. Many think they understand their age, but none can do so fully, though some are able to comprehend more than others. The writer does not pretend to understand a great deal about the age in which he lives, but there is one thing he does know.

During the last two to three hundred years, because of the widening of views, and the increasing regard for the many instead of the few, there has been a gradual, but nevertheless definite, vulgarisation of taste. In the eighteenth century-in many ways the high tide of civilization—a few of the learned sensed this trend, and exerted all their powers to preserve their high standards. They failed. Today one wonders if the trend can go any farther, in fact, having called the eighteenth century the high tide of civilization, the writer is almost inclined to call the twentieth the high tide of vulgarization. Let us, therefore, be aware of the danger that confronts our generation. Our age is an age of mediocrity, and therein lies the danger; the danger that we shall be content with the mediocre; that we shall be satisfied with that which does not deserve our satisfaction; that we shall be content to allow our potentialities to stagnate in the swamp of the 'quite good' and never to allow them to attain the firm earth of the 'very good.'

The state of mediocrity is both caused by and the cause of lack of thought, and without thought our generation will never produce any literature, art, music or any other creations of human genius; in other words, it will never produce that of which it is potentially capable. Many people mean many things by civilization; but everyone would agree that a true living civilization is one which is 'alive' with thought; one in which men are thinking new thoughts, and are expressing them; one in which Man's creative power is at work; one in which men are giving their fellows of their worthwhile best. The danger lies with the ever-increasing devotees of the cult of mediocrity, for it is they who will cause our civilization to stagnate.

The greatest task of each generation is for man to understand and respect man; we know full well the consequences of misunderstanding. It is the art, literature, drama and music, created by men giving of their best, that enables understanding to be established. At a time of mediocrity, this cannot be. However, let us not delude ourselves that we can fully understand man by reading a great work of literature, for instance; as Benjamin Disraeli said "We cannot learn men from books"; such creations of the human mind are only aids to the understanding that is being talked of. Thought is necessary, and it is thought about other men's thoughts and other men's actions,

which will help us to understand them, and, understanding, to live in harmony with them.

In conclusion, therefore, let us resolve that our motto shall be 'never to be satisfied with that which we know is not our best, and to remember that our best can only be the product of thought.'

THE CAROL SERVICE

Our annual Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was held in the

Parish Church on the last afternoon of Term

After Hullis had sung the opening verse of "Once in Royal David's City" the next three carols were sung by the girls of L3 and L4 with assurance and bright tone.

The Senior Choir, which boasted this year a most welcome number of basses, sang most of their carols unaccompanied. They kept throughout a good quality of tone and were generally successful in keeping pitch even though some of the carols presented many real difficulties in this respect.

Once again we were indebted to Mr. Clifford Foster who gave us

his skill and time so generously to act as organist.

SPEECH DAY

On Friday, the 21st of November, the Chairman of the Governors, Colonel R. M. Rendel, O.B.E., J.P., took the Chair at the Annual Speech Day in the New Hall. The Headmaster reviewed the preceding year and made a public announcement of the scheme whereby it is hoped to build a new Sports Pavilion in the playing fields.

Prizes were then presented by Mrs. Mary Stocks, formerly Principal of Westfield College, and she followed this with a speech on modern 'diseducators' that was much to the taste of school and

parents.

After tea a short concert was given of items from the Music Competition and a one-act play.

PRIZE LIST 1957-58

FORM PRIZES

Upper School. English and History-Diana Dolan; Divinity and Mathematics-Sandra Foulsham; English and Art-Monica Pearson; English and French-Faith Wigzell; Commerce-G. Fanslau; Mathematics—R. Martin; Latin and French— K. Fibbens; Agricultural Science-J. Baker; Handicraft-H. Bourn; Mathematics and Science—A. Buchan; General Subjects-Rita Watson.

Middle School. M. Rogerson, S. Cole, Gillian Sewell, Kay Eldridge (Languages), R. Perry, Diana Norris, A. Metianu, Rosemary Sinden, Linda Bagley, P. Cumming, Linda Southerden, R.

Beeney, Janet Reason, E. Beasley.

Lower School, Alison Norris, Frances Evans, Pamela Fuller, Linden Cornwell, Margaret Richards, Dianne Williams, Heather Bather

SPECIAL PRIZES

School Captain's Prize and Trollope Awa	rd P. Robinson
School Captain's Prize	Ann Fisher
Chairman's Prize for Science	P. Fincham
Mayor's Prize for Geography	Ann Sewell
Newton Prize for Reading	A. Bromham
John Larking Prize for Public Speaking	Ann Fisher
Old Scholars' Prizes	Bridget Barker, M. Pope
Parents' Association Prizes for Progress	Janet Williams, M. Winter
Progress in the Lower School (Captain &	Mrs. Barclay)
	Sucan Morley M Cain

Susan Morley, M. Gain

The Molyneux Jenkins Memorial (Mathematics) P. Robinson The Walter Colvin Memorial (Mathematics) P Fincham The Alan Smith Memorial (History) Geraldine Saunders The Tunstall Memorial (History) Marlene Hotchkiss

The June Gill Memorial (History in Middle School)

English Literature (Miss Warren)

Margaret Bather Alison Winter Ann Fisher

French (T. H. F. Clayson, Esq.) Latin (Mr. & Mrs. Binnie) B. Rankin German (Ald. H. O. Schofield, M.C.) I. Ellis Divinity (Miss Prentice) A. Bromham

Art (Mrs. Charnley-Karr) Norma Carr T. Wood, V. Pennel, N. Cole Woodwork (Major Luxmoore) Engineering Drawing (R. Reynolds, Esq.) R. Stanton

A. Smith Metalwork (V. J. Moore, Esq.) Patricia Geear Domestic Science (Mrs. Wethey) General Studies (H. B. Douglas, Esq.) Norma Carr

Singing (I. W. Foster, Esq.) Patricia Geear Norma Carr Music Sheila Evans, Janet Shingles Handwriting (Major Luxmoore)

M. Maskell, Marie Trussler, I. Breeds Karen Easter, Linda Bagley, Anna Holmes, M. Winter

Speech Best Article in the School Magazine (The Head Master)

Susan Roser, Lindsey Moth Best Verse in the School Magazine (In memory of Miss Stenning)

Eileen Sargent, Margaret Guymer Leasam House Prize (A. A. Anderson, Esq.) R. Standing

P. Robinson The Senior Master's A.T.C. Prize The Anne E. Beevers Cup for Domestic Science Diana Sanders

HOUSE COMPETITIONS 1957-58

Peacocke—Ann Sewell, L. Banister Sanders—Jacqueline Mitchell, P. Knapp Mervon-Diana Dolan, M. Jarvis

Cross Country Running—Merricks Cup Football—Dunlop Shield

Sanders Mervon

Netball—Hepworth Shield Peacocke Hockey-Old Scholars' Shield Meryon Swimming—Gasson Shield Peacocke Athletics—Bishop Shield Peacocke Cricket—Heron-Wilson Shield Meryon Tennis-Lady Maud Warrender Shield Mervon Physical Training (Boys)—Schofield Shield Meryon Physical Training (Girls)—Howlett Cup Sanders House Championship—(Games) Peacocke Speech—Gwynne Shield Peacocke Music-Wareham Cup Sanders House Championship—(Work and Merit) Meryon

SCHOOL SUCCESSES 1957-58

P. Robinson—Sheffield University. County Scholarship
Diana Dolan—Speech Therapy. County Scholarship
Ann Sewell—Physiotherapy. County Scholarship
R. Dengate—Essex Institute of Agriculture. County Scholarship
L. Banister, C. Saville, T. Wood, Angela Bayley, Sandra Foulsham,
Linda Tubbs and Christine Wells—Training College Entrance
Jacqueline Mitchell—P.E. College Entrance
B. Rankin—Civil Service, Executive Grade

General Certificate of Education, July 1958

* Distinction

Scholarship Level P. Robinson—Geography; Ann Sewell—Geography*; Geraldine Saunders—History*

Advanced Level. A. Bromham—English Literature, History, Religious Knowledge; J. Ellis-Latin, History; P. Fincham-Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics; M. Greenhalgh-Geography; M. Jarvis-Mathematics; P. Knapp-Pure Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry; R. Martin-Mathematics; G. Monk -Metalwork; C. Montagu-Scott-Biology; B. Rankin-Latin. French, History; P. Robinson-Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics; C. Saville—Geography; A. Smith—Engineering Drawing; R. Stanton—Mathematics, Engineering Drawing; T. Wood-Woodwork; Barbara Ashbee-Art; Barbara Axten-Pure Mathematics; Janet Bourne—Mathematics; Judith Burton English Literature; Norma Carr—English Literature, Art; Linda Dixon-English Literature; Diana Dolan-English Literature; History; Ann Fisher-Latin, French; Sandra Foulsham-Religious Knowledge, Mathematics; Patricia Leeman-English Literature, Art; Jacqueline Mitchell—History; Monica Pearson -English Literature, History, Art; Hilary Ripley-Mathematics; Ann Sewell—History; Mary Small—English Literature. History; Linda Tubbs-Religious Knowledge; Judith Walker-Mathematics; Faith Wigzell-English Literature, Latin, History Alison Winter-English Literature, French.

INDIVIDUAL ATHLETIC SUCCESSES

Winner of All England Intermediate 100 yards and member of winning Relay Team—R. Seeley

Sussex County Badge for Athletics-R. Seeley

Football Colours—M. Jarvis, C. Edwards, K. Huckstepp, B. Goodman M. Hills, R. Seeley, D. Roberts.

Junior Football Colours—R. Blacklock, P. Cumming, D. Beaney, P. Beaney, D. Baldock, C. Newstead

Cross Country Colours—J. Baker, B. Goodman, M. Hills, M. Greenhalgh, R. Standing, T. Coopey, I. Dale.

Hockey Colours—Barbara Axten, Jacqueline Mitchell, Angela Bayley Alison Winter, Linda Tubbs, Ann Sewell, Patricia Leeman, Hilary Sheffield.

Rounders Colours-Jennifer Bather, Gillian Foy, Beryl Moon

Tennis Colours—Ann Sewell, Faith Wigzell, Linda Tubbs, Janet Bourne, Jacqueline Mitchell, Barbara Axten, Diana Dolan, Alison Winter.

Cricket Colours—K. Huckstepp, B. Rankin, M. Hills, M. Jarvis, A. Jarvis

Junior Cricket Colours—R. Blacklock, D. Beaney, D. Baldock, B. Sherwood

Athletics Colours—R. Seeley, M. Greenhalgh, K. Huckstepp, M. Jarvis, R. Blacklock, J. Baker, Barbara Axten, Ann Sewell, Linda Tubbs, Diana Dolan, Patricia Leeman, Angela Bayley, Jacqueline Mitchell

P.T. Colours—M. Greenhalgh, B. Goodman, J. Wilkinson, H. Bourn

THE MUSIC COMPETITION

The Music Competition this year was held in two parts; the Lower School items being judged by Mr. May on Tuesday 18th November, and those from the Middle and Upper School on the following day when Mr. Peter Temple was the adjudicator. The Lower School Girls' vocal solo was won by Jenny Burke, and the piano solo by Rosalind Murdie, both performances being of a very high standard. In the Middle School, Molly Townson won both the girls' vocal and the piano solos. The boys' treble solo was won by C. Barnes, with a lusty rendering of 'Ye Banks and Braes.' In the Upper School, Norma Carr just beat Pat Geear in the vocal item, 'The Lark in the Clear Air.' The piano solo was won by Monica Pearson.

The choirs were the least successful items of the Competition, Peacock Junior and Meryon Senior Choir coming first in their respective classes. The part-songs also were not up to standard; Peacocke were the winners, but the marks were low. Mr. Temple pointed out that in some years the choirs were the best items in the Competition, in other years it was the vocal solos, but that this year it was the piano playing.

We extend our thanks to Mr. May for arranging the Competition and to Mr. Temple for his lively and enlightening remarks which

made the whole Competition a pleasure.

HOUSE REPORTS PEACOCKE HOUSE

House Master: Mr. Thompson
House Mistress: Miss Allen
Boys' Captain: J. H. Ellis
Girls' Captain: Patricia Geear
Secretary: P. Saville
Treasurer: R. I. Waters

Prefects—Pat Geear; Judith Walker; Audrey Wisdom J. Ellis; A. Bromham (School Captain); R. Harrison

R. Seeley

This term the House welcomed Mr. Thompson as House Master in place of Mr. Bagley, and Miss Allen continued in her duties as House Mistress. The House has not so far this year distinguished itself particularly in work. In the only house match played by the boys this term the senior football team, captained by Waters, played against Meryon and unfortunately lost 6-0. However this was redeemed by the girls' success in winning the Netball shield. Our greatest success has been in the Music Competition which we won for the first time for several years, owing mainly to the efforts and leadership of Pat Geear and Audrey Wisdom; we hope for similar success in the other competitions. Unfortunately we have had to disappoint the leper child we support; when the Christmas present had been bought, it was discovered that the address to which we had to send it had been lost and so we are now awaiting further developments. Towards the end of the term Mr. Thompson inspired the House to arrange a Christmas raffle in connection with the Sports Pavilion Fund; nineteen prizes were given by the parents of House members, and over 3,000 tickets were sold to the whole school. A total profit of £20 was realised, exceeding all expectations. Against these successes, however, must be set the fact that the House is now bottom in the Work and Merit Competition. This state of affairs has been going on far too long and we expect to see a very real and concentrated effort made by all members of the House to rectify it next term.

Finally we must thank Mr. Thompson, getting off to a very successful start, and Miss Allen for all the work they have done for the members of Peacocke House throughout this term.

SANDERS HOUSE

House Master: Mr. D. P. Darby
House Mistress: Miss H. Dann
Boys' Captain: M. Greenhalgh
Girls' Captain: Norma Carr
Girls' Vice-Captain: Margaret Harris
Secretary: Mary Small

Secretary: Mary Small Treasurer: H. Bourn

Prefects—Norma Carr, Margaret Harris, Mary Small Hilary Ripley, M. Greenhalgh, H. Bourn, B. Goodman The House has not particularly distinguished itself this term. For the first time for many years we have lost the Music Competition. This failure was not due to lack of leadership or of competent soloists but to the lack of co-operation in the House as a whole in both the Senior and Junior choirs. The House also came third in the Netball Competition but is lying a close second to Meryon in the Work and Merit Competition. We have continued to donate our collections to the upkeep of the leper boy, but have been forced to share the support for the child with another donor, since the subscription has been increased from five guineas to £10.

Finally, we must thank Miss Dann and Mr. Darby for their continued and unfailing support to the House throughout the term.

MERYON HOUSE

House Master: Mr. S. H. Allnutt
House Mistress: Miss M. Topliss
Boys' Captain: M. A. Jarvis
Girls' Captain: Faith Wigzell
Secretary: N. I. Hance

Prefects—Faith Wigzell, Geraldine Saunders, Barbara Ashbee, Linda Dixon, Monica Pearson, Judith Burton, M. A. Jarvis, N. J. Hance, R. Stanton, A. Checksfield

At the beginning of this term, the House welcomed Miss Topliss as our new House Mistress. We also welcomed the new pupils, and elected new officers. The house has begun the year well by establishing a lead in the Work and Merit and in obtaining second place in the Netball Competition; the boys must also be congratulated in beating Peacocke in the Senior boys' Football. Unfortunately we just came third in the Music Competition, although there was a marked improvement in our performance as compared with other years. The collections this term have been about the average, but the Upper Middle School must contribute more if the House is to give a donation to the Pavilion Fund.

There has been a tendency in the past for form representatives to be lax in reporting Interim results and keeping the books up to date. It is to be hoped, that by giving the results to the Secretary before the meeting, that there will be an improvement. The Secretary has received a letter from Miss Lumb and Christmas cards from Diana Dolan and Miss Lumb.

Finally we owe our thanks to Miss Topliss and Mr. Allnutt for their unfailing support in all that the House has done this term.

SALTCOTE PLACE

As the Headmaster said on Speech Day, Saltcote Place is now full. This term there was an influx of eleven girls, and with numbers standing at forty-six, Saltcote Place has more pupils than it has ever had in its eight years of existence.

The report of last term's activities went into the magazine before the finals of the tennis tournaments were played off. Owing to the softness of the grass courts the finals of the singles were played off at school, A. Sewell beating J. Mitchell in a close match. The doubles were won by A. Sewell and F. Wigzell after an exciting three set match. The Sewell family have now won this cup for four years in succession.

This term, tennis over, more interest has been shown in table-tennis especially since we learnt that Miss Warren, the Chairman of the House Committee, and Mrs. Binnie, the Chairman of Leasam House Committee are kindly giving a cup for an inter-house table tennis competition. The juniors' match was played early in the term, and was less uneven than usual, Leasam winning by eight games to five. Later in the term the senior team were beaten by five sets to one in an enjoyable if one-sided game.

On Friday, 5th December, our annual Christmas dinner was held. Our guests included Mr. & Mrs. Buttery, Miss Warren, the Rev. A. R. & Mrs. Jacobs, Miss Turner, Miss Dann and Miss Harvey, and we can only hope that they enjoyed themselves as much as we did. The food was excellent and plentiful and the games went with a great swing. We would like to thank Mr. Revill, whose tasteful decorations did so much to produce the right Christmas spirit.

This term we are sorry to say goodbye to Jane MacLatchy, who is going to a school nearer her home, and to two of the prefects, Vivienne Paine and Marlene Hotchkiss. We wish all of them the best of luck in their careers, school or otherwise. Above all, we are sorry to say goodbye to Mrs. Matthews and Bracken, and their presence will be missed very much. It is fortunate that we now have a kitten at Saltcote Place, who will, we hope, take the place of Bracken next term.

On behalf of all the girls at Saltcote Place, I would like to thank Miss Nelson and Miss Turner for their continued work on our behalf and hope they enjoyed a much-needed holiday.

LEASAM HOUSE

The new year commenced with thirty-four boys, who settled down quickly to the routine. Three new prefects, Jones, Walden and Boon, were elected, and have been very helpful during the term.

At the beginning of the term we saw the last of the Summer harvest being cut and stored. The Summer weather seemed to favour swimming instead of combining. Still, we must not grumble for the crop was good considering the weather. We heard that Leasam House Farm had made a substantial profit in the last financial year. During the term the senior pupils visited the Dairy Show, and the Intermediates the Smithfield Show, both trips being of immense educational value. The House has been well represented in School activities and a number of boys have played regularly for the School

teams and local clubs. The Senior Saltcote girls have been trying to teach the Seniors to dance; I myself can say that they have succeeded in their efforts, and we must thank them for many an enjoyable Saturday evening.

November the Fifth went with a bang. Our celebrations took place on the lawns. Although the weather was rather damp, the tall bonfire was soon a mass of flames. The guy, an Old Leasamian, seemed quite content to sit and singe until has boots caught light. The crack of overdone chestnuts added to the excitement, and the staff also

enjoyed the fun.

As the Autumn term examinations drew near, the House became quieter, and the only sounds to be heard coming from the classroom were 'I don't know a thing,' or 'What's the use of Revision?' The term ended as well as it began, with the House Christmas celebrations. Holly and ivy everywhere and a Christmas Tree in the centre of the Hall welcomed any Christmas visitors to Leasam. For an enjoyable and progressive term we owe our thanks to Mr. Anderson, Mr. White and Mr. Allmond for their never-failing advice, and also to Matron and Mr. & Mrs. Mitson for providing us with such good meals throughout the term.

B. Goodman (Head Boy)

A.T.C. REPORT

At the beginning of the term the A.T.C. had only twelve cadets and one N.C.O., but new recruits brought the total number to 25.

During the Summer holidays fifteen of the squadron went on a week's camp to Leeming in Yorkshire. The camp was, on the whole, regarded as one of the best for many years. Many cadets had flights in jet aircrafts as well as the normal piston engined planes. During the week we paid a visit to the army camp at Catterick, where we all managed to have our first trip on a tank. For the homeward journey from Leeming the R.A.F. laid on an aircraft to fly us back to Tangmere where we caught a train back to Rye.

At the end of last term Sergeant Wood went on a gliding course and succeeded in gaining his A. and B. Certificates. On Field Day, Friday 17th October, the squadron paid its first visit to R.A.F. Tangmere. Although most of the time was taken up with travelling, we managed to look through two hangars, the parachute and dinghy sections. Only two cadets were lucky to go flying as there was only one aircraft available at the time.

Promotions during the term were as follows: Senior Cadet Ellis to Sergeant, Leading Cadets Bourne and Robinson to Corporal, and Sergeant Stanton to Flight Sergeant. In the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Sergeant Fincham, Corporal Robinson, Corporal Bourne and Leading Cadet Goundry gained certificates of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. At this year's summer camp, Flight Sergeant Stanton, Sergeant Ellis and First Class Cadet Waugh gained their Marksman's Badge. Flight Sergeant Stanton obtained a Flying Scholarship and is going to train at Shoreham next March.

We regret that we are losing two of our civilian instructors at the end of this term. Mr. Gregory, who has instructed various sections in the theory of flight, is going to Trinidad to take up a teaching post, and Mr. Robinson, who has been associated with the A.T.C. since its foundation in 1941, find that due to his ever increasing duties he must give up the time he has spent on A.T.C. matters. We wish Mr. Gregory every success in Trinidad, and would like to thank both him and Mr. Robinson for all they have done for the squadron. We also thank our C/O and other officers for their services.

R. Stanton

GUIDE REPORT

At the beginning of this term, the Second Rye (Grammar School) Guide Company, was revived under the leadership of Mrs. Cooper. Five patrols have been formed and each consists of five or six members.

Field Day this term was spent at Peasmarsh and we all had a very enjoyable day. On Remembrance Sunday we had our first parade as a company; earlier in the term a few of us attended a youth service at the Methodist Church.

Considering that this is our first term, we have done very well. Everyone is now in uniform and several guides have been enrolled during the past few weeks. We extend our grateful thanks to Mrs. Cooper who has done so much to set the company on its feet again.

J. Pankhurst

SOCIETIES THE STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

The membership this term has increased considerably. The usual three meetings have been held. The speaker, at the first meeting, held on September 23rd, was Rev. R. J. Robinson, the Baptist Minister in Rye. He spoke on "The problems facing the Church today," and a discussion followed. The Rev. D. Patterson, Vicar of Rye Harbour, spoke at the meeting on October 29th, on "Christian Commitments." Father Anthony, O.F. M. Conv., visited us again on December 2nd. He spoke on the subject of the authority and election of the Pope, and a number of questions were asked afterwards.

At the beginning of the term we received the money for the bottle 'tops and silver paper collected, which we sent to the Association for Guide Dogs for the Blind. We are still collecting milk tops and silver paper. We would be grateful if all the ordinary paper removed from the back of the silver paper, and the milk tops should be kept separate from the silver paper. We would like to thank those people who have already collected foil.

Some of us attended the S.C.M. conference at Bexhill Grammar School on November 19th. The theme of the conference was "The Church and the Churches" and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Finally, we are all extremely grateful to Mr. Gaunt and Miss Getley for their help and support.

Hilary A. Ripley (Secretary)

THE MUSIC SOCIETY

Work this term has been directed mainly towards the learning of carols for the end of term service. Our practices on Monday evenings have been very enjoyable ones because the new Hall has given an added attraction to singing because of its good acoustics.

Also it has been possible during the latter part of the Term to indulge in some unaccompanied singing in three and four parts. Thrown upon our own resources without a piano background to sustain us, we have discovered new zest in sticking to our own part, and have come to agree with William Byrd (1543-1623) that of all the exercises open to man few give a better sense of well-being than singing. As he said, "the exercise of singing is delightful to nature, and good to preserve the health of Man. It doth open the pipes."

THE PHOTOGRAPHY SOCIETY

This term the society started off with a slide show, given by Mr. Jones and Mr. White. At the next meeting most of the boys were concerned with the making of curtain rails and shutters and a switch board and printing box. It was decided at a committee meeting that instead of paying a subscription at the beginning of the term, a smaller amount should be paid weekly. Throughout the term various activities were carried out, including portraiture and the processing of films. The society plans to make expeditions next year to a zoo and possibly Canterbury, or some other place of interest. Our thanks go to Mr. White and Mr. Jones for the never-failing help they have given us.

D. Beckerson (Secretary)

CHESS SOCIETY

This term we welcomed thirteen new members, mainly from among the first year pupils. The society is now divided into two sections, the lower and middle section, and the senior section. The former meets on Mondays, and the latter on Fridays.

The Lower School Tournament was won by Buchan P., with Meadows a close second. As there are only six members in the senior section, a league has been formed. Next term we are hoping to play chess against the Rye Secondary Modern School in both the junior and senior sections.

A. Buchan

LIBRARY

There have been several new books added to the Library, and many more await the Librarians' attention. The new stock registers are now complete, and the old stock sheets have been destroyed.

At the end of term it was found that the new system of registers worked very efficiently. This term we have had recruits from Upper Fifth, who have done some valuable work.

PRESENTATIONS
Collins Graphic Atlas—Marjorie Odell

VISITS

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, 1958

On Thursday, 24th July, I left Rye for Hastings on the 9.38 train. Here I met three other members of the Sussex County Athletics team and one of the six stewards. We boarded the train to Charing Cross and after crossing London by Underground, met the rest of the Sussex party under the clock in King's Cross station. As we had time to spare, we left our belongings in a large pile and had a look round outside, returning at 1.30 to catch the special train which was to take us to Sunderland.

When the 500 competitors from the Home Counties were on board, our long journey started. The first half-hour was allotted to eating the large stock of food we had brought with us. The rest of the journey was passed in playing cards, until we finally arrived at our destination, Fencehouses Station, about ten miles south of Sunderland. After a meal, we were taken to our billets by small boys who, unfortunately, were not very efficient, and my partner and I eventually found our own way there.

The first day of the National Schools' Athletic Championships dawned fine, and we were at the track by 10 o'clock. The meeting was held at Houghton-le-Spring Modern School, and a new track, costing £6,000 had been specially built for the occasion. All the neighbouring schools had been given the day off, and there was a crowd of 10,000.

The first day's programme was most exciting, several records being broken. At lunch-time there was a mass parade of competitors from all the competing counties, which provided a pleasing touch of pageantry. Unfortunately, it rained during the night, with the consequence that the times of the following day's events were rather slower than had been hoped.

The Sussex contingent, however, acquitted themselves creditably, coming third in the final overall result. The Intermediate Boys' Team came first in their section, eight of them coming first in their individual events. Among these was myself, the R.G.S. member of the party, who won the Intermediate Boys' 100 yards.

The following morning, we caught the 10.20 a.m. train from Fencehouses Station, arriving in London at King's Cross Station at 4.30 p.m., after a memorable visit to the North Country.

R. Seeley

LE PUY-EN-VELAY

This summer saw the completion of the second leg of this project. Altogether fifteen girls have taken part, most of whom have now visited and been visited in turn. The scheme has had various markedly successful features over and above the obvious benefit of learning French—the amazing co-operation and goodwill of the

GERMANY: AUGUST, 1958

The educational value of any holiday, at home or abroad, may the better be assessed, profitably or otherwise, in the middle of murky December when impressions have had time to crystallise and take on their proper perspective.

We may leave aside the more usual visual memories: the beautiful forested Harz, the wonderfully preserved medieval towns, Golsar, Wolfenbuttel and others, so readily renewed as pages of the photograph album are turned over. There are other and deeper impressions that make a greater appeal even than the warm hospitality to be met with everywhere.

The pressure of some eighteen millions of refugees is apparent in the intensive cultivation of grain and sugar beet over practically the whole available farmland, north from the mountains to far into the Luneburger Heide. There are surprisingly few dairy herds and the occasional flock of sheep is carefully herded by its shepherd and his dogs (usually Alsatians) along the grass verges or between the growing crops. Problems of the maintenance of fertility and the rotation of crops immmediately came to mind. Intensively as the land is cultivated, there is yet the same link with the medieval order as in the towns. Belts of sugar beet, often not above four or five vards wide, divide the huge hedgeless fields into ribbons. This strip cultivation cannot be economic in this mid-Twentieth century. Some strips are too narrow; wheat is cut by sickle and the sheaves bound by hand. Only on the large 'state' farms, upwards of 2,000 acres, one of which seems to be located in every village is there much evidence of mechanisation. We saw horses, of course, oxen, even milch cows in harness, four goats abreast, and still more astonishing, two young fellows dragging a plough guided by an old man. More women work in the fields than here in Sussex.

The chief centres of population, Hanover and Braunschweig (or Brunswick, one of whose suburbs is called Richmond) still show how extensive was their war-time destruction. The Germans have shown a great deal of imagination in their reconstruction. Their use of texture and colour, their fondness for balconies and mania for window boxes and indoor plants, combine to give a general effect which impresses for more than Canterbury. Only in Wolfsburg, home of the Volkswagen, did we see the ultra modern buildings. It has grown in twenty years from a village to a town of nearly sixty thousand people, yet how different from our endless maze of stereotyped dwellings.

The Germans are flat dwellers and their colourful five and six storey blocks have been fitted into the pine forest, not replaced it. For an industrial town it is a revelation. What a contrast to Dagenham.

But it is the subdivision of Germany, of Europe, itself which is dominant. Standing on an eminence near our centre at Bad Harzburg, the closely knit villages nestled in their hollows like islands in a golden sea of then, largely unharvested corn. At intervals of two or three miles, one, two, three, four-but the fourth is in a different world, extending across Central and Eastern Europe, across Asia to the very Pacific, cut off by barbed wire and the parallel ten metre wide ploughed and harrowed belt. Nothing seen or heard drove home the reality of this Iron Curtain more than a visit to the Allied Control Point at Helmstad on the autobahn. The flags of Germany, France, U.S.A. and Britain flew side by side where we stood at the barrier, and two or three hundred yards away, down a no-man's section of the highway, the East German post, dominated by the Red Star, flies the solitary flag-the German flag. Coach loads of Berlin children awaited their turn to pass in after spending holidays away from the confines of their beleaguered city.

Not far from Bad Harzburg stands the Brocken, about as high as Snowdon and for ever associated with the witches in Faust. The attitude of the Germans to its loss seems to be on par with that of Calais in the days of Mary Tudor. Whereas 21 miles of water continue to separate Calais from England, between the Brocken and Western Germany lie strands of barbed wire, the ploughed strip, men in green uniform with dogs on one side and ruthless, determined trigger-happy guards on the other. They will not always be there, but how and when are they to be removed?

SMITHFIELD

On Wednesday, 10th December, a party of middle school pupils from Leasam visited the Smithfield Show at Earls Court. We arrived at 11.30 and were allowed to look around until five o'clock. There was certainly much to see in the show which was held on two floors.

On the ground floor were cattle of every breed, from the picturesque Highland to the smallest Dexter. Surrounding the cattle pens and the show ring were the many trade stands of different firms, which were exhibiting their latest machinery. There were tractors of every description, such at the new Fordson Power Major and its workmate, the Fordson Dexter. Another big attraction was the International Stand, with its new tractors, the B-450 and the B-275. There were many new ingenious inventions, such as sack-loaders, potato harvesters and precision drills. Another new feature was the Robot tractor, which has an automatic transmission. There was also a large range of crawler tractors, with the latest attachments.

The Carcase Competitions were held in a specially cooled room on the ground floor, and there were a great many carcases of bacon, pork, lamb and beef. The winning pork carcase was a Landrace, the

same strain as some of the pigs at Leasam, and this suggests a hope for Leasam as a future Smithfield winner. On the top floor was a balcony, overlooking the show ring. Around it were the trade stands, on the one side the sheep and on the other the pigs. Among the pigs were the little-known Tarnwath and Gloucester Old Spot breeds, and sheep were largely from twenty-three pure British breeds.

The whole show proved to be very interesting and of great educational value. We wish to thank Mr. Anderson for arranging the

visit and for answering our many queries.

B. Beasley, M5 G. Cook, M4

CROWBOROUGH

On the 6th October, a party of thirty-five boys left Rye at 11.30 a.m. on a coach bound for Crowborough's smithy, where Mr. Fenner, the owner of the smithy was waiting to receive us. As thirty-five boys could not see Mr. Fenner working at one time, half of the party went off in a coach to see some balcony railings made by Mr. Fenner. These railings were obviously made by a craftsman, as each of the thirty scrolls looked identical, although they were fastened by a rather expensive sort of rivet. These rivets, although costing sixpence each, are in fact cheaper than if he made them himself.

Meanwhile the party at the Smithy, were enjoying an interesting and educational talk by Mr. Fenner as he worked. This party learnt several facts about the precautions necessary when working at the forge or with other 'could-be-dangerous' implements. In the Smithy, there was a pile of scrap metal from which Mr. Fenner made most of his work, just like his father and grandfather before him. Today, people like Mr. Fenner are absent from the present generation so that craftsmen such as him will soon be non-existent, which seems a great A. Harris, M5 pity.

VERSE I WONDER

"I often wonder," said the cat, Washing his whiskers on the mat, "Why humans go to bed at night, Instead of going out to fight Like me, upon the roof tops still Crouching and waiting for a kill. Then tail upraised and outstretched paw I 'bash' that ginger from next door. The moon comes from behind a cloud, I raise my voice and howl aloud, While humans lie asleep in bed They might as well be really dead. Why don't they sleep during the day, Curled up and warm, the pussies' way?"

AUTUMN

Autumn leaves come floating down,
In the country, in the town,
Making a carpet of leafy mould
In yellow and brown and red and gold.
The birds begin to flock together,
And fly away to warmer weather,
Leaving others, brave and bold,
At home, prepared to face the cold.
Rats and squirrels hibernate
Not too early and not too late.
They sleep to escape the Winter snow,
And stay till the North winds cease to blow.
Marie Trussler, LIV

NIGHT

Day is over Night is nigh: Ghostly shadows Fill the sky. Day is over Stars now peep: Beasts and flowers Are asleep. Dawn is breaking Day is here; Gone the stars From far and near. Dawn has broken Birds now sing. Day has woken Everything. Christine Oates, LIV

WITH APOLOGIES TO LONGFELLOW

By the shores of Muddirother
On the swamp of Gitchigoomi
Came the Redskins of the backwoods
Came the squaws and brave young warriors
Tin-pot warriors, laughingly madly
Till they came to awful dwelling
Dwelling of the aged fathers
Great white teachers, lone proud warriors
Veterans of mighty battles.

Redskins stand with feathers moulting While squaw enters shaking wigwam With a voice of rolling thunder Sweeping past in red-striped loincloth Past the Bishop, past the Bloodhound Till she comes to Minnie Ha Ha Laughing girl of prefects' hovel Gives us lectures on our essays Gives us talk on 'Life my children' Helps us through our daily troubles Gives the young folk inspiration Shows us how the old ones manage How they live in peace and friendship Live in concord just like brothers Points to their untainted morals To their hunger after culture Warlike squaws of teachers' salon Peaceful braves of statesmen's meetings Greasy spivs of sordid night-clubs As our elders, so our betters. Thus we smoke the pipe of friendship As we sit in Gitchiroomthree Sit with girl of distant memory Midst lush violets spreading freely Till we hear the clanging summons

Anon.

COUNTRY BOYS

Calling to all brave young Redskins

Calling us to leave our parley

Of the Tribe of Elvis Presley.

A shout, a whistle, and the sound of running feet
Breaks the silence of the watching trees,
In the orchards where the apples are ripe.
The slamming of a gate, more shouting,
Hurried breathless whispers, up a tree, out of sight,
Then silence—
The only noise is the low, muttered cursing of the apple-pickers,
As they mop their brows, with large white handkerchiefs;
And again they return to work.

Round one tree, the apples are scattered upon the ground; Large and red, shining in the sun.

A small piece of cotton flutters gaily from a branch,
Telling the tale of a torn shirt, of one
Who dared to creep, with the others,
In silence—
Up to the tree, behind the backs of the apple-pickers.

To scramble, like a monkey, among the branches, And fill his pockets, till they bulged, with apples.

Then away over the fields and on into the woods, Where chestnuts are just ripening
For those who care and dare to pull
The branches down, with crashing and cracking;
And to grab the prickly balls, and crush them underfoot;
Then silence—
All are munching gaily, silently, with broad grins
Upon their faces. Then a faint noise reaches them—
Trudging footsteps through the wood.

The farmer with his men, intent on catching
The little devils, who many times before
Have robbed these orchards and woods of their fruits.
The boys creep away into the thicket.
And disappear without a sound. Laughing but—
In silence—
Yet how strange it is, when the farmer visits the suspected;
They have an alibi; they were seen in the village all the afternoon;
With no sign of chestnuts or red rosy apples.

Perhaps it was just imagination And the farmer never heard them at all. Perhaps the labourers didn't see those devils.

Jacqueline Ovenden, M3

PROSE

A DAY'S FISHING

It was a warm July morning, when we set sail in our 25-ft. yacht for a day's fishing in Rye Bay. At about seven o'clock we started the engine and motored from Rye Strand, after storing food, fishing tackle and oil skins on board; we then proceeded to Rye Harbour on the morning tide. The little village of Rye Harbour was just waking up and already we could see their nets and people on their boats getting up to prepare breakfast. As we sailed out of Rye Harbour, seagulls encircled our boat, evidently disturbed by the noise of our engine.

We eventually reached the open sea, and hoisted our mainsail and jib as there was a slight breeze. After the engine had been stopped, we felt very small and the silence was intolerable. But after a hasty meal, we set our course west-south-west for Fairlight and cast our fishing lines in the hope of catching some mackerel. Two featherlines and a spinner line were cast. By this time the wind was developing into a stiff breeze and white clouds were scudding across the blue sky. The sun was shining and it looked as if we were going to have a good day's fishing. The boat heeled over as we ran close

hauled, parallel to Fairlight Cliffs. Our boat was racing along and we had reached St. Leonards when we felt a slight pull on one of the feather lines. We quickly pulled in and found a small mackerel trapped on one of the hooks. We were inspired by this and lowered our mainsail to allow the yacht to run more slowly, under the jib alone. Our next catch was more successful and we managed to obtain a line of fish.

A mackerel on each hook! One member of the crew held up the line of wriggling fish and snaps were quickly taken. The fish were then detached from the hooks and put into a bucket. This process was repeated a number of times until the bucket was full. A shimmering mass of blue and silver wriggled and glinted in the sun. Occasionally a black-headed gull would swoop down, attracted by the fish. Often the gulls would circle low above the water—a good sign as it meant that the mackerel was plentiful, as was proved by our good catch.

All this hard work made us feel quite hungry, and so we spent an hour eating and generally lazing around on the sun-baked deck. Then suddenly a huge wave washed over the deck, soaking us completely, but luckily our fish were saved. We dried ourselves thoroughly and decided we ought to make for Rye Harbour or we would miss the evening tide. Our return journey was slow as there was a head wind. We re-hoisted the mainsail and tacked along the shore until we reached the mouth of the harbour. We just managed to sail up to Rye Harbour on the small evening tide before we had to start the engine. The run to Rye was easy, and we returned home to a supper of fresh mackerel..

YOU ARE INVITED.....

'Rock 'n Roll is here to stay, I don't care.....' etc., are the words of a modern dance-tune, and so, if we are to be burdened with this dance for the rest of our lives, it is best that we get acquainted with it pretty soon.

The best way of doing this is to take yourself to a modern dance-hall where the strange rite of rock 'n roll is practised. It is a good idea to bear in mind the saying that goes 'When in Rome, do as the Romans do,' and so dress as the natives do. This involves wearing either a pair of very tight slacks—drainpipes—or a straight or full skirt, plus a sweater. Thus attired, you are fit to pay your entrance fee at the dance hall and enter. Entering is in itself an art; firstly, light a cigarette and put some chewing gum in your mouth, and then slouch across the hall with half-closed eyes to your chosen place of residence; you have no idea what effect this has. After some time you will chance to dance rock 'n roll, for a prospective partner will appear before you, and with an honest animal flick of his head, knife or hips will summons you on to the floor. You can leave it to your own discretion as to whether or not you wish to rid yourself of your

gum or cigarette before starting to dance. But in case you wish to do so, the most popular place for (a) your gum, is either behind your ear or under your chair; and (b) your cigarette, is either to grind it out on the floor, or stub it out on someone's neck.

Thus prepared, you half-close your eyes and mouth, and place both hands on your partner's shoulders. There are other ways of beginning but this is just about the safest for beginners. It is now up to him which way to fling you first, and so be prepared for anything; of course, for the first two or three minutes of the record you may both just jump up and down, but you never know. However, as a signal, the male may start pumping your hand vigorously.....but do not be fooled as he is not introducing himself, but getting you 'in the groove'—that is showing you the beat. After this, it is a case of every 'cat' for him or herself, as suddenly you might find the floor or ceiling dangerously near (depending on your mate's mood). Do not worry, for if he does not catch you, then someone else is bound to. However, you have now show him just how advanced you are in the art of rocking 'n rolling, and he will allow you to continue with the rest of the dance standing up.

Now comes the tricky part, which depends on whether your partner is right or left-handed-of course, if he turns out to be ambidextrous, it could be dangerous, for you will be gaily twirled round, then back again, then once more round; if you go the opposite way to what is meant you may get a black eye, or a badly cricked neck. However, you will soon get the hang of this, and when your partner realises the fact, he will go all native. This entails emitting scaring noises, such as 'Oh, man' or 'GO it,' and suddenly losing control over his legs, so that they knock together, flap or kick in a most disturbing manner. Do not apply first-aid, because he is now in the process of expressing his soul's anguish, and is best left to it. Meanwhile, you must twist dutifully round and back, round and back, occasionally flapping your hands and arms, tapping your feet and jerking backwards and forwards. With any luck, the record will now end, and it is up to you to shove your way back to your seat, taking into account that it may be engaged by two or three cosy couples when you get there.

When the next record starts, your partner, let us take it, will once more claim you. As you are by now used to his complex-ridden actions, and your limbs can operate satisfactorily without any guidance from your brain, you will be able to take in the scenery. Apart from the hundred or more couples doing just what you are, you will perceive some rather unsociable couple walking round the perimeter of the floor. Note their position well, as you may be called upon to copy them. Firstly, remember to rest your chin on your partner's shoulder (if he is on the short side, his head will do), entwine your arms and fingers securely, close your eyes and shuffle blissfully along. It is permitted to enliven the circuit by now and then calling out 'Hotcha!' or 'Ooh! Aahh!'

OLD SCHOLARS' NEWS

After the spate of examination successes at University and College, reported in the last issue, we fall back on more recent Old Scholars to fill the present columns. Many of these wrote to Miss Turner round about Speech Day in connection with prizes they had been awarded and, at the same time, gave news of themselves.

Of these, Anna Holmes and Linda Bagley are probably the youngest, both being at school still, the one at Eastbourne and the other at Hove. Ann Sewell, having started on her training in Physiotherapy, has been facing her first examination with some qualms; she hopes, next summer, to play some tennis, though so far she has been unable to keep up any of her school games. Beryl Coleman will soon be joining her at the West School of Physiotherapy where she hopes to prepare herself for more work with spastic children. Diana Dolan claims to be the pioneer from this school in Speech Therapy and thoroughly recommends it as an interesting and worthwhile career.

T. Wood has been doing teaching practice at Nottingham and Sandra Foulsham says life at her small Training College at Bangor is made more enjoyable, because of their close contact with the University. M. Stunt, after weathering a term's teaching at his old school, is to take up a post at Rye County Secondary School, next term. On her frequent visits to London, Miss Turner has twice met G. Fanslau, who keeps up a regular correspondence with P. Robinson, at Sheffield University, and has tried to get in touch with B. Rankin, working in the Executive Grade of the Civil Service. Alison Winter, also a Civil Servant, reports that work in the Foreign Office is more interesting than she had expected.

In the Royal Air Force, David Thorpe, having passed out of Halton in July, is now a Junior Technician, posted at Cottesmore, Rutlandshire, and A. Smith is at Wilmslaw, Cheshire.

Various people have signed our visitors' book: J. Morrison, nursing at Birmingham, M. Stoodley, and C. Filgate, a secretary in Brighton. The Senior Dance brought visits from: Joan Griffin, R. Standing, P. Robinson, K. Cowper, C. Wisdom and Yvonne Watson. A steady stream of Christmas cards is flowing in daily as the end of term approaches. So far I should like to thank the following for theirs: R. Day, Anna Holmes, Catherine Layzell, Diana Dolan, Marian Saunders, Miss Lumb, Mr. Bagley, Miss Butchers, Mrs. Smith (formerly Miss Garside), Rev. A. R. Jacobs, Parvis, Yeganegi,

Josephine Vincent, Paddy Leeman, Jacqueline Mitchell, Maidie Stemp, Jane Forster, Valerie Mitchell, Valerie Jupp, Olga Clark, Elizabeth Jempson, Vicki Reed, Jean Morrison, B. Rankin, Miss Green, Gillian and Judith Pratt, the Standen family.

Finally, a note for the really Old Scholars, who will be interested to know that after a long silence, Miss Seed has communicated with Miss Turner from her home in Lincolnshire. We hope she is enjoying her retirement.

APOLOGY

We regret that our efforts have failed to get R. Stanton married off vet, but we hope to live long enough to report his wedding in a later issue.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

General Activities—The 16th Annual General Meeting was held at the School on the 18th October, 1958, when the following were all re-elected-

Chairman: Hon. Joint Secretaries: Mr. E. Robinson

Mr. D. C. Perry

Mrs. M. Leopold

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr. Edwards

A large gathering heard the Chairman express a very warm welcome to the Headmaster, Mr. A. F. Buttery, who was elected President of the Association. After the general business was concluded Mr. Buttery gave a very interesting and informative address. His topics included the first year at Rye Grammar School, general education versus specialisation and alternative subjects in the Middle School (M 4, 5, 6). After the Meeting refreshments were provided by the lady members of the Committee.

It is understood that Mr. Buttery would like to deal with other controversial topics at a further meeting, and provisional arrangements have been made for the 20th February, 1959. Please keep this evening free.

Transport to Meetings.—Some members living in the rural areas have mentioned transport difficulties encountered when attending meetings. Will all members who own cars, have spare seats and are willing to give lifts, please contact Mrs. M. Leopold or Mr. E. Robinson.

Sports Pavilion Fund-Your Committee feel that the provision of a Sports Pavilion is long overdue and have resolved to guarantee a minimum sum of £50 towards this fund. In an effort to raise the money, arrangements are in hand by Mrs. Farley to organise a series of Whist Drives in Peasmarsh. A Draw for the Grand National is

being sponsored early in the New Year and it is proposed to arrange one or two stalls on Open Day in July. Further details later. The Committee appeal to all members to give all possible support.

Swimming Pool Fund—Your Committee were of the opinion that as this project will be of great value to the School as well as the area generally, a small donation should be given. If circumstances permit further donations will be made

DO YOU KNOW YOUR REPRESENTATIVES?

BALDSLOW-Mrs. E. W. Harris, 46 The Ridge BODIAM—Mr. F. W. Jarvis, Udiam Farm, Ewhurst BREDE-Mrs. P. Armitage, Gostrow, Broad Oak BECKLEY-Mrs. S. C. Jones, Springfield, Bixley Lane CAMBER-Mr. McGann, Seafarer GUESTLING-Mr. D. C. A. Perry, Landfall, Pett Road ICKLESHAM-Mrs. G. Heighes, Rose Croft, Main Road NORTHIAM—Mr. C. Stanton, School House PEASMARSH-Mrs. J. Farley, The Hollies PLAYDEN-Mr. J. Winter, Saltbarn Farm RYE-Mrs. E. Bourne, 28 New Winchelsea Road Mrs. W. Simpson, 9 Cadborough Cliff Mr. A. Buchan, 53 Udimore Road WESTFIELD-Mr. L. B. Harvey, 56 Churchfield WINCHELSEA—Mrs. J. Evans, 2 The Orchards WITTERSHAM-Mr. W. K. Hamilton

ERRATUM: SUMMER, 1958

R. J. Stanton, Esq., of Northiam, wishes to thank all his friendsas they claim to be-for their kind wishes and floral tributes; the latter have been disposed of for charity. However, he wishes to make it perfectly clear that he is not, never has been, and probably never will be married. Any further publications dealing with the matter will be referred to Mr. Stanton's lawyer, and a libel action will F.A.T.S. doubtless result.

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