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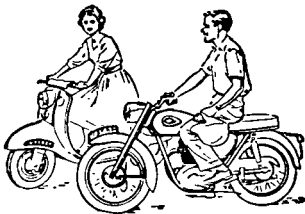
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THE FRESTONIAN

1975

THE MAGAZINE

of

NORMANTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Cover Design: Russell Davenport, Sixth Year

INTRODUCTION

In these times of educational and economic, social and political uncertainty it seemed obvious to seek material for the magazine which would reflect students' hopes and fears about the future. So we chose as our theme "The Shape of Things to Come".

The response was good but not what we expected—a symptom of that very uncertainty? For instance, we had intended to devote an extra section of the 'Frestonian' to Current Affairs, but political contributions were limited to a few cartoons and an article from a fourth year girl in praise of women. The rest of the original writing did not lend itself to simple categorization; changes of mood or atmosphere are roughly marked by appropriate illustrations.

Two unexpectedly productive sources of material have been the experiences of some of our former students now receiving further education or pursuing their chosen careers. The sub-editors worked hard to elicit these articles and are especially grateful to the Old Frestonians who responded so positively. We hope that those of our students who are thinking of leaving will find this section of particular value.

A vast amount of pretty unrewarding work also goes in to procuring the advertising by which the 'Frestonian' is almost entirely financed. Apart from any other advantages, local advertising does help forge the vital links between the school and the communities from which our students come: so to the public-spirited local tradesmen who have bought space, we say 'Thank you'; and to our readers, Patronise them!

Another local figure without whom the 'Frestonian' would not even exist in its present form is Mr. D. K. Cooper who, having first conceived the magazine as an annual publication five years ago and laboured with it for four years, has now decided to deliver it into the adoptive hands of the present editors. We congratulate and thank him on having produced such a healthy offspring and, feeling keenly our responsibility, trust that he will continue to watch over it with an avuncular if not parental eye.

CREATIVE • • WRITING



RUSSELL DAVENPORT *Sixth Year*

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

I WONDER

I wonder how we all will live in many years ahead.
Will we live beneath the sea or have clothes made of lead?
Perhaps we'll cycle to the moon on really way-out bikes,
Or fly around the countryside by specially-powered kites.
The strangest things could happen, imaginary-wise
There may not be an earth, or sea, or moon, or even skies.
I've often wondered things like this, I know they may sound rare;
If we could look at years to come, I wonder if we'd dare?

Lynda Smart, Second Year

MY DREAM OF THE FUTURE

"My dream was really vivid, mum. What do you think it means? Let me tell you about it again.

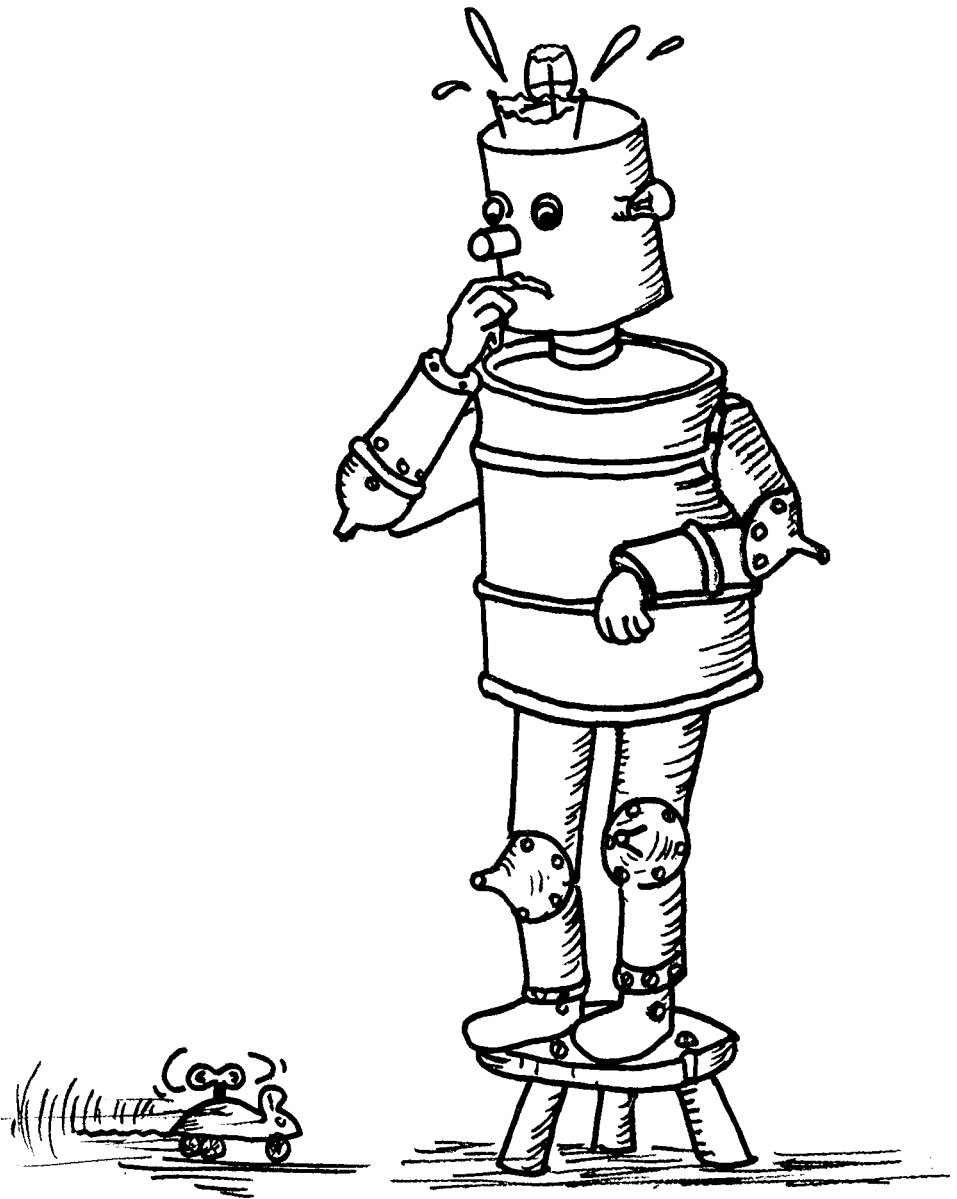
"I dreamt that I went through a time-barrier and stepped out into a planet, which didn't look like ours at all. It was a big city covered with a dome of plastic, inches thick. The streets were full of rubbish, and all the houses were tall skyscrapers. Not one blade of grass, or flower, or tree did I see, just rubbish and tall skyscrapers.

"In the centre of this dome was a very large power-station, splurting out polluted clouds. A car went into this power-station. The car was very different from the ones we know. It had no wheels. Instead it floated on a blanket of air. I walked a little further and passed a woman wearing some strange clothes. They were all coloured silver. She wore something that looked like a leotard which had a big black belt around it. There was a large pleated collar joined to the neck, which reached just above her head. Her boots reached her thighs and she had very high platforms on. Her eyes were covered by a mask, like the ones you wear at parties. She stared at me, and frightened me, I ran past her and met a guard. He picked me up and took me to the edge of the dome. There I saw a large door with 'Exit for Strangers' written on it. I looked outside, everything seemed dark, I couldn't see anything. He pressed a button and the door swung open. Before I knew what had happened I was outside, in a world which looked like ours.

"Grass, trees, and flowers grew almost everywhere. The air was clear and the people looked only slightly different from us. The sun was beating down and all the streams glistened in its light.

"What do you think it means, mum?"

Ann Riley, Second Year



KAREN STARK *Sixth Year*

THE EYES OF TOMORROW

If I had the eyes of tomorrow,
Instead of the eyes of today,
I'd go to the nearest town-centre,
To see what was coming my way.
It may be a robot on castors,
It may be a man with jet boots on,
Or an atomic police-car that wails,
A man standing there in a catsuit,
All silver and shiny and bright.
It may be a big Stretford Ender,
Using lasers when he has a fight,
It may be a woman with jet-packs,
It may be a nuclear bike.
Maybe grannies on jet-powered pogo-sticks,
But it may not be something I like.
The buildings might all have been grounded,
The scene may be barren and cold.
The people perhaps dead from exposure,
Or pollution has finally told.
So if I had the eyes of tomorrow,
It may be a bad thing, not good,
If the houses and flats had been knocked down
And the world covered over with mud.
So before we go into the future,
Where the world is one huge cosmic beam,
We'd better stop our complaining,
'Cause things aren't as bad as they seem.

David Elcoate, Second Year



"Strewth ! And they thought they had an immigration problem back in '75".

ANDREW BEAL and MARTIN THOMPSON *Fourth Year*

GET WITH IT?

Nowadays, unless you can talk about science you are out of it—side-tracked in conversations and regarded with cultural disdain until you can get the subject on to something you are up on, such as the more interesting pastimes of life that we aren't allowed to write about for school magazines. So here is a brief historical survey which will, I hope, prove useful.

The first major discovery in early times was fire: I don't know who was responsible or how he did it, but it's assumed his first word on doing so was not "Eureka!" but "* * * *!" This discovery led to many new improvements, such as fire alarms, fire insurance and "Towering Inferno". It also provided the first form of central heating, which was accomplished by setting fire to the centre of the house and allowing it to spread outward. Before houses were heated, people went to bed to get warm, which was more fun than writing dumb articles for magazines.

Next came the wheel, which was simply a stone with a hole in the middle. When two such devices were placed end to end the inventor was reminded of a bicycle. After this it was no great trick to put four stones together and produce a wagon. This was not so much a station wagon as a stationary wagon as it was too heavy to move. With the invention of the back seat there was a substantial rise in population.

One great scientist of the ancient world was Ptolemy who insisted that the world was the centre of the universe and immovable. If it moved, he argued, things would fall off. There are some of us who prefer this to the new fangled ideas about the universe.

During the middle ages the only libraries and places of learning were monasteries, where you had to spend your life (and take THAT vow) before they gave you a library ticket. But there were two notable scientists. One was Robert (and this is a real name—I swear to God) Grossteste. Now my mind fairly reels with fantastically humorous and witty puns based on that name. Unfortunately I've been told if I use any of them I'm likely to be expelled. So I pass, reluctantly, on to Roger Bacon. He was so far ahead of his time fellow scientists said he was a witch (he must have been built funny too) and he was imprisoned without books or instruments, a frustrating experience for a scientist (or anybody else for that matter!)

By flying a kite Benjamin Franklin proved that lightning was electricity and not something else, like an angry God. People laughed when they saw grown men flying a kite in a rainstorm, but people always laugh at geniuses (they also laugh at idiots but that's beside the point). However, Franklin had not read the statement—not surprising as it was by a later scientist—that "all bodies are capable of electrification", a discovery which proved a god-send to capital punishment.

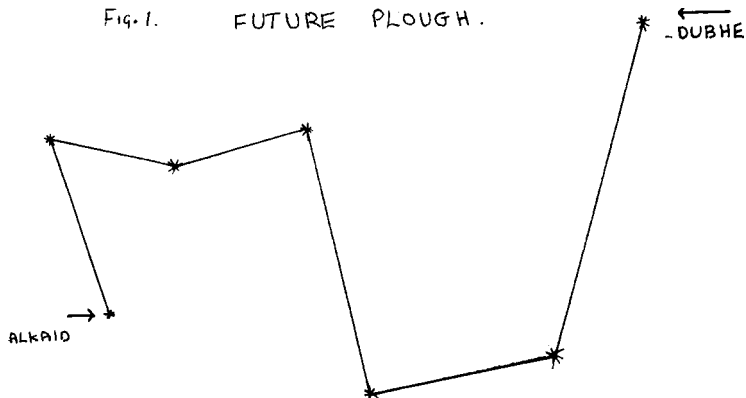
Last, but not least, is Michael Faraday. By running electric currents through all sorts of things he developed the galvanometer, a device for measuring quantities of electricity. When he came out with his ballistic galvanometer, many thought he'd gone too far. Indeed, many, when they saw Faraday approaching with his gadget in hand, took to their heels. As if that were not enough he also claimed to have discovered self-induction, though many insisted it had been going on for years.

Modern science has given us such wonders as television, space rockets, hydrogen bombs, "Star Trek" and 24-hour deodorants.

Where would we be without it? Where will be tomorrow with it?

Malcolm Hawkins, Fifth Year

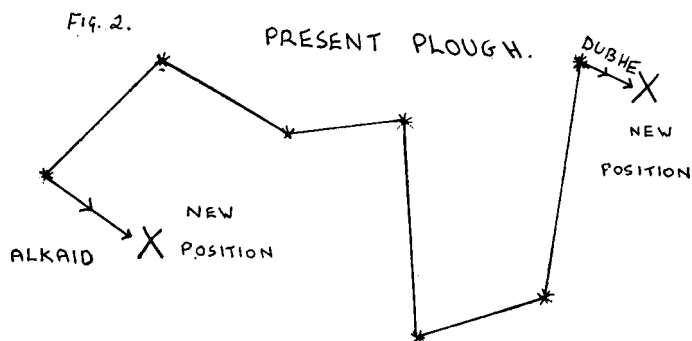
THE SHAPE OF THE NON-AGRICULTURAL PLOUGH IN THE YEAR 100,000 A.D.



"What the dickens is that?" you'll be asking yourself. No, it isn't a new design for a farming implement, so I'll enlighten you. It's a constellation. I think I'd better explain the connection between the drawing of the constellation and the subject of the title.

Thousands of years ago astronomers attached mythological names and legends to groups of the brightest stars in the sky. They also considered the stars to be "imprinted" on the sky, the stars thus not moving in relation to each other.

Today, modern astronomy has proved that the stars are not 'fixed' in the sky but scattered throughout infinite space. Thus, the component stars of a constellation can be vast distances apart although apparently side by side. These stars are moving in relation to each other, although too slowly for us to notice, but after a sufficiently long period the familiar patterns of the constellations will have changed; some drastically. Our old friend the Plough—the well-known indicator to the Pole star—will be different. The two end stars in the group are moving in a different direction from the others and the present Plough—



—will resemble the first picture.

Yet this is only one of the many astronomical processes which are taking place before our very eyes. This is the magic of astronomy which makes it such a fascinating subject to the people who have the time to think about the "mysteries" of space.

Maxwell Littler, Fifth Year

THE PROBLEM OF PROGRESS

In years to come, man could be his own worst enemy. Medicine, science and technology are advancing so fast that danger signs could be passed without anyone noticing. Although in the medical world drugs and antibiotics have been successfully used in the saving of lives, there is now a danger that a more virulent form of disease could break out which no known drugs could overcome.

The knowledge of nuclear science is now so widespread around the world, it only needs a rash decision on the part of one man to set off a chain reaction and wipe out the world as we know it. The one bright spark in all this is that people are beginning to realise the dangers that could confront us. They are beginning to realise that the resources they have drawn from the earth are not limitless. More and more the scientists are seeking ways of providing cheap energy and food for a growing population.

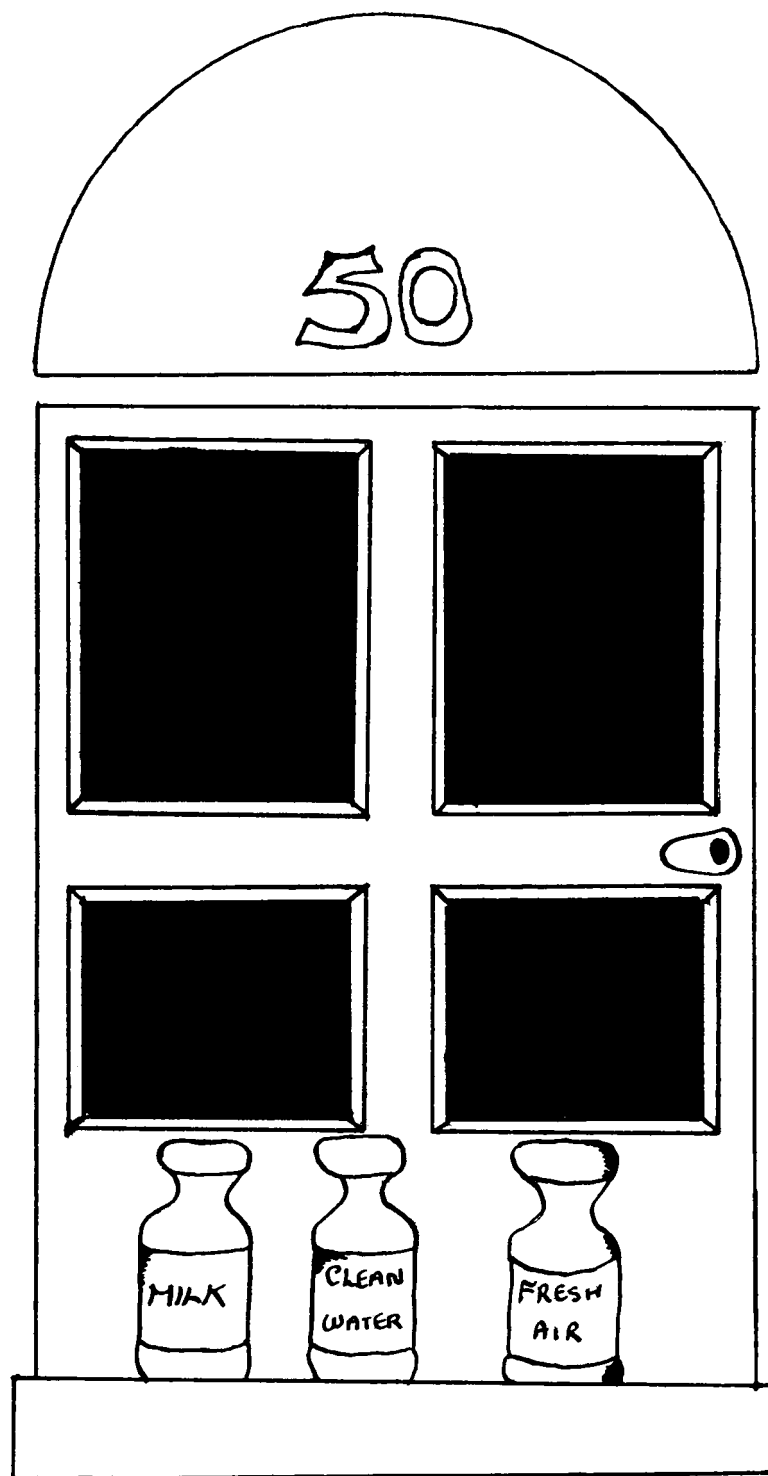
Sometime in the future this technology could be put to use, if handled by responsible men. It is now possible for electric cars to run, but if improvements can be made man will have a pollution free car to replace the present petrol one. Computers and machines are being gradually perfected so that in time to come, they could be taking over more jobs that men are having to do now. Gradually this could lead to men having more free time with no loss of material comfort.

The one immediate bright spark for the future of Britain is the discovery of oil fields round the coast. It is the one thing that could make Britain a rich nation again and bring us back into world prominence.

Today's science fiction could become a reality. The moon landings could have been the first step in man's conquest of space. After the link-up of U.S.A. astronauts and Russian cosmonauts next year, there will be manned landings on far off planets and a space station is planned for the future.

There will always be men willing to risk their lives to further man's knowledge: just how much he progresses is questionable.

Chris Fellows, Fourth Year



MAN POWER

The industrial city
Lies prostrate in the valley,
On a lake of smog and grime.
It stretches out its hard, cold, grey fingers
Of twining roads,
Motorways
And high line single tracks
Of synthetic rubber,
Taking fields and farmyards in its grasp,
Engulfing them all in its sprawling mass.
Out of its mis-shapen form
It thrusts
High rise flats,
Office blocks
And giant towers
Of man-made stone,
Which belch out man-made clouds
To cover the man-made scene
And to disappear, slowly,
Over the man-made horizon.

Ruth Harrison, Sixth Year

AN EXPERIENCE WHICH MEANT A LOT TO ME

Sherry flicked her tail at the flies as they buzzed about, getting in her eyes and irritating her. She stamped her foot impatiently and turned her head, nudging me gently, as if to hurry me along. I quickly acknowledged the fact that I had been a bit long grooming her, three hours in fact. I stepped back to admire the result of my hard work. Her coat shone brilliantly, her mane, now free of knots, gently quivered and wavered in the breeze. She held her head and her tail high, as if to show herself off to me. Then she curled back her lips, stretched out her neck, and laughed. Then she tossed her head about gently and I could see she was getting impatient, so I quickly saddled and bridled her up.

She was a little frisky at first, so I cantered her round the field. She pranced about, holding her head very high and shying at the least thing. As we cantered up the small hill past the old, fallen-down tree, a small rabbit, a wild one, leapt out from underneath the bare, crumbling branches, then darted into the undergrowth of the hedge, terrified, and lay there quivering, his brown speckled coat giving him good camouflage. But Sherry had to jump; I mean, she always does. She spun round on her hooves and plunged down the hill in the opposite direction, as I grabbed at the reins, which had been jerked out of my hands. I managed to stop her at last and she stood there panting, looking warily around.

"Come on then, girl!" I said, and we started out for the woods.

She trotted out beautifully on the road, aware of the admiring looks she was getting. She insisted on stopping to let the little boy cross the road

to pat her, and then the old lady on the corner. Honestly, she is about the vainest horse I've ever met!

Soon we came to the field, filled with the stubble of the old crop of wheat. She pranced about again, so I let her have her head. We virtually flew over that field, her hooves hardly making a sound. In the middle stood a single, forgotten bale of straw. I urged her on and we sailed over it gracefully, with about a foot to spare. The wind was exhilarating and as yet, it was peaceful.

Only the birds and buzzing of insects could be heard in the wood. There was a continuous twittering and humming and the occasional whispering of the wind through the trees. Even Sherry became quiet and less frisky. I left behind the world of cars, trains, school and bustle. I felt free . . . really free, as if the whole country was so still and quiet and green. For the first time I felt contented and happy, not because something had happened or I had had a rise in pocket money, but because I felt deeply refreshed. It was quite early in the morning, and the sky looked as if it had just come out of the wash, so blue, clear and fresh, with the occasional fluffy white ball of cloud. Below there was a green haziness—green leaves, green grass, green ferns, green moss. Everything was vibrantly alive, every blade of grass, every leaf was growing. I turned in the saddle—and saw the yellow earth-shifters levelling the ground for the new by-pass.

Annette Rogers, Third Year

THE PEOPLE'S SHAME

I race along, average speed,
One hundred miles per hour,
On sixteen lane motorways,
Across former fields and meadows.
Past the grinding of stone and steel,
As more towering blocks shoot up around me
Over polluted, stinking rivers,
Beside withered crops,
Unable to survive in the choking air
And another tree dies of the shame.
So this is God's beautiful earth?

Kevin Gent, Fourth Year

SKYLARK

As I walked out of the drive, I noticed that the sky was darkened by ugly, grey clouds. It looked almost as if a storm was brewing. A faint breeze was the only thing that prevented the atmosphere from being humid. I sauntered along the littered road, choking on the exhaust fumes of a passing lorry. I was not going anywhere in particular, but soon I found myself walking on familiar ground.

Years ago I used to walk along here with a spaniel tugging at the end of a lead. I climbed the rise in the road and two newly ploughed fields lay at either side of me. Why in the world did 'The Avenue' have to be destroyed? There had once been two lines of cool, shady trees that had seen innumerable carriages roll up and down. But this modern world soon dispensed with such beauty.

As the road began to level out, I heard a sharp, clear twittering: it was a skylark. I knew that somewhere up amongst the clouds there would be one of those tiny birds, but where? For the life of me, I could not see him. Then

the clouds parted and the evening sun feebly shone through. The breeze became cooler and more refreshing. I could still hear the shrill cry that seemed to float out of the sky. There he was, I could see him! He was hovering just above the horizon of the hill on a current of air, and with each gust he rose higher. His wings would flutter and then stop as he glided in the breeze. All the time he was crying out:

"Whee! Look at me! I'm going higher and higher . .

Very soon he was no more than a speck against the sky, looking down from his lofty throne on us, the masters of the world. But it was getting late, so I turned back. My eyes were still looking towards the skylark. Then I stopped short. My friend from the clouds had fallen out of the sky. He was hurtling towards the ground. His singing had stopped. All was silent; even the roaring of the vehicles from the main road had faded away. Then, with only feet to spare, the fragile creature beat his wings against the air and resumed his song.

As I turned towards home, with the trilling notes still ringing in my ears, I realised that Old Mother Nature had not yet given up the ghost.

Jane Higgins, Sixth Year

A QUESTION SIMPLY

My eyes
Bulge
With the sight of children dying.
My ears
Ring
With the sound of children crying
My mind
Or my heart,
Which
Will burst
First?

Andrew Booth, Sixth Year

WORLD OUTLOOK

Here is the weather forecast for the world.

In the West, it will be fine with plenty of sunshine with occasional small areas of depression, followed by heat waves of happiness.

In the East, mass flooding of population with storms of hunger and starvation, with a heavy fog of death over the area.

Further outlook—little change.

Christine Bell, Sixth Year

WHY?

A little girl lost in the big city cries,
A muddy drenched soldier on a battlefield dies,
Fish on the water enveloped in flies,
Hot-air filled politicians spout wisdom unwise,
An oil-covered seagull trying to fly,
A dead body is shunned by a passer-by—
If only someone would tell me why.

Peter Walker, Fourth Year

AUTUMN

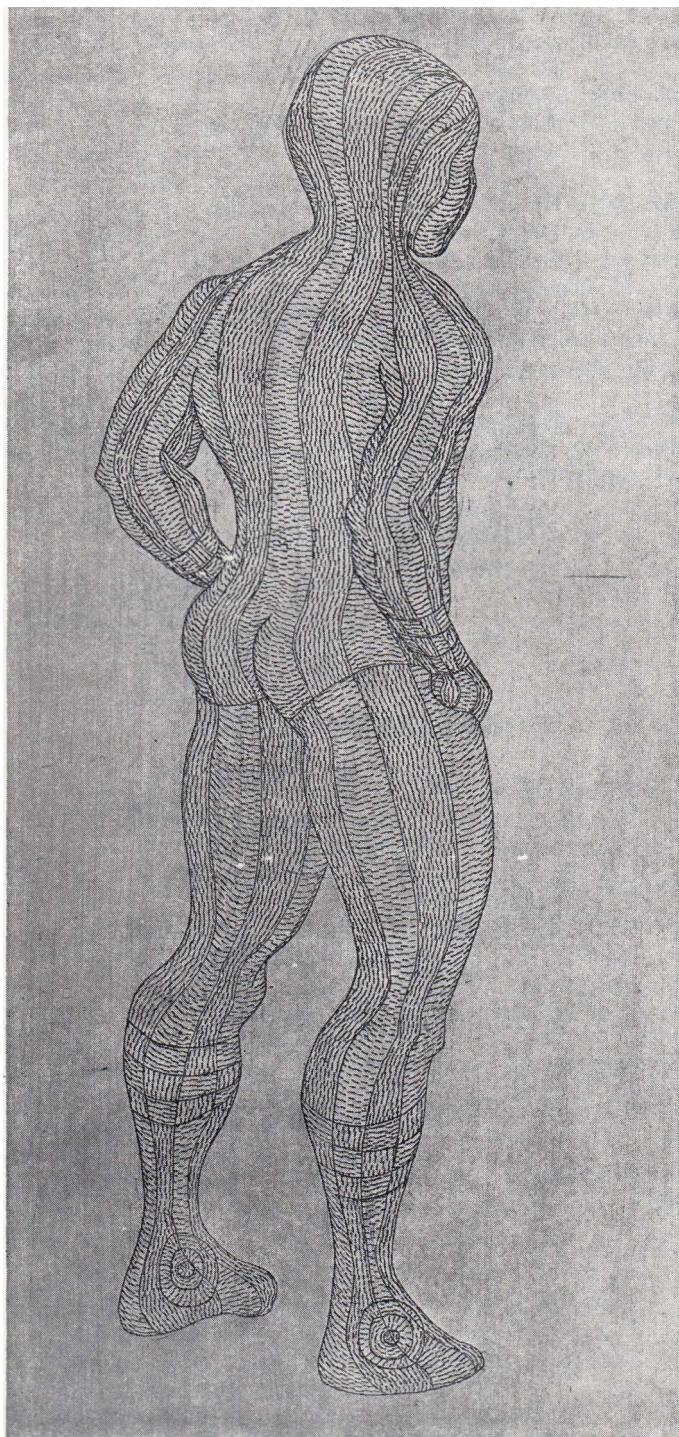
The leaves fall
Softly,
Silently,
Slowly
Down
To decay
With the crisp bags,
Bottle tops,
Fag ends,
And the sticky chewing gum
On the old sock
In the rusty tin can,
By the broken down stone wall,
Behind the stagnant pool,
Next to the graveyard
Of the old,
Vandalised,
Deserted,
Forgotten town.

Ruth Harrison, Sixth Year

THE ROCK DESERT

Towering above,
The random spires look down in admiration
Upon a wild bleak wilderness,
Of which its only elements are sand and rock.
Its changing effigy,
Of which the culprit is the moving seasons,
Is of no importance to mortal beings,
But to itself,
It is its only companion.

James Taylor, First Year



MISS ANGELA BARRETT (*left N.G.S. 1974*)

ONE STUDY OF ANOTHER, OR A THEORY OF A FUTURE?

This light is fading now,
A retrograde from garish orange and bright blues
To gentle greys and soft, silky brown.
From the coldness of adolescence
To the warmth of maturity—and death.
The world is a Schoenberg symphony,
Seen through the dreamy Debussyan haze of my eyes,
Felt through the Faurian finger-tip,
And spoken in my own tone
To arrays of cat-calls and jeers.
My world is "Jardins sous la pluie".
Through windows of glass and pain,
Of a pretty place under a rain
Of cyanide, paraquat and stark filth
—Society?
No-one is indispensable.
You are the grains of dissolved powder,
Destroying the co-ordination of our earth
With slogans of steel boots and bloodied khaki.
You are the mutations of time,
—Only I can see.

Caroline Green, Sixth Year

LOOKING FORWARD

I've packed my bags, said goodbye to friends, enemies and my locker.
Soon, quite soon I shall forget names and numbers. I will no longer remember
eager anticipation, disappointments and the frequent frustration of days and
years ago. I shall leave here and everything will be new. I will have to face
disappointment on my own, and I know that we will probably pass each other
somewhere, with faint recollection of the face, surprised at ourselves. Then
I will be glad and thankful to have known you.

Judy Frayne, Sixth Year

LOOKING IN A MIRROR

I was only trying to see
If there was anyone but me
In this vast and lonely place.
I wonder if you knew
that I couldn't quite see you,
only my reflected face.

Judy Frayne, Sixth Year

POP IDOL

You have money
and people
who crowd around you
to pat you
and to clap for you.
You have beauty
and talents
beyond me.
You can be things that I only dream of,
But I have a memory
of a childhood love
which will be
with me long after
you are gone from
your admirers' hearts.

Judy Frayne, Sixth Year

LOST YOUTH

One day I'll be old,
My life will be gone,
My dreams will be over,
My end almost come,
My heart will be weakened,
My limbs will be stiff,
My veins will be narrow,
My blood running thin.
My hair growing white,
Perhaps dropping out!
My hearing will fade,
My eyes will grow dim,
Age for the taking,
but youth past my reach,
All friendships now broken,
and buried so deep.
Memories and thoughts,
gone with the wind,
My life like a ripple,
Approaching the shore.

Rita Newton, Sixth Year

THOSE WHO LOVE DESPITE THE WORLD

She had read of fair ladies
and knights who came
on horses of white
like snow.

She had wanted a castle
tall and gold
where she could lie
in rest.

But when she was born
the world was real
and fear lurked in alleys
and around street corners.

And up the stairs she would climb
to her tiny room
where love greeted her
with a soft
"Miaow".

Judy Frayne, Sixth Year

MY BRUVVER

My brother Andrew is only four,
His head is as thick as the kitchen door,
When I tried to teach him the time,
He said "Oh no! tell me a nursery rhyme".
When I tell him he's not very bright,
He says "Well, that's all right,
'Cos when I grow older and a bit taller,
I'm gonna be a famous footballer,
Then you guys with all the brains and knowledge,
Will have to pay to see me play with poise and polish,
And don't think you'll get a free ticket because you're my brother,
Cos I'd rather take mi' mother,
And when I come home in my 'E' type Jag,
Oh Boy! Oh Boy! will your face sag,
So don't knock us dimwits about, oh brother of mine,
Because who knows in the long run who will shine?"

Paul Hinchliffe, Fourth Year



KAREN STARK *Sixth Year*

BALLAD OF THE EGG BOILER

One certain Monday morning
I packed my cookery tin.
And on arriving at the school
I put them safe within.
Now when that cookery lesson came
I began on my creation

And when I came to break the eggs
 Well, what a situation!
 I stood In utter disbelief
 I really had been foiled,
 Instead of raw and runny eggs
 I found they were hard boiled.
 I went and explained the case
 Then went to the local store
 When after changing a pound note,
 I purchased two eggs—RAW.
 I finished my sultana cake,
 It all worked out, you see,
 Because I ate those two boiled eggs
 With brown bread for my tea.
 So to that keen egg boiler
 (An Upper Sixth, I'd say)
 Beware of practical yolks, my friend;
 They'll addle on you, one day!

Karen Clegg, Sixth Year

FAIR

Gaily painted caravans,
 Music, ponies and carts,
 Side shows, roll a penny,
 Coconut shies and darts,
 Roundabouts, dodgem cars,
 Waltzers and swings,
 How very exciting,
 To ride on these things.
 Brandy snaps, ice-cream,
 Candy floss, light as air;
 It's a great day out!
 All the fun of the fair!

Gary Cowell, First Year

THE EARLY BIRD . . .

Hurry, Hurry, Scurry, Hurry,
 We're late,
 You're late,
 We're in a flurry.
 I've lost my scarf!
 Where are my gloves?
 Is that my hat?
 Don't need that!
 Where's that book?
 No time to look!
 We'd better go,
 No time to wait!
 Bye for now.
 Don't close the gate.
 Hi!

Goodbye!
 I'll miss my bus.
 Did you say we came out late?
 Told you not to close the gate!
 Faster, Faster, must go faster.
 Oh no!
 There's the bus
 WAIT . . .
 We're almost too late.
 Give me that bag, try not to lag.
 Must catch that bus,
 No time to fuss!
 Run, run, RUN . . .
 Phew! caught it!

Ruth Harrison, Sixth Year

EPITAPH FOR MORBID MAN

As you pass by, remember yet,
 Though Death's forgot, he'll not forget.

Andrew Booth, Sixth Year

MY TESTIMONY

I believe that Jesus lives. I am one of about three and a half million people who follow the Living Prophet and the Council of the Twelve. I am a Morman, a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. We believe in the family unit; its members should come together once a week for a 'Family Home Evening'. Everyone does his party piece, any problems are discussed and everyone feels much better afterwards.

Our church is a community in itself; everyone 'fellowships' everyone else and new members are always made thoroughly welcome. Many people refuse to join us, however, because of three revelations we stick to; the Word of Wisdom, tithing and chastity. The Word of Wisdom means not smoking, drinking no alcohol, no stimulants (tea, coffee, coke), and no drugs (except on medical grounds). Tithing is paying ten per cent, of all earnings to the church—this teaches us not to be selfish and to share what we have with others. Chastity is self-explanatory. No person under the age of sixteen is allowed to date because many cannot control their feelings at this age. Our first belief is in God, our Heavenly Father, Christ, and Joseph Smith our founder prophet. The bible is our most important book although we do have the Book of Mormon.

I believe in this church, along with many more. Some become inactive but realise they cannot live without the gospel and reactivate themselves. This to me is a testimony that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints is true.

If anyone would like to know more, see me.

Jill Preece, Sixth Year

EPITAPH FOR THE TRUE BELIEVERS'

Now you C.E.M.
 —now you don't.

Andrew Booth, Sixth Year

WHOSE BIRTHDAY?

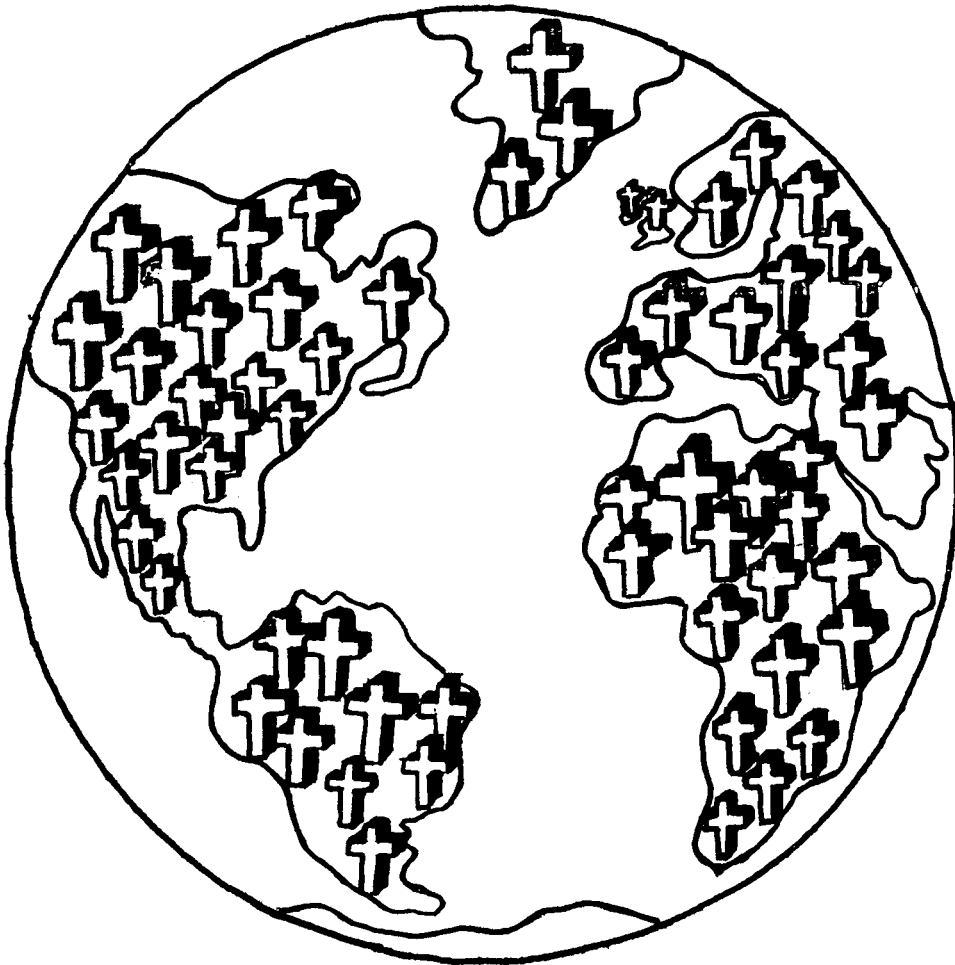
Church all day.
No games, no play.
We worship Christ
On his birthday . . .
A present here, a present there.
Wine to drink but none to spare.
Trimnings hanging, bright and gay,
And a little prayer on his birthday . .
Presents, presents everywhere,
Wine overflows, the bright lights flare,
Crackers are pulled, there's food galore-
Turkey and pudding and shouts of 'More!' . . .
Generations pass, the years go by,
Christmas again and parents sigh,
As kids open their presents and then say,
"What does it mean? It's *whose* birthday?"

Jillian Parnell, Fourth Year

EPITAPH FOR THE ALMIGHTY

Not dead—just weeping.

Andrew Booth, Sixth Year



P E A C E

HELEN BOWERMAN *Third Year*

THE DAY THE EARTH DIED

It was a cold dark morning,
With stillness in the air.
All the world was dead,
No birds, no people, no cars;
Just stillness everywhere.
About the cold grey outline of the houses,
Giving a strange sense of eeriness to the world.

John Chambers, *First Year*

JESUS MEETS THE ATOM BOMB

He stood on a hill
and watched the greens and blues
which mingled into a peaceful afternoon.
There was a thud
as if an angry giant had stamped his foot
and his poor, tired body shook slightly.
There was a second
which seemed an eternity
of suspicion and hesitation.
And then it came.
A violent pink mushroom
of power, curling upwards
at inhuman speed.
The white stem
stark and cruel
and the converging confusion
below
was made humble before the master
which stirred and tormented
the beauty of the deep greenness.
He watched and was sad
and slowly returned
to His home in the sky.

Judy Frayne, Sixth Year

OUR FUTURE

The end of the world has been prophesied by almost every soothsayer who has ever lived. But in the sixteenth century there lived a man called Nostradamus*. He prophesied much, and with great accuracy. His predictions were in the form of four lines of verse, a quatrain, many of which are ambiguous until hindsight reveals their terrifying correctness. There is one prediction which is not in the least ambiguous though, and is explicit as to the date of its fulfilment.

"In the year 1999 and seven months
The great King of Terror will come from the sky . . ."

Nuclear war? Invasion from space? A huge comet? The second coming? These are my ideas.

In the October war Israel was pushed back from the Suez Canal. Soon she will have grown wearv of the constant Arab invasions into her territory and will re-equip for war. The war will be a success and the Arabs will be pushed back into the Suez Canal. In Israel a government drunk with success will order an invasion of Egypt. In Syria the government will order an all-out attack on Israel. With the invasion of Egypt well under way the attack will take Israel by surprise and she will have to take men from the Egyptian front to repel the Syrians. The Egyptians will sieze the opportunity and slowly the Israelites will be pushed back. Finally, in a panic, Israel will use strategic nuclear weapons. The rest of the world will stand back in horror. Accusations and counter-accusations will fiv across the North Pole from the USA to the USSR.

Meanwhile in South East Asia, Russia will extend her sphere of influence and take over the entire area, then start "island hopping" across the Pacific ever towards America.

To divert American attention elsewhere, the Russians will re-arm the Arabs and Israel will be destroyed by a combined land-sea attack from the Russians and Egyptians. This time the exchanges between the Kremlin and the White House will be even more heated, ending with a severing of communications. America will react typically and have a huge anti-communist purge, looking more to internal security than external defence.

With much of the world in communist hands, the carefully built-up Central European Nations' Treaties Organisation and the South East Asia Treaties Organisation (CENTO and SEATO) will be allowed to run down and will become useless.

Taking advantage of the Russian activity, China will expand and overrun much of the East. Knowing that war between China and Russia would be pointless and a waste of men, money and materials, the respective governments will conveniently forget the difference between their brands of communism and an alliance will be made between them.

Realising how unprepared she would be as regards fuel particularly, the USA will re-set-up Israel, repelling the Arabs and Russians alike, to take the Arabian oil wells. Russia will re-act and war will be declared between the Sino-Russian forces and the USA.

Throughout this time Europe, sunk to the level of second-class status, will have been protesting ineffectually and will be drawn unwillingly into the war on the American side to honour the NATO treaties.

The Third World War will have begun. In it not even India or Africa will be spared and the world will be devastated by nuclear weapons launched by both sides. The war will last less than one month, beginning and ending in July 1999.

Of course I *could* be wrong, Nostradamus *could* be wrong. We probably are. But . . .

** A French philosopher (1503-66) renowned in various royal households for the reliability of his prophecies.*

Michael Ward, Sixth Year

EPITAPH FOR A TV QUIZMASTER

That's all we've got time for.
So it's goodnight from me.
I hope you've enjoyed it,
R.I.P.

Andrew Booth, Sixth Year

IN FIFTY YEARS FROM NOW?

In fifty years from now will there be anyone left to tell the sad, sad tale of the race that's gone

When man discovered and blundered and killed in ways so viciously and violently done?

When men killed one another with a ruthless terror in their search for a peaceful world?

They had to discover, but discovered too much; they could not leave nature alone.

For they had to explore, they just had to know more, for they wanted a 'better' world.

They built their machines, their tower blocks, their cities for their children,
But in fifty years from now will there be anything left to show it?
Will their children ever know it?

Kay Kingsman, Fourth Year

A LETTER FROM THE TRENCHES

Dear wife, as I write. I'm so lonely, so cold,
My hand, oh so numb, from the rifle I hold,
With bullets so callous and the bayonet so cruel,
My feet lose their sense, as I stand in this pool,
of water, of blood, with vermin around,
My ears are now deaf from the shell-shock, that sound
That beats like a drum, that pierces like needles,
My hair with the lice, in my boots dwell the beetles.
I smell the stench of death floating across the air,
As I kneel down and whisper, in vain, a small prayer,
To the one up above, with the power in his hands
As he sighs at the politicians who are ruling the land.
Dear wife, as I write the shells burst around,
A colleague, a buddy, falls to the ground.
His face looked so young, now spat on by blood,
As more shells explode, I know it's no good.
Another pal dies, sinks down in the mud,
Tears pour from my eyes, the picture of you I hold,
I've often read stories. I've often been told,
Of fate and its fortune you cannot escape,
To curl up around, to crush like a snake,
The bullet that comes means to do you no harm
As the bullet that strikes has your name printed on.
I can see that bullet in a mist far away,
I might die tomorrow, next week, or today,
And when I die, and when I go,
Tell the children how I loved them so,
And wife, my dear, do not cry
I blow a kiss, goodbye, goodbye.

Peter Walker, Fourth Year

RETURN?

They were coming home
But who were they?
Boys that had left in their thousands
To put the world to rights.
So long ago.
What did home mean to the few who did return?
Their minds, distorted by their haunted pasts,
Echoing to the marching of
Dragging, tired footsteps,
Pressing homewards
Along semi-recognisable streets
To families hardened by grief.

Marion West, Fourth Year

THE GENOCIDE BOMB

I am one of the last human beings on earth, and I am slowly dying. They all said they would not use the bomb, but they did, and it destroyed humanity. It only happened about a year ago.

It started one summer's morning when we heard on the radio news that a Russian nuclear submarine had been destroyed in American territorial waters. At first nobody thought anything of it, "just another squabble", they all thought, but it soon became quite apparent that it was more than this. The Russians demanded compensation from the Americans for the incident. When America refused the chain reaction began.

The Russians attacked! The West of Europe was swallowed up without much fight. Missile bases were built on the west coast of Ireland, aimed on America. The Americans did the same thing in South America. They were like two giants playing chess, with the world as the board, and the people of the world their pieces.

Ail was quiet for a few months, but then they started firing their missiles across the Atlantic. Within a few weeks the death toll reached the ten million mark. In the remaining areas the dead outnumbered the living by ten to one.

Then the fools used the ultimate weapon, the weapon that could virtually annihilate humanity... the Genocide bomb.

The earth shook as the bombs found their targets. The sky went a bright red colour, and a mushroom shaped cloud of smoke hung hauntingly over the sites of destruction. Whole cities were wiped out, London, Paris and New York. All were razed, minutes after the explosion. People disintegrated as they stood, leaving only their shadows behind them. It was not until the death toll reached one billion that they stopped fighting, but it was too late then.

Those who did die in the initial explosion were the lucky ones. Radiation seeped into the air in the form of dust. The symptoms of radiation poisoning were easily spotted. The flesh dropped from their bones, their teeth from their gums. Boils and scabs appeared all over their bodies. After a few hours they mercifully died. I watched as my mother, father and sister died. All of the people around me died, disease ravaged the country. The death rate increased steadily. People were no longer fighting, but surviving. There were many who survived in underground bunkers, but the radiation finally reached them. I am about to die. I am perhaps one of the last humans on earth, if not the last. If man does manage to survive, which I doubt, perhaps he will learn from his mistakes; perhaps he will not.

David Stretton, Fifth Year

WAR AND PEACE

The surface of this world is black, pitted with holes blasted by bombs that dropped from the skies a thousand years ago, to burn and melt the rock below into strange twisted towers, and kill the people who once lived in the fields of green, where the black rocks now stand. A thousand years' dust lies on these towers, stirred only by the radioactive wind that sighs over the plains and between the towers. Nothing grows there, not even a single blade of grass; if it had, the white-hot, glowing globe in the skies would long ago have shrivelled it, till it too crumbled into dust, and was gone. There are few colours in this world; only the great gaping blue of the skies, and the black of the towers and plains, that still wear their mourning clothes for a people long dead.

The sun moves slowly round the world, almost seeming to singe the mountain tops with its fire. Time itself seems nearly dead. A lost cloud wanders over the sky and blocks out the sun. The radioactive rain falls to wet the dust, like helpless tears, for an echo of the laughter of children who died before the promise of their young could be fulfilled.

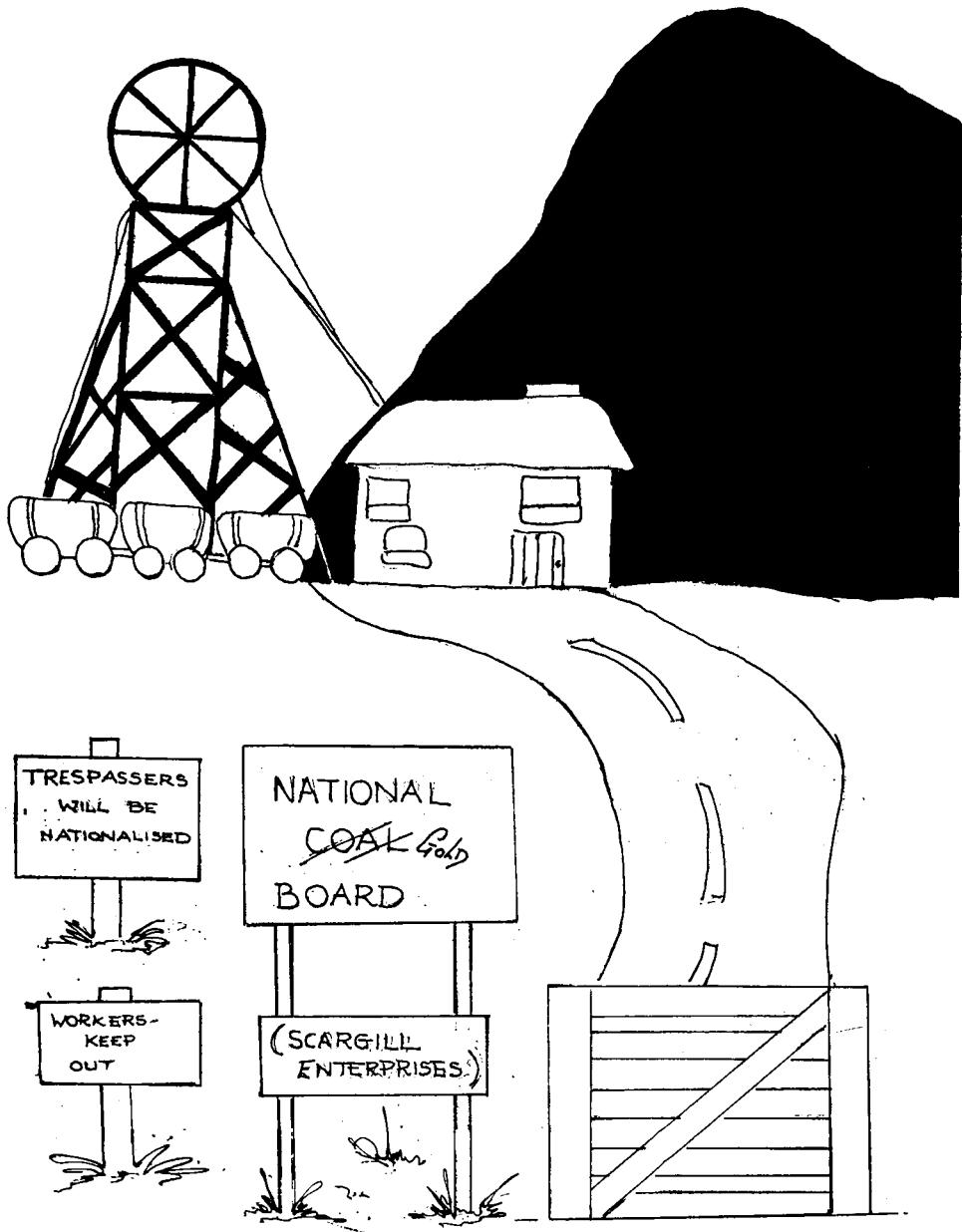
The sad wind begins to sob, aching alone, for the futility of it all.

Deborah Bowerman, Fifth Form

DEAR FUTURE WORLD LEADER . . .

Take one insane and violent man,
Give him atomic power,
Then try to stop him if you can:
He'll destroy you within the hour.
While you wait for certain death
Between atomic jaws,
Try to recall whose fault it was,
Not Destiny's, not God's,
But yours.

Angela Cardwell, Fifth Year



P. SMITH *Sixth Form*

"OUR ARTHUR . . . AMEN"

It's Sunday morning and I get up remembering that it's my turn to take the service at St. Marx.

I put on my best red suit and make my way down to St. Marx which is situated at the end of Bolshevik road.

I'm rather late because my bright red Volvo would not start, so I had to walk to the church.

The stained glass windows depict Arthur Scabhill fighting for a "living wage" for the miners, and sitting at his right hand is Joe Gormless.

I reach St. Marx fighting for air. I stand by the pit boot shaped altar, and read the service from Chairman Mao's little red book.

"Let us pray

Gary Walker, Fourth Year

EPITAPH FOR AN EGOMANIAC

Alas, poor reader, you knew me not,
It's too late now, for here I rot.

Andrew Booth, Sixth Year



"I'll need a miracle to exorcise the devils out of these two !"

NEIL CLOUGH *First Year*

LEARN TO BE FREE?

As Mary watched TV one night,
the news gave her an awful fright,
It said our world was ruled by men,
and as she looked at husband, Ken,
She thought, "He don't do nothing here,
'cept eat his chips and drink his beer",
and as she thought with haste and speed,
the man she would refuse to feed,
and without her hub's approval,
there soon occurred a bra removal,
and casting it into the flames,
declared she'd have no more such games;
that he would be the one to do
the washing and the cooking too.
But, after thought of every kind,
Ken very soon made up his mind,
he didn't like his female life,
and so a more obedient wife,
is what he soon would have to find,
if Mary didn't change her mind.
So all you would-be women's libbers,
before you start to get the jibbers,
just remember words so true,
and then you'll know just what to do,
If you don't want a single life,
don't be a liberated wife.

Deborah Knowles, Fifth Year



"My God ! Can't I take you anyplace without your embarrassing me ?"

MALCOLM HAWKINS *Fifth Year*

WOMEN AT THE HELM

There has been discrimination against women throughout the ages. Men have considered the traditional role of the women to be in the home.

1975 being International Women's Year, it is appropriate to draw attention to the women leaders of the world. In Britain the Queen, in Israel Mrs. Golda Meir, until recently Prime Minister, in Argentina Senora Maria Estela Martines de Peron succeeded to the presidency on the death of her husband. In Ceylon in 1960 Mrs. S. Irman Banderanaike became Prime Minister after the assassination of her husband. It was she who declared the country a Republic and re-named it Sri Lanka. She also holds the portfolio of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Planning and Economic Affairs and Plan Implementation. In India Mrs. Indira Gandhi became Prime Minister in 1966.

Now Mrs. Margaret Thatcher has become leader of the opposition and may well become Prime Minister of Britain. Mrs. Thatcher beat all the men in the election with almost twice as many votes as the nearest contender, Mr. Whitelaw. If in the shape of things to come, she is elected Prime Minister, she will provide the antidote to Socialism. She believes in reward for work and ability, and rewards not all stolen away by the taxman.

The Tory Party took the gamble of choosing a woman as their leader. Many questions are asked, the main one being—will she be able to cope with the leadership? Other women have coped and I believe that British women have common sense and ability to rule. Britain's most successful years were when Queen Victoria ruled.

Mrs. Thatcher has pledged herself to give the party a new look, a new sense of purpose and direction. The country will surely fare better with a woman Prime Minister.

Brenda Morton, Fourth Form

LONG LIVE THE QUEEN

Nowadays, as Socialism and Communism attract more and more adherents, there is a trend for people to be more outspoken in their anti-royalist views. They put forward questions such as, "Why should the state pay the Royal Family such large incomes when all they do is either sit at a desk signing letters all day or attending public functions?"

In my opinion the Royal Family work extremely hard. The Queen, like all Heads of State does a certain amount of clerical work. When Foreign Heads of State visit this country, it is the duty of the Queen or one of her representatives to meet and entertain them. This, of course, is not peculiar to our Royal Family but is the accepted practice in Republics and Communist states too, where Presidents and other political leaders take the place of the Head of State. In this country this has the advantage of leaving the political leaders free to carry out their duties without the burden of having to entertain foreign Heads of State.

There are other advantages in having a Royal Family. Many other countries look upon us as extremely fortunate in having a Royal Family, as exemplifying "family life". Other advantages include the vast number of visitors who come to this country just to watch Royal occasions such as The Trooping of the Colour, and the State Opening of Parliament. They also like to visit Royal homes such as Balmoral, Windsor and Sandringham, besides buying Royal souvenirs. This in itself brings a lot of trade to the country.

I would say that the Queen and her family do a good job for Britain by example, devotion to duty and the foreign currency they attract.

Lorraine Beaumont, Fourth Year

"AS YOU HATE IT"

All the world is a stage
And all the people are merely players.
Playing in a life-long play
And making do with what?
Perhaps a galvanized atomic dustbin.
But my conscience keeps on telling
A very long story.
That was on '75' Jackanory
And the birds merrily sing,
And the grass will be dried
For the sun is extra shiny.
You have now had a glimpse
of the future
And of nature
And her surprises
And how she entices.
And you'll hate it
Every bit of it.

David Nicholls, Second Form

EPITAPH FOR A CYNIC

Where, in Hell, I'd like to know,
Do people tell each other to go?

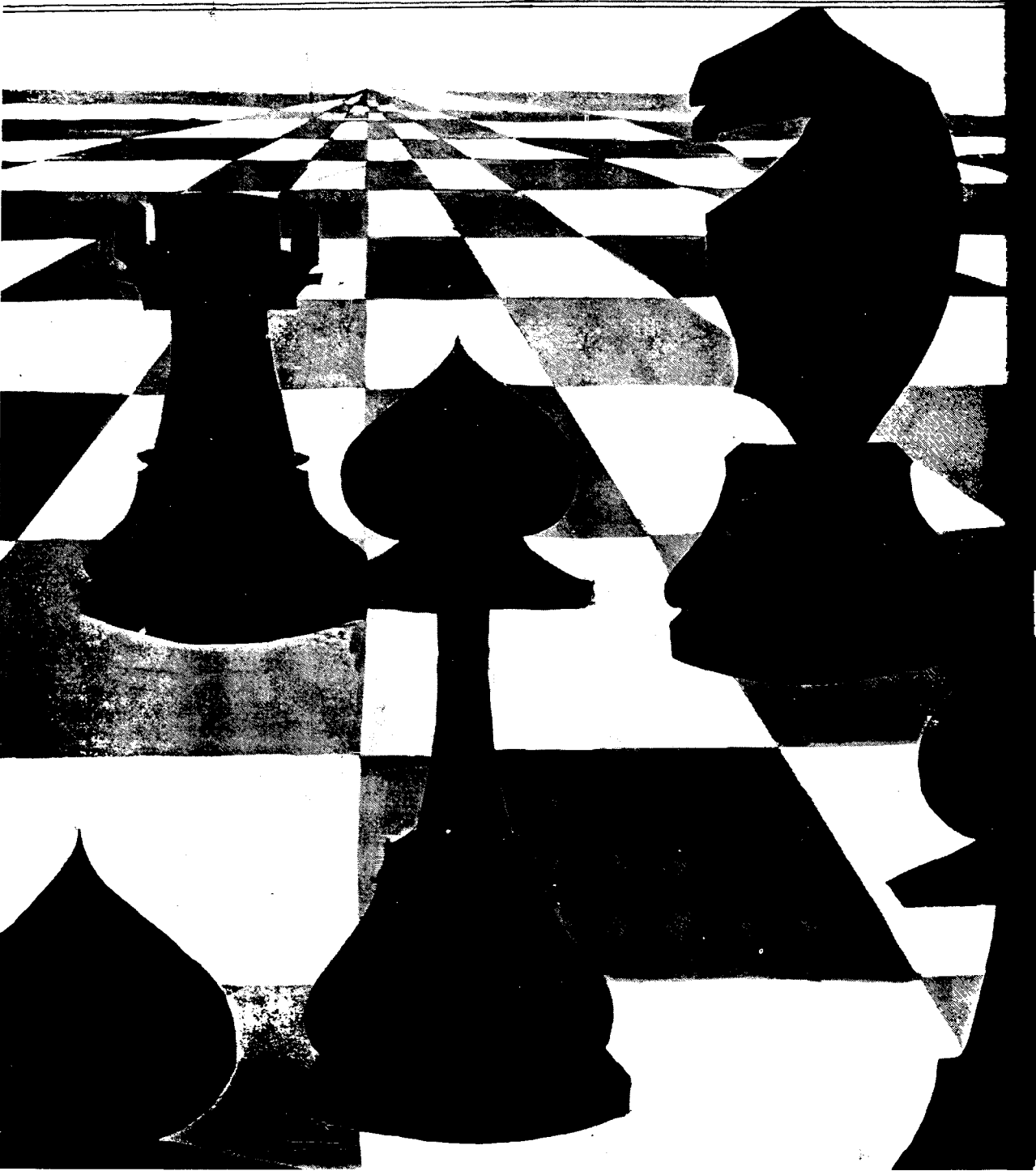
Andrew Booth, Sixth Form

IT'S OUR LIFE

My future depends on you
Your future depends on me.
I trust you. Please trust me.
It's our life.

Karen Clegg, Sixth Form

ACTIVITIES



SPEECH DAY

At the Munich Olympics, Frank Shorter of the United States won the marathon in a time of 2 hours, 12 minutes and 30 seconds, or some 6 minutes less than it took us to get through Speech Day this year. For the statistically-minded, lap times were: Music (45 mins.). Headmaster (29 mins.). Address (27 mins.). Giving the Prizes (20 mins.). Chairman (10 mins.) and Vote of Thanks (8 mins.).

The proceedings began with our rather ponderous School Hymn, which serves, I suppose, as a bit of musical ivy up the Gothic front of the occasion. As to the music in general, I am ill-equipped to judge its quality, but its quantity was abundant. Even the disciplined exuberance of the Junior Choir seemed to flag a little before the end. In the 100th minute they sang "We lay our weary heads to rest", and in the 116th minute they urged "Boot, Saddle, to Horse, and Away!" I found myself groping for my car-keys.

With the length of the Headmaster's Report I have no quarrel. To deal with all our diverse activities and achievements in 29 minutes is to accomplish a model of compression, and he did it with quiet humour and a nice sense of balance. Since what he reported upon is recorded exhaustively elsewhere in the magazine, duplication would be foolish. One can only hope that next year the Headmaster will not be tempted to gild the lily, and give us a Sung Report.

Our guest speaker was Emeritus Professor R. H. Evans, from the University of Leeds. Addressing us with such vigour and animation as belied his age of 73, he kept us entertained with a liberal supply of anecdotes, whilst not neglecting the didactic element expected of him. He reminded us of the happiness to be derived from creative work and service to the community, urged us to prepare for the challenges which life inevitably imposes, and advised us to seek access to great minds through our reading. As an engineer, he knew that the collapse of a building was a palpable thing; the decay of an educational system was a more insidious process. A nation must attend to the education of those upon whom its future prosperity would depend.

The Chairman, A. Maurice Smith, lamented the demise of the old governing body, which had apparently led to a constitutional crisis from which we are fortunate to have emerged unscathed. He urged us to appreciate and enjoy the things which our school had to offer while it still existed, and felt that co-operation amongst the various elements in education might create more benefits than would coercion.

The prize-winners in their long procession received their awards with that dignity and poise upon a public occasion which I always find endearing and oddly touching. Rewarding intellectual success is, of course, 'elitist'. Intelligence should be its own reward, and should not be exalted so that those who do not win prizes feel that they are failures. But perhaps prolonged hard work and qualities of character are required to develop even the most natural of talents? Or should steps be taken to ensure that our 1st XV completes an entire season of draws next year? They are a deplorably elitist lot at the moment.

The Vote of Thanks was proposed and seconded with the unaffected assurance we have come to expect of our most senior students, and the proceedings, which had begun with 'Lord of Wisdom', ended with 'Our Gracious Queen'. Thus was a traditional occasion stoutly buttressed by the twin pillars of Church and State.

Mr. D. K. Cooper

THE ARTS FESTIVAL

THE DRAMA

Dodsworth were the first to take the stage with *The Adventures of Chastity Puke*, and no doubt the tension of the event—or was it last minute nerves?—led to the false start: the curtains swung open, the lights went up and the drama began . . . only to be received by peals of laughter. Someone then realised that the adjudicator was still sipping tea in the staffroom, and hurriedly closed the curtains!

However, this was an unfortunate and forgivable slip which the cast soon put to the back of their minds and commenced a few minutes later to give an efficient and entertaining play. Chastity Puke, Andrea Ward, gave a confidently tarty performance and all credit is due to her for coming into the part at only a couple of days' notice and achieving a high standard. The play was really a detective-type 'spies-robbers and intrigue' affair which I think succeeded to a degree, but perhaps there was a lack of urgency. The audience never appeared tense or ahead of the action and a sense of climax—essential to such a play—was never really achieved. An admirable performance came from Paul Whitaker, who really held the play together. He had some difficult, and at the same time funny lines which he controlled well and delivered to good effect. He and Chastity Puke were perhaps the two most convincing characters. The show stealer was Anjum Salam, a ferocious looking 'thing' who ran on growling and flashing his teeth at the audience, and then dived to his doom with a blood curdling howl through an open window!

Dodsworth must be applauded for their efficient application of sound effects. The offstage howls as people dived through the window and fell hundreds of feet were well received by the audience if not always hitting the right pitch. On the whole this was an entertaining play and both producers and cast reached a good standard.

Levett followed Dodsworth with *'Mayday Investigates'*. Again the plot involved detectives but here the scale of crime was at domestic level with stolen cars and money. Perhaps the failing of Levett's performance was the actual play, which, as the adjudicator commented, was not very well written. This was an unfortunate choice for Levett since it was clear that the cast had ample talent and ability. This play was in fact the longest of the four and it did begin to drag after about twenty minutes: no fault of the actors, I hasten to add. Towards the end the audience were becoming quite restless, which was a pity, since the cast did the best they could with this play from beginning to end.

Christopher Mitchell as Mayday was very competent and in command of his part as the detective throughout, organising the rest of the cast and acting superbly at all times even when he was not actively involved in the dialogue. Martyn Howes, the much quieter, background character, did an efficient job as Mayday's assistant. The parts of the two young children were played very convincingly by Alexandra Bowerman and Alison Wilmot, as sisters constantly arguing and fighting. The middle-aged mother and father were confident in their roles but did not attain such convincing characterisation as did the two children. The actors in the identity parade must be mentioned for their good attempts to portray various characters and generally speaking they succeeded in this. The production exposed the reserve of acting ability which Levett have—next year, with the right play, they may just do the trick.

After the interval it was Ward's turn with *The Man in the Bowler Hat*. Before proceeding further, I must admit to very close connections with the production of this play. However, I hope I am giving an unbiased—if possible—opinion, both of this and the other three productions. The festival in previous years has been reviewed by 'a neutral' or someone with no specific involvement in the Festival. However, I feel it is a help in writing such an article to have some knowledge of the limitations, obstacles and difficulties which all producers and actors have had to contend with.

Having declared myself I will venture to give my true opinion of Ward's effort: Magnificent! This was an all round team effort from the smallest cast of the four. All the actors returned creditable performances, and judged by audience reaction the lower school would agree with me. The play itself gave ample scope: a melodrama involving colourful characters. Andrew Fellows as the hero was particularly outstanding, although the other actors were not overshadowed. From beginning to end he spoke in a hilarious but charming voice verging on the Michael Crawford but he skilfully controlled this to good effect and was much appreciated by the audience. Playing equally well alongside the hero, Angela Robinson as the heroine did extremely well to maintain her composure throughout, her lines being continually interrupted with audience reaction to the lovesick interplay of Angela and her hero.

The cast managed to contrast the pace of the play well with a slow, dull scene between the middle-aged couple at the beginning. Michael Webber and Helen Birkby played the middle-aged roles very convincingly. They acted well together, each complementing the acting of the other. Gary Buckingham as the Chief Villain and Ian Dyson as the Bad Man gave slick and competent performances and carried the play swiftly to its climax, handling their rapid and complicated speeches confidently and efficiently. Ian gave a superbly disgusting display of nose-picking and ear-poking, to the amusement of the audience. The anti-climax at the end of the play worked well when the Man in the Bowler Hat, Adrienne Deakin, present on stage throughout the play, stood up and delivered his sole line, revealing himself as the play's producer who had been watching a rehearsal.

Finally came Freston with the *'Dyspeptic Ogre'*. Here I disagree with the adjudicator who took a definite dislike to this play, mainly because he 'couldn't find a moral' and in his opinion the play didn't offer much scope. The play was a fairy tale, as the Jester, played by Nigel Dunkley, told us at the beginning, and was concerned with the diet of the ogre, who ate little girls for dinner! I enjoyed this play, possibly because it had more visual interest than the plays of Dodsworth or Levett. The set was very original—the telephone actually rang even in the "s'teenth" century!—and was, for me, very convincing as the kitchen in an ogre's castle. All the costumes were very good, but here again my views conflict with those of the adjudicator, who 'wasn't too happy' about the costumes of *'The Meals'*. I thought this team of seven girls, each a meal on a specific day of the week, looked suitably innocent and cherubic in their little white frocks, and ribbons and bows in their hair. Likewise Deborah Ward played a very charming and pretty part as an innocent unassuming little girl with a magic ring. The line of boy scouts was well disciplined and they too played their parts efficiently. With so many people on stage this play could easily have collapsed into chaos, and all credit is due to the producers for preventing this. The Cook's performance was the most confidently played part and Julie Westwood did well at the Irish accent, although occasionally I think she missed opportunities for even better characterisation. Julian Heaton as the Ogre could have acted rather older—there was something about this character that didn't

quite ring ogish! However, that is not to detract from his performance, which was very well put over.

The adjudicator, Mr. Russell Whiteley from Knottingley High School, then commented on the four plays. He spoke a great deal of sense and appreciated the limits and difficulties for the people involved with all the productions, but seemed to have little doubt in placing Ward first, Dodworth second, third Levett and fourth Freston.

Lindsey Woodhouse, Sixth Year

THE MUSIC

Mr. Coar said a few pleasant words of introduction and the upper school, with a buzz of happy anticipation, prepared to enjoy a morning's music. The Freston Choir, with bright and shining faces, filed neatly on stage. The proceedings were under way.

Freston, who had far more girls than boys, started with a melodious Gilbert and Sullivan song which they sang sweetly. The piano accompaniment, which came in between the verses, revealed that they were not quite getting their final notes. The piano kept them in tune for 'Non Nobis Domlne' and, effectively conducted by John Forkes, they gave an impressive performance.

The choirs of the other three houses had better balance and one appreciated the vigour and richness which the additional male voices added. This showed up well in the Ward choir. Judy Frayne had very skilfully arranged a Purcell tune in a Swingle Singers style and under Ruth Harrison's direction, they achieved a pleasing and unusual effect. Dodsworth, conducted by Julie Bradley, clanging away with gusto in the "Viking Song", were especially vigorous and exciting. Nevertheless the best choral singing came from an all girls group. "Braid the Raven Hair", sung by Ward, was pure delight. Levett sang a haunting arrangement by Gillian Gush and this too was extremely successful.

I had enjoyed the choral singing, taking a lot of pleasure in the sounds being produced. My reactions to the solo instrumental class were a lot less intense. My emotions were not really stirred by these sounds from the solo flute but they were affected in another way. One could imagine the intense personal challenge of making a solo appearance. Linda Jackson, Leslie Roberts and Lesley Anderson each displayed great courage and poise and I felt met this challenge admirably. Julie Bradley, equally poised, showed additional skill and professionalism.

The vocal soloists were of course tested in the same way and they in turn showed tremendous composure. Indeed this could be said of all the competitors. One is led to reflect on the considerable value of this event as an aid to character development.

These solo singers were extremely good and I was very absorbed in their music. Karen Exley sang with great professionalism and style and with a very attractive voice. The songs she sang were not really to my simple taste. They were in a modern idiom with many half notes and with, to my ear, no very pronounced melody. I wish that she had sung some "old sweet song". Caroline Green sang something by Smetana. Again this was largely over my head but then she sang "Villanelle". Here was an old favourite! She sang it beautifully and I shouted in vain for an encore. I certainly couldn't complain about Stephen Bywater's choice of "If I were a rich man". He sang it with a fair amount of vigour in his warm voice and I thoroughly enjoyed it. The

highlight of the solo singing for me, however, was Brenda Morton. Her appearance was very attractive; she showed a warm and relaxed personality and sang charming songs in a beautiful mellow voice. Star quality indeed.

The instrumental ensembles: back to the flutes this time with guitars and bongo drums. Most groups chose Latin-American music. They played with very strict tempo but I felt the music lacked excitement and did not give the audience the urge to tap their feet. They were handicapped by the limited range of instruments available. What has happened to the flow of brass instrumentalists which the school once had? (At one time sports days were given a poignant carnival atmosphere by the school brass band beating out "Colonel Bogey" and one remembers that the sun always shone!)

One felt the audience's appreciation in the vocal ensembles performances. Three houses gave beautifully sung traditional songs. Levett house, though, produced the real "show stopper" of the morning. Stephen Bywater, Alastair Cass, Andrew Booth and Martin Oxley had the bright idea of turning themselves into a barber's shop quartet. They gave a slick, comical and well-sung rendering of "Yes, Sir, That's My Baby". I wasn't the only one shouting for an encore after this! Showing further skills they switched styles and sang some Gilbert and Sullivan—great entertainment!

The piano solos again were of most interest to the connoisseurs of music and human endeavour. The adjudicator appreciated the clarity and good speed of Andrew Parkes. Andrea Barker played some Mozart with a pleasant light touch and Judy Frayne showed good style in the 'Pathétique' Sonata. Gillian Smith played a well loved Mozart melody. Christopher Sennet, a second former, earned a special word of praise for piano accompaniment of the Dodsworth choir who got a very firm lead from his decisive style.

Each house was allowed to plan its own final item with no restrictions. Freston and Ward both entertained us with popular music and tried unfairly to influence the adjudicator by producing lots of pretty girls in flowery costumes. They were good but would have been better if they had used more boys to give more impact to the singing. Dodsworth produced a neat instrumental trio but Levett chose the ever popular Gilbert and Sullivan. They sang it extremely well and thereby scored the winning goal or put the final nail in the coffin or piled the last straw on the backs of the other camels!

What a splendid morning's entertainment it had been! The adjudicator Mr. C. Matthews certainly enjoyed it and contributed to the interest himself. He was friendly, encouraging and instructive. A lot of the finer points of musicianship, which had been sailing over my head all morning, were fluently and expertly discussed. I am sure that the performers would appreciate his very specific, helpful criticism.

Several members of staff and well over one hundred pupils had played a part in this music festival! All had worked hard and had produced worthwhile contributions. Part of their reward must have come from the enthusiastic reception they received from the audience.

Mr. B. Windle

"I DEMAND A RECOUNT!"

AN ' INSIDE ' STORY OF THE COMPETITIVE ELEMENT

When Gillian and I were voted Levett House music representatives in the Autumn term we had at this time little knowledge of the task which confronted us. The date for the Arts Festival was set for Monday, March 24th and, since the trial exams did not finish until early February, the practice schedule was to be a little cramped.

Levett had a rather mixed run of good and bad fortune in the early stages. A request for a choir was met with a marvellous turn-out by the lower sixth and fifth years, as well as the girls from the upper sixth and fourth years. However, the representatives at first had slight problems in finding suitable music, which lost a week of practising time. Confidence at such an early stage was very high as a quick glance at the choir members revealed a large proportion of the principals and choir of the 'Bartered Bride' including, without any doubt, the best tenors and altos. The sopranos had a fine lead in Sandra James, and the basses, although admittedly a little timid early on, soon settled down to give body to an excellent choir.

Problems of setting practice days and dates were considerable and Gillian and I were particularly grateful for the way in which the choir agreed to give up their own time without any great trouble. The first few practices were encouraging, even though the basses were a little slow. At this stage our programme had been carefully arranged and we knew we had an outstanding chance of success in the Music Contest.

The choir was soon pretty well established and it was the instrumental and vocal ensembles which were going to take much of our time. An accident ruled out a member of the Barbershop Quartet and this led to my taking his place. Lesley Anderson took responsibility for the instrumental ensemble and with much hard work and practice the instrumentalists achieved the standard we had hoped for.

It seemed no time had passed before the dress rehearsals arrived and our hopes were dashed by an appalling rehearsal on the Friday. However, the Sunday rehearsal saw a marked improvement. This boosted our confidence once more.

On the morning of the Festival it was obvious that nerves were highly strung. Freston were first on stage and Levett were drawn to be third (a position we had hoped for). I don't mean to be unfair to Freston, but after hearing their programme my hopes were rising. Unfortunately I missed the Ward programme since I was occupied with the Barbershop Quartet. Levett were next on stage and our first choral items were, I thought, very well done. The piano solos, clarinet solo and my own vocal solo (with which I was a little disappointed) were items that I could only hope would be marked well since they were at the adjudicator's discretion. Without any doubt, the Barbershop Quartet received the best applause from the audience and I felt then that only a disaster in either the 'Pirates of Penzance' song or the instrumental ensemble would rob us of victory. I was of course greatly underestimating Dodsworth who were the last house on stage.

After hearing Dodsworth I honestly did not feel they had beaten us and opposing houses were already congratulating us. The adjudicator, Mr. Matthews, gave his comments. When he said our choir was the best heard, I thought once more the result was beyond doubt. However the comments for Dodsworth were equally impressive and the marks would, no doubt, be very close.

The marks were given for each item and my heart was beating faster at this stage than ever before. I was amazed, after adding up the marks in my head to hear we had been placed third. I was sure that Levett had won and, although admittedly it was embarrassing, I asked for a recount. Levett had in fact won, much to my delight.

This will remain one of the most memorable days of my school life and Gillian and I would like to thank those people in Levett who made it possible: thank you.

Stephen Bywater, Sixth Year

'THE BARTERED BRIDE'

This year's opera, "The Bartered Bride", was a comic opera in three acts by Bedrich Smetana and Karel Sabina, it was the first time the producers had strayed from the lighter Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and "The Bartered Bride" was something of a step in the deep end. The music throughout was very difficult, and a great deal of work had to be put into it, rehearsals coming thick and fast.

The opera as a whole was gay, with lively chorus scenes of drinking and dancing, highlighted by the appearance of the circus in the last act. Michael Smith, as the circus manager, played the part as only he can, captivating the audience with his patter. The role of Esmeralda Salamanca, a Spanish dancer with the circus, was seductively played by Sandra James, who clicked her way very ably through her routine. A touch of colour was added to the circus proceedings by an often panic stricken Khursheed Salaam, while Mr. K. Williamson lent comic support with his clowning antics to Michael Ward's breath-taking acrobatics. The chorus proved a very able unit, although they often gave the impression that they were keeping something in reserve. This reserve they used up fully on the last night, with a truly rousing performance.

The chorus scenes also called for the performing of three Czech National dances. The thirteen principal dancers were responsible for performing these. They did so with great skill, although at times some of the facial expressions left a lot to be desired. The girl members of the group were undoubtedly most successful with their energetic, high-kicking Dance of the Comedians.

The chorus scenes were offset very nicely by the colourfulness of the costumes. The chorus work caused only brief interruptions to the principals' singing, which came in long stretches and for first-time audiences it was difficult to listen to. This, coupled with the fact that the story was complicated, was probably the biggest disadvantage of the opera from an audience's point of view.

Despite lengthy periods on stage all the principals performed very well. Karen Exley who acted and sang the part of Marenka, the Bartered Bride, was very composed and sang with good feeling. Martin Oxley as Jenik convincingly portrayed her calculating but good-natured lover. Michael Jennings, despite being very nervous, gave a sound and authoritative performance as Kecal, the wily marriage broker.

Trevor Barker enthralled the audience as Vasek, the half wit, stuttering his way through a difficult role; (might I add his teddy bear also gave him admirable support ?).

Stephen Bywater and Caroline Green as Krusina and Ludmila, Marenka's parents, succeeded in portraying the bickering relationship of a middle-aged couple, Caroline singing outstandingly well, especially when she was the focal point of attention.

Paul Tarpey and Lesley Anderson as Micha and Hata, the parents of Jenik and Vasek, also gave a creditable performance.

The orchestra, led by Mr. Tony Wilkinson and conducted by Mr. Coar, set a very lively pace to the opera. Despite one or two mishaps on the opening night they provided excellent accompaniment to both the singing and the dancing.

The setting for all this activity was very ably created from mere wood by Mr. Sherwood, Mr. Cook, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Wheeler. They produced

a very authentic-looking village square which immediately established the rustic atmosphere.

The efforts of all involved combined to produce a very successful opera. It was an ambitious production which came off very well in the end, and was greatly enjoyed by everyone involved. Perhaps in some ways it wasn't quite as successful as past Gilbert and Sullivan operas, but the experience was a very worthwhile one.

Finally, thanks to Mr. Coar and Mr. Hadfield who put a tremendous amount of work into staging 'The Bartered Bride'. Who knows, this year Normanton Grammar, next year Covent Garden?

Paul Morgan, Sixth Year

Note: Next year's production is expected to be Gilbert and Sullivan's "Princess Ida", staged December 3rd-6th, 1975.—Ed.

THE CHRISTMAS OCCASION

The Christmas Occasion 1974 provided a thought-provoking experience on a topic that we all come into contact with: service.

Readings based on the 'preparation service' for the coming of Christ opened the occasion. A high proportion of readings at the start of the Occasion illuminated the different aspects of service: from giving to one another at Christmas to the complete absence of service.

A highlight of the service for me was the junior choir's performance of 'The Christmas Rose' which was a refreshing change from previous years' efforts. In the same way I enjoyed the vocal ensemble 'Now let us join' by H. C. Herrler—both items were interesting musical diversions.

The theme continued: the service of the Shepherds and Magi and how we serve each other in the community; loving one another, Christ's example of service, and students' own personal experiences during 'Voluntary Service' week. A totally new and visual experience for the Occasion was 'A procession of Service' which was in appreciation of those who serve us in the community. Students processed up the aisle, each carrying a symbol of the occupation or social service which he or she individually represented, while words were spoken against a musical accompaniment.

Along with the usual Senior Choir's performances I thought the congregation sang much more heartily than usual this year—the whole Occasion swelled with a feeling which found expression in the final reading;

Yesterday is but a dream;
Tomorrow is only a vision;
But today well lived makes yesterday a dream of happiness
And every tomorrow a vision of hope.

Allyson Meikle, Sixth Year

SOCIETIES

THE SIXTH FORM UNION, 1975

The Sixth Form Union set off full of enthusiasm in September, 1974, under the paternal wing of Mr. Atkinson, to be later adopted (at her own peril) by Mrs. Thompson on Mr. Atkinson's departure.

The committee was compiled of Upper Sixth prefects: Martin Brain, Paul Tarpey, Tony Blakeway, Nigel Walker, Alison Oldroyd, Judy Frayne and myself along with a few silent and fluctuating members of the Lower Sixth.

To say that we organised many occasions would be to generalise, which I won't do. The events that took place in the name of the Mighty Union were well-spared but equally well planned and everyone was attended to maximum capacity.

The meetings of the Union manifested themselves in several different ways: talks ranging from the Wild West to contraception in today's society and a visit from the chief warden at Wakefield Prison. Our most adventurous attempt at organisation came when we hired the professional guitarist, Eric Hill, to play at the school. This was attended mainly by parents and older members of the school but proved every bit as successful as the other occasions.

Mr. Hill's musical talents were certainly something to marvel at. Sitting on a room 12 chair in the school hall, it was absorbing to hear such musician-ship. The music continued for an hour or so and after a short break started again, non-stop, for another hour during which Mr. Hill's performance never strayed from the impeccable. The selections from composers he chose to represent were mainly by Weiss, Sor and Britten. At one point Mr. Hill played a selection of well known 'modern' musical pieces: 'A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square' had more than one or two hummed accompaniments. My own favourite piece was the Spanish one which finished the concert.

The highlight of the year for me was 'Recital' which was enjoyed by everyone who came and probably more so by those who took part: Russel Davenport, Ruth Harrison, Judy Frayne, Martin Brain, and myself. The 'Recital' comprised various poetry readings, both funny and sad, accompanied by various musical items. I hope 'Recital' proved the point that contemporary poetry can be just as moving as, and probably more immediate in its impact than many of the established 'classics'. Certainly, everyone's attention was held from start to finish.

I think the Union this year proved that it is quality, not quantity, that counts. The few events that occurred this year were a pleasure to attend and certainly a pleasure to organise and I hope that this will continue to be the case in years to come.

A report on the 'Frestonian Foundation Recital' appears elsewhere.

Ailyson Meikle, Upper Sixth Form

'MEDICI RECITAL ..'

A MEMORABLE EVENT

Each of the three works in the Medici String Quartet concert in Norman-ton Grammar School on Friday reflected a different aspect of the ensemble's playing, writes "Express" music critic Bill Blow. The Haydn received a polished, competent performance, the Bartok was outstandingly beautiful and the Beethoven was technically brilliant. In short, this year's Freston Foundation Recital was a resounding success that thoroughly justified its large audience.

Indeed, from the opening bars of the first work, Haydn's Quartet in C, Op. 61 No. 1, the ensemble belied its own publicity which, curiously, stresses its potential more than its present competence.

This is odd, because, having been together for four years, the players are, quite naturally, well co-ordinated, and one's only reservation about their future as a quartet is that their 'cellist, Anthony Lewis, is so excellent that an early solo career would seem on the cards.

Another curious feature is the quartet's reason for adopting the name "Medici," which is, at least in part, that the Medicis lived such a long time ago that people have forgotten what an unpleasant lot most of them were. How long, I wonder, before we have a Caligula trio or a Borgia sextet?

APT CHOICE

Returning to Friday's music, the choice of a Haydn work to open the recital was well-considered, in that the Medici has, to some extent, specialised in his music.

The strength of any ensemble must be largely measured by its co-ordination, yet this depends on the skill of each player and the Medici provided a good example of this. The bowing techniques of the leader, Paul Robertson, were immaculate, and 'cellist Anthony Lewis's top register playing was exemplary, but none of the four attempted virtuosity and the consequent absence of pyrotechnics added to the roundness of the performance.

By definition, this means that the middle two players had to contribute as much as the more visible outer players, and it was worth concentrating on David Matthews and Paul Silverthorne to hear some excellent musicianship, particularly in the latter's fine viola playing.

This work has all the qualities associated with Haydn—its tempi are crisp; its harmonies precise; its melodies soaring—but it also has the disadvantage of not being a true chamber work in the sense that the form was developed during the Romantic era.

BREATH-TAKING

Stylistically, therefore, Bartok's Second Quartet was bound to be the outstanding work of the evening, but few people could have been prepared for the breath-taking beauty of this rendering of it.

Bartok is so much of a players' composer that programme compilers often fight shy of him, yet audiences almost invariably respond to his music with enthusiasm. This was definitely the case on Friday, when a fine performance of this great music received a deserved ovation.

This was due as much to interpretation as to technique, the sensitive

treatment of the first movement's pianissimo development being a particularly good example.

So far as individual performances were concerned, David Matthews played a beautiful second violin in this work, but one of my few criticisms of the evening was a tendency towards unjustified portamento by Mr. Robertson, which caused him to slide off some notes that should have been sustained and even twice resulted in false notes.

On the other hand, where portamento was called for, it was executed with rare skill, instead of with the sentimentality that too often defaces this technique.

To describe any composer as "the greatest" is usually absurd, but, in the field of string quartets, Beethoven deserves the epithet, and Mr. Robertson was right to employ it in his introductory remarks to the Quartet in E, Op. 74.

He was also right to stress Beethoven's astonishing facility for writing about 150 years ahead of his time and, although this is not as marked in Op. 74 as in some of the later quartets, it was fully realised by the Medici's playing.

Above all, though, Beethoven is always exciting and this emerged strongly in this performance, particularly in the immaculate pizzicato passage in the first movement.

It was in this work that the 'cellist, Anthony Lewis, really shone. Even better than his fluid vibrato was the intelligence with which he occasionally eschewed it altogether.

Technically, the performance could not be faulted. It did not quite reach the heights of beautiful interpretation that we had heard in the Bartok, and I wonder whether this was due to the awe in which the players obviously hold Beethoven or whether they feel that Bartok still offers more scope for individuality.

In the face of such bowing, fingering and complete co-ordination, to complain about less than inspired interpretation is both ungrateful and unreasonable. By any standards, this was a superb performance.

Indeed it was a superb concert and our thanks are due not only to the Medici for its music-making but also to the staff and sixth-form union committee at Normanton Grammar School for giving us the opportunity to hear it.

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CHESS CLUB

Captain; A. Mitchell

Vice-Captain: R. Marsh

Once more we can report a very good season. The league U.16 individual trophy was won by A. Mitchell with A. Sergeant being the losing finalist and we have won the League Jamboree for the first time since it was started over ten years ago. The only trophy to elude us was the League where the competition is so strong that despite winning seven of the nine fixtures we were only able to take second place.

The Annual Simultaneous Match took place at Pontefract against Tony Miles, the world Junior Champion and our congratulations must go to A. Sergeant for obtaining a very creditable draw. We are indebted to our players who entered this event (A. Sergeant, A. Jubb, B. Clark, A. Salam, C. Pysden) for raising over £20 through sponsorship, half of which goes towards running

the League and half towards our own club expenses.

On the domestic front all the usual competitions have been run with the results printed below. The House Captains could do with more support from their House chess players. In many cases good players just refused to turn out for their Houses, particularly at senior level.

League Results			Jamboree	
Q.E.G.S.	won	6½ — 2½	1. Normanton	5
Rothweil	won	7 — 1	2. King's School, Pontefract	
Silcoates	won	6 — 2	Thornes House	4½
Ackworth	won	5 — 3	4. Ossett	3
Pontefract Boys	won	6 — 2	5. Scissett	2½
Scissett	won	7 — 3	6. Silcoates	2
Kings School,			7. Q.E.G.S.	1½
Pontefract	lost	3½ — 4½	8. Pontefract Boys	1
Ossett	lost	2½ — 5½		
Thornes House	won	6 — 3		

Senior House Competition		Junior House Competition	
1. Levett	14	1. Dodsworth	13½
2. Ward	10	2. Freston	9
3. Dodsworth	7½	3. Levett	7½
4. Freston	4½	4. Ward	6

Champions			
First Year	A. Salam	Runner-up	C. Walker
Second Year	C. Pysden	Runner-up	S. Smith
Senior League	B. Clarke		
Handicap	R. Marsh		
School Champion	A. Sergeant		

Mr. R. Oldroyd

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Photographic Society is still very much in its infant state despite hard work by the committee and members. Our main problem has been to obtain a suitable darkroom which can be left undisturbed between meetings. At present the darkroom is prepared each time it is needed by pinning card and black material over the windows of the pottery room. However, we should be able to afford hardboard "blackouts" fairly soon which will help in this direction.

We have visited York with the purpose of photographing this picturesque city, but were unable to do this until the afternoon as the weather was against us. The morning was spent in the Castle Museum, which must be one of the best museums in the country. Cameras in hand, we spent the afternoon around the city, and many of us ventured to the top of York Minster where we were confronted with a magnificent view.

Mr. J. Wheeler

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

For a long time now there has been a fair amount of interest in Geology. This interest was evenly distributed throughout the Lower School. In the early part of the year, Mr. Drury gathered together students from many different years, formerly the Geology Club.

The club meets every Thursday night in Room 32 and a variety of

subjects is discussed. Members bring and describe their collections of rocks, fossils and minerals. However, a good collection of rocks is by no means a necessity for membership. Some of the Sixth Form Geology students also came in to help and discuss Geology.

The following members showed their collections at a Geology Exhibition which was held in the Lower School library: Michael Brown 2W, Jonathan Willis 2W, Richard Barraclough 2W, Neil Radley 2W, David Pullen 2F, and ourselves 3L. Some specimens on display came from the Upper Sixth Geology students and Mr. Drury. A very high standard was reached both in the quality of the specimens and in their presentation.

Robert and Graham Daley, Third Year

JUNIOR COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

Meetings have been held regularly during the year. Although there have been fewer new members this time, nevertheless those members of the second and third years who have continued to support the club are as keen as ever.

As usual the climax of the year's activity will be in July when the various groups within the club will contribute towards a programme of Country Dancing and music in aid of Dr. Barnardo's. On Saturday, 12th July, the Scottish Dancers will again be taking part in the annual festival of Scottish Dancing to be held in the grounds of the City of Leeds and Carnegie College.

Miss A. Kirkham

JUNIOR ART CLUB

The object of the Art Club is to allow students the time, equipment and materials to produce work which they are not normally able to do during school hours. The early meetings were what could be described as "organised chaos" as there were often over fifty people in a room designed for nearer thirty. As the dark nights drew in towards Christmas the numbers dropped to a more manageable size. A group of ten or so are in the process of making a cartoon film which we hope to "put on general release" in the not too distant future. Because cartoon making is hard work, it is progressing slowly, but we have already completed the script and filmed the titles and the introduction.

Mr. J. Wheeler

COOKY'S COMPUTER CLASS

Cooky's Computer class, as Mr. Cook terms it, apart from getting us out of games, has been a very worthwhile experience. Several members of the Lower Sixth have been involved in this voluntary course in computer programming and all have not only benefited from but enjoyed it tremendously.

First of all we had to learn the 'language' of the computer; this involved alternating theory lessons in school with visits to Bretton Hall to use their computer. Our time at Bretton Hall was limited by the fact that we had to allow for the number of times Mr. Cook's car would stop on the way back. There was a short break in the course owing to the fact that six people proved too much for the car's suspension.

Despite all our problems we did manage to formulate a very clever programme which was supposed to play two-a-side football; to our amazement it worked, except that the computer couldn't tell left from right.

In the Summer Term we improved the already intricate programme to stop cheating and will now go onto an idea of Mr. Cook's to devise a programme for playing battleships. "Oh, good!"

Mark Nott, Sixth Year

EXCURSIONS

AND DIVERSIONS-

IMPRESSIONS OF A TRIP TO GERMANY

Perhaps it would be more suitable in an essay about a holiday to incorporate a description of the journey, but as much of this was spent on motorways I think that a detailed description would not be very rewarding. One thing I feel I must mention, however, is the tour of London, which proved to be a very interesting and instructive start to the holiday.

Entertainment on the cross-Channel ferry was provided by a group of Welshmen, who frequently broke out into the harmonious songs for which the Welsh are probably most famous.

A slight embarrassment occurred in Belgium at the Hotel Jean. Whilst Paul Sykes and I were delighted to have a room of our own we were surprised to find that we had to share a bed. We spent the night perched precariously at opposite ends!

On April 5th we experienced our first trip to a large German town. This was Rudesheim, from where we were later to depart for a trip down the Rhine. We left the coach and before dispersing were shown where to board the boat. Paul and I were keen to sample the delights of German cooking, the cakes in particular. Having located a quiet cafe somewhere, we each proceeded to devour a huge chunk of Schwarzwalderkirschtorte. Unfortunately, as our interest grew, time slipped away. As we neared the boat the figures of Miss Williams, Miss Kynman and Mr. Best could be seen jumping up and down making frantic gestures towards us. We got the message and rushed on board the boat amidst cries of "hurry up" and other things which disconcerted teachers say when they are annoyed. But all was later forgiven—we think.

Meanwhile Mr. Long was, I recall, nowhere to be seen — he was probably photographing some obscure part of the boat. The view from the Rhine was magnificent, and the leisurely speed of the boat gave us the chance to observe details of the landscape sometimes missed from a fast-moving coach.

There were many castles along the banks of the Rhine, and several of them we visited. They were all extremely interesting, but for me the Marksburg was probably the most impressive. It was in very good condition, and we were given a detailed tour by a German guide who spoke very good English. After showing us some torture instruments, which included a stretching rack and several other gruesome objects, she invited us to try them. Not surprisingly, she didn't get many offers.

Unfortunately, Mr. Best, Paul Sykes and I discovered to our surprise that whilst we were busily photographing particular points of interest the rest of the group had moved on, and we didn't know in which direction. But Miss Kynman came to the rescue — she had thoughtfully remained behind to show us the way. (At least someone valued our company!)

It was pointed out to us that despite the beauty of the Rhine and the surrounding countryside the river was very heavily polluted. This was very evident in several places where a strong, unpleasant smell assailed us.

Our visit to the spectacular Cologne Cathedral! was also very memorable.

The meal in Luxemburg at the Buffet de la Gare was interesting to say the least, although the members of the table at which I sat did not enjoy it very

much. Neither did Mr. Long, who remarked that if the Germans wanted to attack Luxemburg the only thing capable of stopping them would be the Buffet de la Gare.

Throughout the trip the staff (Miss Kynman, Miss Williams, Mr. Best and Mr. Long) were most informative and helpful. I hope I have described them at their best, but to quote Mr. Long 'bad publicity is better than no publicity at all'.

Andrew Pine, Fourth Year

FOURTH YEAR VISIT TO LONDON

Members of 4A2 and 4A3 arrived in London at lunch-time on November 21st 1974 and were met on the steps of St. Stephen's entrance to the House of Commons by Mr. A. Roberts, M.P. for Normanton and Mr. J. Harper, M.P. for Castleford and Pontefract and father of Pat Harper in the Upper Sixth. We were rather late arriving and were taken straight to the House of Lords where we were told all about the traditions of the House, including the significance of the Woolsack and the procedure for the State Opening of Parliament; beyond the throne was the Queen's Robing Chamber but we were too late to see this.

We went through Westminster Hall where we saw Cyril Smith, the Liberal M.P. for Rochdale and later Ingrid Bergman the film star, and Lord Shinwell. We went into the division lobbies and we were told about the voting procedure and the counting of the votes. We were counted out past the Prime Minister's and Leader of the Opposition's offices into the House of Commons. It seemed sombre and gloomy, the dark green upholstery making a dull contrast with that of the Lords where it was bright red. As we passed the Speaker's chair, Mr. Harper pointed out the bag attached to its back for petitions presented to the House.

We were shown where the leaders of the Parties sit, and the visitors' gallery, after which we went into the Crypt, which contains the Chapel. This is known as St. Stephen's Chapel and here were some beautiful paintings. It was in this chapel that the suffragette Emily Davison hid herself during a census; she claimed that as she hadn't any rights, she would not be counted in the census. She was discovered, however, and was included in the count for the City of Westminster.

After leaving the House of Commons we all went to Westminster Abbey. Mrs. Williamson told us to be back at the entrance by 1.30 p.m., which gave us plenty of time to explore on our own. We wandered at first, looking at ornate carvings and paintings and stained glass: we were particularly impressed by the immense size of the Abbey. We went through a gateway to see some of the tombs, including that of Queen Elizabeth I and her sister Queen Mary Tudor.

In the afternoon we visited the Imperial War Museum which contained many models and actual tanks and aeroplanes, guns and uniforms of the two World Wars. There were mock battle situations set up with model soldiers, ships and tanks, and we had a fascinating time looking at all the exhibits including a real "Dad's Army" exhibition. All too soon it was time to go home. We had a wonderful day: thanks are due to Mrs. Williamson and Miss Williams for a lovely time.

Marion West, Fourth Year

SNOW, WINE AND SEVERAL LAUGHS

The pattern of the holiday was set on leaving the main school gate at 12-30 p.m. on Sunday, February 16th, 1975; out came the cards and yours truly, in conjunction with Messrs. Hirst, Dyson and Dedross participated in numerous games of solo for most of the journey to Manchester Airport. This pattern continued during what seemed to be every free moment of the holiday, and we would like to thank Derek "Decker" Hirst, our tutor in previously unheard of card games, such as Black Pig.

Besides card games, other activities during the holiday included a trip to Salzburg, American Pool, Tobogganing, nine-pin bowling, swimming (in the case of one second former, fully clothed) and finally — the nominal objective of the holiday — ski-ing. Some members took to ski-ing as Caribous take to the mountains (that's another story!) but others spent more time sitting in the snow than actually ski-ing on it.

With regard to ski-ing (as opposed to sitting), congratulations must go to Chris Dyson, Steve Dedross, Mike Jennings, Alan Valentine, Roy Oakley and Chris Walker who all entered and passed their ski-tests, and further congratulations to Chris Dyson and Alan Valentine on winning their 'best skier' medals. However, the prowess of Mr. Fairbank as a skier has not gone unnoticed; rumour has it that he has been asked to star in a re-make of a certain Cadbury's Milk Tray advertisement.

We would like to thank the party of twenty-four Manchester schoolgirls who helped make the holiday so enjoyable, and also the two female members of staff in charge of them, along with Ingham's (the Travel Agents) female representative who provided company for Mr. Fairbank, whilst the senior boys were employing their "leaners" and "lifters" in the so-called Disco (really a bar with a juke-box).

On behalf of the party I would like to thank Mr. Fairbank for making a very enjoyable holiday possible. The rest of the party would like to commiserate with 'Chopper' and Chris who had to leave behind very 'close' friends. Chopper's was called Marie, whilst Chris's was called Tricia (or was it Mandy or maybe Ingrid?).

Chris Dix, Sixth Year

THE STAFF ROOMS

During the course of the session we have already bid farewell to Mrs. S. Timms, who later gave birth to a son, and to the Head of the History Department and Deputy Head of the Lower School, Mr. R. B. Atkinson, who became Deputy Headmaster at Crossley and Porter's Grammar School, Halifax. Mr. Atkinson came to us some seven years ago from Kenya and rapidly involved himself in a variety of activities ranging from cricket and rugby to the opera and the Sixth Form Union. The extent of his influence may be reflected in the fact that it took two men to replace him: Mr. M. Ruddock, our present, or rather, our absent (since he is engaged on a year's course at Sheffield University) Head of Mathematics will take over as Deputy Head of Lower School in September, while Mr. P. Allen shoulders the departmental burden. He comes to us from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Blackburn, but insists that he is in fact a Yorkshireman. An Exeter graduate, he also spent 'an education year' at Newcastle; his interests include industrial archaeology, squash and refereeing rugby.

Mr. J. R. S. Gill is another sportsman, whom we welcome from Carnegie College to teach P.E. His particular interests are badminton and rugby; he

has already launched a popular Badminton Club in the school and coached the school 2nd XV through a difficult season. Other newcomers this year include Mrs. S. Hatton, who joins the English Department and assists with drama; Mr. Vickers, appointed temporarily to the Mathematics Department, who recently came into teaching from the engineering industry; and Mrs. Flory, a graduate of Manchester University, who teaches physics and spends her leisure-time listening to classical music while nursing a book and a cat. It seems she nurses ambitions too, for Mrs. Flory leaves us after only a year to seek better prospects at the Wakefield Girls' High School. We extend greetings also to Mrs. A. M. Rodger and Mrs. B. W. Jackson who assist with games, and to Mrs. M. E. Radcliffe who, after seven years with I.C.I., replaces Mrs. S. Dolby-Glover as laboratory technician. Finally, goodbye to Mrs. J. Petersons, whose secretarial expertise has been appreciated for a number of years, as has her dry sense of humour. The fact that she is not to be replaced is clear proof that she is irreplaceable.

Congratulations are due to Mrs. L. Swainson (nee Stephenson); and to Mr. A. Long on becoming a man of property.

MISS R. FORTH

Just before going to press, it has been announced that Miss Forth is to leave us at the end of term, after ten years' work in the R.E. department, first as assistant to Mr. Moreton and then, on his appointment as Senior Master, as departmental head. This much everybody knows. When I interviewed her a few days ago, however, I was struck by how her remarks and reflections, whilst typical of her and so not really unexpected, evinced a warmth and compassion which it is all too easy to take for granted.

She is leaving, she tells me, not for promotion — her move is lateral — but in order to be near her ageing parents and to seek greater opportunity for pastoral work. She returns, incidentally, to her native Buckinghamshire, to the Radcliffe Comprehensive School in Wolverton.

Since becoming head of R.E., Miss Forth has attempted to make known and understood the relevance of religion to everyday experience, and to encourage the attributes of honesty and tolerance. As she says "Intolerance can warp the personality; appreciation of other people is vital, don't you think?"

One means of encouraging tolerance has been the new style of morning assemblies, so much supported by the headmaster. Miss Forth has been keen to extend and broaden this development, giving expression to all kinds of religious views and personal philosophies. In this regard, she is anxious to record her gratitude to the Headmaster and to Mr. Moreton for the freedom to experiment, and to all her colleagues for their helpful co-operation, and in general for their friendship.

She speaks of Normanton itself as a caring community in which people are willing to be 'bothered', to go the extra mile. She has also enjoyed the characteristic northern outspokenness, even though it sometimes lacks delicacy. Perhaps Miss Forth has enjoyed Normanton so much because she has given so much of herself to both school and local community. Space forbids details, but even a list indicates the extent of her interests; the players and the arts club choir, Morris and English country dancing. Baptist church and cub-scouts, C.E.M. meetings and raising funds for charities.

She leaves grateful for friendships formed, both inside and outside school, for experiences shared and for self-discoveries made. She returns to Buckinghamshire "enriched and more fully developed" than when she came. And so, also, are we.

Thank you, Miss Forth, and good luck!

Mr. J. D. Hadfield

MISS G. BARRON

The news of the sudden death of Miss G. Barron on May 5th brought feelings of incredulity and deep sadness to the school and town alike, for Miss Barron's cheerful personality, her genuine interest in people, her dedicated service to her pupils and to the many organisations in which she played a leading role and, above all, her rare gifts of sympathetic listening and understanding, combined with wise, unassuming help and counsel, had won her the love and respect of the whole community.

It was typical of Miss Barron's loyalty and concern that she returned from an earlier teaching career in the beautiful surroundings of the Lake District and Cornwall to be near her father and family, in her native Yorkshire, during the war years. The many Normanton students who benefited by her decision, and the staff who were her colleagues, remember with gratitude and affection her service, from 1941 to 1968, as Senior History Mistress in Normanton High School and Normanton Grammar School.

At Oxford University, Miss Barron was an active member of the 'Charles James Fox Society', the society of the open mind. In her teaching she consistently encouraged her pupils to widen their experience by taking part in many activities, to remain optimistic in outlook, never to become despairing or narrowly intolerant, and not to confuse the new 'licence' or permissiveness with 'liberty' and progress. She urged them to try to understand many points of view, but to strive to distinguish between prejudice and fact. How often she would say 'Read and discuss widely, but always Consult the Documents! Consider the Facts!' She believed that self-discipline and the healing powers of human nature were the best weapons with which to face problems. Academic study was, to her, an adventure and a challenge — a stimulating approach, which brought History to life; her integrity, wisdom and faith in humanity taught even more memorable lessons.

We remember with gratitude Miss Barron's aid to hundreds of students in their careers or in times of difficulty; her untiring efforts for Dr. Barnardo's Homes; the study groups which she led and organised for the Old Girls' Association and the 'Frestonian' Society; the enjoyable rambles and excursions which she and Miss Wood arranged, and the pleasure she always found among her friends at the Business and Professional Women's Club, in which she had served at various times as President, International Representative and Secretary. It is a joy and consolation that Miss Barron's period of retirement was just as full, active and rewarding as she had wished.

For many years Miss Barron was House Mistress of Wolds House, which became Ward House in the amalgamated school. The Wolds' House motto epitomised many of the qualities and principles of Miss Barron herself, and incorporates many of our thoughts and memories of her:

"Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; think on these things".

Mrs. I. Armitage

THE LIBRARIES

THE LOWER SCHOOL LIBRARY AND RESOURCES CENTRE

It must surely be uncommon for a library to suffer from the problem of overcrowding, yet that is often the case with the Lower School's. For not only does it have to cope with the usual ebb and flow of books and with pupils engaged in private study, but it also caters for literally scores of others pursuing various creative activities or assisting Mrs. White in preparing displays for members of staff. And all this in a space originally designed for only forty people!

Naturally, cramped conditions are not conducive to peace and quiet; but in a place which aims to provide the facilities of both library and crafts-room, some compromise is necessary, if not desirable. Certainly staff and students make heavy demands on books and resources alike, so all credit to Mrs. White on her cheerful ability to meet them.

THE UPPER SCHOOL LIBRARY

My fellow librarians and I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the running of the library this year:

The staff and students
the stamper-outers and book-taker inners
the dusters and the book-sorters
the filers and the stock-takers
the book-restorers and menders
the desk-movers and shelf-repairers
the staff tea trolley-pushers
the waste-paper-bin-users
and the lesser crisp-bag leavers
the magazine borrowers
(including those who are *not* 'Times' returners),
and lastly, but not least,
the Lower School 'Times Ed.' informers.

THANK YOU !

Ruth Harrison, Senior Librarian

VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

PINDERFIELDS HOSPITAL

My visit to the occupational therapy department at Pinderfields hospital was not what I had expected, because I spent most of the week simply watching the work of the trained staff. Even the most trivial little jobs did not fall into my hands, due to the fact that there were two girls there from Wakefield Girls' High School, who had already completed almost a fortnight in the department and were naturally entrusted to do any necessary jobs.

Despite this, the week was very interesting in the sense that I was introduced to techniques which I had never previously even heard of. The ingenuity of the staff amazed me: they could adapt the methods of produc-

tion of an article to suit any person, whether they were exercising legs, hands, shoulders or even toes. All the articles produced in the department were sold either to the patients themselves, or to the visitors to the ward — at a minimal cost of course. The atmosphere was very easy and happy, with frequent cups of tea or coffee to bring the patients together.

It was surprising to find that four or five of the patients had all had the same kind of accident — a fall from a motorcycle. A couple of these had been lucky, with minor injuries to various limbs, but one poor girl had suffered slight brain damage as a result. In fact, brain damage was one of the most common injuries of the people attending the ward daily. One little girl, known affectionately as "Susie", spent all day at the hospital, first with us then afterwards with a speech therapist. She could not walk without aid. In reply to any question whatsoever she would always say "I don't know". She needed encouragement even to move, as did another older boy — another motorcycle victim.

This was not a place for the squeamish; the sight of helpless or mentally and physically subnormal people (like those with the brain damage) is not pleasant. Yet the sight of cheerful people in a hospital helps them, and the staff must find their work very rewarding, as I should have done if my stay had been longer.

Kathryn Sharp, Sixth Year

WAKEFIELD COUNTY GENERAL

For me, voluntary service was an eye opener. On Monday morning Alison, Jayne and I were sent to different parts of Wakefield County General Hospital to help in various hospital duties. I was sent to one of the permanent wards for female patients, a ward with approximately twenty-four beds. After cleaning out the flowers a nurse asked me to wheel several elderly ladies to the day room. The old ladies were very heavy and I found it hard to control the direction of the wheelchairs. One thing that shocked me about these old people was that they were very helpless; nearly all had to be fed, dressed and helped to walk. Three ladies on this ward never got out of bed and just slept except to be given food or medicine. When you saw them, you couldn't help wondering why they were living: they were merely cabbages.

However, everyone was not as bad as this and Alison and I spent two enjoyable days in the day hospital where patients spent the day doing creative work, remedial exercises or simply having a good chat. They were given two substantial meals before being transported back to their own doorsteps.

Altogether, it was an experience that showed me that old people really do need help. It also made me appreciate the kindness and dedication of the medical staff to the patients, some of whom had been in hospital for over thirty years!

Janet Lindsay, Sixth Year

WOODHOUSE INFANTS' SCHOOL

During voluntary service week last year, I went along to Woodhouse Infants' School with three friends. On arriving we were taken to different classrooms where we were to help look after the children over the next few days. At first I think the children found it quite strange to have another person besides their teacher there, but they soon became very friendly, chatting to me about their families and friends.

The class in which I helped consisted of children from four to seven years old, which meant that, as they were at different stages in their work, they had to be taught in smaller groups. The first afternoon we were there, it was their annual sports day. This was one event to which the children really looked forward and everyone took part voluntarily; probably the prizes of sweets had something to do with this! However, the sports were soon over and it wasn't long before we were back in the classroom again. Not every day was spent doing such activities, though, and the children knew they had to work hard once again.

In the few days I was there, I helped them with their maths and spelling problems, writing stories and making collages from felt. Although the basic pattern of each day was similar, no two days were the same, there was always something particularly interesting or amusing happening. The children were always full of new ideas for pictures and stories, and were rewarded for their imaginative work when they were allowed to show their paintings in assembly to the rest of the school. Birthdays were special events and during assembly everyone sang birthday songs while the birthday child blew out the appropriate number of candles.

In the short time I was there, I came to know some children really well, and some in particular stand out in my mind. One little girl was Tracey; she was very chatty and I soon learned all about her family and friends. Another little boy I remember well was very mischievous. He was always pulling someone's hair or hiding someone's pencils, yet he would always own up to doing these things.

I really enjoyed the time I spent there. Each day was full of new experiences and for anyone really interested, teaching young children seems to me to be a well-worthwhile career.

Anne Eyre, Sixth Year

WALTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Happily I spent my voluntary service at Walton Primary School where I devoted most of my time to one particular class. On meeting the class of children I was greeted by thirty pairs of innocent staring eyes, with a chuckle here and an incoherent whisper there. The furniture was very small in comparison with what I was used to. The desks were about two feet high and the miniature chairs were almost ground-level. Sitting on one of the chairs I found myself slightly cramped, with my knees refusing to go under the desk!

Quickly I settled down to my first task, which was to hear the children individually reading. The range of literature was very wide and catered for all the children. Their reading ability was equally wide, and required a great deal of patience, understanding and encouragement. Achieving a few lines gave the children immense satisfaction, and their beaming delighted faces said it all. Besides reading I helped the less artistic painters who had difficulty in keeping the paint on the paper! As well as this the children had to do some arithmetic and general work.

Within a few days I found myself readily plunging into the lessons and becoming more involved with the children. Behind the basic relationship of a teacher and pupil I discovered a deeper bond and attachment. By adopting the role of a teacher I realized the demands children make. Each child demands individual treatment and has a unique educational appetite that needs to be satisfied. Someone had to be there to solve their difficulties, patch their quarrels, heal their wounds and befriend them. Somehow they

managed to chatter and shout, squabble and giggle until home-time. Their energy seems inexhaustible and their free flow of affection unbelievable.

I now realise that being a teacher is more than just marking books and scolding naughty children: it combines a hundred roles in one and is an underestimated vocation.

Rita J. Newton, Sixth Year

LOWER ALTOFTS INFANTS' SCHOOL

On arrival at Lower Altofts Infants' School we met Miss Brooke, the headmistress, who introduced us to her staff of four and allowed us to choose which age group of children we wished to work with. We stayed with the same group of children all the week eventually learning all their names.

During the week we helped with sewing, painting, counting, reading, modelling with both cardboard and clay, writing, dressing up, singing, P.E. and supervising at play time. We also helped the teachers by mounting pictures and renovating old models. To prove we had enjoyed this somewhat hectic week, we stayed on for an extra three days.

On our last day we brought the children some sweets to school and we were very surprised when we received a present in return. We were also invited on a Barge Trip the following Monday and, although the day was spent mainly preventing the children leaning too far over the side, it proved to be a very enjoyable day out.

We were pleased to see that the children had enjoyed our stay at their school as much as we had (many of them begged us to return the following week!) and we look back on those nine days as being a very pleasant and worthwhile experience.

Christine Bell and Josephine Dolan, Sixth Year

QUEEN STREET NURSERY

On going to the nursery school I did not expect to find the children as intelligent as they were. I expected that our main task would be a kind of childminding — constantly providing amusing games but with no real serious purpose. But it was very different. The real thing that many of the children wanted was to read books — or be read to. Already — the thing which surprised me most — you could see who was going to be intelligent in the future. Instead of being slightly bored you were constantly interested and amused by the things that the children did. In many ways the nursery was much more interesting than going to a school with older children as you could see, at this early stage, the way in which their characters were forming. It was an immensely interesting experience.

Alan Shaw, Sixth Year

LEADHALL GRANGE

Leadhall Grange Residential Nursery is situated on the outskirts of Harrogate in a highly residential area which appears to provide accommodation for a great many nurseries and nursing homes.

The nursery, owned by the Council, caters for children between eighteen months and ten years, but very few make it their permanent home. The majority of the children are mentally retarded or educationally sub-normal and some have physical disabilities. Philip, a ten-year-old boy and the oldest child, is both mentally and physically handicapped owing to fluid on the brain. The effect is tragic and the once perfectly normal boy is now totally dependent on those who care for him.

The children are put into family groups and where possible brothers and sisters are kept together. These groups each have a nursery and are supervised by two or three members of staff.

The children also come from a variety of backgrounds and are there for a variety of reasons. One girl had been taken into care because she had been brutally treated by her father and her conclusion was that all fathers would not be feared and avoided at all costs. Some are from broken homes and others are there because their parents cannot cope with their disabilities.

The job of the nurses is not easy. It can readily be depressive and very tiring. The children are very energetic and have a great tendency to get into as many scrapes as possible and a day's work is taken up with changing clothes, rescuing the child who's falling out of the window and in keeping the nursery tidy.

The essence of the work is routine and this is essential but I also found the work very rewarding.

Ruth Harrison, Sixth Year

BARNARDO'S DAY, 1974

For many years we have been able to increase our contribution to Barnardo's each year but this time we were unable to do so. However, we did manage to equal our previous year's record of £500. This was made up of £246.28 from the box collection and £253.72 from the proceeds of the bazaar, form efforts and the country dancing display. £232.62 went into the school fund. At one point it was thought that even the previous year's total would not be reached but we were saved by a waste paper collection during Voluntary Service week which raised £33.75. Besides helping Barnardo's we may have saved a few trees by this effort.

A lot of work is put into the bazaar but for several years now it has not produced as much money as one would have expected — possibly because it is held on an afternoon and few parents are able to come. We must try to work out ways of improving its performance in the future.

Miss Penrose, who gave excellent service to Barnardo's, left us last Easter. She will be particularly remembered by Governors, staff and their families for the delightful teas she provided for them in the library on bazaar day. We wish her a long and happy retirement and thank her for all her help.

Mrs. V. Guy

How to get in on the action.

The modern Army is a highly complex organisation. It needs to be, to perform the many different tasks demanded of it. And to operate efficiently, the Army must be able to draw on a diversity of talent. Your talent. Whether you're a fifth former or a university graduate, you have something to offer. Here are some of the ways to get in on the action:

For those aged 15 to 17.

Welbeck College (entry age between 15¾ and 17 years 2 months). Two years' science sixth form training prior to entry to Sandhurst for Commission in one of the Technical Arms. To enter Welbeck you must be up to 'O' level (or equivalent) in Maths, a Science which includes Physics, and English Language. Chemistry and a foreign language are also desirable.

Army Scholarship. Two years financial assistance to help you stay on at school. Once you pass 'A' levels, you're given an automatic place at Sandhurst.

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THE FRESTONIAN

THE ACADEMIC YEAR, 1974-75

One of the many fascinating aspects of life in school is the way in which each Sixth Form seems to develop its unique ethos and character. While last year's Sixth Form had, perhaps, fewer outstandingly academically-gifted members than its immediate predecessor, its prevailing spirit was one of cheerfulness, willingness to serve others and tenacity and it was pleasing that these qualities ensured that the vast majority worked to the best of their ability, achieved their aims and gained admission to interesting and worthwhile careers.

Fifty-four students went on to degree or teacher-training courses in Universities, Polytechnics and Colleges of Education. Seventeen students chose to go directly into employment — in the Civil Service, banks, libraries, Social Services, Hotel Administration or in trainee posts with Wakefield Metropolitan District Council. Two boys, Leslie Morgan and Steven Gamble, became student apprentices in Mining Engineering with the N.C.B. Two girls, Marion Chivers and Lynn Wood, both of whom achieved very good results in Mathematics and Science, took posts in laboratories: Marion is with the Elida Gibbs Company in Leeds, and Lynn is continuing her studies in Chemistry at Ewell County Technical College before joining the Central Electricity Generating Board laboratories at Leatherhead in Surrey to train as a Research Officer. Hilary Whitehead is a trainee librarian, Jane Cressey and Janis Watson are Clerical Officers in the Social Security Department in Norman-ton, and Anne Morris has a post with Barclays Bank. Ann Huxley, who gained four 'A' level passes, with high grades in English and Economics and a Grade I pass in the Economics Scholarship papers, has spent a year working at the 'Farndale' Home for elderly people in Featherstone before commencing a degree course in Applied Social Studies at Bradford University in October. Barbara Kelly has been studying Accountancy at Huddersfield Polytechnic before reading for an Economics degree: at present she has received offers of places at both Leeds and Sheffield Universities for next year. Marie Senior has moved further afield and is enjoying her training in Hotel Reception and Administration at the Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, in London, Dianne Speed and Julie Dyson are both trainees with Wakefield Metropolitan District Council. Dianne, a trainee Housing Manager, will shortly be attending a course at Leeds Polytechnic, while Julie, a trainee Social Officer with the Social Services Department, is attending evening classes at Wakefield Technical College and hopes eventually to specialise in work with deaf-and-dumb and handicapped children. David Lockwood, formerly an amateur radio enthusiast, whom many parents will remember for his entertaining performances in the Gilbert & Sullivan operas, has now 'turned professional' — not on the stage, but as a technical assistant in Radio and Television with the B.B.C. Since leaving school David has had a very full and active programme: he attended the B.B.C. Engineering Training College at Evesham in Worcestershire, followed by periods of practical training at Daventry Radio Station and Sutton Coldfield. He hopes to spend the thirteen weeks before Christmas at Holme Moss, before returning to Evesham for further training. We wish them all happiness and success in their lives and careers.

At the time of our last issue we had just heard that Alan Whalley, the Head Boy of Upper School, and Keith Marshall had both gained places to read Mathematics at University College, Oxford. We are now able to congratulate them both on achieving excellent results in their 'A' level examinations. Alan gained 'A' grades in Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and General Studies, and Keith obtained 'A' grades in Mathematics

and General Studies, 'B' grades in Further Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, and an additional 'O' level pass in German, essential for his Oxford entry requirements.

This year we were delighted to learn that Mark Sansom, Head Boy of Lower School, had been awarded the Freston Scholarship, tenable at University College, Oxford, on the results of the Oxford University Entrance Examinations in 'Natural Sciences'. Mark plans to read Biochemistry. He will be joined at University College by Leslie Dolby-Glover who, in the same examinations, gained a place to read Mathematics. We offer our warmest congratulations and best wishes to them both.

The Governors' Leaving Exhibition for Girls last year was awarded to Elizabeth Fisher, who gained very good 'A' level results, with grade 'A' passes in English and History and grade 'B' passes in Geography and General Studies. Elizabeth's courage, intelligence and quiet determination earned her the affection and respect of staff and students alike, and we are pleased to hear of her good progress in reading Law at Sheffield University. The Governors' Leaving Exhibition for Boys was awarded to Alan Whalley, whose academic achievements were matched by his loyal and energetic support of school's many societies and activities.

Last year's Head Girl of Upper School, Pamela Oakley, is training for a teaching career at Neville's Cross College of Education. Susan Pygott, Head Girl of Lower School, is studying Greek and Theology at Southampton University, and the Head Boy of Lower School, Nicholas Hill, is at Manchester University, reading for a degree in American Studies.

Despite the keen competition for University places in Languages, Judith Fisher and Christine Peakman successfully met the challenge: Judith having gained grade 'A' passes in French and History, is now studying French at Leeds University; Christine, also with an 'A' grade in French, is reading for a combined degree in French and Italian at Salford University. Jane Smethurst gained 'A' grades in English and History, and is following a degree course in Librarianship at Leeds Polytechnic. Jane's sensitive descriptions and stories made a valuable contribution to our morning Assemblies, and we hope that she will continue her creative writing together with her studies in Librarianship.

In addition to the Mathematics and Science students previously mentioned, several others obtained very pleasing results and are now following a variety of courses at University or Polytechnic. Stephen Dean, Stephen Tarpey, Anthony Barker and Kenneth Sparham are all reading Chemistry—at Hull, Leicester, Bradford and Cardiff Universities respectively. Barbara Jordan gained five 'A' level passes, with an 'A' in Chemistry, and is studying for a combined degree in Chemistry and Biochemistry at Nottingham University. Susan Winterburn is reading Zoology at Liverpool University. Nigel Cooper and Christopher Williams are at Wolverhampton Polytechnic, following the B.Sc. Hons, degree course in Biology, and Jane Arandle is reading for a B.A. Hons, degree in Psychology at Preston Polytechnic.

Among the mathematicians we offer special congratulations on his well-deserved success to Keith Jones, now studying Mathematics at Manchester University, who gained 'A' grades in Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Physics, 'B' grades in Chemistry and General Studies, and a Grade I in the Special Physics papers. Keith is assured of sound competition at Manchester,

since Barry Thewsey, who also gained very good results, including an 'A' in Mathematics, is following the same course.

Manchester University seems to have been a popular choice among our students this year. Two members of the Geography and Geology departments, Jacqueline Stones and Alan Micklethwaite have also commenced degree courses there — Jacqueline in combined Geography and Geology, and Alan in Geology. Stephen Stoney has gone on to Lanchester Polytechnic to study Urban and Regional Planning.

In view of the many new developments and the raising of admission requirements at Colleges of Education, we watched the progress of our students' applications with considerable care and concern. In the event, offers of interviews came quickly, and we congratulate the following students on achieving their requirements and send them good wishes for their years at College and for their future careers: Christopher Baker (Newman College, Birmingham), John Oakley (St. John's, York), Susan Machin (Northern Counties), Tina Salter (Wakefield College of Art), Vivienne Slater (Matlock), John Coy (Egham, Shoreditch), Neil Gibbons (West Midlands), Kenneth Wright (Newman College, Birmingham), Anne Carrington (Neville Cross), Jennifer Dowding (Northern Counties), Robert Davies (West Midlands), Lesley Barrell (Ripon), Janet Carter (Kingston-upon-Hull), Anne Mogg (Neville's Cross), Lesley Walters (Middleton St. George), Linda Widdowson (Ilkley), Stephen Bailey (Doncaster), Nigel Cook (Bangor Normal), Kevin Plant (Didsbury), Catherine Bannister (Ilkley), Angela Barrett (Wakefield College of Art), Deborah Dinsdale (Bretton), Pamela Jones (Ripon). Pamela Davies and Jacqueline Gill are training as teachers of Mentally Handicapped children at Northern Counties College. Both girls had considered this career seriously for a considerable time, and their experiences in helping mentally-handicapped children during the periods of Voluntary Service following the examinations in their fifth and sixth years convinced them that this was the work they wished to do.

In the present Upper Sixth the Freston Scholarships of Tony Blakeway, Leslie Dolby-Glover, William Braham, David Buckingham, Mark Sansom, Robert Wells, Coleen Smart, Beverley Kerton, Janet Inness, Alison Holroyd and Sally Smethurst were continued. In the Lower Sixth, Scholarships were awarded to Andrew Booth, John Burnage, Paul Morgan, Anthony Pattison, Paul Smith, Karen Exley, Celia Harding, Dawn Hepworth, Diane Jordan and Kathryn Sharp.

Mrs. I. Armitage

OLD FRESTONIANS

UNIVERSITY LIFE IS A POPULAR TOPIC OF CONVERSATION THROUGHOUT THE UPPER SCHOOL, BUT AS PUPILS AT SCHOOL, WE HEAR ONLY TEACHERS' VIEWS OF THEIR EXPERIENCES AT UNIVERSITY. THIS YEAR WE WILL TRY TO IMPROVE THIS SITUATION SLIGHTLY BY GIVING YOU SOME INSIGHT INTO THE FEELINGS AND IMPRESSIONS OF FORMER PUPILS OF NORMANTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL WHO NOW ATTEND UNIVERSITIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY OR WHO HAVE FOUND WORTHWHILE EMPLOYMENT.

Kathryn Sharp and Michael Jennings, Sixth Year

"IN AT THE DEEP END"

Stepping into a train, bus or car to travel to a university and begin a course of higher education marks the beginning of a whole new phase of life. Gone are the womb-like security and the friendships of secondary school. You are thrown in at the deep end, alone (unless you are lucky enough to know someone going to the same place) and away from home for perhaps the first time in your life— for any considerable period, anyway. Psychologically this is a very trying time, and for a lot of people it's sheer hell. After about three days of university life many people just feel like packing up and leaving, disillusioned by what they have found. Many do just that. Believe me, I know this feeling. It's amazing how many people 'disappear' within the first week. I say 'disappear', because you don't have chance to learn their names, only their faces. The point is, you don't realise that there are other 'Freshers' in exactly the same predicament — alone and homesick. If you go along to the Union bar, they stick out like a sore thumb, looking round as though they are lost. This is often the place where new friendships begin and the disillusionment ends. After two or three weeks there are few people with a desire to leave, unless they are certain they made a mistake or were carried along on the educational 'conveyor belt' before they really knew what to do.

After this initial settling-in period, university life is just what you make of it. New worries, money management and the paying of bills now pass into your hands. Then, of course, there is the academic work: the onus is upon you to do the work you are given — no-one chases you up, and it is your future that you are ruining if you don't do it. Of course you are not expected to spend all of your time doing academic work, but similarly, you are not expected to spend all of your time in the bar (thinks: "not a bad idea though"). There are usually plenty of clubs and societies catering for a wide variety of interests — from drinking to being "gay" (if you feel so inclined) and there is plenty of entertainment.

In writing this article I have not tried to present a picture of university life, because as I said, that is simply what you care to make of it. My purpose has been to give an indication of what to expect initially — something which I was never told. Think very carefully about proceeding to university — it's your future you're deciding, but if you do decide to go. I'm sure you'll enjoy it.

Mr. Tony Barker, now Undergraduate,
School of Chemistry, Bradford University (left N.G.S. 1974)

THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES, ABERYSTWYTH

What one notices about Aberystwyth or arriving here as a 'Fresher' is its absolute isolation. It is sandwiched between sea and hills, and is at least seventy miles from any town of reasonable size.

This isolation does, fortunately, have compensations, such as clean sea air and green hills stretching as far as one can see. It seems odd that this remote Welsh seaside town should be the home of a university, particularly if one's conception of a university is based on those at Leeds or Sheffield. The small number of students in Aberystwyth does mean that there is a very close community both within the university and within the town. The relationship between 'town' and 'gown' is generally good; the students are very much part of the town and contribute greatly to its economy.

The university is divided between the old buildings on the sea-front, which house all the Arts Departments, and the new buildings on the outskirts of the town, where one finds the science and social science departments

Halls of residence are also split between the sea-front and the new campus, which ensures that all students are not concentrated in one place. Halls of residence tend not to be truthfully, or at least realistically approached in the prospectus. The majority of First-Year students in Aberystwyth live in a hall, and few know exactly what to expect before they arrive. Hall fees are expensive and food is usually bad, but it is still beneficial for First-years to live in a Hall of residence, as it helps to bridge the gap between home and total independence. Discipline varies from hall to hall; in the older, women's residences, the discipline is usually quite severe.

I myself lived in a women's hall of residence that was watched over by a veritable army of wardens, sub-wardens, cleaners and night-porters; but despite the rather strict rules, I enjoyed my year in hail.

The social life of most Aberystwyth students is somewhat restricted. We do not have the facilities found in a city, but entertainment here is relatively inexpensive. There are three very cheap, but very seedy cinemas, which often have recent films or popular 'classics'.

In addition, there is also a small, but well equipped theatre on the University campus, which has both professional and amateur companies upon its stage. Most departments of the university have their own societies; the Literary Society, which is affiliated to the department of English, provides speakers of such calibre as Professor G. Wilson Knight and Dr. F. R. Leavis. One unfortunate feature of rural Welsh life, for some people, is that the sabbath is strictly regarded, therefore the pubs do not open on Sundays. In the summer months Aberystwyth becomes a lively and very crowded tourist centre. Denizens of Midlanders and students descend onto the usually deserted wind-swept beaches. Deck-chairs, donkeys, and ice-cream stands appear where none were seen before. There is a vast difference between the Aberystwyth of the summer and the Aberystwyth of winter wind and rain.

For most students the Summer Term brings exams, and academic life must continue, despite the sun and the enticing blue sea.

Of academic life in Aberystwyth, I can only really speak of the department of English. As a First-year Student, one is expected to read for three subjects, all of which are examined at the end of the year. In the second year, one chooses either one or two subjects to read for the honours. I chose English. The department of English tends not to be interested in First-year students, as many only do it as a second or third subject.

The second and third years in the department who chose single honours English, read for eight papers, four of which are compulsory: Anglo-Saxon (which is as bad as it sounds), Chaucer, Shakespeare and Literary criticism. The greatest difference between English at 'A' level and at degree level is the volume of work which one is expected to cover. At 'A' level, one reads selected texts, at University one reads an author's entire works (or at least one is supposed to!) Lessons are superceded by the lecture, seminar and tutorial. In the English department at Aberystwyth, a student is expected to attend a fortnightly tutorial, for which he or she has to write an essay. These essays have to be done as well as the reading for lectures and preparation for seminars.

This may present a rather gloomy picture of the work-load, but perhaps as I am preparing for finals, my attitude is somewhat prejudiced. Life at

university is not all work, and one of its advantages is that one can work when one wishes; and although certain things have to be done, the amount of work an individual wishes to do is entirely his or her affair. For me, as for most students, there was a natural progression from schoolwork to work at degree level. After 'A' level, there seem to be fewer brilliant students and also fewer dull ones, most people seem to be at the same level.

One important aspect of academic life is the Library. When Mrs. Armitage advised me as a Sixth Former to take careful note of the size and amenities of a university library, I thought her advice strange, and ignored it. Fortunately, the National Library of Wales, a copyright library, receives a copy of all books published in Great Britain, and particularly in Wales and is situated in Aberystwyth. I would advise all prospective University applicants to take heed of Mrs. Armitage's advice, and read prospectuses very carefully. The Welsh half of the Aberystwyth prospectus is a warning of things to come. All material issued by the university is in both Welsh and English, and English speaking students must learn tolerance towards and respect for the Welsh language, as the Welsh community is a vital part of the university in Aberystwyth. Learning tolerance and respect for people and ideas is something that continues from school to university and from university out into the non-academic world.

Miss Louise Poulson, at University College of Wales, Aberystwyth
(Left N.G.S. 1972)

LIFE OF OXFORD

The main differences between University and School life are that for the first time in my life I am away from home for months at a time, and I am financially independent of my parents. Being away from home among strangers in a strange city can be a lonely experience and during the first few weeks students find out more about themselves than about the city and university. Friends are easily made with room-mates, at lectures, with friendly second years selling books, and before long the strange becomes familiar, strangers become friends.

Academically too, the university system provides a complete change of pace and style from school. Nothing is free or simply handed out: lists of textbooks for the year are issued, but the obtaining of them is left up to you. Second years will sell their books to you so that they themselves can buy second-year textbooks from the third year. Even buying most books second hand and making full use of the library facilities, it will cost a minimum of £30-£40. Most of the 1st year books will be useless in the second year, so books are kept in good condition, hopefully to sell to the fresh crop of 1st years.

The lectures are all one hour long, with two to four lectures a day. Unfortunately this does not mean a student works less than twenty hours a week and that the rest is spent sleeping and drinking. Each lecture can generate three or four hours work, as topics met for the first time are covered at quite an alarming rate. Keeping up is essential, as once behind, it is very hard to make sense of current lectures.

The lecturers themselves vary between being very good indeed to being unintelligible: they all know their subjects thoroughly, but communicating this knowledge quickly and coherently, to unsympathetic undergraduates is sometimes beyond them. A 'bad' lecturer can find the number of people attending his lectures drop from two hundred to less than forty in a short space of time,

and will make an effort to improve. It is not hard topics or apathy which keep the students away, but the time wasted, possibly better spent reading the topic up in the library.

University life is a series of ups and downs, one week being on top of the work, with time to do what you like, the next working endlessly at something you're sure you'll never understand, while your friends have all gone home for the weekend. Life is full of new interests, faces, accents and points of view, new areas of responsibility, new things to worry about but also more things to enjoy. It is a time of self-discovery and change. I wouldn't have missed it for anything.

Mr. K. Marshall (left N.G.S. 1974)

A CAREER AS A TECHNICAL ASSISTANT IN THE BBC

To the technically minded the B.B.C. offers a variety of interesting work in electronic engineering, good training facilities within the Corporation and the opportunity to progress to the internationally recognised standard of Broadcasting Engineer.

I began my career with the B.B.C. in November 1974 as a Trainee Technical Assistant in the Transmitter Group, commencing with a twelve week course at the Engineering Training Centre at Evesham in Hereford and at Worcester. The 'A' course there covers the fundamentals of engineering and the application of these principles. After this initial course, a period of 'On-Station' practical training takes place. In my case, this entailed serving at various transmitting stations around the country, firstly at Daventry in Northamptonshire (short-wave World Service broadcasts) and then at Sutton Coldfield near Birmingham (TV and UHF FM).

After a week on leave, I shall take up a post at Rampisham near Weymouth in Dorset (another Short-wave station), and from there to Droitwich in the West Midlands — Terry Wogan's "Gentle Giant" — Radio 2 on 1500 metres Long-wave. This period of on-station training concludes with thirteen weeks at Holme Moss TV station near Huddersfield, bringing me near home for Christmas. In January I return to the Engineering Training Centre (E.T.C.) for the eight-week 'B' course. After gaining further practical experience for about eighteen months, I can apply for a 'C' course at E.T.C. which will enable me to qualify as a Broadcasting Engineer.

With an eye to the future, I am very interested in a post at our new World Service Relay Station in Antigua (two years in the Caribbean sun WITH PAY !).

Employment with the B.B.C. offered me a job with good prospects, a healthy salary and job satisfaction. These I have already found after only one year's service and I look forward to many more years of success in the world of broadcasting.

Mr. D. J. Lockwood (left N.G.S. 1974)

REPORT



TABULATION OF RUGBY RESULTS 1974

OPPOSITION	1st XV	2nd XV	COLTS XV	U14 XV	U13 XV	U12 XV
St. Michael's	(1) W. 36-6	(1) W. 66-6	(2) W. 80-0	(1) W. 16-4	(1) W. 54-0	(1) W. 38-4
Thorne G.S.	(2) W. 22-3	(3) W. 9-6		(3) W. 24-20		
Wath G.S.	(3) W. 58-4	(5) W. 62-6		(4) L. 6-38		(4) W. 38-4
Doncaster G.S.			(5) W. 25-15			
Pontefract G.S.	(5) W. 28-14	(8) W. 24-0	(7) W. 22-20	(7) L. 4-32	(5) W. 34-10	(6) W. 4-0
Aireborough	(6) W. 56-12	(9) W. 54-0	(8) W. 38-3	(8) W. 20-4	(6) W. 28-0	
Hemsworth	(7) W. 47-6		(9) W. 31-12	(9) L. 8-38		
West Park	(8) W. 16-3	(10) L. 10-32	(10) W. 18-0	(10) L. 0-58	(8) L. 4-22	(8) D. 4-4
Luddites	L. 18-31					
Roundhay G.S.	(9) W. 48-0	(11) W. 20-3	(11) W. 26-12	(11) W. 22-6		
Skipton G.S.		(12) W. 16-11			(10) L. 0-28	
Marist	(16) W. 39-10	(19) W. 86-0				
Rothwell	(10) W. 29-3	(13) W. 10-0	(12) W. 58-0	(12) L. 12-14	(11) W. 36-0	
Newark G.S.	(11) L. 9-21	(14) W. 26-0	(13) W. 24-0	(14) L. 4-22	(14) W. 34-16	(11) W. 18-10
Hipperholme G.S.	(12) W. 8-7	(15) L. 8-10	(14) L. 0-7	(15) L. 0-26	(15) W. 17-3	(12) D. 16-16
Goole	(13) W. 16-6	(16) L. 6-10	(15) W. 52-0	(16) L. 15-16		
De La Salle G.S.	(14) L. 0-8	(17) W. 19-12	(16) W. 9-0	(17) L. 0-8	(17) W. 24-4	(14) W. 18-12
Kings Macclesfield G.S.	(15) L. 7-18	(18) L. 4-13	(17) W. 18-8	(18) L. 4-12	(18) W. 18-4	(15) L. 4-16
Heath G.S.						
Temple Moor	(17) W. 42-6	(20) W. 48-0	(18) W. 86-0	(19) W. 42-0		
St. Wilfrid's (1st XV)		(2) W. 15-14				
Kettlethorpe		(4) W. 52-6	(3) W. 25-15			
Goole	(4) W. 51-6	(6) W. 22-4				
Willowgarth (1st XV)		(7) L. 0-27				
Garforth			(6) W. 52-3	(6) W. 38-4		
John Smeaton			(1) W. 50-0	(2) L. 14-22	(2) W. 32-0	(2) W. 26-3
Pontefract Sec;			(4) W. 16-12	(5) W. 72-3	(13) W. 66-0	(10) W. 50-0
Osett				(20) W. 11-6		(3) W. 10-0
Airedale				(21) W. 58-0		(21) W. 20-0
Sowerby Bridge				(13) L. 12-13	(3) W. 10-6	
Holmfirth					(4) W. 31-16	(5) W. 32-0
Armthorpe					(7) W. 40-0	(7) W. 40-0
Sowerby Bridge					(9) W. 28-4	(9) W. 16-4
Holmfirth					(16) W. 16-0	(13) W. 46-0
Arnold, Blackpool					(20) W. 36-6	(17) W. 32-0
St. Joseph's College					(21) W. 32-10	(18) D. 4-4
Airedale					(22) W. 26-0	(19) L. 8-14
Armthorpe					(8) L. 6-14	(16) W. 30-0
Darton					(19) W. 36-0	(20) W. 62-0
Oratory			(19) W. 44-0		(23) W. 28-4	
RECORD						
Played	17	20	19	21	23	21
Won	14	15	18	9	20	16
Lost	3	5	1	12	3	2
Drawn	0	0	0	0	0	3
Points for	576	577	673	382	646	516
Points against	135	154	107	346	157	91

1st XV

RECORD: P—17, W—14, L—3, D—0, F—576, A—135

TEAM: B. Banks (Capt), A. Short (V-Capt), T. Blakeway, N. Walker, D. Kirk, J. Hoyle, T. Carter, R. Davenport, J. Burnage, M. Smith, S. Burnage, C. Morgan, N. Stackhouse, T. Barker, S. Harvey, S. Evans. Also played: M. Johnson, P. Graveling, A. Wood, V. Smith, J. Shearn, R. Wells, A. Hughes, J. Ramsden.

The pattern of the season's results followed very closely on that of the previous season, with an excellent start, an indifferent spell around December, January and February, and then a finish which showed some of the early season's form back again. The first term went by without a defeat, and some excellent flowing rugby was produced. The forwards worked well as a unit and produced plenty of ball from both tight and loose. The backs were able to show their skills and this teamwork brought eleven consecutive wins.

After the break at Christmas, however, we seemed to be struggling to win sufficient possession. The backs were frustrated in attack and began to show glaring weaknesses in defence. This particularly applied in our match at Newark which brought our first defeat. Forwards were well beaten all round, backs were lacking cohesion in attack and words alone are not sufficient to describe the pathetically weak tackling.

An improved pack performance followed at Hipperholme in conditions that soon proved impossible for backs. S. Burnage had scored a good individual try in the opening ten minutes, but then conditions worsened and it was left to the pack and A. Hughes, having his 1st XV debut at scrum half, to carry the day. It was a very courageous performance by Hughes behind a pack which made a tremendous onslaught on the Hipperholme line to bring a winning try by M. Smith.

Goole proved far more difficult to beat on their home ground than at Normanton. The return of Banks, Barker and Davenport to the side helped confidence, but the cohesion of the side was well below their capabilities. Tries by Banks, Carter and Walker won the game.

The De La Salle fixture was undoubtedly the highlight of the season. Although we lost, all agreed it was an excellent and enjoyable game in which every player gave of his best. De La Salle scored tries in the opening and closing minutes of the game, while in between a battle royal was fought by both sides. Although completely outsized in the forwards, our pack never gave up trying and every player tackled his heart out; in particular Carter and Evans in the centre.

We were unable to build on this experience for the Macclesfield game which we lost without ever finding form, probably attributable to the long upsetting coach journey we experienced. Some semblance of form returned as we had good wins over Temple Moor and Marist to end the season.

B. Banks was captain this season, with a wealth of experience behind him, having had three seasons in the 1st XV and having played for Yorkshire at 15 and 19 group. He is a very talented and unorthodox player. He has both the strength and elusiveness to make a break, tackles and cover-tackles well, only his kicking not being up to the standard of the rest of his play.

A. Short as vice-captain and leader of the pack has also plenty of experience in the XV. He is a tireless worker and has won some useful line-out balls at No. 5. His partner at lock, J. Hoyle, has been unfortunate with injury but in mid-season when all was well he was putting in some solid displays in the pack.

In front of these two we had a solid front row. M. Smlth is a very good scrummager although a little slow in the loose, and a useful front of the line-out player. C. Morgan had a great spell of rugby averaging a try a match from prop-forward, by virtue of his support play. An unfortunate injury against Hemsworth brought him an unwanted lay-off and a consequent loss of fitness and form. D. Kirk took over the hooking role at the beginning of the season when R. Wells was injured in practice and he retained it all season. He only struggled for possession when we were beaten by stronger packs, and proved tenacious near the line, if somewhat unaware of colleagues in a better position.

T. Barker at open-side flanker had a good season; hard worker in attack and defence, he scored 8 tries up to the Christmas break, but injury and representative honours caused him to miss several games towards the close of the season. S. Harvey at blind-side flanker is a keen player, hardly ever missing a training session, works hard throughout a game and, with a bit more aggression, will make a good player. N. Stackhouse at No. 8 came from obscurity into the XV and made his presence felt. He was useful in the line-out, and made some excellent runs in the loose, his try against Hemsworth being memorable, starting the movement off with a break in his own half, distributing the ball and supporting again to score himself.

S. Burnage showed his versatility by taking over the scrum-half role after playing outside half in previous years. Although not ideally built for this position he has a quick turn of speed, a fairly consistent pass and kicks well with either foot. His 11 tries, 50 conversions and 13 penalties gave him a total of 84 points. Had he a stronger defence he would surely be in line for representative honours. Twin brother J. Burnage with 15 tries to his credit was top try scorer. His speed is a valuable asset but he also needs to tighten his defence, which caused him to be dropped for several games during February.

Also at centre we had T. Blakeway and S. Evans. The former's hard straight running and crash tackling were a joy to watch and he was missed towards the end of the season when he was unfortunately out with an eye injury. S. Evans came into the side to fill the gap in the centre. He made an immediate impression with his jinky running and unorthodox but effective tackling.

On the right wing T. Carter had a fine season, his 4 tries against Roundhay being particularly memorable. He has one of the neatest accelerating swerves we have seen at Normanton and is very difficult to stop. His defence is very sound. N. Walker on the other wing was also a strong runner with his size and length of stride. He would have been very formidable if he had more confidence in himself.

R. Davenport at full-back had another fine season. His strength is really in his defence, and he must rank as one of the best tacklers we have at the school. He is also a powerful runner, particularly when coming into the back division. This attacking play earned him 8 tries. Only his kicking and occasional fielding lapse are not up to the standard of the rest of his game.

Congratulations to the following who were awarded colours: R. Davenport, T. Blakeway, J. Burnage, N. Walker, S. Burnage, M. Smith, C. Morgan, N Stackhouse, T. Barker, S. Harvey, D. Kirk, J. Hoyle and T. Carter.

Further congratulations to T. Barker and R. Davenport and also to B. Banks who all played for Yorkshire (19 group). They all went forward to England trials, with Barker and Davenport winning places in the North of England XV and Banks as reserve.

SEVENS

Form in the sevens was very unpredictable, but then sevens is an unpredictable game. Quite good opening form was shown at Newark where we reached the semi-final, as we also did at Halifax when we narrowly lost to Q.E.G.S. 4-6. At Manchester and Roehampton the team reached their lowest depths, but an excellent display at Ilkley redeemed our reputation in this form of rugby. After winning our pool at Ilkley we beat West Park in the quarter final, Q.E.G.S. in the semi-final and Leeds G.S. in the final. This was a first rate display of sevens rugby.

TEAM: B. Banks, T. Blakeway, S. Burnage, J. Burnage, R. Davenport,
T. Barker, C. Morgan.

Reserves: D. Kirk, S. Evans, N. Walker.

Mr. A. Jubb

2nd XV

Team from: P. Tarpey (Capt.), J. Burnage, T. Carter, A. Cass, K. Chelton, M. Craig, C. Dix, S. Evans, T. Gittins, P. Grant, N. Green, A. Hughes, M. Johnson, S. Jowett, R. Marsh, P. Morgan, J. Ramsden, G. Robinson, J. Shearn, V. Smith, N. Timmins, P. Tyrell, N. Walker, P. Watson, R. Wells, A. Whittam, K. Williams, A. Wood.

The second XV's record this year reflects the up and down nature of their play, having won fifteen and lost five

The season started with an easy game against St. Michael's and then two hard games against St. Wilfred's 1st XV and Thorne. Against a much bigger St. Wilfred's side, each player gave everything he had in winning 15-14. After such a superb performance it was an anti-climax on the Saturday at Thorne, with a poor display, when G. Robinson played well to score all our points in the 9-6 victory. He and A. Hughes in fact have proved invaluable at half-back and have been an inspiration to the team.

Both Kettlethorpe and Wath proved to be poor opposition, but Goole were the usual tough, hard side. S. Evans, a player of skill and aggression, scored three of our tries in the 22-4 victory.

Willowgarth 1st XV were extremely powerful lads, and beat us in all departments to win 27-0. It was said from the touchline that they would give the school's 1st XV a good game.

The derby match with King's Pontefract was easier than expected, and Aireborough too were no match for the side, especially on the wings; N. Walker scoring four tries, A. Wood, three. It brought A. Wood's points to 107 in nine games!

Up to this point we had a stable side, but unfortunately the 1st XV had a number of injuries and the 2nd XV had to provide a number of our better players as a consequence; backs A. Wood and S. Evans and prop J. Shearn. However, with various positional changes we managed to field a full side.

West Park, after a close first half ran out convincing winners, and four more hard matches against Roundhay, Ermysteds, Rothwell and Newark followed, in which forwards saved the day; K. Chelton, P. Tarpey and S. Jowett in particular were outstanding.

The Hipperholme game was played on a mud-bath in appalling conditions and should never have been played. A draw would have been the

fairest result, but the opposition won 10-8, in a match where no genuine rugby was possible.

A week later we played Goole for the second time, and while we were still thawing out from the week before they gained revenge, winning 10-6.

With two defeats in succession, morale had fallen slightly and the needle-match with De la Salle was approached with apprehension. However, the team played extremely well and won 19-12.

The week after, we had what turned out to be a long and very tiring journey to Macclesfield, something like going round Blackpool's big dipper ten times, and we were in a poor way on taking the field. The journey took its toll and we went down 13-4.

Two resounding victories to finish the season, against Marist 86-0, and Temple Moor 48-0, were somewhat no-games, but M. Craig concluded a good season with five tries from the matches. N. Timmins and V. Smith deserve special mention in their first season, in what is to them a new game. They played very well and improved with each game.

Finally, special congratulations go to G. Robinson, K. Chelton, A. Wood and M. Craig on reaching the under-sixteens district side.

Mr. J. S. Gill

UNDER 16s "7s"

Team from: G. Robinson (Capt.), B. Barley, C. Cook, K. Chelton, C. Saberton, A. Wood, M. Craig, M. Dyson. Reserve: S Jowett.

The team has done exceptionally well in its two competitions, showing far more confidence in its play than ever before. At Newark they were faced with the daunting prospect of meeting the home school, tipped as one of the favourites, in the first round. Seizing the initiative with a physical approach they won 10-6 and went on to win the trophy for the third successive year.

Three weeks later the team went to Oxford to compete in what is probably the strongest competition for this age group in the country. They went with confidence but were well aware of their limitations. In the event they again showed great determination and won through to the final disposing of sides with proven sevens reputations such as Llanelli and Neath. Their victory over the latter in the semi-final by 20-0 was an exhibition type performance. Unfortunately they could not keep this up and in the long gap before the final they seemed to lose their momentum. Their performance in the final against St. Brendans of Bristol was not typical of their earlier efforts and the immediate effect was to ruefully reflect how it might have been. Certainly the result was to the delight of the organisers who had repeatedly explained to the large crowd the number of times Normanton had won the trophy, and were clearly glad that the trophy was going elsewhere this time. Nevertheless the team can be proud of its achievements and particularly pleasing was the contribution of the two colts players in the side. The experience will be of value when they return next year.

NEWARK '7s'

Newark	10- 6
King's Pontefract	8- 4
Semi: Loughborough GS	20- 6
Final: Hartland	10- 0

OXFORD '7s'

Manchester GS	20- 6
Gillingham GS	16- 6
Llanelli GS	8- 4
Semi: Neath GS	20- 0
Final: St. Brendans	4-14

Mr. A. Finch

COLTS XV

Team and Appearances; R. Moorby (Capt.) 19, B. Barley (Vice-Capt.) 19, K. Empsall 18, E. Oakley 18, G. Walker 18, P. Arandle 18, M. Dyson 17, P. Sherwood 16, G. Wilson 16, P. Kerton 15, C. Grinsill 14, T. Pell 13, P. Walker 13, D. Hastings 12, A. Chilton 12, K. Gent 10, I. Ellam 10, C. Ward 10, G. Moss 9, A. Sergeant 7, D. Wormald 1.

Leading Scorers: Dyson 216pts (54 tries). Barley 103pts, Grinsill 98pts, Arandle 70pts.

In general the team has played far better this season and this has been reflected in the results. Only one match has been lost and in almost all cases the others have been won by larger margins than in the previous year. In spite of still lacking height and weight the biggest improvement has been in the forward play. Given the limitations of the set pieces they have really made the most of the loose ball. Their superior mobility and backing-up have produced some splendid tries but they have also developed their ruck and maul technique and won plenty of clean ball for the backs. Loose forwards Moorby, P. Walker and G. Walker have provided their mobility whilst in the second row Empsall and Chilton have given some weight to the scrummage. Wilson and Oakley have continued to prop this season but are now rather small for this position. Ellam began as hooker but had to miss most of the middle of the season through injury. During this time Pell took over and was quickly a big success.

The backs have always possessed plenty of talent but their defence has often let them down. The improvement in tackling that was evident towards the end of the season was therefore most encouraging. They lost Gent, the regular centre, with a knee injury before Christmas and with no obvious replacement Sherwood was later brought back from loose forward. He proved so successful in this role that he held onto the position when Gent returned. Arandle went to full-back and although this is probably not his best position he nevertheless did a very useful job. With over fifty tries, Dyson on the wing has been crucial to the team's success. Still fast but much stronger than last season he has always worried opposing defences with aggressive runs. As a contrast on the other wing Hastings has been as elusive as ever, yet always appears to be making for his opposite touch line rather than the goal line. The key man in the backs, however, has been Barley, who has moved between stand-off, centre and full-back as circumstances demanded and often in the course of one game. His tackling and penetrating runs from full-back, probably his best position, have been an example to the rest of the team. The goal kicking of Grinsill was an asset to the team—thirty penalty goals and sixty-eight conversions, and when he was not playing, a capable deputy was hard to find. The final member of the back division who must take a mention is Kerton the scrum-half. He has only played regularly in this position this year and improved noticeably with every game. His selection for the 'sevens' side was an apt reflection of his progress.

Considering the nineteen games played the most enjoyable ones have always been those where the scores have been close. The team were particularly keyed up for those teams to whom they had lost last year and revenge against Kettlethorpe and King's Pontefract was especially pleasing. Towards Christmas the team was probably at its peak, certainly in terms of fitness, and the win at West Park with only fourteen men for most of the

match was an excellent achievement. The New Year predicted four hard fixtures in five weeks and the long Christmas break was poor preparation. Newark, De la Salle and Macclesfield were duly overcome but Hipperholme on a heavy muddy pitch proved too much of a handful. In the dressing room it was though the end of the world had arrived but this only lasted a short time and the following week it was all behind them.

Congratulations to all twenty-one players for providing some enjoyable matches. Their success I am sure has been helped by the regular support of some of their parents and in particular Mr. Arandle who for at least the last two seasons has never failed to provide, in addition to his vocal support, some very welcome half-time refreshments for the team.

Mr. A. Finch

COLTS "7s"

Team from: B. Barley (Capt.), R. Moorby, P. Arandle, P. Kerton, M. Dyson, G. Sherwood, G. Walker, D. Hastings, P. Walker.

The side entertained four competitions and keeping up the fine performances they had achieved during the season at fifteen's succeeded in winning three of them. Considering they entered only one competition in the previous season they put up a very mature performance in the first competition at Doncaster, beating Hipperholme, who had been the only team to beat us at fifteen's, in the semi-final and beating the host team in the final.

At Minsthorpe they suffered an early blow when Sherwood was injured after two minutes, but still managed to win the match with six men. In the subsequent rounds the replacement Hastings scored a try in his first match, and added more later with good rugby. In the semi-final we faced Hipperholme once again and we beat them again with a narrow margin. We faced them again in the semi-final at Halifax, a hard gruelling tournament, but we were beaten this time 10-0.

Finally at Riley in Hull we were strong favourites, but easy matches early gave us a false security and had to fight hard against Hemsworth in the semi-final and Doncaster in the final.

DONCASTER 7's		MINSTHORPE 7's	
Armthorpe	18- 0	Morley	14- 0
Thorne	24- 0	Huddersfield N.C.	20- 6
Goole	24- 4	Semi: Hipperholme	9- 6
Semi: Hipperholme	13- 6	Final: Darton	26 4
Final: Doncaster	19-12		
HALIFAX 7's		RILEY 7's	
Wath	20- 0	Sir Henry Cooper	24- 0
Arnold, Blackpool	22- 0	Nunthorpe	26- 4
Woodhouse Grove	14- 0	Graham School	20- 0
Semi: Hipperholme	0-10	Semi: Hemsworth	4- 0
		Final: Doncaster	13- 6

Mr. A. Finch

UNDER 14 XV

Team from: M. Guiver (Capt.), I. Frost, I. Sharp, S. Smith, G. Earnshaw, M. Wood, M. Carter, C. Mitchell, M. Kew, M. Walker, G. Daley, R. Daley, D. Cowell, M. Chalkley, R. Kelly, A. Moore, N. Dunkley, M. Webber, A. James, G. Thomas, A. Parish, N. Hodgson.

Despite the apparently poor record with four more matches lost than the previous year, team spirit has remained good although enthusiasm for training did fall off after Christmas!

Martin Guiver has had a dominating influence both as player and captain, and if more players had been willing to follow his example, then the record would have been much better. His tackling was exceptional in most games, and in this department the rest of the sides were generally bad. The word tackle means bringing an opponent to the ground by the legs and most of the players rarely attempted this basic measure despite repeated practice there was little improvement, although the diminutive A. James tried hard. Little wonder then the points scored against us were high.

Looking closely at the results however, only Wath and Garforth gained revenge for last season, likewise we turned the tables on St. Michael's. Garforth, the best game of the season was hard and aggressive. Wath was somewhat different. Looking for revenge for the previous season, they were liberal with fist and boot, aided and abetted by the referee. One of our players told the referee they were "feeding", consequently we conceded a penalty, the "offenders" warned and the referee threatened to send letters to Normanton G.S.! (We later learned the referee's son was playing for Wath!)

Close matches against Rothwell, Airedale and Goole were all lost, basically because size took its toll. Against Rothwell, however, the backs played badly, dropping many passes when gaping holes were prevalent in the opposition's defences. This was a match we should have wrapped up in the first half but Rothwell rallied to win in the dying minutes of the game. Scrappy play lost us the game at Airedale, when once again we should have won.

After Christmas, Newark and Hipperholme were hard games; Newark were the better side in a good game, but our defensive errors crept up again against Hipperholme. Both games were good preparation, however, for the Goole fixture, thankfully at home.

We were prepared for the heavy mob from Goole, the "Mafia" of the North. Gumshields, shinpads, bayonets were prepared, and prayers were said. This regular "battle" attracted a large crowd and were very partisan. Goole did not disappoint them, and from the whistle set about their usual game resulting in Guiver being laid out early on.

However, our small men were not to be outdone, and really got stuck in. It was a rough game, and it spread to the touchline, where violence seemed very close at hand. All good clean fun!

It was not our first taste of Humberside strong arm tactics, however, as Thorne had shown themselves an unsavoury bunch in late September and they were lucky to take fifteen players home. This time we were the victors, showing our size not to be too detrimental.

Unfortunately some of the opposition had odd outstanding individuals. Wath had a whippet of a full-back, but luckily we were able to deprive him of too much ball. Kings Pontefract possessed a big, fast centre who was difficult to stop. Hemsworth too had a big centre—called "Wilf"; he was gigantic at well over 6ft. and powerfully built. He would not have disgraced the 1st XV.

West Park's large score can be attributed to a large winger who was fast, strong and elusive, and a good tackler. He is an outstanding prospect, but it must be said that three of our players failed to turn up and we were understrengthened. The doggers from Goole possessed a big centre too who

scored all his side's points (3t, 2c) with much more brawn than brain. A pity we couldn't have secured Wilf's services and cut him down to size!

Looking at the team itself, full-back has been our problem position, where weak tackling was to blame, but I. Frost was quite successful early on in the season. Our "find" of the season was M. Hodgson, a powerful winger, but sadly did not always fulfil his promise as the season developed. He too regularly lost concentration and his positional play has vast room for improvement. Guiver and D. Cowell proved to be a most promising half-back team with lots of good service from Cowell.

The forwards, despite lacking in weight, have once again been the spearhead of the team; G. Earnshaw showed promise and was the outstanding forward especially in the loose; A. Moore won plenty of ball at hooker, whilst P. Walker at No. 8 proved to be a good link man in the pack, and powerful in open play; G. and R. Daley have played conscientiously in training and matches, but make too many silly mistakes and their line out work needs to be improved; wing forward has never been consistently good though M. Chalkley tried but his tackling is too weak. N. Dunkley and S. Smith also played at wing forward but workrate is low and they have given a number of penalties away with silly high tackles. The forwards, however, have never let the side down, and even in hard games against far superior sized packs and still won plenty of ball.

Therefore, though there is room for improvement in the forwards, the backs must play more aggressively and learn to tackle and handle the ball with more determination. More penetration is needed all round next season and tighter defensive play if they are to become another outstanding team in the school.

7s: Q.E.G.S.

The side were unlucky to face Bradford G.S., the previous year's winners, in the first game and lost 28-0. They rallied however in the other matches against Crossley and Porter (won 12-4) and Q.E.G.S. II (won 16-0). However, on the league basis. School were in second place and Bradford qualified to go into the semi-finals, with Hemsworth running out tournament winners.

Mr. D. Fairbank

UNDER 13 XV

Team from: N. Birkinshaw (Capt.), N. Rothwell, S. Buckingham, A. Sharp, A. Fellows, D. Orr, P. Jones, S. Walton, S. Asquith, N. Radley, R. Barraclough, A. Deakin, M. Ashton, D. Holt, G. Walker, R. Oakley, A. Wood, A. Valentine, R. Ambler.

The team has enjoyed another successful season, losing only three games and winning 21. The three lost against West Park, Skipton and Airedale were quite convincing defeats, but due in the main to the teams being bigger and physically stronger and not to our lack of rugby skills. Actually, losing our unbeaten record tended to bring out more open rugby from them rather than negative play merely to defend a record.

The squad consisted of some twenty players and fortunately we had no serious injuries so we were able to keep a stable team, though all players showed enthusiasm in training.

Overall the forwards had the more exceptional season. Their whole

game has improved especially rucking and mauling, though their work off the ball tended to be sluggish in the easier games. The lock forwards, however, M. Ashton and D. Holt were very good in open play, being both fast and fearless in worrying the opposition. A. Valentine is an excellent hooker and along with G. Walker, despite their small physique are powerful runners. Their weakness, however, is their tendency to hold the ball too long instead of giving it to the backs. R. Oakley is a tireless worker at prop forward and A. Wood, coming in later on in the season, was a useful partner. R. Barraclough played well, but doesn't always use his size to full effect. C. Jones and S. Asquith gave good support throughout and developed their game well.

The backs did not really find their best play until later on in the season. They were too slow to find gaps and were sluggish in their handling, and consequently many combinations were tried. However, in February Andrew Fellows exchanged from flanker to centre and proved to be the catalyst we needed. He has a good pass and confident kick. He combined well with N. Birkinshaw, a tall well built lad with good footballing brain. P. Jones played well at scrum-half, with G. Walton a capable deputy. D. Orr showed up well at stand-off half and, when the centres asked he proved his worth. Despite being small he is very courageous. One criticism of the backs is their failure to give the wingers the ball, because in S. Buckingham and A. Sharp we have two outstanding men. N. Rothwell was capable and sure at full-back and saved us on many occasions.

A. Deakin played well but fell out at Christmas, and R. Ambler and N. Radley were enthusiastic and willing reserves.

The short tour at the end of the season was enjoyable as well as successful. St. Joseph's, a good side the previous season, proved hard but were well beaten by a side who had had a sleepless night on Saturday (no details!). The Friday game against Arnold School was an easy game as the result shows.

The results speak for themselves. In all the team have been a very good rugby fifteen and show much promise for the future.

Mr. L. Cook

7s: Q.E.G.S.

In the team's first ever sevens, we had a weakened side but did well to beat Garforth. They lost narrowly to Bradford G.S. in a match we could well have won, and were thus eliminated from the competition.

Mr. L. Cook

UNDER 12 XV

Team from: S. Bayliss, G. Hampshire, G. Cowell, S. Brown, M. Golding, A. Golding, R. James, K. Newsom, I. Dyson, P. Jukes, P. Dickinson, C. Walker, B. Smith, L. Thompson, A. Coney, J. Williamson, T. Shepherd, T. Atkinson, C. Bale, S. Bennett, D. Crawshaw, C. Lowe, S. Preece.

The first match of the season was played only two weeks into the new term. Our rather inexperienced team played well together after so little training and knowledge of the game to win 38-4 against St. Michael's. They continued to develop well and won all of the games played (one against West Park was drawn) until February 15th when, after a long and tiring journey we went down to Macclesfield 16-4.

This was a difficult match against one of the strongest sides we faced all season. A few of the players felt tired and many felt unwell when they took to the field. These factors, combined with the fact that Macclesfield had a superior sided pack and strong running backs made the first taste of defeat not too bitter.

Towards the end of the season the standard of play was impressive, both backs and forwards playing exceedingly well. Scrum-half P. Wilkinson and hooker G. Cowell allowed us to win many of the scrums, whilst intelligent kicking and shrewd handling of the ball from I. Dyson was a factor giving us strong chances of scoring points.

The eagerly awaited Blackpool tour proved to be a most enjoyable, if not completely successful weekend. The two opposition sides proved to be among the strongest of the season, and the first match, against Arnold School, was a fast aggressive contest and the 4-4 draw seemed a just score. The second match, against St. Joseph's, was lost 14-8. The result was a surprise as Normanton appeared to have the stronger side; perhaps the enormous breakfast, provided by the hotel had something to do with the small play!

It would be pointless and unfair to praise the individual players as seen. Enthusiasm in numbers was most pleasing and turn-out for training was excellent. They all trained hard, built up a good team spirit, and thoroughly enjoyed playing. The ability and enjoyment can be seen in the results themselves.

Mr. J. Wheeler.

TABULATION OF CRICKET RESULTS 1974

OPONENTS	1st XI	U15 XI	U14 XI	U13 XI	U12 XI
St. Michaels College	School: 47:8 Opp: 60:6 Lost by 13 runs	School: 100:3 Opp: 36 all out Won by 64 runs	School: 70 all out Opp: 22 all out Won by 48 runs	School: 24:5 Opp: 21 all out Won by 5 wkts.	
Ossett G.S.	School: 103:7 Opp: 70:8 Won by 33 runs	School: 56:2 Opp: 55 all out Won by 8 wkts.	School: 105:4 Opp: 85:4 Won by 20 runs		
Sowerby Bridge G.S.	School: 90 all out Opp: 87 all out Won by 3 runs				
Danum G.S.	School: 74:6 Opp: 73 all out Won by 4 wkts.	School: 96:9 Opp: 49 all out Won by 47 runs	School: 51 all out Opp: 59 all out Lost by 8 runs		
Kings G.S., Pontefract	School: 52 all out Opp: 54:8 Lost by 2 wkts.	School: 101:7 time Opp: 75:4 Match Drawn		School: 79 all out Opp: 55 all out Won by 24 runs	School: 49 all out Opp: 50:6 Lost by 4 wkts.
Doncaster G.S.		School: 57 all out Opp: 60:1 Lost by 9 wkts.	School: 87:9 Opp: 66:7 Match Drawn		
Pontefract S.S.		School: 81:5 Opp: 43 all out Won by 5 wkts.	School: 110:4 Opp: 98:9 Won by 12 runs	School: 48 all out Opp: 28 all out Won by 20 runs	School: 60:3 Opp: 16 all out Won by 44 runs
Hemsworth	School: 87:4 Opp: 69:7 Won by 18 runs				
Q.E.G.S.	School: 74:5 Opp: 76:3 Lost by 7 wkts.	School: 18 all out Opp: 41 all out Lost by 23 runs		School: 44:7 Opp: 60:6 Lost by 16 runs	School: 44 all out Opp: 48:7 Lost by 3 wkts.
Garforth	School: 22 all out Opp: 72 all out Lost by 50 runs	School: 115:5 Opp: 77 Won by 38 runs		School: 58:3 Opp: 54 all out Won by 4 runs	School: 41 all out Opp: 33 all out Won by 8 runs
Temple Moor	School: 91:4 Opp: 57:9 Won by 34 runs				
Q.E.G.S.	School: 46 all out Opp: 100:4 Lost by 54 runs	School: 53:8 Opp: 54:6 Lost by 4 wkts.		School: 76:7 Opp: 50:9 Lost by 26 runs	School: 49:6 Opp: 48:7 Won by 4 wkts.
Pontefract S.S.	School: 92:3 Opp: 37 all out Won by 55 runs	School: 92:3 Opp: 37 all out Won by 55 runs		School: 110:6 Opp: 78 all out Won by 32 runs	

Brumfitt
Cup Matches :

TABULATION OF CRICKET RESULTS 1974

OPPONENTS	1st XI	U15 XI	U14 XI	U13 XI	U12 XI
Rothwell		1st Rd: School: 143:3 Opp: 139:4 Won by 7 wkts.			
Batley G.S.		Semi-Final: School: 107:9 Opp: 103 all out Won by 4 runs		Brooch Shield: School: 24 all out Opp: 25:1 Lost by 9 wkts.	
Ossett		Final: School: 69:6 Opp: 65 all out Won Cup by 4 wkts.			
Willowgarth			School: 83:3 Opp: 17 all out Won by 66 runs		
Roundhay			School: 64:1 Opp: 61 Won by 9 wkts.		
Castleford			School: 133:2 Opp: 26 all out Won by 107 runs		
Normanton S.S.			School: 77 all out Opp: 69 all out Won by 8 runs	School: 39:8 Opp: 45:7 Lost by 6 runs	
Batley				School: 52:8 Opp: 55:2 Lost by 8 wkts.	
Crofton C.S.	STAFF XI: Staff: 35 all out Pupils: 143 all out				School: 64:8 Opp: 67:8 Lost by 3 runs
RECORD					
Played	6	15	12	10	6
Won	4	10	8	5	4
Lost	2	4	3	5	2
Drawn	—	1	1	0	—

CRICKET

1st XI

Team from: K. Plant (Captain), S. Stoney, I. Cusworth, M. Smith, S. Burnage, J. Burnage, T. Barker, J. Hoyle, M. Jennings, S. Dean, P. Morgan, C. Dix, M. Nott, C. Hayward, N. Hill, I. Westwood, M. Grace, R. Davis.

Batting Averages :

	Inns.	Runs	H.S.	N.O.	Average
P. Morgan	3	34	17*	2	34.0
S. Stoney	5	51	20*	3	25.5
I. Cusworth	5	79	56	—	15.8
S. Dean	3	34	13	—	11.3
K. Plant	5	55	17	—	11.0
M. Smith	5	53	24	—	10.6

* denotes NOT OUT

Bowling Averages :

	Overs	Runs	Wkts.	Average
K. Plant	52	97	16	6.1
S. Stoney	46	93	15	6.2
T. Barker	17	40	6	6.6
J. Hoyle	8	23	3	7.6
J. Burnage	14	41	3	13.0

Colours awarded to: I. Cusworth, S. Dean.

Fielding Award: T. Barker.

The summer term proved to be a most frustrating one for the 1st XI. The season was a short one; many players were involved in examinations; two fixtures were rained off and called off because our opponents, Hemsworth and Ackworth, could not raise a side. Fortunately many members of the team were able to play regularly for club sides on Saturday afternoons.

The season, however, was not without its brighter moments and no doubt from the team's point of view the thorough trouncing of the Staff XI was the most notable. In the game Ian Cusworth at last found the batting form which had been expected of him earlier in the season.

The Sowerby Bridge fixture was the most enjoyable and exciting. In glorious May sunshine, school, batting first against accurate bowling, made a solid start through I. Westwood, S. Stoney and S. Dean. However, from 44 for 3, the middle order collapsed when a further four wickets fell for the addition of seven runs. Merry knocks by C. Hayward and R. Davis gained us a respectable 90 all out. Astute captaincy by K. Plant, who switched his bowlers with notable success, combined with good fielding and accurate bowling pinned them at 77 for 8 and victory seemed close with only two stubborn wickets to claim. However, M. Smith built up the excitement, bowling a rather mixed couple of overs, producing 10 runs, but thankfully the dismissal of the last two batsmen.

Against St. Michael's the side tasted an early season defeat with timid batting and untidy fielding. The instituting of a fielding award to fight for had the desired effect as seen in Sowerby Bridge fixture. It remained of high standard for the rest of the season.

The local fixture with Kings was lost narrowly but in view of the under strength side on that day this was quite a good performance.

Once again S. Stoney and K. Plant spearheaded the opening attack effectively and it will be difficult to replace the two very fine cricketers next

year. Kevin in fact bowled better than he batted in contrast to the previous season. However, there is considerable promise from the younger members of the side. P. Morgan had few opportunities but has some attractive shots; M. Smith displayed more concentration and if this improvement is maintained there is much potential for future seasons; S. Burnage has style and technique but lacks concentration and must curb "rushes of blood" if he is to be more successful. Bowlers J. Burnage and T. Barker played as change bowlers in matches, but in shadow of Stoney and Plant had few opportunities. They show, however, ability for the future.

Finally congratulations are extended to Kevin Plant who was selected for the Yorkshire Schools' Federation side and the team hopes he continues in this successful idiom.

Mr. D. Fairbank.

UNDER 15 XI

Team from: C. Cook (Captain), R. Adams, M. Craig, R. Dinsdale, S. Evans, M. Hampshire, G. Howden, A. Mitchell, A. Pratt, G. Robinson, P. Webb, A. Wood. Also played: G. Deakin, S. Willan.

A successful season, not only in terms of results but also in the number of exciting finishes. The highlight was the winning of the Brumfitt Cup and all three matches in this competition were closely fought. The first round against Rothwell produced a tremendous show of aggressive batting. The school needed six runs an over in the last fifteen overs in order to win, and Robinson, Hampshire and Craig proceeded to batter the bowling to all parts of the field and victory was achieved. In the second round against Batley, the school just won by four runs thanks largely to an unbeaten 41 by Hampshire. In the final against Ossett, the margin was 4 wickets; but at one time the outcome looked very uncertain.

Robinson led the batting averages with 26.9 thanks to a couple of unbeaten fifties, with Hampshire second with 21.5. Hampshire led the bowling averages with 7.1 runs per wicket, though the hard work of opening the bowling against better batsmen had been done by Cook (8.5 runs per wicket) and Craig (7.8 runs per wicket).

Accepting the occasional lapse in the field, generally the fielding was good. Robinson took 9 catches and Hampshire 8 catches. The wicket-keeping was done mainly by Wood, with Hampshire his deputy.

Finally the awards were:

Batting: G. Robinson.

All-round Trophy: M. Hampshire.

Mr. A. Finch

UNDER 14 XI

Team from: R. Moorby (Captain), G. Deakin, K. Moorby, I. Ellam, G. Sherwood, K. Locke, N. Davis, B. Clarke, B. Barley, G. Young, E. Oakley, G. Young, P. Belk, J. Fox, K. Empsall, I. James, K. Gent.

The U14 XI enjoyed another successful season, winning 8 matches, losing only 3. Two of the defeats were against Q.E.G.S. and the other against Danum. These defeats were due in the main to poor batting, as the bowlers dismissed the opposition in two of the games for mediocre scores.

The main strength of the side has been the bowling. Deakin had a good season and is learning to vary his pace and length well. Moorby is faster, but

more erratic, though if he finds a length he is a good bowler. I. Ellam is a good change bowler, breaking through where the openers have failed. Davis is our spin bowler, and has bowled exceedingly well for this type of bowler in limited over cricket.

On the whole the batting was good except for notable failures against Q.E.G.S. All the batsmen must learn to settle down before attempting to become more aggressive rather than slogging away from the start. Moorby had a good season with the bat, with an 82 against Castleford, and will do well if he doesn't lose concentration. Ellam too has been a mainstay in the batting, partnering Moorby in a century stand against Castleford. He has in fact rarely failed to make a good score in any match. Clarke is a sound batsman, but is slower than most and not suited to "overs" cricket. Davis and Barley did well, coming through when others failed and both show promise. Sherwood at wicket-keeper is very capable and safe, and is a promising batsman.

The rest of the team played a good supporting role in every way. The fielding was fair, but there is room for improvement. Finally, the spirit of the team is to be commended, as everyone played with enthusiasm, even if they didn't bowl or bat. They play exceptionally well as a "team", not as mere individuals.

Mr. L. Cook

UNDER 13 XI

Team from: I. Frost (Captain), C. Mitchell, D. Cowell, S. Jones, S. Slack, P. Smart, R. Archer, R. Kelly, M. Chalkley, A. Parrish, D. Henson, M. Masters, M. Guiver.

Although relinquishing the magnificent Brooch Trophy in a crushing defeat at Batley, the team can look back on an enjoyable and reasonably successful season. The players have worked hard at improving their game, and enthusiasm and team spirit were high.

Particularly pleasing were the team's two performances against strong opposition from Q.E.G.S. and the ability to notch up sizable totals in most of the other fixtures.

Success in run-scor-ing was largely due to the aggressive but sensible batting of M. Guiver, who had a much better season than the previous one. S. Slack and C. Mitchell emerged as promising bowlers, but M. Chalkley was not quite as accurate or successful although he tried hard.

The home matches were played on the new Dalefield Square, which, although containing a few stones and pebbles, rolls out to provide a satisfactory junior playing surface. This new area was a great help during the season, enabling wear on the main square to be much reduced and providing facilities for two matches to be accommodated at the same time. Mention must be made here of the help received from our groundsman, Mr. Bernard Farrow, in the preparation of this new square, as well as much appreciated help in other directions.

Batting averages:

	Inns.	Runs	H.S.	N.O.	Average
M. Guiver	8	161	43	2	26.8
R. Kelly	8	58	19	1	8.3
I. Frost	10	60	33*	1	6.6
C. Mitchell	10	64	16	—	6.4
D. Cowell	9	55	15	—	6.1

Bowling averages:

	Overs	Mds.	Runs	Wkts.	Average
S. Slack	28	2	65	12	5.4
C. Mitchell	58	9	130	22	5.9
M. Chalkley	57	10	133	17	7.8
P. Smart	11	2	36	4	9.0
S. Jones	13	1	57	7	8.2

Batting Award: M. Guiver.

Bowling Award: C. Mitchell

Mr. D. Fairbank

UNDER 12 XI

Team from: A. Deakin (Captain), N. Birkenshaw, A. Fellows, S. Asquith, C. Jones, P. Jones, N. Rothwell, Oakley, Lowe, Barraclough, Holt, Walker, Walton, Bedford, Pysden.

Although losing two of their six matches, the side showed considerable ability and promises much for the future. Team spirit has been excellent and there was great enthusiasm for net practice.

Most impressive was the depth and aggressiveness of the batting, whilst the fielding and wicket-keeping also were of high standard. Both P. Jones and N. Pysden acquitted themselves well in the latter role, but neither was tested in the more difficult up-to-the-wicket position. The bowling, whilst being quite strong, lacked variety and it is to be hoped that one or two slow spin bowlers will emerge. N. Birkenshaw with 27 wickets, was outstanding in accuracy and hostility, whilst A. Fellows provided good support.

The best performance of the season was the defeat of Q.E.G.S. Here accurate bowling and tight fielding restricted the opposition to a moderate total and then Birkenshaw with an aggressive 24 not out was mainly responsible for a comfortable victory.

Other notable victories were against Garforth and King's, Pontefract. At Garforth, N. Rothwell played an attractive innings to rescue the side from collapse, enabling the bowlers to dismiss the opposition with 8 runs to spare. Against King's, Birkenshaw bowled well in dismissing the opposition for 49, but defeat looked likely until Oakley, batting in the late order, displayed a cool head and much determination in seeing the required runs knocked off without further loss.

Although at Crofton the team was narrowly defeated, most of the opposition were a year older than our boys. However, this was the match where the bowling was well below standard with far too many loose deliveries, and the opposition's total of 67 proved too much for our batsmen in the allotted 20 overs. A. Deakin was the only player to show a good standard of batting. It was unfortunate that Deakin missed some of the season through injury, but he was a capable and shrewd captain. N. Birkenshaw proved a capable deputy during Deakin's absence.

In all, however, it is pleasing to see promise from these young players and their interest seems to be a good omen for future years.

Batting averages:

	Inns.	Runs	H.S.	N.O.	Average
A. Deakin	3	47	21	—	15.6
N. Birkenshaw	6	42	24*	2	10.5
A. Fellows	6	32	17*	1	6.4

Bowling averages:

	Overs	Mds.	Runs	Wkts.	Average
N. Birkenshaw	51	15	82	27	3.05
A. Fellows	34	10	65	13	5.0

Batting Award: A. Deakin.
Bowling Award: N. Birkenshaw.

Mr. D. Fairbank

BOY'S ATHLETICS

May 3rd v Hipperholme G.S. v Morley G.S. (home)

SENIORS—1st Hipperholme, 117 points; 2nd Normanton, 113 points.

Individual winners: C. Williams 200 (24.7); N. Walker 400 (58.7); I. Westwood, Hurdles (16.4); and Shot (11.09); D. Kirk, Javelin (36.61); P. Watson, Discus (28.80).

INTERS —1st Normanton, 106 points; 2nd Hipperholme, 97 points;

3rd Morley, 68 points.

Individual winners: J. Burnage 200 (25.0); H.J. (1.60); S. Burnage 400 (57.6); Hurdles (14.9) and T.J. (11.61); R. Cunliff 800 (2m 17.3); R. Davenport, Javelin (45.35); M. Smith, Shot (12m 30); A. Wood, L.J. (5.47).

JUNIORS—1st equal, Normanton and Hipperholme, 96 points; 3rd Morley 83 points.

Individual winners: M. Dyson 100 (12.5); 200 (26.4); D. Woolley 1500 (5m 8.4); P. Arandle, Hurdles (13.3); L.J. (5.10).

Overall Scores: 1st, NORMANTON, 315 points
2nd, HIPPERHOLME, 310 points
3rd, MORLEY, 151 points

May 7th v St. Michaels (home)

U15—1st Normanton, 71 points; 2nd St. Michael's, 49 points

Individual winners: A. Wood 200 (25.7); L.J. (5m47); T.J. (10.73); G. Robinson 1500m (4m 56); M. Craig, H.J. (1.43); C. Saberton, Javelin (37.80); and Shot (11.19); M. Hawkins (36.60); Relay Team (50.3).

U14—1st Normanton, 69 points; 2nd St. Michaels, 51 points

Individual winners: M. Dyson 100/200 (12.5/26.5); P. Kerton 400 (62.8); D. Woolley 800/1500 (2m27.9/5m09); C. Ward, H.J. (1.35); P. Walker, T.J. (10.02); C. Grinsill, Jav. (32.38); Relay Team (53.2)

U13—1st equal—Normanton, 60 points; St. Michaels, 60 points.

Individual winners: M. Hodgson 100 (13.5); L.J. (16'21"); T.J. (9.65); 400m (66.4); G. Thomas, H.J. (1.26); M. Wood, Javelin (24 37); A. Moore, Discus (23.44); P. Earnshaw, Shot (10.15).

U12—1st Normanton, 55 points; 2nd St. Michael's, 41 points

Individual winners: N. Birkenshaw 200 (30.3); 400 (67.7); and Jav. (18.30); R. Ambler 800/1500 (2m 41.6 and 5m 20).

Overall Totals: Normanton 255 points
St. Michaels 201 points

May 10th v Doncaster G.S. (home)

- U19—1st Doncaster, 61 points; 2nd Normanton, 58 points
Individual winners: R. Davies 1500m (4m 58.6); P. Watson, Discus (102'6"); D. Kirk, H.J. (1.69); Relay Team (48.9).
- U17—1st Normanton, 73 points; 2nd Doncaster, 46 points.
Individual winners: J. Burnage 100/200 (12.4 and 25.0), and L.J./H.J. (5.35 and 1.67); S. Burnage 400m (56.3) R. Cunliffe 1500m (4m 46.8); S. Harvey, Javelin (40.40); P. Watson, Discus (102'1"); T. Barker, Shot (10.78); R. Marsh, T.J. (11.34); Relay Team (49.6),
- U15—1st Normanton, 64 points; 2nd Doncaster, 56 points
Individual winners: M. Dyson 100/200 (13.1 and 26.9); P. Earnshaw 800 (2m 27.4); D. Woolley 1500m (5m 16); Relay Team (52.8); P. Walker, H.J. (1.52).
- Overall Totals: Normanton 195 points
Doncaster 163 points

May 14th v Garforth (away)

- U15—1st Garforth, 75 points; 2nd Normanton, 72 points
Individual winners: A. Wood 100/200/LJ./T.J. (12.2, 26.2, 4.99, 10.91); M. Craig, H.J. (4'10"); M. Hawkins, Shot/Discus (36'7", 27.09); J. Hepworth, Javelin (40.42); Relay Team.
- U14—1st Garforth, 78 points; 2nd Normanton, 70 points
Individual winners: K. Gent, Hurdles (13.3); M. Dyson 100 (12.4); P. Walker, T.J. (10.37); R. Moorby, Shot (33'2"); Relay Team.
- U13—1st Garforth, 83 points; 2nd Normanton, 65 points.
Individual winners: P. Whittaker, Hurdles (13.1); M. Hodgson, L.J. (4.38); M. Carter, T.J. (9.67); P. Earnshaw, Shot (35ft.).
- U12—1st Garforth, 74 points; 2nd Normanton, 72 points.
Individual winners: N. Birkenshaw 400 (68.6); L.J. (4.27); R. Ambler 800 (2.41); 1500 (5.23); R. Oakley, Shot (31ft 4in); Discus (19.07); Relay Team.
- Overall Totals: 1st Garforth 310 points
2nd Normanton 279 points

May 21 st v Pontefract Boys' Secondary

- U15—1st Normanton, 61 points; 2nd Pontefract, 51 points
Individual winners: D. Griffiths, 400m (60.7); M. Hawkins, Discus (30.09); J. Hepworth, Javelin (38.35); M. Craig, H.J. (4'8"); A. Wood L.J. (4.70); Relay Team (52.4)
- U14—1st Normanton, 68 points; 2nd Pontefract, 42 points.
Individual winners: M. Dyson 100 (12.3); 200 (27.9); P. Kerton 400 (63.4); D. Woolley 800 (2m31.5); 1500 (5m7.6); R. Moorby, Shot (11.76); Discus (24.47); P. Walker, H.J. (4'6"); P. Arandle, L.J. (4.26); Relay Team (53.9).
- U13—1st Normanton, 59 points; 2nd Pontefract 53 points.
Individual winners: M. Hodgson 100 (13.3); 400 (67.0); M. Wood 200 (29.9); P. Earnshaw 800 (2m27.3); Shot (9.49); G. Daley, H.J. (3'10"); Relay Team (59.4).
- U12—1st Normanton, 47 points; 2nd Pontefract, 35 points
Individual winners: G. Buckingham 100 (13.9); N. Birkenshaw 200 (30.2); L.J. (3.90); R. Ambler 800 (2m39.3); 1500 (5m36.5); Relay Team (59.8).
- Overall Totals: 1st Normanton 235 points
2nd Pontefract 181 points

June 6th v King's, Pontefract

- U15—1st Normanton, 84½ points; 2nd Kings, 43½ points
 Individual winners: A Wood 100 (12.0), 400 (57.8); D. Griffiths 200 (25.6), L.J. (5m1); G. Robinson 800 (2m46), 1500 (4m57); P. Grant, Hurdles (13.9); M. Hawkins, Discus (105'); C. Saberton, Shot (11.29); P. Tyrell, H.J. (1m52); M. Craig, T.J. (10m60); Relay Team (50.2).
- U14—1st Normanton, 82 points; 2nd Kings, 47 points
 Individual winners: M. Dyson 100 (12.1), 200 (26.2); P. Kerton 400 (60.6); D. Woolley 800 (2m33.4), 1500 (4m54); P. Arandle, Hurdles (12.5), Javelin (39m65), T.J. (10.49); P. Walker, Discus (107'1"), H.J. (1.37); R. Moorby, Shot (10.36); Relay Team (52.5).
- U13—1st Normanton, 76½ points; 2nd Kings, 62½ points
 individual winners: P. Earnshaw 800 (2m29.6), Shot (11.48); P. Whittaker, Hurdles (12.5); A. Moore, Javelin (31.00); G. Thomas, H.J. (1.35); M. Hodgson, T.J. (9.57); Relay Team (55.9).
- U12—1st Kings, 65 points; 2nd Normanton, 64 points
 Individual winners: G. Buckingham, Hurdles (12.5); A. Oakley, Shot (9.05); A. Fellowes, Javelin (24.8); N. Birkenshaw, H.J. (1.30);, T.J. (9.07); Relay Team (57.3).
- Overall Totals: 1st Normanton 307 points
 2nd Kings 218 points

June 8th — Yorkshire Schools Championships

Senior Pole Vault	D. Kirk 2nd		
Junior Pole Vault	A. Sargeant	3rd equal 2.00 metres	
	D. Jubb		
Junior Hurdles	P. Arandle	2nd	12.9
	K. Gent	6th	
Inter Javelin	R. Davenport	3rd	46.08 metres
Inter 200m	J. Burnage	5th	
Junior 100m	M. Dyson	6th	

JUNIOR SPORTS DAY

Individual Winners:—

	Under 14	Under 13	Under 12
100m.	M. Dyson 12.3*	M. Hodgson 13.8	G. Buckingham 14.5
200m.	M. Dyson 26.3	M. Wood 28.9	N. Birkinshaw 30.00
400m.	P. Kerton 61.7	M. Hodgson 65.8	N. Birkinshaw 67.5
800m.	B. Barley 2m. 27.7	P. Earnshaw 2/31.5	R. Ambler 2/35*
1500m.	D. Woolley 5m 8.5	P. Earnshaw 5/28	R. Ambler 5/25.9
Hurdles	P. Arandle 12.0 = - *	P. Whittaker 13.0	B. Buckingham 12.6
Relay	Freston 53.6	Ward 56.0	Levett 59.2
High Jump	P. Walker 1.42	G. Thomas 1.32	A. Valentine 1.22
Long Jump	B. Barley 4.92	M. Carter 4.53	N. Birkinshaw 4.05
Triple	P. Arandle 11.32	M. Hodgson 1 10.34	G. Buckingham 8.79
Pole Vault	D. Jubb 2.20	N. Dunklev 2.00	N. Birkinshaw 2.16*
Javelin	P. Arandle 126ft.	A. Moore 34.11	A. Fellowes 22.28
Discus	M. Dyson 27.51	J. Slack 25.29	R. Oakley 22.53
Shot	M. Dyson 9.24	P. Earnshaw 11.84	R. Oakley 8.85

*New Record

Individual Champions	U14	M. Dyson	(W) 16 points
	U13	M. Hodgson	(W) 15 points
	U12	N. Birkinshaw	(L) 16 points
House Champions	U14	Freston	
	U13	Ward	
	U12	Levett	

July 3rd — Fartown Sports

Junior	1st Penistone 44½pts, 2nd Normanton 44, 3rd Ossett 34
Inter	1st = Honley & Ossett 41pts, 3rd Normanton 38
Senior	1st Normanton 38pts, 2nd Honley 30, 3rd Ossett 28
Overall	1st Normanton 141, 2nd Ossett 105, 3rd Honley 99

SENIOR SPORTS DAY

	Senior	Under 15
100m	J. Burnage 11.9	A. Wood 12.2
200m	J. Burnage 25.0	A. Wood 24.8 =*
400m	T. Barker 56.2	P. Grant 60.00
800m	R. Cunliff 2m. 1 5.4	G. Robinson 2m. 20.4
1500m	R. Cunliff 4m. 52.2	G. Robinson 4m. 56.9
Hurdles	S. Burnage 16.1	P. Arandle 12.6
Relay	Freston 49.6	Ward 50.3
High Jump	J. Burnage 1.58	S. Evans 1.58
Long Jump	D. Buckingham 5.90	A. Wood 5.62
Triple Jump	J. Burnage 11.79	S. Evans 10.95
Pole Vault	D. Kirk 2.20	S. Tottey 2.40
Javelin	R. Davenport 49.75	C. Cook 45.12
Discus	P. Watson 32.76	M. Hawkins 36.14
Shot	I. Westwood 12.59	M. Hawkins 11.48
Individual Champions:	Senior J. Burnage	(F) 16 points
	U15 A. Wood	(W) 14 points
House Champions:	Senior 1st equal Freston & Ward 46 points	
	U15 Ward 57 points	
Overall House Champions:	Ward 103 points.	

Mr. A Jubb

'THE CHESHIRE'

AN ACCOUNT OF A GYMNASTIC COMPETITION

The door swung open easily at my push and I stepped into the dim interior of the Civic Hall's foyer. Straight ahead of me lay the door into the main hall and I strode towards it with a confidence I did not feel. Beyond the door the hall was arranged in a way which made my heart leap. The rear half of the hall, save for a small runway at the left, was filled with chairs, now empty but soon to be filled, whilst the front half was covered with a 40ft. by 40ft. mat. Looking slowly round I became aware of sounds off to my left. Walking that way I found myself in a room laid out for warming-up, and was given directions to the changing-rooms.

Changed, ready, I walked back into the main hall and stepped onto the mat, walking slowly around to familiarise myself with it completely. Walking

over to the apparatus already set out I went through my vault twice and left for the practice room. From outside the room came the sounds of people arriving, and I felt the tension coiling itself in the pit of my stomach. Eventually the door was thrown open and my fellow competitors and I walked out.

"Keep your backs straight and point your toes as you walk." The words of the coach ran through my mind. We were seated on benches which ran along the sides of the hall, and when all was ready the mayor stood up to give his opening address. When he sat down a voice came over the tannoy, "Boys' vault, under fifteen's, first competitor please."

The 1973 Cheshire Gymnastics Competition was on.

Time seemed to fly, and with it my nervousness increased. After what seemed like seconds I heard my number, and, nerves tautening at every pace, I walked to the end of the vault run-up. Summoning all the concentration I could, I waited for the signal to start. The signal came and I made my first vault, it was terrible but the nervousness had gone and I made my second vault with confidence. A mark of 7.8; not bad but not good, point one down on the leader.

After the break we had moved on to the floor work. When my turn came the nervousness had returned, but when my feet touched the mat I relaxed, my nervousness gone, at ease and confident in my own ability. My routine went like clockwork until just over half way through, when I totally misjudged a move, took two paces extra run-up and landed off the mat. "Two points away"; the words seared into me, but I willed myself to forget and concentrate on the rest of the routine. I finished well and waited for my mark, 7.7—better than I had thought possible. Another two people remained to perform, two of my nearest rivals. Both of them performed well: one of them increased his half-time lead from point one to point two.

The final marks put me into joint third, point one behind second place and point two behind first place. I could have kicked myself, one mistake and it cost me first place by a margin of 1.8.

Never mind," I thought, "there's always next year." But there wasn't. In 1974 I took my 'O' levels and now I'm in Normanton. Yorkshire's 1976?

J. Michael Ward, Sixth Year

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO CLUB

As the majority of the school knows, the only thing I think of (apart from girls), is golf. You would therefore expect me to write an article on this subject. As I don't want to disappoint you (as I hear you groan), here is an article on the shape of the game of golf.

Today we play with steel shafts, with steel and wooden heads. By the next decade we will be playing with reinforced carbon, to add extra distance to your stroke (Mr. Jubb would then be able to hit the ball one hundred yards). The balls we play with are already changing, and will continue to do so. The present ball consists of a plastic covering, over yards of elastic bands wound together. Different materials are now being produced, and when the balls are coated with these, it adds yards to your drive. (Mr. Jubb can now reach the fairway). The ordinary round dimple on the ball is being abandoned for square, triangular and even hexagonal dimples. It's a sad end to our old friend the round dimple, but at the prospect of ten yards extra distance, people will continue to buy the new type of ball. (Mr. Jubb buys hundreds at a time).

You have probably all seen pictures of fancy Yanks, riding about the course in small cars, and you will all be pleased to hear (especially Mr. Jubb,

who's not as young as he used to be) that these are being imported to Britain. You can now speed up that last hill, or burn your opponent off the course, at will. Although new ideas are now filling my head, I cannot write any more, as I am due to play golf (with Mr. Jubb: some more easy money).

Kevin Grayson, Fifth Year

HOCKEY

1st XI

At the beginning of the season, the team was at its full strength and full of enthusiasm. We played several high-scoring and hard games, particularly against Wakefield. This is usually one of the best matches, and proved to be so again this year. This was followed by a very easy game against a depleted Pontefract side, but from then on we lost players week by week, because of one or two team members who decided not to turn up. From then onwards, the team frequently had to struggle with only nine or ten players, against a full first team. Their places were filled by junior players. One of these, Karen Banks, showed great promise and should be an asset to the team next year. Despite their setbacks, the team played well and with great determination in these matches, and managed to do credit to themselves.

Congratulations to Karen Banks for being awarded a medal for being the most promising junior player, and to Alison Brabbs, the most promising senior player. Congratulations also to Diane Barker, Diane Sharpe, Pauline Hutchinson, Deborah Allchurch and Alison Brabbs, for gaining their hockey colours.

At the hockey trials this year, Alison Brabbs gained a place in the Wakefield Area first team, and Diane Barker and Diane Sharpe in the Area second team.

Played	10	Drawn	2
Won	3	For	11
Lost	5	Against	12

Alison Brabbs, Sixth Year

UNDER 15's

The hockey season was hindered by the constant bad weather, and maintaining team-numbers was difficult because many of the older girls had Saturday-jobs. Although the younger hockey players recruited to the team were faithful and hardworking, we found it difficult to clinch a win, and many of the matches ended in a draw.

The best game of the season was the first fixture at Rothwell. Even though the game was won by only one goal, both teams were evenly matched, and it was a very enjoyable game.

The game at Wakefield was the most difficult match of the season. The Wakefield players were skilled and experienced. They outclassed us, and deserved to win.

The most promising player in the team was Karen Banks, who maintained a very high standard throughout the season, and showed very great promise for the future.

Diane Barker, Fifth Year

UNDER 14's

During the past season the Under 14 Hockey team has shared a number of successes and a number of failures.

The team in general has improved and some of the individuals in it, people such as Julie Taylor, the goalkeeper, who has seen us clear of a few scrapes and turned some what-could-have-been failures into tight successes. Christine Hirst, the centre-half, who has been a good attacker as well as a defender. She also has saved us by creating spectacular drives into the shooting area enabling one of the five forwards to hit the ball home.

Perhaps if we had had a regular team rather than the somewhat inconsistent one we had because of commitments of some members, I think we could have had more successes than we did. But on the whole I think that the Under 14 team did reasonably well considering the number of matches we played and because of the point mentioned previously.

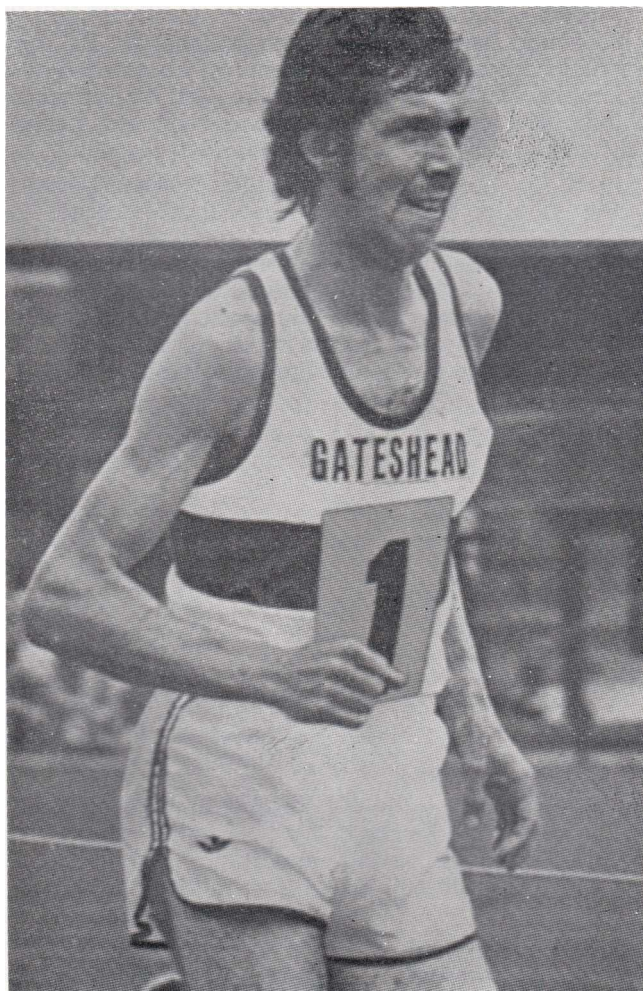
Sally Moore, Fourth Year

UNDER 13's

Only three matches were played this season, as several of our fixtures had to be cancelled. All three were played at home. Rothwell defeated us 4-0, and Burkdale 2-0, but we did manage to beat Batley 1-0.

Ruth Hancock, Third Year

COUP DE GRASS



AN INTERVIEW WITH BRENDAN FOSTER

This year we were fortunate to obtain the following replies from a questionnaire we sent to one of the country's leading athletes:—

Date of Birth? 12.1.48

Weight? 10st. 7lb.

Pulse at rest? 45

Of which club are you a member? Gateshead Harriers.

Occupation? Sports and Recreation Manager.

How did you become interested in Athletics? Through competing at school and joining the Gateshead Harriers.

Did you ever compete in the English Schools AAA or Cross-country Championships? Yes, I competed in both. I was 8th in the cross-country and didn't qualify for the final of the 400 metres.

When did you realise you could reach International level? When in my final year at University—1969.

What is your favourite event now? 5,000 metres.

What are your personal best times in

(a) 800 metres?—1min. 51.1

(b) 1,500 metres?—3min. 37.6

(c) 3,000 metres?—7min. 35.2

(d) 5,000 metres?—13min. 14.6

What is your annual progress in these events?

(a)

(b) 3min. 40.6 (70)	3min. 39.2 (71)	3min. 38.2 (72)
3min. 38.5 (73)	3min. 37.6 (74)	

(c)

(d) 13min. 23.8 (73) 13min. 14.6 (74)

What have been your most pleasing performances? The European Games in Rome and the Gateshead Games.

What do you enjoy about Athletics? Competition, travelling, team members and excitement.

What are your dislikes in Athletics? Losing or being injured.

Do you have any special diet? No.

What is your typical training programme the week before an important event? 100 miles including 5 miles every morning and track work on 3 afternoons.

Do you have advice for young athletes? Don't expect to be too good, too soon.

Do you think Athletics in Britain should be a professional sport? No.



"But what if it's not Superman ?"

MALCOLM HAWKINS *Fifth Year*

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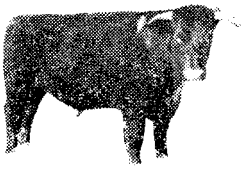
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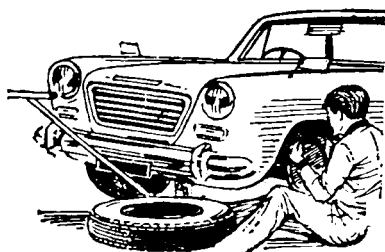
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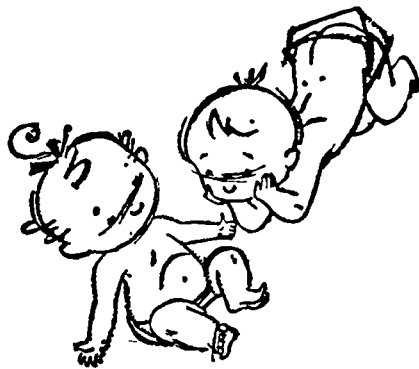
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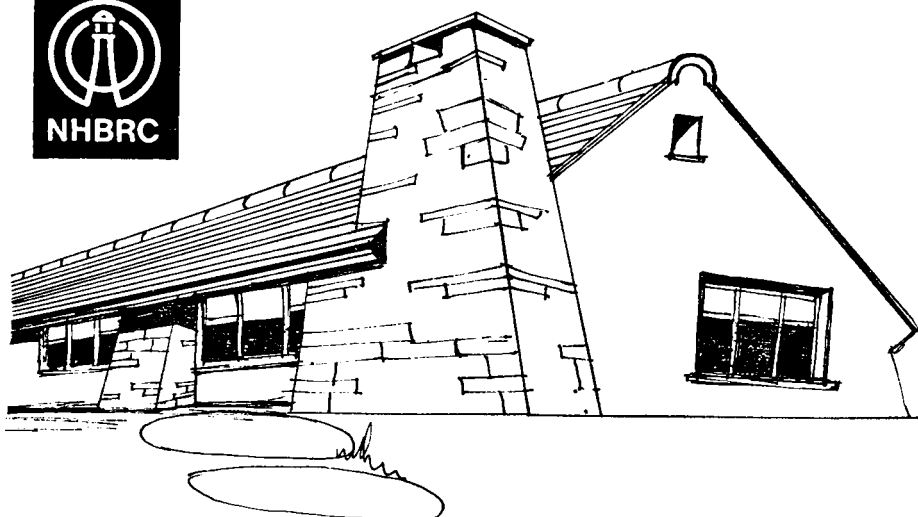
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