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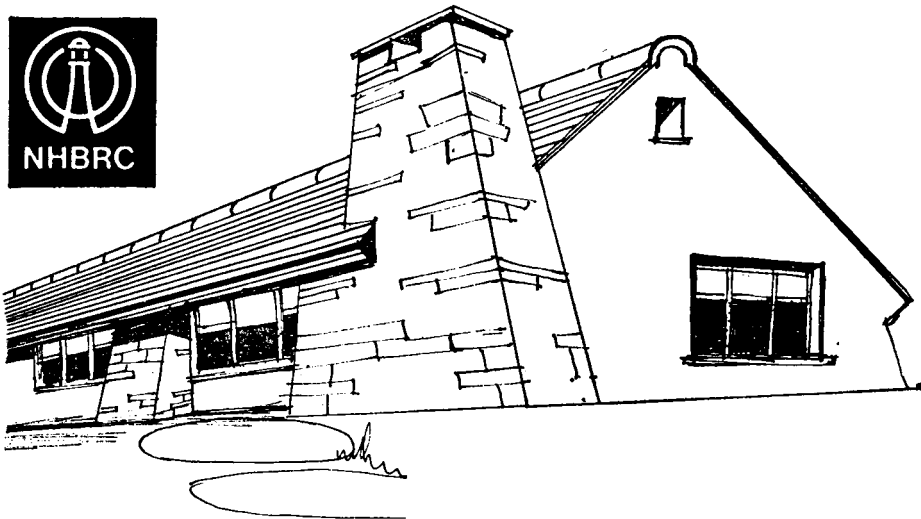
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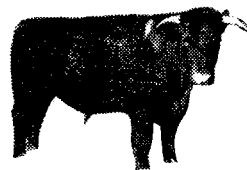
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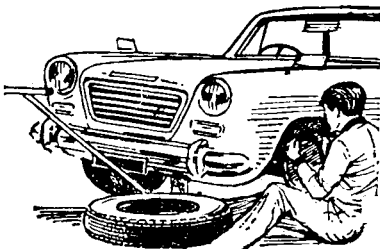
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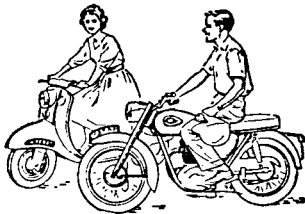
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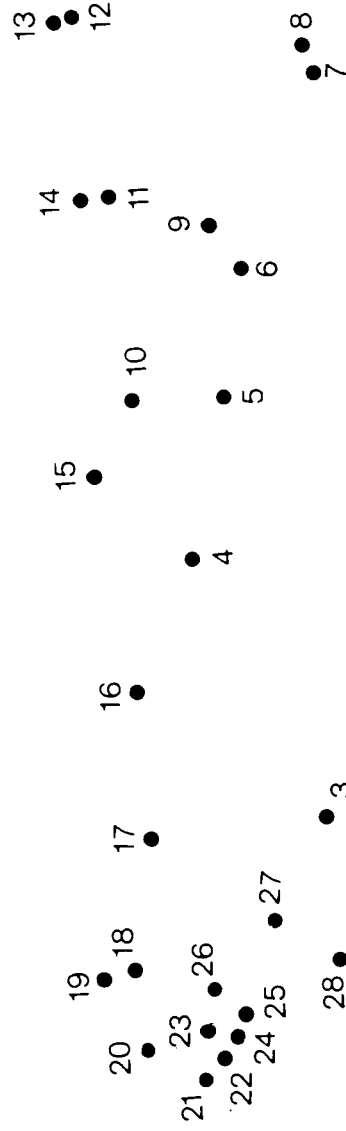
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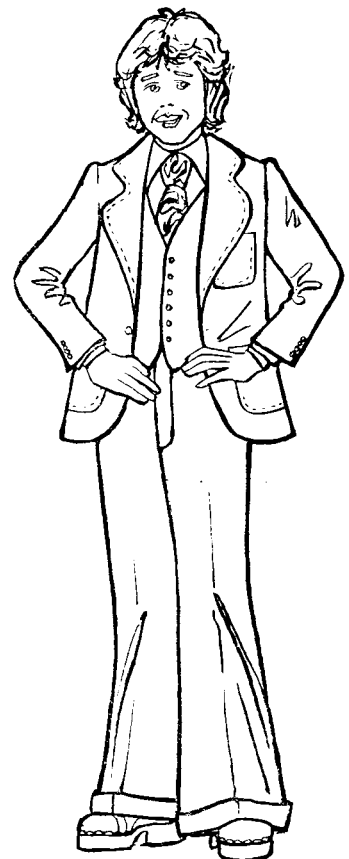
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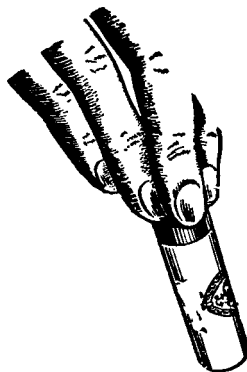
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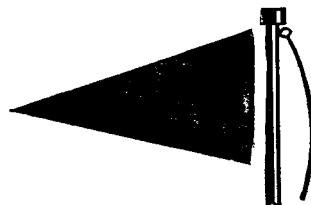
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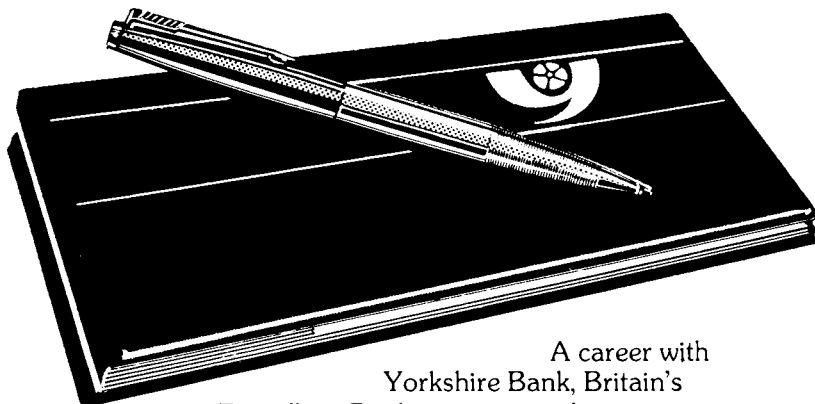
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THE FRESTONIAN
1977
THE MAGAZINE
of
NORMANTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Karen Booth, Brian Clark, Susan Cotton,
Jeanne Gush, Beverley Howgate, Linda Jackson,
Patricia Leith, Susan Lockwood, Kim Marshall,
Andrew Pine, Susan Skidmore, Beverley Smith,
Paul Sykes, Marion West, Christine Teal,
Carol Wilkin, Graham Young.

The Editors wish to thank all those members
of the Lower Sixth, Mr. Pygott and Mr.
Cook, for their work on the advertisement
sections.

Cover Design: Virginia Plumstead, Fourth Year.

EDITORIAL

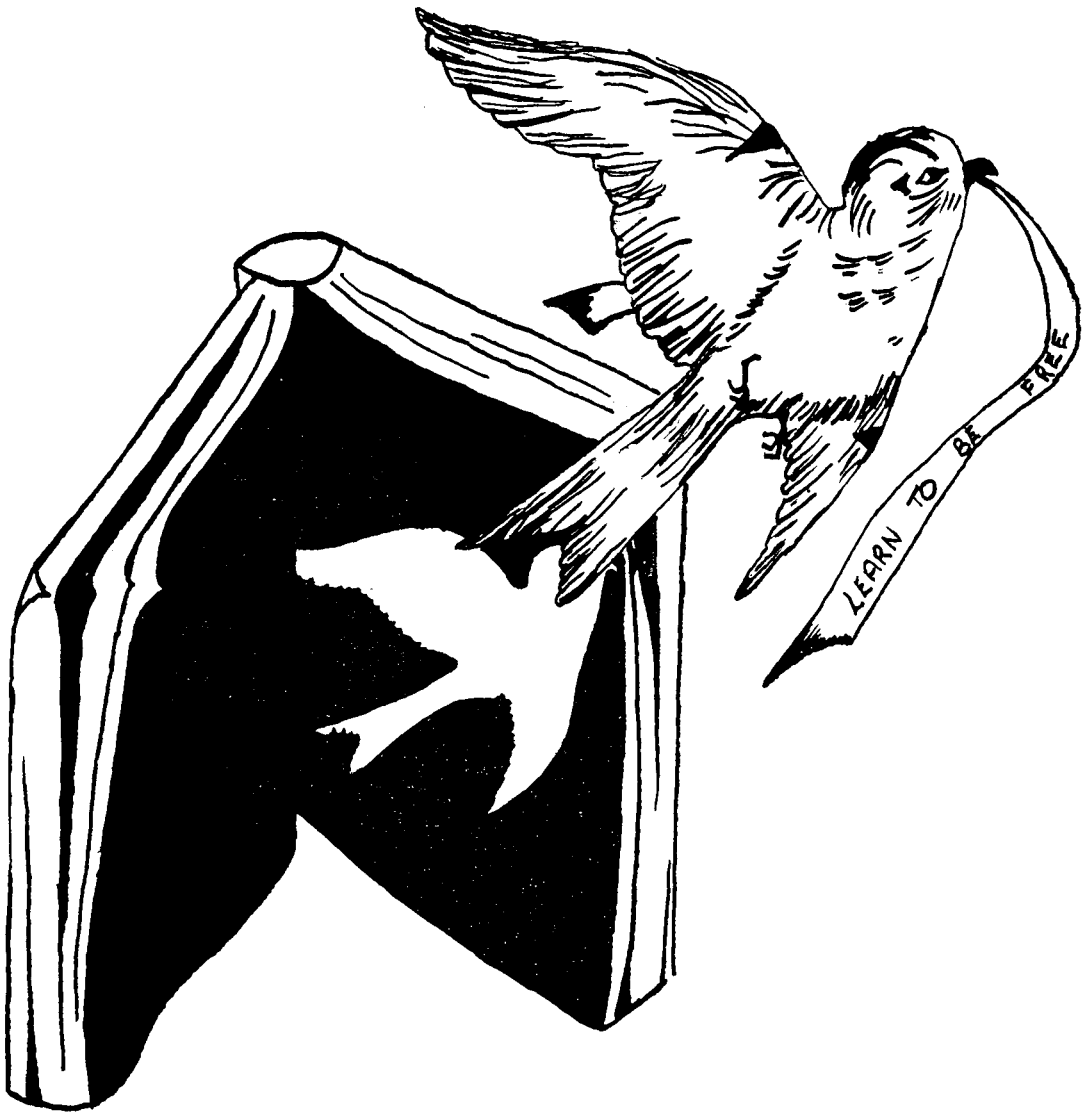
In this last Normanton Grammar School Magazine, we try to look in all directions at once. Following on the themes of 'Nostalgia' and 'The Shape of Things to Come', we chose the School motto 'Learn to be Free' as the theme this year. We hoped that people would write freely about the things which interested them, rather than feel restricted by a definite theme. We also hoped for more variety of material, but ironically, discovered that much of the work submitted trod the familiar cheerful paths of Old Age, Death, Unrequited Love, and the End of the World. But on the whole, the call to 'Be Free' produced an exceptionally large number of contributions, and many worthy items have had to be excluded.

The creative work looks to past, present and future, but in the second section of the magazine, we look very definitely at the present, and the fact of comprehensivisation. We hope the experiences of other schools in the area provide interesting reading.

As always, the magazine has laboured under great financial difficulties ; each copy now costs over £1. You will notice the stark and economical cover, and a reduction in art work inside. But without our generous and loyal advertisers, we would have ceased to exist long ago. Please support them.

A week before going to press, the School suffered a very severe fire which gutted the office and badly damaged several rooms nearby. It seemed perhaps a symbolic gesture from the Fates that Normanton Grammar School, in its last months of existence, should be partially consumed by fire. The Phoenix was a legendary Arabian bird that was born again from its own ashes ; no doubt the best of Normanton Grammar School will survive both Acts of God, and Acts of Government. We look optimistically to a new phase of education in Normanton, and hope that there will be another magazine next year to report on its progress.

Original Contributions



C. Binns, Sixth Year.

THERE IS A RUMOUR GOING ROUND THE SCHOOL THAT TEACHERS WERE ORIGINALLY EVOLVED FROM HUMAN BEINGS !

In 1974 some of the Staff were asked to give us a concise definition of their personal 'heavens and hells'. This year we have completed the list. The results are published below, with 'heavenly bliss' first, and 'hellish torment' second. No prizes are offered for correct solutions.

[Compiled by Beverley Howgate and Christine Teal, Sixth Year],

1. **(a)** Going on a shopping expedition with lots of money.
 (b) Running out of tissues in the hay fever season.
2. **(a)** Featherstone Rovers 10 — Castleford 9.
 (b) Featherstone Rovers 9 — Castleford 10.
3. **(a)** Coming back from a shopping expedition with lots of money.
 (b) A six-months' national barbers' strike.
4. **(a)** Being 7 st. 11 lbs. **(b)** Being 11 st. 7 lbs.
5. **(a)** Driving away from school on the last day of term.
 (b) Plucking my eyebrows.
6. **(a)** Arriving home on a cold, foggy winter's evening to a ready-prepared hot meal.
 (b) Driving to school on a cold, dark, foggy winter's morning on the motor-way.
7. **(a)** A spring afternoon at Jervaulx Abbey.
 (b) A plate of cream cakes.
8. **(a)** Manchester City beating Leeds United 6-0 in the F.A. Cup Final.
 (b) Leeds United beating Manchester City 6-0 in the F.A. Cup Final.
9. **(a)** A warm place, a delicious French meal, with my family and closest friends.
 (b) No-one to talk to.
10. **(a)** August! / Eight draws up.
 (b) Eight draws up and I forgot to post it.
11. **(a)** Soaking up the sunshine on a Grecian isle.
 (b) Being delayed at the airport "due to technical reasons".
12. **(a)** A lazy summer beach, enjoyed with good companions.
 (b) A supermarket on Christmas Eve.
13. **(a)** Concord — musically perfect in life — in tune with the world.
 (b) Discord — untunely in life — troubles.
14. **(a)** Allowing the B.B.C. to use my garden for a series entitled "From Wilderness to Wonderland".
 (b) A fault requiring the attention of Negas.
15. **(a)** Sirloin steak (12 ozs.) followed by Black Forest cake.
 (b) Having a cold and being offered the above.
16. **(a)** BWW 460B. **(b)** BWW 460B.
17. **(a)** First four periods cancelled unexpectedly.
 (b) Period 6 on the last day of term.
18. **(a)** The 5th and U6th on study leave, the 4th and L6th on a school trip.
 (I do not teach any 1st, 2nd or 3rd forms).
 (b) Having a surprise day's holiday declared — and finding out I was not going to be in school that day.

19. (a) 26th of the month (pay day). (b) A week later.
20. (a) Taking over the wheel again oneself.
(b) Teaching someone to drive.
21. (a) Meeting old boys and girls of the School.
(b) Teaching figure drawing to the 4th year.
22. (a) Winning ten against the head from the Welsh front row.
(b) Losing ten against the head to anybody.
23. (a) Peace of mind, (b) To lose control of one's destiny.
24. (a) Everything that is lovely in the world friends, family, books, music,
the changing seasons — and somewhere, a corner for robins, ducklings
and spring lambs — both white and black.
(b) Unkindness, malice, deceit and envy.
25. (a) A resolved discord, (b) An unresolved discord.
26. (a) Down in one at the fifth and I am walking tall.
(b) Out of bounds at the sixth and another lost ball.

9.	Mrs. Williamson.	18.	Mr. Kelly.
8.	Mr. Vickers.	17.	Mr. Rhodes.
7.	Mrs. Bedford.	16.	Mr. Hyde.
6.	Mrs. Sisson.	15.	Miss Carnevale.
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		23.	Mr. Drury.
		24.	Mrs. Armistage.
		25.	Mr. Coar.
		26.	Mr. Haigh.

WHAT CAN I DO ?

What shall I do when I grow up ?
 I often sit and think.
 A teacher or a draughtsman
 Behind the pen and ink.
 Or shall I be a joiner.
 To work with tools and wood ?
 A lawyer or a doctor ?
 I wonder if I could.
 I change my mind so many times
 As quick as I make plans.
 I think I'd better leave it
 Till I pass all my exams.

Neil Rothwell, Fourth Year.

MARRIAGE

Although they were teenagers — still quite young,
That was when their love had begun.
A few years later
He said to her pater
“We’re engaged”.
“But you’re just youngsters !” bawled her dad, enraged.
“What shall we do ?” said the unhappy two.
“Let’s run away”. “When?” “Today”.
Soon the fatal moment when you say, “I do”,
Was bestowed upon the now happy two.
The house was rented, he had no job.
This got them down, she began to sob.
“Don’t worry love, it’ll be okay
Think about tomorrow, not today”.
She thought about tomorrow, what did it hold ?
No nice house, no fur coat, no caviare or gold.
Tomorrow meant washing-up, housework and sewing.
Dusting and cooking, coming and going.
One year later they were blessed with twins.
“Coochy coo, ga-ga ! Such adorable things !”
They were fed and clothed by dad and mum
’Till they could talk and play and run.
They went to school, had their own friends
Did their best to keep up with the trends.
But life was hard — no pocket money.
“Cough up, dad — we don’t think it’s funny”.
But in no time at all it was time to leave home
Once again the two of them were all on their own.
Tomorrow had come, nothing had changed
Just a few ornaments re-arranged.
What sort of life do you call that ?
“Not much !” I hear you say. Well, it’s quite true.
But think again . . . that could be you.

Noelle Leyshon, Third Year.

SONG

I gave my heart to the boy I love
The boy that I adore
But he smashed it into a thousand pieces
And scattered them on the floor.
So why should I stick them together again
Like a broken plastic toy ?
For I know it’ll just be broken to bits
By a cruel and heartless boy.

Andrea Ward, Fifth Year.

AUTUMN

Sun tints the copper and amber leaves,
Which look brittle,
They rustle like milk bottle tops,
As the tree, like a hand, shakes them off,
As if water.
One by one they fall,
Dancing on the breeze,
But floating gently
As they fall, twirling, to the floor,
To form thick, crunchy layers.

A cold, wintry sun peeps through a coral sky
And glows meekly on the world ;
Glinting on the trees
And damp fields of stubble corn.
The blackberries looking even more colourful
Hanging amongst prickly thorns.
Soon it will be evening,
And in the morning
Ferns will be frosted on the cold window panes
And the spider's pearly webs will be strung
on white hedges.

Kay Davenport, First Year.

GHOST

The pale figure standing there
Cries for a forgotten world
She's dressed in mist and in her hair
Hang ribbons all in curls.

She weeps for her departed man,
Whom she killed one summer night
The blood still stains her feminine hands
And she walks in candlelight.

Her shrieking cries fill all the house
As she haunts the desolate rooms
The terrifying sound disturbs the mouse
Which scurries around the tombs.

With gliding steps she moves along
And shines in a silver haze
She'll walk the dark forgotten paths
For the rest of her eternal days.

Debra Machen, Third Year.

FREEDOM

I have no mother or father
To make me scrub behind my ears.
To punish me when I have wronged
And shout and rave when I come home.
No-one to make me do my work
And be polite, and clean my shoes.
No-one to kick me off the 'phone.
And what am I, the freebird ?
The freebird is alone.

Sharon Leigh, Fifth Year.

THE DUCKING STOOL

Everyone in the town stood silently around the pond in the centre of our village. We were all congregated there because that day they were to duck a witch, and no-one was prepared to miss that. I remember being scared in case she cursed me, so, as I was only young, I hid behind my mother.

As she came out, everybody gasped. I had expected her to be thin and ugly, with long black tattered hair and a long black dress. To my amazement, she just looked ordinary, not particularly ugly, and with brown hair. Soon I was less frightened and came out for a better look. She looked very scared but tried to be brave, although she couldn't hide her tears. By now people were getting excited and began to shout and call names. I felt very sorry for her as the men tied her to the stool. She could now no longer conceal her fear. Her little sobs turned to loud cries of despair. The stool slowly and jerkily moved down into the water. Her cries turned to little gurgling noises as she went into the murky water. Slowly they brought her out, and then instantly plunged her back in again, screaming hysterically. This time they kept her in longer. When they eventually brought her back again she was gasping for air.

She then let out an ear-piercing scream as she was ducked again. This time she was kept in even longer. It seemed like an eternity to me. All around was silent except for the creaking of the stool as it returned to the air. I waited for her screams, but everything was silent. The men untied her, and she fell to the ground. One man shouted quite proudly, "The witch is dead !" The crowd departed slowly and, as I went home, I thought how mysterious it seemed that it suddenly started raining...

Susan Turner, Third Year.



"MINERS"

Christopher Lowe, Third Year.

SCENE

Into the static
An artist's simplicity
Is dead
This postcard of unreality.
The earth
The sky
Of white
Have been touched by the tip of his brush.
And scratch the trees into the air,
A million tongues
They speak
A light shines
And yet this sun
Is but a palette's yellow.
And back, so far beyond this void
Tinted emotions acclaim,
But stationized by the spirit of the abyss,
These clouds are just a wash of grey.
Into this,
A painting,
The evacuated air they fly.
But ivory dashes ;
They move.
A vital taste is glimpsed
Then gone.
And still anew
The scene.

James Taylor, Third Year.

A SNOWDROP

It hangs its limp, white, snowy head,
Its strong green leaves like spears,
And opens its petals like a bonnet,
Like a small bleached daffodil.

So wild, so small, but so entrancing,
Petals cold and silk-smooth to touch,
Like paper moulded into patterns,
Sad and defenceless it stands.

Its petals fringed with green,
Like icing on a cake, or lace,
The middle of the flower like pencil sharpenings.

In little clusters the snowdrops are seen,
Like patches of snow themselves,
They thrust up their pearly heads
And then, as if disgusted by the world,
Bow them down to the snowy earth, in shame.

Kay Davenport, First Year.

THE WORLD THROUGH A SEA SHELL

A bed of sand, it is my home,
Where endless curious creatures roam.
A treasure trove of marine delight
Whose beauty draws the divers plight.

An aquarium of waters deep
Where shipwrecks lie and mermaids sleep
Where mighty squids go swimming by
Beneath the foam where seagulls cry.

The coral reef and giant clam
Are death traps to unwary man
The limpets can't their secrets tell
Of priceless pearl in oyster shell.

Poseidon's Kingdom, a sight most rare
Where octopuses peer out from their lair
And passers by just come and go
Through salty seas of H₂O

Tracy Bray, Third Year.

THE LAST INHABITANT

Millions of years ago, when God made the earth and all the other planets, he thought, "Earth will have an exploring race called Man, who will go to other planets, so I will give him something to see!"

God chose the planet Mars, and he threw into the earth some small seeds. Out of these seeds grew little green men with sharp noses, shrewd eyes, and tiny figures. These men uprooted themselves and they walked and talked and soon they had a king and queen and all the things we think are necessary.

Now, although all Martians were powerful, none was so powerful as the king. He quelled all who opposed him. However, soon he became obsessed with power, and he tried to rule God. He forbade everyone to worship God and he made them worship himself. Anyone found worshipping God was sentenced to death. God was so angry at this treacherous deed that he pointed his finger at the Martian king. From his finger shot a blinding, brilliant white light. It struck the king dead and all his family died also. The Martians were so afraid that they worshipped God once more.

Now, far away, in a tiny corner of Mars, lived a mad old Martian scientist who wished to rule Mars but knew he couldn't oppose the king. However, when the king died, the scientist made a liquid mixture of a deep green colour. He called many Martians to him and told them that his mixture would give them great strength. So they all drank it, hoping to become powerful enough to rule Mars. Little did they know that the concoction was poisonous to Martians, and soon they were all dead, and their bodies disintegrated into red earth.

In mad glee, the old scientist jumped for joy. He was the last Martian! He would rule Mars! Mars was HIS! Then, a thought struck him. He had no one to rule! He had made his kind extinct. What had he done?

Desperately he ran to his lab and feverishly tried to make some of the small seeds from which Martians grew. But he was old, and had had a shock. Even as he worked to make the seeds, he died. And that is the sad story of why we never do and never will see, landing on earth, little spaceships and, inside them, little green men from Mars.

Heather Emms, Second Year.

DESOLATION

The world has been scorched,
The destruction has passed,
Just bodies and debris
Lay twisted and massed.

The planet is dormant
Spinning round in space
Is there anything left
For the human race ?

Then out from the suburbs crawls a man
Hands as red as the bloodshot eyes
Distorted, bloodstained and frightening
Yet he needs no disguise.

Somehow he rises
Looks desperately around
Not a movement, not a flicker
Just the sight and no sound.

He searches and prays
Looking here, looking there
Hasn't God left him anyone ?
Doesn't he care ?

Paul Wilkinson, Third Year.

A WORLD OF TORMENT

Watcher of the earth and stars
Where did you come from ? Was it Mars ?
You see our helplessness and think it a game
Relinquish our eternal shame.

A nonchalant attitude you imply
As our world diminishes before your eye.
This isn't fantasy, this isn't a lie
This is genocide and man will die.

Donna MacLean, Fifth Year.



"WHATEVER TURNS YOU ON"

Virginia Plumstead, Fourth Year.

CANCER

How the darkness creeps in
Through the open windows
Though the sunshine still shines
Though the sky is still blue . . .

Fear blinds, blots, blanks, blankets ;
It grows, sucking life's strength
Like the lightless inside.

Why end my life's beauty ?
Dark beauty, harsh beauty ?
Why?

Deborah Bowerman, Sixth Year.

THE END OF THE DROUGHT

Out of the night, black and vacant, came the incessant rain. The star-like street lamps picked out the sparkling paths strewn with dismembered leaves and drowned scraps of paper. The cascades of water racing along the gutters, like lemmings at a cliff's edge, hurtled towards dark, gaping drains. The occasional car tyre swishes through the murky puddles along the abandoned zebra crossing. Its stark orange lights wink at the cowardly moon hiding under a quilt of cloud. The droplets of rain tumbled onto the bespectacled shop windows and varnished roads. The silent streets echo the sound of hurrying footsteps seeking shelter, disregarding an old, bedraggled dog searching for sanctuary in the darkness, the shelter of a shop doorway, and the rain goes on.

Marion West, Sixth Year.

THE WATERFALL

The waterfall came rushing down in a torrent of fury
Racing down, gushing around stones, and over branches
A place of mystery, especially in the dark,
When the bubbling, splashing, spluttering, raging water
Sounded like a million unidentified animals from the world of mystery.
The sound of the dirt and stones falling, splish, splash
Into the shimmering pools below.
As the water runs rippling away, there is faint music in the air
There is a smell of wild garlic on the banks of the river
And the sweet smell of the overhanging cherry blossom
filled my heart with the joy of spring.

Jayne Bowman, Third Year.

CONFESSIONS OF A ROLLING STONE

I've been sitting here since the Middle Ages, minding my own business and fitting wonderfully into nature until, lately, I've been submerged by floods and maltreated so much that . . . well, you may think I'm an unkempt looking character but it's the slime that does it, you see, those horrible green chappies over there. You have reason to believe that most of us are stoical fellows, but, to be honest, we're not. In fact I'm quite sensitive, and I'm sometimes very reluctant to be the host to these slimy little men. You're wondering who I am, aren't you ? Well, here's a brief history of my life. In fact, this could well apply to everyone around here, since we've all got the same father and are all half brothers and sisters.

My mother was a slab of limestone in the Peak District, about three thousand million years ago. She said that she'd been brought out of a huge crack during a great earthquake, and had been deposited on the top of a high ridge on Edale Moor. When my father, the environment, attacked her, I and a few brothers and sisters were thrown down the mountainside. Dad carried us away and I ended up here, in the grounds of this great manor. I was really proud of my new home and, although I missed mother, dad would whistle through the trees at night to keep me company.

One day the rich twins who lived at the manor were quarrelling and were throwing stones at each other. One picked me up and threw me across the field. I passed the hedgerows at a tremendous pace and eventually landed on the back of a grazing cow. The cow found me irritating and flicked me away with its tail. Since it was grazing near the edge of a cliff, I was flung into the air and rolled down the green banking. I had never been so badly treated in 2,000 million years, since the time when I had been used by cavemen to hold sticks in a fire. That was painful!

Anyway, as I rolled down the banking I hit a large boulder and became unconscious for a few seconds. The next thing I remember was waking up in a large, grey, draughty field. Enquiring amongst my fellow stones, I found out that we were in a quarry, the limestone one. I felt at home in the quarry and proved to be the ringleader at all the best parties.

But this happiness was interrupted about two centuries ago when a man came along and collected three barrowfuls of us tiny limestones and took us back to the manor where he tipped us out onto a large tiled surface, which is, incidentally, where I've been ever since.

After a few weeks, a large marble object with faces and a hole in the top was erected in the middle of the tiled area. It looked down on us with great superiority. One day men with pipes came and dug underground trenches for them, and covered them up. The next day the water was turned on and it sprayed from the top of the marble object, covering us — indeed, submerging us ! I do not know the power behind the object but the man-made rain has never stopped falling to this day. The slime and algae have attacked us all, but it seems as though we are doomed to live the next part of our lives in this terrible place.

Christopher Sennett, Fourth Year.



'FISHERMAN'

Lee Thompson, Third Year.

THE ONE THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY

It was drizzling when I arrived at Newmillerdam, and it didn't promise to be a very dry and sunny day. My first reaction when I reached the water was one of sheer delight as I found out from the results board that I had drawn peg number 23 for this contest, which is at a part of the lake where I usually fish. I noticed as I reached my swim (fishing area) that there were two more people fishing alongside me, about ten yards away. One man wore a light raincoat and had a fishing umbrella and, as he tackled up, he looked very professional. The other was a young man of about twenty, who had a cheerful face and looked as though he had just come to enjoy himself, instead of for the competitive element. I set up all my equipment and waited for the starting siren. When it eventually went, I cast in and sat back to enjoy a fine day's fishing.

A good two hours had gone by when I saw a quick movement from the man on my left, and he began to reel in with great strain on his rod. I watched him with eager anticipation and saw him land a large perch in the two to two-and-a-half pound class.

Three hours had now passed, and as I had only caught two small roach of about four inches long, I was beginning to feel a little despondent. Suddenly, a large splash appeared in front of me, just above where my bait and tackle were (I was ledgering — which is bait on the bottom with a large weight). I then realised why I hadn't been catching any fish of considerable size. The splash had been made by a pike after its meal of little fish (the pike is a predator).

A sudden thought came to me, and I quickly reeled in and changed my complete tackle. Instead of perch fishing, I would try a spot of 'piking'. I cast in for a pike, with my tackle being a nine-pound line and a stronger rod and reel. My bait was one of the small roach I had caught earlier, impaled through its top lip with a treble hook onto a wire trace. I placed my rod in its rests, and watched my large float for any indication of a bite or a drag.

A quarter of an hour passed ; I unscrewed my thermos flask and poured out some coffee. Then, over the top of the cup, I saw my float racing about on the surface of the water. I lowered my cup and watched intently. The float, after a long wind, suddenly vanished, and I reached for my rod. I knew I hadn't to strike yet as the fish wouldn't have swallowed the bait, so I waited for an opportune moment, and at last it came, with the line racing off my reel. I struck, and I had the fish. It must have been a good ten minutes before I landed it, after a great struggle of my reeling in. I was just on the point of landing it, when it found some lost energy and raced off again. My two companions on either side of me reeled in their tackle and came over to help me land the big fish. I placed the pike carefully in my keepnet and put it in the water. There was a good three hours left, so I went back to perch fishing, but had no luck, as the pike struggle had scared them all away.

At the weigh in, my catch of twelve pounds took second place to a catch of five bream, in a turn-out of forty-one competitors. For me, it was a memorable day's fishing, and when I got home I didn't have too much trouble convincing people of my success.

Jonathan Willis, Fourth Year.

DISOWNED

Coldness crept cruelly
Children's teeth incessantly chattered
Baby cried of ceaseless hunger
Kniving wetness peeled the plaster
Peeled the dreams of
The lower classes.

Slowly they stirred
Slowly they
Schemed.
The knowledgeable contemplated
Sadness.
Powerless, against usurping madness.
Insidiously screamed the stealthy masters.

Slums sounded
People's army toppled classes
To establish trusted teachers

Who then disowned the masses,
Sinking helplessly in
Bewilderment sea
Exploited ;
To the sewers
Fell:

Coldness crept cruelly
Water dripped
Time dragged
The promises remained unpromised
Kniving wetness peeled the plaster
Re-peeled the dreams of
The lower classes.

Christine Hirst, Fifth Year.

UNRECKONED GULFS

The thronging mass that yells and shoves
The waking hours from nine to five,
The vehicles crowd the busy streets
Like monstrous insects of a hive.

The shallow minds of mortal men
Just scrape and scratch for earthly ore.
Undreaming of demonic wealth,
And dying young and ill and poor.

While in the horror-haunted night
Speak those who hold the words of power,
Before whom gold is tarnished metal,
Before whom slaving monsters fall.

Submerged are they, in evil ways.
Their night-black temples blot the skies.
Their nights are masked by loathsome haze
And rent by hapless victims' cries.

But in the darkness of their days,
The fiends are less than you, not whole.
For whilst you work and die a man
They yet survive, less mortal soul.

Stuart Massey, Fifth Year.

DRUGS FOR SALVATION

Yet another lonely person
Turns to drugs for salvation,
Cast out from society
Left for time to consume.

Just pleasant sensations at first
Mixed with the odd crazy dream,
Perfectly harmless, it seems,
But time waits patiently.

Slowly the dosage increases,
The side effects more pronounced,
Resulting in total dependence :
Time's not long to wait.

Slowly the drug destroys the mind,
The body's not far behind,
Only a thread of life's left
For time to terminate.

The easy way out is taken,
A razor blade to the throat.
Yet another suicide,
Sadly reflecting time.

Christopher Pysden, Fourth Year.

THE BIONIC CAT

The cat from next door had done it again
The ninth time it had run under a bus
But after inspection by a vet
They said, "There's no hope for this poor puss".

I heard it say on the radio
"Great news for an ironmonger".
It was to build a bionic cat
Bigger, better, stronger.

Six million dollars was the price
Well, so the rumours were.
"That's nothing much", implied the cat,
And gave a feeble purr.

All of its nine lives were up
Said a professor of biology ;
Oscar Goldfish, the head of the team
Has the brains, power and technology.

But after a time it began to rust
And developed a really bad cough.
Its life after all, came to an end,
When the parts began to drop off.

Richard Birkby, Third Year.

LIBERACE

My name is Bonzo Tadcaster,
I dream of untold fame,
But no-one wants to know me yet,
So I think I'll change my name.

My talent lies unrecognised,
For me there's not much hope,
But one day I'll be famous,
'Cos a dog's got much more scope !

You see, because I have four paws,
Duets I play alone.
My services are not too dear,
For I only charge one bone.

So if anyone is interested,
In a dog who can play and sing,
Just give them my 'phone number,
And tell them to give me a ring !

Andrea Ward, Fifth Year.



"LIBERACE ?"

Janet Braid, Fifth Year.

ALBERT

Albert the cockroach seemed a happy kind of bug on the face of it all. He had an ideal dank, damp home behind a rotting skirting board in the kitchen, with easy access into the back yard. But, although Albert was well off, deep down inside he was very lonely. On dark winter nights, he had only the television for company, and many's the night when Albert would sit alone in the dark, wallowing in the nostalgia of his past. He would think of his bughood days, when he and his friends would play in the fields. Sadly, he recalled his marriage to a sweet little cockroach from the outside toilet of a neighbouring house. With pain and grief he would unwillingly remember the death of his bride of only two days and how he wished the cat had had him too. That was only the start of his heartache, for, the day before he was due to move back with his family, they were all drowned when a torrent of rain burst into their home.

So there was Albert all alone in the world and trying to put a brave face on things, until one special day when his luck changed. The day had started as usual. Albert rose, washed, dressed, and ate his breakfast before going out to find some food. It was just as he returned home that a large gust of wind blew a small bedraggled heap into Albert's back door. The small heap explained that his name was Hector and, on closer inspection, it was revealed that he too was a cockroach.

Hector apologized for the mess he had made, and also for dropping in uninvited but, unfortunately, he had fallen in a very deep puddle, and had only just emerged, soaked to the antennae and half-drowned, when he was seized by a puff of wind and deposited on Albert's doorstep. Albert brushed his apologies aside, and kindly offered him a cup of tea. Hector gladly accepted his offer, and quickly made himself at home by the fire.

Over the cup of tea. Hector told Albert that he was a cockroach of no fixed abode, on his way to see the world. Albert told him that he was very foolish to embark on such a venture in the winter. Hector agreed, saying that he now realized this, but he was too far from home to return. Albert realized that Hector was likely to have a rough time if he continued, so eventually he offered him the shelter of his home until the weather became fit to travel in again. Hector readily agreed and so a friendship was born. The following winter passed all too quickly for Albert. He was fascinated by the tales Hector told him of his past life. He realized how dull his life really was. He had never travelled far. The farthest he had been was in the back garden of the house. He wanted to lead an exciting life too and, besides, he had grown used to company. The thought of Hector leaving him to face life alone again saddened him, so he decided that when the time came, he would go with Hector.

Eventually, Spring did arrive, so Albert shut up the house, packed his bags, and tripped gaily down the path with Hector one fine April morning. They came to the end of the back garden, and climbed through a hole in the wall. So this was next door, thought Albert excitedly. Surely those tall brightly coloured objects over there must be flowers. Yes, he had often heard Hector talk of such things. How wonderful it was to actually see one !

But then something awful happened. A great darkness fell over the sky ; a large object loomed over the horizon. Albert dropped his thermos flask in terror as a large brown object came to rest before him. This square object had

two long pieces of string hanging from holes at the top of it. Albert could not see Hector and, as he stood there paralysed with fear, his life flashed by him. He looked up in mortal fear as a large yellow object with "Swan Vestas" emblazoned across the side, descended upon him, it opened, and a voice cried, "Hurray, hurray, that's another bug to my collection. Now I've got seven and Jamey Brown's only got five".

Albert died, there and then, on the very spot.

Kathryn Lingard, Fourth Year.



"SIGNPOST"

John Lewis, Third Year.

THE TIMES ARE A CHANGIN'

LOOKING BACK THROUGH PAST MAGAZINES

In the sixteenth century, there was little or no hope of a good education for the poorer people — “AND THEN THERE WAS LIGHT” — the light of a certain man, who changed the existing system and founded the establishment, now in its final year, Normanton Grammar School. John Freston, a barrister of Gray’s Inn, who died in 1594, directed in his will that his executors should purchase land for the construction of a school and master’s house. He directed this to be a free grammar school for ever, free to all scholars and thirty poor scholars.

The School’s motto, as we now know it as being, “Learn to be free”, actually did not come into existence until 1961, with the new grant of arms.

From this humble beginning, the School has experienced many successes in both sporting and academic fields and, as is shown in an extract from an early magazine, “Much is expected of a grammar school boy ; people expect an especially high standard of conduct and intelligence from boys who have been fortunate enough to gain a place in N.G.S. It is your duty to fulfil expectations and uphold the honour of the School. People judge the whole of the School by your bearing and conduct”.

In attempting to trace the history of the School through the old school magazines, we have encountered a number of strange, interesting and often amusing events. From one of the earlier magazines, we discovered that, “on Friday, June 29th, 1928, the Old Boys’ Association held a ‘modest Smoking Concert’ which took place in the School gymnasium, an undoubted success. . . !” One year later, “the liveliness of the Old Boys’ Association was shown in the realm of the annual dinner, three dances, including . . . one flannel dance !” Several musical and smokers’ evenings were also held, as a new era was discovered and, with the co-operation of the Old Girls’ Association, several garden parties were also held (these, a great success).

It may assure the ardent T.V.-fanatic student of today, that the students of the thirties had a similar problem of not being able to tear themselves away from the set. However, there is one slight difference : today, it is “The Bionic Man”, then, it was “The Ovaltinies” — without the visual effects.

Students of today, consider yourselves fortunate in being allowed to mix freely, as it was not until the sixties that the high fence separating the boys’ and girls’ schools, through which various articles had been mysteriously, but deliberately ‘misplaced’, was removed.

One of the first school dances took place on December 19th, 1945, when a party of senior boys was invited to a dance held in the High School gymnasium. Dance music was provided by amplified gramophone records and light refreshments were served.

In 1956, the school uniform became compulsory, and the boys looked forward to the time when everyone would be ‘neatly attired in grey flannels, blue blazers, bearing the new school crest, and the new school tie’.

For all those boys who complain about wearing school uniform, a little gem of information : it was only ten years ago that the wearing of school caps by juniors was no longer compulsory. Perhaps it might provide light relief if the boys still did wear caps, for, as we are told in an early magazine : ‘The wearing of school caps was a minor art form ; the skilled exponent of the art could express his personality and attitude to authority more clearly by the way he wore his cap than by any other single means’.

One of the most amusing occurrences, we feel, was when the boys, feeling that their tired-looking rugby team badly needed rejuvenation, decided to recruit the girls to aid them in the raising of the necessary capital to buy a set of new rugby shirts. They played the High School girls at hockey, and then invited the girls to a dance . . . and made them pay for the privilege !

However, the past is gone, and as we are told in the ‘Frestonian’ of 1961 : “It is only when one loses an object that one realizes its full value. This applies as strongly to school life as it does to a concrete object. School life abounds in interest, enjoyment, companionship, and work — and we advise all members of the School to grasp every chance of living school life to the full”.

In conclusion, after tracing the history of the Grammar School, we now look forward to the future and the imminent changes in our system of education, and provide you with a quotation to ponder :

“Change is not made without inconvenience, even from worse to better”.

Karen Booth and Patricia Leith, Sixth Year.



“EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY”

Phillip D. Walker, Sixth Year.

GOING COMPREHENSIVE

interviews with three local Headmasters

The Headmasters of Otley, Kettlethorpe and Castleford High Schools were kind enough to agree to be 'grilled' by Andrew Pine, Susan Cotton and Marion West, of the Editorial Committee. In informal interviews, the Headmasters were asked to talk about their schools, and their versions of comprehensive education, for it was soon clear that each school was very different. The Headmasters talked about organisation, prefects, uniform, discipline, truancy, academic standards, and other topical matters, and we hope that the following conversations provide some food for thought as we approach comprehensivisation ourselves.

The first visit was to Otley; the school is beautifully situated on the edge of the moors. Mr. Boisefield, the Headmaster, teaches some French and General Studies to the Sixth Form. He explained that the school came into existence in 1968 after the merger of local Grammar and Secondary Modern Schools. The rebuilding was completed in 1970 and, in addition, the school has its own swimming pool, which was partly financed by a generous Old Boy of the Grammar School. The school has 1,200 pupils aged 12-18, and consists of a Lower, Main and Upper School, each of which has its own Head Teacher, Year Tutors and Form Tutors. Each year has approximately 270 pupils, and 9 or 10 forms. There is a 'House' system, but this is only for sport and pastoral care.

Mr. Boisefield began by saying that a certain amount of division between pupils of the two schools had been anticipated before amalgamation, but that in the event, this had not been serious or prolonged. Rivalry gradually disappeared completely as the new intake of the first year worked its way through the school. One contributory factor in this relatively smooth merger was the fact that it took place over a period of several years, beginning in January 1968. Apprehension was also quelled to a certain extent by regular meetings between staff and pupils of both schools.

It was decided that the Prefect system of the Grammar School should be maintained. All the Upper Sixth carry out the duties, which are similar to those of our own prefects. Some, however, mainly those interested in teaching, assist with remedial reading. School "dress" was also retained, although in a slightly modified form.

Since the merger took place, the new school has been able to offer a wider range of subjects, particularly those of a practical nature. Many girls, for example, were interested in typing studies, and after the reduction in the number of Link courses, a typing room has been provided within the school. The size of the Sixth Form has increased, and consists on average of 85 - 95 students, though about 25% do not continue into the Upper Sixth.

The availability of Sixth Form subjects varies according to supply and demand, but specialist subjects can be pursued at Colleges of Further Education. Subjects such as History, English, Geography and, in particular, Economics, have gained in popularity at A-level, whilst foreign languages, especially Latin, have declined in popularity. More time for careers lessons has been provided as part of the General Studies course, which is run on a similar basis to our own, with the exception that it begins in the Fourth Year.

Mr. Boisefield did not think that educational standards in his school had either risen or fallen and said that standards varied from year to year according to the talents of both pupils and teachers and also according to the size of classes. Whilst admitting that complaints about the mathematical capability of students had been received from employers in industry, he pointed out that many of these employers still used Imperial measurements, with which pupils were not familiar. Speaking generally, Mr. Boisefield went on to say that complaints such as those of "Sloppy English" must be seen in perspective and are not necessarily caused by the Comprehensive System — the influx of Americanised spelling, T.V., and certain aspects of home environment must all be taken into consideration.

In response to a question related to a 'Panorama' programme featuring unruly behaviour in a London Comprehensive school, Mr. Boisefield expressed his belief that such classroom aggression was not necessarily related to the Comprehensive System. The large size of schools and the home background of pupils were, he said, important factors in this respect. The school did experience a wave of "bloody-minded" behaviour during the first years, after the raising of the school leaving age, but this has now died out. Disciplinary measures in the school include verbal reprimands, extra work after school, the cane, which is only used in cases of extremely bad behaviour and, ultimately, suspension from school. Mr. Boisefield admitted that the truancy problem had escalated, but attributed this to the size of the school, and the subsequent difficulty in keeping track of pupils' whereabouts, rather than to the Comprehensive System.

A feature of the Otley Comprehensive School which we found particularly interesting was the involvement of pupils in the running of certain aspects of the school. This takes the form of school councils, from the Fourth Form upwards, which consists of pupils' elected representatives and members of staff. The meetings usually take place once every term, but they can be convened at any time to discuss specific matters. At a recent Fourth Year council the subjects raised included a problem concerning bus passes, the perennial call for a Fourth Form common room, a complaint that there was no hot water in the girls' showers, a request for lunch-time swimming and discos and, on a more academic note, a request for less SMP maths. Any member of the Sixth Form can attend its council, at which the head boy and girl and senior members of staff are usually present. Clearly, a responsible and organized school council can effectively aid teacher-pupil relations and provide an opportunity for students to air grievances and make constructive suggestions about aspects of the school. In the first years after ROSLA, for example, the school councils at Otley helped to break down the communications barrier between teachers and pupils.

Our next visit was to Kettlethorpe, to meet the energetic and lively Mr. Athey (where did he get his energy from after a hard day at school and then having to talk to us?). Kettlethorpe was built in 1965 as a Junior High School; it takes 11-16 year olds but was designed for 11-13 year olds. The headmaster admitted that he missed having a Sixth Form, but there is still a Fifth Form Prefects' System, consisting of 48 pupils. They are voted for by both staff and pupils and

their duties are similar to those at Normanton. The prefects also form the School Council which meets once a term to sort out minor problems and complaints. They also organise and host Christmas and community activities.

The catchment area is very mixed, ranging from Sandal to Portobello, Crigglestone, Hall Green, Durkar and Woolley Edge. To introduce new first year pupils to the school, they are visited first in their Middle Schools by the first-year tutors. They also meet at social events, such as football matches, and at the end of the summer term they visit the school and are shown around by former pupils of their Middle Schools.

Mr. Athey feels that in Grammar Schools, most pupils come after passing the 11+ examination and are orientated to high academic work when there is no guarantee that they can maintain this standard for five years. The Comprehensive system offers a wider choice of subjects and a good social mixture. Sometimes, in Comprehensive Schools, the inadequacy of staff resources proves a handicap and the pupil/teacher ratio is often unsatisfactory. Mr. Athey believed that academic standards varied from year to year and, like Mr. Boisefield, felt that truancy was a problem caused by size of school rather than type. The ultimate deterrent for misdemeanours was the cane, but it is only used in extreme cases of bad behaviour and bullying, which is uncommon.

We felt that Mr. Athey was very involved with the community outside his school as well as inside it. There is a high degree of personal involvement amongst senior staff with problem children, in an attempt to discover, understand and help home circumstances. Parental involvement in the school is high and is encouraged. In conclusion, Mr. Athey summed up his school's aim as being to offer a sound education to all pupils and to treat everyone as an individual.

After taking five false turnings, we arrived at Castleford High School, where there are 1,350 pupils aged 12 -18, with 300 in each year. The size of the school causes problems and, because of the split sites, people do not get to know each other. The school went comprehensive in 1970, but it was badly arranged with temporary classrooms. Now the school has 22 buildings, spread over three sites ; a twelve-year-old girl we spoke to in the Lower School did not know where the Headmaster's room was and couldn't recall his name. This is an inevitable problem arising from such a layout. To solve truancy problems created by the layout of the school, spot checks were taken in classes, and this reduced the truancy rate.

With a large choice of subjects at C.S.E. and G.C.E. levels, there are compulsory careers lessons from the Third Year onwards, to help pupils make their choices. An open Sixth Form exists, with 40 pupils, and all pupils in the Upper Sixth are prefects. As with Otley and Kettlethorpe, a School Council exists, with elected representatives, who meet with Staff, the Headmaster and his Deputy, to iron out minor problems like meals and dress.

The students at Castleford do an outstanding amount of community work : 150 pupils, each week, help with "Meals on Wheels" at nurseries and hospitals,

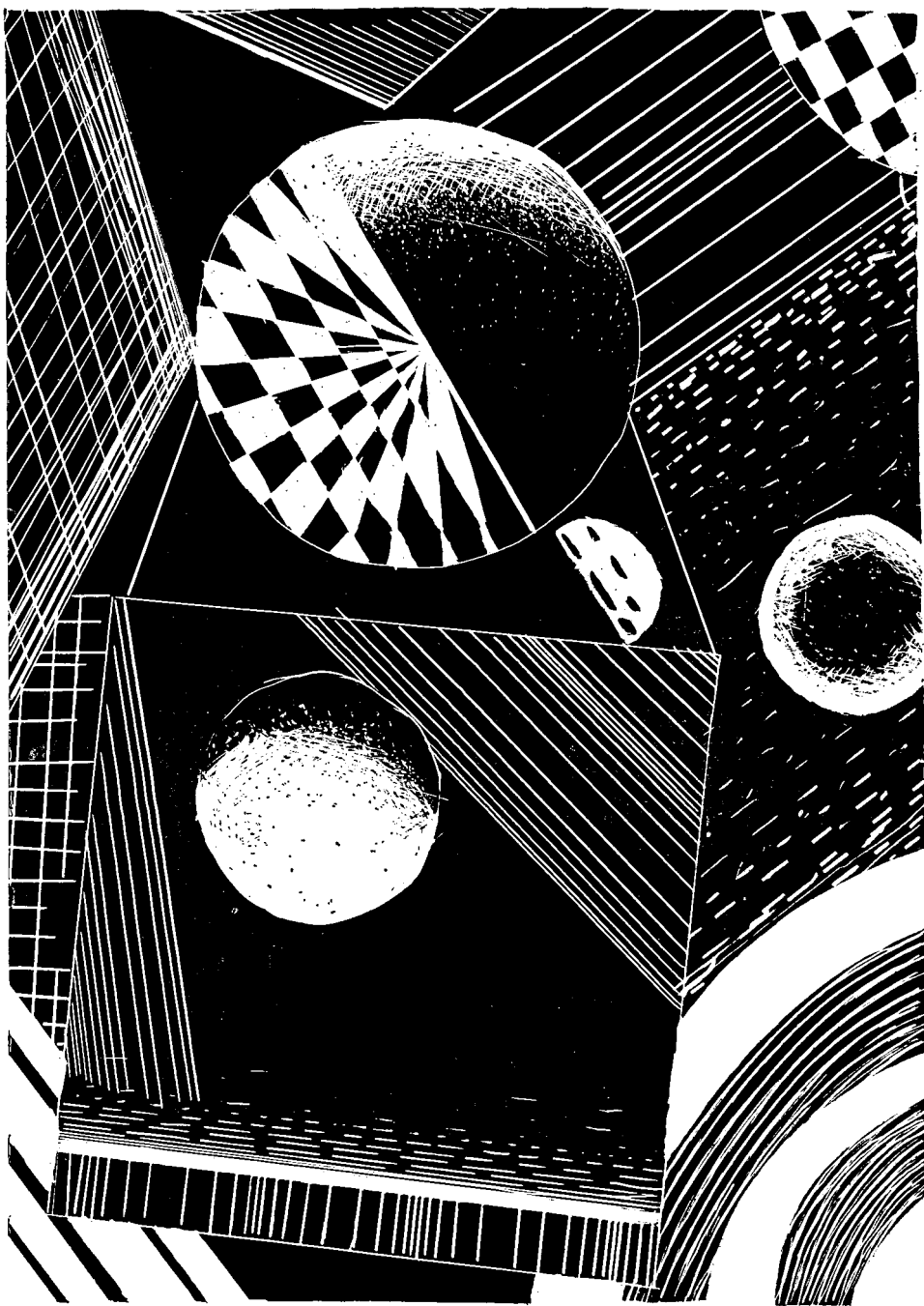
which are connected with C.S.E. Community Studies, and voluntary out-of-school activities are popular. Mr. Hughes summed up his school's aim as being to provide an equal opportunity for all the pupils to fulfil themselves to the best of their abilities. We are particularly grateful to him for agreeing to meet us so soon after his spell in hospital.

We would like to thank all three Headmasters for their co-operation at a busy time of the year, and for the time they gave up to talk to us.

SUMMER '77

All was quiet.
It was a transition.
They'd all gone.
But soon, soon, others would come,
Younger, but the same,
Noisy, boisterous, feminine, refined.
It stood waiting,
Its old life ended, its new to begin,
Waiting for them
To breathe life into it.
Six short weeks of rest and then —
New faces, old troubles
New voices, same words.
Soon it will become
The Comprehensive School
Not comprehending what
Is happening to it.
Maybe not caring.

Richard Ambler, Fourth Year.



"PLANETS"

Carol Sweeting, Third Year.

REPORTS, REVIEWS AND ACTIVITIES

LEARNING (the hard way) TO BE FREE

On Monday afternoons, the Lower Sixth take part in a variety of 'optional activities', which are usually quite unconnected with their A-level courses. These range from Woodwork and Pottery, to the more unpredictable Drama (who can forget Graham Young's performance as a fruit-machine or Susan Lockwood as a militant shop steward in a garment factory?). Below, we print some of the experiences of adventurous members of the Lower Sixth :

Cookery: Brian Clark.

One Monday afternoon in September, I entered the Domestic Science room to see what my choice of cookery for the activities period had in store for me. The first thing I noticed was the large number of boys taking cookery, as we outnumbered the girls by about three to one. On the first afternoon, we could not do any cooking, and the best thing that happened was that we all received a free cup of tea or coffee (served by the girls). By the end of the period it had been decided that I would attempt to make an apple crumble the following Monday. The next week I returned with all my ingredients and set about the crumble. It was then that I discovered that I was no expert at peeling apples (even with a left-handed peeler, kindly provided by Mrs. Sisson). In fact, I took more skin off my hand than the apple. Somehow, by twenty-five to four, I managed to emerge from the room carrying one apple crumble. The top was rather one-sided, but all apple crumbles are the same when they're in a dish with custard on !

As the weeks went by I became more daring and went on to scones and other savoury snacks. The majority of these were rather nice (ask certain members of Mr. Williamson's Fifth Year science group, by whom I was frequently ambushed as I emerged from the Domestic Science room).

The lessons did provide the expected humorous incidents, and one of these occurred when I was making some scones. I didn't want many, and so only made half the quantity. Unfortunately, I mixed this with the normal quantity of liquid. The result was the sloppiest mess you ever saw, and I decided to throw it away. However, Ian James suggested that we tried to cook it in a spare oven — perhaps a revolutionary new dish might have been invented ! It was brought out of the oven half-an-hour later and covered with jam. The result was none too thrilling, although Duncan Hook did think it would go down well with a bottle of white wine. Much to our disappointment, Mrs. Sisson had none in stock.

One new recipe was created, however. This was Roy Moorby's "Jam Volcanoes". Any cook can make these. All you need to do is put three times the amount of jam in your jam tarts, and place them in a hot oven. The jam will soon overflow and make a nice sticky mess of your clean cooker. Roy's tarts, however, were restored to reasonable shape and size by the adept hand of Mrs. Sisson.

In conclusion, I think we all enjoyed trying our hand at cookery, and I would like to thank Mrs. Sisson for heroically putting up with us all.

Oil Painting: Kim Marshall and Susan Skidmore.

Feeling rather artistic, we opted for spending our time with the inimitable Mr. Robinson. Visualising ourselves as a new Van Gogh or Rembrandt, we rather sceptically entered the art room that first afternoon and placed ourselves inconspicuously at the back, only to be ordered to the front. We eagerly awaited the moment when we could begin daubing. Of course, it would have been ludicrous to commence our various masterpieces immediately, not even knowing which side of the specially prepared canvas paper to paint on, so we were treated to one of Mr. Robinson's famous lectures. By a quarter-past three, we were suitably equipped with a palette, brush, and a small piece of paper to "try out our ideas". What an experience that was ! By half-past three we were a blaze of orange, purple, green and yellow ; perhaps Cilia Black had us in mind when she "sang a rainbow". Sadly, our mini-masterpieces will go down in history as more abysmal failures.

There was worse to come. The following week, our tables carried even larger sheets of paper. Oh, the horror ! We had to incorporate our designs of the previous week into something on a grander scale. It is not as easy as you might think to reproduce a grey, squelchy mess. Still, we battled on, progressing from paint brush to roller and palette knife.

Altogether, oil painting proved an enjoyable experience, and we'd like to thank Mr. Robinson for his endless patience, and congratulate him on his very active imagination in actually distinguishing various objects in our numerous squiggles.

Woodwork: Karen Jones.

For my activity, I chose to do woodwork. When I went up to the woodwork room, I realised that I was the only girl doing woodwork ; quite a number of boys around me all seemed to know what they were supposed to be doing. I chose some wood, and decided to make a fish. I drew round the template, and then had to try to saw round the shape. The boys all seemed to be sawing square shapes to make boxes but, of course, I had to make things difficult and saw round curves. I then had to rasp and file the fish into shape — which I did after a couple of lessons. The boys had almost finished their boxes by the time I was sanding my fish down. After I had made sure my fish was completely smooth, I had to paint on some sanding sealer, and then two coats of varnish. Everyone else seemed to be making boxes — one a wall plaque, another a telephone box, another a case for some stereo speakers.

At last my fish was finished. The boys are still working on their boxes . . .

STAFFROOM INFORMATION

Since staff changes were last recorded, we have said goodbye to Mr. Palmer, who left at Christmas to become Head of Physics at Pontefract Girls' High School; Mrs. Herbert who left in May to devote more time to her family, and Mr. Machin, Head of Modern Languages, who retired at Easter, after thirty years of service. We would like to thank him for the time, effort and dedication he has shown,

and from ourselves and pupils before us, we offer him our warmest wishes for a long and happy retirement.

We have welcomed to the school Mrs. Jenkins, who trained at Coventry College ; she joins us from Queen's Boys' School, Wisbech, to teach R.I. She is an Elder of the United Reformed Church and an Associate of the Drama Board. Mrs. Turbet graduated from Bristol and Calgary (Canada) Universities, and trained at Bretton Hall. She has come from Leeds Girls' High School to teach English in the Upper School, and claims that her main hobby is marking. Mr. Fielder was at Royal Holloway College, London, and did research at Edinburgh. He has joined us from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Wakefield, to become Head of Mathematics. He says he plays bridge by inclination, and gardens through necessity. Mrs. Reed, who teaches English part-time, also qualified at Royal Holloway, and had a variety of jobs before joining us. She is a housewife, and also enjoys reading and attending concerts and the theatre. Mr. Hyde replaced Mr. Palmer for two terms, and has come from St. Edmund Hall, Oxford. He leaves us in July to begin a post-graduate teaching course.

The school also offers its congratulations and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Allen (formerly Mrs. Thompson), who were married at Easter.

Beverley Smith, Sixth Year.

THE SKI-ING HOLIDAY — SPRING 1977

Impressions of the holiday by Ian Dyson, Andrew Powers and Paul Wilkinson, of the Third Year:

"When we reached the Alps, the climb up a twisting, snowbound mountain road had us on the edge of our seats — at any moment there was the possibility of going over . . . When it came to the actual ski-ing, I can truly say that I have never enjoyed myself so much in my life. There was nothing to beat the speed and delight of racing across the white slopes on a hot, sunny day". (Paul)

"It was about a mile walk to a free chair lift which held two people. This lift took you about half-a-mile up the mountain — then there was a large hut which sold drinks and food. There was also a 'button lift', which is just a big, red plastic thing, like a button, fixed to a metal rope which works like a tape measure. When you want to sit on it, you just pull down the button and put it between your legs. One day we went right to the top of the mountain. It was so cold that my jeans froze". (Andrew)

"The highlight of the holiday was when Mr. Fairbanks and Mr. Gill took most of us up to the top of the mountain. But, unluckily, Stephen Short and myself were thrown from the drag lift by a bump in the ice — so, with the help of Mr. Gill, we had to cross to some trees, get on to a slope, and ski back down. I was very relieved to see the others on the beginners' slope". (Ian)

The unanimous verdict was that the holiday was a great success, although the continental-style breakfasts scored few marks of approval! Many thanks to all the staff who were involved.

SPEECH DAY, 1976

Speech Day was held on Thursday, July 22nd, 1976, in the Upper School Hall. The proceedings began with the school hymn, after which the Headmaster read his report. He began by referring to the loss of several valuable friends of the school and paid tribute to Mr. Pollard, a Governor of the School; Mr. H. Gott, a former Head of Chemistry, and to the great contribution to the life of the school made by Mrs. Joan Guy, whose sudden and tragic death had occurred on June 15th. In the academic field, the Fifth Year students had achieved a total of 761 Ordinary Level passes, and the Sixth Form 69 Advanced Level passes. He stressed the wide variety of cultural and sporting activities of the past year. The Christmas Occasion, Arts Festival, Dr. Barnardo's Day, the many school clubs and societies, the Voluntary Service of the Sixth Form, the Games and Athletics successes — all were part of the rich pattern of life of the school. He mentioned that since no more students were coming to the school from Royston, the Royston Parents' Association had presented a trophy to the school, to be known as the 'Royston Shield'.

In conclusion, the Headmaster stressed that education offers the opportunity for a life of quality.

The Chairman of the Governors, Mr. Maurice Smith, in his report praised the high standard achieved by the School. After touching on the changes that re-organisation would bring, he praised the Governors for their interest in, and support for, the school. Normanton Grammar School had always been, and in the new form would continue to be, a progressive school.

Our guest speaker was Mr. W. M. Eaton, Director of the North Yorkshire Area of the National Coal Board and in charge of the Selby Coalfield development. He began in jocular vein, expressing his hope that the new school boiler would be coal-fired. It was unusual for him to have a passive audience who were not likely to argue with him or answer back. He appealed to young people to put more into life than they took out. There were tremendous opportunities awaiting enterprising young people in industry. The success of industry would put the Country back on its feet again.

Our Speech Day 1976, was as good as its predecessors but it was sad to reflect that this might be the last of the "grand occasions". The evening served to remind us that we must see to it that we take all that is best in the Grammar School into the new Normanton High School.

Mr. A. R. Long.

FOUNDER'S DAY SERVICE, 1976

In the final year in the life of Normanton Grammar School, it seemed particularly appropriate to be holding the annual service of thanksgiving and remembrance for the founder, John Freston. We were privileged to have Dr. Eric Treacey, the then Bishop of Wakefield, to address us. This was one of Dr. Treacey's last engagements, as he retired at the end of October, 1976, after a long and distinguished association with the West Riding, and with Wakefield in particular. We wish him and Mrs. Treacey a long and happy retirement in the Lake District.

The Bishop's theme was how education must teach us to reject the cheap and superficially attractive values of the mass media, and provide us with enduring standards and a commitment to the world about us. We must see the world outside school as a challenge and not be lulled into apathy and indifference by our own immediate needs.

The tradition of the service is a fitting start to each new school year, and a reminder of how much we owe to the early benefactors of education.

Mrs. L. Turbet.

THE CHRISTMAS OCCASION, 1976

The Christmas Occasion, 1976, held in the Parish Church of Normanton, provided an enjoyable evening for all who attended — participants and audience alike.

The service, the theme of which, this year, was "The Symbols of Christmas", made an impressive start with a very effective rendition by candle-light of 'Before All Things Was God', performed by Sixth Form students.

The following programme included a number of Bible readings and poems, including, in my opinion, three outstanding ones : "Lord, I can't sleep", "Hate is a Disease" and "Hope".

Both the Senior and Junior Choirs were in fine voice and the audience joined in the congregational carols with great enthusiasm. The Church was beautifully decorated for the occasion and filled with a capacity audience. An immense amount of hard work had obviously gone into this most enjoyable evening and our thanks are due to all the staff and students who helped to make it such a success.

Beverley Howgate, Sixth Form.

THE SPRING CONCERT and 'ERNIE'S INCREDIBLE ILLUCINATIONS'

The entire cast of the play "Ernie's Incredible Illucinations", all from the Lower School, deserves to give itself a 'giant pat on the back' for its excellent performance.

The play gave a lively and entertaining beginning to the Spring Concert. The young actors appeared to enjoy performing in the play as much as their audience evidently enjoyed watching it.

For those of you who missed the Spring Concert, the story of the play was of a boy who "imagined things". However, the main difference between this boy and the thousand others who "imagine things" is that his day-dreams became reality.

The cast of the play was extremely large but, thanks to the direction of Mrs. Hatton and Mrs. Turbet, not to forget Kevin Grayson, the play moved smoothly and without interruption. With a cast of such a size it is very difficult to pick out individuals, but some deserve special mention.

Nigel Abbot, as Ernie, gave a very confident performance. He had the right degree of 'cheek' (I do not know whether it came naturally or through his acting!) to capture the character of Ernie exactly. His diction was clear and he portrayed the character with flair. Fay Bayliss and Paul Wilkinson made a perfect couple in the Mum and Dad. They created the correct type of comedy for the play and the traces of Harold Wilson which could be seen, vaguely, in Paul's characterization (I think it was the pipe that did it!) must have helped this along.

However, the person who captured my attention most was Susan Gaw as Auntie May. She gave an excellent performance, quite impossible to forget. The sight of her, as a frail old woman, unmercifully beating Kid Saracen, was very funny. The Boxing Match was carefully rehearsed and very realistic.

After the interval it was time for the musicians to make the second half of the evening as entertaining as the first.

The Junior Choir gave us a very lively beginning to the music section with their interpretation of the pop cantata "Holy Moses". The Choir consisted of the entire second year, conducted by Mrs. Schofield. The choice of "Holy Moses" was very good because each piece provided a contrast. However, some people may say that the pop cantata went on a little too long but, nevertheless, it was a very competent performance. The arrangement was very good, especially with Marlyn Howes and Lee Thompson on the guitar which gave an extra dimension to the sound.

The short piano duet, "Petit mari, petit homme", played by Andrea Barker and Andrew Parkes was extremely well executed, and the bassoon solo "Rondo", which followed, played by James Taylor, was quite an 'ear opener' to me. I never realized the bassoon could sound so melodious. James really showed the full potential of the instrument.

Melanie Ford's solo was sung, as one would expect, in a very professional way. She sang "The Pipes of Pan" by Monckton. Her voice was crisp and clear and the song was a very appropriate choice for Melanie's voice.

Wendy Teasedale played "Fantasiestucke" on the clarinet. The piece was difficult, and the clarinet is an awkward instrument to play, but Wendy gave a very competent performance.

Brenda Morton followed with the song "Gavotte" by Howells. In certain parts her nervousness showed but she tried very hard to overcome it, and still gave a very creditable performance.

The Instrumental Ensemble gave a lively interpretation of "Alexander's Ragtime Band" arranged by Jonathan Willis. This piece was very enjoyable and I am sure that most of the audience in no time at all was happily humming away to the tune.

Katherine Pearson played a demanding piano solo, "Toccata" by Khatchaturian, with great polish. Her forceful and confident playing is a delight.

The Concert Band concluded by playing the stirring Grand March from "Aida", which was warmly appreciated by the audience. The evening ended with all the verve and energy with which it began.

Susan Cotton and Susan Lockwood, Sixth Year.

“PIRATES OF PENZANCE”

Having become accustomed to Mrs. Allen arriving bleary-eyed and yawning for our English lessons, we were becoming increasingly interested in the progress of the latest opera. As the opening night came nearer, Mrs. Allen's sleepless nights increased and we were all becoming quite concerned for her state of health. It was obvious she was very nervous and felt the responsibility that she bore in having to live up to the standards set by the previous producer, Mr. Hadfield. However, I think she undoubtedly maintained those standards, despite her fears to the contrary. From previous experience of involvement in the opera, I feel sure that Mr. Coar was his usual calm self!

I had heard that the opening night performance did not live up to expectation. But, by Thursday evening, when my family and I had a chance to see for ourselves, we had a very enjoyable evening. On that evening there were three junior school parties in the audience who behaved extremely well but it is a compliment to the production team that they were able to sustain their interest and enjoyment.

The plot is typical of Gilbert's work and concerned the fortunes of a young boy, Frederic, humorously played by Kevin Grayson, who is mistakenly apprenticed to a *pirate* instead of a *pilot*. Upon the completion of his apprenticeship he wishes to leave the pirate band. Unfortunately, it is discovered that he was born on February 29th in a leap year, he is not 21, but 5¼ years old, and his indentures state that he must stay until his 21st birthday. Romantic interest is provided when the pirates come ashore and meet the large family of sisters living in Penzance with their father, the Major General, played by Michael Webber. The pirates deceive the Major General by telling him they were all orphans, thereby escaping the penalties of their piracy. They also find this useful in trying to win the affections of his daughters. The ups-and-downs of stage romance follow, which culminate in a happy and satisfactory conclusion.

The four sisters, played by Brenda Morton, Gillian Sykes, Janette Cooper and Melanie Ford, all played their parts charmingly and it would be unfair to single out anyone, other than to say that Melanie had the hardest task, since it was her debut in a school production. Her lack of experience was not obvious. Linda Jackson, who played the part of Ruth, Frederic's old nurse, had the difficult task of portraying someone very much older than herself. She showed great imagination and understanding in her portrayal of the character.

The male roles were generally convincing. The Major General posed similar problems for Michael Webber to those Linda had to face, and these he tackled more than adequately. Richard Marsh's portrayal of the pirate king was outstanding. He looked and acted the part most impressively, despite his struggle to overcome the nervousness which, I am told, was his chief problem.

Comedy is always difficult to handle in amateur productions. (Members of the Sixth Form who saw the production of “The Rivals” in Leeds last February will, I am sure, agree). But Michael Masters, as the police sergeant, and his assorted policemen, were very good and had no trouble in winning responsive laughter from the audience. The principals were supported by a chorus, consisting of pirates and sisters, who provided a colourful and cheerful prospect. They sang with enthusiasm and energy, and danced with creditable grace. No doubt, all the cast benefitted tremendously from the lovely costumes hired from William Mutrie and Son of Edinburgh. Their safe arrival at school is testimony to the

adventuring spirit of both Mr. Coar and Mrs. Allen, who wrestled with the hired van to make a special delivery at great personal risk.

It is easy to take the work of the orchestra and musical director, Mr. Coar, for granted, as we are so used to their high standard of performance. Great credit is due to the more junior members, some only in their second year at school, in that the high standard was maintained. We are fortunate in having the continued leadership of the orchestra by Mr. T. Wilkinson.

No production can be wholly to the credit of individuals; indeed, much of the value of school productions is in the element of team work. This includes all the back room 'persons' from the ushers and refreshment servers to the more obvious contributions such as lighting, scenery design and make-up. I thank every one of them on behalf of all the people who attended, for a very pleasant evening.

Marion West, Sixth Year.

FRESTON FOUNDATION RECITAL

For this year's Freston Foundation recital, the school was privileged to welcome the Yorkshire Baroque Soloists. The group permutes its personnel to provide anything from a chamber orchestra with chorus, to the quartet who visited the school. The two singers and two instrumentalists gave the audience a delightful programme of songs, readings and sonatas entitled "Music in 18th Century London".

Nicholas McGegan, the flautist and a compere of effervescent informality, set the tone for the evening with a Solo in D minor by the blind English composer, John Stanley. The instrument was a wooden baroque flute, looking much like a recorder held transversely. Its tone had more impact than a recorder but was mellower than the modern flute. Mr. McGegan played faultlessly and with great sensitivity. His distinguished harpsichord accompanist and, indeed, everyone else's accompanist during the evening, was the erstwhile organist of Selby Abbey, Peter Seymour.

Next, after a short reading from a play suspiciously entitled "The Wonder, or. The Honest Yorkshireman", we were introduced to the two singers in an anonymous duet, "London is a Fine Town". Yvonne Seymour, the soprano, and Mr. Seymour's wife, sang with a most pleasing tone throughout the evening. Stephen Varcoe, baritone, has already had an illustrious career as a choral scholar at King's College, Cambridge, and as a member of The Scholars, before embarking on a solo career. His rich and resonant voice made everything he performed a delight.

The rest of the first half revolved around Handel. One item, "Ombra mai fu", was revealed, after an unfamiliar introductory recitative, as what is better known as Handel's Largo. Here, stripped of its usual trappings of shimmering strings and wobbly soprano, it was presented with moving simplicity by Mr. Varcoe, accompanied by harpsichord continuo and flute obligato.

The second half of the programme took us from the baroque to the classical period. It began with a group of songs by the English composers, Boyce, Arne and Chilcot, the last represented by "Orpheus with his Lute", ravishingly sung by Mrs. Seymour to an apt accompaniment by her husband on the harpsichord's lute stop. Mozart's astounding precocity was illustrated when Mr. McGegan joined Mr. Seymour at the keyboard to play, lightheartedly, a Rondo in C, written at the age of seven.

The evening's most distinguished music came with four songs to English texts by Haydn and, all too soon, the Ensemble was performing the final number, Henry Harrington's "An Hymn to Sleep". None could fail to sleep contented after such a satisfying evening.

LIBRARY REPORT

There is little to report in the way of changes in the libraries this year. The Lower School library flourishes under the guidance of Mrs. White, whose displays and exhibitions are a source of interest to staff as well as students. The attractive presentation of craft work done mainly by First and Second Year Pupils, adds to the warm, industrious atmosphere which makes the library a pleasure to visit.

Good use is also made of the Upper School library but there must be many students who never venture near it. I am, of course, always pleased to see the 'regulars' but hope that next year more students will enter its doors and make use of the opportunity for quiet study.

Generous and valuable assistance has been given this year by Mrs. Hatton, Mr. Coar and several members of the Fifth Year. I should like to thank Julie Green and Louise Colletta, in particular, for their work with newspapers, magazines and the subsequent accounts. Their efficiency and devotion to duty has rescued me from many a muddle. I am also grateful to the prefects for giving up their time to do short duties. Though not always punctual, they have never grumbled, at least not to me.

Next year I am looking forward to a larger library and many new books. May I thank, in anticipation, those students who have offered to help me with the change-over, who will, I'm sure, make the new library as valuable a place as it has proved to be this year.

Mrs. S. Allen.

RAILWAY ENTHUSIASTS' SOCIETY

The society began after the Spring half-term when, after several weeks of prompting from younger members of the school, I finally summoned up the courage to go and ask the Headmaster if I could have permission to start a new society. This was willingly given, on condition that we found a member of staff to supervise our 'goings-on'.

After several consultations we found that Mr. Robinson would be pleased to help, and he has given us several insights into the old steam days at one of

the biggest railway centres in Britain — Normanton. Surprisingly, it still has a lot of railway traffic.

We meet on Tuesday evenings after school, with 12— 15 members. Meetings consist of talks, swapping information, and looking at slides, photographs, books and objects of railway interest. Visits to Crewe locomotive workshops and other railway establishments are planned for the future.

Special thanks are due to David Whitworth and Andrew Webley, who help to organise the society. New members are welcome, whether new enthusiasts or old established fanatics.

Robert Fitton, Sixth Year.

CHESSE CLUB

Under new management, the chess club continues to flourish but, despite being favourites to win the Wakefield Schools' League, we only finished runners-up. However, we are very grateful to Mr. Fielder for his help and encouragement. Next year, the prospects look brighter, with the phasing out of the old guard, namely 'Grand Masters' Marsh and Mitchell (who seem to have been in the side since John Freston was captain !).

In the Jamboree, at Wakefield, we seemed destined to win at least one trophy but, alas, 'Lady Luck' did not agree, and we finished second again. Under the captaincy of Glenn Sherwood, next year, we may even — dare I say it — win something.

The team was selected from : A. Mitchell, R. Marsh, G. Sherwood, A. Sergeant, B. Clark, D. Jubb, C. Mitchell, C. Ferguson, C. Pysden, R. Moorby and I. Ellam':

Results :

(A)	Q.E.G.S.	6 — 2	W.
(H)	Ackworth	7½ — ½	W.
(H)	St. Wilfrid's	4½ — 3½	W.
(H)	Ossett	4 — 4	D.
(H)	Airedale	6 — 2	W.
(A)	Pontefract Boys	5 — 3	W.
(A)	Silcoates	5 — 3	W.
(A)	Kings, Pontefract	2 — 6	L.

Played 8 / Won 6 / Lost 1 / Drawn 1.

A. Mitchell and R. Marsh, Sixth Year.

SPORT

Results and Team Reports 1976-1977

1st XV

RECORD : P—18, Won—14, L—4, D—0.

Points for : 432 — Points against: 113.

TEAM from : A. Hughes (Capt.); M. Guiver, M. Dyson, P. Arandle, B. Barley, D. Hastings, G. Robinson, P. Kerton, M. Craig, A. Wood, R. Moorby, D. Machin, P. Earnshaw, G. Walker, I. Ellam, K. Chelton, A. Moore, B. Clark, T. Pell, G. Wilson, C. Grinsill.

The 1st XV have, once again, had a successful season, winning 14 of their matches and scoring 413 points to 113 against. The side has been led most ably this season by Alan Hughes, whose enthusiasm and high standard of play has contributed greatly to the marvellous team spirit that built up over the year.

The outstanding feature of the 1976/77 side has been the way in which each member has given 100% effort and played as a team for each other.

The forwards, although sometimes finding difficulty in the set pieces through lack of size, made up in other phases of the game. Chelton, Walker and Moorby performed splendidly in the ruck and mauls, where much of the real graft takes place, and in Ellam, the side had a hooker with the ball handling skills of a back. Machin and Craig were, however, the key figures in the pack, both strong and fast around the field, with the ability to beat a man. Earnshaw and Pell played with great enthusiasm and will have important parts to play next year.

At half back, Hughes and Robinson made an effective pair. Hughes' play around the scrum and his ability to get the ball away under pressure gave Robinson the space he needed to control and dictate the game, which he did admirably. In the centre, Barley and Arandle were a formidable pair, in attack and defence. On the wings, the team had great finishing power in Wood and Dyson. Both had a good season. Guiver had a sound season at full back once he had learnt more about this new position, and some of his fearless tackling was outstanding.

Grinsill, Hastings and Kerton were reliable replacements in the event of injury.

Congratulations to Barley and Dyson on making the Yorkshire team.

The first four matches, against St. Michael's, Morley, Thomes and Wath, proved rather too easy, with the team piling up 152 points against 24. Then came the crunch, at Doncaster, whom they lost against 13-12, in a game which should have been won easily, even though the narrow pitch did not suit our style of play.

King's Pontefract was well beaten 52 - 3, as was Brinkburn 26 -9. Hemsworth gave us a very close game and the result was in the balance until the last five minutes when Hughes kicked a penalty and Barley scored a try to make the final score 9 - 3.

In the lead-up to Christmas the team really started to play well, and West Park, Roundhay, Ermysted's and Rodillian proved no match for us. The term concluded with the Old Frestonian match which, although played hard, was played in a fine spirit. School came out on top 14-13 in a most enjoyable spectacle of rugby.

The Christmas holidays and cancelled matches meant a six-week lay-off before the next match, against Hipperholme. The long break had a detrimental effect on the play and Hipperholme won 4 - 3 in a game where they took their chances and we didn't.

The next two games were played with grave injury problems. Robinson, Barley and Dyson were out for the De La Salle game which, after leading for much of the time, we lost 4-14. Against Macclesfield, full-back Guiver badly damaged his cartilage and ligaments in his knee, and had to be taken off after ten minutes. Macclesfield went on to win 7-12.

The season was completed with two wins over Pinner and John Smeaton, 18-0 and 15-3 respectively.

Results :

St. Michaels	Won	54 - 6
Morley	Won	28 - 9
Thome	Won	26 - 3
Wath	Won	44 - 6
Doncaster	Lost	12 - 13
Kings - Pontefract	Won	52 - 3
Brinkburn	Won	26 - 9
Hemsworth	Won	9 - 3
West Park	Won	28 - 12
Roundhay	Won	20 - 3
Ermysted's	Won	40 - 0
Rodillian	Won	30 - 0
Old Frestonians	Won	14 - 13
Hipperholme	Lost	3 - 4
De La Salle	Lost	4 - 14
Macclesfield	Lost	7 - 12
Pinner	Won	18 - 0
John Smeaton	Won	15 - 3

SEVEN-A-SIDE RUGBY

The team completed the season with an impressive "sevens" record of played six and won five.

The first two tournaments were at the beginning of the season at Pontefract and Manchester Grammar. School came back from behind in the semi-final against West Park, at Pontefract, to win the tournament 12-0 against Roundhay for the first time.

The final at Manchester was against Cowley and displayed all the courage and determination that has been so prominent this year. At half-time, the team

was down 12-0 — we kicked off to them. Cowley scored again straight from this kick-off to make the score 16-0 with only eight minutes to go. Gradually, the lead was reduced, until eventually Barley scored the winning try with fifteen seconds remaining.

The Middlesex “sevens” brought Normanton and Sherborne together in the semi-final, which was a repeat of last year’s final, won by Normanton. Sherborne were all out for revenge, but Normanton won through to the final against Haberdashers’, whom they beat convincingly.

Rosslyn Park “sevens” was the big one which everyone wanted to win. However, this was not to be. We managed to get to the last sixteen before losing to King’s, Macclesfield, who went on to the final.

The Hipperholme “sevens” was won convincingly, with gratifying wins over Queen Elizabeth’s Grammar School, Wakefield in the semi-final (24 - 3), and Leeds Grammar School in the final (28-10).

The last tournament of the season was Ilkley, and the team played some exhibition “sevens”, much to the delight of the vociferous supporters. This was a fine display of rugby and, with Normanton playing in this fashion, Roundhay proved little trouble in the final.

TEAM from : G. Robinson (Capt.), A. Hughes, D. Machin, M. Craig, I. Ellam,
M. Dyson, B. Barley, P. Arandle, A. Wood, R. Moorby.

Mr. J. Gill.

2nd XV

TEAM and Appearances :

Wood (16); Adams (15); Chilton (15); Sergeant (15); Cowell (14);
Moore (14) ; Webber (14) ; Lowe (13) ; Slack (13) ; Oakley (11);
Pell (11); Clark (9); Daley, G. (9); Wilson (8); Smart (7); James (6);
Mitchell (6); Deakin (5); Sherwood (5); Finnerty (4); Grinsill (4);
Walker (4); Hall (3); Hook (3); Hastings (2); Kerton (2); Kew (2);
Young (2); Chalkley (1); Daley, R. (1); Frost (1); Sharp (1);
Ward (1).

It has been a mixed season for the 2nd XV and not as unsuccessful as might at first appear. In practical terms, the season really ended in the middle of November, for it was over two months before another game was played and then two further weeks before a short burst of three games in ten days. The reasons for this were a combination of unfit pitches and dishonoured fixtures and the results were dispiriting and frustrating for the players — continually selected but never performing. Up to November the team had won more games than it had lost and a number of close results had produced some entertaining games. The Fifth Year have provided the majority of the team and they are to be congratulated on the way they have stuck to their task in spite of competing against older and physically stronger opposition. Hopefully, this experience will be useful to them in the future.

Wood, Slack and Lowe have been consistent performers in the threequarter line with a variety of players taking the other wing position, and they were joined by Clark and Sherwood towards the end of the season. Adams took the full-back position in the first half of the season before moving to the forwards and Sergeant played fourteen games at scrum-half. The problem position has been at sland-off which has been variously filled by Deakin, Frost, Wood, Grinsill and Cowell.

Grinsill's success in the role lifted him almost immediately into the first team and Cowell was only 'discovered' at the end of the season, having previously hidden in the number two shirt. The forwards have played well throughout and have always made a big contribution to the victories. Pell played too well and was soon lost to the first team but consistent performances were given by Webber and Oakley at prop, Chilton and Daley, G., in the second row and Moore, Wilson and Smart as loose forwards. Cowell hooked very efficiently until his transfer, when the job was taken over by Mitchell. The captaincy has moved about on account of absence and injury with Oakley fulfilling the role vociferously for most of the early games, followed by the more subtle approach of Clark towards the end.

In spite of cancelled fixtures and a few heavy defeats, the majority of the games have been enjoyable to all participants and it has been reassuring to know that no matter how many of the regular players have been unavailable, there have always been others prepared to play to ensure a full team. For this reason, all the thirty-three players who have participated this season have made a valuable contribution to the team.

Mr. A. Finch.

Results :

Garforth 1st	H	Lost	3 - 16
Thorne	A	Lost	0 - 6
Ossett	H	Won	29 - 6
Wath	H	Won	46 - 0
Doncaster	A	Lost	0 - 24
Willowgarth	H	Won	16 - 9
King's Pontefract	H	Drew	4 - 4
Brinkburn	H	Won	10 - 8
Hemsworth	A	Won	11 - 10
West Park	H	Lost	0 - 40
Roundhay	H	Lost	3 - 4
Ermysted's	H	Won	31 - 6
Hipperholme	A	Lost	8 - 51
De La Salle	H	Lost	0 - 56
Macclesfield	A	Lost	0 - 34
Pinner	H	Won	10 - 0

P 16 / Won 7 / Lost 8 / Drawn 1 / For 171 / Against 268.

COLTS XV 1976-77

All would agree that this season has been a disaster. To make excuses would be the easiest solution, indeed the few numbers of players available, the large number of cancellations and the diminutive size of the team in comparison with the opposition have all played their part. Too often though, the fault lay in the lack of determination and willingness to make the extra effort when necessary. It is no good turning up only if Leeds happen to have no fixture or because it is a fine day. There is no compulsion to play and a word at the right time would give the rest of the side the opportunity to find other players rather than be faced with a man short on Saturday morning.

Having said this, there are a number of players who have stood out for their dedication and ability in very adverse circumstances. In particular, I would like to thank Roy Oakley for the very good job he has done as captain and also Mark Walker who was, probably, the most improved player in the side and

was very unfortunate to be injured at the end of the season.

The record speaks for itself and it would be wrong to say any more. We can only hope that the people who have contributed so much receive a better reward for their efforts in the future.

Mr. P. Allen.

UNDER-14 XV

Captains: L. Thompson, S. Bayliss.

TEAM from : L. Thompson, S. Bayliss, C. Schofield, I. Dyson, B. Smith, P. Wilkinson, A. Coney, P. Dukes, A. Golding, G. Cowell, G. Hampshire, D. Crawshaw, C. Lowe, S. Brown, S. Preece, A. Birkby, D. Lowe, C. Walker, J. Williamson, M. Stephens, T. Shepherd, M. Golding.

Despite the loss of five players through injury or desire to play soccer, this has been the most successful of the school's rugby fifteens this season.

They have been ably led by Lee Thompson and Stephen Bayliss, two knowledgeable and capable rugby footballers. Lee, particularly, has used his voice to good effect in urging on his team, even if, in the process, one became worried at times lest he should swallow his gumshield ! Besides Lee, others qualifying for the 'most ugly player of the year' award were Stephen Brown and Bernard Smith !

However, these two were, without doubt, the outstanding members of the team. Both were very enthusiastic, always at training, revelling in their Saturday rugby and keen to improve. Bernard's form has been particularly pleasing. He had an indifferent season last year when he played on the wing. This year, he started at full-back and has never looked back. His confidence has come to match his ability. The taking of a pass on the burst as he joins his threes, the long speedy strike and the ability to go round a man have been a joy to watch. Stephen has also gained much more confidence this year and this has improved his work rate and willingness to run straight at the opposition in loose play, instead of sideways as he did last year. His strength and height in the line have also been invaluable.

Other players who have had a very good season include Chris Schofield and Chris Lowe with forceful wing play; prop forward David Lowe who has really gone from strength to strength in his first season of rugby ; Gary Cowell, hooker extraordinary, who always makes sure the side receives ample scrum ball. Gary and also Drew Crawshaw are two players who, though not physically suited for rugby, play enthusiastically week after week, take plenty of knocks yet come up smiling — great for team spirit. Drew, incidently, proved a very adequate replacement for Gary when he missed matches through injury. We are sorry to have not had John Williamson's services this year and hope that his knee injury clears up in time for next season. Also, best wishes for the future to Paul Jukes, our utility player, who is leaving the school. Paul, a strong tackler and runner, will be sorely missed on the field next year, as will his cheerful attitude off the field.

However, it is perhaps unfair to single out individuals because, above all, I have been very pleased with the performance of the side as a team. They have played together as a unit, worked well for each other and showed good team spirit.

The main deficiency of the side last year — centre threequarter play, has been much improved this year with Andrew Coney and Ian Dyson occupying the positions capably and ensuring ample ball for our wingers.

The big disappointment of the season was, of course, the game at St. Helens where we hoped to reverse a one-point defeat of last season. Unfortunately, the elements were against us. A very wet November morning meant that the team

who made fewest mistakes would probably win and this proved the case. Our back play could have won the game if we had mastered the conditions as we were much superior to the opposition in this respect. Unfortunately, we made handling errors in the mud. From two of these, the opposition kicked ahead towards our line, the ball was cleared dead but from the resultant five-yard scrum the opposition No. 8, big and strong, forced his way over, revealing perhaps weaknesses in the back row covering and tackling.

Other close games during the season were against Airedale, a fast, skilful handling outfit; and the last two fixtures against Macclesfield and Huntington. Macclesfield was magnificent. Stung by reverses over the Pennines in the last two years, the team was determined to inflict defeat on their Cheshire opponents, who had been beaten only once in three years. The side rose to the occasion tremendously, with every player giving all. Credit in this game to Ian Dyson, who saw a gap in the opposition three-quarter line and went through for a try under the posts, the only one of the match. Huntington were unexpectedly big and powerful and we were mentally not prepared for such a tough fixture. We played badly and would have been beaten if the opposition had played better as a team and less as individuals. However, Andrew Golding, playing at scrum-half, rescued the side from defeat by slipping over from a five-yard scrum with only two minutes to go.

SEVENS: At Darton, we started magnificently against Kettlethorpe but became overconfident, careless and lost concentration so that we went out with a thoroughly undistinguished performance against Airedale. They, themselves, were to lose in the final against Willowgarth.

At Q.E.G.S., we started unconvincingly but, like last year, finished magnificently. A needless tendency to get caught in possession un-nerved our supporters on occasions whilst, against Bradford in the semi-final, we failed to cope very successfully with their kick and chase tactics. However, it was vintage rugby in the final which was very one-sided. The players can look back now on a notable double — the U13 trophy in 1975 and now the 1976 U14 trophy — congratulations to the following who participated in this year's event:

L. Thompson (Capt.), A. Golding, S. Bayliss, C. Lowe, C. Schofield, B. Smith, S. Brown, C. Walker, P. Jukes.

Mr. D. Fairbanks.

Results :

Garforth	.....	(A)	Won	46 - 6
Thorne	.....	(H)	Won	64 - 6
Wath	.....	(A)	Won	96 - 0
Darton	.....	(H)	Won	60 - 0
Willowgarth	.....	(H)	Won	24 - 6
King's Pontefract	.....	(A)	Won	43 - 4
Airedale	.....	(H)	Won	4 - 0
Hemsworth	.....	(H)	Won	70 - 0
West Park	.....	(A)	Lost	12 - 19
Roundhay	.....	(A)	Won	66 - 0
Skipton	.....	(H)	Won	52 - 0
Rodillians	.....	(A)	Won	20 - 13
Pontefract Sec.	.....	(A)	Won	58 - 0
Hipperholme	.....	(H)	Won	34 - 0
De La Salle	.....	(A)	Won	16 - 4
Macclesfield	.....	(H)	Won	6 - 0
Huntington	.....	(H)	Won	12 - 10

Record : P16 / W 15 / L1.

Darton 'Sevens': Kettlethorpe Won 34 - 0, Doncaster Won 10 - 0, Semi-final: Airedale Lost 14-6.

Q.E.G.S. 'Sevens': Bradford Won 10 - 6, Rodillian Won 12-0, Mount St. Mary's Won 14 - 6, Quarter-final: Morley Won 28 - 0, Semi-final: Bradford Won 10 - 9, Final: Woodhouse Grove Won 36 - 6.

UNDER-12 XV

TEAM : M. Hardcastle (Capt.), M. Vickers, D. Walton, P. Wilkinson, J. Spink, J. Cliffe, M. Squire, L. Cookson, R. Thornton, S. Parker, S. Turner, M. Sadler, M. Green, S. Buxton, S. Wormald, N. Abbott, D. Taylor, A. Slater, M. Keye, J. Barraclough.

With over thirty boys in the first year from which to pick a team, things were difficult from the start. In spite of being much smaller, physically, than all their opponents, the team did very well to win six of their matches.

The forwards worked very well as a unit to win a lot of the ball, particularly in the scrums, with M. Vickers, R. Thornton, M. Squire and J. Chffe being outstanding in the loose.

At half-back, M. Keye provided a very good service, and M. Hardcastle dictated games well with his kicking and distribution of passes. S. Wormald and A. Slater were capable of making strong runs in the centre but handling errors often let them down. D. Taylor was, by far, the strongest runner and he was also outstanding in defence. N. Abbott tackled very resolutely at full-back.

The highlights of the season were the wins over King's Pontefract and Arnold, Blackpool. 0 -14 down to Pontefract, we put them under severe pressure near their line in the second half to score the winning tries from their mistakes. The win at Arnold was just the opposite in that it was very constructive. The pack gave a wonderful service and the backs worked some delightful moves that brought the winning tries.

The boys in the squad have trained very hard and regularly, and all have been loyal to the side. From my point of view it has been very enjoyable looking after this team, and in the new Comprehensive school I shall certainly miss the keenness and enthusiasm that I have experienced this season from this age-group.

Mr. A. Jubb.

Results :

Garforth	.....	Lost	0 - 26
Airedale	.....	Lost	4 - 8
Ossett	.....	Won	14 - 0
Wath	.....	Lost	6 - 26
Darton	.....	Lost	8 - 36
Pontefract	.....	Won	18 - 14
Airedale	.....	Lost	12 - 29
West Park	.....	Lost	3 - 16
Armthorpe	.....	Won	33 - 0
Sowerby Bridge	.....	Won	13 - 0
Pontefract Sec.	.....	Lost	0 - 40
Beverley Sec.	.....	Lost	10 - 20
Hipperholme	.....	Lost	4 - 28
Benton Park	.....	Lost	0 - 40
De La Salle	.....	Won	28 - 8
Macclesfield	.....	Lost	4 - 18
Arnold	.....	Won	18 - 0
St. Joseph's	.....	Lost	0 - 10
St. Wilfrid's	.....	Lost	6 - 9

TABULATION OF CRICKET RESULTS

1st XI CRICKET

TEAM from : M. Smith (Capt.), S. Burnage, G. Deakin, I. Ellam, G. Howden, P. Kemp, C. Dix, P. Webb, G. Robinson, T. Gittens, R. Moorby, J. Burnage, M. Jennings, M. Nott, P. Morgan, T. Barker, B. Clarke.

Once again a magnificent summer, with blue skies and strong sun, encouraged plenty of interest in cricket. Following a very successful season last year, when the 1st XI lost only one match, the record, this year, was equally good. It was unfortunate that the first match was lost but it was very early in the season when bones and minds had not quite adjusted to the demands of England's greatest game.

Michael Smith, once again, led the side with fine leadership and character. He encouraged the younger players, criticised positively and always commanded the attention of his side. In batting, where he had a disappointing season, his most valuable contribution was against King's Pontefract, whilst in the matches against Danum and Pontefract he chipped in with four wickets, bowling his 'floaters'.

Gary Howden was the most successful batsman. He improved tremendously in technique, confidence and consistency after an uncertain start. However, he needs to develop his off side repertoire to give himself a complete range of shots, which is necessary to succeed in higher class cricket.

Stephen Burnage had an excellent season in his role as wicket-keeper but his batting was inconsistent, resulting from the usual lapses of concentration. His best innings were against Goole and Thomas Aquinas.

Paul Morgan had more opportunity this season and 31 and 36 against Danum and Thomas Aquinas respectively were his best knocks, the former being especially valuable because the failure of more recognised batsmen in chasing a total of 93, exposed Paul to an exacting situation where intelligence, concentration and 'character' was required.

Paul Webb, cheerful and chirpy, 'came good' late on in the season when he scored 43 against Lawnswood. His main fault was playing too many adventurous shots early in his innings.

Ian Ellam, with limited opportunity, had a very encouraging first season in the side but Roy Moorby was disappointing. However, Roy is very keen and enthusiastic and not without a good technique. I feel his dedication will bear fruit in the future.

The bowling was once again spearheaded by John Burnage and Paul Kemp, who have been a fine partnership in the last two years. John, with his pace and outswing, finished the season with great success on the hard wickets, whilst Paul's inswing bowling was more consistent with a particularly fine analysis of 5 for 13 against King's Pontefract. Gary Deakin emerged as a young, promising fast bowler who, next season, can expect to be hard worked. His performance of 6 for 17 against Sowerby Bridge was outstanding.

Most of the matches were played on the Dalefield wicket and it played very well considering the lack of rain during the summer. Much of the credit must go to our groundsman, Mr. B. Farrow, and I thank him on behalf of all the cricket

teams in the school. If only our fields could remain private and not public playing fields, his job would be much easier.

Colours awarded to : G. Howden.
Batting Trophy to : G. Howden.
Bowling Trophy to : P. Kemp.
All-Rounder Award to : M. Smith.

Mr. D. Fairbank.

UNDER-15 XI CRICKET

TEAM from : I. Frost (Capt.), J. Slack, D. Cowell, R. Kelly, M. Guiver,
M. Johnson, P. Smart, M. Chalkley, C. Mitchell, M. Carter, M. Masters,
A. Scholey, D. Henson, R. Archer, S. Jones.

The season, although not very successful, was enjoyed by all the team. The weather was excellent and there was no excuse for losing the matches we did. There was a lack of concentration in the field and many catches were dropped and runs lost. In some cases matches were lost because of bad fielding. The batting was normally unreliable but with concentration and confidence in themselves, the players would have produced higher scores.

Jeremy Slack and David Cowell proved to be good, accurate bowlers and Philip Smart, with his slow bowling, had a useful season. As stumper, Martin Guiver was very good and he was selected to play for the Yorkshire Schoolboys at Under-15 level. Mark Johnson was a more than capable replacement when Martin was not available.

I. Frost.

UNDER-13 XI CRICKET

A superficial look at the match analysis gives the impression of a disastrous season in terms of success. However, two matches, one against King's Pontefract, the other against Ossett, were lost by 5 runs and 7 runs respectively. If more had been won, the analysis would look far healthier.

The main cause of the lack of success was due to the failure of the batsmen to produce high enough totals for our bowlers to have some chance of bowling the other team out. Too often there were too few runs to play with. Walker, Cowell, Golding, Jukes and Chambers had their moments, but were never consistent. All the team must concentrate on defensive strokes if they are ever to produce consistently good scores.

The bowling was much more encouraging. Chambers had a good season, always dangerous and consistently accurate. Bennett was more erratic ; some matches he bowled very tightly, the next he would prove to be very expensive. Shepherd was an excellent first change bowler. Power also had a fair season but was inclined to be expensive, although he did produce two wickets. Simpson, our slow bowler, was hardly used because our totals did not allow him to be. However, when he did bowl, he bowled well and took that vital wicket.

In conclusion, when one looks back over the season, it was a good one. The lads enjoyed the cricket and there was always an excellent spirit. The playing of the game was the important thing, not winning; this attitude renders it enjoyable and worthwhile to be associated with a team.

Mr. L. Cook.

UNDER-12 CRICKET

Record: Played 8 / Won 1 / Lost 7.

TEAM from : M. Armstrong (Capt.), P. Carter, D. Austerbury, N. King,
A. Schofield, G. Gibbons, M. Williams, M. Scott, M. Wheatley, M. Illidge,
N. Moss, J. Jubb, L. Roberts, N. Smart, P. Joyce.

Taking the record on face value, one could say that this was not a particularly good season for the Under-12's. However, the record does not show the enthusiasm with which they played. Michael Armstrong led the team well and finished with the best bowling average. He did not, however, fulfil his potential with the bat and must learn to play shots and not try and hit the ball out of the ground every time. Inability to score runs was the team's general failing. Often the bowlers managed to dismiss the opposition for a reasonable score which should have proved no problem for the batsmen.

N. King proved a useful all-rounder, opening the bowling and batting first or second wicket down. P. Carter's bowling improved with each game and eventually ran Michael close in the bowling averages. J. Jubb completed the attack. If he can control his bowling rather more, next season should bring him more wickets.

In the batting, no one was outstanding, although D. Austerbury made one or two reasonable scores.

CRICKET RESULTS 1976

OSSETT:

1st XI: School 68-9 ; Opp. 71-2. Lost by 8 wickets.

Under-13 XI: Opp. 93-8, School 86 all out. Lost by 7 runs.

SOWERBY BRIDGE G.S. :

1st XI: School 83 all out., Opp. 45 all out. Won by 38 runs.

GOOLE G.S. :

1st XI: School 104-6 ; Opp. 66 all out. Won by 38 runs.

Under-15 XI: School 33 all out, Opp. 36-2. Lost by 8 wickets.

KING'S PONTEFRAC;

1st XI: School 111 all out, Opp. 36 all out. Won by 75 runs.

Under-15 XI: School 39 all out, Opp. 32 all out. Won by 7 runs.

Under-13 XI: (away) Opp. 37 all out. School 32 all out. Lost by 5 runs.

Under-13 XI: (home) School 38-7 ; Opp. 39-5. Lost by 5 wickets.

Under-12 XI: (away) Opp. 16 all out. School 17-1. Won by 9 wickets.

Under-12 XI: (home) School 38 all out, Opp. 42-2. Lost by 8 wickets.

DANUM G.S. :

1st XI: Opp. 93-8 ; School 95-6. Won by 4 wickets.

Under-15 XI: Opp. 120-5 ; School 57 all out. Lost by 63 runs.

Q.E.G.S. :

Under-15 XI : (away) Opp. 71-2 ; School 70-3. Lost by 8 wickets.
Under-15 XI : (home) School 53 all out, Opp. 54-3. Lost by 7 wickets.
Under-13 XI : (away) Opp. 108-7 ; School 22 all out. Lost by 86 runs.
Under-13 XI : (home) School 24 all out, Opp. 25-4. Lost by 6 wickets.
Under-12 XI : (away) Opp. 65-4 ; School 21 all out. Lost by 44 runs.
Under-12 XI : (home) School 72 all out, Opp. 107-5. Lost by 35 runs.

TEMPLE MOOR :

1st XI : Opp. 95 all out, School 96-5. Won by 5 wickets.
Under-15 XI : Opp. 13 all out, School 14-1. Won by 9 wickets.

THOMAS AQUINAS :

1st XI : School 168-8 ; Opp. 78 all out. Won by 90 runs.
Under-13 XI : Opp. 108 all out, School 88 all out. Lost by 20 runs.

NORMANTON S.S. :

Under-15 XI : Opp. 97-3 ; School 83-5. Lost by 14 runs.
Under-12 XI : (home 1) School 27 all out, Opp. 57-7. Lost by 30 runs.
Under-12 XI : (home 2) School 52 all out, Opp. 63-6. Lost by 11 runs.

LAWNSWOOD :

1st XI : School 154-9 ; Opp. 125 all out. Won by 29 runs.

GARFORTH :

Under-13 XI : School 33-7 ; Opp. 35-4. Lost by 6 wickets.
Under-12 XI : Opp. 58 all out, School 35 all out. Lost by 23 runs.

CASTLEFORD :

Under-13 XI : School 94-5 ; Opp. 63-6. Won by 31 runs.

OUTWOOD GRANGE :

Under-12 XI : Opp. 71 all out, School 43-6. Lost by 28 runs.

BATLEY G.S. (Brumfitt Cup) :

Under-15 XI : Opp. 149-5 ; School 101 all out. Lost by 48 runs.

STAFF XI :

1st XI : School 189-4 ; Opp. 137-9. Won by 52 runs.

RECORD :

1st XI :	Played 9 / Won 8 / Lost 1
Under-15 XI :	Played 8 / Won 2 / Lost 6
Under-13 XI :	Played 8 / Won 1 / Lost 7
Under-12 XI :	Played 8 / Won 1 / Lost 7

Athletics

SENIOR SCHOOL SPORTS (BOYS) 1976

	SENIOR	UI5
100 m	T. Carter 12.00	P. Whittaker 12.2
200 m	J. Burnage 23.5	M. Kew 26.1
400 m	S. Burnage 55.0	P. Earnshaw 58.0
800 m	J. Burnage 2m 11.5	P. Earnshaw 2m 23.7
1500 m	A. Whittam 4m 37.2	P. Lowe 5m 11.2
Hurdles	S. Burnage 14.5	P. Whittaker 12.9
Relay	Freston	Ward 52.2
Long Jump	J. Burnage 6.17	N. Radley 5.19
High Jump	P. Walker 1.70	G. Daley 1.50
Triple Jump	S. Burnage 12.35	N. Radley 10.76
Pole Vault	M. Ward 2.90	M. Wood 2.50
Javelin	R. Davenport 45.23	A. Moore 36.28
Discus	M. Smith 31.02	M. Kew 39.91 *
Shot	M. Smith 13.37*	M. Kew 13.09

* Record.

Individual Champion: { S. Burnage 15 points M. Kew 15 points
J. Burnage 15 points

House Champions: FRESTON WARD

Overall Champions: FRESTON

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS (BOYS) 1976

	U14	U13	U12
100 m	N. Birkinshaw 12.7	C. Schofield 12.7 *	D. Austerbury 14.8
200 m	N. Radley 26.7	C. Schofield 27.1	D. Austerbury 29.5
400 m	A. Deakin 58.3 *	P. Jukes 61.0*	N. Carter 69.7
800 m	N. Radley 2m 25.3	C. Lowe 2m 28.5	S. Brighton 2m 39
1500 m	R. Ambler 5m 2.4	C. Lowe 5m 13.5	N. Carter 5m 14.4 *
Hurdles	N. Birkinshaw 12.8	B. Smith 12.3 = *	M. Williams 13.2
Relay	Ward 52.0 *	Freston 53.6 *	Freston 59.6
Long Jump	N. Radley 5.00	L. Thompson 4.97	D. Walker 4.28
High Jump	N. Birkinshaw 1.50	B. Smith 1.45	D. Brown 1.35 *
Triple Jump	N. Radley 11.20	M. Golding 10.75	M. Williams 8.80
Pole Vault	J. Heaton 2.10	A. Brooke 2.30	N. Carter 1.90
Javelin	R. Oakley 35.25	A. Brooke 27.10	N. Carter 25.14
Discus	R. Oakley 30.57	J. Chambers 29.18	D. Austerbury 18.73
Shot	N. Birkinshaw 10.82	A. Golding 11.65	D. Austerbury 8.24

* Record.

Individual Champions: { N. Birkinshaw 16 pts
N. Radley 16 pts. B. Smith 13 pts. N. Carter 19 pts.

House Champions: Ward Dodsworth Dodsworth

HOCKEY RESULTS 1976-77

	1st XI	U15	U14
Ossett	W 1—3	W 7—1	W 1—0
Kettlethorpe	L 2—4	L 2—4	D 0—0
Wakefield	W 3—0	L 4—3	L 1—2
Aireborough	L 1—3	W 7—1	W 1—0
Wakefield	L 2—0	L 5—2	D 0—0
Pontefract	D 2—2	W 8—1	
Aireborough	L 3—0	W 2—0	W 7—0
Osssett			W 1—0
Birkdale	W 1—4		W 3—0
Birkdale			D 1—1

Most Promising Players :

U12 : Elisabeth Beal / Aileen Ambler.

U13 : Susan Walton / Lynn Charlesworth.

U14 : Christine Lindley.

U15 : Ruth Hancock.

1st XI

TEAM : Suzanne Stevenson, Jane Hardwick, Annette Rogers, Anne Arkell,
Diane Barker (Capt.), Christine Hirst, Susan Boyden, Louise Coletta,
Leigh Toddington, Jayne Hyett, Alyson Brice.
Also played: Caren Jones, Ruth Hancock, Julie Green, Joan Ellis, Frances
Burgess.

Despite a fixture list of fifteen matches at the beginning of the season, only eight of these were actually played. The reasons for the high number of cancellations were the extremely bad weather, which prevailed throughout most of the season, and the inability of several opposing schools to raise a 1st XI team.

Nevertheless, the season began very well with a 3—1 victory over Ossett. A mention must be given here to Julie Green who came along with the intention of spectating and actually ended up playing in the game. Julie also scored a goal.

The fixture to be played at home against Kettlethorpe High School in October resulted in a 2—4 defeat for Normanton, but credit must be given to the U15 players who took over the role of several senior players, who were that day present at the Wakefield and Area hockey trials. Diane Barker, Leigh Toddington, Alyson Brice and Anne Arkwell represented Normanton in the hockey trials. Both Diane and Leigh gained places in the Wakefield Area first team and Diane was later chosen to captain the Area team.

Due to the snow and frost, which persisted in December, it was impossible for any matches to be played. The frost also impeded the U16 January hockey trials, which had to be postponed several times before they could finally be held. Congratulations to Susan Boyden, Christine Hirst and Jane Hardwick who were selected for the U16 Area 2nd team and congratulations also to Jayne Hyett, Annette Rogers and Suzanne Stevenson who gained places in the Reserve team.

The end of the hockey season saw the 1st XI team drawing the game with Osssett, winning, convincingly, the match against Birkdale, and losing, rather unfortunately, the match with Aireborough. No excuses could be made for the final game but it is, perhaps, a little disappointing that the season did not end with a victory.

Normanton fielded virtually the same side throughout the season, the majority of players actually being Fifth Form students — and so considering that the

average age of the team was well below that of opposing teams, Normanton's season was a fairly successful one.

Hockey Colours awarded to: Jayne Hyett, Christine Hirst, Susan Boyden, Jane Hardwick, Annette Rogers, Louise Coletta, Suzanne Stevenson and Alyson Brice.

Re-awarded to : Diane Barker, Leigh Toddington, Anne Arkell.

Record: P8 / W3 / L4 / D1. Goals For 17 / Goals Against 14.

Diane Barker (Capt.).

U15 HOCKEY

TEAM : Alison English, Alison Masters, Janet Wigglesworth, Helen Birkby, Karen Walker, Linda Newton, Deborah Ward (Capt.), Anne Riley, Ruth Hancock, Alison Hillkirk, Caren Jones.

Reserves: Gillian Bott, Karen Bayliss, Jane Kinsey, Ruth Innes.

We had very few matches this season because of the weather conditions; in fact, only seven matches were played, of which we won four and lost three. Our first match was a good victory over Ossett, 7—1. Our next two matches were defeats by Wakefield High (4—3), and Kettlethorpe (2—4). Both were very close matches but, with so many changes in our team, we lacked the ability to play as a team. The weather not only stopped matches, but affected the team's health, with the result that we had a different team for our first three games. We succeeded in beating Aireborough 7—1 next, but lost again to Wakefield High 5—2. Our last matches, against Pontefract and Aireborough, were good wins in terms of both goals and team effort.

On the whole, the team played very well, and special mention must be made of Ruth Hancock, Deborah Ward and Caren Jones who, between them, scored the majority of our goals, and also to the third and fourth year students who played as last-minute replacements.

Record: P7 / W4 / L3. Goals For 31 / Goals Against 16.

U14 HOCKEY

TEAM : Julie Jones, Davinia Clarke, Elizabeth Davies, Mandy Seddon, Sandra Coupe, Christine Lindley (Capt.), Amanda Crawshaw, Karen Hinton, Lorraine Ackroyd, Tracy Ward, Judith Jackson.

Reserves : Jayne Bowman, Andrea Shepherd, Debra Pekett, Kim Stallibrass.

At the beginning of the season we had 18 fixtures but, due to bad weather or the opposition's failure to raise a team, 9 were cancelled.

This season we have lost only one match — against Wakefield High ; even so, the score was 2—1. In this match Gillian Bott replaced Davinia Clarke and played a good game.

Congratulations must also go to Second Year's Chantelle Smith, Janice Field and Lynn Charlesworth, who all played exceptionally well. This season we only had one goalkeeper, Julie Jones, who has helped us to many a victory.

The leading goalscorer was Sandra Coupe, who played skilfully throughout the season and has scored six goals.

Comparing fixtures against last season's, shows that we have played several different teams and, this year, I am pleased to say we have had a higher rate of success.

Record: P9 / W 5 / L1 / D3. Goals For 15 / Goals Against 3.

Christine Lindley (Capt.).

NETBALL RESULTS 1976-77

Opponents :		U15	U14	U13	U12
Kettlethorpe	(A)	L 10— 1	W 9— 4		
Normanton Sec.	(A)		D	W	L
Featherstone High	(A)	L 11— 0	L 7— 5	W 7— 1	
Airedale	(A)		W 13—10	D 9— 9	
Thornes House	(H)	L 8— 0	W 10— 4		
Rodillian	(H)		D 8— 8	W 4— 2	W 6— 1
Castleford High	(H)		W 14— 6	W 11— 3	
Ossett	(A)		L 9— 3	W 7— 3	
Pontefract Sec.	(H)	L 5— 4	L 6— 2	W 9— 0	W 13— 0
Pontefract High	(A)		D 13—13	W 12— 3	W 10— 1
Featherstone High	(H)	L 5— 3	W 4— 3	W 8— 3	
Crofton	(A)		W 6— 5	W 2— 1	(a) W 1— 0
Crofton	(A)				(b) W 2— 1
Airedale	(H)		L 19—11	W 7— 5	
Ossett	(H)		L 10— 9	W 13— 4	W 7— 3
Normanton Sec.	(H)	L 5— 2	W 6— 4	W 17— 0	W 3— 2

Most Promising Players :

U12: Kathryn Lowe.

U13: Beverley Fox.

U14: Karen Walker.

Colours Awarded to : Tracy Wilson, Debra Hemmings and Sandra Atkinson.

U15 NETBALL

TEAM : G.K.—Karen Bayliss (Capt.), G.D.—Karen Knowles, W.D.—Debra Hemmings, C—Deborah Ward, W.A.—Tracy Wilson, G.A.—Alison Masters, G.S.—Sandra Atkinson.

The U15 team was lacking a Goal Shooter at the beginning of the season. Fortunately, Sandra Atkinson joined us and the team remained as above for the rest of the season.

Five of our matches were cancelled, mainly because of bad weather. The first match, against Kettlethorpe High, was a little discouraging as they were better organised than we were. At this point, we were still learning to play as a team and so this is what let us down. The most enjoyable match was towards the end of the season. This was against Pontefract Secondary. It was a closely contested match with Pontefract finally winning by only one goal.

The U15 Castleford/Hemsworth and District Netball Tournament was held at Normanton Grammar School on Saturday, 12th March. The Tournament was divided into two sections. We played Pontefract Secondary and lost 2—1 ; St. Wilfred's and lost 2—0 ; and, finally, Airedale High, and lost 9—3. Airedale were the winners of our section and, in fact, were the eventual U15 winners.

Karen Bayliss, Fourth Year.

U14 NETBALL

TEAM: G.K.—Michelle Blakey, G.D.—Christine Lindley, W.D.—Mandy Corbett / Catherine Beal, C—Debbie Peckett (Capt.), W.A.—Lorraine Ackroyd, G.A.—Karen Walker / Jayne Bowman, G.S.—Sandra Coupe / Sandra Barrell.

At the beginning of the season, the U14 team was on top form and won the first match, against Kettlethorpe High, 9—4. The team looked to be very promising but, unfortunately, the good standard dropped and this showed in many matches that were to follow.

Towards the end of the season, we acquired a new Goal Shooter, Sandra Barrell, who played in the last two matches. This paid dividends because our Wing Attack had been taken ill, so one of the Shooters took over her position.

In March, the team made a successful comeback by drawing 13—13 with Pontefract High and defeating Featherstone High 4—3. We ended the season by defeating Normanton Secondary 6—4. We hope for a more consistent standard next season.

Debra Peckett, Third Year.

U13 NETBALL

TEAM: G.K.—Heather Emms / Lynn Charlesworth, G.D.—Carolyn Lewis, W.D.—Carol Thatcher, C—Diane Stretton, W.A.—Beverley Fox, G.A.—Deryn Lethbridge, G.S.—Elizabeth Smith.

This was a most successful year for the U13 team, as they won all their matches, except for a draw against Airedale High. They had some bad weather conditions for a few of the games but they managed to win these matches.

The only change in the team was when Beverley Fox stepped in as Wing Attack. We would like to congratulate her on receiving the cup for the most promising netball player. Altogether the team has improved a great deal this year and they all work well as a team.

The highlight of the season was winning the two netball tournaments in which the team participated. The first one, the Castleford and District Tournament, took place on Saturday, 12th March. We had to play all the other schools in our section before we could play the finalists of the other section. Fortunately, we won our section and so played against Airedale High in the final. At half-time the score was 1—0 to Airedale as we were playing erratically. But then we picked up and won the game by 4 goals to 2.

Consequently, we went on to play in the Wakefield Metropolitan District Schools' Netball Tournament. We played Ackworth Middle (the Hemsworth and District winners) and Outwood Grange (Wakefield winners) and beat them 5—1 and 8—4 respectively. All the members of the team received an engraved medal. This made them feel that all the time they had put into practising was worthwhile. Mrs. Swainson also put a lot of time in and so we are very grateful to her for doing so.

Carolyn Lewis, Second Year.

U12 NETBALL

'A' TEAM: G.K.—Jane Whiting, G.D.—Elizabeth Beal, W.D.—Aileen Ambler,
C—Kay Davenport, W.A.—Tracey Jones,
G.A.—Kathryn Lowe (Capt.), G.S.—Deborah Dean.

'B' TEAM: G.K.—Coleen Lee, G.D.—Kathryn Thompson, W.D.—Carolyn
Slater, C—Julie Holmes (Capt.), W.A.—Barbara Jones / Diane Hall,
G.A.—Susan James, G.S.—Kathryn McNulty / Cheryl Brocklehurst.

Our first and final matches were against our greatest rivals from Normanton Secondary School. The first game was an away match and we were beaten 7—0. Our second match was played on our own ground against Rodillian. This time, we were beginning to play as a team and so we won 6—1.

We now had one win to our credit and our hopes rose of winning the next few games. With all memories of our defeat forgotten, we beat Pontefract Secondary, Pontefract High, Crofton and Ossett.

At the end of March came the chance for the team to redeem itself. Our game against Normanton Secondary was a close, hard-fought game and, at half-time, the score stood at 0—0. We were determined to win and three goals came in quick succession. At one point, near the end of the game, we were almost afraid of losing, as two quick goals were popped through our net. When the umpire blew her whistle, we had won by one goal.

Kathryn Lowe, First Year.

GIRLS' INTER-HOUSE MATCHES 1976

JUNIOR SWIMMING

	LEVETT	DODSWORTH	FRESTON	WARD
1st Year:	17	8	8	15
2nd Year:	17	17	5	11
3rd Year:	12	18	9	11

Individual Champions:

1st Year: S. Watton and A. Holt, 8 points.

2nd Year: C. Beal and L. Garbutt, 7 points.

3rd Year: A. Hillkirk, 9 points.

New Records:

A. Holt — U12 1 length freestyle — 18.1 secs.

C. Beal — U13 1 length freestyle — 17.8 secs.

JUNIOR ATHLETICS

	LEVETT	DODSWORTH	FRESTON	WARD
U12	47	22	22	37
U13	55	26	34½	10½
U14	35	11	49	18

Overall House Champions : Levett.

Individual Champions:

U12 : S. Watton, 12 points.

U13 : L. Ackroyd, 11 points.

U14 : D. Ward, 16 points.

New Record:

D. Ward — U14 100m — 13.5 secs.

SENIOR ATHLETICS

	LEVETT	DODSWORTH	FRESTON	WARD
U15	14	20	43	31
Senior	21	46	17	25

Overall House Champions : Dodsworth.

Individual Champions:

U15 : C. Hirst, 8 points.

Senior: A. Brabbs, 12 points.

HOCKEY

	LEVETT	DODSWORTH	FRESTON	WARD
1st Year :	2	4	5	1
2nd Year :	5	3	0	4
3rd Year :	3	5	4	0
4th Year :	2	3	5	2
5th Year :	4	3	4	1
6th Year :	6	3	0	3

NETBALL

	LEVETT	DODSWORTH	FRESTON	WARD
1st Year :	4	6	2	0
2nd Year :	4	6	1	2
3rd Year :	5	2	5	0
4th Year :	2	2	4	4
5th Year :	6	3	3	0
6th Year :	5	4	0	3

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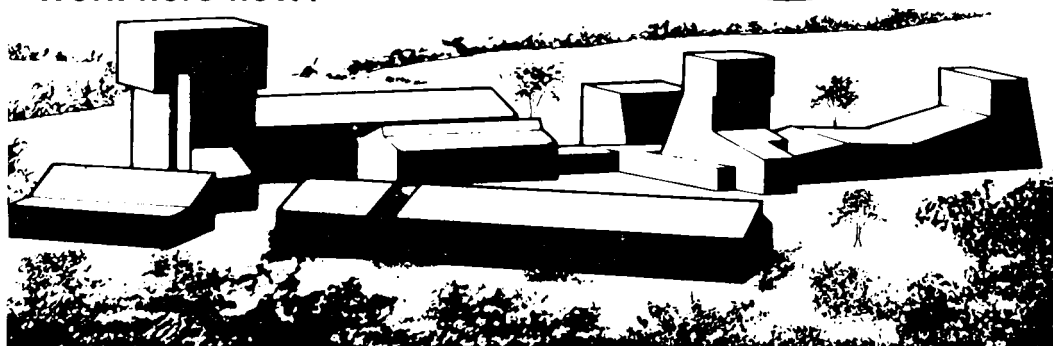
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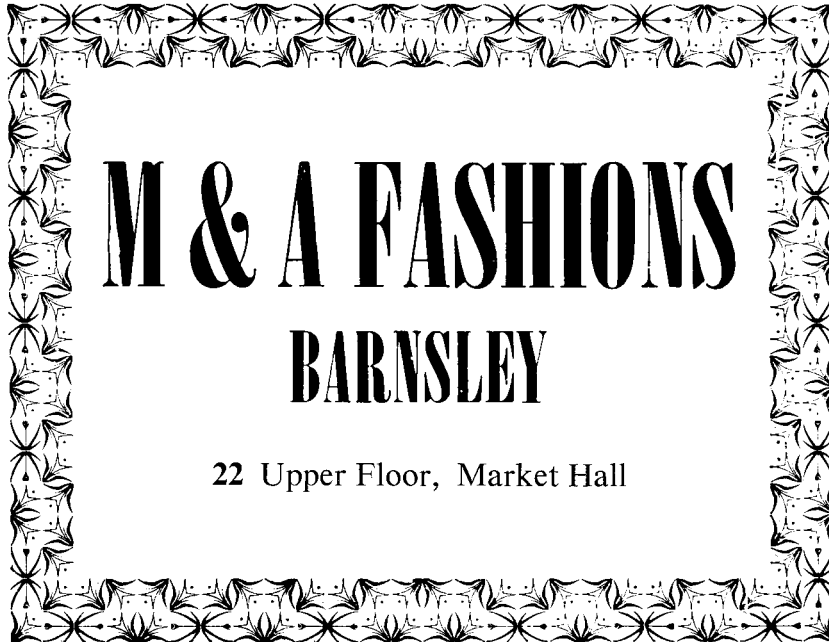
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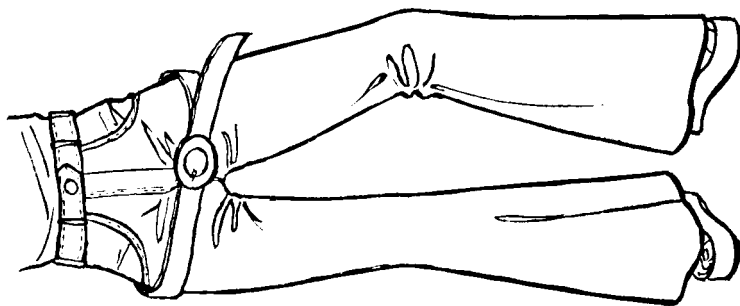
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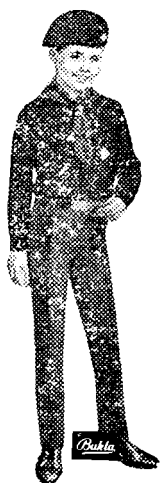
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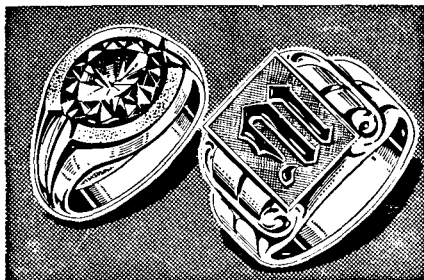
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