

THE THORNBURIAN

THE THORNBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MAGAZINE

JULY 1950

EDITOR:

A. M. PRITCHARD

No. 16

SCHOOL OFFICERS 1949-50

School Captains:

Jennifer Rouch (H) (Winter and Spring Terms). Marian Thomas (H) (Summer Term) and E. P. Hardman (C).

School Vice-Captains

Marian Thomas (H), Mary Clutterbuck (H), Joan Timbrell (C), and J. A. Hannaford (C).

School Prefects

Anne Pritchard (S)	P. Nott (C)
Miriam Craik-Smith (C)	M. D. Lewis (S)
Jean Rudledge (C)	S. K. Rugman (H)
Gillian Thierry (S)	R. Rosser (S)
Ula Reynolds (H)	E. B. Selwood C
Brenda Bradford (H)	W. B. Davies (S)
Kathleen Withers (C)	R. M. Teague (C)
Pauline Robson (S)	G. A. Dicker (H)
Beryl Palmer (S)	D. R. Cooper (S)
Patsy Harvey (S)	R. S. Vizard (H)
Mary Hulbert (H)	

House Captains:

CLARE: Miriam Craik-Smith. Joan Timbrell and J.A. Hannaford.
STAFFORD: Anne Pritchard and M. D. Lewis.
HOWARD: Jennifer Rouch, Marian Thomas and S. K. Rugman.

Games Captains

Hockey : Jennifer Rouch.
Association Football : J.A. Hannaford.
Rugby: M. D. Lewis.
Tennis: Joan Timbrell.
Cricket: J.A. Hannaford.

Games Secretaries:

Miriam Craik-Smith, Patricia Timbrell and P. Nott.

Magazine Editorial Staff:

Editor: Anne Pritchard.
Sub-Editors. Brenda Bradford and R. Rosser.
Secretary: Patsy Harvey.

THE THORNBURIAN

EDITORIAL

Visitors to the school are always greatly impressed by the beauty and neatness of our playing-fields and grounds, and consider us fortunate to be educated in such pleasant and congenial surroundings. As can be seen by the number of fatigue parties which work both on the field and inside the school, we all take great pride in its appearance, but when we remember the cramped conditions of others, we especially appreciate our good fortune. We heard on Speech Day that the higher authorities suggested the school should be enlarged by building on the playing fields, and we are very grateful to the Governors for their refusal to allow this restriction of our amenities.

Our education, however, is not confined to the bounds of Thornbury and the surrounding districts, and, as in previous years, we report many excursions and visits which have been arranged for us, in order to widen our knowledge by visual experience.

This year, in addition to these annual events, we see signs of the same purpose being achieved within the school itself; many more of our form-room walls are decorated with pictures, maps and charts, showing life in other countries, and in past ages. Similarly, our new projector has proved most useful in providing both information and entertainment. This increase of our knowledge by pictorial means is an indication that all are eager to benefit by new methods of learning and teaching, and a further evidence of the importance we attach, rightly as we think, to visual impression.

GENERAL NOTES

We were sorry to lose Miss Gale and Miss Jones at the end of the Autumn Term, and we are very pleased to hear that they have settled down in their new appointments at Teignmouth and Glyn-neath respectively.

We are very unfortunate in losing so many members of Staff at the end of this term. The Sixth form especially will regret the loss of Miss Nixon. Mr. Harwood and Mr. Williams in the science department. Mr. Harwood and Mr. Williams have also done very much for the lighter side of school life. Mr. Williams has always taken much trouble in organising the Cross Country and Athletic Sports, training the P.T. squad and acting as Stage Manager and Electrician in the Dramatic Concert, and Mr. Harwood in training an unbeaten Rugby XV. organising the Swimming Sports, setting up an Advisory Bureau for information about careers, and arranging a leatherwork class in which much work has been done.

Mrs. Williams will also be greatly missed both in the English dept. and in the Dramatic concert, where she has been responsible for the excellent standard reached in the Senior Play and so will Mr. Hill. with his unobtrusive helpfulness both in and out of the class-room.

Mr. Loudon who is to be congratulated on obtaining his M.A. degree and Mr. Cheesewright are also leaving us to go to Cardiff and Grantham. respectively.

For the first time for many years we have a full-time Physical Training mistress and we welcomed Miss Burcombe to this post at the beginning of the School Year. Mr. Hodge came as French master in the Spring Term, and Mrs. Hodge joined us in the Summer Term to teach Divinity.

Once again Miss Bruton very kindly filled a gap in the Staff by taking over the Music in the school.

We thank Mr. Tyrell and Mr. Wiggle for their gifts of books to the Geography and History Libraries.

The School offers its heartiest congratulations to Mr. Carpenter on his marriage, and to Miss Buncombe on her engagement to Mr. Eric Norris. We also congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Cuddler on the birth of their daughter, Joan Carol.

For the past two terms we have had with us Mr. Duffek; he fought in the German-Polish campaign of September, 1939, was taken prisoner and spent some time in a concentration camp. He is now in England to study English Schools and methods of education.

The Higher School Certificate examination this year took place in June instead of July as previously.

Owing to the price and difficulty of obtaining black velour hats, a green school beret at a reasonable price has been introduced as a compulsory part of girls' uniform. Another change was made in the girls' summer uniform, green and white check frocks being introduced instead of the previous plain green ones, and it is hoped that everyone will be wearing them by next summer.

Three successful school parties were held at the end of the Autumn Term and there were many innovations. The first was that the Upper Fifts were not included in the Prefects' Party owing to their large numbers, and they held their own party. For the first time for many years evening dress was optional at the Prefects' Party and the Supper tables were illuminated by candles. We should like to, thank Mr. Alpine for the microphone and amplifier which he kindly lent for the Prefects' Party, and P. Nott for operating it.

As always Miss Storey and her helpers are to be congratulated on the excellent supper which they provided.

Two very successful 'Parents' evenings have been held this year; it is very pleasant to note the growth of co-operation between the staff and parents, and we are sure that the pupils will benefit from this development.

We would like to congratulate Mr. Morse on the completion of his History of the School and hope we shall soon have an opportunity of reading it.

The usual Society meetings have been held, and we wish to thank the following outside speakers; Miss Martin, who lectured on the subject of the United Nations Organisation; Dr. Osiakowski who spoke of life in Poland; Mr. Morse, who gave an interesting talk on the history of the school, and Miss Yeates, who lectured for the History Society on Cades Rebellion.

We were all very sorry to hear of Mr. Mill's recent illness, which kept him away from the school for several weeks; during this time the condition of the grounds fell below their usual standard; but since we welcomed him back they have steadily improved.

We thank Joan Timbrell for stepping into the breach and playing the piano for Morning Assembly, during the absence of a Music Member of Staff.

Two members of the Advanced Course, Jennifer Rouch, and N. Daley, have gained places in the Universities of Bristol and Aberystwyth respectively, and three other members of the Advanced Course Brenda Bradford, Miriam Craik-Smith and Anne Pritchard, have obtained places at Redland Training College, Berridge House Domestic Science College, and Homerton College, Cambridge, respectively. Several members of the Training College Class will also be going to Training Colleges, Mary Bishop to Bath Domestic Science College, Mary Cornock to Fishponds, Janice Newman to Barry, Ula Reynolds to St. Mary's, Cheltenham, Jean Rudledge to Redland and Joan Willis to Cheltenham Technical College. Marjory Beck and Rosemary Newman both of Upper VB are going to South Dorset Training College, and Cheltenham Domestic Science College, respectively.

The Editor would like to thank all those who contributed to this issue, and especially Miss Cook and Mrs. Williams for their help in arranging and editing the entries.

ANNUAL EVENTS

FOUNDERS' SERVICE. The Founders' Service for 1949 was held on Tuesday, October 18th. We were particularly fortunate this year in meeting again two old friends of the school, who took part in the service. Dr. DJ G. A. Fox, Director of Music at Clifton College, was the organist, and the address was given by the Rev. Donald Ford, B.A., whom many of us remember as having taken a great interest in the school when he was Minister of Thornbury Congregational Church a few years ago.

Mr. Ford said that advice was the easiest thing in the world to give and the hardest to receive, and illustrated his point by a number of anecdotes with a 'sporting' flavour. He then touched on the probable motives for founding the school, and concluded by reminding us that we must trust to the understanding which comes from God to help us to use our academic knowledge for the good of our fellows.

The vicar, the Rev. R. G. Rawstone, conducted the service; the Lesson was read by the Headmaster, the choir sang Gordon Jacob's setting of The Spacious Firmament on High as the anthem, and the whole school joined in the singing of Miss Jones's arrangement of the Lord's Prayer and the canticle Let Us Now Praise Famous Men, besides the other prayers and hymns.

LEAVERS' SERVICE. The Leavers' Service was held at the end of the Summer Term, 1949. It took place in the Stafford Chapel of Thornbury Parish Church. The Rev. R. G. Rawstone, Vicar of Thornbury, conducted the service and gave the address. We are grateful to Sybil Craik-Smith, an Old Thornburian, for playing the organ.

THE MUSIC COMPETITION. The Music Competition was held on Friday, February 17th, 1950. Preliminaries were judged by Mrs. Williams, Miss Smith and Mr. Carpenter, and we are very grateful for their invaluable help given at very short notice. In spite of careful precautions taken to ensure that the programme should not be too lengthy, we found that the choral items alone took two hours to complete, so that the instrumental pieces were performed after the time at which we were scheduled to finish. Dr. Fox, Director of Music at Clifton College, consented to act as adjudicator and was very patient in dealing with this long programme and with alterations made necessary because some performers had to leave early to catch buses.

The standard of performance was, on the whole, good, and the singing was particularly well done. Clare retained the Harwood Shield for the third year in succession, and Howard gained second place. Stafford deserved a better place than third, and their truly excellent singing, especially on the part of their trio, quartette, and senior choir deserves special commendation.

THE MUSIC CONCERT. The Music Concert this year departed from recent procedure. The choir very regretfully left Handel's "Messiah" and performed a number of short choral pieces including "Weep on the Rocks" from Brahms's "Ossians Fingal" and a madrigal in three parts "Come, Sirrah Jack Ho !" Two of these were sung unaccompanied. Miss Jones trained and conducted the choir.

There were also two trios, Haydn's "Gipsy Rondo" and the Minuet from Mozart's Third Symphony, in which the following took part Mr. Carpenter (cello), Mr. Gibbons (violin), Miss Jones (piano), and B. Gregson (clarinet).

Other performers were

Soloists: Piano: Joan Timbrell and C. T. Cooper.

Violin : Barbara Bidwell, Joan Timbrell and D. Green.

Clarinet: B. J. Gregson.

Vocal : Patsy Harvey, Jennifer Rouch and R. J. Taylor.

Duetists: Patsy Harvey and Pat Brown.

Gillian Thierry and Anne Pritchard.

Carol Singers : Patsy Harvey, Miss Burcombe, Jennifer Rouch, Miss Jones, P. Nott, M. D. Lewis, Mr. London, Mr. Johnson

HOUSE READING COMPETITION.

Miss L. Charlton, of

Redland High School, kindly judged this year's Reading Competition. She offered some valuable advice and criticism of which an outstanding point was that readers should attack and interpret a passage as a whole, not as a series of disconnected sentences. The winning House was Clare.

THE SCHOOL CONCERT. This year the Dramatic concert again took place at the end of the Spring Term. The Junior "The Poetasters of Ispahan," produced by Mr. London, was a vigorous rollicking performance, but the poetic quality of Flecker's writing was beyond the range of such youthful actors. The French Play "L' Homme Qui Epousa Une Femme Muette" was a very successful piece of fun, owing largely to the ingenious details of Mr. Hodge's production and to the acting of Muriel James as the dumb wife. Mrs. Williams produced an abridged version of "She Stoops to Conquer" in which the performers were an excellent team, all of whom seemed really at home in their parts. We are especially sorry that Mrs. Williams should leave the school just when her consistently careful training has given us so competent a group of actors, but they will certainly be keen to carry on with her good work.

The girls of the Training College Class, under Miss Storey's supervision, made some delightful costumes for the Junior and Senior Plays, and the scenery and scene changes were effective and efficient as ever. This part of the production has long owed a great deal to the energy and enthusiasm of Mr. Williams, who will be greatly missed next year.

SPEECH DAY. The Speech Day program this year was introduced by the new chairman of the Governors the Rev. R. G. Rawstorne, MA., who in his opening remarks, paid tribute to the work that his predecessor, Captain Bennett, had done during the last twenty years.

The Headmaster then made his report, once again stressing the importance of allowing pupils to stay at school until they reached the age of sixteen. A good piece of news was that the hard tennis courts are about to be re-surfaced. We were interested to hear that there will be an increase in the number of new pupils next year, causing a three stream entry and necessitating the use of the woodwork shop as a form room.

The prizes were presented by L. Smith Esq., MA., Principal of Redland Training College. He spoke of the need to maintain a high standard of values in school life. The climax of his address was the story of a boy in his school who impersonated a woman traveller in . The secret was well kept, and the hoax was almost successful, but discovery came when one of "her" slides showed a church in Malta, well known to the Headmaster. The exploit, he said, was an out-standing example of initiative.

The vote of thanks was given by Marian Thomas, the School Captain.

The visitors then enjoyed an excellent tea, prepared by Miss Storey and her helpers. After tea a display of national dancing was given by the girls of the lower school, and of Scottish country dancing by the Sixth Form. These were organised by Miss Burcombe and were very successful. The P.T. display, directed by Mr. Williams was enthusiastically welcomed, and proved to be of as high standard as ever. The fact that these displays took place in the Hall because of unfavourable weather was less of a handicap than was expected, as it enabled the spectators to follow more closely than might have been possible in the open air.

OUT OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

This year we again have many excursions to report and we should like to thank all the Members of Staff who have provided us with such a varied and interesting programme.

The Certificate Forms enjoyed the annual Croscombe walk, and the Fifth Forms the walk to Batheaston. Both walks were very interesting and instructive and we are very grateful to Mr. Cudmore for spending his week-ends in this way.

IIA has taken over the adoption of Col. Turner's farm at Oldown for study of its stock, equipment and seasonal work. We should like to thank Col. Turner for allowing IIA to visit his farm and also Mr. and Mrs. Sandifer for their kindness in showing the children around, and providing them with tea.

IIA has also visited the Bristol Museum, in the charge of Mr. Carpenter in order to examine the Egyptian and Roman exhibits. In the Autumn Term, Mr. Carpenter took members of the Sixth, Upper Fifth, and Fourth forms to the local History Exhibition at the Cossham Hall, where Mr. Morse very kindly demonstrated the use of a man-trap, and also made them very ashamed of their own exercise books when compared with those of the early days of the school.

Three visits to the Central Hall were arranged by Miss Jones, two to hear the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, conductor George Weldon, and the other one to hear Cortot in a Chopin recital which celebrated the centenary of that great composer.

In November a party of pupils went by coach to the Embassy where they saw, many of them for the first time, a programme of ballet by a team headed by Alicia Markova and Anton Dolin. The most popular dance was a very beautiful and moving performance of the "Dying Swan" by Alicia Markova.

Two visits were made to the Theatre Royal to see "As You Like It" and "Julius Caesar" and Mr. Hodge took the Sixth Form French class to see "Tartuffe" at the Theatre Royal and a performance of "Esther" by the French department of the University at the Victoria Rooms.

Miss Gale also took a small party to see "St. Vincent de Paul" at the Academy, and in February the whole school, with the exception of the Second and Third forms, went to the local cinema to "Hamlet." We are sorry that everyone could not go, but the school has increased so much during the last years that it was impossible to include everyone. The Second forms were taken to the market by Miss Taylor in order to compensate for their disappointment.

On October 10th Miss Storey took the Training College Class to Speedwell Secondary Modern School where they were extremely impressed by the Domestic Science Department and not a little flattered by the kindness with which they were treated.

The Chess, Art and Leatherwork Clubs are flourishing but Mr. Harwood's departure is a great set back to the Leatherwork Class.

The School Orchestra is now in the care of Mr. Gibbons, to whom we are very grateful, both for the work, and for the part he played in the School Music Concert.

This year Miss Burcombe has increased our interest in Country Dancing and devoted much time to training a team from the lower school in National dancing, and one from the Sixth Form in Scottish Country Dancing until they were capable of giving a dancing display on Speech Day. We should like to thank her for the time she has devoted to this purpose. She has also been extremely patient in teaching dancing of quite a different kind. On Tuesday evenings throughout the Autumn and Spring Terms a ball-room dancing class was held where she endeavoured to teach us the basic dancing steps. A marked improvement in dancing was noticeable at the Prefects' Party.

At the time of going to press, two more excursions are planned for the near future. On Friday, June 30th, Mr. Cudmore is taking a party of Senior pupils on a coach trip to Oxford where they are going to visit the Witney Blanket Mills, the Morris Motor Works at Cowley, and the University Colleges.

The second excursion is on Friday, July 14th when Mrs. Hodge is taking 4C boys and some members of the Sixth Form to the church and Saxon Chapel at Deerhurst. They will visit Gloucester Cathedral en route.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

President : P. Nott,

Secretary: Marian Thomas,

Treasurer: Barbara Hedges

It was suggested some time last summer that there should be a sufficient number interested in Photography to form a society in the school. Once the idea was born it was soon put into practice, and on September 22nd, 1949 took place the first meeting of the 'Photographic Society.'

From that date onwards the Society has met every Thursday after school. Membership was restricted to owners of cameras from the middle school upwards. The aims of the Society were laid down as follows

- (1) Regular meetings for talks, exchange of information etc.
- (2) Practical work in the Dark Room.
- (3) Excursions, Exhibitions and Competitions.

To define these aims was easier than to put them into practice as there are practically no facilities in the school. That these and other difficulties were overcome is largely owing to P. Nott without whose initiative and hard work the Society would soon have died an early death.

Thanks are due to Miss Rees for allowing the Biology Prep. Room to be turned into a Dark Room, and to Mr. Hodge who since his arrival in January has been a staunch supporter of the Society.

Achievements during the last year include: the setting up of a (not very) Dark Room; an exhibition of photographic apparatus; a competition, won by Marian Thomas; a talk with slides by Mr. Hilton from Canada; several outings, notably one to the Bristol Zoo (the giraffes put on their best smile!) and a visit to the projector room at the local cinema. Since Easter the Society has been subscribing to the "Amateur Photographer." The next outing will be to Chepstow Castle, and another competition is to take place at the end of the Summer term.

This report would be incomplete without a tribute to the intrepid little band who formed the original society and who have been faithful to it ever since.

They are: P. Nott, Marian Thomas, Barbara Hedges, Ann Phillips, Catherine Skinner, C. Blenkinsopp, E. Cooper, C. Radford, S. Cutts, M. Green, D. Pick and B. Bayliss.

I hope that they have enjoyed themselves and have incidentally learned a little more about Photography, and that many more will join the Society next term.

P. CARPENTER.

THE WORLD FORUM OF YOUTH

On the afternoon of Thursday, May 4th, several members of the school World Citizenship Society set off to the Victoria Rooms. The Bristol and district forum was attended by representatives of many local schools, and we were welcomed on behalf of the Bristol University Students' Union, who lent us their hall, by genial, blind Professor McInnes, by the Lord Mayor of Bristol, and by the editor of the Overseas Daily Mail, which was organizing this and similar forums.

We heard a talk on World Peace by a representative of the United Nations Organisation, and then the compere, the Headmaster of Portsmouth Grammar School, introduced the foreign representatives attending at Bristol, who were all in their teens, and who all spoke excellent English for their age. These boys and girls from Austria, Belgium, America, France, Denmark and Canada, speaking on behalf of the youth of their own countries, expressed their views on topics ranging from, how best to keep the world at peace, to their impressions of British education and cooking. (As regards education, Britain seems to have a high standard, but the delegates did not enthuse about our cookery, especially in the schools at which they have stayed!)

After a very good tea the questions continued, and we left feeling that the time we had missed at school had been interestingly and profitably spent. As for the aim of these forums - to promote friendship and understanding between the youth of the world, and so preserve and strengthen world peace - we have yet to see how it works in practice, but in theory, although no Russian delegates came to England all of us agree that the contact achieved should undoubtedly promote the friendship and understanding which leads to that end.

A VISIT TO THE SEVERN WILDFOWL TRUST

A party of Sixth and Upper Fifth farmers finished the Autumn term with a trip to the Severn Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge, in the charge of Mr. Cudmore; Mr. Carpenter, Miss Rees and Miss Taylor accompanied us.

As we crossed the Gloucester and Berkeley Canal at Shepherd's Patch about half a mile past Slimbridge village, we could see the caravan and narrow boat Beatrice," belonging to the Trust, and used by members at week-ends. We were glad that we had taken Mr. Cudmore's advice concerning the wearing of Wellingtons, for on arrival we found that the grounds were very muddy.

Our guide was Miss Peggy Cameron, one of the wardens, who took us to the Big Pen, where on the pond we saw many tame birds, which came across to us as we arrived. The wildfowl we saw during the afternoon included Barrows Golden Eyes, Carolinas, Mandarins, Pochard. Mullard, Pintail, Teal and various other kinds of Geese, Swans, Duck and Widgeon.

On the ground in the Big Pen, we could see a large net which is used in capturing the birds for ringing. The net is fired by rockets to cover the birds while on the ground. We could see a decoy, also used for catching birds, and an observation or Gazebo overlooking it. but we could not go near either.

Next we visited the Rushy pen where there were some more varieties of Wildfowl on the pond, which was partly covered with ice. The birds immediately came towards us when some food was put down for them. While we were there, we saw several wild duck fly over.

We were disappointed that we could not go to the observation huts to see the wildfowl on the Dumbles, or salt marshes but this privilege is reserved for members of the Trust.

THE SEVERN BORE

Unfortunately the day for the Severn Bore was foggy and so we were not able to see every detail clearly.

Stonebench was chosen for our vantage point as it is the narrowest part of the river, and for a while we watched the water flowing slowly and calmly from source to mouth. Gradually in the distance we heard a dull roar which became more distinct as the bore neared its. Then through the fog came a great wall of water curling up the banks and passing us very quickly. Immediately the water changed direction, coming in from the mouth, and now before us was a swirling turbulent area of water travelling at approximately fourteen miles per hour, and carrying with it branches of trees and other debris. The water began to rise at an unbelievable rate and soon small bushes which had been visible previously were completely covered.

THE LONDON EXCURSION, 1949

On Saturday morning, November 5th, pupils of the Upper Fifth and Sixth forms set out for London. We arrived there at about 2.30 p.m. on a very wet and dismal afternoon. However, our interest was not in the least quelled by this, and we first went via Piccadilly, the Strand, and Fleet Street to the Tower. There we spent an agreeable half-hour seeing the White Tower which is the oldest and largest Wakefield Tower, and the Crown Jewels, not of course forgetting the

beef eaters. On leaving the Tower, we had time to see Tower Bridge and the Monument and a brief visit to St. Paul's, before taking our first fascinating journey on the Underground to the hostel. After tea, we spent an enjoyable evening at the Globe Theatre where we saw John Gielgud in "The Lady's not for Burning."

The outlook on the following morning was considerably brighter and we set out at a fairly early hour to visit Madame Tussaud's. We made our way back to Trafalgar Square through Oxford Street, Bond Street and Regent Street, where we had our lunch.

Sunday afternoon was one of the highlights of the week-end. We paid a visit to the Maida Vale Transcription Studio's, and Sandy Harding, an Old Boy (he was at school from 1932-40) showed us round the various departments. He further entertained us by allowing us to make two recordings. The boys amused us all in their version of one of the Paul Temple scripts, and one of them is certainly to be congratulated on his genius at sound effects. The girls made use of an excellent studio piano and Miss Jones very kindly accompanied us in some singing. We visited one of the larger studios before we regretfully said goodbye to the M.V.T.S. We had spent a very enjoyable afternoon, and so I think had "Sandy." In the evening we went to the Remembrance Service at St. Paul's and afterwards had supper at the Strand Corner House.

On Monday morning, we watched the Changing of the Guard outside Buckingham Palace. Everyone enjoyed this colourful ceremony, but unfortunately most of us got cold while standing waiting, and also fierce arguments broke out between several patriotic members of the party. However, we soon warmed up again while walking back through St. James's Park and Horse Guard's Parade to Whitehall, where we met Mr. Brooke, once a member of the Staff. We visited Downing Street but were unimpressed with the official residence of the Prime Minister.

After lunch, the party split, some going to visit the National and Tate Art Galleries, some to the Geological and Science Museums, and the rest to Kew Gardens. At Kew, an old school friend Sheila Nelmes, and her father showed us round, and, after a very lovely afternoon, the whole party again met in Trafalgar Square. After a high tea, we went to the Covent Garden Opera House where we were all, without exception, I think, thrilled with the performance of Verdi's Rigoletto, this being the first experience of opera for most of us.

On Tuesday morning we left the hostel for the last time, and made our way to the Houses of Parliament. Mr. Ben Parkin, who at the time was M.P. for Stroud, proved to be an excellent guide for the hour and a half we spent in the building. Of all the things we saw there the St. Stephen's Crypt was, I think, the most impressive. Mr. Parkin rose still further in our estimation when he finished an interesting morning by giving us each a cup of tea and something to eat, and we then had an opportunity to ask questions. After thanking Mr. Parkin, we went to Westminster Abbey and there we were all much impressed with the lovely Battle of Britain window, but were disappointed in that we were able to spend only so short a time in the Abbey. We then had a cooked lunch, and finished our stay in London with a walk along the Embankment. At Victoria Station we collected our luggage and joined the coach. We came home via Windsor Castle and had a splendid view over the Great Park, which I think few of us will ever forget.

Thus ended an excellent weekend, and thanks are due to all the Staff who made the trip possible, especially Mr. Cudmore who organised it.

WESTWARD HO,! 1950

One of the most important outside activities of the school, is the ten days visit made to Westward Ho during the Easter holidays, under the supervision of Mr. B. H. Cudmore (Geography) and Miss C. L. Rees (Biology). A full programme was arranged by the twenty-five members of the Sixth and Commercial Forms, and only on one day did the weather spoil our plans.

The Geographers studied the physical features of the district, such as the marine erosion of the pebble-ridge, and the economic background, whilst the biologists collected numerous specimens of its flora and fauna.

Many local places, which have proved popular in previous years, were again visited. The old fishing port of Appledore, with its quaint, narrow streets, was of great interest. There was a remarkable air of activity in the boat-building yards on the river bank. In the dock-yard we saw the ship "Hispaniola" which had been used in the film of "Treasure Island." Unfortunately the Rev. H. C. A. S. Muller, MA., RN. (retired), could spare only a few moments to show us around his beautiful church.

In the local town and port of Bideford we saw various buildings connected with former times, such as the pannier market and the seventeenth century defensive site of Chudleigh Fort. On the last day of our stay in the area, we visited the medieval ceremony of the Bideford Manor Court, by kind permission of Mr. F. C. Backway, the Town Clerk and Steward of the Manor Court. This ceremony is a survival of the meetings in which the citizens of the borough presented their grievances to the lords of the manor. Mr. Smith, formerly senior master of Bideford Grammar School, who had previously spoken to us on this ceremony, in which he plays an important part, kindly offered a book token for the best essay on our impressions of it; this was won by Pauline Robson.

This year only the newcomers visited Great Torrington: they had to hitch-hike each way and some of us wondered whether we should ever see them again!

Very successful trips were made to Baggy Point and Clovelly. The walk across the sands of Croyde Bay and around the Point was



APPLEDORE QUAY

very much appreciated by all. The walk down the wooded Hobby Drive was also very beautiful. However, it was a tired but triumphant party that appeared in instalments at the camp, after the long walk across the pebbles and cliffs from Bucks Mills.

The Dartmoor coach tour was perhaps the climax of the excursion. Stops were made at Lydford, where we walked up the magnificent gorge, Dartmeet, Buckfast Abbey, and Grimspound, a Bronze Age settlement.

Talks were given by several local inhabitants. Mr. I. Sims, Divisional Planning Officer, Devon County Council, spoke to us on the economic history of North Devon. Miss Sheila Hutchinson gave us an interesting lecture on the river Torridge, mentioning all the villages through which it flows, and illustrated her talk with her excellent paintings. The Rev. Muller gave us a very entertaining talk on his recent visit to Denmark. This year we welcomed Mr. Vernon Boyle as a speaker, his subject was "Sailing Days on the Torridge," he spoke of navigation in Bideford Bay and explained the various types of boats, with the aid of models made by himself.

The only factory visit this time, was to the Sudbury Glove Factory, where the different stages of manufacture were interesting to both girls and boys. Unfortunately we were unable to en to the Devon Crisps Factory as planned.

On our return journey we went through Exeter. Here a brief visit was made to the Guildhall, the oldest municipal and criminal court in the United Kingdom; we also went into the Mayor's parlour, where we much admired the furnishings.

We were very pleased to have Miss Gale with us at Westward Ho and also Miriam Craik-Smith, who together helped Mr. Johnson with the catering problems. Mrs. Cudmore, although she was not with us the whole time, deserves special mention for planning such excellent meals.

We very much appreciate the great amount of work put in by the members of staff responsible for the excursion, of which we shall always have pleasant memories.

SUSAN'S CAT

Jessica Hewlett, IIA

Susan had a little cat.
Its coat was soft as silk,
And every day it came to her

To have its bread and milk.

When Susan went to school each day,
The cat would sit and wait
Until her little mistress
Came through the garden gate.

One day it caught a little mouse, Just by the pantry door, "Good Puss," cried Susan in delight, "That's what we keep you for."

WAVES

E. J. Locke. Upper VA

Small waves,
Tall waves,
"Bigger-than-them-all" waves, Waves that kiss the silent shore, Waves that
kiss and waves that roar. Waves that mystify and awe.

High waves,

Shy waves,

“Have-another-try” waves.

Waves that race along the sand, Waves that chase a tiny strand, Waves adjacent to the land.

Blue waves,

New waves,

“Knowing-what-to-do” waves. Waves that dash into the fray, Waves that splash, and waves that spray, Waves that crash inside the bay.

Gay waves,

Stray waves,

“Why-not-come-away?” waves, Waves that dance upon the sea, Waves that prance about with glee, Waves that fancy that they’re free.

SONNET AFTER THE ELIZABETHAN

Patsy Harvey. VI

When Phoebus’ car illumes th’ Antipodes,
And course bright light of piercing day removes,
My roving mind no thought save this can seize - “Proud Beauty spurns him who so truly loves.”

Yet darkness, cov’ring all our weeping land
Forgets not the least wretch in her domain:
She stills my sorrows with her healing hand,
But cannot rid me of the Love-God’s pain.
Sweet agony ! If thee I may not have,,
Thy phantom form torments me in thy place!
Night’s handmaid bears rich gifts my heart to save.
For Sleep brings dreams of thy all-perfect grace.
If then, for shame That sleep should kinder prove
Than, when I wake, my Love is to my love!

A SNAKY TALE

Monica Wyatt III A

I stopped, fascinated. Before me, coiled in the lazy fashion adopted by snakes, to all appearances digesting its last meal, lay a giant cobra. To all appearances, did I say? Ah, but if you looked closer, beneath its gaudy colouring, you saw a wicked little brown eye, beady as a cockerel’s, cunning as a cat’s. And it was watching you. following your every movement with quick, jerky glances. His eye met my eye. Terror froze my heart, clove my tongue to the dry roof of my mouth, paralysed my body, leaving it a victim of the little freezing eye. Tomorrow,” I thought wildly. “tomorrow, it will have devoured me. Tomorrow my mother will know me no more.”

I tried desperately to make a movement, and shake off the panic that gripped my heart. With a convulsive sob of relief, I realized that I had spared my friends the expense of buying me a wreath. My fumbling hands gripped the dice box, and, in time with the somewhat erratic beating of my heart, I shook out the little cube on which my life depended. Hardly daring. I peered, Behold! It was a six! I had foiled the dread reptile, baffled him completely, and left him far behind, for had I not climbed a ladder?

THE INDIAN AND THE AEROPLANE

I. Hindmarch, II A

Sitting Bull espied a plane.
And, thinking it an outsize crane,
Made a dive for bow and arrow.
Thrilling right down to the marrow.
At thoughts of food and headdress feathers,
And grease, withal, to soft his leathers.

He waited, tense, with steady aim,
Directed at this curious game
That flapped not, but appeared to swoop;
In fact it did a perfect loop,
A half-turn and a flattened, spin;
It quite intrigued this good Redskin.

And picking out a likely spot,
He let fly a most deadly shot
Which pierced the fuel tank like a drum.
And drenched him in petroleum,
Disgustedly he gave a sneer,
in future I shall stick to deer.”

WASHING DAY

B. A. Cook. IV A

The room is full of steam, although it is seeping out of every opening the crack. Three women, with the help of a little toddler. are working furiously in the damp clammy atmosphere. Beads of sweat roll down their red, shiny faces as they toil. Through the steam can be seen the dim figure of a buxom woman bending over a large tub, vigorously scrubbing at some unseen object in the depths of the bubbling soapy water, some of which, at each scrub, manages to creep over the battered tub and form another “sea-side resort “ for the not very helpful toddler. Another figure, whose long hair seems to be getting in the way, is straining over a rusty mangle, which not many minutes before, had been the toddler’s automobile.

The third member of the striving community can be seen struggling with a laden basket of washed garments, as she gropes for the door, to evacuate yet another batch of washing from the steam to the line.

BETSY PORK

Anne Lippiatt. IV C

Once upon a time, a little pig lived with her mother, and ten sisters and brothers in a large sty on the edge of a wood.

One day there was great excitement in the sty, because the postman had just brought a letter addressed to Miss B. Pork. All the little pigs rushed to the door to watch Betsy open it. and twenty-four little brown eyes were turned on her; she opened it, then her tail wagged (this showed she was excited). Then she read the long letter, slowly and solemnly. In short it was a letter inviting the whole family to spend a month at the seaside. Then the rush started, and a scramble to start packing, even before her mother Mrs. Pork had said that they could go. But she was a very kind mother. so her children took it for granted that she would consent. Into the cases went best dresses, dresses that had seen the best of their days, nightdresses and others things, all getting crumpled and creased. But no one cared. Eleven very happy piglets went to bed that night, and being very tired they fell straight to sleep.

Next day everything was nice and tidy in the house (for once) and all the children were clean. That night each tail was carefully brushed and put in a curler. Each piglet kept its curler in with the exception of Betsy who thought her tail would curl naturally.

Next morning at six o'clock the piglets jumped out of bed, and found that Mrs. Pork was up with the breakfast ready. "Weak tea and dry toast only," she said to them, "or you will be looking a little green on the coach." Then she noticed Betsy's tail and boxed her ears soundly, thus making Betsy very unhappy.

At nine o'clock the coach arrived at the door, and in clambered the Pork family. After twelve miles riding they came to their destination. Auntie was there waiting for them and they walked happily down to her farm, where apples and pears were lovely and ripe. Betsy sampled the fruit straight away, and found that it was very nice, and she then knew that this, was the start of an exciting holiday.

GISELLE

A breathless hush, .
Then, through the silence
Came stealing the first still notes
Of music.
The darkened stage glimmered with
Softly moving shapes,
That poised, and met, and parted.
With a sigh of skirts they are gone,
And on the stage floats one
Ethereal figure.
Ballerina.
Like a bird, like a swan, she advances.
With the lightness of a leaf.
With the grace of a willow,
Pirouetting.

Wendy Mogg. Upper VA

THE VISION

Mary Hitchings. VA

The mention of sea-gulls reminds me of a terrible experience I once had. I remember it very clearly, almost as though it were yesterday: I was at the time spending a very pleasant week with a friend, Miss Charlotte Cunningham, at Bournemouth, a delightful seaside resort. It was a very hot summer's day in the middle of August, and Charlotte and I were spending a peaceful afternoon basking in the sun, on the far end of the pier. From our position we could see people, young and old, creaming into the arcade at the end of it. The tide now lapped peacefully on the golden sand, and although the current was strong around and under the pier, we could see many people taking advantage of the cool water, on the edge, and in the deeper water around us.

Sea-gulls swooped around the heads of the people on the pier, darting at the tempting tit-hits held out to them; their harsh screams mingling with the noise of the arcade and shrieks from the adventurous swimmers.

My attention was then turned towards the end of the pier, to where children clambered for ice-cream or candy floss, which held their questioning eyes as the stalwart, red-faced man swirled the pink foam around a cardboard stick. I glanced half interestedly, to the entrance, where people were handing over their twopences to the men at the gates. Then I caught sight of a youngish woman coming along the pier holding a small boy by the hand; clenched in his free hand was one of the candy flosses. He was about four years old, and his pink, chubby face reminded me of the picture of a cherub I had once seen, except that the wings were lacking. On his head he wore a white sun hat, from under which extended a lock of golden hair.

The couple drew nearer; then suddenly the child wrenched himself free from his mother's grasp, and ran to the side of the pier.

He piped up in a high treble voice.

“Mummy, can I feed the sea-gulls ?”

“Not now dear,” replied the woman.

“Please Mummy.” he pleaded.

“No Alexander “ scolded his mother sharply.

Alexander immediately sat flat on the floor and pursed out his “lips his mother gently told him to get up, but he remained in this position, mumbling. “Want to feed the seagulls” (I personally, felt like smacking the little wretch, who, as he was now bore no resemblance to a cherub). The poor woman looked very distressed, but she said patiently “You cannot feed the seagulls, Alexander.” Alexander then let Out a wail of anger, which pierced the air, and many people turned to stare at him, some amusedly, smiles playing round the corners of their mouths, others with looks of disgust as if to say, If he were my son! His mother, now thoroughly embarrassed, said hastily, “Well, all right then dear, but not for long.” Alexander’s face immediately changed; he smiled sweetly, and ran to the edge of the pier, but, on finding the rail of the pier out of his reach, he let forth another wail, and his mother quickly ran to his side looking very flustered. “What is it dear ?” she asked.

“I can’t reach .the top of the rail,” he wailed.

“I’ll lift you up then, darling.”

“Don’t want to lifted, want to stand on the rail.”

She, afraid of another outburst, placed him on the rail, putting in his chubby hand a piece of cake, which she took from a bag. He broke off small portions of cake and, with chuckles of delight, threw them into, the air, while the shrieking birds swooped, and in one dart the portions of cake disappeared.

It was then that fear gripped my heart with icy hands, for it seemed as though everything had disappeared except one, that child standing precariously on a rail. Then, in this fearful vision. I saw the child slip from the rail, and with one wild clutch at the air, fall down, down, as though into a black, bottomless pit, I regained my full consciousness, but still with that feeling of fear in my heart. I wanted to spring up and seize the child (still standing there) and place him safely on the ground. But it seemed as though some supernatural power held me to the chair, and I remained immovable. Then came a moment never to be forgotten—a moment of horror. The child had thrown the last portion of cake to those swooping, shrieking birds: his mother held him carelessly with one hand, while she talked intently to a friend who had chanced to pass. The mischievous little boy leant forward, straining to look at some objects in the water. His mother felt him wrenched from her grasp; she screamed wildly, I watched transfixed the child clutched frantically at the air, as though seeking for a grasp; his hat flew from his head, and the candy floss was released from his clutch. A seagull swooped and caught it, flying away as though in a moment of triumph, pursued by other shrieking, ghastly creatures. The child had uttered no cry, it had all happened so suddenly. The frail body struck the water which, in one swoop carried it under the pier.

Those on the shore who had observed the fearful spectacle watched, stricken with horror. A few swimmers searched valiantly for the body, but all in vain, he was gone, gone forever.

I. felt sick, my head swam, and with the wild, frantic cries of the crying mother calling for her lost child. and the squawking and wailing of the gulls ringing in my ears, I fainted, a deep dead faint.

Never, never have I forgotten that nightmare, that child falling. falling into space, the look of. anguish on the face of that poor, grief-stricken mother, crying for her dead child.

I have never since visited Bournemouth.

MISERERE DOMINIE!

(Lines produced after an order for heroic couplets).

Patsy Harvey. VI

Casting my gaze around this prisoning room,
Nought I perceive, save heaviness and gloom.
O hopeless wights, no solace can you find;
With ghastly horror are your young brows lin'd.
Now here in dismal silence do you sit,
Summoning limping Muses, halting wit.
Some beat their doleful breasts, some tear their hair,
—(A pity this, they curled it with such care).
Black, black the misery in each leaden heart,
Woe unalloyed—' Now, Sixth Form, you must start.
O miserere domino, we cry,
Our tears gush forth, no single eye is dry.
Later, when Dian's car illumes the night.
Still these young slaves of duty, wail their plight.
Our rustic Muses will all week be vexed— These couplets must be done by Tuesday next I'

EXAMINATION RESULTS

We congratulate the following on their examination Successes

B.A. Hons. Bristol: Beryl V. Mackay.

County Major Scholarship : N. Daley.

University of Bristol, Higher School Certificate, 1949 :E. F.

Addis, Biology, Chemistry, Geography; Enid M. Burgess, English,
History, Geography; N.. Dally. Biology (G), Chemistry (G), Geography
(G); Mary .I. Heal. Biology. Geography. History; L. G. Hummerstone.
Biology, Chemistry, Geography; P. Nott, Chemistry, Mathematics,
Physics. (G)—Good.

University of Bristol, School Certificate, 1949 : Patricia S. Arnold,

Janet C. Ball (m), Pamela N. Betty (m), D. I. Biddle, R. D. Biggin
(m), Patricia M. Brown. Shirley J. Chase, Mary F. Cornock, Faith M.
Fenton (m), Mavis F. Gill. F. A. Godfrey. Sylvia M. Gopsill, Patricia
M. Harvey (ml, Kathleen M. Haskins, Patricia A. Hathway, Mary M.
Hulbert (m) Barbara F. Kear (m), Sheila Nelmes (m). Janice M. Newman. J. Mary Nicholls (m).
Beryl E. Palmer. Doreen E. Parker, Moreen

A. Parker, Joan D. Parsons (m), Muriel F. Payne (ml, Barbara R.
Penny, Doreen E. K. Poole, Frances H. Riddiford (ml, Eveline M.
Robinson, Pauline M. Robson (m), A. E. Sandifer. K. St. G. Smyth,
G. W. Spratt, C. L. M. Summers. R. M. Teague (m). Gillian Thierry.
Jean D. Thompson, G. V. Tout, R. S. Vizard, Patricia A. Ward,
Maureen L. Weaver, Ioan M. Willis, P. R. Yeeles. (m).—matriculation

Commercial Certificates, 1949. 'Typewriting—Stage I : Margaret E. Bishop, P. A. J.

Clutterbuck. V. L. Gino, C. S. Haines, Marjorie Huckle (credit). M. W. Pierce.

Book-keeping—Stage I : Margaret E. Bishop, P. A. I. Clutterbuck (credit), M. W. Pierce,
Cynthia M. Tomkins.

Pitman's Shorthand Speed Examinations: Margaret E. Bishop.

M. W. Pierce (70 w.p.m.), P. A. I. Clutterbuck (60 w.p.m.)

SPORTS

SWIMMING 1949

A hot spell of weather early in the term indicated that conditions would not be too severe in the open-air
baths, and this was the case. There was a slight delay before the Thornbury Baths were available and then
practising went ahead with enthusiasm. The number swimming distances was greater than ever before and this is
a good indication of the growing popularity of this summer sport.

The sports were held at Severn Beach and this year the weather

was quite hot, which made the proceedings, especially for the competitors, much more enjoyable. A committee of the Thornbury Rural District Council paid, a visit to the baths whilst the sports were in progress, and was impressed by the eagerness of the entrants.

The Rabley Shield was retained by Stafford House with 165~ points, the runners-up being Howard House with 149- points. Clare House has 'improved its position quite considerably this year by securing 107 points.

The Thurston Cup was won by Jennifer Rouch with an aggregate of 14 points, and the Harwood Cup by Walters with 12 points. The Harwood Cup will be presented as a trophy to the first boy who wins it three times, and then it will be replaced by another cup.

The Thornbury Baths are being renovated and improved and they will not 'be in operation for some time. Arrangements are going for.. 'ward for alternative accommodation but this is not yet finally settled.

ATHLETICS, 1949—50

The end of the summer term, 1949, was remarkable for the unbroken spell of fine weather in July, and heats were run off during a hot spell which seemed to reach a climax on Sports Day, July 25th.

This year an attempt was made to include more athletics in the normal P.T. lessons, and it was gratifying to see some improvement in the style of jumping and hurdling. T. Reaney cleared 4ft. 5in. in the Under 15 High jump, only 2in. under the record, using the Western Roll jump, and D. Hamilton lowered the 100 yards Hurdles record to 13.9 seconds.

Long Jumping seems to be on the up-grade, and in the Under 15 group, W. Rudledge established a new record at 6ft. 9in.; in the senior event, all five finalists jumped more than 17ft. Ten years ago the winning jump in the, senior group was a mere 15ft. 10in.

This year, the sprinting was, on the whole, rather disappointing. It is true that R. S. Vizard established a new record for time Open 100 yards, 10.55 seconds, but, considering the excellence of the weather. times for other events were poor. The longer races were good, and M. Pierce deserves mention for winning both the mile and half-mile events.

Awards : House Athletics Shield

(Presented by the Old Thornburyans Society)	Howard
The Molton Cup for House junior Athletics	Stafford
The Wilmot Cup~ (Victor Ludorum)	D. Hamilton (H)
The Stephens Cup, (Victrix Ludorum) ... Rhona Ewins (<i>I-I</i>)	

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL, 1950

The School Association Football XI under the captaincy of I. Hannaford was undefeated throughout the season. The side quickly settled down to a three-back game and, with Biddle at centre-half. the defence rapidly gained confidence. The success of the side largely lay in the sound play of the wing half-backs and the inside forwards. Hannaford, at left-half, was a keen and relentless tackler who, when the opportunity presented itself, came upfield to show excellent understanding with Hamilton and Vizard, the inside forwards. There was a weakness on the wings. Woodward and Rudledge. pressed into service in these positions, tried hard but they tended to drift into the middle or, when given the opportunity to make a beeline for the goal and, have a shot, they passed inside. Both improved considerably during the term. In Hawkins. the School had a centre-forward who shoots well and hard. His slowness is diminishing and next season we hope to see him at his best.

Whilst congratulating all the side on their season's record, I should like to single out Hamilton as the live wire and schemer-in-chief of the forward line, and to recommend as an example to all would-be members of the team, the dour tackling and the tireless trying of Hannaford, the skipper.

The Juniors enjoyed only moderate success. This was due chiefly to a lack of forwards with any shooting ability. Approach work generally was good, but the forwards were woefully weak in front of goal. Their biggest lapse was the defeat by Dursley', away, after beating them 13-1 at home

1st XI RESULTS .

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
Jan. 28	Cotham CS. 2nd XI	A Won	6---2
Feb. 4	Dursley G.S. 1st XI	H Won	4---0
Feb. 11	K.L.B. CS. 1st XI	H Won	7---0
Feb. 22	Baptist College .XI	H Won	7--0
Feb. 25	Bible Churchmen's College	H Won	13---5
Mar. 4	Dursley CS. 1st XI	A Won	6---1
Mar. 11	Old Thornburians' XI	H Won	3---2
Mar. 18	Cotham CS. 2nd XI	H Won	6---1
April 1	Chipping Sodbury CS. 1st XI	H Won	6---1

JUNIOR XI RESULTS

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
Jan. 28	Cotham CS. Junior XI	A Won	4 - 1
Feb. 4	Dursley G.S. Junior XI	H Won	13---1
Mar. 4	Dursley G.S. junior XI	A Lost	4---1
Mar. 9	K.L.B. G.S. Junior XI	H Lost	2---1
Mar. 18	Cotham CS. junior XI	H Lost	1---0
April 1	Chipping Sodbury CS. Junior XI	A Won	2 - 1

Colours Re-awarded for the 1st time – Hamilton, Lewis and Vizard. Awarded—Biddle, Williams, Summers, Hawkins and Hannaford.

RUGBY—AUTUMN TERM, 1949

Instead of playing Rugby in the Spring this year. we re-arranged the fixtures for the Autumn Term. With a number of the previous season a players still at school, the prospects for the 1st XV appeared quite rosy, but on closer examination two key positions were vacant

—stand-off half and full back. D. Hawkins filled the stand-off position, and although lacking in match experience, he played well throughout the season. The full back vacancy was inadequately filled until Biddle came out of the pack and played surprisingly well, considering his lack of experience in th^{is} part of the field.

The forwards had learnt from their previous matches, to follow up on all occasions, and were given a very good lead by Lewis and Hannaford, ably backed by Bullen. The scrummaging looked good but the ball sometimes did not come out cleanly, and this in turn did not give Cooke at scrum half, that little extra time to clear the ball and get the backs on the move. However Cooke played extreme^{ly} well, both offensively and defensively: his occasional short break through often created a gap in the opponents' defence, and then, with two powerful centres in Hucker and Vizard, the tries were produced, Hamilton and Selwood on- the wings going for the line with speed and dash. The tackling is still variable, and is a weakness which needs great individual attention.

At the end of the term, Hannaford and Lewis took part in the Bristol Schools Rugby Trials, and Cooke played in the Junior Trials and was also selected for some matches during the holidays.

The 1st XV ended the season unbeaten. the narrowest margin being a draw with Fairfield Grammar School, after three tries were thrown away by kicking the, ball over the dead ball line.

The Junior XV played some matches this term and gained some experience which will be of value when they take their places in the Senior Side. They must realise, however, that Rugby is a team game, and that individual efforts are easily quashed by the defence. If they learn to combine there are quite good prospects ahead.

The seven-a-side competition was extended to cover the junior sides as well, and the Rugby Shield was retained by Howard House.

1st XV RESULTS, 1949

	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Venue Result</i>	
Sept.	24 Kingswood CS. 1st XV	A Won	24—0
Oct.	1 Fairfield G.S. 1st XV	A Won	14—9
Oct.	15 Marling School 2nd XV	A Won	9—0
Oct.	22 Cathedral School 1st XV	H Won	18—0
Oct.	29 St. Brendan's College 2 nd XV	A Won	16—8
Nov.	12 Cathedral School 1st XV	A Won	6—3
Nov.	19 Fairfield CS. 1st XV	H Drew	8—8
Dec.	3 Kingswood CS. 1st XV	H Won	26—0
Dec.	17 Marling School A XV	H Won	28—0
	Points for 149	Points against 28.	

JUNIOR XV RESULTS

	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Venue Result</i>	
Oct.	15 Kingswood G.S. junior XV	H Won	11—3
Oct.	29 St. Brendan's College junior XV	A Lost	3—29
Nov.	26 Berkeley Secondary School 1st XV	A Won	13—3
Dec.	3 Marling School Junior XV	A Lost	0—28
	Points for 27.	Points against 63.	

Colours Re-awarded for the 1st time—J A. Hannaford.
 Awarded—W. B. Davies, D. Hamilton, A. Hucker,
 R. Vizard, M. D. Lewis, D. Cooke.

HOCKEY, 1949-1950

1st. XI *Captain* Jennifer Rouch

Play this season did not reach the high standard of last year, largely owing to the fact that four of the previous season's defence had left. The forward line, however, remained intact apart from the right wing. The forwards, held together by Jennifer Rouch as centre, have shown reasonably good teamwork. This, however, was weakened when Miriam Craik-Smith left us during the Spring Term. Eileen Powell has filled the gap and has shown considerable promise as left inner.

The half-back line has played consistently throughout the season, showing a good link between the defence and the forwards.

The full-backs have played fairly steadily but they must clear the ball more effectively when hard pressed.

In the Gloucestershire County Trials two members were chosen for the Junior XI - Beryl Palmer. and Miriam Craik-Smith, who captained the team. They have played in four county matches, when their absence from the School 1st XI was felt.

Jennifer Rouch was chosen as a Reserve in the Senior County Trials and played in the match between Gloucestershire and Somerset 2nd XI's at Weston-super-Mare.

Of the fifteen matches played this season two have been lost and thirteen won. The matches with Bristol University 2nd XI, Redlands Ladies XI and Fairfield Grammar School 1st XI were the outstanding games of the season.

Junior XI; Captain : Joan Bishop

The positions in the team have been re-arranged from time to time and few players have really settled down. However, there is great promise among most of the members, who should soon be able to turn individual efforts into effective team-work.

This year the school has not fielded -a regular 2nd XI, since we felt that, with the two teams only, a higher standard of play could be reached.

1st XI RESULTS

<i>Date</i>	<i>opponents</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Result</i>
Oct. 1	Redland High School 1st XI	H	Won 10—0
Oct. 8	Colston's Girls' School 1st XI	A	Won 5—0
Oct. 15	Kingswood G.S. 1st XI	H	Won 4—1
Oct. 22	Fairfield CS. 1st XI	H	Won 8—1
Oct. 29	Badminton School 1st XI	A	Won 8—4
Nov. 16	University 2nd XI	H	Won 3—1
Nov. 19	Old Thornburians' XI	A	Won 10—5
Dec. 10	Stroud High School 1st XI	H	Won 9—0
Jan. 14	Kingswood CS. 1st XI	A	Lost 2—3
Jan. 21	Old Thornburians' XI	H	Won 7—1
Feb. 4	Redland Ladies XI	H	Won 6—5
Feb. 22	Bristol University 2nd XI	H	Won 7—4
Feb. 25	Chipping Sodbury CS. 1st XI	H	Won 5—2
Mar. 18	Stroud High School 1st XI	A	Lost 3—
Mar. 25	Fairfield G.S. 1st XI	H	Won 7—4

JUNIOR XI RESULTS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Result</i>
Oct. 1	Redland High School junior XI	H	Lost 3—1
Oct. 15	Kingswood CS. Junior XI	H	Drew 1—1
Oct. 22	Fairfield U.S. Junior XI	H	Won 8—1
Nov. 26	Badminton School Junior XI	H	Won 7—0
Dec. 10	Stroud High School 2nd XI	H	Lost 2—1
Dec. 17	Chipping Sodbury CS. Junior XI	H	Drew 1—1
Jan. 14	Kingswood U.S. Junior XI	A	Lost 2—1
Feb. 25	Chipping Sodbury CS. junior XI	H	Won 6—0
April I	Fairfield U.S. Junior XI	A	Won 10—1

Colours

Re-awarded for the 4th time—Jennifer Rouch.
 Re-awarded for the 3rd time—Miriam Craik-Smith.
 Re-awarded for the 1st time—Beryl Palmer.
 Awarded—Anne Phillips.

CRICKET, 1950

Up to the time of going to press the School XI has had an indifferent season. With six old colours in the side they were expected to improve on last season's fairly successful record, but this has not been the case. That they can put up good scores has been proved by the 186 for 3 against Kingswood and the 175 against Wotton, but there have been some disappointing batting failures. We failed utterly to withstand Cotham's fast bowling and in most of the matches scoring has been poor, except in the case of one player, generally a different one each time.

The fielding has been fairly competent and at times outstandingly good, yet two bad fielding lapses lost us the Dursley match and the match against Wycliffe College 2nds. This only serves to emphasise the need for continual alertness in the field. It is not enough to maintain an aggressive attitude whilst the game is in a critical state. but the batsmen should be made to feel, at all times, that the slightest. chance they offer will be snapped up promptly.

Lewis and Hawkins have been useful opening bowlers, with Hannaford, Redden and Hamilton as a varied change of attack. There have been no outstanding bowling feats this season, except perhaps the 4 for 4 by Hannaford against Kingswood, but a fair standard of accuracy has been maintained.

It is to be hoped that, in the matches which remain to be played., the recent improvement in batting will be maintained and that Hannaford will be able to make his departure from the school as a skipper who twice beat the Old Boys.

The Juniors have lost steadily throughout the season, though an increase in their total score from 23 in the first match to 65 in the last would seem to indicate that they are improving. Their chief fault is a total lack of aggression in batting. They refuse to treat a loose ball with the contempt that it merits, but will persist in pushing and prodding at it, breathing sighs of relief at its not having broken the wicket. They should stop waiting for the one that is going to get them out and start looking for the, one that they can hit.

RESULTS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Venue Results</i>
May 6	Bible Churchmen's College	H Match Abandoned
May 13	Cotham G.S	H Lost (32—104)
May 20	Q.E.H. 2nd XI	H Won (146— 46)
June 3	Dursley G.S,	A Lost (70— 72)
June 10	Wycliffe College 2nd' XI	A Lost (120—121)
June 17	Kingswood U.S	H Won (186— 30)
June 24	K.L.B.G.S	H Drew (17's -- 91)
July 8	Parents XI	H Won (151—129)
July 15	Old Thornburians XI	H Match Abandoned School XI 82 for 4.

JUNIOR MATCHES

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Results</i>
May 20	Chipping Sodbury G.S	A	Lost (23— 24)
June 3	Dursley G.S	A	Lost (28—140)
June 14	K.L.B.G.S	A	Lost (33—105)
June 17	Kingswood G.S	A	Lost (65— 69)

The following players are to be congratulated on their performances —Batsmen D. Hawkins, D. Hamilton and C. Davis. Bowlers J. Hannaford, M. Lewis, D. Hawkins.

TENNIS

At the beginning of this season we were faced with several difficulties which have resulted from having a rather young and inexperienced team. However, the players have worked well and now show considerable promise. Joan Timbrell has taken over the captaincy of the School VI, and her partnership with Pat Timbrell has made a strong steady 1st couple. Wendy Mogg is vice-captain, playing in the 2nd couple with Anne Phillips. The 3rd couple, Rhona Ewins and Josephine Hurcombe are both young players and progressing well so far. Catherine Skinner and Jean Williams are the team reserves and each has played in the team in one match. The team shows a good knowledge of strokes, with accurate volleying ability, and during matches the members have produced some excellent play. As more experience is gained, the team will be more successful.

RESULTS

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Results</i>
May 6	University 2nd VI	A	Lost 56—43
May 13	Badminton School 1st VI	A	Lost 65—34
May 20	Redland High School 1st VI	A	Lost 68—49
June 3	Dursley U.S. 1st VI	A	Won 50—49
June 10	Chipping Sodbury U.S. 1st VI	A	Won 52—47
June 24	Fairfield U.S. 1st VI	H	Lost 63—36
July 1	Stroud High School 1st VI	A	Lost 53—46
July 8	Parents VI	H	Lost 63—36
July 15	Old Thornburians VI	H	Cancelled

ROUNDERS

This term the first outside match ever arranged was played between an under 15 Rounders IX v. Stroud High School IX. The team consisted of:- Heather Thomas (captain). Joyce Bull, Josephine Jones, Joan Bishop, Doris Hooper, Sheila lies, Delga tinn, Barbara Bidwell and Alma Vizard. They played well but were out-classed by a more experienced team, and lost 7—2.

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

The House Cross Country Championships were held on Monday. April 3rd, 1950. Howard boys ran very well in the Senior race, and gained an easy first place, while the Stafford team just succeeded in beating Clara for second place.

Individual placings, (first ten in each race) were as follows

Seniors	Juniors:
D. Green (C)	J. Howell (H)
W. Rudledge (H)	A. Pritchard (S)
D. Hamilton (H)	R. Jackson (C)
B. Bullen (H)	T. Ever hard (S)
D. Hawkins (H)	A. Rosser (5)
-- Cantrill (S)	J. Smith (H)
J. Hannaford (C)	A. Fowell (H)
N. Wills (C)	P. Whittingham (5)
D. Cooper (S)	B. Moorcroft. (5)
R. Vizard (H)	D. Button (C)

House Positions Seniors.—1st. Howard; 2nd, Stafford; 3rd. Clare. Juniors: 1st. Stafford; 2nd, Howard; 3rd. Clare.

Combined Result:	1st HOWARD	20 points
	2nd STAFFORD	18 points
	3rd CLARE ...	0 points

PHYSICAL TRAINING

The number of boys attending additional classes on Fridays has been as high as ever, and, after the December display in the Hall. the seniors were instructed to drop their practices for a term so that more time could be devoted to training the juniors. As a result of this enforced rest, the seniors started serious training again in May with added zest, and the Speech Day display was one of the best the school has given.

The departure of Mr. Harwood at the end of May was a serious blow to us all, and we are most grateful for the hours of hard work he has put in on Friday evenings since he joined the Staff in 1946. The value of his training was evident in the performance of the older boys on Speech Day.

We are sorry that Hawkins and Thompson. who had attended all the practices, were unable to take part in the Display. Those taking part were

W. Davies, (S) B. Bullen. (H); C. Woodward. (5); J. Cantrill, (S); W. Rudledge, (H); D. Wintle. (H); E. Cooper (5); A. Fowell, (H); C. Hawkings, (5); A. Pritchard. (5); T. Whittingham, (C); T. Everhard, (5); M. Pontin, (S).
and last but not least, the two clowns. M. Teague (C); D. Cooper, (S)

HOUSE NOTES

STAFFORD.

Captains: Anne Pritchard and M. D. Lewis.

Stafford House has improved considerably during the last year, and we are now possession of four shields — Games, Association, Swimming, Hockey, the Cricket Bat and the Maritime Trophy. The most pleasing feature of our successes has been the marked improvement of the seniors, and from the promise shown by many of our House members in the middle school, Stafford's run of success should continue. Our next aim is to wrest from Howard the coveted Athletics Shield at the end of this term.

We heartily welcome Miss Burcombe to the House, but are sorry to be losing Miss Nixon and Mr. Loudon, and hope they will be happy in their new appointments.

HOWARD.

Captains: Jennifer Rouch (Autumn and Spring Terms), Marian Thomas (Summer Term) and S. K. Rugman

The past year has been quite a successful one for the House; we still retain the Cross Country Shield, largely through the excellent team-work of Howard runners, the Rugby Shield and Physical Training Shield. We also have the Athletics Shield, which we very much hope we shall hold for the twelfth consecutive year. On last Sports Day Howard members carried off the Wilmot Challenge Cup and the Stephens Cup. Jennifer Rouch won the Girls' Swimming Cup.

We congratulate Stafford on taking two Shields and the Maritime Gun from us, but at the time of writing there is still a chance for us to regain at least one of these trophies.

With so many of our Seniors leaving, it is more important than ever for the Juniors to realise the responsibility they bear to the House and to help in every possible way.

CLARE,

Captains : Joan Timbrell and J. A Hannaford

We are glad to report that the progress of Clare has further improved. Although we are third on the games list, our Junior Girls obtained encouraging results, winning the Hockey Cup, and contributing 20 points towards retaining the Tennis Shield, by winning both their matches. We lost the Cricket Bat to Stafford. T. Walters gained the Swimming Cup.

We won the Reading Competition and the Academic Shield, besides retaining the Music Shield for the third consecutive year.

The House welcomes Mr. Hodge, hoping he will be happy at Thornbury. With deep regret we say good-bye to Mr. Williams, who has been our House master ever since we can remember. We have also lost Miss Gale and Mrs. Williams, Miss Jones and Mr. Hill. We thank them very much for all they have done for us, and wish them every success in the future.

<i>School Captains:</i>	Mavis Gill	Anne Spencer
E. P. Hardman	Sylvia Gopsill	Phyllis Stainer
Jennifer Rouch	Beryl Palmer	Maureen Taylor
Marian Thomas	Doreen Parker	Diana Varnev
<i>Prefects :</i>	Muriel Payne	Sheena Willis
J. A. Hannaford	Ruth Shepherd	Esther White
P. Nott	Jean Thompson	Rosemary Wyman
S. K. Rugman	Patricia Ward	VA
E. B. Selwood	<i>Upper VA</i>	K. Belc'ner
W. B. Davies	D. Elliot	Audrey Cook
Anne Pritchard	D. Cooke	VB
Miriam Craik-Smith	D. Hand	S. Pratt
lean Rudledee	D. Pegler	C. Rickards
Gillian Thierry	I. Perry	T. Williams
Brenda Bradford	T. White ..	Mary Cowan
Ula Reynolds	D. Williams	Miriam Clutterbuck
<i>Sixth Form :</i>	Wendy Artus	Monica Eackett
Faith Fenton	Betty Cox	June Gazzard
Barbara Kear	Margaret Bayliss	Margaret Hathway
Joan Parsons	<i>Upper VB</i>	Brenda Lloyd
<i>T. C. C.</i>	C. Adams	Merice Moore
N. Wills	W. Cornock	<i>JVA</i>
Mary Bishop	D. Hamilton	D. Green
Mary Cornock	A. Hucker	<i>IVB</i>
Janice Newman	B. iennet	P. Monks
J. Rudledge	R. Marshall	Margaret Taylor
J. Willis	R. Messenger	<i>lye</i>
<i>Commercial:</i>	R. Redden	R. Woolston
D. Biddle	J. Webb	Marlene Bevan
A. Sandifer	Marjory Beck	<i>IIIA</i>
C. Summers	lean Fear	P. Harris
R. Vizard	Evelyn Jackson	Sheila Smith
Janet Ball	Rosemary Newman	
Pamela Betty	Patricia Sandifer	

OLD THORNBURIANS.

UNIVERSITY LETTERS:

When one is confronted with a breathless Editor appealing for a "University Letter" - surely female editors should be illegal - it is very difficult to think of an excuse why one should not take on such an extraordinary task and very difficult to find the will to search for one. But how different is the prospect when one begins to write the required four hundred and fifty words! Then it is difficult to realise how one was persuaded to attempt such an onerous task, which could only be accomplished properly by a Shaw or a Cicero. As I do not wish to emulate the superficiality of the one, nor the conceit of the other, I very much fear that this letter will not find a place among the gems of literature.

There are three of us Old Thornburians in the greatest University in England. The late sub-Editor of the School Magazine has risen to dizzy heights as a journalist on the staff of "Isis" the late Editor has not yet lowered himself to such eminence. Perhaps one of the most unfortunate features of Oxford life is its journalism. The river is one of the more pleasant aspects, and here the late sub-Editor over-exerts himself in his College's second eight,—while the late Editor indulges in the milder pleasures of cheering rival crews from the bank and of falling out of canoes on the Cherwell. The female part of the Thornbury contingent, apart from her activities as a tennis player, shows an unhealthy inclination towards work, and the male members do a little of this too on wet days and before examinations. Lectures, however, are

not a great attraction and it is not at all unknown for a mediocre lecturer to be confronted with less than one tenth of his faculty. But such things are more than compensated for by men like Lord David Cecil, C. S. Lewis; Galbraith, Nathaniel Michlem, or in the legal world. Mr Fifort who is extremely lucid and amusing about what must be one of the dulllest and most complicated subjects in the history of English Law. Oxford boasts that it does not possess a Trevelyan.

University Societies are peculiar things, and especially the Union but they do get some excellent speakers. One thinks of Lady Astor, Professor Joad and Mr. Harold Wilson among, countless others of greater and of lesser learning or importance during the last term alone. In 1948 there were a hundred and fifty Societies in the University excluding snorts clubs and College Societies; since then magicians and heralds have been provided for, and there are few tastes which can remain unsatisfied for the undergraduate with unlimited time at his disposal. Needless to say, nobody even remotely approaching such a state exists.

Let us hope that in future Thornbury may always be represented at Oxford, and in ever-increasing strength.

For myself and my colleagues I wish the School all the best both in the coming year and throughout the succeeding centuries.

Jesus College.

Oxford.

It is with many regrets that I have concluded my course at Aberystwyth U.C.W. and returned once more to my native land. On my first arrival I discovered that I had really entered a foreign University College. I was no longer in England but in another country with its own individual life, language, culture and problems. As an Englishwoman I have been assailed and denounced by Welsh Nationalists and Republicans. I have heard a great deal of Welsh spoken and have even acquired a few expressions whose 'exact meaning I do not know, but whose general import is quite clear. No one could possibly leave without having learnt at least one, hymn in Welsh. Students usually enjoy themselves singing while waiting for any function to begin and have even been known to fortify themselves by singing hymns before the doors of Exam. Hall are opened.

If they want to work hard, the town offers few outside entertainments for distraction, only three cinemas and one spasmodic Little Theatre. On the other hand, the main college buildings and hostels are all on the sea-front so that many students prefer to regard the term as a sea-side holiday and keep the vacation for work. The sports fields are also reasonably near compared with the distance at many Universities.

Rowing is quite a popular pastime and there is nothing like the sea splashing against your legs, as you push out the boat, to wake you up at six o'clock in the morning.

Our Rag-week or Inter-coll, week occurs during the Lent term and this year coincided with the parliamentary elections, thus giving us more scope to collect funds for the Old People's Home. Coach loads of students go out harrying the surrounding districts for subscriptions, and for about four days all lectures are cancelled. Among the most important events are the Eisteddfod and sports matches between the University Colleges of Wales, Aberystwyth. Bangor, Cardiff. Swansea. Rag-week is concluded with a grand procession through the town on the Saturday afternoon and a fancy dress ball in the evening.

There is one sacred custom at Aberystwyth called "Kicking the Bar." This phrase at first puzzles less well-informed freshers, but really entails nothing more dangerous than kicking the iron bar or railing at the end of "Prom." All the efforts of the corporation to paint this are of no avail, for the paint is immediately kicked off. Tradition says that if you kick the bar often enough you will pass all your exams.

Aberystwyth.

RECENT EVENTS

Donald Pitcher is now Music Master at Leighton Park School, Reading, and in a recent concert he arranged the music for "The Quakers' Opera," which is an imitation of the "The Beggars' Opera."

Elizabeth Meredith is teaching at Tetbury Grammar School.

Derrick Hawkins left England last August, to travel from Montreal across the North American Continent in sixteen days on a motor bicycle, carrying all his gear in a side-car. He is now working in a City Engineer's Dept. in Vancouver, and has apparently obtained a good job.

Robert Conic; who during his school career was editor of a newspaper issued by the Commercial Form, has had several of his contributions accepted by "Punch."

W. J. Nicholls rows in the Second eight for Worcester College, Oxford. Mary Rouch plays for her college, Lady Margaret Hall, in hockey and tennis.

Marriages: We congratulate the following on their marriages

Margaret Allen; Amy Carter; Mary Cough; Joan Taylor; Mervyn Checker; Kenneth Lydford.

Joyce Cough is going to be married to Terry Godwin in July. Marjorie Humphries, Mary Hewes and Jessie Mersh are to be married in August

Winifred Webb's engagement to Ron Jenkins has also been announced.

OFFICERS

President : The Headmaster.

Vice-Presidents: Capt. Bennett, Miss A. C. Dicker, Mr. S. H. Gayner, Mrs. G. Lanham, Mr. B. S. Morse, Mr. C. H. Ross, Mr. L. C. Thurston,

Chairman: Mr. F. Styles.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. L. Hawkins.

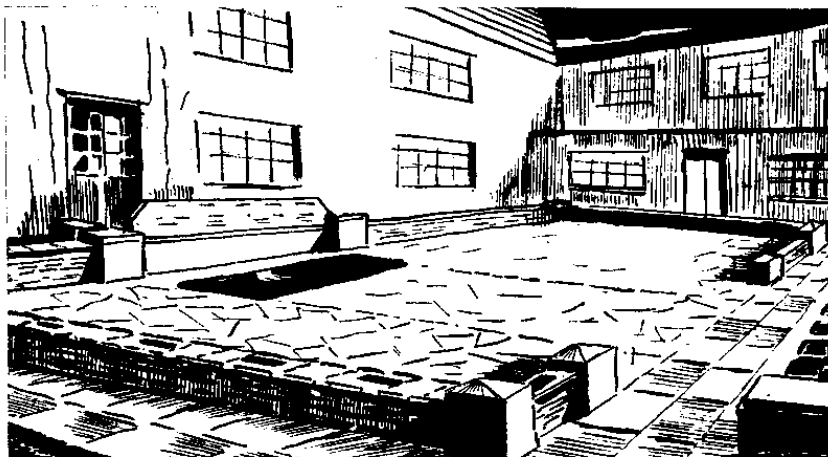
Secretary : Mr. R. S. Bennett.

Treasurer : Mr. C. Excell.

Committee: Miss E. Goodfield, Miss P. Sainsbury, Mr. I. W. Hayward, Mr. A. D. Hosken, Mr. D. Pearce.

Staff Representative: Mr. W. C. Rabley.

The War Memorial in the quadrangle will be laid out during the summer vacation. The fund for this Memorial to Fallen Old Thornburian is still open.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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