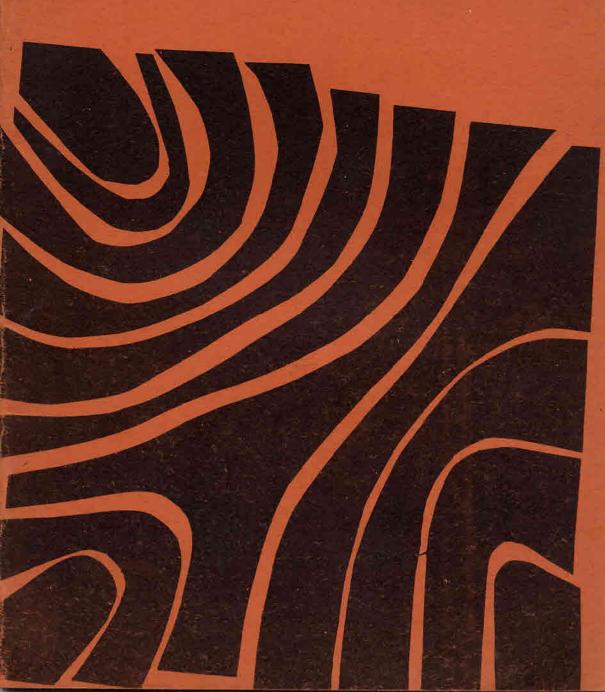
KING EDMUND'S





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KING EDMUND'S SCHOOL MAGAZINE

No.1 1966

FOREWORD

So much has happened this year. In a new building and with new developments we have a magazine in a new form. Our thanks are due to the Editor and contributors for marking our first King Edmund's Magazine with something special.

Any school magazine will fall into the hands of people unconnected with the school, and I was recently congratulated on our last number by someone who is not a parent or an old scholar, but had been interested to read what had been put together on our last year's activities. I hope that this magazine and its successors will give equal pleasure wherever it is read and will help to make King Edmund's a well-known and respected name in the district.

J.K.H.Rose Headmaster

SCHOOL NOTES

As this is the first edition of the King Edmund's Magazine, we have included more items than usual (some written by members of staff) to give as full a survey as possible of the many activities which are being pursued at present. If, unintentionally, we have omitted anybody or anything, we apologise.

First of all we are very pleased to record two honours of the highest order which, we know, have both been the result of years of hard work and may well serve as an example to others. We extend our congratulations to the Chairman of Governors, Mr. L. F. Tily, who earlier this year was created a County Alderman. We were also gratified to learn that the Headmaster had been awarded the Degree of Master of Arts of London University for his thesis on the Pedagogic Works of Isaac Watts.

Pupils and ex-pupils of the school have also distinguished themselves in the scholastic field. We note with pleasure that R.A. Petherick, who left us a number of years ago has recently gained the B.Sc. Degree of London University with Second Class Honours, and that Simon Newton-Smith, who left more recently has been admitted to Redland College of Education. In 1965 we had some particularly good results from the 5th year, including two boys who obtained seven G.C.E. "O" Levels apiece. With several others, Martin Nelson and Bruce Newman then went on to the Sixth Form of Rodway School, where they have since obtained their "A" Levels in Technical Drawing after only one year. Last but not least, our public examination results this year again were most rewarding, and were as follows:-

KEITH BAILEY: Nine passes in C.S.E. (One Grade I)

G.C.E. (O) Level in English Language and Geography.

TONY BRIDGEMAN: Ten passes in C.S.E. (Six Grade Is)

G.C.E. (O) Level in Geography, History, Engineering Workshop Theo-

ry and Practice, General Science and Woodwork.

MERVYN DADSWELL: Eleven passes in C.S.E. (Five Grade Is)

G.C.E. (O) Level in English Language, Geography, History, Reli-

gious Knowledge and General Science.

ALAN DANDO: Ten passes in C.S.E. (Two Grade Is)

G.C.E. (O) Level in Geography and Woodwork.

GARY ILES: Eleven passes in C.S.E. (Seven Grade Is)

G.C.E. (O) Level in English Language, Geography, History, Biology, Mathematics, Engineering Workshop Theory and Practice, General Sci-

ence and Woodwork

ROBERT PEARCE: Nine passes in C.S.E. (Four Grade Is)

G.C.E. (O) Level in English Language, Geography, Mathematics, Engi-

neering Workshop Theory and Practice, Geometrical Drawing, General

Science.

COLIN PRICE: Ten passes in C.S.E. (Two Grade Is)

G.C.E. (O) Level in Mathematics.

TERRENCE RUSHENT: Eight passes in C.S.E.

G.C.E. (O) Level in General Science.

GORDON SMITH: Ten passes in C.S.E. (Two Grade Is)

PAUL TROW: Nine passes in C.S.E.

G.C.E. (O) Level in Geography.

ROBERT WILLISON: One pass in C.S.E.

GILLIAN CANNON: Eight passes in C.S.E. (One Grade 1)

ANGELA CHAPMAN: Ten passes in C.S.E. (Three Grade Is)

LINDA COLES 1 Ten passes in C.S.E. (Four Grade Is)

G.C.E. (O) Level in English Language and Religious Knowledge.

MAUREEN GREENAWAY: Eight passes in C.S.E. (One Grade 1)

VALERIE PULLEN: Nine passes in C.S.E. (Four Grade Is)

G.C.E. (O) Level in Geography and Religious Knowledge.

At the beginning of this term we received a considerable addition to our original staff in the new building. Mrs. L. Bird had left us at the end of the Spring Term. During her stay she had done much to improve the standard of the girls' hockey teams. We were indebted to Mrs. E. Pover who came to replace Mrs. Bird in the Summer Term on a temporary basis in charge of Girls' P.E. and Games. In September we welcomed Miss P. Woods, who is filling the same role permanently. In addition we were pleased to have the services of Mr. W.J. Bomford to teach Art, Mrs. S. Price in charge of French, Mr. E. Plowman for Technical Drawing, Miss E.C. Sprot to teach Domestic Science and Needlework, and Mrs. D.J.Mander to assist with Music on a part-time basis.

During the course of the year, we are happy to note, three members or ex-members of staff have become proud parents. We congratulate Mr. Gibbon (a second daughter, Helen Ruth), Mr. Davis (a son, Peter John) and Mrs. Bird (a son, Stephen).

Apart from the many activities outlined in articles in the Magazine, we would like to mention that an Archery Club has been formed under the guidance of Mr. H. Barton of Bristol Bowmen, and that following the very successful concert given by members of the brass section of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, lessons in the playing of brass instruments have been going full blast under the direction of Mr. P. Hart of Stanshawes East Primary School. The number of pupils who have asked to be instructed in these techniques has been so great that there have not been enough instruments to go round.

Another successful feature of this term's activities has been the "Desert Island Discs" sessions organized by Mr. Davis. At these meetings, held on Wednesdays at 3.45,

members of staff (whose identities have remained cloaked until the last moment) have played their personal selections of records to large audiences of pupils.

We must not forget also those who have quietly continued with their Nature Conservancy activities under the guidance of Mr. Hayes.

The following pupils, aided by Mr. Rescorla, have gained Cycling Proficiency Certificates under the critical but helpful eye of P.C. Kitteringham of the Gloucestershire County Constabulary:- Pat Wintle, Pauline Owen, Vanessa Haines, Catherine Watterson, Shirley Price, Christopher Brown, James Kinman, Richard Trotman, Philip Sims, Paul Price, James Harris, Christopher Pease, Peter Duffield, Ian Brain.

Finally, we must mention the memorable visit of the No.41 Royal Marine Commando in the Summer Term. On this occasion we saw a travelling exhibition, a demonstration of Judo and an exciting display of marching and counter-marching headed by a full Marine Band. However, the most challenging part of the visit was the assault course, erected between the kitchen and the woodwork room. Many pupils were awarded "Tarzan" certificates for successfully completing this, but although cheerful invitations were extended to members of staff by certain scholars who expected to see something spectacular, none of them felt "quite up to it" '.

In conclusion, we would like to thank all those who have contributed items to the magazine and in particular Mr. Withers, Mr. Raine and Mrs. Jupp for their help in raising many of the contributions. We wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and a successful New Year, and hope that they will enjoy reading our first "new look" issue.

SPEECH DAY

Despite the size of our fine hall, it was not possible to accommodate the whole school as well as parents and friends on July 7th for our Annual Speech Day. Mr.C.P. Milroy, Chief Education Officer, came to present the prizes at an occasion presided over by Alderman L.F.Tily J.P., Chairman of Governors.

The ceremony followed its usual pattern and we shall remember especially the great interest shown by Mr.Milroy in the pupils he met, and the singing of the Junior Choir, which was accompanied by some most unorthodox instruments.

Speech Day gives the school a chance to welcome parents and guests and to advertise in the best sense the successes and opportunities we have here. This year there were plenty of both and we could well feel proud of the year's achievements and grateful for what has been done for us.

ALL AT SEA

After lying as moth-eaten plans on an architect's desk for many years, the modern, luxurious floating educational palace, the "King Edmund" was finally ready for launching. The vessel, constructed to the latest design, was owned by the Gloucestershire P. and O. Line.

Excitement mounted as the crew, many of whom had served under the same Skipper and First Mate on the old, battered tug, the "Chip. Sodbury", prepared themselves for-the maiden voyage. Her physical durability in the educational stream posed many questions. "Would the crew work effectively?" "Would the crew work at all?" "Would the passengers co-operate?" "Would the chief stoker get a pleasing response from the boilers?" With these questions unanswered, we set sail.

On our first day at sea, our skipper decided to test his trusty crew in the organisation of the five hundred passengers (some of whom had been "press ganged" in the first place, we might add). Alas, tragedy struck our vessel. Unknown to our skipper, the Fire Authorities had boarded our ship to check the fire alarms. An old English Law made this possible as our vessel was still in coastal waters.

With fire and "duty change" bells ringing, chaos reigned. Panic seized some of the crew, and in this state of disorder many passengers were forced overboard. Others, too, were kept in the sea as the three main hatches were closed for fear of mutiny on the gangways leading to the top deck, where much expensive scientific equipment was stored.

However, all is now well as we sail into November, except perhaps to say our skipper has had to remind some of the passengers to let off their explosives when on shore leave and not in mid-Atlantic.

K. Davis

HOLIDAY ON THE RHINE

On the 4th of August, 1966, I set out with the school party accompanied by six adults for a holiday in Western Germany.

We started early on the Thursday morning and travelled by coach to London. From there we went by train to Dover where we caught the boat to Ostend.

At about 10 o'clock we arrived at Blankenberge where we stayed for the first night. Blankenberge was a lovely town and we were very lucky to be in a hotel which faced on to a three mile long beach. The water, a deep blue, was part of the North Sea.

Next morning, after a breakfast of rolls and coffee, we left for the German frontier. On our way we passed through open fields and small towns until we arrived at Bruges, one of the oldest cities in Belgium, where we stopped for a few hours. We walked around and went to the Great Square called "Grand Place". Here we went up a large and beautiful belfry, from which we could see the impressive city of Bruges.

From Bruges we went to Ghent which is on the confluence of the Lys and the Scheldte. Brussels was the last city we passed in Belgium. It is a city of magnificent churches and houses. From Bruseels we made our way to the German frontier at Aachen. When we reached the frontier we were stopped by the Belgian and German Police for a passport check.

We were now in Germany, and after travelling for many miles through town and country we arrived at St. Goarshausen where we stayed for five days of our holiday. St. Goarshausen is a very small and picturesque town. It is situated beside the Rhine and on both sides of the river are vine covered hills. Opposite St. Goarshausen there is another small town called St. Goar. During our trip we crossed the Rhine by ferry to St. Goar to see an old ruined castle which had partly been restored. Every day we left our hotel and went to different places along the Rhine. On the day we went to Boppard we walked along its mile long promenade which is by the side of the Rhine. Koblenz was the second town we visited in Germany. It is an ancient fortress town of statues and old building

Bonn was the next city we visited. It is the capital of West Germany, and Beethoven, the great composer and musician, was born there. Limburg, a town of bridges and churches has pretty houses and small cobbled streets. From Limburg we drove through the Taunus woods to Wiesbaden where springs are said to cure diseases. In Wiesbaden we went to the Opera House Gardens to see the beautiful flower beds. From Wiesbaden we went to Rudeshiem, where we caught a pleasure steamer down the Rhine to St. Goarshausen. On the way we saw the Lorelei, a high sheer cliff which has a whirlpool at the foot of it. The legend says that sailors were lured to their death here by mermaids.

Two days later it was time to leave and after a night at Ostend we left on a ferryboat for England. We arrived back in Chipping Sodbury at 8.30 p.m. on Thursday the llth of August.

June Beer 3A

HOW TO PLAY A BRASS INSTRUMENT

On October 21st the school was entertained by a small group from the Brass Section of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. We looked forward to the performance with mixed feelings, wondering what would be the general reaction. However, the afternoon was a huge success, especially as school closed about ten minutes earlier than usual.'

The four instrumentalists from this large orchestra of some ninety players gave a very entertaining and sometimes humorous performance. Mr.Wise, the lead trombone, explained the varied and unbelievable sounds which could emulate the other sections of the orchestra. There was great hilarity when certain pupils went to the platform to try their hands and cords (or discords).

Excerpts were played from "The Trojan March" by Bizet, strains from "Coronation Street", the "William Tell Overture", the French Horn solo from "The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra" by Benjamin Britten and (a most exhilarating end to the afternoon), the "Trumpet Voluntary" by Jeremiah Clarke (or Purcell). Before departing, the musicians were thanked by the Headmaster

C. Ward

FIELD DAY IN THE MENDIP HILLS

After almost a week of wet days Thursday June 30th brought a lucky break in the weather and members of 4A, and those from the 5th who had finished their examinations, set off for a Field Day in the Mendip Hills accompanied by Mr. Hayes and Miss Watkins.

First we visited the interesting caves at Wookey Hole, near Wells, where the guides showed us stalagmites and stalactites which had been forming slowly for millions of years. Their many colours betrayed the various rocks and minerals over which the water had trickled.

After browsing around the museum, which contains some of the historical objects unearthed from the caves, we crossed the Mendip Hills to the deep gorge of Burrington Coombe where a pause was made for lunch. This was followed by a climb to Goatchurch cavern, a swallet hole, down which one of the Mendip streams used to disappear, but where water flows now only during very rainy weather, as the local water board has tapped the stream. After looking at the Swallet Hole we turned our attention to a study of some of the plants which were growing on the sand-stone and limestone of the slopes.

The rest of the afternoon was spent on Winchcombe Hill, which is one of the higher Mendip Peaks. It took us about half an hour to climb to the triangulation point at the

top and then the party were engaged first in compass bearing and map reading work and then on another botanical study.

This was a very worthwhile expedition which formed an enjoyable culmination to the geographical work of the previous weeks.

K.E. Watkins

A HOLIDAY CRUISE

We left Yate with Mr. and Mrs. Willmott and Mrs. Rose at 8.00 a.m. on August 21st. Our destination was Tilbury. Once there we boarded the 12,800 ton cruise ship 'Devonia'.

On our way to Tilbury we stopped at Marlborough for refreshments. We stayed here for about half an hour. After leaving Marlborough we went on the M.4 to London. In London we passed Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament, and stopped in Whitehall to wait for the other coach. We waited for roughly an hour. As the other coach did not come, we then moved on towards Tilbury. We passed some lovely flower gardens. One was one mile long.

We arrived at Tilbury rather later than expected. After going through the customs we boarded the 'Devonia' and set sail at 3.00 p.m. For the rest of the day we settled in. On the Monday we stopped at St. Peters Port, Guernsey, to collect some other pupils who were to join us on the cruise. When we hit the Bay of Biscay it was wonderfully calm. During the day we had lectures on the places we were to visit the following day. On our way to Vigo, we received a distress signal from a ship called 'Caltex of Bristol', and so we had to turn around to get to the 'Caltex¹ and collect the captain, who had a suspected broken collar bone. After collecting him we proceeded on to Vigo, in Spain.

On arriving at Vigo we were greeted by many people. It was a fairly hot day and we were told that we could go around the town to shop. Of course we had to go in groups. In the afternoon we went on a guided coach tour. This was very exciting. One of the places visited was 'Monte del Castro'. From here you can see Vigo Bay and other wonderful views. While we were in Lisbon we had a guided coach tour. We saw a huge monument in memory of Henry the Navigator. We also visited an Aircraft Museum, also we saw some old carriages with men in them, which were very realistic. There were also model ships and soldiers. While we were going along in the coach we passed the Royal Palace, and the "white horse". (It was painted greeny black). After this visit we were on the sea for four days.

We arrived at Amsterdam in Holland on the morning of August 29th, and in the afternoon we went on a waterbus tour. On this tour we saw Rembrandt House and Leidsen-lein, and went under Meagre Bridge. In the port where we docked was a statue made from a propeller. After a night in port, the next day we went shopping in our respective groups. We left Amsterdam at 2.00 p.m. on August 30th to head back for Tilbury. Soon we ran into some typically dull English weather, and left the ship at 1 0.30. We stopped in Reading for lunch and arrived back in Yate at 5.20 p.m.

Lorraine Bracey, 4B.

A Visit to the Mentally Handicapped Centre at Downend

One afternoon last July a group of boys and girls from last year's 4A and the 5th left school with Mr. Davis to catch a "bus to Blackhorse Road near Downend. Our destination was the Downend School for Mentally Handicapped Children.

On our arrival we were met by the Principal. He directed us to the staff room, where he gave us a talk about the school. He split us up into two groups, then he showed one group around while the others waited in the staff room.

On the tour he showed us what the children did. They were split into four groups in separate compartments. In the first the children made boat tabs. They also reinforced paper bags and put on the handles and packed cards which they had counted out. In the second compartment they assembled ball point pen fittings. The third compartment was for Domestic Science. Here they learnt to make their own beds and cook. The fourth compartment was a woodwork room where picture frames were made and wood was chopped for school use.

The children were aged from ten to sixteen. Some were "mongols", others were mentally handicapped in some other way, the rest were physically handicapped. We talked to some of them and then went back to the staff room and waited while the others went around. We passed the remaining time by looking at a show case which contained items made by the children. When the other party came back, we had a cup of tea and asked questions about the school. After thanking the Principal for our very interesting afternoon, we returned home.

Marjorie Hedge and Mary Hurford 5A.

COWLEY MANOR VISIT

On the morning of Friday July 8th 1966, a party of 21 girls and 18 boys from the 3rd year accompanied by Miss Watkins and Mr. Ferguson set off for the annual visit to Cowley Manor. The purpose of the visit was to make a geographical and historical survey of Cowley and some of the neighbouring villages.

The journey from school to the Manor took about one hour and upon arrival the party proceeded to their bedrooms where beds had to be made and luggage unpacked. After coffee and biscuits at eleven o'clock there was a welcome and introductory talk by the Warden, Captain Grant.

As the sun was shining when the talk ended the party set out for a brief tour of the Manor Grounds, followed by a walk up the hill towards Elkstone. As the gradient of this hill is 1 in 6 in some parts, the less energetic found the going rather hard.

After lunch, work on the survey started in earnest and rain later in the day curtailed much of the optional outdoor activities in free time, but table-tennis and badminton were enjoyed by many.

On the Sunday morning we all climbed Elkstone Hill again to attend service at the beautiful Norman church where lessons were read by Kay Forsey and Peter Martin. Some people were fortunate enough to get a lift part-way by Mr. Ferguson's "taxi-service" but others were strong enough to walk both ways.

Throughout the visit many of the party used the Swimming Pool during their free time although it was never very warm. At times there was a crowd in the gym', and when it was dry enough some tennis was played.

By 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday the local survey was as near complete as such work can ever be and an exhibition was staged. Everyone felt well satisfied with what they had achieved in four working days (Saturday included) and the group leaders were called upon to "sum-up" the ground covered by the groups.

After dinner that night a couple of hours' Square Dancing was thoroughly enjoyed by every-body and the following morning rooms were tidied, luggage packed, and all equipment collected. At 1.45 p.m. the coach arrived to bring the party home.

K.E. Watkins

VISIT TO COUNTY RECORDS OFFICE

On the morning of Wednesday March 6th six members of 4A together with Mr. Ferguson and Mrs.Ward set out from Chipping Sodbury to visit the County Records Office and the Folk Museum at Gloucester. We were first to see maps and documents concerning the Sodbury district together with some on the Civil War in Gloucestershire.

On arrival at the Records Office we found that Mr.Smith, the Assistant Archivist, had laid out for us a political map of the county, drawn to show the areas of Roundhead and Cavalier occupation. Also we found a number of photostat copies with the signatures of Oliver Cromwell and Prince Rupert. After we had browsed through these most interesting documents Mr.Smith showed us the vaults beneath the building where the valuable documents are kept in airtight cabinets to stop them disintegrating.

Having left the Records Office, we made our way to the Folk Museum. On the top floor of this small Tudor building (or rather two buildings joined into one) I found what I thought to be the most interesting articles in the whole museum. These were a pin-making machine and an assortment of cider-presses. Another interesting showpiece was a scene depicting rural life and showing the types of cow, sheep and pig that could be found in Gloucestershire during the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

After a most enjoyable morning we climbed back into the mini-bus and arrived back in Chipping Sodbury in time for lunch.

James Newton-Smith 5A

VISIT TO BERKELEY (FORM 2A)

We left school witrr Mr. Ferguson at 9.00 a.m. on Tuesday September 27th and arrived at Berkeley at 9.30 a.m.

In the church there are some relics of the Norman period. This church was most probably built by Robert Fitz Hardinge. It was taken down and built up again in the 13th and 14th centuries. There are many mural paintings of Christ and The Saints. In a little room cut off by a window of glass are the tombs of the whole Berkeley family. This room was built in the 15th or 16th century. In the large wooden doors of the church there are many holes and patches, traces of the Civil War. The font is of ordinary white stone, built in the Norman period. High on the walls are Norman Period paintings for decorative use.

In the Kitchen of the Castle we saw three large arches. These were once used as ovens. They cooked their meat on hand-driven spits, but they are now electrically-driven. The walls of the kitchen are very high. In the middle of the Great Hall we saw the dining table laid out with a very fine silver dining service for about 75 people. There was also a raised platform at one end. It most probably was used for a kind of band for the diners' entertainment. Also there was a large tapestry screen most probably used for stopping the smell or draught coming from the kitchen. There were quite a lot of paintings, mainly portraits of the Berkeley family.

We boarded the coach again shortly after 11 .30 and arrived back just in time for Dinner.

Kim Tremayne 2A

THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

The library is now established as an integral part of school life. Most forms have at least one period a week either working on projects or free reading. The main aim is to help children to use books and to enjoy reading them. As the initial grant was very gen-erous₇the money has been spent to form a basic library which will fulfil most reading needs, not only now but in the future, when the comprehensive system is envisaged.

The work of accession, classification and cataloguing is up^-to-date and nearly 1200 books have been purchased since February. A modified Dewey Decimal system has been adopted and the users of the library are beginning to be familiar with the system. Most sections are representated and the books are chosen by the librarian, members of the staff and by the children.

In the general reference section are several encyclopaedias, 14 volumes of the Life Nature Library, 18 Volumes of "Knowledge" and the current Whitaker's Almanack. A section specifically for members of the staff has copies of David Holbrook's works, "Teachers & Machines", "Escape from the Classroom" and the "C.S.E. Handbook for Moderators." Already, there is a considerable range of books of interest in all the academic and practical subjects. Children can find information on most careers, including journalism, teaching, fashion and nursing. The First Aid and St. John's Nursing Manuals are available. The cookery section is well supplied with recipe books from all over the world and has volumes on home management, flower arrangement and dress making. Most sports and hobbies are represented in The Recreation Section, including boxing, judo, scootering, underwater swimming, riding and fishing. There are up-to-date books on the Cinema, Theatre and Television. Some very expensive art and sculpture books have been purchased, such as

volumes on Picasso, Flemish Painting, Greek Sculpture, and the works of Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth.

The fiction section includes a wide selection of novels by classical and modern authors. There are also true adventures told in "The Dam Busters", 'The Man Who Never Was", "The Wooden Horse", "Cruise of the Conrad", and "The Spy Catchers". The biography section is well supplied with collective and individual lives, 'The Burnished Sword¹ and 'San Michele' are a few. The drama section has recently received 'A Man for All Seasons', 'Under Milk Wood¹ and 'Murder in the Cathedral¹..

Most children enjoy their library periods and are improving in their use of the room. They are aware of their good fortune in having such a generously equipped library, and our hope is that the love of books encouraged here will be a source of real enjoyment all their lives.

K. Jupp

STAMP COLLECTING

No one can say for certain when the world's most popular hobby, Stamp Collecting (or Philately) began. It is said to have started in a Paris boys' school when pupils were encouraged to stick foreign stamps in their atlases on the back of the map of each country, presumably to make the subject of Geography more interesting. This may be so, but it is <u>certain</u> that only 10 years after the issue of the first adhesive stamp (the "Penny Black" of Great Britain in 1840) there were several eager collectors. Today the number of serious collectors is estimated to exceed 30 million.

Yet to some people it seems a waste of time, money and effort to accumulate a lot of "tiny pieces of coloured paper", stick them into albums and pore over them with a magnifying glass. Such people do not realise the many ways in which stamps reflect the history of their countries, depict strange landscapes, tell of the customs of many races, portray famous men and women, inform of historical events and the progress of science, and instruct about architecture.

It was in pursuance of these interests that in April of this year we started our own School Stamp Club, as members of the Association of School Stamp Clubs. This is a nonprofit making organisation which enables us to purchase stamps at much below list prices of commercial stamp firms.

We meet regularly, and welcome newcomers who would like to join us.

H.R. Roberts K.Davis

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme for Boys

Last June, five boys, G.Smith, J.Newton-Smith, R.Poole, P.Hawker and J.Dean, gained the Bronze Award. Since then three of them have been working for their "Silver".

Also, at the present time some fifteen boys are working at Bronze Level and by Christmas some ten or so of them will have completed their work. It is hoped that many of them will continue in the scheme at "Silver" Level.

To many boys, the thought of ever gaining a Gold Award is an impossible task - a dream. However, this need not be the case, as has recently been proved by an Old Boy, Tim Fox, who has gained a Gold Award through the Scout Movement. Who said it was an impossible task?

K. Davis

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme for Girls

A number of girls have continued to work on the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme throughout the year - some at Bronze and others at Silver Level.

In order to obtain an award a girl must reach a satisfactory standard in each of four sections and in each section there is a very wide choice of activities. The four sections are Design for Living, Interests and Pursuits, Service to the Community and Adventure.

During the year in the Design for Living Section a series of talks on Hair Style and Makeup were given by Miss Tooth of Yate and a demonstration on the Use of Make-up by a lady demonstrator from Boots (Chemists). In the same section Mrs Roberts gave a series of interesting sessions on, "What to Wear and when to wear it". The girls are grateful to Miss Tooth and Mrs. Roberts for arranging and testing work in this section at both Bronze and Silver level and to Mrs. Gray of Chipping Sodbury for assisting with testing "What to wear and when to wear it" at Silver level.

A wide variety of interests has been pursued - Cooking, Knitting, Drawing, Stamp-collecting, Zoology and Dress making being the most popular.

This term girls are engaged upon a series of weekly talks and practical work on "Mothercraft" given by Mrs Trotman of Chipping Sodbury and we are looking forward to considerable success by those girls who persevere to the end and take their test.

Ten girls have attended an Adventure weekend at the Buckstone Log Cabin, at Staun-ton, near Monmouth at various times during the year. All girls have had good reports from

Miss Ruffles, the Assistant County Youth Organiser about their Adventure Weekends and some very interesting Log Books have been produced. Other girls have complete the Adventure locally at weekends.

Any girl may start work on the Bronze level of the Award on her 14th birthday. You do not need to be outstanding in school work to gain a Duke of Edinburgh's Award but you do need perseverance, good manners and a willingness to enlarge your hobbies in order to make yourself into an interesting type of young lady.

Congratulations to the following who have won awards during the year:-

SILVER Linda Clark Maureen Greenaway

Valerie Pullen Angela Chapman

Jane Perry.

BRONZE Mavis Stinchcombe Yvonne Woodward

Wendy Clark Angela Hillier
Susan Powell Mary Hurford
Mary Smith Veronica Gale

Jacqueline Thomas

Linda Clark, Jane Perry and Angela Chapman have launched out on their Gold Award. This will take quite a long time and a great deal of perseverance. I am sure the good wishes of the school will be with them in their efforts.

K.E.'Watkins.

Cross-Country

This was held, as in past years, in the month of April. Because of our transfer to the new buildings a new course had to be found. This presented some problem at first, but thanks to Mr. D. Leonard (builder) we were able to use his land on the Stan-shawes Estate. Although somewhat shorter than in previous years, the course contained plenty of hedges, gates, mud, water and ploughed fields, and delighted many/especially the Juniors.

Results

Senior Boys		Junior Boys	
1st	Jenner	Grace	
2nd	Grace	Jenner	
3rd	Beaufort	Tyndale	
4th	Tyndale	Beaufort	

BASKETBALL

With the acquisition of a fine gymnasium, inter-house competitions have been built up with the addition of basketball matches.

In the Senior Section, Jenner House were the overall winners, while in the Junior Section, Grace House triumphed. Although many of the lads had not played before, the standard of play itself was extremely good, especially in the Senior Section where fifteen or more baskets were scored in each match. The Juniors were also very enthusiastic about this new game, but tended to play their games much too fast and thus not many baskets were scored. However they will improve and this year we hope for better results.

RUGBY 1966

Autumn Term

Although we have a very full and strong fixture list this term, the 1st XV have to date lost all the six games that have been played. The Juniors have played three games, lost two very narrowly and won the third very convincingly.

The first XV is probably our poorest for some years and to start with lacked both keenness and a fundamental knowledge of the elements of play. However they now seem to be trying desperately hard for a win, and we are hopeful of a victory in the next few weeks.

The Juniors on the other hand are extremely keen and are playing very well. Under the leadership of Jeffrey Lane they are enjoying their inter-school games immensely. By the time they graduate to the 4th and 5th years we should have a fine team.

Overall Positions			Results			
1st	Grace	Grace	37 points	Beaufort	0 points	
2nd	Tyndale	Tyndale	1 5 points	Jenner	14 points	
3rd	Jenner	Jenner	0 points	Grace	11 points	
4th	Beaufort	Beaufort	3 points	Tyndale	33 points	
		Beaufort	3 points	Jenner	27 points	
		Grace	6 points	Tyndale	3 points	

GYMNASTICS COMPETITION

Although this contest is designed for those with special skills, it was encouraging to see people "having a go". The competition was divided into mat work and box work for the Juniors and box work for the Seniors.

In the Senior Section P. Beard was first, C. Wash second and D. Densley third.

In the Senior girls section, Mary Smith was first, Veronica Gale second and Josephine Bubb third.

Junior Results

Box Work			Mat	Mat Work		
1st	S. Taylor	Grace	1st	A. Rollason	Grace	
2nd	S. Thomas	Beaufort	1st	Diane Luton	Jenner	
3rd	M. Earl	Jenner				

The overall winners of the Gymnastic Cup were Grace House.

JUNIOR HOCKEY TEAM 1965-66

Although only seven matches were played last season, the Junior XI lost none of the matches they played. The team was not re-arranged much and this helped the members to work better with each other.

The goalie worked very hard and let through very few goals. The two backs worked steadily throughout the season using vigorous attack and feeding the halves well. The halves backed the forwards up and worked efficiently with the wings although the left half was changed frequently. On some occasions the forwards worked exceptionally well together, while on others, the two inners tended to hang back in the halves' position leaving the wings and centre forward to work alone. Most of the season's goals were scored by the centre forward, Esme Belcher, who was backed up well by the centre half and inners.

Some of the team members played in several senior matches. This helped them along tremendously as they learned some useful tactics from the seniors. On the whole the season's play was good and the team showed much improvement towards the end.

Jane Leonard 4A.

OFFICIAL OPENING

(25TH FEBRUARY 1966)

The new buildings had been occupied in January but were not officially opened until six weeks later in order that some teething troubles could be overcome and the rooms made ready for inspection.



The Headmaster, Chairman of Governors and Duke of Beaufort at the Official Opening

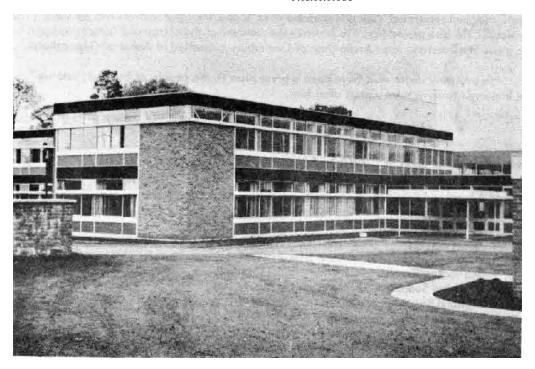
By courtesy of "The Yate and Sodbury Gazette"

His Grace the Duke of Beaufort, accompanied by the Duchess, kindly consented to be present, and the Chairman of the County Council, Colonel Shakerley, presided. Also present were Mr. F.V. Corfield, Member of Parliament for the constituency, and representatives of the County Council and senior administrative officers as well as our own Governors. Some five hundred people were seated in the hall, of whom most were parents who showed a keen and welcome interest in our new school, and there were representatives of the junior and senior scholars.

The Rector of Yate said dedicatory prayers, the Duke of Beaufort unveiled a plaque paid for by the school, and our thanks to him and the Duchess were offered by Mr.Harold Isaac, Chairman of the Sodbury R.D.C. and a school governor. There were refreshments and the buildings were thrown open for inspection.

It was a shorf and simple occasion, but one of dignity and memorable quality and marked what everyone hoped was an important opening chapter in the history of education in South Gloucestershire.

J.K.H.Rose



King Edmund's School (Front View)

C.R. Rescorla

KING EDMUND

We felt that our first "King Edmund's" issue would not be complete without a few lines on the Anglo-Saxon monarch after whom we have been christened.

Edmund I, King of the West Saxons from 940 to 946, was stabbed to death in his Hunting Lodge at Pucklechurch, only a few miles away, after he had tried to stop a notorious outlaw, Leofa, from assaulting his steward. Before this most unfortunate happening he had promised to be one of the most outstanding of the Anglo-Saxon monarchs not excepting his famous grandfather Alfred. During his short reign he earned the titles of "the deed-doer" and "magnificent" and was successful both as a soldier and a statesman. In certain respects his career was much like that of President Kennedy in our own time, although his influence, of course, was not so world-wide.

Having reconquered England between Watling Street and the Humber from the Vikings and taken the five Danish boroughs (Lincoln, Stamford, Leicester, Derby and Nottingham). He then recovered York and invaded what is now the Lake District and Southern Scotland. He also passed laws "to improve the manners of the clergy and laity" and had the great St. Dunstan, later Archbishop of Canterbury, installed as Abbot of Glastonbury.

His untimely death must have been a great blow to the people of England, and we are honoured to have been named after him.

Editor.

1ST XI HOCKEY 1965-66

v Kingswood Sec.	WON 4-0
v PatchwaySec.	WON 2-0
v St. Thomas More	DREW 0-0
v Rangeworthy	WON 10-0
v Downend Sec .	WON 4-0
v Brislington Comp.	LOST 4-2
v Chipping Sodbury Grammar	WON 1-0
v Oldland Sec.	DREW 0-0
v Chipping Sodbury Grammar	DREW 2-2
v Downend Sec.	DREW 1 -1
v Filton High U 18's.	LOST 3-1
v St. Thomas More	WON 3-1

COUNTY JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

\mathbf{v}	Clifton High	LOST 3-1)	
\mathbf{v}	PatchwaySec.	WON 1-0)	Final position
\mathbf{v}	Chipping Sodbury Grammar	WON 1-0)	5th out of 20
v	Winterbourne Collegiate	WON 1-0)	

Jun. XI 1965 - 66 Season

Patchway Sec.	WON 1-0
Thornbury Sec .	WON 4-2
Thornbury Sec .	WON 6-1
Brislington Comp.	DREW 2-2
Oldland Sec.	WON 7-0
Downend Sec.	WON 7-0
Filton High	DREW 2-2

Results of House Hockey Matches -Oct. 1966

	WON	LOST
Grace	3	0
Beaufort	2	1
Tyndale	1	2
Jenner	0	3

P.W.

SNAKE

I am Snake, the evil snake, Thin and slimy,"bronze and shiny against the morning light.

I stalk my prey with fiendish care, They must not see my coiling body draw nearer, ever nearer.

One leap and the frog is only a bump in my body.

Then satisfied, I lie in the sand so that all the world can survey my slimy, bronze body.

I am the master of all. All animals run and hide When I draw near, Hoping I am not hungry.

MONTY

Monty is a cat,
Dark
Mysterious
Black.
Crafty in his ways,
He will wander
Through the dark, dusty streets at night.
His great, green eyes
Light up at night.
His black silky coat,
Shines in the light.
His velvet feet walk silently,
Down the dank, dusty, quiet streets at night.

Carol Kelly 1A

SUZIE

Do you like dogs? I do, probably because I'm one of them. Actually I'm a mongrel and they call me Suzie; I expect you know who I mean when I say, "They, or them;" Yesl I mean people - you know - human beings. • They're a funny lot, people, they seem to delight in teaching me tricks. Every night, he, Master, tries to teach me something new, he's even got me shutting the doors now. When they sit down to a meal, especially at tea time, Master calls me in. "Suzie", he calls, "you can come in if you want to". Well, I suppose that means they want me to join them, but honestly I don't really understand, so I hesitate. Then Master says/ "Well if you don't want to come in -". He stresses the "come in", and I understand that, so in I bounce straight through the door and over to the wall where I usually sit.

Then - clang - everyone stops what they re doing and looks at me. I usually lie down and put my paws over my eyes. I know I've done something wrong when they stare at me like that. Then Master says, "Well¹. If you must come in, you might have the decency to shut the door". He's usually got meat on his plate, so I run up to him wagging my tail and snuffling. "You soft dog", he says, "shut the door". "Perhaps he wants me to beg", I think, so I sit on my haunches and bark, which is my way of saying, "Please". "No", shouts Master, and he glares at the door; then I understand, so I raise myself on my hind legs and bang the door shut with my front paws. Then I wag my tail and look expectantly at Master but all he says is, "Properly, shut the door properly". So up I get again and - bang.' Then I get "told off" for scratching the paint work. Anyway, I finally get my piece of meat or biscuit; what a palava'.

He has tried to get me to do something he calls 'retrieve', but I never know where he wants me to put the silly stick. He throws it away, and after I've run and found it and brought it back he expects me to give it to him; what a cheek!

Have you ever had to sit still holding a piece of biscuit on your nose until your Master decides you can eat it? Well,don't try it. Sometimes he makes me sit for - ooh, ages - at least a minute, and then when he tells me, "Go on then", I throw it up in the air and - miss it. If I do miss it, he takes it away and makes me do it again until I do it. What a life!

Sometimes, my life is made quite interesting by the fact that I haven't got any teeth. One morning 1 had the paper boy cornered in the garden. My growls so frightened him that he was too petrified to move; but I always forget myself and I tried to bare my teeth, and before I realised my mistake and shut my mouth, he had stamped'his foot, sending me running for the safety of my box. Master and 1 have great fun when he comes home of an evening - (funny, that, he's got a nice wife and children, but every morning about the same time, he dresses up, and out he goes, but he always comes back each night; huhl he never lets me out unless I've got a collar on) - he takes me out on the green and we fight, and chase each other, and fight again and run round and round the green until

we're both exhausted; but he always tires before me, he ought to have what I have for dinner, then he wouldn't tire so quickly.

Usually they keep me confined to a corner in the kitchen. Mind you, when Master's out and his wife is using a thing on wheels to clean the carpet in the dining-room I go in and help her. and when she sits down for a cup of tea and a biscuit, she always shares her biscuit with me, even if it's the last one in the tin.

One day, Master took me upstairs with him; that was fun. One room, it smelt like his daughter's, had a piece of shiny, white stuff leant up against the wall, and do you know, she keeps another dog up there behind it. Poor thing, it must have been lonely, because when I walked up to to sniff it, it walked up to me and sniffed me, and when I wagged my tail, it wagged its tail too; I wonder if it's still up there, it must be hungry.

Master keeps a Siamese cat as well. His name is Kim and I can 't stand him. If he starts eating my food or drinking my water, it's all right, but if I dare touch his food or milk, I get "told off" something terrible. It's just not fair; sometimes he even sleeps in my box - I can stand some things, but not that. Occasionally just for fun, Master makes me get in my box while he, Kim, is in there. Huhl he might think it fun, but I certainly don't.

Still, when Christmas comes and I get my tin of food wrapped up in pretty paper and red ribbon, it's all worth while.

Linda Coles Ex-5th

I thought I saw a Kangaroo, Hopping round about; I looked again, and found it was My grandpa with his gout.

GA

I thought I saw a Dinosaur, Creeping up on me; I looked again, and found it was A tea-pot full of tea. OK

I thought I saw my Auntie's cat, Sitting on the shelf; I looked again, and found it was A reflection of myself.

G.A.

I thought I saw an Elephant Doing a fairy dance; I looked again, and found it was My brother in a trance

J.S

I thought I saw some Dead Men Showing all their bones; I looked again, and found it was A "pop group" called "The Stones

A S



WATER

Water is my favourite thing. I love it in all its many forms: -The spray off the bow of a boat. The wet sheet in my hand. The water rushing over the gunnel and swirling around my feet. The rusty tin dipping in the murky water, The deep gurgle of the water as it is put back into its element. The rain making dimples in the water, and running down my back. The long tow home in the driving rain, As it pounds upon the grey decks. The taut rope stretching out ahead, to the source of the grey, black diesel fumes, which belch from the heavily laden outboard.

Getting now to the final strait. There it is - the old home of boats, ropes, and water rats.

We're there!

The young ones run for cover, to the warm, But we stay

To see the boats put back, To rest another day.

The ropes are removed and stowed away In the musty locker room. Up I go to the oil fires to dry as best I can, I push my way through the drying sails

to the fire. But the water still goes lapping,
lapping by.

Christopher Spearman 5A

WATER SKIING

One of my interests in the summer is water skiing. The first time I tried I was a little scared, but I got up straight away. At first I was very tense but I soon relaxed. The mother of one of my friends said I looked as if I did not have a care in the world, and at the moment she saw me I didn't.

The first time that 1 saw the skis Daddy had bought, I could not believe my eyes because they were very big, a little bit taller than he was. They are very difficult to manage while you are waiting for the boat to go because you have to sit on them. When you see people fall in, you think that it must be awful, but it is not. It comes as a shock to you though, the first time you fall because you see foamy white waves and then the water goes back to its normal colour.

I thought I might be cold but you are not cold until you stop skiing. It is not very pleasant skiing when it is a little rough, for although you are still in the wake, the skis dap up and down. The tow-rope looks very long, but it seems as if you are quite close to the engine. You have to bend your knees so that they absorb the shock that goes up your legs when you are moving, and if you suddenly straighten them you will fall over. It is very hard to start in deep water, and I have never tried, but my friend tried and was not very successful. I have always started in the shallow water (that was about up to my waist). A good driver is needed for water skiing because otherwise the skier will not get a good start and may then fall in.

Vivien Lock 1A

The Epic of the Lug-Worm and the Great Diving Beetle Larva

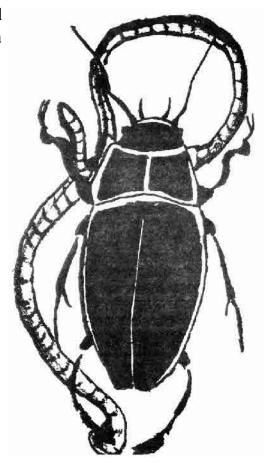
A small black lug-worm crawls along the murky depths,
Over stones and rotting plants.
He approaches an entanglement of Bullrush roots,
A gross of food just for him.

He does not notice a
Segmented body pass a broken twig,
Two notorious, black, beady eyes,
Two pincers like a cow's hooked horns.
A heavily armoured body,
A square shaped head,
Appears from around that corner.

That body two inches long, sways suspended
Like a weed taken by the current.
His long three-part legs
Prod the sodden mud.
The water was cold and still.
No waterboat-men fanned the green
Waters,
No young newt wishing not to be Paralysed
and blood-sucked. The lug-worm sensed the

atmosphere With no hesitation, He began burrowing.

The beetle larva soars at his prey.
As he moves, he folds his six legs
To his Chest.
A hollow sound is heard,
A green liquid colours the water,
Two pincers ram themselves into the
Black flesh.
Writhing in agony the worm curls.



The larva pulls him from his hole,
He stretches like elastic,
His muscles tighten,
Harder and harder the larva wrenches.
A long, sickening gulp is heard,
As murky mud folds into the hole.
The worm entangles himself around
His malevolent foe.

The pincers fasten together,
A fleshy tube slides into the worm.
Blood surges up it,
Through the larva's head to its belly.
The worm's body grabs at the water,
Trying to get a hold.

Slowly his life ebbs away, Victoriously the larva finishes his feast, And returns to his stained home, Where he sleeps until another meal.

Mark Davis 4A

BELL RINGING

Bell ringing is not a very easy hobby but it is interesting. You find out a lot about the church, the tower, the bells in it and the history of the bells.

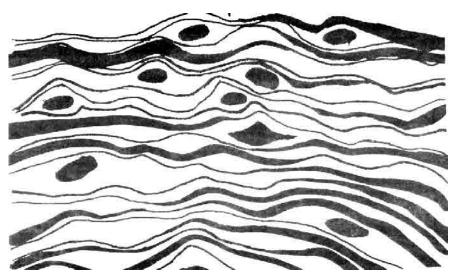
It is best to start bell ringing at quite an early age, about twelve or thirteen, because the earlier you start the more you know as you get older. There is a lot of studying to do in bell ringing if you want to get on. You start off by learning the parts of the bell, which is very easy, and then when you know the parts you start to learn how to control the bell, which takes two to three months. When you have done this you learn how to raise and lower bells. When you raise a bell you make the bell's mouth face upwards and then you can ring it. When you lower a bell you make the mouth of the bell face downwards and then you cannot ring it.

You can either toll it or chime it. Tolling is when you pull the rope to make the actual bell move and strike and chiming it is when another clapper hits the bell and makes a softer noise. After you have mastered this you learn how to lead off from the tenor which is the heaviest bell in the tower, and you usually learn how to lead with the treble, which is the lightest bell in the tower.

After this you are taught toll changes. This is when somebody shouts out something like this. "Two, one, four, three, five, six" which means the two leads off and the six, which is the tenor is the last bell. The one, which is the treble, follows the two and so on. When you hear somebody shout "rounds", you ring one, two, three, four, five, six.

When you have got used to call changes you start the complicated work like Queens, Kings, first change and second change, plain courses of Grandsire, plain bobs, bob doubles and Grandsire doubles, which are very difficult. Later on in bell ringing you can visit other towers and learn how many bells there are in it and how heavy they are. The tower with the most bells in that I have been to is St. Stephens, near the centre of Bristol, which has ten bells. The tower with the last bells in it that I have been to is Coalpit Heath, which has five bells. These are very light and easy to ring.

Ronald Hobbs 4B



WATER

Water gushing out of pipes in the bank,

rushing to join the stream. Tripping over stones on its way,

rumbling as it tumbles 'neath the broad bridges. Crashing and splashing as it spills

down a waterfall.

Like thunder echoing through the hills. Then quietly running and rippling,

to join another stream. Once again, the rain falls fast,

Splish, splashing. The stream bursts its banks.

Theres flooding,

And destruction. Rain has stopped.

All is still Save bits of drift wood,

Floating at their will. Then after the raining,

starts the draining. Water gushing out of pipes in the bank,

rushing to join the stream. The cycle is complete.

A MAGIC BUTTON

Once upon a time, there lived a wood cutter and his wife. They were very happy, but there was one thing they wanted most of all, and that was a son. The wood cutter had a very kind heart, and one day, as he was cutting down a tree, there was a rustle in the bushes nearby. "What was that?" thought the wood cutter. He turned round to see what it was. When the wood cutter saw who it was, he was struck dumb with astonishment. There stood a little man not three feet high. He wore a hat which was all on one side, a red velvet cloak and green trousers. He had a brown leather belt with a purse on, and black shiny shoes.

"Well, don't just stand and stare at me as though I was a one-eyed monster, My name is Jenkins". Suddenly the wood cutter came to his senses. "I - I'm m-most t-terribly sorry, Sir. Er - what do you want?" "Want'." said Jenkins. "I want some wood for my fire, please". "How much would you be wanting?", asked the wood cutter. "A sackful" replied Jenkins. "Here you are then" said the wood cutter, "that will be I/-". "I haven't any money just now, but here's a button". "A button, and what would I be wanting with a button?" exclaimed the wood cutter. "It's a magic one" replied the man. "But". But before he could utter another word, the little man had vanished. "Well", said the wood cutter "I do declare".

That night he took the button home to his wife and told her all about the strange little man's visit. "Maybe it's a wishing button, let's wish for something" said the wood cutter's wife. So they wished for a cow, and sure enough in the garden they saw a cow. For some weeks after they spent all their time wishing for things they didn't really want. "Let's wish for something we've always wanted", said the wood cutter. So they wished for a baby son because they had always wanted one. A few days later their wish came true, and a baby son was born to them. "I think Jack is a good name". "Yes" agreed the wood cutter's wife.

Jack grew up to be a tall, handsome young man. Soon it was time for Jack to get married, so his parents asked him if he would like to marry a rich girl now that they were rich themselves. "No, I wish I could marry the goose girl down the lane". Although they weren't very happy about this, they said "So be it". Next day Jack went to see the girl. She said, "You may marry me on one condition". What is that?" asked Jack, "That you free me from being a goose girl, and that you make me rich". "I will", said Jack.

He then went to his parents and borrowed the magic button. He wished that the goose girl was free from her job. Soon she was his bride and they lived richly and happily together for the rest of their lives. What became of the magic button I cannot tell you.

Gillian Adams

CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club has continued to meet during the past year. We have had many new and enthusiastic members, particularly from the junior section of the school.

This year, for the first time, we joined the South Gloucestershire School Chess League and unfortunately received a large number of defeats'. However with much practice and determination we won one senior match and drew two senior matches at the end of the season.

We did have one horrible moment during the year, when we were heavily defeated by a junior school team from Yate Church of England Primary School. I am glad to say we were victorious in a return match.

C.B. Mottershead

DARKNESS

Darkness comes a - creeping As I go to bed. Stars they come a - peeping, Watching overhead.

Some people are afraid of dark, Why I do not know. They're afraid to walk just through the park And by the church they will not go

But I treat darkness as a friend, For everywhere I know There's an angel just around the bend To watch where'er I go

SILENCE

Silent, Dark, Fearful
A sharp cold impulse
Runs up my spine.
A shadow crosses my window.
I am in my bed.
It isn't a shadow
What is it....?
Still Dark
Still Fearful

Margaret Parkin 3A

Suzanne Coleman 1 BETA

THE TELEPHONE

It sits on the hall table like a fat Buddhist Monk.

With squat arms and legs

Crossed in an air of haughtiness.

We, its servants, rush in mad disorder

to pick it up when it calls,

And with an air of delight and pride,

Lift its receiver to our ear.

Oh! what sweet sounds fromone's love does it bring!

Or in harsher tones, the news of a

business matter, or a beloved's death.

Then, how many times do we curse it,

When from slumber deep it rudely awakes us,

With its persistent ring.

The Casanova constantly hovers over it,

Like a vulture circling its prey,

Ready to swoop down and snatch it up,

When his latest victim rings.

How many times has one observed the

business man,

Engulfed in a forest of telephones,

Constantly and unfailing.

Like one in a trance,

He lifts the receiver.

Solves the problem,

Replaces it,

Fifty times in an hour.

To him it is a lifeline.

To others perhaps An unnecessary acquisition

To impress the neighbours.

Meaninglessly they buy them in their hundreds;

Attached to them as drug addicts are to hemp.

Never faltering or thinking

Of the cost in the long term run.

The bills,

The debts,

The regrets.

The telephone.

Mervyn Dadswell Ex-5rh

THE CAMILE (After HillaireBelloc)

If you go out in the dead of night
You'll meet a most peculiar type
Of animal by name of Camile
It looks a bit like a crocodile
But in its eyes which are like enamel
It has a look just like a camel - of stubbornness - It doesn't lack a furry hump
upon its back.

Its scaly tail thrashing to and fro, Its gigantic head nodding high and low, It gives you a shock when it starts to rile, That animal called a camile.

Really it's the kindest thing
That you have ever seen
Its coat a shade of dappled brown
Its tail a shade of green
Two feet are padded
and two are scaled
With claws so long and mean
But to hurt someone or kill someone it wouldn't be so keen

It makes a noise that's very queer While it gives a horrid type of leer A sneer or maybe when it's mad It really makes you think it's bad But don't believe it, truly don't. Do you think it'll hurt you? OF COURSE IT WON'T.

So if you go out in the dead of night, And you meet a most peculiar sight Please, Please don't scream or run a mile It's only my dear old friend CAMILE.

A STRANGE ADVENTURE

One day, as my friends and I were walking along a hilly lane deep in the Devonshire countryside, we noticed a hole in the side of the hill surrounded by large boulders. Chris, one of my friends, grabbed a large thick stick and started to lever away at one of the gigantic boulders. After Richard and I had joined in, we found that the boulder was moving and with one more giant heave it had rolled away from the hole.

Suddenly there was a puff of what looked like smoke but actually was chlorine gas. Something moved inside the cave. Then there was a rumble and a giant twenty feet tall prehistoric man climbed out. We just stood and watched as heran down the hill shouting "Zook,Zook".

For three months after this the "Zook", as it was now called, attacked cars and hitch-hikers who were roaming about the hills. It was on the news and in the newspapers. Richard, Chris a'nd I knew it was up to us to stop the "Zook", because we had set it free. One day Richard had a "brain-wave". We borrowed an M.I. flamethrower from the government, its cylinders filled with chlorine gas.

Then we went "Zook" hunting. We were in the leading car with a transporter carrying a huge glass case, and a crane were following us. We lured the "Zook" towards us and then fired the gas at it. The crane slid the glass case over him and we filled it with gas to keep it under control. The gas helped to preserve it, and tourists from all over the world came to see the "Zook". Our village made quite a bit of money from it. We don't know how he grew to that size, but if ever he gets out again, I'm emigrating.

A. Drummond 3A.

SOUNDS I LIKE

The roaring of the wind,
The sizzling or the chips,
The squelching of my feet,
The whistling of my lips,
The clattering of feet on the front door mat,
The cheerful happy sound of the purring of the cat,
The running sound of water lapping in a pool,
The ringing of the bell that means the end of school,
The lovely sound of cutlery rattling on the plate,
The crackling of the fire wood burning in the grate.

Peter Smith 2C.



HAPPY MEMORIES

Walking over brown dead leaves; Hearing the crackle and rustle, As some tiny thing scurries through The mountain of dead foliage.

Sitting on the bank of the river, And watching. Watching the others play In the shallow, shimmering stream. Then lying back on the luscious turf; Closing my eyes and listening, Listening to the loud-mouthed rooks Flying far, far above me

The wind freshening, freshening, Bringing clouds from the west, Threatening, threating rain Then the first spots falling Pitting the dust-covered land, Making tiny moon-like craters.

The quick run home In the pouring rain; Only to find he rain has ceased.

CHEDWORTH ROMAN VILLA

We left school about 9 a.m. on Saturday April 2nd, accompanied by Mr. Ferguson and Mrs. Ward. We arrived at Chedworth shortly after 10a.m. and had to wear our macs, as it was raining. The guide was ready to take us around.

In the Steward's Office very many coins had been found and taken into the Museum. Also in the South Wing of the Villa were the Kitchen and the Latrine. In the Kitchen had been found the remains of a large oven with the hob. Not far from this was the stoke-hole where a furnace heated the Din ing-Room next door.

The private rooms in the West Wing were the bedrooms and living rooms. The walls, which were hollow in parts, were warmed by the furnace. We also saw where the occupants of the villa took hot and cold baths. The main feature that interested me was the coloured mosaics on the floors. In the dining room was one of the four seasons. The part that I particularly remember was a picture of Cupid carrying a garland, executed in great detail. The craftsmen who made the mosaics must have possessed good artistic sense. Another part that I can remember is of a young girl with a bird and a basket of flowers in her hand. "Autumn" is not very clear as it has largely been destroyed.

Fresh archaeological finds are still being made at Chedworth, and I can warmly recommend a visit to this villa

Lorraine Bracev 4B.

A SECRET WISH

I'd like to be a fly on the wall. Maybe for just a day. Then I could enter anyone's house And hear what they had to say.

They might say something dreadful of me, And I'd hate them for ever on . They might even see me and spray me, And then I'd for ever be gone.

However exciting that life might be, It's best to stay as-l am. For if someone did not swat me, I'm sure I'd get stuck in the jam.

MY PET DOG

I have a little dog. Rover is his name. He plays all day in the garden And he really is quite tame.

He never bites the postman And never kicks the milk. When children come and stroke him, They say his coat's like silk.

He barks when he is angry,
But really is quite kind,
He begs at the table for tit bits,
But dad gives him a piece of his mind.

Sylvia Jeal 2A

ONCE A CHILD

When I was once a little
Child
I ate a worm and my Mum went
wild.
Salt and water she gave to
me
And I was as sick as sick can
be.
But that is all that I can
Remember
Except that it was in late
September

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