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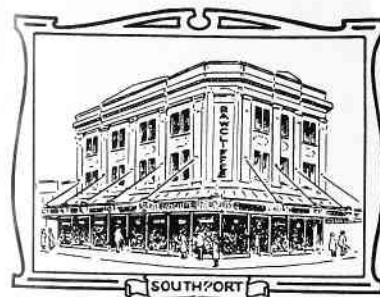


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To RAWCLIFFES

AND THEN



To SCHOOL

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THE RED ROSE

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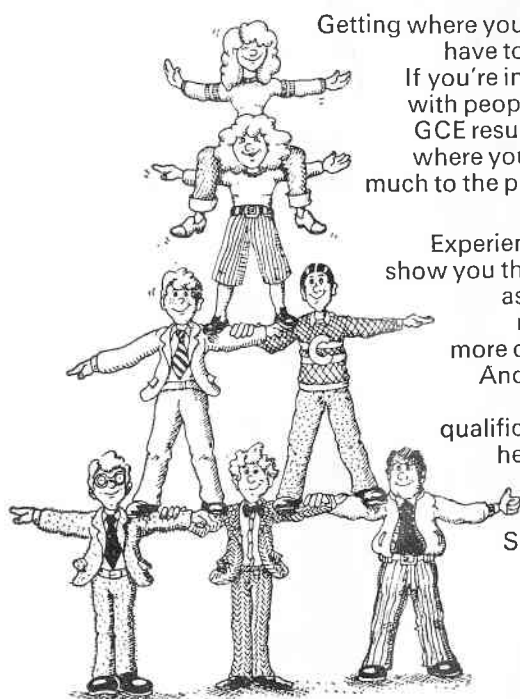
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SCHOOL NOTES

We are sorry to be losing six members of staff at the end of this term:

Mr. H. H. Long was a boy at the school in the 1930's. He joined the staff in April of 1948 and was Housemaster of Evans' House from 1965 to 1975. For more than a quarter of a century he has been in charge of Woodwork and for much of a decade he was also in charge of Sixth Form General Studies. He is now retiring after 30 years.

Four more members of staff are moving to other schools in Southport under the arrangements for the reorganisation of Secondary education:

Mr. E. T. Johnson, who came to the school in 1964 and has been Housemaster of Leech's House since 1972, is moving to a post as Head of the Mathematics Department at Birkdale High School.

Mr. S. B. Rimmer is another Old Georgian. He was a boy at the school from 1948 until 1956, and returned in January of 1965 to teach Modern Languages. He has been the Housemaster of Spencer's House since 1969 and is moving to a senior post at Birkdale High School as Head of the Lower School.

Mr. K. J. Ward came to the school in 1967 and was Housemaster of Holland's House from 1971 until the beginning of this term. He is moving to the new Meols Cop High School, which is being formed by the amalgamation of the separate boys' and girls' schools, as the Head of the English Department.

Mr. A. R. Allen, who also joined the school in 1967, has taught Chemistry, General Science, and Mathematics. He decided that he would like to go into primary school teaching and is moving in September to Churchtown Junior School.

One other member of the teaching staff is leaving. **Mrs. C. Hill**, who joined the staff only a year ago to teach History, is moving to a post at Whitley High School, Wigan, where she was herself at school.

Another loss earlier this year was **Mrs. Marjorie Harrison** the school cook, who joined the kitchen staff in 1961 as a general assistant. She is a person who often came in to provide refreshments for school teams on Saturdays and after school hours on weekdays, and in March of this year she retired after 17 years' service.

A new addition to the staff at the beginning of the year was **Mr. K. H. Matthews** who came from a post as Head of the Music Department at Wyggeston Sixth Form College, Leicester, to take over as Director of Music at KGV, and also as Director of the Sefton Youth Orchestra.

At the beginning of the summer term Mr. J. Clough gave up the Housemastership of Rogers' House after 16 years and took over the duties of Director of Studies. Mr. A. S. Freem took over from him as Housemaster of Rogers'. Mr. L. S. Metford took over from Mr. Ward as Housemaster of Holland's, and Mr. R. A. Stichbury took over from Mr. Comfort as Housemaster of Lunn's.

From September, 1978, Mr. R. Abram is appointed Senior Master. Mrs. J. Metcalfe will be in charge of English in the school up to 'O' level. Mrs. P. Davies will be in charge of Modern Languages in the school up to 'O' level. Mr. M. Basford will become Housemaster of Spencer's, and Mr. G. W. Dudley will become Housemaster of Leech's.

We have now been using the first of our new buildings for one term and work has started on the second phase of the building programme for the new King George V College. We will have no 11+ intake this September and girls will not be admitted into the Sixth Form until the college opens officially in September, 1979. This reduction in numbers next year means that although six members of staff are leaving this term, only one new member of staff is to be appointed.

IMPORTANT DATES

Autumn Term 1978 — 5th September to 20th December.

Half term — 30th October to 3rd November.

Grace days — 27th and 28th November.

Spring Term 1979 — 9th January to 10th April.

Half term — 26th February to 2nd March.

Summer Term 1979 — 26th April to 20th July.

Half term — 28th May to 1st June.

SALVETE

We are pleased to re-admit Pervze Younis who returned to Southport after being away for a year and eight months.

VALETE

We bid farewell to the following boys who left during the last academic year.

After each boy's name is indicated the number of 'O' level subjects he passed with grade C or above, any grades he was awarded at 'A' level, and any positions of distinction acquired while at school.

1971-77

Bernard Adler (Ed) 8 A²AAAC. Senior Prefect. School and House Chess Captain. (Exhibition in Natural Sciences at Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge)

Lawrence Aughton (M) 8 A²BBCD. Senior Prefect. School Badminton Team. School Table-tennis Team. (Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Manchester)

John Barton (G) 9 A²ABBC. Senior Prefect. House Captain. Librarian. 1st XV Colours. (Medicine at Bristol University)

John Davies (Hol) 8 A²B²CCD. Senior Prefect. (Engineering, Manufacture and Management at UMIST)

Christopher Naylor (Lu) 8 AABBC. Senior Prefect. (Bio-Chemistry at St. Peter's College, Oxford)

Mark Suddaby (Hol) 9 A²AAB. Senior Prefect. Librarian. (Exhibition in Geography at St. Catharine's College, Cambridge)

Mark Walmsley (G) 8 A¹A¹AAB. Senior Prefect. House Vice-Captain. Member of Games Committee. Chess Colours. Vice-president of Chess Club. (Mathematics at Queen's College, Cambridge)

Julian Wilson (Hol) 6 ABBD. Senior Prefect. Librarian. (Law at Pembroke College, Oxford)

1972-77

Matthew Greenhalgh (M) 7. 2nd XV. (Welbeck Army College)

Steven Jones (Hol) 5. (Salford Technical College)

Robert Lewis (R) 6.

Iain MacPherson (A) 2. 2nd XV. (Inland Revenue)

Carl Rokas (R) 5. (Runshaw College)

Jeremy Sykes (G) 7. (Civil Service)

1972-78

Ian Cook (Le) 4. (Local government).

Austin Davies (Lu) 8.

1973-77

Simon Sutcliffe (Hol) 7 B²BBC. Senior Prefect. School Cricket Colours. Librarian. (History at Lincoln College, Oxford)

1975-77

Andrew Farrow (Ed) 7. School Cross-Country Team. (Welbeck Army College)

1975-78

John MacGowan (Hol).

1976-77

Paul Cohen (Ev.)

1976-78

John P. Campbell (S)

Michael Shoesmith (R)

Simon Wilkinson (Hol)

1977

Colin Poole (A) 6. (Southport Technical College)

1977-78

Steven Dickinson (R) 10. (Southport Technical College)

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MASON-DIXON SCHOLARSHIPS

There were 18 applications for Mason Memorial Scholarships this year, and 2 for Dixon Scholarships. Awards were made as follows:

Mason Memorial Scholarships:

Nigel Wilkinson, to go on a Canadian Rugby Tour.

David Marshall, to attend a German Language Course in Vienna.

Clifford Davis-Coleman and Philip Terrett, to tour Welsh Castles.

Michael Mahoney, to undertake a cycle tour in France.

Neil Webster and Mark Whitehead, to undertake cycle tours of the West Country.

Andrew Swettenham and Kevin Watkins, for walking in the Lake District.

Jonathan Elliott, to join the Manchester Youth Theatre for the summer season.

Mark Pearson, to undertake a table tennis coaching course in Durham.

Keith Barrett, to take part in the British Boys' Open Golf Championships.

David Andrews and Simon Biddolph, to go walking in the Lake District.

Dixon Scholarships:

Karl Dunkerley and Andrew Warburton, to attend a YHA Canoeing Instruction Course at Fowey.

THE JOSEPH EDWARDS MEMORIAL FUND

£65.80 was distributed to boys from this Fund during the year. The fact that this is more than double the amount paid out last year is some indication of how valuable this Fund is.

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MR. H. H. LONG

With Mr. Long's retirement the school loses from its staff one of the three longest-serving Old Georgians. He was appointed in 1948, joining the present writer (1945) and Mr. Abram (1946). For thirty years he has contributed generously to the life and work of the school.

He will be remembered above all as a craftsman. He came to assist the unforgettable Freddie Rollinson, and when Fred (no less Fiery than a later namesake) retired in 1951 he took over the workshop alone. He chose to concentrate on woodwork, together with some metalwork, and later introduced engineering drawing as part of the sixth-form general studies course. Like all craftsmen worthy of the name he maintained the highest standards. His work, matching the various aspects of his life, was always dovetailed. He is a woodcarver of distinction, as several examples of his skill around the school and in his home testify; an inspiring teacher, evidenced by the academic results and the standard of practical work, so often exhibited, achieved by his pupils; and a do-it-yourself practitioner of endless patience and contrivance. As a producer of many school plays I remember his scorn of my complacency that some construction or other would do for three performances. If it would not do for three hundred it would not do at all.

From 1969 to 1975, in addition to his normal teaching, he took charge of general studies in the sixth form, introducing a number of new courses. One of the most popular was driving tuition, under registered instructors, in the school grounds. As Housemaster of Evans', for twelve years from 1965, he applied his experience, his wide interests and his sympathetic understanding of the general welfare of boys beyond the walls of workshop and classroom. But it is perhaps his long service as Scoutmaster of the school troop that he will look back on with most pleasure. He had been a schoolboy member of it under W.L. Mayne's command, but towards the end of the war years it had been disbanded. In 1950 he revived the troop, and led it for nearly twenty years. Many former scouts will be grateful to him for his strong but always kindly control, in both the weekly meetings and the annual camps in carefully chosen sites throughout the country.

Hubert Long will be missed from the staff room, and the school will be the poorer after the departure of Tom Long, a non-smoker who owes the irony of his nickname to a brand of tobacco long since forgotten. He is a cheerful pessimist with a wry sense of humour, a loyal colleague, a firm and friendly schoolmaster. We hope he will enjoy better health away from the dust and woodshavings of the workaday world, and that he and Mrs. Long will have many years of happy retirement.

G.P.W.

MR. E. T. JOHNSON

Fourteen years ago Mr. E. T. Johnson was appointed to the Maths department. During those years he has been considerably involved in School rugby at all levels and for the past six years he has been Housemaster of Leech's.

This outline cannot do justice to the wide contributions Mr. Johnson, has made to School life or to the stabilising effect he has had on the establishment and on the boys he has had in his care. He has been involved in every activity undertaken by staff and boys which has benefited the School.

High on his list of priorities was the welfare of the pupils. Linked with this pastoral aspect was his insistence on good social standards. He cared, and the success Leech's have enjoyed these last few years has been, in no small way, a result of the mutual respect afforded in his House.

Mr. Johnson leaves us to become Head of the Maths department at Birkdale High School. The pleasure we have in his success is somewhat tempered by the fact we are losing a valuable colleague and pleasant member of staff.

E.S.G.

MR. J. WARD

Mr. J. (Ken) Ward came to the school as a teacher of English direct from Queen's College, Cambridge in September, 1967. He soon marked himself out as a lively teacher with original ideas. Both the 'O' and 'A' level results achieved by boys under his guidance have been of a high standard but special mention should be made of the quite exceptionally high pass-rate of his 'O' level English Language candidates. Mr. Ward has involved himself in most of the interests traditionally associated with English teaching, especially drama.

He has produced classical and modern plays using both proscenium and theatre-in-the-round techniques. Mr. Ward has been particularly interested in the pastoral side of teaching. He has been a Housemaster of Holland's and a large number of boys have been very grateful for the time and advice he has given them. Perhaps the most enduring features we shall remember about Mr. Ward, as he now crosses the field to become Head of English at the new combined Meols Cop High School, are his completely genuine concern for the individual against the bureaucratic machine and his wish to see each pupil fulfil his personal potential.

T.B.J.

MR. S. B. RIMMER

Many of us are looking forward to Friday, July 21st with rather mixed feelings because whilst it is the beginning of a long holiday, it also means that we are saying goodbye to Stan Rimmer. He is leaving us to go to the post of Head of Lower School at Birkdale High School.

After a distinguished career at school, he went on to Manchester University to read Modern Languages, and from there he went on to teach at Liverpool Collegiate. We were very fortunate when an opportunity arose for him to return to KGV and he accepted it. His contribution in the classroom cannot be over estimated. His style is apparently calm and relaxed but woe betide anyone who tries to get away with giving less than his best.

To see him at his happiest, however, one had to see him with the members of Spencer's House or with one of the games teams he coached. Though he himself was in Evans' when at school, he became involved with Spencer's first as House Tutor and then as House Master. The well known Spencer spirit revived under his care and once again they are a House to be reckoned with. The marked improvement in the standard of 1st XI Cricket and the success of the Under 13 and Under 14 Rugby XV's is due in no small way to his efforts.

He himself is a very talented and natural games player and could, had he so desired, have reached top level in any sport he chose. It is rumoured that Everton are still interested in his services but he has promised Liverpool first option. He has made his presence felt in Staff Cricket and Soccer teams. In the latter, he is a great taker, but even better winner of penalties; being one of the few men in the game who, when tripped on the half way line, has the ability to land in the penalty area.

We wish you well Stan in the future. Your ready wit, polished by years of teaching in Liverpool, and smooth charm will be missed by all of us and not least by your "Dad".

R.A.

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MR. A. R. ALLEN

Tony Allen was appointed to KGV in September, 1968 after training at Liverpool University. During his 10 years at school, Mr. Allen has made an outstanding contribution to our school activities, and many boys have benefited from his willingness to participate and to give his time so freely.

He is a keen games player, having hardly missed a staff football or cricket match, and has refereed and Umpired school matches on many occasions.

He has been in charge of school chess and ran an efficient and well organized chess club and team. Mr. Allen initiated the War Games Society and was responsible for the lighting for school drama, choral and orchestral productions. He also took many parties on visits to Long Rigg.

Most of Mr. Allen's teaching timetable was in the junior school where he taught general science, mathematics and games. Now reorganisation of secondary education is upon us, Mr. Allen has decided to continue his career in the primary education field and he takes with him the best wishes of the staff and boys of KGV to his new appointment at Churchtown Junior School. Good luck, Tony!

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AMER'S HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. Amer

House Tutor: Mr. Dudley

House Captain: J. A. Edwards

1977-78 has not been a very good year for Amer's house in that we only dominated 50% of all school activities.

Notable achievements have been the cross country, captained by Pogson, in which the Seniors won, the Juniors came fifth, and although the Intermediates came eleventh, the event was won by Stitson. "Well done that man!"

The Amer's aquatic society, captain, Halsall, was in fine fettle this year, achieving a creditable fourth place at the School Gala.

On the rugby field, Amer's fared well: the Senior and Junior sevens and fifteens events were all won by Amer's teams captained by Edwards and Fletcher, jnr. (Please could we have the sevens cup, Mr. Arnold?) Special mention of the excellent junior team coaching must go to Fletcher and Parkinson.

Highlight of the Amer's sporting year was when the badminton team ably captained by Fletcher won (yes won!) a game.

In the senior cricket, Amer's kept up their traditional lack of talent in the game and lost both matches (a spokesman for the house comments that we lost because cricket is not a physical contact sport so Amer's men could not stick the boot in). A bright side to the cricket is that whilst chatting with Mr. Amer just recently he assured me of a Junior cricket victory and that an Amer's man was certain to win the single wicket competition.

Outstanding performance of the year must go to "Harry" Houghton who successfully attended, and sat through, three house meetings. Thankyou to Mr. Amer and Mr. Dudley, who both wish me to convey to all participants in Amer's house affairs an emphatic, "Well done you men". M.H. & C.F.

EDWARDS' HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. Gale

House Tutor: Mrs. Rimmer

House Captain: G. Tate

This year has been one of honest endeavour and of moderate success.

In the Swimming Gala, we were joint winners of the Bell Relay Cup and were second overall. As usual the Life Saving efforts were excellent. Apart from winning the Ryland Cup, our contribution considerably helped the school win the National Shield. Although the rugby teams tried hard, the opposition proved to be too strong and both the Junior and Senior teams lost to the eventual winners. The same can be said in respect of the Senior and Intermediate cricket teams. Our Cross Country teams did surprisingly well but unfortunately their efforts were nullified by a stupid, incon-

siderate act perpetrated by a Senior. In Badminton the team played well and came 4th in Division I. The basketball team fared badly but the table-tennis team was only three points short of reaching the final. The Junior Chess team must be praised for the enthusiasm shown and the results were encouraging in view of the fact that our players were all first year boys. The under 17 years team in the Senior Sports were clear winners and are to be congratulated for their splendid efforts.

Academically there has been a gratifying all-round improvement during the year and it is pleasing to congratulate the House once again on the responsible attitude shown by the vast majority of its members. Thanks must go to those members of the Lower Sixth who have organized practices for the Intermediates and Juniors and to Mr. Gale and Mrs. Rimmer for their continued help and guidance.

G. Tate.

EVANS' HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. H. T. Marsh
House Tutor: Mrs. B. Partington
House Captain: D. W. Andrews
Vice-Captain: S. B. Rimmer

This year has shown a definite improvement in all areas and although trophies were lacking, effort certainly wasn't, the Caller House Points scheme proving its worth.

The Intermediate rugby team was beaten in the final and John Miller and Robert Olive in particular played very well. The Senior team tried hard but got nowhere and most of the Junior team didn't try hard enough.

A good year for the Cross-Country teams with the Seniors getting 5th place after an excellent run by Marcus Rimmer.

The Badminton team annihilated all opposition to win the 1st Division in their first season. Marcus Rimmer and Michael Hansford also won the Southport Schools Badminton Doubles Competition.

It was also a good year for the Table Tennis and Senior Chess, both teams being narrowly beaten in the final.

Both the Senior and Intermediate Cricket teams were unlucky not to reach the semi-finals as was the Basketball team when they were beaten in the semi-final after extra time.

The Senior Athletics team made a splendid effort in the Sports to gain joint 1st place with Leech's.

The prospects for next year in all these areas look very good.

Finally, the House suffers a loss this year in the retirement of Mr. Long and Steve and I would like to thank him on behalf of the House for his many years of invaluable service as House Master and Tutor and we hope he has a long and happy retirement.

Thanks must also go to Mr. Marsh and Mrs. Partington, who, as the first "Tutoress" of Evans, has settled into the mighty Evans' machine so well.

D.W.A. & S.B.R.

GREAR'S HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. Mawer
House Tutor: Mrs. Sanderson
House Captain: N. Wilkinson

At the beginning of this school year,
The members of the house showed no fear.
I was first in swimming

We showed our winning,
And we gained both cups for Grear.
In Senior rugby we were good
And were really out for Amer's blood,
With big Wilkie we would have won
But with him missing we were done.
Cross country was a sad affair,
That great, long road we could not bear.
At cricket and table-tennis we practised well
But in both, we deeply fell.

At rugby the Juniors showed their might
But at the end there was no light.
The chess team did their best to play,
Sweeping all other teams away.
Basketball was our greatest hope
But only to the semi's could we cope.
In badminton we put ourselves on the map
With a second placing in the handicap.

Well done Walmsley on gaining a scholarship place
in the Cambridge University entrance race!

J.R.E.

HOLLAND'S HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. Metford
House Tutor: Mrs. Metcalfe
House Captain: J. P. Kelly
Vice-Captain: S. C. Biddolph

With the influx of new talent and improvements in all quarters we are at last becoming something of a threat to the more established houses.

In the rugby, the Juniors reached the finals in both the XV's and VII's but were unlucky to lose in both cases. Praises must however go to Hodgeson and Roberts who posed many a threat to the opposition. The Intermediates, led well by Owens and White, just failed to reach the semis and the Seniors lost nearly all their matches but we certainly had Amer's outclassed in the sevens!

In the Swimming Gala we came third in the Squadron and fourth overall, thanks to fine all-round swimming.

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The Juniors romped into first place in the cross-country, led well by K. Kinkaid and Kelly put in yet another fine display for the Seniors.

On the academic side of house-life we must congratulate Suddaby, Sutcliffe and Wilson for their successes in the recent Ox-Bridge Exams.

We would also like to thank Mr. Ward, who left the House at Easter, for his fine leadership throughout the years and we wish him "all the best" and "good-luck" in his new post.

Finally, praises to Mrs. Metcalfe for her invaluable help on all aspects of house-life; best of luck to Mr. Metford who has risen from the murky depths of Honeybone's to the dizzy heights of Holland's and thanks to all those people who have helped in organizing the house-teams over the past year.
J.P.K. & S.G.B.

HONEYBONE'S HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. Miley

House Tutor: Mrs. Hill

House Captain: J. Harrison

It's been a typical sort of Honeybone's year this year—the badminton team continued its up and down journey between the Peaks and were relegated to the 2nd division. In rugby we tried hard and nearly caused some unexpected results but unfortunately were always beaten. The first sign of relief came in the swimming heats when we put up a good performance to score the highest points total ever—for Honeybone's house, that is.

The cricket season came and went without the might of Honeybone's making any impression—but we were a well presented team and full of the right spirit. One name did stand out during the cross country and athletics. That was of course the inimitable Chris Farrow, who won the 1,500 metres in the senior athletics as expected so "Thanks, Chris, for doing your 'bit' and doing it well."

Two successes were achieved in the Lent term: firstly we again reached the final of the basketball competition where we met a Spencer's team on good form. Unfortunately Spencer's managed to sneak in a few extra points and take the trophy from the Honeybone trophy room; secondly the Juniors reached the chess final, putting up a good show only to be narrowly beaten.

This year the house underwent a major change: the House Tutor, Mr. L. S. Metford, left to be replaced by Mrs. C. Hill also of the History department and we bid her a warm welcome. Finally a thankyou to all those involved in Honeybone's house—even if we didn't win anything, it was not for the lack of trying hard.

M.B. & P.M.

LEECH'S HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. E. T. Johnson
House Tutor: Mr. A. Clowes
House Captain: B. Klaassen
Vice-Captain: C. J. Collinge

This year sees the departure of two of Leech's "All time greats", namely Mr. Johnson and myself. I have in the past year performed my duties as House Captain honestly, sedulously and with a certain degree of modesty. I hope my successor will follow my example.

Mr. Johnson, on the other hand, has been House Master since 1972 (when, just in time, he rose from the depths of Evans' house), and in the wake of his years of enthusiastic leadership, lie three bruised and bleeding house tutors—the last, Mr. Clowes, is reduced to a mere shadow of his former self. Mr. Johnson leaves us for pastures greener; astride his red "S"-reg Alfa he will ride into the sunset to take up his new position as Head of Mathematics Dept. at the New Birkdale Comprehensive—we wish him well.

After our superb victory last summer, when we won that most coveted accolade—The Jubilee Cup—our Autumn term began rather conservatively. The cross-country teams were placed 8th, 7th and 5th, positions that did not gain any glory but they contributed valuable points. On the rugby field the Juniors and Intermediates did not get very far, but the Seniors did rather better. They reached the semi-finals, being narrowly defeated by Grear's 13-14. In the Senior 7's they reached the final, which despite some fine running by Paul Maddock (the Richmond's favourite customer!) they lost to Amer's.

We were well represented in the Swimming Gala, with honours going to young Karl Cockwill and David Whittaker for their fine performances. Of the other house activities the table-tennis was the one in which we excelled. Our team, led by the veteran, Alec Hodge, reached the final against Evan's and beat them 2 games to 1.

Congratulations to John Collinge who gained a place at Cairns College, Cambridge, and thanks to those who helped in running the house activities during the year. Finally, I would like to thank Messrs. Johnson and Clowes for their support, and to wish all members of the house all the very best of luck and continued success for the future.

B.K.

LUNN'S HOUSE REPORT — MARK II

House Master: Mr. R. A. Stichbury
House Tutor: Mrs. A. Szczesniak
House Captain: R. M. Dove

So ends another year, but unfortunately a year with little to show in the trophy cabinet for all the effort and honest endeavour that deserved a lot more.

The house started well by coming an overall second in the cross-country competition, with the Inters coming in first and the Seniors second. There was little success in the rugby, the best effort again coming from the Inters when they were unlucky to lose the sevens final against Rogers.

The Seniors looked all set to win the cricket competition after scoring over a 100 against Evans' in the group matches, but something, somewhere went wrong in the semis against Mason's which ended with ducks everywhere and a total that just scraped into double figures.

We came good, though, in the Badminton competition, winning the knockout trophy and leaping straight back into the first division after having been relegated last season.

One of the biggest disappointments this year was the resigning of Mr. Comfort as House Master after 7 years in charge. He has been one of the main reasons for our many successes in the past years and has always been on the sidelines cheering us on to victory and picking us up (all too often) after defeat. We wish him every success in the sixth form college and, although he has left us, I am sure we shall still see him on the touchline cheering us on as enthusiastically as before.

However, despite the loss of Mr. Comfort, we shall be looking forward to great things under the new leadership of Mr. Stichbury and Mrs. Szczesniak. So beware, next year is our year for the Jubilee Cup!

R.M.D.

MASON'S HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. R. Clark
House Tutor: Mr. T. J. Bruce
House Captain: S. Taylor
Vice-Captain: K. Milton

This has been a year of mixed fortunes for Mason's. The year started well with a spectacular victory in the cross-country, with the Intermediates winning their competition and the Juniors and Seniors finishing fourth and third respectively. Special mention must go to Bullen in the Juniors, Cropper in the Intermediates and Jones in the Seniors.

The Senior rugby team remained unbeaten in both its matches but did not succeed in qualifying for the semi-finals, a trend that was continued by the Intermediates and Juniors, who both won their first match but lost the second. It was the same story in the "sevens" with none of the house teams qualifying for the semi-final.

The chess team won four out of its five matches and the house again showed its lack of good swimmers with only Birtles distinguishing himself in the Gala. The table-tennis team won all of its preliminary matches only to be defeated in the semi-finals.

However, the Seniors gained a well earned place in the cricket final, beating a strong Lunn's team on the way, only to be narrowly defeated by Roger's. Special mention must go to Harding and Birtles who bowled superbly throughout and to Hurren who showed great enthusiasm as captain.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Clarke and Mr. Bruce for their continued hard work in running the house.

K. Milton.

ROGERS' HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. Freem

House Tutor: Mr. Cochrane

House Captain: M. Hayden

Despite the courageous efforts of all the house rugby teams, only the Intermediates showed promise by gaining a place in the 'sevens' final, winning 16-14.

Fate dealt the house a foul blow when Mr. Clough, the House Master for many years, became director of General Studies for the new college. Under the new leadership of Mr. Freem, however, the Senior house cricket team gained a final place. Both Mr. Freem and Mr. Cochrane, the newly appointed House Tutor, were unfortunately unable to witness the tense ending to an extremely close and competitive game of cricket. Ably led by Neil Webster, the house managed to attain a victory by three runs.

With the Intermediates in their cricket final and the Juniors about to embark on their matches, one can only hope that Rogers' House will go forth to become a dominant force in future House Competitions.

G. Withey & G. Whalley.

SPENCER'S HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. S. Rimmer

House Tutor: Mr. M. Basford

House Captain: J. W. Metcalfe

House Vice-Captain: D. Mann

The end of the summer term of 1978 is drawing near and as it does so Spencer's House is seeing the end of a glorious era. After numerous victories over the past nine years in the swimming, rugby, cricket, athletics and runaway victories in the Jubilee Cup, the architect of so much of Spencer's success Mr. S. Rimmer (the Bill Shankly of Spencer's) is going to the new pastures of Birkdale High School. All the boys of Spencer's House, past and present would like to thank Mr. Rimmer for his devoted work.

We would also like to thank Mr. J. Wohlers for his service since 1969 as our House Tutor. He retired from the post at Easter and Mr. Basford has taken his place this term.

Although in retrospect 1978 has not, perhaps, been a year that will go down in the annals of Spencer's history, it has still been a year in which the House has achieved success.

The Seniors had an indifferent year, unable to hit the peaks in the rugby—they managed only to reach the semi-finals of the seven-a-side and similarly they lasted only until the semi-finals of the cricket. Yet all was forgiven when the Seniors won a remarkable and highly entertaining victory in the final of the basketball. The Intermediates had a highly successful year winning the rugby XV's final in fine style scoring 19 pts. to 6 pts. against Evans' and repeating their success in the cricket final. The Juniors showed their guts and determination in winning the Junior Cross-country. Personal performances of note were by Roberts, who was the first Spencer's man across the line in the Senior Cross-country; Teale, who won the 100 metres; Singleton, who won the javelin in the athletics and Pickard in the Intermediates, who took a remarkable eight wickets for no runs. Therefore, although in comparison with previous years the 1977/78 year was less successful, there is no doubt that Spencer's are still a force to be reckoned with.

However, although a sad end to the summer term as Mr. Rimmer bows out, it should also be a term of rejoicing in the knowledge that Mr. Basford will continue the great tradition of Spencer's, with Mr. Hubbard as his right hand man. Still, our final thoughts must go to Mr. Rimmer for such a successful nine years in the highly competitive and stressful inter-house league. Good luck Mr. Basford and thank you Mr. Rimmer.

J.W.M.

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WOODHAM'S HOUSE REPORT

House Master: Mr. Berry
House Tutor: Miss Woodward
House Captain: I. D. Bland
House Vice-Captain: W. P. Wood

We'd like to start with a short piece entitled: The Year's Successes.

Our Juniors again won the Chess Trophy, and we would like to congratulate all involved. Our Badminton team was unbeaten in the League and gained promotion to the first division. Good luck next year!

In the Cross-country the Intermediates came second. The Juniors were disappointing, but the Seniors ran exceptionally well, and had we not been disqualified, we might have even finished eleventh. Congratulations to Dawson who drove well.

In the Swimming it was a disappointing year, although Willis deserves praise for much hard work.

In the Rugby, the Seniors beat Holland's but lost to Amer's due to the injuries of C. Wood and Edwards. The Intermediates made the semis but were then outclassed.

In the Basketball, we had a close match with Honeybone's, losing by a mere 48 points.

The Table-Tennis provided a mysterious touch to our sporting year, as no-one knows how we got on.

In the Cricket, the Seniors were unlucky not to reach the semi-finals, after losing a close match with Spencers, then beating Amer's by 8 wickets.

Finally we present our year's honours for "outstanding" performances— Rugby: Edwards, Ogden, A. Lee, Sutton. Cross-Country: Munez, Dawson, Richards?; Badminton: P. Wright. Swimming: Porter. Chess: The Wilkinson Brothers. Cricket: K. P. Wood, C. Wood, Hodgeson, Basketball: The Honeybones Team.

Thanks to everyone.

I.D.B. & K.P.W.

SPORTS REPORT

1st XV RUGBY

Captain: N. Wilkinson (Gear's)

P	W	D	L
16	6	0	12

The season was one of mixed fortunes. The ability of a K.G.V. 1st XV to play good, solid rugby one week only to play like a group of novices the next was again apparent. Highlights of the season were undoubtedly the selections of two boys to play for Lancashire: Nigel Wilkinson played at U19 level against Cheshire, Cumbria, Yorkshire and the Anti-Assassins while R. Everett played at U16 level against Cheshire, Cumbria and Yorkshire. N. Wilkinson was also invited to tour Canada with a schools' team called "The Dragons" over Easter.

Two players emerged from relative obscurity to contribute a great deal to the school: I. Bland proved to be a success as 2nd XV captain and A. Maxwell improved dramatically through the season—starting off in the 2nd XV, playing in practically every position before proving to be a more than useful wing-forward.

We are sorry to see three members of staff leave who have taken an active part in the running and supervision of teams. Mr. Rimmer and Mr. Johnson have given countless Saturdays and hours of spare time to the cause of K.G.V. rugby while Mr. Allen was always ready to help out with refereeing duties. Their presence will be surely missed. An indication of their importance and usefulness to school rugby can be illustrated by the fact that next season only three school teams, as opposed to the present six, can be run effectively by the remaining members of staff.

The following boys formed the basis of the 1st XV squad:— D. Edwards, R. Stott, J. Edwards, M. Hayden, K. Watkins, N. Wilkinson, C. Fletcher, P. Robertson, S. Roberts, I. Singleton, C. Wood, R. Oakley, J. Metcalfe, N. Webster, R. Dalton, A. Mottershead, I. Turnbull, A. Maxwell, R. Everett and A. Swettenham.

R.A.S.

U15 XV RUGBY — 1977-78

P	W	D	L	F	A
11	7	1	3	184	142

A pool of 20 players formed a successful squad, their attitude contrasting sharply with the two or three who considered they had no responsibility to the team or to the school. Once these were excluded the 20 players left fought the good fight, mainly against opposition taller and heavier than themselves. Only against Hutton were they overwhelmed, and they had good results against all other teams, as their record testifies. It is to their credit that seven games ended with less than 10 points between the teams, including their other two defeats, and it was their spirit and willingness to work for each other that will be remembered. Especially pleasing was the involvement of the almost perpetual reserves such as Hunt, Riley, Gidney and Chong, and the discovery of new players such as Lewis. The regular players were as follows, all being awarded or reawarded their colours as were the five named above:—

Ormesher (full-back)—despite the lure of Goodison, he regularly saved the side by brave tackling, and his ability to run the ball was amazing if erratic.

Saunders (wing)—he "discovered" rugby and found a penchant for knocking people down or running through them.

MacGowan (wing)—a midget with a swerve, quite unstoppable at times.

Mallinder (centre)—he epitomised the attitude of the team, turning out despite injury and playing consistently well.

Miller (centre)—a good tackler and strong runner; he regularly tried to keep up with Mallinder.

Woolston (fly-half)—the brain with a boot.

Turnbull (scrum-half)—he regularly proved what goes down must come up, and always to good effect.

Stitson (prop)—the hard case of the team and a solid base in all respects.

Lee (hooker)—rarely beaten in the scrums and gradually improved his work around the field.

Priestley (prop)—an Anfield exile who could be relied on to throw the ball in crooked; but there was little else wrong in his game.

Roberts & Cox (second-row)—if there are brains in a pack, they came closest to using theirs. Formed a strong backbone.

Russell (flanker)—another improving player whose tackling progressed and who was always early to the centre of action.

Beetham (flanker)—he really put himself around the field and formed a strong attachment to the ball.

Ridley (No. 8 and captain)—he led by example, which is just as well as his comments were not usually constructive.
J.R.W. & T.J.B.

UNDER 14 RUGBY XV

P	W	L	F	A
13	8	5	319	156

Results:

1. Lancaster G.S. 16, K.G.V. 4.
2. Blackpool Collegiate 10, K.G.V. 22.
3. Hutton G.S. 16, K.G.V. 26.
4. Liverpool College 20, K.G.V. 6.
5. K.G.V. 52, West Derby C.S. 0.
6. Ormskirk G.S. 6, K.G.V. 26.
7. K.G.V. 3, Cardinal Allen School 32.
8. K.E.S. 38, K.G.V. 13.
9. K.G.V. 60, Balshaw's School 0.
10. Rossall School 0, K.G.V. 22.
11. K.G.V. 42, St. Joseph's College 0.
12. K.G.V. 7, St. Mary's College 12.
13. K.G.V. 36, Whitby C.S. 6.

Appearances:

Allott 13, Cartlidge 13, Clenahan 3, Cook 2, Cropper 9, Cullen 13, Farr 13, Greenhalgh 12, Kershaw 6, Olive 11, Owens 13, Pickard, H. 13, Pickard, J. 13, Skinner 2, Stewart 13, Sturgeon 10, Wanklyn 12, Webster 13, White 11.
S.B.R.

SWIMMING — 1977-78

The school swimming team has had several matches this year. Although on paper, they appear to have been particularly unsuccessful, every match was of necessity against a school with its own swimming pool. K.G.V. did in fact provide very stiff competition and in all except one match, against Bolton School, they lost by less than ten points.

In the Southport Schools' Gala, none of the competing schools had their own pool and K.G.V. showed their real merit in winning this event fairly decisively. Several boys were selected to swim for Southport and one boy, A. Porter (3S) was selected to swim for Sefton in the Merseyside Gala.
M.S.

LIFE-SAVING REPORT

The Standard of Life-Saving in the School has always been high. In the last few years the attainment has been exceptional.

After winning two Liverpool and District awards:— the Lord Leverhulme Shield for the highest aggregate of awards and the Saunders Trophy for Resuscitation awards, it seemed fitting that the School, in its final year as a full complement, won the Secondary Schools National Shield.

This shield is awarded to the School which has gained the highest number of resuscitation points in the United Kingdom.

Full credit is due to the participants whose hard work and enthusiasm made this award possible, and to the swimming teaching staff for their unstinting encouragement and endeavours.
E.S.G.

CROSS-COUNTRY REPORT

Matches 14 Won 9 Lost 5

After a disappointing start to the season, the results improved greatly during the Spring term and the team would like to thank Mr. Marsh for his assistance and enthusiasm throughout the year. Unfortunately, because of absences and injuries, results suffered although, when at full strength, the team was a match for anyone. Despite the loss of several runners through lack of interest at the start of the season, the addition of John Williams and John Dawson considerably strengthened the team.

John Williams, although the youngest member of the team, soon proved to be the most consistent runner and his team position was never lower than second. John Dawson, too, was a valuable runner who, despite being a slow starter, would always finish strongest and had many fine runs.

Chris Farrow, undoubtedly the best runner, began the season brilliantly but, after winning the Inter-House Compe-

tion, success went to his head and he never quite regained his earlier form. Alan Pogson seemed more concerned in telling as many jokes as possible and was invariably shattered before the race began and he twice failed to finish. However, he ran very well towards the end of the season.

Neil Whiteside, always dependable, put in many good performances missing only one match all season.

Michael Evans, a regular member of the team, often ran below his true potential but was still unlucky not to be selected for the Rossall Relay Race.

Steve Rimmer, by far the keenest runner, would surely be competing in the next Olympic Games if he could keep up his amazing start to each race. His fast pace never lasted for he enjoyed taking in the scenery.

Team Captain, Peter Kelly tried very hard but didn't win many races.

There were also several younger runners who along with Pogson and Williams should form a good team next year. Among these, Marcus Rimmer and Paul Morris ran very well and Chris Stitson, although still only in the Lower Fifth, showed great promise.

Finally, last and most certainly least, mention must be made of Wally, the K.G.V.C.C.T. mascot/apparition—a ten foot white rabbit who wins every race and hides behind bushes to surprise unwary runners. He was last seen heading into the Irish Sea after the team finished 10th out of 14 in the Rossall Relay Race.

P.K. & C.F.

HOCKEY REPORT — 1977-78

Having started well with a draw against Bolton, the 1st XI went on to have a disappointing season. Despite losing heavily to Merchant Taylors and Formby High, the team did succeed in drawing two hard fought matches against Preston C.C. and Widnes.

In the second half of the season the team met a select Southport Trinity XI, which included a number of Southport and Birkdale 1st XI players, and played perhaps its best game and was unfortunate to lose — two goals to nil.

The 1st XI also took part in the Merseyside Schools' Tournament but succeeded in gaining only one draw from its three matches. The Southport Trinity six-a-side tournament was more successful for the School with a fine win against Dunlop H.C. and good performances against Blackpool H.C. and Southport Trinity.

The final game of the season was against the Old Boys and it (unfortunately) resulted in another heavy defeat.

The team would like to thank Messrs. Amer and Comfort for their support throughout the season.

K. Milton (Capt.).

SCHOOL COLOURS AWARDS CRICKET COLOURS 1977

N.B. Re = Reawarded

Full

J. M. D. Ball (Re)
A. Hodge (Re)
G. B. C. Taylor (Re)
R. Oakley (Re)
R. B. Wilcox (Re)
M. Beard
D. J. Edwards
S. Sutcliffe
D. Mottershead
S. Swettenham
N. Shallcross

Half

N. J. Webster
M. J. Pound
R. Griffiths
M. Griffiths
N. Wilkinson
C. J. Appleby
N. Warrack
G. C. Eastmond
C. Naylor
A. A. Mather
I. Singleton
D. Pike
M. Fawley

RUGBY COLOURS 1977-78

Full

N. Wilkinson (Re)
R. Oakley (Re)
J. Edwards (Re)
N. Webster (Re)
M. Hayden
D. Turnbull (Re)
J. Metcalfe (Re)
S. Roberts
C. Fletcher
C. Wood
D. M. Edwards
M. Dalton

Half

I. Singleton (Re)
R. Stott (Re)
R. Everett
A. Maxwell
I. Bland

Junior

A. R. Ormesher
C. D. Hunt (Re)
G. A. Riley
A. Gidney
P. J. Chong (Re)
C. R. Lewis
D. R. Saunders
J. S. MacGowan (Re)
S. F. Mallinder
J. S. Miller (Re)
M. A. Woolston
I. R. Turnbull (Re)
C. Stitson (Re)
A. C. Lee (Re)
K. W. Priestley (Re)
M. C. Roberts (Re)
G. D. Dalton-Cox
M. D. Russell (Re)
R. Beetham (Re)
S. C. Ridley (Re)

HOCKEY COLOURS 1977-78

Full

A. J. Monk (Re)
M. A. Roberts
R. M. Ross
T. Bennett
J. Cope
N. Dawson
M. P. Horrocks
K. Milton (Re)
P. Gower

C. Morgan
P. Edwards
C. Arrowsmith
K. Halsall (Re)

Half Colours

A. J. Moors (Re)
S. Biddolph (Re)

CROSS COUNTRY COLOURS 1977-78

SENIOR

Full	A. M. Rimmer
P. Kelly (Re)	P. Morris
C. Farrow (Re)	A. Pogson (Re)
N. Whiteside (Re)	Half
J. Dawson	T. North (Re)
M. Evans	R. Dove (Re)
S. B. Rimmer	N. Powell
J. Williams	M. Jones

JUNIOR

C. Stitson

K.G.V. EASTER VISIT TO SWITZERLAND

"Whose idea was it to come to school at 4.30 in the morning?" murmured a selection of lads outside K.G.V. school on the morning of the 28th March this year. It was the beginning of the "Swiss Adventure" which was to be spent sightseeing for a week in Switzerland.

The party left K.G.V. at 5 a.m. and seven hours later arrived at London's Heathrow Airport. After a wait of about one hour we boarded a British Airways Trident and just over an hour later we touched down in Geneva airport. After retrieving our baggage, we all boarded a coach and set out on the long journey to the small town of Château D'Oex. About half of the party stayed in a wooden chalet half a mile away from the Hotel Richemont where the other half of the party was staying.

On the Wednesday we took a train journey through spectacular scenery to bustling Interlaken where we spent the afternoon wandering around the shops buying souvenirs.

On the Thursday we went in a cable car up one of the mountains surrounding Château D'Oeux and on finding the snow about 6 ft deep we had a mass snowball fight against the four teachers, Mr. Comfort, Mr. Basford, Mr. Mawer and Mrs. Mawer. In the afternoon we went for a walk on the other side of the valley.

On the Friday we went by train to Berne, the Swiss capital. We visited the famous bear pits, the cathedral and the Houses of Parliament. In the Houses of Parliament we heard an interesting talk on the history Berne during which one member of the party fell asleep. After a free Saturday morning, we spent the afternoon in Montreux.

On Sunday we visited Geneva where we saw the famous sights, including the 500 ft. fountain (the highest in the world) which is a land mark on Lake Geneva.

On Monday we saw the beautiful scenery around Grindewald including the famous mountains—the Eiger, the Münch and the Jungfrau. After a walk, we took the mountain railway to 7,000 ft. up the Jungfrau. The Tuesday was our last day and in the morning we prepared for the long journey home. We arrived back at K.G.V. at about 11.00 p.m. It was a memorable and most enjoyable holiday which none of us would have missed.

C.P.C. & D.P.H.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

After a slow start in 1975 and 1976, the Natural History Society is now flourishing. This is largely due to a small band of dedicated naturalists in the fourth form and lower fifth who are to be congratulated for their efforts.

Since the beginning of the year we have had two film shows, seven lectures and six field outings.

Lectures have included Dr. P. Smith from Liverpool Polytechnic (an expert on conservation, especially of the natterjack toad) and a number by Mr. S. Riley, a well known local ornithologist and naturalist. The field outings have included a trip to the Solway Firth, where we recorded seventy eight species of birds, and one to the Wirral, where fifty eight were seen, including a few rarities.

Although the society will continue its activities in the fields noted above we are also keen to expand our interests. Projects planned for next year include a survey of the school grounds and of Kew Woods. (The latter has already begun and has yielded some interesting results including the discovery of a pair of tawny owls, a mallard's nest and the interesting plant *Senecio squalidus* L. (Oxford Ragwort).

The committee is always open to suggestions for possible activities connected with Natural History. These should be directed to S. Laycock, N. Hughes or D. Skinner, from whom details of membership can be obtained. Remember, the society is made by its members so if we do not do what you want then tell us.

G.J.S.

STOCKPILER

The Stockpiler Competition 1977/78 ended in March, 1978 and the final league tables were then issued. In the Merseyside League the K.G.V. 'A' team came 7th and the 'B' team 15th out of the 20 teams placed. Neither team was placed in the National 'Top Twenty' League but both teams did 'beat' the Financial Times Ordinary Index.

This was the first time that K.G.V. has entered the competition, which has proved popular with all team members gaining a greater insight into the movement of share prices. Next year there will again be two syndicates, one representing the U6th and one the L6th.

T.J.B.

ATTENTION BUDDING LAURENCE OLIVIERS!

The very first meeting of the new K.G.V. drama group took place on 12th June in Mr. T. B. Johnson's room next to the Library, at 4.00 p.m. Although poorly attended, the reading of "Androcles and the Lion" by George Bernard Shaw was thoroughly enjoyed by all (as was the eating of Mr. Johnson's biscuits and the drinking of his coffee). At the last count, our select little group boasted a membership of six, including Mrs. Arnold, to whom we are grateful for reading the female parts in the play. Readings are to be arranged on a more regular basis after the exams, starting with "zigger-zagger" by Peter Terson on July 13th. Anyone wishing to join us for future readings please see the chairman, Jonathan Coterall, or any member of the committee whose members are Mr. T. B. Johnson, Mrs. Arnold, Mark Dransfield, Martyn McDonald and Martin Joss.

J.C.

MERIT CARD AWARDS

(July 1977—July 1978)

Martin Franklin (4B. EV.)	Chemistry	H.T.M.
Nigel Bruin (4B. EV.)	Chemistry	H.T.M.
Mark Hepple (L5W. Hon.)	Physics	A.C.
Timothy Wilson (3M. Le.)	Geography	A.S.F.
David Simms (3M. A.)	Geography	A.S.F.
Carl Klaasen (3X. Le.)	Geography	A.S.F.
Neil Stewart (3X. S.)	Geography	A.S.F.
Ian Maclean (3X. Hol.)	Geography	A.S.F.
Paul Wilkinson (3M. W.)	Geography	A.S.F.
Neil Stewart (3X. S.)	French	S.S.
Peregrine Price (3X. A.)	French	S.S.
Stephen Laycock (3M. Le.)	Geography	A.S.F.
Ian Robson (3X. M.)	French	S.S.
Paul Cohen (3M. Ev.)	Geography	A.S.F.
Peter Wanklyn (4B. Ed.)	Chemistry	H.T.M.
Simon Tomlinson (3S. W.)	Geography	A.C.
Paul Wilkinson (4B. M.)	English	J.M.
Graham Danter (3X. Ed.)	Chemistry	B.P.
Stephen Laycock (4M. Le.)	Nat. Hist. Soc.	G.J.S.
Nigel Hughes (L5W. M.)	Nat. Hist. Soc.	G.J.S.
Nigel Bruin (L5B. EV.)	Physics	M.B.C.
Mark Sutton (4W. R.)	Geography	B.L.H.
David Lowe (4S. G.)	Geography	A.C.
Karl Cockwill (2W. Le.)	Geography	B.L.H.

SIR HAROLD WILSON TALKS TO THE 'RED ROSE'

- O.** Sir Harold, you left 10 Downing St. on 6th April, 1976. How have you been occupying yourself since then?
- A.** Well, firstly I've had a lot more time to visit my constituency. Then there's my new book, "The Governanuce of Britain", written by someone who's actually done it. I've also teamed up with David Frost for a series of T.V. shows on former Prime Ministers, where they lived and so on. There's a book tie-in, which I finished in May. I'm also trustee of the D'Oyley Opera Co., President of the Royal Shakespeare Company, involved with Help The Aged, and a lot more besides.
- Q.** It's hardly a rest.
- A.** No, but the strains not the same. Although I'm working 100 hours per week, there's no sudden crisis or anything. I've even found time to tidy up my study, which has been looking a little disreputable lately.
- Q.** Going back to your schooldays, you had quite an illustrious time there, didn't you?
- A.** After leaving Huddesfield, I went to the Wirral County school—of course I was captain of the rugby team!—and I took the Oxford Scholarship exam. By some accident I got it. Then at Oxford I won the Gladstone Memorial prize in History and a £300 prize in Economics. I became an Oxford don at 21, then I went to work for Sir William Beveridge on unemployment.
- Q.** Do you feel that all the early hard work has paid off, in that as Prime Minister you were always under pressure?
- A.** Oh yes. Beveridge taught me to work. For six days we'd work on unemployment but on the seventh he'd go off and do some strange thing, I think he was working out the price of wheat in Hampshire in the fifteenth century! I didn't join him on that.
- Q.** You won that History prize at Oxford, so obviously you've a great interest in the subject. It must be fascinating for you to have such an interest, and be part of History yourself: you can blend into it.
- A.** Well, thank you for putting it that way, because that's how I feel it. I've had enough of Economics. I think 20% of me is a historian. That's why I'm enjoying this Frost series so much.
- Q.** There's a famous photograph of you, aged eight, standing outside 10, Downing St. Even at that age, did you want to be a politician?
- A.** I was brought up to it. My uncle was Speaker of the West Australian Parliament, and my father was Winston Churchill's assistant election agent at the Manchester bye-election of 1908—which he lost. About that picture,

when the papers heard about it, they sent men out to try and buy it. The "Evening Standard" eventually bought the photo from my old man for £50. Incidentally, I remember when I was at school, we had to write a story as if we were being interviewed, called 'Myself In 25 years Time'. In it, I was telling this interviewer all about my next Budget—I was Chancellor, you see—and I recall taxing gramophone records. That was because we didn't have a gramophone!

Q. How in fact did you get into politics?

A. I joined the University Labour Party, left because it was full of Marxists, then I was with the Liberals for a while as Treasurer. I helped them pay off their overdraft, but after that I got bored with them. As far as national politics are concerned, I got in for Ormskirk in 1945, and joined the Cabinet in 1947 at the age of 31. Seventeen years later, I became Prime Minister. This meant a lot to me, although I had a completely untrained team then and had to do it all myself. Strangely enough, when I returned in 1974 with the most experienced Cabinet in history, I found it much harder. That's because the pace of government has changed, with the oil crisis and so on.

Q. Did you enjoy all this work?

A. Yes, of course. But you shouldn't be Prime Minister unless you have two assets: a deep sense of history, so you can set your deeds against the past; and you must be able to sleep. Two Prime Ministers couldn't sleep at all. One resigned and the other burst into tears at the end of each day. I know how he felt but there must be a better way. But yes, I enjoyed the challenge.

Q. Let's talk a bit about your defeat in 1970. It was quite a surprise.

A. I was one of the few who expected it. It looked too easy with a 14½% poll lead with one week to go. It all went sour in the last week.

Q. Mr. Heath says you were egging on the miners when they went on strike and brought down his government in 1974.

A. No, we weren't. I had a peace policy within Mr. Heath's own pay policy, but he rejected it. You see, he's a rather authoritarian person.

Q. What sort of relationship did you have with him?

A. It's been better since we both left Number Ten. He's a hard man to get to know. When the Tories elect a leader they take him over, dress him, set his hair and tell him what to say. So he wasn't himself on television, or on public occasions. But I've heard him at informal functions, such as dinner parties, speaking beautifully without a note. He's a hard man to get on with, but what

he has to say is worth saying. He's a significant figure, and very highly regarded in Europe.

Q. Your resignation in April, 1976 came as a bombshell to Britain. Was it intentionally so dramatic?

A. It was certainly the best-kept political secret since the War. Only the Queen, close family, and one or two others knew beforehand. I had three reasons for going. I'd had a long stint; eight years at Number Ten. Secondly, if I'd stayed on much longer, my older colleagues in the Cabinet would have lost their chance of taking over—Jim Callaghan for a start. And thirdly, I felt that the Premiership needed a change. But I was never bored or tired with the job.

Q. Were you glad Jim Callaghan got in?

A. You know, I couldn't have guessed who would win. We had six good candidates. I voted for one of them in a secret ballot. No, I'm not saying who. But since Jim got in, we've had a few good long chats.

Q. You met former U.S. President Nixon, I believe.

A. I did. At first I thought Nixon was the best man to stop the Vietnam war, as indeed he did. But the fact that Congress voted to impeach him clearly shows he was guilty with regard to Watergate.

Q. You're well known as a public figure, but what about your private life?

A. I'm a great believer in privacy. I always try to get a long holiday with Mary, usually for three weeks or so in the Scilly Isles where we're completely free and left to get on with what we want to do.

Q. But aren't you always followed around by newsmen, or people coming up and arguing with you?

A. One or two newspapers always send out men, but I never give any interviews. A few people might stop and argue with me, although most usually wave or shake hands.

Q. Quick word about Mike Yarwood: one of your favourites?

A. He's very good. In fact, he does me better than I do myself. Next time I'm ill, I'll have to ask him to take over my official engagements for a while.

Q. What has been your most memorable achievement over the years?

A. Politically, whenever I announced union agreements on pay. But most of all, I'm proudest of creating the Open University. It was my idea, and now it's almost worldwide. My eldest son is an Open University lecturer.

Q. Is there anything else you would like to do?

A. Nothing but to be a good back-bencher, and help my party through its present difficulties.

Q. Any plans for resigning your seat in Parliament?

A. I'm staying until such time as my constituents don't want to see me anymore, and I'll certainly be fighting the next election.

AN ATTEMPT TO INTERVIEW SID LITTLE & EDDIE LARGE

(SCENE: A dressing room in the Southport Theatre)

by Julian Wilson

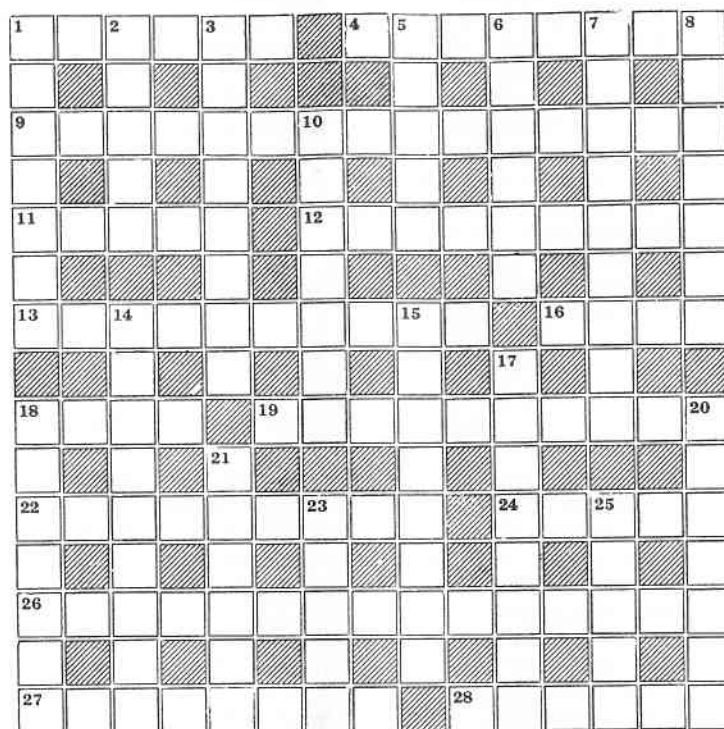
- JW:** Well, Little n'Large, dynamic comedy double-act of stage and television, the first question I'd like to ask you, if I may, is how did the famous double act get started?
- EL:** Well, what happened was that in 1937 Sid was left to me in his Uncle's will on the proviso that when he became a big star I could drive his car for him and I've just started today.
- SL:** Have I made it? Am I a big star?
- EL:** Well Sid's always been a big star and I've just helped him along. I went into a snooker hall one day and chalked his head before I realised that he wasn't a cue. No, we didn't start like that. We met by accident. I ran him over on a zebra crossing. No, we didn't start like that. How did we start, Supersonic?
- SL:** Well, we met each other and thought it would be a good idea to do an act together. I played the guitar, three cords like everybody does, and we learnt a few songs and decided to go into the Pop World. We got up on stage and started to sing a few songs and everybody fell about laughing so we turned out to be comedians!
- EL:** (Interrupting) I've recently been in hospital you know to have my appendix out.
- JW:** Really?
- EL:** (displaying scar) Yes I have, honestly, just spent six weeks in hospital with peritonitis—which is one of those foreign cars—but it's no joke, I know. Sid came in to visit me and said: "Eh next door they've just brought a case of gangrene in", I said: "I hope it's better than that Lucozade they've been giving me." Of course Sid's been poorly, you know. Yes, he went for a blood test last week but he failed!
- JW:** When you are on stage do you stick to the script because one gets the impression that you 'ad lib' a great deal?
- SL:** There is a basic script but we are left with a lot of freedom so that Eddie can break off into his impressions and accents. If we are doing a show for a week Eddie gets bored and before you know it he's branching off into some new act. He's very unpredictable.
- JW:** Do you ever change roles? Are you ever the comic and Eddie the straightman?
- EL:** (interrupting again) He doesn't eat rolls.
- SL:** I could never be as funny as Eddie Large . . .
- EL:** There he goes again, under-estimating himself.
- JW:** What's the secret of a good comedy double act like yours?
- SL:** Getting on well with each other. You have to be good friends.
- EL:** If you dislike each other it shows in your act. We like to go up on stage and really enjoy ourselves. I think

that's the essence. But I'm getting all serious now. (With loud cheers from Sid Little he puts the ice bucket over his head) (in a muffled voice from under the ice-bucket) That's the essence of good comedy, you know Julian, enjoying yourself.

- JW:** (trying hard to stay calm and control the situation) What do you think of your counterparts—the other double acts?
- SL:** They're all great people. We know them all — Mike and Bernie, Morecambe and Wise, Hope and Keen. Really nice people.
- EL:** (having removed ice-bucket) Starsky and Hutch, Elsie and Doris Waters, Flanagan and Allen, Marks and Spencer.
- SL:** Eddie and I feel that anyone who can make it in show business must be dedicated. We've been in the business sixteen years now.
- EL:** (bursting in) Never! Oo, he looks so young!
- SL:** Yes. People think we were discovered on "Opportunity Knocks" but we'd been going a long time before that and it takes a long time to get to the top and a heck of a lot of hard work to stay there. So anybody who does stay there—like Eric and Ernie—has all our admiration, and such people deserve all they can get.
- EL:** I think once you stay there it shows true talent. As for Morecambe and Wise they're a legend in their own lunchtime aren't they. Do you think so, Julian?
- JW:** Oh, definitely.
- EL:** He'll say anything folks. We just give him a drink.
- JW:** Perhaps what has made you most famous recently is the Little n'Large Tellyshow . . .
- SL & EL:** (Singing) Little n'Large, Little n'Large, Little n'Large Bom, Ba, Dum.
- JW:** (Taken aback) Er . . . Mmm . . . er . . . Are you having another series of the Little n'Large Tellyshow?
- EL:** Top secret. Our lips are sealed.
- SL:** Hopefully, yes. There is a lot of talk about one and it was a success so I think there might be another series. We'll have to wait and see.
- JW:** You're playing tonight in Southport. What do you think of the town?
- EL:** I came last Friday but it was closed.
- SL:** We were here for ten weeks last year and we really enjoyed it.
- EL:** The way it combines being a seaside town and being so clean is a credit to those who run it.
- JW:** What plans have you got for the future?
- EL:** Well we've a Sunday afternoon off, I think, and then we're going away.
- JW:** Well Sid Little and Eddie Large. Thank you very much for talking to us and we wish you the best of luck for the future. It's certainly been an experience. Thank-you.

(This interview was also recorded for Southport Hospital Radio)

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Smooth and thick-like the X-stream (6)
4. Gospel writer can be blemished (8)
9. Cox had too much to drink (3, 4, 3, 5)
11. Piece of information on the line (5)
12. Dismissed superior tailor (9)
13. Bedraggled warden trod carefully (7, 3)
16. Ran away from scuffle directly (4)
18. Guevara loud cook (4)
19. Relative makes dean cringe (5-5)
22. Victoria has one point at Elizabeth II's demise (9)
24. Second sight initially about to finish (5)
26. Top master, caught by weather, living in dreamland
(4, 2, 3, 6)
27. Doctors surround boundary, right. They remove
debris (8)
28. Bet fastened to posts (6)

DOWN

1. Scarecrow deduced internally busy (7)
2. Choose to return member (5)
3. Stirring venom met with trouble (8)
5. Cinders and French plate (5)
6. Retainin' detention as a punishment (4, 2)
7. Pot a crossbowman, say, it's nothing! (9)
8. Stage direction for appearance of Edward-came in (7)
10. Change letter sequence to make anagram (7)
14. Swap six balls—too much barter (10)
15. Cancelled out dull Anne (8)
17. Offer accommodation at less than allowance (8)
18. Number showed confusion in byre (3, 4)
20. Uncovered sex/dope organisation (7)
21. As roving mercenaries install new guns initially (6)
23. Following the stern section (5)
25. Torso holds all (5)

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1) Creamy; 4) Markable; 9) One over the eight; 11) Datum; 12) Outfitter; 13) Drowned rat; 16) Fled; 18) Chef; 19) Grand-Niece; 22) Waterfall; 24) Estop; 26) Head in the clouds; 27) Dred-gers; 28) Staked.
DOWN: 1) Crowned; 2) Elect; 3) Movement; 5) Ashet; 6) Keep In; 7) Bagatelle; 8) Entered; 10) Reorder; 14) Overtrade; 15) Annul-led; 17) Underlet; 18) Cowshed; 20) Exposed; 21) Arming; 23) After; 25) Trunk.

PRELUDE TO MISERY

The stomach tightens,
Wild butterflies reminding and warning of what you did,
And what you should have done,
The tension increases as the door opens,
Simple things like alphabetical order, and when to start
Confused by a terror-stricken mind,
The early sun floods in through the lofty windows,
Glancing off the polished walls,
Making the already snow-white exam paper even more
terrible,

Candidates stare, wide-eyed in disbelief:
"What's this? When was that? We haven't done this!"
You should have revised!
The conscience begins its scathing narration,
The exam begins, and silence reigns.

P. W.

SKETCHES IN THE MARGIN

The man, clothed in silken robes of black,
To match his very mood, scratched the thoughts
That even now presented themselves,
Neatly regimented from his brain.
Thoughts that suffered, thoughts that
Tore with pain at the workings of his mind.
The page that before him lay exposed
To such ability that he may possess,
Was as yet unfilled, save for the idle
Doodlings that decorated the margin,
A definite border to what might be,
And the reality of his failure.
For this man, despite his worldly wisdom
And success, grasped his pen with
Fingers numb. Too long he'd waited
For the moment when the turf,
That grew now about his feet,
Should tangle round his living soul,
And pull him from the mortal coil
That simply was existence.
For now, when the sky grew dark about
Him, when the colours, sights and
Sounds that made his life, at last
Were presented, and he could see,
Feel, appreciate what the heaving of his chest,
The gushing of his veins should mean;
His mind, that had served him in the past,
Could not express what he was.
He remained a breath that now, as on the
Coldest morns, dispersed its tortured form.
The richness of the life it gave,
Melted into dust, air, water.
People drank of him, water from the hills.
People heard of him on the wind.
People felt him press quick on their feet.
Yet this man, clothed in silken robes of black,
Was not remembered. They shared in
Him, but knew him not.
His fingers eased their grasp upon
The pen, his life blood would only be,
Sketches in the margin.

S. Roberts, U6W.

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