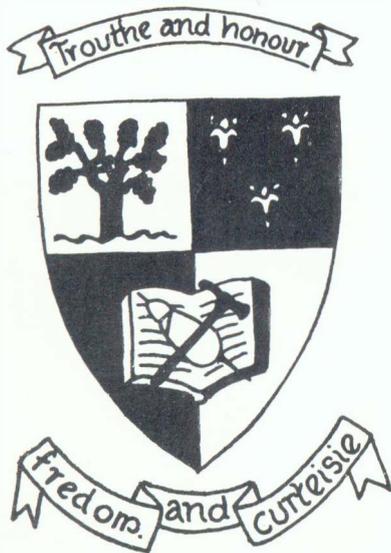


SIBFORD 79



SCHOOL

OLD SCHOLARS



“Ye Menne of Sheepford wendath whithersoever they wilen”

CARING ABOUT YOUR TOMORROW THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS' ARE FOR

Tomorrow you may want to give your child an extra special start in life.

Tomorrow you may be disabled or too ill ever to work again.

Tomorrow you may want to buy a house.

Tomorrow you may need to think about retirement

Tomorrow you may want a secure place to invest
your money.

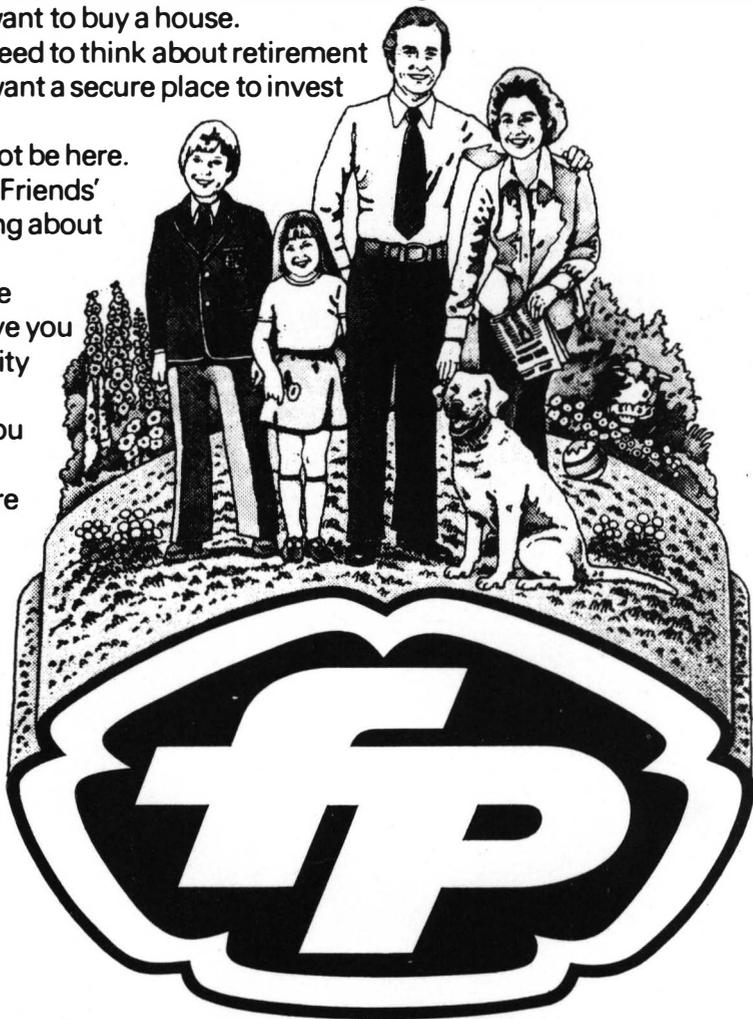
Tomorrow you may not be here.

For nearly 150 years, Friends'
Provident have been caring about
lives like yours.

Caring with insurance
policies and plans that give you
and your family the security
for a better life.

Your broker will tell you
more about Friends'.

Friends' Provident care
about your tomorrow as
much as you do. Isn't that
what Friends' are for?



FRIENDS' PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE

HEAD OFFICE AT PIXHAM END, DORKING, SURREY RH4 1QA. AND AT 24 BRANCHES NATIONWIDE.

SIBFORD 79

Annual Report

Sibford Old Scholars and Sibford School

INDEX

Page

2. School Staff	28. The President 1980
3. School Leavers	29. Re-union 1979
4. House Reports	30. Accounts
6. Games & Athletics	31. Presidents' Address
7. School Activities	33. "More of that Anon"
13. School Articles	34. Headmasters Report
20. August Re-union	36. By Love Serve
23. S.O.S.A. Officers	37. Sibford Down-Under
25. Annual Meeting	39. News of Old Scholars
27. Under Two Elms	

EDITORIAL

This is not a particular anniversary year and it must, of necessity be something of an anticlimax after last year's issue. We have not been able to show ourselves in fancy dress but we do report the continuing activities of the Association. We have our ups and downs, but everybody is happy to see that the annual reunion is attracting more old scholars and, particularly, the younger ones. The efforts that your officers have gone to have borne results and there is every sign that all those who attend enjoy the weekend and take their part in all the activities. We were particularly fortunate in having Paul Eddington come and give the Leslie Baily lecture. It was enjoyed by all. A report on his talk is to be found elsewhere in the magazine. It would be invidious to single out any one officer for thanks, they all did what was required of them and did it excellently. But our caterer was not an officer and she, Diana Lloyd did a wonderful job in keeping us all happy appetite-wise. We are happy to announce that she and John have just been blessed with another son.

We regret that Arthur and Pam Harrison will not be taking such an active part in the running of the Association. They are moving to Cornwall (and who can blame them).

Pam has already gone and Arthur leaves at Christmas. They will be pleased to see any old Scholars who are down there.

We print two items of special interest, one from Australia and one from Nigeria. The Editor would be only too happy to receive other such articles for next year.

Finally, I must thank those who have sent photographs for inclusion in the magazine. They include Frank Rollett, Terry Clarke and Mike Finch.

But this is a joint magazine. The school this year has submitted some excellent items for inclusion, both written and artistic. They are keeping up to the very high standard they set last year. The Editor received many congratulations for last year's magazine, but the thanks were really due to all the contributors for their work. We have to thank Robert Penman for assembling the matter and getting it to the Editor so promptly. It makes his work so much easier.

Finally, have a good 1980 and we look forward to seeing you.

Philip Beckerlegge

THE TEACHING STAFF : AUTUMN TERM 1979

Headmaster:

Kenneth C. Greaves, M.A.(Cantab.)*

Deputy Head:

Senior Master:

Kenneth T. Francis, Teachers Certificate

ART & POTTERY	Maureen McHale, N.D.D., A.T.D.* + Angela Mortimer
ENGLISH	(H) Geoffrey Higgins, M.A.(Oxon)* Julie Thomas, B.A.* Robert Penman, B.Ed.
FRENCH/GERMAN	Gilbert Todd, B.A.* Jean Rudge, B.A.* Anthony Rye, L.T.C.L.* Jennifer Walker, B.Ed.
GEOGRAPHY/ECONOMICS	(H) Brian Holliday, B.Sc.* Joanna Pring, B.A.* Janette Long, Teachers Certificate
HISTORY	Kenneth T. Francis, Teachers Certificate Ian Charnock, B.A.* Anne McKeane, B.A.*
HOME ECONOMICS	(H) Gillian Edwards, Teachers Certificate Jane Nussey, Teachers Certificate
MATHEMATICS	Alan Jarvis, M.A.(Oxon)* Frank Cookson, M.A.(Oxon)* Michael Hollman, B.Sc.* (H) Eunice Lemon, Teachers Certificate
METALWORK, WOODWORK & TECHNICAL DRAWING	Graeme Sagar, Teachers Certificate, M.C.C.Ed. (H) Stuart Hedley, Teachers Certificate, City & Guilds Advanced Craft Certificate
MUSIC	Pauline Roe, L.R.A.M., G.R.S.M.*
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	(H) Michael Wollerton, Teachers Certificate, Dip.P.E. (H) Susan Lynk, Teachers Certificate
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	Jean Lumb, Teachers Certificate
REMEDIAL TEACHING	David Foulds, B.A., Teachers Certificate (H) Eunice Lemon, Teachers Certificate + Robin Greaves, B.A.*
SCIENCE: PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY PHYSICS BIOLOGY CHEMISTRY RURAL SCIENCE	James Shields, B.Sc.* Frank Cookson, M.A.(Oxon)* Anthony Skeath, B.Sc.* + Elizabeth Cookson, M.A., Ph.D.* Gordon Wright, B.Sc.*
TYPING	+ SYLVIA MANNING
VISITING TEACHERS	Phyllis Travis 'Cello Charles Worvill Guitar David Foulds Violin & Viola Peter Jeeves, L.T.C.L. Brass & Percussion Joanna Chadwick, L.T.C.L. Clarinet Mabel Payne Piano Thomas Lawrence, M.A. Piano & Composition Robert Pacey Flute

NON-TEACHING STAFF

Bursar: John Miller

Assistant Bursar: Brian White

Headmaster's Secretary: Kate Long

Medical Officer: Sidney A. Agnew, M.B., Ch.B.

School Nurse: Shirley Ross, S.R.N.

Catering Manager: Geraldine Westbury

Maintenance: William White

Head Gardener: Arthur H. Dring

In Charge of Linen Room: Margaret Dring

(H) Indicates Housemaster or Housemistress

+ Indicates part-time staff

* Indicates post-graduate teaching qualification

SCHOOL LEAVERS

1978-79

Jonathan ADAMS CHURCH: c/o Spenco Medical Co., Tanyard Lane, Steyning, West Sussex DN4 3RJ.

Katherine AINSLIE: Long Thatch, The Green, Hook Norton, Banbury.

Katherin ALDINGTON: Crabtree Leys, Offenham, Evesham, Worcs.

Deborah ALDOUS: Fintel, P.O. Box 59, Suva, Fiji.

David ALLEN: Davlizante, Tilsley Road, Chipping Norton, Oxon.

Hans-Jorgen ASK: Ornevein 46A, 1340 Bekkestua, Oslo, Norway.

Louise BAILEY: Yarnhill Cottage, Epwell, Banbury.

Nicholas BARNICOAT: Maison de Puech, Le Bourg, 12640 Riviere-sur-Tarn, France.

Peter BATCHELOR: Durham House, Kingham Hill School, Kingham, Oxon OX7 6TH.

Lucie BEEVERS*: 1 Raycroft Close, Chalkmere Copse, Fishers Lane, Oldwick, Bognor Regis, Sussex.

Michael BILBROUGH*: 18 Lakeside, Horcott, Fairford, Glos GL7 4DD.

Amanda BOND*: Ruperts Rest, Main Street, Great Glen, Leics.

Amanda BOX*: c/o Wayne High School, 5400 Chambersburg Road, Dayton, Ohio 45424, U.S.A.

Christopher BURN*: Conkers Farm, Bierton, Bucks.

Jonathan BUTTS: 2 Eastcote Close, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands B90 3QX.

David CADBURY*: The Old Vicarage, Shepherds Green, Greenfield, Oldham, Lancs.

Crispin CAIGER: 35 Birchitt Road, Bradway, Sheffield S17 4QN.

Simon CAINES: 70 Monthermer Road, Cathays, Cardiff.

Joanna CATS: Atjehstr 96, Den Haag, Holland.

Stephen CLARE: 89 Rockmount Road, Plumstead, London SE18.

Alexander CLARKE: 16 Reading Road, Cholsey, Oxon.

Sarah CLARKE: Old Barn Cottage, Station Road, Lower Heyford, Oxon.

Josephine CLUTTERBUCK: 63 Oxford Road, Banbury.

Lindsay COLIN: 6000 Frankfurt Main, Baumweg 20, West Germany.

Richard DASHWOOD*: 7 Speen Lodge Court, Speen, Newbury, Berks.

Ruth DONNELLY: 5 Burns Road, Banbury.

Lesley-Anne DOOLE: Mill Lodge, Kingham, Oxon.

Anne DOOLEY: Maleg, Domsey Lane, Little Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 3PS.

Ruth DOOLEY*: Maleg, Domsey Lane, Little Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 3PS.

Timothy DOOLEY: Maleg, Domsey Lane, Little Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 3PS.

Philip DOVELL: 5 Mons Terrace, Totnes Road, South Brent, Devon.

Georgina DRY: The Studio, River House, 30 Kings Drive, Thames Ditton, Surrey.

Jessica EARLE*: Grange Cottage, Bushwood, Henley-in-Arden, Warks.

Juliet EVANS*: 93 High Street, Winslow, Bucks MK18 3BG.

Paul FERRIS: 8 St. Peters Close, South Newington, Banbury.

Richard FREDMAN*: 6 Briar Thicket, Woodstock, Oxford OX7 1NT.

Tanya GAMLEN*: 52 Howsell Road, Malvern Link, Worcs WR14 1TH.

Mark GELLNER-WARD: 12 Grovewood, Sandycombe Road, Kew, Richmond, Surrey.

Philippa GILLET*: Heanor, Rednal, Birmingham.

Norbert HAMY: Runsell House, Pudding Bag Lane, Thurlaston, Rugby, Warks.

Toby HARRIS*: Langsat House, Swalcliffe, Banbury.

Stephan HENKEL: Hilariastrasse 5, 8023 Grosshessloke, West Germany.

Paul HEYWOOD: 89 St. Annes Road, Banbury OX16 9DY.

Heidi IBRAHIM: 11 Abercrombie House, White City Estate, London W12 7AQ.

Charlott INGRAM: 2 Longfellow Road, Banbury.

Andrew JEMSON*: Manor Cottage, Stert, Devizes, Wilts.

Emma KINGSLEY: 27 Lancaster Park, Richmond, Surrey.

Gillian LAKIN: 6 Northcourt Avenue, Reading, Berks RG2 7HA.

Alison LEVY*: 27 Croye Close, Andover, Hants SP10 3AF.

Christina LINDQVIST: Brandon House, Gorse Hill Lane, Virginia Water, Surrey.

Hamish LOW: Chestnut House, Hadstock, Cambridge CB1 6NX.

Siobhhan MACGILL: Twin Oaks, Great Rollright, Oxon.

Alice MACPHERSON*: 37 Chester Road South, Kidderminster, Worcs DY10 1XJ.

Leanne McCORMICK: 26 Cranford Road, Barton Seagrave, Kettering, Northants.

Sarah MERVIS: Williamscot House, Williamscot, Banbury.

Jennifer MUNDAY*: 40 Sunderland Avenue, Oxford.

Christina NICHOLAS: Ocean Sports, P.O. Box 340, Malindi, Kenya.

Mark NICHOLSON: 133 The Drive, Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 4DH.

Caroline NORTH: Brasenose Inn, Cropredy, Banbury.

Hubert PHIPPS: Mann's Cottage, South Stoke, Reading, Berks.

Richard PIKE*: 16 The Poles, Upchurch, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 7EX.

FOR ALL DECORATING MATERIALS

C. H. POLLARD & SON
LIMITED

74/76 Markhouse Road LONDON, E17 8BG

MANUFACTURERS AND MERCHANTS
OF MODERN FINISHES FOR ALL TRADES

ESTABLISHED 1908

David PODMORE*: 78 Whittern Way, Tupsley, Hereford.
 Peter RICHARDSON: British Consulate General, Bockenheimer Landstrasse 51-53, 6 Frankfurt Main, Germany.
 Philip RICHARDSON*: 12 Broad Lane, Evenley, Brackley, Northants NN13 5SF.
 Samantha ROBINSON: Wardington Lodge, Lower Wardington, Banbury.
 Michael RUTTER*: Layton House, Shaftesbury, Dorset.
 Julian SANDIFORD*: Elberton Old Manor, Olveston, Bristol.
 Daniel SCOTT: 12 Clifton Terrace, Wivenhoe, Colchester, Essex.
 Iain SCOTT: 13 Heather Close, Sidelands Road, Stratford-on-Avon, Warks.
 Timothy SLANEY*: 23 Astonbury, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3QB.
 Salley SMITH: Berrington Orchards, Chipping Campden, Glos.
 Mark STROUD: Marsh Farm House, Grimsbury, Banbury.
 Jane STURGE*: 21 Eastern Avenue, Reading, Berks.
 Eldon TAYLOR: Mildura Cottage, Kings Road, Bloxham, Banbury.
 Sarah TELFER: 47 Gibson Square, London N1.
 Leigh TIMMS: The Yews, Swerford, Oxon OX7 4BQ.
 Melanie TOWNSEND: 132 Bath Road, Banbury.
 Sarah TUSTIAN: Windmill Farm, Middleton Cheney, Banbury.
 Ronald VAN ASMA: Royal Netherlands Embassy, Strasschensweg No. 2, Bonn, West Germany.
 Thomas VENOUR*: 3 The Paddocks, Eaton Ford, St. Neots, Cambs.
 Oscar VERDEN*: 66 Waxwell Lane, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 3EU.
 Karen WALSH: 40 St. Joseph's Drive, Stirling, New Jersey 07980, U.S.A.
 Julie WATKINS: Jeff's Farm, Chacombe, Banbury.
 Susan WHITE*: Haldon, Lamborough Hill, Wootton, Oxon OX13 6BY.
 Philippa WHITESTONE: Summer Hill, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent TN27 8ER.
 Iain WILSON*: 25 Prince of Wales Road, London NW5.
 Therese WINDASS: The Rookery, Adderbury, Banbury.
 Clinton WOOD: 4 Birchtree Grove, Pershore, Worcs.
 Anthony WYNN-WILLIAMS*: Vine House, 5 Chapel Street, Syston, Leics LE7 8GN.

Those marked * have joined the association with a three year membership.

THE HEADMASTERSHIP

The next Headmaster of Sibford will be James A. Graham, M.A.(Oxon), at present Headmaster of Fearnhill School, a comprehensive school of some 800 pupils at Letchworth, Herts.

Jim Graham was educated at Bootham School, York, and Magdalen College, Oxford, where he read "Greats". His teaching experience includes ten years at Manchester Grammar School where he was Deputy to the High Master for the Lower School. In 1971 he was appointed Headmaster of Letchworth Grammar School which was later re-organised as Fearnhill School.

An active member of the Society of Friends, Jim Graham is a married man with two daughters. His interests include mountaineering, ski-ing, ornithology and farming.

He will take up his duties at Sibford in September, 1980.

DEPUTY HEAD

Our new Deputy Head is to be Miss Anne Muir, B.A. A modern linguist, her teaching experience includes service in several independent and maintained schools and she is at present First Deputy Head of Lilley and Stone School, a mixed comprehensive school at Newark-on-Trent.

She will join us at Sibford in January, 1980.

Head Boy & Head Girl

Tim Vince, Helen Carlton-Smith



NANSEN BOYS' HOUSE

During the Summer Term the House added the cricket and boys' athletics cups to the rugby trophy and cross-country cup they already possessed.

In the Summer holiday the common room was divided into two smaller rooms and colour T.V. and snooker have been a welcome addition to the House. We are now looking forward to our 'switch room' being converted into a hobbies room/study.

B.H.

NANSEN GIRLS' HOUSE

This year we have made a lot of improvements to our House: we have painted a big, brightly-coloured rainbow on the common room wall, and we have painted a mural of palm-trees, sea, sand and sun in the TV room; we have painted the stairs leading to the dormitories and are going to paint the House entrance.

For the last two years we have been holding snack-bars to support the Lebanon and the Save-the-Seal Fund. The supplies were bought with House money (which was later refunded), and members of the House contributed by giving flour, pop-corn and other items. We have also been collecting money to send to families, via Oxfam, who have adopted an underprivileged child.

Finally, nearly all the dormitories in the House have now been carpeted, and we look back on a happy year.

Helen Richardson, Fiona Sutherland

PENN BOYS' HOUSE

Quite a few new luxuries have been provided for the House's general use. When we all came back at the beginning of the new year, we were surprised to find that the large common room had been divided down the centre and is now a quiet room and a common room. This is a lot more convenient as the former quiet room is now a hobbies room. Half way through the year an old cooker was donated to the House, and consequently the kitchenette became a kitchen. Then there were the mirrors: a mirror was put up in each dormitory, which was very useful, despite initial difficulties in fixing them in the correct position.

In the Easter Term we managed to get hold of a small snooker table, but this got used to such an extent that it very quickly wore out. At the end of the Summer Term we sold afternoon teas in the hope of raising some money to buy a new snooker table, and the House funds are building up so well that we should soon be able to choose one.

Sheridan Coldstream

PENN GIRLS' HOUSE REPORT

The school year 1978 to 1979 was a year of fun and excitement for everybody in Penn. Apart from having me as one of the new members of the House Penn girls also had Miss Lumb to come and act as Mrs. Lynk's deputy. Miss Lumb treats us as if we are her own sisters and always sees that we are having the best. Then we had Edwina Bezant as the Head Girl and Philippa Gillett as deputy who both showed responsibility as well as intelligence.

During the course of the year, thanks to our Games Captain, Amanda Bond, the House netball, hockey and swimming teams have played well in all the competitions. Through her great effort we won the netball and swimming cup and in the swimming events two of our Penn girls broke records in senior and junior individual races. The House activities thus came to an end with the trip to the Cotswold Wild Life Park organised by Mrs. Lynk.

Vivian Li

LIFE IN NANSEN HOUSE



Fiona Sutherland, Helen Richardson,
Sally Jenkinson

LISTER BOYS' HOUSE

Robin Anderson and Michael Rutter had a very successful year as House Captains. They encouraged an atmosphere of friendliness, loyalty and quiet enthusiasm for inter-House games and the Eisteddfod, whilst being kind but firm in the day to day running of the House.

As a result, and along with Lister girls, we won the Music Competition, the table-tennis competition, the sports and the hobbies, and came joint first in the Eisteddfod with Penn. The Merit Cup was won three times during the year and Christian Notley won the Bantam Award.

In coming to a decision to spend all our resources for the coming year on a new fold-and-roll-away table-tennis table, we considered the fact that this would completely free the common room of stacking tables and the damage their constant manoeuvre causes and ensure that the game is played at some time every day. We are pleased with our choice and hope that it will last many years.

This year we have appealed to parents for old curtains which we can re-cut and line ourselves for the dormitory corridor windows and we hope soon to try out three 'box beds' in the Fifth Form room to assess their suitability for possible future adoption to gain extra storage space and make for easier cleaning.

S.H.

No Lister Girls' Report, unfortunately!

R.P.

SIBFORD GOWER MEETING HOUSE COTTAGE

The cottage attached to the meeting house became vacant recently. Any old scholar who is interested in it please contact Norman Coxon for further information immediately.

BOYS GAMES REPORT 1979

SOCCER

The bad weather experienced during the football season severely restricted the number of school matches played. Only seven fixtures were fulfilled by the Senior Team and of these four were won, the remainder lost. The Team scored twenty-nine goals in the games played, eleven by Andrew Egbuna. Unfortunately twenty-five goals were conceded and it was this poor defensive record that accounted for the defeats.

The Junior footballers fared even worse in the bad weather and of the few games that were possible they were defeated each time.

CRICKET

A rather wet Summer Term restricted the Senior Team to only four matches, of which two were won and two lost. The team relied very much on the strength of two or three players, and when they failed the team was in trouble. This was very much the case in the lost game against the Old Scholars. However, Adam Christy proved a valuable captain taking the most wickets and scoring the most runs. He was well supported by Paul Ferris who took several wickets and a number of fielders who held some good catches.

With several of the team still in school for the next season and some promising Juniors moving up to senior level hopes are high for 1980.

ATHLETICS

Sibford teams met with mixed success in the Banbury and District League Events. While the Third Year group were eclipsed at their meeting, the Second Form team achieved some excellent performances finishing within the first three places in ten events. Our Fourth Year team comprised just four boys, but with nine placings in the first three they finished in fourth place, a very creditable performance.

Only two school records were broken during the season: Glenn Atterbury added a few centimetres to the first form high jump record and Andrew Egbuna set a new time of 14.2 seconds for the 100m. Hurdles. Andrew came second in the County hurdles race at Iffley Road, Oxford. Andrew retained the school cup for best athlete of the year.

SWIMMING

There were few successes for the boys' swimming team in 1979. In the triangular match with Bloxham and the Warriner Schools we were relegated to third place. A challenge match against the school's 'all-conquering' girls team was also lost. We have been grateful to Mr. Frank Stevenson who has taken on the job of coaching the boys and they are hoping for revenge when they next compete with the girls.

GIRLS' P.E. AND GAMES

During the last year many of the major team games suffered considerably because of poor weather. However, the senior netball team showed great promise, and one member, Eddie Bezant, was asked to play for Banbury.

The cross-country team, not bothered so much by weather conditions, had a good season, finishing third in all their matches. This was an exceptionally good performance as the majority of the team was selected from the 1st and 2nd Years.

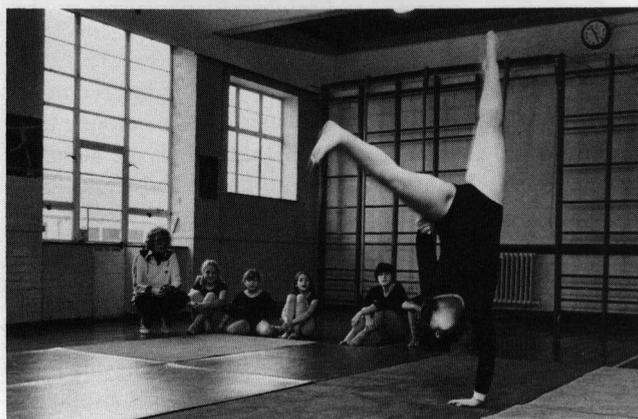
The school swimming team had an excellent year, winning all their matches. Many school records were broken and several girls represented Banbury at the North Oxon. swimming gala.

Another activity to gain in popularity over the last year was gymnastics. So much enthusiasm was shown that a minimum entrance qualification had to be used. Recently two new pieces of equipment have been purchased — a balance beam and an Olympic-style spring board. These items have already proved to be very useful.

House sporting activities have had another good year. Competition was particularly strong in the swimming and athletics matches. In both these competitions several records were broken. Other House activities which proved to be successful were the Cross-Country and the Netball — some of the matches being played in driving snow.

New activities were introduced into the already wide range of games and leisure pursuits: squash and yoga both proved to be very popular.

S.L.

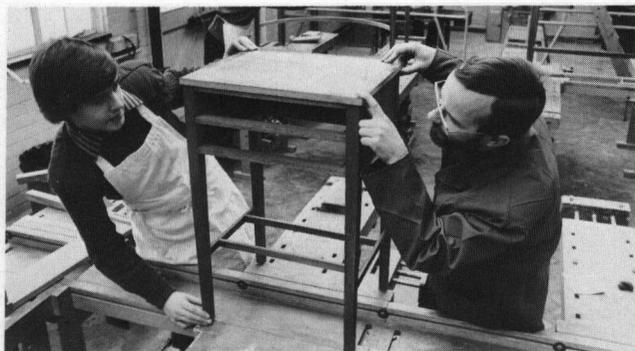


Alison Levy (upside down) and members of the Gym Club

GIRLS' SWIMMING

This year we were only able to arrange one match — against a much larger school, which we won. We took 14 girls to swim for North Oxfordshire at the County Gala and the individuals swam well: five of the six girls' relay team chosen were from Sibford. The senior girls' team came second and third in the two relays. A number of girls have also been entered for personal survival and life-saving examinations.

A.P.M.



Craftsmen at work:—
Ronald van Asma and Stuart Hedley

CRAFT DEPARTMENT

Hamish Low and Ronald van Asma produced good quality furniture and metalwork during their sixth form course. Ronald van Asma has gained a place at Rycotewood for a course in furniture making and design. There are six members of the sixth form involved in craft courses this year.

Once again in July, an exhibition of work from the Craft Department and the Art and Home Economics Departments was displayed in the window of the Halifax Building Society's office in High Street, Banbury. This was most encouraging for those who had work exhibited and was also good publicity for the school.

We are pleased that we have obtained a Browne and Sharp tool-room lathe replacing another outdated and worn machine.

The new display area has proved to be an interesting focal point and has been well used during the past year.

THE MACRAMÉ CLUB

The Macramé Club, which was started by Mrs. Walker at the beginning of the year, met every Monday at 4.15. Most of our work was done in jute, a natural string, although belts were made out of a white nylon string. Plant-hangers were very popular at the start, and recently people have enjoyed making macramé bags. Several people attempted to make owls and wall-hangings, but these were more difficult. We look forward to more macramé in the future.

Jessica Wyllie

ORIENTEERING

The School Club has again attended a number of events throughout the school year. In the Oxon. and Bucks. Schools' Championships in November we had twelve boys competing. The most successful were Christopher Arkless (fourth) and Andrew Houghton (fifth) in their respective classes. At the Chiltern Challenge event Ian Finlayson achieved his third Bronze standard which qualified him for an award. Our most improved orienteer must be Keith Hawker, who with a third and a fourth place in recent events has made great progress.

M.R.W.

'EMIL'

It is nearly 50 years since Erich Kastner's 'Emil and The Detectives' made their appearance in 1929, and they have delighted children ever since.

Last week, Sibford School presented an up-to-date version of the play as their Autumn term production. It gave great pleasure and the satisfaction of knowing that Geoff Higgins and his team continue to work for the high standards of dramatic presentation for which the school is well-known.

Emil (Daniel Scott) was rather more confident than his 1929 predecessor, but nonetheless a mixture of the cheeky and the frightened.

He was quick to take to the fellowship of a gang of kids who had been up-dated to include such characters as the colourful Johnnie the Punk (Jonathan Coleman), Kojak (Robert Avati) complete with Burberry and dark glasses, Action Man (William Rees) armed with skateboard and helmet, as well as the traditional brain behind it all, the Professor (Sheridan Coldstream). And the delightful little Tuesday (David Cunningham) who has, unwillingly, to stay at home by the phone.

An added attraction of the play was that it provided parts for both juniors and seniors, and the fifth and sixth forms came into their own as the adults in the play.

These ranged from the villain of the piece, the Man in the Bowler Hat (Mike Bilbrough) and his equally villainous one-time mate, Snick (Marc Mulloy) to the nervous granny (Helen Smith) and the competent policeman (Hamish Low).

Everyone contributed fully to the atmosphere of the whole presentation.

(From the Banbury Guardian)

A.G.C.



Mrs. Titchburn (Maria Hawker) talking to her son Emil (Daniel Scott)

'NOAH'

It was a rather inhibited collection of pupils that arrived at the first rehearsal of the play 'Noah' by Andre Obey, to be met by a group of equally 'ill-at-ease' staff. Not only was doing a play of this kind a new experience for most of us, there was also the daunting prospect of having to work with members of staff as fellow actors. These self-conscious feelings were soon eradicated at our first rehearsal, which was spent playing trust games. These games

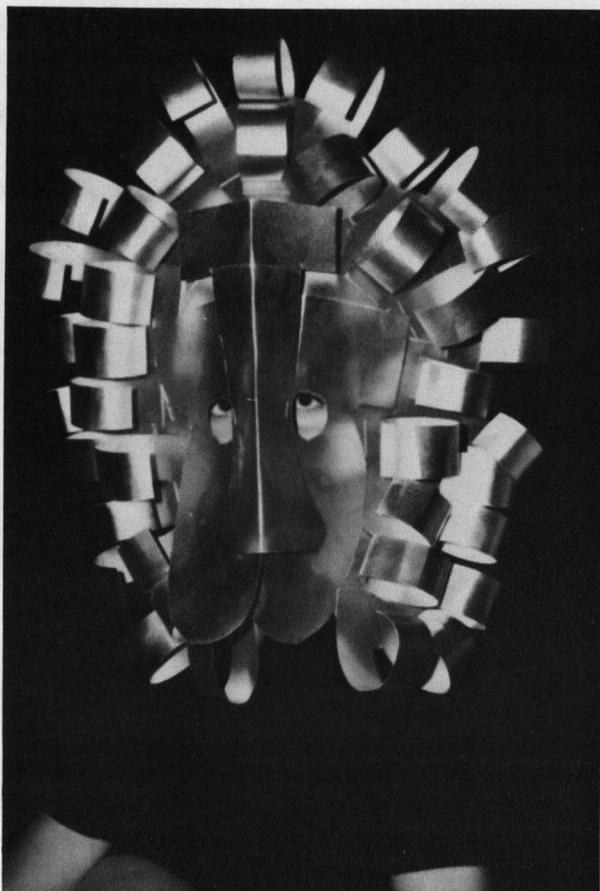
involved a peculiar collection of activities, that ranged from pulling the most revolting faces possible (and some members of the cast found this easier than others!) to wandering around blindly, trying hard to identify one another by touch – this also had some very amusing results! It proved to be an enlightening experience, not only for the cast, but also for the inquisitive faces that appeared at the windows of the Remedial Centre, where we held our first rehearsals.

After a few minor hitches that varied from Tea-Duty to Tennis Coaching, the play began to get seriously under way. With true grit and determination and typical Sibford spirit we practised intensively – especially Scene Two which involved both a stage kiss and the grabbing of Mr. Foulds' leg by a Sixth Form girl.

Our eventual evacuation from the Remedial Centre to the stage gave the play a whole new dimension: it was like beginning all over again. Mr. Penman had great difficulty in inducing us to speak more clearly and act more definitely. The animals started to attend the rehearsals, and gradually the production pieced together.

With the help of good stage management, marvellous scenery, excellent costumes and make-up and the general support of the school, the performance proved to be a success and a thoroughly enjoyable venture for those doing it.

Sarah Barfoot and Helen Lennox



The Lion's mask, made by the Art Department for "Noah"



Noah's son's girlfriends:—
Helen Lennox; Sue Lynx, Sarah Baxfoot

EISTEDDFOD HOUSE PLAYS

It is easy to produce theatre, and yet Eisteddfod drama this year was surrounded by more controversy than any other School event: we almost had no House Concerts – and those we had were produced in little more than a week – and we only had two House Plays at the end of term.

Initially, it seemed that there was a general feeling that the seniors could better use the time by feverishly working for 'mocks',

In truth, there was no such general feeling, but merely a small group, which, for hazy reasons, did not want Eisteddfod drama. Just as minority strikes were damaging the nation, a similar mentality was operating at Sibford and Nansen House was left without a play to present.

How fortunate, then, that Lister and Penn produced such excellent shows. Lister chose Gertrude Jennings' 'The Bathroom Door', a humorous account of what happens when several hotel guests find the bathroom door mysteriously locked. The play was well directed by Helen Smith, who avoided what could easily have been a very static presentation by having amusing sequences of entries and exits from the various bedroom doors near the bathroom. Julia Wingfield acted well as the hysterical woman who, on finding the bathroom door locked, instantly assumes that her husband has died in the bath.

If Lister chose the better play, Penn perhaps chose a play that allowed them a larger cast and gave them greater freedom in staging. 'The Guy is Not for Burning', by George Samuel, features Guy Fawkes (Philip Dovell) who, much to the bewilderment of a group of children, disappears from a bonfire on November 5th, and returns a year later to a similar bonfire. He spends the intervening time in the company of Nelson (Hamish Low), who, mud-spattered and covered in pigeon droppings, has a similar exit from the top of his column. They sample modern living and decide, resignedly, that life is better at the top of a bonfire and a column. The play was set in a street, and the cast performed both in front of and behind the curtain, and in the auditorium.

Both plays were admirably presented.

R.P.

Bernard Smith Fabrics

CASTLE CENTRE, BANBURY, OXON.

Tel. 53462

The Curtain and
Dress Fabric Specialists

Comprehensive Ranges
at
Competitive Prices

DRESS PATTERNS – CURTAIN
FABRICS – SEWING AIDS –
PAPER PATTERNS

ONE SCHOOL LIBRARY

When I took over the library in January it seemed to me that the two most important jobs were, first, to check our stock so that we could see what we had, and, second, to try and obtain some new shelving so that we could display the books and make them easier to find.

The very good-quality wooden shelving dated from the days when books were all about the same size, so that shelves could be fixed to average measurements. Recently, sizes of books have varied so much that more and more were not fitting our shelves, resulting in the odd selection of outsize books that we had. This Summer we have been able to buy new adjustable shelving that has done away with this problem. We are not yet complete, as we are awaiting a section of shelving that is designed partly for books and partly for a magazine and newspaper rack.

Since January we have added over four hundred books on many different subjects, including many fiction titles. With the sixth-form in mind we have been trying to build up the literature section and to add to the work of good contemporary writers.

The cost of what we have done is in the region of two thousand pounds, and we are most grateful to Kenneth Greaves, the School Treasurer and to the Committee for their interest and help, both tangible and intangible.

Mrs. Turner and I are trying to provide you with a library that will help you with your work and with your

leisure. You can assist us by letting us know about books that you would like in the library. If you have a request or suggestion, ask us for a request slip, give us the information and we will do our best. Another way of helping would be by reviving the old Sibford custom of leavers presenting a book to the library.

It is sometimes said that 'they (that means you), don't read like we (that means us oldies) used to'. I don't know about that, but I did count the books out on loan during the first week in October and found that 70 readers (including 5 members of staff) had borrowed, between them, 84 books. This means that only one pupil in six is using the library – something I shall resist the temptation to comment on.

Why not become a borrowing reader? We have a wide and ever-increasing variety of books, and remember, *borrowing is free.*

A.M.R.

SATURDAY NIGHT'S ALL RIGHT

Saturday Night entertainments at Sibford are never the easiest things to arrange, but this year the Social Committee excelled itself by putting on one of the fullest programmes of events that I can remember.

In the Autumn Term, apart from the usual attractions like Bonfire Night, the Fancy Dress Ball and the Christmas Dance, we started the term with the film 'What's Up Doc', and finished with the thriller 'Caravan to Vaccares'.

We were fortunate enough to have two live groups this year: 'Axehead', formed by an old scholar, Simon Austing, and 'Sinner', a local rock group.

Later in the year we had two films featuring rock music: 'Keep on Rockin' featured concerts by Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis, Little Richard and others, while 'American Graffiti' gave us a nostalgic look at life in the USA in the early sixties.

School Hops continued to be a great success, and so were some of the Open Nights, when houses laid on entertainment of some sort, ranging from table-tennis and beetle-drives, to barbecues and listening to records.

J.C.P.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

For the last two years we have entered pupils for the Banbury and District Schools Public Speaking Competition, organised by the Banbury Junior Chamber of Commerce, and have had some notable success.

The contestants had to speak for five minutes to an audience of fellow speakers, teachers and local business men – a daunting prospect at the best of times – and were judged on Content, Style, Use of Language and Impact.

This year we entered eighteen contestants – twelve juniors and six seniors. Robert Avati and Sheridan Coldstream (Junior Section) and Sarah Barfoot, Jenny Munday and Helen Smith (Senior Section) all spoke sufficiently well in the preliminary rounds to win places in the Banbury



Jenny Munday (centre) and the Public Speaking Competition Finalists

Final. At the Final, Jenny Munday won second prize, and therefore went on to represent Banbury and District in the Upper Thames Regional Final in Oxford.

The contestants all spoke on one aspect of the theme 'Working Together'. The subjects ranged from Catherine Davies' speech on 'Working Together in a "Maneaba" on the Gilbert Islands', to Karin van de Mei's speech on 'The Biological Interdependence of Animals and their Environment'.

Although most of the speakers found giving the speeches something of an ordeal, they all agreed afterwards that the experience had been worthwhile.

R.P.

FIRST AID

A very successful First Aid class was held during the Summer Term. It was attended by some twenty-four people – pupils of the school, staff and members of the public. Each session lasted for approximately two hours, which included both theoretical instruction and practical bandaging. The long sessions included a welcome coffee break. On two occasions Dr. Agnew instructed us on the blood system, respiration and resuscitation and heart massage on the appropriate dummies.

After ten weeks came the exam. when each of us was tested by a doctor, in mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on the dummy, and in the practical task of bandaging. We are now qualified first aiders.

We are grateful to Mrs. Gilchrist for giving up so much of her time to run the course for us.

Benjamin Gifford

DUKE OF EDINBURGH: POLICE COURSE

The Police Course, which was run by a Police sergeant, meant that on Tuesdays we had to miss prep. to go in a cold mini-bus to another cold place – Banbury School's Stanbridge Hall.

I personally did the course because I was very interested in the way the law runs. I had also taken a similar course at the Bronze-level and enjoyed it immensely.

The information given in those four two-hour sessions was both interesting and varied. We learnt about drinking and driving, the CID, the history of the Force, the flying squad, crime prevention, and special branches of the

Metropolitan Police Force. All this was learnt for an exam. in which most of us got over 50 per cent, despite having missed the first lesson.

The course had a great effect on all of us: we can now pretend to know a little, at least, of the Police Force.

Harriet Jones

CHILDREN'S CAMP 1979

Each year Sibford gives a holiday for deprived and delicate children from the East End of London. To finance this wonderfully rewarding and beneficial scheme, the whole school participates in a ten or twenty mile sponsored walk. Despite all the sore feet, there was an atmosphere that can only be achieved when everyone works together for a worthy cause.

The children come from two schools in London: Phoenix School and Stormont House School. Although appearing to be far from delicate in the way they rush around, all have various illnesses and disorders, such as asthma, excema, haemophilia and epilepsy. Before they arrived the helpers had to re-arrange furniture and prepare everything to suit the needs of the camp. A swing, paddling pool and two home-made see-saws were erected and brought hours of pleasure to the children. A massive shopping expedition was also necessary to buy everything needed for the cooks to try out their talents!

Contact

P.H.GOODMAN
Flooring Specialist

* * *

For your

**CARPETS, TILES, WOOD BLOCKS,
SHEET VINYLs AND
ALL FLOORING ACCESSORIES**

* * *

Middle Tysoe
tel. 318

*has been pleased to be associated with
Sibford School and wish them every success
in the future.*



WILL YOU NEED A BANK ACCOUNT WHEN YOU LEAVE SCHOOL? BARCLAYS WILL GIVE YOU TIME TO FIND OUT-FREE.

All school leavers can bank with Barclays completely free of charge: for one year if you're starting work, or all the time you are a full-time student in higher education.

This means that all your cheques, statements and bankers orders will be handled free of charge (so long as you don't overdraw your account).

Post the coupon below, and we will send you our booklet containing information about a cheque account and full details of our free banking offer.

Please send me a free copy of:	Tick appropriate box
'Starting Work. How to use your bank'	<input type="checkbox"/>
'Starting College. How to use your bank'	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surname Mr/Miss.....	
Forenames in full.....	
Home Address.....	
.....	
Post to: The Manager, School Leaver Account Service, Barclays Bank Limited, Juxon House, 94 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8EH.	
BARCLAYS SA	

Each child had one helper who got them up, took them to meals, played with them, took them on the day trips and generally looked after them. The children were tireless and it was normally the helpers who wearily climbed into bed at night!

Each day we went on arranged excursions, and our visits included memorable days at Blenheim Palace model railway, the Cotswold Wildlife Park and a visit to a miniature railway. Surprisingly, three of the most enjoyed trips were the ones to Mr. Dyer's farm, Mr. Lamb's farm and to see the kite-flying at Burton Dassett. Many of the children had never seen a cow milked, or been able to touch a pig or sit on farm machinery before. After a meal of strawberries and cream à la Mrs. Lamb, all climbed aboard for a ride in a trailer, and after being dropped off we had a scavenger hunt on our walk back to base!

All the children became very attached to their helpers and vice-versa. It was a sad day when we waved them off in their minibus. The headmistresses of both schools said there were marked differences in all the children, and that each child had in some way benefitted from the camp. One headmistress had been surprised to hear a previously rather shy, silent boy shout loudly across the dining room one dinner time!

As a helper of this year's children's camp I would like to thank everyone for their hard work, both during and after

the 1979 camp. I hope this wonderful scheme will continue and that Sibford will again see the smiling faces of London children.

Fiona Richardson

BELGIUM AHOY!

"Will you, won't you, will you, won't you?
Won't you go to Brussels?"

The first ever Sibford School Rugby Tour Overseas faced more obstacles than a Grand National hopeful before the off – the availability of the minibus, a new exhaust for the car, a 'flu epidemic, lost passports, reciprocal health forms and finally at 6.30 p.m. on the evening of departure a 'phone call from Belgium to say that there had been a heavy snowfall, the roads were impassable and the pitches unplayable. Well, Nansen did not let a little snow worry him, so after some frantic 'phoning the convoy set off at 11.45 p.m. and reached Dover in the early hours of the morning to await the Ferry.

Needless to say everywhere was shut, the weather was Arctic and there was a strike on.

At Ostend one of our props went missing and the car engine refused to start, but a few well chosen words later



The Display Cabinet

we were zooming on our way – the wrong way as it turned out. When that was sorted out we arrived at a place called Terhulpen but we were expected at La Hulpe.

The introductions made, the tour set up a pace which did not slacken: two matches, a tour of Brussels, Waterloo and other watering places.

What were the most memorable moments? Certainly Keith Little leading the side very well and ably supported by Toby Harris. Well, as the saying goes about sporting events of the marathon nature: "To enter is a privilege, to finish – monumental, to win – immaterial."

In conclusion, a word of praise to the lads who toured. They were perhaps not the best side in the world but they never let anybody down, particularly as they were playing against two of the three best junior sides in Belgium. Finally, our warmest thanks to Beps, Malcolm, Bobby, all the officials of La Hulpe and A.S.U.B., Jean-Claude the understanding pugilist and Mr. Miller, the School's Bursar, for all their help in making the tour such a success.

Thank you.

I.C.

THE SKIING HOLIDAY : ITALY

During the early hours of January 11th a group of 18 pupils with Mrs. Lynk and Mr. Hollman departed from Gatwick airport to a small Italian village called Sauze. When we arrived at Turin airport a coach took us to our hotel, La Chapell. After a light lunch we were then taken to be fitted for skis and boots.

The general pattern of the day was this: breakfast at 8.30 a.m. followed by a 2-hour skiing lesson; for lunch we were able to choose between either a packed lunch up the mountain or a cooked lunch down at the hotel; the afternoons brought a choice of either more skiing or a trip into the next village to go and explore the few shops available.

The evenings were taken up by many different types of arranged entertainment, ranging from the hotel disco to either a pizza evening or just the little village disco. At the end of the week a badge and certificate were awarded to successful skiers.



Skiers (Incognito) in Italy

The holiday ended too soon and we left on the 18th January to return straight to school ready for the new Easter Term.

Eddie Bezant

THE FRENCH TRIP

At the end of the Summer Term four of us – Siobhan Morris, Liseli Bull, Julie Watkins and I – all went to Marseille in France to stay with French families for two weeks. Two of the families went to the Alps for a holiday, and one family went to Perpignan, near the Spanish border.

The families took us to see the sights of Marseille, like Notre Dame de la Garde, and la Maison Diamantée – a museum that had been built around an old Roman settlement.

We saw Mrs. Walker quite often on our stay, and she was always around to sort out any problems that we had.

We all spoke a lot of French and our hosts' English improved as well; and the fact that the sun shone the whole time made it an ideal beginning to the holiday.

Anne Careless

MEAT AND FORMALIN

Two lifeless rats,
Suspended together
To form an unorthodox pair,
Bathing in a bath of formalin.

The only name for them
Is quite simply meat!
They are utterly lifeless,
Instruments of man's quest for knowledge.

These instruments are shaken dry
Carefully sliced from neck to crutch,
Their inner organs minutely examined
And when finished with, carelessly discarded.

When the meat's organs are disposed of,
The bodies are but shells
To be hacked at
and then thrown to the cats.

Matthew Bond

TEARS

The rivulets ran down her face,
Her eyes were brimming again and another torrential
waterfall came out,
"Just stop it or else you'll be swimming in your tears",
her mother shouted.
That sudden outburst made the dam break;
The tears came fast and furious like rapids,
Splashing on to her hands and skirt making a little wet pond.
Eventually she stopped and we dried her up.

Miranda Sale



Psyche. Katie Dike 4th Form



Catherine Pitt 4th Year

THE EMPTY LAMB

While I was in Wales
During the summer holidays,
I went on a walk
With some friends.

Suddenly a boy
Saw something lying
By the road,
In the grass.

It turned out to be
A lamb with its skin
Not covering it,
But pulled over its head.

The only wool left,
Which could be seen,
Was on its four legs;
The skin was torn off the legs.

All the insides that were left
Were the guts;
Every other organ was gone
And the inside was full of ants.

Someone peeled the skin from its head
And revealed the face,
Still intact
Except for the eyes.

There was just a dark hole
In each socket;
Like a skull,
Yet the face was still there.

Another boy picked it up by the leg
And threw it at a ewe sheep

In a field;
He missed.

But it fell in front of it,
And the ewe jumped back,
Stared at the carcass
And edged forward.

It licked it and then dashed away,
To the delight of the boys,
And the horror of the girls,
And the indifference of the lamb.

It lay there,
One eye hole showing,
Completely empty,
Void of life.

We all, the boys,
Started to throw stones
Into the empty cavity
Of the lamb's body.

When a stone hit it
It bucked,
As if trying to get up
And run away from our stoning.

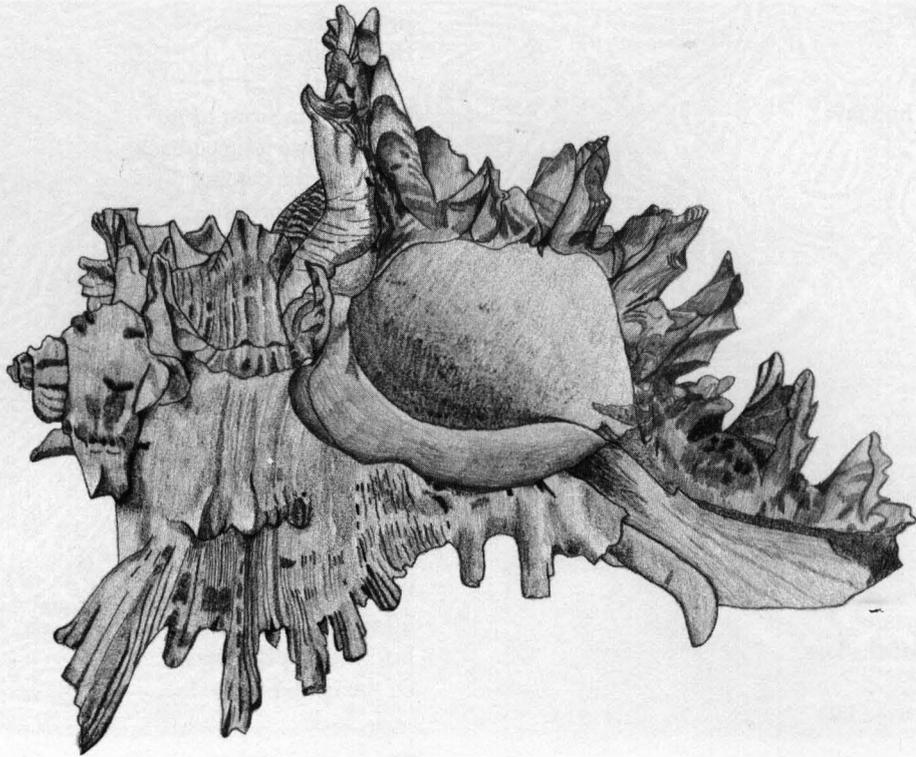
After a few minutes
It was fat again,
As it was when alive,
But full of stones instead of intestines.

Suddenly I didn't feel like teasing it,
Not now that it wasn't empty,
I felt as if it hated me;
I put down a stone and walked away.

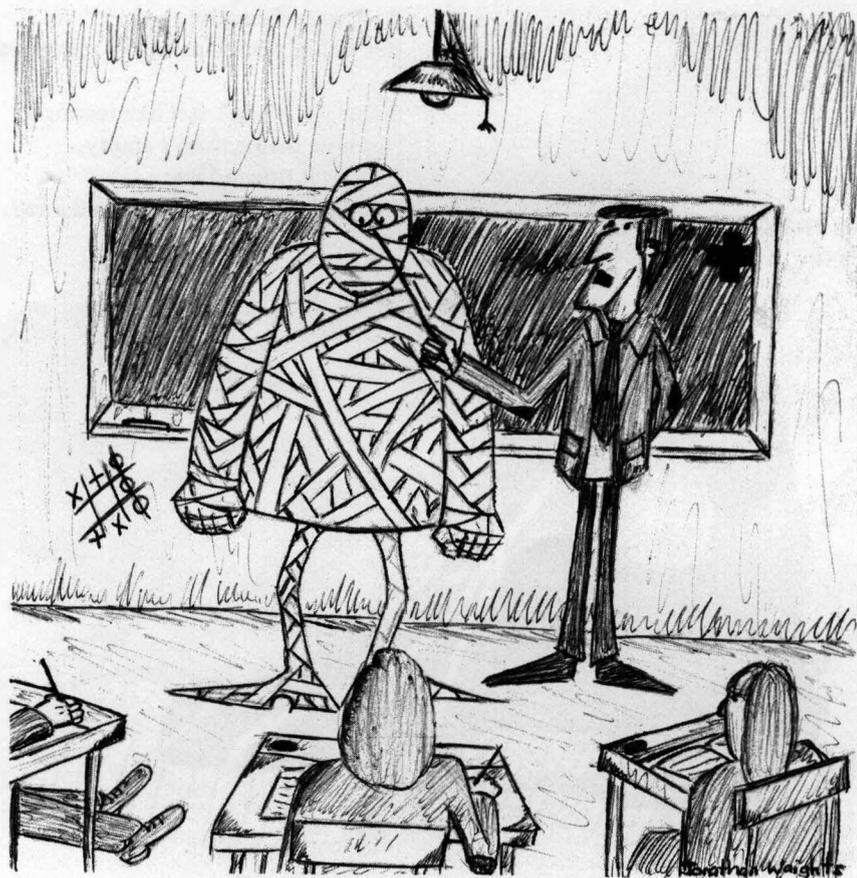
Ian Buffery



Not Meant For Walking! John Davies 4th Form



Treasure of the Deep. Catherine Pitt 4th Year



First-Aid Lesson. Jonathan Waights

NECROMANCY

A drifting voice and an unanswered laugh,
A quick away quickened by a sleepy yawn.

A flash reminds me of my baby dead,
And dreams not so past and forgotten.

My morning continued with passing thoughts,
Which made me ponder, and puzzled, dismiss.

A fine day for blackberry-picking if it's not windy,
'It's just the right time of year', I added.

Well equipped with bucket, broom and spade,
I sloshed through the slippery mud, humming.

I noticed the wind sharp against my cheek,
Tugging and snatching my light brown hair.

I noticed the mist swirling, and the thoughts,
'Rain filling my pond' jagged in my mind.

Shallow, washed hoof marks dragged and battered,
A batch of small, nervous, scared prints, innocently slipping.

A full pond and crushed reeds, grass and lilies,
A foal lost and thick, dark-brown hair caught in a
blackberry bush.

Alison Farr

TEA DUTY

A silent, orderly queue waited outside the dining hall.
Sweet aromas wafted over to the expectant, flexed nostrils
of the tidy crowd.

The sixth-former organising the queue had everything
under control. He opened the door to let six people in:
there was a surge forward. It was obvious to him, as twenty-
six came in a block through the door, that desperate action
was needed. An expert hand shot out to keep back the
remaining queue. Ah! He'd done it. He looked again at the
aggressive remainder of . . . three. He smiled inwardly at
his strength; obviously the rest had decided it was better
to wait in the main school for tea.

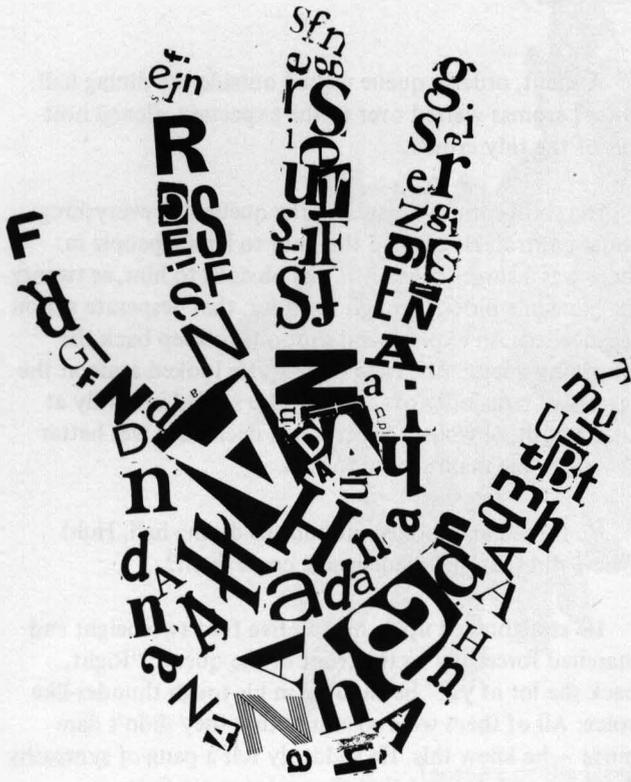
He turned and looked around the dining hall. Huh!
Where did that big queue inside come from?

He straightened up to his full five foot two height and
marched forcefully to the front of the queue. "Right,
back the lot of ya!" he shouted in his tough thunder-like
voice. All of them were so scared that they didn't dare
move – he knew this. He suddenly felt a pang of sympathy
for them and decided that the younger, six-foot
fifth-formers could go and have their tea.

Anne Dooley



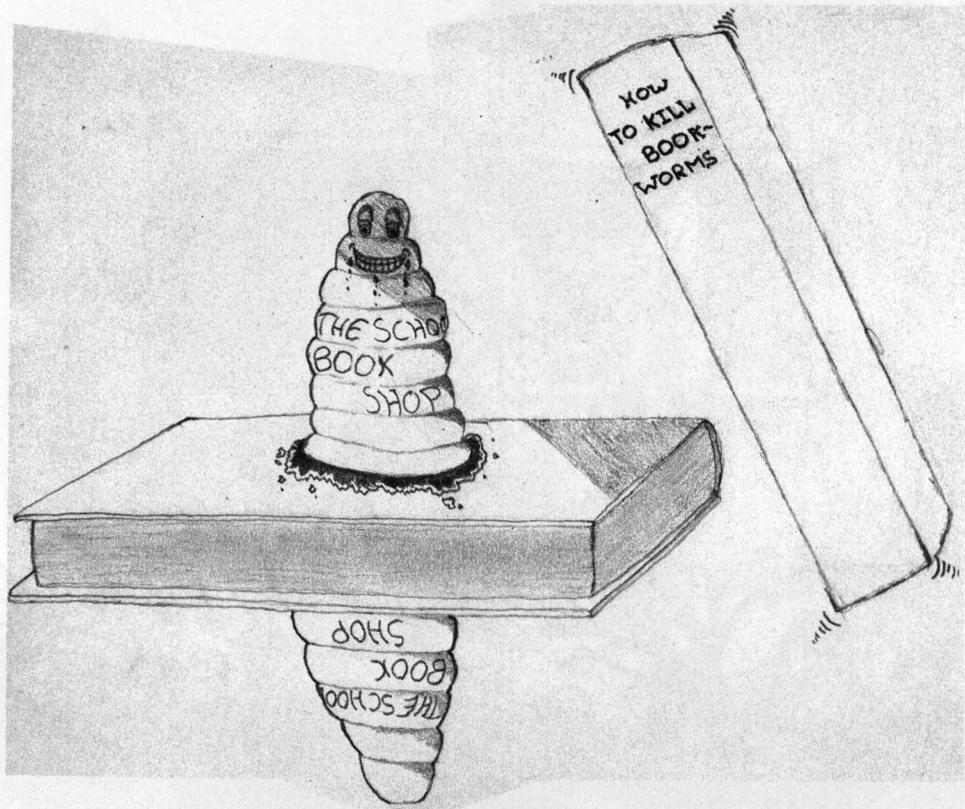
Nature in the Raw. Adrian Sestin 3rd Year



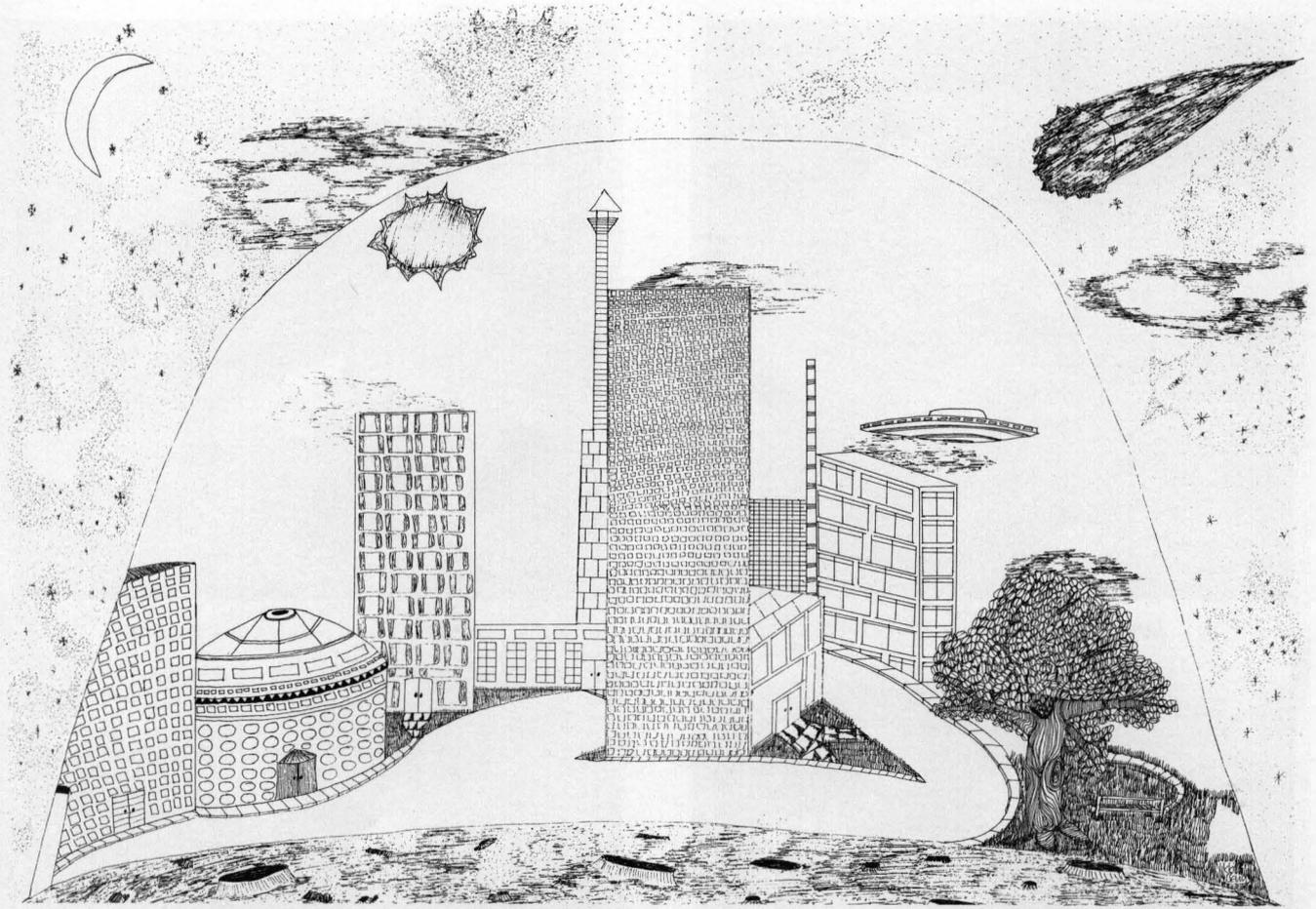
"To the Finger-tips". Kate Humphries 1st Year



Head. Alison Farr 2nd Year



"Nuff Said!". Simon Cornish 3A.



Vision of the Future. Nicki Benn 5th Year



Future SOSA Caterers?
Cooks: Sharon Cats, Tina Fox, Jane Nussey, Kate Feather & Melissa Clements



Janet Manasseh copes with Philip



Russell Steed hands out the bread



Ruth Frampton, David Stiles, Paul Frampton (background)



Olive Bennett, Ethel Wright, Philip & Grace Beckerlegge



Our Caterer – Diana Lloyd



DOYLE i' CART Saving Fuel



THE PANTOMIME
Cinderella & Fairy Godmother
Legs by Helen C. Smith and
Peter Yeoman



HOCKEY MATCH
Janet Baily; Lorraine Brown, Pat Clark
Umpire — Grace Beckerlegge edging in



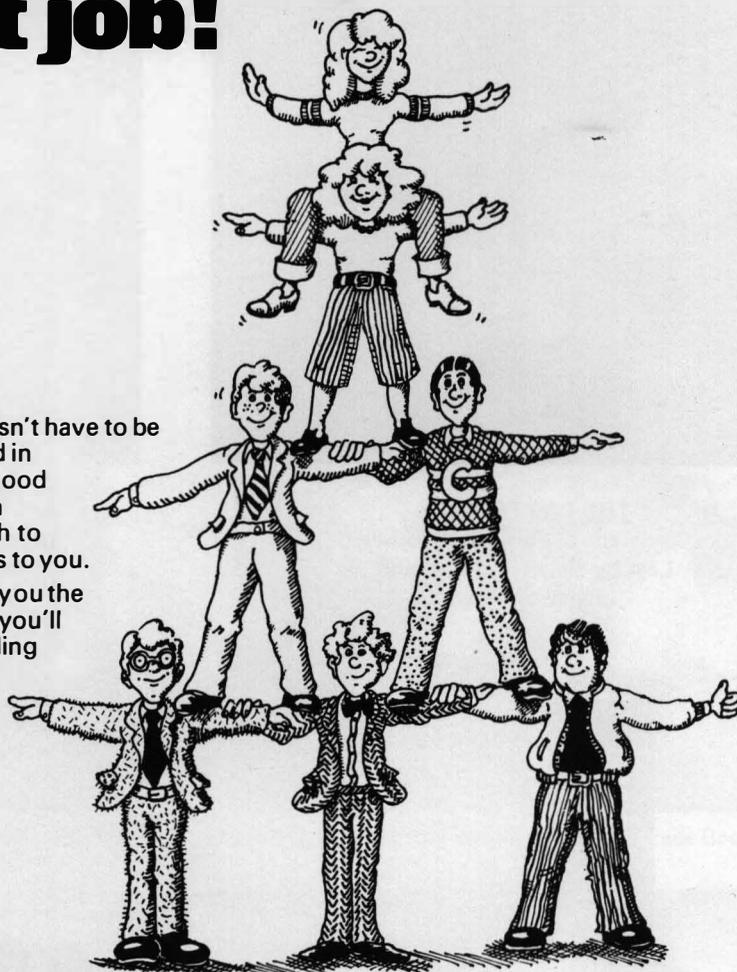
PANTOMIME LINE-UP

You & the Midland Bank team up for a great job!

Getting where you want to go doesn't have to be such a struggle. If you're interested in working with people, and expect good GCE results, join the Midland team where your success means as much to the people you work with as it does to you.

Experienced colleagues will show you the ropes and as soon as you're ready, you'll receive training for a more demanding position. And, if you like, you can obtain professional qualifications. Midland will help you all the way to the top.

Get the facts. Send for our brochure by writing to the address shown below.



Midland Bank

Regional Personnel Manager,
Midland Bank Ltd., 64 North Street,
Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4AH.

SIBFORD OLD SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT 1979: Nicholas Bennett

President 1980 Michael Finch
Vice-President 1980 Hugh Maw

General Secretary
(to 31.12.80)

Philip G. Manasseh, Orchard
Lea, Coombe, Oxford
099389-360

Treasurer
(to 31.12.80)

John Miller
Sibford School,
Banbury, Oxon.

Ass. Treasurer
(to 31.12.80)

Grace Beckerlegge,
'Standswell', Kempsford
Road, Whelford, Fairford,
Glos. GL7 4DZ
0285-712-069

Reunion Secretary
(to 31.12.80)

Russell Steed, 37 High Brink
Road, Coleshill, Nr.
Birmingham B46 1BH
0675-62543

Ass. Reunion Secretary
(to 31.12.80)

Margaret Fairmington, 140
Fellows Road, London W3

Magazine Editor
(to 31.12.80)

Philip Beckerlegge,
'Standswell', Kempsford
Road, Whelford, Fairford,
Glos. GL7 4DZ
0285-712-069

Local Branch Secretaries
Midland

Irene Smith, 37 Redditch
Road, Stoke Heath,
Bromsgrove, Worcs.
Bromsgrove 31857

London

School Committee
Representatives

Representative from
Friends of Sibford
Committee

Representatives from
School Staff

General Committee Members
to 31.12.80

to 31.12.81

to 31.12.82

Hon. Auditor

ADDRESS YOUR LETTERS TO:

Subscriptions
Change of address
Births, Deaths, Marriages

Material for Magazine
(incl. photographs and
advertising matter)

c/o Geoffrey L. Moore, The
Cottage, 85 Broomfield
Road, Chelmsford, Essex
CM1 1RY 0245-62539

Lilian D. Ward (to 31.12.81)
Chichester 512963
Michael Finch (to 31.12.81)
05646-3287

Robin Greaves (to 31.12.81)
Holly House, Sibford
Ferris, Oxon. 029578-448

Natalie Herman, Stuart
Hedley and Kenneth Greaves
029578-441

Lucinda J. Poulton and
Jeanne E. Southam
David Marks and Simon
Everest
Simon Barfoot and
Ian Wright

Bernard Howell Jones

Treasurer as stated
Assistant Treasurer
Margaret Le Mare
Shepherds Knoll,
Burdrop.
Sibford Gower

Editor

ALTERATIONS TO LISTER BUILDING CARRIED OUT BY

KINGERLEE LIMITED

BUILDING CONTRACTORS FOR OVER 100 YEARS

LAMARSH ROAD · BOTLEY ROAD · OXFORD

TELEPHONE: OXFORD 49501

SOSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held in the Old Scholars' Room on Saturday, 25th August 1979.

President in the Chair – Nicholas Bennett. 44 attending.

The Meeting remembered Graham Barber, at Sibford 1948/51, who died in an air crash in July.

Greetings were received from Gladys Burgess, Dorothy Brigham, Gillian Hopkins, Geoffrey and Joan Long, and we also had a telegram from Roger and Ann Baily in New Zealand.

1. *The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting* having been printed in the Magazine were taken as read, unanimously adopted by those present, and signed by the President.
2. *Matters Arising* – None.
3. *The General Secretary's Report, August, 1979.*

I am pleased to be able to report that the Association is at present in a very healthy state, both financially and in membership numbers. I would like to pick out the main items that have been raised and discussed at the committee meetings held during this last year.

At our December meeting, we generally look back and reflect, then look forward to the plans to be laid for the ensuing year. At last year's August weekend there were 150 people present at some time during the weekend, 140 attended the Presidential dinner and residential accommodation was provided for 84 bodies. I understand that this year we are expecting 120 in residence. In October last we combined a football match in the afternoon with a second showing of the Old Scholars Story in the evening. Both were enjoyed, we won the football, and it was pleasing to see quite a few old scholars in support.

On May 19th we were once again very fortunate with the weather, managed to win the cricket and were danced off our feet under the expert eye of Naomi Alexander in the evening.

On one Friday in June some of the committee came along and met the leavers. I'm pleased to be able to say that we have acquired 30 new members as a result. At this point I would like to mention the valuable part played by the present scholars' representatives during the year. Helen Smith and Maria Hawker have attended both reunion sub-committee meetings, put forward helpful suggestions, and perhaps above all have passed on some of their enthusiasm to the present scholars who are our guests this weekend and who will be helping at the Presidential dinner.

You will shortly be hearing from the Treasurer, the accounts I believe are in circulation. You will see a working surplus for the weekend, which I think is a good thing. Indeed it is necessary to keep adequate reserves in hand, for in such inflationary times as we are experiencing at the

moment, any surplus could very quickly disappear. I record the fact that petrol in April was 78p. per gallon, it is currently £1.20p.

At our December meeting it was agreed to raise the weekend charges by 10%, you will be hearing about other charge increase proposals from the Treasurer shortly.

Incidentally the idea to have a definite time to pay subscriptions proved to be very successful last year and the Assistant Treasurer is willing to make the same arrangement this year.

One of our most important items for ensuring success at the weekends is, of course, catering, so I was delighted when Diana Lloyd agreed to help us out once more. I'm sure you will realise that this is on a voluntary basis and as such she needs our fullest co-operation.

Our branch secretaries have been through quite a difficult year, particularly London, where Geoffrey Moore handed over the reins of secretary to Pam Harrison. Geoffrey is to be thanked for all his work in the past; he most efficiently informed me of events organised, Roneod, would you believe. Now hardly has Pam Harrison had time to settle in before she also has to resign as I believe she is following her husband to Cornwall. So you can see there are some problems to solve under item 7 of the agenda.

I expect many of you will by now have seen the craft display cabinet, which as you remember was suggested last year as something we could contribute towards in the name of Louis Wright. I am sure you will agree that it is very suitable.

Referring now to the Leslie Baily lectures, we have a very informal sub-committee looking for possible speakers. I know we are fortunate to have Paul Eddington on this occasion. I am sure you will be pleased to hear that Leslie Thomas has agreed to give the 1980 lecture and that Joyce Butler, who, until recently was M.P. for Woodford, has tentatively offered to give the 1981 lecture.

Turning now to the magazine. This is one of our major cost items but it is of great value in reaching out to those who cannot get to reunions and want to keep in touch not only with what is going on at the school, but also many like to hear news of school friends. I am sure you will agree that the 1978 edition is outstanding, and we are grateful to Philip Beckerlegge, editor, who tells me that he received much help and excellent material from the school. We also thank Stuart Hedley for acting as advertising co-ordinator. This income helps of course to offset the printing costs. Neville Smith I would like to thank. He has kindly taken the group photograph for the past few years and in addition he produced some very good colour photographs for last year's celebrations. Two of these are to be placed in the Old Scholars Album, but your committee would also like to present one to the School, this we now do.

We are keeping our fingers crossed over the health of the Elm. Frank Rollett, our local G.P. reports that it is still having an annual injection (should this be annular). The

cost is shared between the Old Scholars Association and the C.P.R.E.

Finally I would like to thank all those who have helped and continue to help in the life of the Association. The school authorities for the facilities, usually in the shape of Kenneth Greaves and John Miller, but not forgetting Kate Long, Michael Wollerton, Geraldine Westbury and Margaret Dring, who immediately come to mind. I'm sure there are others. To the committee I say thank you for the continuous support, and to all of you who keep coming, well done!

4. Accounts

In presenting the accounts the Treasurer drew our attention to the considerable help he had received from the auditor, Theresa Broome, enabling audited accounts to be circulated at the meeting. One of the main costs always is the Magazine. It should be remembered that £200 included in this year's figure was needed to produce the membership list. The Editor suggested that the Magazine would probably cost an extra £100 to produce in the current year. The school was thanked for its contribution to the cost of publication of £300.

Answering questions on the accounts, the treasurer pointed out that the apparently poor return on assets was due to the fact that it is only life membership subscriptions which are invested. On the matter of weekend charges, where casual meals are comparatively expensive in relation to the total charge, it was made clear that whilst casual visitors are always welcome it is difficult to cater for unlimited numbers. Old Scholars are encouraged to book for the whole weekend in advance.

The accounts, having been discussed were adopted, proposed by Philip Beckerlegge and seconded by Norman Coxon.

Turning next to subscriptions, a proposal by the committee was put before the meeting for discussion and approval. This is to amend rule 4a. as follows. (Figures in brackets denote the present state.)

- i) Scholars leaving the school for the year in which they leave, and for the following year £1.00 and thereafter £4.00 per annum (£3.00). Alternatively, for the year in which they leave and the following 3 years, £6.00 (£5.00).
- ii) Life Membership £75.00 (£50.00).
- iii) Married couples jointly £7.00 per annum (£5.00).
- iv) All other members £4.00 per annum (£3.00).

Philip Beckerlegge proposed that married couples be asked to pay six not seven pounds, but as there was no seconder for this amendment it was not pursued. The original motion which was proposed by Ian Wright, seconded by Frank Rollett, was then put to the vote under rule 12 – alteration to rules. 37 people voted for the motion, 1 voted against and there was 1 abstention. The motion was therefore carried; the new rates will come into effect from 1st January, 1980.

5. School Committee representatives report

This was given this year by Lilian Ward.

Old Scholars, there have been 3 meetings of the Education Committee, 3 of the Finance and Premises and 3 meetings of the whole School Committee since our last report to you. In addition many of us appointed to sub-committees make additional visits to the school during the year, so you'll see how involved we are in the management of Sibford. We're most grateful for the warm welcome we always receive.

Old Scholars may have noticed at these A.G.M.'s that Kenneth sits during the O.S. report, pencil in hand, deleting most of his report to you which for some unknown reason always follows this report. So this year I thought it would be fair to let Kenneth relax in the knowledge that I'm not going to steal his thunder in this way and I thought you would be interested to hear something of some of our retiring and new members of the Committee.

This year the three retiring members served the School respectively for 31, 18 and 15 years.

Morland Braithwaite is known to us all and his contribution to the school as Treasurer and Convener of five Appeal Committees and of the School Committee can have been seldom equalled. The Appeal Committees have raised more than £500,000 for the School over 30 years and Morland's counsel on the School Committee will be sorely missed.

The contributions of Leslie Harris and Fred Gregory, the other retiring long serving members have been much appreciated and evidence of their work for the School remains. It will not be easy to replace such dedicated friends of Sibford.

We have welcomed four new members, Brian Walker, a member of Oxford Meeting, at present Director General of OXFAM, very experienced in the engineering industry, widely travelled, especially in the third world, an experienced radio and television broadcaster and he has served on various Government advisory committees.

Jack Wood, Clerk of Broad Campden Meeting and an Elder of Nailsworth Monthly Meeting. Although Jack Wood had an early retirement from the National Coal Board, he has been heavily engaged on voluntary work since. Much of his time is spent with OXFAM, and he says he was unwise enough to write a book to try and wake up Friends called, "Involved in Mankind".

Ronald Robinson, Clerk of Warwick Meeting, is a Consultant Biochemist, the author of two books on Biochemistry and his interests include Esperanto, and he's a compulsive gardener.

William Waddilove attends Coventry Meeting and has always been connected with Agricultural Engineering and is now with the Agricultural Training Board. His interests include beekeeping, whole food, food reform, craft works and earth resources.

We are grateful that such busy Friends have agreed to give their time and expertise to our School Committee

and already we have experienced their worth. We look forward to receiving them as our guests at our Reunions in the future.

As you probably know Kenneth is retiring at the end of next summer term and we have advertised for a new Head and were very pleased with the response from so many Friends and others. I will leave Kenneth to tell you of the appointment we have made.

Shelagh Hill has retired as Deputy Head having accepted the post of Head of Lord Digby's School Sherbourne. We're sorry that her stay at Sibford has not been a long one and wish her every success in her new appointment.

We are maintaining close links with school staff and a further conference of committee and staff is arranged for January.

I'm grateful to have the opportunity of being involved in the school and the excuse to come here so often, although I'm afraid I may be wearing out my welcome with my dear friends Vera and Frank Rollett, who are always most hospitable, feeding me and putting me up overnight.

One word of warning to those appointed when Michael and I retire at the end of 1981, Sibford is just as cold in winter as it ever was.

Lilian Ward was thanked for her Report.

6. *The Headmaster's Report*

The Headmaster gave his annual report which is printed elsewhere in this magazine. The Headmaster was thanked for his report and it was suggested that a message of greetings be sent to the new Head.

7. *Election of Officers*

In view of the fact that the Treasurer is moving to Cornwall and feels unable to continue in post until 31.12.80, the Committee under rule 7c have had to find a replacement. It is pleasing to be able to report that the School Bursar, John Miller, is willing to fill this gap and the meeting expressed its gratitude to him for so doing.

There are two vacancies to be filled on the general committee as Fiona Poulton and Michael Van Blankenstein retire. Simon Barfoot was proposed by Kenneth Greaves, seconded by Leslie Harrison and will act as the recent leavers' representative. The other vacancy, proposed by Vera Rollett, and seconded by Philip Beckerlegge was that of Ian Wright. Both these posts to run for 3 years from 1.1.80.

The ad hoc post of correspondent for births, marriages and deaths has been held for many years by Gladys Burgess. She feels that perhaps someone more local and in touch should deal with these matters. Margaret Le Mare was approached by the Secretary and is willing to do this.

The meeting expressed its appreciation to Gladys Burgess and its thanks to Margaret for her readiness to help.

8. *Election of President and Vice President*

The meeting was told that Michael Finch is to be the President for 1980, and Hugh Maw has been nominated and accepted the post of Vice President. The meeting warmly applauded these appointments.

9. *Forthcoming Dates*

November 3rd, 1979 – 2 p.m. Football match, to be followed by Fireworks.
May 17th, 1980 – Day Reunion.
Committee Meetings – December 2nd, 1979.
July 6th, 1980.
Annual Reunion August 23rd-25th, 1980.

10. *Any Other Business*

Brian Wright wondered if the committee could re-introduce the Sunday evening meetings, this request to be considered.

The Secretary mentioned the plight of the branch groups, thanking all those who work to make them a success. They do not receive the support they deserve. He hoped members would give serious thought to this problem. It can only be solved on a regional basis.

The Treasurer gave a report about The Mabel Harrod Bursary Fund. Martin Dodsworth, the Secretary, was unable to be present at the business meeting, but reports elsewhere in the magazine. Frank Rollett told us of the interest taken in the Elm by 'Countrylife', who may shortly be publishing an article on the tree.

The meeting was pleased to see Jonas Fielding present, after his recent car accident, and we were told that Geoffrey Long is progressing well. Joy Rann expressed her pleasure at the fact that the school are introducing Environmental Studies into the curriculum. This was a most valuable aspect of a child's education and was included in her day.

Vera Rollett expressed the meeting's thanks to the General Secretary, and the President was thanked for so ably chairing the meeting which was then closed.

REUNION 1980

We are happy to say that the Leslie Baily lecture at the next annual reunion will be given by Leslie Thomas.

Leslie is an old scholar of Sibford and is a very suitable choice for the speaker as he was a close friend of Leslie Baily. He has had a very wide career, being at one time a journalist when he was a correspondent for the League of Nations at Geneva. Later he was intimately connected with Sir Henry Plumbe, one time president of the N.F.U., but who is now a Member of the European Parliament.

Leslie is now perhaps more widely known as a broadcaster both on radio and television on farming and related subjects.

Wine and Dine at the

WHITE HART HOTEL

The Square, Stow-on-the-Wold (approximately 16 miles from Sibford)

for good food and friendly service.

The Grill room of this old Cotswold Inn is open from 6.00 pm – 9.30 pm seven days a week.

A wide selection of bar snacks are available at lunchtime and in the evenings.

The Hotel has 7 guest rooms all with tea/coffee making facilities and T.V.



Ben's Bar

Telephone: Stow-on-the-Wold 30674 for reservations.

UNDER THE TWO ELMS

MIDLAND GROUP

This year we managed to have our New Year Party on January 13th, thus avoiding a clash with the London Group. This was our first venture doing all the arranging and catering ourselves and it proved to be a very worthwhile and successful event. Thirty-three O.S. came along and we were pleased to see some from Sibford, Cirencester and our President from Nottingham. At that time of the year one would expect bad weather and we certainly did have it – freezing and snow – but the party was held in the Meeting House at Selly Oak and it was a happy evening with a delightful supper plus Stan Ewan's party games. (Did anyone see some O.S. pushing the Sibford contingent along in their car to get it going?) However, it seems they did arrive home eventually.

In March once again a happy band of O.S. set off for Redditch to see 'La Belle Helene' produced by Graham Trout. It was enjoyed by us all and we look forward to the next production.

The summer event was once again by kind invitation from Joy and Bill Rann to their home at Churches Farm. Not quite as many O.S. gathered but sixteen was a happy number, with fair weather, but, sadly, an empty swimming pool. Our sincere thanks to Bill and Joy for a happy visit.

October 6th took us to Hugh and Daphne Maw's home. We had planned a walk and to return to an 'American Tea' with Hugh and Daphne. On this occasion fourteen O.S. took their walking shoes and had a bracing walk over the Clent Hills. We all enjoyed the warm autumn sunshine and felt very refreshed on our return. Perhaps some of the 'pig drives' at school had rubbed off onto us, we felt at peace with the world.

For those of you who have not joined us, we do ask them to try to make the effort. We really do have happy times and would so welcome the younger O.S. For your diary: – New Year Party, January 26th, 1980 at Selly Oak Meeting House.

I.S.

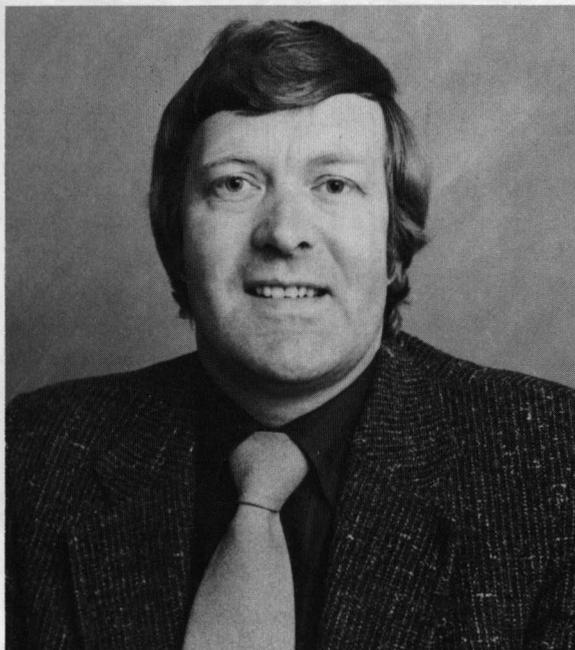
LONDON GROUP

This, the once most active group of O.S., has unfortunately run into difficulties. Up to the end of 1978 Geoff Moore was secretary and at the A.G.M. in January last year Pam Harrison undertook the position. However, in September Pam announced her intention of moving to Cornwall and has now gone there. By the time you read this Arthur will have resigned his post at Leighton Park School and will have joined Pam there. You will find their address elsewhere in this magazine and I am sure a welcome will await you there.

However, before Pam left two enjoyable 'At Homes' were held at the homes of Helen Ross, Lewes, Sussex and at our recent President's, Janet and Joe Sewell's home. I am assured that both gatherings were great successes.

At present the group is without a secretary! So will someone consider whether he or she is cut out to be a secretary-person. Who ever takes over the post will be pleased to know that she or he is relieved of one of the possible worries – there is money in the bank.

The next A.G.M. for the group will be in March, when it is hoped the weather will be more propitious.



Mike Finch

PRESIDENTIAL PROFILE

As some of my sharper friends have pointed out, my birth heralded the Munich crisis and Chamberlain's famous 'piece of paper'. Soon after I was born we moved to Moseley in Birmingham where I lived, apart from my sojourn at Sibford, for the next twenty-eight years. My father had a shoe repair business and we lived over the premises. Those were happy days despite the war and the consequent shortages. My brother John and I both went to the local Church of England School until he went to Sibford in 1948 and I twelve months later.

Compared to 'Brum' Sibford seemed a different world and I still appreciate the spaciousness, tranquility and beauty of Sibford each time I return. My schooldays there were very happy and I look back on that time with gratitude to my parents who struggled and worked so hard to make them possible.

I left Sibford in 1954 and joined a firm of Architects with the notion of training as a surveyor. This was a valuable period during which I adjusted to another environment. However, I found surveying unsuitable and obtained an apprenticeship in an engineering Design Office where I spent the following nine years.

I married Rhoda in 1962 and, as many of you can vouch, she soon knocked me into shape. Andrew was born in 1963. Not only was this another joyous occasion to Rhoda and myself, but it also helped Aston Villa FC who subsequently gained another season-ticket holder. Having been to college and served my apprenticeship as a designer I then took a totally different path and went into welfare work. This arose from concern for the young people in the area by Young Friends Meeting, Moseley Road. I qualified as a Youth Leader in 1962 and later joined Birmingham Education Department as a welfare officer. This was an experience well-worth having – I certainly saw another side to life, but it was not to be my forte and I returned to industry after a few months. Since that time I have worked for several well-known companies in varying capacities of design engineering. I am at present with Metro-Cammell Weymann who specialise in bus design.

Apart from being an avid supporter of Aston Villa F.C. I have a deep interest in dramatic art and belong to a very happy group who are all prepared to do anything from tea-making to Directing. It was Gladys Burgess, who many of you will remember was English Mistress at Sibford, who kindled my flame of love for acting.

As most of you know, my affection and concern for Sibford has grown over the years. Firstly through SOSA and latterly through my time on the School Committee, and I feel privileged to be involved in the School's progress during these stimulating times.

Michael Finch
October 1979

REUNION – AUGUST 1979

When that the month of August, which does send
Now rain, now showers, draws towards its end;
Then to us all our noble masters say:
'Take Monday off, for 'tis Bank Holiday!'
And folk from every corner of the land
Do take their bag and baggage in their hand
And travel to resorts of divers kind
To take what pleasure may be there to find.
Among the multitude a few are turning
Their steps to Sibford, ancient seat of learning,
Where, with their fellow scholars and their kin
The annual Reunion they'll begin.

"Hello, lovely to see you again."

"And you too. Where are you sleeping?"

"We're camping this year. Just finished putting up the tent. Isn't it marvellous about the weather? We were driving in rain right up to Hook Norton. Incredible that it's cleared up so completely."

"Yes; have you seen the Arts and Crafts exhibition? It's in the dining room."

"Mm. Some marvellous things there. Some of it is professional, but good amateur stuff too. What about those

incredible drawings by Winsome Malcolm? She only left Sibford quite recently, I believe."

"Did you hear Nick read out Alice Green's letter after lunch. She's over 90 apparently. I remember her so well in the Ferris Post Office. There were greetings from Gladys Burgess too; it would be nice to see her again."

"Yes, but do sign the cards for them – there's one card for each of the two Dorothy's and several others."

"I believe Margaret Le Mare is the Committee Guest this year."

"Yes, I was at school with her niece."

"There are more than ever here this year. 120 for the whole weekend, so Russell was saying."

"My goodness, I'm glad I'm not doing the catering."

"Me too. Just as well we have Diana Lloyd and her friend Kathy."

"It's lovely to have a weekend off, isn't it?"

"Mm. It's funny how the family all enjoy it, too. I mean, it's alright for us to indulge in all that nostalgia but what's in it for them?"

"Well, it puzzles me too, but somehow it seems to stand on its own – they rather enjoy all those stories about what we did at school."

"Here's Mike Finch coming. We had better get up to the A.G.M."

"They've been rehearsing for the mini panto tonight, Cinderella, I think. It's part of the President's choice. Grace is the producer."

"She's marvellous at getting the younger and older O.S. working together."

"Nick is presenting some readings and music first, and you can't keep Frank Rollett down either. He's doing a turn or two and Kenneth Greaves and Jonas Fielding!"

"Ah, well, sounds like a long evening. I think Norman Coxon is organising a Barbecue at the Elm after that."

"At the Elm! – they're sure to get a good number for the Rockets."

"Rockets, oh dear; it's utter madness, isn't it? Try explaining them to anyone but an Old Scholar. It sounds completely crazy."

"It is crazy, but it wouldn't be Old Scholars without them. Come to think of it, no-one has ever explained it to me satisfactorily."

"Pity Geoff Long can't be here; though there was a letter from Joan saying that he is making good progress."

SUNDAY

"Oh my feet; but it was glorious weather for the walk. We did enjoy it."

"Yes, I hope Brian Wright is pleased. I think they're expecting about £150 towards the Louis Wright Memorial Cabinet."

"Well, there were plenty of us. This part of the country really is superb. Norman Coxon did a marvellous job planning the walk and putting up the signposts all around."

"Yes. When we got to Lower Brailes the church clock stood at five to four (not ten to three – Ed) but even so we were in time for tea. You see we were with some 'menne of Sheepford' who, instead of following the signs, 'wendeth wheresoever they willen', and we had to do some nimble footwork over the barbed wire to get back on course."

"Goodness me, it did remind me of those lovely summer days, when the whole school went on picnics to Whichford Woods. I don't suppose they do that nowadays."

"No, but some things don't change. Meeting at the Gower for instance. That peaceful old Meeting House is a real joy."

"Yes, and the theme of Friends Schools and the community was interesting."

"The coffee afterwards is very welcome. Vera Rollett was there as usual seeing to it all. She does such a lot for Old Scholars. I shouldn't think there is a flower left in her garden!"

"Did you get to Choral this morning? I believe Jeanne Southam was trying to give it a come back."

"No, I'm afraid not. I had my table tennis match to play. Got knocked out too."

"Must go and change now. See you at supper and then there's Paul Eddington."

Now all the Scholars gather in the hall,
The life of Leslie Baily to recall.
This year the lecture, honouring his name,
Is given by Paul Eddington, whose fame
Has spread to all who love the Drama's arts,
He tells of journeys to exotic parts,
Of many a toiling day, and sleepless night
Learning those endless lines that authors write
And comic tales of actors now long gone
And how he once . . . but more of that anon!

MONDAY EVENING

"Hello, that's just about it then."

"Yes, some have had to go already. We are going on for a few more days holiday though."

"That's nice. Good dinner, wasn't it?"

"Yes, very good indeed. I know Ethel Wright has been in the kitchen helping Diana all day, if not all weekend for that matter."

"There was a lot of truth in what the President was saying about conservation and ecology. I shall enjoy reading his speech in the magazine. Are you still very stiff from the hockey match?"

"Not really, though I can't see why Mike Finch's team was called the 'Supers' and the refereeing was an absolute dis-Grace!"

"Wherever did they get all those tramps' outfits from? Lorraine Brown looked just the part with her Oxfam hat and carrier bag shuffling from one goal post to the other."

"Some people were very sorry the Motor treasure hunt was cancelled, but it was the only thing to do with the shortage and high prices."

"Yes, but I was glad to have some spare time in the afternoon, though I believe a group of present scholars gave a swimming display. It was nice to see some of my contemporaries who live locally and who came in just for the tea on Holly House lawn."

"You know, apart from the swimming, the group photograph was the only time we went to the Old School

this weekend and yet, when we were at school, we spent nearly all our non-lesson time down there."

"Did you see the tennis final? It was doubles this year and Hugh Maw and John Ward won it – quite a hilarious match, I believe."

"Yes, but Terry Clark won the table tennis final."

"Ah well, I suppose Russell Steed and Margaret Fairington will still be working away tomorrow morning. Philip Manasseh keeps it all going very smoothly and amicably too. It's a real commitment from all of them."

"It's been really great to see everyone again."

So now they fold their tents and pack their cases
And look one further final time at places
That once were part of every living day.
Then, memory recharged, they turn away
Back to the worldly world. And will they all
Respond to Sibford's next Reunion call?

H. & J.R.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1978

	£	£	1977
FIXED ASSETS			
Land at Elm		45	45
ASSETS OF SPECIFIC FUNDS			
Quoted Investments (Cost)		2,716	2,614
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	348		341
Subscriptions in arrears	253		89
Cash at Bank	<u>1,036</u>		<u>913</u>
	1,637		1,343
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors	908		783
Subscriptions in advance	88		38
Louis Wright Appeal	<u>104</u>		<u>—</u>
	1,100		821
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>537</u>	<u>522</u>
	3,298		3,181
Represented by:			
Accumulated Fund		446	558
Life Membership		2,403	2,303
Recent Leavers Membership		320	320
Leslie Baily Fund		<u>129</u>	<u>—</u>
		3,298	3,181

Arthur W. Harrison *Hon. Treasurer*

Audited and found correct

Theresa Broome A.C.A.

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1978

	£	£	1977
INCOME			
Subscriptions	653		385
Donations	77		152
Investment Income	140		128
Bank Interest	27		76
Reunion	107		83
Fete	71		—
	<u>1,075</u>		<u>824</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Net Cost – Magazine	691		559
Postage and Stationery	13		67
General Expenses	32		14
Subscriptions in arrears written off	86		100
Gift to Sibford School	<u>240</u>		<u>—</u>
	1,062		740
SURPLUS FOR YEAR		13	84
Represented by:			
Accumulated Fund –			
Balance as at 1.1.1978	558		474
Less Transfer to Leslie Baily Fund	<u>125</u>		<u>—</u>
	433		474
Add Surplus for year	<u>13</u>		<u>84</u>
	<u>446</u>		<u>558</u>



Presidents Address

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

*delivered at the
Presidential Dinner – August Reunion*

Friends, Old Scholars, I would like tonight to look at some aspects of conservation and preservation. Perhaps I should first define these two words which with 'environment' and 'ecology' have been used with increasing frequency in the past few years.

The dictionary definitions of the verbs 'to conserve' and 'to preserve' are almost identical and clearly the words are regarded as interchangeable. It is this—

'to conserve' to preserve from injury, decay and loss;
'to preserve' to keep safe, to save, to maintain in good condition; to keep intact or from decay or decomposition.

Now where Old Scholars come in these definitions I'm not quite sure, conservative preservationists perhaps! A conservative person is defined as one tending to conserve what is established or to maintain existing institutions. As we seek to maintain in good condition this institution, we are, I suppose, seeking to conserve. But if we are trying to keep intact and free from decay simply as an act of preservation, like an Egyptian mummy sealed in a pyramid, then this seems to be wrong and not what conservation is about. Preservation is like keeping something in a glass case which is to be looked at and polished occasionally; not something that is part of the living world.

Conservation on the other hand is a word whose contemporary meaning has changed. It has come to mean putting something back into working order and making it not only usable but of real use in the modern world. Thus conservation has come to cover not only the actual reconstruction but the resurrection of the skills required. It accepts that the cycle of life and death, change and decay are normal but that the old and the new can be blended to form something that is viable in itself, something with deep roots in the past and yet is of the present, a balance between old and new.

You will realise from the foregoing that my concept of conservation is a wide one and not simply a question of bricks and mortar and blue whales! I think at this point I should say something about my interest in the subject. I am not only involved because as a human being I regard the problem of the environment as probably the single most important problem mankind has ever faced; but also because I have a professional interest, as some of you may know. The improvement of the environment by tree planting and the establishment of nature reserves, to conserve flora and fauna, are important, but if you add the reclamation of mining waste tips, screening of motorways and country parks for leisure activities, you will realise the range that amenity horticulture covers. If to that you add my almost lifelong passion for history, archaeology and related subjects you will realise conservation is a fairly important subject to me.

It is not my intention tonight to make an impassioned appeal for one particular cause. Rather I want to look at one or two particular problems and then set them into the larger context of conservation and change. Preservation, whether it be an Egyptian mummy sealed in a pyramid or a herbarium collection of plants fixed to paper and preserved permanently, is of no use to the living ecosystem outside. That ecosystem is solely concerned with the endless cycle of birth, life, death and rebirth through death.

It can be argued that it is quite natural for man as the dominant or climax world species to exterminate all the whales, remove all the forests and turn all the wetlands into reclaimed farmland or reservoirs. (Perhaps if we had been a bit more conservation-minded in the eighteenth or nineteenth centuries we might have been eating roast dodo tonight instead of roast lamb.) This seems to me to be a rather simplistic way of looking at our world and ourselves. We have a freedom of choice which no other species has, mainly they are concerned with existing, we have the privilege of being able to consider how we order our environment and our lives and the means to do it.

Land management and use has now become a major factor. Man can alter his landscape almost overnight, certainly more rapidly than before. If we ignore proper management and, for example, remove forests overnight to provide extra grazing we could so easily end up with the problems that now face the South Sahara and East Africa where overgrazing combined with several dry years have resulted in soil erosion and finally desert conditions.

If this seems a remote possibility, cross the Fens on a windy day and you will see soil erosion. If you go to Surrey, near Farnham is the village of Frensham. Nearby are Frensham Great and Little Ponds. These are really two lakes, and local beauty spots. The Great Pond was given to the National Trust who passed the day-to-day management to the local council. The Pond was used for sailing, swimming, fishing. Others came to picnic and enjoy the beauty. It became so popular that parking facilities became inadequate and parking on the road became a hazard, the lake margins were cleared to make an increased car park. In the middle of this was built a public convenience.

This, you might think is a piece of splendid planning. However the soil was a very light sandy soil covered by heather and a few trees. When these were removed the soil blew away leaving sand. The area around the Ponds has now become to all intents and purposes a desert. It will remain so for very many years. However, the National Trust has taken over the land again, some restoration of the vegetation has been put in hand, boating has been restricted to certain areas and part has been made a nature reserve.

It is very easy to destroy our environment but more difficult, if not impossible to restore it to a suitable habitat for plants and animals. We should remember that a tree takes from twenty to fifty years or more to grow to a mature specimen. It is easy to build enormous buildings of concrete and wide roads and pavements and courtyards but it is very difficult to find trees and plants to grow in those conditions. They have to survive in extremes of cold and heat, in wind tunnels we call streets, in pollution – yet we need those plants to humanise these monstrous cities.

Think of the demands there are on the land – roads and motorways, airports, power stations, housing estates on the one hand and leisure activities on the other – walking, climbing, boating and fishing. These are apart from producing food for the nation.

Almost all our landscape is man-made. To describe a stretch of countryside as natural is not strictly true. Recently on television W.G. Hoskins was talking about the Lake District. Yet he told us that recent research has revealed that the bleak hills of the Lake District were wooded to the summit in prehistoric times. Stone age man had cleared the hills with flint axe and fire. So long has man been having an impact on his environment.

Modern archaeology couples conservation with the maximum information regarding our past. Pollen analysis tells us what plants were growing round 'digs', bone analysis tells us what animals were kept and eaten, carbon dating gives us an accurate chronology of sites. Why do we spend large sums of money on excavating sites and saving old buildings? Why do we not just knock everything old down and rebuild again? Property developers would be delighted. Most ages before ours have done so. It is only by chance that old buildings have survived. But man needs the past to give him a standard to which he can relate. History may be, as Henry Ford said, 'Bunk'; it is often one-sided in favour of the person who writes it or the nation which conceives it, but it is essential for individuals, families and nations to know their background and traditions which alone can provide the fixed cultural point which those people need.

The movement of large numbers of people creates cultural problems which affect people throughout the world, including those in this country. Once most people only moved once or twice in their lives, and then possibly only to the next village. The squire and parson might travel widely but until a hundred years ago most people stayed put. The soldier or sailor returning home after years away would find his town or village little altered. The increased

speed and scope of travel and changing work patterns has led to the break up of communities which have little changed for hundred of years. Two world wars and the 'H' bomb have given people a sense of insecurity. However restricting small communities may have been they did provide a sense of security and continuity and a cultural identity. When these are gone there are left only problems of rootlessness and a lack of identity. Present social problems are the results of this identity crisis as exemplified in the loneliness and the drink and drugs problems.

It is this insecurity which has forced people back to seek and retain something of their past, their roots and origins. Hence the desire to trace family trees, to visit stately homes and old monuments. In this materialistic age people have found that washing machines, fridges and fast cars do not of themselves bring happiness. Job satisfaction and a healthy environment for their families are more important.

We have become accustomed to satellites and trips to the moon, and Concorde crossing the Atlantic in time to have breakfast in the U.S.A. after having it in London, that we forget that 70 to 80 years ago most transport was on foot or by horse. It is interesting to recall that the first powered flight – the Wright Brothers' – was in the year when this association was started. The very speed of our lives distance us from our origins and this is perilous for us. We are, whether we like it or not a part of the ecological system. Being the dominant species gives us great privileges but in return demands dedication from us.

This theme – dedication – so often runs through the weekends here. On Sunday morning at Meeting we heard how Martha Gillett with the first pupils scrubbed the floors of the Manor and how Joshua Lamb walked many times to Oxford and back to Sibford to attend meetings concerned with the setting up of this school. That foundation was laid so soundly that the love and the light of the craftsmanship and dedication that went into those foundations flows and has flowed through the generations of Sibford staff and scholars for the past hundred and thirty-seven years in a strong steady stream. The 'conservation' I started this speech with is, to me, not so much the bricks and mortar or hand-made furniture or pottery but the spirit of the craftsman that went into each item. That is what gives continuity and depth to our existence.

We return to draw on that spring of love and dedication which is our foundation. I like to think that by our love and dedication to Sibford we put something back for those who follow us to draw on also.

ANONYMOUS

For the past few years it has been announced that an anonymous donor has made a gift to the association. At the Presidential dinner this year we were delighted to hear that this year his gift is sixty pounds. This is an increase of ten pounds on last year – to take care of inflation. Anonymous donor – whoever you be – thank you very much for this most welcome gift.

“MORE OF THAT ANON” or “TELLING THE TRUTH”

(Paul Eddington's *Leslie Baily Lecture*

– 28th August 1979)

“If we do things on the stage that we do not mean and that are not truthful, then what we are doing simply doesn't work.”

The kernel of this memorable Leslie Baily lecture constituted the most convincing and profound statement that it has been my privilege to hear on the art and purpose of acting, and indeed, on drama itself. It would have been simple enough to have surrendered cosily to Paul Eddington's sheer charm, wit and erudition and to have missed the message. Indeed, assembled Old Sibfordians, some of us direct contemporaries who acted with Paul in such productions as *'Pride and Prejudice'*, (one of Gladys Burgess' smash hits) surely gave our speaker the kind of responsiveness and feedback that could have tempted a lesser mortal and a less soundly professional performer into a reckless ego trip. Yet there was never any danger of hilarious anecdotes or autobiographical narrative obscuring the vital message.

An actor, we were told, must have empathy with both the character he is portraying and the audience itself. The ancient Greeks had a common word meaning 'truth' and 'sincerity', and these complementary attributes are born out of the professional grind that all young actors have to undergo if they are to practise and develop their art. Paul's graphic description of the sheer slog of life in a small provincial 'Rep' company, with as many as twelve performances a week *and* learning and rehearsing a new role in the few remaining hours should have acted as a warning to any Mrs. Worthingtons present and their stage struck daughters. Reinforcing his main theme, he quoted extensively from the late Tyrone Guthrie who stressed that the theatre is not an illusion of reality, a simple reproduction of life played out in an artificial environment, but a traditional ritual – somewhat like that of the Holy Communion – in which to 'show mankind to himself', to glorify God in the actor's self-expression, relating artists and audience alike to Him. Even the most frivolous comedy, if it is of true theatrical worth, possesses a potential for a sublimity the purpose of which is not to use the theatre as a social or political platform but to reaffirm the long history of ritual, life-affirming, corporate ceremonies, from fertility rites and war dances to the folk arts and high culture of today.

But this report is probably in danger of selling Paul Eddington short as an entertainer. Jerry's gnomish cackle was always on the verge of eruption especially during the generous time given to questions; theatre critics were neatly despatched with a quotation from a famous actor that to be given a bad notice by a certain reviewer was like 'being savaged by an earwig'; theatre in the U.S.A. was compared with our own, much to our credit . . . apparently, earnest New York playgoers, faced with outrageous seat prices and barely any reviews outside the *New York Times*, make a virtual 'investment in culture'. British humour is totally misunderstood over there, but American TV has



Paul & Patricia Eddington

grabbed at the late lamented *'The Good Life'* as an idea – it will be reset in an American context with local actors.

I am sure that if he hadn't been due to start rehearsals for a new London Production on the morrow, Paul would still be talking to us.

Certainly, Leslie Baily's legacy, these lectures, bearing his name, are now established as the centrepiece of our rejuvenated annual gatherings by such contributions of wit and substance. And as one old scholar said of Paul: "He's not just an actor, is he".

M. v. B.

MABEL HARROD BURSARY FUND

The balance remaining in the fund is down to £101.70 and it seems probable that this will be used up in the next year or two.

The fund has been in existence for over forty years and was intended for use in exchange visits between Sibford scholars and pupils in European countries. Although this has created certain problems in the past, the wider development of visits in educational spheres in recent years has made more opportunities available.

The Modern Language staff at Sibford have made some useful contacts in Germany and this year £25 was granted from the fund to help with expenses for some scholars on their visit to Germany in the summer. I have received an appreciative letter from Beverley Randall who has obviously gained a great deal from the experience.

With the prospect of further exchanges in the near future, the trustees hope that the remaining fund money will prove useful.

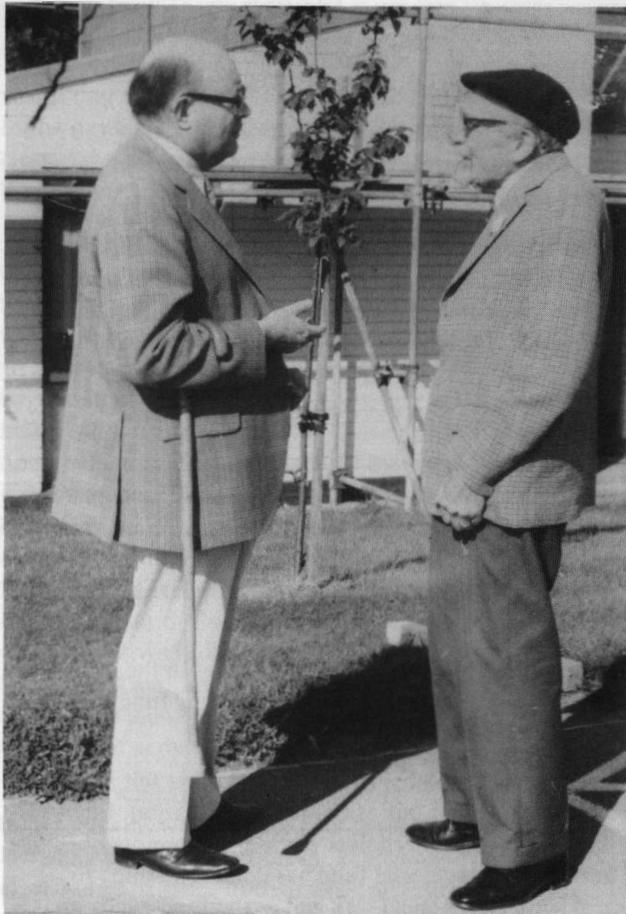
I feel sure that Mabel Harrod would have felt a great sense of satisfaction out of the present situation. International exchange of scholars was a rather remote objective in her day; this memorial fund has done something to help achieve it in a small way and as the fund winds up it is very reassuring to know that the political climate in which we live is so much more favourable for such exchange visits.

M. Dodsworth

CONGRATULATIONS

Last year we congratulated Wilfred Pollard on his attaining his 80th birthday, this year we must also congratulate Geoff Long on doing likewise. Some eighteen months or so ago Geoff suffered a severe stroke but he has battled with Sibfordian tenacity against it and is still going strong. He was not well enough to join us at Sibford this year but he looks forward to hearing how the weekend went and all the other activities of the association. His present state of health — he is slowly getting his faculties back — is due in no small measure to the constant care and attention and affection he receives from Joan. Without her he could not have done it. Congratulations to you both.

Also at the re-union were George and Margery Edwards. It would be ungentlemanly to refer to Matron's age, but George excused himself from going on the sponsored walk as he was now approaching his 87th birthday. Until this year I seem to remember him leading the field in those walks.



David Stiles and George Edwards
chatting

HEADMASTER'S REPORT 1978/79

It is pleasing to be able to report that once again the school had a full complement of pupils for most of the year, and we can congratulate ourselves on having passed relatively unscathed through a period of several years in which many independent schools experienced difficulty with recruitment. The demand for places at Sibford has continued to be good and it is particularly gratifying that we have a very much larger number of applications for day pupils' places than for many years past. The school's reputation stands high and it seems that the educational service that we offer is one for which parents are prepared to make a considerable sacrifice.

In September we welcomed two new teachers to the permanent staff: Jean Lumb to teach Religious Education, and Jennifer Walker to teach French; and Liliane Morris joined us temporarily for one term, also to teach French, while Tony Rye took a well-earned period of sabbatical leave, much of which he spent on appropriate courses of language study in France and Spain. Liliane Morris now gives French coaching for some pupils and so retains her connection with the school.

Also in September, Sue Lynk became Housemistress of Penn House with Jean Lumb as her assistant; and in the boys' Houses, Yvonne Hedley and Jennifer Wollerton undertook to provide a little extra help with the junior boys in Penn and Lister. Later in the year a friendly neighbour, Di Baker, took on the same job in Nansen.

For Nansen Boys' House a much greater change came at Easter when Alan Jarvis relinquished his Housemastership after some eighteen years' service. Many parents, who had cause — as we all have — to be grateful for Alan's work in Nansen, received the news of the impending change with some dismay; but his successor, Brian Holliday, an experienced boarding-school man, quickly dispelled all fears and the House thrives under his direction.

From April until August we were without our Bursar, John Miller, who had a long spell in hospital followed by a period of convalescence. We are glad that he has made a good recovery, and we would like to record our gratitude to Brian White, his assistant, who took on the extra burden of work and responsibility during the Bursar's absence.

The Fifth Form examination results, though not quite as good as the previous year's, were nevertheless satisfactory in that the pass rate at O-Level was well above the national average. It was particularly pleasing that several candidates who, in one way or another, were handicapped in their examination work, managed to overcome their difficulties and achieved good results. With an exceptionally small Upper Sixth Form we had only four candidates for the Advanced Level examinations and they achieved only low grades.

We again made use of the College of Further Education in Banbury for Sixth Formers taking Advanced Level Physics, and two of our girls also attend there for the Advanced Level course in Sociology. A working party of

staff and School Committee members is being set up to consider ways of improving the post-O-Level curriculum.

At the junior end of the school a course in Environmental Studies took the First Form out of school for one afternoon each week to explore the Sibford neighbourhood under the guidance of Anne Beazley, Janette Long and Gordon Wright, and occasionally going further afield to visit places such as Chipping Campden or the tweed mill at Chipping Norton.

The Third Form also had a taste of field study when, in October, they visited the Museum of the Industrial Revolution at Ironbridge.

Other groups have undertaken more ambitious journeys. In June a group of Fourth Form girls went with Anne Beazley to spend two weeks in Germany as the return half of an exchange which began with the German girls coming to Banbury at Easter; and at the end of the term Jennifer Walker took another group to stay for two weeks with French families in Marseilles.

During the Christmas holidays Sue Lynk and Michael Hollman took twenty pupils to central France for a skiing holiday, and a week later took twenty more to Italy to try the ski slopes there. So successful were these holidays that two more have been arranged for next winter, and Sue Lynk already has arrangements in hand for a visit to the Olympic Games in Moscow next year.

Staff who arrange and escort these visits to the Continent derive great pleasure and satisfaction from doing so; but it is nevertheless a great deal of work and a heavy responsibility, as well as taking up a large part of their holidays, and we are greatly indebted to them.



John Miller, School Bursar, adds to his heavy burden by taking over as SOSA Treasurer

Nearer home there were visits to the theatre, the ballet and the cinema; and in school we had "Emil and the Detectives" as the school play in November, and a combined staff and school presentation of André Obey's "Noah" in July. The inter-House plays were held as usual in March and we are grateful to the Elsmore family who have given a trophy for the inter-House drama competition.

Yet another trip to the Continent took place in the February half-term holiday, when Ian Charnock and David Foulds took a middle-school rugby team to Belgium. It is in the tradition of rugby tours that actually playing matches is not necessarily the most important feature of the operation and, whoever won or lost the several games played, this was judged a very successful expedition.

Winter games programmes were largely spoilt by the weather, but in most cases we won at least as many as we lost. And the same was true of the cricket. At athletics, we had two county champions and our girls were only narrowly beaten into second place in the Banbury league. In our own athletic sports, in spite of very bad conditions, two new records were established. The boys continued to achieve success at Orienteering, and the girls at cross-country running. The girls also had a keen swimming team; as well as taking instruction in life-saving, they trained regularly and did not lose a match — not even the supremely important one against the boys.

Trampolining continued to be popular; and so great was the enthusiasm for the girls' gymnastic club that membership had to be restricted to those who had completed their top B.A.G.A. award. Outings to Wembley to see the national gymnastics championships, and again to see the Russian gymnastics display team, doubtless helped to stimulate interest. The most pleasing aspect of this, and of girls' P.E. and games generally, was this enthusiastic participation by a large number of girls who gladly gave up their spare time to extra training.

Our tennis courts were resurfaced at Easter and professional coaching was available each week throughout the summer.

The Art and Craft departments continued to maintain the high standards established in recent years. The new Display Area, devised and designed by Stuart Hedley, has greatly enhanced that corner of the Hill Building and enabled us to exhibit some of the excellent products of the craft departments for the inspiration and encouragement of the rest of the school. The Old Scholars' Association has contributed to the cost of the Display Area as a memorial to a Past President, Louis Wright, himself a fine craftsman and for many years a member of the School Committee.

Thanks to the generosity of a former member of the School Committee, we were able to build a greenhouse extension to the Biology laboratory thus supplying a long-felt need.

Another welcome development was the renovation of

the classroom in the Science Block, made possible by a generous bequest. Redecorated, carpeted, curtained and soon to be suitably furnished, the room will become our audio-visual centre, as well as providing a useful medium-sized room for lectures and meetings. It was used in this way by the Friends Guild of Teachers who held their annual conference at Sibford at Easter.

Work also began during the year on the renovation of the school library. In January Tony Rye took over responsibility for it, and with the help of Kay Turner, our part-time librarian, he embarked on a complete overhaul which will include the replacement of book-cases and the restocking of shelves. The possibility of moving the library to a more central site is under active consideration.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, under the leadership in school of Gordon Wright assisted by several colleagues, continued to provide a valuable incentive towards the constructive use of leisure-time. Fewer awards than usual were achieved during the year, but this did not imply any lack of interest: Sibford had a higher proportion of pupils engaged in the Award Scheme than any other school in the county. In June some fifty of them went to camp in Wales for their assessment expeditions. Again, we are grateful to all those – staff and non-staff – who support the scheme by helping with First Aid classes or running other interest groups.

Gordon Wright also leads the Social Services Committee, and it was encouraging that once again its activities won recognition in the inter-schools social service project organised by the National Westminster Bank. For 1979 twelve schools in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire area entered projects, and of the five prizes awarded two, worth £200 together, came to Sibford. One was for the maintenance of footpaths, the work arranged by Anne Beazley, and the other was for the annual Holiday Camp for children in need. The sixth such camp was held in July and was greatly enjoyed by visitors and helpers alike.

The other important and continuing activity of the Social Service Committee is the visiting of old people. This is organised by Jim Shields and Jean Rudge, and some twenty-four senior pupils visited their old people regularly throughout the year. This service is very much appreciated, and we could do more but for the limitations of transport and money. Fortunately, the Sponsored Walk in October, in which almost every member of the school took part, raised nearly £2,000 in aid of these various activities, and we are grateful to parents and friends who supported the walk so generously.

Our thanks, too, for the continuing support of the Friends of Sibford – for another excursion to Stratford for those who cannot often go on exeat with their parents, for a variety of useful items of equipment for the school, and especially for their share in the purchase of the colour video-tape recorder which is in almost continuous use throughout every week of term and is a most valuable teaching aid.

We are also grateful to all those other friends of Sibford

who brought us lectures, or recitals, or entertainments, or Sunday evening addresses, or have helped with hobby groups or have supported us in other ways during the year.

Several colleagues left us at the end of the academic year Anne Freeman of the office staff; Frank Underwood, who taught guitar; Joan Barnwell, who has been coming to Sibford to teach clarinet for some twenty years, and Natalie Herman who had been in charge of school music for the past three years. Shelagh Hill, our Deputy Head of two years, whose energy and efficiency and cheerful good sense have been good for us all, also left us to become Head of a girls' grammar school in Dorset. We are grateful for their good service.



The old order changeth,
Yielding place to new.
Kenneth Greaves welcomes SIBFORD'S
new Headmaster, Jim Graham

BY LOVE SERVE ONE ANOTHER

How would you like to work in a country where the sun shines almost every day of the year? We have been working with the Church in Nigeria since 1975. My husband is a doctor and we work at Vom hospital, which is 20 miles from the state capital Jos. Situated at an altitude of 3,500 feet above sea level the climate is very desirable unlike most of the country.

Life here at the hospital is busy and varied. Patients travel long distances, often on foot, seeking medical help, though in many cases they have already visited their own native doctor first. Vom for many years was a mission hospital and the motto on the nurses' hospital badge was "By love serve one another". This was the hospital motto; the same command which Jesus Christ gave to His disciples. It is now a Government hospital but the aim of the Christians still working here remains the same.

My role is in the home. We have two small children aged 3 and 1 and there is always lots to do. At this time of year when the rains are heavy one has to be on the look out for scorpions or snakes who might decide to surprise you with their presence in your back garden (or even indoors, so we never walk around bare footed!)

As I write this in the cool of the evening there are the familiar night noises of the bell frogs and crickets outside. The insects are quite fantastic. Many of them are very beautiful with detailed patterns on their bodies. It makes me marvel at the greatness of the One who created them. The birds also are very colourful.

Nigeria is a fast developing country. Education at all levels is expanding rapidly. In 1976 Universal Primary Education was introduced, with the result that new primary schools, and extensions to existing ones, were springing up in all the villages. Unfortunately though, there have not been enough teachers to staff the schools, nor enough money to equip them. Expatriate teachers are still needed in the secondary schools, training colleges and universities.

The Christian Message first came to Nigeria in 1904 when the first missionaries came to work here. Since then a church has been established which is now a very fast growing church. We consider it to be a privilege to be working under this church and sharing in God's work here in Northern Nigeria.

Jane Gill nee Hart
(Sibford 1956-1961)

SIBFORD – “DOWN-UNDER”

We didn't get to “Old Scholars” in 1978, but we did go to Sibford – Sibford “Down Under”. This Sibford is the farm that belongs to Colin and Sally Nicholl near the further edge of the West Australian sheep and wheat belt about 250 miles East of the City of Perth.

The farm was started by a Sibford old scholar, Horace Nicholl in 1921. He had emigrated to W. Australia and after farming for about one year as an employee, bought 1200 acres of virgin bush from the government, and went out to find his survey pegs. They were near what is now the small township of Hyden. Close to Hyden are several unusual granite formations, notably the curling Wave Rock that looks like a huge breaker about to crash on a beach, and also Hippo's Yawn which, as its name implies, looks astonishingly like a sleepy hippopotamus stretching its jaws after a muddy mid-day siesta. Colin told us that Hippo's Yawn was used by his father as his camping place – it is quite a large cave, and there is water running down the granite – until he had located his land. Once he had found the extent of his territory he set up a normal canvas camp and proceeded to clear the Mallee Eucalyptus Gums that covered the land. Later he built a mud-brick house, (which is still on the farm though not lived in), but Colin and Sally now have a large modern single storey house which was

built 13 years ago when they married, with another house nearby which they use when the sheep-shearing teams come to clip the sheep; or whenever they need extra outside help, though normally the farm is run by themselves and their three children, Heather (9 years old), Douglas (7 years old), and Rosalie, aged 4, when we met them.

To reach “Sibford” you drive out of Hyden for about 9 miles along the bitumen, and then turn off on to the gravel. The bitumen is a single track tarmacadamed road with hard sandy soil verges on either side. You drive on this unless a cloud of dust indicates an approaching vehicle when you let your near side wheels go on the shoulder, as does the other car, and once you have passed you go back on the bitumen again. You don't often meet other vehicles – as we neared Hyden we only met a car about every 10 km – and no-one overtook us in an hour even though we were running in a new vehicle and only going at 60-70 km/p/hr! Our instructions for Sibford told us that once on the gravel we should drive through their lake (!) and then turn off by their mailbox and go the 2 miles up their drive. 1,200 acres is not really a viable unit in the Australian conditions and Colin now owns about 10,500 acres. It is hard for us to grasp the extent of these vast farms, but imagine yourself in slightly rolling country of the Wiltshire Down variety and looking from the farmhouse all that you can see is their land and there is not another farm in sight. In terms of the English Sibford countryside imagine the hill school building as the farm in the middle of an approximate square extending from Whichford village in the West to Swalcliffe in the East, and North from where Theodore Lamb had his ‘shack’ on the Banbury-Shipston road to the South at Hook Norton. It is quite strange to look over a vast landscape without seeing another township, village or even farmhouse, and it must be stranger still to know that all the land you see is yours. Colin's sister, Linda, is married to a neighbouring farmer, Ron Payne, on adjoining land – but it is a 9 mile drive from their farm “Glen Elgin” to “Sibford”.



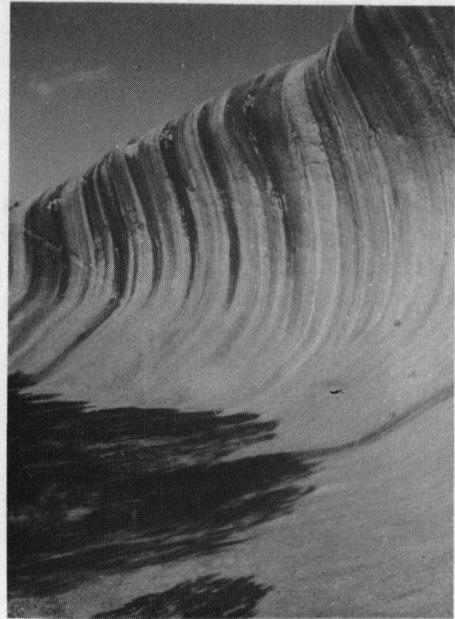
SIBFORD'S (D-U) LETTER BOX

Now to the farming, although as town-dwellers we did not appreciate all the differences in the way an English farmer would have done. They have around 5,200 sheep

which produce a fine Merino wool. Colin drove us round the dirt tracks on the farm keeping an eye on the sheep, looking for Kangaroos in the remaining Mallee scrub and stopping to check on his Spring wheat coming up in the vast fields, or paddocks as they call them. Each paddock has its dam, a shallow square pond dug out by tractor, forming a bank around, which holds water for the stock, and often the water is fed into them by clever catchment roads, or contour banks. A contour bank is just that, a bank snaking across a paddock, falling about 4 inches in every 100 yards so that as water drains from a large catchment area it encounters the bank and is channelled along to the dam. The average rainfall at Hyden in July in their early spring, is about 70 mm (2¾") but last year they had a better rainfall than this and their dams were full, which they were very pleased about even if it meant that Sally's morning job was to go and lug muddy sheep out from the dams where they had got stuck. Government research stations showed that the soil is good for wheat growing, nitrogen does not have to be added, but phosphorus is required along with some copper, zinc and traces of molybdenum. In a 'bad' year Colin might expect to get only 9 bushels per acre and at harvest time wheat is taken down to the Hyden wheat bin – or co-operative store where it is weighed and then added to the store. Hyden appeared to us to be a happy community though very small, just a criss-cross of roads with its own store, petrol station, post office, butcher, swimming pool and school. The school takes children from 7 to 12, but after this children have to be weekly boarders 50 miles away or termly boarders in Perth as Linda's two older daughters are. There are 4 school buses. Some children have to join the 'bus soon after 7 a.m. but Heather and Douglas Nicholl cycle the 2 miles down their drive, leave their bikes and get the 'bus at 8 a.m. returning when the 'bus leaves the school about 4 p.m. We were impressed by the work they were doing and by the way the school was so obviously an integral part of the community with its school newspaper and projects on local affairs. There is also in Hyden a silver chain Nursing centre with routine visits from a doctor, and a one-bed ward where minor ailments can be nursed.

We have great respect for the self-sufficiency of these Australian farmers. Colin services his machines himself, including his giant acre-master tractor, about 18' high, six huge wheels about 5 feet in diameter, with a noise-proofed and air-conditioned cab and capable of pulling 60 harrows behind it. He can weld, turn parts on a lathe, build his own barns and, of course, do the routine farm jobs. It cannot be an easy life. They have two generators for electricity, but no mains electricity, though the possibility of this was under discussion when we were there. However, should there be a mains connection they would have to pay for the supply lines to the farm, and place the posts themselves as they had done when installing the telephone. It cannot be easy to cook, especially when the weather is hot and dry, and at times for large numbers, on a stove burning the roots of the Mallee gums which still crop up in the fields and need to be removed. Perhaps to walk up onto the 200 acres of granite that is near the farmhouse and watch the glorious sunsets can be compensation.

This granite outcrop could be sold back to the Government as it cannot be farmed but the Nicholls keep it as their own nature reserve and it undoubtedly provides a good catchment for the farm's 'home dam'. Certainly, with its sundews, beautiful wild flowers, bottle nests of martins, lizards and blue-tongued goannas it was fascinating to us.



Curling Wave Rock

We were very grateful to Winifred Hyde (nee Nicholl) for giving us the introduction to her nephew and niece, so that they kindly asked us to visit their farms, and were very interested to have seen the other "Sibford" – and such an extraordinarily different one – when we were in Australia.

Jean Osborne



Hugh Maw at the Picnic

PREMIERE PRODUCTS

and incorporating Vanguard Floor Maintenance

- ★ Manufacturers of Cleaning Materials – Polishes – Detergents – Sealers
- ★ Manufacturers of Floor Maintenance Machines – Equipment – Accessories
- ★ Free Cleaning Consultancy, Technical Advisory and System Installation Service
- ★ Suppliers of a Comprehensive Range of Janitorial and Domestic Requirements
- ★ A Complete Service, One Invoice, One Account, and a Quick Delivery Service

★ FIVE STAR

OAKLEY GARDENS · CHELTENHAM
Telephone: Cheltenham 43421 (7 lines)

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES and DEATHS

Births

- Böhm – on September 18th to Kay and Roland Böhm a son, Roland, a first grandchild for Philip and Loraine Brown (née Quinton) of Weiderstrasse 9, 2850 Bremerhaven, West Germany.
- Brocklebank – on June 22nd, 1979 to Diana (née Grimes) and Richard Brocklebank, a son, Stephan David, brother to Ian and Jennifer, P.O. Box 464 Gaberone, Botswana, Africa.
- Cordiner – on August 20th, 1979, to Elizabeth (née Hockley) and Roger Cordiner, a son, Martin Andrew, 39 Devonshire Road, Bognor Regis, W. Sussex.
- Lloyd – on October 7th to Diana (née Wright) and John Lloyd, a son (premature), Owen Antony, brother to Hywel, and a second grandson for Brian and Ethel Wright, 47 Court Orchard, Wotton under Edge, Gloucestershire.
- Facey – on July 10th, 1979 to Ruth (née Whatley) and David Facey a son, Oliver William, a brother for Hannah, 2A Bishop's Way, Andover, Hants.

Marriages:

Donellan-Matheson.

On June 2nd 1979 at Lake Grace, W. Australia, Craig Donellan of Sydney to Jean Matheson.

DEATHS

WILFRED E. LITTLEBOY. To most old scholars the name Littleboy is only a name, yet Wilfred Littleboy is the one person in more recent times who has had a great influence on the development of Sibford School.

Born in 1885, the eldest of four brothers, he attended Bootham School from 1899 to 1902. He qualified as an accountant and became the senior partner in a firm of accountants in Birmingham. Throughout his life he was actively involved with the Quaker movement and it was his Quaker beliefs which motivated him in all his works.

He joined the School committee in 1910 as assistant secretary, becoming later the secretary and then in 1922 the Chairman. He held this position until 1949. During those thirty-nine years he was actively involved in decisions regarding changes at the school, the building of the 'Hill', further extensions to the school, appeals for money, the relationship of Sibford with other Friends' schools

and the adaptation of the school to meet the requirements of more recent national educational policies. To all these problems Wilfred Littleboy brought vision, clarity of thought, knowledge, judgment and tact. When he retired from the chair of the School committee he was co-opted as an ordinary member. The school and its present scholars owe more to Wilfred Littleboy than they can appreciate. His life epitomises the ideas which our President put forward in his address at the reunion,

He died on 12th September 1979 aged 94. His epitaph could be that of Sir Christopher Wren – "If you would see my memorial, look around."

GRAHAM BARBER. 1948-51. Though Graham was not a member of the Old Scholars Association he was an old scholar of the school. His father Reginald was our President in 1955-56 and is remembered with affection by the older O.S. His mother still takes an active interest in the Association. It is, therefore, with great regret that we have to report Graham's tragic death during the summer. He was a pilot with one of the airlines and his hobby was flying. He had been flying since he joined the R.A.F. at 18 years. This summer he piloted a private plane with two friends on a holiday trip to Alaska. The last that was heard from him was that there was trouble with a fractured oil pipe and that he was looking for somewhere to land. Though searches were made for the plane it was never found.

The Association joins all her friends in extending its sincere condolences to his mother, Vera.

GREETINGS TO OLD SCHOLARS FROM OLD SCHOLARS

Lilian Lewis, at Sibford 1915-19. Says she is unable to visit the school but has lively memories of past days.

Louisa Squire, 1914-17, sends greetings to all old O.S. and hopes one day to wend her steps Sibford way.

Lilian Russell, 1932, sends greetings to old and present scholars and hopes to be at a reunion one day.

Herbert Calcraft, 1906-9, sends greetings from Canada to anyone who remembers him.

Howard Campion, 1912-18, sends greetings and good wishes to all.

Marjorie Brown, 1915-18, says advancing age prevents her from coming to reunions but says 'Hello' to all who remember her.

Kingsley Lawrance sends greeting and best wishes to all who remember him. He writes from California.

Alice Green, now 95 years old, sends greetings and says she has very happy memories of earlier years.

Ian Parsons, 1936-39, writes from Canada of the happy days he spent at Sibford. He sends greetings to S.O.S.A. and especially those who remember him.

We send our best wishes to Cindy Poulton, 1973-77, S.O.S.A. committee member, who commenced her nurse's training at Northampton General Hospital on October 19th, 1979. Good Luck!

All the above O.S., I am sure, would be pleased to hear from friends who remember them. Also the Association would be happy to receive and pass on news from other O.S. who cannot attend the reunions.

Holiday Accomodation for S.O.S.A. Members

CORNWALL

CORNISH COUNTRYSIDE LUXURY SELF-CONTAINED BUNGALOWS AND CARAVANS

Caravan/Camping Site – in beautiful woodland and Garden surroundings. NO BINGO; NO BAR; NO DISCO, but guaranteed peace and quiet. Stamp for brochure. **Patrick and June Bell, RUTHERN VALLEY, Ruthernbridge, Bodmin, Cornwall. Telephone: Lanivet (020 883) 395.**

FOR NORTH AND SOUTH COASTS

'BRYHER'

40 CLINTON ROAD

REDRUTH

CORNWALL

Vegetarian Bed & Breakfast
(Evening Meals by arrangement)

Central for West Cornwall – All the year

Write to Pam Harrison, as above.

Telephone: 216701

COTSWOLDS

In South Cotswold, near picturesque Fairford and old Roman City of Cirencester (Corinium)

STANDSWELL

Kempsford Road, Whelford, Fairford, Glos. GL7 4DZ

BED & BREAKFAST

(Evening meal by arrangement)

30 miles from Sibford Grace & Philip Beckerlegge

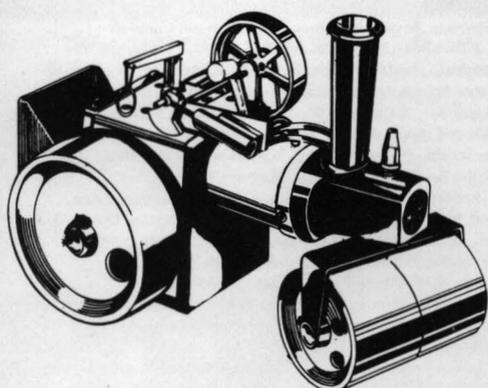
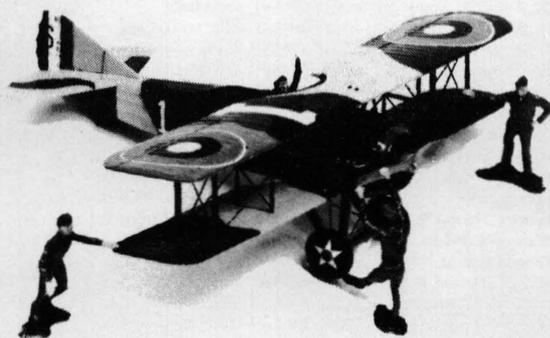
Telephone: Fairford (0285) 712 069

FOOTBALL MATCH O.S. v. School – 3rd November, 1979

Your correspondent, delayed on his way to the Match, arrived to see a limping Mike Finch out of the game after only twenty minutes play. In that time spirited attacks had been mounted by both sides. Andrew Finch showed superb agility in goal saving several onslaughts by the school forward line, led by Adam Christy, Andrew Egbuna, Michael Tang and Jim Baker.

MODELS

by AIRFIX; REVELL; TAMIYA
KEILKRAFT; VERON; HUMBROL
MAMMOD; PERFORMANCE and many more



BALSA WOOD,
GLUES, DOPES,
ENGINES, SPARES
& ACCESSORIES

TRINDER

BROS LIMITED
2 - 4 BROAD STREET
BANBURY. Tel: 2546

The half-time score of 3-2 to the school allowed some degree of optimism in the O.S. camp, who went out after the change-over, with the wind behind them and determination in heart. Now playing a more co-ordinated game however, the school drove forward and soon scored in quick succession, the game finished at 9-3 to school.

In retrospect a very enjoyable game with some outstanding effort from the beleaguered old scholars. Captain Simon Barfoot, scoring two, played an excellent game, (Brian Clough may yet show interest) and with Toby Harris completing the scoring, old scholars should feel encouraged enough to try again.

TEAMS

Old Scholars	School
Simon Barfoot (<i>Captain</i>)	Peter Dovey
Paul Frampton	Robin Anderson
Michael Finch	Robert Egbuna (<i>Captain</i>)
Andrew Finch	Martin Clutterbuck
John Cottle	Richard Steele
Toby Harris	Anthony Wingfield
Ashley Smith	Peter Martin
+ 4 School reserves	Adam Christy
	Andrew Egbuna
	Michael Tang
	Tim Baker

EXHIBITION OF CRAFTS at the Re-Union

Elin Baily	Tapestry Picture, etc.
Margaret Baily	Embroidered Pictures
Constance Cottrell	Hats
Stanley Ewan	Finnish Double Weaving
Miriam Guest	Tea-cloth
Leslie Harrison	Tent for exhibition use (illustrations)
Margaret Fairnington	Water Colours
Daphne Maw	Bridesmaid's dress, etc.
Hugh Maw	"Beachcombing"
David Moore	Table Lamp
Geoff Moore	Oak Stool etc.
Mary Mascaro	Handkerchief case
Philip Morris	Silver Zodiac Bowl
Winsome Malcom	Pencil Drawings
Lily Ratheram	Slippers
Frank Rollett	Wood Carvings
Vera Rollett	Crocheting
Jeanne Southam	Drawn-thread Trayclothes, etc.
Brian Wright	Woodwork
Ethel Wright	Cardigan

SIBFORD OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION
PAST PRESIDENTS

1904	Joseph Spence Hodgson	1945-46	John Dearden
1904-05	Dr. Richard L. Routh	1946-47	Leslie Bailey
1905-06	Michael T. Graveson	1947-48	Geoffrey D. Long
1906-07	Robert B. Oddie	1948-49	F. Joy Reynolds
1907-08	Joseph S.K. Parsey	1949-50	Ronald L. Lloyd
1908-09	Elizabeth M. Oddie	1950-51	James C. Bailey
1909-10	Edward P. Kaye, M.Sc.	1951-52	Ronald Quinton
1910-11	Charles E. Brady, O.B.E.	1952-53	Alice Long and Edward P. Kaye, M.Sc.
1911-12	Ethel M. Harrison	1953-54	Louis E. Wright
1912-13	Arthur B. Oddie	1954-55	E. Marjorie Simmons
1913-14	Lucy S. Lamb	1955-56	Reginald W. Barber
1914-16	James T. Harrod, B.A.	1956-57	Arthur Johnstone, B.Sc.
1916-19	Elizabeth F. Brown	1957-58	Celia Law
1919-20	Thomas Jackson	1958-59	Lewis Poulton
1920-22	Mabel T. Harrod, B.A.	1959-60	Vera Rollett
1922-23	Frank W. Snow	1961	John Coxon, F.C.A.
1923-24	Ethel M. Sharp	1962	Gladys Burgess, B.A.
1924-25	Frank Lascelles	1963	George Law, B.Sc. (Eng.)
1925-26	Dr. Margaret Brady, B.A., M.B.	1964	Brian Wright
1926-27	Christopher Martin, F.R.C.S.	1965	Betty Thelton
1927-28	Miriam J. Carter	1966	Gulie Grimes
1928-29	Arnold J. Kaye	1967	Gordon A. Wells
1929-30	Henry John Randall, C.B.E.	1968	Jonas A. Fielding
1930-31	James T. Harrod, B.A.	1969	Loraine Brown
1931-32	Theodora Hodgkiss, B.Sc.	1970	Michael van Blankenstein
1932-33	Lionel Geering	1971	Lilian D. Ward
1933-34	Jane Sabin	1972	John A. Taylor
1934-35	Percy O. Whitlock, M.A.	1973	June D. Ellis
1935-36	Margaret C. Gillett	1974	Geoffrey L. Moore
1936-37	Henry Lawrance	1975	Arthur W. Harrison, J.P.
1937-38	Frederick E. Goudge	1976	Grace Beckerlegge
1938-39	Wilfrid Pollard	1977	Frank Rollett
1939-43	Howard Quinton	1978	Janet Sewell
1944-45	Roland Herbert	1979	Nicholas Bennett

CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND NEW MEMBERS FOR
THE MEMBERSHIP LIST.

Jane Bowden, née Wheldon, 1 Benhall Avenue, Cheltenham, Glos.
Margaret Beech, 102 Haverstock Hill, Hampstead, N.W.3
Eric Brown (1978 leaver), 78 Harpes Road, Oxford OX2 7QL
Andy Butt, Beaufort Barn, Littleton Drew, Nr. Chippenham, Wilts.
Leslie Carroll, née Coysh, 26 Brandreth Drive, Parbold, Wigan, Lancs.
Pat Chorley, 25 Moss Drive, Middleton Cheyney, Banbury, Oxon. OX17 2PZ
Ruth Anders, née Jones, Cliff Cottage, Bishop Wilton, Yorks, YO4 1SR
Tony & Pat Clark, 43 Brownmere Drive, Croft, Warrington WA3 7HS
John Dumbleton, 3 The Retreat, Gold Street, Tiverton, Devon
Martin Dodson, High Lawns, West Chevin Road, Otley, W. Yorks
Alister Eastland, 81 Selwyn Road, Birmingham B16 0SL
John Fyfield, Maryland, Gilbert Drive, East Dean, Eastbourne
John S. Finch, 10, Windermere Drive, Black Notley, Braintree, Essex, CMY 8UA
P. J. Ferguson, 79 Upper Chyngton Gardens, Seaford, Sussex BN25 3SB
Hugh Gibson, Osborne Todlaw Road, Duns, Berwickshire TD11 3EW
Juliet Gibson, née Spendlove, Stonycroft, Hensting Lane, Owlesbury, Winchester, Hants.
Richard Harrison, 7307 Danwood, Oak Forest, Austin, Texas 79759, U.S.A.
Richard W. Hobbs, 10 Hayley Bell Gardens, Bishop Stortford, Herts. CM23 3HB
May Hockley, née Harrod, Sylvania, Manor Road, Durlley, Southampton SO3 2AF
Edward W. Horne, 36 Cotsmore Close, Moreton in Marsh, Glos.
Arthur & Pam Harrison, Bryher, 40 Clinton Road, Redruth, Cornwall
Geoffrey Jones, 3 The Grove, Harrogate, Yorks.
Merle Jarrett, née Beech, 4 Jeffries Court, Bourne End, Bucks.
Paul Rowley Keates, Fosters, Oxford Road, Frilford Heath, Nr. Abingdon, Oxon.
Ruth Keys, née Lightfoot, 52 Cheswick Way, Cheswick Green, Solihull, W. Midlands
Edith Lewis, 8 Almond House, Almond Avenue, Swanpool, Lincoln
Diana Lloyd, née Wright, 47 Court Orchard, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos.
John Miller, 4 Valley Road, Greenhill Estate, Banbury, Oxon.
Janet Markham, née White, 9 Midway, Middleton Cheyney, Banbury, Oxon.
Karen Mulholland, Stables Flat, Draycott Manor Farm, Tiddington, Thame, Oxon.
Margaret Masters, née Moore, Walnut Cottage, Laverton, Broadway, Worcs.
Hilary Mills, née Naylor, 95 Christchurch Street, Ipswich, Suffolk
David Mason, Clyptos, The Forest, Snaresbrook, London E11 1PJ
Jennifer Mackintosh, née Quinton, The Old Dairy, Pitchford Hall, Pitchford, Shrewsbury
Winsome E. Malcolm, c/o Penamo, Sibford Gower, Nr. Banbury, Oxon.
Mark Mercer, 18 West Street, Banbury, Oxon.
Ian Parsons, 95 Sutherland Drive, Leasode, Toronto N49 1H6, Ontario, Canada
Gwen Rowntree, 18 Winds Point, Hagley Stourbridge, W. Midlands
Harold Rose, 20 Lanbar Close, Bitterne, Southampton SO2 7JH
John Saunderson, 40 Axwell Park Road, Blaydon on Tyne, Tyne & Weir NE21 5PB
G. Spiers, 12 Hermitage Road, Westcliffe on Sea, Essex
David & Philippa Smith, 46 Glenbrook Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14
Peter J. & Winifred Stewart, née Lamb, Shortlands, Sibford Ferris, Banbury, Oxon.
Judy Smith, née Long, 8 Lisburne Road, London N.W.3 2NR
Brian & Jill Smith, née Long, 11 Trent Road, Oakham, Leics.
Yolande Steige, 7 Oak Avenue, London N10 2RP
Harold & Mary Tuckey, née Cook, Cropredy, Banbury, Oxon.
Janet Winn, née Savage, 32 Marlboro Road, Swan View, West Australia 6056
Muriel Whiteman, née Savage, 15A Southbank Road, Kennilworth, Warcs. CV8 1LA
Barbara Wood, née Best, 55 Beacon Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands
Gay Watts (1978 leaver), Maes-Yr-Eglwys Farm, Pen-Y-Cae, Swansea, S. Wales
Ian Wright, 2 Crookhams Cottages, Bentworth, Alton, Hants.
Peter Yeoman, 5 Crossfell Road, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

Address Unknown, Wanted

Jane Bolton, Christopher Beech, Brian Baldwin, Karel Capper-Johnson, Winifred Farrant,
Edward & Margaret Goudge, Peter Hargreaves, Colin Hall, Peter Jones, Mathew Langley,
Jennifer Lennox, Fredrick Stoneham



Three SIBFORD HEADS' and Spouses.
Robin & Ken Greaves, Marjorie and Jonas
Fielding, Daphne and Hugh Maw.



"Picnicing" Mario & Eleri Ricci,
Janet & Peter Baily and assorted
Baily Children



Lilian Ward, Graham and
Sheila Trout



After meeting:
Bill Ram, Ian Hedger, Peter Yeoman



"Rockets" at the Elm.



Arts & Crafts
Exhibition

Prince Charming
with
Ugly Sisters and
Step Mother



Russell Steed; Phil Manasseh,
Tanya Gamlen
Simon Barfoot-Loise Mitchell,
Jane sturge
Eddie Bezant, Ivano Ricci
Andy Finch, Peter Rush,
Ashley Smith,
Jonathan Francis.



Among those attending August Reunion were:—

Nicholas Bennett (President). Margaret & Peter Byatt, Lily Ratheram, Brian & Ethel Wright. John & Lilian Ward, Michael & Andrew Finch, Margaret Fairington, Diana & John Lloyd, Eleri, Mario, Ivano & Diana Ricci, Joy & Bill Rann, Constance Cottrell, Olive Bennett, Michael van Blankenstein, Marjorie & George Edwards, Mabel & Wilfred Pollard, Stan Ewan, Margaret Le Mare, Jean Moore with Peter, Heather & Jill, V. Harris, Gillian Harrison, David & Mavis Stiles, Judith Kelly, Grace & Philip Beckerlegge, Peter & Jean Yeoman with Jonathan, Irene Smith, Jeannie Southam, Margaret Baily, Mary Elwick, J. Philip Morris, Alan Kidney, Helen & Joe Ross with David & Marcus, Sheila & Graham Trout; Geoffrey Moore, David Moore, Yolande & Cai Steger, Andrew Phillips, Russell Steed, Helen & John Doyle, Cecily Brunt, Dorothy Angerson, Reg & Vera Brown, Harold Rose, Arthur & Pam Harrison, Leslie Harrison, Lewis & Jean Poulton, Miriam Guest, Margaret Cox, David & Jennie Hill, Jim Thelton, Jonas & Marjorie Fielding, Elin Baily, Rachel Baily, Gwen Rowntree, Hugh & Daphne Maw, Francis & Barbara Rush, with Family, Kate Long, Philip & Janet Manasseh, Frank & Vera Rollett, Kenneth & Robin Greaves, Loraine & Philip Brown, Simon Barfoot, Ian Hedger, Janet & Peter Baily & Family, Terry & Pat Clarke, Alfred & Susan Holland, May Flinn, June D. Ellis, Paul Eddington & Family, Shiela & Eric Stewart, Ina Lamb, John & Betty Thelton, Thomas Venour, Helen Smith, Cindy & Bobby Egbuna, Patrick Benn, Sophie Miller, Tanya Gamlen, Tracey Smith, Jane Sturge, Edwina Bezant.

RULES

1. NAME

The name of the Association shall be 'Sibford Old Scholars' Association'.

2. OBJECTS

- (a) The continuance of the interest of former scholars in Sibford School and its work.
- (b) The furthering of schoolday friendships.
- (c) The provision of assistance to the School wherever possible.
- (d) The encouragement of a spirit of loyalty amongst present scholars.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) The Association shall consist of Ordinary, Life and Honorary Life Members.
- (b) The following shall be eligible for membership:
 - i. Old Scholars of Sibford School.
 - ii. Past and present members of the teaching and non-teaching staff of the School and their husbands/wives.
 - iii. Past and present members of the School Committee.
 - iv. Husbands/wives of Old Scholars.
 - v. Other relatives of Old Scholars interested in the School.
- (c) Honorary Membership of the Association may be conferred at any Annual General Meeting as a mark of esteem for notable services to the School or the Association.
- (d) Scholars leaving the School shall become members of the Association only after completing the appropriate application form. The General Committee shall have power to accept, reject or defer any such application.
- (e) The General Committee shall be empowered to bar any person from membership and to remove any person from membership for any reason which they think to be good and sufficient. No return of subscription shall be payable to any person removed from Membership.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a)
 - i. Scholars leaving school for the year in which they leave and for the following year, a total of £1.00 and thereafter £4.00 per annum. Alternatively for the year in which they leave and the following three years — £6.00 which could be paid by their parents with the last school fees.
 - ii. Life membership, £75.00.
 - iii. Married couples jointly £7.00 per annum.
 - iv. All other members £4.00 per annum.
- (b) The Annual subscription is due on 1st January for the ensuing year.
- (c) Any member whose subscriptions are in arrears for more than two years and who, after due reminder, shall not make the necessary payment shall have his/her name removed from the list of members.

5. YEAR

The Association's year shall be from 1st January to 31st December. This shall apply to the Accounts of the Association and to the term of office of President, Officers, Committee, etc.

6. GENERAL COMMITTEE

- (a) The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a General Committee subject to the approval of the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- (b) Ex-Officio President, Vice-President, Immediate Past President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Reunion Secretary, Assistant Reunion Secretary, Membership Secretary, Magazine Editor, Local Branch Secretaries, two School Committee Representatives, Friends of Sibford Society Representative, two School Staff Representatives, the Headmaster, the Bursar, and six ordinary members elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for a three year period.
- (c) Ten members of the General Committee shall form a quorum.
- (d) The General Committee shall have power to co-opt up to four members at any one time and to appoint any additional officers it deems necessary.

7. OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

- (a) The President and Vice-President shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for one year. Normally the President's year of office shall immediately follow the year in which he/she was Vice-President.
- (b) The General Secretary and other Officers shall be appointed for a three year period at an Annual General Meeting. Two representatives shall be nominated to serve on the School Governing Committee coinciding with that Committee's normal term of appointments. Ordinary Members will not be eligible for re-election after a three year term for a period of at least twelve months.
- (c) Should a vacancy occur in any office the General Committee shall have powers to fill the vacancy.

- (d) and the person so appointed shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
- (d) All nominations for General Secretary, Treasurer and other Officers shall be in writing, signed by the proposer, seconder and the nominee and shall be sent or handed to the General Secretary twelve hours before the Annual General Meeting. Nomination papers to be included with the appropriate Annual Reunion programmes sent to all members.
- (e) Each year the School leavers shall nominate one of their members to serve, as an ordinary member, on the Committee for a period of three years following the next 31st December, and such nomination shall be confirmed by the Annual General Meeting. The A.G.M. shall also appoint one representative each year to serve for a three-year term. Should an ordinary member resign during his term of service the Committee has power to fill the vacancy so caused, until the next Annual General Meeting. The Annual General Meeting shall then confirm the appointment or appoint an alternative member for the remainder of the term of service.

8. MEETINGS AND REUNIONS

- (a) An Annual Reunion of members shall be held at Sibford at Whitsuntide or at such other time and/or place as may be decided by the General Committee.
- (b) The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held during the Annual Reunion.
- (c) Notice of the Annual Reunion shall be sent to all members.
- (d) The General Committee shall have full control of all arrangements at these Reunions with power to make such regulations as they may deem to be expedient.

9. MINUTES

Minutes of the proceedings of the General Committee shall be duly recorded in a permanent manner and the minutes of the Annual General Meeting when passed shall be available for inspection by any member by arrangement.

10. LOCAL BRANCHES

- (a) Whenever the number of members resident in a locality warrants the course, a local branch may be formed.
- (b) A Branch Secretary shall be elected at a representative meeting of the local branch.
- (c) Branch Secretaries shall have power to arrange local reunions and other events.
- (d) All Branches must be financially self supporting and have no call on the funds of the Association.

11. MAGAZINE

A magazine entitled 'Sibford' shall be published annually by the Association and sent to all members whose addresses are known. Where husbands and wives are both members only one magazine will be sent unless an additional copy is specifically requested.

12. ALTERATIONS TO RULES

- (a) Notice of any alteration or addition to be proposed to the rules of the Association shall be given in writing to the General Secretary at least fourteen days prior to an Annual General Meeting. Nevertheless the Annual General Meeting shall have power to deal with any alteration or addition to the Rules without such notice or any notice if the meeting so decides by a two-thirds majority of members who are present and voting.
- (b) No alteration or addition to the Rules of the Association shall become effective unless passed by a two-thirds majority of members who are present and voting in Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Rule 12 (b) and 13 (b) cannot be altered except by a 9/10ths majority at Annual General Meeting.

13. LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND

- (a) All subscriptions received as Life Subscriptions shall be invested in the names of Trustees appointed by the Annual General Meeting.
- (b) The Life Membership Fund may not be spent without prior referendum of the recorded members of the Association. To be effective the referendum must be approved by a 9/10th majority of all the forms received by a date set by the General Committee.
- (c) The interest from the investment of the life subscriptions shall be added to the ordinary income of the Association.

14. WINDING UP

In the event of the Association being dissolved all the assets shall be disposed of as directed by the Annual General Meeting by a simple majority of those members who are present and voting at the Annual General Meeting.

Sibford, incorporating the SOSA Annual Report, is the journal of, and published annually by the SIBFORD OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION. Enquiries concerning distribution should be made to the Membership Secretary. Items for insertion should be sent to the Editor.