

Christine Sunaburg

ESSAYAN.

ECCLES
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

SUMMER
1962

ECCLES GRAMMAR SCHOOL

ESSAYAN

Headmaster:

H. H. Fairweather, M.A. (Cantab.) F.R.G.S.

Editors:

B. Derbyshire, M. Little, D. H. Monk, G. Warburton

A. Inch, Katherine Smith, Elspeth Taylor, Lynette Ball

Margaret Barlow, Angela Bailey, Elaine McCann

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School Officers

Head Boy: G. E. WARBURTON *Head Girl:* KATHERINE SMITH

Deputy Head Boy: D. H. MONK

Deputy Head Girl: ANGELA BAILEY

PREFECTS:

Boys: R. BARKER, B. DERBYSHIRE, R. GAFFNEY, M. HOATH, B. HULME, I. ROWLES, A. SALT, M. SHARRATT, D. THOMPSON, P. THORNLEY.

Deputies: J. BARLOW, A. INCH, B. OWEN, R. RIMMER.

Girls: LYNETTE BALL, JEAN BARKS, MARGARET BARLOW, CHRISTINE HARDY, CAROL HARPER, ELAINE McCANN, JANET MAXWELL, JANET WALKER, ELSPETH TAYLOR, PAT LINGARD.

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Football Captain: M. SHARRATT.

Cricket Captain: D. H. MONK.

Hockey Captain: CHRISTINE HARDY.

Chairman of Union: ELAINE McCANN.

Secretary of Union: ANGELA BAILEY.

Secretary of Chess Club: I. L. ROWLES.

Boys' Games Secretaries: M. SHARRATT, G. WARBURTON.

Girls' Games Secretary: JANET WALKER.

School Librarians: RAMSBOTTOM, SMITH, PARKINSON, BATES, JONES, COXHILL, NEIL, GRIFFITHS, D. PARTINGTON, K. BARDSLEY.

HOUSE CAPTAINS:

Girls—

TUDORS: CHRISTINE HARDY.

NORMANS: KATHERINE SMITH.

STUARTS: ANGELA BAILEY.

SAXONS: ELSPETH TAYLOR.

Boys—

TUDORS: G. WARBURTON.

NORMANS: M. HARTLAND.

STUARTS: A. SALT.

SAXONS: D. H. MONK.

Editorial

By the time this magazine appears on sale, the Editors will have recovered from the task of reading, selecting, rejecting and reconsidering articles and verses from the vast amount which has been submitted this year. If they have not succeeded in compiling a representative record of the activities and thought of our School in the year 1961-2, the contributors cannot be blamed. The raw material was supplied : the Editors hope it does not look so raw now.

The year's work started badly with a week's additional holiday, enforced by the reconstruction work going on in the Laboratories. When attendance was resumed, we had to " grin and bear " a certain amount of disturbance and re-arrangement of classrooms. Grinning, however, was out of the question when a pneumatic drill was biting into the floor of the room directly overhead, and bearing was easier said than done. But it was thought to be worth some discomfort when the spacious new labs. were finished, and the scientists can now breathe in as well as out.

A detailed account of the year's activities is to be found in the following pages. We thank those whose work has gone into the magazine. It was abundantly clear from the essays we received that the majority of the School are in favour of co-education, opposed to smoking and indifferent about capital punishment; so it appears that we are unlikely to be lynched for our final choice of essay.

Notes

Many of the Senior pupils, remembering the visit of John Ogden to the School and the recital he gave on that occasion, will no doubt have been pleased to hear of his success in the Tchaikowsky Music Festival which was held recently in Moscow.

The Editors were also pleased to hear from a former English Mistress, Miss E. M. Clark, who is now headmistress of Broughton High School; we also received a letter from Mrs. Maureen Patz (née Daniels) who now lives in Canada.

We were especially delighted to hear from the School's first Head Girl, who wrote from Paradise, California, to say that she (then Jessie Hewitt) was present on the day the School first opened. She sends her best wishes to all at the School. Another Old Pupil, Mr. H. Cox, who received the Slade Award for Sculpture some time ago, is establishing a Centre for Art Therapy in Hertfordshire. We should like to send him the best wishes of all the School for his work.

We have also heard from Tony Warren, an Old Boy who was initially responsible for "Coronation Street", and Mike Warrington who was this year "capped" for England's Lacrosse Team.

The School is always pleased to hear from its old pupils. Old pupils whose work is more familiar to us are Mrs. Cannon, Miss Pryor, and Miss Longworth. This year they have been joined on the Staff by two other old pupils, Mr. F. Smith and Mr. K. F. Pallin; we should like to welcome them, although they have been members of the School far longer than we have, and could very well be welcoming us !

E.

Staff Changes

In our last issue, we bade an early farewell to those who would not be with us in September. Now, perhaps belatedly, we welcome those new members of Staff who have joined us since our last issue.

Miss Sheila Boulton, B.A. (London) and Miss Ida M. Danson, B.A. (Manchester), join us from University to teach French. When not doing this, they show great enthusiasm on the games field.

Miss Barbara M. Renshaw came from the City of Coventry Training College accompanied by boundless energy and enthusiasm to teach Gym and Games and Scripture.

Mrs. J. S. Williams, A.T.C., A.T.D., comes, part-time, to help her husband (F.R.W.) in the Art Studios.

Mr. D. B. Hardman, M.A. (Manchester), took the place of Mr. D. L. Smith in the Geography Department.

Lastly we give rather a special welcome to two Old Boys of the School.

Mr. Frank Smith, B.A. (Manchester), was at School from 1940-45. He now teaches English where once he learned it.

Mr. Keith F. G. Pallin, B.A. (Birmingham), was with us from 1952-57. He takes General Subjects.

Soon we shall lose Mrs. Margaret Thomas (née Sample) from the Maths. Department, who has been with us since 1959 and Mrs. Andrews from the Domestic Science Department. She has been with us since 1960. Both have to answer the call of Domestic duties. We wish them happiness and thank them for the happiness they both have brought to others.

F.

Library News

The Library has undergone considerable change in the last eighteen months. After complete re-organisation, so that the books were catalogued by the Dewey System, used by most public and college libraries, it was made possible, by an extra grant from the education authority, to add eight hundred and seventy new books to the existing stock. Most works of fiction and of general interest were chosen by Mrs. Baxter, and books on more specialised subjects were selected by subject teachers.

More works of fiction of Junior and Middle School standard were acquired as well as more adult fiction for the Sixth Form. The policy with non-fiction books was to try to cover the more obvious gaps.

New scientific books were added especially of Junior and Middle School standard, including some really readable maths. books. Many extra biographies and simple history books have been chosen, to help with the special individual topics, studied by the Second and Third Forms. Geography and travel books of the coloured, interesting sort have been added to ensure that the geography shelves are not solely for the specialist. Among these are a number of books kindly given to us by Miss Yorston, who took up another teaching post in the Summer of 1961.

An attempt has been made to cater for a wider range of hobbies and sports and the sections on art and music have been extended.

Sixth Form readers are being encouraged to widen their interests by the introduction of a range of paper backed volumes for their exclusive use.

Keen interest has been shown in the magazines and monthly journals now available in the Library. " Knowledge," " Look and Learn," " Elizabethan " and the Junior French magazine " Top " have encouraged browsing among those who are daunted by more " solid " books.

Items of interest appear on the notice board and illustrations of local or topical interest. Next year it is hoped that book reviews, written by School readers, can be displayed regularly, as an aid to your choice of reading.

Suggestions for further book purchases will be welcome. The title, names of the author and publisher and an indication of the price must be given. Fines, which have passed the five pounds mark in total, can be used for new books or urgently needed items of equipment.

Thanks must be expressed to the Librarians for their valuable work during dinner times and after School. They are in charge of the lending system and have worked hard to process the books, ready for the shelves. Let us hope that the Library will continue to grow in the future and be a lively centre of interest and industry.

P. J. Bates (5A).

Speech Day, 1961

Speech Day for 1961 was held once more in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, a venue which is rapidly becoming accepted even amongst the most conservative in the School—on the seventeenth of November. As usual, a guest speaker was invited to distribute the prizes and certificates, and subsequently address the assembly. This year we were fortunate to have in our midst the Bishop of Middleton, the Right Reverend E. R. Wickham, D.D., who, although apparently without association with our School, has made his home in Eccles.

As is customary, the programme was begun by the School's rendering of Kipling's "Land of our Birth" which has been adopted as the "School Hymn," after which the Headmaster, Mr. H. H. Fairweather, T.D., M.A. (Cantab), F.R.G.S., read his report. Since 1961 was the 50th year of the School's existence, this report was a proud resumé of the School's progress. After the choir had sung, "Achieved is the Glorious Work" from "The Creation" by Joseph Haydn, Mr. J. P. McDougall, M.M., J.P., was called upon as Chairman of the Governors to make his remarks, and to the delight of the School he spoke with levity and brevity.

The proceedings came to their climax with the eagerly awaited distribution of the prizes, followed by the Bishop's address to the School and parents.

His theme was one of exhortation, as he encouraged the School to attempt to make use of all ability in whatever field, and even surprise one's self with one's own capabilities. His audience was compelled to lend an ear owing to his pleasant anecdotes and nimble wit.

The choir followed next with Mr. Ellis's composition to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the School. "Cantata Academica," which, in spite of its Latin title, is written completely in English.

The vote of thanks was adequately proposed by His Worship the Mayor of Eccles, Alderman R. Benson, and seconded loquaciously by the Reverend Canon F. Williamson, B.A.

To round off a rather more interesting evening than in former years, the Head Boy, G. Warburton, led the School in the customary cheering.

P. L. Thornley (6UA).

School Christmas Cards

The School again designed and sold, in aid of selected charities, a School Christmas Card in 1961. A profit of £38/1/6 was made which was distributed as follows, according to the preferences expressed by the purchasers :—

	£	s.	d.
Imperial Cancer Research Fund	12	18	6
National Society for Mentally- Handicapped Children	8	3	3
Polio Research Fund	7	0	9
Aid to Refugees	5	14	6
Infantile Paralysis Fellowship	4	4	6

W.

Christmas Fair, 1961

The Sixth Form began preparations for the Fair, many weeks beforehand—writing to firms for donations, ordering goods and encouraging members of the School to make and bring contributions. This year's effort (to be given to the Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies) realised approximately £180, as compared with £80 in 1954, when the first Christmas Fair was held.

Mrs. Lumb, M.A., J.P., one of the School Governors, was kind enough to open the fair. As always, the Snack Bar was frequented by the School, and the Refreshment Room by the visitors. We had the usual stalls and sideshows, including a large flower-stall, but unfortunately less cakes than last year. It must be said that fewer and fewer people are taking the trouble to make goods, and merely bring bought contributions—a situation which we hope will be remedied in the future.

K.S. (6UA).

Highland Holiday

During the half-term break a party of sixteen Third and Fourth formers with Mr. Smith and Mr. Hardman spent ten days walking and hostelling in the Highlands.

After a brief tour of Edinburgh Castle and city we travelled through the central Highlands of Oban, where we stayed at a hostel overlooking Oban Bay.

On our first evening some of our brave, aquatic stars decided to go for a swim in the sea and found that the Gulf stream appears to exist only in the vivid imaginations of Geography teachers.

The next day was spent on a pleasant stroll over fifteen miles of glen and moorland, punctuated by stops for fruit pies and cheese and tomato sandwiches.

The highlight of the week was the trip to Tobermory, via Iona and Fingal's Cave where we landed for about an hour. During our half-hour stay on Iona we managed to see the monastery, the nunnery ruins, and Fyfe Robertson, who was preparing a T.V. programme.

On Mull we divided into two groups for a competition using maps and compass over twenty-five miles of difficult coastal and moorland country. A slight accident to one member who stepped into a Highland "pot-hole" led to the withdrawal of one group, who after a visit to the district nurse enjoyed a two-shilling cream tea before passing the other party in a bus about ten miles from the hostel.

The second party meanwhile had struggled up hill, down dale—and through peat bogs. Two wild deer were frightened by this party, when they spotted them.

After rising at half-past four we caught the ferry to Ardnurchan, where we boarded the "bus" together with the mail, bread, and milk along the narrow, twisting coastal road to Glenborrowdale.

After walking all day we caught the boat along the length of Loch Shiel to Glenfinnan, where Prince Charlie raised his standard in 1745. From there it was a short distance to Fort William which was used as a centre for a climb up Ben Nevis, which unfortunately had to be abandoned because of low cloud and strong winds.

The party spent a rainy night at Glencoe Hostel near the site of the famous massacre before returning through Appin to Edinburgh, where we stayed one night to allow a trip across the Forth Bridge before returning to Manchester on the Sunday.

During the week several interesting varieties of rock, minerals, and bread were collected along with the rare and precious Scottish potato valued at one and nine a pound.

P. Williams (3D).

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Barcelona, Easter

The party set off from the familiar surroundings of Manchester Central two days before the rest of the School "broke up." The time was spent not in palatial comfort in glorious sunshine, but mainly in dull weather inside train-compartments which were either too stuffy or too draughty on the tiring, 1,000-mile journey to Barcelona. However, the sun did shine brightly on our arrival, and we were taken straight to our hotel for a lunch which was welcome despite the macaroni.

Barcelona has much to offer the tourist, and we visited most of its impressive landmarks and hidden jewels—the magnificent Gothic cathedral, the unfinished Church of the Sacred Family daringly, almost scarily designed, the Monastery, complete with fairground, on top of Mount Tibidabo, the Palace of Fine Art, which was shut, and the Spanish Village, to mention a few.

During the week, two full-day trips were made. The first, on Saturday, took us to Sitges and Tarragona (seaside resorts to the south), where time was spent bathing by the more Spartan members, and playing a game of football, much to the amusement of some inhabitants, in which Mr. Smith was the star for both sides. The second, on Tuesday, was to Tossa de Mar, on the Costa Brava. Most of the time here was spent on the beach, watching the local fishermen, and wandering round the shops. It was here that we enjoyed our best weather.

As on all good holidays, the last day came far too soon, and, armed with bottles of Coca-Cola from the hotel, we set off in a decrepit Spanish train on the way to Manchester, spending six hours in London on the way.

The thanks of all members must be extended to Mr. Smith, Mr. Hardman, and Mr. Turner, who organised such an enjoyable and successful trip.

C. A. Farlow (4 Lang.).

Stratford

Once again, at the beginning of the Autumn Term, the Sixth Form set off on its annual trip to Stratford-upon-Avon. In their efforts to keep warm, several of the party visited a well-known chain store and a free exhibition: the gentlemen mysteriously disappeared and were not seen again until they arrived at the theatre.

Our enjoyment of the play "Hamlet" was somewhat impeded by the fact that, without actually going outside, we could hardly have been farther from the Stage (one or two ladies were heard to wail, rather loudly, "But I can't see the ghost!"). Nevertheless,

apart from our soaking as we returned to the coach, we all enjoyed our visit, and, we should like to thank those members of Staff who organised the trip.

L.B.

Forty Girls went to Narbonne at Easter

This year we were invited to the Colonie de Vacances at Narbonne-Plage, a holiday camp two minutes from the Mediterranean. For part of the time the Mayor of Eccles visited the town and this made us realise that we were only one part of the exchange. It was different from other School holidays abroad as we were invited on several occasions to our pen-friends' homes and even stayed over-night. The greatest crisis of the trip was when we were on our own and had to speak French with no one to help.

Several excursions were arranged for us; to Carcassonne, a medieval walled town; to the excavation site of a Roman settlement a few miles away; to Banyuls, a picturesque fishing village not far from the Spanish frontier. Of course, we spent a good deal of time bathing and visiting places of interest in Narbonne itself.

The Mayor of Narbonne held a reception at the Town Hall on the last Saturday of our stay and we were each given a leather book-mark as a souvenir of our visit. All the officials and their helpers were extremely kind and had done everything in their power to make us welcome. We hope to try to repay their generosity when they next send a party to Eccles.

Coming home we found that above all we missed the lively chatter of our new friends, the warmth and colour of the Mediterranean Spring and the huge meals. We found too that we all knew more than we did before about "the cup that cheers."

4T1.

Swanage Field Week

From the 27th of April to May 5th, part of the Easter holidays, a field class was arranged at Swanage, in Dorset, in conjunction with parties from Altrincham and Sunderland Grammar Schools. During the week we worked quite intensely, in spite of the glorious weather, and completed studies of local settlement, geology, botany, agriculture, and landscape. Such local beauty spots as Old Harry Hocks, Chapman's Pool and Corfe Castle were visited, good use being made of the motor-coach which took us down and remained at Swanage for the week. Wednesday was the highlight of the week, when small groups set off to test their map reading. We

tramped through blazing heat over an extensive course which included a rifle-range (" Danger—Unexploded Bombs ", said the notice, but we blithe spirits walked on).

On Friday morning we visited Tilly Whim Caves which were, in spite of opposing theories from a member of the party, man-made. Friday afternoon was taken up by a coach trip which was a brief summary of the week's work, each group explaining its activities to the others. All Schools got together on the last night for a dance and though the records were rather limited in number (who hasn't got " Nut Rocker " on the brain ?) we all enjoyed ourselves.

Grateful thanks go to the Staff, Miss Longworth, Miss Brown, and Mr. Thomas, and especially Mr. Miller who did the lion's share of organising, for an enjoyable and enlightening week.

Kay Bardsley (6LA).

The Scarlet Pimpernel

We all sat in the Bio. Lab.,
Our hearts with grief affected,
Because a little, innocent frog
Quite soon would be dissected.

It swam around its little tank—
Condemned cell, if it knew it—
The walls were steep, the lid was on,
And the frog could not jump through it.

Sore ached the heart of the Pimpernel
And a tear stood in his eye;
And there he swore a solemn oath—
That the poor frog should not die.

After school he crept upstairs,
At risk to life and limb,
Into the lab., opened the tank,
And took the frog with him.

The teacher's bloodstained hand was robbed
Of this fair, tender throat;
She could not understand a frog
That fled, and left a note.

They seek him here, they seek him there,
These teachers seek him everywhere.
He's not in Heaven, he's in 4L,
That damned, elusive Pimpernel.

Linda Darbyshire (4L).

A. HAYES

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CHRISTINE HARDY
LANCS. COUNTY WOMEN'S LONG JUMP CHAMPION, 1962
(By courtesy of Eccles Journal)



The Society's committee has been particularly well served by P. Evans, Gilkinson, Garner, S. Lenord, P. Moors, M. Muskett, J. Powell, J. Shelton, C. Walmesley, and many others who have met under the chairmanship of Mr. Smith (English) to discuss the form and content of the debates.

The last meeting of the year was a rapid knock-out Form Speaking Competition in which eight Forms took part. There were some very good speeches from 1B and 3D; the final, between 2A and 3C was a fitting climax to the competition. 2A won narrowly.

The Debating Society wishes to offer its thanks to Mr. Smith and all the other members of Staff who have helped to judge the debates.

P.E.

Students' Union

It was decided at the beginning of this year to change the name of the Senior Literary and Debating Society to the Students' Union which would have a President instead of a Chairman. The Committee members and officials were elected democratically at a special meeting for all interested Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Formers.

The first meeting took the form of an "Any Questions?" evening with a panel consisting of three members of the Staff giving their somewhat controversial opinions on many everyday subjects.

The succeeding meeting was attended by over a hundred students who were addressed by Mrs. Harrison, an inspector of schools in Kenya. This proved to be a very interesting lecture and it was hoped the attendances would remain at a similar high level.

Encouraged by its initial successes the Union decided that it was capable of challenging other schools. The first of these debates took place at Eccles, the visiting school being from Lymm. Expecting an early arrival, the Unionists awaited patiently . . . but where was the opposition? Finally, at approximately five o'clock, after the refreshment staff had provided sustenance for the coming battle, the Lymm debaters arrived.

Somewhat taken aback by their gargantuan male members and to accompanying comments of, "Look at all their notes," "My, don't they look intelligent," the timid Eccles speakers made their way to the Library platform. The debate, concerning our grandchildren, was extremely lively and we were informed of some rather interesting facts about the rate of growth of the Chinese population if it were to march round the world.

A second inter-school debate was held at De La Salle College where we discussed the burden of the middle classes on Britain today.

The House debates were held as usual, with Tudor House proving to be the victors for the second year.

We hope that in future years the Union will enjoy much success and that members will approach debates with a serious mind and yet try to continue the liveliness exhibited this year.

A.B.

Dartmoor Tragedy

A car goes speeding through the night,
Its headlamps throw a blinding light,
A pony's shape looms up ahead,
A skid, a thump, the pony's dead !

And there she lies, the hills look on,
Her life is ended, the car is gone;
The wind stirs through the tangled mane,
And the moorland road is quiet again.

Remember, all who travel here,
The ponies and the dappled deer;
They roam at will, it is their right,
So speed not through the starless night.

Christine Vincent (1C).

Camera Club

During the past year, there have been good attendances at all our meetings. In February, we were "taken abroad" to our "twinned" town of Narbonne, in the South of France, by Mr. D. Hardman, who had visited that region of France earlier in the year, and taken some beautiful colour slides.

Our thanks must also be placed on record to Mr. L. Natt for a demonstration of "Portraiture"—with special mention of our two models, Prue Gerrard, and Jennifer Roe (4L); and to J. Barlow (6US2) for a most instructive and informative talk on "Developing and Printing."

In March, we were able, through the courtesy of Kodak Ltd., to show a film on "The Science of Colour Photography." Although it was short, it was most entertaining !

At the time of going to press, the results of the School's second photographic exhibition are eagerly awaited—the subject is "My Best Winter Pictures." The Club also helped members of the School who went abroad at Easter by providing them with their passport photographs.

Now a glance into the future. A group of potential film stars(?) are now rehearsing for a film, which we hope is to be made by Whitsuntide, under the direction of Mr. F. Smith. Next year, the Club hope to be the proud owners of a photographic darkroom in the School for the use of the members of the Club.

P.M.L., J.P./C.

Art Club

This year has seen quite a considerable change in the organization of the Art Club.

Where as, before, members would spend time wondering to what skill they could lend their pencil or paint-brush, now they are given a fresh subject each week. These subjects, which range from figure drawing to collage, are chosen at the beginning of each term by a newly-elected committee consisting of one member from each year.

The Club also has a film programme as a change from practical work and we have seen various films of photographic interest as well as of artistic content.

Membership of the Art Club has increased and some very interesting work has been produced under the ever-watchful eye of Mr. Williams who is always ready to help anyone in difficulties with their painting. Our thanks are due to him and Mrs. Williams for the time they have spent encouraging the School's budding artists.

P.C.

Life and the Planets

As it would take many years to reach and even communicate with life on any planets orbiting the nearest stars, it is very unlikely that we shall ever see life other than in our own Solar System.

First of all, let us consider what life is basically and what conditions are needed for its survival. Of the ninety-two naturally occurring elements only carbon and silicon have the ability to "link up" with atoms of themselves and other elements to form the large molecules necessary for the formation of life. It seems that only carbon can form the complex life molecules. The conditions for carbon based creatures are that for proper functioning there must be an agreeable temperature range and a breathable atmosphere containing oxygen.

These last two conditions eliminate the possibility of life on Pluto, Neptune, Uranus, Saturn, Jupiter, and Mercury.

Pluto is the farthest planet from the sun, so far that its size is not even known. Thus its temperature is extremely cold, and so there is no possibility whatever of life.

Similarly, the giant planets of the Solar System, Neptune, Uranus, Saturn, and Jupiter, are much too cold for life, as well as having dense poisonous atmospheres containing hydrogen, methane and ammonia which escape from the atmospheres of smaller planets.

Mercury is such a small planet that it hasn't sufficient gravitational pull to "hold" an atmosphere and as it is always facing the same way towards the sun, one side is extremely hot and one side extremely cold.

The planets left are Mars and Venus. Mars, the Red Planet, has an atmosphere too thin for animals. However, vast green paths have been seen to expand in the Martian Summer and contract in the Winter, suggesting some form of vegetations. If so it is thought that only the hardiest lichens could exist in the harsh Martian conditions.

The remaining planet, Venus, is the twin of the Earth, so similar is it in size and density. Even though it is so near to us it is wrapped in a blanket of clouds so that we cannot see the interior. What these clouds are we are not quite sure, but one thing is certain and that is that there is an abundance of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere which is quite discouraging. There may, of course, be luxuriant vegetation there or some other forms of life, for who knows what conditions may be like beneath those clouds.

It is to be hoped that one of the future satellites may soon be successful in landing on Venus and sending back information.

One of the recent exciting discoveries was the suggestion of life on a meteorite. If life is eventually found, even if it has to be the same as our own animal life fundamentally, it is interesting to think what forms it would take.

M. Little (6USc.2).

Witches' Song

At midnight when the banshee screams,
And phantoms haunt your troubled dreams,
Werewolves wail beneath the sky
As corpses walk and vampires fly.
Coffin lids slowly rise
While bony hands rub hollow eyes;
Vault doors start to creak and groan
And the wind begins to howl and moan.
Ghostly screams chill one's bones,
Weird voices cry with dreaded tones;
Suddenly the vampire king appears
Among the lifeless forms he leers.
He searches for his vital lifeblood
With the rest of his wicked Undead Brotherhood;
They suck their blood from lowly rats
As they fly through the night like ghostly bats.
Then shadowy figures dance around
In devil-dance on hallowed ground;
Terror is all abroad, and fear
Stalks through the night, for DEATH is near.

D. Brown (4S1).

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School Concert

This year's School Concert constituted a milestone in the history of Eccles Grammar School music, for not only did it contain some music which most schools would have avoided as too difficult for them, but also the standard of performance showed a definite improvement on former years' concerts.

Though hardly a usual thing to tell the audience, at the beginning of the year some of us were doubtful as to whether there would be a concert, for the nature and difficulty of the works proved too much for some choir members; but on we toiled—rehearsals becoming less chaotic under the directorship (even dictatorship) of Mr. Ellis, until the few who left began to return, and the choir was once more complete.

Small choir rehearsals were long and often, whilst the large choir practiced weekly Gabrieli's "Quem Vidistis Pastores?" and Bach's "Peasant Cantata."

Doubts over Stravinsky's "Ave Maria" and "Pater Noster" were allayed, when we sang to what seems to have been an appreciative audience.

"Quem Vidistis?" especially, needed much detailed study, as it employed the technique of two choirs singing simultaneously in different parts of the hall.

Paul Robinson gave a skilled and polished performance of Mozart's Piano Sonata in F, whilst Stravinsky once more occurred in the programme when Robinson and Mr. Ellis performed his "Four Pieces for Piano Duet." A dull title maybe, but anyone who attended the concert will agree that here appearances were deceptive!

The "Peasant Cantata," though a more usual piece for a School Concert, was nevertheless just as enjoyable, as the more unusual works played previously. The male members even achieved an encore for their solo "Fifty Florins" which was certainly well-deserved.

It may be added that the contributions from the Orchestra showed that, given the right music, they, too, can make pleasing noises. In the works by Gabrieli and, with the choir, in "Tenebrae," they excelled themselves—the change from the 16th Century to the 12 note technique of "Tenebrae" being negotiated without so much as a "fluffed" B flat or a mistimed "con sordino."

In closing, may we thank everyone who helped us to produce the concert, the soloists, the performers, and, especially, the conductor.

Rosalind Norton (5A).

The Stretford Conference

April 5th was the occasion of this year's trip to Stretford Grammar School for the annual conference organised by the Commonwealth Institute. This year's subject was "The Commonwealth and the Common Market."

The Headmaster of Stretford G.S. introduced Sir James Harford, who, as usual, gave the initial address and led up to the lecture from Mr. Easterling, who gave us a short history of the Common Market's growth from the ideas of a small but effective "pressure group," and some ideas about its place in the world.

A short break was followed by Dr. Soper's speech on how it will affect various Commonwealth countries, and on official British feeling towards the Market.

Then came the open forum : we split up into groups to discuss these remarks and to raise some awkward questions for the speakers.

Dinner-time found many of us picknicking in the hall and elsewhere, as shortage of space and tender digestions prevented many from taking a School meal.

After lunch the panel attacked the pile of questions and dealt successfully with most of them. Sir James then summed up and the Headmaster of Stretford moved the vote of thanks. Quite rightly we were not told whether to support the Market or not : opinions were as divided when we came out as they were before. However, we now have some sound reasons for holding them.

The trip was certainly a success and our thanks go out to our hosts at Stretford, the speakers and, of course, our coach driver who spared no effort to bring us home quickly. We all look forward to next year's outing.

B.D.

Smoking

Late in 1953 confirmed smokers, happily puffing away at their favourite brands, received a severe shock.

An impressive number of medical scientists agreed that there was something noxious in cigarettes which ought to concern every smoker. That unidentified factor, they said, related somehow to the alarming rise in deaths from lung cancer. Investigators in America announced that they had positively induced epidermoid cancer in mice merely by painting the animals' backs with tar derived from cigarette smoke.

That was the real beginning of the cigarette controversy. Since then the issue has been clouded with countercharges and recriminations. Before the first world war lung cancer was rare. But after 1920 doctors began to encounter it more and more frequently and there was a sharp increase in deaths. Some time ago it was announced that the trend showed every indication of continuing.

Obviously, the very air we breathe has become increasingly polluted by smoke, soot, chemicals, and fumes from petrol and

fuel oils. Some of these contain recognised cancer-producing agents. Air pollution is now being carefully studied and may prove to play a role in lung cancer. But the air pollution theory stumbles over one inescapable fact—men and women breathe the same polluted air about equally; yet lung cancer is at least eight times more prevalent among males than among females.

Suspicion of tobacco was inevitable and when American research workers compared the sales figures for cigarettes and the statistics for lung cancer they noticed a remarkable parallel.

Lung cancer usually occurs in men over forty-five. There is good reason to believe that there is a time lag of at least twenty years in its development. Hence doctors saw a link between rising cigarette consumption from 1920 to 1930 and mounting lung cancer deaths from 1940 to 1950.

At Washington University, Doctor Wynder won approval for an ambitious research project. The results first published in nineteen fifty showed that of six hundred and fifty men, more than ninety-five per cent. had been smoking for twenty years or more.

Can the potentially dangerous tars in cigarette smoke be filtered? Various cigarette filters were investigated. The most efficient tips and holders absorbed fifty per cent. of the tars; some filter tips screened out less than ten per cent.

Investigators outside the cancer field—particularly those concerned with heart diseases—agree that smoking not only increases the probability of lung cancer but also increases the death rate from other causes.

That is where we stand now. The final answer must come from chemical, biological and clinical studies now under way in many research institutions. Leading American cigarette manufacturers have formed the Tobacco Industry Research Committee and pledged its assistance to the research effort into all phases of tobacco use and health.

For the present, cigarette smokers must weigh the available evidence and ask themselves whether the psychological pleasures of the habit are worth the possible risks involved. That is a question which each individual smoker must answer for himself.

Ian Nickson (4Sc.1).

The First Full Choir Rehearsal

“ There will be a rehearsal for the full choir today at 3-30 prompt.” Misguided man! At 3-45 the same day, the maestro paces up and down the platform nervously dragging at a cigarette, whilst the choir saunters into the Hall from all directions.

D.F.E. whispers a few words of encouragement to the very competent-looking pianist and signals him to commence. The pianist at once plays a subtle variation on a theme by Handel. There is a hasty signal from the maestro to try again, and the choir sighs patiently.

Five minutes later the choir joins in the rehearsal, after muttered remarks such as "he's doing his best," "Mackeson," and "not much fun, is it?" The sopranos sing a few notes and on the balcony a handful of "admirers" gather to be "entertained." After this effort, D.F.E. drags deeply, inhales and invites the sopranos to "try again." The basses grow restive, but they are soon required to exhibit their talents.

The rehearsal is now in full "swing" and Mr. Fairweather comes along beaming aimably, only to shudder involuntarily as the sopranos reach (reach?) a top B. He smiles benignly (or is it sympathetically?) at D.F.E. and hurries on. The balcony audience do likewise.

Meanwhile, back at the rehearsal, a climax is about to be achieved. The basses are ready to bellow forth, when there is, from the maestro, an involuntary excerpt from a revue-bar act. Soon there is silence broken only by a sniggering soprano (he who laughs last . . .). The rehearsal continues and the maestro commends the contraltos for a worthy effort. They beam back at him, and then ask what page they should be on.

The choir stare at their watches, stare at D.F.E., and stare at their watches again. A hint perhaps? At this point various lady members of the choir depart to keep hairdressing and dentist appointments or begin their paper rounds, and the boys repair to imbibe coffee in a nearby hostelry.

And so our first full choir rehearsal comes to an end.

"The maestro homeward winds his weary way,
The lowing chorus wends slowly o'er the lea."

(with apologies to Gray)

R. Brizland.

The Fool's Tale by Saucer

A miller that lyved in a mille
Was rotunde to be-holden :
Much ayle and mete he ayt and drank,
His hayr groo lang and golden.
Oon day as he was gryndyng corne
He felle into the streamë;
Hymself by mercie of the goddes
Was turnd into a breamë.
Thre weekes thresh'd he his fyshy tayl
Throo waters depe and wettë;
A fyshermon, forsooth to telle,
Doon cawt hym in hir nettë.
Thenn for to enden of my taylor,
To this shalle I mak mencion :
The fyshmon ayt the breame for tea,
Hir gayf hym indigescion.

Mother Nature

Mother Nature, with her brush,
Painted speckles on the thrush,
Coloured bushes green, and trees,
Put yellow stripes on bumble-bees,
Gave sweet pansies kittens' faces,
Taught the spiders to make laces,
To fill up ugly corners bare,
Woven and fashioned with tender care.

R.I. (3A).

The Work Eaters

Why are we weigh'd upon with books
And utterly consumed with loads of work.
While all things else have rest, and shirk ?
All things have rest : why should we toil alone ?
We only toil, who are the fifth this year.
And make perpetual moan.
Still from one study to another thrown.
Nor ever rest from fear.
Nor cease from writing.
Nor steep our brows in slumber's holy balm.
To stop work we are the last.
There is no joy but calm !
But we must toil 'til G.C.E. we've passed.

Lord Tennyson's The Lotus Eaters ?

by Beulah O'Hara (5B).

V.I.P.s

When my parents and I visited Germany our friends took us to see Mainz Cathedral. We entered Mainz over a bridge to find the city gaily decorated with flags and pennants, because of an Esperanto Conference taking place, and my mother remarked that she would feel like a queen if only we had a police escort.

Our friend had not been to Mainz before and, although she could find the Cathedral she could not find a parking place. Time and time again she approached the Cathedral, twisting and turning down narrow and deserted streets but all in vain. Finally, in a back street we found a posse of smart young policemen standing around their gleaming motor-cycles, and here our friend, who is Italian and middle aged, but very vivacious, went into action. In a mixture of Italian, English, French, and finally German she explained our predicament and just as she hoped, four motor-cycles roared into life and we set off on what seemed like a grand tour of the city, through flag-bedecked streets.

Pedestrians stopped and stared; all vehicles stopped at road junctions, and four arms shot out simultaneously with Germanic precision as we turned either right or left to reach our elusive destination. While I bounced up and down, my father grinned sheepishly and my mother was helpless with laughter but our friend drove with a satisfied smile. She had got my mother her police escort !

J. Jackson (4Sc.2).

The Lion

King of all beasts, there he stands,
Hunting on the jungle lands;
Sleeps by day, hunts by night,
Birds and beasts all flee with fright.
Gold mane flowing in the breeze,
Enough to make a stout heart freeze.
All the animals take to flight
Fearing the fury, strength and might
Of the lion who lurks in the dead of night.

A. Grice (1C).

Foreign Travel – The difficulties therein

OR

Thesis on a journey to Narbonne

Firstly, I should like to deny all derogatory statements made previously on the subject of British Railways, which, although losing millions of pounds a year, is at least dying on its feet like a true English gentleman.

It is an experience to travel on a French train. We found it also an experience to board one, lacking the requisite climbing gear. The S.N.C.F. economically built low platforms; they did not unfortunately, build low trains to match; the resulting gap is considerable and requires to be crossed with great care.

The harassed voyager will find another serious impediment on the quay-side, where, it would appear, half the entire population of the United Kingdom and the Fifth Republic conduct a free fight to get on and off the ferry. Needless to say, our party joined in with a vigour hitherto unseen in the best travel circles.

Having safely crossed the ocean and survived the hazards of our first French train we were subjected to a drive through Paris that was hair-raising until we realised that the French do not drive on the left, nor the right, but straight down the middle and the best man wins. Alighting from the coach we paddled dizzily through the sacred portals of the Gare d'Austerlitz and made a beeline for

the restaurant, where our longing for food was suddenly arrested by the necessity of its having to be asked for in French.

Some time later, galloping down the platform, we discovered just how much gas there had been in the lemonade we had just consumed in such vast quantities. Despite these set-backs, however, we reached our destination safely after two nights' and one day's travel and found a civic reception waiting for us.

Susan Kelley (4LA).

Oh Scottish hills.

Whose green loveliness is lifted to the sky, what
Green and brown and purple shares are waiting to
Be captured by an artist's brush;
Who would capture in
His heart the solitude of mist
Filled valleys. What
Velvet carpeting is lifted heavenward, whose
Outline broken only by mists that
Rise and fall :
The white-topped mountains plunging
Upward
With an unceasing yearning to reach the sky : and
Where the evening clouds are split,
Sunlight pouring forth forms rifts
Of molten gold.

C. Grayson (3C).

Weather Lore

The earliest known treatises on meteorology are the famous "METEOROLOGICA" of Aristotle (384 B.C. to 322 B.C.), and the writings of his pupil, Theophrastus, on wind and weather signs.

Meteorology first became a physical science in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. This came about by the invention of the thermometer by Galileo in 1607 and the invention of the barometer by Torrielli in 1643. The first weather charts appeared in the nineteenth century and the first compilation of meteorological observations was made by Chevalier de Lamarck with the help of Pierre Laplace and Lavoisier from 1800—1815. Meteorology has developed even farther with the introduction of weather ships, two of which Britain owns.

Through the ages people have watched how animals behaved to find out what the weather would be. If a lot of black snails, slugs or worms came out, it was believed that it would rain and more often than not it did. Another sign of rain is seen when a cat washes behind its ears. Swallows, if they fly high, are a sign of

fine weather, but if they fly low, it will probably rain. Also small rhymes have developed through experience of weather conditions. Three of these rhymes are :—

“ Red sky at night
 Is the shepherd's delight.
 Red sky in the morning
 Is the shepherd's warning.”

“ Wait between twelve and two
 And see what the day will do.”

“ Rain before seven
 Fine before eleven.”

Although these rhymes may seem superstitious, they are based on actual observations and in many cases prove to be true.

Trace (Form 3A).

Chess Club

This year has been a successful one in as much as there has been a marked increase in attendances, especially in the Junior section. There has been a great deal of activity : the Club has run a ladder competition composed of three divisions with fifty members in all competing. Mr. W. Heslop, of Swinton Chess Club, gave a twenty-four match simultaneous display, and Mr. Turner and Mr. Hardman combined to play nineteen members at once. A lightning chess tournament (ten seconds per move) was also held and a handicap tournament is to be played during the Summer.

For the first time we entered Senior and Junior teams in the Manchester and District League. The results were :—

	P.	W.	D.	L.
Senior	9	0	1	8
Junior	9	4	2	3

Congratulations to P. Hosie (2A) who won all his league games.

The Junior Championship was won by M. Scholes (3B) who improved markedly throughout the season.

In the final he beat Cunningham (2A) who was at first an unfancied candidate.

The Senior Championship is still in progress, the three-game final being between M. Little and I. L. Rowles, who are old rivals.

Also, this season, I. L. Rowles has represented Manchester v. Liverpool and East Lancashire, and has since represented Lancashire in their game against Cheshire.

Our thanks are due to Messrs. Patmore, Turner, and Hardman, for their help and guidance throughout the season.

I. L. Rowles (6USc.),
 (Chess Secretary).

Trip to Yorkshire

One day last July, the Field Club huddled together outside School, in the pouring rain, waiting for the coach to take us to Haworth. When we reached our destination, the weather was still as bad, but our spirits were by no means low.

Haworth, the home of the celebrated Brontë sisters, is situated on the side of a steep hill. Beyond lie bleak, purple moors, rising and sweeping away yet higher than the church, which is built at the very summit of a long, narrow street, bordered by old, stone houses. "Wuthering Heights," Emily's novel, is set against this wild, primitive background. She wrote it in her father's parsonage, now a museum, where she lived a lonely life with Charlotte, Anne, Branwell, and her aged father.

The little church claims greater antiquity than any other in that region. It is ascertained that there was a chapel there in 1317. "The Black Bull" nearby, is a tavern which Branwell used to frequent.

When we reached Bolton Abbey, the sun had come out, and the best part of the day was just beginning. Here, there are ruins of a twelfth century abbey, of which the church is still in use. This monastery is situated amongst picturesque surroundings. Walking down the vast green grounds, the visitor sees a meandering river, over which there is a bridge. However, if one finds it more convenient to cross the river by means of stepping stones, without shoes, he can always do so. It is in these pleasant surroundings that the Duke of Devonshire spends his Summer holidays.

We then passed through "witch country" in the vicinity of Pendle Hill. In the many tiny villages of this area, such as Barley and Roughlee, witchcraft was thought to exist in about 1600. Old Mother Demdike and Old Mother Chattox were supposed to be rivals in sorcery.

Early in the afternoon, we reached Townley Hall which has the largest priest-hole in the country. The Townley Family suffered considerably for supporting the Jacobite and Roman Catholic causes.

A guide first led us up to the roof, under which, in limited spaces, once lived a secret army. From the roof-top, we had a marvellous view of the spacious surroundings. We were then shown the bedrooms, which were positioned along lengthy corridors, the walls of which were covered with many fine portraits and intricate tapestries. In the sitting-room below, was a chair which interested us all. Under its many oak panellings, one could pull out writing stands, ink-pots, drawers and cupboards.

As in most historic halls, swords and spears covered the walls, and secret passages haunted the house. In the kitchen, many ancient utensils and implements were displayed to us. The huge fire could provide great heat. Nevertheless, far down below, where the darkest, deepest and dirtiest dungeons were, weary prisoners

would die of cold. Therefore, we were all very glad, when the guide led us back into daylight, into a small, neat chapel, which could be attended by people from outside.

When outside, we wandered round the grounds and then reluctantly clambered into the coach to return home.

Our warmest thanks go to Mr. Watson and Mr. Williams, who helped to make the trip so successful.

Jennifer M. Jones (5A).

1961 Christmas Quiz Competition

(which made a profit of over £12 for the Sunshine Homes)

Form 1

Winner : Nola Brown.

Highly Commended : Susan Jones, Martin Ashworth, Stanley Dolan, Roger Dearden, Denise Smith, Stephen Beeley.

Form 2

Winner : Michael Parr (2A).

Highly Commended : J. Lee (2A), Olwen Owen (2C), Derek Reed (2B), Britton (2A), Margaret Haynes (2A), Paul Steggle (2A).

(Form 2A had more entries than any Form in the School)

Form 3

Winner : Howard Thornley (3A).

Highly Commended : Neville A. Rowles (3D), Ronald Hall (3D), Margaret Dudley (3A), Helen Roberts (3B), A. Powell (3B), Janice Yates (3C), R. L. Mitchell (3C).

Form 4

Winner : P. Scott (4Sc.1).*

(*Highest mark in Competition : 94 out of 99).

Highly Commended : Richard Hollinson (4L), Stuart Hosie (4Sc.1), J. Patten (4L), R. H. Brown (4L), Ann Ashton (4T1), Sylvia Simpson (4T1), Pauline Evans (4T2), B. Darlington (4T2).

Form 5

Winners : Jennifer Jones (5A) and Michael Fox (5D).

Highly Commended : J. Ashworth (5D), Seddon (5P/C), Peter Hollinson (5A), Harry Howells (5P/C), Anthony Jackson (5P/C), A. Neil (5A), C. Coxhill (5A).

Form 6

Winner : Patricia Twine (6 Lower Science).

Highly Commended : P. H. Pomfrit (6 Upper T), John Heap (6LSc.), Philip L. Thornley (6 Upper Arts), Barrie Owen (6 Upper Arts), G. Brookes (6 Lower Science), Parkinson (6 LSc.), Elizabeth Gardner (6 Upper Science).

The School Orchestra

The Orchestra has continued to improve during the past year. For many weeks we worked hard preparing for the Annual Concert, practising conscientiously Giovanni Gabrieli's "Canzona No. 5" and his "Sonata pian e forte." These were both well received at the concert—a just reward for the labour involved.

"Tenebrae" (for choir and orchestra) was approached more cautiously, however, for we were afraid of this work at first. It was not long before we overcame the difficulties in the music, and soon felt ready to accompany the choir. After a few practices together, tension eased, and we felt that we had mastered the problems.

The audience, although perplexed a little by the style of the music, nevertheless showed their appreciation of the musicians in tackling such a difficult work so successfully.

Jennifer M. Jones (5A).

The School Play

This year's play—"Make Believe" by A. A. Milne was an unusual choice for a Grammar School production. Although on the surface it seemed little more than a fairy story, the programme notes explained it as "a representation of the strange mixture of fact and fantasy which makes up a child's mind," with the conventional woodcutter and princess story besides the daydreams of magic islands and pirates and Christmas parties.

The play ran for only two nights, but with a cast of about fifty it proved quite distracting enough for the producers, Mr. Patmore and Mr. Pallin.

The overwhelming and boisterous cast also gave the make-up artists a problem, since all the pirates demanded scars or tattoos while many of the boys needed false beards or "side boards." Brierley, as the cannibal, was a special case and looked like a piebald cow as his face turned slowly black.

Mishaps were minor and all gave competent performances. Everyone who helped with the production of the play, be he star or scene-changer, enjoyed himself, and we hope all who came to support us had just as satisfactory an evening.

M.B.

Americans in Eccles

Time has certainly flown. It seems like only yesterday when Judy and I came to Eccles Grammar School for the first time. We were very frightened, but we were also very curious to find out what the next nine months had in store for us. Now it is almost time for us to leave for home. During our stay we have been able to compare American and English schools.

The most obvious outward difference between the two is the wearing of uniform. At first we were rather dubious about this. At our school in the States we are allowed to wear what we please and wearing uniforms was something new. Now I think we both like them because they really save our other clothes and it is nice not to have to worry about what to wear to School.

The work here was terribly hard to get adjusted to. We were not used to having so many subjects. At home we have a maximum of six subjects a year and one of these is physical education. The subjects I was the most behind in were maths. and languages. It is not necessary to take any foreign languages to graduate from our school although it is advisable to have two years of a language to help in applying for universities. We also separate our Maths. into four subjects. I had Algebra last year and should have had Geometry this year, so I did not find it very easy this year.

Because I have been in the Fourth Form this year I have really gotten a good idea of what G.C.E. exams. are like and how much work is done in preparation for them. We have no exams. like this in the States. We get marks mainly on daily work and frequent tests rather than on large exams. I admire all the people in the Sixth Forms because they have really had to work to get there, but at home practically everyone of average intelligence reaches the sixth form.

The games are very different. Before I came here I had never played netball. I really enjoyed it and it is quite similar to girls' basketball. It is nice that the girls are able to have sports matches as well as the boys. In the States only the boys have matches because the gym and fields are always being used by the boys. The girls have to be content with going to watch the boys' matches and cheering them on.

The real differences are only outward ones. We have found the girls and boys and teachers are just like the ones at home. Everyone has been very friendly and helpful to us and we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for making us feel at home and enjoy this visit. We have had a wonderful time and this year has been an experience we will never forget.

Carol Harper.

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Shakespeare had a phrase for it

Overheard after a lesson :

“ Did he say anything ? ”

“ Aye ! He spoke Greek.”

The Prefects on clearing the classrooms :

“ Drive away the vulgar from the streets.”

On receiving examination results :

“ If you have tears, prepare to shed them now.”

In the Biology Lab.:

“ They could not find a heart within the beast.”

School Dinners :

“ What rubbish and what offal.”

Of the Sixth Form ? :

“ Thoughts of great value, worthy cogitations.”

Heard at 3-31 p.m. :

“ Hence, home, you idle creatures, get you home.”

P. M. Lord.

La Nuit

O Nuit profonde, compagnon du jour défaillant,
Pleine de mystères et de formes ténébreuses,
C'est toi qui apportes les cauchemars de l'enfant,
Et qui du vieillard dissipes les pensées creuses.

O Nuit calme, chère amie des esprits troublés,
Libératrice de toute misère humaine,
C'est toi qui donnes sommeil aux corps épuisés,
Et qui délivres l'homme un instant de sa peine.

O Nuit silencieuse, lourde de bruits inconnus,
Chasse la clarté du petit jour loin de nous !
Cache la Terre sous un voile d'obscurité !

O Nuit éternelle, douce mort tant désirée !
L'Ame de la Nuit se penche à nos oreilles et
Dit, “ Il faut te réveiller. C'est le lendemain.”

Elsbeth Taylor (6UA).

The Dread Tomato Addiction

Ninety-two point four per cent. of juvenile delinquents have eaten tomatoes.

Eighty-seven point one per cent. of the adult criminals in penitentiaries in the United States have eaten tomatoes. Informers reliably inform that of all known Communists ninety-two point three per cent. have eaten tomatoes. Eighty-four per cent. of all people killed in automobile accidents during the year 1960 had eaten tomatoes.

Those who object to singling out specific groups for statistical proofs may like to know that of **all people** born before the year 1800, regardless of race, colour, creed, or caste, and known to have eaten tomatoes **there has been 100% mortality !**

In spite of their horrible addiction, a few tomato eaters born between 1800 and 1850 still manage to survive, but their condition is poor—their bones are brittle, their movements feeble, the skin seamed and wrinkled, their eyesight failing, hair falling and frequently they have lost all their teeth.

Those born between 1850 and 1900 number somewhat more survivors, but it is obvious that they, too, will soon succumb.

Exhaustive experiments show that when tomatoes are withheld from an addict, invariably his cravings will turn him to substitutes, such as oranges, or steak and chips. If both tomatoes and all substitutes are withheld, death invariably results within a short time !

For those who will not accept these clearly proved conclusions they may conduct their own experiments.

Obtain two dozen tomatoes—they may actually be purchased within a block of some Grammar Schools, or found growing in a respected neighbour's back garden !! Crush them to a pulp in exactly the state they would reach the stomach and put in bowl and place a goldfish therein. Within minutes the goldfish will be dead !!

To those who argue that what affects a gold fish may not affect a human being, it is suggested that they immerse a live human head in the mixture for 10 minutes.

You **must** admit that the conclusions reached are perfectly logical even if somewhat peculiar ! !

Nicholas Brierley (4Tech.1).

Fashion

All through the ages we have always been fashion conscious, and even in the days when there were no dress shops or newspapers, the styles in clothes were constantly changing, and by some mysterious means women knew when cloaks were being worn shorter.

Soon after the 14th century, Paris became the dictator of fashion, and dolls dressed in exquisite taste wearing the latest jewels and hairstyles, became the couriers of " la mode Parisienne."

When the first fashion sketches were made they became immediately popular and were widely copied by dressmakers and in the home, as there was no wholesale dress trade in those days.

Gradually the manufacture of clothes became a major industry, and Paris held her place as dictator of fashion.

Twice a year the designers and dressmakers get busy creating new styles.

First the ideas are sketched out, this is called the "croquis." The materials are chosen to make up the model. Before the material is cut into, the design is completely made up in linen, and this is called the "toile"; then the model is cut out in the actual material.

When all is ready, the collection is shown on model girls to the Press of the world, then buyers come from all parts to see the new styles; some buy the actual models, other buy the "toile" to make up in their own workrooms. This is a busy and anxious time for the designers, for so many workers depend on a successful team.

Carol Magee (4T1).

Hikes to Lake District

One Sunday last December, a party left the School by coach bound for Langdale Valley, in the Lake District. After a short, but very necessary, stop at Bowness, we arrived at the Dungeon Ghyll Hotel, at the head of the Langdale Valley, at approximately 12 o'clock.

We climbed up to Stickle Tarn, under Pavey Ark, and then up to Harrison Stickle (2,401 feet high) by way of Pavey Ark. After a stop of half an hour on the summit, which was covered in fairly deep snow, we descended Harrison Stickle and walked across the snow- and bog-covered plateau between Harrison Stickle and Pike O'Stickle. Then, after climbing up Pike O'Stickle, we followed the Dungeon Ghyll down and so back to the coach. After a short stay in Kendal, we arrived home, tired but happy!

On Sunday, the 18th of March, another party set out for the Lake District, with the destination as Patterdale, at the head of Ullswater. After the usual stop, this time at Milnethorpe, we arrived at Patterdale at about 12-30, when we left the coach and headed up Grisedale towards the tarn of that name. At the end of an all too short stop at the ice-covered tarn, we continued over Dollywaggon Pike and so on to Helvellyn (3,114 feet high), which is England's third highest peak. We descended via the Sticks Pass and Glenridding, and so back to the coach at Patterdale. After the usual stop at Kendal, where one member of the party convinced some rather gullible local inhabitants that he was from "Candid Camera," we arrived back home.

Our thanks must go to Mr. Thomas and the other Staff, who organised these trips and who obviously enjoyed them as much as we did.

W. A. Chapman (4Sc.1).

E. M. DAVENPORT

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Norman House

We had hoped for more enthusiasm this year, particularly among the Senior boys and Middle girls, but too often the talented individuals in the House have been left almost unsupported. In both Netball and Hockey, the Senior teams won one out of three matches, while the Junior Netball results were rather disappointing. Our efforts in Football also fell short. The main speakers in the House Debate did very well, but we lost to Saxons in the first round because there were so few speakers from the floor. As we go to press we are pleased to note that there is more interest being shown this term in the girls' games and the boys' athletics. Also this year's standards are improving, but Norman House is capable of much better results in all fields and with renewed effort and interest we could once again be among the victors.

M.A., K.S.

Saxon House

At the beginning of the School year the Senior Hockey team did better than expected, being beaten only by Tudors. In the Netball matches, too, the Senior girls showed their ability by winning all their matches. No less praise is due to the Junior girls who played well in their Netball matches.

The boys, too, have had a successful year on the whole. The Seniors tied with Stuarts for first place in the Football matches, although the Juniors were disappointing.

In the Cross-Country events the Seniors were placed second, the Middle boys third, and the Juniors redeemed themselves by winning their section of the competition.

In the final of the House Debate we were narrowly beaten by Tudors, but the reason for the defeat was a noticeable lack of speakers from the floor. Last year, Saxon House won the cricket matches and the Annual Sports, and we hope that this year Saxons will show their usual enthusiasm in these Summer events.

E.T., B.H.M.

Stuart House

Stuart girls have, this year, had no outstanding successes. The boys, however, in accordance with tradition, have retained the Cross-Country Cup for the eighth year in succession. Moreover, they have the honour of being the first in House Football.

In the Athletic field, Tony Salt, House Captain, was Rex Ludorum and A. Vernon tied for Middle School Champion position.

Stuart debaters were narrowly beaten in the House Debating Championship by Tudors, the final victors.

It is to be hoped that in the forthcoming years Stuart girls will succeed where in the past they have fallen short, and that the boys will maintain their high standard and example.

A.S., A.B.



Christine Hardy.

1st VII

1961-62

Lynne Stainton.

Hilary Rothwell.

During the season, 17 girls have taken the Northern Counties' Umpiring Written Test, 10 of them passing with 70 or more marks out of a possible 100. Those who were successful in the written paper have also tried their hand at the practical part, umpiring Inter-House and Inter-Form matches.

Having done as much as this, the girls should have got the encouragement and enjoyment needed for them to be determined to finish the award next season.

B.M.R.

The Netball Report, 1962

At the beginning of the season the teams needed re-coaching and re-arranging because of the introduction of the new Netball Rules, but they soon grasped these very complicated rules and began to settle down and play with confidence.

We did not have many fixtures this year and on the whole we were fairly successful with the First VII Netball, winning six matches out of nine.

The annual Old Essians' matches did not take place because they were ignorant of the new rules.

Towards the end of the season the keenness began to fail, causing a very poor show at the Lancashire Schools' Netball Tournament, the First VII winning only one of their three matches.

On behalf of all the Netball teams I should like to thank Miss Pryor, Miss Renshaw, and Miss Longworth for their valuable coaching, and also for giving up much of their free time for practices and Saturday morning matches.

H. Rothwell.

Cricket, 1961

As the season drew to a close, with the annual victory against the Staff, a feeling of despair and not of elation crept into the side, on considering our rather mediocre performances.

Our batting was weak and our single score which passed the 80 mark appeared rather painfully incongruous among a long succession of batting failures. The batsmen seemed to lack the urge to attack and too often seemed content to remain on the defensive for too long. Monk once again topped the batting averages, followed closely by Warburton and Woodward, but the final tally of runs was low, with the former two batsmen only just managing to top the century mark for the season.

With the batting so "brittle," the bowling tended to be more economical and accurate, but even so one soon formed the opinion that too much of the onus was placed on Hope's shoulders, who, despite perhaps being overworked, maintained a creditable and sustained performance throughout the Summer months. Although Hope was the outstanding bowler, he was well supported by Brizland and Woodward, the former topping the bowling averages, although he had managed to capture only half Hope's number of wickets.

To sum up, a rather disappointing season with only four victories; but the prospects for 1962 appear brighter with eight of last year's team available, including five colours. Indeed at the time of writing we have won our first two games.

Our congratulations go to G. Hope for attaining the standard required for the Lancashire Confederation Side. Our thanks go to D. H. Monk for his efficient captaincy, to Mr. Jones and all the Staff for sacrificing their valuable time, and finally to the refreshment girls.

G. Warburton (Hon. Sec.).

Football, 1961-62

FIRST XI

Last year's improvement was maintained although one feels a little more effort could have reversed the scores in even more games. Our thanks must go to Mr. Jones whose training sessions certainly reaped their benefit on the field.

The results of the 1st XI matches were as follows :—

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	
				For	Against
21	8	4	9	62	50

The games against the Old Essians at the beginning and end of the season resulted in a 0—0 draw and a 1—0 result in our favour.

Goalscorers this year were : Salt (15), Warburton (14), Thompson (7), Monk (5), J. Smith (3), Horton (1), Hulme (1), Raynor (1).

Appearances this year were : Hulme (21), Monk (21), Raynor (21), Salt (21), Sharratt (21), Thompson (21), Warburton (21), J. Smith (19), Bloomer (19), Legge (17), Rimmer (14), Ramsbottom (11), Woodcock (2), Horton (1).

Officials were : 1st XI Captain, M. Sharratt; 1st XI Vice-Captain, G. Raynor; Secretary, M. Sharratt.

OTHER TEAMS

This year we ran four full teams with full fixture lists. The excellent results of the Under 13 XI promise much more for the future.

The results of the 2nd XI, Under 15 XI, and Under 13 XI were as follows :—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	
					For	Against
2nd XI	20	8	2	10	76	88
Under 15 XI	17	5	4	8	41	61
Under 13 XI	15	11	1	3	50	27

CHORLTON SIX-A-SIDE

This year, as usual, we entered two Senior teams in the Six-a-Side Competition organised most admirably by Chorlton Grammar School. Many Grammar Schools and Colleges entered this competition. In the first round proper both our teams were defeated, but automatically entered the subsidiary competition. The 1st Six, by defeating Buxton College, Poundswick, Rivington, and Preston in the final, won this competition. The 2nd Six won through to the second round before being beaten by Rivington.

I must thank Mr. Jones, on behalf of all the Football teams, for the valuable time and effort he has willingly given.

Our thanks must go also to the masters who gave up their Saturday mornings to referee and travel with us and thanks also to those girls who prepared the refreshments.

M. Sharratt (Sec.).

Eccles & Irlam Inter Schools Athletics Meeting, 1962

At this above Meeting, held at the Playing Fields of Eccles Grammar School on Tuesday evening, 19th June, five schools competed for the Inter-Schools' Trophy, viz.: Ellesmere Park School, Irlam Alfred Turner, Winton Secondary, St. Patrick's R.C., and Eccles Grammar.

At the end of an exciting evening of competition, Alfred Turner School emerged victorious with 259 points, narrowly defeating Eccles Grammar with 240. St. Patrick's were third, with Ellesmere Park and Winton fourth and fifth respectively.

In the Sectional Competitions our Junior and Inter Boys emerged fourth and the Senior Boys took third place in their group. The girls, however covered themselves in glory by being victorious in both sections of the competition, the Junior and Inter group and the Senior group. This was a good all-round team performance by the girls, for which much credit must go to Miss Renshaw, who, in her first year in the School, has fired the girls with enthusiasm to bring the best out of all competitors.

Individually, the competition provided many thrilling contests with the School emerging victorious in three out of six of the competitions. The worthy winners were Jennifer Roe in the Inter-Girls' Group, Stuart Hosie in the Inter-Boys', and Roderick Taylor in the Senior Boys'. All of these won the three events in which they competed, with J. Roe and Hosie also being members of the winning relay teams in their groups, the latter coming through in the last few strides to gain a hair-line victory and to climax an extremely enjoyable and thrilling evening.

On a murky evening the competition drew a large crowd away from their firesides, which speaks well for the standard set by all the competitors. The trophies were presented by Mr. F. Ireland, a well-known figure in local and national athletic circles.

J.

Cross-Country 1962

This year's Championships were "as before" in the Senior and Middle Sections, Thompson and Vernon retaining their titles in their respective sections. Thompson ran an excellent race to win comfortably, whereas Vernon was closely followed by Jones. Third in the Middle Section was Collier who ran an excellent race to finish "the best outsider." Mortimer ran well to finish in a dead heat with the favourite, Ashworth, in the Junior Section.

Often in this type of report the up-and-coming talent is overlooked, but, in next year's races, the prospects are bright for Normans. In the Juniors, Beeley, now only a first year boy, should do well in his second year as a Junior; but he should be followed closely by Nelson, who, though he showed up well before the event, ran disappointingly in the actual race. The Middle Champion next year should be Fellowes who, although he finished 14th this year, was only beaten by fourth years.

Results were as follows :—

Senior :

1st, Thompson (X); 2nd, Salt (S); 3rd, Barlow (S).

Middle :

1st, Vernon (S); 2nd, Jones (X); 3rd Collier (N).

Junior :

1st, Ashworth (X) and Mortimer (X); 3rd, Pearson (S).

As can be seen from the above results, Stuarts and Saxons were prominent, Stuarts finishing first with 170 points, Saxons second with 207 points, Tudors third with 297 points, and Normans fourth with 325 points (the winners being the House with the smallest number of points). Stuarts retained the trophy.

A.V. (4T2).

Swimming

A poor season in 1961 was forgotten, as the opening fixtures of this year's Inter-Schools' Swimming League came round. To assist the selection of teams, the keen boys and girls gave up an hour of their free time on Friday evenings, to undergo rigorous training sessions under the supervision of Miss Renshaw and Mr. Jones.

At the time of going to print, the first fixture has been completed, against a strong contingent from Ellesmere Park, where, we must remember, swimming is on their curriculum. After an exciting evening's racing, we ended unsuccessfully, but the close finishes and the strong swimming of many Juniors left the observers from the School, with hope in their hearts for a successful season, both this year, and for many to come.

C.J.

Under 15's XI Soccer

This season the Under 15's Soccer team played with great determination and managed to do quite well out of the total season's fixtures of seventeen matches.

The team was often without S. Hosie, who, when not playing for Eccles Boys became our leading goal-scorer.

The results are as follows :—

P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals	
				F.	A.
17	5	4	8	41	61

The goal tally appears high against us; this is mainly due to our toughest opposition—Bolton G.S. who in two games scored 21 goals against us, whilst our team did not score.

Many of the games were close, however, and having obtained some good results, and with fitness training every week, we can look forward to an exciting and more successful season next year.

Our congratulations must go to two members of the side, S. Hosie and S. Greenwood, particularly the former who captained the side throughout the season, both members of the Eccles Town Team who were worthy winners over Barrow Boys for the Woodhead Trophy.

Well done !

P. Scott.

Soccer: Staff v. School 1st XI

Facing a strong breeze and a team which could not be similarly described, the School soon found that its supreme confidence was to be shattered. Mr. Hardman was allowed to give the Staff a one goal lead with an innocent-looking lob.

Mr. Jones, however, soon came to the School's rescue by scoring a superb goal—unfortunately in the wrong net. So to half-time with the scores level, and doubt as to which way the axe would fall.

The second half began disastrously for the Staff, as within minutes they were one down—Warburton netting from Monk's free kick.

Having seen Mr. Jones's superb goal, Mr. Coles decided that he, too, must make " his bid for fame " and added one more to the School's tally with a fine shot past his own goalkeeper.

With only minutes remaining, Salt netted a fourth goal from close range despite a certain rugby player's comment, " What a referee ! " and his persistent appeals for offside.

Congratulations to the Staff for trying so hard, and to Mr. Jones, who, despite the close attentions of many players, was able to find a path around the many " obstacles " which were thrust in his direction.

G. Warburton.

Summer Games, 1962

This term we have a very ambitious programme arranged in that we are trying to field sound teams to represent the School in Athletics, Rounders, Swimming, and Tennis fixtures.

In the Rounders section progress has been made and as fielding and batting have improved the results have been more pleasing.

The Swimming teams, Under 14 and Under 16, compete in the Eccles and Irlam Schools' Swimming League. We are at a great disadvantage in this sport through lack of a regular practice time. However, despite losing our first two matches, the girls are very keen and this is surely promising for the future.

This season we have started a 2nd Tennis VI for the first time and it has been really encouraging to see the standard of play of some of the Junior girls at the weekly practices. The 1st VI has played well and results have been quite good. The 2nd VI results are improving and with more experience we look forward to a win before the end of the season!

It is in the field of Athletics that our greatest successes have been obtained. A team was sent to the Lancashire County W.A.A.A. Annual Championships at Blackpool where Jennifer Roe gained second place in the Junior Long Jump Competition and Christine Hardy won the Senior Long Jump Competition with a leap of 16ft. 10½ins. and came second in the final of the Senior 100 yards (after winning her heat) with a personal best time of 11.6 secs.

Since then a team has been entered for the Northern Counties W.A.A.A. Championships at Bolton. The Junior Relay team put up the very good time of 55.8 secs. in their heat and only narrowly missed reaching the final. Christine Hardy competed in the Senior Long Jump and came third with a leap of 17ft. 11½ins. She also took part in the 100 yards event, coming second in her heat with a time of 11.6 secs. This qualified her for the semi-final when she found herself competing against two international runners, Betty Moore (10.8 secs.) and Dorothy Hyman (10.9 secs.). Christine came third with an excellent time of 11.3 secs. and so she qualified for the final.

We look forward confidently to the Eccles and Irlam Schools' Athletics Meeting and the Lancashire Schools' Championships which are to be held later this term.

R.

Annual Athletic Sports, 1961

Our Golden Jubilee Athletic Sports were held on Wednesday, 19th July, 1961. The weather was fine, there was a large crowd of spectators, and the day proved to be an excellent climax to an important year in the School's history.

The track was in good condition, the standard of performance was high, and several records were broken. There were outstanding performances from C. Hardy (T), S. Moody (T), S. Hosie (X), and A. Aimson (T), each of whom set up a new School Record.

Christine Hardy, the best girl athlete ever produced by the School, by gaining first place in five events, easily won the trophy for Senior "Regina Ludorum." Salt narrowly beat Henrich for the title of "Rex Ludorum." A.S.

The full results were as follows :—

- 80 yards Junior Girls—
1st, K. Latham; 2nd, J. Yates; 3rd, F. Collins. Time : 10.9 secs.
- 440 yards Junior Boys—
1st, Wignall; 2nd, Mortimer; 3rd, Perks. Time : 67.0 secs.
- 440 yards Middle Boys—
1st, Hosie; 2nd, Vernon; 3rd, Mayer. Time : 59.2 secs.
- 440 yards Senior Boys—
1st, Salt; 2nd, Shaw; 3rd, Bloomer. Time : 57.0 secs.
- 100 yards Senior Girls (new record)—
1st, C. Hardy; 2nd, J. Bevon; 3rd, E. Nutter. Time : 11.8 secs.
- 100 yards Middle Girls (equals record)—
1st, S. Moody; 2nd, J. Roe; 3rd, D. Manson. Time : 12.4 secs.
- 100 yards Junior Girls—
1st, K. Latham; 2nd, B. Ward; 3rd, L. Henderson. Time : 13.3 secs.
- 100 yards Junior Boys—
1st, Wignall; 2nd, Finch; 3rd, Perks. Time : 12.8 secs.
- 100 yards Middle Boys—
1st, Vernon; 2nd, Jackson; 3rd, Macuine. Time : 11.7 secs.
- 100 yards Senior Boys—
1st, Shaw; 2nd, Smith; 3rd, Brizland. Time : 11.1 secs.
- 150 yards Senior Girls—
1st, C. Hardy; 2nd, E. Nutter; 3rd, M. Speakman. Time : 18.3 secs.
- 150 yards Middle Girls—
1st, S. Moody; 2nd, L. Stainton; 3rd, J. Roe. Time : 19.6 secs.
- 150 yards Junior Girls—
1st, K. Latham; 2nd, B. Ward; 3rd, J. Yates. Time : 20.9 secs.
- 220 yards Junior Boys—
1st, Wignall; 2nd, Perks; 3rd, Finch. Time : 30.5 secs.
- 220 yards Middle Boys—
1st, Vernon; 2nd, Hosie; 3rd, Barraclough. Time : 27.7 secs.
- 220 yards Senior Boys—
1st, Shaw; 2nd, Salt; 3rd, Sharratt. Time : 26.2 secs.
- 80 yards Hurdles Middle Girls—
1st, J. Roe; 2nd, S. Moody; 3rd, B. Thompson. Time : 13.7 secs.

- 80 yards Hurdles Senior Girls—
1st, C. Hardy; 2nd, H. Rothwell; 3rd, J. Francis. Time : 13.7 secs.
- 80 yards Hurdles Junior Boys—
1st, Powell; 2nd, Green; 3rd, Nash. Time : 14.8 secs.
- 110 yards Hurdles Middle Boys (new record)—
1st, Hosie; 2nd, Barraclough; 3rd, Jackson. Time : 17.3 secs.
- 110 yards Hurdles Senior Boys (new record)—
1st, Aimson; 2nd, Brizland; 3rd, Henrich. Time : 16.7 secs.
- 880 yards Junior Boys—
1st, Pearson; 2nd, Ashworth; 3rd, Mortimer.
Time : 2 mins. 44.2 secs.
- 880 yards Middle Boys—
1st, Vernon; 2nd, Jones; 3rd, Hosie. Time : 2 mins. 30 secs.
- 880 yards Senior Boys—
1st, Salt; 2nd, Thompson; 3rd, Sharratt.
Time : 2 mins. 18.7 secs.
- 4 x 110 yards Junior Girls' Relay—
1st, Saxon; 2nd, Norman; 3rd, Tudor. Time : 60.7 secs.
- 4 x 110 yards Middle Girls' Relay—
1st, Tudor; 2nd, Saxon; 3rd, Norman. Time : 58 secs.
- 4 x 110 yards Senior Girls' Relay—
1st Norman; 2nd, Tudor; 3rd, Saxon. Time : 56.1 secs.
- 4 x 110 yards Junior Boys' Relay—
1st, Norman; 2nd, Saxon; 3rd, Stuart. Time : 59 secs.
- 4 x 110 yards Middle Boys' Relay—
1st, Saxon; 2nd, Tudor; 3rd, Stuart. Time : 53.4 secs.
- 4 x 110 yards Senior Boys' Relay—
1st, Tudor; 2nd, Stuart; 3rd, Saxon. Time : 50.3 secs.

RESULTS OF EVENTS HELD BEFORE SPORTS DAY BOYS

Javelin :

Middle—1st, Howells; 2nd, Walker; 3rd, Hosie. Distance :
97 ft. 4 in.

Senior (record)—1st, Roe; 2nd, Monk; 3rd, Wilson. Distance :
139 ft. 4 in.

Shot :

Middle—1st, Woodcock; 2nd, Barraclough; 3rd, Walker. Distance :
32 ft. 4 in.

Senior—1st, Roe; 2nd, Henrich; 3rd, Brizland. Distance : 39 ft.

Discus :

Middle—1st, Woodcock; 2nd, Walker; 3rd, Greenwood. Distance :
93 ft.

Senior—1st, Henrich; 2nd, Roe; 3rd, Aimson. Distance :
102 ft. 3 in.

High Jump :

Junior—1st, Powell; 2nd, Finch; 3rd, Fowles. Height : 4 ft. 0½ in.

Middle—1st, Taylor; 2nd, Hosie; 3rd, Coxhill. Height : 5 ft.

Senior—1st, Henrich; 2nd, Barnes; 3rd, Ramsbottom. Height :
4 ft. 10 in.

Long Jump :

Junior—1st, Powell; 2nd (equal), Trace and Smith. Distance :
14 ft. 5 in.

Middle (record)—1st, Taylor; 2nd, Vernon; 3rd, Hosie. Distance :
19 ft. 3½ in.

Senior—1st, Brizland; 2nd, Monk; 3rd, Ramsbottom. Distance :
18 ft. 0½ in.

Mile :

Junior—1st, Perks; 2nd, Mortimer; 3rd, Ashworth. Time :
6 mins. 6 secs.

Middle—1st, Hosie; 2nd, Vernon; 3rd, Fox. Time : 5 mins. 30.2
secs.

Senior—1st, Salt; 2nd, Thompson; 3rd, Almond. Time :
5 mins. 3.7 secs.

GIRLS**High Jump :**

Senior—1st, C. Hardy; 2nd, P. Ridgeway; 3rd, J. Bevon. Height :
4 ft. 1 in.

Middle—1st, L. Stainton; 2nd, L. Roberts; 3rd, D. Nash. Height :
4 ft. 7 in.

Junior—1st, B. Ward; 2nd, M. Edwards; 3rd, M. Snaith. Height :
3 ft. 8 in.

Long Jump :

Senior (equals record)—1st, C. Hardy; 2nd, H. Rothwell; 3rd, B.
Collings. Distance : 16 ft. 6 in.

Middle—1st, J. Roe; 2nd, L. Stainton; 3rd, P. Foy. Distance :
15 ft. 4 in.

Junior—1st (equal), B. Ward and K. Latham; 3rd, J. Yates.
Distance : 13 ft. 5 in.

Throwing Rounders Ball :

Senior—1st, P. Ridgeway; 2nd, M. Ripley; 3rd, H. Rothwell.
Distance : 199 ft. 8½ in.

Middle—1st, S. Moody; 2nd, B. Thompson; 3rd, J. Roe.
Distance : 162 ft.

Junior—1st, C. Lane; 2nd, M. Snaith; 3rd, P. Moors.
Distance : 167 ft.

Netball Shooting (Pairs) :

Senior—1st, Tudor; 2nd, Saxon; 3rd, Stuart.

Middle—1st, Saxon; 2nd, Tudor; 3rd, Norman.

Junior—1st, Tudor; 2nd, Saxon; 3rd, Stuart.

FORM CHAMPIONS

Junior : 2B.

Senior : 6L.

INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES**Boys :**

Junior—1st, Wignall (N) 24 points; 2nd, Powell (S) 23 points;
3rd, Perks (N) 22 points.

Middle—1st, Hosie (X) 39 points; 2nd, Vernon (S) 37 points;
3rd (equal), Taylor (X) and Woodcock (S) 21 points.

Senior—1st, Salt (S) 29 points; 2nd, Henrich (X) 27 points;
3rd (equal), Brizland (X) and Roe (T) 22 points.

Girls :

Junior—1st, K. Latham (N) 28 points; 2nd, B. Ward (X) 25
points; 3rd, J. Yates (X) 12 points.

Middle—1st, S. Moody (T) 29 points; 2nd, J. Roe (T) 26 points;
3rd, L. Stainton (T) 20 points.

Senior—1st, C. Hardy (T) 35 points; 2nd, H. Rothwell (N) 16
points; 3rd, P. Ridgeway (T) 14 points.

Ode to Lancashire

A small town of mists and smoking chimney stacks !

Close bosom friends of the polluted air;

Conspiring with him how to dirty racks

With fog and dust and all of Lancashire's care.

To dirty the washing in the yard

And make the shawl-clad housewife frown.

This Lancashire town is home sweet home,

And I would not leave though its beauty be marred

By dust and dirt and black, black smoke.

Let me live my life in a Lancashire town.

Sheila Tunstall (5B).

Meditation upon Tumuli (or Stimuli for Tumuli)

with respect (not apologies) to James Joyce

A fivemilehike, plod ! plod !! plod !!!, uphill boiled in sun
and sweat, tie off; sweater off. The fresh breeze on top of Seven
Barrell Hill chills. Tie and sweater on or off ? That is the question.
No the Spartan Ill be.

Ah ! the delights of walking

Are yet to be beaten by talk.

Where are those huge oval mounds ? That prehistoric grave-
yard ! Oh ! to left, No ! cry my legs, another mile at least. Not
so far now. Three barbed-wire fences to cross.

Then once more unto the breach dear friends.

The last few yards are devoured, the realisation of remoteness
confronts me.

Sitting down, looking, watching, waiting, thinking, writing.

Cows ! stupid creatures, munching and gniwehc their cud.
What can they think about ? What works behind those brown
simple eyes.

“ Humans ! masters ! DANGER !! do not annoy. Liable to
whip. Herding me around all day, up to the electric fence. Oops !
I smell burnt flesh, rytram to controlled grazing.”

[Enters the former, majestically, clad in 'Andy cap, tweed jacket, corduroy trousers, driving in a gay insane way, the latest thing that Massey Ferguson can offer. It is daubed in the country's colour.

You see it there

You see it here

You see that damned dung everywhere.]

" Off we go, emitgniklim, I got a sinful a skinful and I am aching all over. Au revoir, Monsieur sur les trimuli."

As I start the long trek back : I start thinking on the events of the day. Life, is it ? worth it ?

For the cows :

" Well mate, Ill tell you, if it weren't for the 'usband Ill would end it here and now; jump off Old Harry's Rocks or something."

For the free flying skylarks :

" Sir ! Life is at its best when singing in the sky, O me ! O mo bright sky's."

For the gentleman farmer :

" Well Sir, you'd mite sai life be life, and dat be mi mot'er."

For me :

" Youth is me, Ill hope, Ill work, Ill shirk, and perhaps Ill pray. Ther'll be people to please, people to hate and a person to love, a person looking for a person, but when I arrive at my destination, confronted by the pressures of contemporary living, is it ? worth it ? Ill meditate upon it, perhaps standing in a bus, sitting in smelly classrooms, lying in the solitude of night. YES ! ! Ill meditate ! ! !"

Terry Robinson.

Astronomical Society

Astronomy is a hobby requiring a great deal of patience. The stars can only be seen during the Winter, unless one can stay up all night, and even then only when there is no cloud. Despite these handicaps the Astronomical Society has done some interesting things during the two years it has been in existence.

Two visits have been made to the Manchester Astronomical Society. The first was to see a film show and the second to look round the observatory. On the latter occasion we were fortunate and during a break in the clouds were able to see the moon through their eight-inch telescope.

Two issues of our magazine " Orion " have been published. The second one was devoted to space travel which, whilst not strictly astronomy, is a very topical subject.

Our numbers are small and we would welcome any new members who are interested in astronomy. The Society has a small telescope that members can borrow to use at home.

I. Lever (3D).

The Divers

The divers are busy,
The water is still
In the bright little pool
By the side of the mill.

The ducks and the fishes
May swim round and play;
For the rusty old wheel
Is not turning today.

No grinding, no clatter
No spray dashing down;
For the miller has gone
To the market in town.

R. Harris (1C).

The National Trust

In this day of sky-scrapers and glasshouses, it is comforting to know that our national heritage is being protected for us by a responsible body of private citizens. When Victorian prosperity was at its height and cities were strangling the country-side, three citizens realised the need for someone to preserve places of beauty, and were stirred into action. These three—Miss Octavia Hill, Sir Robert Hunter, and Canon Rawnsley—founded the idea of a National Trust to preserve historic buildings and places of beauty so that the public might enjoy them. Thus in 1895 the National Trust was founded.

The National Trust today owns more than 285,000 acres, comprising over a thousand properties which include some of the oldest and most historic buildings, and some of the best viewpoints in England. The public are given free access to the open spaces and are asked to pay admission fees for entry into the buildings. Although "national" in name and function the Trust is independent of the State and is not a Government department. However, Parliament give valuable assistance by relief from taxation, but its main sources of revenue are legacies and donations and members' subscriptions.

Those who enjoy visiting these properties and want to help the Trust often pay a subscription for which they join the Trust and are entitled to visit the properties free of charge. The membership is now over 98,000 and increasing all the time.

The Trust is not a dormant society but is forever on the lookout for outrages against the beauty of the countryside. An example of their watchfulness was their campaign to save Ullswater from the Manchester Corporation Water Department. It is always saving properties from imminent danger, but it all costs money.

Lancashire is well represented, the Trust owning 620 acres outside of the Lake District. All have been saved from the modern world by the work of The National Trust.

News of Old Essians

Sydney Lawrence, M.B.E. (1916-20), has been appointed H.M. Inspector of Constabulary. He joined the Salford Police Force in 1926 and in time became Chief Superintendent and then Deputy Chief Constable. He moved to Reading and later to Hull as Chief Constable.

Two or three recent Old Boys are Police Cadets at Salford. They can have high hopes too !

Dr. Ian Isherwood (1941-48) is Consultant Neuro-Radiologist for the Derbyshire Group of Hospitals.

Judith Gardner (1951-57) is the first girl in England to gain First-Class Honours in Electrical Engineering. She works at A.E.I. and gained her Dip. Tech. at Salford Royal College of Advanced Technology.

Alan Pidcock, M.Sc. (1950-56) will join the Staff of the new University of Sussex as a Lecturer in Chemistry.

George F. Smith, Ph.D. (1937-43), has been appointed Senior Lecturer in Organic Chemistry at Manchester University.

Patricia A. M. Henderson (1948-54) is coming home from the U.S.A. to take up a Research Fellowship in The Fine Arts at her old College, Newnham College, Cambridge.

Michael Warrington (1949-56), of London University, played Lacrosse for England against Australia. He describes it as the toughest game in which he has ever played—but his proudest.

Mary Gillibrand, S.R.N. (1944-51), was married last year in Colorado, U.S.A. In January this year, she was blessed with a son.

Susan Kay (1950-54), a graduate of the University of Edmonton, Canada, called on us with her younger sister, Pauline (1952-54). They were enjoying a holiday in Eccles and Europe.

Frederick R. Cooke (1946-53) was Ordained in Manchester Cathedral, on Trinity Sunday last. He was the Gospeller at the Service. He is now a Curate at Flixton.

Rev. Neville Stewart (1938-45) is gaining a great reputation as a preacher in the Methodist Church.

Dr. G. A. Willcock (1941-48) is now practising in Monton. The panel of patients he took over contained the Headmaster's name—delight for one; dismay for another !! (which ?)

Alan Sharples (1945-51) is doing Mathematical Research at a University in California.

K. F. G. Pallin (1952-57) and Frank Smith (1940-45), as mentioned elsewhere, have joined the Staff—and now talk from the other side of the table.

R. A. Kane (1933-40) has become Headmaster of the Winton County Secondary School for Boys.

Marriages during the year, include the following :—

Geoffrey Blood (1948-55) to E. Joan Barker (1950-56).

Roy Fitton (1951-56) to Marjorie Holmes (1951-56).

Alec Virtue (1950-57) to Pat Hague.

Denis Hobson (1958-60) to Doreen Taylor (1948-55).
Michael Warrington (1949-56) to Susan Lomax (1954-57).

We know the following are married, even if we do not know their other halves :—

Dr. Joan Sutherland (1947-54).
Virginia Roberts (1949-53).
Gilda Ramsden (1950-55).
Jean Burtonwood (1950-55).
P. C. W. L. Harper (1948-55).
Anne Blears (1951-58).

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