

THE THORNBURIAN

THORNBURY GRAMMAR
SCHOOL MAGAZINE

JULY-1957

Editor:
MARY WILSON

No. 23

SCHOOL OFFICERS, 1956—57

School Captains:

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School Vice-Captains:

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HOWARD: Gillian White and B. J. Keedwell.
STAFFORD: Joan Wright and D. J. Morris.

Games Captains:

HOCKEY: Mary McIntyre.
ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL: R. F. Jackson.
RUGBY FOOTBALL: R. F. Jackson.
TENNIS: Betty Knapp.
CRICKET: P. H. Hawkins.
ATHLETICS: Mary McIntyre, A. C. Slade.
ROUNDERS: Ruth White, Celia March, Mandy Durnford.
SWIMMING: Joan Wright, C. Tanner.
NETBALL: 1st VII—Mary Newman; 2nd VII—Celia March; Under 13 VII—Delia Clark.

Games Secretaries:

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Magazine Editorial Staff:

EDITOR: Mary Wilson.
SUB-EDITORS: A. J. Harding, M. C. Gregory.

EDITORIAL

'Brotherhood is life, and lack of brotherhood is death'. In these words William Morris eulogised the fraternal feeling among the guilds and craftsmen of medieval times, lamenting the loss of respect and affection which springs up, as he said, among "good workmen at quiet work". Other writers such as Aldous Huxley and, more recently, George Orwell, have conjured up horrible impressions of a world in which spontaneous and willing co-operation have been lost. Our School has grown, and is growing, larger: the demands of examinations and the maintenance of good order necessitate greater uniformity and conformity, but we have not, and must not, allow ourselves to become a mere educational factory. Here we have an opportunity of cultivating, in work and play, the spirit of fellowship and concern with the welfare of the community which we hope will continue to be characteristic of Thornburians, past and present, no matter where they may be.

OBITUARY

PENELOPE McMILLAN, HOWARD HOUSE

We were deeply grieved, last Autumn and Spring, by the long and painful illness of Penelope McMillan, which she bore with the cheerfulness and fortitude that we should have expected from her. Penelope was always full of enterprise and enthusiasm, with many plans for the future, and particularly for the medical career for which she was eagerly preparing. The loss of her play in the Hockey and Tennis teams and of the warm, friendly interest which she brought to every side of school life, has been sharply felt by us all. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her parents in their bereavement.

GENERAL NOTES 1957

This year we are sorry to be losing Miss Gibbons, Miss McCallum and Mr. English. Miss Gibbons and Mr. English are moving to Schools in Bath and Bristol, where we hope they will be very happy. We offer our best wishes to Miss Cresswell and Mr. Stacey on their forthcoming marriage, and to Miss McCallum, who is to be married in August. We were very sorry to say good-bye to Miss Richardson, at Easter, and wish her success as Senior Mistress at Winterbourne Secondary Modern School. We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins on the birth of a son, and Mr. and Mrs. Lodge and Mr. and Mrs. Hampson on the birth of daughters. We welcome Miss McCallum, Miss Mingins, Mr. Bell, Mr. Gwilliams, Mr. James and Mr. Williams, who joined us last Autumn.

At last work has started on the girls shower baths, and we now have a cricket pavilion in memory of Mr. Rabley. Mr. and Mrs. Cullimore have kindly presented a new seat for the School Field, to mark their long association with the school.

Theatre visits have been few, but a coach party went to Stratford on Avon, the Art Department have enjoyed visits to furniture exhibitions and to Berkeley Castle and some Domestic Scientists spent an afternoon at a local laundry.

In Societies on Friday afternoons we enjoyed lectures by Dr. Pridham on his visit to America and by Selwood on Geology. This year, Mr. English started a Chess Club, and the film society under Mr. Hill's supervision has also flourished.

We have once more taken part in the Bristol-Bordeaux exchange system, and have been to C.E.W.C. meetings in Bristol and London. Miss Quinton has organised parties to several religious conferences.

The Annual remembrance service was conducted by Rev. R. G. Rawstorne, in the school hall. Wreaths were laid on the memorials by the School Captains and the Chairman of the Old Thornburians Society.

This year the address at Founders Service was given by the Bishop of Gloucester, whose text was from the Psalm we sang: "Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes". The Carol service was also held in the Parish Church.

There have been many new excursions: to Weymouth, North Wales and St. Briavels. There were two visits to London, walks to Croscombe and visits to factories. The VIth form members who were lucky enough to fly in the Britannia were enchanted by the new world they saw.

Several of the VIth form have been accepted at Universities and Training Colleges: Jennifer Morse at Leicester, Wright at Swansea, Keedwell at King's College, London, Davies at Liverpool, Mary Wilson at Goldsmith's, Anne Codling at St. Mary's, Joan Wright at Portsmouth, Elizabeth Cannock at Liverpool, Mary McIntyre at Bedford College for P.E., Betty Knapp at Redland, Pullin at St. Paul's and Slade and Tanner at Loughborough. Jean Mood will study radiography, and Marilyn Avent physiotherapy, at the Bristol Royal Infirmary.

We all enjoyed the excellent school film, compiled by "Meredith films", which will be shown to parents after Sports Day.

We would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. McMillan for the beautiful lectern they have given in memory of their daughter, who was taken from us.

SPEECH DAY 1957

The Guest of Honour at this year's Speech Day was Professor W. Beare, M.A., Professor of Latin and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of The University of Bristol, who gave an excellent address, devoting himself to reflections upon pupils and their attitudes to school and school activities. His main theme was that one must remain confident and courageous if one wants to succeed in any enterprise, and his concluding words were, "Lose money, lose nothing; lose love, lose much; lose courage, lose all."

The Headmaster's report, frequently interspersed with characteristic witticisms, was very well received by the large audience. He mentioned the fact that, in the coming September, the new second form will again comprise four streams, and also that the 1957—58 Sixth Form will consist of little fewer than one hundred pupils, raising the total number of pupils in the school over the six hundred mark. As a result of this, there would be an increase in staff. The Headmaster also mentioned that, in the near future, construction of a new woodwork-room and of a girls' shower-baths would begin.

Despite the recent changes which have taken place in the Physical Education staff, a P.E. display did take place, and Mr. James must be congratulated on his provision of an excellent performance. There was also a dancing display, given by girls from both the Senior and Junior School, and presented by Miss Rice. The Art, Woodwork, and Science exhibitions attained their usual high standard of excellence.

THE SCHOOL PLAY

Anyone who was not entertained by this year's Dramatic Society's production would indeed have been hard to please, for although the main emphasis was on comedy, the play presented moments of drama, terror, sentiment, and poignancy together with singing and a dance macabre. One asset of "Rogues in Paradise" is that it has a large cast which provides parts for junior as well as senior members of the school. However, in such a large cast it would be impossible to mention everyone, although everyone deserves credit, so one must confine oneself to those who seemed particularly worthy of merit.

A. C. Slade and J. P. Dickinson, as the two rogues, bore most of the burden of the play, and each acted with a steady assurance which was entirely appropriate. A particularly pleasing performance was given by Marilyn Avent, who spoke with great sincerity. In contrast but equally good was the performance of Linda Manning, who gave an uninhibited display, and was always in character.

All the cast obviously enjoyed the play, and under the leadership of Mr. Hodge, it probably reached a higher standard of excellence than ever before. We should like to congratulate Mr. Jaques and Mr. Birtles on the skill with which they transformed the very limited spaces of our School stage.

JUNIOR PLAYS 1957

There were four plays, including a French one, this year. The School was well entertained on the two morning performances, and a special evening performance was given before an invited audience of parents.

"Noah's Flood", produced by Mr. J. Hampson, was intended to give some idea of the early drama in England, as well as to entertain.

A medieval play of this kind is bound to appear static to a modern audience, but 3A's production overcame this weakness to a certain extent by the pageantry of the setting and, particularly, by the colour of the animal portraits devised by Mr. Jaques. The liveliness of the exchange between the wives and the gossips, and the latent comedy of the quarrel between Noah and his wife helped to avoid stagnation. J. Wood-ham had no difficulty as Noah, and he spoke with clarity and conviction. T. Summers, D. F. Williams and M. R. Hawker acted adequately in the somewhat limited roles of Noah's sons. Sylvia Hodgson did well as the obstinate wife, supported by Barbara Roberts, Miriam Edwards and Carol Jones. Jane Harding and Marilyn Teucher appeared as two drunken gossips. The animals were played by R. I. Crossfield, P. C. Davis, Valerie Cornish, Sandra Riddiford, Janet Roberts, and Peggy Turner. In the wings P. Whitehouse was a rather muffled Voice of God.

The French Play, "Honolulu", produced by Mr. G. D. Marrow, could hardly have failed. It was full of sparkle and lively action; and the prologue to each scene, spoken very well by Hazel Pritchard, ensured that there were no problems of interpretation. D. Rymer was an excitable and garrulous Costaud and A. Bishop convinced as a gendarme. P. Whitehouse revelled in his part of the President in the delightful uproar of the court scene, which was most effectively handled and was very funny indeed. Other parts were played by Hilary Clark, C. Daw, C. Mann, and R. I. Crossfield. Altogether this was a most entertaining play, acted with zest and exuberance, and giving a great deal of enjoyment to everyone.

"Campbell of Kilmhor", produced by Mr. D. I. Brooks, was, by contrast, a serious play demanding considerable maturity in presentation and presenting some difficulties to young actors. 4A, however, rose to the occasion and gave a very creditable performance. J. Simons gave quite a mature and sensible rendering of Archibald Campbell. Janet Arbon, though acting well, did not quite achieve a fully convincing old woman—a task difficult enough for adult actors. Sound performances were given by Cans Jones, R. Barlow, R. Jones, D. Simpson and P. Armstrong. Special mention must be made of the most effective setting and convincing costume which contributed to the realistic atmosphere of the play, together with skilfully timed off-stage sound effects. This was a play well worth tackling.

The feature of the Fifth Form play, "The Little Man", produced by Miss J. Cook, was the brilliant casting of D. Meek as an American tourist, a part which he acted with calculated nonchalance and complete self-possession. D. Rowe was effective as the quiet, retiring Little Man.

R. J. Harkness did well as a gruff German Colonel, while A. H. Witts managed to be an exuberant Dutch boy whose laughter sounded quite natural. R. Hughes and Jacqueline Tedder, admirably dressed and, made-up as two upper-class English abroad, were sometimes inaudible, but nevertheless looked very convincing. Other parts were played by R. F. Sparrow, K. Gibson, M. Hart, Christine Brown, D. Neads and Susan Corbin. For the platform scenes the setting was good and the actors were well-arranged on a very limited stage. The scenes in the train compartment were not quite so successful, because of the evident difficulties of presentation.

A~ few words must be added about the helpers backstage, those (usually) silent workers who move scenery, those artists in grease paint, the lighting experts, the stage manager and his assistant—without them the show

could not go on. To provide stage entertainment everyone has something to contribute, and the Junior School plays provide an admirable opportunity for a great many people to contribute something, on stage as well as off.

HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION, 1957

This year we were fortunate to have Mr. Kenneth Mobbes, from Bristol University, as our adjudicator for the finals of the Music Competition.

At the beginning of the programme, the results of the preliminary competition classes and the essay competition, were announced. Howard House were leading with 245½ points, Stafford House were second with 232± points, and Clare House had 160 points. Howard retained their lead for most of the competition, and retained the Harwood Shield, the final marks being Howard 418± points, Stafford 355± points, and Clare 272 points. We should like to thank Mr. Mobbes for his adjudication and helpful comments, and also Miss McCallum, who spent so much time during the lunch-hour and after school, judging the preliminaries.

SPORTS DAY 1956

The weather was as kind as we have come to expect, and events on Sports Day were keenly contested, as ever. The winning House was Clare. Mr. I. Dariel, J.P., a member of our governing body, kindly distributed the trophies. The Headmaster, in thanking him, mentioned his younger son as one of the most outstanding “Young Farmers in the district, whom ambitious Thornburians would do well to imitate!

NORTH WALES – EASTER 1957

Despite Mr. Cudmore’s departure, the tradition which he established for taking school parties on walking holidays at Easter lives on. This year twenty-four members of the sixth form, accompanied by Mr. Hill and five other members of staff, broke new ground by spending eight days in North Wales. The geographers and biologists were combining work with pleasure at Weymouth, but this was a holiday pure and simple. This is not to say that we did not benefit from it however, and many of us took a keen interest in map-reading.

We arrived on Friday afternoon within half a mile of Llanberis hostel and completed the journey on foot, our rucksacks on our backs. Saturday dawned bright and sunny, so we climbed Snowdon as planned. Half-way up we split into two groups, some, stalwarts (including Miss Cresswell and two girls) with Mr. Hill chose a rather stiffer route to the summit. Sunday required less strenuous activity, since we were taken by coach to Caernavon Castle. Then we continued our journey to Beaumaris and the castle there, which was in good repair, interested and delighted us.

The next day saw us ready for our first real trek—to the next hostel, with full kit! A few, the halt and the lame, decided to travel by ‘bus, but the rest of us were soon climbing once more. At about one o’clock, since it was rather cold and misty, only a few boys accompanied Mr. Hill over a more dangerous route, while the rest chose a somewhat easier path. We rejoined forces at the Capel Curig Youth Hostel, however, without any casualties apart from blisters for some of us, these being an occupational hazard for walkers and climbers. In the evening, some of us who had come’ quite to enjoy it, volunteered to do the washing up.

and afterwards amused ourselves with games of various sorts and some singing in the Com
mon Room—where Miss Mingins with her guitar and Carey and his ukelele proved themselves valuable music-makers. This was typical of the evenings spent in the hostel.

The boys of the Upper Sixth chose our route on Tuesday and took us for a walk round a nearby lake. The girl's legs suffered rather from gorse and heather. On Tryfan the next day, we had some most enjoyable rockclimbing and some of us went on to do some more of a trickier nature while the rest chose an easier route back. On Thursday we trekked to the next hostel and, by some skilful route planning, we were able to see Swallow Falls—free of charge. At the hostel in the evening, we had a dance, and those with blisters soon seemed to forget about them. The girls chose our path on Friday, but our hopes of a nice gentle walk were not fulfilled, the leaders setting a hot pace. On Saturday, full of regrets, we had to leave for home, eventually arriving at school at about eight-thirty.

We had been very lucky with the weather, not needing our capes at all. An all-round spirit of camaraderie prevailed and all will agree it was a holiday well spent—so, many thanks to the Staff, whose work made it possible.

J. L. CASWELL, Lower VI.

THE DORSET EXCURSION 1957

This year the Sixth Form Geography and Biology Departments spent a very enjoyable week studying the various aspects of Dorset. The party was smaller than usual, consisting of twenty-three pupils and staff, and this, coupled with the good attention which we received at our hotel, made for a constantly friendly atmosphere.

We left Thornbury at 2.0 p.m. on Thursday April 4th and travelled via Bradford-on-Avon, Shaftesbury and Blandford, passing over the undulating chalk downs to Weymouth, which was to be our base. During the week we were particularly lucky in being able to complete our plans without any intervention on the part of the weather, although by the end of the holiday we were glad of the extra jumpers which we had taken.

On Friday we visited Lulworth Cove, and were joined by several pupils of Dorchester Grammar School who gave an added local touch to the day. This bay is a striking example of how the sea erodes the softer rocks of this concordant coast, forming symmetrical coves. Most of Saturday was spent at Osmington where we saw the Jurassic-Creaceous Unconformity, a headland showing the various bands of rock present at that area. From here we walked back to the storm beach at Weymouth, the more enterprising members of the party scrambling over the boulder beach, while the main group took the easier, though none the less muddy cliff path. On Sunday we attended Morning Service at Weymouth. In the afternoon we walked from Portesham to Maiden Castle, a vast earthwork south west of Dorchester and one of the most impressive sights we saw. For this walk we divided into groups of three and greatly surprised the staff by taking such different routes. The object was to collect biological specimens and take grid references, and prizes were given to the group which won the competition.

The next day we did a "grand tour" of the Hampshire Basin, and Mr. Gwilliams, being a native of Portsmouth, felt quite at home here. He certainly impressed upon us that Hurst Castle Spit was the greatest one in the world! The highlight of the day came in the boat trip across Southampton Water but unfortunately we were an hour too early to see

the Queen Elizabeth dock. On the return journey we visited the famous Rufus Stone in the New Forest. The following two days were spent on and west of Chesil Beach. This sixteen mile ridge of pebbles so difficult to explain, even by Miss Rees, certainly came up to our expectations, and the cliffs near Lyme Regis provided us with an afternoon of Fossil collecting, an extremely interesting but arduous hobby. We were all very glad to see Mrs. Pedlar again when she joined us at Bridport for the day. During our visit to the lighthouse on Portland Bill, the keeper told us that it was one of the most modern in the country. The large bulb costs £19 to replace and the whole apparatus floats on if tons of mercury.

Thursday brought the trip to a climax. After making a brief tour of the Isle of Purbeck, we were divided into pairs and prepared for the geographical transect from St. Albans Head in the south to Arne in the north. The various couples were dropped off en route, and were allowed several hours to find out all they could about their particular part of the transect. Everyone arrived safely back at Corfe, some following Mr. Bell's advice, "If you do get lost, make for Corfe Castle." This ruined fortification is visible for miles around, breaking the smooth line of the Purbeck Hills. Jackson completed the day by leading us on a short tour of Wareham, a medieval route centre, little enlarged since those times.

On the homeward journey, we were favoured by a visit to Sherborne Castle. This is a well preserved and beautiful building set amidst the glories of Hardy's countryside. We would all like to express our sincere thanks to the members of the staff who made the trip to Dorset a most valuable and memorable one.

MARGARET SHELLARD, Lower VI.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF C.E.W.C.

JANUARY, 1957

From January 1st to January 4th, eight members of the Sixth Form attended the annual Christmas Holiday Lectures organised by the Council for Education in World Citizenship. Over 2,000 Sixth Formers from all over the United Kingdom attended the conference, which was held in the Central Hall, Westminster and which was devoted entirely to a study of North America. The conference was to have been opened by their Excellencies, the American Ambassador, Mr. Winthrop W. Aldrich, and the High Commissioner for Canada, Mr. Norman A. Robertson, but unfortunately Mr. Robertson was indisposed. Mr. Aldrich, however, attended and proved very interesting. Many distinguished speakers appeared at the conference, including the famous actor and broadcaster Mr. Bernard Braden, who after arriving late, was cheered enthusiastically on his entrance. The discussion which followed, "On Being Canadian," was interrupted by many witty remarks and quips.

The Conference was divided into four groups: Cultural, Social, Political and Economic. Each group was sub-divided into four discussion groups and these groups each tackled a problem about North America. The subjects under discussion ranged from intellectual argument about President Eisenhower's Soil Bank proposals to "Is Rock 'n Roll a bad influence?" A final account of the discussion groups was presented on the last afternoon by each Group Rapporteur.

An important part of the conference was question time, of which great use was made, and as the lectures ran to a strict time schedule, there were always some questions that were left unanswered.

During the whole proceedings over £100 was collected for Arab refugees. This was appropriate, as the plight of these unhappy people had been somewhat overshadowed by that of the Hungarians at that time. This collection was organised by Mr. Terence Lawson, the popular secretary of the C.E.W.C. He was always greeted by hearty cheers when he put in an appearance from time to time. He also gave an interesting talk on the work of the C.E.W.C.

A highlight of the conference was a mock trial of the United Nations given by boys and girls from America and Britain. There was a lighter side of the conference when music recitals were given, and this, with the more serious lectures, served to make the conference successful and enjoyable.

R. G. COLLINS, Lower VI.

VISIT TO STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

NOVEMBER 1st, 1956

The Lower Sixth English set are studying "Hamlet" as part of the Advanced Level course, and this afforded a good opportunity for a visit to Stratford-upon-Avon, where the play was to be performed in the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre. The visit was not, however, confined to the English set, and an invitation was given to other members of the sixth form to Join us.

The coach left the school at 9.30 a.m. and reached Stratford about 12.30 after a pleasant ride through beautiful country. We then had several hours in which to wander around and see the sights of the famous town, Shakespeare's birthplace, his school, his church and many other celebrated places.

At two o'clock we congregated outside the theatre, and half-an-hour later, the play began. It was an excellent performance which showed the play in a new light for most of us.

The scenes of suspense were more gripping, the scenes of comedy more amusing, and the scenes of tragedy more realistic than we had thought possible from a mere reading of the play. The final scene, which often becomes rather confused in our studies, was particularly impressive.

Dilys Hamlett played the part of Ophelia, Diana Churchill that of Queen Gertrude, and Alan Badel gave an outstanding performance in the role of young Hamlet.

After the performance we enjoyed an excellent tea in a small café near Ann Hathaway's cottage where we were picked up by the coach. We arrived back at school at about 8-30 p.m. after spending a most enjoyable day.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY 1956—7

President: M. J. Challenger

The Literary and Debating Society has continued to thrive despite the rival attractions of the many other school activities. The support of members of staff and a hard core of enthusiasts has been a pleasant feature but larger audiences would be welcomed. Meetings were held on alternate Tuesdays and a balance was maintained between debates and "Any Questions" sessions, the latter, presumably, justifying the "Literary" part of the Society's title.

Motions of debates held in a serious vein included, "That religion is the opium of the masses", "That the pen is mightier than the sword" and "That modern advertising is a vice". The more humorous motions

were, "That a woman's place is in the home" and "That the Third Programme should be left alone". The panel in the three "Any Questions" sessions held comprised, mainly, members of staff, but it is to be hoped, in future, that having learnt from their example, pupils may be induced to participate.

Only a sparse audience came to hear some recordings of poetry reading, but the fact that members prefer meetings in which they can take an active part is not altogether a bad thing. As last year, a team entered the Bristol school's debating competition, and, although on-placed, were complimented on the presentation of their speeches.

FILM SOCIETY REPORT

The Film Society was started this year by Mr. Hill. The first film we saw was "The Lavender Hill Mob", a modern British comedy, together with an early Disney cartoon. The following month we saw "Winchester 73", a modern cowboy film, and the earliest "Western" ever made, "The Great Train Robbery". Other films shown were, "Kameradschaft" and "A Divided World", two foreign films, "Munna", a film from India, "Charlie the Champ", "Power to Fly", "Seven Days to Noon", a film about the Atom bomb, "The Rink" (with Charlie Chaplin) "The Navigator", (Buster Keaton) a "Tom and Jerry" cartoon, with a Halas and Batchelor serious cartoon, and "Les Vacances de Monsieur Hulot", a modern French comedy.

The activities of the Society ceased during the Summer term because of the obvious unsuitability of the light evenings. The films were enjoyed by everyone. Meetings were held on Mondays to discuss the films which we had seen the previous Friday, and a talk was given by a member of the sixth form on "The Animated Film".

The aim of the society is to promote the intelligent criticism of films, but so far too many members seem prepared to enjoy without much discrimination and we should like a fuller use made of "discussion" next term.

CHESS CLUB

Essentially a winter activity, the Chess Club organised in the Autumn term a chess tournament, on a personal and House basis. Many enjoyable games took place in the lunch hour and after school, resulting in a win for Stafford in the Seniors, (individually Rayner VI), and for Clare, (individually Harris 5B), in the Juniors.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS

NOVEMBER THE FIFTH

Sheila Durrant, Form 2A

There drifts the pink smoke—a wizard makes a spell;
There go the rockets high up into the sky;
I saw a witch on a broomstick, a star that fell,
And Grimalkin—or next door puss?—darts by.
Now is there nothing left for sound or sight;
The bonfire's finished; I must go to bed.
But still the magic smell of Guy Fawkes night
Sends ABRACADABRA'S running through my head.

AUTUMN

Dorothy Rickards, Form 3A

When winter is near,
Autumn is here;
Leaves do fall down
Red, yellow and brown.
Gone are all flowers,
And short are the hours,
While cold winds do blow
Each branch is bent low,
For Winter again
Is here with the rain.

THE SEA

Dorothy Blackman, 4A

Poets write about her magnificent splendour,
She is clothed in beautiful robes of blue and green,
Sailors love to listen to her gentle murmur;
Mysterious tales they tell of things they have seen.

Fingall's cave with pillars tall her skilled carving shows,
And her wild and stormy temper well the sailor knows.
Over many mysteries her swirling robes glide
Covering up her world from men always to hide.

Over two thirds of the World her powers hold sway,
Man is powerless her mighty strength to stay,
For, although men over many things may reign,
The sea wild and free from man will always remain.

A HAIR-RAISING EXPERIENCE

Norma Scott, Form Upper V C

It was whilst I was on holiday last Easter in the Pyrenees that I was given the chance to travel across the mountains in what is called "L'Electrique" (cable car). The journey began about 4,000 feet above sea level, and rose to the top of one of the distant, snow-covered peaks about 4,500 feet high.

The car itself was rather like a lift, no bigger, with glass around the top half. We were standing talking in the car, when, all of a sudden, we were flung to the other side of it with a terrific jerk. Then very slowly, as though the small car was unsure of its capabilities, we began to make the treacherous journey. Gradually, everything that had seemed so solid to me, began to creep farther away as we drew nearer to the fluffy clouds. Everything suddenly vanished for about half a minute and after we had got over the shock and surprise, we realised that what we had thought to be a fog or mist was only a cloud which had obscured our view. Still rising very slowly, we were able to see the jagged mountains below and at either side of us, waiting patiently for the cable to snap so that they could envelope us in their jagged jaws.

Stealthily mounting the last few hundred feet, the small, but capable little car began to slow down even more. It was almost as though it could not make the climb. Holding our breath we watched as slowly, oh! so slowly, the little car, stronger then, it seemed, than a hundred horses, began to overcome the unsteadiness and we reached the destination we had hoped for.

Looking back on it now, I realise that there was nothing to be afraid of, but at that moment when the small car faltered and I imagined myself amongst the jagged crags, I think *I* was more frightened than I have ever been, before or since.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

We congratulate the following on their academic successes:

Honours (Old Thornburians)

- D. Biggin, B.D.S., Edinburgh.
- J. P. Blenkinsop, B.A., 2nd Class Honours, London.
- G. Dicker, B.Sc., Bristol.
- E. J. Locke, B.A., 2nd Class Honours, Durham.
- D. J. Malpass, B.A., 2nd Class Honours, Birmingham.
- C. J. Radford, B.A., 2nd Class Honours, London.
- R. Rosser, B.Sc., Bristol.
- R. A. Sharpe, B.A., 2nd Class Honours (1st Division) Bristol.
- Patricia A. Timbrell, B.A., 2nd Class Honours, Bristol.

University of Bristol

General Certificate of Education, Advanced Level, 1956

- Sally M. Adams, English (S), French, Latin (County Major Scholarship).
 - R. P. B. Browne, History, Geography.
 - J. P. Dickinson, Pure and Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry (S). (County Major Scholarship, tenable at St. John's College, Cambridge).
 - Angela Fudge, Domestic Subjects.
 - Elizabeth Grant, French, Domestic Subjects.
 - Helen D. Hardcastle, Art.
 - Jessica E. Hewlett, English, French (S), Latin (County Major Scholarship).
 - R. F. Jackson, English, History, Geography (S) (County Major Scholarship, tenable at Hertford College, Oxford).
 - Janet Northover, English (S), French, Latin (County Major Scholarship).
 - Joyce V. Phillips, English, French.
 - Mary Sim, English, Geography.
 - Elizabeth A. Weeks, Geography, Biology.
 - P. Williams, History, Geography.
 - Mary Wilson, French, Art.
- S: Scholarship Level.

Ordinary Level, 1956

- Janet W. Barnes, A. F. Bartrum, B. L. Batt, Ann R. Beard, Pamela
- A. Bennett, Jennifer Bidwell, R. Blenkinsop, Gloria M. Boxwell, Margaret J. Bracey,
- G. G. Carey, J. L. Caswell, J. J. Chambers, Elspeth
- M. J. Chapman, Brenda J. Clarke, R. G. Collins, P. J. Cooper, Delyse F.
- Darby, M. W. Dent, J. P. Drabble, Brenda J. Dyas, D. G. Elliott, S. T.
- Grant, M. C. Gregory, A. J. Harding, P. A. Harris, S. A. Henderson,
- R. J. Howell, Elizabeth W. James, Joyce M. Jarman, Christine E. Jeanes,
- Daphne P. Jefferies, Barbara A. Jenkins, Eileen Jenkins, Elizabeth H.
- Jones, S. M. Kempton, D. R. Latham, H. E. Latty, A. L. Lloyd, D. J.
- Martin, Penelope McMillan, M. J. Mills, K. G. Mortimer, Mary V. Newman, Susan M.
- Noble, B. J. Nott, B. J. Palmer, Pauline E. Payne, A. J.
- Phillips, A. R. Pinstone, Valerie L. Pitt, A. G. H. Prentice, Jacqueline R.
- Prudhoe, M. I. Rayner, Ann Rea, A. T. Reed, J. Richards, Ruth J.
- Rosser, Margaret W. Shellard, Gillian M. Skuse, Diane Smele, Eileen E.

Smith, D. L. Taylor, D. J. Thompson, Jill Varney, M. D. Watkins, Mary
 D. L. Watkins, Bette G. Woodham, J. D. Woodward, Marilyn Wright, Pauline Wright.

VALETE

School Captains

Mary Wilson
 J. P. Dickinson

Pauline Wright
 Eileen Jenkins
 Jill Varney
 Gillian Skuse

Judith Clarke
 Maureen Kelly
 Anita Lewis
 Gloria Phillips

School Vice-Captains

Marilyn Avent
 A. Slade

Upper V A.

Jillian King
 Patricia Jones
 Yvonne Underhill
 M. Brown
 R. Climmer
 D. Cole
 C. Curtis

Norma Scott
 Myra Wilson
 A. F. Chater
 F. P. Drake
 R. J. Godfrey
 M. J. Mills
 Richard Pym
 Roger Pym

Prefects

Anne Codling
 Gillian White
 Kathleen Stephens
 Elizabeth Cannock
 Joan Wright

M. Dent
 P. Harris
 K. Moloney
 A. Mellor

V B

Jean Kirby
 K. E. Gibson
 M. G. Hanks
 J. McTavish
 R. J. Wells
 D. H. Price

Betty Knapp
 Mary McIntyre
 Jennifer Morse
 Jean Mood
 Sheila Fairman
 Patricia Parfit
 U. J. Morris
 R. J. Davies
 M. J. Challenger

Upper V B.

Wendy Campbell
 Joan Gingell
 N. D. Holden

W. J. Pullin
 Diane Woodham
 Susan Benson
 Sheila Lee
 T. Freeman
 T. W. Evans

M. G. Wright
 C. Tanner
 P. H. Hawkins

M. James
 J. Martin
 A. W. Davies
 R. W. Simpson
 J. V. Pullin
 M. J. White

IV B

Sally Sweet
 R. Morris

Lower Sixth
 Ann Jenkins

Commercial
 Christine Jeanes
 Susan Noble

Upper V C.

Margaret Booth

CLARE HOUSE REPORT

Captains: Marilyn Avent and A. Slade

This year Clare has maintained the high standard which had been set, and although we are second to Howard for the Games Shield, we still have five shields in our possession, and share another with Howard.

Several members of the House took part in the School play, and acquitted themselves well, whilst R. F. Jackson, last year's House Captain, brought more honour to the house by obtaining a place at Oxford and gaining international Football honours.

We have been unfortunate in losing Miss Richardson, but we must congratulate her on being appointed as Senior Mistress at Winterbourne Secondary school. We are very pleased, however, to welcome Miss Walker as House Mistress, and also Mr. Bell and Mr. Williams as new members of our community.

We wish Miss Cresswell and Miss McCallum every happiness in their future marriages, saying a regretful goodbye to Miss McCallum, who will be leaving in July after only a year with us.

HOWARD HOUSE REPORT

Captains: Gillian White and B. Keedwell

This year Howard House has been successful in winning the Football Shield, sharing the Hockey Cup with Clare, and regaining the Netball, Junior Rugby and Music Shields. We also hold the Academic and Physical Training Shields from last year. The Cross Country Shield has again eluded us but we hope to be more successful in the Athletic and Swimming sports.

Although all members were unable to attend the House party due to the large numbers, it was very successful. We would like to thank all the Staff and pupils who helped with the arrangements.

All members of the House were sorry to lose Miss Walker who has always taken an enthusiastic interest in House activities, we should however like to congratulate her on becoming Clare House Mistress. We are also sorry to be losing Mr. English at the end of this term. We are pleased to welcome Mr. Gwilliams to Howard, and to congratulate Mr. Stacey on his engagement.

STAFFORD HOUSE REPORT

Captains: Joan Wright and D. J. Morris

Stafford has started to recover again, winning the Junior Cross Country Cup, and being only narrowly defeated in the Music Competition, and with increased efforts we should have further success.

Members of the House attended a very enjoyable House party this year, excellent entertainment being provided by members of Staff and sixth formers.

The House has indeed felt the absence of Mr. Cudmore as House Master, but his place has been exceptionally well filled by Mr. Jaques. We all send our best wishes to Miss Gibbons who will be leaving us this year and also hope that Mr. James, Mr. Marrow and Miss Mingins have enjoyed their first year with us.

RUGBY 1956

Captain: R. F. Jackson

Mr. Pedlar's sweat, blood and occasional tears have not been in vain. With Mr. James taking over where Mr. Pedlar left off, the Rugger XV had, at least, a successful season, having played twelve games, won seven, drawn three and lost two.

Our early victories over Cathedral School, Kingswood, Fairfield and Clifton College Thirds were followed by spirited mid-season tussles with Clifton College Seconds and Marling School—both matches ending in a draw. Our two defeats, to St. Brendan's and an Old Boys' XV, have, however, shown how dependant the team has been on climatic conditions favourable to back play.

The forwards have shown spirit and enthusiasm (if not always skill) while the backs have shown good form and opportunism in attack, although an inclination to panic in defence. The greatest problem has been to find a suitable link between the forwards and the backs in the form of a serum-half, Peck having broken his leg in the second practice of the season. As a whole, perhaps we have been a little over-confident, but the "old hands" have learned a great deal more about the game, and the younger members of the team gained valuable experience.

This season we took the ambitious step of turning out a 2nd XV, and although not victorious, some of next year's team have gained match experience. The Juniors and Colts XV's have had moderate seasons, although perhaps over-dependent upon individuals. Whether they have won or lost, a marked feature of the game has been their determination to fight really hard.

				Results	
			Opponents	Venue Result	
Cathedral School ...	...	...	...	Away	Won 11—0
Kingswood Grammar	School	...	...	Home	Won 34—0
Fairfield Grammar School	...	...	...	Away	Won 11—6
Clifton College 3rd XV	...	...	...	Home	Won 21—6
Clifton College 2nd XV	...	...	...	Home	Drew 8---8
St. Brendan's College "A" XV	...	...	...	Away	Lost 0—6
Marling School	...	...	...	Home	Drew 11—11
Fairfield Grammar School	...	...	...	Away	Won 21—0
Dursley Grammar School	...	...	...	Away	Drew 6—6
Cotham Grammar School ...	...	...	...	Away	Won 26—0
Queen Elizabeth Hospital 1st XV.	...	...	...	Home	Won 18—8
Old Thornburians ...	...	...	...	Home	Lost 3—14

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL, 1957

Captain: J. P. Dickinson

The Soccer XI has had a disappointing season; of eleven matches played five have been won and six lost. Our account opened with good wins over Cotham and Dursley, and these, if not entirely satisfying, lulled the teams into a sense of (false) security, from which we were rudely awoken by an unexpected defeat from Bristol Technical School, in their first fixture with us. Later, with Dursley and Cotham gaining their revenge, and defeats at the hands of Chipping Sodbury and the Old Boys, we were to realise our ineffectiveness against strong opposition. However, victories by large margins over Wotton, Bristol University 3rds, and Bristol Technical School showed that the team had its opportunists.

The chief fault of the team has been a lack of forcefulness in front of goal. Indecisive and unincisive passing by the forwards lost them the initiative and the ball, thus throwing more work onto the half and full backs. Another feature of our play has been a lack of understanding between the departments such as distinguished the play of the Rugby XV.

The experiment of running a Second XI. this season proved moderately successful; of the five games played, one was won, one lost and three drawn. Although unsettled in composition due to calls for injury replacements in the First XI, some good team football was played. The Colts and Junior XI's have also had moderate success and there is some cause for hope of great things in a few seasons' time.

We should like to express our gratitude to Mr. Johnson and the other members of Staff who have given up time to coach and encourage us.

Colours were re-awarded for the second time to Jackson, and awarded to Morris, Hawkins and Slade.

				Results	
			Opponents	Venue	Result
Cotham Grammar School	Home	Won 4—2
Dursley Grammar School	Home	Won 8—2
Bristol Technical School	Away	Lost 3—4
Wotton (K.L.H.G.S.)	Home	Won 9—2

Bristol University 3rd XI.	...	...	Home	Won	3—0
Bristol Technical School	...	...	Home	Won	9—1
Dursley Grammar School	...	...	Away	Lost	2—4
Chipping Sodbury Grammar School	School	...	Away	Lost	2—3
Wotton (K.L.B.G.S.) ...	...	...	Away	Cancelled	
Cotham Grammar School	...	...	Away	Lost	0—3
Old Thornburians ...	...	...	Away	Lost	2—8
Chipping Sodbury Grammar School	School	...	Home	Lost	0—2
School Staff XL. ...	...	...	Home	Won	4—3

CRICKET 1957

Captain: P. H. Hawkins

The cricket side has had a successful season this year, losing so far only one of their matches.

The side possesses useful batsmen and bowlers, the team being able to bat all the way down.

Jackson has been the mainstay of the bowling and has taken most of the wickets, but he has been ably backed by the other bowlers.

Although when the higher batsmen have failed the tail has been able to “wag” and pull the team out of trouble.

The fielding at the start of the season was weak, but with constant practice and encouragement it has improved immensely and very few catches have been dropped.

The School lost their match to Clifton College 3rd XI, when without Jackson they were out-generalled in the field, after some poor batting.

The side has now two matches to play, against the Parents XI and the Old Thornburians XI. Results

Opponents	Venue	Result
Dursley Grammar School	Home	Draw 86, 85—7
Queen Elizabeth's Hospital	Away	Cancelled
Cotham Grammar School	Home	Won 125, 33
K.L.B.G.S.	Away	Won 85, 45
Chipping Sodbury Grammar School	Home	Draw 167—7, 114—3
Wycliffe College 2nd XI	Home	130; 131—2
Kingswood Grammar School	Away	Won 40; 41—1
St. Brendan's College	Home	Won 101, 64
Clifton College	Home	Won 13 1—7, 132—9

CROSS COUNTRY, 1957

Results

1st—Clare, 32 points.

2nd—Stafford, 16 points.

3rd—Howard, 7 points.

INDIVIDUAL PLACINGS

Senior	Intermediate	Junior
1 R. Jackson (C)	1 E. Gray (C)	1 K. Loveridge (S)
2 D. Cole (C)	2 JA. Parfitt (S)	2 D. Wright (C)
3 B. Purnell (II)	JP. Pewsey (S)	3 D. Edwards (S)
4 R. Harris (S)	4 D. Rosser (C)	4 L. Price (S)
5 B. Keedwell (H)	5 D. Burt (C)	5 T. Bowers (C)
6 C. Tanner (H)	6 R. Millhouse (S)	6 J. Hortopp (S)
7 R. Wells (C)	7 J. Morris (S)	7 I. Morris (H)
8 M. Dent (S)	8 D. Fox (C)	8 D. Greves (S)
9 P. Hawkins (C)	9 R. Barlow (C)	9 C. Winn (C)
10 13. Latty (H)	10 W. Jones (C)	10 R. Taylor (H)

HOCKEY REPORT 1956-7

Captain: Mary McIntyre

The school hockey team has maintained a high standard of play this season and of the eighteen matches played, thirteen have been won and five lost. The team has played well together, the defence being particularly strong in the last few matches, especially the half-backs, who are to be commended on their tireless efforts.

The climax to the season came on the last Saturday, when Thornbury did well in the Schools' Tournaments. Of five matches played, three were won and two drawn, making Thornbury top of their section. In the semi-finals Thornbury drew with Chipping Campden, but failed to qualify for the final owing to a lower points average.

The team were very sorry to lose Miss Richardson at the end of last term; we wish her every success in the future

Opponents	Results	Venue	Result
Chipping Sodbury Grammar School		Home	Won 5—1
Stroud High School	Home	Won 9—3
Cirencester Grammar School		Home	Won 13—1
Kingswood Grammar School	Home	Won 6—2
Colston Girls School		Home	Won 4—2
Redland High School	Home	Won 7—1
Bristol University 1st XI.	Home	Lost 3—2
Gloucester High School		Away	Won 8—3
Dursley Grammar School	Home	Won 8—0
Red Maids High School		Away	Lost 4—2
Bristol University 1st XI.		Home	Lost 6—0
Kingswood Grammar School		Away	Won 12—2
Gloucester High School	Home	Lost 4—3
Redland High School		Home	Won 4—2
Red Maids High School		Home	Won 5—1
Stroud High School	Away	Won 5—0
Redland Ladies Hockey Club		Home	Lost 5—2
Staff XI. ...		Home	Won 8—0

NETBALL 1956-7

The Netball teams have had a most successful season, the standard of play having greatly improved and now being high in the Junior School. Of ten matches played the Under-14 Team won nine games and the Under- 13 Team played nine matches and won them all easily. In the County Tournament, the Senior Team reached the semi-final in their second year of entry. We are all very sorry to be losing Miss Richardson, and will especially remember her good work in establishing Netball in the school. We wish her every happiness and success for the future.

Results

1st VII Captain: Mary Newman

Redland H.S. Away Lost 22—24

2nd VII Captain: Celia March

Redland H.S. Away Lost 28—26

Under 14 VII

Chipping Sodbury Grammar	School	Home	Won	17—15
Stroud High School	...	Home	Won	27—2
Cirencester Grammar School	...	Home	Won	32—5
Kingswood Grammar School	...	Home	Won	25—6
Colston Girls School	...	Home	Won	17—9
Redland High School	...	Home	Lost	15—17
Red Maids School	...	Away	Won	19—16
Dursley Grammar School	...	Away	Won	17—16
Chipping Sodbury Grammar School	...		Cancelled	
Redland High School	...	Home	Won	16—3
R&1 Maids School	...	Home	Won	19—7

Under 13 VII Captain: Delia Clark

Results

Opponents		Venue	Result
Stroud High School	...	Home	Won 10—0
Cirencester Grammar School	...	Home	Won 12—1
Kingswood Grammar School	...	Home	Won 11—0
Colston Girls School	...	Home	Won 12—8
Redland High School	...	Away	Won 20—2
Red Maids School	...	Away	Won 23—3
Downend Secondary Modern	School	Home	Won 17—5
Dursley Grammar School	...	Home	Won 12—4
Redland High School	...	Away	Won 11—5

TENNIS 1957

Captain: Betty M. Knapp

This season the team has been fortunate in retaining three of last year's players.

Our first defeat was suffered at the hands of Bristol University 2nd VI, who were, however, a decidedly older and more experienced side.

The match against Badminton School was cancelled, but of the six matches played, four have been lost, one won and one drawn.

The team as a whole would improve with harder hitting and more net play.

The 2nd VI. lost the four matches played.

Both teams would like to thank Mr. Johnson and Mr. Hill for their coaching.

Results

Opponents		Venue	Result
Badminton School	...	Away	Cancelled
Bristol University 2nd	VI.	Home	Lost 9—0
Redland High School	...	Home	Lost 6—3
Colston Girls' School	...	Away	Lost 5—4
Chipping Sodbury	Grammar School	...	Home
	Won 8—I		
Red Maids School	...	Home	Draw 1—1
Kingswood Grammar	School	Away	Lost 8—1

ATHLETICS 1956-57

Captains: Mary McIntyre, A. C. Slade

The high standard of the school's athletics has been maintained again this year and the school was once more well represented in the Bristol Schools' Championships held at Chipping Sodbury. Seventeen first places

were gained and ten of these were chosen to represent South Gloucestershire in the Gloucestershire Schools' Sports at Gloucester. As a result of this meeting, Mary McIntyre and Carter were selected to represent the county in the MI-England Championships, and Parfitt likewise in the South-West Region Championships.

In the inter-schools' meetings with St. Brendan's College, the under thirteen and under seventeen teams were victorious, and four new School Records were set up.

SCHOOL SWIMMING REPORT 1956

Captains: Joan Wright, C. Tanner

Although Thornbury is unlucky in having limited swimming facilities, the high standard of previous years was maintained in this year's swimming sports, Stafford winning all the Shields. It has been encouraging to see the captains coaching their House members, and it is to be hoped that this practise will be continued.

Thornbury again did reasonably well in the Bristol Schools' Swimming Sports, Joan Wright coming second in the finals of the Senior Back Crawl and Carol Wright reaching the finals of the Junior Back Crawl. Joan Wright had the honour of swimming in the trials for Western Counties Schools.

THE OLD THORNBURIANS' SOCIETY

President: The Headmaster.

Vice-Presidents: Miss A. Dicker, Mrs. G. Lanham, Mr. S. H. Gaynor, Mr. B. S. Morse, Rev. R. G. Rawstorne, Dr. R. Perry.

Chairman: Mr. A. N. Knapp.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Excell.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss D. M. Hooper.

Committee: Misses F. Fenton, R. Shepherd, A. Vizard, P. Hopkins, Mrs. Joseph, Messrs. D. Trayhurn, J. Rugg, I. Keitch, P. Williams, L. Hawkins, H. Lewis, D. Pearce, D. Hawkins. ~*Auditor:* Mr. Timbrell.

Staff representative: Mr. T. A. Wright.

NEWS OF OLD THORNBURIANS

Gordon Heath has emigrated to Nyasaland to study Agricultural Research. Colin Browning has been accepted at the Shade Art School, London. Eileen Rhodes has passed her Clerical Assistant's examination. Heather Hanks has just completed a three month training course at Ilford Mental Hospital, in connection with her occupational therapy. David Latham has recently taken external banking examinations connected with his post at the Westminster Bank, Bishopston. Kathleen Reeves is now nursing. C. L. M. Summers has taken up a teaching appointment at the Bluecoat School, Reading. Janice Newman is teaching in Bristol. Trevor Walters is attending the Teachers' Training College at Isleworth, Middlesex. Anne Weeks is at Salisbury Training College. Pat Brown is teaching at Lockleaze Secondary Modern School. Heather Thomas is teaching at Newton Abbot Secondary Modern School. Pauline Stitt, at the B.A.C., is studying economics and economic history to "Advanced" Level. Barry Cooke, at Fisons, Avonmouth, is studying at the College of Technology, Bristol. John Blenkinsopp, Desmond Cooper, and Henry Smith are in the Army, the last being in Singapore.

We should like to offer our congratulations and best wishes to the following on their engagements: Josephine Hurcombe to John Narbett, Joyce Howell, Jeanette Loveridge, Joy Cox, Keith Rowley, Jean Tandy, Shirley Hawkins to Brinley Powell, Donald Malpass, Doris Hooper. Angela Vizard to Derrick Harris, David Humphries to Valerie Cobdale, Tony lies, Stuart Cutts, Arthur Winn, Murial James, Sylvia Boxwell, and to the following on their marriages: Dennis Hawkins to Anne Phillips, Jean Fear, Pat Arnold, Rosemary Green, Brian Lugg, Barbara Bidwell, Rhona Ewins, Alan Hucker, Colin Radford to Judith Watkins, Norman Adams, Judith Thomas, Marguerite Morley, Jean Fox, Roy Messenger, Brenda Baxter, Beryl Pitt, Carla Darby to Derrick Withers, Marion Rogers, Donald Cook to Josephine Stitt, Pamela Painter to Cecil Sims, Frances Pratt to John Parker, Janet Ball to Colin Joseph, Barry Bullen, Pauline Robson to Roland Rosser, Betty Bridgeman, Myrtle Sutton, Shirley Kingscott, Ann Foyster, Joan Parsons, Molly Willis to Michael Lewis.

Births : A daughter has been born to Ruth Biddle (née Case); a son to June Morgan (née Hinton) and twins (boy and girl) to Dennis Winstone.

Derek Hawkins scored his maiden century in first-class cricket and was awarded his county cap.

Diment has been made secretary of Leicester County Cricket Club. Tony Britton, television star of such plays as "The Lass of Richmond Hill", will be guest of honour at the Annual Old Thornburians' Dinner on July 13th.

The Memorial Pavilion designed by Mr. R. Curtis, has been built on the School Field by Messrs. A. Knapp, H. Johnson, F. Biddle, W. Humphries and D. Shepherd.

UNIVERSITY LETTERS

Dear Editor,

In October last I began my University career as a student at the University College of Leicester, and I am now completing my first year as an undergraduate. The granting of its charter on 15th March 1957 by Her Majesty the Queen is an event of which the University may be proud, in particular because it has increased in size so rapidly and from such small beginnings.

The main University buildings, which are situated near an extensive and beautiful park, yet within easy reach of the city, were originally a mental asylum (and may I say in passing that the inmates are still a little lunatic at times !). During the first World War the buildings were used as a hospital. University College was founded in 1918. In 1946 its number of full-time students was one hundred and nine. Only eleven years later it has risen to nearly one thousand. The original buildings are now grossly inadequate for Leicester's increasing intake of students; to meet these new demands a large science block has recently been opened, and an impressive Union building, long awaited by the students, will, it is hoped, be completed by the end of next session.

Yet, despite its rapid and continuing expansion, the University of Leicester is still one of the smallest in the British Isles. A good result ensues, however, for it means that a much larger proportion of students are able to take part in the varied activities of the Student's Union than would otherwise be possible; for although the academic standard is high, and can be reached satisfactorily only by constant and thorough study, a student's life is by no means all work and no play! There are more than fifty flourishing students' societies, ranging from jazz to politics or mountaineering. Of particular importance is the International Society, in which

young people from every country in the world are drawn into close contact with one another; for at Leicester there is certainly no colour bar.

The fact that it is an exceptionally small University is of importance for its students; for stress is placed on the necessity for each individual to play an active part in Union life to ensure its success. Its numbers are such that each student may know every fellow student by sight, and many, even outside his own department, quite intimately. It is the student's themselves who make the University such a friendly community, and the University which makes its students what they are.

This letter is written in praise of the student's life at Leicester.

feel highly privileged to be not only the first student at Leicester from Thornbury, but also the only one from the whole of Gloucestershire. As I partake of the varied and enjoyable life here, I hope I shall be merely the first of a long succession of students from Gloucestershire and in particular from Thornbury, who continue their education at the University of

Leicester.

J.H.

Dear Editor,

The University of Exeter received its charter from Her Majesty the Queen last year and is therefore one of the youngest universities in the world (the youngest being, I believe, in Siberia). We, the first year students are the "pioneers" of a new degree course, and we have to build up the traditions which are already established in older universities while this is a privilege, the atmosphere of experimentation can be a little disconcerting, for one cannot in an emergency look back at "what happened last time". Although the University itself is new, the city is very ancient with its beautiful Cathedral and other historic buildings. One can easily transport oneself back in time while watching some ecclesiastical procession, or the assize judges entering the Guildhall. The countryside of Devon is beautiful and varied and it is an ideal place for a University. I am fortunate in living in a hail of residence which is set in beautiful grounds on a hill overlooking the city and the Exe estuary; the view makes the climb worth while.

Within the University it is possible to belong to many societies, and if there is not one to your taste you can find a new one. There is the usual range of athletic activities; for the less energetic there are debating, dramatic, photographic and all the departmental societies, and for those who are really lazy there is always the Cinema Society more often known by a rather ambiguous abbreviation. If one still lacks entertainment it is not far to the sea, and one of the most important questions after the Summer examinations was "Dawlish or Exmouth?"

Of course there is a serious side to University life, but work is the same in any place. There is always a chance of a lecture being enlivened by the eccentricities of the lecturer. One is said to pass round his bottle of aspirins, another sends himself to sleep and a third particularly famous lecturer who is also a spiritualist, is inclined to startle his class by announcing that a spirit is present or by repeating casually something that Virgil told him.

One aspect of the University which surprised me was the general dislike not only by students, but also by the staff, of the bane of one's school life, examinations. They are necessary in awarding degrees, of course, but one realises, perhaps for the first time, that a true education does not depend upon the number of examinations that one has passed, but is something much more fundamental.

I should like to send my best wishes to the school and staff, and I hope that I shall soon see some other Thornburians at Exeter. J.N.

STOP PRESS

SCHOOL 1st XI v PARENTS XI

The School side were put into bat by the Parents on a good wicket, but Hawkins was run out when the score was 18. Jackson and Davies then batted steadily, carrying the score to 61, and the School declared at 136—8. The parents started badly, Jackson taking a hat-trick in his second over. Wickets fell quickly until the score was 21 for 5; then Mr. Knapp and Mr. Jackson together carried the score to 76 when Mr. Jackson gave a catch to point. Mr. Knapp made a valuable 46 and the parents were dismissed for 105.

SCHOOL XI

Hawkins, P., run out	16
Davies, A., ct Wilson, h Jackson	20
Jackson, R., ct Pearce, b Wilson	34
Morris, D., b Wilson	0
Dickinson, I., b Taylor	20
Dent, M., ct Jackson, b Wilson	0
Keedwell, B. b Taylor	4
Carey, G., ct Pearce, b Knapp	13
Phillips, J., not out	17
Blenkinsopp, C., not out	2
Collins R. did not bat	

Extras 10

Total 136

Bowling: Jackson 5-38, Hawkins 3-8, Morris 1-11

PARENTS XI

Mr.. Bradley, b Jackson	3
Mr. Rogers b Jackson	9
Mr. Taylor ct Phillips b Jackson	0
Mr. Wilson, b. Jackson	0
Mr. Knapp, b Hawkins	46
Mr. Burden, b Jackson	6
Mr. Jackson, ct Jackson b Morris 19	19
Mr. Malpass, not out	14
Mr. McTavish, b Hawkins	2
Mr. Pearce, b Hawkins	3
Mr. Carey, run out	

Extras 2

Total 105

Bowling: Mr. Wilson, 3-25; Mr. Jackson, 1-9; Mr. Taylor, 2-18; Mr. Knapp, 1-29.

SCHOOL 1st XI v OLD THORNBURIANS XI

The School won the toss and batted first against the Old Thornburians. There was an opening stand between Hawkins and Davies of 31, before Davies was l.b.w. to Rogers. Jackson joined Hawkins and the scoring proceeded slowly due to good field placing. When the score reached 65, Hawkins was bowled by Sheppard. Wickets then fell quickly as the School tried to hurry the score along, declaring at 112 for 8.

The Old Thornburians started badly, losing Sheppard in the first over and Williams in the next. Jackson I. and Hawkins D. J. carried the

score to 30 before losing their wickets to the spin bowlers. J. Lewis batted very well and scored quickly, hitting three sixes, but no one was able to stay with him, and within sight of victory he was bowled by Jackson for 48 and the School won by 3 runs in what was the last over.

SCHOOL XL

Hawkins, P., b Sheppard	43
Davies, A., lbw, b Rogers	10
Jackson, R., ct Excel, b Vizard	27
Morris, D., st Humphries, b Sheppard	2
Dickinson, J., ct Lewis, b Sheppard	0
Dent, M., run out	4
Keedwell, B., ct Lewis, b Vizard	8
Reardon, D., b Davies	0
Phillips, I., not out	8
Blenkinsopp, C., not out	6
Collins did not bat.	
	Extras 4

Total for 8 wickets 112

Bowling: Sheppard 3-15, Vizard 2-14, Rogers 1-12.

OLD THORNBURIANS XI

K. Sheppard, b Jackson	0
D. J. Hawkins, b Morris	16
P. Williams, ct and b Collins	0
I. Jackson, ct R. Jackson, b Hawkins	13
J. Lewis, b R. Jackson	48
D. Biddle, ct Dickinson, b Hawkins	
W. Humphries, b Morris	9
R. Vizard, lbw b Jackson	6
A. B. G. Davies, b Jackson	3
D. Excell, b Davies	0
B. Rogers, not out	0
	Extras 13
	Total 109

Bowling: Jackson 4-18: Hawkins 2-16, Morris 2-37.

TENNIS

OLD THORNBURIAN'S AND PARENTS MATCHES

The School unfortunately lost their match with the Parents, but the following Saturday scored a victory over the Old Thornburians after a most enjoyable match.

July 6th—Parents VI Lost 6—3.

July 13th—Old Thornburians—Won 5—4.

OLD THORNBURIAN'S DINNER 1957

After the Sporting encounters between the Old Thornburians and the School an excellent Severn Salmon dinner was given in the School dining hall, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Arthur Knapp. The Rev. R. G. Rawstorne MA., proposed the toast of "The School" to which Mary J. Wilson, the Head Girl, and the Headmaster replied. Mr. B. H. Cudmore proposed the toast of the Society, to which Mr. Knapp, the Chairman replied.

Apologies were received from Tony Britton who has said he will be delighted to come next year, circumstances permitting.

