



THE
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CHRONICLE

SMITHILLS SCHOOLS

No. 11

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THE CHRONICLE

No. 11

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The term is ended, the year is finished and one of my final jobs in the general clearing up process is to write the editorial for the current issue of the Chronicle. After eleven years it would seem that there can be very little to say that is new, for obviously the same games are being played; the same activities are taking place; there is the same interest or, in some cases, lack of interest; work in the classroom follows a similar pattern. Yet there is at least one big difference which makes it all worth while: there are many new faces seeking to achieve the same or, I hope, something better than their predecessors. The various reports in this Chronicle will reveal whether they have been successful or not.

There is, however, one event that stands out in my mind; partly because I was largely responsible for its organisation, though not for the original idea, and partly because it was very cheering to see pupils by sheer determination, grit and will power achieve something they had never thought possible. I am referring to the sponsored walk. The original reason was to raise money in an effort to improve the drainage of part of the playing fields. In this it was successful and produced more than some of us expected. But its real value in my opinion was to help many pupils prove to themselves, to their parents and to their school mates just what they could achieve if they really set their minds to it. It did not demand academic ability or special physical skills, but just grit and determination and I am proud to see so many revealing these invaluable traits in their characters.

I feel that here there must be a lesson for us all. There is no end to what we can do if we, individually and collectively, are really determined to succeed. I hope that in the years to come, all, whether they have just started in the first years or have been here several years already, will appreciate the importance and value of will power whether it be at work, games, social work, music and drama or at any other activities.

R.W.C.

HOUSE REPORTS

AINSWORTH

Staff: Mr. Denton, Mr. Eccles, Mr. Freathy, Mr. Gresty, Miss Holt, Mr. Moss, Mr. Olney, Mr. Pye, Mrs. Shaw, Mr. Shippobottom, Mrs. Thomason, Mr. Yates.

With the excitement of a year's study behind me I returned to Smithills to continue as House Master of Ainsworth. My thanks go to Mr. Fairhurst who led Ainsworth House, as last year's report bears witness, through a very successful year. His enthusiasm and help are greatly appreciated.

It is, however, in any house system the pupils who must make the greatest contribution. Their co-operation and willingness to participate in the wide variety of activities is the essential element without which the system would degenerate into a meaningless ritual.

Fortunately Ainsworth House has a nucleus of pupils where such energy is evident and who have produced results which are both impressive and exciting. It is hoped, nay, expected, that their example will awaken a great number of pupils from their inertia, in the coming year, to leave behind that trough of apathy into which they have apparently sunk and become active participants.

Our house assembly continues to be held in the Technical School Hall and we thank Mr. Matthews for making this possible. We thank too Mrs. Thomason and Mr. Shippobottom who by providing the music for the hymn set the atmosphere for our act of worship. Nor must we forget the two stalwarts who each week take the collection. This collection for our house charity - the Grenfell Association of Labrador enabled us to forward a cheque for the sum of £10. To all the boys and girls who contributed the Association expresses its appreciation.

It is a very worthwhile charity and I am convinced that everybody, yes, everybody, from 1st year to 6th year is able to give a weekly offering. Let's have no more walking past the collection boxes.

The Christmas Fayre saw the House as a whole at its best. The House stall was admirably supported by a large number of children's gifts and was a delight to the eye filled as it was with a wide variety of articles. Our thanks go to the many contributors, to the helpers and to the parents who supported us and helped us to raise the splendid sum of £31 5s. 9d.

The Christmas parties were again shared with Barton, Byrom and Norley. That they were such a success is in no small measure due to the industry and personality of Mr. Green who could not allow them to be otherwise. Out thanks to him and all members of staff who made them such enjoyable evenings, not least to those pupils who entertained us and to the Domestic Science Staff and their many helpers for such an excellent festive board.

Swimming

In the inter-house swimming events we gained 4th place—the highest position since this event was introduced. The following represented the House and gained creditable positions:

Boys' Team:

P. Hilton
S. Street
N. Farrimond
I. Francis
G. Crompton
G. Jones
D. Neville
P. Atherton
A. Scofield
H. Crook

Girls' Team:

D. Wilson
C. Millington
S. Mort
P. Entwistle
C. Campbell
S. Williams
S. Burgess
J. Martin
A. Dearden
H. Whittaker

H. Leary, S. Williams

It is, perhaps, invidious to single out any individual or team success but this achievement was in no small measure due to the following:

G. Crompton, 1st in inter boys' diving.

D. Neville, 1st in senior back crawl; and the relay team of Neville, Atherton, Scofield and Jones who won both the Freestyle Relay and Medley Relay.

In the girls' events C. Millington was 1st in the junior breast-stroke and the relay team of P. Entwistle, D. Wilson, C. Millington and C. Campbell, who came 2nd and 3rd in the Freestyle and Medley Relays respectively.

Football

The Senior Football Team had a very successful season, winning the Cup against Assheton.

Team: A. Scofield, goalkeeper; W. Thomason, left back; J. Jones (Captain), right back; R. Shirres, left half; P. Allsop, centre half; K. Hinsley, right half; N. Hamilton, outside left, N. Heapy, inside left; P. Bembridge, centre half; T. Shepherd, inside right; T. Pollitt, outside right.

Ainsworth began the match with only 8 players and as a result Assheton scored first after some hard pressure. The first half was hard fought but Ainsworth managed to score before half-time. At half-time it promised to be a close final but the appearance of three more Ainsworth players gave us an advantage.

From the beginning of the second half Ainsworth applied more pressure and were soon winning. The match went all Ainsworth's way and by the final whistle we were five goals to one; victors with many chances missed.

Ainsworth House Junior Football

Teams from: R. Bland, S. Liptrott, R. Hardman (Capt.), M. Brooks, S. Brooks, P. Smith, P. Horrocks, J. Jones, R. Ferguson, S. Evans, I. Slater, T. Greenhalgh, A. Ainscow, S. Ainsworth.

House Seven-a-side Rugby Competition

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst.	Pts.
Ainsworth	3	3	0	0	17	0	6
Marsh v Ainsworth			0—9				
Norley v Ainsworth			0—3				
Barton v Ainsworth			0—5				

Final: Ainsworth 5 v Assheton 0 (after extra time).

Team: Allsop, Shepherd, Hamilton, Bruce, Thomasson, Crook, Scofield (Capt.) and Bembridge.

Netball

1st Round (Losers' Cup).

This match was rather disappointing in the sense that only one senior member of the team turned up. The rest were second years. The 2nd years played very well and tried their very best to win. Even with the 2nd years we were one player short. The juniors will have to learn the rules of netball more carefully as they made a few mistakes during the match. We lost this match but could have won if our more experienced players had turned up.

The players were:

The players were: G. S. Yvonne Jones (Capt.), G. A. Christine Pilling; W. D. Sheila Barrett; C. Pauline Entwistle; G.D. Suzanne Ball; G.K. Barbara Farrimond.
Y. Jones (Capt.)

Rounders

All the girls turned up for the matches and played extremely well. The team which consisted of juniors played well in both matches. The first match against Assheton, was a hard but well fought match. Our second match was played against Byrom (holders of the cup) which consisted entirely of seniors. Although this match was lost, it was not lost easily and our opponents had to work hard to obtain their success.

This is a promising team and should improve as the team gets older. I should like to thank all girls who played.

Brenda Pendlebury (Captain)

Hockey

House Hockey Matches

Ainsworth v Assheton: Yvonne Jones (Capt.) C.H.; Hazel Leavy, C.F.; Susan Nowacki, R.B.; Pauline Entwistle, R.W.; Suzanne Ball, L.H.; Shila Barrett, L.L.; Barbara Farrimond, R.W.; Susan Hall, L.W.

The 8 girls who turned up to play against Assheton played very well. Five girls failed to turn up and let the rest of the side down. Through these 5 girls Ainsworth lost the game. Out of the 8 girls who did turn up five were 2nd years. These girls had the disadvantage of playing against older and more experienced players. But this fact did not discourage the girls for they played as well as they could.

Two of the senior players had not played hockey since last year but they soon settled down and played very well.

We played a mainly defensive game because we had little power in the forward line and needed the seniors at the back to prevent Assheton from scoring too many goals. Our efforts weren't quite enough. Assheton managed to score a goal in the second half. The match was very exciting and enjoyable to play.

With a full team Ainsworth would have won this match and gone through to the semi-final.

Ainsworth 0, Assheton 1. Y. Jones (Captain).

We claimed the final of the losers' competition as, owing to a misunderstanding, our opponents (Marsh) failed to appear on the court.

Athletics

Inter-House Athletics

Junior Boys' Team: I. Slater (Capt.), P. Hilton, B. Ainscow, R. Bland, C. Holt, M. Woods, P. Peers, N. Rogers, J. Cross, S. Egan, S. Morris, A. Smith, R. Vose.

Junior Girls' Team: P. Entwistle (Capt.), C. Campbell, S. Pasquill, C. Millington, S. Mort, T. Halliwell, E. Eretwell, D. Wilson.

Intermediate Boys: M. Croston (Capt.), J. Martindale, J. Tomlins, S. Liptrott, P. Smith, M. Brooks, J. Tare N. Farrimond, D. Peacock, J. Barkess, I. Morris, J. Stokes.

Intermediate Girls: H. Carliss, R. Willcock, C. Jones.

Finalists

Junior Girls' 100 yds.—C. Campbell (2nd).
80 yds.—S. Pasquill, E. Fretwell.
Long Jump:—C. Campbell (3rd), E. Fretwell.
High Jump—D. Wilson.

Intermediate Boys:

100 yds.—M. Croston (3rd).
440 yds.—D. Peacock (1st).
80 yds. Hurdles:—D. Peacock (2nd), N. Farrimond (4th).
Shot Put:—I. Morris (2nd).
Discus:—I. Morris (1st).
Long Jump: J. Tomlins.

Intermediate Girls

Rounders Ball Throw: C. Jones.

Senior Boys:

100 yds.: P. Allsop (2nd), N. Hamilton (4th).
80 yds. Hurdles: H. Crook (4th).
Javelin: H. Crook (2nd).

Senior Girls: Nil.

Junior Girls Relay: F. Fretwell, C. Campbell, S. Pasquill, C. Millington (2nd).

Junior Boys Relay: I. Slater, P. Hilton, R. Bland, S. Street (4th).

Inter Boys Relay: M. Croston, I. Morris, J. Tomlins, N. Farrimond (3rd).

Senior Boys Relay: P. Allsop, H. Crook, P. Hardman (1st), N. Hamilton.

To all the captains of the various teams who have worked hard arranging practices, organised teams and written reports, often with little support, I am most grateful. They did a splendid job and deserve our praise.

House visits this year were paid to Rufford Old Hall and Southport by the first year pupils; to Wedgewood Potteries by the second years and to Liverpool Art Gallery and Southport by the third years.

At the end of the School year we said farewell to Miss Holt; our best wishes go with her. Finally, I wish to thank the staff for their interest, advice and co-operation without which the House could not function.

J.D.D.

ASSHETON

Staff: Mr. K. W. Oxspring, Mr. G. S. Cox, Miss N. Fairhurst, Mr. K. Gerrard, Mr. W. H. R. Grundy, Mrs. A. Meakin, Mr. D. Moizer, Mr. J. Porter, Miss B. Whitworth, Miss J. Witherington, Mr. B. Stones, Mr. A. B. Woods.

House reports always contain their full measure of joy and sorrow, success, failure; and this report is no exception. It is always a sorrow to say goodbye to valued Staff and pupils and a joy to welcome "new blood". This year we say good-bye to Miss Witherington, who leaves us with a memory of much hard

work performed and interest shown in girls' games and House activities generally. We wish her every success in her new post and hope that she has enjoyed her association with us. Many valued pupils also, who have contributed much to our sporting competitions, are leaving us. We wish them well in their careers and hope that their future lives will bear some traces of what we have tried to teach them.

After some delay, due to bad weather, we opened our sports programme with the Senior Soccer competition. We took a further step towards the prize by reaching the final, thanks mainly to a fine spirit and a great deal of endeavour. After victories over Marsh and Norley, in which we scored 14 goals and conceded only 1, we had a walk-over into the final when we met Ainsworth, the favourites. We played with such zeal in the first half that we led 1—0 and were clearly the better side. Ainsworth, however, were more experienced as a team and, after a well-fought second-half, ran out worthy winners by 4—1. The girls' netball team, the best we have seen for many years, gave us our first taste of real success by winning the Netball Cup. After sweeping aside Ainsworth and Norley Houses in preliminary rounds, we met Byrom House in the Final. Speed on court and really brilliant shooting won this match for us by the very convincing margin of 13—3.

For us, the Swimming Competition was almost a repeat of last year's. We had only one competitor from the Senior girls, but we were again placed 3rd in the competition. It is quite obvious that we cannot hope to win this competition unless we have a full entry from all sections of the House.

The Spring Term saw three exciting competitions, Junior Soccer, Rugby and Hockey. The Soccer team again did not lose a match but failed to qualify for the Final on goal average despite winning their last match 6—2. The Hockey team did really well to reach the Final, which they lost to a superior Byrom side 5—0. The Rugby team has again had a wonderful season and again lost in the Final after a creditable performance. Surely it will be our turn to win next year!

The House Rounders competition again saw Assheton and Byrom locked together in an exciting match. Our road to the Final was our most glorious to date; each one won with an innings to spare. There was great hope that this may be our year, but, alas, it was not to be. Our girls played well but below their best and Byrom declared after passing our total.

Our last competition, Athletics, was the most unsatisfactory I have ever known; not because of the results, but because of the attitude to the competition and the atmosphere in which it was held. We have talent in abundance in the House and yet our entries were made up mainly by "unknown" athletes or those

whose past successes were only average. It was to their great credit that with a team of only 30 boys and girls out of a total of more than 200, they gained 122½ points, which is nearly half as many as those gained by the winners of the competition. The pity was that they did not seem to merit even a cheer from our members of the Base Athletics Team who could only stand and watch.

If we can for a moment erase the memory of this stain on our House records; the rest of the picture is quite promising. In the 7 competitions in which we took part, we won 1, were finalists in 4, and gained 3rd position in another. If ever we can command a full measure of support from the House as a whole, and not just from a few enthusiasts, our results could be quite remarkable.

K.W.O.

Senior Soccer: Bourne (Capt.), Blackburn, Mulligan, Reason, Beamish, Rawlinson, Mulvaney, Glicklich, Tomlinson, Wright, Bentley, Pearson, Huddart, Walsh.

Junior Soccer: Hough (Capt.), Kakoulis, Knight, Butcher, Smith, Obersby, Hindle, O'Connor, Cooper, Thresh, Moore, Walsh, Jpnes.

Netball: S. Blacklock (Capt.), P. Evans, L. Thorpe, J. Newsham, C. Tilley, S. Hough, S. Best, S. Pilling, S. Fort, N. Thomasson.

Hockey: L. Roberts, S. Blacklock, J. Newsham, S. Lever, C. Tilley, L. Voce, C. Brooks, P. Dixon, H. Gregson, A. Hamer, A. Sandiford, K. Smith, S. Stones.

Rounders: G. Newsham, L. Newsham, S. Blacklock, L. Thorpe, S. Best, C. Tilley, S. Pilling, S. Hough, S. Stones, P. Evans.

Rugby: Mulligan (Capt.), Buffey, Bourne, Rainford, Reason, Boydell, Thompson, Blackburn.

Swimming

Senior Boys: Rawlinson, Bourne, Openshaw, Boydell, Mulligan, House.

Senior Girls: G. Eckersley.

Inter Boys: Gleaves, Thompson, Webster, Tomlinson, Pilling, Lowe, Kakoulis, O'Connor.

Inter Girls: S. Platt, S. Hough, J. Withers, S. Fogg, B. Waring, S. Fort, V. Grundy.

Junior Boys: Butterworth, Entwistle, Pearson, Gray, Smith, Walmsley.

Reserves: Nicholls, Girling, Howarth, Bagley, Harrison, Butcher.

Junior Girls: S. Winrow, M. Armitage, N. Gray, H. Couper, J. Goodram, M. Pilling.
Reserves: G. Littlewood, E. Pilling.

Athletics

Finalists

Senior Boys: 880 — Mulligan 3rd.
440 — Mulligan (1st).
220 — Buffey (1st).
Long Jump — Buffey (1st).
Shot — Openshaw (2nd).

Inter Boys: High Jump — Webster (1st).
Javelin — Hayes (4th).

Inter Girls: Rounders Ball — J. Newsham (1st)
— L. Newsham (4th).
80 yds Hurdles — L. Newsham (3rd).
150 yds — J. Newsham (4th).
Long Jump — S. Hough (4th).
High Jump — S. Pilling (5th).

Junior Boys: 100 yds — Jones (3rd).
80 yds. Hurdles — Thresh (3rd).
— Smith (4th).
Long Jump — Roscoe (6th).

Junior Girls: 100 yds. — M. Armitage (3rd).
— J. Moores (4th).
Long Jump — C. Harper (2nd).
High Jump — J. Seddon (2nd).
Relay — M. Armitage
— C. Harper
— J. Moores
— S. Price } 3rd.

Other entrants gaining valuable standard points were:
P. Mulligan Butcher
Nicholls L. Wainwright
Sharples S. Wainwright
Clwujukidis J. Hough

BARTON

In September we welcomed to the House Staff Miss Desoer and Mr. Crate who replaced Miss Hanley and Mr. Jasper, and also Mr. Fairhurst who joined us in place of Mr. Benson, now Lord of Hulton House.

The full House Staff list for the year 1967-68 is as follows: Mr. M. Green, Mr. D. Austin, Dr. A. Barlow, Mr. J. Crate, Miss B. Desoer, Miss M. Elsworth, Mr. J. Fairhurst, Mr. J. A. Fair, Mr. C. Mellor, Mr. E. H. Price, Mr. H. Taylor, Mrs. A. Whalley.

Three examples of great keenness are bright patches in the grey sky of the House programme during this School year. One speaks of the keenness of the Swimming team which won the Inter-House Competition for the fifth year. The Cup has not been won by any other House and a number of pupils have battled for Barton in the swimming pool on four, even five occasions. To these and all who helped to victory go our congratulations. The swimming team was once again treated to a Manchester theatre trip by the House Staff.

One speaks also of the enthusiasm of our Junior footballers—shown not only in matches but in practice games. For the second time only in the history of the House did the Junior team this year reach the Football Final. For the first time ever they won the Cup. Congratulations again.

Although the seven-a-side Rugby team did not have great success, they deserve a mention for their enthusiasm and the efficiency of leadership which came from within the group of players itself and was not "arranged" from without.

Apart from these bright patches we have had grey skies of indifference—at the Athletic Sports the Schools were positively agog with it—and rain, an abundance of rain. Match after match has been postponed because of it. It was a pity that when Senior footballers were only too ready to play, their matches could not be arranged.

Traditional Burnthwaite Christmas party, Burnthwaite collections (total £14), Christmas Fayre, House visits and House lunch troubles all once again took place.

It is difficult for the writer to become excited over the year's events. The routine has been the same and any attempt to change or enlarge it would only serve to tax further the energy and the goodwill of the minority of pupils who both seek to give something to the House system and to gain anything from it.

M.G.

Pupils who took part in inter-house events during the year were:

Teams and Results

Senior Football from: F. Allen, W. Birtwistle, R. Bromley, W. Dawson, E. Farell, H. Fletcher, P. Holden, J. Jackson, C. Livesey, R. Lomax, P. Rudd, S. Seddon, P. Sutcliffe, D. Tatton, D. Wolfe.

Junior Football, from: S. Highfield, D. Brandwood, N. Gawthorpe, A. Bowden, J. Webber, J. Norton, G. Fogg, J. Bannister, H. Crompton, F. Dearnaley, S. Hindle, B. Smith, P. Pinner, S. Catterall.

Results: Seniors	v. Ainsworth	Lost 3—4
	v. Hulton	Won 6—5
Juniors:	v. Norley	Won 5—1
	v. Assheton	Drew 2—2
	v. Ainsworth	Won 17—0
Final	v. Hulton	Won 7—5

Seven-a-Side Rugby: S. Henderson, D. Butterworth, P. Sutcliffe, J. Jackson, R. Bromley, T. Jones, R. Waddington, D. Tatton. Reserve: F. Allen.

v. Norley	Lost 0—3
v. Marsh	Won 3—0
v. Ainsworth	Lost 0—5

Hockey: J. Williams, M. Hurst, J. Longton, M. Fairlie, M. Owen, S. Haycock, N. Ashworth, K. Hodgkinson, S. Gosforth, S. Ball, K. Lee, B. Jones.

Netball: J. Williams, M. Hurst, J. Longton, M. Fairlie, M. Owen, S. Haycock, K. Ashworth, V. Livesey, S. Gosforth.

Rounders: J. Williams, M. Hurst, M. Fairlie, M. Owen, S. Haycock, K. Ashworth, K. Hodgkinson, A. King.

Swimming Team: I. Davidson, A. Norton, P. Rimmer, G. Fogg, K. Ashworth, B. Nuttall, V. Schofield, E. Darcy, J. Smith.

J. Norton, W. Birtwistle, H. Fletcher, D. Urmston, M. Boardman, A. Longworth, J. Miller, L. Nightingale, C. Rimmer, S. Haycock.

E. Farrell, J. Jackson, T. Jones, P. Sutcliffe, C. Livesey, R. Bromley, A. Shelton, J. Wilcock, M. Hurst, J. Williams.

Result: Team won 1st place in the competition for the fifth successive year.

A.letics Team: P. Rimmer, I. Davidson, J. Oldham, A. Greenhalgh, N. Crompton, J. Webber, G. Wharmby, H. Kacchia, D. Hughes, P. Aberathy, M. Pollitt, P. Bailey, S. Fallows, V. Schofield, Y. Clare, G. Darcy, S. Hill, H. Norris, J. Darrock, K. Ashworth, J. McGuire, D. Hall, T. Dodd, G. Stridleton, G. Holt, S. Beamish, J. Norton, W. Birtwistle, H. Fletcher, P. Holden, M. Fairlie, V. Livesey, A. King, M. Owen, S. Haycoc D. Tatton, S. Seddon, P. Sutcliffe, J. Williams, M. Hurst.

BYROM

After my first year as Housemaster of Byrom House I am pleased to report a number of successes in the Inter-house Competitions.

The girls must be highly commended on their performances in games and athletics. They were narrowly beaten in the Netball final; everything was done except the final netting of the ball.

We managed to excel ourselves on the hockey field, with the clever scheming of our captain, Beverley Fiddes, and the rapid advances of Alwyn Heaton leaving the opposition in complete bewilderment; the younger members of our team gaining valuable experience in readiness for next year's competitions.

The rounders final was won after an exciting game, when Byrom appeared to be playing cat and mouse with the opposition, finally clinching victory beyond doubt.

Our football teams, particularly the juniors, made a gallant effort to succeed against the extreme conditions of the football pitches which in the end defeated the whole competition and had to be abandoned.

We unfortunately had to let the Athletics Trophy go after holding it for so many years, but congratulations to the small group of competitors who earned the house a commendable total of points bringing the house within seven or eight points of the runners up in the competition. Like many of the other Houses, success depended largely not so much on ability but the availability of competitors mainly in the senior events.

The annual house trips were enjoyed exploring the caves at Ingleton, observing the antics of the animals at Chester Zoo, and the ear-piercing noise of jets arriving at and departing from Ringway.

Finally, may I express my appreciation for the gallant effort made by the parents' generosity to the Stall at the Xmas Fayre, which took a sum of money comparable with all previous efforts; also to the band of volunteers on the stall. Also at Xmas we joined forces with Norley and Barton for the parties which under the guidance of Mr. Green, and with the performance of a group of sixth formers, gave us a most enjoyable time.

I must take this opportunity of wishing the members of our house who are leaving school, every success in whatever they are doing, and also of extending a welcome to our newcomers.

F.A.

HULTON

House Staff: Mr. J. Benson, Mr. R. Aitcheson, Mr. P. Barker, Mr. T. Brewer, Mr. M. Brown, Miss C. Butcher, Mr. R. Gorner, Mr. F. Hamer, Mr. E. Heaton, Mrs. M. Johnstone, Mrs. H. Nuttall, Mrs. G. Taylor.

It would be pleasant if in my first house report, I could record a year of unqualified success. This, however, is not the case, for our earlier fixtures resulted in a list of failures and defects. With the advent of the summer sports, however, we came more into our own, and ultimate success in the House Athletics Sports only narrowly eluded us.

In the Christmas term we entered the Senior football, swimming and hockey competitions.

Our Senior Football team was notably unsuccessful, playing two matches and losing both. On both occasions we fielded full teams, but were overwhelmed in the mud, by heavier opponents.

In the swimming gala, our tale of woe continued. Despite producing an almost complete team our swimmers were not good enough on the day, and we finished back in 7th place, our lowest position to date.

Our senior girls' hockey team produced our first victory of the year, when they defeated Radclyffe. Further progress was prevented by a strong Byrom team.

Our flagging fortunes were revived in the summer sports. Our netball team, despite being knocked out by a strong Byrom team, went on to defeat Marsh and then Radclyffe in the losers' final. Our rounders team followed a parallel course, being beaten in the first round by Norley largely as a result of our lending them one of our players, who played very much better than she should have done; then going on to defeat Barton and Marsh, to record our second victory in a losers' final.

Our junior soccer team handsomely won its section of the draw with convincing wins over Byrom, Marsh and Radclyffe. In the final we were faced by a Barton team who had enjoyed similar success in their section of the draw. The final produced a splendid game which Barton deserved to win by 7—4.

The final house contest of the year was the Athletics Championships. In this event we reached second place largely owing to fine performances by Chris. Isherwood who came first in the Junior Boys' 100 yards and 220 yards.

Other good results were:

Paul Simpson: Inter boys L.J. (new record): 1st.

Stephen Chadwick: Senior boys Disc. (new record): 1st; L.J. 2nd.

John Keltie: Senior boys H.J., 1st; 440 yds., 2nd.

Carol Johnson: Senior girls 440 yds 1st (new record); 100 yds. 2nd.

I trust that with a similar response next year, we will go one step better, and win the trophy outright.

Our social activities have been as prominent as ever. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd form Christmas Parties were their usual noisy successes and the three house trips were to Wedgewood Potteries and Trentham Gardens; Manchester Airport and Southport; and Liverpool Cathedral, the Docks and Southport.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the house staff for their willing co-operation, and the usual group of helpful boys and girls who are always available to man the house stall at the Christmas Fayre, wash up at house parties and generally help to make a housemaster's lot less of a nightmare.

As always, some of our most faithful house members are leaving us this summer, and I should like to thank them for their help and wish them every success in the future. J.B.

House Teams:

Senior Soccer team from: M. Woods, D. Smith, Wood, J. Keltie, A. Gray, Jones, S. Chadwick, P. Lonnen, P. Heap, S. Jolley, P. Warren, S. Burgess, Bailey.

Senior Hockey team: Joan Eccleshare, Jean Demaine, Janette Humphries, Ruth Carr, Ann McNulty, Annie Walsh, Wendy Harris, Joyce Turner (Capt.), Vivien Boardman, Carol Johnson, Caroline Hall, Cynthia Holt, Hilary Walsh.

Swimming:

Junior Boys: John Lee, Stephen Abbott, Ian Sewart, Stuart Heaton, Llewellyn Abbott, Leonard Hodgkiss.

Junior Girls: Shirley Weir, Pamela Marriott, Sheila Catherall, Judith Whittaker, Gillian Martin.

Intermediate Boys: M. Harris, A. Barlow, P. Hilton, I. Bell, K. Beamer, D. Crompton,

Intermediate Girls: Susan Williams, Wendy Harris, Dorothy Hoyle, Vanessa Ross, Sheila Towler, Hilary Lythgoe.

Senior Boys: S. Chadwick, N. Keltie, A. Gray, P. Heap, S. Bond, P. Lonnen.

Senior Girls: Carol Johnson, Caroline Hall, Joyce Turner, Pauline Barlow, Pat Robinson.

Netball Team: Barbara Thornton, Ruth Carr, Pat Widdup, Christine Bradley, Janice Rodie, Janet Birchall, Carol Johnson.

Rounders Team: Carol Johnson, Christine Bradley, Janet Birchall, Julia Dovey, Cynthia Holt, Halina Dabrowski, Shirley Weir, Margaret Smith, Lesley Hall, Lynn Halton.

Junior Football from: Keith Harrison, David Carter, Ian Carter, Ian Ball, Raymond Berry, Mark Harris (Capt.), Chris Isherwood, Ian Brown, Steven Nethercott, Frank Crompton, Paul Simpson, John Tatton.

MARSH

Staff: Mr. Oldfield, Mrs. Dever, Mr. Sharpe, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Marshall, Miss Weaver, Mrs. Finch, Mr. Clarke, Miss Fishwick, Mr. Wolstencroft, Mr. Hamer, Mr. Forsyth.

This year has not been the glorious one which we had hoped for. We have had our ups and downs and perhaps more than the average year's postponements and cancellations of games but we have held our own in most of our activities.

Senior Football

We had a very encouraging start to the season with all but two members new to the team. We won our first match quite convincingly against Norley 7—0. After this match the fixture list became a hotch-potch of postponements. The second match we won 3—2 against Ratclyffe and the last match against Assheton we lost just as convincingly as we had won the first. This match was not played until February.

The following represented the House: Pike, Lee, Robson, Smith, Kershaw, Thornton, Griffiths, Irish, Whiteside, Kenyon, Delvard, Cox, Bolton.

Junior Football

We held high hopes of our Junior side this year. On paper we had a strong team. The first match was conceded by Radclyffe; the second against Hulton we lost 4—1. This was played on an extremely wet pitch; it rained continuously and at times both ball and boys appeared to be floating. The match against Byrom we conceded; I sent the team home owing to a misunderstanding, again about the weather; it rained hard until 4 p.m.

The following represented the House: Taylor, Roberts, Hughes, M. Gibbons, Draper, Anderson, Stevenson, Guffogg, Warwick, Springer, Grimshaw, Rigby.

Netball

This took place when normally we should have played Hockey. The pitches were so bad that we had to play Netball on the courts and indoors. The first match I missed as it coincided with the swimming heats. The second we had to concede, much to the disappointment of the team who were keen to play, as it coincided with the final choir practice before Prize Giving and we were unable to field a team. Netball is a popular game and I feel we will do well next year.

The following represented the House: Brenda Hacking Moira Hawarden, Gillian Rushton, Lynne Nicholas, Elizabeth Ward, Jane Ward, Lynne Crompton, Joyce Openshaw, Audrey Dodworth.

Hockey

We did much better this year with a very keen team. We drew with Byrom but lost the replay owing to a misunderstanding about dinner sittings, we failed to field a team against Ainsworth in the losers' final on a Thursday; we played the match on the Friday and won but the Ainsworth captain claimed the match as conceded. With this team we stand a very good chance next year.

Team from : Jane Ward, Brenda Hacking, Christine Mayoh, Lynne Nicholas, Audrey Dodworth, Lynne Crompton, Elizabeth Ward, Joyce Openshaw, Susan Waddington, Elaine Lindow, Anne Hogan.

Swimming

We have once again enjoyed dinner time swimming and my thanks go to those members of staff and life savers who have made this possible. I am pleased to say that we now have several more bronze medallists to help with this job. The Swimming Gala went off very smoothly as usual, thanks to the P.E. Staff. Our position has improved a little in the last two years. This time we came fourth. This was mainly due to a very good effort by the junior team; at the end of the junior finals we were second. The intermediates and seniors swam very well but the competition was just a bit too good. I just wish some of our senior girls were a little less shy; we must try to put in a full team next year.

Rounders

We fielded a side with quite a high proportion of juniors and they did amazingly well. We were unlucky to meet a strong side, Byrom, eventual winners in our first match and lost by almost an innings. Our second match we won by 12 rounders to 9 which put us into the losers' final. We lost this in a good match on a lovely afternoon and I am sure everyone enjoyed it immensely. On this showing we should have a strong side in the future.

The following represented the House: Elizabeth Ward, Lynn Nicholas, Susan Jones, Susan Waddington, Anne Hogan, Jane Ward, Audrey Dodworth, Janet Dodworth, Joyce Openshaw, Lauren Sinclair, Pauline Pendlebury, Anne Pendlebury, Sheila Pendlebury.

Athletics

We came eight in the athletics and some of the fault must be mine in not properly informing individuals, but some of the blame must go to those team members who failed to read the notice board. We did not have a particularly strong team and we felt the loss of our seniors who were out of school but we could have done better. Any shame we have does not rest on the team, who did their best, but rather on those people who were content to play on the side lines when they should have been competing.

Xmas Parties

The parties as usual went with a swing and I think they were better than ever this year. More people joined in the games and this always makes a good party. Generous praise must go to all those members of staff who endured trial by rolled newspaper. The spinning plate game proved popular; I noticed the third formers had got the knack perhaps a bit better than the second; they let the plate spin a little longer before stamping on it! Next year I shall take out insurance before I play that "articles" game again!

I should not mention the "Grand Joke Competition" at all if it were not for the funniest story of the year. Of the possible 600 replies I could have received I had only one before the deadline. What happened to all those funny stories people are always trying to tell me at the wrong time? Perhaps we shall try again some time.

Xmas Fayre

Once again this combined effort of parents and school was very well supported. The House stall again groaned under a very mixed variety of gifts for which I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all those people who contributed. If I may insert a plea here for future years: will you please put a price on your gift? This would be of enormous help to the people on the stall. Thanks also to my hard-worked helpers.

Once again the lower school went on House trips all of which were fortunate in having good weather. The first years went to Chester; the second years to Liverpool Cathedrals and the third years to Haddon Hall and Castleton. I tried for lots of other interesting places but booking has to be so far in advance now that we just could not get in.

We continued our efforts in the Help the Aged campaign. The Grammar School now makes an annual collection on their behalf and our work of collecting useable clothing makes a useful contribution to this worthwhile charity.

In conclusion I should like to thank the other Housemasters and staff for their co-operation and help with games and to say thank you and goodbye to Miss Fishwick and Mr. Forsyth and to wish them well in the future.
J.W.O.

NORLEY

Staff: Messrs. Kelly; Bennetts; Brindle; Davies; Holden; Pearson; Rushton; Wilding; Wright; Miss Cox; Mrs. Jones and Miss Smythe

A long absence from school must necessarily cause gaps in my account of the activities of Norley House. From time to time I was told that the members of Norley were taking part in the House matches, but, as I was incapacitated, I was unable to follow them with close interest.

At this point I wish to thank the members of staff who undertook my duties. As these were in addition to their own responsibilities it must have been quite a burden for them. Mr. Pearson in particular I wish to thank. Also all those who sent me messages hopeful of a speedy recovery.

The school year had not advanced much before we were preparing for the Swimming Gala. We had hoped of improving on our past results, perhaps even winning the trophy, but this was not to be, for Barton once again had a strong team and came out easy winners. However, Norley did do better than previously and we have not given up hope of attaining the leading position one day.

The Swimming Gala over, our attention was turned to the Christmas Fayre. Our contributions to the final total were very creditable and this shows that we have a good body of supporters for this worthy cause.

Christmas parties were again a joint affair with Norley joining Ainsworth, Barton and Byrom. These parties were enjoyed as much as ever, thanks mainly to Mr. Green and a host of willing helpers.

Athletics this year was not our strong point. Fourth position in the table is not a result of which we can be proud. Nevertheless I must thank all those who took part in the heats and finals. Thanks to the P.E. staff for organising the events.

House trips must finish my account. These were favoured with good weather and were enjoyed by all who went on the outings. The First Year had a sail on the River Dee before going on to Chester Zoo; the Second Year visited Chatsworth House and Castleton Caves. Another cave visit for the Third Year to White Scar Cave, Ingleton, before visiting Morecambe.

E.K.

RADCLYFFE

Staff: Mr. Bradshaw, Mr. Bentley, Mr. Evans, Mr. Fothergill, Mr. Kitchen, Mr. Martin, Mr. Perris, Mr. Turner, Miss Bradley, Miss Corkill, Miss Tetlow, Miss Thornley.

In this year's report, we have to say farewell to Miss Bradley and Mr. Martin and we thank them for the interest and support they have given whilst they have been with us.

The first event of the winter programme which occupied us was the Inter House Swimming Gala in which, after running Barton House so close for 1st place last year, we had hopes of success. The Intermediate swimmers swam very well, but this was not backed up in the Junior and Senior events and our hopes were not realised.

The Senior Soccer and girls' Hockey competitions suffered many postponements owing to the bad weather and the shocking state of the pitches. In fact, the Senior Soccer team never took the field, a disappointment in view of the fact that they were finalists the previous year, and, on paper, looked to be a strong side. The Hockey team lost in the Knock-out to Hulton when the weather finally allowed them to play. Netball never seems to have been a strong point with the House and this year proved no exception, the team losing in the first round.

Other events of the winter term were the Christmas Fayre and the Christmas parties. The Fayre was better supported than ever before and the quality of many of the articles made and brought for the House stall was very high. Consequently, the stall raised more money than in any previous year: a very gratifying result. The Christmas parties, held jointly with Assheton, Hulton and Marsh, were very enjoyable and successful affairs and a contributory factor to this was the hard work done behind the scenes by senior pupils in serving refreshments, washing up and helping in many other ways.

Towards the end of the Easter term, the Junior Soccer competition was held and, though this too was affected by the weather we managed to complete our matches. Our section was won by the strongest team, who played well in the very heavy conditions, but the matches we played showed the nucleus of a sound team for next year.

The poor state of the playing fields and the fact that House football fixtures were still being played after Easter meant that there was no House Cricket competitions, but the girls' Rounders Knock-out was played early in the Summer term. Our girls played very well to win their match and then to find that they had been eliminated from the competition because a player had left early and they had not finished the match with a full complement. Better luck next time.

However, the final term did bring us some success. After the House visits to Manchester Airport (1st year), Preston Dock and Southport (2nd year) and Lancaster Castle and Morecambe (3rd year) came the Inter-house Athletics competition. In this, the Juniors gave an outstanding performance, as results printed on other pages show, and they were well supported by the Intermediate competitors. Result: SUCCESS—from 8th place last year we moved to 1st place this year and took the Athletics trophy from Byrom House who have held it for several years. We've now got to keep it at the competition next year. Finally, in the last week of the year, the Work Trophy in the Modern School which we won last year, we retained after a close struggle throughout the year with Hulton House.

In conclusion, I should like to thank all those who have helped in any way this year, to say farewell and good luck for the future to those who are leaving and to welcome new members who will, we hope, strive for success in future years.

A.R.B.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

1st XI

P. 15, W.5, D.3, L.7, Cancelled 7.

The following may read like the results of a full-scale fight, but in fact, are simply injuries that have beset the 1st XI this season: two broken toes, badly burned ankle, chipped foot bone, broken finger, sprained ankle, pulled hamstring, damaged knee and cut ankle. Add to these illnesses, and it can easily be seen why the 1st XI have not had as successful a season as anticipated. In spite of hardly ever being able to turn out a true 1st XI the results are not as bad as might be expected.

Although good sporting behaviour on the field is something which should be expected of any side, today, with the influence of modern professional football, many teams tend to forget this very important point. I am pleased to say that Smithills 1st XI has not forgotten and have conducted themselves well both on and off the field: a point which the team can be justly proud of. It will undoubtedly help the younger teams coming up the school.

The team has played some very good football and some very mediocre football this season, which, when one considers the number of games played and the injuries various members of the team have sustained, is only to be expected. The sooner regular Saturday matches and outdoor practices can be relied upon, the sooner success, in the way of results, will be accomplished.

Results			
Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
Sept.	16 Leigh G.S.	A	Won 4—2
	23 Heywood G.S.	H	Won 6—0
	30 Inter-Schools Competition		
Oct.	7		
	14 Bolton C.G.S.	A	Lost 1—4
	21 Derby School	A	Lost 1—2
Nov.	28 Hindley G.S.	H	Cancelled
	4 Bacup and Rawtenstall G.S.	A	Cancelled
	11 Worsley Wardley G.S.	H	Cancelled
	18 Rivington & Blackrod G.S.	H	Lost 1—2
	25 Thornleigh College	A	Lost 1—2
Dec.	2 Manchester University	H	Cancelled
	9 Ashton in Makerfield G.S.	A	Cancelled
	16 Hindley and Abraham G.S.	A	Drew 1—1
1968			
Jan.	6 Farnworth G.S.	H	Cancelled
	13 Inter-Schools Competition		
	20 Bacup & Rawtenstall G.S.	H	Won 4—1
	27 Bolton C.G.S.	A	Lost 4—1
Feb.	3 Heywood G.S.	A	Drew 2—2
	10 Worsley Wardley G.S.	A	Cancelled
	17 Leigh G.S.	H	Won 4—0
	24 Hayward Schools	H	Lost 2—7
	March	2 Rivington and Blackrod G.S.	A
9 Hayward Schools		A	Lost 2—3
16 Derby School		H	Won 7—0

May I thank Mr. J. Weir and his groundsmen for their services throughout the season in spite of atrocious conditions. C.A.B.

Colours were awarded to: G. Matthews (Capt.) P. Lonnen, S. Chadwick, A. Brown, I. Sheppard, P. Allsopp.

Half-colours to: F. Blackburn, B. Winrow, M. Osborn, B. Nicholls, S. Jolly.

S. Matthews, I. Sheppard and P. Allsopp were selected for the Area County Football Team and P. Lonnen was chosen as reserve.

Second XI

P.13, W.6, L.6, D.1, Cancelled 11.

The 2nd XI had a season of mixed fortunes, which reflected the number of calls made on the team by the 1st XI, and also the surprising failure of the team to adapt to heavy pitches. When they played on dry hard grounds when ball control was essential, they were seen at their best, but unfortunately they attempted to play the same kind of close-passing game when conditions demanded the long ball. The most heartening aspect of the season was the constant attempt to play football in a sporting way with enthusiasm and no mean skill. Their cheerfulness and loyalty has been a credit to the Base.

The following boys played for the team: P. Rudd; G. Jones; R. Shirres; K. Hinsley; D. Beamish; A. Wright; H. King; P. Bembridge; N. Hamilton; K. Lee; N. Heapy; E. Farrell; C. Livesey; G. Kershaw; T. Pollit; D. Bramwell; M. Osborne; S. Seddon; F. Allen (Capt.); S. Griffiths; R. A. Wallwork.

E.H. D.E.

Under 15 XI

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
20	11	1	8	96	55

The U15's have not lived up to the promise they showed last year as U14's. The captaincy, for a variety of reasons, has been changed more than once. In the latter, more successful, part of the season, Mann led the team with spirit and determination. At one time seven players were out of action with injuries ranging from broken collar bones to cartilage trouble. The Wednesday evening training sessions were quite well attended, although it was disappointing that some of the better players had to be discounted because they would not train. In fairness it must be added that the team has had no real luck; teams struggling to find form rarely do. In the 1st round of the Bolton Wanderers' Cup the goalkeeper was badly injured with the score at 2—2 and we lost 2—8.

In the closing matches of the season the team played its best football, beating Hayward, Derby School and St. Cuthbert's, the latter thus suffering their only league defeat of the season. This makes some results even more difficult to understand. Against Tonge Fold we won 11—1 at home and lost 3—4 away. Two players, Ainscow and Warren, represented Bolton Boys.

Bolton Wanderers Cup

1st Round v. Turton C.S. Home. Lost 2—8.

The Under 15 2nd XI:

P.	L.	F.	A.
4	4	12	21

V.P.

Under 14 XI:

P.	W.	L.	F.	A.
11	5	6	37	33

Nearly half of the fixtures for this team had to be cancelled owing to unplayable conditions, and this is clearly reflected both in the results and in their style of play. In the 1966-67 season, we saw a team of boys blending in with each other to form a

formidable scoring machine which gave promise of even better things to come. They are still the same team, but the accuracy of passing, the linking of defence and attack, and the thinking as a team were not up to the previous standard. All this can be put down to one basic factor—lack of practice. This in turn is entirely the fault of the ridiculous state of our pitches. Most of the practice games had to take place on the playground which of course demands an entirely different style of play to that on a pitch, tackling not being hard and individual skills being very limited due to the congested smaller and hard surfaced area.

In the circumstances, the boys played good football when they got on to a good pitch, and most of their defeats came after they had had matches and games periods cancelled. The fire, speed, determination, and will to win are still there, and once this team regain their self-confidence, they will still go a long way.

Team from: H. Kakoullis, S. Greenhalgh, K. Knight, B. Wolstenholme, M. Hodgkiss, J. Norton, S. Hindle, P. Hough, I. Collins, S. Cooper, N. Ferguson, M. Harris, S. Anderton, B. Smith, A. Eaves, I. Bell.

F.H.

Under 13 XI:

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
12	10	0	2	78	31

As our record shows this has been a most successful season for the Base U13 Soccer team in spite of the number of games which have had to be called off because of the state of the pitches.

The team have played good sound soccer all year apart from a short spell in mid-season when they lacked confidence. The defence was hesitant and the forwards lacked the drive and determination necessary to score goals with the inevitable results. The turning point was the match against Thornleigh College when, owing partly to keen support from our faithful followers, the boys played a magnificent game and were able to turn an expected defeat into a most convincing victory. After this fixture the team never turned back and finished the season most powerfully, never giving the opposition any chance whatsoever.

During the whole season there has been a most pleasing spirit throughout and this is the one factor which has made them such a splendid team. Particular mention however, must be made of Gibbons, who has captained the side most convincingly and improved with every match, also Hutchinson, the centre forward, who managed to score no less than 32 goals, an achievement made possible only by the unselfish play of the other forwards. This is truly soccer and we look forward eagerly to next season and hope that again this team may produce soccer of the same high standard.

The following boys have played for the team or have been reserves: Brown, Croft, Crompton, Draper, Gibbons, Gorner, Hindle, Hutchinson, Isherwood, Lawson, McEndrie, Metcalfe, Miller, Powell, Smith, Thresh, Webber and Whiteley.

Under 12 XI:

P.	W.	D.	L.	Cancelled
13	7	1	5	9

The U/12's team has had a fairly good season apart from the usual matches lost through unplayable pitches. Cancelled matches remain the most disappointing feature of our winter games and it is remarkable that boys can maintain an interest in their team at all when they miss two, three or even more Saturdays in a row. It is obviously very tempting for them to find other interests and they cannot be blamed.

In spite of everything the team maintained a good spirit and played some excellent football and are to be complimented on the season's play.

There were few outstanding individuals in the team, with the possible exception of Jones who played a very good game and also captained the team very well. The rest of the boys have all played very well with no weak players and in fact we had many boys who only seldom got a game who were probably equally as good as those who played more regularly.

Those who have played have been from: J. Jones (Capt.), P. Rimmer, T. Urmston, S. Wharton, S. Evans, T. Kakoullis, D. Savage, A. Fogg, S. Haslam, R. Taylor, R. Sixsmith, G. Thomasson, D. Price, I. Slater, J. Cavanagh, B. Settle, G. Orlopp, B. Lee.

M.H.

INTER-HOUSE FOOTBALL

Senior Section 1

Barton 3 v. Ainsworth 4
 Barton 6 v. Hulton 5
 Ainsworth 3 v. Byrom 0
 Hulton 2 v. Ainsworth 7

Senior Section 2

Marsh 7 v. Norley 0
 Marsh 3 v. Radclyffe 2
 Norley 0 v. Assheton 7
 5 games abandoned

Final: Ainsworth beat Assheton 4—1

Junior Section 1

Radclyffe v. Marsh Cancelled
 Byrom 4 v. Hulton 7
 Radclyffe 2 v. Byrom 2
 Marsh 1 v. Hulton 4
 Radclyffe 0 v. Hulton 9
 Byrom 0 v. Marsh 3 Bye

Junior Section 2

Barton 5 v. Norley 1
 Assheton 12 v. Ainsworth 0
 Barton 2 v. Assheton 2
 Norley 13 v. Ainsworth 0
 Barton 17 v. Ainsworth 0
 Assheton 6 v. Norley 2

Final: Barton beat Hulton 7—5

OLD SMITHILLIANS A.F.C.

The season 1967/68 was again a most disappointing one with both First and Second XI's finishing in a lowly position.

The season began well with both teams playing good attractive football, but once again a mid-season slump began and it was only in the last few matches of the season that the Old Boys again found their rhythm and enthusiasm to bring in some excellent results.

During the summer the Committee members have been engaged in placing the club on a stronger foothold and with the help and enthusiasm of Mr. Jolley we have been able to form a close liaison with the School and Parents' Association.

We would like to place on record the continuing co-operation of the School for use of playing fields, changing rooms and gymnasium and for the Groundsman and his staff for their help under very trying conditions.

The forth coming season is eagerly awaited by all concerned and we hope better results may be achieved.

J.B.

ATHLETICS

This has been a little better season than we have previously had. It started depressingly with rather a lot of rain which kept inter-league games going until well into the summer season until it began to look once again as though our plans for friendly fixtures were going to be upset. However, the weather improved and we began the season with a triangular match between our three schools and this event was a great success. There was no doubt that people were keen to compete for their own school and we were in the unusual position of having to refuse places in the team. It is hoped to repeat this event next season as it is a very useful guide in choosing a Base Athletics team.

The 1st yrs.—4th yrs. competition was quite a close affair there being only 26 points between all three schools. The Grammar School clinched it however by showing superiority in the field events although they trailed the Technical School slightly on the track events.

The results were:

	Modern	Technical	Grammar
1st—4th Yr. Track	176	202	193
Field	75	111	181
	<u>251</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>372</u>

The Modern School could not compete in the 5th and 6th Form Competition although they have one or two athletes, who took part and we hope that next year more will do so. The result was a win for the Technical School in a very close-fought match.

	Technical	Grammar
5th—6th Track	153	150
Field	69	56
	<u>222</u>	<u>206</u>

Our next match was against Bolton County Grammar School on May 31st, at home and both boys and girls competed. The result was a win for Smithills by both teams and the results were:

	Smithills	Track	Field	Total
Boys		111	52½	163½
Girls		84	57	141
B.C.G.S.:				
Boys		100	46½	146½
Girls		73	42	115

On the 14th June we met Thornleigh at home and this time because of the imminence of G.C.E. exams it was decided that we could only expect the children up to the 4th year to give up their time and of course it was boys only.

This match was a real cliff-hanger. On a running total first one team was ahead and then the other and never by very many points, so that the lead was changing almost every race until Smithills were only one point ahead when the relays began but then clinched the issue by winning all 4 with some very good running.

The final result was:

	Track	Field	Total
Smithills	115½	50	165½
Thornleigh	97½	59	156½

During these meetings many of our athletics records were broken and those concerned are to be complimented and the details are below:

The position of records broken during the term, but before the Inter-House Athletics is as follows:

Junior Girls	80 yds. Hurdles	By A. Mulrooney	13.6 secs.
	Shot Put	L. Battersby	25' 1½"
	Javelin	S. Cross	43' ¼"
	Discus	L. Kemp	56' 8"
Boys	Long Jump	C. Isherwood	16' 2½"
	Shot put	R. Hutchinson	29' 6"
	Javelin	P. Hutchinson	79' 2"
	Discus	M. Small	82' 11"
Inter Girls	100 yds.	A. Smith	12.3 sec.
	Long Jump	J. McKeown	14' 10"
	Shot Put	H. James	25' 10½"
	Javelin	C. Mattison	67' 7"
	Discus	C. Mattison	63' 10"
	880 Yds.	G. Pollard	3 m. 21.0 sec.
Inter Boys	220 Yds.	N. Mann	24.1 sec.
	80 Yds. Hurdles	A. Ainscough	12.3 sec.
	High Jump	S. Tomlinson	5' 0"
	Long Jump	by P. Simpson	17' 7"
Senior Girls	80 yds. Hurdles	B. Yates	13.3 sec.
	Shot Put	B. Fiddes	30' 11"
	150 Yds.	{ M. Woodcock	21.7 sec.
		{ L. Kemp	
	Boys' Discus	{ B. Dagnall	

The next big event was the Bolton Inter-Schools Athletics at Leverhulme Park. We had very great hopes this year for at least two cups but our hopes were dashed at the very start when our transport failed to arrive and our competitors missed at least ¾ of an hour of the meeting.

Our teams performed extremely well and in the circumstances did well to get two 2nd places and two 3rd places.

The 1st—4th Year Girls were 3rd.
 The 1st—4th Year Boys were 2nd.
 The 5th & 6th Year Girls were 3rd.
 The 5th & 6th Year Boys were 2nd.

The last athletics event was the Inter-House competition. The number of children who entered for this in most houses was good; in fact most houses had very few places unfilled. The disturbing and disappointing fact though is that so many children put their names down with no intention whatever of taking part. This is a form of dishonesty of which they can be truly ashamed. Happily, however, it does not detract from the fine efforts of other pupils and it can only be hoped that those who have shown themselves to be unreliable see fit to change for the better in future.

The results of the Inter-House competition were as follows:

1st—Radcliffe House	251 points
2nd—Hulton House	215½ "
3rd—Byrom "	208 "
4th—Norley "	175 "
5th—Barton "	162 "
6th—Assheton "	122½ "
7th—Ainsworth "	117 "
8th—Marsh "	94. "

Outstanding performances:

Stephen Kenyon in all England Championships 1 Mile, 5th, in 4 min. 28.4 sec.
 Norman Mann winning 100 yds. and 220 yds in Butlin Championships, 4th Yr.
 John Harvey, winning 100 yds and 220 yds in Butlin Championships, 3rd Yr.
 George Strickleton, 1st in 880, 2nd in 440, 2nd in 1 Mile in Bolton Championships 3rd Yr.
 David Peacock 1st in 1 Mile and 880 Yds. in Bolton Championships, 4th Yr.
 Anne Smith, 1st in 150 Yds. in Bolton Championships, 4th Yr.
 Susan Cross, 1st in 150 Yds., in Bolton Championships, 2nd Yr.
 Elaine Fretwell, 1st in Javelin, in Bolton Championships, 2nd Yr.
 Stephen Kenyon, 1st in Senior Mile and 880 Yds. in Bolton Championships, 4th Yr.
 Jane Newsham, 1st in Javelin, in Bolton Championships, 4th Yr.

Junior Colours (Girls): Anne Smith, Janice Murphy, Mary Fairly.

(Boys): John Harvey, Paul Simpson, George Strickleton, Gerald Thistlethwaite, Norman Mann, David Peacock, Stephen Kenyon (Full Colour); Stephen Chadwick (Half Colour).

Athletics Records 1968:

Junior Girls	80 Yds. Hurdles	A. Mulrooney	Ra	13.6 sec.
	Javelin	S. Cross	Ra	43' 4"
Junior Boys	80 Yds. Hurdles	M. Platt	Ra	13.0 sec.
	4 x 110 Relay	Radclyffe		57.1 sec.
	Long Jump	C. Isherwood	Hu	16' 2½"
Inter. Girls	100 Yds.	A. Smith	No.	12.3 sec.
	150 Yds.	A. Smith	No	18.1 sec.
	4 x 110 Relay	Byrom		1 m. 0 sec.
	Long Jump	J. McKeown		14' 0"
	Shot Put	H. Jones	Ra	25' 10½"
	Javelin	C. Mattison	No	67' 0"
	Discus	C. Mattison	No	63' 0"
Inter. Boys	100 Yds.	J. Harvey	No	10.6 sec.
	220 Yds.	N. Mann	By	24.1 sec.

Senior Girls	150 Yds.	L. Kemp	No	21.7 sec.
	220 Yds.	A. Heaton	By	28.8 sec.
	440 Yds.	C. Johnson	Hu	74.7 sec.
	80 Yds. Hurdles	B. Yates	By	13.3 sec.
	Shot Put	B. Fiddes	By	30' 11"
Senior Boys	880 Yds.	S. Kenyon	By	2 m. 9.5 sec.
	1 Mile	S. Kenyon	By	4 m. 24.6 sec.
	80 Yds. Hurdles	M. Osborne	Ra	12.2 sec.
	Discus	S. Chadwick	Hu	114' 1"

BADMINTON

This was a most successful season. The boys' senior team lost only one match (a narrow defeat in an away match against Bolton School) and most of the matches were won by comfortable margins. All members of the club showed great enthusiasm for the game and trained hard. Basic skills were much improved, several members of the team gaining valuable experience by playing for clubs in the Bolton S.S. League.

The boys' team took part in the "Red Rose" competition but, playing well below their potential standard, lost to Wigan Grammar School in the first round.

Lonnen and Allsop were chosen to represent Bolton in a match against Farnworth and played very well indeed against strong opposition which included two Lancashire Junior players. Joseph Howarth was chosen as reserve for this important match.

Four mixed matches were played but the girls lacked coaching and match practice and performances were not distinguished. It is hoped to remedy the weaknesses of the girls' play in the forthcoming season and in view of the enthusiasm of some of the senior girls rapid improvement is likely.

Next season presents serious problems because six out of the seven regular members of the first team will have left school. A great deal will depend on Allsop as the only remaining experienced player. However, already the task of coaching new players has been started and here we have been helped by the services of Mr. Foster, an experienced coach. By virtue of the efforts made during the summer term, the prospects are now much brighter for the next season.

Thanks are due to Peter Lennon and Peter Allsop for their efforts as Captain and Secretary respectively; their keenness has done much to inspire the rest of the team.

Members of boys' first team were: P. Lonnen, C. Whiteside, P. Allsop, B. Nichols, G. Kershaw, G. Wadeson, J. Howarth.

March Results

Boys' Doubles	v Bolton County G.S.	Won 17—1
	v. Thornleigh	Won 18—0
	v. Darwen Tech. (H)	Won 16—2
	v. " (A)	Won 12—6
	v. Bolton School A)	Lost 10—8
	v. " (H)	Won 11—7
	v. Staff "	Won 12—6
	Mixed Doubles	v. Hayward Schools
v. Rivington Grammar (A)		Lost 4—5
v. " (H)		Won 11—7
v. Darwen Tech.		Lost 6—12

G.F.

BASKETBALL

The Senior Basketball Team have had an excellent season in every respect. The fact that they have won the league, despite being the youngest team in it, is a feat in itself, but the way in which it was won was an even greater achievement. Some of the basketball played by the team would have done the Harlem Globe Trotters proud; the understanding between players being incredible at times. I am quite sure that this could never have been possible if it had not been for the tremendous team spirit that developed between these boys. A typical example of this is the fact that the two boys who left school attended dinner-time practices on Wednesdays, one when possible and the other regularly and, of course, the boys at school never missed unless it was absolutely impossible to attend.

If any criticism can be levelled at this team it is that when they are on top they tend to forget that the object of the game is to score baskets and start to dribble and pass the ball around the court, often completely mystifying their opponents. Although it is both attractive to watch and enjoyable for the players, it could be the deciding factor against really good opposition.

Besides winning the league title the team also reached the final of the North West Knock-Out Competition, organised by the Amateur Basketball Association. They did this by knocking out Middleton Youth Club in the semi-final. Unfortunately the team failed to produce their best form in the final against Manchester Y.M.C.A. Eagles and were beaten 38—18. Nevertheless the experience gained from entering this competition will stand them in good stead if we manage to get into the Vaux Tournament next season.

Senior Basketball Results

Opponents	Venue	Result
Y.M.C.A.	A	Won 56—26
Brightmet Schools	H	Won 74—39
Bolton Technical College	A	Lost 29—45
St. Cuthbert's	H	Won 30—18
Hayward Schools	A	Won 68—35
Leigh G.S.	H	Won 45—37
Castle Hill	H	Won 41—33
Castle Hill	A	Lost 16—21
Y.M.C.A.	H	Won 56—12
Leigh G.S.	A	Won 43—22
St. Cuthbert's	A	Won 25—16
Brightmet Schools	A	Won 59—26
Hayward Schools	H	Won 51—30
Bolton Technical College	H	Won 31—29

Full colours awarded to: S. Chadwick, F. Allen, N. Hamilton, W. Worthington, W. Duffey, M. Osborn.

Half colours awarded to: S. Seddon, J. Jackson, W. Thomasson.

C.A.B.

CRICKET

1st XI

P.	W.	D.	L.
5	5	0	0

Undoubtedly this has been one of the best 1st XI teams to represent Smithills. It was very sound in both batting and bowling and very ably led by its captain, Brian Nicholls.

The season started without the team's potential fully appreciated, but it soon became clear that it was to be a difficult side to beat because of its all-round ability. After the first two wins the team gained tremendously in confidence and from then on never looked back, as the results show. It must be emphasized that every member of the team was picked because he had something important to contribute to the side and was not there just to make up the numbers. Obviously some players had more personal success than others in the way of runs and wickets, but they were always well backed up by the rest of the team. Four players gained their full colours: B. Nicholls, P. Allsop, A. Wright and F. Blackburn. The rest of the team were awarded their half-colours.

In all it has been a very successful season and it is hoped that this season has seen the game of cricket truly established at Smithills.

A sixth-form game has also been played which also resulted in a win for Smithills.

BATTING AVERAGES

	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Average
I Sheppard	3	1	30	15
B. Nicholls	4	1	44	14.6
A Wright	4	1	44	14.6
R. Shirres	4	0	38	9.5

BOWLING AVERAGES

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
P. Allsop	36	13	40	14	2.85
F. Blackburn	26	6	37	13	2.85
A. Brown	16	1	40	7	5.7
D. Rawlinson	16	4	26	2	13.0

I should like to take the opportunity of thanking Mr. J. Weir and his groundsmen for their work put in in preparing wickets for matches; often at short notice.

C.A.B.

2nd XI

P.	W.	D.	L.
2	0	0	2

Because of bad weather only two of the six fixtures were played and both were lost; the first against Hayward by 26 runs and the second against Canon Slade by 39 runs. In both matches the team bowled and fielded well but the batting was rather weak owing to lack of practice and, in some cases, technique. It is hoped that next season, given good weather better results will be obtained.

The following boys played for the team: F. Allen (Capt.), N. Hamilton, J. Holt, H. King, S. Griffiths, P. Reason, S. Chadwick, J. Jackson, S. Mulvaney, G. Hardman, S. Owen, P. Gregory, A. Smith, J. Massey.

E.H. P.W.

Results

v. Hayward Schools		
Hayward 58 for 8 declared		Smithills 32
v. Canon Slade		
Canon Slade 73 for 9 declared		Smithills 34
v. 2nd XI Staff		
School 37		Staff 40 for 8

Under 15s XI

P.	W.	L.
8	5	3

After a disappointing start to the season the U15's rallied well and finished joint-leaders of the Bolton Schools League. There was no opportunity to practise in April and May, those cruel

months for cricketers, when grey skies, cold winds and paddyfield pitches do their best to nip in the bud the new season's hopes. The first match of the season was cancelled. After a narrow defeat in a low-scoring league match at Turton, we lost our 1st round cup match to Castle Hill away from home. We later defeated Castle Hill by five wickets in the league fixture at Smithills. A friendly game against Thornleigh was lost by one run. The remaining league games were won, as was a friendly against our old opponents Hayward Schools.

Kacchia was a good captain and bowled well. Booth bowled erratically at times but well enough to take twenty-two wickets. Gardner was the most successful batsman, his best score being thirty-one not out. The highest score of the season was Booth's aggressive thirty-two against Castle Hill. Garsden kept wicket soundly in the best tradition of the cheerful stumper and did much for the morale of the team.

The whole team has been very enthusiastic, although tighter fielding could have saved many runs. Considering the difficulties against which cricket has previously struggled at Smithills, the team is to be congratulated. Above all they have enjoyed their cricket and have played the game in a sporting manner. Our thanks to John Fare who managed to play and at the same time keep an accurate scoring-book.

A 2nd XI played against the Worsley Wardley 1st U15 XI and lost by twenty runs. No detailed figures are available for the match at Turton, in which Booth and Kacchia each took four wickets. Colours have been awarded to Dilip Kacchia, Stephen Smith, Peter Gardner and Geoffrey Booth.

AVERAGES

	Innings	Batting		
		Not Out	Runs	Average
Gardner	7	2	64	12.8
Howarth	4	0	38	9.5
Smith	5	1	32	8.0

	Overs	Maidens	Bowling		
			Runs	Wickets	Average
Kacchia	65.5	32	97	23	4.22
Booth	47.4	15.4	77	18	4.28

V.P.

Under 13s XI

P.	W.	D.	L.
3	3	0	0

The Under 13 Base Cricket team have enjoyed a very successful season, having won the three games which we were able to play. Our first fixture was against Hayward where a most convincing victory was achieved; Smithills winning by 44 runs.

The highlight of the season was the match against Whitecroft Road. Smithills, batting first, scored 109 for one wicket; Ainsworth scoring 34 not out and Hamer 59 not out. Owing to an excellent spell of bowling our opponents were dismissed for 10 runs; Ainsworth taking 6 wickets for 7 runs and Isherwood 3 wickets for 3 runs.

In the match against English Martyrs our opponents were dismissed for 8 runs, and Smithills achieved another comfortable win.

There has been an excellent team spirit and each player has shown keenness with the result that the standard of cricket has been consistently high in every department.

STAFF CRICKET

The Staff cricket XI have had a very enjoyable and fairly successful season. For once we were favoured with fine weather in all our six fixtures. In fact when it did rain late on in one of our games, we were rather glad to see it as we were in a somewhat unfavourable position.

We have had no difficulty in raising teams this year and for the first time we fielded two teams against the School.

The boys were very confident of defeating us this year as they have had a very good season and their batting was probably stronger than ever before. At one stage in the match, our score was 22 for 6 and our 100% record looked very much in danger. However, with the score at 47 for 8, Mr. Fothergill joined Mr. Bentley and took the score to a very respectable 126 for 8 by the end of the 30 overs. Mr. Bentley scored an excellent 76 n.o., strongly supported by 14 n.o. from Mr. Fothergill, and some surprisingly lax fielding by the boys.

The boys made a very good reply, thanks mainly to a fine innings of 68 n.o. by opening bat Ralph Shirres, well supported by F. Blackburn (14) and Peter Allsopp (12). They lost their last wicket at 115 in the last over of the match.

The Staff 2nd XI scored a resounding two-wicket victory over the boys' 2nd XI in a low-scoring match. The win was mainly due to some sparkling catches and excellent bowling by Mr. Heaton (6 for 8) and Moizer (4 for 16). For the boys, Mulvaney batted well and Kacchia bowled excellently.

P.W.

Results

Staff 69 (J. Fairhurst 17 n.o.)	v. Derby School 52 Won by 17 runs
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34

Staff 65 (C. Mellor 18, K. Sarrard 14)	v. Burnley G.S. 70 for 2 Lost by 8 wickets
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Staff 81 for 6 (Rain) (P. Wilcock 42 n.o., J. Benson 21 n.o.)	v. Derby School 129 Draw
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Staff 56 (P. Wilcock 28)	v. Padgate College of Education (Students) 167—8 Lost by 111 runs
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Staff 1st XI, 126—8 (C. Bentley, 76 n.o.) S. Fothergill 14 n.o.) Won by 11 runs	v. Boys' 1st XI 115 (P. Shirries 68 n.o., F. Blackburn 14 (F. Blackburn 5 for 31)
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Staff 2n XI 40—8 (E. Heaton, 6 for 8, D. Moizer 4 for 16) Won by 2 wickets	v. Boys 2nd XI 37
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CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

Seniors

The School Senior team has had no individual matches against other schools, but in the Bolton Championships we won the Ron. Hill Schools' Trophy and Stephen Kenyon was the individual winner.

Martin Osborne was the individual winner of the Senior Championships.

In the Fred Norris Trophy race Kenyon again lead the Smithills team home to first place being capably supported by David Mulligan.

In the County Championships Kenyon won the individual title and went on to finish second in the All-England Championships.

Colours: S. Kenyon; D. Mulligan (Half).

Under 15

P.	W.	L.	D.
11	10	1	0

The Under 15 team has had its most successful season to date. In addition to our record against other individual schools, we have also won the W. Derbyshire Trophy, and the Bolton Schools' Intermediate Trophy, which as yet has not been named.

Gerald Thistlethwaite has emerged as the best individual performer, but he has been well supported by David Peacock, George Stickleton, George Holt, Alan Fowles, and Stephen Bleakley.

The only blot on the record is, that our only defeat was sustained by a team which was only at half strength.

Colours: Gerald Thistlethwaite, Stephen Bleakley.

35

Under 13

P.	W.	D.	L.
14	14	0	0

Our record this season speaks for itself. In addition to these stark facts, the team became Bolton Schools' Champions, and also won the Ron. Hill Trophy (presented by the Harriers).

Our outstanding athlete of the season has been Peter Holden, who has won outright twelve of our matches. Chris. Isherwood has the other two wins to his credit. These two have been very capably supported by John Gorner, Roy Wilkinson and, later on in the season, Ian White.

The remaining team places have been the subject of fierce competition, which must be the reason for our overall team standard being so high.

An unbeaten record is not easily achieved, and much hard work, both in the gymnasium and over the cross-country course on Monday mornings, is the reason for our success. Congratulations go to our team on their splendid achievement, and we look forward to these boys forming the nucleus of next year's Under 15 team.

Under 12

P.	W.	D.	L.
6	6	0	0

In this our first competitive season it is pleasant to be able to report a 100% record.

The team has shown great strength in depth, so much so that Peter Holden, the Bolton Schools' Colts Cross-Country Champion, has been a regular member of our Under 13 team. Martin Mulrooney and David Dickinson have both established themselves as very competitive runners, and Martin has four outright wins to his credit.

Later in the season, Alan Tonge and David Barnett have emerged as runners of great promise.

With these five runners already established for next year's Under 13 team, and so much enthusiasm generated by the rest of the team members, we look forward to maintaining our unbeaten record throughout next season.

J.B.

FOLK DANCING

As an alternative to out-door games during the bad weather, Folk Dancing was introduced this year. Several girls showed a keen interest in it and by the end of the Summer Term were voluntarily staying after school for dancing. So far, the dances have been mainly Israeli, Swedish and Jugoslavian but it is hoped that next year, a greater variety will be attempted.

The culmination was a display at the Summer Evening, when, when about fifty girls of the Technical School gave a display of four dances.

V.C.

HOCKEY

1st XI

P.	W.	D.	L.	Cancelled
*16	5	4	7	11

* includes 7 games at the Tournaments.

The 1st XI has had a new look this season—only 4 of the last team remaining and a new black and red strip which has been much admired. There have been two new ventures this season; the Manchester and District Area Tournament where we won our section on goal average. The 1st XI also played in the Lancashire County Schools' Tournament at Lytham but unfortunately without the same success.

With a young team a most encouraging start was made to the season, and by November 4th had only lost 0—1 to Canon Slade. Because of weather and unplayable pitches our next 2 matches were December 16th and January 29th, which were heavy defeats, and our only win this term was against Worsley-Wardley in March.

The team as a whole need to be much more alert and anticipate how the situation can and will develop. The defence particularly have been caught out of position by not being quick enough to re-position themselves as the game changed.

Given the weather and playable pitches for teaching, practices and matches, the future is hopeful. A good 50% of this year's 1st XI should still be here next year, and although of those leaving some have been stalwart members of the team for two or three seasons and whose services are much appreciated, there are some promising players coming up to take their places.

B. Fiddes was selected for the Manchester Area team which she captained at the Lancashire County Area Tournament.

Team: B. Fiddes (Capt.), C. Horner, L. Roberts, A. Dodworth, K. Hindle, Y. Jones, H. Relph, M. Woodcock, J. Turner, C. Johnson, C. Hall, L. Kemp, H. Whittaker, J. Gardner.

Colours: Y. Jones, J. Turner. Re-award: B. Fiddes.

Half-colours: C. Horner, L. Roberts, A. Dodworth, C. Johnson. Re-award: C. Hall.

2nd XI

P.	W.	D.	L.	Cancelled
6	1	0	5	12

This has been a disappointing season for the 2nd XI for as well as matches cancelled owing to weather and pitches; some have been cancelled because of the opponents not being able to raise a team, so that matches have been few and far between.

The team has been further handicapped by some of last season's teams eligible for the 1st and 2nd XI not wishing to play, in most cases because of Saturday jobs. Though disappointing to the coaches and teams they cannot be completely censured when one takes into account of the frustration of matches and practices being constantly cancelled.

Although the team record is disappointing, there are many keen players who have enjoyed the matches they have played. With few 1st and 2nd XI players leaving, and an enthusiastic Under 15 XI coming up one dares to hope that next season's 2nd XI report may be different.

Team: L. Kemp (Capt.), Y. Liles, J. Eccleshare, J. Ingham, J. Gardner, J. Demaine, A. Heaton, V. Coleshaw, C. Brooks, H. Whittaker, J. Ward.

Half-colours: L. Kemp, Y. Liles.

Under 15 XI

P.	W.	D.	L.	Cancelled
12	4	2	6	13

The Under 15 has had a successful season and although they have suffered like the other teams from the wet season and unplayable pitches, nevertheless they have improved and developed both as individual players and as a team.

The defence in particular are moving much better with the ball, bringing it out into a space and passing it up to their forwards, though on occasions they will go into the tackle head-in-air and sticks off the ground. They must now learn to reposition themselves quickly so that they can always intercept or tackle when the ball is passed to their opponent.

The shooting of the forwards has much improved but they still have the tendency to crowd each other especially in the circle; they will be far more penetrating in attack when they spread out right across the field.

For keenness and enthusiasm they cannot be commended too highly and should be the basis of next year's 2nd XI.

Team: J. McKeown (Capt.), K. Hodgkinson, L. Parry, J. Hammond, H. Gregson, C. Mayoh, S. Knowles, J. Simpson, W. Harris, E. Ward, L. Nicholas, P. Whenlock, V. Brown.

Colours: J. McKeown, W. Harris, C. Mayoh, L. Nicholas, L. Parry.

Under 14 XI

P.	W.	D.	L.	Cancelled
9	0	1	8	12

The Under 14 XI cannot be said to have had a very successful first season, but they have been handicapped by a lack of hockey, not only in practices but in lesson time during the last three seasons.

At the beginning of the year few of those picked for the team had little if any experience of playing in a full game; and with few practices possible on the pitches they have had to learn from experience in the matches themselves. Towards the end of the season it was lack of experience rather than skill that caused the team to be on the losing side.

It is disconcerting that on the few times practices have been possible, not all the team have been present: we hope this will be remedied next season.

The forwards have to learn to work with each other in passing movements and to shoot hard on reaching the circle; coming back within reach of their defence when their opponents are on the attack. The defence must learn to move forward into the tackle and interception and to keep moving forward with the ball into a space, and pass it to their forward. They still have to learn to position themselves so as to mark their opponents at the same time backing their forwards up when on the attack.

There is a lot of skill and enthusiasm amongst the members of the team but it needs a much better season than the last as regards weather and pitches to develop it.

Team: M. Owen (Capt.), B. Heyes, K. Smith, J. Humphries, R. Wood, S. Stones, B. Jones, A. Yates, J. Sherwood, H. Curtis, K. Winnard, E. Higginbottom, K. Hodgkinson, G. Knowles.

Colours: M. Owen, S. Stones.

M.E.

LAWN TENNIS

1st VI

P.	W.	D.	L.	Cancelled
5	3	0	2	3

Although the first team have played only 5 matches this Season owing as usual to adverse British weather, their results on the whole have been satisfactory.

The strength of the team lay in the 1st couple who in all of their matches did not drop a set and won 104 games to 31, which were more than half the games won by the team.

The 2nd and 3rd couples worked hard in all their matches and their results by no means show just how close many of their games were. As the season progressed it was easy to see just how much the first team as a whole were learning, especially tactically they began to realise that points are not won by carelessness, and that one bad shot is not the end of the game. They began to attack more and really look as though they would win.

All the team members are playing tennis at Club level, and so we hope that the experience they gain there especially in Club matches will produce even better school results next season.

Beverley Fiddes has played for the Bolton Inter-League Team.

Team: B. Fiddes, J. Turner, C. Hall, B. Yates, M. Hammond, H. Whittaker.

Half-colour: B. Yates. *Re-award:* *Full Colours:* B. Fiddes, J. Turner. *Half:* C. Hall.

2nd VI

P.	W.	D.	L.	Cancelled
5	0	0	5	3

In terms of matches won the 2nd VI have not had a successful Season although they were unlucky to lose one match by the odd game.

The main weakness of the team is their lack of speed about the court and their hesitancy in going for the volley at net. Their ground strokes have improved during the season but they are too often beaten by a fast return because they are too slow to get across to the ball.

As the games speed up they need to develop an awareness of the position of themselves and their opponents on the court so that they can anticipate where their opponents are going to place the ball.

Attendances at practices have been good and enthusiasm and interest in the game has been high.

Team: L. Voce, K. Holland, J. Gardner, S. Holmes, C. Johnson, K. Hindle, L. Nightingale.

Under 15 VI

P.	W.	D.	L.	Cancelled
5	1	0	4	4

The number of matches won and lost by the U.15 VI does not reflect the standard of play by the team throughout the season.

The skill of the individual players was equal to that of their opponents but careless shots played at a vital time in the game cost valuable points. Towards the end of the season they were beginning to play more winning shots which were reflected in scores.

The team have worked hard and attendances at practices have been good. All their strokes have improved especially volley and ground shots. Their drives became much more penetrating once they stopped rushing on the ball but waited for it to come on the racquet. They must however be prepared for their opponents to scramble their better shots back over the net.

The interest and enthusiasm for the game is high and they should be valuable members of the Senior teams in the future.

Team: L. Nicholas, E. Ward, J. McKeown, C. Mayoh, C. Mattison M. Lamb.

Colours: L. Nicholas, E. Ward.

Under 14 VI

P.	W.	D.	L.	Cancelled
3	0	0	3	4

At the start of the season the U.14 VI were very much lacking in experience of playing matches and the number of cancelled fixtures did little to overcome this.

All those who have played in the team have the basic strokes of serve, forehand and backhand drive, but must learn to use them in a match and to develop judgement and anticipation so that they can move quickly into the right position to play their shots.

In order to develop an attacking game they must learn to volley, and to develop the necessary quick reactions and reflexes by playing up at net as much as possible.

Attendance at practices was good and their keen interest led to their improved performance as the season progressed. If they get as much experience as possible playing matches before next Season, they should produce a different set of results next year.

Team: S. Ball, E. Entwistle, A. Thompson, S. Woodcock, A. Allum, C. Hampson, B. Heyes, V. Livesey.

Staff Matches:

First VI: School won 41 games—40; 5 sets—4.

2nd VI: School won 28 games—26; 4 sets —2. M.E.

Boys' Tennis *Secretary:* R. Williams. *Captain:* C. Whiteside.

The boys' tennis team have once again had an excellent season. Thanks to further coaching from Mr. Atkinson the team matured to play a high standard of tennis.

Early victories in the season over Bolton County Grammar School and Hayward Schools set the pattern for a series of league and cup matches when the opposition was often severely dealt with. Particular mention must go to R. Williams and C. Whiteside who as first couple, ably bore this responsibility against top class opponents. They were well supported by P. Lonnen and G. Kershaw playing second couple and D. Crompton and S. Seddon third couple.

During the Glanvill Cup competition, the team reached the Area Final, achieving once again the distinction of being Lancashire Champions. On the way to the final they had creditable victories over Accrington G.S. (3—0), Bolton School (2—1) and Stand G.S. (2—1) before eventually losing to Nottingham High School. The usual team was unable to be chosen owing to the final date clashing with Bolton Holidays, but this did not stop the team from putting in an extremely strong challenge to the eventual winners. This provided an exciting climax to a very successful season. T.T.

NETBALL

Under 15 VII

A brilliant start to the season with six wins in succession. The team's tactical skill has matured greatly from last year. Anne Chadwick left the team to concentrate on cross country running, which has been very successful. This left two other very competent shooters, Linda Thorpe and Lorraine Baldwin. Linda, although lacking in height, adapted herself very well against tall defence players, with quick, accurate running shots. There was a change in defence at Christmas, with Janet stepping in very effectively, although only an U.14 player, and integrating well with the rest of the team.

The team as a whole has developed excellent footwork and ball control.

They attended a netball tournament at Liverpool. The success was not very great but the experience gained will surely benefit them next year.

Regular team players were: Janet Strange, Pauline Evans, Coreen Tilly (Capt.), Jane Newsham, Susan Hooton, Linda Thorpe, Lorraine Baldwin.

Under 14 VII

The U.14's have had quite a successful season beginning with a convincing victory of 30 goals to 9 against Worsley Wardley. This first match was an excellent start to mature team play. They have improved greatly from last year's individuals to working as a team.

Everyone has developed the footwork rule, taking and passing the ball on the run, so speeding up play. Ball control is much better and team spirit has never been lacking all through the season.

Factors contributing to their success are attending practices regularly, good team spirit and good catches.

Regular team players were: Mary Fairley, Janet Riley, Susan Hough, Janice Murphy (Capt.), Sandra Pilling, Margaret Smith, Andrea King.

Under 13 VII

The U.13's have not had a very successful season, losing six matches in succession at the beginning of the season. However this did not deter them. They started with seven good individual netball players who were completely new to each other. They did not play as a team but with regular practices and high team spirit, the players are integrating well and tactical skill is slowly developing and team play materialising.

Footwork and ball skill has improved and in the future they have the makings of a very good team.

Regular team members were: Susan Voce, Sheila Catterall, Susan Hill, Judith Whittaker (Capt.), Lesley Dean, Susan Cross, Joy Seddon. Reserves: Alison Greenwood, Angela Brown.

K.B.T.

ROUNDERS

Season's Analysis

	P.	W.	L.	D.
U.15's	8	5	2	1
U.14's	8	4	4	0
1st U.13's	4	2	1	1
2nd U.13's	4	0	4	0
U.12's	1	0	1	0

As there was a great amount of enthusiasm amongst the second years it was decided to create a 2nd, second-year team to play regularly this year. These girls together with the remainder of the teams attended regular practices and achieved a high standard of fielding. The main weakness in all the teams was the inability to score rounders quickly and this put quite a strain on one or two of the girls in each team who were competent.

Unfortunately, bad weather caused over half the matches to be cancelled, but this did not damp the enthusiasm of the girls.

The U.14 and U.14 teams played in the Lancashire Tournament and achieved the following results:

	P.	W.	L.	D.
U.15's	6	4	1	1
U.14's	6	3	3	0

U.15's Team

C. Tilley (Capt.), J. Birchall, A. Crompton, Z. Bradley, C. Holt, C. Stevens, J. Openshaw, M. Smith, L. Baldwin.

U.14's Team

L. Newsham, S. Pilling, S. Stones, M. Fairley, J. Dovey, J. Riley, J. McGuinness, Z. Adams, S. Hough, J. Murphy (Capt.).

1st U.13's Team

S. Swift, L. Sinclair, P. Taylor (Capt.), J. Moss, S. Weir, K. Ashworth, S. Noble, P. Entwistle.

2nd U.13's Team

P. Grant, C. Britten, S. Cundy, A. Reddihough, S. Pendlebury, A. Pendlebury, E. Slater, S. Cross, J. Davis, G. Philips, B. Ferriman.

U.12's Team

L. Canter, C. Britten, Ranjan Mistery, J. Fish, C. Campbell, S. Yates, S. Marsh, P. Jones.

Colours were awarded to the following girls: U.15's team, J. Newsham, C. Tilley. U.14's team, S. Stones, J. McGuinness, L. Newsham.

V.C.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

1st XV

P.	W.	D.	L.
15	3	1	11

This is the first season that the Base has been able to field a Senior side. Their inexperience was compensated for by their enthusiasm and fitness. By the end of the season the forwards were playing as a unit, driving through on the loose ball or tackling and feeding the backs according to the instructions. They were set a fine example by Scofield and Mulligan who showed grit and determination in their covering and tackling.

The backs were not quite as polished in their attacking movements as they might have been but their defence was good, Dagnall and Morris being outstanding in their efforts.

The training sessions were very well attended and this was an essential feature in the all-round improvement in fitness.

The team was chosen from: Cain, Henderson, Dagnall, Reason, Potter, Bruce, Morris, Rainford, Scofield, Waddington, Rothwell, Jones, Thompson, Kershaw, Mulligan, Lee, Merrett.

Colours awarded to: Dagnall, Scofield, Mulligan.

Half colours awarded to- Henderson, Bruce, Morris, Rainford, Rothwell.

Bury Seven-a-Side Competition

A weak side had to be chosen since the competition took place during the holidays. The team lost all the three matches and so were eliminated.

House Competition

The seven-a-side House Competition was enthusiastically played by teams from all the houses. There were also leagues with four houses in each league. The winners of each league played off for the trophy. The result was:

Ainsworth 6 pts, Assheton 3 pts. I.F.

Under 15 XV

P.	W.	D.	L.
10	2	0	8

The U.15 Rugby team has shown definite improvement in play this season. The laws of the game are now better understood by most players. Discussion of tactics and additional playing experience, have led to quicker reactions from players when under pressure.

Gardner, centre three-quarters and Walsh at scrum-half have played powerfully and Billington's dynamic tackling has been valuable to the team in an emergency and an example to follow.

The forwards have been well served by Pickles, Abbot, Whitehead and Crompton, who is considered to be the most improved player in the side.

The team must be faulted on its untidy rucking and weak tackling.

Under 14's XV

P.	W.	D.	L.
5	0	0	5

The U.14 Rugby team has shown considerable promise and a fair amount of unsuspected talent. Their experience was limited to 5 games; most home matches have been cancelled, but enthusiasm and team spirit, in spite of some heavy defeats are high.

Every player has improved his knowledge of the laws of Rugby and the many new techniques and skills a good rugby player must possess.

The chief failings of the team are, very poor tackling and lack of co-ordination in the forwards. Above all, however, most players are not as fit or as fast as they could be.

The team should meet with more success next season, if training and practice are taken seriously.

G.R.D.

SWIMMING

Boys' Swimming Team

Results

v. Bolton School	Away	Lost	177—143
v. Bury G.S.	Home	Lost	107½—147½
v. Hayward Schools	Away	Won	181—117
v. Hayward Schools	Home	Won	123—105
v. Bolton School	Home	Lost	123—135
v. Bury G.S.	Away	Lost	86½—132½
v. Bolton County G.S.	Home	Won	112—83
v. Darwen Tech. School	Home	Won	120½—107½
v. Heywood G.S.	Home	Won	106—89
v. Darwen G.S.	Home	Won	123½—104½
v. St. Mary's College	Home	Lost	104½—123½
v. St. Wilfred's School	Home	Won	125½—101½
v. Chorley G.S.	Home	Won	126—69

We won the Haslam Shield for the second year running in the Bolton and District Schools' Swimming Gala.

Leading scores: Smithills 78, Whitecroft 46, Brownlow Fold, 34, Bolton County G.S. 33.

The Boys' Swimming Team had one of their most successful seasons so far. They only lost to three schools over the season, and of those three, only Bury G.S. beat us soundly, our scores against Bolton School and St. Mary's College being far closer than in the previous season.

Without a doubt, our main strength has been in our Junior section who have completely dominated every team except Bury, and they have been returning times better than the Intermediates on many occasions. The Seniors, too, have returned some very good performances, and this is probably the best Senior section that we have had. Any weakness in the team must be centred on the Intermediate section, mainly because of the shortage of 4th formers, and consequently the 3rd year swimmers have been battling against boys who were a year older than themselves.

I said in last year's Chronicle that we looked forward to an even better season than the last, successful though it was. I do not think I am being too optimistic when I repeat this hope, as only one of the present team is leaving school, our flying Juniors move up to the Intermediates, and our Seniors remain the same, though faster we hope and, to be boosted by others moving from the Intermediate ranks.

We also look forward to our attempt to retain the Haslam Shield for a third year. We rounded off this season by a resounding win in the Bolton and District Schools' Swimming Gala. After winning the first race of the meeting, the team led all the way pulling rapidly ahead, and eventually winning as easily as the score suggests.

Throughout the season, the team have swum well and with great determination, never giving an inch to any opponent. One good feature over the whole of the team has been the improvement in their turning techniques, and in the relay take-overs; even so, perfection has not been reached, and we look forward to the team's going from strength to strength.

Team from:

Juniors: S. Kilby, L. Vickery, P. Rimmer, S. Pearson, H. Chappell, E. Mawson, D. Critchley, I. Davidson, M. Holt.

Intermediates: A. Eaves, I. Bell, S. Tomlinson, K. Richardson, H. Drew, D. Peacock, A. Barlow, A. Robinson, P. Gleaves, W. Cloynes.

Seniors: G. Jones, D. Neville, I. Simpson, S. Chadwick, M. Pollard, E. Sharples.

F.H.

Girls' Swimming

Results

v. Hayward Schools	Won	153—145
v. Hayward Schools	Lost	111—117
v. Bolton County G.S.	Won	109—86
v. Darwen Technical	Won	137—91
v. Darwen Grammar	Lost	102½—123½
v. Heywood G.S.	Won	103—92
v. St. Wilfred's	Lost	94½—133½
v. Chorley G.S.	Won	117—80

This season, on the whole, has been a successful one for the girls' swimming team, despite the frustration caused by several postponed matches owing to various circumstances.

The team has trained regularly throughout the year and has collected several very promising reserves, especially in the junior section.

The high-light of the season was the Bolton & District Schools' Gala at Moss Street Baths. This turned into a very exciting duel between Smithills and Hayward, and the result was not decided until the very last race.

- Result: 1. Smithills, 63 pts.
2. Hayward Schools, 60 pts.
3. Whitecroft Road, 36 pts.
4. Wolfenden Street, 24 pts.

Credit must go to all who took part in the gala, because it was a combination of good swimming, great enthusiasm and team spirit which brought the Warburton Shield to Smithills.

Finally I must, on behalf of the team, extend a vote of thanks to our Captain, Lorraine Kemp for carrying out her duties so efficiently throughout the year.

Colours awarded to:

Full Colours: L. Kemp, G. Eckersley, H. Nuttall.

Half colours: J. Williams. U.13—G. Pollard, E. Rimmer. U.14—B. Taylor, C. Hampson.

Team selected from:

Junior: S. Winrow, K. Ashworth, S. Catherall, P. Muller, S. Finch, C. Millington, N. Gray, P. Marriott, D. Wilson.

Intermediate: C. Rimmer, G. Pollard, B. Taylor, C. Hampson, D. Hoyle, A. Thompson, N. Clarke.

Senior: L. Kemp, G. Eckersley, J. Williams, C. Middlefell, H. Nuttall, C. Horner.

S.M.H.

LIFE SAVING (GIRLS)

This year the Girls from the Schools have been awarded the following by the Royal Life Saving Society:

Distinction

J. Williams

Award of Merit:

J. Williams

Bronze Cross:

A. Thompson
J. Miller
V. Whittle
A. Loynd
C. Holt
C. Hampson
B. Taylor
L. Buckthorpe

Instructor's Certificate:

E. Cornelius
J. Williams
P. Barlow
B. Fiddes
A. Heaton
J. Ingham
J. Longham

Bronze Medallion:

A. Baxter	A. Chippendale	E. Walsh
M. Sharples	J. Fry	S. Haycock
M. Lawson	S. Wainwright	M. Isherwood
J. Martin	S. Pilling	U. Brooks
D. Hoyle	V. Brown	C. Holt
J. Demaine	S. Shaw	S. Guffogg
H. Leary	D. Morlridge	S. Williams
A. Allum	A. Loynd	L. Nightingale
L. Nicholas	B. Thornton	L. Parry
S. Burgess	L. Baldwin	E. Moss
C. Tilley	C. Johnson	Y. Lyles
C. Hampson	A. Thompson	B. Yates
A. Davies	S. Dootson	R. Smith
B. Taylor	L. Buckthorne	C. Hall
J. Hall		

The Bronze Medallion is the standard Award which enables the holder to act as an official Life-saver. It involves not only the practice of saving the life of a person in difficulties, but also practical training in artificial respiration. The Distinction, Award of Merit and Bronze Cross are higher awards involving the techniques learnt in the Bronze Medallion. The Instructor's Certificate involves teaching and training candidates for the Bronze Medallion.

V.C.

BALLROOM DANCING CLUB

Although this activity is more or less in its infancy, the progress shown by the members of the dancing club has been most encouraging, in spite of the sharp decrease in numbers from the outset.

At the time of writing twenty-six pupils have reached a standard high enough to take the "Popular Dance Award" examination of the International Dancing Masters' Association, early in October next.

Only twelve hourly lessons have produced a sound basic knowledge and practical application in the art of ballroom dancing, and I should like to congratulate our visiting tutors, Bill and Margaret Tasker, Carl Alan Award Winners, 1968, of the Tasker School of Dancing, Bury.

At the beginning of next term I should like to see more boys coming forward to take advantage of this tuition, particularly fifth and sixth formers, who will no doubt find it an asset in their social life after school, whether it be university, or industry; one is called upon to attend formal social functions and all too often finds oneself unable to take full part in the dancing and consequently, one must resort to other forms of entertainment, or else be a "wallflower".

It is hoped that increased demand will eventually justify an evening set aside when the members can practise what they have learned and gain the worthwhile awards available to them.
F.A.

SMITHILLS SCHOOLS' BRASS BAND

Once again the band has had a busy year, particularly during the Autumn and Spring terms. Many requests for our services outside the school have been made, but it has not been possible to accept all of these engagements for various reasons.

The band is now progressing favourably; the majority of our players being from the lower school and likely to be with us for at least another three years. At this point I should like to welcome Mr. Alan Reason, our visiting tutor, who joined us during the Summer term; the band and myself also extend our appreciation for the untiring efforts of Mr. M. Taylor of the Technical School in the private coaching of our young cornet players.

As always we have the inevitable wastage of tuition brought about by various circumstances. At the moment accommodation can be found for tenor horn and trombone players, who are willing to conform to the necessary regulations; namely, regular daily practice, one lunch-time tuition period, and to attend full band rehearsal every Wednesday lunchtime promptly at 1-10 p.m. Finally, to present themselves for extra rehearsals when necessary, irrespective of other activities.

The band are sufficiently trained to perform a very wide range of different types of music from Handel and Beethoven compositions, to modern brass band arrangements of current popular music such as "March of the Mods" or Cliff Richards' "Congratulations".

To end this report may I express my thanks to the members of the band for their support, also my congratulations on their public performances particularly as the nucleus of the Secondary Schools' Massed Band who gave a good account of themselves in the Music Festival of this year.

F. Ainsworth (Band Master)

CHESS

The 1967-68 Smithills Chess Season opened dramatically with P. Karmaz of the Grammar School returning from the British Chess Congress at Oxford as British "Under 16" Champion, a title which he shared with another Bolton boy. In the same event M. Smith gave an impressive display in the "Under-18" British Championship; if he had not weakened in the second week he would certainly have been amongst the "honours".

The highlight of the season has been the performance of the Staff-Pupil team in the Bury League. For the second time in six years Smithills emerged as League Champions, losing only one match out of seven played. The team's strength was confirmed by its showing in the Bury League Knock-Out Cup, where Smithills went through to the final; unhappily the "double" eluded us when Prestwich C.C. emerged the victors by 4—2.

The record of the School Chess teams has been disappointing; especially to M. Smith and P. Karmaz whose personal performances have been quite outstanding again. Unfortunately, they were only eligible for the Senior team; A Gardner and B. Kirkman struggled manfully on the "top boards" for the Intermediate team but usually ran into somewhat stronger opposition.

The team results were as follows:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	%
Staff-School team	7	5	1	1	80
Senior School	9	3	1	5	40
Intermediates	8	3	2	3	50
Juniors	1	0	0	1	—

The outstanding individual performances were those of:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	%
P. Karmaz	19	15	3	1	90
M. Smith	18	8	5	5	58
A. Gasper	26	11	6	9	54
B. Kirman	26	10	4	12	46
N. Gilliver	17	11	1	5	70
W. Greenhalgh	16	6	6	4	56

Thus chess has continued to make a most worthwhile contribution to the extra-mural activity of the Base, and it is hoped will continue to do so in the future.

King's Pawn

CHRISTIAN UNION

The Christian Union has been active for two terms only. This year, during the Autumn and Spring terms a small group of pupils saw some film-strips and held a number of discussions. The emphasis unfortunately has to be on "small", very rarely were there over eight pupils attending. One wonders whether this is due to bad advertising or merely a general apathy among students about Christian matters.

However, it is now hoped to re-establish the Christian Union with the pupils taking far more part. A committee will be set up during next term which will decide all major points. The society will also probably be renamed. We hope also that numbers will be augmented by those who will be coming from the thriving Junior Christian Union to the Senior Section. So with better advertising and a new impetus, we hope there will be a greater following during years to come and that this Society will become a vital part of school life.

G.M.T.

MODEL AIRCRAFT SOCIETY

Interest during the past twelve months has been centred around the building of chuck gliders and rubber-driven models; some very fine models having been produced particularly by our junior members.

The weather has been ideal for flying this summer, many creditable flights having taken place on the playing fields after school, the sight of a model in flight bringing great pleasure to the owner who may have spent several months on the construction.

Meetings for 1968-69 will be held on Friday evenings in the Modern School Woodwork Room and we extend a warm welcome to new members who care to join us.

B.P.O.

MUSIC

The Music Departments of the three Schools combine for three functions in the school year: the Christmas Concert, the Carol Service, and the Summer Concert. Both the Christmas Concert and the Summer Concert involve over 150 pupils each, and they provide a comprehensive view of the musical activities which take place on the Base, with the brass band, junior and senior choirs, junior and senior orchestras and folk-song groups taking

part. A variety of musical styles was presented from Vaughan Williams to Gilbert and Sullivan, from protest songs to eighteenth century wind music. These concerts reflect the policy of the Music Staff: to involve as many people in as many different types of music as possible.

The Summer Concert this year was called "Sound and Sullivan '68". "Sullivan" referred to excerpts from "The Gondoliers" by the Senior Choir; the "Sounds" to works by Britten and Pitfield, performed by the Juniors.

Obviously the success of these concerts depends upon the quality of co-operation among staff and pupils, and a great deal of thanks is due to all of those concerned.

G.C.

FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS

at Holy Trinity Church

Wednesday, December 13th

Order of Service:

Processional Hymn: "Once in Royal David's City"

Bidding Prayer

Congregational Carol: "God rest you merry"

First Lesson: Genesis 3 vv. 8-15

Carol: "Personent Hodie" arr. Holst

Second Lesson: Genesis 22 vv. 15-18

Congregational Carol: "See Amid the Winter's Snow"

Third Lesson: Isaiah 9, vv. 2, 6 & 7

Carol: "The Blessed Son of God" R. Vaughan Williams

Fourth Lesson: Micah 5, vv. 2-4

Congregation: "O little town of Bethlehem"

Fifth Lesson: St. Luke 1, vv 26-33 and v. 38

Carol: "I sing of a Maiden"

Sixth Lesson: St. Matthew 1, vv. 18-23

Congregation: "While Shepherds Watched"

Seventh Lesson: St. Luke 2, vv. 8-16

Carol: Zither Carol, arr. M. Sargent

Eighth Lesson: St. Matthew 2, vv. 1-11

Chorale: "Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly Light: J. S. Bach

Ninth Lesson: St. John 1, vv. 1-14

Congregation: "O Come all ye faithful"

Blessing

Recessional: "Hark the Herald-angels Sing"

CAROL CONCERT

December 20th

Programme

- "Christmas Eve" (C. Day Lewis) } Junior Choir
- Torches (Joubert) } Junior Choir
- Furry Day Carol (arr. Rowley) } Junior Choir
- Christmas Suite (W. Appleby and F. Fowler) Junior Orchestra
- Audience Carol "While Shepherds Watched" Junior Orchestra
- Rise up, Shepherd } (arr. S. Brown) Folk Group
- Go tell it on the mountains } (arr. S. Brown) Folk Group
- Mary's boy Child (J. Hairston) Brass Band
- Personent Hodie (arr. Holst) Senior Choir
- From "A Christmas Carol" (Dickens)
- Rejoice and be merry (C. Thorpe-Davie) Junior Choir
- Audience Carol "O little town of Bethlehem" Brass Band

Interval

- A musical Christmas greeting (arr. Cook) Chamber Group
- In the bleak mid-winter (Christina Rossetti)
- I sing of a maiden (Berkely) } Senior Choir
- Zither Carol (arr. Sargent) } Senior Choir
- Purcell Suite (C. Surtees) Brass Band
- Carol of the Drum (K. Davies) Folk Group
- Away in a Manger (arr. C. Manson) } Junior Choir
- Listen to the sounds in heaven (J. C. Phillips) } Junior Choir
- Audience Carol "O come all ye faithful" Brass Band

"SOUNDS AND SULLIVAN"

July 29th and 30th

ELEVEN MINUTES PLUS

- Eleven Minutes (Thomas Pitfield) Junior Choir and Instrumental Group
- Folk Tunes from Europe (arr. Freda Dinn) Junior Orchestra
- Dancing Dollies
- Goodbye to Summer
- Songs of Faith, Hope and Clarity (1) Folk Group
- Music for Wind Wind Group
- Marches des Mousquetaires (Lully)
- Greensleeves (arr. Baines)
- The Queens Farewell (Paisible)
- Hungarian Grenadiers (arr. Baines)
- Songs of Faith, Hope and Clarity (2) Folk Group

Folk Songs for Orchestra (arr. Brian Bonsor)

Junior Orchestra

- Winter
- D'ou viens-tu bergere?
- Hunting the Squirrel
- The Old Woman and the Pedler

Friday Afternoons (Benjamin Britten) Junior Choir

MUSIC FROM "THE GONDOLIERS"

by Gilbert and Sullivan

Principals:

- Duke of Plazo-Toro T. BOURNE
- Luiz (his attendant) G. BALL
- Son Alhambra Del Bolero (Grand Inquisitor) J. CZACHAR
- Marco (Gondolier) W. MACHIN
- P. ATHERTON
- Guiseppe (Gondolier) G. HOLLAND
- Antonio (Gondolier) P. FLETCHER
- Duchess of Plazo-Toro CAROL THORNLEY
- Casilda (her daughter) CHRISTINE HOOTON
- Gianetta ELIZABETH WARD
- Tessa WENDY HARRIS
- Fiametta MARGARET LAMB
- Inez ENID N. COX

Chorus of Gondoliers and Contadine, Men-at-Arms, Heralds and Pages

Orchestra led by D. Brownlow

Accompanist—J. R. Porter

Conductor—Irene Smyth

DISPLAY AND EXHIBITION EVENING

Friday, July 26th

Hens, guitars, metallic concoctions, arms and legs; an odd assortment perhaps but all part of the Smithills Display/Exhibition Evening. Girls from the Grammar School staged a manequin display while their counterparts from the Technical and Modern Schools did (folk) national and modern dancing. The folk group from the Grammar School provided the musical part of the evening to a rather restless audience. The highlight of the evening however, was a gymnastic display by boys of the Modern School. The little figures clad in white shorts performed feats so quickly that one felt there would be a huge collision resulting in a heap of bodies. All these displays took place in the Modern School.

The Technical School housed an exhibition of work done by pupils from all three schools. Articles of art, woodwork, metal-work and needlework were displayed to their best advantage and good use was made of the available space. A display of life-saving methods was shown in the swimming baths by boys of the Technical School. All this was well worth watching.

The evening proved quite a success, but it was marred a little by the inability of some of the spectators to be quiet during some of the displays. Every one who participated is to be congratulated for their creditable performance.

M.V., R.C. VA Grammar

SMITHILLS SCHOOLS SPONSORED WALK Saturday, July 27th

As the school base has been cunningly sited on marshland; during the monsoon season, many of the schools' playing fields become totally unusable. Of this fact none of us need be reminded, least of all the Parents' Association, who, in order to raise part of the necessary funds, proposed a sponsored walk.

Hence, Saturday the twenty-seventh of July was a sad day for feet and parents' wallets. Accompanied by fine weather the natives of the Smithills Base began to assemble about ten-thirty, clad in an assortment of non-conformist clothing giving a variety of expressions from the "just going to the corner shop look" to the "I'm off to Everest" look.

These intrepid walkers, about two hundred and fifty in all, having signed in at the base, and carrying the necessary surgical kit of Mars bar, pop bottle, and radio, departed for the first check point at the top of the Dean. The first mile having been conquered, the expedition spread out and settled down to a steady pace; except those whose sole diet was vitamin pills.

The route was roughly across to Harwood, along Bradshaw Road to Tottington and then to Bury and from there back to Bolton, via Bury Road and Crompton Way. Some of the "older" walkers, however, may recall the route as being the "Wilton", "Bull's Head" . . . etc.

The weather held out all day; the check points being kept busy minding unwanted pullovers, and supplying that life-saving substance: water.

The route to Bury was quite countryfied, helping to take one's mind off one's feet but it was the long slog out of Bury along the straight main roads that was the most tiring.

However, most people did finish the course, well ahead of the time schedule in fact, no doubt spurred on by the excellent hot-pot supper waiting at school and the magnificent example set by Councillor Haslam who was among the first to finish (shame on those of the younger generation who failed to finish ! !)

I should like to thank, on behalf of all who took part, the staff, governors, parents, kitchen staff, and sponsors, whose help made the day "enjoyable".

L.M., VA Grammar.

VISIT TO STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

The journey to Stratford included a visit to Coventry Cathedral where our party was instructed by a guide on the history of the Cathedral and its work in modern society.

We arrived at the Youth Hostel in Stratford where we were staying and after tea set off for the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre to see "King Lear". The atmosphere inside the Theatre was tremendous and Eric Porter as King Lear was outstanding. We were all impressed by the quality of the acting and moved by the tragedy.

On the Saturday of our too-short week-end, we visited the historical buildings connected with Shakespeare's life. We returned to the Memorial Theatre for another excellent performance; this time of "Julius Caesar".

Saturday proved to be a full day for all of us as our programme included a further performance in the evening. "The Merry Wives of Windsor" was extremely funny and we never stopped laughing at the antics of Falstaff and the ingenuity of Mistresses Page and Ford.

We had an exciting Sunday morning creating havoc on the River Avon. The sweltering sunshine which had lasted for the whole weekend broke just as we were coming home. The "Shakespearean Gods" had certainly favoured us up to then.

We returned home to Bolton, with feelings of regret, but the three widely differing plays which we saw: Tragedy, History and Comedy, and the superb acting of the Royal Shakespeare Company have given us memories which will last for a long time to come.

C.H., S.L., MVI Arts Grammar

SWITZERLAND, 1968

Yellow lights sparkle in the early morning chill which penetrates the breath-streaked window. Press your face into the hard couchette pillow, face the upholstered bulkhead. Fight the sounds of the restless travellers who, with the approach of dawn hesitant as it might be in the misty lowlands of Basle, now feel no constraint to keep their uncomfortable vigil to themselves. Listen to the train, no longer pulled by the high-piffing French monster of the previous evening, as it gradually writhes towards the highlands, occasionally hooting gently to itself.

Continental breakfast at six in the morning. Coffee in comforting thick cups, air-fresh rolls and croissants with apricot jam. Berne Station Buffet; high-ceilinged, staid, well-staffed, clean, crisp, with a twenties atmosphere, as if you expected to look up and find Scott F. himself arguing with Hemingway at a nearby table. Outside, men sling themselves with long strides along the streets, skis on shoulders, high tans on cheekbones, and not a second glance for the impressed English.

Lausanne behind us and along the misty shores of Lake Lemman when floating impossibly high over the water, come mountain peaks, the sunlight silvering the snow. All change at Aigle: Switch-back and twist-neck to Champéry. Look up; look down the travel-poster Switzerland is discovered at last. Champéry has the feel of a Klondike town of goldrush days and when you see all the signs of the exploitation of Le Ski you know why.

First day on skis. Up a further two thousand feet to Planachaux by the télécabines, the blue, yellow and red bubbles swinging evenly, eerily, up and down the mountainside. A hurried headlong lunge into the groaning, swaying, bouncing car and then up, caught on the air, soaring away from the valley, snagging on the pylons, to the snowline and beyond.

The ski-slopes. French families en masse. Three-year olds flash past on one leg and uncle sucks on his cigar. On the nursery slopes the beginners form staggering lines like extras in the shooting of a film epic. The ski-instructors, lords of the upper air, cut dashing figures in the snow. Red-anoraked, they slide through the motions, mirror lenses, golden tans, all present and correct, to survey the tumbling bodies before them, dream of winter Olympics, and draw on a casual cigarette. Light; sun; bombarded from every angle the face tingles and tightens and you know that later on it will burn. Back to the cable-cars. The jabbering horde is steadily dispatched, two at a time, to drop over the edge of the world, be committed to space and watch the pines slip slowly by and the higgledy chalets zoom back to realistic proportion.

Good Friday. No hot cross buns but several English skiers who are both hot and cross. The Dents du Midi, 3260 metres of them, out of sight in the swirling mist and sporadic snow. The sun tries to elbow through the cloud. A thousand feet below, the main valley and all its branches are piped full of evenly distributed cloud that lies motionless, gobbling up cable cars as they plummet blindly downwards. The téléphérique cables curve down from the Planachaux and are cut off by the cloud. If you pull them hard you will fish up Champéry.

Outside the restaurant at Planachaux are skis: reds, blues, greens, yellows (what colour are mine?); straps dangling, bindings glittering, all dripping. Inside it's chips with everything and every nationality for itself in the scramble for tables. You can have a fried egg for four shillings or even two eggs in one omelette for four and six. Whatever you drink will cost you two shillings. And always there are your inseparable companions; the ski-sticks: jammed in radiators, projecting from under chairs, falling with a clatter and, often, being forgotten.

Evening along the street. Silhouettes of inward-leaning roofs threaten to meet overhead, but at every corner there is a glimpse of the moonlit heights around the valley. The moon balances precariously on a peak, but does not burst. In little concrete boxes by the sides of the steps are purple pansies, crystalline in the chilly air so that you want to snap one off and taste it.

Easter Day. The congregation in Sunday best, matronly black and anoraks issues onto the small square beneath the detached camponile. The town band leaps into a festive tune and the local people murmur approval and go rigid with pride as the tourists click and whirr their appreciation. The Swiss flag flutters in the air of good feeling and the skiers bound for the cable cars slalom on ski-less feet through the standing crowd.

Dusk falls, the valley darkens and the sunlight lingers on the mountain tops. Puffs of cloud flirt around the peaks and vanish as the snowy pinnacles of the Dents du Midi change from golden to pink and stab into the purpling sky. In the distance the Diablerets ghost through the twilight, untouched by the setting sun.

The creamy donging cows of postcard fame are still in winter quarters shut up in the chalet-farmhouses such as the one in the upper valley with three isolated pines in the sloping snowy meadow, each tree with a perfectly round pool of clear earth beneath it.

The day of departure. Six boys have passed the test of the Swiss Ski Club and no bones are broken, although some dignities are bruised. By ten o'clock the sun is fixed directly over the narrow valley, pinning down everything that dares to move too quickly. Heat trembles and bounces around the rocky gorge, the walls of which provide a natural cinema screen in summer. The morning staggers forward. Mrs. Hall sees Mont Blanc on her last expedition up aloft but down below the panting dogs, the meadow-roving tabbies and the sweltering souvenir hunters seek only the next drink. The sheriff sleeps in his office; no wet-backs creep from the distant Rio. The train is beached at the end of the street and the two-men crew drink in silence at the nearby bar. One reads the local paper, reaching out unerringly, without looking, for his glass. His friend gazes towards the snowy top of the valley.

Eventually, like an expanding rule twisting and coiling and occasionally jamming its way back into its shiny shell, the train descends to the plain. At lake level it rocks along from Monthey with its "Hotel des Tramways" and palm trees and cultured lawns to Aigle where the real trains begin. Over the youthful Rhone, brown with melting snow and prancing between concrete banks, and through fields of almond blossom, so that the level plain looks like the sea bed.

Along the shores of the great lake the train sways, head down and elbows in. The lake is still with solitary gulls perched on jutting rocks, room for one standing. Or sometimes we rush round a bend and catch birds taking their ease in the shallows and away they go in futile, hysterical haste, flapping hard and low to safety from safety. A stone chateau sticks out into the water, looking too young to be interesting and too desolate to be ignored.

Montreux and young, thrusting skyscrapers look bold, but sadly out of place. Small exclusive marinas harbour expensive boats, nonchalantly neglected, and we glimpse dark, watered tennis courts with clean fresh players miming happily. We see the Trans-Europe Express surge into Lausanne; streamlined, blue and cream, extravagantly equipped with wagons-lit. No bodies are carried from it; no victims of espionage or international financial stress; no fugitives cling to the roof. This descendant of the Orient Express seems too safe and unromantic. Safe and unromantic; the very words remind us that we will soon be home in Bolton.

V.P.

SMITHILLS SCHOOLS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Association can once again be pleased with the success, financially, of the past year. However, many of the events arranged suffer greatly from the lack of support of the parents. When one considers that there are some 1600 pupils on the base the attendance at the events organised show that the majority of the parents have little or no interest in their child's School.

The Ladies' Committee during the past year organised a Hallowe'en Party for pupils of the Junior Schools. This proved such a tremendous success that another is being organised for October 29th and if this proves as popular as the last one, it is quite likely to become an annual event.

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Thornton, the Ladies' Secretary, has resigned, but we feel sure that her successor, Mrs. Thompson, who is already a member of the Committee, will prove to be just as capable.

The Committee have this year committed themselves to doing something about the playing fields which are always in a terrible state after heavy rain, a frequent occurrence in Bolton. As usual, money is the first requisite and, in an endeavour to raise additional money to what we normally raise, it was decided to hold a Sponsored Walk. This took place on 27th July and we were fortunate in that the weather proved favourable for such an event. We are extremely grateful to all those pupils and staff who took part in the walk, to Mr. Clements who, almost single-handed, organised the event and did the paper work and to all others who rallied round to make it such a success.

Once again our thanks are due to the Headmasters and their staffs for all the time they spend on extra-curricula activities for the pupils and can also find time to assist the Parents' Association when called upon to do so.

A. E. SANDIFORD,
Secretary.

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We wish to thank all our contributors and others who have assisted in the production of this edition of "The Chronicle"

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