



The **Middleton College** Magazine 1979

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ropes

houses in the hay

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Middleton College Magazine

No. XLIV

December 1979

EDITORIAL

IT IS hard to believe this is the final magazine of the seventies. Another decade has been added to the long history of this establishment. What changes have these years brought to Middleton College?

There have been obvious changes in facilities. More classrooms, a genuine library, better sports' opportunities and latterly the introduction of a computer and video-tape machine, have kept the College up-to-date. These, while being of major importance for the continuing welfare of the community, are not the most significant happenings of the decade.

A sense of tradition is profoundly present in this establishment. Besides being enshrined in the motto, it permeates the older buildings and gives an unique atmosphere to the environment. But tradition is an elusive term. Often it is interpreted as meaning the acceptance of the absolute authority of the past, in this sense tradition is truly "a dead hand" on the present.

But tradition can be viewed in a more positive perspective. It provides the basic beliefs and assumptions which order the day-to-day living of a community, but also encourages a creative attitude, urging adaptation to the challenge of the present and the future. A community is thriving when it retains the essence of an inherited identity but integrates it with a new role.

In 1970 this school was almost entirely a boarding school for Protestant boys. While keeping this central dynamic core, it has enriched its ethos by becoming co-educational and opening its doors more widely to other denominations. This rich culture context provides an invigorating educational environment, an ideal training ground for adolescents who can become leaders in Irish society of the 1980's, where a broad and generous vision will apparently be urgently needed.

Editorial Committee

Editor KIERAN DORAN

Assistant Editors KATHERINE MAHONY and PADDY COLLINS

Advertising Editors TARA MURPHY and GUY PERCIVAL

* * * *

COLLEGE MOTTO

Spartam nactus es hanc exorna

LITERALLY it means, "You have attained Sparta – adorn it". More loosely it may be put, "You have inherited a noble tradition, honour it". The motto is thought to date from the arrival in 1881 of Mr. Albert Burd as Headmaster.

FROM THE HEADMASTER

Magazine

Once again I am happy to commend to you this issue. It contains a detailed record of our year's activities and achievements as well as literary and informative articles by staff, pupils and former students. Many have helped in its production and to them all I am grateful for their work. I especially thank our advertisers through whose help we are still enabled to finance such a high quality production.

Retirement

As there has been some speculation about my future, I have thought it only right and fair to all our interests to indicate my intention of retiring in July 1981, as announced in my Prize Day speech. I do this with a good deal of regret, but time catches up on us all and twenty years in the 'hot seat' is beginning to take its toll. I have immense hopes for the future of the College and in the time remaining to me I will continue to strive vigorously for its welfare and advancement.

Numbers

The total College roll is at present 251. This is made up of 131 boarders (106 boys and 25 girls) and 120 day pupils (75 boys and 45 girls). Thus the total number of boys is 181 and girls 70.

PREFECTS 1979/80



*Wyon Stansfeld, Erich Milch, Derek Marshall, Ronnie Gibson,
Guy Percival, Ivor Bryan, Mark Salter-Townshend,
Kate Mahony, Tara Murphy, Jacqueline Northridge*

College Development

THE All-weather Hockey Pitch continues to improve with time, playing very satisfactorily so far this term. The two new hard-surfaced Tennis Courts came into use last Summer and they have given a fresh impetus to the game. They are nicely positioned with the shelter of the garden wall on the west side and the technical school on the north side. The remaining portion of the Cave Field has been restored to grass, and trees have been planted on two sides of the All-weather Pitch which in the future will make it less exposed. The green portion of the field has possibilities for a pitch-and-putt course some time in the future.

The Girls' boarding area has been extended into dormitory No. 3 (the old Middle dorm) and redecoration of all this section has taken place. The Junior classrooms in the old building have been freshly painted and panelled making for better appearance and adequate display areas on the walls. The Senior Science Laboratory and four classrooms in the new block have also had a face-lift, and new shelving and desks in the latter have created a general improvement in atmosphere.

Quite a good deal of audio-visual equipment has been purchased with the help of Government grants, but out of our own resources we have acquired a PET computer for educational purposes and a Panasonic video-tape recorder enabling TV programmes of value to be shown at suitable times. The cost of these items was partly met by the takings from our very successful Wine and Cheese Party before Easter yielding close on £500, and a contribution from the Senior Rugby Team of £300 – the surplus from funds collected for their Welsh trip at the end of last season.

Thoughts for the future include the provision of a Headmaster's house. This would release in the School valuable additional space for accommodation and administrative use. Our neighbours in the Vocational School will by next year have moved to a new site on the Youghal Road and at present negotiations are going on for the acquisition of one of their buildings as a new C. of I. primary school. The remainder of these premises and grounds formerly part of our leasehold must be of interest to us.

OBITUARY

BRIAN SHEEDY

IT WAS A GREAT SHOCK to all when BRIAN SHEEDY died unexpectedly on November 26th. Although he had come to Midleton College only at the start of this term he had impressed many with the gentleness and courtesy of his manner. Brian was shy, but his eyes looked at one honestly and they often lit up with humorous awareness. This placid demeanour was remarkable considering the ever-present risk with which he lived; one can only be astounded at such fortitude and strength of character in one so young.

Those of us who knew Brian for such a short period were privileged to meet such a rare person, we would like to have known him much better.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sheedy and all their family we extend our deepest sympathy at the loss of their son.

—TOM MULLINS

College Staff

Teaching

Full-time

The Headmaster	.	.	.	Geography, Religious Education
R. I. King, B.SC.	.	.	.	Mathematics
D. J. D. Johnston, B.A., B.A. (Lond.)	.	.	.	French
R. R. Little, M.A.	.	.	.	Science, Applied Mathematics
T. G. Mullins, M.A.	.	.	.	English
M. J. Daley, B.COMM.	.	.	.	Economics, Commerce, Irish
J. C. Levis, B.A.	.	.	.	Science
M. O. Lyons, B.A.	.	.	.	Mathematics
J. Harrington, B.A.	.	.	.	Irish
J. B. Mulcahy, B.A., M.ED.	.	.	.	History, English, Irish
I. C. T. Leopold, B.A.	.	.	.	English, History
M. Morrissey, B.A.	.	.	.	Geography, Mathematics
Miss R. Shorten, B.A.	.	.	.	Geography, Irish
Miss M. Power, B.A.	.	.	.	French, Spanish
Miss M. Tait, B.A.	.	.	.	Prep. Class

Part-time

Miss R. M. Gleeson, B.SC.	.	.	.	Biology
Mrs. L. Burke	.	.	.	Art
Miss E. C. Foran, A.V.C.M.	.	.	.	Music, Piano
Mrs. E. Moloney, B.MUS., A.L.C.M.	.	.	.	Piano
S. E. Fraser	.	.	.	Gymnastics
Miss M. Peters, CERT.ED. (N ^o castle)	.	.	.	Drama
W. Foley	.	.	.	Woodwork

Career Guidance: Headmaster and M. O. Lyons.

Library: T. G. Mullins, R. I. King.

Remedial Education: I. C. T. Leopold

Games: R. I. King, J. C. Levis, R. R. Little, J. Harrington, I. C. T. Leopold,
Miss R. Shorten, Miss M. Power

Indoor Activities: M. Morrissey.

Debating and Dramatics: D. J. D. Johnston, M. O. Lyons, T. G. Mullins

Swimming: R. R. Little

Medical Officer: Dr. J. Thompson assisted by Dr. B. Jordan

Housekeeper: Miss C. Coghlan **Nurse:** Miss M. Callaghan

Asst. Housekeeper: Miss B. Quille **Cook:** Miss S. Kelleher

Office Secretary: Mrs. P. Courtney.

Head Boy: Guy Percival

Head Girl: Tara Murphy

Prefects: Derek Marshall, Eric Milch, Ivor Bryan, Mark Salter-Townshend,
Jonathan Bradshaw, Ronald Gibson, Jacqueline Northridge, Katherine
Mahony, Wyon Stansfeld.

Examination Results 1979

LEAVING CERTIFICATE

M. A. Brown	H. Mathematics, Physics
P. E. Brownlow	H. English, Geography, Accounting
	L. Irish, French
M. E. Chambers	L. English
R. K. Chambers	H. Geography
	L. Irish, English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Agricultural Science
M. W. Dwyer	H. English, Physics, Geography
	L. Irish, French, Applied Mathematics
L. Fitzell	H. English, French, Geography, Physics, Chemistry, Biology
	L. Irish, Mathematics
S. N. Foley	H. English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Applied Mathematics
	L. Irish, French
R. J. Gibson	H. English, French, Geography, Biology, Art
	L. Irish, Mathematics
P. T. Gowen	H. English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Latin
	L. Irish
J. P. Jennings	L. English, History, Geography, Agricultural Science, Economics
P. H. Johnson	H. Agricultural Science
	L. English, Mathematics, Geography
J. P. McKeown	H. English, Geography, Physics, Chemistry
	L. Irish, French, Mathematics
D. J. Marshall	L. English, Geography, Economics
D. K. Matthews	H. English, History, Geography, Economics
	L. French, Mathematics
E. L. Milch	L. English, French, Economics
S. D. Moore	H. English, French, Geography, Physics, Chemistry
	L. Irish, Mathematics, Applied Mathematics
S. J. Nagi	H. English, French, Biology
	L. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry
E. J. Noonan	H. English, Geography, Physics, Chemistry
	L. Irish, Mathematics, Applied Mathematics
T. E. O'Sullivan	L. English, Mathematics, Physics
M. O. O'Rourke	H. Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Applied Mathematics, Accounting
	L. Irish, English, French
M. B. Shortea	H. Geography, Physics
	L. Irish, English, Mathematics
M. R. Smith	H. English, Geography, Accounting, Economics
	L. Irish, Mathematics
J. W. Smyth	H. History, Geography, Physics
P. A. Smyth	L. English, History, Geography, Agricultural Science, Art, Economics
H. W. St. Leger	H. English, History, Geography, Accounting, Economics
	L. Irish, French, Mathematics
W. N. Stansfeld	H. English, French, Physics, Chemistry
	L. Mathematics, Applied Mathematics
M. A. Sweetnam	H. Agricultural Science
	L. English, Mathematics, History, Geography
E. J. Thompson	H. Agricultural Science
	L. Irish, English, Mathematics, Geography, Physics, Chemistry
P. N. Travers	H. English, History, Geography
T. W. Vickery	H. Mathematics
	L. English, Geography, Physics, Chemistry, Applied Mathematics
C. P. Wijnstekers	H. French, Geography
	L. Irish, English, Mathematics, Chemistry
A. F. Williams	L. Irish, English, Economics
Rosemary Brown	H. French, Geography, Home Economics
	L. English, Mathematics, Chemistry
Yvonne Gravina	H. French, Art, Spanish
	L. Irish, English, Mathematics, Biology
Julia Jameson	H. English, French, History, Geography
	L. Irish, Mathematics
Elizabeth Nicholson	H. English, History, Art
	L. Irish, French, Home Economics
Vivien Rooney	H. English, French, Geography, Biology
	L. Irish, Mathematics, Physics

Martina
van der Puil
Susan Whiting

H. French, Art, German

H. English, French, Mathematics, Geography, Physics, Chemistry, Biology
L. Irish

H.—*Higher Paper*

L.—*Lower Paper*

INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE

B. E. Abernethy
N. R. Boyle
R. J. Conner

Irish English, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Commerce
Irish, English, Mathematics, Geography, Science, Commerce
Irish, English, French, Spanish, History, Geography, Science, Art,
Mathematics

J. P. Coleman

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science,
Commerce

R. C. Fitzell

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science,
Commerce, Art

J. P. Gowen

English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Art

R. Hansen

English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Art

S. G. Horton

English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Commerce

C. Jermyn

English, Mathematics, Geography, Science, Art

S. D. Lewis

English, Mathematics, History, Geography, Art

J. T. O'Flynn

English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science

E. P. Williams

English, French, Spanish, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Art

P. S. Boyle

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science,
Commerce

T. A. Crone

English, Mathematics, Geography, Science, Art

S. E. Flanagan

English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Art

E. J. Hanbidge

English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Commerce, Art

I. R. Johnston

English, Mathematics, Geography, Art

T. J. Kelly

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science,
Commerce, Art

P. L. Millen

English, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science

R. P. O'Neill

English, French, Mathematics, History, Science, Art

R. Prendergast

Irish, English, French, Spanish, Mathematics, History, Geography,
Science, Art

L. J. Saflund

English, French, Spanish, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Art

H. D. Wilkinson

English, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Art

June Beamish

English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Art

Patricia Casey

Irish, English, French, Spanish, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science

Una Cunningham

Irish, English, French, Spanish, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science

Frances Deane

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science,
Commerce, Art

Gillian McMullen

English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography

Sharon Murphy

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science,
Commerce, Art

Harriett Reardon

Irish, English, French, Spanish, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science

Daphne Garde

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science,
Commerce, Art

Suzanne, Kirk

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science

Miriam Nagi

Irish, English, French, Spanish, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science

Orla Poole

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science,
Commerce

Anna-Marie Taylor

English, French, Spanish, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Art

Dorothy Jermyn

English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science

B. Greenc

Irish, English, French, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

(O Levels)

Tara Murphy

H. Chemistry, English Language, English Literature, French, Geography,
Mathematics, Add. Mathematics, Physics, Religious Studies

P. A. Collins

H. Biology, Chemistry, English Language, English Literature, French,
Geography, Mathematics, Physics, Religious Studies

M. R. Salter-
Townshend

H. Accounts, English Language, English Literature, Geography,
Mathematics, Add. Mathematics, Physics, Religious Studies

N. C. Sweetnam	H.	Accounts, Economics, Geography, Mathematics, Add. Mathematics, Physics, Religious Studies
	L.	English Literature, French
C. G. Stansfeld	H.	Chemistry, English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Add. Mathematics, Physics, Religious Studies
	L.	Art
I. J. Bryan	H.	Chemistry, English Literature, Geography, Mathematics, Add. Mathematics, Physics, Religious Studies
	L.	English Language
U. P. Schiller	H.	French, Geography, Mathematics, Add. Mathematics, Physics, Religious Studies
	L.	English Language, English Literature
G. J. Percival	H.	Accounts, English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Physics, Religious Studies
	L.	Add. Mathematics
K. J. Doran	H.	Chemistry, English Language, English Literature, Geography, History, Religious Studies
Linda J. Moore	H.	English Language, English Literature, Geography, Mathematics, Add. Mathematics, Physics, Art
	L.	French
Ivona Jermyn	H.	Biology, English Language, English Literature, Geography, Religious Studies, Art
	L.	Physics
K. Fort	H.	Chemistry, Geography, Mathematics, Physics
	L.	English Literature, Add Mathematics, Religious Studies
P. F. Hendrick	H.	Accounts, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics
	L.	Biology, English Literature, Add. Mathematics, Religious Studies
Adrienne Hales	H.	English Language, English Literature, Geography, Physics
	L.	Biology, Art
C. J. Dobbyn	H.	English Language, Geography
	L.	Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, Physics, Art
S. A. Meehan	H.	English Language, English Literature, Geography, Mathematics
	L.	Religious Studies
Lynda P. Moore	H.	Chemistry, English Language, Geography
	L.	Biology, English Literature, Religious Studies
Katherine Mahony	H.	English Language, English Literature, French
	L.	Religious Studies
Jacqueline Northridge	H.	English Language, English Literature, Religious Studies
Lisa Wolfe	H.	French, Geography
R. H. Boyles	L.	English Language, Geography, Religious Studies
L. T. Stanley	H.	Geography
N. P. Hill	L.	English Language, Geography
A. D. R. Gay	L.	Geography
I. F. Mitchell	L.	Geography
Lesley Ryall	L.	Religious Studies
B. E. Moriarty	L.	Art

H.—Higher Attainment Level

L.—Lower Attainment Level

(A Levels)

M. A. Brown	P.	Mathematics, Physics
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The HEADMASTER and MRS. SMYTH send their CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

to all connected with the College – pupils, parents, past pupils and friends.

They thank all who have given their support in whatever fashion during the past year

and look forward with hope to 1980.

Outstanding Pupils 1979

SIMON FOLEY in Leaving Certificate had five honours including A's in Chemistry and Applied Mathematics and B's in Mathematics and Physics.

SUSAN WHITING in Leaving Certificate had six honours including a B in Chemistry.

DAVID MOORE had five Leaving Certificate honours including B's in English and Physics.

LESLIE FITZELL had B's in Chemistry and Physics amongst his four Leaving Certificate honours.

TARA MURPHY and **PATRICK COLLINS** gained nine G.C.E. 'O' levels at the June sitting. Tara had A's in French, Geography and Religious Studies and B's in Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Additional Mathematics. Paddy had A's in English Language and English Literature and B's in Geography and Religious Studies.

MARK SALTER-TOWNSHEND gained G.C.E. 'O' levels including A in Physics and B's in English Language, Mathematics and Accounts.

IVOR BRYAN, NIGEL SWEETNAM, GUY STANSFELD and **LINDA J. MOORE** had seven 'O' levels. Ivor had B's in Geography, Mathematics, Physics and Religious Studies. Nigel had A in Mathematics and B's in Accounts, Geography and Physics. Guy had A's in Mathematics and Additional Mathematics and B's in English Language, Physics and Religious Studies. Linda had B's in English Literature and Mathematics.

RAYMOND FITZELL was our best Intermediate Certificate candidate gaining eight honours with A's in History and Science, and B's in Mathematics, Geography, Commerce and Art.

SHARON MURPHY had seven Intermediate Certificate honours including A in Science and B's in French and Geography.

JOHN GOWEN, EDWARD HANBIDGE (A's in Geography and Science), **DAPHNE GARDE, STEVEN HORTON, ANNE-MARIE TAYLOR** and **BARRY GREENE** (A's in Mathematics, Science and Commerce), all gained six honours.

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VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT

IN THE HALLWAY of what we still call the New Block and beside the notice-board there is a glass case containing a golden key. This commemorates the opening of that building – our first major extension in recent times – by the then Minister of Education, Dr. P. J. Hillery. The key was presented to Dr. Hillery by the Architect, Mr. John Green, and he in turn presented it back to the College as a souvenir of the occasion. That was the 18th December, 1963, and Dr. Hillery addressed us after the opening ceremony from the stage of the gymnasium and distributed the prizes for that year. The block continues its useful function and Dr. Hillery adorns Árus an Uachtarán.

Prize List 1979

MOORE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Simon Foley.

WEBSTER MEMORIAL PRIZE: Susan Whiting.

INTERMEDIATE SHIELD: Raymond Fitzell.

MIDLETON SCHOLARSHIP: Sharon Murphy.

BISHOP HEARN MEMORIAL PRIZES: David Moore, Leslie Fitzell, Barry Greene,
Edward Hanbidge, Daphne Garde.

J. H. BENNETT MEMORIAL PRIZES FOR SCIENCE: Simon Foley.

JAMES MCNEILL WEST MEMORIAL PRIZES FOR MATHEMATICS: Simon Foley, Barry Greene.

TIMOTHY WEST MEMORIAL PRIZES FOR MATHEMATICS: Susan Whiting, Patrick Gowen,
Michael Brown, Raymond Fitzell, Edward Hanbidge, Steven Horton, Suzanne Kirk.

BAGWELL PRIZES FOR LANGUAGES: David Moore, Richard Prendergast.

ISAAC BUTT MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR HISTORY: Julia Jameson

LINDSAY MAING PRIZES FOR GEOGRAPHY: Julia Jameson, Edward Hanbidge.

MRS. E. F. BENNETT MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR MUSIC: Susan Whiting.

DR. F. M. HILLIARD MEMORIAL PRIZES FOR 'O' LEVELS: Tara Murphy, Patrick Collins,
Mark Salter-Townshend, Nigel Sweetnam, Guy Stansfeld, Ivor Bryan.

MIDLETON COLLEGE ASSOCIATION PRIZES: Anne-Marie Taylor, Steven Horton, John Gowen.

HEADMASTER'S PRIZES: Patrick Gowen, Julia Jameson, Rory Conner, Richard Hansen,
Richard Prendergast, Uwe Schiller, Guy Percival.

WEBSTER PRIZES FOR PROJECT WORK: Richard Prendergast, Orla Poole, Brian Hill,
Angela McHugh, Simon Kelly, Barbara Wallace, Idris Nagi.

SINGING PRIZES: Ronald Gibson, Edward Leahy, Aidan Langley, Patrick Zuk.

ART PRIZES: Liz Nicholson, Richard Hansen.

SPECIAL G.C.E. PRIZES: Tara Murphy (French), Patrick Collins (English),
Guy Stansfeld (Mathematics).

DEBATING PRIZES: Raymond Fitzell, Richard Cook.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE PRIZES:

Senior: 1st (tie), Mark Dwyer, Edward Noonan, Leslie Fitzell

Middle: 1st, Richard Prendergast 2nd, Steven Horton 3rd, Eugene Flanagan

Junior: 1st, Alan Boyle 2nd, Angela McHugh 3rd (tie), Patrick Zuk and
George MacDonald

SCRIPTURE PRIZES:

3rd year: 1st (tie), Sally Martin 3rd, John Hales 4th, Patrick Jones
and Janet Hales

2nd year: 1st, Paul Whiting 2nd, Caroline Smyth and 4th, Heike Schiller
Mark Sullivan

1st year: 1st (tie), Patrick Zuk 3rd (tie), Aidan Langley
and Barbara Wallace and Elizabeth McHugh

CLASS PRIZES:

Form VI: John McKeown, Oliver O'Rourke, Hugh St. Leger,
Keith Chambers (Best Effort).

Form V: Kieran Doran, Linda J. Moore, Ivy Jermyn, Peter Hendrick.

Form IV: Patrick Williams, Philip Boyle, Joakim Safund, Patricia Casey, Orla Poole,
Frances Deane (Best Effort).

Form III: 1st, Sally Martin; 2nd, Janet Hales; 3rd, Jane Taylor; 4th, Alan Perrott;
5th, Stephanie Poyntz and Patrick Jones; 7th, Angeliem Koenderink;
8th, Kieran Guilfoyle; 9th, David Holmes; 10th, Janine Miller.

Form II: 1st, Angela McHugh and Alberta Pringle; 3rd, Caroline Smyth; 4th, Paul Brady
and Heike Schiller; 6th, Alan Boyle, Martina Nitzsche and Simon Kelly;
9th, Edward Leahy; 10th, Paul Whiting.

Form I: 1st, Aidan Langley and Patrick Zuk; 3rd, Elizabeth McHugh;
4th, Barbara Wallace; 5th, Natasha Murphy and Michael Rauh; 7th, Redmond Kelly
and Aidan Wall; 9th, Jeffrey Holmes; 10th, George MacDonald.

Preparatory: 1st, Jason Murphy; 2nd, Michael Gray; 3rd, Christopher Scarffe-Cody;
4th, Helena Craighead; 5th, David Byrne; 6th, Benjamin Haughton.

Obituary

JOHN DEADY

JOHN DEADY was taken seriously ill in October 1978, but he made a remarkable recovery and was able to resume work after the Christmas holidays. So his sudden death on the 11th February came as a great shock to us all. John had been part and parcel of M.C. as long as most of us can remember. He helped his father in the garden and on the grounds as a boy over forty years ago and he remained in continuous employment here right up to the time of his death. John was the essence of loyalty and reliability as caretaker of the School and his work in the maintenance of premises and grounds demanded a wide variety of skills as well as an intimate knowledge of all the bits and pieces which accumulated in his memory as he saw the place grow. He had a wonderful record of attendance and punctuality – never missing a working day that I can remember until his illness, and seldom or ever being late.

He had a great interest in past pupils and was rarely beaten by a face even though he may not have seen it for twenty years or so. The College owes much to John's dedication and this was amply evident when virtually the whole School, young and old, boy and girl, attended his funeral – a well deserved and spontaneous tribute to a faithful steward and friend.

—J. W. S.

INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE STARS



*Raymond Fitzell, Barry Greene, Edward Hanbidge,
Daphne Garde, Sharon Murphy*

Jottings

IT WAS with great regret that we said farewell in June to Miss JUDY MADDEN (Mrs. D. Burke) after three years in which she taught French and Spanish and took Girls' Hockey and Dramatics. We wish her well in her new sphere of life in Rosscarbery.

We welcome in Miss Madden's place Miss MARY POWER and we wish her every happiness and success here.

Our Woodwork teachers recently have changed quite often but we are hoping for greater permanency now that we have a FOLEY back again. We welcome BILLY and we appreciate the interest he has created.

We congratulate Miss MARGARET TAIT (Mrs. Rumley) on gaining her H.Dip.Ed. in U.C.C. this Summer. We are glad to have her back to teach the Prep. Class.

Mr. JOHNSTON had the honour of being invited by the Department of Education to take part in a course in Linguistics in Vichy, France, right through this Christmas term. We miss him around the place and we welcome Mrs. RYAN as his teaching substitute.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. JOHNSTON, Mr. and Mrs. LYONS and Mr. and Mrs. HARRINGTON on the birth of children since our last issue.

MR. MULCAHY has had the honour of being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Health. He is a prominent member of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade and in the course of his duties at Knock he had the distinction of shaking hands with the Pope.

East Cork is a great area for by-elections – we work our T.D.'s to death! It was an honour to have a visit in October from Dr. GARRETT FITZGERALD who met staff and pupils and addressed a gathering of us in the Activities Room on matters political.

Some of our people have been taking a prominent part in the recently formed and successful East Cork Choral Society. Mr. LITTLE, Mr. LYONS, RONNIE GIBSON and WYON STANSFELD sang in Haydn's *Creation* and are now rehearsing Brahms' *Requiem*.

Pupils do not often have the opportunity of a 'sabbathical' year'; PATRICIA DALY of Form V has had the good fortune to be selected by A.F.S. for a year's living and schooling in Denmark, and JASON MURPHY of Prep. Class, too young for promotion, is doing a year in school in Rennes, France, following in the steps of his sister TARA.

Art Prizes in the Midleton Annual Children's Summer Competitions were won by ELIZABETH McHUGH, BETH HAUGHTON and JANE MILLEN. They received pretty bronze plaques presented by Dean Ridley-Barker.

Essay Prizes in the Pearse Centenary Competitions organised by Midleton U.D.C. were won by ORLA POOLE, RICKI PRENDERGAST and BRIAN HILL.

A last minute visit on the eve of the by-election from the Minister of Education, Mr. JOHN WILSON, took us by surprise, which was a pity as many of us would like to have at least seen him.

Our teaching staff has a great record of durability over the years but even the fittest must sometimes fall. Our best wishes to Mr. LEVIS for a happy recovery from a tedious but not serious illness which is keeping him out of school for over a month and to Mr. LEOPOLD, who is gallantly carrying out his duties, in spite of a severe facial injury sustained in a recent hockey match. We welcome Mrs. DEIRDRE QUIGLEY who is substituting for Mr. LEVIS.

A Dumb Blonde !

FOR the past three years the College was privileged to have a teacher who had a rare combination of talents. Judy Madden was a dedicated and gifted teacher, who also was a marvellous companion besides being easy on the eye.

Judy took a full part in a wide range of school activities. She brought a sense of the "warm south" to French and Spanish (remember that carefully bred tan); to English a lovely and romantic sensibility and to drama a keen delight in play-acting for its own sake. On the sports field her enthusiasm and skill brought a new momentum to hockey.

No account of Judy would be complete without mention of the day she brought 'Prep' form on their Summer outing to Garryvoe. She no doubt pleased many on the beach with her white bikini-clad physique but she caused trauma to a sensitive ten-year-old boy who disdainfully remarked "Dressed like that and you a teacher, Miss ?"

The news that Judy was leaving was a disappointment to all. Her gaiety, style and directness of manner have been missed in the staffroom. We are all pleased, however, to hear that her many talents have found new creative outlets in Ross-carbery ! Not so dumb, eh ?

—TOM MULLINS

* * * *

GOVERNORS' RECEPTION 1979

ON NOVEMBER 22nd, the impossible happened – the Sixth Form assumed the mantle of respectability. They then proceeded by coach to the Silver Springs Hotel for the annual Governors' reception where, on arrival, they were greeted by the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Horace Kenworthy. Drinks were served and this helped to create a pleasant atmosphere in which teachers, pupils and Governors were able to mix with ease. After dinner, we went to the Opera House where we enjoyed a performance of *The Student Prince*. And so to bed.

On behalf of Form VI, I should like to thank the Board for a lovely evening; also, the staff whose relaxed approach was most appropriate to the occasion.

—K. DORAN (FORM VI)

Hail and Farewell

The following have entered the College since our last issue and we wish them happiness and success in their careers here:

Boys—B. GREENE, G. LEWIS, B.A. HAUGHTON, D. J. CUNNINGHAM, C. P. CREAGH, B. R. SHEEDY, P. D. SHEEDY, A. B. CREAGH, K. M. MULLALLY, G. W. WYNN, R. L. CROMBIE, F. M. FITZGERALD, E. T. HEALY, V. G. C. BICKERDIKE, S. T. BRADSHAW, A. P. C. BRYAN, D. G. BURKE, A. P. COUGHLAN, C. T. W. DEANE, L. DEANE, F. R. DE FOUBERT, J. P. FOLEY, J. H. FORD, M. J. GOWEN, R. C. HENNIGAN, J. IJOSSE, J. H. JEFFERY, J. D. C. LINNELL, J. B. LYNCH, A. J. MCCARTHY, M. C. MARTIN, T. P. MOLLOY, S. W. PERROTT, A. J. SMITH, I.E. VICKERY, D. B. WYNHORST, S. J. WYNHORST, C. C. BARKER, M. F. BRADY, P. H. HOPF, A. J. SHEA, H. W. J. WITTE.

Girls—D. FROSTRUP, E. A. HAUGHTON, W. M. SURGENOR, M. J. M. DWYER, B. FITZGERALD, H. J. POPE, A. M. BOYLE, J. H. DIGNAM, M. J. DUGGAN, J. K. FORD, D. J. G. LYSAGHT, D. M. MARTIN, H. L. POPE, C. I. THOMPSON, D. M. WITHERELL, J. A. HOSFORD.

VALE

To those who left us during the past year we wish good fortune in their future careers:

MICHAEL BROWN (Engineering), JOHN SMYTH (History) and JULIA JAMESON (Arts): Trinity College, Dublin.

SIMON FOLEY and LESLIE FITZELL (Science), HUGH ST. LEGER (Commerce), and VIVIEN ROONEY and MARTINA VAN DER PUIL (Arts): University College, Cork.

DAVID MOORE: Quantity Surveying, College of Technology, Bolton Street, Dublin.

JOHN MCKEOWN (Chemical Engineering), MARK CHAMBERS (Business Studies) and EDMOND NOONAN (Applied Physics): Cork Regional Technical College.

PHILIP BROWNLOW (Chartered Accountancy), KEITH CHAMBERS (Agricultural Engineering), ANDREW WILLIAMS (Legal Studies), ROSEMARY BROWN (Bilingual Administration): Regional Technical College, Waterford.

PETER JOHNSON, JONATHAN JENNINGS and MERVYN SWEETNAM: Agricultural College, Clonakilty.

PATRICK SMYTH: Agricultural College, Rockwell, Co. Tipperary.

MARK SHORTEN: Trainee Manager, Quinnsworth, Cork.

MICHAEL SMITH: Trainee Accountant, Clibborn & Co., Cork.

THOMAS VICKERY: Home business in Photography and Hotel work.

ERIC THOMPSON: Family farm, Mountmellick, Laois.

SUSAN WHITING: Secretarial Course, Ashton School, Cork.

LIZ NICHOLSON: Infant teaching, Douglas, Cork.

DAVID MATTHEWS, PATRICK WILLIAMS and TED O'SULLIVAN: Holy Trinity College, Cork.

YVONNE GRAVINA: Seventh year in St. Aloysius School, Carrigtwohill.

JAMES POPE and ARTHUR ENGLAND: Home farms in Co. Cork.

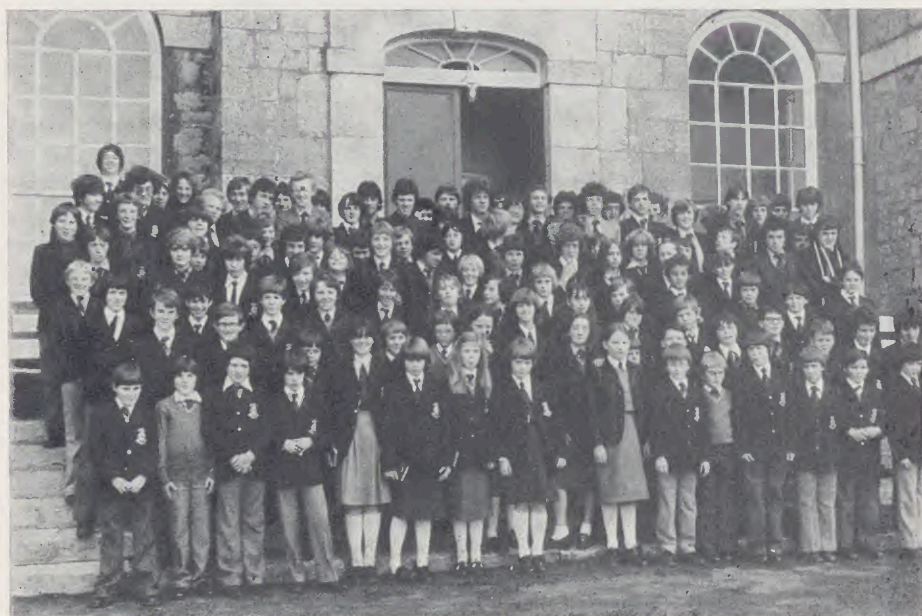
MICHAEL RAUH: Returned to Germany.

JACQUELINE and HELENA GRAIGHEAD: Further secondary education in South Africa.

CINDY SWINDELLS, ALEX, EWAN and DUNCAN CLARK, RICHARD, RODNEY and IAN HANSEN, DAVID and JEFFREY HOLMES, RICHARD BOYLES: Further secondary education in England.

BARRY GEARY, OLIVIA TRAVERS, NATASHA MURPHY and JONATHAN and DAVID HORNIBROOK: Further secondary education in Ireland.

OLIVER O'ROURKE and STUART TINDALL: Uncertain.



BOARDING PUPILS 1979/80

Educational Cruise 1979

DURING the first two weeks of August forty one pupils travelled with Mr. and Mrs. Smyth and myself aboard the s.s. *Uganda* to the Baltic Sea. This was our fourth school cruise and one of the most memorable for the interesting places visited, and the excellent behaviour and co-operation of the pupils we brought.

The first two days were spent crossing the North Sea and sailing down the east coast of Denmark. Everyone quickly adapted to life on board the large ship. The nine hundred other pupils from many parts of the world travelling with us, provided many opportunities for making new friends. There were deck games, lectures, films, discos – always something to do. On the third morning we arrived at Travemünde in West Germany. This busy port has ferries leaving frequently for destinations all around the Baltic. The 24,000 ton jet-engined ferry – *Finnjet* – impressed us as she passed on her way to Helsinki. That morning we visited Lubeck ten miles away. This fine city surrounded by rivers was once the principal town of the medieval trading organisation in the Baltic region known as the Hanseatic League. We visited the town hall and cathedral and most of us bought some of Lubeck's most famous product – marzipan.

We were then brought to the border between East and West Germany. A gate warned us that we were approaching mine-fields, and beyond were watch-towers occupied by soldiers with machine-guns. Facing towards the East a notice informed us in German that beyond this point was also Germany. The back of the notice, as seen from the eastern side, claimed that here was freedom for the fatherland. We left the "Iron Curtain" and returned to the clean and well-organised town of Travemünde. An old square-rigged sailing ship was moored across the river. I brought the younger children across on a small ferry and we went aboard. The others remained shopping in Travemünde.

We sailed that evening, after an enjoyable and interesting day, for Stockholm. The weather next day was perfect. Being Sunday, an open air service was held on deck. We sang *For those in peril on the sea* under a clear blue sky, bright sunshine and a flat calm sea. For those who woke early enough, the run through many wooded islands to Stockholm as dawn broke, was a magnificent sight. At 8 a.m. *Uganda* dropped anchor. We spent the morning in Stockholm, a city of fine architecture with luxurious shops indicating the high living standard enjoyed by the Swedes. Many shops were in arcades or under the streets, suitable for the long hard winter these people have to endure. In the afternoon we visited the Skansen open-air museum. Here we saw buildings from different parts of Sweden and different periods of history. Also on view were all the animals indigenous to Sweden, some of them threatened with extinction.

This was also a recreational centre with restaurants, theatres, art and cultural exhibitions. We also visited the *Vasa*, a sailing ship which sank some three hundred years ago but has recently been retrieved and remarkably well preserved. The anchor was raised at sunrise, 4 a.m., next morning and we left for Poland. Twenty-eight hours later we arrived at Gdynia and after a two-hour delay for checking passports, we were allowed ashore. The quayside was impressive with flower beds, monuments and exhibitions. In the town our pupils were surprised by the dullness of the streets and shops compared with those we had seen in the previous two countries. Also, unlike the other places we visited, hardly anyone

here spoke English. Some people in the street offered us four times the official exchange rate for our cash in sterling but we had been warned not to be tempted. Back at our ship we were all checked aboard for lunch and off again afterwards. An afternoon coach tour brought us up the hill overlooking Gdynia for a fine panoramic view of the town and harbour. Then on through Sopot, a seaside resort, to Oliwa where we entered the sixteenth-century cathedral. This was full of people assembled for a short recital on the most unusual organ. We were all invited to say the Lord's Prayer in our respective languages and then listen to the music. It was an experience for us to enter a church and pray in this country, homeland of the present Pope, and a land still dominated by the austerity of the Communist regime. We travelled to Gdansk, a city crucial in the starting of the Second World War and one which suffered considerably from it. The city is now largely rebuilt, the old and new blending in well together. We walked through the streets, visited the town hall and the largest Gothic church in Poland, and bought some souvenirs. Back at *Uganda* we were all checked aboard. One distressed party leader had lost three pupils. We were informed that the ship would not be able to sail until she found them. They turned up in due course and the authorities, having satisfied themselves that all their 'decadent western imperialist' visitors were safely back on board, allowed the ship to sail. The Poles came in large numbers to the quayside to watch us depart. Many passengers threw coins down to children who rushed about with great excitement picking them up. We all waved as the tugs pulled our ship away from the quay. It was easy for us to return to the western side of that awful man-made barrier we had seen near Travemünde. Had any of those waving to us wished to do the same it would probably not be so easy for them.

One and a half days later we arrived at Aarhus on the Danish mainland. We left the ship without any formalities and wandered around the attractive town visiting some of the fine shops. We moved freely on and off the ship for lunch and were brought by coach to the 'Old Town' which was a collection of houses illustrating life through the ages. After this we visited the prehistoric museum with its emphasis on the life of iron age man in the boglands nearby.

We sailed that evening and passed a fleet of racing yachts with sails lit up by the brilliant colours from a most glorious sunset. The following morning we were in Copenhagen. I brought the Juniors along the waterfront, pausing at the little mermaid statue to jump onto her rock and climb up to greet her, then passed fountains, palaces and on to the Tivoli Gardens. After lunch aboard ship we were brought into the country to see the magnificent Frederiksborg Castle maintained by the Carlsberg Foundation.

That evening we sailed for Southampton which we were to reach two and a half days later. During the days at sea everyone visited the bridge and some were shown around the engine-room. The evening entertainment was enjoyed by all especially the funfare, frog-racing, and the fancy-dress evenings. Courtenay Sweetnam won first prize dressed up as an Arab sheik with money. Ricki Prendergast won a Captain's prize for his scrapbook.

We arrived at Southampton the morning after the Fastnet tragedy and had a rough crossing back to Cork that evening. Everyone had a cabin on the *Connacht* however and we all arrived happily in Cork the next morning with many stories to tell to those waiting for us.

—R. R. LITTLE

Debating Society 1979

Senior

Auditor RONALD GIBSON

Secretary TARA MURPHY

Committee RAYMOND FITZELL, SHARON MURPHY

RICHARD COOK, KIERAN DORAN

ONE of the most striking features in the Society this year is the considerable rise in the standard of speaking (perhaps the beautiful offspring of our ugly defeat by St. Mary's High School). More and more budding debaters find their way to the rostrum each week and take their stand among the old-timers.

The annual debate with the Association took place on April 2nd with the delightful appearance of Old Boys Alfie Allen, Hugh Doran and Peter O'Rourke to propose the motion – "The Age of Chivalry is Dead". The motion was unsuccessfully opposed by Kieran Doran, Tara Murphy and Ronald Gibson.

The absence of Mr. Johnston has been regretted by all, but the unfailing help given by the ever-ready Mr. Lyons has kept both junior and senior societies up to an impeccable level. His efficiency and "no surrender" attitude are appreciated by all concerned.

All in all, an excellent year with a promising one ahead. Perhaps we are about to see an even better standard established, together with a deeper appreciation of debating at all levels in Midleton College.

—RONALD GIBSON (FORM VI)

Junior

The Society had an enjoyable year during which newcomers vied successfully with "old-timers" in displaying their debating talents. While many of the topics were lighthearted and good fun, nevertheless, on several occasions, more weighty motions were proposed and treated with due seriousness.

—ANGELA McHUGH (FORM III)

Club Notes

THE ELECTRONICS CLUB

THE membership has increased dramatically this year; there are now ten members as opposed to last year's two or three dedicated electronics experts. No previous knowledge is required, but the expense of proper test equipment (which can run into hundreds of pounds) remains a major problem.

—HUGH WILKINSON (FORM V)

THE STAMP CLUB

AS USUAL most of the Club's members are juniors and, while some of them are beginners, many of them have already got promising collections. We did not manage to get to any exhibitions last year, but we hope to go to one in the near future.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Headmaster for getting us supplies from Cork whenever necessary.

—A. PERROTT and B. HILL (FORM IV)

THE GARDENING CLUB

LAST YEAR was quite disappointing in comparison with the previous year. This was due mainly to the departure of Patrick Smyth who has gone to Rockwell Agricultural College. Patrick had a great interest in the Club and will be very difficult to replace. I shall do my best to restore our standing as one of the largest activity groups in the School; however, the death of John Deady, our great teacher and guide, makes my task seem almost impossible.

—JAMES LOCKE (FORM IV)

THE MODEL CLUB

THERE are over twenty members in the Club this year, which is a fantastic revival after several years of decline. Already, owing to the expert help of former members, many planes have been built and we look forward to the rest of the year with considerable confidence.

—NIGEL SWEETNAM (FORM VI)

FLOWER ARRANGING CLUB

WE ARE most grateful to Mrs. Garde, who comes in every Monday evening, for another lovely year of flower arranging. We now have fourteen members who are regular attenders at the weekly classes. Prize day was brightened up by the flower arrangements and anyone who was not too interested in the speeches had something very lovely to look at.

—JOY BRYAN (FORM II)

CRAFTS CLUB

THIS YEAR, on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, we have a new activity for Form I and Form II boarding girls: Mrs. Smyth and Mrs. Garde take us for knitting and sewing. We have eleven members and already some of us are making scarves and hats. We are delighted that Mrs. Smyth and Mrs. Garde are prepared to give us their time because our half-holidays are now much more fun.

—JOY BRYAN (FORM II)

Prize Day 1979

THE annual prize distribution took place on Friday, October 24th. The Headmaster presented his twentieth annual report, in which he reviewed the achievements and affairs of the College over the past year.

The last school year (1978–79) was, he said, again one of steady progress and achievement; numbers exceeded 250, but it is not school policy for the immediate future to expand further. Presently, we are able to cater for two mixed ability groups of relatively small numbers up to Intermediate Certificate, and in the fifth, and sixth years numbers are also reasonably easy to handle. In this way, he said, “We guarantee a greater degree of individual attention, and a closer knowledge of the capabilities and personality of each pupil”.

Turning to public examinations, he said, “Leaving Certificate results in recent times leave me with uneasy and unhappy feelings that students are being marked down to a level, especially in subjects demanding literary ability, which fails to discriminate between talent and mediocrity”. He suggested that in an examination of such far-reaching importance, much more feedback from the Department of Education was desirable. Such information, he said, might enable schools to prepare more adequately, and allow teachers a better opportunity of making constructive criticisms of questions and papers.

Our guest speaker this year was, the Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor J. Corr. He urged all, especially young people, in whom he said he placed great hope for the future, to be mindful of their obligations to the community. Referring to the media, and in particular television, he suggested that education in this aspect of life was as important for modern youth as education in spelling or mathematics. “Media”, he said, “are capable of giving knowledge, power, and virtue, and at the same time, capable of encouraging prejudice, fanaticism, and cruelty.

Mr. L. Atkins, who presided, thanked the Headmaster and Staff for completing another successful year.

—J. B. MULCAHY



Susie Whiting receives her Prizes from the Lord Mayor of Cork.

If the Cap Fits

- THE HEAD: "You know my methods, Watson"—*Sir A. C. Doyle.*
- MR. KING: "Great fleas have little fleas upon their backs to bite them
And little fleas have lesser fleas, and so ad infinitum"—*A. de Morgan.*
- MR. JOHNSTON: "What is not clear is not French"—*Antoine de Rivarol.*
- MR. LITTLE: "One science only will one genius fit;
So vast is science, so narrow human wit"—*Pope.*
- MR. MULLINS: "Since when was genius found respectable"—*E. B. Browning.*
- MR. DALEY: "Slow and steady wins the race"—*Robert Lloyd.*
- MR. LEVIS: "Dear Child! dear girl! that walketh with me here"—*Wordsworth.*
- MR. LYONS: "I'm an intellectual chap
And think of things that would astonish you"—*W. S. Gilbert.*
- MR. HARRINGTON: "They have learnt nothing
And forgotten nothing"—*C. M. de Tallyrand.*
- MR. MULCAHY: "Life is just one damned thing after another"—*A. Hubbard.*
- MR. LEOPOLD: "Style is the man himself"—*George Louis de Buffon.*
- MR. MORRISSEY: "This bud of love"—*Shakespeare.*
- MISS SHORTEN: "We that are true lovers run into strange capers"—*Shakespeare.*
- MISS POWER: "For the female of the species is more deadly than the male"
—*Kipling.*
- MRS. BURKE: "Her hair was long, her foot was light
And her eyes were wild"—*Keats.*
- MISS GLEESON: "O tiger's heart wrapped in a woman's hide"—*Shakespeare.*
- MISS FORAN: "Never, never, never, never, never !
Pray you, undo this button"—*Shakespeare.*
- MISS TAIT: "Stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples:
for I am sick of love"—*Song of Solomon.*
- MISS PETERS: "Tell me, pretty maiden, are there any more at home like you?"
—*Owen Hall.*
- MRS. RYAN: "But are they all horrid,
Are you sure they are all horrid?"—*Jane Austen.*
- KEES, ORLA and OTHERS

Choir

IT WAS not easy keeping the church choir going after the departure of Dean Fleming. So it was with great relief and pleasure that we welcomed Anita Whiting to take charge of last year's Carol Service and later along with her sisters, Wendy and Susie, to share the position of organist in Middleton Church on the retirement of Mrs. Madeline Smyth. The Whiting sisters and especially Susie, always ready to accompany, have given at weekly practices much time and attention to the choir through the year. A fresh wave of enthusiasm and increasing competence are evident under Anita's guidance. We appreciate highly this work as well as the dedication of the choir members themselves who offer their talents so eagerly to this important activity.

—J. W. S.

Christmas Concert 1978

SCENE: The lower master's study; an extraordinary meeting of the games staff (extraordinary because they all remembered to turn up) is in session. The Senior Programmer is in the chair – there is only one chair, he is the punctual type and, so, he is in the chair. He speaks.

S.P. “For some time now I have been quite worried. In fact, ever since the French Intellectual went away – yes, he **has** gone away, he went six weeks ago; we all told you he had”. (*This aside to a Scientific Saxon who is standing on a book-shelf, quietly rehearsing an oratorio*) – “as I was saying, I am very uneasy – about the concert, that is; we must do something about it”. (*There is a silence during which the eyes of all present are drawn to the activities of an Innocently Casual Type who is elegantly flicking balls through the window with the Scientific Saxon's Mars bar. He becomes aware of his colleagues' attention, grins boyishly and says*).

I.C.T. “Sorry men. Anyway, no problem, so far as I can see: the Leonine Lunatic is producing this year”.

S.P. “Lori never trusted him and neither do I. He'll lose his temper when the pressure is on and – ” (*just then the door bursts open to reveal a bearded and begowned figure who advances into the room, trips over the Scientific Saxon's rubber boots, shouts “what the b----y hell” and reels out again mumbling “de gustibus non est disputandum” Everyone stares in absolute horror. with the exception of the Powerful Maiden who is busily lighting her five hundredth cigarette of the morning*).

S.P. “See what I mean. He's flipped already. What do you think, Senior Hockey Master?”

S.H. “Tá sé an mhúchta anseo”.

S.P. “Yes. Well the Headmaster doesn't want the windows open unless the room's exceptionally stuffy”.

I.C.T. “What do you suggest we do, S.P.?”

S.P. “I feel we should go over last year's concert programme, item by item, and then decide which of us could produce similar acts for this year's show. My little PET here has all the basic facts” (*a blissful expression comes over his face*) “now, we press this and then ‘return’ and – ah yes! The concert opened with ‘Villa on Venus’ produced by Miss Madden”.

S.S. (*ferently*): “I could do one like that: I love heavenly bodies.”

S.P. (*pinkly and patiently*): “Then the junior choir, accompanied by Susie Whiting, sang two songs under the direction of Miss Foran. This was followed by the Drummer Boys who performed their usual medley of song, gymnastics – yes, I am quite aware there were girls too, Senior Hockey Mistress!”

S.H.M. “Fay cough, S.P., and hurry up. I'm late for my daily physical chemistry lesson”.

S.P. (*tight-lipped with well-controlled rage*): "Liz and Julie sang sweetly, if somewhat sourly, to Paddy's guitar accompaniment and then we had 'The King who Couldn't Laugh' a play produced by Mr. Lyons. Orla and Suzanne gave us 'Amazing Grace' which, possibly, helped us to survive 'A Night at the Opera' as revealed by Form VI, not to mention the Form V. 'Cosmopolitan Show.' Mr. Johnston's play was 'The Man in the Bowler Hat' a melodramatic romp with a most surprising ending. Orla Poole sang 'Don't cry for me, Argentina' while the players assembled for the finale during which 'The Holly and the Ivy' was given a spirited, if not always musical, airing. What was that, Table Tennis Teacher?"

T.T.T. "I think we should hold the concert in my activities room: we could play games during the intermission – chess, mastermind . . ." (*he shakes his head with gentle disbelief at the prospect of such an ecstatic future*).

I.C.T. "Don't be ridiculous, man, the inner cooler is the obvious place; I could have it tidy in no time at all".

S.P. "H'm, if I hold 'shift' and press 'delete' the cursor should . . ."

At this stage, the Senior Rugby Coach, who has been tickling the Senior Hockey Mistress' ear with a pipette, absentmindedly lights his pipe with a stick of gelignite – amazing what you can get grants for nowadays – and, in the ensuing explosion, the present writer awakes to a more normal, albeit less exciting, prospect.

—M.O.L.

BALTIC CRUISE – AUGUST 1979



Midleton College party aboard S.S. 'Uganda'

A Dream

I AWOKE to find they had arrived. While sitting in the chair waiting for them, I had fallen into a light, uneasy sleep.

On awakening I felt I had been dreaming something horrible, but couldn't remember what it was. This feeling added to my initial uneasiness and instead of abruptly rising from the chair I remained seated, looking vaguely around the room. The room and everything in it didn't have clearly defined shapes, everything faded into its surroundings, everything seemed untouchably remote.

As well as my two married friends, Jaci and Kevin, my sister Jodi had also arrived. Jodi and Kevin were engaged in an easy, spontaneous conversation at the far end of the room by the bed. Often, when I talked to Kevin his facial expression, for only a split second, seemed to suggest a quiet aggressiveness which seemed to say that he thought what I was saying to be ridiculous. Now, as I watched him from the chair, this expression seemed to be frozen on his face.

Meanwhile Jaci went into the bathroom, walking in a smooth, profoundly contented fashion, her feet barely touching the ground. I followed her into the bathroom and found her placing soap by the sink. She is one of those people who have a beautiful habit of speaking their thoughts aloud, generating a feeling of being welcome, of belonging. She had a puzzled expression on her face. Her silence, and my ignorance of her feelings, combined with the familiarity of the unfamiliar room gave me a feeling of uneasiness and loneliness.

As she seemed unaware of my presence, I called her name softly to attract her attention. She turned in my direction and began to walk toward the other room. I moved out of her path because she seemed to be looking through me.

She joined Kevin and Jodi by the bed, sitting in a relaxed and comfortable position. She immediately fell into the conversation. Jodi vibrated a living enthusiasm. She spoke with a loud confidence and took joy in the fact she led the conversation. Even as she spoke the trio seemed to become more intimate.

Watching Jodi, I remembered that I rarely spoke as she was speaking now. A thought suddenly gripped me; maybe Jaci and Kevin didn't really know me at all, maybe they never knew me, maybe they thought I was some completely different person, maybe they never knew my real emotions, my real affection, my real hates . . . ,

At that very moment I seemed to realize that the very shape of my face, hands and body, their every contour seemed to have changed. It seemed now, simply by its shape, to shout aloud how I felt inside.

Realising that I was a stranger in the midst of the three, yet knowing, that all I had to do was stand before them to proclaim the truth I felt a great wave of sadness and joy spring from my soul. These two waves crashed and broke upon each other, leaving a frothing, boiling anger and confusion.

As if every second was precious I ran to them and began shouting the truth, telling them how I really felt, But as I shouted I realised, that they neither saw, nor heard me. They continued their conversation uninterruptedly. I was confused . . . despairing . . . my shouting broke into screaming . . . my screaming into whimpering . . . my hope into despair. I suddenly realised that I was set apart, was on a different plane – was made of a different substance – was there and yet not there . . . was dead.

And in that split second I realised that for them I was not dead, because for them I had never been alive, had never entered their lives . . . and suddenly the images became brilliantly bright and vividly defined . . . but I began to fade, to lose shape, to disappear, and finally – to cease to exist.

And it was with this frightening image of loneliness that I awoke to feel a tingle like an electric shock pass through my body.

—BARRY GREENE (FORM V)

SOMEBODY'S WORLD

I once felt safe within the walls of fantasy.
Fiery, cold eyes in deforming animals,
Exotic graveyard peeks,
Wild wispy banshee.
These evils could never touch me
For I was clad in a cloak of gold,
Woven around me through long years of love and trust.

But the cruel beasts turned themselves into time,
Shredding the golden threads,
Pushing me far from the world in which I reigned supreme ruler.
All definite thoughts and past glories parcelled away
Sheened with a dust in my attic memories.

Stumbling, groping among the coloured mountains
Of life's wise decisions, wise statements, wise comments,
I cling to something of which I hope will be approved –
Approved of.
Tell me, why is it I need so much
To be approved of?
I wade blindly in cold sweat.

Where am I? I can hardly find myself.
Me-ee, where are you?
Over here I think
Shall you also drown in strange mountain waters?

Don't you remember?
You were the supreme ruler
Let me find me
I am worth something.

—SHARON MURPHY (FORM V)

The Unexpected America

TO VISIT the United States for the first time is to find how false have been our preconceived ideas of America. It is to find a land of many surprises, most of them happy ones.

We landed at Boston Airport, and airports seem to be very much the same the world over, but as soon as we were clear of the airport our surprises began. The City of Boston, although it certainly has its group of sky-scrapers, happens to be very much the kind of city we are used to. There are narrow streets illuminated by gas-lamps, early Victorian houses, a Georgian Church, a green expanse of common, with noble trees and quiet walks, all of which gave us that general feeling that we might well be in parts of London or Brighton or even Dublin. The people are proud to speak of the 'Englishness' of their city, forgetting perhaps that the southern suburbs, not far away, are more Irish than anything in Ireland! When we crossed the river to the suburban district of Cambridge, we had only to leave the noise of the busy streets to find ourselves in the quiet leafy peace of the Colleges of Harvard University. It was strangely like browsing amongst the antique Colleges of the Cambridge we know. One might even find shades of T.C.D., except for the fact that mellow red brick takes the place of sombre grey stone. It was only when we ascended the lofty John Hancock Building that we were made fully aware that Boston, in spite of all, is an American city, even though she loves to retain so much of the Old World in a new setting.

The next surprise came as we left behind the built-up areas and found ourselves in a countryside which we could not have expected. Immediately we were in a vast expanse of woodland, stretching out in every direction as far as the eye could see. No fields in sight, no farms, only endless areas of forest, almost primeval in aspect, and criss-crossed by great motor roads here and there.

Our journey of several hours through the forests led us to our destination, Newport, Rhode Island. Newport is an old colonial settlement on the sea going back three hundred years. The houses, many of them dating back to 1700 and earlier, are built of timber, but are as sturdy, spacious, and durable as many buildings of stone. They are beautifully preserved. The Parish Church itself, also built of wood, is a fine edifice with a Wren type of tower and spire, and dominates the old town. Its interior is filled with box pews and it has a lofty three-decker pulpit, all dating from the early eighteenth century. In this handsome church George Berkeley, who later became Bishop of Cloyne (1734-53), often preached during the few years he spent there, 1729-1732. Afterwards he often preached at Cloyne and also, to be sure, at Midleton, where his brother was Rector. The memory of his days in America is treasured by succeeding generations in ways in which we over in Ireland, often fail.

It was no small privilege to be invited to preach from the dizzy heights of the old pulpit, with the officiating clergyman seated one deck lower, and, below him, the clerk who read the lessons and notices.

Newport provided other surprises. You would scarcely expect to find in the New World vast palaces; equal to and sometimes exceeding in grandeur the noble palaces of France and Italy. Newport has them in profusion, built mainly in the closing years of the last century. We call them palaces because they are for the most part faithful copies of the great palaces of the royalty of Europe, equally ornate, sumptuous, and opulent. No expense was too much for the captains of American industry in those years of exceptional expansion and wealth. The Marble Palace, for instance, cost no less than thirteen and a half millions to build

in 1900, the marble all coming from Italy. What it would cost today we cannot imagine! When we consider how these kings of industry vied with one another to have the grandest 'summer residence', it may appear to us over ostentatious to the point of vulgarity. Be that as it may, it does seem that it was, in some measure, a way of satisfying, in a modern republic, the longing of people for the romance, the glitter, and the magic which only come from royalty. The palaces are now no longer lived in, owing to the ravishes of the tax man; they remain sparkling reminders of an age that has gone. Such is human nature.

I could write at length of the tremendous care taken in America of anything which can be called old or antique, or, nearly so. The house of George Berkeley, Whitehall, is lovingly maintained and is furnished as far as possible as it would have been 250 years ago. In one charming church, dating back to the old colonial days, we heard in Evensong a prayer, not for the President, but for Queen Anne, this may seem a strange way of maintaining cherished traditions, but so it was.

There were other lovely surprises. St. George's School, which we visited, is a charming similitude of our old Public Schools, with its spacious playing-fields and its dignified buildings, and is dominated by the noble tower of a splendid 'early English' chapel! Could we really be in America?

We must not fail to mention something else, rather more modest and nearer to our hearts. It was perhaps the sweetest surprise of all. In the porch of a small rural church we found two stones set in the masonry. The one was a reddish piece of granite brought over from Iona Abbey, in the Scottish Islands. The other was a large grey stone taken from Cloyne Cathedral in 1888. To find a precious piece of County Cork far away across the Atlantic was a joy we never anticipated.

—J. K. S. RIDLEY-BARKER

Coming Home

CAREFULLY I push the heavy common-room door open, putting on my polite face to meet the twenty glares but there is no need. I am alone. The seats like schoolboys' faces, are empty now. The faint smell of coffee creeps into my nostrils as I observe that someone has broken the handle off my mug. The spilt sugar crunches under my feet like inverted icicles as I move to the silent record-player. In a minute the forbidden David Bowie record revolves as I hug the lukewarm heater so often occupied by bigger boys and watch the sky crying.

It's been seven years now I think. Seven long years. How many days? I wonder aimlessly. Now it's almost over. Remember how Wilkin's told us we'd pay if we didn't work? He was right, you know, but it's too late now.

Is that John and Pat I hear playing handball on the wall outside? No, just a door banging in my mind.

I learnt how to swim here. The teachers wanted me to play Rugby too, but I wouldn't. What a fool I was, but that's all behind me now. The chair squeaks as nobody sits down and my gaze is averted.

I used to be choir prefect. Until then I sat with my mates in church. But this new post demanded that I sat on my own like an island without a shore. Is that someone stirring coffee? No, just a window in my heart. Seven years, years when I laughed, years when I cried, years to run in and years to walk in. This was my life. This was my home and now I have to leave this school for someone else. A faint cough. Tears in my brain. "Mike", I call, but Mike is gone.

—R. GIBSON (FORM VI)

Why Economics ?

EDUCATION is important to give our children better lives, to improve the society in which we live, to enable our nation to go forward and compete internationally and to survive in a changing technical and scientific age. Thus education must be geared to the world we live in; it must prepare people for life and for change, and it must help them to develop and to become adaptable.

We might list some of the important aims of education as, (a) the formation of character, (b) the development of intelligence, (c) the transmitting, and where possible the improving of our cultural heritage and, (d) the equipping of the individual to earn his or her living.

With this in mind I shall now turn my attention to the place of the subject Economics in helping to achieve some of these aims, as well as others, as part of the curriculum of our Secondary Schools.

Economics may be defined as the study of the relationship between many wants and the scarce resources that can satisfy those wants. Economics, as a school subject, has many attractive characteristics, (a) it is a relevant subject dealing with current and future problems, (b) it touches all our lives intimately, (c) it is concerned with people – it studies an aspect of their behaviour.

Living in a democracy places a responsibility on us to be informed about what is happening in society and to understand the issues involved. The adolescent constantly strives to be accepted by the adult world and involves him in an understanding of those aspects of human behaviour which may be defined as economic.

A study of economics can help the pupil to understand the adult system and economic issues and thus help in understanding the adult world and point of view. Economics can help the pupil to see his role in society and the interdependence of all groups in society. It will help the pupil to become aware of his own decisions, actions, and responsibilities; further it will help the pupil to understand the world outside the school now and in the future.

From the moment of our birth until the moment of our death our existence is influenced by the economic forces controlling the structure of our society. Thus economic understanding, which implies a basic knowledge of the operation of the economic system should be an essential part of one's education. If a child is to understand the world in which he lives he must first understand some of the economic principles and institutions that determine its structure.

Pupils, as consumers, are faced with the basic problems of choice and the most efficient use of their resources. In order to be able to read newspapers meaningfully or listen with understanding to current affairs programmes on television they must understand the economists' terms with some degree of precision.

In other subjects, such as, for example Geography and History, pupils will find a knowledge of economics very helpful. Thus it can be seen that a study of economics provides, (1) an intellectual training through the subject matter of economics and the scientific method of investigation employed in the subject, (2) a preparation for citizenship, and (3) a vocational training for a business career.

—M. DALEY

The Ten Million Dollar Cliché, *ALIEN*

ALIEN is the brand-new fiction film, following in the wake of *Star Wars*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*. Slightly less straight forward and aimed at more adult audiences' palate, the film is an odd mixture of the classic *Dracula*-style plot with the infusion of a super-modern technology grafted together to form a terrifying suspense motion picture.

The screenplay was written during later 1975 by Ron Shusett and Dan O'Bannon. In the Shepperton studios where *Alien* was filmed, Ron Shusett stated, "when I wrote *Alien* I was broke". He recalled, "My co-writer Dan O'Bannon was broke and sleeping on the sofa in my apartment. I got so mad at him one time I threw him out. He came back and said 'Ron you've got to leave me back in so we can finish the script'."

The script was juggled between the two writers, three producers and Twentieth Century Fox who finally approved a budget of ten million dollars for the film.

The elaborate sets had a quietening effect on the actors, as John Hunt (*Midnight Express* and *I, Claudius*) said, "*Alien* was a lesson in not acting, really. You had only to see one of those massive sets and you knew there was no point in acting against that lot. The rule in *Alien* was behave".

The art work in the film was done by two of the world's best science-fiction artists, Swiss, H. R. Giger, and American, Ron Cobb. Giger did the Alien planet, the Alien ship and the Alien itself, while Cobb did the Earth ship, its instruments and its equipment. The two artists naturally contrast with each other, as Michael Seymour, the production designer said, "We have a total division between the hard-edged realism of Cobb set against the organic fantastic look of the Giger material.

The actual Alien was built around a mild-looking Nigerian over seven feet tall, who was transformed into something so frightening that one of the actresses worried whether she could complete a scene without fainting. Designed by Giger the Alien was in Cobb's words, "A work of art, more of a sculpture than a costume". It was finally built in its entirety by Giger from latex and seal bones. No one else could understand Giger's design.

I feel after seeing the film myself that the producers of *Alien* went to an awful lot of trouble to produce what seems an unoriginal plot and to make it original in a very effective and startling way – a brilliant achievement.

—M. W. DWYER (FORM VI)

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The Call of The West

THERE is an allure about the West of Ireland. A friend from Dublin used to say on crossing the historic Custume Bridge at Athlone that she had reached 'her spiritual home', and indeed one does have kindred feelings moving up from the south as the first outlines of the 'black' hills of Clare become visible from the environs of Limerick City. The atmosphere changes dramatically as one leaves behind the modernity of roadways and buildings which bedeck the precincts of Shannon Airport and the new-found bustle of Ennis and its satellite towns and villages to reach the short-grass fields and 'dry' stone walls so characteristic of the North Clare-East Galway limestone landscape, a region also famed for its castles and noble houses with their literary associations – Lough Cutra, Coole and Thoor Ballylee.

This Summer it was good to make the pilgrimage again and with no little heart-searching to by-pass the mountains, lakes and bogs of Connemara which blend in such unrivalled splendour when the weather gods bestow their gifts upon them. The destination was Ballina, one might say, the capital of Mayo. Many will know that it stands at the tidal limit of the well-known salmon river, the Moy, which links Lough Conn to the sea and opens out into the north-facing, v-shaped inlet of Killala Bay. The county of Sligo lies away to the right and Mayo to the left. The town does not have any notable architectural qualities apart from the Catholic cathedral and two fine bridges spanning the river. Its streets and shop-fronts have little out of the ordinary and there is a marked absence of large super-markets and chain-stores. Just another country town with the attendant evils of narrow streets, casual and haphazard parking and the consequent traffic congestion. In and about it are some fine hotels and guest-houses. The Downhill Hotel nestles in a shady glade near a small tributary stream on the east side of the town – an old-world establishment now up-dated and extended in a most tasteful fashion with relaxing grounds and gardens around it, and admirably run by a friendly and attentive staff. Here and in the town one imbibed (in the metaphorical sense mostly) the spirit of the West. The people were splendid – the most hospitable, the most obliging, the most generous one could meet. The purchase of a shirt in a family drapery shop had a handkerchief thrown in for good luck. Conversation flowed freely and time never seemed to matter; a sort of good humour prevailed interspersed with odd woe-begone expressions, relics of the hungrier days of Mayo, 'God help us'.

The town is within easy reach of delightfully varied scenic and coastal attractions along the many routes which converge there. To the south Lough Conn with the pleasantly situated village of Pontoon where the lake narrows enough for causeways and bridges to cross it and where views on either side offer a rich mixture of ever-changing colours. North-eastward along the banks of the widening Moy the road leads to Enniscrone with its huge beach where large breakers, the delight of surfers, roll in from the open bay. Mighty sand dunes of the Ballybunion variety line the shore and protect a charming little golf course from the inroads of wind and wave. Further east is a flat plain, separating the foothills of the Ox Mountains from the coast at Easky, criss-crossed by narrow roads and studded with prosperous farms and homesteads. Flat rocks at low tide stretch well out to sea revealing the embedded fossil shapes of creatures that

existed on a slimy sea-bed over 200 million years ago. Huge perched blocks of granite give evidence of ice movement from their parent ridge – the Ox – several miles away inland.

On the other side of the bay – almost always the leeward shore – is the ancient cathedral town of Killala, the small outport of Ballina, now dominated by the giant Asahi chemical plant which has made money pour into the district and stemmed the tide of emigration – but it has not changed the rural character of the town nor the adjacent coast line of the Ross peninsula with the tranquillity of its many sheltered sandy coves. Further north lies the massive headland of Downpatrick – but first the quiet little harbour of Kilcummin where at four o'clock on the last day of the salmon-fishing season – 20th July – excitement was high as boat after boat arrived with large assortments of these shining scaly 'kings' of the estuary, which were weighed, recorded and boxed ready for transport to the agent in Ballina.

But the road west is the one to take – on out towards Crossmolina – where the dominant feature on the sky-line is the rounded peak of Nephin, the Lugnaquilla of Connacht. This is the long, lonely, boggy route along which many a brawny westerner travelled east to join the multitudes seeking fortunes in Hammersmith, Kilburn and Camden Town. But it is also the long trail to the Mullet Peninsula, a little gem of coastal scenery hidden away in the far north-west corner of the county. On through Bellacorick with its modern turf-fuelled power station, its famous 'singing' bridge where the coping stones ring like a xylophone to the tapping of pebbles and surely the oldest-fashioned thatched post office in Ireland now suffering from the ravages of time and perhaps the dying art of refurbishing such roofing. Then past Bangor Erris in the heart of the bogland to Belmullet at the entry point to this south-running tongue of land which shelters Blacksod Bay from the open Atlantic Ocean. The town exudes a recent prosperity with housing estates, factories and freshly decorated shops. The bed-rock of the region is pink granite, reminiscent of West Donegal, but a variety of boulders and stones line the west-facing littoral where strong winds push powerful waves against the steep-faced strands. The eastern shore, calm and serene, has long stretches of white sand with scarcely a visitor or a sun-bather in the height of a petrol-starved holiday season. Green fields with mounds of aromatic herbs and odd patches of tillage crops cover an area relatively well peopled with cottages, farm-houses and modern bungalows, but there is a notable absence of trees. The road south terminates at the village of Blacksod which faces across the mouth of its bay towards the dark mountain mass of Slievemore on the north shore of Achill Island, six or seven miles away. This was the end of a world – another of those fingers of land on Ireland's west coast which defiantly face the varying torments of Atlantic storms and where a once noble breed of sturdy people won a simple living from land and sea.

Percy French must have visited the area in the early part of this century and in his well-known piece, *The Four Farrelllys*, captured the atmosphere of place and person. Thoughts flitted through the mind as to what he would have written now of the favourite Francis of this quartet "with the deep-set wistful eyes that seemed to take their colour from the ever-changing skies". And are things really that much different now from "years and years ago in the bog below Belmullet in the County of Mayo"?

—J. W. S.

LETTER FROM VICHY

WE ARRIVED here rather cold and tired after a car journey from Paris. Strange towns always look inhospitable at first sight – especially near the railway station, which is where we had stopped, and Vichy was no exception. However, a meal and a bottle of Saint Pourcain, one of the local wines, contributed to a more favourable impression. The first thing one notices about Vichy is hotels, streets of them. The town is of course famous for its mineral waters and its cures. It is less favourably regarded for other aspects of its history but though many of its streets bear the names of marshals of France: Foch, Lyautey, de Lattre, Joffre; Petain does not figure among them.

The beneficial qualities of the water here were first noticed by the Romans; one can still see signs of the kerb they built around “la source Chomel”. The town acquired its more recent fame as a spa from the Emperor Napoleon III who built a dike along the side of the river and created miles of parks with lawns and trees.

“La vie du curiste” centres around “le parc des sources” which is full of trees with “le hall des sources” at one end where one can drink the waters of several springs and at the other end another hall with one spring. The two sides of the park are bordered by covered walks made from wood and decorated iron work (which could do with a lick of paint). All around throng casinos, night clubs, elegant hotels, restaurants and expensive shops. However, most of them are shut as the season is now over. All in all Vichy gives an impression of (a slightly dilapidated) elegance and (declining) middle-class prosperity. It contrasts quite strongly with other towns of a similar size in Auvergne where unemployment is rampant, discontent obvious and facilities much more primitive. It must be one of the few towns in Auvergne with a right-wing Mayor and Council.

But Vichy’s attractions as a spa and health resort are waning. There are fewer and fewer “curistes” so the town has made an enormous effort to attract a different sort of visitor. They have dammed the river to give an enormous and delightful stretch of water fit for rowing, sailing and water skiing. There are swimming-pools, tennis courts (even covered ones), jogging tracks, stadia of all sorts, and of course the reason for our presence here, the audio-visual centre for Modern Languages – Le Cavilam.

Le Cavilam draws its students from all over the world. We have met Germans, Danes, Americans; Arabs and Africans of every hue; Koreans, Thais and Vietnamese. They are sometimes students, sometimes professional people – doctors, chemists, engineers. They have come to learn French and are at every level of proficiency. There are classes at the very early standard and at every standard of oral competency right up to the ability to dissect, debate and criticise the radio news bulletin. There are some groups learning the specialised language of their profession – nuclear engineers, bilingual secretaries, chemists, even diplomats.

These form the raw material. We observe the progress of these classes, watch the teachers, discuss their techniques and problems with them and reflect on what we can learn from them, what can be usefully transposed into the Irish context. There are also theoretical lectures and the study and practice of class techniques and the preparation of teaching materials.

Lastly we hope to gain some benefit by the very fact of being in France, surrounded by the French atmosphere, living in a French family, eating French food and generally gaining a deeper appreciation of what, ultimately, we are trying to impart.

—D. JOHNSTON (STAFF)

COMPUTERS

SOME MORNING, not so distant from now, Mr. X. will get up, walk into the bathroom to have a shower, and as he steps in the water automatically turns itself on at an exact pre-set temperature. Mrs. X is waiting downstairs putting two eggs in a pan that starts moving on a conveyor belt to the stove, which will turn itself off in about six minutes. As they finish breakfast, Mr. X walks outside, where his car is already running.

In about five or ten years, all this will be happening. About five years ago, someone discovered that a thin wafer of silicon (the substance that makes up a lot of our rocks) could replace thousands of bits of wire in the size of about a centimetre. A computer that used to take up the size of a dance hall can now be miniaturized down to about the size of a television set. Take the pocket calculator. A few years ago a pocket calculator cost about £100, now small ones can be got for about £5. Computers can be programmed to play chess, to follow an argument, even write pleasing poetry and music. Computers have become practically unbeatable, because they 'learn' their mistakes!

Eventually as computers get more and more complex, the dividing line between computers and man will become more indistinct, more undefined. Computers will evolve as a new race of 'superbeings' in co-operation with man. Neither will be able to survive without the other. Whether or not the mad scientists' dream of computers running the world will come true, I hope we will always be able to pull the plug.

—PATRICK ZUK (FORM II)

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

AS YOU READ this article many people across the world are being imprisoned, tortured and killed because of their political beliefs. An East German sculptor is serving a four-year prison sentence because he dared criticize the Communist regime; a Paraguayan "dissident" has been thrown into an electric swimming bath; fifteen thousand people have disappeared in Argentina and since 1966 twenty thousand Guatemalans have been kidnapped, tortured or murdered by government-sanctioned groups. In this, the Year of the Child, hundreds of children are being held as 'political prisoners' in twenty-one different countries. The facts are endless, brutal and almost unbelievable.

In 1961 Peter Benenson, a London lawyer, struck on the idea of an international crusade to abolish persecution for political beliefs. Amnesty International grew out of this idea. At first it was weakly supported, but membership grew, and when Amnesty won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977 it was known throughout the world. It has now a membership of one hundred and sixty-eight thousand people, and has supporters in one hundred and seven different countries. But popularity is one thing, action is another.

Of the thousands of protest letters which Amnesty International writes to offending governments, a very small percentage will be read, let alone heeded.

Amnesty's position is not exactly hopeless. Their very existence proves that man is no longer prepared to sit back and, in the word of Bob Dylan, "pretend that he just doesn't see". People are becoming more aware, more determined to fight for the prisoners of conscience.

Amnesty International carries a light of hope into the lives of millions. If you are indifferent, apathetic or just plain bored by this whole affair, then it is you, not just the totalitarian states, which threaten to extinguish this light.

—P. TRAVERS (FORM VI)

File Cáilúil ó Oirthear Chorcaí

— PIARAS MAC GEARAILT

I mBAILE UÍ CHINNPHAOLAIDH, i bparóiste Bhaile Mhacóda, láimh le hEochaill, i gCondae Chorcaí, a rugadh Piaras Mac Gearailt. Tuairim na bliana 1705 a tháinig sé ar an saol, agus cailleadh é sa bhliain 1792. I gCill Modomóc, i mBaile Mhacóda, a adhlacadh é. Throid a shin-seanathair, Séan Mac Gearailt, faoi cheannas Iarla Dheasmhumhan ar thaobh Shéamais II, agus dá dheasca sin, coigistíodh formhór a eastáit air. Dá ainneoin sin, is cosúil go raibh an file cuíosach maith as sa saol ar feadh tamaill. Caitilicigh ab ea é féin is a mhuintir, ach b'éigean dó féin iompú ina Phrotastúnach ar feadh tamaill chun nach gcaillfeadh sé seilbh ar a ghabháltas. Sa Spáinn a fuair sé féin agus a dheartháir-eacha a gcuid oideachais.

Ó thús a óige bhíodh caidreamh aige le filí eile, mar bhí siad go hiomadúil sa cheantar máguaird an tráth sin, agus be é a bhí ina cheann ar an gCúirt Filíochta a bhíodh acu.

Seasann clú Phiaraís Mhic Gearailt ar thrí dánta – “Rosc Catha na Mumhan”, “Freagra ar Thomás de Barra” agus “Tréithe na Maighdine Muire”.

Molann “Rosc Catha na Mumhan” é féin. Tá ceol éadtrom siúlach tríd síos ann, agus tá an dán lán de dhóchas. Ní gá an aithris íontach a lua a chuala gach duine i –

“Torann na dtonn le sleasaibh na long

ag tarraingt go teann ’nár gceann ar cuaird”.

Cluintear anseo “fuaim tuinne re tracht luinge”, an long ag treabhadh slí is í ag glioscarnaigh leis an deifir a bhí fúithi.

Ní i bhfad uaidh a fheiceann Mac Gearailt a chabhair, ní “aimsir éigin” atá i gceist aige, ach na longa “ag gearradh na slí” fá chuan ar maidin. Sé a dhara bua an t-athrú éasca taitneamhach i ngach ceathrú, agus an t-athrú ar na focail sa chúrfá. Bhí bua na cumraíochta ag Mac Gearailt. É féin a chum ráite mar –

“ag déanamh sceóil”

“i ngéibheann bróin”

“hainim chum reatha”,

agus tá siad glan gleoite soiléir, díreach i gceart san áit a bhfuil siad, agus gan aige le dul i bhfad ó bhaile fá n-a gcoinne.

Tá sé in ann craiceann a chur ar a chaint i gcónaí. Faightear é seo i ndánta mar “Séan Ó Dí” –

“Níor ghéilleas riamh do ráitibh,

File, fáidh no draoi,

Go bhfuair an Bhulcáin gránna

Bhénús Chreá mar mhnaoi”.

Tá an freagra géar liomhtha ar a bhéal mar bhí ag gach file, ach tá snas agus craiceann an-mhaith ar a fhreagraí seo.

“Freagra ar Thomás de Barra”

“A chogair, a charaid, ’sa Charraigh is múinte méin

Is doilbh liom ceangal le Cailbhín is Liútar claon

Ach golfhairt mo leanbh, ’s a greachadh, gan triúch, gan tréad,

Thug sruthanna óm dhearcaibh ’na gcaisibh is turlingt déar”.

Is léir gur as tocht a chroí, agus nach le hóraidiúlacht a dúradh seo. Sin an rud a bheireann ina fhilíocht mhaith é. Tá an chúis truachánta go leor. Ní gná-

aithrí ar bith é seo, mar “Aithrí an Ghearaltaigh” cuir igcás, ach tugann sé faisnéis chruinn ar cad a thug air an Creideamh a thréigint.

Agus tá ceannsacht chaoín i –

“Géillfead-sa do d’Naomhthoil go sásta síodach,
Ó thréigeas go héadtrom Do pháirt is Do dhlí,
Lem’ shaol béad léanmhar le crábhadh is caoi,
Fé dhéar-chnead i ngéibhinn le grá do Chríost”.

Go tobann ansin, fágann sé a chás féin i leataoibh, agus faighimid radharc beo ar na daoine in am an Droch-Shaoil.

“A Chumainn, smaoin má bhím-se im ’cheap i dteannta,
'S go dtuigtear dhíbh dar linn, gur fearr mé meallta,
Scuit is cíos is íoc is greadadh clampair,
Chuir na mílte dhínn-ne ag teacht chun teampuill”.

“Tréithe na Maighdine Muire”

Protastúnach greannmhar a bhí ann, mar sin féin, dálda an Mhangaire Shúgaigh.

“Crann soillse is criostal na Críostaíochta,
Fairrge na daonnachta,
Lonradh is lóchrann lóghmhar na spéire
Péarla na glóire,
Tuile na nGrás”.

Féach an dóigh a bhfuil an tsamhlaíocht álainn ag fás, ag fás, go dtig sé fhad leis an mholadh nach dtiocfadh le haoinne ach le Gael a thabhairt do Mhuire, choinnigh sé go dtí an deireadh é le ceann a chur ar an biodán – “Tonn Chlíodhna na Trócaire”.

Sin Piaras Mac Gearailt, “protastúnach” agus Uachtarán Chúirt na mBurdún.

—J. HARRINGTON (STAFF)



LEAVES

I like a criminal waiting,
Starved to my stool in vastness;
Surrounded by dragon-fired walls
Of a room deserted yet haunted.

A shelf floating in the distance,
Filled by a red flowerpot,
Dominating the pot, a hair stemmed leaf
A gaudy glaring leaf.

Laughing leaf shouts,
“Inquisitive creature you’ve found me”,
Swaying leaf laughs,
“Leaves – look what I’ve found”.

Leaves, leaves and more leaves,
Orange, yellow pink and red,
Emerging from their pot in bursts,
Loud laughter makes my head spin and reel.

—ADRIENNE HALES (FORM VI)

Summer Tours

FORM I were up unusually early one morning last May. We met on the grounds of the School at 8 a.m. to take our coach to the station.

We arrived in Dublin at 12.30 p.m. and we were whisked off to the Natural History Museum, where we viewed everything from hippopotami to tryannosaurus rex. After a beautiful lunch at C.I.E., we strolled through simulated tropical jungles in the glasshouses of the Botanical Gardens, where we saw coconuts and other things growing.

A visit to the Zoo was well received after our cultural morning and we had tea with the shrill screams of monkeys behind us.

A tired but happy party drew up at the school gates that evening at 9 o'clock. Yet we were tremendously satisfied after our tour. We wish to thank Mr. Little and Mr. Mulcahy for a wonderful day.

—PATRICK ZUK and AIDAN LANGLEY (FORM I)

FORM II went to Limerick by train last Summer on their educational tour. Having left the School at 8.30 a.m., with our form-masters Mr. Daley and Mr. Morrissey, and after a change at Limerick Junction, we reached Limerick at 11.30 a.m. After a short tour of the city we reached the highlight of our visit—Bunratty Castle. Here we saw the reconstructed village, and many different types of cottages, depicting Ireland's history. We were also taken on a guided tour of the castle. This was extremely interesting, the rooms and halls were furnished and decorated as in ancient times.

From here we left for Shannon Airport where we had a delicious lunch in the main restaurant. After lunch we set off for Kilfenora in Co. Clare. There we saw crannógs, resembling those that were built hundreds of years ago.

Later we went back to Limerick for high tea and then we headed for home.

On behalf of Form II we wish to thank Mr. Daley and Mr. Morrissey for a most enjoyable day.

—SIMON KELLY (FORM II)

FORM III went to the Boyne Valley for their educational tour this year. After a very early start we arrived in Dublin at 10.30 a.m. From there we set off for the historic town of Drogheda. There at the shrine in St. Peter's Church, we saw the head of St. Oliver Plunkett. From Drogheda we drove on to Monasterboice where we saw the Cross of Muiredach. This is the most perfect and perhaps the most famous of the high crosses in Ireland. We also managed to climb right to the top of the nearby round tower.

After a pleasant lunch we visited the twelfth century Cistercian abbey at Mellifont. Although very little of the abbey remains what we saw was impressive.

The highlight of the tour was our visit to Newgrange. This is Ireland's best known prehistoric monument and it is also one of the finest passage-graves in

Europe. We were taken by a guide into the burial chambers which we found fascinating.

On our way back to Dublin we passed Slane and Tara but time did not permit us to visit either place.

We wish to thank Mr. Mulcahy and Mr. Johnston for a most interesting day.

—JANE TAYLOR, JANINE MILLER, SALLY MARTIN
(FORM III)

Windows

THE MOON had fought its way through the clouds; the moonlight lay across the sleeping form of a child, clutched in her hand is a much-loved rag doll. Restlessly she turns in her sleep and stretches out her hand as if reaching into the unknown.

The child leans further into the darkness and touches the cold hard walls which seem to tower over her in the stillness. She is lost, bewildered and alone. Then she sees the light in the darkness; she begins to climb towards it and she looks through the lighted window of her dream. A strange feeling comes over her as she listens and watches through the window. She sees a little girl playing in the sunshine amongst the rushing daisies with her rag doll, watched by the shadowy figure of a mother and father.

The warm light from the next window draws her towards it. She looks through and sees a young woman surrounded by floating hands of raised glasses in a toast to her twenty-first birthday. She wants to go on looking and listening but there is nothing left to listen to.

Farther along another tall window stares across the darkness, she thrusts her way towards it. Sitting on a chair is a woman smiling down at the small figure of a child in her arms and the shadowed picture of a girl and boy playing at her feet.

She plunges blindly towards the final window. Autumn and the golden leaves falling gently, where two old people sit hunched together on a bench. She could see the creased lines on the old woman's face, the tiredness of her eyes, her skin parched and dry – the old lady seems very familiar . . . the lighted window fades slowly.

She touches the end of the darkness and feels cold black iron gates. A bitter air surrounds her. She turns to run away. She stops abruptly full of terror knowing she can't return. The gate opens slowly and waits for her to enter before it will close again.

The old woman awakes and stares at the mocking shadows on the wall. She stretches forth her trembling hands and brings the blankets close around her, feeling the coldness of the night. She is all alone and drifts into the stillness again.

The full moon was hidden by clouds but the moon had now turned them silver so that the sky was quite light and all the terror had vanished.

—FRANCES DEANE (FORM V)

Rugby Notes

Senior

LAST SEASON was a truly memorable one. The Senior panel of players must rank as one of the most pleasant this writer has ever coached – not just because of their success on the field – but because they were such a close-knit and spirited group who always wanted to do things well. They achieved a unique double in winning the O'Brien Cup (after a lapse of eight years) and the Mungret Cup for the first time. A very enjoyable tour to Wales took place in April and five players achieved recognition at representative level.

However, no account of this season would be complete without mentioning Mr. Ian King. The 1977/78 season marked his departure as coach of the 1st and 2nd XV's after eighteen years at the helm. He is still Senior Gamesmaster and Munster Schools' selector, but his coaching talents now benefit the rugby minnows of the Under-13's. Space does not permit a worthy assessment of his on-going contribution to rugby in Midleton College – and indeed, to Munster Schools generally. Suffice it to say that the senior boys in his charge invariably enjoyed their rugby, improved as players and appreciated the importance of high standards of sportsmanship. His philosophy always placed skills on a higher level than brute force and enjoyment on a higher level than winning at all costs. In typical fashion, he finished coaching the Senior boys just as an exceptionally talented group had arrived as seniors – and so to them.

Philip Brownlow captained the team at wing-forward and proved a splendid leader. Most set-piece moves were built around him and he was the best place kicker. He played in a Munster trial and captained the Munster Schools 'B' team that played Connaught. It was tragic that he missed virtually all the Easter term due to injury and was sorely missed particularly in the cup matches. However, typical of his spirit, he continued to take an active interest and was very successful in coaching the Under-12 team. We were lucky to have somebody of the calibre of Derek Marshall to take over the captaincy. Derek played scrum-half on the Cork Schools' team and on the Munster Schools 'B' team against Connaught. We are delighted to have him back this year. I feel sure that if he were in a bigger school and 'seen' more often he would go further. Other 'B' interprovincials were Michael Brown at centre who scored the try against Connaught, Eddie Noonan at second-row and Mervyn Sweetnam at hooker.

In the school team Hugh St. Leger played full-back, usually competently, and good in defence. Nigel Hill, Eric Milch, Michael Smith and Ted O'Sullivan shared the wing positions. Nigel had pace and courage but often chose the wrong option under pressure, Eric was reliable and sound, Michael continued to improve but was sometimes suspect in defence and Ted played his best rugby late in the season. Michael Brown and Guy Percival played together at centre and both in similar style. They were both exceptionally strong in defence and hard to stop in attack. They showed a refreshing willingness to try variations but lacked the finer points of centre threequarter play. David Moore was a usually reliable out-half. He never lacked courage but sometimes got flustered when things were not going quite right. Derek Marshall was cool and confident at scrum-half and always enjoyed the big occasion.

The pack laid the foundation for success. Raymond Fitzell and Keith Chambers were the usual prop forwards. Raymond was young, promising and showed plenty of aggression. He won his place in the side at the expense of his brother Leslie who was unlucky to be injured for most of the season. Keith was an outstanding loose-head prop – a good scrummager and exceptionally mobile in the loose. Eric Thompson, though not always in the side, was an invaluable player in the event of injury – and never left the side down. Eddie Noonan and Mark Shorten played in the second-row. Eddie grew in confidence and was one of the most improved players. He played best when someone got at him. Mark was not the most mobile of players but was very strong in scrums and mauls. Mervyn Sweetnam was a very skilled hooker who took great pride in the tricks (most of them legal!) of his trade. Paddy Gowen, though not a regular, contributed much to the success despite his inexperience – not least by his splendid captaincy of the 2nd XV. Apart from Philip Brownlow, Stuart Tindall, Peter Johnson and Mark Chambers played in the back row. Stuart was aggressive and enjoyed open play, Mark was the player who invariably got to the break-down and set up possession, whilst Peter was strong in defence and worked intelligently in rucks and mauls. Jonathan Jennings at prop and Richard Boyles at wing threequarter also played in the side on occasions.

The season finished with a very successful tour of Wales – despite losing both games – v. Maesteg Comprehensive School 4–3 and v. Dyffryn Comprehensive School 11–3. Other highlights included sightseeing around Bath, watching the Irish Schools' team play Wales and eating exceptionally well! The tour was financed by a very successful raffle organised by the boys themselves – another tribute to their positive “we'll do it” attitude. Twenty-two players travelled.

The 2nd XV played a vital role in the success. Suitable matches are often difficult to arrange but their contribution to training sessions and to reserve strength was invaluable. They played five matches. In addition to those mentioned earlier, John Smyth, Philip Boyle, Kieran Doran, Oliver O'Rourke, Simon Meehan, Jerry Coleman, Brendan Abernethy, Philip Travers, Jonathan Bradshaw, David Matthews, Andrew Williams, Nigel Sweetnam, Samir Nagi, Karl Fort and Ian Mitchell all gave of their talent and energy. We are glad to see many of them appearing in this year's 1st XV.

J.C.L.

J.C.T.

The J.C.T. proved to be something of an enigma last season. Like the little girl in the adage, when they were good they were very, very good, but when they were bad they were horrible. It was on one such ‘horrible’ occasion towards the end of January that we were eliminated from the Junior Cup at the first hurdle – Newtown in Waterford. Having started quite well and gained some good possession, the side failed to turn territorial advantage into the necessary scores. As a result, having gone in front, immediately gave away a soft try which left us trailing 3–4 at half-time. The second half proved to be a disaster as our pack organisation tended to disintegrate, denying our probable matchwinners in the backs any sort of useful possession. While not conceding any other scores the side was well beaten in the end.

Despite our early demise in the cup, the side played some good rugby throughout the year. In the pack Arthur England and John Hales, the latter new to the game, were strong scrummagers throughout but could have contributed more in loose play. Don O'Driscoll hooked well and knitted well with his props to form a stable and settled front row. Don might remember that in any game actions speak louder than words. Travers O'Shea and Ben Deane played very well in bursts but never managed a sustained effort for the whole duration of a game. The back row consisting of Peter Good, Simon Kelly and Ivor Bryan proved to be a very lively and aggressive combination. Peter Good the nearest thing to a 'human dynamo' in the side worked like a Trojan. Simon Kelly, at number eight, proved to be a good wholehearted trier but has a tendency to let his concentration lapse. Ivor Bryan put in many fine displays during the season. One felt, however, that at times the effort of leading the pack and playing a key role as a player in the side proved too much, as a result his personal game suffered.

Louis Tsu at scrum-half, who appears to play according to the maxim 'winning isn't everything, it is the only thing', gave his usual hundred per cent effort – despite the shortcomings of a pass that lacked length. Mark Salter-Townshend at out-half displayed a very sharp games' brain leading and organising the side on the field very well. Jo Saflund at first centre developed into a powerful and well-built player who ran strongly and tackled efficiently. Tom Walsh at second centre tackled well but must work at his handling. The wingers, John Waterman and Michael Barry, though lacking in experience gave of their best. The latter showed great resilience under pressure and relieved many a dangerous situation. Jonathan Hornibrook, at full back, produced many a try saving tackle, but his positional play and catching were inconsistent.

I.L.

'Under-14'

This was a good season for the Under-14's, with keen competition for places on the team. An early match against our great rivals, Newtown, was narrowly lost 3–4, however, revenge was sweet later in the season with a win of 21–0 in the return match. Three other matches were won easily and one other lost with a weakened team. Centres, Tom Walsh and John Waterman, ran strongly and penetrated well into the opposition. Alan Boyle kicked well at full back and Craig Matthews made some useful bursts. Peter Good captained the side well and was a very strong forward who was difficult to stop. Don O'Driscoll and Louis Tsu also played a tough game in the pack.

R.R.L.

'Under-13'

The 'Under-13' group opened the season on a bright note but failed to live up to our hopes. The worst feature was the feeble tackling – only Alan Boyle and Faris Nagi could be relied upon. The running of backs like Dermot O'Sullivan, Paul Twomey and Richard Salter-Townshend did give us some good moments. In the forwards Ivor Thompson, Paul Brady, Peter Smith and Eddie Leahy were most prominent, but tackling must improve.

Amongst 'Under-12's' we noticed Redmond Kelly, Richard Cook, Andrew Pomeroy, George MacDonald and Jeremy Bruce.

R.I.K.

RUGBY STATISTICS

<i>Team</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Points For</i>	<i>Points Against</i>
1st XV	20	9	11	0	248	221
2nd XV	5	1	4	0	44	58
J.C.T.	10	7	2	1	122	54
'Under-14'	7	4	2	1	118	27
'Under-13'	5	1	4	0	7	59
'Under-12'	1	1	0	0	26	4

SENIOR RUGBY TEAM 1978-79



*M. Smith, P. Johnson, R. Fitzell, D. Moore, E. Milch, G. Percival, Mr. J. C. Levis,
M. Shorten, M. Brown, E. Noonan, P. Brownlow, D. Marshall, M. Sweetnam, K. Chambers,
H. St. Leger, M. Chambers, N. Hill, S. Tindall.*

THE ARCADE

Drapery and Fashions

MIDLETON — COBH AND YOUGHAL

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Cricket 1979

WE HAD great hopes for cricket in 1979 but unfortunately they were dampened – literally. Never before have I seen people playing cricket while wearing raincoats but it happened in 1979.

The 1st XI only played five matches. I feel it is significant that our two best wins were had on two (about the only two!) sunny days. Cricketers play better with the sun on their backs!

There were many good things. Mike Brown was a good captain – our best for some time and was honoured with the captaincy of Munster Schoolboys in the revived fixture with Leinster. He bowled quite well and fielded splendidly. He was best supported by Derek Marshall, a good bat who could do better with a little more concentration and one could say the same about an erratic Guy Percival. Ivor Bryan started well, lapsed and came again. He shows great promise. Philip Boyle played the season's most gritty innings which augurs well for the future. David Moore was potentially the best batsman but he only once reached double figures and continued to get himself out. He remains an enigma.

Brown got most wickets with some penetrating if wayward bowling. Hugh St. Leger started well but faded through lack of practice and others to get wickets were David Moore, Mark Salter-Townshend, John Smyth, Ivor Bryan and Jo Saffund.

The feeling one had about this team was one of promise unfulfilled with the weather the main culprit. With a good few back this year we hope for sunnier things!

The 2nd XI enjoyed their flirtations with water-polo and played enthusiastically. The demon Mitchell struck terror into batsmen while Mervyn Sweetnam caught an international batsman to the great surprise of both parties!

Others noticed gambolling included Kieran Doran, Keith Chambers and Jonathan Jennings. All in all a cheerful bunch.

—R.I K.

'Under-15'

This was a most frustrating season due to exceptionally bad weather and few matches. Thus, coaching was difficult and improvement of players' skills somewhat less than one would normally hope to achieve. However, the retention of the Pfizer Trophy for the third time (it has never left Midleton) made some amends.

Four players were selected to play on the Munster Under-15 team – Peter Good (batsman), Chris Jermyn (batsman/opening bowler), Louis Tsu (opening batsman/occasional bowler), and Raymond Wong (off-spinner). Peter Good was picked from all the interprovincial teams as runner-up to the best fielder – a fine achievement.

Peter Millen and Louis Tsu opened the innings. Peter's defence is very good but he must now concentrate on hitting the bad ball. Louis played some fine innings particularly when he batted right through the innings against Newtown. He has an excellent competitive instinct and plenty of courage as shown by his

fielding but he, too, must work hard on punishing the bad ball. Peter Good captained the side well but was disappointing and unlucky with the bat. He enjoys hitting the ball but learned that driving on soft wickets can be dangerous. He will score many runs yet. Chris Jermyn had a successful season with bat and ball. However, he wastes much of his talent by his lack of concentration and carelessness at vital moments. John Sweetnam has undoubted talent but suffers from the same problems to a lesser extent. Both have yet to fully appreciate that a consistent line and length and a good technique are essential particularly in the company of good players and that both require hard work. Patrick Jones was unlucky to miss the Munster trial due to illness. He was one of the most improved players in the side and developed a fine off-drive. We look forward to his future progress when he gets a little stronger. Raymond Wong, though still somewhat lacking in confidence, developed into a very promising off-break bowler. Nigel Boyle, though lacking the finer points, was a very useful hard-hitting batsman. Alan Boyle showed promise as a wicket-keeper and batsman. Steven Horton, Patrick Williams, Craig Matthews and Des Gilsenan completed the team. All of them have talent but must practise more on their own.

—J.C.L.

‘Under-14’

The cricket season short enough as it is suffered severely this year as a result of some diabolical weather. It is not ideal trying to coach and play cricket on days when one might seriously consider cancelling a rugby practice. The miseries of last summer included travelling to Waterford, only to arrive in the midst of a thunderstorm which prompted an immediate return journey, much to everybody’s disappointment. The most detrimental effect of the weather was the fact that small boys were not enticed to go out playing cricket on their own. This aspect of school cricket is very important for the developemnt of players especially amongst the new boys.

Despite the weather’s best efforts to dampen everybody’s spirit, the Under-13’s and Under-14’s played with their usual keenness and excitement. The Under-14’s were served well by Patrick Jones, a fine fielder and useful batsman; Raymond Wong, who has developed into a fine spin bowler; Des Gilsenan potentially a good cover fielder and Alan Boyle who performed tidily behind the stumps.

‘Under-13’

This year, for the first time, an Under-13 league commenced in junior cricket. One questions the advent of such a competition at this early stage when in many cases only the bare rudiments of the game have just been grasped. The pressure of playing for a trophy inhibits raw youngsters’ development as cricketers inasmuch that the fear of making a mistake dominates their play rather than the sheer enjoyment of just playing to the best of their ability.

The Under-13’s finished runners-up to Newtown in the league. Richard Cook, Paul Twomey, Jamie Horton and Ewan Clark were the main stalwarts of the side. Dermot O’Sullivan showed promise as a wicket-keeper while Faris Nagi was a courageous fielder close to the bat. David Boyle, one of the most promising new boys, showed potential as a hard-hitting batsman.

—I.L.

'UNDER 15' CRICKET TEAM



*B. Hill, C. Jermyn, R. Wong, P. Williams, S. Horton, Mr. J. C. Levis,
N. Boyle, P. Millen, P. Good, A. Boyle, J. Sweetnam,
P. Jones, L. Tsu.*

A SELECTION OF PALINDROMES

Words or sentences reading the same forwards or backwards.

1. Step on no pets
2. Madam, I'm Adam
3. Never odd or even
4. Able was I ere I saw Elba
5. Sit on a potato pan, Otis
6. May a moody baby doom a yarn
7. Doc note, I dissent, a fast never prevents a fatness, I diet on cod
8. A man, a plan, a canal, Panama
9. Rotavator
10. Detartrated

The longest single word palindrome is:

.Siappuakauppais – the Finnish for soap-seller

—P. ROSE (FORM II)

Hockey 1978-79

Senior Boys

GENERALLY there was a higher standard of play throughout the School last year than the previous year. The all-weather pitch, although it still showed some flaws, was a great asset, particularly in the bad weather, and was very beneficial in developing the skills of the young players. Thanks to David Moore, Guy Percival, Keith Chambers, Hugh St. Leger, Michael Smith and Ivor Bryan especially for much time spent in regularly marking and brushing the pitch.

The Seniors had mixed fortunes in several friendlies played during the year against The Old Boys (twice), C.I., Newtown School (twice) and Ashton School. One of the most satisfactory and unexpected wins came against Milton Abbas College from Dorset who were touring in Ireland last February and came with a big reputation. Unfortunately Ashton proved superior when it came to the Cup, even though Midleton were well in the game until the last twenty minutes.

The best Senior players were David Moore, the Captain, and a hard-working inside forward; Guy Percival, a very skilful centre-half, who continues to shine in every game he plays; Keith Chambers, a solid left-half or full-back, and Derek Marshall, a constructive right-half.

The following received trials for the Munster Schools Team: Guy Percival, David Moore, Keith Chambers, Raymond Fitzell, Derek Marshall and Hugh St. Leger.

Guy Percival played and Keith Chambers came on as a sub for Munster against South-east Schools in 1-1 draw in Limerick. G. Percival was one of the stars of the Munster/S.E. combined team against Leinster (won 1-0) and against Ulster (lost 2-0) in Waterford. He also played in the Final Schools Trial and we have hopes that he may have better luck this year and make the international Schools Team.

The Under-16 team only played a few games but still had a chance of beating Ashton in the cup in Cork but defensive lapses proved too costly. The best players in this group were Guy Percival, Hugh St. Leger, Jo Saflund, Stephen Lewis and Mark Salter-Townshend.

Junior Boys

We learned last season that 'all weather pitch' does not really mean ALL weather! Our first season with this facility did however mean that the amount and standard of hockey played did increase even though it was one of the wettest and coldest winters ever! The Under-14 boys played three friendly matches, one of which they won by six goals to nil. In the Junior Cup, Midleton were beaten by the eventual winners, Villiers, three goals to nil. Best players for the Under-14 were Ewan Clark, a goal-grabber, Patrick Jones, the dedicated captain, Peter Dobbryn, a solid back, and Andrew Pomeroy, who shows great promise as a goalie.

The Under-13 team also played three friendly matches, winning one against Ashton and losing two by three goals to one, against Bandon and Newtown. Most promising players in this group were Paul Twomey, Redmond Kelly, Dermot O'Sullivan and Mark Sullivan.

Girls

History was made in Munster Schoolgirls' Hockey last season when Midleton College girls, who were never even in a competition before, won their section of

the league. This was a marvellous achievement when one considers that only fifty girls in the whole School play hockey and that they are competing against schools of several hundred pupils. These girls, captained so ably by Julia Jameson, thoroughly deserved this victory as they were always keen and willing to do their best, under Miss Madden's watchful eye.

This year unfortunately we have lost Miss Madden and three of the victorious side, but the others are playing well in a higher grade of hockey. The Intermediate and Junior girls played several friendly matches last season, losing some, winning some, but all were enjoyed immensely and played in the right spirit. Junior players like Elizabeth McHugh, Bertie Pringle, Martina Nitzsche, and Danielle Frostrup ensure us that girls' hockey will be alive and well in Midleton College for years to come.

—J. H. and R. S.

<i>Team</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Goals For</i>	<i>Goals Against</i>
Senior	8	3	5	0	18	27
'Under-16'	2	1	1	0	3	5
'Under-14'	4	1	3	0	8	12
'Under-13'	1	1	0	0	2	1

'UNDER 14' TEAM



*M. Sullivan, A. Pomeroy, Miss Shorten, P. Brady, P. Twomey,
C. Matthews, T. Walsh, P. Jones, B. Hill, E. Clark,
M. Barry, P. Whiting*

Tennis 1979

THE PROVISION of two hard courts last year was very welcome and helped enormously in ensuring that tennis could be played except in the wettest weather. The number of boys and girls playing the game has increased and the standard of play has improved. Some boys and girls have continued to play regularly during the autumn and early winter on fine days. This continuation of play on a good surface must inevitably lead to a better all-round standard in the School and to increased enjoyment of the game.

The grass courts and surrounds were prepared as usual early in the summer term by some boys especially P. Travers, D. Matthews, P. Gowen, P. Good, C. Matthews and D. O'Flynn, but due to almost persistent rain in May and early June they weren't used very much.

We were delighted that Mr. Greg Morris, a Munster L.T.A. coach, was able to come to the School weekly in the summer term and over sixty boys and girls benefitted from his skilled and enjoyable coaching sessions.

A Senior mixed team, Philip Travers, Philip Brownlow, David Matthews, Paddy Gowen, Orla Poole and Gillian McMullen entertained Newtown School and after an enjoyable afternoon's tennis on hard and grass courts were comfortable winners.

In the school championships Orla Poole gained revenge over Gillian McMullen in a closely-fought senior decider. Gillian had been the winner when the same pair met in the junior final the previous year. In the junior event the final was between the two McHugh sisters with Angela getting the better of Elizabeth. In the boys' championships Alan Boyle showed great promise in beating a game Patrick Jones in the junior grade.

Peter Good surprised many people when he beat a more experienced but erratic Jerry Coleman in the Intermediate final. A lot of good hard competitive tennis was played in the Senior championships and eventually Philip Travers continued his habit of winning titles by beating an unseeded Peter Johnson in the final.

Thanks again to Philip Travers and David Matthews for their help in ensuring that the championships were played on schedule and also for arranging the day-to-day programme of games for the courts.

Swimming

THIS WAS the first year since the opening of our pool that we have had a poor season. Firstly we had mechanical problems, then it became impossible to obtain oil for heating, and the weather last May and June was terrible. It was too cold to attempt anything constructive in the water so the usual swimming lessons and water-safety classes could not be held.

During September in better weather the pool was enjoyed by many though still unheated. With the price of heating now so high it is difficult to know what to do for the future. If anyone has any suggestions for an economic form of heating we would be delighted to hear them.

—R. R. LITTLE

Sports Day 1979

THE ANNUAL SPORTS took place in good weather on Saturday, June 23rd. There were races and novelty items, all of which created good fun and endeavour. The Gymnastic classes gave a short display under the direction of Mr. Fraser. Tea preceded the distribution of prizes and trophies graciously performed by Mrs. Brownlow, mother of the Head Boy.

The following were the main trophy winners:

Athletics	Senior	K. DORAN
	Middle	I. BRYAN
	Junior	R. KELLY
Tennis	Senior Boys	P. TRAVERS
	Intermediate Boys	P. GOOD
	Junior Boys	A. BOYLE
	Senior Girls	O. POOLE
	Junior Girls	A. McHUGH
Table Tennis	Senior	K. FORT
	Junior	L. TSU
Cricket	Senior Batting	I. BRYAN
	Senior Bowling	M. BROWN
	Junior Batting	C. JERMYN
	Junior Bowling	R. WONG
	Minor Batting	P. TWOMEY
	Minor Bowling	J. HORTON
Rugby	Senior	P. BROWNLOW
	Junior	M. SALTER-TOWNSHEND
	Minor	A. BOYLE
	Greene	P. TWOMEY
Gymnastics	Senior	N. HILL
Hockey	Senior	G. PERCIVAL



Start of the Mixed Three-legged.

INDOOR ACTIVITIES 1978-79

THIS SEASON saw our debut in competitive table tennis. The seniors competed in the league, finishing fourth of seven teams in the second division, and in the cup where they were well beaten by the eventual runners-up Farranferries. The most encouraging aspect of the season was that the apprehension of the earlier matches was replaced by a view of the opposition as mere mortals with faults and weaknesses similar to everybody else. Now with a more experienced and confident side, we look forward to the challenge of a new season. The junior team met a first division team Mayfield in the cup and gave a fine performance though losing 5-4.

Guy Stansfeld and Karl Fort were the outstanding senior players throughout the year. Guy won the league beating a fast improving Ivor Bryan in the final, and later showed his ability to compete with the best, when he and his partner reached the semi-final of the Cork Schools' Mixed Doubles Championship. Karl made the breakthrough his hard work deserved when beating Guy in the senior cup final. Philip Boyle's semi-final effort when just failing to Stansfeld was also praiseworthy. It came as no surprise that Fort and Stansfeld had a comfortable run to the doubles title. The best match of this tournament was a thrilling semi-final in which Raymond Fitzell and Hugh St. Leger just edged out Keith Chambers and Edmund Noonan. At junior level Louis Tsu was the best player. He won the junior league by beating Richard Cook in the final, the junior cup beating the year's surprise packet Paul Twomey, and partnered Peter Good to a doubles victory over Alan Boyle and Don O'Driscoll. This group of players shows much promise and should benefit from regular competitive matches in the schools' league and cup.

In chess Karl Fort won the senior championship beating Andrew Williams, having already defeated the favourite Keith Chambers in the semi-final. Alan Boyle retained his junior title and here Redmond Kelly was runner-up.

Finally my thanks to the Activities Room committee for all their help throughout the year - Philip Brownlow, Leslie Fitzell, Karl Fort, Eric Milch, Edmund Noonan, Guy Percival, Mark Salter-Townshend, John Smyth and Guy Stansfeld.

—M. M.

TOP OF THE POPS

15. SWEET TALKING WOMAN - Mrs. Burke
14. WUTHERING HEIGHTS - Mr. Mullins
13. I DON'T LIKE MONDAYS - Mr. Mulcahy
12. GOTTA GO HOME - Mr. Harrington
11. TONIC FOR THE TROOPS - Nurse
10. YOUNG AMERICANS - Mr. Leopold
9. VIDEO KILLED THE RADIO STAR - Mr. Little
8. BRAIN DAMAGE - Mr. Lyons
7. I'M NOT IN LOVE - Mr. Levis
6. IS SHE REALLY GOING OUT WITH HIM - Miss Shorten
5. FOREVER IN BLUE JEANS - Mr. MORRISSEY
4. CRUEL TO BE KIND - Mr. King
3. WALL STREET SHUFFLE - Mr. Daley
2. SINCE YOU'VE BEEN GONE - Mr. Johnston
1. WHEN YOU'RE NUMBER ONE - The Head

—SIMON MEEHAN and IVOR BRYAN

Midleton College Association

COMMITTEE 1979-80

President G. DONOVAN

Vice-Presidents G. JEFFREY, C. SALTER, J. W. SMYTH

Hon. Secretary J. TAIT

Membership Secretary J. LEVIS

Hon. Treasurer R. MATTHEWS

Hon. Auditor R. HILL

Committee

T. WOLFE, W. PERROTT, J. KERSHAW, E. HORNIBROOK, J. WEST,
T. CAVE, J. POMEROY

THE ANNUAL General Meeting of the Association was not held at the usual date due to the postal strike and has been fixed for early 1980. I would ask all members to make a special effort to attend. You may think that one more or less will not make any difference to the outcome of the meeting. In fact, your attendance could make a big impact as the meeting is usually made up of the outgoing Committee and one or two others. The Association numbers are growing in a satisfactory manner but this is not reflected in new faces at meetings and functions and especially on the female side. Can we look forward to feminine influence on the Committee soon?

We had two pleasant and successful functions during the year. The Whist Drive was held in December and the Wine and Cheese party in March. The proceeds of these go to the Association funds and the College Development fund respectively. We also had the usual debating and sporting fixtures with the rugby fixture being the most popular. The Annual Dance, which had been held in November for the past few years, will be held in February 1980. Full details of this and other functions are listed in a circular included with the Magazine.

I would like to welcome all new members to the Association and look forward to meeting and working with them in the future. We would welcome new ideas and suggestions on how best to direct our efforts to ensure that our contribution to members and to the College can be more meaningful and effective.

On behalf of the Committee and members, I would like to thank Mr. Smyth for the use of the library for Committee meetings, and the Dining Hall for the Whist Drive, and Mr. and Mrs. Smyth for the welcome extended to all members of the Association. I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for their time and effort freely given during the year and also the Committee of the Dublin branch for all their efforts.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

—G. DONOVAN

Eastward Trek

ON THE FOURTEENTH of May, after a couple of weeks' final preparations in London, and farewells with rugby-play colleagues in the Medway towns, I set sail with twelve others – two Americans, two Canadians, two Australians, two New Zealanders, one German and one English lady from Dover, on the start of an eleven thousand mile overland trek to Katmandu. The group, mostly unknown to each other beforehand, were travelling in a nine-ton Bedford 'go anywhere desert bus' the property of Exodus Treks, a London-based firm who specialise in journeys through Asia and Africa. After an eight-day journey which took us through Belgium, Germany, Austria, Yugoslavia, Greece, we arrived at the gateway to Asia – Istanbul. Initial impressions of its people, customs, make the traveller a little apprehensive about what is happening but this begins to disappear as self-confidence improves. The art of bargaining, so essential in Asian countries, catches many losers at the start but you soon learn. The food, especially from local food houses is simple, but tasty, cheap and with local atmosphere thrown in for good measure. The Kebabs and salads, bread and beans, meat stews and rice are always good value, and, of course the glasses of Chai – tea without milk, with or without sugar. A Turkish Hamman was an essential every few days, especially after rough camping, and also very relaxing; the room is built around a heated marble platform with a high-domed ceiling with rays of sunlight shining through round holes in it. Cubicles along the walls have stone basins where one does the initial washing before lying down on the slab to let the sweat pour out. A massage and rub-downs were enjoyed just once as a smiling Turkish gentleman endeavoured to remove muscle from bone, or so it seemed, and then with a rough cloth wash off excess dirt and dead skin. It is guaranteed to remove any tan in minutes – even the Turks look pale after leaving the bath. Other things enjoyed included the local beer, Efis – 14p bought a large glass of draught under the bridge by the Ferries; rolled-up roasted sheeps' guts could be bought nextdoor for 5p and fishermen sold fresh-fried fish from boats tied up by the quay. We devoured a roasted sheep's head one day in Alyana – not much meat on it but the brains washed down by watery yogurt were very tasty. Raki – an aniseed-based spirit, similar to Greek Ouzo with water and known as Lion's Milk quenched many a thirst and started off many a session with the locals. The sights to be seen in this very friendly and hospitable country, not so much so if you are female, include the huge Blue Mosque, the wealth and treasures of the Royal Palace and the atmosphere of the market in Istanbul, the Roman ruins at Pergamon, Ephesus, the calcium springs at Pamukole, where we watched the European Cup Final, much to the amusement of the locals, and the best of all the ruins of Termessos. These were built high up on the hills, away from the bulk of tourists and the imagination was really let loose as I sat in the amphitheatre watching the mist gently climbing up the slopes, and expecting robed figures around me at any moment. However, the day-dreaming soon came to an end when over a period of three weeks we had two breakdowns which kept us on the Mediterranean Coast. We did not complain too much as they could have happened in the desert. Eventually we got moving again and passed through the underground cities of Goerne built by the early Christians.

After a month of the good life in Turkey, we said goodbye to the beer and entered Iran. There was not too much to encourage the tourist there and we

passed through in eight days. We spent our nights away from the towns and camped in the desert sleeping under the stars, a gently warm breeze and very little noise. The people were friendly but more involved with their own problems. The food was not too exciting and sights few and far between. Buildings especially in the countryside are built from dried mud and unless maintained do not last too long. Tehran was an overdose of slums, unemployment and traffic — petrol and diesel were of course very cheap — had two days in Isfahan, time enough to see the Mosque, Persian carpets being made, up to five years to make one, a walk through the longest market over five kilometres long, but apart from the introduction of electric lighting things would appear to have changed very little over the years. You can still see the bakeries turning out sheets of bread, like large pancakes, nice when fresh but like cardboard next morning, wool being dyed in large vats of dye and hung out on poles to dry; sweets being made; the blacksmiths and coppersmiths noisily hammering their wares into shape. Overall there is the powerful smell of spices. However, to add a damper to our stay in Iran we witnessed a flogging as some poor man was punished for the benefit of the Holy Day crowds. Headed south-east for Pakistan as the Afghanistan border was closed and came across an English firm building a road for the Iranian government. Met John, the site boss who is from County Mayo, enjoyed their swimming pool, drank the last of their Iranian beer which they had managed to hoard, and read some old *Daily Telegraphs* which filled me in on details of the Irish tour to Australia.

After that we crossed over into Pakistan and had three days hard driving through the desert before arriving at Quetta. The driving over rough roads and usually accompanied by a very hot wind demanded many tea and coke stops along the way, much to the amusement of the natives. However, life there is not too cosy with the heat, poor agriculture, lack of water, long working hours — dawn to dusk — with sleep during the heat of the day. There were plenty of camels about and they looked amusing as they plodded along with a cart behind them. In Quetta we had experiences with Vespa-powered rickshaws and horses and carts (or were they ponies and traps). From here we headed north to try our luck at the Afghanistan border. Got through alright but had to spend the night within the local police barracks as protection from the local rebels, currently causing a lot of problems to the Russians. However, we had supper consisting of a massive water melon and wine which turned out to be beer they had confiscated from us at the border. Beer can be bought in Pakistan with a foreigner's permit at 17 rupees a bottle, about 80p, dedicated drinkers only. It was a wild place, with wild people dressed wildly and a lot of them coming complete with rifles. Because of its troubles Kabul did not have its usual large number of tourists which meant that coats and carpets were very cheap. We were also able to indulge in fresh meat again after a month without. Headed south through the magnificent Kabul Gorge with its steep sides of difficult rock and very fast river, would have been great for canoeing. Crossed the border into Pakistan again and began the long climb up to the Khyber Pass. This whole area was fascinating largely because of the history attached to it. At the top is what must be one of the roughest, toughest towns in the world — Peshawar, home of the Pathans who caused so much trouble to the British in the days of the North West Frontier. The market place was well hidden in a cloud of cooking smoke, open drains down which black liquid flowed, the locals hidden behind flowing clothes and headgear looked fearsome, small stores sell hashish and cocaine from large blocks;

and in other shops they make their own guns, most of Second World War vintage. On through the pass with its watch-towers, gun placements and crests of the various army companies who helped to build the road up through it. At the top the huge fort of the Khyber Rifles and in the distance on every hilltop were look-out posts. Today things are peaceful and the Pathans are away fighting in Afghanistan.

On to Lahore to see our first Red Fort before crossing into India and the country we were most interested in. Immediately you became aware of people. As soon as we stopped at the roadside for lunch, people came from the fields about, or were walking, cycling or riding on oxen or water-buffalo powered carts. This area of India is very rich agriculturally with a high rural population – a strange feeling at first. From the Golden Temple at Armitisar we headed north to Srinagar in Kashmir and enjoyed three days on the house-boats there. These were introduced by the British when they were unable to buy land from the locals to build holiday homes. Head 500 kilometres further up into the mountains to Leh. Have to ascend to a height of 13,000 feet to get over one of the passes and find ourselves in a very large garrison town with several Buddhist monasteries nearby. The rock structures of these mountains would be of great interest to anyone keen on geology and there is plenty of rock and stone as it is virtually desert up here. Played a round at the second highest golf-course in the world at Golmarg – another ex-British hill station.

Head for Delhi and the heat but happily the monsoons are on the way and it was reasonably cool. Visited the Irish Embassy to catch up with news from home. On to see the Amber Palace and the Pink City at Jaipur, the Taj Mahal at Agra, the exotic temples at Kajaharo and then to see the pilgrims washing in the river Ganges at Varanesi amidst the floating corpses and ashes of the cremated. We saw all this at Varanesi before breakfast which nearly turned over a few stomachs.

North again, and to the coolness of Nepal and finally Katmandu. Happily not too many hippies about but an abundance of French. No chance to see the mountains as the clouds are down but we went by local bus up to the Chinese border. Disappointed as there was no Chinese take-away. Loads of temples about but a very poor country. Here the group split up with the two Americans going to Taiwan, the Australians and New Zealanders going to their respective countries, the German and one Canadian going home with the other going over land to Australia and the English lass flying to Burma and Thailand.

After a couple of weeks relaxing and eating good food again – bowls of fruit curd at 6p a go, lemon tea, pineapple at 12p, loads of meat – and adjusting the system into having to fend for itself. Travelled by local bus to the border and back into India. The last entry from the day before was one Sean O'Grady from Ireland. Then I had my first experience of Indian Railways – most of it is steam – when we travelled by second-class rail – which gave us a wooden tier to sleep on as we made the fifteen-hour journey to Calcutta. The train was crowded and stopped at every station, the power was not functioning too well and fans and lighting ceased to work but we survived. Calcutta for ten hours, enough to see the crowds, smog, man-powered rickshaws, a tour around a Greek freighter and a game of football with some bank officials. Spotted my first Rugby posts but unable to find out who they belonged to. Left that evening and travelled first-class cabin/sleeper to Puri – a holiday resort/religious centre/fishing village/market town about 200 miles south of Calcutta. There I stayed for six days enjoying the

easy life and sampling the local fish. The fishing fleets of the Indian east coast are very primitive, largely comprising of pieces of wood stuck together and shaped. The majority use a triangular sail on a bamboo mast.

Puri is the home of the Jagannath temple. Each year in May they celebrate his festival by pushing huge images of Lord Jagannath and his sister on huge trolleys down the main street; the word Juggernaut is derived from this, another piece of useless information! From there I have moved another hundred kilometres down the coast to Gapalpur and staying with a very amusing old Indian. Room and half board is 60p a day. From here I move to Madras and hopefully see some play in the first India-Australia Cricket test.

It has been a fascinating experience so far and I would recommend the game to anyone. All it requires is a little courage to make the initial decision, plenty of self-confidence, but this develops along the way, a willingness to try a lot of things *en route*, friendliness with local people, plenty of humour and patience, especially in India and an ability to adapt to local conditions, *i.e.* food, transport, communications, customs and of course money. After Sri Lanka I head for Thailand, Malayasia, Australia, Indonesia and New Zealand. Would like to hear from Old Boys who wouldn't mind me dropping in. C/o Post Restante, General Post Office, Perth, Western Australia, will find me when I get there in December.

—BRIAN WOLFE

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MICHAEL J. F. McCARTHY — A Distinguished Old Boy

MICHAEL JOHN FITZGERALD McCARTHY was born in Midleton in 1863. His parents Denis McCarthy and Catherine Fitzgerald lived in Clonmult, where his father was President of the local Land League and a keen supporter of Parnell.

McCarthy was educated by the Christian Brothers in Midleton until he was eleven. He records a dispute between the Brothers and the local Parish Priest, who ordered them to leave the town; the townspeople rallied around the Brothers who, happily, still flourish in Midleton. On leaving the Christian Brothers he spent four years at the Vincentian secondary school in Cork, and then completed his secondary education at Midleton College. McCarthy refers to his three schools with some affection. He was particularly proud of his connection with the College, and describes himself as "one of a group of middle-class Catholics who attended a Protestant public school in Ireland". His book, *Five Years in Ireland*, contains a photograph of the Rev. Thomas Moore "my own respected headmaster". On leaving Midleton he entered Trinity where his career was interrupted in 1881 by the arrest of his father for his Land League activities (shortly after the arrest of Parnell). He graduated from Trinity in 1885 and was called to the Bar in 1889.

Parnell's skills as the Irish political leader consisted in keeping his hand firmly on the different reins of power stemming from Fenianism, Agrarian troubles and the Church. After his fall and the internecine squabbling inside the Irish Party no clear leader emerged. It was inevitable that this vacuum should be partially filled by the Hierarchy. McCarthy's first published work was a pamphlet in 1891 entitled *Mr. Balfour's Rule in Ireland*. His first book *Five Years in Ireland, 1895—1900* achieved instant success; it was published in March 1901, and had run to seven

editions by January 1902. All his writings are dominated by his anti-clericalism; the Roman Catholic South is unfavourably compared with the Protestant North, and the economic plight of the South and West of Ireland, contrasted with the prosperity of the Northern diamond, is blamed on clericalism. The arguments he uses would hardly stand up to the light of the present day.

With the publication of *Five Years in Ireland* McCarthy achieved considerable fame as a controversialist. He was a vigorous opponent of Home Rule although a devoted disciple of Parnell! He resisted every attempt to found a Catholic University; in this he and his supporters were partially successful because when the National University of Ireland was founded by an Act of 1908 non-denominationalism was specifically written into the Charter. However this did not satisfy McCarthy, and in that year he penned a blistering attack upon the Church's influence in education entitled *The Irish Roman Catholic University and the Jesuits*.

A convinced Unionist, he stood as a parliamentary candidate for the St. Stephen's Green Constituency in 1904, but eventually stood down to avoid splitting the Unionist vote. His best-known book which sold over seventy-seven thousand copies is entitled *Priests and People in Ireland* and was published in 1902. In spite of its obvious bias his work is of considerable interest to historians; it contains masses of statistics used to back up his arguments. The course of political events in Ireland must have been anathema to McCarthy and in 1913 he published a pamphlet venting his spleen on Home Rule; this pamphlet sold twenty-five thousand copies and bore photographs of Messrs. Asquith and Redmond on the cover under the title *The Dictators; Shall They Ruin Us?* Clearly disappointed with Ireland McCarthy moved to England and died in Wimbledon in 1928.

Though extremely critical of clericalism in all its manifestations his writing shows an affection for his native land and is not without humour as is illustrated by the following excerpt from *Five Years in Ireland*. "The year of 1898 witness the achievement of fame by Mr. McKenna, a cattle-dealer of Armagh. He was present at a theatrical performance in that town, and took the affair over-seriously. It appears that in one scene of the melodrama the heroine was about to be executed by the guillotine when McKenna jumped on the stage, rescued her from the executioner, and began to lay about him on the actors with his ash plant. The performance had to be stopped, but after the removal of the honest cattle-dealer by constabulary persuasion, it was resumed, and the heroine properly executed".

—TREVOR WEST

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Jottings

ALFIE ALLEN continues larger than life and we are glad to read of the further success of his poetry publications. *Shades of a Rural Past* and *Interrogations* have followed *Clashenure Skylene*.

PETER ALLEN has given up his cadetship with Irish Shipping and is now in a Pilot Training School in Canada.

CLIVE BROWNLEE, probably our first computer expert, is now Managing Director of Irish Gases Ltd., a Guinness subsidiary.

BASIL BIRD has been appointed Manager of Allied Irish Banks in Tullow, Co. Carlow.

DAVID BIRD, who has been a member of Cobh U.D.C. and Cork Harbour Commissioners for some time, was recently appointed vice-Chairman of the latter.

LISA COOK, student in Arts at U.C.C., took a year away in Dublin in 1978-79 to pursue her talent in acting. Her most notable success was in the part of Alice in *Alice in Wonderland*.

RODNEY COE, farming at his home at Monasterevan, has completed successfully agricultural courses in Warrenscourt, Co. Meath, and in Piltown, Co. Kilkenny. PETER manages the bakery business and I presume still makes music!

PAUL CAVE is rapidly making a name for himself in Sydney, Australia, as a trainer of horses. He and his wife have had quite a number of successes on the racecourse in the short period of four years since they started their stable.

ALAN DAGG is back again in Dublin after a period in the Guinness Brewery at Benin in Nigeria. His absence did not impair his water-skiing ability when he won last Summer at Killaloe, his eighth All-Ireland Championship and his fourth Irish Open title. A fine performance!

OBITUARY

CHARLES BATEMAN

THE DEATH of CHARLES BATEMAN in late August after a serious illness courageously borne came as a great sorrow to many people not least the numerous friends he had made through Midleton College. He was a student here for the full six years of his Secondary education from 1968 to 1974, when he left to embark on a career in banking with Allied Irish in Schull, Co. Cork. Charles was a splendid character, always bright and cheerful with a great capacity for making friends. His future looked full of promise both in his work and community life, but it was not to be, and sadly he passed away on his twenty-second birthday to leave behind happy memories of a short but fulfilled life. His parents and his family have been very brave in the tragic circumstances of his illness and his death and to them we convey our deepest sympathy.

VERY REV. L. R. LAWRENSEN

DEAN LAWRENSEN was a very distinguished past pupil who through his life maintained a keen interest in his old school. We welcomed him to address us on Prize Day 1967, fittingly the year of our 250th anniversary. He spent all his ministry in the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe, culminating with his appointment as Dean of Derry in 1946, a position he held till he retired to live in Dublin in 1967. Here his gifts remained at the disposal of the Archbishop until his death in December 1978.

THOMAS DISSEN whom we are glad to see from time to time has an important position in the Bank of America in London. He has recently been joined on the staff by JEREMY KEY.

STUART EGNER was a member of the very successful Cork Harlequins Hockey team who reached the final of the Irish Junior Cup but unfortunately went down to Three Rock Rovers.

JONATHAN FLEURY has set up his own business in Industrial Cleaning at Fleury Cleaning Services Ltd., Cork. We wish him every success.

WILTON FLYNN after a period at Engineering in Bolton Street School of Technology, Dublin, has changed over to the study of Architecture.

JOHN FLOOD in M.C. around 1915 and a native of Youghal called in during the Summer. He has been in Australia for the past fifty-five years in the shipping business after being an apprentice shipwright in Belfast.

OLIVER FALLEN is doing a course in Film and T.V. Production at Coleraine University, Northern Ireland. No recent news of 'T. J.'

KENNETH GOOD, now a fully-fledged Minister of the Church of Ireland, has returned to Cork as Chaplain and Head of Religious Education at Ashton School. He is a licensed clergyman in the Cork Diocese and a Minor Canon of St. Finbarre's.

DESMOND GARRETT, attached to the Irish Army at Ballincollig, Co. Cork, won the prize for the best shot at the Passing-out Parade in March last. Desmond was always close to the mark!

JOHN GRAHAM has qualified as a Chartered Surveyor and is practising in England.

We were delighted to hear from MICHAEL GIBSON last Christmas. He is now happily married in Louisville, Kentucky. PETER is still enjoying the sunshine of Florida and, I think, still playing Rugby. PHILIP is established in Kinsale as Personnel Manager at the new Eli Lilly factory project at Dunderrow near the town.

DAVID HILL had the distinction of gaining first place of 400 in the Glasgow Naval Academy Coder project. This gained him a six-month trip to New Guinea as a Marine Engineer Coder. Well done!

CLIVE HUTCHINSON has set up his own accountancy consultant business in Cork in partnership with three others. He continues his interest in bird life and conservation, and his recent publication *Ireland's Wetlands and Their Birds* has received the highest approbation.

ALAN HICKEY, now well established in Dublin, and playing Hockey with Pembroke Wanderers 1st XI, continues to be an automatic selection for Munster Seniors.

DAVID HILLIARD is Assistant Manager of a floor at Bentall's Department Store in Kingston, Surrey. ADRIAN after a period in Underwood's, Ipswich, has returned to the family business in Killarney. AUDREY, after a year's practical farming in Cheshire, has started her course in Dairy Science at Lancashire College of Agriculture near Preston.

MURRAY HENNESSY who wrote a long and interesting letter is at present doing a year in France, before entering Williams' College in Massachussetts. He was attached to the brandy business of the same name (any connection?) at Cognac as a tour guide, but has now moved to Reims to study French culture and the language at a lyc  e and at the univeristy. BETH is still doing great things at school averaging 'A' all along the line and still having time for discos!

STUART HILL has started the course in Architecture in Bolton Street School of Technology in Dublin.

GODFREY HARRIS who was always so interested in the 'pop' scene is now a fully-established disc jockey on Radio 2. Wogan, beware!

ROBERT JEFFERY is doing well in the property business, and has recently been made an Associate Partner in Aston, Deller and Morgan.

PHILIP KERMODE, now graduated from the Business Studies School in T.C.D., has taken up a position with the Revenue Commissioners and is attached to the E.E.C. PETER continues in Boyers (where we get our blazers) in North Earl Street, Dublin.

ERNIE KINGSTON visited the College in August. He now lives in Australia near Melbourne and works with an engineering firm. He was accompanied by his wife LESLEY and their two daughters.

JOHN LEVIS although still playing is now Chairman of the Midleton Rugby Club. Unfortunately his career has been interrupted by a long-darwn-out illness, from which we wish him a full recovery. During the Summer he represented Munster at Cricket. BRIAN was manager of the successful Irish Schools' Hockey XI which won the Quadrangular tournament held at Garryduff last season. TREVOR plays Rugby with Dolphin 1st XV and played on the Cork 'Under-19' side against Limerick last December.

TREVOR LESTER has been elected C. of I. Diocesan Youth Adviser in Cork and he is also prominently associated with Blackrock Dramatic Society.

PAUL LINNELL, resident in Limerick, has been making a name for himself as a disc jockey on the local radio there. He hopes to get a full licence soon. SIMON, who is doing Agriculture in U.C.D., has blossomed as an artist and has made some very good sales of his paintings.

GERRY MURPHY had a remarkably fine Cricket season again for his club Phoenix both as batsman and wicket-keeper. His best performance was a score of 131 in the final of the Leinster Cup, a winning knock. PETER is still a foremost member of Pembroke Wanderers Hockey Club, potting goals as good as anybody.

We congratulate JOHNNY MURPHY on gaining his final Accountancy examination. He is now an A.C.A.

GAYLE MATHIS paid us a welcome visit in June. She has been doing a course in the American School in London.

We were delighted to hear from SYDNEY NAGLE and LORI MILCH, both at University in Dublin. Unfortunately their article on Rallying was too late for inclusion.

TERRY O'MALLEY is the very successful Headmaster of Aravon School in Bray – which continues to expand. He hopes to move to a new premises in the not too distant future. It was pleasant to see him playing cricket on the 'old sod' at M.C. during the Summer.

HERBERT O'DRISCOLL, the revered Dean of Vancouver, finds it hard to keep out of the headlines. We have read of an "O'Driscollfest" held last year to commemorate ten years in B.C. and fifty years on the planet. Herbie's interests are wide – writing, broadcasting, theatre, jogging, etc. and according to his verger he remains a "nice boy" – not bad at fifty, Herbie. What about a redolent poem for next year's Mag?

TREVOR PERROTT has recently obtained his finals in Accountancy in London and he continues to work there. Congratulations and best wishes. GRAHAM is at home on the farm after his year at Lackham College in Wiltshire.

MERVYN SHORTEN, who has been in the Bank of Ireland in Mallow for some years, has taken a transfer to their office in New York for a five-year stint.

TREVOR SALTER continues his accountancy course in Dublin. CLIVE is a trainee manager in Switzers and GRAEME has obtained a clerkship with the Pigs and Bacon Commission.

TOMMY STEELE, who left the Royal Navy some time ago, is now working as an electrician at Verolme Dockyard.

TREVOR WEST continues on his merry way not only in the Senate chambers of Leinster House and the Mathematics Department in T.C.D. but as a roving ambassador for his subject and for Trinity sport. He has recently been made Vice-Chairman of the Irish Association. JOHN had the distinction of refereeing the Scotland v. All Blacks game at Murrayfield and the England v. France game at Twickenham, as well as being invited to New Zealand with the French touring team. Rugby 'does get one around. BRIAN qualified in Medicine last June and is at present an intern in St. James' Hospital, Dublin.

TAMMY WALLING visited us in June, back from the University of Wyoming in Laramie, where she successfully negotiated her first year in the study of Education.

DAVID VERNON graduated from T.C.D. at the end of last year with second-class honours (first division) in Engineering. A great result. He is now working for Westing House at Shannon in their computer division. JACKIE is doing secretarial work in Cork.

Jervis Good

YOUNG SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR

IT WAS an unique and outstanding achievement of Jervis Good to win the Aer Lingus award of Young Scientist of the Year. Jervis had begun his project entitled, *Know the Earwig, then Control it*, before he left here at the end of his fifth year in June 1977. He continued to work on it in spite of heavy responsibilities and innovations on the family farm at Riverstick during the ensuing two years. Indeed he put 2,000 hours work, on his own calculation, into the project which contained a good deal of original work gained from study, observation and experimentation.

The award earned Jervis a prize of £350 and the chance to represent Ireland in the European Young Scientists and Inventors Exhibition in Oslo. This challenge Jervis accepted readily entitling his entry, *The Concept of Ecopolemiology as Illustrated by a Preliminary Study of the Bionomics of the Earwig*. For it he won a Certificate of Distinction and a prize of £500.

Jervis' work made such an impression on some of the scientists who adjudicated at the Aer Lingus Exhibition that they felt a University course in Biology would give him greater scope to develop his undoubted talent and interest in this area, and so he has now entered the School of Science in Trinity College, Dublin. We congratulate him on the excellence of his performances to date and we wish him further success in the future. He has brought great honour to the College.

Sport

The following are amongst those we are delighted to see involved in club sport:

RUGBY K. Hitchmough, I. Shorten, T. Lester, I. Wolfe, R. Jermyn (*Cork Constitution*), T. Levis, B. Lynch, P. Hitchmough, D. Hetherington, G. Fort, C. Woollam, Keith Chambers, M. Sweetnam, J. Whitaker, E. Noonan, D. Moore, P. Brownlow, M. Shorten (*Dolphin*), J. Levis, G. Kingston, G. O'Sullivan, James Tait, John Tait (*Midleton*), W. Skuse, R. Chambers, G. Perrott, S. Kingston, M. Chambers (*Bandon*), C. Jennings, J. Jennings (*Clonakilty*), G. Northridge, A. Northridge (*Lisgoold*), S. Nagle (*Lansdowne*), M. Preston, P. Keller (*Trinity*), R. Brownlow, L. Payne (*Crosshaven*), G. Nicholson, J. Bryan (*Youghal*), P. O'Rourke (*Cobh*), J. Farrar (*Enniscorthy*), Ken Chambers, P. Butler (*Tralee*), W. Hornibrook (*Muskerry*), A. Eadie (*Edinburgh*), B. Deane and J. McGillivray.

HOCKEY J. Moore, B. Hosford, I. Leopold, N. Johnson, G. Jermyn, C. Jones, P. Moore, P. Loane, S. Hill, N. Hickey, J. Hornibrook, Keith Chambers, T. Levis (*Cork C.I.*), S. Egner, R. Allen, F. Allen (*Harlequins*), P. Murphy, A. Hickey, James Moore, D. Moore (*Pembroke Wanderers*), J. van der Puil, F. van der Puil, K. Allen, P. Newenham (*Brandon*), T. Fair (*Waterford*), B. Levis (*Three Rock Rovers*), S. Ruttle (*Dublin Y.M.C.A.*), C. Sherlock, P. Butler (*L.P.Y.M.A.*), D. Bloomer (*Galway*), Allie Mackillop (*U.C.C.*).

CRICKET J. Levis, James Moore, B. Hosford, I. Wolfe, G. Jermyn, J. Hornibrook, T. Levis, T. Lester, J. Jermyn, D. Moore, H. St. Leger, S. Hill, J. Whitaker, C. Woollam, Keith Chambers (*Cork C.I.*), I. Leopold, H. Merry (*Bohemians*), D. Jeffery, D. Hetherington, N. Johnson, F. Allen (*Harlequins*), A. Kingston, G. Kingston (*Lismore*), K. Chapple, W. Skuse (*Desert Wanderers*), P. Murphy (*Y.M.C.A.*), G. Murphy, J. West (*Phoenix*), M. Preston (*Trinity*), C. Cuffe (*Leinster*), J. McGillivray.

ENGAGEMENTS and MARRIAGES

WE CONVEY our best wishes to Ivan Shorten, Frank Ross, Michael Gibsen, Mark Tyrrell, Brian Nicholson, Brian Levis, Nigel Key, David McGillivray.

BIRTHS

WE CONGRATULATE the following on new arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Philip Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Tait, Mr. and Mrs. William Farrar, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hosford, Mr. and Mrs. Frampton Jeffery, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Tate, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Steele, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Minchin, Mr. and Mrs. Artie Good.

NEWS ITEM

WE ARE DELIGHTED that Mrs. Gwen Hilliard, widow of Dr. F. M. Hilliard, our distinguished past pupil and Governor, continues her interest in the School which was so close to her husband's heart. She is now resident in Berkhamsted in Herts and she was good enough to send a donation towards the purchase of a further book for the Library in memory of the doctor.

NOTICES

MIDDLETON COLLEGE ASSOCIATION TIES are available through the School Office or from D. Matthews Ltd., Academy Street, Cork.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION is now on a life basis for a single payment of £10, reduced to £7 for those left within the previous year. The present Committee is most anxious to increase the membership and would ask those already members to encourage others to join. Subscriptions may be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, M.C.A., Middleton College, Co. Cork.

FUNCTIONS for the near future include the Annual Dinner Dance at the John Barleycorn Inn on Friday, 8th February, and a Wine and Cheese Party at the College on Friday, 9th May.

DUBLIN BRANCH

THE COMMITTEE for the present year is: Richard Fleury (Chairman), Clive Salter (Hon. Secretary), Martin Preston (Hon. Treasurer), Sydney Nagle, John Kingston, Jack Reid and Lori Milch. A 'Get-to-know-you' Party was held in T.C.D. on 30th November, and the Annual Dance with Buffet Supper will be held at the Clarence Hotel on 7th March (8 to 1). Tickets, £6, are available from Richard Fleury (Telephone 01/452844) or Clive Salter (Switzers, Grafton Street, Dublin 2).

Members of Midleton College Association

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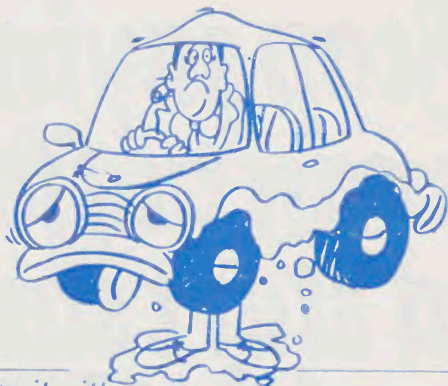


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