

THE  
ISLEWORTHIAN



Series 2 No. 6

1958-59



ISLEWORTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL.  
SCHOOL OFFICERS, 1958-9.

Head Boy:  
S. G. D. Johnston.

Deputy Head Boy:  
M. Lane.

Senior Prefect:  
J. Walters.

Prefects :  
R. C. Allgrove, R. L. Blackman, M. J. Brittain, M. J. Darg,  
A. Evans, M. Evans, G. E. Haslegrave, R. H. Hicks,  
R. S. Hough, J. A. Marshall, J. S. Marshall, D. J. Nayler,  
C. C. Ruddle, C. H. D. Saunders, A. H. Slater, G. D. Tanner,  
P. J. Turney, C. G. W. Wilkes.

Sub-Prefects :  
J. W. Cox, L. C. Dinneen, S. T. G. Gale, D. S. Goldsmith,  
T. C. Irving, E. E. Johnson, P. G. King, W. C. Kimmins,  
R. L. Mason, R. R. Osborne, S. Rosen, M. I. Wilson.

House Captains :  
Blue-C. G. W. Wilkes.  
Brown-S. G. D. Johnston.  
Red-M. J. Brittain.  
Yellow-M. Lane.

Sports Captains :  
Athletics-M. J. Whiteside.  
Cricket-D. S. Goldsmith.  
Football-P. J. King.  
Rugby-S. G. D. Johnston.  
Swimming-P. J. Turney

# THE ISLEWORTHIAN

Editor : Mr. F. V. Davey.

Assistant Editors : S. G. D. Johnston, M. J. Darg.

Series 2. No. 6. 1958-59.

## EDITORIAL.

On the retirement of Mr. Thurston in 1946 the Editor of 'The Isleworthian' remarked that during its fifty years of existence only four changes of Headmaster had so far occurred. Now, thirteen more years have been added to the history of the school and Mr. Brierley, who has presided over our fortunes for the whole of that time, has decided to move elsewhere. No one could but regret the departure of so kindly and considerate a Headmaster.

Not all will have been aware of Mr. Brierley's serious illness during the Winter Term of 1958 and of his remarkable recovery, when, after some six weeks in hospital, he reassumed the heavy responsibilities of his office. Nevertheless we are glad to know that in his new appointment as Headmaster of Ramsey Grammar School in the Isle of Man he will be amidst country that he loves and in a bracing air, such that Middlesex can hardly parallel.

During Mr. Brierley's absence Mr. Hollis performed the duties of Acting-Headmaster, while still carrying out a very full timetable of advanced work along with the teaching staff. Mr. Hollis has known the school, now, longer than any of us, and we are grateful to him for writing an appreciation of Mr. Brierley that expresses our thoughts so well. We wish Mr. Brierley a long period of reinvigorated health and extend to Mrs. Brierley and to the family our best wishes for many happy years in their new home.

We were sorry, however, to find that the arrival of our new Headmaster, Mr. G. J. P. Courtney, M.A., would be delayed until November. It would seem that the staff and pupils of Mitcham Grammar School were loth to let him go, and we can but take this as a token of happy augury. In any event we extend to Mr. Courtney a very sincere welcome and look forward to happy and rewarding years under his tutelage.

Since the last number of 'The Isleworthian' we have heard with deep regret of the death of Mr. Goddard, who for so long was a revered master at our school. Mr. Greig has recorded elsewhere our affectionate memories of his long service.

We were also most grieved to hear of the sad bereavement suffered by Mr.

Thurston in the loss of his wife. The very warm regard which our former Headmaster and Mrs. Thurston created in the school is still the precious memory of many still connected with our school life, and we would wish to offer him our most sincere condolences.

Staff changes continued to be more numerous than any of us would have wished. After four years distinguished work with the Economics Sixth, Mr. Flinn translated himself to Edinburgh University where, doubtless, in his future lectures on Financial Theory and other profitable themes, he will elicit from the Scots a bonus of aesthetic rapture. He will be much missed, not least upon the Ruggie field. Mr. Williams, who came to us five years ago as a Student-Teacher and remained to give valuable service in the Science Department, has gone to lecture at Regent Street Polytechnic. Mr. Scott-Shaw has departed to Walpole Grammar School, Ealing, to renew acquaintance with our late-lamented Mr. Sheldon, much to the regret of the main school who will, no doubt, miss his robust personality. Mr. Oldman, after a graceful year with us, again took flight and has achieved temporary rest, we hear, at Kilburn Grammar School. We had hoped to have more time in his most amiable company but it was not to be. Finally, Mr. Page moved on to fresh experience in a different type of school.

Six new members of staff came to us in September. Mr. Hughes becomes Senior Mathematics Master in succession to Mr. Oldman and Mr. Thompson replaces Mr. Flinn: Mr. Thomas teaches Physical Education and Mr. P. Smith Mathematics. Mr. Paine, an Old Boy of the school, teaches Religious instruction and Physical Education, while Mr. Gibson, another Old Boy and founder of the Old Isleworthians Cricket Eleven, adds to the Science side. Mr. Andrews, who came to us in a temporary capacity last September to help in the Modern Languages Department, has now joined the permanent staff and teaches French and German. To all these gentlemen we extend a hearty welcome and trust that they will be happy with us.

The interregnum has seen Mr. Hollis again assume the task of Acting-Headmaster. In his opening remarks to the school in September, Mr. Hollis officially welcomed 'in his absence and in our name, the most important member of the school—our new Headmaster'—a happy sentiment with which we all concur. Indeed we feel sure that the future will enable us to record, under Mr. Courtney's guidance, a continuing tradition of successful activity of which 'The Isleworthian' and the school may well be proud.



A. Brierley, B.A., B.Sc.  
Headmaster : 1946-59

## **A. BRIERLEY. HEADMASTER 1946-1959.**

Mr. Brierley came to Isleworth in September 1946 from Aldenham Public School. In his first Speech Day Report he said he was fortunate to inherit so healthy, happy and vigorous a School. During his term as Headmaster his aim was to enhance the School's reputation in all fields, and in consequence, although growth and development of the School was bound to occur in the circumstances of the time, Mr. Brierley fostered it and steered it into successful channels. He took a keen interest in the athletics and games prowess of the School: his great love was cricket, at which game he was no mean performer both with bat and ball. His enthusiasm here always rose to its peak for the annual Staff v. School match. He also led the Old Isleworthian Cricket XI through a successful season this year.

One of the first major academic developments introduced by Mr. Brierley was the creation of an Economics Course in the 6th Form. This was a bold venture and has proved so successful that at present there are 20 boys taking Economics at 6th Form Level.

In his desire to widen the activities of the School Mr. Brierley introduced Rugby Football in 1953. This step was a controversial one but events have proved that it was a very wise one, and not only does the School possess a number of very good Rugger XV's but the Old Isleworthians have also created a vigorous and flourishing Rugger Club.

In March 1956, at the 53rd Speech Day of the School, Mr. Hamilton, the Chairman of the Governors, expressed his great satisfaction in seeing so much healthy activity in the School and an ever-expanding Sixth Form that had necessitated the erection of a special Sixth Form Block, soon to begin. Mr. Brierley by his qualities of persistence and persuasion was to see a dream materialise.

Human relationships are an important factor in the lives of many, but to the Headmaster of a School they are of prime importance. In this respect Mr. Brierley had an easy manner, and a good deal of personal charm. He was always approachable and democratic in consultations with the Staff, and was too kindly a man to be harsh or excessively severe. He was able to get the best out of his Staff by giving them scope and interfering as little as possible. He also had the ability to relax and share a joke with his colleagues and had cordial relations with secretarial and domestic Staff.

He has left a record of achievement here of which he can be proud and we all wish him every success and happiness in his new post.



G. J. P. COURTNEY, M.A.  
Headmaster 1959—



SCHOOL PREFECTS, 1958-59.  
Back Row : S. T. G. Gale, R. H. Hicks, J. S. Marshall, D. S. Goldsmith.  
Second Row : E. E. Johnson, A. Evans, P. J. Turney, R. L. Mason, C. C. Ruddle.  
Third Row : R. C. Allgrove, R. R. Osborne, L. C. Dinneen, A. H. Slater, S. Rosen, G. D. Tanner, C. G. W. Wilkes, W. C. Kimmins.  
Seated : M. J. Darg, M. J. Brittain, R. S. Hough, J. Walters, S. G. D. Johnston (Head Boy), M. Lane, J. A. Marshall,  
C. H. D. Saunders, T. C. Irving.



1959

**IN MEMORIAM  
F. A. V. GODDARD  
(1912-1948)**

Brief words on perishable paper cannot ever pay full tribute to the memory of F. A. V. Goddard, and yet this unostentatious man of upright life would wish no more. His selfless devotion to the School never sought public recognition but all who came to know him knew, too, how strong his influence was.

It is not so much the years he spent at the School-although they were long-that we remember : more than these was the fact that next to the practice of his sincere Christianity, the School became his very life. He gave to it energy and time, both profusely. School Chess owed much to him. Our proud record of Swimming triumphs over many years is the flowering of the root he planted as far back as 1915. More than all, Brown House should remember him, for he was a truly great House Master. When taking over from Mr. Goddard in 1948, Mr. Uren wrote of "the riches of this House" in tradition, true spirit and service to the School. "Si monumentum requiris, circumspice".

Old Boys of the School have paid their tribute elsewhere, for here too, as Staff Representative on the Association Committee, Mr. Goddard gave help and wisdom for many years. Old Isleworthians, in fact, came to appreciate qualities in him which as schoolboys they had no opportunity of knowing. All in all, as was said of him once, he was "never bored and never angry" : to look through his library was to realise the breadth of his sympathies and the variety of his attainments : to talk to him was to find refreshment in the sane, wholesome philosophy of a true man.

Those of us who knew him nearly will share in the weight of Mrs. Goddard's loss. As to those who are too young even to remember the big, genial man who until so recently still attended School functions-they may be sure that the School has been fortunate to have had such service and such love as he gave.

## SCHOLARSHIPS, 1958-59.

State Scholarships : R. L. G. Vincent, J. Walters.

### VALETE.

- R. C. ALLGROVE. Prefect, Secretary of Music Society, School Table Tennis Team.
- I. ATLEE. School Play 1957, Verse Speaking Competition Finalist 1959, Assistant Librarian.
- J. A. BARRETT. Treasurer of Christian Union, Projectionist for Film Society.
- R. L. BLACKMAN. Prefect, Secretary of Science Society, 2nd XI Cricket.
- M. J. BRITTAIN. Prefect, House Captain, Captain of 2nd and House Soccer XIs, School Athletics Team, School Tennis Captain, School Tennis Champion 1957-8, School Table Tennis Secretary.
- R. G. BROWN. School Cross-Country Team, Treasurer of Science Society, Assistant Librarian.
- U. R. CARTWRIG HT. Secretary of Radio Society, Member of Science Society Committee, Assistant Librarian.
- J. W. COX. Sub-Prefect, Member of Music Society Committee, School Choir, Electrician for School Play, Assistant Librarian.
- P. W. CROOK. School Chess Captain, House Chess Captain, School Basketball Team, 1st XV Rugby, Verse Speaking Competition Finalist 1959.
- M. J. DARG. Prefect, Secretary of Literary and Debating Societies, Treasurer of Music Society, Winner of Boseley Essay Cup 1959, SubEditor of "The Isleworthian", 2nd XI Cricket, 2nd XI Soccer.
- A. E. DARLING.
- L. C. DINNEEN. Sub-Prefect School 2nd XI Cricket Captain and 2nd XV Rugby Captain, School Chess Team, Assistant Librarian.
- M. J. DRURY.
- M. EVANS. Prefect, Member of School Cricket Selection Committee, 2nd X Rugby Captain, 1st XI Soccer, School Chess and Table Tennis Teams, Winner of Partington Vase 1957-9, Science Society Committee Member.
- R. A. FROSTICK. Joint-Secretary of Geographical Society.
- D. J. HARRIS.
- G. E. HASLEGRAVE. Prefect, 1st XI Cricket Vice-Captain, Member of School Rugby Selection Committee, School Basketball, Athletics, Tennis and Table Tennis Teams, House Cricket Captain and Rugby Vice-Captain, Cycle Prefect, Projectionist for Film Society, Electrician for School Play.
- R. H. HICKS. Prefect, House Vice-Captain, 1st XI Soccer, House Soccer Captain, Lost Property, Prefect.
- P. F. W. HORNE. 1st XI Cricket, Vice-Chairman of Music Society.
- R. S. HOUGH.. Prefect, House Vice-Captain, 1st XV Rugby, 2nd XI Cricket, House Rugby Captain, Joint-Secretary of Film and Geographical Societies, Committee Member of Debating and Historical Societies.
- T. C. IRVING. Sub-Prefect, House Cross-Country Vice-Captain, School Cross-Country Team.
- E. E. JOHNSON. Sub-Prefect, Joint-Secretary of Geographical Society, School Basketball and Chess Teams, 2nd XV Rugby, Assistant Librarian.

- S. G. D. JOHNSTON. Head Boy, House Captain, 1st XV Rugby Captain, Middlesex Schools Rugby XV, House Rugby and Athletics Captain, 1st XI Soccer, School Basketball, Swimming and Cross-Country Teams, School Field Events Champion 1958, Senior Athletics Champion 1959, School Athletics Vice-Captain, Senior Boxing Champion 1959, 2nd XI Cricket, Hon. Chairman of Music Society, Sub-Editor of "The Isleworthian" .
- W. C. KIMMINS. Sub-Prefect, School Basket ball Cross-Country and Table Tennis Teams, House Cross-Country Vice-Captain, Assistant Librarian.
- M. LANE. Deputy Head Boy, School Rugby Vice Captain, School Basketball Team, 1st XI Cricket, House Captain House Rugby and Cricket Captain, Assistant Secretary of Debating Society, Projectionist for Film Society, Electrician for School Play
- J. A. MARSHALL. Prefect, Scholar s' Librarian Joint-Secretary of Film Society, Assistant Secretary of Historical Society School Cross-Country Team, House Cross-Country Vice-Captain School Play 1956..
- J. S. MARSHALL. Prefect, House Swimming Captain Assistant Librarian.
- R. L. MASON. Sub-Prefect Member of School Soccer Selection Committee.
- D. J. NAYLER. Prefect, 1st XV Rugby, School Athletics Team, House Boxing Captain, House Rugby Vice-Captain.
- P. G. ROBERTS.
- S. ROSEN . Sub-Prefect, Joint-Secretary of Geographical Society .
- C. C. RUDDLE. Prefect, 1st XI Cricket, School Chess, Tennis and Table Tennis Teams, 2nd XI Soccer 2nd XV Rugby, House Soccer Vice-Captain. Projectionist for Film Society. C. H. D. SAUNDERS. Prefect, 1st XV Rugby, School Athletics Team, House Gym, Swimming and Boxing Captain and Rugby Vice-Captain.
- A. H. SLATER. Prefect, Science Society Committee Member, School Play 1958, Film Society Pojectionist Assistant Librarian.
- B. N. STOCKMAN. Assistant Librarian.
- W. B. J. SUTHERNS. Joint Secretary of Geographical Society.
- G. D. TANNER. Prefect, School Cross-Country Team, Committee Member of Debating Society, Assistant Librarian.
- P. J. TURNEY. Prefect, School Swimming Captain, 1st XI Soccer and Cricket, School Tennis Vice-Captain, School Basketball Team, House Vice-Captain, House Soccer anal Swimming Captain and Cricket Vice-Captain, School Table Tennis Team, Assistant Librarian.
- R. L. G. VINCENT. School Cross-Country Team, Secretary of Modern Languages Society.
- B. J. WADIE. Assistant Librarian, Electrician for School Play' 1958.
- J. WALTERS. Senior Prefect, Chairman of Music Society, House Vice-Captain, 2nd XV Rugby, School Play 1958.
- C . G. W. WILKES. Prefect, House Captain, School Cricket Selection Committee, 1st XV Rugby, 2nd XI Soccer, School Cross-Country and Athletics Teams, House Cricket, .Athletics, Rugby and Boxing Captain, School Play 1958.
- M. I. WILSON. Sub-Prefect, 2nd XV Rugby.
- J. J. WOOLMER. Assistant Librarian.
- R. B. WYNNE. Assistant Librarian, Member of Music Society' Committee.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES, 1959.**

Owing to the unfortunate illness of Mr Brierley, our customary Speech Day ceremony was abandoned and, on the afternoon of Tuesday, 24th March, a Distribution of Prizes and Certificates took place instead. Mr. Hollis, in the absence of the Headmaster, presided over the occasion. A number of parents had been invited, and Mr. Inman, after a few helpful words drawn from his wide experience, kindly distributed the various honours. During the afternoon the Poetry Choir gave a spirited rendering of Tennyson's 'The Revenge' .

### **FORM NOTES.**

#### **Form Upper Sixth.**

With an Upper Sixth of over fifty eccentric types the problem of accurate and non-libellous reporting has given the authors (If these notes a particularly difficult task, especially since we first had to teach Bob Allgrove to write. The result is a differing of styles which may suggest, to the discerning, some reflection of the idiosyncracies of the rival groups.

In a world of their own are the statistic-stuttering Economists, taking their place between the scientific morons amid the artistic intellectuals. Despite their absorption in trade-cycles and population-trends they have added much to school life. Tony Frostick plays the flute, a surprising fact considering that he once gave Mr. Flinn an alarming exhibition of Elvis Presley's singing. His ally in this sphere of musical achievement is Bob Wynne who spends most of his time looking for books and sleeping in and between lessons. Stuart Rosen went further afield ; escaping to the United States--he came back. Barry Sutherns is always with us adding his own particular brand of humour to the P Room debates. In these inconclusive discussions Eric Johnson could be relied upon to ask a question twice and to forget the answer both times. We understand that his preoccupation with private "art" collecting was the cause. Pete Turney is usually thinking of something else—still I'm all right Jackie ? "Jam" Marshall, a rather unpredictable character, takes everything he does at leisure. Doubtless his future parishioners will appreciate his gentle and unhurried pace. Lastly there is Roy Hough, humorist of the Summer Dance and the Christmas Entertainment, and originator of THE haircut, an honour, which Mike Lane strongly contests.

The Artists, other than Mick Darg, the overworked society man, who has recently changed his coiffure in celebration of his entry into the Bank of England, are above the banality of such hirsute competition. Inspired by their much revered literary forefathers, the most beloved of whom is doubtless Honoré de Balzac (with apologies to Schultz of the 'Daily Sketch'), they punctuate their conversation with fervent quotations such as "La corruption est en force" and "Le talent est rare," which are frequently mistaken, by listeners, as observations on work in the Sixth Form. Ralph Hicks, the most rested of our prefects, has shown that he is obviously an enthusiastic historian, for to him History periods are just a dream! "Floss" Marshall frequently awakens Ralph, however, with his drumming conversation, in which he often refers to his American disciple Kenny Clarke. Geoff Tanner has recently found an absorbing interest in Yorkshire (alas!) . There must be no doubt in the reader's mind as to the cricketing ability of Chris. Wilkes, for a lack of this knowledge will sorely offend him. "Clem" Atlee, Brian Stockman (who we hear is about to fade into bowler-hat-

ted obscurity in the Civil Service) and Pete Roberts, are attempting to disassociate themselves from this rabble of prefects. Pete Horne however is concerned with playing a French namesake and dreaming of his future in the Battersea College of Technology and Music. The only absent member of the group is “Vin” Vincent, who has a vocabulary larger than that of any Frenchman and is still wading through volumes of foreign literature in his own private form-room-the library.

The nocturnally habited scientists are occasionally glimpsed between these two hardworking groups. Leading this happy band is Stuart Johnston, the Head Boy, who is regularly seen taking his Haggis for a walk at ten to nine in the morning. Assisting him are Mike Lane whose ability to waggle his ears is an achievement which few can rival, or wish to, and Jack Walters, senior prefect, who looks after our money (or is it our money that looks after him ?) . Chris. Ruddle and Graham Haslegrave seem to devote all their free time to playing cricket and trying to persuade their girl-friends to make tea for their matches. Biologists Roger Blackman and Chris. Saunders concern themselves mainly in dissecting frogs with scalpels and human beings with motorbikes. Alan Slater does not share Tony Irving’s, Mike Wilson’s and “Wal” Kimmins’ interest in mechanical contrivances as his time is taken up by drinking milk. Mick Evans furthers his botanical studies by driving a mountain ash with a Standard 8 wrapped around it. Our chess and table-tennis player is Larry Dinneen whose play delights all his opponents. Alex Evans prints his negatives back to front, which reminds us of Boots, which in turn is reminiscent of lofty John Cox, musician and electrician. We are fortunate to have amongst us a fugitive from Quatermass III Johnny Nayler our bun-eating and pole-vaulting champion. Comments about Mickey Brittain and Bob Allgrove are unpublishable but information is obtainable any evening at the Elm Tree between 6.0 p.m. and 8.0 p.m.

Residing in peace, away from the rowdy prefects’ room are the more serious scholars, who reside in the Sixth Form Block. Roger Brown studies the Doppler effect produced by Jack Rose, Dave Searle and Brian Wadie as they disappear along the Great West Road making noises of exhaustion. Derek Cartwright and John Woolmer are our radio experts (they expect contact with Mars any day now) and Anthony Darling and John Barrett are well known for their dubious photographic ability. “Bunny” Drury, with rather more expensive taste than the rest of the form, holds shares, we understand, in a large luxury car. However, this overall peaceful effect is completely ruined by Pete Crook who lights evil-smelling “joss sticks”, clearing the room immediately—a deed rarely performed by any master.

In spite of our rivalry, co-operation was always at its best and we would like to congratulate our form-masters, Mr. Bryce, Mr. Carding-Wells and Mr. Flinn, the prefects’ room and the sixth form block for enduring our activities for the past year.

R. S. Hough, R. C. Allgrove, G. D. Tanner.

## OUR THREE CAMBRIDGE DOUBLE-FIRSTS.

### S. F. BUSH:

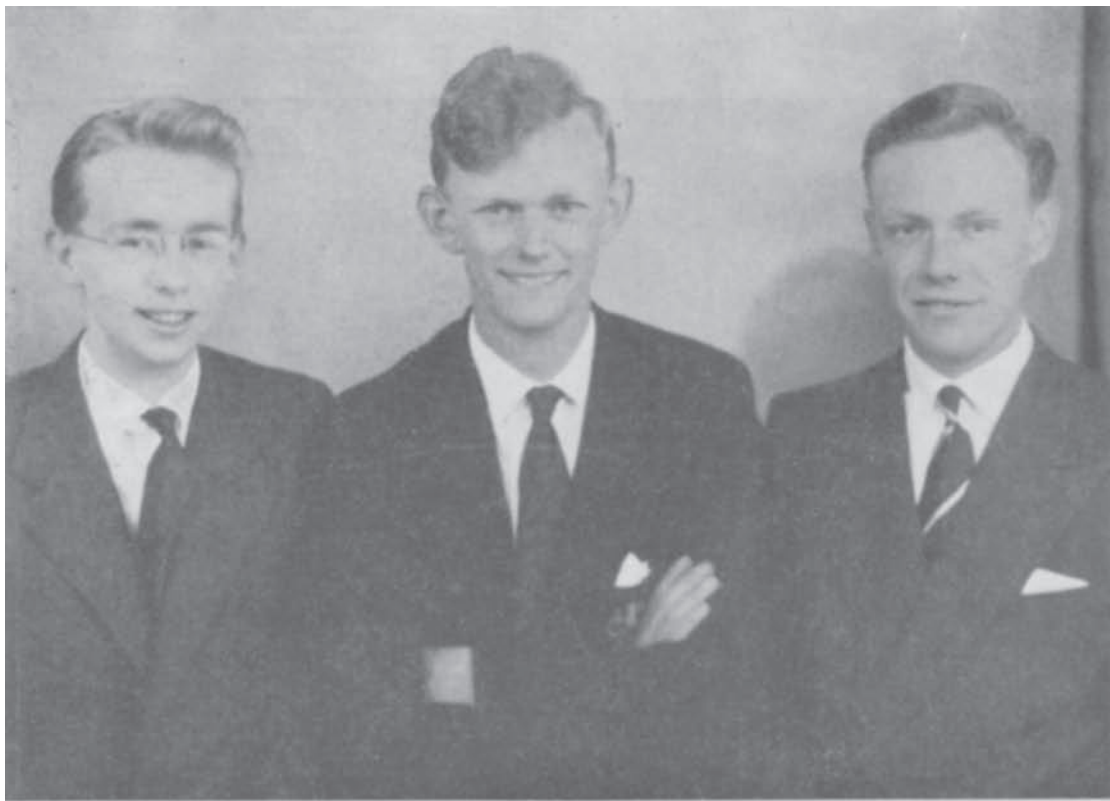
- 1957 Matriculation. Commoner, with supplemental State Scholarship), Trinity College.
- 1958 Class One in the Combined Preliminary Examination to Part I, Mechanical Sciences Tripos. Placed top of the examination for the whole University. Elected a Senior Scholar of Trinity College.
- 1959 Class One in Mechanical Sciences Tripos, Part I. B.A. (Hons.) to be granted in 1960 upon fulfilment of time qualification.

### R. H. F. CROFT, B.A. (Honours).

- 1953 Elected Minor Scholar (with supplemental State Scholarship), Christ's College.
- 1956 Matriculation.
- 1957 Class One in Economics Tripos, Part I.
- 1958 Class One in the Preliminary Examination to Part II of the Economics Tripos.
- 1959 Class One in Economics Tripos, Part II. Placed first equal in the Adam Smith Memorial Prize (Economics) Essay competition. Placed second-equal in the entry (Method 2) to the Administrative Grade of the (Home) Civil Service.

### R. HYAM, B.A. (Honours).

- 1953 Elected Exhibitioner (with supplemental State Scholarship), St. John's College.
- 1956 Matriculation.
- 1958 Class One in History Tripos, Part I. Elected Scholar of St. John's College. Awarded James Bass Mullinger Prize for History, and Wright's Prize.
- 1959 Class One in History Tripos, Part II. Elected to a Strathcona Studentship, and awarded a State Studentship for historical research. Wright's Prize (second time).



THREE CAMBRIDGE DOUBLE-FIRSTS : 1959.  
S. F. Bush, R. H. Croft, R. Hyam.



S. T. G. GALE  
Our First Rugby International.  
Capped for England v. France at Twickenham, 30th March, 1959.



1st XV RUGBY TEAM, 1958-59.

Back Row : A. R. Nisbet, M. J. Whiteside, C. G. W. Wilkes, A. R. Gatland, P. W. Crook, J. B. Pendleton, G. E. Kempson.  
 Middle Row : R. S. Hough, M. Lane, Mr. A. Brierley, S. G. D. Johnston (Capt.), Mr. T. Jones, S. T. G. Gale, J. H. Pilborough.  
 Front Row : P. Sansom, C. H. Saunders, R. S. Marshall,



ISLEWORTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL SWIMMING TEAM, 1958-59.

Back Row : R. F. Giocco, L. R. J. Boucher, C. G. Honey, C. J. Vellender, B. J. Bluck, C. H. D. Saunders,  
 P. J. Turney, I. M. Dewar, A. A. Winslade, S. A. Good, C. R. Amos, N. C. Dimmock, L. J. Harris, Mr. G. Scott-Shaw.  
 Front Row : C. N. Humphrey, J. B. Pendleton, M. J. Whiteside, A. J. Collier, A. D. Pearce, P. R. Gragg, P. W. Crook,



## “ ANDROCLES AND THE LION “

December, 1958.

Lion : C. Jenkins	Spintho : R. Poke
Androcles : J. Hulbert	Ox Driver : I. Eaton
Megaera : C. Sneddon	Call Boy : R. Portsmouth
A. Beggar : G. Halls	Editor : B. Ellis
Centurion : R. Frow	Retiarius : J. Walters
Captain : J. Edwards	Secutor : C. Wilkes
Lavinia : J. Imber	Menagerie Keeper :
Lentulus : C. Humphrey	R. Hitchcock
Metellus : R. Ralph	Emperor : P. Cragg
Ferrovius : P. Dann	Whip : P. Crook

Christian Prisoners : L. Home, D. Nolder, A. Pratt, K. Haladay, J. Stephens, F. Janssen.

Soldiers, Gladiators and Attendants : M. Whiteside, S. Gale, P. King, J. Pilborough, A. Slater, R. Marshall, J. Pendleton, S. Inman.

In his choice of “Androcles and the Lion” for his first full-scale production with the Dramatic Society, Mr. Tisdall was well justified by the success which it achieved. It is not the easiest of plays to mount on a small stage with comparatively limited resources : prime praise must therefore be given to Mr. Tisdall for his whole conception of the production, and for the way in which the large cast was handled and disposed on the stage.

Gaiety was undoubtedly the key-note, as the audiences testified by ready laughter and applause. Once again we were able to realise how keen in boys are both the sense of humour and the ability to use every chance for stage fun. Shaw has his graver moments, of course, and as a great dramatist, writes excellent comedy in a most serious frame of mind. On the whole, however, we chiefly remember the comical, the ridiculous and the absurd with which Shaw mocks pretentiousness, and underlines the theme of his tract—that a man must not, cannot deceive himself as to where his true religious faith lies.

As to the acting, it must first be said that all the cast clearly enjoyed themselves hugely, and enjoyment is infectious. Apart from this, we were delighted by some extremely good performances, particularly by the leading actors. We were quickly captured by John Hulbert’s wistful, frustrated *Androcles*, the slatternly petulance of Clive Sneddon’s *Megaera*, and the lovable pussy-lion of Christopher Jenkins. As *Lavinia*, John Imber not only filled the role most pleasingly, but also contrived to make as pretty a lady as any we have seen on the school stage. High commendation is due to Robin Poke for his emotional but well-controlled *Spintho*, and to Peter Dann for an impressive *Ferrovius* of considerable power.

So it was with all the cast, including the crowd of husky gladiators, looking like rugger-players masquerading as Ancient Romans (as indeed they were), and what must surely have been the cleanest set of Christians ever to visit the Coliseum. All these others must forgive it if they are not mentioned individually, except for three whom I particularly liked. Paul Cragg, as the *Emperor*, extracted every ounce from his part. His interpretation is probably not the only possible one, but all the same it was very funny indeed, fully in the spirit of the whole production. Extremely enjoyable, too, was Roger Frow’s *Centurion*, which he made a racy, rumbustious character, large as life. Finally, John Edwards as the *Captain* brought to the role a handsome voice and presence, which added greatly to his excellent performance.

The staging, once again the product of team effort in the school, deserves a paragraph to itself. Mr. Melville and his helpers skilfully realised a colourful, ingenious setting, which was

designed by Mr. McVay and painted under his direction. For the very first time it is believed, in the history of our school drama, the scenery received a round of applause each night when the curtain rose upon it—a signal triumph.

As usual, the production depended on a considerable army of other helpers, technicians of all kinds : these unseen stalwarts continue to serve and give confidence to those who appear in the limelight. To them all, our thanks—especially to Mr. Smith for his Business Management, which involved the typical original, often unexpected publicity for which he has a genius.

Enthusiasm and many skills have again achieved much and given great pleasure. It is all a good augury for Mr. Tisdall's next production : may it be as well done and enjoyable as this.

G.T.G.<sup>f</sup>

## HANDEL BICENTENARY CONCERT 1959

During the past half dozen years, the School Music Society has, under its energetic conductor, Mr. Emile Spira, built up and maintained a reputation for choral singing. This reputation rests largely upon its ability to meet the exacting demands of such composers as Bach, Mozart and Handel. Since the year 1959 marks the bicentenary of the death of Handel, it was not unnatural that Handel should once again be the composer of choice. The selection of "L'Allegro" as the work to be performed was a particularly felicitous one. With its alternation of joyful song and thoughtful melody, the work makes an immediate appeal not only to the audience, but to all those taking part.

The augmented choirs have in the past shown that they have been able to deal with the difficulties of the polyphonic vocal score, but in these endeavours they have been assisted by the Isleworth Symphony Orchestra. The present occasion was an unusually proud one for the School, as the School Orchestra was making its first public appearance. Boys who have been receiving lessons at school—pupils of the string and woodwind classes—made their orchestral debut at this concert. Under their leader, Roger Frow, the boys, members of staff and other friends played splendidly with an attention to the finer points of orchestral playing that belied their lack of experience.

The choir was happy to welcome (through the kind permission of the Head Mistress) some fifty girls of the Gumley House Convent School Senior Choir, who brought not only charming looks but also a depth of tone, particularly noticeable in the alto range, and a clarity of line which showed itself in the "runs" in which the work abounds.

It was clear from the beginning, that the soloists were well able to interpret their music imaginatively, without any fear that the orchestra might experience difficulty in following their indications. Indeed, the soloists, Ruth Morgan and Dinah Collins, sopranos, Dennis Butcher and Louis Browne, tenors, and David Read, bass, sang with authority and style throughout, matching their mood to that of Handel with pleasing and apparent ease. From the applause with which their items were greeted was evident that the audience was sincere in its appreciation of their musicianship. A special word of congratulation must go to Anthony Frostick for his very fine playing of the flute obligato. Throughout the number, John Cox (a reliable and sensitive continuo) Anthony Frostick and Ruth Morgan were beautifully in tune and blended with one another and provided a high spot in the evening's entertainment.

It was difficult to determine whether the choir and orchestra were more at home in "Populous Cities" or the contrasting "These Pleasures, Melancholy, Give" ; whether they enjoyed best "Haste thee, Nymph" with its "laughing" chorus or the final "These Pleasures, Moderation, Give" with its grandiose chording and rich solemnity.

It would be idle to pretend that the performance of "L'Allegro" was faultless, or even nearly so. Those who took part and those who listened were aware, at times, of

uncertainties of time, pitch, entry and diction, but these were soon forgotten in the enjoyment of one of Handel's gayest vocal works.

To Mr. Spira, who worked so hard that this concert might bring so much pleasure to so many, our warmest thanks are due. Our thanks, no less sincere, are extended to all friends of the Society who helped whether they are specifically mentioned on the programme or not. To those good people who were in the right place at the right time doing the right job, the Society offers its meed of gratitude and hopes to elicit their willing support in its future endeavours.

V.H.J.D.

### **I LIKE HIKE.**

Contrary to the custom of previous years there was no mass exodus by the upper school at Easter to take part in a hitch-hiking contest. Interest this year was not so intense. However there were a few individual efforts. Three pairs of prefects set out for Gretna Green. Jack Walters and Alex Evans were the first to arrive there, but they did not stay long as there was a waiting list at the forge. Dave Goldsmith and Mike Evans reached their objective after spending a night in a police cell—which is quite a rare occurrence even for them. Stuart Johnston and Johnny Nayler, however, turned back at Carlisle. One look at the country of his ancestors made Stuart home-sick for Isleworth.

Eric Johnson and Roy Hough had a greater goal in mind. Despite the weather and each other's company, they covered over twelve hundred miles in three and a half days. Their journey included stops at places so far apart as Norwich, Nottingham, Edinburgh, Chester, Bangor, Birmingham and Bristol. Four nights were spent "on the road" including one in a haystack in Scotland and one on the Welsh Massif—a feat of endurance not to be despised.

**R.H.**

## **GOLDEN JUBILEE.**

This year "The Isleworthian" has completed fifty years continuous publication-one year after Britain's oldest school magazine, "The Tonbridgian", celebrated its centenary year. The present number is the 57th because each year from 1913 to 1917 summer and winter editions were published; furthermore, although continuous publication did not begin until December, 1909, there was one previous number, which appeared in 1903.

### **The First Number.**

The cover of this prototype bears the words "The County High School, Isleworth, Magazine. No. I, December 1903. It was printed on pages which were one inch wider than those of later magazines. The price was fourpence, for sixteen pages. Mr. Kenwood, Headmaster 1903-1931, may well have been the moving impulse behind the introduction of a school magazine the first number appeared during his first term at the school, and the style of several sections (for example parts of the football notes, and the Old Boys' notes) is unmistakably his; the recurrent stress on the conception of the magazine as a link between Old Boys and the school was characteristic of Mr. Kenwood's policy. The hope to produce an edition every term was never achieved.

### **Aims of the Magazine.**

The three main purposes of the school magazine were clearly stated in 1909: firstly, to be a "permanent record of the school life in all its phases"; secondly, to "serve as a means by which Old Boys can keep in touch with their school"; thirdly, to enable boys to display their literary talents, preferably on subjects in some way "connected with the life of the school".

### **Editors.**

Mr. I. E. Williams, M.A., Classics Master, was Editor in 1909 and until the end of 1914. After his return from war service he organised distribution until his retirement in 1943. From 1915 to 1922 Mr. F. A. V. Goddard was Editor, and the only one to use the editorial as a vehicle for propounding his own views. He took tremendous pains in the composition of his editorials, which dealt with such subjects as war, education, the Christian way of life, and the need for a school song. In collecting material he showed considerable flexibility for example in four numbers he dispensed with Form Notes, and in some, Old Boys' notes took up almost half the available space. The expression of personal opinion by the Editor and by the Headmaster is the predominant (and very lively) feature of this period of editorship.

Under Mr. F. G. Ives, M.A., Senior English Master, Editor from 1922/3 to 1948/9, the magazine evolved a fixed form. The order of the items became predictable with mathematical certainty. Mr. Ives made it a comprehensive record of school life, and gave it almost the air of an official handbook. Mr. E. D. Jordan, M.A., Classics Master, between 1949/50 and 1954/5 envisaged many changes to brighten the magazine, but was handicapped by heavily increasing costs. He encouraged the production of linocut illustrations, either within the magazine or in an art supplement. Many of his beneficial innovations have survived the tests of a new editor: the employment of assistant editors from the Sixth Form, the Valete and Salvete lists, the coordinating note on House competitions, and the insistence on a drastic reduction in the length of all reports, many of which had been allowed to become unnecessarily rambling.

### **Contents.**

Basically there has been very little change in the subject matter. The Form Notes are an unusual feature ; in 1903 the editor wrote "Notes from forms should play an important part in the subject matter. Each form in a school should be a little 'imperium in imperio', and this unity of feeling should find expression". An interesting experiment took place in the late twenties when

there were extensive articles giving careers advice. The three careers dealt with were automobile engineering, law and journalism. The most striking difference between present magazines and those of fifty years ago is the reduction of the amount of space devoted to football and cricket.

### **The Cover.**

In general, the only form of illustration used has been the school badge. The only year in which it did not appear was 1949/50. For the three magazines issued from 1946 to 1949 a block designed by A. N. Briscoe and printed in red and blue, was used. The present style has been used since 1951/2.

### **Numbering.**

The numbers printed on old editions were inaccurate. For the benefit of those who may be wondering whether their collections are complete the following points should be remembered. "No. I" appeared in 1903 ; "No. 2" in 1909. No magazine bears the number 3, because it was numbered 4 by mistake, and was followed immediately by one marked "No. 5". There are two bearing the number 7 (Summer and Christmas, 1913), followed by a "No. 8" ; there are two numbered 9, followed by a "No. II". There is no "No. 23"-the numbering jumps from "No. 22" (1923/4) to "No. 21" (1924/5) in an attempted rectification. The "Second Series" began in 1953/4 ; this edition was in fact the fifty-second.

### **Size.**

In 1909 there were 25 pages. From 1917 until the thirties there were never less than 62 pages, and sometimes there were more. During the thirties there were always 80 or 90 pages. The record number of pages was reached in 1948/9 with 117, and immediately followed by two years with only 40-the lowest since before 1914 (with the exception of the astringent war years 1942/3 and 1943/4, which had 37). The present size has been maintained since 1955/6.

R.Hyam

