

MONGREL JOTTINGS WINTER 1956

From the Beaumont Review

Current Events



Fr Joseph Barrett arrived as Treasurer on the departure of Fr Patrick Lewis who had apparently reorganised the department and laid the foundations of a new order in Beaumont finances. He also taught Lower Grammar that “for its calibre will go down in History” and founded the modern Photographic Society with a properly equipped dark room. Fr Patrick left to become Secretary to Fr Provincial.

Fr Clifford set sail for Africa to join the Cathedral staff at Salisbury S Rhodesia. Two other OB priests are already there – Fr Hugh Ross and Fr Kenneth Nixon.

Captain of the School; Rory Nicholas and Vice-Captain David Corner.

John Howe has been awarded an Open Exhibition in English at Brasenose College Oxford.

A J N Synnott was awarded a Scholarship for the Royal Navy Together with R J Surplice and P Dullingham who had decided on Dartmouth rather than Cambridge, M Walsh and G Hinds make the number up to five of contemporary acceptances for the Senior Service.

Among the Rhetoric guests were Martin Cooper music critic of the Daily Telegraph, The Rev Arthur Morton Director of the NSPCC and Norman St John Stevas (later Ld St John of Hawsley)

Cecil Miles presented the school with a statue of Our Lady of Fatima in memory of his son Anthony who was and still is very much alive and kicking.

Raffaele Altwegg spent the vacation as leader of the Cellos in the National Youth Orchestra.

The school librarian received a One Guinea book token from an anonymous donor.

Entertainment

The Higher Line Play – The Magistrate by Sir Arthur Pinero

There is a certain insouciance and an air of quiet assurance and finish that make a Pinero comedy acceptable to the present day. A period piece that dates back to a time unpunctured by global crisis and when the world was a little more secure under Pax Britannica; a world where trifles could be important and one could afford time to be amused. The Magistrate has it all – the world of the petty offender, the hunt ball and propriety, the peccadillos and the subterfuges of a pleasanter age.

The atmosphere was captured and held remarkably well by the cast. There was excellent character acting; the Jarvey-turned-butler (John Williams) complete to the angle of the bowler and the sly glance; an Isadore (Ronald Shepard) who would not have been out of place in an ideal Soho; an Achille Blond (Ian Sinclair) with his implication of bottomless and unpleasant depths; and the bucolic heartiness of Sgt Lugg (Gregory Hinds). There was the Dickensian interpretation of Wormington (John Tristram) of a depressed and respectable clerk; and the unusualness of Popham (Kevin McGrath) who must surely have laid siege to Cis (Mathew Guinness) through his stomach rather than his heart.

Of the main roles, Bates rendered a very able Posket; querulous and with weak good nature. Guinness played his part with complete confidence and accomplishment and the other two ladies Agatha (Timothy Page) and Charlotte (Anthony Morrogh) were exactly of their time and type – the gel and widow of the 1880s with their femininity and respectability beyond all question. Finally, the soldiers Lukyn (Claude Johnson) and Vale (Hugh Roddy) foils to one another, the former downright and the latter diffident and exquisitely drawling – Bai Jove. Overall, a most pleasant entertainment and a credit to the cast and the producer.

The Pantomime – Robison Crusoe

When at the end there was tumultuous applause and a call for a speech from Mr Clayton, we were reminded how utterly dependant the show is on him. – he gets better by the year. There was the arrangements of Fr Hanshell's catchy songs and he brought together The Hot Five; Danby (drums), Danby (clarinet), Bailey (alto sax) and Carlton-Morris (trumpet). What a difference they made and what a difference Carlton –Morris made to the group. Technically he was probably surpassed by the clarinet and the saxophone but there is no doubt he stole the thunder (if a trumpet can do such a thing) It is difficult in the time available to produce a high standard but this production was well up to the mark. Oliver as Widow Twanky provided the traditional robust vulgarity and farcical slapstick. Down sang Crusoe's songs most prettily and there were excellent interventions by Morrogh , Bates and Patterson with Rutherford as the Fairy Godmother appearing as if she had just stepped through the Looking Glass. The Highlight though was John Williams as Friday with the virtuosity and perfection of his song with the trumpet solo. A most enjoyable evening entailing a great deal of hard work.

The CCF

Cert A results were highly satisfactory with only seven failures. Whether this was due to the exceptional ability of the candidates or the exceptional generosity of the examiners is a matter open to debate. Meanwhile the recruit platoons for the most part without adequate uniforms have found difficulty in mustering sufficient enthusiasm or intelligence to master more than the most elementary drill movements

The Armoury has been fortified – whether the authorities are expecting a siege is not officially known.

The Scouts

The Troop Den was redecorated and the Scout Press has new printing equipment. Fr Brogan has made a welcome return to the Troop together with Mr J Kelly SJ already well known to old St John's scouts. Peter Down was congratulated on achieving the distinction of Queen's Scout.

The Choir

Despite many new voices confidence grew though the term and tone and balance noticeably improved. However it was deemed wiser not to tackle any new matter.

The Congregation have sung splendidly and those gentlemen that tend to rush have so far restrained themselves to keep in time with the rest. Compline in English was attempted with the psalms sung antiphonally by two sides of the aisle; the result was most satisfactory.

Societies

Higher line Debating.

A debate against Cranleigh on the motion that "Britain is in decline" saw our five speakers introduce Beaumont's unique style of debating to another audience. The Speakers were at their best and shone brilliantly against a background of rather staid and sombre opposition. Other notable performances during the term on "Money is the root of all evil" saw Mr Conner clothed in Wodehouse attire to impress upon the house that he stood for the rustics, finally conclude, choking with emotion that he unlike the Government spoke from the heart and with this he expired. Mr Mulcahy had only a paternal message and exhorted the House – as though they were a collection of violent young suffragettes – to form a purity league. Mr Skelton with a thunder clap of vanity extolled the Piccadilly and Paris of his perverted mind before he cast his total wealth of four pennies from his pockets to the House to manifest his incorruptibility. Overall the standard of speaking was reported as deplorable but was raised as the term continued.

The Quodlibetarians

The Society amalgamated with The Poetry Society. Guests include Mr Colin Wood to speak on Russian literature, Mr Wilfred Blunt of Eton College to reminisce on his Persian Travels and finally Mr Peter Marshall from Bristol University to discuss the American Elections. There was only one paper submitted by a member – P Down on Leonardo da Vinci.

The subscription rate was raised to 1s 6d per term with the bank standing at £52 16s 3d having made a profit of £2 0s 3d on the sale of last summer's Vril.

Music

The Society was entertained by Miss Kathleen Grainger (soprano) and Stewart Nash (piano) with songs by Bach and Handel. In another concert, Madeline Dring and Raymond Holder the Director of "Salad Days" played and sang songs of the day. To close the season 65 members of the Society went to The Royal Opera House to hear Puccini's La Boheme with Elsie Morrison as Mimi; the venue was so popular more seats had to be booked. The Stomp section rather took after the music it promoted – impromptu and not well organised; so said Pip Danby the Secretary.

Correspondence.

Rome

Richard Incledon was ordained on the feast of Christ the King; remembered at school for his theatrical performances and for scoring over 200 runs at Lords in 1945. Also at the English College Alastair Russell is the College Sacristan and MC otherwise he is to be found pacifying Roman natives on the rugby pitch in his atrocious Italian. David Donnelly is the leading light in the Newman Society and a famed thespian. He played Fr Christmas last year arriving in a workmanlike imitation of a London Taxi. Edmund (ex Timothy) Flood can be seen a long way off as he is by far the tallest of a large and healthy looking community of Benedictines on the Aventine Hill.

Oxford

There are over twenty OBs loose within the city of "dreaming spires"; top of the Jesuit league. The newcomers are of a more hardened nature than usual with Kevin Donovan at Campion Hall to read Classics and Stephen Corcoran (Classics-Trinity), Ted Winfield (English-Lincoln), Brian O'Gorman (Engineering- Christ Church), Vincent D'Alton (Classics-New) have all done military service unlike Simon Burrough (St Catherine's) who is comparatively fresh from Old Windsor but has already made his mark in the boxing ring.

John Okell is one of our staunchest members and can now join Kevin Donovan to play flute duets. The latter has already made his mark in the sporting world - when not out with the Beagles, he is to be found at the swimming pool.

John Walker is deep in books but is seldom far from the social whirl; he shares digs in Norham Rd with Shaun MacLoughlin and Howard Lyle. With Michael McAvoy and Lou Chmelar close by, the area is fast becoming a BU reserve. Quentin Macleod has grown a beard have spent the long vacation gallivanting around Europe on a motorbike.

Among those who found their way to Hungary after the second Russian onslaught was Christopher Lord who was enthusiastically received by fellow students at Budapest University.

Cambridge

“International events have occurred with overwhelming rapidity that there has been little time for clear thought. Verbosity may sometimes ride hand in hand with intelligent appreciation but on the whole it betrays emotionalism and is devoid of value in the field of ideas. There has then, been a romantic spirit at work this term rather than a material body of thinkers.”

Among the bewildered freshmen is Anthony Bulfield (Trinity) overwhelmed by the amount of work expected of Natural Scientists but can still find time for the squash courts. Paul Bedford (Christs) is as prominent on the rugger field as he is self-effacing in the engineering laboratories. With a developed sense of timing and a perpetual thirst, he is an easy man to find.

Jacobi Patrizi (Trinity) has made the most successful debut since the days of Tertius Metcalf and has changed subject at least once already - he is now believed to study economics; with a flair for the spectacular he greeted his tutor with his leg in plaster and an accompanying Latin shrug. Also at Trinity is Michael Shields studying Medicine; he lives in the Fens wishing for the life of a recluse but is drawn back time and again by the demands of society. Patrick Walsh (Queens) lives even further a field in London and visits occasionally to play rugby. His slight figure may be glimpsed at coffee-bars, and bars, and bars but we are assured that he is reading Mechanical Sciences. We feel he may have burnt his bridges before he has even built them. William Rigby, studying the same subject at Fitzwilliam travels to town and his gay, flapping college scarf soon betrays his presence and his cultured conversation is at once desired even by those who might themselves hold sway over eager listeners. Always effete and unassuming, he is in danger of earning the soubriquet of “Gaylord Bill” by reason of his sartorial elegance

Second year Christopher Tyler (Trinity) and engineering has established control over the rugby referees and his lust for power has also been extended to the Faculty. Like another VIP he has recently been abroad “to collect material for his memoirs”. Another star in the

ascendancy is Patrick Lochrie (Trinity) reading Natural Science and making a study of the drinking class; his erudite conversation is extremely interesting to those who can follow it.

Patrick Stow (Jesus) has been difficult to track down as he has changed addresses on several occasions to find more congenial surroundings. He is reading history and finds that a pint of beer and a couple of hours of jazz to be as stimulating as Pitt's foreign policy.

Patrick Egan, reading medicine travels to Scandinavia and is very active at the Liberal Club and on the committee of several others. His friends have tried to get him to stand for a post at the Union but he has so far declined

Timothy Ruane is in his third year of Agriculture at Caius; gossip in the Hawks says that if he had been at another college better known for its boating prowess he would have had a trial if not a Blue by now.

Desmond Tolhurst (Pembroke- Law) is another frustrated sportsman having played for the Stymies (golf 2nd team) for the last two years, a Blue eluding him. However his determination is unwavering and his only known relaxation are the Jazz Band Balls where he is an exponent of jive.

Cecil Kernot (Trinity- Law) is invariably busy when visited but is willing to lay aside the pen to listen to the pleasant chatter of friends if not overcome by insomnia. It is thought that his vagueness may cause him trouble in society as he never appears to remember an engagement. Finally, Monsignor Gilbey is as charming and as helpful as ever to those that visit. His entertaining exceeds the bounds of imaginative expectation and his dinners a gastronomic delight.

Beaumont Union

The Dinner was held as usual at the Café Royal with 120 attending. In the chair was Lt Colonel J D Waters CB, DSO. And the respondent Major-General L K J Martin, DSO.

38 attended the Oxford & Cambridge Dinner with His Excellency A J Clasen in the chair with Quentin McCleod responding. The same evening a Beaumont Stonyhurst Dinner was held in Paris organised by Alvaro Holquin at the Circle Interalliee. Among the OBs there were John Hickey, Edmund de Ayala, Jean de Madre, Phillippe de Vomecourt, Francis Brandford-Griffiths, Phillippe Ogier-d'Ivry, Arnoux de Remusat, Marc Allez and Anthony Miles. Jose Quinones de Leon, the Spanish Ambassador was prevented from attending at the last moment.

Other News

Richard Bruce has been joined by fellow OB Michael Gompertz as a partner in the same medical practice in Cheltenham.

Simon Nurick, Jimmy McAleer and Lawrence Rasavi are together at Guy's.

Christopher Campbell-Johnston recently sailed to Singapore and back as a Saloon Steward. But has now decided to "return to where the big money confesses a fatal attraction to his presence".

Jean de Leusse is in Algeria in pretty miserable conditions but "as we are fighting to save our Country" it is quite acceptable.

Peter Kernot wrote from Malta and finds an OB at every turn; Michael Barnes on his way to Cyprus as was Jeremy Gompertz who came over on the same boat as Christopher Dickens. Needless to say it was party time with George de Trafford who lives on the Island. In Port Said, he bumped into Midshipman Anthony Whyatt on board HMS Forth – the submarine depot. During the Crisis he met Christopher Wilkinson. "Our unit went in with the first wave of Commandos to direct naval gunfire in support of the attack. I saw things there that I thought only existed in books or on the big screen – the grim realisation of war were all too soon upon me when the assault began at 04.30 hrs; an unforgettable five days.

Hatches, Matches, Dispatches.

The wives of the following produced boys; Jim Blackwell, Richard Bruce, Howard Cashin, Neville Chance, Michael de Burgh, Bernard Glanville, John Jenkins and Breffni O'Neill. Girls for Peter Dawson, Philip de Zuluetta and Hugo Holmes.

The following announced their engagements; John Bracey-Gibbon, Gerald Deane, Jean de Madre, Vincent Manze, Arthur Morrison, Walter Morrogh, Michael Sheridan and Darragh Waterkyn.

Married



Roger Unwin was married to Marion Cathrow at the first ever Nuptial
Mass at St Johns with Fr Boyle officiating

Dispatches.

Henry Hayward Fowler (91)

The grand old man of Trinidad Racing and the son of the former Colonial Secretary. He was one time Senior Steward as well as owning many successful horses. He also played polo for Trinidad, football in his youth and was a good oarsman. He also had ranching interests in Venezuela.

Alfred Pazolt (92)

American born artist who exhibited at the RA. He also sailed on the last four-masted windjammer in service for Australia in 1929 and was wrecked in the Cape Verde Islands.

Harry Newman Gilbey (99)

A brother of Mons. Alfred, he was the founder of the Apostolate of St Margaret Mary to promote the consecration of catholic homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

SPORT

1st XV

After only ten days preparation Brian Dillon brought down a BU XV to give the team a trial run and they proved that lack of experience by the school was going to be a key factor.

Losses to a powerful KCS team, the Stonyhurst Wanderers, Douai, The Oratory, Wellington and Wasps followed. The season did not start well despite much courage and some talented play but the team lacked consistency. However drive and determination was eventually rewarded with victory of Merchant Taylors and a fine rearguard action produced a close win over a very strong Whitgift. The away match to Downside was played in mud but could not stop a runaway victory for the Gregorians despite some brilliance by O'Connor. At least the scalp of Reading gave satisfaction to finish the term.



Overall the XV failed to overcome its lack of age and experience but they impressed by their united effort to improve their play. Lake's control grew steadily in knowledge and authority, Baker carried much of the burden of the backs till Stevens and Morrogh proved to have a sense of position which made the line steadier. Hutchins produced some fine play and McCann's defence became stronger. Mulcahy, McCurry and McIlvenna were full of spirited attack and Pennington put in an enormous amount of work in both attack and defence. Corner used his height in the line out to good effect, and Oliver's hooking gave us a good share of the ball. Walsh if rather slow on the ball proved invaluable at covering in defence and Patterson's bursts from the scrum remain one of the highlights of the season.

The Third XV

On paper the team looked promising and indeed the last match of the season saw the full time score within striking distance of a win; bad luck and the unaccustomed mud prevented a first historic win. The highest score (against) this year was 37 a vast improvement on the 60/70s of the previous year.

Finally – The Centenary Fund (an entry for The News Quiz)

“With a little more encouragement from subscribers, it should be possible to start **building** operations in 1957.

Watch for **concrete** plans and proposals in the next number of The REVIEW.”