

Apart from the Societies, there are the Working Committees, which deal with the activities of the Union, and it seems to be a very good idea to join at least one of them, as there is plenty of choice. After these initial activities, it soon becomes evident that work is the order of the day, although at Sheffield this does not last for very long since, during the third week of the Autumn Term, Rag Week is held, which lasts for nine days, commencing on one Friday afternoon with the selling of 'Twikker,' the Rag Magazine. The next week is filled with dances, both in Sheffield and in the neighbouring towns, and both official and unofficial stunts. The week comes to an end on the following Saturday, when collecting starts at 3 a.m. and continues until 11 p.m. on Saturday night. During Rag Day the chief events are the Carnival Procession in the morning and the Boat Race on the River Don during the afternoon, whilst the evening is taken up by the Torch-light Procession.

This, of course, is not the normal run of things, although, during the remainder of the year, most of the Societies hold at least one meeting a week, and there is at least one dance held every Saturday.

University work seems more difficult than that at school but this may be attributed to the fact that the responsibility for doing the work lies fairly and squarely on the shoulders of the individual and that there are so many chances of distraction.

I suppose if anyone were to ask me for advice on whether to go to University or not I should reply that it is hard work, but it can also be great fun. So why not try it?

EDWARD CLAPHAM.

### ART CLUB

IT was encouraging, once again, to see a number of boys and girls working after school hours at some creative work of their own choice. Mr. Rayton was in charge of these sessions, which were held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from September to Easter. It is hoped to see more enthusiasts beginning again in September.

N.A.

### AMATEUR DRAMATIC WORKSHOP SOCIETY

AFTER the production of 'The Ghost Train,' many of our senior members left us, to carry on their good work at various Colleges. Nevertheless, work for the play continued, owing to the enthusiasm of our junior members in recruiting their friends to our cause. Under the expert guidance of Mr. Clarke, the members met every Wednesday evening during the Autumn Term to convert the British Railways waiting-room into a Committee Room worthy of a Town Hall. A small castle, which had to collapse when required to, was also constructed with great ingenuity.

This year's production, 'The Town That Would Have A Pageant,' set a new problem, for it was a three-act play with two scene-changes. However, after several practices, our gallant band managed to avoid technical hitches.

The members would like to thank Mr. Clarke, our Stage Manager, and Mr. Bamber, our Producer, for their help and encouragement, without which our tasks could not have been completed so successfully.

We are looking forward to the next production, for which we hope to co-opt many willing helpers.

Our secretaries for the year were R. Harrison (6US) and D. Bampkin (6UT).  
D.W.B.

### BASKETBALL CLUB

OWING to interest in the fourth, fifth and sixth forms, a basketball club was formed, meeting on Thursdays after school with the hope of organising and training Under-15 and Under-18 teams. The Under-18's had their first match against a team drawn from the whole of Birmingham, the members of which were all over six feet tall: owing to match inexperience we lost heavily, although I am sure we all learnt a great deal. The Under-15 team played against Wolverhampton and lost by a wide margin to a more experienced team. Later in the year, they played another match in our gymnasium against a side from Leicester. This was a very close game and ended with Leicester taking the honours by a few points.

An Inter-House Basketball League has been organised with teams from each year, but all the fixtures have not been completed and the results are not yet known (at the time of going to press). We hope that the experience gained by the Under-15 team will assist them in forming a better Under-18 side next year and that we shall see some of them in the Town team which comes into being next season.

We wish to thank Mr. Grimshaw and Mr. Strickland for their help in organising, training, and refereeing throughout the year. We shall return next year, as Old Boys, to challenge the School team.  
C.M.S.

### CHESS CLUB

THE latest season of the Chess Club has been an interesting and a successful one for its members. The customary three competitions were held, and D. Rooke (5A) emerged as the winner of two of them. He won the knock-out by beating R. Wilmer (6U Schol) in the final and the league by two points from R.

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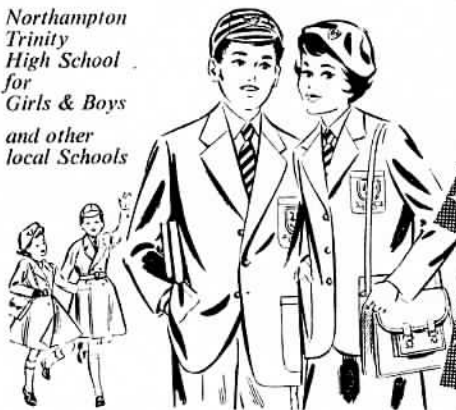
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Barnes (6.L.S.). The problem-solving competition was won by R. Barnes who just managed to gain one point more than his nearest rival.

Despite these exciting contests, the highlights of the year was a visit to Kettering Grammar School where our team, consisting of D. Ashby, R. Barnes, P. Dawes, H. Linsley, I. Skears and R. Wilmer, played the home team in a six-board match. Unfortunately, we lost by five games to one but, as it was an enjoyable contest, we were not too disappointed.

We wish to thank Mr. Clements for all the time and effort he devotes to organising club meetings and for all the helpful hints he gives to the players. R.D.B.

### THE SCHOOL CHOIR

THE most memorable occasion for the Choir since the last edition of 'The Tower,' was the non-competitive Music Festival held at Doddridge and Commercial Street Congregational Church, on June 6th, 1961.

There were contributions from the choirs of the junior and secondary schools in Northampton, who either sang individual items or as one massed choir. The Festival Director was Mr. Reginald Wassell, of Portsmouth. We joined with the other choirs in singing 'O Life that maketh all things new,' 'Who is Sylvia?' and Michale Head's 'A morning salutation.'

We also attended the Northampton Schools' Music Association's Carol Service at College Street Baptist Church on December 14th.

At the Christmas concert the choir sang 'Waltzing Matilda,' 'The Twelve Days of Christmas,' and Benjamin Britten's arrangement of 'The Sally Gardens.' At Speech Day we sang Mendelssohn's 'I waited for the Lord' and Peter Warlock's 'Yarmouth Fair.'

The choir would like to thank Mr. Bertalot for his help and guidance during the year, and extend to him our best wishes for his future career. J.B.

### CLASSICAL MUSIC SOCIETY

AT the beginning of the Spring Term, a society was formed for music-lovers of the first, second, and third forms.

We have heard music by Grieg, Brahms, Rossini and other famous composers. Unfortunately, there have been few people coming, but we hope for more success next year. R.J.

## CRICKET SOCIETY

THE Cricket Society is now one of the largest of school societies, with about fifty members. Unfortunately, the majority come either from the first and second forms, who form the Junior Section of the society, or from the Sixth Form, who are the nucleus of the Senior Section.

The first two practices of the Society were disrupted by heavy rain—in true cricket fashion. Despite this unfortunate start, the season is now in full swing. Arrangements have been made for a party from the Society to go to London to watch England play Pakistan at Lord's on June 23rd.

The climax of the season will be reached when the Society play the Staff in a challenge match on the last afternoon of term.

H.J.L., D.J.A.

## DEBATING SOCIETY

THE Society was re-formed on September 21st and, at the request of the members present at the meeting, Mr. Howard agreed to continue as President. The following committee was elected: Mr. Hartwell (Chairman); H. J. Linsley (Secretary); Audrey Chamberlain; Susan Ward; D. C. Inwood; and M. J. Lacey.

The season started with an 'Any Questions' forum, when many interesting questions were asked. This was followed by our first debate, 'This house proposes that a scientific education does not provide a sufficient education for future life.' Two masters, Mr. Syer and Mr. Timms, kindly supported the Society by proposing and opposing the motion, which was carried by three votes.

'This house proposes that the vote should be given to all people at the age of eighteen,' and 'This house regrets the passing of the age of chivalry,' were the next two debates. Both were defeated. On November 24th we joined the Northampton Grammar School Society in a debate entitled 'This house proposes that dictatorship is more efficient than democracy.' The Society was represented by H. J. Linsley and P. D. Drinkwater, respectively for and against the motion, and was narrowly defeated. A discussion was held in the Music Room on February 1st, when, although there was not a large attendance, the meeting proved very successful, the only drawback being lack of time.

After other interesting debates, a fitting end to the session was brought about by the Inter-Schools Debate Competition held on March 16th. The Debate was held in our own school in front of an audience of over 300 from the four schools involved. We were asked to propose the motion 'A rolling stone gathers no moss,' the Notre Dame High School providing the opposition. The four

speakers who represented the School were R. M. Lacey, Audrey Chamberlain, P. J. York, and P. D. Drinkwater. They debated extremely well against strong opposition and the motion was easily carried. In the other debate 'That the British are a practical people,' the School for Girls was opposed by the Grammar School. The shield for the school judged to have debated most efficiently was awarded to the Grammar School, to whom it was presented by Lady Hesketh. Trinity High School was, however, very close behind.

As Secretary, it is my pleasure to thank on behalf of the Society, Mr. Hartwell (our chairman), Mr. Meldrum, Mr. Clements, Mr. Syer, and Mr. Timms for their support and guidance during the year.

H.J.L.

### JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

**T**HIS society was formed on March 1st, 1962. At the moment, it is open to first, second and third forms, but it is thought that later it will be open to fourth formers.

We have held three meetings so far, the first being an 'Any Questions' forum which was a great success. In our first debate, R. Civil and M. Verity (3A), carried the motion, 'That this House believes in the abolition of blood sports.'

We all hope the Society will be a success and give our members a fine opportunity to air their views.

R.C.

### GYM CLUB

**T**HE Gym Club, which meets every Tuesday after school, does not restrict itself to encouraging the better performer but also helps the less able member to improve his vaulting and agility work.

In 1959 and 1960, the more skilful were chosen to take part in the displays given at the Christmas Concert, and subsequently at the Summer Fête in 1961. These displays have consisted of free standing exercises, box work and bench exercises. In the display given at the last Christmas Concert, trampette work was introduced, the better performers doing front and back somersaults.

Mr. Grimshaw is our instructor and does his best to coax us in the intricacies of the vaults, and Mr. Strickland has recently assisted us as well.

At present, we are practising for a display to be given in the July Fête and this will include medicine-ball work.

I hope that more boys will attend our practices and take up this challenging and exhilarating sport of gymnastics.

S.W.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

**A**LTHOUGH meetings have not been frequent during the past year, those held were enjoyed by us all. The first venture of the year was table-top photography. It was followed by one of the highlights of the year, that of photographing the school play during its dress rehearsal. The year has been very successful, but new members are needed to bring us up to our original strength.

H.J.L.

## SCHOOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

**T**HE S.C.F. has two distinct aims as a school society; our first concern is to make known the good news which God reveals to mankind through the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, but which so often goes unheeded because of the materialistic attitude of today's society. Our second concern is to provide fellowship for individual Christians, in order that we might learn from each other and become stronger in our spiritual lives.

This year, we have renewed contact with the Fellowships at the Boys' and Girls' Grammar Schools and have had two joint meetings with them. The Weekend Conference for Christian Fellowships in this area, at the end of March, did much to renew old friendships and strengthen our Christian Faith, and we are grateful to the Boys' School for organizing such an enjoyable and enlightening conference.

Our society's programme includes Bible-studies, forums, discussions, film slides and talks, and we are always grateful for suggestions for topics at our meetings. If you have any inquiries or if you would like to join our society, please come along to a meeting or contact one of the committee members who are: Jane Billingham, Elizabeth Merry, J. Challen, L. Carroll, H. Davies, M. Lacey and Audrey Chamberlain.

A.C.

A Junior School Christian Fellowship was established a few months ago. Its programme includes film strips, Bible studies, talks and 'Brains Trusts.' All members of the first, second and third forms will be very welcome at our meetings.

J.B.

## THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

**A**T the Annual General Meeting, the first meeting of this year, G. E. Brutnall was elected to succeed T. D. Randall as the Society's secretary.

The first talk of the year was: 'Amateur Radio Communications,' given by G. E. Brutnall, in which the progress of Radio Amateurs over the last fifty years was discussed. T. D. Randall

gave three talks, entitled, 'The Universe,' 'Flying Saucers,' and 'Einstein's Theory of Relativity.' T. F. Knibb's subject was 'Audio-Amplifiers' and the year was completed by a combined effort from T. F. Knibb and G. E. Brutnall in an illustrated lecture on 'Alternating Current Theory.'

We thank the School Fund for financial support to M. R. Verity, T. G. Roberts and I. W. McIlravie in connection with the Radio Amateurs' Examination fee.

Next year, it is proposed to start a Radio Amateur Station in the Society. We look forward to seeing many pupils at our meetings.

G.E.B.

### SWIMMING CLUB

THE Club has met regularly on Thursday evenings at the Mounts Swimming Baths and has been well attended, both by boys and girls. The boys have been concentrating on building up a team for the Inter-Schools Gala later this term, when we hope to improve upon last year's efforts. The girls who attended consisted mainly of beginners and have shown much improvement.

J.E.S.

### TENNIS CLUB

LAST year, the Club suffered severely from lack of support. However, several matches were held with other clubs, and the Junior and Senior Tournaments were held once again. These were won respectively by A. J. Ward and M. Lea. Entries for this year's tournament are already flowing in and we are pleased to see that our younger members are supporting the Club more actively than last year.

D.C.I.

### SPORTS DAY, 1962

IT is a matter of chance if we get a fine day for our annual Sports. Going back in the archives of the P.E. Department to 1956, we read that on May 17th, the weather was fine. On May 10th, 1957, the weather was again fine. In 1958, on 14th May, there was a gusty wind which blew down all the hurdles each time they were put in position. In 1959, on May 13th, the weather was blazing hot and refreshments for the guests were served afterwards on the lawn around the fish-pond. In 1960, cold wind and drizzling rain. Hot and sunny in 1961. And so we come to May 17th, 1962 with a cold wind blowing down the track and black clouds threatening rain.

Competitors, however, never seem to be depressed by such conditions, for six new records were set up and one was equalled. The best of these was probably that of A. Clarke, who achieved a climax to a series of good pole vaults by breaking the record with a

# UNDER 15 XV — 1961-62



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*(Back row)* B. Bird, R. Farmer, P. Finlay, T. Peplow, G. Sullivan, M. Wills, J. Boughton

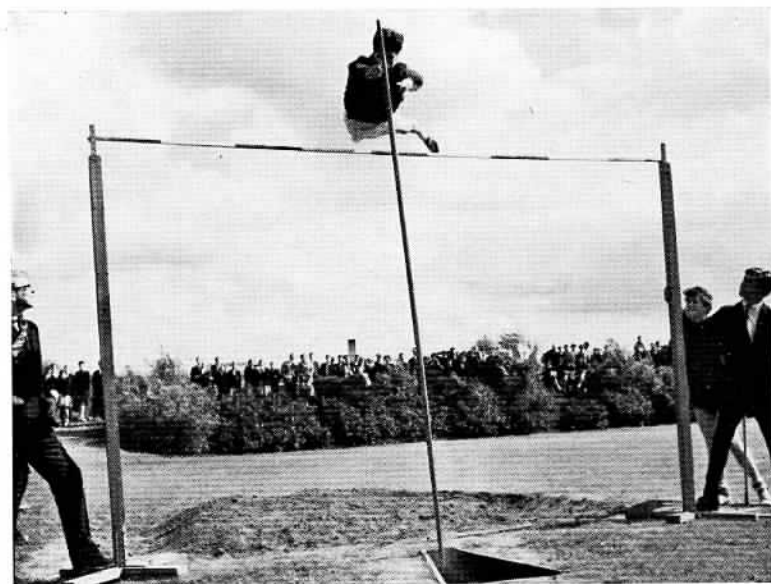
*(Middle row)* A. Kelly, M. Adhemar, R. Whiteman

*(Front row)* B. Hall, T. England, A. Clarke, D. Butlin (*Captain*), S. Kirby, P. Essam, P. Shaw, R. Berton (*sitting*)



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# FIRST XV versus OLD BOYS



*Photograph by W. S. McDonald*

# THE RECORD VAULT

vault of 8' 7". Another outstanding performance was achieved by S. Fyfe in the field events held prior to the actual Sports day, when he cleared 15' 10" in the Long Jump, to set up a new Under-13 record. As he is still in his first year at school, this is a fine achievement.

Of the girls, Joan Brawn and Valerie Rhodes were outstanding; they both gained the most points for their houses and thus shared the Vitrix Ludorum award. Penny Dickens again broke her previous High Jump record of 4' 7½" by 1½" and Joan Brawn equalled the Senior Hop, Step and Jump record of 33' 4½".

Burghley House are congratulated on winning the Championship for the third successive year, with 184½ points; Blakeman was second with 145 points; Kelvin came third with 113 points and Mobbs fourth with 65½ points.

G.C.G., P.S.

### INTER-SCHOOLS' SPORTS, 1962

**A**FTER such a successful Sports Day, we felt that we had a good chance of winning the cup, or at least giving the holders, the Grammar School, a hard fight.

Most of our competitors were placed in the first four during the course of the competition, and the points total gradually mounted. When we won both relays, thus securing maximum double points for these events, we sensed that the cup was ours. So it proved, for we emerged clear winners with 54½ points, with the next school, the Grammar School with 39½ points, well behind.

G.C.G.

### RUGBY, 1961-62

**T**HIS year's 1st XV proved to be one of the poorest sides for some years, though individual players cannot be blamed for the team's disappointing displays. Lack of teamwork, support and spirit were the causes.

For their efforts in supporting the team, as well as their high standard of play, P. Davies (6L.S.), K. Brabbins (6R), and M. R. Eyton-Jones (6R) were awarded rugby colours.

Some mention must be made of the match against the Old Boys, when the School lost, as they did many other matches, because they were completely out-weighted. We hope that next season we will be able to produce a better team.

P.T.

The season has been a great success for the Under 15 team. As last year's Under 14 they had ended the season by winning the Collyer Cup, and it was hoped that they would continue their success. The record shows that they played 13 games, won 11 and lost only 2. The season began well with convincing wins over

Corby G.S., and Dansmore G.S. At Christmas, the side was unbeaten and victories had included a 6—5 win over the Grammar School. This was a first-class game, with both sides evenly matched, and containing several boys who had played for the County. Unfortunately, the season ended on a disappointing note, for in the final of the Knock-Out Cup the side lost by 11—3 to Cherry Orchard.

The weight and size of the pack and the speed of the locks have been the reason for the success of the team. The forwards were well led by England, with Adhemar and Sullivan always showing plenty of fire. When at their best, Butlin and Shaw provided a useful link between the forwards and the locks. Butlin, who captained the side, showed at times some excellent skill and positional play. Clarke and Kirby provided the main thrust in the centre and were the chief scorers. However, the success of the side did not entirely depend upon those mentioned above. All those who played helped to make this a most successful season.

England and Clarke are to be congratulated on representing the County in all their games during the season; they and Kirby and Shaw also played for the Town side. J.S.

The Under 14 XV had an enjoyable season, some players showing skill but all displaying great enthusiasm. This was shown by the manner in which boys who could not gain a regular place gave their support from the touchline. Luck and Jones were stalwarts in the pack, which always played hard, and G. Taylor and Duff were quick-breaking wing-forwards. Hall and Wilkinson formed a good half-back pair, while Stringer, J. Taylor, Paige and Giles played well in the three-quarters. Morris was safe at full back.

Playing record: Played—11; Won—6; Lost—5; Points for—143; Against—126. L.W.T.

The season was not a good one for the Under 13 side; they won only two of their matches and had some rather high scores imposed upon them. In many of their matches they had the initial disadvantage of facing a bigger and heavier team. Weak tackling and a lack of cohesion amongst the forwards also contributed to their poor record. The team's outstanding players were Spring, who captained the side at full-back, Johnson, who successfully changed position from lock-forward to centre towards the end of the season, and the two wing-threequarters, Cosford and Foster.

D.R.J.

### HOCKEY, 1961-62

THE past season has been exciting for the members of the 1st XI. In September, Valerie Rhoades, Sandra Eyre and Valerie Humber were chosen to represent the County in Junior Teams, and Valerie Rhoades was then sent for a Midlands trial.

The team began badly, not winning any of their early matches, but just before Christmas they began to play well together, and improved rapidly. They finished the season by winning the Inter-Schools' Hockey Tournament, which they well deserved to do.

The strength of the Under 15 XI has lain in the forward line, which used some quick passing moves to outwit the opposing defence. Our defence, however, began the season slowly and did not tackle in the circle. Nevertheless, the team won the majority of their matches and in the Inter-Schools' Hockey Tournament did not lose a match.

Christine Harding and Jill Lucas are to be congratulated for their quick thinking and passing and Rita Humber for her endless effort.

P.S.

**1st XI :**

J. George; V. Clarke; S. Westley; D. Guest; A. Pickering; A. Chamberlain; V. Humber (Captain); P. Dickens; J. Haycock; S. Eyre; V. Rhoades.

**Under 15 XI :**

M. Davies; S. Perrin; S. Withington; S. Glover; M. Tarlton; C. Harding (Captain); J. Lucas; P. Sherlock; S. Cotter; B. Landon.

**Reserves :**

J. Hawking; S. Hawking.

## SWIMMING GALA, 1961

AT the Inter-House Swimming Gala, held at the Mid-Summer Meadow Pool in sunny weather, nine records were broken, three of which were in the relay races. Blakeman held off the challenge of Burghley and won the championship with 93 pts., as against 85 pts. by Burghley, 58 by Mobbs and 40 by Kelvin. Presentation of medals and the Fred Watts Inter-House Cup was made by Mrs. F. Watts.

G.C.G.

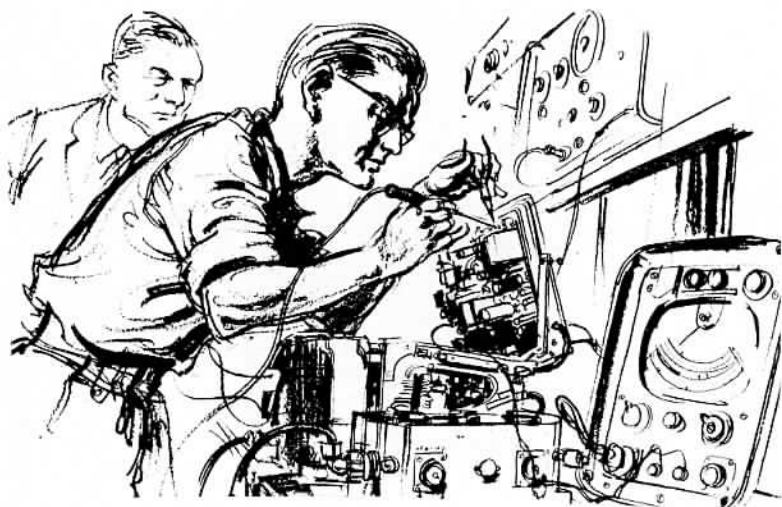
## SIX-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

IN the annual six-a-side knock-out competition at Bective School, the Under-13 team put up a fine display and were unlucky to lose to a strong team from Spencer. However, the Under-15 team defeated St. Mary's by one goal to nil, and then scored three goals to knock out Moulton School. Our team deservedly passed into the final after narrowly beating the favourites, Bective, by two corners to nil.

In the final, although pressed into their own half for much of the game, the Grammar School were worthy opponents and were only beaten by two corners to nil. Bird, Osborne, Smith, Hall, Butlin and Johnson, on behalf of the School, received the Manfield Hotspur Trophy from Mr. V. S. Halton, Managing Editor of the *Chronicle and Echo*.

A.S.

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## SECOND YEAR CRICKET, 1961

**L**AST year, under the guidance of Mr. Bamber and Mr. Timms, the team played well, and at the end of the season had the following record:

Played—6; Won—4; Drawn—1; Lost—1.

Top of the batting was wicket-keeper Luck with an average of 28; then came Stringer (11.8) and Jackson (9).

Our most consistent bowlers were J. Taylor and Wilkinson.

T.E.J.

## THIRD AND FOURTH YEAR CRICKET, 1961

**O**UT of six matches played last season, we won two, drew two, lost one, and tied one. This is a fair record as we were all younger than most of our opponents and will be eligible to play for the same team this season. Had our batting been a little better we would probably have won more matches. As some of us have kept in practice throughout this winter at the Indoor Coaching School at the County Ground, we hope to remedy this fault.

P.J.E.

## TENNIS TOURNAMENT, 1961

**T**HE Inter-House Tennis Tournament was held for the second year in succession and was won once again by Kelvin. The trophy was presented by the headmaster to V. Humber and J. Dawkins, who were the captains of the winning team.

D.C.I.

## BOXING—DECEMBER, 1961

**W**E had an interesting tournament on the occasion of our fourth annual Inter-House Boxing Championship. It was well attended by parents and boys and we were glad to see that the donor of the House Cup, Chief Constable D. R. Baker, was able to be present. Alderman Tollitt again very kindly presented the medals.

Kelvin won the House Cup for the second time in four seasons, Blakeman also having won twice. The winner of the trophy for the best boxer was T. Peploe of 4A and medal winners were: J. Stevenson (Kelvin); D. S. Chivers (Blakeman); D. P. Miller (Kelvin); J. A. Lew (Kelvin); G. Taylor (Mobbs); B. J. Marsh (Burghley); P. B. Dillon (Burghley); R. K. Draper (Mobbs); H. J. Luck (Mobbs) and T. Peploe (Blakeman).

A senior exhibition bout was staged between B. Tuckley and M. Ganley, and this was a stirring affair with both boxers scorning defence and attacking with both hands.

G.C.G.

## THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT—DANCING

**T**HROUGHOUT the second half of the Christmas term, second, third and fourth year girls gave up a good deal of their time in order to practise the dances which were being produced at the Christmas Concert.

For the national dance, the Tarantella from Italy was chosen. The fourth year girls danced it well, with colour and gaiety—the essential qualities of this dance. The other dance which was performed by the second and third years girls was a dance drama. The story was based upon that of the ‘Sorcerer’s Apprentice’ and told how the curious and meddlesome apprentices eventually ruined their master’s invention. The music used was ‘Dance Macabre’ by Saint Saens, which lent itself very well to the story.

It was very well performed and it is hoped that the audience derived as much pleasure from watching as the girls did from performing. P.S.

## SEVEN DAYS IN SPAIN

**T**HE school journey to Spain began amid the waves of parents’ laughter as they took a last look at the cheerful faces of their children who were about to be taken by bus to Victoria Station at London.

Nearly half the party had never been abroad before and therefore travelling on the cross-channel steamer to Calais was quite an experience. All the first day was spent climbing on and off trains and going through the Customs. At last, we arrived at the Paris Austerlitz Station where we very thankfully divided ourselves into groups of six to sleep in the couchettes. There were six couchettes in one compartment, and very little space in which to stand. The majority slept fitfully during the night and I think every-one woke up when the train had a fuse on the line and we were delayed for an hour.

At six o’clock, nearly everyone was up in order to get his first view of the Pyrenees and the picturesque countryside, composed mainly of terraces and fields full of vines. At eight o’clock, we were able to have our first continental breakfast which consisted of rolls and coffee; it appeared that there were various ways in which to eat the rolls, including ‘dunking’ them in your coffee.

We changed trains once again before finally arriving at Gerona and then we travelled by motor coach to Lloret de Mar.

The Hotel was about two minutes walk from the beach and, on entering the bar of the hotel, the smell of fresh paint and polished floors reached us. We were taken to our very neat rooms and it seemed very peculiar to see shutters at the windows instead of curtains. Everyone explored Lloret on the first afternoon there and found that the town was full of builders, either reconstructing hotels and restaurants, or pulling down old buildings. The streets