St. Edward's School, Oxford
Hockey (1930 - 1979)

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

HOCKEY XI PRE 1930

THROUGH the exertions of Mr. Knight and Kerr, hockey has been started, and the Warden has very kindly lent his tennis ground for the purpose. It should serve as an excellent training for football on off-days, and the games played have been excellent sport, even though nobody seemed to know much about the rules.

—o—

selves. Let us see how the weather has effected us as a body. It has very seriously interfered with our solitary Football fixture of this term, as well as with two of our Old Boys' matches. The old saying, however, that it is an ill wind which blows nobody any good, has again been verified with us here this term. For if Football has suffered, the weather has brought a game, which is practically a novelty to most of us, into prominence, namely Hockey. We must congratulate the devotees of this latter sport for the energy they have displayed and also on their being successful in the two matches they have so far played.

To the Editors of "St. Edward's School Chronicle."

DEAR SIRS,

May I through your columns suggest that Soccer instead of Hockey be played while the Boating is going on? I am sure it would be better appreciated by those who are not rowing, besides being in itself a better game. The so-called Hockey which is played is not Hockey or anything approaching it, but a confused medley of sticks and human beings in which the chief aim is to hit the shins of the opposing side. I hope this will receive attention.

"SOCCER."

G.P. MORRIS, FIRST O.S.E. TO WIN CAMBRIDGE HOCKEY BLUE, 1920

F.B. PEEL, FIRST O.S.E. TO PLAY INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY, FOR ENGLAND 1901 - 1905

E.P. Hewetson
Hockey Coach 1930-1936

W.S. Dingwall
Hockey Coach 1930-1916

Fixture List
Played 1 Won 1 Drawn 0 Lost 0

v Magdalen College School 'A' XI - Won 2-0 (Away)

Hockey XI 1930

Team	Unknown
Coached by	E.P. Hewetson & W.S. Dingwall (Both C.R.)

Hockey

At the close of the Rugger season for Seniors last term hockey was again started, but again came to a premature close. Last year it was the weather that curtailed its activities, this year the sudden need for pressing on with the Sports owing to the early end of term. A start, however, was definitely made, and some promising material discovered. Two matches were arranged with Magdalen College School, but only one took place. It was played on the M.C.S. ground, and the School won 2—0. M.C.S., who have had a much longer experience of hockey, fielded an 'A' side, and the School were represented by their best team. St. Edward's were much stronger and faster and had practically all the game—more than is suggested by the score—but inexperience and lack of practice prevented them from scoring more often; they received a useful lesson from their smaller, slower opponents in tactics, co-ordination and positional play. The standard of hockey will be soon raised with more practice and more matches. It is to be hoped that both these will be forthcoming next year.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixture List
Played 3 Won 2 Drawn 0 Lost 1

v Cuddesdon College - Won 5-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Oxford Occasionals XI - Lost 2-6
(Home)

Hockey XI 1931

Team	K.J. Veitch (Captain)
Coached by	E.P. Hewetson & W.S. Dingwall (Both C.R.)

Hockey

Hockey this year was much more successful than in previous years, when various causes prevented it from getting a fair start. Throughout the weather was kind, and only on one day was it impossible to play. There was a general improvement in the standard of play, and the rudiments of skill and science were evident in all the players, at any rate in the first game. Altogether three matches were played, of which the first two—against Cuddesdon and Magdalen College School—were won, the scores being 5—1 and 1—0 respectively. In the last match, against a side of Oxford Occasionals, which included several players of prominence, the School was beaten 6—2, after scoring the first two goals. Many useful lessons were learnt by this last game, notably the essential importance of keeping one's place, cultivating stick-work, and—for the backs and halves—getting rid of the ball quickly; while in the finer points of the game the visitors gave a fine exposition of keeping the ball moving forward rather than sideways, exploiting the unexpected pass across the field, clean centreing, and quick and accurate shooting.

With regard to the performance of the School side, it can be said that, apart from a slight tendency to hit wildly and pass without looking where the ball was going, they showed a greater knowledge of the game than in previous years, and there is every indication of distinct promise in several players for the future.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 1932

Team	K.J. Veitch (Captain), P. Cranmer, W.J. Vaughan & Un-Named Others
Coached by	E.P. Hewetson & W.S. Dingwall (Both C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 4 Won 0 Drawn 2 Lost 2

v T.J.R. Dashwood's Scratch XI - Lost 1-12
(Home)

v Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 2-12
(Home)

Hockey

Results :—

v. T. J. R. Dashwood's XI. Lost, 12—1.
v. O.B.L.I. Draw, 2—2.
v. Magdalen College School. Draw, 1—1.
v. P. A. Landon's XI. Lost, 12—2.

In spite of not winning any matches, the First XI showed improvement on last year's form. This also applies to the other three games. Players are learning more about positional play and the vital necessity of keeping in one's own place. Previously the forwards had pursued Rugger tactics, following the ball everywhere. This season, happily, that was no longer in evidence, with the result that the game became much more open, and the ball was given room to breathe. Stickwork showed a decided advance, though there is plenty yet to be done in this department. And the forwards, though variable in this respect, showed signs of combination and orthodox passing.. The two severe defeats must not be taken too seriously. In both these matches the ground was very hard, and the ball travelled almost too fast for good hockey. The side therefore with the more polished stickwork, better anticipation, and greater experience started with a tremendous advantage. In the two drawn games, when the sides were more evenly matched, the XI acquitted themselves very well, although both opposing teams had had a longer season's hockey. The three central positions were filled best, by Veitch at centre-half, Cranmer at centre-forward, and Vaughan in goal. The wing-halves and forwards worked hard and gave good support, but the backs were inclined to work as two individuals rather than as one pair.

Fixtures
Played 4 Won 2 Drawn 0 Lost 2

v Cuddesdon College - Won 9-3
(Home)

v Keble College, Oxford - Lost 3-4
(Home)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 0-6
(Home)

v Cowley Barrack's XI - Won 5-1
(Home)

P. Cranmer
Hockey Captain XI 1933

A.G. & J. Butterworth
both members of the 1933 Hockey XI

Hockey XI 1933

Team	P. Cranmer (Captain) A.G. Butterworth, T.F. Leeper, P. Cooke, D.T. Yoshimoto, J. Butterworth, R.M.A. Lawson & Un-Named Others
Coached by	E.P. Hewetson & W.S. Dingwall (Both C.R.)

Hockey

Hockey was held up this year too much by rain for it to be said that there was a season at all. Four matches were played, but the ground allowed very little time for practice games. There did, however, seem to be a general improvement all round, more 'hockey-sense' being evident in all four games. The First XI was sounder than that of the previous season, and the Second XI a good deal better, and it was possible to include in the other two games players who had at least a smattering of knowledge of what to do and where to be.

The First XI showed up better on a hard, fast ground than on a slow one. The advantage of first-time shooting and clearing was well learnt—too well, indeed, for it was sometimes overdone. This, however, may be said to be a good fault and one much more easily remedied than slowness. It was most unfortunate that both our and their grounds were unfit for the match against Magdalen College School, for it is our only School fixture. We must hope, however, for better luck next year.

E.P.H.

RESULTS.

THE SCHOOL *v.* CUDDESDON COLLEGE (Won, 9—3).

In spite of the fact that it was their first match of the season, the School combined well and gained a victory over Cuddesdon as convincing as the score suggests. Particularly noticeable was the play of Cranmer, who scored five of the goals and made many good individual runs. Cuddesdon's three goals were all the result of strong attacks, but their defence and goalkeeping were rather weak. The other goals for the School were scored by A. G. Butterworth, Leeper, Cooke mus. and Yoshimoto ma.

THE SCHOOL *v.* KEBLE COLLEGE (Lost, 3—4).

In this match the School were beaten by the far superior stickwork and teamwork of Keble, who always looked like winning. As it was, the level scoring was the result of good individual play by Cranmer towards the end, when he scored two goals in quick succession, and of a good defence by the School backs. Leeper scored the first goal for the School.

THE SCHOOL *v.* P. A. LANDON'S XI (Lost, 0—6).

A strong side of Occasionals gained an easy victory over the far less experienced School team; they scored their first goal almost immediately after the start. Dashwood, playing inside-left, was almost impossible to stop, and, with J. C. Masterman in the centre, gave the School backs very little chance. The School forwards were unable to get past their opponents' defence, with the exception of a few good individual efforts by Cranmer, who once or twice was unlucky not to score.

THE SCHOOL *v.* COWLEY BARRACKS (Won, 5—1).

The School easily won this match against the Cowley Barracks, and if fewer chances from in front of the visitors' goal had been missed the margin would have been even greater. The Barracks did not attack very frequently, and when they did they were usually driven back by the stubborn defence of J. Butterworth. Lawson ma. scored one of the goals, after an excellent individual run, and A. G. Butterworth scored two with splendid shots. Cranmer, who on the whole seemed to have an off day, scored the other two goals.

P. Cooke
Hockey XI 1933 - 1934

Fixtures
Played 7 Won 1 Drawn 1 Lost 5

v Keble College - Lost 3-7
(Home)

v J.C. Masterman's XI - Lost 6-11
(Home)

v Oxford & Buckingham shire Light Infantry - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Cuddesdon College - Won 5-0
(Home)

v Keble College, Oxford - Lost 4-8
(Home)

v P.A. Landon's XI - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v H.B. Coulhurst's Scratch XI - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

Hockey XI 1934

Team	J. Butterworth (Captain), C.M. Thomas, J.M.R. Paton, W.J.C. Lisney, W.P.B. Bradish, D.T. Yoshimoto, E. Holley
	B.R. Bradford-Martin, I.G. MacLaurin, P. Cooke, R.M.A. Lawson, J.D.P. O'Leary, M.W. Woodin
Coached by	E.P. Hewetson & W.S. Dingwall (Both C.R.)

Hockey

The weather played a large, an almost too large, part in the short three weeks season of hockey. There was so much rain after so much drought that the grounds were more often unplayable than not. Though the XI lost their three matches, against Keble College, J. C. Masterman's XI and the O.B.L.I. Depot, they were more uniformly efficient than in previous years. Several young and promising players were unearthed, in spite of the fact that the rain prevented the second, third and fourth games from getting their full quota of hockey. The groundsmen deserve sincere congratulation for producing grounds on which we were able to play, when weather conditions appeared to preclude such a possibility.

RESULTS OF MATCHES.

S.E.S. *v.* KEBLE COLLEGE (Lost, 3—7).

Playing their first match of the season, the School started magnificently, and after ten minutes' play they had scored twice through Butterworth without reply. Throughout the first half they had the better of the game, the half-time score being two all, but afterwards Keble had matters all their own way until Butterworth scored his third goal just before the end.

TEAM.—Thomas ma.; Paton mi., Lisney; Bradish, Yoshimoto ma., Bradford-Martin; Holley, Butterworth, Maclaurin, Cooke, Lawson.

S.E.S. *v.* J. C. MASTERMAN'S XI (Lost, 6—11).

The School put up a very good performance against a strong scratch team with J. C. Masterman, who scored four goals, leading the attack, and P. Cranmer playing a magnificent game at inside-right. The first half was very even, and, though their opponents had most of the play after the interval, the School were never outplayed. The School's goals were scored by Cooke (3), Butterworth, Maclaurin and Lawson, and the visitors' by Masterman (4), Cranmer (4), Lynam (2) and Mortimer.

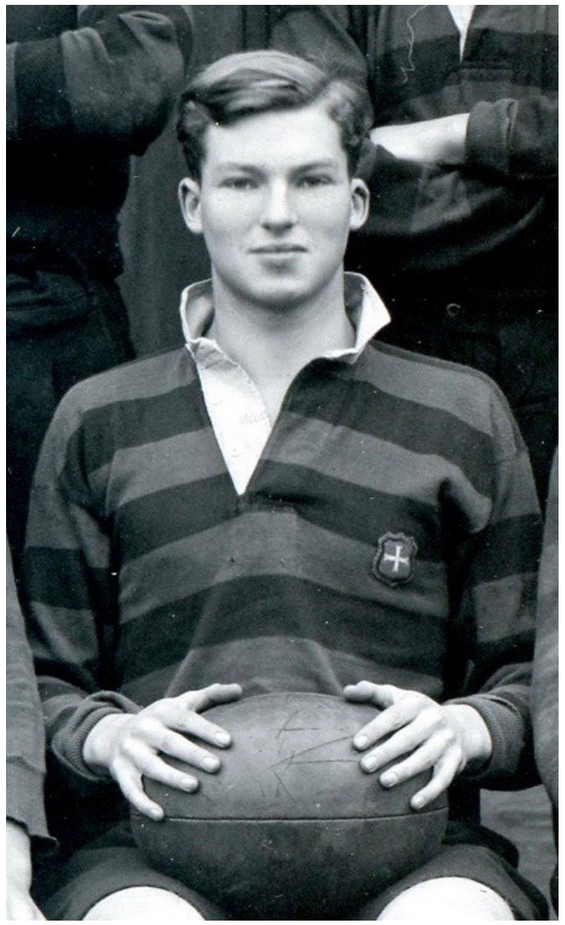
J. C. MASTERMAN'S XI.—H. E. Ascoli; K. L. T. Jackson, Rev. H. E. Kendall; H. G. C. Mallaby, A. J. R. Hetherington, J. W. Etty-Leel; Rev. R. C. Mortimer, W. S. Dingwall, J. C. Masterman, P. Cranmer, J. H. R. Lynam.

SCHOOL.—Thomas ma.; Paton mi., Lisney; O'Leary, Bradish, Bradford-Martin; Holley, Butterworth, Maclaurin, Cooke, Lawson.

S.E.S. *v.* O.B.L.I. (Lost, 2—3).

As the score suggests, this was a very closely contested game, the Depôt probably winning because their forwards were better together than the School's. Cooke was, as usual, prominent in attack and scored both the goals, which came late in the game—the last one just before the final whistle; while Woodin, deputising for Paton mi. at right-back, was often useful in defence. The only goal in the first half was scored by Lieut. West, and after the interval he and Pte. Thomas added two in quick succession. The School then rallied and good forward play enabled Cooke to get his goals.

TEAM.—Thomas ma.; Woodin, Lisney; O'Leary, Bradish, Bradford-Martin; Lawson, Maclaurin, Cooke, Butterworth, Holley.



G.R. Cooper
member of the Hockey XI 1935 - 1937

Fixtures
Played 4 Won 1 Drawn 1 Lost 2

v Cuddesdon College - Won 5-0
(Home)

v Keble College, Oxford - Lost 4-8
(Home)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v H.B. Coulhurst's Scratch XI - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

Hockey XI 1935

Team	T.A.D. Hawes (Captain), A.W. Paton, D. Knox, J.M.G. Llewellyn-Davies, D.T. Yoshimoto, E. Holley
	J.D.P. O'Leary, R.J. Baxter, I.G. MacLaurin, J.P. Crump, R.M.A. Lawson, P.C.H. Camp, G.R. Cooper, A.M. Reid
	H.C.W. Ironside
Coached by	E.P. Hewetson & W.S. Dingwall (Both C.R.)

Hockey, 1935.

As usual, hockey enjoyed its short three weeks' season in the middle of the Easter Term. It was unfortunate that the two Inter-School fixtures with Magdalen College School and Bradfield could not be fulfilled, particularly the latter, as it would have been the first match. Four games, however, did materialize, with Cuddesdon College, Keble College, P. A. Landon's XI, and a hastily-convened side consisting mainly of O.S.E. and playing in the Christ Church colours. The table of results reads one win, one draw, and two losses. The School XI was too strong for Cuddesdon, evenly matched with the Christ Church team, and after holding both their other opponents for the major part of the game, succumbed in the closing stages. The forwards and halves showed a higher level of attainment than in previous years, and Yoshimoto, who completed his third season for the XI at centre-half, was the most outstanding player. Errors in the defence, due to inexperience on the part of backs and goalkeeper, were responsible for our defeats, and it is being realised that more than sheer courage is needed to keep goal well.

We are glad to record that the Second XI won their only match, against Keble 2nd, by two goals to none.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* CUDDESDON COLLEGE.

Played on Saturday, March 2nd. Won, 5—0.

The School were altogether the stronger side and thoroughly deserved their victory. They attacked at once, but it was some time before Crump put a shot through to score the first goal. The School scored again before half-time, by Baxter. In the second half they still pressed strongly, and it was not long before Baxter scored again. Cuddesdon defended hard, and it was ten minutes before 'no-side' when Maclaurin scored, and soon after this Baxter scored his third goal.

Team. — Hawes; Paton, Knox; Llewellyn-Davies, Yoshimoto, O'Leary; Holley, Baxter, Maclaurin, Crump, Lawson.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* KEBLE COLLEGE.

Played on Wednesday, March 6th. Lost, 4—8.

The School were the first to score, Holley putting a shot in early in the game. Keble replied with a goal by R. W. L. Watts. Then Maclaurin made a brilliant dash from the half-way line and scored. Before half-time Keble took the lead with two quick goals scored by D. T. Jones and H. S. Bell. In the second half the School held their own well till five minutes before the end, when the score was 4—5 to Keble; Maclaurin had scored twice for the School, and R. W. L. Jones and D. T. Jones for Keble. Then, against an inexperienced goalkeeper, Keble scored three more goals by D. T. Jones, M. B. Goodliffe and R. W. L. Watts.

Team. — Hawes; Paton, Knox; Llewellyn-Davies, Yoshimoto, O'Leary; Holley, Baxter mi., Maclaurin, Crump, Lawson.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* MR. P. A. LANDON'S XI.

Played on Tuesday, March 12th. Lost, 1—4.

The School did well against a stronger and more experienced side. There was no score in the first half, which was chiefly remarkable for the strength of the School defence. Five minutes in the second half Masterman scored for Mr. Landon's XI, and though the School attacked, they scored again through Hay-Cooper. Almost immediately afterwards Maclaurin scored the School's only goal from a melée. Not long after Masterman scored again from a breakaway, and before the end Hay-Cooper put in another shot to score their fourth goal. Teams:

School.—Camp; Paton, Knox; O'Leary, Yoshimoto, Cooper; Holley, Ironside, Maclaurin, Reid, Lawson.

Mr. P. A. Landon's XI.—Hawes; K. L. T. Jackson, E. L. Francis; E. P. Hewetson, M. M. Walford, H. G. C. Mallaby; P. Cooke, P. A. Landon, J. C. Masterman, W. A. Hay-Cooper, J. H. R. Lynam.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* H. B. COULTHURST'S XI.

Played on Saturday, March 16th. Drawn, 2—2.

As the match arranged against Bradfield had to be scratched through infection, H. B. Coulthurst brought a scratch side against the School. The result was a draw. At half-time the score was 1—1, both these goals being scored early in the game. Frankcom scored against us and Lawson scored for the School. Early in the second half Reid put a shot in for the School, but it was five minutes from 'no-side' before Bills scored the equalizing goal. The whole game was an even and exciting struggle, in which the final issue was always in doubt.

Team. — Camp; Paton, Knox; O'Leary, Yoshimoto, Cooper; Holley, Ironside, Maclaurin, Reid, Lawson.

SECOND XI.

On Wednesday, March 6th, the Second XI beat Keble College Second XI by 2—0.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixtures
Played 7 Won 1 Drawn 1 Lost 5

v Keble College, Oxford - Lost 1-3
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Cowley Barrack's XI - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 0-5
(Home)

v E.J.H. Dixon's Scratch XI - Lost 1-3
(Home)

v Bradfield College- Won 2-0
(Home)

v Campbell College, Belfast - Lost 0-5
(Away)

Hockey XI 1936

Team	W.M. Woodin (Captain), T.A.D. Hawes, J.O. Moreton, D.C. Kennedy, W. Pitt-Brown, G.R. Cooper, R.E. Wheatcroft, I.F. Trevor, K.A. Perkin, H.C.W. Ironside, J.P. Crump, P.S. Thursfield, E.T. Greaves, G. Hollis
Coached by	E.P. Hewetson & W.S. Dingwall (Both C.R.)

Hockey

Hockey enjoyed its usual period in the middle of the term. This period was, however, somewhat curtailed owing to the weather. The state of the grounds did not permit the House Rugger Competition to be finished on time, and even when that was over the hockey pitches were too wet and greasy in the early stages. A much larger number were available for hockey this term, there being some eight or nine games all told. Match play brought the First XI on, and they were showing quite good form by the end of the season. Most of them were inexperienced players at the start, but they improved rapidly. There were faults, of course, in all positions, but these became less numerous as the season progressed. The goalkeeper did not always clear the ball in the safest direction, but too much down the centre of the field; the backs took too many risks with first-time hitting; the halves at times were painfully obvious in their passing intentions; and the forwards lacked that neatness of stick-work essential to goal-getting. Nevertheless, sure eyes, strong arms, and shins apparently of brass among the backs, and swift feet, quick passes, and the will to go for goal among the forwards, compensated largely for the former deficiencies. Unfortunately only two of the Inter-School matches could be played. Magdalen College School beat us on their merits by four goals to one, but, playing Bradfield for the first time, we won 2—0, and but for their goalkeeper our score would have been much heavier. Results :—

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* KEBLE COLLEGE.

Lost, 1—3.

Little opportunity had been available for practice for this match, which was played on the Keble ground, but the game was very even, and had the School finished off their attacks as well as the Keble forwards the score might have been even. Woodin scored first for the School, but Keble soon equalised. However, in two more raids Keble made the score 3—1 by half-time. In the second half the School play was better, but they were unable to obtain the necessary goals, the passing being rather erratic.

Team.—Hawes; Moreton, Kennedy ma.; Pitt-Brown, Cooper ma., Wheatcroft; Perkin ma., Ironside, Woodin, Crump, Trevor ma.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

Lost, 1—4.

Magdalen College School, who were obviously very much more practised and clever than the School, made a greater use of all their opportunities. The School actually scored first through Woodin, but it was not long before Magdalen drew level through their right-wing. After half-time they gradually exerted their superiority, adding three more goals through Wilson, Shaw and Walker. The School rallied well, but failed to penetrate the defence of the Magdalen backs.

Team.—Hawes; Kennedy ma., Moreton; Pitt-Brown, Cooper ma., Wheatcroft; Trevor ma., Ironside, Woodin, Thursfield ma., Perkin ma.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* COWLEY BARRACKS.

Drawn, 0—0.

The match was played on a ground which was exceedingly sticky and made fast play difficult, but in spite of this the School played much more as a team than before and had the better of the game. The forwards were good but again failed to finish their movements, and the halves were slow with their passes. Several attacks on the visitors' goal almost succeeded, but their defence was stubborn. In the last five minutes of the match Cowley Barracks kept the ball almost continuously inside the School circle, the ball once rebounding from the goalkeeper's pads across the front of the goal on to the goalpost. Fortunately the backs were able to clear in time.

Team. — Hawes; Moreton, Kennedy ma.; Greaves, Cooper ma., Wheatcroft; Thursfield ma., Perkin ma., Woodin, Ironside Trevor ma.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* P. A. LANDON'S XI.

Lost, 0—5.

Mr. Landon brought quite a strong team against us, which included three Blues. The beginning of the game was fairly even, though the visitors showed much more dexterity and were obviously more practised than the School. The first score came when Hay-Cooper scored after a melée round the goal, and it was not long before he added a second goal. Play remained fairly even till the interval. After half-time the School was kept mainly on the defensive, and when the forwards did break away their efforts were usually frustrated by the cleverness of Seamer and the good combination between the backs. Hay-Cooper scored three more excellent goals for the visitors, but the School were attacking when the whistle went. Teams :—

P. A. Landon's XI.—C. Bill; Capt. Hill, E. A. Frearson; D. G. Chadwick, J. W. Seamer, R. Smith; P. Cooke, P. A. Landon, W. A. Hay-Cooper, J. D. Anderson, W. S. Dingwall.

St. Edward's. — Hawes; Moreton, Kennedy ma.; Greaves, Cooper ma., Wheatcraft; Perkin ma., Hollis ma., Woodin, Ironside, Trevor ma.

Visit to Campbell College, Belfast

Cricket and football teams from Campbell College have been visiting the School since the summer of 1931, but we had never repaid the compliment of a visit until the end of last term. A party of sixteen boys crossed from Liverpool to Belfast on April the 1st, armed with hockey sticks and running shoes. The crossing left nothing to be desired and nothing in extenuation of our performance can be imputed to it.

The Hockey Match.

The team returned from a motor-coach tour of Strangford Lough in time for some practice before lunch. This was the first time any of the team had handled a stick for three weeks, and the strangeness had not altogether worn off when the game started. During the morning practice Hawes, the goalkeeper, was accidentally hit on the back of his head by a hockey ball, a blow which obscured his vision mental and physical until just before the game. The sight of Irish forwards bearing down upon him, however, woke him up to the seriousness of the situation, and for the first twenty minutes he alone stood between us and a double-figure deficit. Some shots he saved with an inspired stick which his presiding genius directed. Most he cleared with orthodox, strong kicks towards the touch-line. In spite of this we were four goals down at half-time. The Campbell College forwards showed great speed and understanding of each other's position; our forward line lacked cohesion, our defence was uncertain in its clearances and was easily rattled under pressure.

After half-time we were a different side; gone was all hesitation, the forwards showed that their object also was to score goals, the halves began to place the ball better, and the hockey was good to watch.

The final score was Campbell College 5 goals, S.E.S. 0.

THE SCHOOL *v.* E. J. H. DIXON'S XI.

Lost, 3—1.

The School started off well but fell away badly, most f the team failing to produce their best form. The alves and backs of Dixon's XI just proved too much or the School forwards and in spite of several atacks the School failed to score. The visitors, howver, finished off their attacks well, P. Snow scoring wice before half-time. Directly after half-time the chool rallied well and in the first few minutes of the alf Hollis scored, after a penalty close to the visitors' oal. For the rest of the half Dixon's XI had the est of the game and the School were almost coninually on the defensive. Towards the end of the game . S. Dorsch broke away and beating both backs put spinning ball just past Hawes to make the game ertain for the visitors.

Team.—Hawes; Moreton, Kennedy ma.; Greaves, Cooper, Wheatcroft; Trevor ma., Ironside, Woodin, Hollis ma., Perkin ma.

Hockey

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* BRADFIELD COLLEGE.

Played on March 10th. Won, 2—0.

This was our first hockey fixture with Bradfield and we looked forward to the game keenly. In the first half the School played uphill, and though both goals were endangered on several occasions there was no score by half-time. After the change of ends, however, the School forwards settled down to a much better game and were constantly attacking. Two goals came in quick succession. Hollis ma. sent in a very hard shot soon after half-time, and almost immediately afterwards Woodin scored. Several times the Bradfield goal was attacked, but the Bradfield goalkeeper played a very sound game all through and there was no further score.

Team.—Hawes; Moreton, Kennedy ma.; Greaves, Cooper, Wheatcroft; Perkin ma., Hollis ma., Woodin, Ironside, Trevor ma.

M. Tindall
Hockey Coach 1937-1939

The Reverend L.M. Styler
Hockey Coach 1937-1945

W.G.H. Weeks
Hockey Coach 1937-1945

R.P.C. Brims
Hockey Coach 1937-1960

Fixtures
Played 5 Won 3 Drawn 1 Lost 1

v Bromsgrove School - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Keble College, Oxford - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 4-3
(Home)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Won 7-2
(Home)

Hockey XI 1937

Team	E.T. Greaves (Captain), S.P. Pitt, P.C. Phillips, D.H.A. Bell, J.N.D. Birtwistle, G.R. Cooper, H.W. Gamon
	T.I. Wilson-Hird, M.B. Crickmay, P.S. Thursfield, G.M.B. Fletcher, J.L. Churcher, W.J. Dalrymple
	C.F. Allen, T.H. Little, H. Hollis, M.W. Henderson
Coached by	M. Tindall, W.G.H. Weeks, R.P. Brims & The Reverend L.M. Styler (All C.R.)

Hockey

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* BROMSGROVE SCHOOL.

Played at Oxford on March 4th. Bromsgrove won by 3 goals to 2.

As the School grounds were unfit for play owing to rain, the match was played on an excellent pitch behind Oliver and Gurden's in George Street, and a fast, open game resulted. Bromsgrove won on their merits, their stick-work, especially in the circle, being far superior to that of the School. The School's tackling, however, was better and their first-time methods paid. As this was the School's first match, and as the weather had permitted little practice, the score was quite encouraging. The Bromsgrove inside forwards were very good and proved a little too much for the School defence; their right-wing put in some good runs, too. Both the School wings had a good game, sending in some fine centres, and Cooper and Greaves stood out at half.

Within the first ten minutes Bromsgrove were two up. Their forwards began with a rush and completely bewildered the School defence. Turner scored from a short corner and Williams from a good centre by Hoare. Play continued in the School half, but the defence had rallied and was capable of dealing with all attacks. The School attacked at last and both wings made some good runs, but weak shooting spoilt their chances. Attacks by both sides continued, and just before half-time Crickmay scored for the School after a combined forward movement.

For the first five minutes after the restart the Bromsgrove forwards were all over the School defence. However, they did not score, while when the School in turn attacked they scored at once. There was a mix-up in the Bromsgrove circle and Fletcher succeeded in getting the ball into the net. The School continued to attack, but Bromsgrove soon went ahead. Hoare was the most dangerous of the Bromsgrove forwards this half, and from one of his centres Williams scored to put Bromsgrove ahead. Then for a long time play was in mid-field, but for the last quarter of an hour the School were in the Bromsgrove half, and it was again lack of shooting practice which prevented their scoring, and steady play by the Bromsgrove backs sent the ball continually back to the half-way line.

BROMSGROVE SCHOOL: E. N. Whitley; W. S. P. Griffiths, T. R. Gilchrist; G. T. G. Hake, J. C. B. Ellis, M. W. Spears; J. F. Hoare, E. J. H. Williams, J. B. Turner, R. A. Gordon-Smith, M. P. Gordon-Smith.

S.E.S.: Pitt mi.; Phillips, Bell ma.; Birtwistle, Greaves, Cooper ma.; Wilson-Hird, Crickmay, Thursfield ma., Fletcher, Churcher.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* KEBLE COLLEGE.

Played on March 5th. Keble won by 1—0.

Playing on the Keble College ground, which was in excellent condition, the School lost by the only goal scored. This came from a smart forward rush down the field, with Parsons scoring from a hard, rising shot which completely beat Dalrymple. Apart from several similar rushes when the Keble forwards broke away and dribbled down the field, attacks which the School backs usually managed to break up, the game was definitely in the School's favour and they were always pressing. The forwards dribbled well and both wings centred well, but once they reached the Keble circle their shooting was lamentably erratic, and many a good combined attack broke down in front of goal because an accurate finishing shot was lacking.

At half-time neither side had scored and the play had so far been even. About half-way through the second half the School were attacking, when Keble suddenly turned defence into attack and swung the ball up the field with a rush. The ball came to Parsons, the centre-forward, and his shot was a goal. This was the only score, and until the whistle went the School pressed strongly, without, however, any success. The general stick-work and passing of the School team improved considerably over the previous match, and the backs played a sound defensive game.

S.E.S.: Dalrymple; Allen mi., Bell ma.; Henderson, Cooper ma., Birtwistle; Wilson-Hind, Crickmay, Thursfield ma., Little, Churcher.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* BRADFIELD COLLEGE.

Played at Bradfield on March 6th. Drawn, 3—3.

Conditions militated against fast, open hockey, but despite the slippery state of the ground there was quite a good game. Owing to weather conditions neither side had had much practice, and the stick-work generally was not good, but, considering the number of times players slipped, play was remarkably fast.

St. Edward's opened with a rush. Their forwards were all over the Bradfield defence, and, as the ground had not yet been churned up, they were able to pass the ball cleanly. Within a quarter of an hour the School had scored three goals through Thursfield, Hollis and Cooper. The latter's was a rather lucky affair, as the goalkeeper's view was blocked and he could only see Cooper's stick; this came down fast, but hit the mud, and the ball merely trickled into the goal. However, Bradfield rallied and scored through Gatehouse, this, too, being rather a lucky affair. One of the backs tackled the scorer, and the ball trickled into the corner of the net off his stick, with Dalrymple unsighted. For the rest of the first half exchanges were in mid-field but slightly favoured the School. Indeed, had their forward's shooting been more accurate they might have scored again. As it was Bradfield got the next goal. Haynes broke away on the left and centred quickly; the inside pushed the ball out to the right wing, who, after beating several men, centred for Evans to score a good goal.

The standard of play deteriorated somewhat in the second half, as by then it was very hard to stand up. Exchanges were for the most part even, though the School forwards were more often on the attack than were Bradfield's. They were very good at taking the ball into the circle, but they could not get it into the goal; sometimes they shot left, sometimes right, once over the top, often at the goalkeeper, and occasionally they missed the ball altogether. Much credit must, however, be given to Pothecary and Lewis for good defensive work. Bradfield equalised in the closing minutes. Our backs and halves were too far up, and, defence suddenly turning into attack, Haynes got away on the left wing; he centred, and Evans shot hard into the corner of the net.

S.E.S.: Dalrymple; Allen mi., Bell ma.; Birtwistle, Cooper ma., Greaves; Churcher, Hollis ma., Thursfield ma., Crickmay, Wilson-Hird.

BRADFIELD COLLEGE: P. A. J. Lewis; D. C. Pothecary, G. P. Armstrong; S. G. Cooke, M. Gatehouse, S. J. Allner; R. E. Henshaw, I. P. Stewart, N. S. P. Evans, J. R. B. Wright, P. J. C. Haynes.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* PANGBOURNE NAUTICAL COLLEGE.

Played at St. Edward's on March 10th. Pangbourne won, 4—3.

The ground was in ideal condition and a fast, open game should have resulted. Unfortunately it snowed gently during the first half, causing numbed hands and bad stick-work. However, in the second half the standard improved and there was a very good game. Pangbourne won deservedly because of their stronger defence and their greater *élan* in attack.

Pangbourne were three goals up within a quarter of an hour, the School defence being completely at sea and the backs particularly at fault. Twice the backs were square and Pangbourne scored from the through pass; the other goal was rather unfortunate, as the School defence stopped when a whistle blew on the adjoining ground. The goal-scorers were Hussey, Connell and Hodgekinson. After this set-back the School rallied. The defence became steadier, and the first time the forwards got the ball they showed their mettle, for after a combined movement Thursfield scored. Not long afterwards Thursfield scored again; there was a free-hit just outside the circle and Thursfield shot straight in. After much mid-field play, in which Cooper and Carter, the two centre-halves, shone, Crickmay equalised for the School. There was a free-hit just outside the School circle, which Crickmay received on the half-way line; he dribbled past the defence and, as the goalkeeper advanced, shot into an empty goal.

When the second half began the snow had stopped and the game improved correspondingly. Though there was only one goal scored, there was a lot of play in and around each circle. Both pairs of outside forwards played well, and it was their well-judged centres which gave the defences most serious trouble. After about half an hour Connell scored for Pangbourne, after catching one of the School back's clearances on his stick. Soon after this the School almost scored. There was a mêlée in the Pangbourne circle, but the ball could not be forced into the goal. 'No-side' arrived with play in mid-field.

PANGBOURNE N.C.: G. M. Whale; J. M. Thom, S. K. Stretton; R. E. Bradshaw, R. P. Carter, J. H. Groom; G. C. Robertson, P. M. C. Hussey, J. Connell, C. G. Hodgekinson, R. A. N. Barker.

S.E.S.: Dalrymple; Allen mi., Bell ma.; Birtwistle, Cooper ma., Greaves; Churcher, Hollis ma., Thursfield ma., Crickmay, Wilson-Hird.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* P. A. LANDON'S XI.

Played at St. Edward's on March 13th. P. A. Landon's XI won by 7 goals to 2.

Mr. Landon brought up an XI that was far superior to that of the School; but if the latter could not hope to win, they were able to learn a lot, in particular that most goals are scored from centres to the back of the circle.

During the first half the scratch XI continually broke through the School defence. Several times Masterman dribbled through on his own, but more often it was well-directed centres from Ker that threatened most danger. When the School defence did clear the ball one of the opposing halves always seemed to prevent it reaching a School forward. During this period Masterman, Ker, and Hay-Cooper scored goals. Unfortunately Landon and Masterman were partially and temporarily incapacitated, so that acute pressure on the School goal was relieved for the rest of this half; but the ubiquitous Stocks prevented any School attack getting far, and the forwards were only in their opponents' circle twice.

The second half opened with a furious attack on the School goal, but the School were the first to score. Churcher broke away on the left and took the ball into the circle to shoot himself; Singleton cleared hard, but the ball hit Churcher's stick and rebounded over the goalkeeper's head into the net. There was more pressure on the School goal, but once again defence was swiftly turned into attack and Thursfield scored. But for the rest of the game the School were pinned down to their own half of the field. At this point Masterman renewed his attack, and Stocks, Hay-Cooper and Forster began to play harder. Masterman scored three more goals and Hay-Cooper one, but it was something of a miracle that they did not score more. The goalkeeper deserved commendation for a number of good saves, and the inside forwards came back to take their fair share in defence. An enjoyable game ended with the School defending hard and Masterman bewildering the defence with his stick-work.

P. A. LANDON'S XI: A. P. Singleton; T. C. L. Ballance, Capt. D. V. Hill; J. O. Moreton, J. B. Stocks, F. M. M. Forster; R. J. Northcote-Green, P. A. Landon, J. C. Masterman, W. A. Hay-Cooper, J. G. C. Ker.

S.E.S.: Dalrymple; Allen mi., Bell ma.; Birtwistle, Greaves, Gamon ma.; Churcher, Hollis ma., Thursfield ma., Crickmay, Wilson-Hird.

The short hockey season was considerably reduced by wet weather, and one of the grounds was under water the whole period except for the first day. Both first and second teams were thus badly handicapped in shooting practice, and the general stick-work was not of such high standard as in previous seasons. In spite of these difficulties the teams improved rapidly and combined well, and all the School matches might easily have resulted in victories with a little more luck and better shooting in the circle. By the end of the fortnight the First XI had developed into a fast side, who put up a very good performance against a very strong side produced by Mr. P. Landon, which included three Oxford Blues and Mr. J. C. Masterman. It was a creditable performance to score twice against this side, and the seven goals scored by the visitors were largely due to superior tactics and not to bad positioning by the backs or halves. By this match the goalkeeper, too, had obtained some practice, and carried out some good saves, while the forwards, well fed by their halves, often looked dangerous even against a strong defence.

The Second XI put up a good performance against the St. Edward's Martyrs, and played well to defeat Pangbourne Second XI by three goals to nil.

For the First XI, Cooper, the captain, at centre-half always played a steady, reliable game and continually fed his forwards, and was well supported by the other two halves. The two backs, though often caught out of position, rapidly obtained an understanding with each other, and by the end of the season were difficult to pass. The forwards lacked shooting practice, but the work done by the outside-left was excellent.

RESULTS.

FIRST IX.

Feb. 24.	*v.*	Cowley Barracks -	Scratched.	
Mar. 4.	*v.*	Bromsgrove School -	Home	Lost, 2—3
,, 5.	*v.*	Keble College -	Away	Lost, 0—1
,, 6.	*v.*	Bradfield College -	Away	Drn., 3—3
,, 10.	*v.*	Pangbourne N.C. -	Home	Lost, 3—4
,, 13.	*v.*	P. A. Landon's XI -	Home	Lost, 2—7
	v.	Magdalen Coll. Schl.	Scratched.	

SECOND XI.

Mar. 4.	*v.*	Keble 2nd XI - -	Away	Lost, 0—3
,, 5.	*v.*	St. Edward's Martyrs	Home	Lost, 0—6
,, 10.	*v.*	Pangbourne N.C. 2nd	Home	Won, 3—0

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixtures
Played 7 Won 4 Drawn 2 Lost 1

v Old Dragons - Drawn 3-3
(Home)

v Keble College, Oxford - Won 7-2
(Home)

v Cowley Barracks XI - Won 7-1
(Home)

v Martyrs XI - Drawn 4-4
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 5-4
(Away)

v P.A Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 3-5
(Home)

Hockey XI 1938

Team	G. Hollis (Captain), R.F. Wailes, W.G. Parsons, P.G. Elwell, B.R. Ensor, M.J. Tobin, A.N.E. Waldron
	T.I. Wilson-Hird, P.S. Thursfield, A.G. Langdon, J.L. Churcher, S.P. Pitt, A.J. Heyworth, D.H.Y. Dawson
Coached by	M. Tindall, W.G.H. Weeks & The Reverend L.M. Styler (All C.R.)

Hockey

This season we have experienced the most perfect weather conditions, enabling us to make full use of the four weeks devoted to Hockey.

There was apparent keenness in all the games, and this was largely due to the presence of Mr. Tindall, Mr. Weeks, Mr. Brims and Mr. Styler, who all spent much time coaching and refereeing. A word of thanks to Neale and the Ground Staff for the way in which they prepared the three grounds. Sunrise saw them rolling in the dew: sunset saw them collecting the ever-elusive balls.

The First XI had a most encouraging season, only losing to Mr. P. A. Landon's XI in the final match. Mr. Landon brought up a strong side, which taught us the value of clean stick-work. The cleanness of Mr. Masterman's play, especially in the circle, the steadiness of Walford and Wylie in defence, were exemplary.

The School forward line was quick and often dangerous. The inter-passing between the forwards improved towards the end. Churcher at outside-left played some excellent games. Thursfield, at centre-forward, often played well, but has yet to learn to use his speed up to the circle and there to steady himself before shooting.

The defence improved out of all recognition. Pitt in goal, Elwell at back, and Heyworth at centre-half were a tower of strength.

In such a short season it is difficult to master the finer arts of the game. Nevertheless, by the end of the season the XI were playing well together, often adopting clever and less-obvious tactics.

It is encouraging to find so many promising players in the Colts' Games, where the standard has greatly improved. Hard, clean hitting mingled with the 'flick' was often witnessed. This should bear fruit next year.

We have missed the presence of Mr. Dingwall, himself an experienced player. There is no doubt that the success of this season is largely the result of his coaching in former years.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* OLD DRAGONS.

Played at home on Feb. 19th. Drawn, 3—3.

At the start of the game the School showed their lack of practice in the manner of their ball-control. Passing was obvious and too direct. Nevertheless they settled down quickly and were soon on the offensive, thanks to the use made by Churcher and Wilson-Hird of the chances given to them. The Dragons defended stubbornly and skilfully, however, with Dixon prominent, and were soon on the attack themselves. They fed their right-winger assiduously, but Elwell and Waldron proved capable of dealing with threats from that quarter, though Baker in the centre scored a neat goal. Meanwhile the School, on their mettle, attacked with determination, if spasmodically, and Langdon equalised. Shortly before half-time Baker took advantage of a temporary lapse in defence by the School to put the Old Dragons one up.

The School at once attacked strongly in the second half, but were held up by their tendency to get off-side. At length their efforts were rewarded. Hollis slipped the ball back from the goal-line to Langdon, who scored with a first-time shot. At once, returning to the attack, the Old Dragons regained the lead through the persistent Baker. It was the School's turn to attack, and shortly before the end Thursfield took advantage of a pass down the middle, with the Old Dragon backs standing square. He dribbled through and scored. The game ended with the School defending stubbornly. Teams:—

S.E.S.—Wailes; Parsons, Elwell; Ensor, Tobin, Waldron; Wilson-Hird, Hollis ma., Thursfield ma., Langdon, Churcher.

OLD DRAGONS.—G. May; D. H. Scott, D. H. V. Smith; R. G. Jessel, E. J. H. Dixon, J. G. S. Lee; P. N. Sprott, R. J. H. Thorne, J. E. A. Baker, J. R. Applebey, J. H. Bourne.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* KEBLE COLLEGE.

Played at home on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Won, 7—2.

The School attacked at the start and good forward passing resulted in a goal through Langdon. Keble pressed, but the School forwards returned to the attack and Langdon scored again. C. B. Davis, the Keble inside-right, was unfortunately injured and could take no further part in the game. In spite of this handicap Keble rallied, and from a corner D. T. Jones scored; Jones then broke through and scored again, to put his side on level terms at half-time. In the second half Wilson-Hird scored from a good run, and after this Keble, with only ten men, were outplayed. Wilson-Hird centred for Thursfield to score, and the former had another opportunity, but his shot went wide. More good inter-forward passing led to another goal by Thursfield, and after Waldron's shot had hit the post Langdon scored the sixth. Waldron completed the scoring from a centre by Wilson-Hird. The School's speed in the forward line was mainly responsible for their decisive victory. Teams:—

S.E.S.—Pitt; Elwell, Dawson; Ensor, Heyworth, Tobin; Wilson-Hird, Waldron, Thursfield ma., Langdon, Churcher.

KEBLE.—E. G. Little; H. L. Pearce, J. de B. Bateman; I. S. McCulloch, J. W. O'M. Tobin, D. Lambert; W. F. Medhurst, C. B. Davis, D. T. Jones, P. D. Saner, G. V. M. Robinson.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* COWLEY BARRACKS.

Played at home on Monday, Feb. 28th. Won, 7—1.

The School pressed and Thursfield shot hard, but over the bar. Soon afterwards Churcher centred, and a good pass by Langdon enabled Thursfield to score. The School continued to attack, and Thursfield added another. Cowley retaliated, and Dawson scored from a good run. Thursfield sent in a good shot, which was saved well by Brown, but Langdon put the School further ahead. Wilson-Hird made a clever run, and after good inter-forward passing Thursfield scored again, to give the School a lead of 4—1 at half-time. Cowley pressed after the restart, but the School returned to the attack and forced a corner. Churcher scored after a good run, and after some forward passing a fine shot by Hollis put the School further ahead. Cowley attacked and forced a corner, but the School came back again and added a final goal through Langdon. As in the previous match, the School's speedy forwards were the deciding factor, the Cowley line lacking combination. Teams:—

S.E.S.—Pitt; Elwell, Dawson; Ensor, Heyworth, Tobin; Wilson-Hird, Hollis ma., Thursfield ma., Langdon, Churcher.

COWLEY BARRACKS.—Brown; Moger, Drew; Wood, Jones, Futter; Cox, Dunn, Barber, Locke, Dawson.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* ST. EDWARD'S MARTYRS.

Played at home on Saturday, March 5th. Drawn, 4—4.

This was a rearranged fixture, as Bromsgrove were unable to play, and a very good game it proved. Once again the School attacked at the start, and after a shot by Wilson-Hird had gone over the bar, Thursfield scored. The Martyrs then pressed and R. J. Northcote-Green nearly scored. A. W. Paton levelled the scores from a short corner. St. Edward's returned to the attack, and though Waldron managed to save from Churcher, a fine shot by Wilson-Hird put the School ahead. The School continued to attack, and after forcing a corner scored again through Wilson-Hird, but just before half-time Paton broke away and dribbled round the defence to score for the Martyrs. The second half saw a strong attack by the Martyrs, which resulted in another goal by Paton, and only a good save by Pitt prevented him scoring again. The School broke away, but the Martyrs came back and Northcote-Green scored from a hard shot with the goalkeeper out of position. In their last attack the School equalised through a good shot by Langdon. Against strong opposition the School played well both in attack and defence, and a draw was a fair result. Teams:

S.E.S.—Pitt; Elwell, Dawson; Ensor, Heyworth, Tobin; Wilson-Hird, Hollis ma., Thursfield ma., Langdon, Churcher.

MARTYRS.—A. N. E. Waldron; H. H. Kennedy, P. Cranmer; G. R. Cooper, D. T. Yoshimoto, J. S. Wynne; R. J. Northcote-Green, H. B. Coulthurst, A. W. Paton, R. M. A. Lawson, M. Tindall.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* BRADFIELD COLLEGE.

Played at home on Tuesday, March 8th. Won, 2—0.

This eagerly awaited game proved less exciting than was hoped, on account of the fast ground, which rendered forward movements difficult to execute, but there was much to admire in the defensive work of both sides. St. Edward's attacked at the start and Langdon scored from a scramble in the goal-mouth. Bradfield retaliated, and Stewart sent in a shot which Pitt did well to save, but St. Edward's went further ahead when Hollis shot and dashed in to score after the goalkeeer had failed to clear. Thus after ten minutes St. Edward's were two goals up, but the Bradfield defence settled down and subsequently had little difficulty in holding the opposing attack. In the second half Bradfield attacked, but Heyworth, Elwell and Dawson in defence proved too strong. Bradfield forwards were the better in this half, but neither forward line appeared likely to score, though at the end of the game a good shot by Thursfield went just over the bar. Teams:—

S.E.S.—Pitt; Elwell, Dawson; Ensor, Heyworth, Tobin; Wilson-Hird, Hollis ma., Thursfield ma., Langdon, Churcher.

BRADFIELD.—T. L. Parker; R. F. Lawrence, N. D. Ashe; S. G. Cooke, D. P. Nicholson, C. G. Allner; D. C. Pothecary, I. P. Stewart, H. F. Watson, D. Stevens, P. R. T. Mortimer.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* PANGBOURNE NAUTICAL COLLEGE.

Played at Pangbourne on Wednesday, March 9th. Won, 5—4.

St. Edward's started well and pressed strongly, their forwards showing better combination than the home team. Except for spasmodic raids the School defence was not worried, and after ten minutes they went ahead when Langdon shot through following a free-hit. Pangbourne swept into the attack, and just after Connell had missed an open goal he broke through again and equalised. St. Edward's then added two quick goals through Churcher and Langdon, the former scoring with a splendid shot from the edge of the circle; but Pangbourne reduced the lead shortly before half-time when Moyle flicked a goal in a melée. After the interval Pangbourne dominated the game and the School defence had to sustain heavy pressure. During this period the home team scored twice; on both occasions Connell broke through and shot past the advancing goalkeeper. St. Edward's fought desperately to equalise, and after severe pressure Langdon completed his hat-trick with a good shot. The winning goal was scored by Churcher five minutes from time; he passed several opponents and beat Whale with a splendid shot. St. Edward's continued to attack and nearly scored again. Teams:—

S.E.S.—Pitt; Elwell, Dawson; Ensor, Heyworth, Tobin; Wilson-Hird, Hollis ma., Thursfield ma., Langdon, Churcher.

PANGBOURNE.—G. H. Whale; L. D. Dymoke, G. S. Sibbering; M. L. Baring, R. A. Shuttleworth, P. M. Chadwick; D. S. Watson, A. L. Dickinson, R. B. Connell, M. B. Elmsley, A. D. Moyle.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* P. A. LANDON'S XI.

Played at home on Saturday, March 12th. Lost, 3—5.

The School surrendered their unbeaten record in their last match, when a strong scratch side brought by Mr. P. A. Landon proved too good for them. The visitors went off with a rush, and J. C. Masterman opened the scoring from a centre by J. E. A. Baker; a minute later Masterman broke through and scored again. The School retaliated, but good shots from Churcher and Thursfield were well saved by J. N. Grover. Masterman put the visitors further ahead from a pass from P. A. Landon, but in an inspired two minutes the School scored twice, Thursfield breaking through and scoring himself, and Langdon scoring after excellent forward passing. After the restart Churcher levelled the scores with an excellent goal after a run. The visitors returned to the attack, and after Pitt had saved well from R. J. Northcote-Green, Masterman scored his fourth goal from a short corner. Both sides attacked in turn, and it was only magnificent defensive work by M. M. Walford and F. C. Wylie that prevented the School from scoring. E. M. M. Forster scored for the visitors, who continued to attack, but resolute defence prevented any further score. It was a fast, open game, and the School did very well to hold their imposing opponents, Heyworth at centre-half and Pitt in goal being outstanding. Teams:—

S.E.S.—Pitt; Elwell, Dawson; Ensor, Heyworth, Waldron; Wilson-Hird, Hollis ma., Thursfield ma., Langdon, Churcher.

P. A. LANDON'S XI.—J. N. Grover; Capt. D. V. Hill, F. C. Wylie; G. R. Cooper, M. M. Walford, C. R. Bourne; J. E. A. Baker, E. M. M. Forster, J. C. Masterman, P. A. Landon, R. J. Northcote-Green.

MATCH RESULTS.

First XI.

v. Old Dragons	Drawn,	3—3
v. Keble College	Won,	7—2
v. Cowley Barracks	Won,	7—1
v. St. Edward's Martyrs	Drawn,	4—4
v. Bradfield College	Won,	2—0
v. Pangbourne Nautical College	Won,	5 4
v. P. A. Landon's XI	Lost,	3—5

Second XI.

v. Keble College	Won,	5—1
v. Pangbourne Nautical College	Drawn,	1—1

Third XI.

v. St. Edmund Hall 'A' XI	Drawn,	4—4

Hockey XI 1939

L to R standing	G.M. Colson, B.F. Vibert, D.A. Rogers, D.S. Barber, C.T. Cooke
L to R seated	A.J. Heyworth, A.G. Langdon, P.G. Elwell (Captain), B.R. Ensor, M.S. Bradford-Martin, G.B. Palau
Coached by	M. Tindall, W.G.H. Weeks, R.P Brims & The Reverend L.M. Styler (All C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 9 Won 5 Drawn 1 Lost 3

v Old Dragons - Lost 2-5
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Won 8-1
(Away)

v Martyrs XI - Drawn 5-5
(Alexander Park)

v Keble College, Oxford - Won 4-2
(Away)

v Bromsgrove School - Lost 2-4
(Home)

v Radley College - Won 5-1
(Away)

v Cowley Barracks XI - Won 5-3
(Home)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 2-6
(Home)

v Scratch XI - Won 3-1
(On Keble College's Ground)

1939 HOCKEY SEASON.

On the whole the School had a successful season. We lost to Bromsgrove, who had one of their best sides of recent years. More practice made them a more skilful and tidier side. We lost also to the Old Dragons and Mr. P. A. Landon's side, both of which contained first-class players and the latter no less than five Blues.

The mediocre weather made this season less enjoyable than that of 1938, and several matches were played in poor conditions.

The weakness of the First XI lay mainly in the uncertainty of the wings, but there was distinct improvement towards the end. In the centre we were fast, and some of the short inter-passing at times was good—especially for ten minutes against Radley, when three goals were scored.

The defence played very well at times but must learn to curb their keenness when tackling an opponent, remembering that barging is illegal.

The Second XI showed promise in defence, but the 'shooting' of the forwards was very weak.

Hockey

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* OLD DRAGONS.

Played at Alexandra Park on Monday, Feb. 20th.
Lost, 2—5.

The School were defeated by a strong Old Dragons XI in their first match of the season. We attacked at the start, but G. R. Cooper cleared, and after some rather scrappy play in midfield the Dragons pressed and scored through R. H. J. Thom. The Dragons kept up their attack and M. Garrett added two further goals, and only steady defensive work by Heyworth and the backs and a good save by Rogers prevented them from going further ahead. We retaliated by some good forward passing, which ended in a goal scored by Langdon. In spite of some good defensive work, in which Elwell was prominent, the Old Dragons went further ahead before half-time when S. Wylie scored with a hard, high drive. In the second half we had more of the play but never got any real control of the game. Colson scored a well-earned goal following a passing movement, but just before time J. H. R. Lynam, who had changed his position from that of goalkeeper-cum-middle-back to that of centre-forward, added a fifth goal for the Dragons.

This was a fairly encouraging start for the season. Much of the defensive work was good, though both Elwell and Barber had occasional lapses, while Heyworth was a tower of strength at centre-half. Colson was the most dangerous of the forwards, whose passes were rather inclined to go astray. Teams :—

ST. EDWARD'S: Rogers; Elwell ma. (capt.), Barber; Ensor, Heyworth, Dawson; Colson ma., Vibert, Langdon, Bradford-Martin, Palau.

OLD DRAGONS: P. Brown; K. Smith, L. B. Inglis; G. R. Cooper, S. Wylie, R. G. Jessel; G. T. Clark, R. H. J. Thom, J. H. R. Lynam (capt.), M. Garrett, C. R. Bourne.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* BRADFIELD COLLEGE.

Played at Bradfield on Saturday, Feb. 25th. Won, 8—1.

Throughout the game there was a slight drizzle and the ground was extremely slippery, so that it was often very difficult to control the ball. Before the School had settled down, after a bad start, N. S. P. Evans scored for Bradfield with a very good shot. This reverse brought the side together and Vibert replied almost immediately. For almost all the rest of the first half the School kept up the offensive; though Bradfield did make an occasional attack, they only once looked like scoring. Before half-time Langdon scored once and Colson twice, making the score 4—1 at the interval.

At the beginning of the second half play was more even and for the first ten minutes remained in midfield. Then Vibert scored after a good passing movement, and Colson increased the lead from a corner soon afterwards. Before the final whistle went the School had scored two more goals through Vibert and Colson after scrambles in the goal-mouth.

This convincing win was mainly due to the fact that the whole side was much quicker in getting onto their man and the ball than their opponents. The foundation of the victory was laid by the halves, whose defensive covering and service to the forwards were very good. The approach work of the forwards was well executed and finished off with accurate shooting. Teams :—

ST. EDWARD'S: Rogers; Barber, Elwell ma. (capt.); Ensor, Heyworth, Bradford-Martin; Cooke mus., Langdon, Colson ma., Vibert, Palau.

BRADFIELD: Dearle; A. Ashe, Seth-Smith; Forrester, Brinson, Ronaldson; Evans, Gould, Watson, Brock, Brown.

ST. EDWARD'S 'A' *v.* ST. EDWARD'S MARTYRS.

Played at Alexandra Park on Monday, Feb. 27th.
Drawn, 5—5.

A very fast-moving game between the School 'A' team and the Martyrs ended in a draw of 5—5, which was perhaps the most fitting result. In the first half both sides showed lack of combination, and therefore it was not surprising that as many as four goals were scored by each side. P. S. Thursfield opened the scoring for the Martyrs, and the School replied almost immediately through Ray, who scored off a rebound from C. E. B. B. Simpson's pads. Later Colson put the School ahead, and a continued attack was rewarded when he added another goal after his first shot had hit the crossbar. The Martyrs now took up the offensive and E. J. H. Dixon scored from a penalty corner; R. J. Northcote-Green then brought the scores level by a goal scored off a hard centre from M. A. C. Wheeler. The School went ahead again through Langdon, and just before half-time the Martyrs equalised when Dixon scored following a free hit taken by Northcote-Green.

Soon after the interval a passing movement down the left wing between C. J. H. Starey and Northcote-Green resulted in the latter scoring. The Martyrs looked as if they would hold on to the lead until the end, but five minutes before time the School made a great effort to win the game; Langdon equalised, and then had the bad luck to hit the goal-post from an awkward position. Throughout the game the School gave the impression of being a better side than the Martyrs, whose play showed a combination of brute force and skill. Teams :

ST. EDWARD'S: Parker ma.; Elwell ma. (capt.), Mellish; Bradford-Martin, Wainright, Watts; Pughe, Ray, Colson, Langdon, Cooke mus.

ST. EDWARD'S MARTYRS: C. E. B. B. Simpson; T. C. Henderson, P. C. Phillips; H. J. Pickles, G. R. Cooper, P. J. West; M. A. C. Wheeler, E. J. H. Dixon, P. S. Thursfield, R. J. Northcote-Green, C. J. H. Starey.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* KEBLE COLLEGE.

Played on the Keble ground on Wednesday, March 1st.
Won, 4—2.

The School beat Keble College by four goals to two after an evenly contested game. Until ten minutes before the end Keble looked the better side; their tackling was keener and more effective, and they passed the ball with greater frequency and accuracy than the School side. Resolute defence, however, in which Elwell, Barber and Heyworth played prominent parts, limited Keble's scoring chances. The School attacked soon after the start and Langdon put in a hard shot which went over the crossbar; for some time play was fairly even and neither side had any real scoring chances. After fifteen minutes J. Tobin opened the scoring for Keble from a penalty corner. The School equalised soon after through Vibert, and half-time came with the score still 1—1.

After half-time both sides attacked in turn and both goals had narrow escapes. R. H. Harrison put Keble ahead again, but they did not retain their lead for long, for Colson scored off a well-judged centre from Palau. For the last ten minutes the School were definitely superior in every phase of the game and were unlucky not to have scored more than twice in this period. Their two goals were scored by Palau and Langdon, making the score 4—2 at the end. Teams :—

ST. EDWARD'S: Rogers; Elwell ma. (capt.), Barber; Ensor, Heyworth, Wainright; Austin mi., Langdon, Colson ma., Vibert, Palau.

KEBLE COLLEGE: J. Vaughan-Jones; C. C. Cholmondeley, J. de B. Bateman; E. G. Little, J. Tobin, D. W. Lambert; D. T. Hick, C. B. Davis, G. V. M. Robinson, R. H. Harrison, A. B. Grimaldi.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* BROMSGROVE.

Played at home on Saturday, March 4th. Lost, 2—4.

The School were beaten by Bromsgrove by four goals to two in very unpleasant conditions: there was a light drizzle throughout the first half and it was very slippery underfoot. In spite of this play was fast and open, and the short passing of the Bromsgrove forwards in particular was excellent. The whole Bromsgrove team showed a marked superiority over the School, and it was surprising that they did not win by a greater margin. The School's defensive work was quick and resolute, and the forwards made many attempts to put the ball into the Bromsgrove goal, where E. I. H. Jones played with distinction.

Bromsgrove had the better of the first half, making many dangerous attacks on the School goal. From one of these O. S. E. Lloyd scored, and soon afterwards it was only a good save by Rogers which prevented them scoring a second goal from a short corner. Occasional rushes by the School took play into the Bromsgrove half, and just before half-time Langdon equalised.

In the second half play was almost entirely in the School half. After ten minutes E. J. H. Williams scored for Bromsgrove, and after a mêlée K. M. Williams increased their lead with a hard shot into the top of the goal. Soon, however, Palau broke away down the right wing and from his centre Langdon scored, but just before time E. J. H. Williams settled the issue with another goal. Teams :—

ST. EDWARD'S: Rogers; Elwell ma. (capt.), Barber; Ensor, Heyworth, Bradford-Martin; Cook mus., Langdon, Colson ma., Vibert, Palau.

BROMSGROVE: E. I. H. Jones; J. C. Davies, S. M. E. Bainewall; M. C. Grounds, B. B. Walton, J. F. Wheatcroft; J. A. Hall, I. A. Jones, E. J. H. Williams, K. M. Williams, O. S. E. Lloyd.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* RADLEY COLLEGE.

Played at Alexandra Park on Monday, March 6th.
Won, 5—1.

The School beat Radley by five goals to one in a game which was fairly even except for a period in the first half when Radley were outplayed. The game opened with Radley making a strong attack on the School goal which was successfully resisted. Some even play ensued until for a period of about five minutes the School overran Radley; swift and accurate passing by the halves and forwards enabled the inside forwards to run right through the Radley defence. Three times Langdon, who played very well throughout the game, finished off a movement with successful shooting. Then for a while Radley checked the School assaults in midfield, until just before half-time Palau broke away and passed to Colson, who scored.

After the restart a passing movement by Vibert and Colson resulted in the latter scoring. Radley now pressed and soon forced a short corner, from which they scored. In the second half Radley had enough scoring chances to save the game, but their inside forwards did not take their opportunities, with the result that the School defence was never hard pressed. Teams :—

ST. EDWARD'S: Rogers; Elwell ma. (capt.), Barber; Ensor, Heyworth, Bradford-Martin; Cooke mus., Langdon, Colson ma., Vibert, Palau.

RADLEY: W. H. Tankard; G. T. Pearson, M. F. Gregg; M. S. Hodges, O. F. O. Womack, M. P. Dunkerley; T. V. P. Hayworth, R. A. Kennard, J. W. Buckley, F. G. Stewart, A. B. Hardcastle.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* COWLEY BARRACKS.

Played at home on Wednesday, March 8th. Won, 5—3.

The School were in a way lucky to defeat Cowley Barracks by five goals to three; they looked as if they ought to be the better side, but until ten minutes from the end they did not approach their true form. Throughout the game Langdon and Heyworth played well, but received very little support until the closing minutes.

There was a bitterly cold wind blowing, and before the School team had warmed up, the Barracks had scored three goals through their centre-forward, Smith. The School's play soon began to show improvement and Langdon scored a good goal, which was to be the last score for some time.

The second half was played at great speed and neither side could break through their opponents' defence. When, however, after fifteen minutes. Langdon scored for the School, a determined effort on the part of the whole side to save the game resulted. For a time the School could not penetrate, but soon their better combination and passing enabled Langdon to equalise, and, playing really well now, the School added two more goals through Langdon and Colson. Teams :—

ST. EDWARD'S: Rogers; Elwell ma. (capt.), Barber; Ensor, Heyworth, Bradford-Martin; Cooke mus., Langdon, Colson, Vibert, Palau.

COWLEY BARRACKS: Capt. Luard, Capt. Temple, R.S.M. Soames, Sgt. Major, Sgt. Stephens, Sgt. Brown, Cpl. Cox, L/Cpl. Drew, Bugler Wood, Pte. Smith, Pte. Shorthouse.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* P. A. LANDON'S XI.

Played at home on Saturday, March 11th. Lost, 2—6.

St. Edward's were beaten 6—2 by P. A. Landon's XI, which included three of this year's Oxford University side and two former Blues. The School backs were largely responsible for preventing the visitors from winning by an even greater margin; the halves did their best to feed the forwards, but the latter could do very little against their more experienced opponents. They all made good attempts to give Colson plenty of scoring chances, but D. F. Walker was always there to prevent his taking advantage of them. The whole side played well, but found the greater ability and skill of their opponents too much for them.

A. P. D. Montgomery scored for Landon's XI within a minute and soon followed this goal up with another. For the first quarter of an hour the School were completely outplayed, but after G. E. L. Graham had scored the third goal against them they started to make occasional attacks, and from one of these Colson scored. At half-time the School were vigorously defending, as they had been most of the game. The second half was more even, though Landon's XI still held a decided superiority. Montgomery scored soon after the restart, and Langdon replied for the School. In the last ten minutes Montgomery scored two more goals, each from a short corner. Teams :—

ST. EDWARD'S: Rogers; Elwell ma. (capt.), Barber; Ensor, Heyworth, Bradford-Martin; Cooke mus., Langdon, Colson, Vibert, Woodford ma.

P. A. LANDON'S XI: J. H. R. Lynam; H. Sherbroke, F. R. Wylie; E. J. H. Dixon, D. F. Walker, G. R. Cooper; J. Mills, G. E. L. Graham, A. P. D. Montgomery, P. A. Landon, R. J. Northcote-Green.

Hockey XI 1940

L to R back row	M.S. Bradford-Martin, M.B. Ray, A.G. Langdon, D.A. Rogers, J.C. Anderson, C.T. Cooke
L to R kneeling	B.G. Ferguson, C.F. Deacon, A.I.B. Cumming (Captain), W. Osborn, B.F. Vibert
Coached by	R.P. Brims, W.G.H. Weeks, The Reverend L.M. Styler (All C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 9 Won 4 Drawn 2 Lost 3

v Bradfield College - Won 8-4
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 9-4
(Home)

v Old Dragons - Won 7-2
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 1-5
(Away)

v Malvern College 'A' XI - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

v Cowley Barracks XI - Drawn 3-3
(Home)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 10-3
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 2-6
(Away)

Hockey

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* BRADFIELD COLLEGE.

Played at home on Saturday, February 24th.

Won, 8—4.

In the first few minutes Bradfield pressed the School goal area and, after two saves by Rogers, scored a goal through D. Brock. After the 'bully' the School was again pressed, but a good pass from Langdon down the right-wing enabled Palau to break away, and Vibert scored. The game then swung decidedly in our favour, and the score at half-time was 5—1.

In the second half Bradfield retaliated and their right-inside scored a goal and, after Vibert had scored one for the School, they scored two in quick succession through J. Brock and W. Humphrey respectively. Play remained even for some time and both sides showed signs of tiring on the heavy ground. Langdon and Cumming added further goals for the School, who thus won by 8 goals to 4. Teams :—

Bradfield.—A. N. R. Dearle; M. D. M. Seth-Smith, D. G. Huntingford; G. I. Forrester, T. H. Ronaldson, D. N. Brinson; W. E. G. Humphrey, J. A. Brock, P. A. G. Hegarty, W. N. Francis, D. le M. Brock.

St. Edward's.—Rogers ma.; Anderson, Ray; Osborne mi., Bradford-Martin, Fisher; Palau, Vibert, Cumming, Langdon, Cooke mus.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL.

Played at home on Monday, February 26th. Won, 9—4.

The first half was even and both sides scored three goals, but afterwards the School greatly improved. There was some clean and accurate hitting. Almost immediately Cooke got the ball and came in to score for the School. Magdalen now attacked and Pollard scored for them from a long corner. For the rest of the game the School were definitely on the offensive. They scored five more times, through Langdon (2), Palau, Cumming and Vibert, and would have scored more but for the Magdalen goal-keeper, Higgins, who made some hard saves. Teams :—

St. Edward's.—Rogers ma.; Anderson, Fisher ma.; Deacon, Bradford-Martin, Osborne mi.; Cooke mus., Langdon, Cumming, Vibert, Palau.

Magdalen College School.—Higgins; Stone, Binham; Parnell, Lawson, Butcher; Harper, Wilsdon, Pollard, Slark, Brooks.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* OLD DRAGONS.

Played at home on Wednesday, Feb. 28th. Won, 7—2.

The School attacked from the start and were soon within the visitors' circle. Langdon opened the scoring, and added a second goal a few minutes later. The Dragons strove hard to keep the ball out of their circle and Pearce made a strong run down the right-wing, but they were soon pressed back again and Langdon scored a third goal from a well-placed free-hit, and a fourth after a good movement by Deacon and Cumming. P. Brown replied for the Dragons, but only after Rogers had made one very good save. The first half ended with a run by J. Morley down the left-wing, which produced a goal. The School retained their superiority and added three more goals in the second half. Teams :—

Old Dragons.—B. F. Walker; C. E. W. Henderson, J. F. Mendl; J. Godfrey, A. C. Walker, B. Munro; S. D. Pearce, P. Brown, C. L. Tabor, J. West, J. Morley.

St. Edward's.—Rogers ma.; Anderson, Ray; Deacon, Bradford-Martin, Osborne mi.; Cumming, Langdon, Ferguson, Vibert, Cooke mus.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* O.U. OCCASIONALS.

Played on Christ Church ground on Saturday, March 2nd. Lost, 1—5.

The fact that the School lost to a strong O.U. Occasionals XI by five goals to one was largely due to the experience of their opponents, whose skilful positioning and steady tackling gave the School little opportunity of constructive play. In this match there were none of the swift passing movements and accurate shooting which had been prominent in previous matches this season.

The School never looked like scoring in the first half, and at half-time the Occasionals led by two goals, both of which were scored by J. C. Masterman after clever passing movements among the inside forwards. At the beginning of the second half the School improved and Vibert scored from a penalty corner. The Occasionals returned to the attack and, although the School defended well, three more goals were added before time. Teams :—

St. Edward's.—Rogers ma.; Anderson, Ray; Deacon, Bradford-Martin, Osborne mi.; Cumming, Langdon, Ferguson, Vibert, Cooke mus.

O.U. Occasionals.—M. L. Meyer; A. M. Sturrock, B. I. Johnson; E. W. I. Palamountain, H. L. Davies, D. W. Lambert; G. J. Aked-Davies, B. H. Simms, J. C. Masterman, R. C. Mortimer, K. Hartley.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* A MALVERN COLLEGE TEAM.

Played at Blenheim Palace on Monday, March 4th. Drawn, 3—3.

The School drew 3—3 with a team composed of masters and boys of Malvern College. The absence of four regular members of the School side made it necessary to play some people out of their accustomed positions and to include others without previous experience with the rest of the team; this, together with the fact that their opponents had had little opportunity for practice, produced a very scrappy game.

St. Edward's.—Rogers ma.; Anderson, Mellish; Deacon, Ray, Osborne mi.; Cooke mus., Cumming, Ferguson, Guilfoyle mi., Pughe.

Malvern.—J. Head; R. T. Colthurst, W. R. S. Dods; P. Nichols, P. C. Mackintosh, D. J. Hanson; P. W. Slater, A. H. Chadder, A. N. Willis, J. S. Rambridge, S. E. Cruise.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* COWLEY BARRACKS.

Played at home on Wednesday, March 6th. Drawn, 3—3.

This was the first game to be played on Corfe II and consequently it was affected by the softness of the ground. Mis-hits were too frequent to allow for safety against fast forwards, but these, however, spoilt their chances by being offside. The game opened evenly and Cooke scored after beating several men. The visitors' centre-forward replied, and they went further ahead when their centre-half scored from a corner. Langdon made a clever run, but was well tackled by Falkiner at full-back, who played a sound game throughout. In the second half Langdon equalised from a corner, and further goals were added by the centre-forward for the visitors and by Cooke for the School. Deacon and Osborne worked hard in defence, and Cullingham at centre-half was very active for the visitors. Rogers made several good saves in the School goal. Teams :—

Cowley Barracks.—Pte. Nutt; Capt. Falkiner, Cpl. Drew; Sgt. Gibson, Lieut. Cullingham, Pte. Florey; Pte. Powell, Pte. Cadel, Sgt. Clarke, Pte. Wreford Brown, Pte. Hayter.

St. Edward's.—Rogers ma.; Anderson, Fisher; Deacon, Osborne mi., Coop ma.; Cumming, Langdon, Ferguson, Cooke mus., Borger-Wooldridge ma.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* P. A. LANDON'S XI.

Played at St. Edward's on March 9th. Lost by 4 goals to 1.

As usual, Mr. Landon brought up an XI which was rather too good for the School, but that did not prevent the latter making a good fight of it. The ground was quite fast and some reasonably good hockey resulted. There was no score in the first half, during which the School put up a good fight, but soon after the re-start Butterfield scored for the visitors from the back of the circle with a fine shot. Then Langdon equalised. The St. Edward's halves and backs continued to put up a fine resistance, but greater experience told in the end. Three more goals were scored, all against us. Teams :—

P. A. Landon's XI.—R. C. Wilkinson; G. M. Colson, A. C. Walker; D. J. Cunningham, J. O. H. Tobin, G. E. L. Graham; D. H. Lloyd Naye, W. J. H. Butterfield, J. C. Masterman, P. Vlasto, P. Cumberlege.

St. Edward's.—Rogers ma.; Anderson, Fisher ma.; Deacon, Ray, Osborne mi.; Ferguson, Langdon, Cooke mus., Vibert, Talbot.

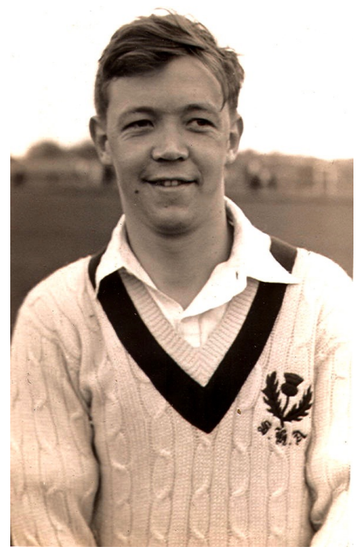
ST. EDWARD'S *v.* PANGBOURNE NAUTICAL COLLEGE.

Played at Oxford on March 13th. Won by 10 goals to 3.

The ground was wet and muddy, so that at times the players had difficulty in keeping their feet. Despite this handicap, there was some good hockey, the School winning a high scoring match owing to the superior shooting and dribbling ability of their forwards. Their halves and backs were also superior in their positioning and first-time tackling.

The game opened with Pangbourne attacking strongly, two goals being discounted owing to players being offside. In a second attack on the School goal Awkwright opened the scoring for the visitors. In reply, Cumming scored from a good back-of-the-circle centre from Vibert. Clever dribbling by Langdon added three more goals, Vibert also sending in a shot, and half-time came with the score 5—1 to the School.

M.T.D. Womersley
School Hockey XI
1943-1945



I. MacDonald
Scotland Hockey
International 1949 - 1951

MATCH RESULTS.

Second XI.

Wednesday, Feb. 28th. *v.* Cuddesdon College (home). Lost, 3—2.

Saturday, March 9th. *v.* Oxford City (home). Lost, 8—0.

Third XI.

Thursday, March 7th. *v.* Radley College 3rd XI (home). Lost, 4—2.

Colts XI.

Thursday, March 7th. *v.* Radley College Colts XI (home). Lost, 7—0.

HOCKEY REVIEW, 1940.

As has been the case so often in the past, we owe it to Mr. Neale and his staff that we played as much hockey as we did. Only once did he look as if he would never forgive us, when we insisted on playing a match although the rain obscured Wytham from view, sawdust stood, stark and yellow, in the goalmouths, and the players refused to move far from shelter before the game.

A superficial glance at the results of the First XI matches would suggest that, in spite of snow, hail, frost and rain, the season progressed along normal channels. Unfortunately, it was not possible to give the lower games enough practice, and even the First XI had to learn how to play the game in matches. Next year's teams may, therefore, suffer from lack of experience, positioning and stickwork.

The First XI had a good season, which might well have been even better but for the interference of illness in team-building. Some good hockey was played, and three schools were beaten by a satisfactory margin.

The defence was fair: the backs never gave up trying, but they were uncouth in method, never quite rid themselves of a disconcerting tendency to make first-time 'air shots,' and allowed themselves to be hurried; the halves did well by the side and, if never brilliant, were nearly always reliable and solid. Their positioning and all-round play definitely improved towards the end of the season.

The attack was limited by the fact that the forwards possessed only one method—straight up mid-field; that is to say that the inside forwards were good and the wings were not. It is hard to remember a goal's being scored from a centre from the wing. This meant that we scored individualistic rather than orthodox goals, and in the long run this will not be good for the School's hockey. We were fortunate in our captain, who proved himself to be an excellent dribbler and an accurate shot from inside-left, and also in our goalkeeper, who made many good saves and improved with every match.

The Colts had scarcely a chance to settle down. They did, however, play one match, and some of them had some valuable experience with the First XI.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 1941

Team	C.T. Cooke (Captain), A.C. Lowe, D.G. Worcester, P.O. Coop, C.B. Bowles, P.R. Frost, J.D.B. Snell
	M.V.O. Williams, C.T. Cooke, A.I.B. Cumming, F.M. Jones, A.C. Davies, J.G. Probin, J.T. Colven, P.G. Byrd
Coached by	R.P.Brims, W.G.H. Weeks & The Reverend L.M. Styler (All C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 10 Won 4 Drawn 1, Lost 5

v Radley College - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Cowley Barracks XI - Lost 0-6
(Home)

v R.A.F. , Kidlington - Won 4-1
(Home)

v R.A.F. Heyford - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Mr. Beckett's Scratch XI - Won 7-2
(Home)

v Exeter College, Oxford - Won 2-1
(Home)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 1-7
(Home)

v Mr. Beckett's Scratch XI - Won 6-4
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

Hockey

FIRST XI.

The standard of the XI fell below that of recent years. This was not only due to the lack of experienced players, but also to the unfitness of the grounds, which prevented the team from getting useful practice during the early part of the season. The quality of the stick-work was not good, and this can only be rectified by the team practising in their spare time before the short season opens. The other most noticeable failure was slowness in passing, as well as misdirection of passes. Clean, quick hitting and good fielding will more than compensate for any lack of skill in the subtler sciences of stick-work, and they were not often achieved. However, the team went really hard, and frequently held their own.

Cooke was fortunate in finding two very useful backs and a competent and courageous goalkeeper. This was the best part of the side. The half-backs, although useful in defence, lacked sufficient speed to achieve a more attacking liaison with the forwards. The forwards improved considerably but rarely showed sufficient cohesion. The right wing was promising, but never had enough passes. The two inside forwards were forced to go back too much in defence, so that the line rarely looked really dangerous together. The centre-forward was skilful in stick-work, but was not a deadly shot within the circle.

In the school games, we were defeated by Radley 3—0 after one preliminary practice; Magdalen College School beat us by one goal, and we drew with the Nautical College, Pangbourne, 2—2.

First XI.—Lowe ma.; Worcester, Coop ma.; Bowles ma., Frost, Snell; Williams, Cooke, Cumming, Deacon, Jones mus.

The following have also played:—Davies ma., Probin, Colven ma., Byrd.

Results.

v. Radley College (home). Lost, 0—3.
v. Magdalen College School (away). Lost, 0—1.
v. Cowley Barracks (home). Lost, 0—6.
v. R.A.F., Kidlington (home). Won, 4—1.
v. R.A.F., Heyford (home). Lost, 2—3.
v. Mr. Beckett's XI (home). Won, 7—2.
v. Exeter College (home). Won, 2—1.
v. P. A. Landon's XI (home). Lost, 1—7.
v. Mr. Beckett's XI (home). Won, 6—4.
v. Pangbourne N.C. (home). Drawn, 2—2.

The following have played for the Second XI:—Halliday, George, Burtt, Street, Burn, Byrd, Powell, Graham, Yorke, Peel, Wilkinson, Farrar, Stokes, Rochard, Clarke mi., Colven ma., Evans ma.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixtures
Played 5 Won 1 Drawn 0 Lost 4

v Magdalen College School - Won 5-1
(Away)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 3-7
(Away)

v Exeter & Lincoln Colleges, Oxford - Lost 2-5
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 3-9
(Away)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 1-5
(Home)

Hockey XI 1942

Team	R.W. Burbidge (Captain), P.O. Coop, W.B. Stevenson, P.C. Bowles, P.R. Frost, H. George, M.V.O. Williams
	N. Minty, G.H. Franklin, B.M. Jones, N.A. Vincent, D.G. Street, G.C. Powell
Coached by	R.F. Brims, W.G.H. Weeks & The Reverend L.M. Styler (All C.R.)

Hockey

It is quite evident that the weather does not like the cloak of anonymity and repression which the Ministry of Information has chosen to thrust upon it. It is determined that even a cloak will be of small avail against its icy blasts. The school hockey grounds have therefore not been used this year. However, several games were played on the adjoining Alexandra Park, and the first team showed considerable promise. The difficulty has been to give the junior teams games, and this same difficulty has been experienced for the last two years. The school hockey is bound to suffer because of the absence of trained players from the Colts and other games.

The First XI defeated Magdalen College School in their opening match by five goals to one. But this promise was not fulfilled in the following match against the O.U. Occasionals, which we lost 3—7. Quick, clean passing was not in evidence, and the inside forwards did not tackle back. The material has been there, and with good practice they would have trained into a useful side.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL.

Played on the Alexandra Park ground on Monday, February 23rd. Won, 5—1.

This match was played in gym. shoes owing to the hardness of the ground, thereby producing a fast, open game. The speed of the School forwards and Franklin's accurate shooting were the deciding factors of the game. The School defence was keen but on the whole lacked finish.

S.E.S.—Burbidge; Coop ma., Stevenson; Bowles ma., Frost, George; Williams, Minty, Franklin, Jones mus., Vincent.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* O.U. OCCASIONALS.

Played on the Alexandra Park ground on Wednesday, February 25th. Lost, 3—7.

The School started well, Franklin opening the scoring with a good goal. Then the speed and skill of the visitors began to show. The School halves seemed unable both to feed the forwards and get back in defence.

In the second half the School rallied well and scored two more goals.

S.E.S.—Burbidge; Coop ma., Stevenson; Bowles ma., Frost, George; Williams, Minty, Franklin, Jones mus., Vincent.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* EXETER AND LINCOLN COLLEGES AND WYCLIFFE HALL.

Played on the Exeter College ground on Tuesday, March 3rd. Lost, 2—5.

This game was played on a wet ground, and in the first half the School was unable to find its feet.

In the second half, however, the School scored two good goals, but gaps in the defence enabled their opponents to score five times.

S.E.S.—Burbidge; Coop ma., Stevenson; Bowles ma., Frost, Street; Williams, Minty, Franklin, Jones mus., Vincent.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* RADLEY COLLEGE.

Played away on Tuesday, March 10th. Lost, 3—9.

This game was remarkably even, despite the difference in the scoring. The mid-field play of the School was good, with clean hitting and competent tackling. However, the Radley forwards showed the effect of quick shooting by a margin of six goals.

S.E.S.—Burbidge; Coop ma., Stevenson; Bowles ma., Frost, George; Minty, Powell, Franklin, Jones mus., Vincent.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* P. A. LANDON'S XI.

Played at home on Wednesday, March 11th. Lost, 1—5.

Mr. Landon, as usual, brought a strong team, and despite the wetness of the ground the visitors soon showed how hockey should be played, Masterman and Wylie being most effective in the centre. The School played a steady defensive game, and in the second half attacked fiercely, and in the last minute of the game Franklin scored.

P. A. LANDON'S XI.—A. T. D. Pocock; D. D. Lees, V. Cornish; L. Carton-Kelly, R. H. Bowdler, M. R. Dulf; D. Eagar, P. T. Currie, J. C. Masterman, F. R. Wylie, M. Mayer.

S.E.S.—Burbidge; Coop ma., Stevenson; Bowles ma., Frost, George; Minty, Street, Franklin, Jones mus., Vincent.

OTHER RESULTS.

SECOND XI.

Tuesday, March 10th. *v.* Radley College Second XI (home). Drawn, 3—3.

COLTS XI.

Tuesday, March 10th. *v.* Radley College Colts XI (away). Won, 2—0.

FIRST XI.—Burbidge; Coop ma., Stevenson; Bowles ma., Frost, George; Williams, Minty, Franklin, Jones mus., Vincent.

The following have also played:—Street, Powell.

SECOND XI.—Halliday; Keith, D'Arcy; Collins ma., Barclay, Woodcock ma.; Tasker, Wilkinson, O'Brien, Hutchinson, Hewat.

COLTS XI.—Woodcock mi.; Coop mi., Henderson; Hossell, Carter, Womersley; Wood, Jones v, Pitt ma., Nott-Bower, Brooks mus.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixtures
Played 7 Won 3 Drawn 0 Lost 4

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 4-1
(Away)

v Stowe School - Won 5-0
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 3-1
(Away)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 0-4
(Home)

Hockey XI 1943

Team	H.E.P. Woodcock (Captain), J.N.R. Guilfoyle, W.B. Stevenson, M.T.D. Womersley, C.H. Hossell
	J.H. Nott-Bower, M. Claridge, D.R. Brooks, N. Minty, R.D. Fox, B.J.H. Carter, N.C. Burtt
	J de B. Shrosbree, J.F. Pearce, C.B. Bowles, J.P.H. Spiller
Coached by	R.P. Brims, W.G.H. Weeks & The Reverend L.M. Styler (All C.R.)

Hockey

After three consecutive years of record bad weather, we were hardly prepared for the perfect hockey weather of this year. There were few old colours, and we had no well-trained reservoir of young players to draw from. Stevenson, the captain and right-back, was also away unfit. We lost in turn to Magdalen College School, Radley and Bradfield. Our stick-work was undistinguished and our general positioning was not good. Nevertheless, it was possible to discern, even in defeat, the makings of a useful side. Rearrangements were made. Carter was manufactured into a left-wing, from inside-right, and Nott-Brown went from inside-left to left-half. Then Stevenson returned and captained the side against the Nautical College, Pangbourne, who had beaten each of our three previous victors. We started a little dubiously, but a lucky goal put heart into us, and we began to play good hockey. Stevenson played an excellent game himself, and by his example encouraged and nursed the others to do the same. We won by four goals to one. Against Stowe the side played really good hockey to win by five goals to nil. The stick-work was first-class and we played as a team. It is to be hoped that this progress will be maintained in our remaining matches. Of a greatly improved side mention might be made of Guilfoyle, who played magnificently in goal, where his timing of the run-out was a joy to watch; Woodcock, the left-back; the three halves; and Brooks at inside-left and Claridge at right-wing were most promising. The remaining players all helped to build up a nicely balanced team. Hockey has also been played by the Second and Third Games and the Colts.

The last hockey match of the season was, as usual, against a strong XI brought up from Oxford by Mr. P. A. Landon. For some time the School defence held out, although there never seemed any likelihood of our forward line being able to penetrate the visitors' defence sufficiently to test Mr. Retey in goal. Gradually our defence was overcome, and we lost by four goals to nil.

Mr. Landon's team was:—A. Retey; D. D. Lees, J. Dosseter; R. E. H. Bowdler, N. Adams, B. J. Weldon; A. E. Murray, M. V. Williams, P. S. Moore, A. B. Curtis, A. D. Inge.

MATCH RESULTS

First XI *v.* Magdalen College School (home). Lost, 1—2.
First XI *v.* Radley College (home). Lost, 0—3.
Second XI *v.* Radley College (home). Lost, 2—4.
Colts XI *v.* Radley College (home). Lost, 0—3.
First XI *v.* Bradfield College (home). Lost, 2—3.
First XI *v.* Pangbourne N.C. (away). Won, 4—1.
Second XI *v.* Pangbourne N.C. (home). Won, 2—1.
First XI *v.* Stowe School (home). Won, 5—0.
First XI *v.* Magdalen College School (away). Won, 3—1.
First XI *v.* P. A. Landon's XI (home). Lost, 0—4.

The final XI was:—Guilfoyle; Stevenson, Woodcock ma.; Womersley, Hossell, Nott-Bower; Claridge, Brooks, Minty, Fox mus., Carter. The following also played:—Burtt ma., Shrosbree, Pearce ma., Bowles mi., Spiller ma.

The following played for the Second XI:—Henderson, Shrosbree, Spiller ma., Fox mus., Bowles mi., Rogers mi., Drummond, Wood, House ma., Pitt ma., Woodhouse mi., Redfern, Poulson.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixtures
Played 6 Won 1 Drawn 1 Lost 4

v Bradfield College - Won 1-0
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Trinity College, Oxford - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Stowe School - Drawn 2-2
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 1-5
(Home)

Hockey VIII 1944

Team	P.E. Hutson, J.C. Woodcock, J.R.O. Sturgis, D. Henderson, C.H. Hossell. P.G. Geekie, M. Claridge
	M.T.D. Womersley, R.D. Fox, E.R. Thompson, M.J. Lowe, C.S.A. Roome, M.J.M. Clarke, C.C.B. Nicoll
	J.F.T. Allison, J.H.J. Greenish
Coached by	R.P. Brims, W.G.H. Weeks & The Reverend L.M. Styler (All C.R.)

Hockey, 1944

The School had a fair hockey season, when one considers the difficulties under which it functions. The team's chief weaknesses, and this is not unusual, was a lack of shooting power. This, of course, requires perfect stopping of passes in the circle, good stick-work and great speed in executing the shot, and these qualities are not easily acquired in a month of hockey. Hossell formed a useful nucleus at centre-half around which to build a team. The captain, Womersley, who led the team very well, was forced to leave his natural position at right-half, to go inside-right, because of the weakness of the forwards. Claridge maintained his old form at outside-right, but was inadequately served. We were lucky in having a fine goalkeeper in Woodcock, and Henderson at right-back improved out of recognition. The rest of the team were of a lower standard, but they always played hard.

We started the season well with a win against Bradfield College, but Magdalen College School were too good for us this year. We drew with Stowe after a most exciting match, and Radley beat us by the odd goal just on time. We did well to hold in the first half a strong XI brought by Mr. P. A. Landon.

MATCH RESULTS

FIRST XI:

Wed., Feb. 23. Bradfield College. Won, 1—0.
Sat., ,, 26. Magdalen C.S. Lost, 0—2.
Sat., Mar. 3. Trinity College. Lost, 2—3.
Wed., ,, 8. Stowe School. Drawn, 2—2.
Sat., ,, 11. Radley College. Lost, 1—2.
Wed., ,, 15. P. A. Landon's XI. Lost, 1—5.

SECOND XI:

Sat., Mar. 11. Radley College. Lost, 0—3.

COLTS:

Sat., Mar. 11. Radley College. Lost, 2—8.

The First XI was: Woodcock; Sturges and Henderson; Hutson, Hossell and Geekie; Claridge, Womersley, Fox mus., Thompson mi. and Lowe mus.

Also played: Roome, Clarke, Nicoll, Allison ma., Greenish.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixtures
Played 5 Won 1 Drawn 0 Lost 4

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v R.A.F. Scratch XI - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-3
(Away)

v P.A. Landon's Scratch XI - Lost 0-8
(Home)

Hockey 1945

Team	J.C. Woodcock (Captain), D.R.O. Noel, K.E.A. Norbury, J.E. Kitchin, J.H.J. Greenish, D.K. Adams, T.J. Lowe
	T.K. Wheeler, D.B. Thompson, J.F. Woodhouse, P.M. Smith, D.A. Pitt, A.B. Harrison, J.M.C. Nicolls
Coached by	R.P. Brims, W.G.H. Weeks & the Reverend L.M. Styler (All C.R.)

Hockey

The Hockey season enjoyed an almost rainless three weeks, during which the First XI played five matches, and all the School Hockey Games had plenty of opportunities for playing.

The XI was handicapped by an injury which prevented the Captain, Claridge, from taking any part in the season. In his absence Woodcock, the goalkeeper, captained the side, and succeeded in inspiring it with a keenness and liveliness which were greater than its technical skill. The defence was always more reliable than the attack, which suffered from slowness in the circle and a failure to make the best use of the wings. The result was that there was little combination to lead to the scoring of goals. The halves were neat in their stick-work and Greenish, at centre-half, showed the greatest constructive ability. The backs and the goalkeeper got through any amount of work; Noel especially caught the eye for his good positioning and clean hitting.

The closest match, and that in which the XI played its best hockey, was that against an R.A.F. side. Against Mr. Landon's side, a galaxy of talent, the XI was overawed and outplayed after the first ten minutes, and the defence lost its steadiness. The solitary victory, against Pangbourne, was gained rather luckily with the last hit of the match.

The Second XI were a well balanced team; in full-dress trials of strength with the First XI they were little inferior. The Colts gained useful experience for next year. Several, including the Captain (Gaskell) and Kislingbury, showed good stick-work.

Mr. P. A. Landon's XI was: M. S. Evans; J. B. Dosseter, P. S. Moore; C. H. Hossell, R.E. Bowdler, A. M. Wotherspoon; D. B. P. Blackwell, W. J. H. Butterfield, B. P. Grove, M. T. D. Womersley, Canon R. C. Mortimer.

The XI: Woodcock; Noel, Norbury; Kitchin, Greenish, Adams; Lowe mus., Wheeler mi., Thompson mi., Woodhouse mus., Smith iv.

Also played: Pitt mi., Harrison iv, Nicolls.

RESULTS.

Wed., Feb. 14.	*v.*	Pangbourne N.C.	Won, 2—1.
Sat., ,, 17.	*v.*	Bradfield College.	Lost, 1—4.
Wed., ,, 28.	*v.*	An R.A.F. XI.	Lost, 2—3.
Sat., Mar. 3.	*v.*	Magdalen C.S.	Lost, 0—3.
Wed., ,, 7.	*v.*	P. A. Landon's XI	Lost, 0—8.

The Second XI defeated Pangbourne N.C. 2nd XI 8—2, and lost to Wellington College 2nd XI 0—4.

J. Woodcock and M. Claridge represented Oxford against Cambridge at Hockey

M. CLARIDGE
OXFORD UNIVERSITY HOCKEY BLUE 1945 AND 1948

K.J. Veitch
Captain Hockey X1 1931 & 1932
Coached Hockey 1946 - 1960

Fixtures
Played 4 Won 2 Drawn 0 Lost 2

v Bradfield College - Won 4-3
(Away)

v Stowe School - Lost 0-5
(Away)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-4
(Home)

v R.J. Northcote-Green's Scratch XI - Won 4-2
(Home)

Hockey XI 1946

Team	E.R. Thompson (Captain), H.C. Oldland, J.E. Kitchin, D.A. Pitt, J.L.G. Wood, B.L.A. Kislingbury,
	M.J.C. Wheeler, M.J.R. Herdon, W. Gaskell, R.B.W. Wheeler, J.E. Bartleet
Coached by	R.P. Brims (C.R.) & K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

HOCKEY

Matches were upon us before we had time to mould together our best team. Nevertheless the keenness of the 'cricketers' (ever ready to play ball) soon proved that 'where there's a will there's a way,' and we eventually had an eleven which hit cleanly, flicked a little, and, at times, combined well.

We cannot expect, in so short a season, to perfect our stick-work or embark on any other than the simplest of tactics. Bearing this in mind, the XI did well to hold the O.U. Occasionals and the more experienced Stowe as they did. The defence, especially the goalkeeper, was dogged throughout. The forwards never really settled down, but the right wing showed great promise.

The Colts, once again in the hands of Mr. Brims, shewed that they wished to learn the game and thus curtailed the temptation of hitting the cover off the ball.

The XI: Oldland; Kitchin, Pitt mi.; Wood mi., Kislingbury, Wheeler iv; Herdon, Gaskell, Wheeler mi., Thompson (capt.), Bartleet mi.

RESULTS.

Feb. 11. *v.* Bradfield College (away). Won, 4—3.
Feb. 20. *v.* Stowe School (away). Lost, 0—5.
Mar. 9. *v.* O.U. Occasionals (home). Lost, 0—4.
Mar. 13. *v.* R. J. Northcote-Green's XI (home). Won, 4—2.

Several matches had to be cancelled owing to bad weather and illness.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* BRADFIELD COLLEGE

Played at Bradfield on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Won, 4—3.

The match was played on a wet field and under exceedingly unfavourable conditions. During the first half the School backs showed determination in defence, while in attack the halves and forwards possessed more constructive ability than their opponents. At half-time the score was 2—1 in our favour. In the second half, however, Bradfield settled down and the game became more even, but the final score of 4—3 did justice to the game.

J.C. WOODCOCK
OXFORD UNIVERSITY HOCKEY BLUE 1946-1947

Hockey

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixtures
Played 0 Won 0 Drawn 0 Lost 0

No Games Played due Very Harsh Winter

Hockey XI 1947

No Team Formed due to Inclement Weather Throughout the Season

In spite of the weather several O.S.E. have found opportunities to distinguish themselves in sport. J. C. Woodcock played in goal for the Oxford Hockey XI;

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixtures
Played 7 Won 0 Drawn 0 Lost 7

v Reverend L.M. Styler's Scratch XI - Lost 3-8
(Home)

v Worcester College, Oxford - Lost 1-8
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 1-7
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Keble College, Oxford - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-8
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 0-2
(Away)

Hockey XI 1948

Team	J.M. Kershaw (Captain), M.J. Farrar-Brown, K. Wolff, K.D. Moss, S.P. Powell, C.R.H. Sweeny, J.S. Smith, B.E.Carroll, J.C. Armstrong, K. Turner, P.H. Russell-Smith, G.H.W. Goodman, M.I.S. Redman, P.R. Shortt
Coached by	RP. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

HOCKEY

It is not easy cheerfully to write an account of this season's hockey. The record of the XIs is given elsewhere. In fairness to the members of the XI we must remember that not a game of hockey was played in the 1947 term.

The XI probably played its best games against Keble and the Occasionals, but even so was rather easily beaten. In defence, despite the large number of goals against us, we looked at times quite a fair side. Moss mi., the Captain, improved immensely and did a lot of good work; Powell mus., his partner, was too erratic and rather slow; Farrer-Brown in goal improved from match to match. The halves just had neither the stick work nor sense of position to compete fairly with our opponents. At forward we had some speed, but neither skill nor the semblance of combined play. Turner mus., Crisp and Short sometimes played well but seldom at the same time.

The 2nd XI became a little precocious after an unbeaten season. It would be invidious, if not impossible, to mention names to account for their success. It suffices to say that, to the great relief of the Selection Committee, they were defeated by the 1st XI in a 'friendly' challenge match at the end of the season.

The Colts XI, ably guided by Mr. Brims and Mr. Veitch, was unlucky to have matches scratched owing to illness elsewhere. Jones mus., Smith ma., Eagger, Gardiner ma. and Tripp improved noticeably in the short playing season, whilst Fuzzey and Mackendrick showed most welcome signs of skill in their stick-work and play generally.

Results of Season 1948

First XI.

v. L. M. Styler's XI	- -	Lost, 3—8
v. Worcester College	- -	Lost, 1—8
v. O.U. Occasionals	- -	Lost, 1—7
v. Stowe	- - - -	Lost, 1—2
v. Keble College	- - -	Lost, 1—4
v. Magdalen College School	-	Lost, 1—8
v. Pangbourne	- - -	Lost, 0—2

Second XI.

v. Stowe	- - - -	Won, 2—1
v. Pangbourne	- - -	Won, 6—2

Colts.

v. Pangbourne	- - -	Lost, 0—1
v. Magdalen College School	-	Lost, 2—4

The following played for the 1st XI: Farrer-Brown, Wolff; Moss, Powell; Sweeny, Carroll, Armstrong; Turner mus., Kershaw, Russell-Smith, Goodman, Redman, Shortt, Crisp, Smith x.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 1949

Team	J.R.A. Bampfield (Captain), C.R.H. Sweeny, P.R. Shortt, D.W.H. Smith, H.M. Smith, R.A. Southby, J. Paul
	E.D. Moylan, R. Lock, T.V. Jones, C.G. Chester
Coached By	RP. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 9 Won 2 Drawn 0 Lost 7

v Radley College - Lost 0-7
(Home)

v Trinity College, Oxford - Lost 1-5
(Home)

v Worcester College, Oxford - Lost 1-6
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-7
(Away)

v Keble College, Oxford - Lost 0-5
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-6
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 0-5
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 2-1
(Home)

HOCKEY, 1949

Our brief period of hockey this year is memorable for several reasons. In the first place the weather, save for a couple of days' snow, was nearly perfect, secondly, and at long last, we have proved ourselves a better side than two of our opponents and, finally, in those games which we did lose, not once did the total of the goals scored against us reach the formidable total of eight so common last year.

The XI took a long time to settle down owing partly to changes caused either by illness or to give fair trials to as many likely players as possible. Our weakness must always be in finding forwards as the emphasis here is mainly on stick-work, speed and positional play which cannot easily be learnt in the few weeks we play. Shortt, Smith x, and Smith ma., were probably the best of the forwards with Moylan and Lock doing a tremendous lot of work, but rather too easily beaten for possession of the ball.

Sweeny captained the side from right-half and was most effective in stopping his man, if not always with the umpire's approval. Bampfield and Southby both have quite a sound knowledge of the game but lack speed. Paul and Jones mus. played well at back, when remembering the principle of defence in depth. Chester's keeping of goal was at times brilliant.

The Second XI continue to confound the critics and to show how meaningless are the terms First Eleven and Second Eleven. Built upon a solid foundation of members of the Rugby XV, the match results tell of their successful encounters.

This year saw the Colts finish Rugby at the same time as the Seniors and this must go some way to explain why this XI, although winning only one match, was really a most promising side and everyone obviously enjoyed every moment of their game.

There are now six full games of hockey and no doubt the standard of play would have been further raised if it were not for the lack of coaches.

Finally a new and quite unofficial Inter-House Competition was played. This is a six-a-side knock-out and must remain unofficial while the Common Room can still muster the courage to enter a side. Mr. Bullivant long bore testimony to the earnestness of these games. Mac's. were the winners after a most exciting final.

RESULTS OF SEASON 1949

First XI	*v.*	Radley College	Lost 0—7
	v.	Trinity College	Lost 1—5
	v.	Worcester College	Lost 1—6
	v.	Bradfield College	Won 2—1
	v.	Magdalen College School	Lost 0—7
	v.	Keble College	Lost 0—5
	v.	O.U. Occasionals	Lost 0—6
	v.	Pangbourne	Lost 0—5
	v.	Stowe School	Won 2—1
Second XI	*v.*	Radley College	Lost 1—5
	v.	Southfield School	Draw 1—1
	v.	Bradfield College	Won 2—1
	v.	Pangbourne	Won 6—2
	v.	Stowe School	Won 3—0
Colts XI	*v.*	Radley College	Lost 0—5
	v.	Bradfield College	Draw 2—2
	v.	Magdalen College School	Lost 3—4
	v.	Stowe School	Won 5—3
	v.	Radley College	Lost 3—4

First XI: Sweeny, Shortt, Smith x, Smith ma., Southby, Bampfield, Moylan, Lock, Jones mus. Paul Chester ma.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Fixtures
Played 8 Won 2 Drawn 0 Lost 6

v Trinity College, Oxford - Won 5-0
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-5
(Home)

v Worcester College, Oxford - won 4-3
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v Keble College, Oxford - Lost 3-6
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 2-3
(Away)

v Stowe School - Lost 1-6
(Away)

Hockey XI 1950

Team J.R.A. Bampfield (Captain), P.R. Shortt, D.W.H. Smith, H.M. Smith, T.V. Jones, C.G. Chester, R. Lock, J.N. MacAdam, J.N. McCaig, H.E. Lucas, A. Brockman, G.A.P. Chamberlain, D.K. Gardiner

Coached by RP. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

HOCKEY

One cross-country race, one rugger house match, one boxing match, one field day and one week's bad weather all necessarily but sadly intruded into our brief season. We started with seven members of last year's XI and so with great hopes for a better side, but events and results proved a little disappointing.

The XI stayed almost unchanged. Jones mus. played one afternoon against Keble College and then quite suddenly left to join the Army the following morning. Gardiner came in in his place and played well. Shortt captained the side from centre-forward; he shoots well when given the time but, as all the forwards must now realise, one never has enough time, and so very, very few worthwhile shots were made. Smith ma. and Lock were by far the most energetic and constructive hockey players in the forward line; they combined well and Smith ma. sent over many good centres. Our left-half and back seldom played a cover-drive in the direction of the right wing to give them all the chances they deserved, nor did the others make sufficient use of the 'through pass.'

Bampfield played quite soundly at centre-half, but is still too slow and much better fitted to be a back. An excellent understanding developed between the wing halves and their respective backs; Lucas at right-back played many good games although inclined to wind himself up excessively for immense blows which the umpires soon learned to anticipate and prevent. Chester in goal had another busy season; he made many brilliant saves and must long remember the first twenty minutes of the Stowe match, when at least two dozen shots reached him; every one he stopped, although not always within the rules of the game, and so seized the chance of winning a penalty bully.

The Second XI has again had a fairly successful season, including victory over an eleven raised by Mr. Armstrong in which several familiar figures could be recognised. K.J.V. is considered to have played well and H.D.W. not too well.

Perhaps the Colts' hockey provides the most encouraging news of all. Their play showed a sound appreciation and execution of many of the most important points of the game. The forwards realised that their job is to score goals, but still more determination and quickness in shooting is needed in the circle; the halves, that they must be both attackers and defenders; whilst the backs soon learnt that the quicker the ball is got away to our own forwards the better.

The Six-a-Side Competition was again played and is, perhaps, most memorable for the success of the Common Room six, aided most admirably by Mr. Tero, in reaching the final round. He responded most willingly to the encouragement of the remaining five and ran quite tirelessly throughout all three matches. Segar's were the winners, the full results being printed below.

Finally, we ought briefly to mention the tremendous amount of work Father Neale and his staff have put in in levelling part of Corfe II, used of course as the 1st hockey pitch, which had settled noticeably. This has now been seeded and we are hoping to develop it into a first-class pitch.

THE FIRST XI

The team consisted of: Shortt, Smith x, Smith ma., Jones mus., Bampfield, Chester ma., Lock, MacCaig, Lucas, Brockman, Chamberlain.

The following have also played: Macadam, Gardiner.

RESULTS

v. Trinity College (home); won, 5—0.
v. Bradfield College (away); lost, 1—4.
v. Magdalen College School (home); lost, 1—5.
v. Worcester College (home); won, 4—3.
v. O.U. Occasionals (home); lost, 1—4.
v. Keble College (away); lost, 3—6.
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (away); lost, 2—3.
v. Stowe School (away); lost, 1—6.

THE SECOND XI

The following have played for the Second XI: Charles-Jones, Gardiner, Russian ma., Madeley, Macadam, James, Woodhouse, Caffyn, Martin, Freeman, Wheeler, Jackson, Smith mus., Peregrine.

RESULTS

v. Radley College (home); lost, 4—5.
v. Bradfield College (away); lost, 2—3.
v. J. E. Armstrong's XI (home); won, 3—2.
v. Pangbourne Nautical College (away); won, 4—0.
v. Stowe School (away); drawn, 3—3.

THE COLTS XI

RESULTS

v. Radley College (home); lost, 1—5.
v. Magdalen College School (home); won, 4—2.
v. Pangbourne Nautical Coll. (away); drawn, 2—2.
v. Stowe School (home); drawn, 1—1.

2nd Colts XI *v.* Stowe School (home); lost, 1—4.

SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION

'A' Teams:

Masters	*v.* B.	Masters	Masters	Segar's, 3—0
D	*v.* A.	D		
C	*v.* E.	E	G	
F	*v.* G.	G		

'B' Teams:

D	*v.* A.	D	D	Mac's., 1—0
B, a bye		B		
F	*v.* G.	F	F	
C	*v.* E.	E		

HOCKEY SECOND XI - 1950

Hockey XI 1951

L to R standing	R.A. Russian, J le B. Freeman, D.C. Thorpe, J.S. Cooper, M.E. Thorne, D.R. Paine
L to R seated	F.H. Wheeler, J.P. Smith, J.R.A. Bampfield (Captain), A. Brockman, J.A.T. Beard
Coached by	RP. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 9 Won 2 Drawn 0 Lost 7 (One Result Unknown)

v Worcester College, Oxford - Lost 1-6
(Home)

v University College, Oxford - Lost 1-5
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-6
(Home)

v Wrekin College - Won (No Details)
(Public Schools Hockey Festival)

v St. Lawrence School, Hurstpierpoint - Lost (No Details)
(Public Schools Hockey Festival)

v Gresham's School, Holt - Lost (No Details)
(Public Schools Hockey Festival)

v Cranbrook School - Lost 0-1
(Public Schools Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

We have now two seasons, the 'unofficial' and the 'official.' In the former, from the beginning of term, quite a lot of hockey was played by those not wanted on the rugger field, but later the weather intervened and very little 'official hockey' was possible.

The XI was fortunate to have fine days for five matches. Although in only one of these were we successful, the standard of play, particularly by the defence and right wing pair, was really good at times. J. R. A. Bampfield captained the side from centre-half and did a tremendous lot of work. A laudable ambition to score goals sometimes led him astray. It would be unfair to pick others from the defence for special praise. A. Brockman and G. Beard developed a very sound understanding on the right, whilst Russian scampered here and there, sometimes achieving complete surprise on the wrong side of the pitch and not always with the full approval of Cooper with whom he was intended to co-operate. This fault was gradually disappearing when the weather stopped play. Behind all stood F. H. Wheeler, again in great form.

Our forwards, with the exception of J. P. Smith and Paine ma., the former always playing really well, lacked co-ordination and thrust. Hitting and hoping simply will not beat any reasonable defence. This was the method of our attack all too often, and we really never looked likely to get goals.

Second XI and Colts XI had so little play that it is not easy to write of their achievements. The former neither enjoyed victory nor suffered defeat, whilst the Colts went down narrowly in their matches.

There is every hope for a better standard of play to develop from the extra time for play which we now have, from the recognition accorded the game by the awarding of a Colour for hockey, and from the evident enthusiasm aroused in the Colts by those masters who devote so many of their afternoons to taking games. We want still more help.

The team was: J. R. A. Bampfield*, J. P. Smith*, A. Brockman*, F. H. Wheeler*, J. A. T. Beard*, Paine ma., Russian, Cooper, Thorne ma., Thorne mi., Freeman.

The following also played: Morgan.

* Awarded Hockey Colours

RESULTS

v. Worcester College (home). Lost, 1—6
v. University College (home). Lost, 1—5
v. Bradfield College (home). Won, 1—0
v. Radley College (home). Lost, 2—3
v. Magdalen College School (home). Lost, 1—6

THE SECOND XI

The following have played for the Second XI:

Smith mus., Morgan, Temple, Campbell, Tuckett, Clough, Utin, Rutherford, Lillicrap, Evans, Voigt, Paine mi.

RESULTS

v. Bradfield College (home). Drawn, 1—1
v. Radley College (home). Drawn, 3—3

THE COLTS XI

RESULTS

v. Bradfield College (away). Lost, 0—1
v. Pangbourne (away). Lost, 1—3

PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL, 1951

This year, for the first time, the School entered a team in the Public Schools Hockey Festival.

Although an initial success was scored against Wrekin, we found St. Lawrence and Gresham's rather too good for us. The game with Cranbrook was very even; they just won by one goal.

However, in spite of these defeats, the standard of play was promisingly high throughout, especially against Wrekin and Cranbrook.

The weather was fairly good and everyone enjoyed it very much.

The following played for the School:

Bampfield, Brockman, Beard, Russian mi., Thompson mi., Thompson mus., Paine ma., Paine mi., Smith mus., Freeman, Utin, Cooper, Clough.

Hockey XI 1952

L to R standing	S.T.W. Anderson, J.E. Heathcock, D.J. Cole, J. le B. Freeman, M.P. Rohde, R.A. Cranmer
L to R seated	D.C. Thorne, T.P. Russian, J.A.T. Beard (Captain), J.P.H. Thompson, M.E. Thorne
Coached by	RP. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 10 Won 4 Drawn 1 Lost 5

v Bloxham School - Won 1-0
(Away)

v Oxford Hawks H.C.- Lost 1-3
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-10
(Home)

v Oriel College, Oxford - Won 7-5
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-5
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 6-1
(Home)

v University College, Oxford - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Exeter College, Oxford - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

HOCKEY

The weather has been remarkably kind to us this term, much more hockey has been played, even including two Junior matches, and the result has been a marked improvement in the standard of play.

The eleven had a sound defence based upon J. A. T. Beard, a most enthusiastic and industrious captain, D. C. Thorne, whose instinct for hitting a ball fiercely frightened many an opponent, and J. P. H. Thompson in goal.

Our trouble, as so often in the past, has been finding inside-forwards. Many were tried but the problem was only finally solved by playing M. E. Thorne there and promoting Anderson and Cranmer from the successful Colts side. They all played well but the younger ones did not appreciate the necessity for going hard all the time. T. P. Russian and Freeman had speed on the wing but little stickwork or 'eye' to support it. D. J. Cole, at centre-half, improved with every game, but is a little too impetuous, whilst Rohde and Heathcock played intelligently if slowly.

The Second XI was an aggressive if not skilful side. No less than seventeen players were tried in the team owing to injuries and the calls of the Eleven; naturally their combined play suffered and they never really had the chance to get together as a team.

The Colts game produced both A and B sides for their matches and did very well. Even when two of their forwards had been stolen for the Eleven the side continued to play good hockey and should contribute to a strong Senior game next year.

The kindly weather and a change in the system of the House Junior Rugby competition allowed a Junior Hockey game to start. They were immediately challenged to matches by two nearby Prep. Schools and remained unbeaten after two splendid games. It is hoped to do this each year and thereby further improve our hockey.

The School was again invited to play in the Public Schools Hockey Festival at Oxford but the end of term blizzard made play impossible.

The following played for the First XI:

J. A. T. Beard*, T. P. Russian*, J. P. H. Thompson*, D. C. Thorne*, M. E. Thorne*, D. J. Cole*, Freeman ma., Rohde mi., Heathcock, Anderson, Cranmer, Rutherford, Paine mi., Evans mi., Thompson mi., Morgan, Buchanan, Fell.

* Colours.

FIRST XI RESULTS

v. Bloxham School (away). Won, 1—0.
v. Oxford Hawks (home). Lost, 1—3.
v. Bradfield College (away). Lost, 0—2.
v. O.U. Occasionals (home). Lost, 0—10.
v. Oriel College (home). Won, 7—5.
v. Cheltenham College (home). Lost, 0—3.
v. Magdalen College School (home). Lost, 1—5.
v. Pangbourne N.C. (home). Won, 6—1.
v. University College (home). Won, 4—1.
v. Exeter College (home). Drawn, 2—2.

The following played for the Second XI:

Evans ma., Wilson mus., Fell, Morgan, Rutherford, Paine mi., Cox mus., Evans mi., Thompson mi., Buchanan, Smith ix, Voigt, Woods, Hadlee, Lillicrap, Johnson mi., Trentham ma.

SECOND XI RESULTS

v. Magdalen College School (home). Won, 2—1.
v. Abingdon School First XI (home). Lost, 1—6.
v. Bradfield College (away). Drawn, 4—4.
v. Cheltenham College (home). Lost, 2—6.
v. Pangbourne N.C. (home). Drawn, 1—1.

THE COLTS XI RESULTS

'A' XI

v. Radley College (home). Won, 4—0.
v. Bradfield College (home). Won, 7—1.
v. Magdalen College School (home). Lost, 3—4.
v. Stowe School (home). Won, 4—3.

'B' XI

v. Radley College (home). Won, 3—0.
v. Bradfield College (home). Drawn, 2—2.
v. Stowe School (home). Lost, 2—3.

JUNIOR XI

v. Dragon School (away). Drawn, 1—1.
v. New College School (away). Won, 2—0.

Hockey XI 1953

L to R standing	J.H. Barker, R.A. Cranmer, M.E. Buchanan, J.E. Heathcock, P.J. Evans, C.M.B. Phillips
L to R seated	S.T.W. Anderson, T.P. Russian, D.J. Cole (Captain), J.P.H. Thompson, C.E. Richardson
Coached by	RP. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 14 Won 7 Drawn 0 Lost 7

v R.A.F. Cadets, Henlow - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Bloxham School - Won 10-1
(Home)

v Oxford Hawks H.C. - Lost 2-4
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 3-5
(Home)

v Radley College - Won 6-1
(Away)

v Bromsgrove School - Won 3-1
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 2-4
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 2-5
(Away)

v Stowe School - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 4-0
(Home)

v Liverpool College - Won 4-0
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v King's School, Canterbury - Lost 2-3
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Dean Close, Cheltenham - Lost 0-5
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival

v Cheltenham College - Lost 2-4
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

For the second consecutive year the hockey season has proceeded with a minimum number of the interruptions usually associated with this term. The general standard of stick-work and ball control has improved accordingly but most of the hockey in the school is still played at a far too leisurely pace. This was particularly noticeable in the inter-House Leagues, the success of Segar's being due largely to well disciplined positional play and the willingness of the whole side to run fast when the situation demanded it.

FIRST XI

With three old colours available for vital positions and a successful Colts side last year, prospects for the season were good. On the whole our expectations were justified. The eleven has been the most successful that the School has had for several years, winning all but two of the School matches. Of these the first, against our old bogey, Magdalen College School, provided one of the best games of the season, while in the second, against Pangbourne, our depleted defence cracked under continued pressure from a skilful and fast moving forward line.

Cole, the captain and centre-half, has been a source of strength and inspiration to the side throughout the season. As a player he touched the heights against Radley, but must beware of the most dangerous temptation to which centre-halves are exposed, that of holding on too long when unchallenged. In goal Thompson has once again done everything which could be expected of him. The backs have shown a good sense of positional play and if their clearances have sometimes lacked power they have been reasonably safe. The half-back line has been sound in defence. In attack a little more concentration on distribution, particularly to the wings, would have paid handsome dividends.

The forwards, all capable players, have only looked really impressive against weaker defences. The inside forwards must learn that against a good defence the most damaging attacks come from the wings and that the initiation of these attacks is an essential part of their job. Special mention should be made of Anderson, whose skilful stick-work and speed off the mark have given him a personal tally of nineteen goals.

The First XI consisted of: D. J. Cole, T. P. Russian, J. P. H. Thompson, S. T. W. Anderson, C. E. Richardson, M. E. Buchanan, J. E. Heathcock, R. A. Cranmer, C. M. B. Phillips and P. J. Evans.

Results

'A' XI

v.	R.A.F. Cadets, Henlow (H) ...	Won 4—1
v.	Bloxham School (H)	Won 10—1

First XI

v.	Oxford Hawks (H)	Lost 2—4
v.	O.U. Occasionals (H)	Lost 3—5
v.	Radley College (A)	Won 6—1
v.	Bromsgrove School (A) ...	Won 3—1
v.	Magdalen College School (H) ...	Lost 2—4
v.	Nautical College, Pangbourne (A)	Lost 2—5
v.	Stowe School (H)	Won 4—1
v.	Bradfield College (H)	Won 4—0

ST. EDWARD'S FIRST XI *v.* RADLEY COLLEGE

Played at Radley on Wednesday, February 25th

Won 6—1

As usual the School started slowly and were one down after the first ten minutes. The goal was scored by Carr, the Radley centre-forward, who always looked dangerous and it was fortunate indeed that D. J. Cole, at centre-half, was absolutely on top of his form. After five minutes the scores were equalised with a goal engineered by Cole and scored by S. T. W. Anderson, which was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the season. The score remained unchanged until half-time. After the interval, the character of the game changed completely when the School defence directed their clearance to the open spaces. Interpassing between the forwards was quick and accurate and the goals which followed in rapid succession were well deserved.

Team: J. P. H. Thompson, M. E. Buchanan, Heathcock, Evans, D. J. Cole, C. E. Richardson, Barker, Phillips, S. T. W. Anderson, Cranmer, Llewellyn-Smith.

ST. EDWARD'S FIRST XI *v.* MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

Played at home on Monday, March 2nd

Lost 2—4

Magdalen College School have always had a team of merit and, as predicted, this was one of the School's hardest matches. Once again the opposition were the first to score, but after a very even first half the School were on level terms after a goal by C. M. B. Phillips. In the second half the defence played as well as ever, but after an injury to the Captain, some of the co-ordination was lost and Magdalen College School scored three times in reply to the School's one by R. A. Cranmer. Our opponents earned their victory by their speed on to the ball, an object lesson for all School hockey players.

Team: J. P. H. Thompson, M. E. Buchanan, J. E. Heathcock, P. J. Evans, D. J. Cole, C. E. Richardson, J. H. Barker, C. M. B. Phillips, S. T. W. Anderson, R. A. Cranmer, T. P. Russian.

THE SECOND XI

The Second XI have played six matches, won two, drawn one and lost three. The following played: Brazier, Fell, Caffyn, Johnstone mus, Mackintosh, Walker mus (capt.), Herd ma, Hadlee, Dunning, Weekes, Barber, Skilbeck, Miller, Outhwaite, Hope, Llewellyn-Smith, Norbury ma.

Results

Second XI

v.	Radley College (A)	Won 5—1
v.	Bromsgrove School (A)	Lost 1—2
v.	Magdalen College School (H) ...	Lost 0—4
v.	Nautical College, Pangbourne (A)	Won 7—0
v.	Stowe School (H) ...	Drawn 1—1
v.	Bradfield College (H)	Lost 1—2

COLTS

The weather, to a degree unusual in an Easter term, allowed for plenty of hockey under ideal conditions; and, if the season, judged by its results, was not a successful one it was at least enjoyable. It was unfortunate that the one week of bad weather coincided with the return from rugger to hockey of many Colts who found themselves, as a result, playing in matches with very little chance of previous practice and in a few cases without even previous hockey experience. Against Radley and Magdalen College School we were beaten decisively by better sides and, to a degree, it is fair to say by this inevitable lack of practice. Certainly the side which so narrowly won a really grand game at Stowe showed marked improvement and provided an encouraging note on which to end the season.

Although the Colts First XI suffered from lack of cohesion as a side, there were some individually promising players — as there were indeed also in the Second XI. The half-back line was consistently good. The defence had its good days but was too easily rattled by being an odd goal or two down, while the forwards, who showed distinct promise right the way up to the opposing circle, suffered from that most typical aversion in Colts hockey of actually having a shot at goal. It was particularly heartening to see the forwards overcome this bogey in their last match at Stowe, in which the whole side combined magnificently to win the victory which had escaped them throughout the season.

There was in some positions in the field very little to choose between the First and Second XIs, and the latter gave a good account of themselves in their matches. It was a pity that the fixtures with Bradfield and the Nautical College, Pangbourne, had to be cancelled, because both sides would have benefited from more match hockey.

Teams.—

First XI: Johnson iv, Alers-Hankey, Gardiner mus, Oldaker ma, Shaw (capt.), Love, Hancock, Lecky-Thompson, Greenway ma, Hosie, Fuad. Also played: Friend mi, Parish, Briggs, Topp, Ayres.

Second XI: Fisher mi, McFerran, Ayres, Parish (capt.), Plumridge, Ireland, Mead, Friend mi, Price, Briggs, Topp. Also played: Quinsee, Lowe, Brewin.

Results

First XI

v.	Radley College (H)	Lost 4—7
v.	Radley College (A)	Lost 0—6
v.	Magdalen College School (H) ...	Lost 1—8
v.	Stowe School (A)	Won 4—3

Second XI

v.	Radley College (H)	Won 4—1
v.	Radley College (A)	Won 3—0
v.	Stowe School (A)	Lost 3—4

INTER-HOUSE LEAGUE COMPETITION

This competition produced some very keen and hard played and at times quite skilful matches. The results were as follows:

1.	Segar's	10 points
2.	Apsley	7 ,,
3.	Macnamara's ...	6 ,,
4.	Sing's	5 ,,
	Field House ...	5 ,,
	Tilly's	5 ,,
7.	Cowell's	4 ,,

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL

The School once again took part in this Festival which was played in Oxford at the beginning of the Easter holidays. Twenty-nine schools were represented including nearly all the best hockey schools in the country. The Festival is essentially non-competitive, the games being played in the proper spirit of friendly rivalry. The general standard of play was undoubtedly high and the extra experience gained by the School players should prove invaluable next year.

Our results were disappointing, one game being won and three lost, but such a cold statement of fact does not do justice to the School side who, in two of the games lost, had their full share of the play and were in the hunt right up to the final whistle. We were unfortunate to be rather hard hit by injuries and hope that future aspirants for the position will not be deterred by the fact that both the first and second eleven goalkeepers went home encased in plaster of Paris.

Results

v.	Liverpool College	Won 4—0
v.	King's School, Canterbury ...	Lost 2—3
v.	Dean Close School	Lost 0—5
v.	Cheltenham College	Lost 2—4

Hockey XI 1954

L to R standing	A.E.F. Caffyn, R.S. Skilbeck, C.T. Shaw, D.G.L. Stevens, E.K. MacIntosh, J.R. Friend
L to R seated	A. Walker, C.M.B. Phillips, S.T.W. Anderson (Captain), P.J. Evans, G.V. Berry
On ground	J.B.K. Greenway, D.L. Hosie
Coached by	RP. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 7 Won 3 Drawn 0 Lost 4

v Bradfield College - Won 4-2
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 1-8
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School - Lost 2-5
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-6
(Home)

v Stowe School Lost 1-3
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 4-2
(Away)

v Radley College - Won 5-3
(Home)

HOCKEY

Although by no means a strong side, the First XI have had an enjoyable and not altogether unsuccessful season. In spite of four consecutive defeats in the middle of the term they recovered well and won three out of the six School matches. With only three Old Colours available the side suffered badly from lack of experience during the early stages of the term and some positions proved very difficult to fill satisfactorily.

The goalkeeper and backs proved to be much better than had been expected, and Walker, at left-back, became the mainstay of the whole defence. With the exception of a much improved Evans, the half-backs were just not fast enough and we were unable to find a centre-half capable of dominating the mid-field play. The forwards improved steadily throughout the season, but the lack of a really high class wing on either flank was a serious handicap. Once again the attack depended mainly on Anderson, the one outstanding player in the side. He has been the School's match-winner for two and a half years and his four goals against Radley made a very fitting end to his season as Captain.

THE FIRST XI: S. T. W. Anderson (Capt.), C. M. B. Phillips, P. J. Evans, A. Walker, J. B. K. Greenway, G. V. Berry, D. G. L. Stevens, D. L. Hosie, R. S. Skilbeck, Shaw, Friend mi.

Also played: Mackintosh, Caffyn, Llewellyn-Smith, Lane.

THE SECOND XI: Hope (Capt.), Price mus., Gardiner mus., Oldaker mi., Caffyn, Mackintosh, Lane, Stead, Balmer, Dunning, Llewellyn-Smith.

Also played: Latham, Mead mi.

RESULTS

FIRST XI

February 20th. *v.* Bradfield (H) - - -	Won, 4—2
February 22nd *v.* O.U. Occasionals (H) -	Lost, 1—8
February 27th. *v.* Bromsgrove (H) - -	Lost, 2—5
March 1st. *v.* Magdalen College School (H)	Lost, 1—6
March 6th. *v.* Stowe (A) - - - - -	Lost, 1—3
March 10th. *v.* Pangbourne N.C. (A) - -	Won, 4—2
March 13th. *v.* Radley (H) - - - -	Won, 5—3

SECOND XI

February 13th. *v.* Magdalen Coll. School (H)	Lost, 1—4
February 27th. *v.* Bromsgrove (H) - -	Won, 4—0
March 2nd. *v.* Bradfield (H) - - - -	Lost, 1—2
March 6th. *v.* Stowe (A) - - - - -	Lost, 2—4
March 13th. *v.* Radley (H) - - - -	Won, 3—1

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

Lost 2—5

We were beaten by a good Bromsgrove side in one of the best games of the season. Both sides hit the ball quickly and cleanly and Bromsgrove earned their victory by an all round advantage in speed. In the first half we were unable to turn defence into attack and while the Bromsgrove forward line combined well our only dangerous attacks were the result of individual runs. We were nevertheless a little unlucky to be 4—0 down at half time. For most of the second half the play was very even, possibly due to a slight relaxation on the part of Bromsgrove, and had we taken all our chances we might still have made a close game of it. In the end, however, it was Bromsgrove who lasted better and the game finished as it had begun with the School very much on the defensive.

ST. EDWARD'S *v.* RADLEY COLLEGE

Won 5—3.

This, the last game of the season, brought out the best in the School side. Two down after ten minutes, the recovery, led by Anderson, was complete and convincing. Radley, starting at a very fast pace indeed, had our defence in trouble and their two very good goals looked for a long time as though they would be decisive. It reflects considerable credit on our defence that there was no panic under the onslaught and as the game swung round they became masters of the situation. By the end of the first half we were doing most of the attacking and the Radley lead had been reduced to one goal. In the second half the School forward line showed more cohesion than at any other time during the season. The passing between the inside forwards was quick and accurate and the goals followed one another in rapid succession. The game was safely won when Radley broke away to score again in the closing minutes.

COLTS

The weather was not kind. Both the Radley matches had to be cancelled as well as a match arranged late in the season against Marlborough.

Both Colts sides showed distinct promise and, statistically, it was a good season. The First XI, which owed much to the all round ability and captaincy of Kendal, was a very useful side without quite being outstanding. The drawn match with Magdalen College School produced some really good hockey.

The First XI was beaten only—and on the day pretty definitely—by Stowe, and it was a great pity that they had no chance of disproving this rather disappointing performance by visiting Marlborough.

By missing the Radley games, the Second XI had only two matches, which were enough to show that they merited more.

Apart from the disappointment of cancelled matches, it was a particularly enjoyable season. The Colts' game maintained a standard above the average, and the hockey on it was played as hockey should be.

RESULTS

First XI	*Second XI*
v. Bradfield - Won, 3—1	*v.* Bradfield - Won, 5—2
v. Pangbourne Won, 3—1	*v.* Stowe - - Won, 2—1
v. M.C.S. Drawn, 3—3	
v. Stowe - Lost, 1—4	

The following played for the First XI: Allen mus.; Alers Hankey, Leach; Hill mus., Kendal mus. (Capt.), Julien mi.; Quinsee, Sutherland, Balls, Faithfull, Powell-Harper. *Also:* Emson, Nicholson ma., Davis mus., Mallalieu.

The following played for the Second XI: Dobson; Emson, Pudsey; Nicholson ma., Francis (Capt.), Alexander mus.; Davis mus., Blair, Hok, Mallalieu, Cave. *Also:* Bartleet.

Hockey XI 1955

L to R standing	D.L.E. Balls, J.J. Love, J.D. Kendal, J.R.H. Price, J.D.B. Gardiner, C.E.L. Balmer, M.E. Oldaker
L to R seated	J.A.C. Hill, J.R. Friend, D.L. Hosie (Captain), H.J.E. Emson, B.C.T. Faithful
Coached by	R.P. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 8 Won 3 Drawn 1 Lost 4

v R.A.F. Cadet, Henlow - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v Jesus College, Oxford - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Cranbrook School - Won 2-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Worksop College - Lost 1-2
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Cranleigh School - Won 4-3
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Bryanston School - Lost 2-4
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

At the time of writing, the Public Schools' Hockey Festival has just ended. The day is warm, and after a few days of almost continuous hockey, with a few interruptions to give us time to talk about hockey, the bleak days of February are almost forgotten. If they must be recalled, let it be brief.

Before rugger ended we played two 'A' XI matches, one of which was lost, and the other drawn. During the hockey season proper only one out of the eight First XI matches was played. The season was extended for a week, and we were able to play one other match and an inter-House knockout competition.

The two matches played were against Stowe and Bromsgrove. The game against Stowe was surprisingly good, for although both sides were without practice, and hence disjointed, a respectable pace was maintained, and the School stick-work was good enough to make us regret the curtailment of the season. The match against Bromsgrove was an interesting struggle rather than a great game. Both sides seemed to lack cohesion, and we lost in the final minutes, when a draw seemed inevitable.

With two other games against scratch elevens we completed our preparation for the Festival. Somehow an eleven had emerged, not a bad one at that, and things went well. The weather improved, all the required players were available, the pitches were in perfect condition, and mercifully we remained free from those distressing casualties which can wreck a side all too easily.

On the first day we won 2—0 against Cranbrook. The most encouraging aspect was the solidity of the defence, notably the last two lines, the backs tackling and clearing well throughout. The forwards started well, but better finishing would have made the win more convincing. The second match, against Worksop, was lost 1—2. This was in many ways a repetition of the Bromsgrove game, and we were a shade unlucky to lose in the closing minutes, having had most of the play in the second half. In the third game against Cranleigh, our forwards came into their own, with Balls in sparkling form, and halfway through the second half we had established a 4—1 lead. All members of the side playing, together with those watching, were then taught a lesson it is hoped they will never forget. We relaxed for a few minutes, suddenly the score was 4—3, and the game was wide open again. However, there was no further score, and we gained a well deserved victory.

Surprisingly our game on the last morning was the best and the fastest of the four. Bryanston started at a pace which made our defence look virtually static, and were leading 3—0 after a quarter of an hour. Just when a real thrashing seemed imminent, it suddenly dawned on us that we too could play at this pace, and for the rest of the game the honours were even. This was a particularly valuable experience since it is hoped that at least seven of the side playing in this game will be back next year. The two substitute forwards, Hewitt and Lecky-Thompson, deserve special mention for the way in which they rose to the occasion.

In all then, we have played six matches, winning three and losing three. This can be rated a satisfactory performance since we had only one Old Colour available, and it was difficult to see how some of the positions could be filled. The Captain, D. L. Hosie, gained his Colours last year by virtue of his speed and his tenacity. This year he has made himself one of the outstanding players of the side. His stick-work has improved rapidly, and he proved himself a good captain both on and off the field.

In goal, J. R . H. Price, after a rather shaky beginning, suddenly got the hang of the thing, and became a reliable, and sometimes spectacular goalkeeper. The backs, H. J. E. Emson and L. D. B. Gardiner, became a very sound combination. Emson is a natural hockey player who strikes the ball very cleanly, while Gardiner improved with every game. That the side was able to settle down quickly was due largely to the fact that the centre-half position presented no difficulty. J. A. C. Hill had the required combination of speed, stick-work and temperament, and played admirably throughout. M. E. Oldaker, Kendal, and Love, have shared the wing-half positions, and have all played good games, but are a little slow in recovery. D. L. Hosie and J. R. Friend, the inside-forwards are both very much improved players, B. C. T. Faithfull and Balmer on the wings have filled competently positions which were new to them, and D. L. E. Balls is developing into a dangerous centre-forward. It was in the forward line, however, that our lack of experience and practice was most noticeable. Our most dangerous attacks were, all too often, individual raids rather than combined efforts, and the shooting left much to be desired.

The First XI was chosen from: D. L. Hosie, J. R. Friend, H. J. E. Emson, J. A. C. Hill, B. C. T. Faithfull, J. R. H. Price, D. L. E. Balls, J. D. B. Gardiner, M. E. Oldaker, Balmer, Kendal, and Love.

The following also played: Alers-Hankey, Lecky-Thompson, Hewitt and Papirnik.

RESULTS

March 5th. *v.* Stowe (H). Won, 3—1.
March 12th. *v.* Bromsgrove (A). Lost, 1—2.

Public Schools' Hockey Festival

March 29th. *v.* Cranbrook. Won, 2—0.
March 30th. *v.* Worksop. Lost, 1—2.
March 31st. *v.* Cranleigh. Won, 4—3.
April 1st. *v.* Bryanston. Lost, 2—4.

'A' XI Matches

January 29th. *v.* R.A.F. Cadets, Henlow (H). Lost, 1—4.
February 5th. *v.* Jesus College (H). Draw, 1—1.

Second XI Matches

This season the Second XI played only two matches.

March 5th. *v.* Stowe (H). Won, 3—0.
March 12th. *v.* Bromsgrove (A). Lost, 0—3.

The following played for the Second XI: J. B. D. Gardiner (Capt.), M. E. Oldaker, Sprague, Alers-Hankey, Wilson ma., Julien, Francis, Quinsee, Sutherland, Lecky-Thompson, Briggs, Davis mus., and Meads.

COLTS

The Colts at least enjoyed an unbeaten season. The combination of bad weather and illness deprived the Second XI of any matches at all, while the First XI's match at Radley was played partly in a snowstorm. The standard of the Colts game improved noticeably during the season, and it was most disappointing that nearly the whole fixture list had to be cancelled.

The following represented the Colts First XI in their 1—0 victory at Radley: Papirnik; Dale, Harrison-Smith; Elliott, Axtell, Stevens mus.; Hodge, Mainwaring ma., Greenway, Rider (Capt.), Davis mi.

Hockey XI 1956

L to R standing	M.W. Lecky-Thompson, B.C. Davis, A.F. Julien, J.E.G. Davies, A.J. Papirnik, B.G. Powell-Harper
L to R seated	J.J. Rider, H.J.E. Emson, M.E. Oldaker (Captain), J.A.C. Hill, D.L.E. Balls
Coached by	R.P. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 11 Won 2 Drawn 3 Lost 6

v Lincoln College, Oxford - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 2-3
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School -Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Oxfordshire H.C. - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Cambridge University Wanderers - Lost 0-4
(Home)

v Aldenham School - Lost 0-3
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Worksop College - Won 3-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Bryanston School - Lost 0-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v King's School, Canterbury - Drawn 1-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

Hockey has been raised to the status of a game with full colours. A hockey tie, square and sweater are being designed. Second XI colours will be introduced next season.

For two and a half weeks this term hockey and athletics proceeded concurrently. Seniors would attempt a standard after finishing their game of hockey while Juniors and Colts reversed the procedure. This effectively increased the length of the season and proved a popular move. It also enabled Juniors to play more hockey than ever before, a fact which bodes well for the future.

First XI Results

Wednesday, February 8th
v. Lincoln College. Home. Draw, 0—0.
Saturday, February 18th
v. Bradfield College. Home. Won, 2—1.
Saturday, March 3rd.
v. Stowe School. Away. Lost, 2—3.
Wednesday, March 7th
v. Pangbourne N.C. Home. Draw, 2—2.
Saturday, March 10th
v. Bromsgrove School. Home. Lost, 1—2.
Tuesday, March 13th
v. Oxfordshire. Home. Lost, 1—2.
Tuesday, March 20th
v. Cambridge U. Wanderers H.C. Home. Lost, 0—4.

This was so nearly such a good season. Early in February the team confirmed its promise by drawing with a strong college side. This was most encouraging. Then came the snow and practice was very limited. Then came the casualties. Boxing, mumps and 'flu all claimed their share. Only five of the side played in all the matches and while the reserves all acquitted themselves admirably the vital teamwork never materialised.

We were compensated for the slight disappointment of only winning one match by the continuous excitement involved in all of them. With the exception of the last game against a strong Wanderers side, no match was won or lost by more than one goal. Four of them were decided in the closing minutes. It was that sort of season.

Oldaker and Emson at back, Hill at centre-half and Balls at centre-forward formed the nucleus of Old Colours around which the side was built. The defence presented no difficulties. Powell-Harper, Julien, and Papirnik fitted into the gaps and all three have improved consistently throughout the season. It was in the forward line that we were hardest hit by injuries and throughout the season good approach work was marred by poor finishing. The inside forwards stuck to their task gallantly and the wings were by no means sluggish, but eight goals in seven matches is not enough. The fault, strange to relate, was not reluctance to shoot but over excitement, head lifting and wild stickwork, which are equally ineffective.

v. Lincoln College

Drawn, 0—0

The School took the first half to settle down in this match and began with several defensive errors. Both sides played better after the interval and sharp attacks were made on both goals. It seemed Lincoln must eventually win through their greater experience, but the School stuck doggedly to its task and the final whistle blew with still no score. The defence acquitted themselves well but the attack showed fire and speed only occasionally.

v. Bradfield

Won, 2—1

It became evident after the first match that the School lacked real thrust in the forward line with the exception of Balls and Rider, and Balls' accident came as a blow. For the first ten minutes, however, in this match the forwards completely mastered the Bradfield defence by swinging the ball about the field; only poor finishing prevented the School from being more than one goal up at the interval. Lecky-Thompson, following up fast on Quinsee's shot, scored the goal. Thereafter snow in the Bradfield faces merely enhanced our superiority and Mainwaring soon scored for the School. Too many chances were being wasted, however, and victory was in the balance when the Bradfield centre-forward scored a good goal. But the end came with the school attacking again.

v. Stowe

Lost, 3—2

Stowe won the match because their forwards were faster and had far more bustle than ours. The School were a trifle unlucky not to draw, for they had their share of the attacking, especially in the final ten minutes when the forwards should have scored. At half-time Stowe were two goals up and deserved them. The School's play had been generally lethargic, but livened up and two good goals by Rider and Quinsee was their reply. A runaway effort by Shajan, the Stowe centre-forward, ended with his third goal for Stowe. Near the final whistle a Quinsee shot narrowly missed a Stowe upright—a shot that startled the Stowe team, as well as his own, for it seemed to herald our final effort.

v. Pangbourne

Draw, 2—2

The School were slightly disappointing and should have won. The pace was slow and both sides rather sluggish. Play became more exciting towards the end when the School, who had shown superior hitting, tackling and dribbling, but inferior finishing, attacked fiercely for an equaliser which arrived just in time.

v. Oxfordshire

Lost, 1—2

The county brought down a moderately good side to play the School and here again the School's weak finishing was to blame for our defeat. The game was an even one, but one felt that our forwards should have shown more fitness in the closing minutes of the game. The School had that resigned look as far as half-way through the second half. The defence put up another good performance.

v. Cambridge University Wanderers

Lost 4—0

For the first time this season the School came up against a team which outclassed them in every sphere; and for the first time the team showed its real capabilities. Everyone played as a member of a team. The defence was solid and the forwards were by no means lacking in thrust. With ten minutes to go, Cambridge were only two goals up and the defence, who had hitherto shown great dependability, especially Papirnik in goal, looked just as solid. The rain came, the defence got flustered, sticks got wet and Cambridge whipped in two demoralising goals. The School walked off the field weary and rather sad, but having learnt a great deal.

The following played for the First Eleven: M. E. Oldaker (Capt.), H. J. E. Emson, J. A. C. Hill, D. L. E. Balls, J. J. Rider, B. G. Powell-Harper, A. F. Julien, M. W. Lecky-Thompson, A. J. Papirnik, Davis ma., Sutherland, Quinsee, Mainwaring, Hewitt, Kendal mus.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL

Once again we played four matches in the Festival held during the first four days of the Easter holidays. As seems inevitable at a Festival, the standard of hockey we played varied considerably. After good performances against Aldenham and Worksop the very fundamentals of positional play and marking were discarded with a spirit of reckless abandon. Some of the tackling would have looked better in the Christmas term and all the best passes were directed to a member of the opposite side. Just to show how unnecessary all this was, the second half of the last game was quick, exciting hockey, which offered little cause for complaint.

One last word. There were not enough players in this side for whom correct stickwork was automatic. Lack of serious individual practice was the reason.

Results

Tuesday, April 3rd. *v.* Aldenham. Lost, 0—3.
Wednesday, April 4th. *v.* Worksop. Won, 3—1.
Thursday, April 5th. *v.* Bryanston. Lost, 0—1.
Friday, April 6th. *v.* King's, Canterbury. Drawn, 1—1.

SECOND ELEVEN

The Second XI fulfilled its primary duty admirably. It provided a constant stream of competent reserves for the First Eleven. This rather naturally reduced the effectiveness of the side but the results were by no means bad.

Saturday, February 11th
v. Magdalen College School. Home. Draw, 3—3.
Saturday, February 18th
v. Bradfield College. Home. Lost, 1—3.
Saturday, March 3rd
v. Stowe School. Away. Lost, 1—2.
Wednesday, March 7th
v. Pangbourne N.C. Home. Won, 5—1.
Saturday, March 10th
v. Bromsgrove School. Home. Lost, 2—3.

The following played: Kendal mus., Quinsee, Sutherland, Mainwaring, Davis ma., Hewitt, Leach, Burke ma., Wilson ma., Francis, Brett, Davis mi., Gardner ma., Alexander mus., Pudsey, Axtell ma., Heyworth, Giles ma., Allen mus.

COLTS

In 1955 our season was limited to one match played at Radley in a snow storm. By the end of February it looked as if this season might follow the same pattern. The only match—a drawn game at Bradfield—had been played with a cricket ball in arctic conditions. The hockey in this match was surprisingly good and a reward of optimism.

So March and the sunshine found us with some rearranged fixtures but with very little match experience. It was a bad year for School rugger players who, as Juniors, had played little hockey last year, and who joined the Colts game with the worst of the weather this February. Some of them, provided that they take the chance of practising the lessons of a first hockey season, should develop into useful players.

Generally speaking the Colts game was robust and determined rather than skilled. But such qualities make a side hard to beat, and the First XI match *v.* Stowe was the only defeat of the season. The best hockey was probably seen in the away matches against Pangbourne and Dean Close. In these Tayler ma. showed himself to be a really promising inside forward—in fact a match winner—and Fletcher mus., though lacking finesse, held the side very well together. Towards the end of the season the Colts First XI was supplemented by two Juniors, McLachlan and Trotman mus., both of whom promise well for the future. Burtt ma. did valuable work in defence.

The side is too lacking in ideas and experience to be rated a good one. But there is some definite hockey ability, and members of Colts game should make a positive contribution to School hockey next year. It has certainly been an enjoyable season, and the Colts game has been well captained.

First XI Results.—*v.* Bradfield, drawn 1—1; *v.* Stowe, lost 2—4; *v.* Pangbourne, won 2—0; *v.* M.C.S., drawn 2—2; *v.* Dean Close, won 3—2.

Team.—Huntley; McLachlan, Burtt ma.; Trotman mus., Fletcher mus. (capt.), Hill ma.; Burtt mi., Tayler ma., Meads, Bell ma., Sabine.

Also played.—Venables, Dean ma., Hancock, Tyacke, Bond mi., Rowe mi., Davies vi, Lillicrap.

Second XI Results.—*v.* Bradfield, drawn 1—1; *v.* Stowe, drawn 1—1.

Team.—Venables; Dean ma., Hancock; Tyacke, Bond mi., Conburn; Huston, Lillicrap, Rowe mi., Davies vi, Gibson ma.

Also played.—Morrow, Mornement, O'Brien, Giles mi., Downing ma.

JUNIORS

Four matches were played:

Wednesday, March 14th
Juniors *v.* Stowe Juniors. Won. 6—1.
Junior 2nd XI *v.* Stowe Junior 2nd XI. Won. 5—0.

Saturday, March 17th
Juniors *v.* Dragon School. Won. 1—0.
Junior 2nd XI *v.* Dragon School 2nd XI. Won. 5—1.

HOUSE LEAGUES

The House League again proved very popular. The standard of play was lower than usual, but this was to be expected since so little hockey was played last year. Tilly's, with no obvious weakness, were comfortable and worthy winners. An inexperienced Field House side did very well to finish second. A Third Eleven fixture had been arranged this year but unfortunately had to be cancelled. It is hoped to make this a regular feature of the season.

P.R. Church
School Hockey Coach in the 1950s and 1960s

Hockey XI 1957

L to R standing	G.K. Lillicrap, J.A. Huntley, J.E.G. Davies, D.M. Pudsey, J.E.D. Meads, J.W. Tayler
L to R seated	T.W. Brett, J.M. Mainwaring, J.J. Rider (Captain), J.D. Davis, J.H. Fletcher
Coached by	R.P. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 12 Won 2 Drawn 0 Lost 10

v Lincoln College, Oxford - Lost 0-5
(Home)

v R.A.F. Henlow - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-5
(Home)

v Oxfordshire H.C. - Lost 0-7
(Home)

v Martyrs - Won 5-4
(Home)

v Cambridge University Wanderers - Lost 0-4
(Home)

v Mill Hill School - Lost 2-3
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Wrekin College - Lost 0-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Aldenham School - Lost 1-4
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v King's School, Canterbury - Lost 0-3
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

FIRST XI

Played 9, won 2, lost 6, drawn 1

It would not be possible to say that we had the most successful of seasons, but it has been by no means as disastrous as the results would lead one to suppose. The fact is that again we have lacked really penetrating forwards who push the ball around and do not try to go through on their own. However things looked much better towards the end of term, after some fresh blood had been brought into the attack. Tayler, at inside-left, played a skilful game and Lillicrap and Meads fitted well into the line. The defence has for the most part played very well, though it is still a little slow in recovery. Davis and Mainwaring, left-back and centre-half respectively, have both more than proved their worth; likewise Huntley showed himself very reliable in goal.

After an expected defeat by Lincoln College we seemed to settle down and beat R.A.F., Henlow, in a game that though played in poor conditions, showed great promise with plenty of dash and good hard hitting. Our hopes were raised even higher by the next game against the O.U. Occasionals who, even if luck played some part, only beat us by one goal, and were by no means impenetrable. Thus encouraged we prepared for our first school match which, owing to the weather, was against Radley instead of Bromsgrove. However, suddenly we seemed to forget most of what we had learnt, and went down to a side which we felt we should have beaten. It was the same trouble of slowness off the mark and failure to anticipate where the ball was going to be, and to intercept it.

Likewise we found Stowe and Magdalen College School too much for us, and there was nothing like the speed and dash that there had been earlier. After the weather had deprived us of our two remaining away fixtures, we really determined to pull up our socks and though resoundingly beaten by a strong County side, we fought well in a robust game that at one point reduced us through injury to only nine players. The last game was a new fixture against the Martyrs which proved most successful and was greatly enjoyed by all. There were plenty of goals, and at last some real speed—we hope this will be a permanent fixture. And so it can be briefly summed up that though not always successful, we have as usual thoroughly enjoyed our hockey and look forward to an equally enjoyable festival.

RESULTS

Wednesday, February 6th
v. Lincoln College. Lost, 0—5.

Saturday, February 9th
v. R.A.F., Henlow. Won, 3—0.

Wednesday, February 27th
v. Radley College. Lost, 0—3.

Saturday, March 2nd
v. Stowe School. Lost, 0—3.

Monday, March 4th
v. Magdalen College School. Lost, 0—5.

Wednesday, March 13th
v. Oxfordshire. Lost, 0—7.

Saturday, March 16th
v. S.E.S. Martyrs. Won, 5—4.

The following were awarded their Colours: J. W. Mainwaring, T. W. Brett, J. H. Fletcher, J. E. G. Davies, J. W. Tayler, D. M. Pudsey (J. A. Huntley, J. E. D. Meads, G. K. Lillicrap).

PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL

We lost all four matches at the Festival. In the first two games we had a full share of the play, but the lack of scoring power from which we had suffered all the season was once again the cause of our downfall. The long series of defeats by other school sides proved too much for us. For our last two matches all cohesion had gone, and although we fought hard we were outclassed. Only two excellent displays by Huntley in goal kept the scores respectable.

RESULTS

Tuesday, April 2nd. *v.* Mill Hill. Lost, 2—3.
Wednesday, April 3rd. *v.* Wrekin. Lost, 0—1.
Thursday, April 4th. *v.* Aldenham. Lost 1—3.
Friday, April 5th. *v.* King's, Canterbury. Lost, 0—3.

ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL ARCHIVES

St. Edward's School

EASTER TERM FIXTURES

SEASON 1957

Captain of Hockey:
J. J. RIDER

Captain of Athletics:
E. A. APPLEBY

Captain of Harriers:
J. F. BITHELL

Captain of Fencing:
C. H. SHIRLEY

Captain of Squash:
H. DALE

Captain of Shooting:
J. D. SPENCE

Hockey XI 1958

L to R standing	F.E. Roads, R.G. Hill, M.A. Trotman, A. Maclachlan, M.T.W. Hart, F.A. Downing
L to R seated	M.J.D. Boyle, J.E.G. Davies, J.E.D. Meads (Captain), G.K. Lillicrap, H. Dale
Coached by	RP. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 14 Won 6 Drawn 3 Lost 5

v Abingdon School - Won 4-1
(Away)

v Lincoln College, Oxford - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Oxford Occasionals - Lost 0-5
(Home)

v Oxford Hawks H.C. - Won 4-2
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Pangbourne College School - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 3-3
(Home)

v Oxfordshire H.C. - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Martyrs - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Felsted School - Lost 0-3
(Pubic Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Repton School - Lost 0-2
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Worksop College - Won 2-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Wrekin College - Won 3-0
(Public Schools OxfordHockey Festival)

HOCKEY

This has been our most successful season for many years. Unfortunately only four of the school matches were played, two of these being won and the other two drawn. The basis of the superiority of this year's side over others of recent years lay in its speed, particularly in the forward line. It was obvious at the very start of the season that this would be a quick moving side; what was not predictable was the considerable improvement in the stickwork of many of the players. All credit must go to Meads, probably the most improved player of them all, for not letting the increased skill detract in any way from the natural clash which was our most important asset.

In goal Roads brought off many good saves during the season and was at his best when the shots were coming thick and fast, leaving him no time to worry. He is rather weak with his left foot and nearly all the goals against us passed him on that side. In Boyle and Dale we had an outstanding pair of backs. The combination of Boyle's polished stickwork with Dale's natural sense of position and speed of recovery made them a joy to watch. At the beginning of the year the half-back line looked like presenting the most difficult problem. In practice the combination of Downing ma., McLachlan and Hart proved reliable and effective. What is most encouraging is that all three will be back next year and that Hart has at least two more years in the School.

As seems inevitable with nearly every school side, we didn't score as many goals as we should have done. Davies and Lillicrap made an extremely fast and lively right wing pair and Hill and Trotman worked well together on the left, but only Meads had the ability to get in his shot immediately without a long and ponderous backlift. In all however we had a well balanced side, which played attractive hockey throughout the season.

The season started with an 'A' XI match *v.* Abingdon, which we won by four goals to one, followed by our first match at full strength when we lost to Lincoln College by the odd goal. In both these games the standard had been better than expected, but we were by no means ready for our match with Bromsgrove. This was really the crucial match of the season. Bromsgrove had seven old colours left from a very successful side and until half-time had matters almost completely their own way. The fact that they were only one goal up at the interval was due partly to some excellent play by Roads and partly to their own erratic shooting. After half-time the game was completely transformed. We were now moving much more quickly than they were and gradually assumed control. The winning goal came with about seven minutes to go.

The Occasionals had quite a strong side out and we did well to keep the score down to 2 with about ten minutes to go. The fact that the final score was five was due to some very poor short corner defence. This was followed by a good win against the Hawks and it was obvious that we were settling down into a useful and confident team.

Then came Magdalen College School. After ten minutes the score was 2 all and there it stayed for the remaining sixty minutes of a nerve-racking game. If anything we had slightly the better of the play but the ingrained M.C.S. stickwork and calm quick clearances dealt capably with all our attacks. This was the first time a St. Edward's side had not lost to Magdalen. The fact that it takes one of our better sides to hold them to a draw is indicative of their superior technique and shows how much we still have to learn.

Two days later we beat Pangbourne by the only goal of the match. This time it was our turn to be frustrated by some splendid goalkeeping and erratic shooting. It was a good game but a little disappointing in that our play lacked cohesion and there was far too much wild hitting. The game against Bradfield was probably the best of the season. It was played at a fast pace on a firm pitch and although we were twice in the lead justice was done when Bradfield got the equaliser for a 3—3 draw.

Our match against Oxfordshire was ruined by a gradually increasing snowstorm which blew into our eyes into the second half. We finished the season with a goalless draw against the Martyrs. This was another splendid game with both goals continually in danger right up to the end. It was a fitting end to a most enjoyable season containing eight close matches, in which no school matches were lost.

'A' XI

Results

Feb.	1	*v.* Abingdon School (A.).	Won 4—1
Feb.	12	*v.* Lincoln College (H.).	Lost 1—2
Feb.	15	*v.* Bromsgrove School (H.).	Won 2—1
Feb.	17	*v.* Occasionals (H.).	Lost 0—5
Feb.	19	*v.* Oxford Hawks (H.).	Won 4—2
Mar.	3	*v.* Magdalen College School (H.).	Drawn 2—2
Mar.	5	*v.* Pangbourne N.C. (H.).	Won 1—0
Mar.	8	*v.* Bradfield College (H.).	Drawn 3—3
Mar.	12	*v.* Oxfordshire (H.).	Lost 0—2
Mar.	15	*v.* St. Edward's Martyrs (H.).	Drawn 0—0

First XI: F. E. Roads; M. J. D. Boyle, H. Dale; A. Maclachlan, F. A. Downing, M. T. W. Hart; R. G. Hill, J. E. D. Meads, M. A. Trotman, G. K. Lillicrap, J. E. G. Davies.

Also played: Thompson J. C., Farrington, Davies D. I. R.

THE SECOND XI

It seems to be inevitable that the Second XI cannot score goals. This year the trouble was unusually pronounced. In all our games we had at least as many opportunities as our opponents, but lacked the necessary shooting power. The half-back line was reasonably skilful and very energetic, and the backs were sound. In many respects a typical Second XI and it was a great pity that the weather spoiled so much of an otherwise enjoyable season.

'B' XI

Results

Feb.	1	*v.* Abingdon School (A.).	Lost 0—2
Feb.	15	*v.* Bromsgrove School (H.).	Lost 0—3
Mar.	3	*v.* Magdalen College School (H.).	Lost 3—1
Mar.	5	*v.* Pangbourne N.C. (H.).	Won 2—0
Mar.	8	*v.* Bradfield (H.).	Drawn 3—3

The following played for the Second XI: Davies D. I. R.; Green, Burtt N. J.; Hobson N. F., Meyjes C. R. L., Cook G. D. M.; Harris, Thompson J. C., Farrington, Stanley, Houchin; Bond P. D. R., Dean ma., Boreham.

THE THIRD XI

Result

Mar. 12 *v.* Radley College (H.). Lost.

The following played for the Third XI: Gilfillan; Green, Tyacke; Davies vi, Mainwaring, Aitken; Sabine, Cowburn, Boreham, Oliver ma., Gibson ma.

COLTS

After the initial setback of losing 2—0 to Magdalen College School, the team won all their remaining matches. Victories were recorded against Bradfield (2—1) thanks to a fine defence in which Abbott and Bray were outstanding, and two first class goals by Dreyfus; against Radley (3—2) in which we had an excellent first half; and against Dean Close (5—0), a most pleasing win recorded in convincing style.

Throughout the season the team played constructive hockey not being afraid to use the short pass, yet also exploiting the firmly hit pass from wing-half to opposite inside forward. Axtell hit this pass especially well, and also that from centre-half to the wings. The weakness in the circle was put right during the season, Miller following up well, and Dreyfus scoring some good goals. Both inside forwards fed their wings well, Farrington having a field day on the right wing against Dean Close, and helping in defence. Abbott was always safe, and a reliable captain. Leyland improved with every game, learning never to tackle the inside forward except near the circle. Dean, except for two mistakes, kept goal very well, especially against Bradfield.

This was a very successful season and the team deserved its victories.

JUNIORS

The Junior hockey season is only short, but there is time to give coaching to some 60 boys and thus to supply the Colts with a number of more experienced players.

Two matches only were played, Stowe being beaten 7—1 and Bradfield being beaten 2—1. Good hockey was seen in both matches and when illness struck, the reserves rose ably to the occasion. The team itself was well-balanced, but special credit must go to Heyworth as Captain, and to Weekes, who found the back of the net with great regularity.

The season was concluded with a friendly 'B' team match *v.* The Dragon School, which was won 2—0.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL

As usual, the Festival proved to be a most enjoyable occasion. We played four games in three days, winning two and losing two. In our first game we lost by three goals to nil against Felsted. This was a good game against a good side, who were superior in both stickwork and tactics. The next game against Repton was spoilt by a combination of a bad pitch and weak umpiring, and we were definitely unlucky to lose by two goals. If we were unlucky against Repton, there is no doubt that Worksop could count themselves unlucky to lose to us. They had more chances but lacked the shooting power to take advantage of them. Heartened by this victory we played well on the last afternoon to beat Wrekin quite comfortably.

The team deserves credit for the way it kept going throughout this intense programme, and for its refusal to be daunted by two defeats. Special mention must however be made of Roads' excellent display in goal. It is impossible to remember him making a single mistake in all these games and some of his saves were brilliant. It was also encouraging to see that Farrington and Meyjes, the two members of the party not in the Eleven who are both under sixteen, were quite capable of playing well at the extra pace which First XI hockey requires.

Results

v. Felsted. Lost 0—3
v. Repton. Lost 0—2
v. Worksop. Won 2—1
v. Wrekin. Won 3—0

Hockey XI 1959

L TO R STANDING	C.R.L. MEYJES, D.I.R. DAVIES, C.G.H. DREYFUS, P.E.J. FARRINGTON, J.T. STANLEY, J.C. THOMPSON
L TO R SEATED	M.A. TROTMAN, G.K. LILLICRAP, F.A. DOWNING (CAPTAIN), A. MACLACHLAN, M.T.W. HART
COACHED BY	RP. BRIMS (C.R.) AND K.J. VEITCH (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 8 Won 4 Drawn 0 Lost 4

v Abingdon School - Won 4-0
(Home)

v Lincoln College, Oxford - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School - Lost 1-3
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Martyrs - Lost 1-2
(Home)

HOCKEY

Our strength lay in a well balanced Eleven with no obvious weaknesses. The varied fortune this season was due to inconsistent play by the forwards, for they lacked a real plan, too often giving the impression that they didn't know what to do with the ball. The season started well with two decisive wins against Abingdon and Lincoln, but unfortunately we lost to Bromsgrove through lack of determination. The situation was redeemed when playing Dean Close. This was one of our best games, for we played with real determination and so controlled the play. Against Stowe and Magdalen College, two very enjoyable games, we lost through lack of speed.

Davies vii in goal, brought off many good saves early in the season, but seemed to lose confidence gradually and so became hesitant. Trotman and Meyjes the backs, played very well throughout the season. Trotman was always in the right position and Meyjes, if not with the same polish also worked very hard. Our wing-halves, Hart and Maclachlan rarely gave the opposing wings time to start a movement, their stickwork proving to be very effective. Maclachlan was dangerous at the short corners and scored frequently from them. Lillicrap, by virtue of his speed was our most dangerous forward and scored the most goals, but sometimes is still too erratic. Farrington and Thompson both have good stickwork, but their shooting, while reasonably quick, is too often wild and so they scored less goals than could have been expected. On the left wing Stanley lacked enough speed but displayed neat stickwork, whereas Dreyfus on the right had the speed, but not the polish. This could have been a very successful season, but the unusually fast grounds in February and March made our lack of pace in defence all too apparent.

Our first fixture, with Dean Close, provided an interesting and exciting game. The result was always in the balance, and one felt that a score of 3-2 would have been more descriptive of the game. We were generally more pressing in attack than the opposition, although the Dean Close inside forward combination often threatened danger, particularly in the second half. The well placed cross passing of their Captain at inside left must be noted and praised. Our goals remitted from quick passing in the circle to the momentarily unmarked men, who, in this match at least were not too slow to take their passes, and their chances. The final result was 3—0, Lillicrap scoring two of the goals and Farrington the other.

The following match against Radley was won 3—2. Looking at the result, it would appear that this game was much closer than was the case. Territorially we were on top throughout. Our positional play was indeed superior and Radley's defence gave our inside forwards the openings, by their tendency to come too far up-field. Lillicrap and Farrington, both realised this and consequently scored a goal each. Our third goal came when Maclachlan put in a hard shot from a short corner. But as so often happens when a side is winning comfortably, our defence relaxed, and before the final whistle went, Radley had broken through twice.

This match was perhaps the best of the season. We opened the scoring against the run of play, from a short corner scored by Maclachlan .But the advantage was soon lost as Stowe equalised and then took the lead themselves with a fine solo effort by their inside right, who was their Captain. Thus Stowe crossed over with a thoroughly deserved half-time lead. We drew level after twenty minutes of the second half with a lucky, but well placed goal scored by Broadhurst. But from the bully-off Stowe, in one of the best movements of the season, went through to score the final and winning goal. The result was 2—3, and we lost mainly through lack of speed.

The Martyrs this year fielded a fairly strong side, defeating us by two goals to one. This was undoubtedly one of the fastest games of the season; the Martyrs having N. H. Dangerfield, the former England sprinter, as their centre forward. The School was one up after ten minutes when Maclachlan scored from a short corner. Soon, however, the Martyrs scored having had the monopoly of our circle. The second half saw the game slow up considerably as the dubious fitness of both sides became apparent, and the Martyrs scored their second goal. The Martyrs superiority in the forward line gave them the extra scoring power; nevertheless the school put up a creditable performance in the last match of the season.

The Team: F. A. Downing, G. K. Lillicrap, A. Maclachlan, M. A. Trotman, M. T. W. Hart, D. I. R. Davies, P. E. J. Farrington, C. R. L. Meyjes, C. G. H. Dreyfus, J. T. Stanley, J. C. Thompson. Also played: Bailey, J. F.; Broadhurst, J. C.; Harris, J. R.

RESULTS

January 31st *v.* Abingdon (H). Won 4—0
February 10th *v.* Lincoln (H). Won 1—0
February 14th *v.* Bromsgrove (A). Lost 1—3
February 18th *v.* Dean Close (H). Won 3—0
February 25th *v.* Radley (H). Won 3—2
February 28th *v.* Stowe (H). Lost 2—3
March 2nd *v.* Magdalen College (H). Lost 0—2
March 14th *v.* Martyrs (H). Lost 1—2

SECOND XI HOCKEY

This Second XI played good hockey. Dean Close and Magdalen College School, in particular, played better; and both these games showed a degree of skill and speed which would not have disgraced many first teams. Bromsgrove made use of their chances where we did not, and fully deserved to win on that score. Otherwise, where opponents played with enthusiasm rather than skill, the decision was clear cut; and the victories against Radley and Stowe were convincing. It is always frustrating when the side could have travelled with high hopes to Bradfield and Pangbourne.

Abbott captained the side sensibly from full back. His stick-work and hockey sense are above the standard normally found in a Second XI. But his main weakness and that of the defence generally has been lack of speed. The halves lacked experience, but Harrison, in particular, has developed during the season in his positional and general play. Broadhurst (and Thompson too, until he was promoted) scored some very good goals. However, although Turl and Harris were a good pair of wings and Bailey worked tremendously hard all over the field, there was a lack of real aggression in the circle. But the ball usually reached our opponents' circles as the result of attempts to play constructive hockey. This may not always win matches but it certainly counts for something.

One can almost invariably report that a hockey season has been enjoyable. This was no exception; and the Second XI combined to make up a First Game from which one could draw certainly more than just a First XI of players upon whom one could rely to perform with credit at the higher level. In that respect particularly it has been an encouraging season.

Team: Abbott (Capt.), Dean mi., Schnadhorst, Harrison ma., Mainwaring mi., Hedderwick, Harris mus., Miller, Broadhurst, Bailey mus., Turl. Also played: Howell, Davis ix.

RESULTS

v. Bromsgrove. Lost 2—4
v. Dean Close. Lost 2—3
v. Radley. Won 5—1
v. Stowe. Won 7—1
v. Magdalen College School. Lost 1—3
v. Martyrs. Won 5—4

COLTS HOCKEY

Won 2, drawn 1, lost 1

The side has improved much with every game, and after being deservedly beaten 2—1 by Dean Close, it became most efficient.

Heyworth ma. in defence was very strong, and if he can rid himself of his tendency to over-dribble, will become a very good player. Best was always sure, and Epton was the most improved of players. As a whole the defence was not ruthless enough in our circle, clearing here must be certain and fast.

In attack we had speed in the wings, we had Escourt's perseverance down the middle, and we had the much improved play of Ireland at inside-right. Kane, though sometimes slow, showed very nice touches in cross-passing to Ireland and setting his own wing in action. It was a successful and enjoyable season and Stowe and Pangbourne were beaten.

A Junior Colts match against Stowe was won 6—0.

St. Edward's School

EASTER TERM
FIXTURES

SEASON 1959

Captain of Hockey
F. A. Downing

Captain of Athletics
D. T. Browning

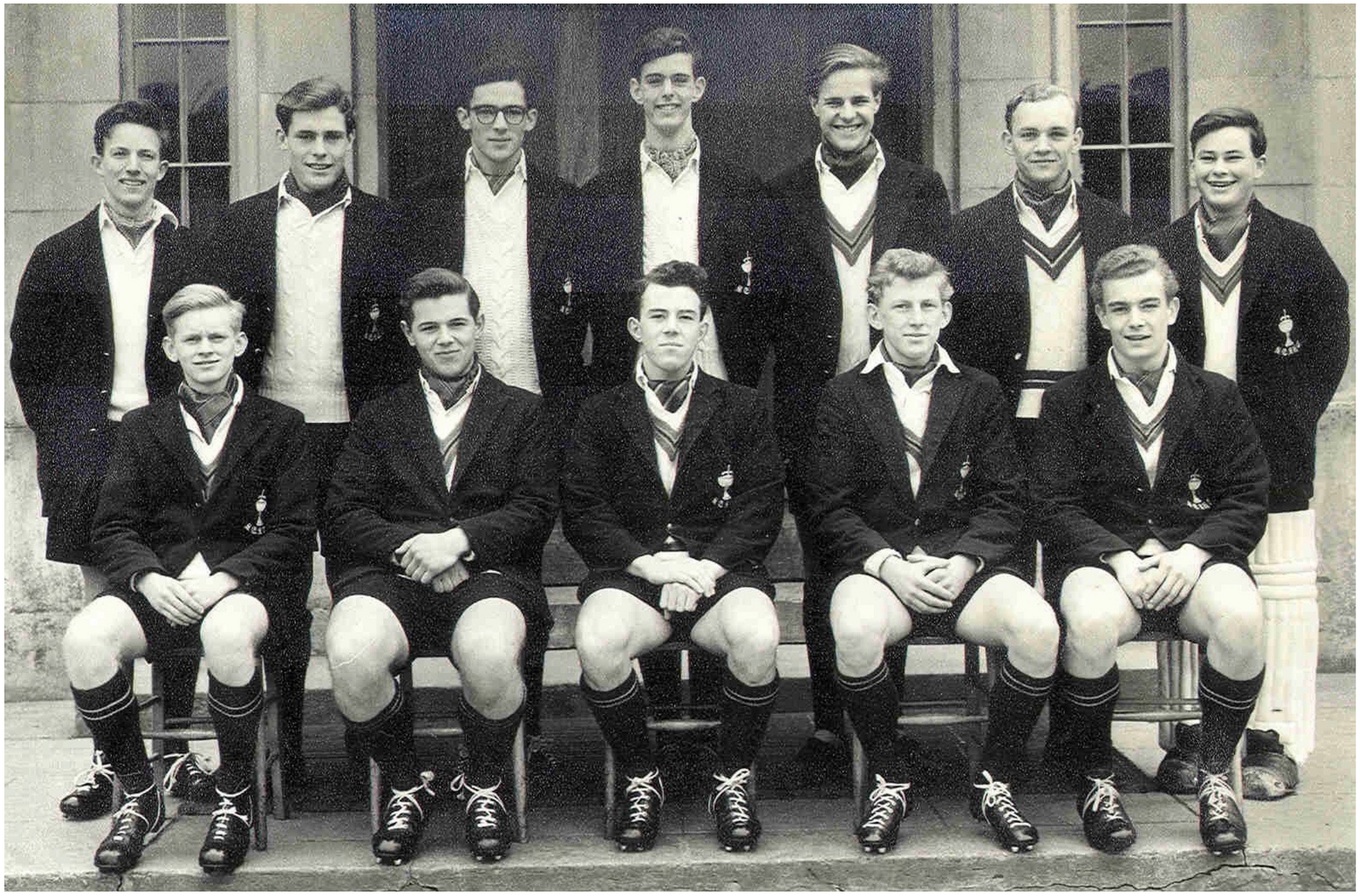
Captain of Harriers
D. W. T. Adamson

Captain of Boxing
D. G. Davies

Captain of Fencing
R. L. White

Captain of Squash
M. A. Trotman

Captain of Shooting
R. J. M. Thomas



Hockey XI 1960

L to R standing	T.D. Mitchell, J.F. Bailey, J.C.W. Turl, A.J. Miller, M.B. Heyworth, G.M. Harrison, R.A. Graham
L to R seated	R.A. Davis, M.T.W. Hart, C.R.L. Meyjes (Captain), P.E.J Farrington, C.G.H. Dreyfus
Coached by	RP. Brims (C.R.) and K.J. Veitch (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 13 Won 5 Drawn 0 Lost 8

v Abingdon School - Won 2-0
(Away)

v Lincoln College, Oxford - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Wellington College - Won 4-3
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Magdalen College School -Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Martyrs - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 1-5
(Home)

v Felsted School - Lost 2-3
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v King's School, Canterbury - Lost 0-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Mill Hill School - Lost 3-4
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

Though the season has been a wet one, and many matches have had to be re-arranged, only two have had to be cancelled. Of the matches played five were won and five were lost. The season promised to be a good one, with the important positions of right back, centre half and inside left filled by Colours of three years' experience. The promise was never really fulfilled, for although the hockey played up to the circle was enterprising and full of pattern, we lacked the thrust near goal to make capital of our clever use of the ball. At times it seemed almost impossible to miss the goal, but during the season the impossible was achieved too often for comfort.

The side has nearly always played good hockey without reaping full dividends for its skill. In general, stick-work has improved vastly, and there has been an attempt by all to make intelligent use of the ball, possession being the criterion. The forwards have schemed well but lacked dash, following up too slowly and being loath to chase the overhit ball and harry defenders into mistakes. Early in the season there seemed more dash and again at the end against the Occasionals and Bromsgrove we recaptured that verve and played all the better for it.

Meyjes captained the side strongly, and by his speed and forcefulness at right back proved to the side the value of the two cardinal virtues. He and Davis ix came to a most efficient understanding and covered well, Davis improving fast as the season progressed, being always sure in the tackle and distributing the ball sensibly. This was true of the whole defence which proved generally confident and hard to score against and showed that it understood that supply of the forwards was as important as the purely destructive work of robbing their opponents. Graham proved very solid in goal and has become a good goal-keeper and I can remember only one fatal mistake all season, and innumerable fine saves, especially one against the Occasionals which showed very quick reaction. He also came to understand how important quick clearing with the stick is to a goal-keeper. It was upon Hart that the defence centred, and he was tireless in his work, back in his defence and following up his forwards closely, scoring and threatening to score a number of times. His distribution improved immensely, and he rarely dribbled realising that the hit ball travels faster than the dribble. The defence owed much to him. The wing halves served the side well, Heyworth ma. hitting the cross pass very hard, and becoming a quicker tackler as the season progressed. Bell proved a most able reserve. Harrison ma. on the left had a very strong reverse side tackle, and covered deep in defence saving the situation often. When he learnt not to commit himself to a tackle on the inside forward, which would leave his wing open, he became a better player.

The forwards were changed often in an endeavour to produce goals, for even in games lost we had enough open chances to win, even as at Radley, against the run of the play. Farrington, at inside forward, who had played for the Southern Schools in the holidays, showed excellent stick-work, fed his wing well and hit the cross pass efficiently. He at times tended to hold the ball too long thus causing overcrowding near the circle. He also failed in his shooting to score as many goals as he deserved. He was however close to being a very good inside forward. Bailey mus. at inside right worked very hard, and was one of the few to realise the value of accelerating into the pass near the circle, a move that creates scoring openings. Dreyfus tended to hang on to the ball too long, and early on he missed too many goals for a centre-forward. However against the Occasionals and Bromsgrove he played very well and shot hard and true. Turl took over from Miller at left wing and showed welcome speed, he must remember that a wing's task is to centre the ball for others to use. Miller, despite his lack of speed, centred the ball efficiently. Mitchell, the best of the three of the right wings, tried using his undoubted speed and centred hard and firmly.

The important conclusion to be drawn from the season is that clever, sensible hockey must be backed up by speed. During the season we usually looked a good side and capable of winning more often than we did. However it was pleasing to see the whole XI grow more and more determined and kept up their attempt to play thoughtful hockey.

The following made up the XI: C. R. L. Meyjes (Capt.), M. T. W. Hart, P. E. J. Farrington, R. A. Davis, C. G. H. Dreyfus, R. A. Graham, J. F. Bailey, G. M. Harrison, M. B. Heyworth, T. D. Mitchell, C. W. Turl.

Also played: Miller, Bell, Broadhurst, Abbott ma., and Wyatt.

RESULTS

Played 10, won 5, lost 5. (Goals for 16, goals against 17)

v. Abingdon (A). Won 2—0
v. Lincoln (H). Won 2—0
v. Wellington (A). Won 4—3
v. Radley (A). Lost 1—2
v. Magdalen C.S. (H). Lost 0—3
v. Bradfield (H). Won 3—0.
v. Dean Close (A). Lost 0—2
v. Occasionals (H). Lost 1—5
v. Martyrs (H). Lost 0—2
v. Bromsgrove (H). Won 3—0

RESULTS

v. Radley. Lost 0—3
v. Magdalen College. Drawn 1—1
v. Bradfield. Won 3—1
v. Martyrs. Lost 3—4

COLTS HOCKEY

Despite the indifferent weather, all six matches were played, and after being deservedly beaten 6—0 by Magdalen College School, the team settled down and improved considerably as the season went on. The defence was steady, but tended to hold the ball too long, especially when pressed in the circle. Butterworth was always sure, and MacWhannell, at centre-half, saved many a dangerous situation with his excellent tackling back. The wing-halves swung the ball about well; and Enos had perhaps the best ball-control in the side. Special mention must also be made of Johnstone's good goal-keeping. He played well throughout the season and the whole defence gained confidence and steadiness as a result.

In attack, the wings were reasonably fast, but tended to wait too long before centring, and the inside-forwards, though they lacked shooting-power, worked well together. Wyatt, a centre-forward who is quick to seize a chance, was our chief goal scorer; and there was some good square passing between the insides, Kane and Meier. This was a most enjoyable season with plenty of excitement in the matches. When we were allowed time, as against Bradfield and Pangbourne, we were capable of playing good hockey; but against Magdalen and Dean Close our lack of real speed proved too great a handicap.

RESULTS

v. Radley. Drew 2—2
v. Magdalen C.S. Lost 0—6
v. Pangbourne N.C. Won 3—1
v. Dean Close. Lost 1—2
v. Bradfield. Won 4—0
v. Stowe. Drew 0—0

Colts Second XI

v. Radley. Won 3—1

The following played in the Colts XI: Johnstone, Wethey, Butterworth, Hudson, Touch, Fradd, MacWhannell, Enos, Wilson iv, Kane, Wyatt, Meier (Captain), Reed.

JUNIOR HOCKEY

All Juniors have played hockey this term and there have been six Junior games. The lowest three have divided their time between hockey and rugger but the three top games have had seven weeks of hockey and this has done much to improve the general standard in the lower part of the school.

RESULTS

v. Radley. Won 3—0
v. Dean Close. Drawn 2—2
v. Bradfield. Lost 3—5
v. Stowe. Won 2—1

Team: Mawle, Fairclough, Abbott mi., Wood ma., Talbot (Capt.), Rostron, Balfour, Hodson, Emslie, White ma., Pickford.

MARTYRS' HOCKEY CLUB

This season 1960/61 will get under way with the Oxford Six-a-Sides in early October, and a Martyrs Six has been entered. Any member who would like to play on Sunday, October 2nd, should write to Myles Arkell at the School.

A match has also been arranged in the London area on Sunday, November 27th, against the Old Aldenhamians (ground as yet not arranged) and as this is the first venture of the Club near London full support is encouraged. Anybody who would like to play should contact Myles Arkell or Neil Dangerfield whose address is 'Crecy', Redbourn, Herts.

MARTYRS HOCKEY CLUB

The Hockey Club has now been formed and is in action. A Committee has been formed with Graham Cooper as President, Myles Arkell as Secretary and Peter Church, Norman Minty and Jeremy Rider as members.

This season the club entered a six in the Oxford six-a-sides in October, had a week-end in Oxford in March winning two matches against the School 2-0 and 4-3, and losing on the 20th 2-6 to a side raised by Miles Arkell. A week later an XI in the North drew 3-3 with Alderley Edge H.C.

Next year it is hoped to extend activities still further with a side in the Oxford six-a-sides in October, a match in November at Oxford (possibly Commem. Sunday), a game in the London area in late October, two games in the North and a week-end in March against the School including a Sunday game.

Will any O.S.E. who would like to play hockey please write to Myles Arkell at the School. A list of members has already been drawn up.

Hockey XI 1961

R to L standing	P. Wyatt, A.C.K. Heyworth, N.J.A. Kane, P.W. Enos, R.B.R. Sayer, R.G. Hyslop
R to L seated	R.H. Stanley, R.A. Graham, C.G.H. Dreyfus (Captain), D.G. Bray, G.K. Bell
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 15 Won 4 Drawn 6 Lost 5

v Abingdon School - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Lincoln College, Oxford - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School - Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v Radley College - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Won 2-0
(Away)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Martyrs - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Wellington College - Won 4-3
(Away)

v Whitgift School - Drawn 2-2
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Aldenham School - Drawn 2-2
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v The Ley's School, Cambridge - Lost 1-3
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

Thinking of the season before it began, it seemed that it might well be a formative one, the Eleven likely to be young and inexperienced with only two Old Colours. This was however by no means the truth this Easter term, though much of value for next year has been learnt. The Eleven has been a good one, full of confidence in defence, and though lacking scoring thrust in attack, not lacking in ideas and constructive ability. The spirit of the team has been high, and much credit must go to Dreyfus who, though missing several matches early on through injury, instilled a sense of unity in the side.

If one has to make a choice, it is to the defence rather than the attack that one must give the laurels. In twelve matches only thirteen goals were scored against them, and six times no opposing forward eluded their grasp. They displayed excellently the cardinal virtues of a schoolboy defence—speed to the ball and quickness of covering; and to these they added another talent rarely found in school elevens, sense in distribution. (Seen most clearly in the exciting match against the Occasionals.) They were quick to learn from their mistakes, and usually their mistakes when they came, as come they are certain in hockey, were those of over-confidence.

Graham in goal proved excellent, safe and sometimes brilliant, as against Dean Close, until the last few matches of the term when he began to lose confidence, following a spate of clearances to unmarked opposition forwards. The two backs were admirable foils, Stanley fast on to the ball and a demon coverer, was prone sometimes to over-rushed and hasty tackles; Sayer, early on a little slow on to his inside forward was always a sure stopper and certain tackler. Both learnt that the further up the field one plays (within obvious limitations) the easier it is to stifle opposition attacks before they begin. Both learnt that they could safely move upfield if the wing-halves and the other back covered fast and deep. Bray, returning after three years on the river, played undefatigably at centre-half, was most sure in his intercepting and caught the eye continually. His weakness was only in the final stages of attack; for, although passing intelligently up to the enemy circle, he scored less goals than a centre-half should. At wing-half the Eleven was well served by Bell who, though prone to give his wing too much room covered fast and supported his forwards most intelligently. He was the person who, with Enos at left-half, realised most the value of the open space both in defensive plan and attacking pass. Enos stopped the ball superlatively and cross-passed well—all, but for speed, what a left-half should be.

The forwards deserve some of the praise for our defensive record. Dreyfus, the quickest runner with the ball I saw this season soon relieved pressure by his dashes; both wings, especially Heyworth, realised that to come back in defence not only relieved hard pressed defenders, but also left themselves in an open space ready to link with inside forward in starting an attack; whilst the two inside forwards tackled back insistently, waiting in the open spaces near our circle for the pushed clearance.

In attack we scored only fifteen times in twelve matches and this was a grave weakness, for the hockey up to the goal was most competent. The left wing pair, Heyworth and Kane, linked well, often beating the opposing half by triangulation—next year with increased speed, defences should find them a handful. Heyworth's ball control improved and he centred sensibly, though relying too often on the pulled back centre, rather than running round the ball. Kane passed most intelligently, and soon learnt the value of change of speed and a well-timed cross pass. Wyatt, at inside-right, positioned himself well for the cross pass, though he was a little slow in using the ball once in possession. He improved much in the late matches, for he became more effective in the circle. On the right wing several players were tried, and whilst Wilson (iv) played sensibly, the team finally settled on Hyslop's speed and dash, the match against Wellington being his best performance. Dreyfus, in the middle, caught all defences unawares. He tends to run left and therefore to obstruct, but he was beginning to defeat this at the end of the season, and scored some good goals.

In all the hockey had a sense of purpose, the importance of the ball hit across rather than down the field being fully appreciated. There was a sense of pattern about the play, the ball being passed rather than dribbled, always the better method against good defences; and it was noticeable that positionally the Eleven seemed more sure than many opponents. The only dangerous lack was in scoring power, and this can be remedied at all levels by practice and application. The ball must be pursued; the shot hit with a shortened back lift, and the scoring pass in the circle hit to an open space where a forward can run on to it.

The speed and harshness of school first eleven hockey is now such that only a thoroughly fit side can last the pace. This year we always lasted better than our opponents and were quicker on to the ball. All elevens must realise that speed in covering and sound training is necessary for good hockey.

It is well to remember that now hockey has become established in the schools there are few easy matches. Ten years ago it would have seemed impudent to take on such well known hockey schools as Wellington, Dean Close and M.C.S.; yet this year the School recorded its second win against Wellington in the two years since the fixture began, and drew with Dean Close to keep the scores even in the three years of the fixture. The matches lost were all by the odd goal, and the season can be considered a good performance by a team rather than eleven individuals.

The following made up the Eleven: C. G. H. Dreyfus, R. A. Graham, D. G. Bray, R. H. Stanley, G. K. Bell, N. J. A. Kane, R. D. R. Sayer, P. W. Enos, A. C. K. Heyworth, P. Wyatt, R. G. Hyslop.

These also played: Estcourt, Ireland, Weekes, Wilson iv.

THE RESULTS

'A' Eleven

v. Abingdon	0—0	Drawn

First Eleven

v. Lincoln College	2—0	Won
v. Dean Close	0—0	Drawn
v. Bromsgrove	0—0	Drawn
v. Radley	1—0	Won
v. Pangbourne	1—2	Lost
v. Stowe	1—2	Lost
v. Bradfield	2—0	Won
v. O.U. Occasionals	1—2	Lost
v. Martyrs	2—2	Drawn
v. M.C.S.	1—2	Lost
v. Wellington	4—3	Won

OXFORD HOCKEY FESTIVAL

A party of twelve, including Hudson, Reed and MacWhannell because of the absence of Bray and Bell, entered the Festival. The defence, though definitely weakened, gave a good account of itself, and the reserves played competently, gathering valuable experience. The attack continued to show very real improvement, and dash in the circle was now joined with skilful approach work.

The teams played were good ones, and only in the last game were the School defeated, and then only after injury to Sayer had further depleted the XI.

v. Whitgift, 2—2
v. Aldenham, 2—2
v. Leys, 1—3

v. DEAN CLOSE, 0—0

The defence dominated this game. We held a fast and clever forward line, which never really co-ordinated, although it came close to scoring on one or two occasions. The forwards fought and tackled hard; their approach work was good, but they lacked punch in the circle, a fault more apparent later on in the season. We were not so quick to get rid of the ball, and now and again this led us into unnecessary difficulties. However, we hung on and thoroughly deserved to draw an exciting game against a competent side.

v. BROMSGROVE, 0—0

This was a disappointing result to a game which should have ended in a convincing victory. With Dreyfus injured, all the forwards lacked any kind of spirit near the goal, although they played constructive hockey up to the circle. The defence had yet another good game, except for some goal-mouth scrambles during the last few minutes, which caused a certain amount of anxiety.

v. RADLEY, 1—0

The School met Radley only three days after the match with Bromsgrove. This was by no means an exciting game, but following a good movement. Wyatt netted the ball midway through the first half. From then on the game deteriorated witeh St. Edward's missing many goals. Graham yet again made some fine saves, but we certainly should have done better than to win only 1—0.

v. PANGBOURNE, 1—2

Two days later, we met Pangbourne, who had a good side, and gave us one of the hardest games of the season. A spirited attack by the Eleven in the first ten minutes uncovered a shaky defence, and it was by constant pressure on this fault that we were able to play the game on equal terms. Pangbourne scored first from a short corner. Our forward line, in breaking through their defence, enabled Estcourt to score our only goal. The second Pangbourne goal was the result of a mêlée in the circle. Throughout the game Pangbourne showed that they were by no means invincible, and it was by sensible passing and open play that we were able to do better than expected.

v. STOWE, 1—2

The defence, after conceding a goal in the second minute, were given no chance to settle, for the ball was being continually hit down the field at them, and with an uneven ground and chasing forwards, confusion often followed. The School equalised when Dreyfus flicked the ball in, but Stowe were soon in the lead again. In the second half, the forwards tried to play constructively, but never settled down to play as they had shown they could, and the play remained scrappy with no further goals.

v. BRADFIELD, 2—0

Following two narrow defeats, Bradfield supplied us with the much needed boost to morale. The first goal came in the first half after a good movement when Wyatt pushed it through for Dreyfus to first time it past the goalkeeper. Bradfield kept up pressure, but our defence kept them out without much trouble. The second goal, also from a good movement, came when Wyatt pushed the ball to Dreyfus who, doing a scissors with Kane near the circle, reverse-passed it for the latter to smack it home ten minutes before time.

v. O.U. OCCASIONALS, 1—2

The Occasionals brought down a very formidable side with five Blues, on the assumption that good players breed good hockey—how right this was to prove! The Eleven played extremely well as a team, moving into the open spaces well, and this produced a very exciting and fast first half. The Occasionals were first to score, but by half-time we had equalised when Wyatt flicked it past the goalkeeper. The second half developed into a hard tussle between our backs and their forwards, in the course of which they scored again. This was a valuable match, in so much that we gained plenty of experience.

v. MARTYRS, 2—2

The Martyrs, as usual, produced a strong side. However, the School soon took the lead following a goal from Kane, but this was soon equalised by a lucky break from the Martyrs' circle and a good run down the left wing. With the score at 1—1 at half-time the Martyrs scored again, but we fought back, and Dreyfus was able to equalise well from a long corner. Some of the Martyrs were now rapidly tiring, and we pressed them until the end, but were unable to score again. The match as a whole was disappointing after such a good game against the Occasionals, but was certainly not without flashes of first-class hockey on both sides.

v. M.C.S., 1—2

M.C.S. was our hardest school fixture. We had lost 2—1 to Pangbourne, where as M.C.S. had beaten then 7—0! With nine Old Colours left in their team, they were a stronger side on paper. During the first half, they scored two quick goals, but just before half-time Wyatt scored, following a good square pass. In the second half, the defence covered and passed sensibly, and it was due to this that we managed to keep them out and generally play better than expected.

v. WELLINGTON, 4—3

For only the second year, the School met Wellington, and it was to prove as exciting as last year. The forwards worked well, and started the game with a vigorous attack to give us a 2—0 lead within three minutes—Dreyfus and Wyatt having scored the goals. However, we were contented to remain satisfied with this, with the result that by half-time, after a tremendous fight-back, Wellington were leading us 3—2. The second half produced better hockey, and by constantly using the open spaces, Kane and Wright added to the score to make the final result, as last year, a win by 4 goals to 3.

SECOND XI HOCKEY

Team: Johnstone ma.; Hudson, Bishop ma.; Best, MacWhannell, Epton (Capt.); Castleden, Ireland, Weekes, Estcourt, Reed ma.

Also played: Butterworth, Lawes, Markham.

Results

v. Dean Close	4—3	Won
v. Bromsgrove	2—1	Won
v. Stowe	3—1	Won
v. Radley	2—2	Drawn
v. Pangbourne	2—2	Drawn
v. Bradfield	1—3	Lost
v. Martyrs	2—4	Lost
v. M.C.S.	1—6	Lost

HOCKEY XI 1962

L TO R STANDING	G.M. TOWNLEY, C.J. BUTTERWORTH, N.J.A. KANE, P. WYATT, J.N.C. EASTER, J.D. WETHEY, D.C.C. BALFOUR
L TO R SEATED	P.W. ENOS, A.C.K HEYWORTH, R.A. GRAHAM (CAPTAIN), G.K. BELL, J.G. MACWHANNELL
COACHED BY	R.H.M. ARKELL (C.R.)

FIXTURES
PLAYED 11 WON 3 DRAWN 3 LOST 5

V LINCOLN COLLEGE, OXFORD - WON 2-1
(HOME)

V BROMSGROVE SCHOOL - LOST 1-4
(HOME)

V DEAN CLOSE SCHOOL, CHELTENHAM - LOST 0-2
(AWAY)

V RADLEY COLLEGE - LOST 1-2
(AWAY)

V PANGBOURNE NAUTICAL COLLEGE - DRAWN 3-3
(HOME)

V MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL - LOST 1-5
(HOME)

V BRADFIELD COLLEGE - WON 4-1
(AWAY)

V OXFORD UNIVERSITY OCCASIONALS - DRAWN 1-1
(HOME)

V MARTYRS - LOST 1-3
(HOME)

V STOWE SCHOOL - WON 5-1
(AWAY)

V WELLINGTON COLLEGE - DRAWN 1-1
(AWAY)

HOCKEY

RESULTS

Played 11, won 3, drawn 3, lost 5. Goals for, 20; against 24

v. Lincoln College (H). Won 2—1 (Wyatt 2)
v. Bromsgrove (H). Lost 1—4 (Balfour)
v. Dean Close (A). Lost 0—2
v. Radley (A). Lost 1—2 (Balfour)
v. Pangbourne (H). Drew 3—3 (Kane 2, Heyworth)
v. Magdalen C.S. (H). Lost 1—5 (Heyworth)
v. Bradfield (A). Won 4—1 (White 2, Kane, Heyworth)
v. Occasionals (H). Drew 1—1 (Cooper)
v. Martyrs (H). Lost 1—3 (Heyworth)
v. Stowe (A). Won 5—1 (Easter 2, Kane, Heyworth, Wyatt)
v. Wellington (A). Drew 1—1 (Heyworth).

The following made up the XI: R. A. Graham, A. C. K. Heyworth, G. K. Bell, P. W. Enos, J. G. MacWhannell, P. Wyatt, N. J. A. Kane, C. J. Butterworth, J. N. C. Easter, J. D. Wethey and G. M. Townley.

These also played: Best, Hudson, Wilson iv, Phelps, Balfour, Reed, Emslie, Cooper, White.

R.H.M. ARKELL
HOCKEY COACH 1961-1973

The season started with high hopes with six Old Colours and others with proven ability, but for various reasons success was limited. Team planning was difficult with so many of the top game involved in early-term rugger; the weaknesses in the defence, earlier feared when it was known that Stanley would not be returning, were only too real in practice; and last year's forwards, though playing constructive hockey and shooting often, rarely found the net, until confidence had almost been destroyed. It is difficult to analyse such a season, but it is well to note that the XI forced its way back to form in the latter part and ended most creditably so that one felt only a small change of fortune could have brought success earlier. What was true of the 1st XI was true of the other School teams, and whereas before 1st March eleven games were lost and only three won out of sixteen played, after that date four games only were lost and thirteen won out of the twenty-three played, a remarkable reversal of events. The will to win and the ruthlessness that goes with it was perhaps a key factor. In the 1st XI there was always a wish to win, confidence in ability and full-out effort, but only after a while did the wish turn to will and ruthlessness replace effort.

The defence this year was unlikely to be as good as last year's and it often looked likely to crack under pressure. Until Butterworth gained in confidence at the end of the season the team lacked the timing, speed and tackling power it had last year at full-back. Four full-backs were tried, all with faults that tended to lead to goals against. In the end Butterworth became forceful, fast in tackling and thoughtful in clearance and his game against Wellington was of a high class. Wethey was to replace Hudson, who although the strongest tackler in the side lacked speed and hitting power, two essentials in a school back. Wethey brought speed and strong tackling in the circle which served well in time of crisis, and he reached the forwards strongly. The circle is no place to mince matters! His main fault was in the timing of the tackle in mid-field where he was often impetuous. Behind these two full-backs Graham performed well, but judging him by his high standards of last year when he kept goal for the Great Britain Schoolboys' XI, he was not himself until the Bradfield game, after which he kept impeccably, and well deserved his second schoolboy trial this April. The half-back line was a strong one. Bell initially played at centre-half and did all that was needed in attack and defence. Later in the season he moved to wing-half where it was felt openings could be made more easily. Tactically it was decided to attack wide down the wings allowing at times the wing-halves to strike through to the circle itself. Enos was a main feature of this plan for he was this season a class left-half with good stickwork, a strong cross pass, and splendid covering. The results improved after this change in the emphasis of attack, though at times both wing-halves dribbled too much, and thus allowed promising moves to be stifled. MacWhannell moved to centre-half and performed better and better in that position. Always tireless, his distribution improved, and his positional sense was better than when he had earlier been at wing-half. The covering and tackling of these three had much to do with the return to success of the XI.

The forwards promised much playing with pattern and skill. Plenty of openings were made and shots taken, but the opposing goal often bore a charmed life. The confident and open play deteriorated as chances were not taken, and in mid-season the crisis came with a good side disintegrating. Positional changes were made, determination not to give way to disaster replaced confidence, and three goals were scored against Pangbourne though the hockey was less pretty to watch. Greater emphasis was placed on the through ball, though earlier the square pass followed by the through pass had carved out many unaccepted openings. It was a recovery of spirit and nerve rather than of skill, but results improved and once more the hockey became constructive and easy to watch.

The forwards, each of whom never held fast to one position, by the end of the season looked a most capable line. Heyworth is a left-wing of the highest class with good stick work and positional sense. He later moved to inside-left and centre-forward and with his energy and sure stopping added much needed punch and goal-scoring ability. Kane, who earlier partnered him constructively at inside-left, later moved to inside-right where he seemed to make himself more room to move, and was one of the few to use change of pace to create a gap. Wyatt, starting at inside-right and moving to centre-forward, was a worker but lacked fire and speed in the circle. Late in the season he moved to the right wing where he revelled in the room, burst inside at speed or beat his half on the outside. He did much to revitalise the forward line by his forceful wing play. Easter came into the XI for the Occasionals game and showed good stickwork and a well-timed pass. He is a player who makes time for himself but he must not overdo the push. Townley performed capably on the left wing, running well and harrying the defence. White, from the Colts, played one game before injury, and scored in the first minute showing what a centre-forward who really goes for the ball can do.

Of the matches during term three were won, three drawn and five lost. Against Lincoln College the School won 2—1 in a scrappy game in which they were always the better side. So to the first school game against Bromsgrove in which the ball was moved most constructively, but although we had more possession the final through pass was rarely made and a wall of defenders was met at the circle. Defensive errors made the score 4—1 against; an unfair reflection of the play. There had only been three days team practice before this match, and with the knowledge gained, tactical changes were made, and against Dean Close the forwards looked more dangerous. The cross pass was used intelligently with the through ball, but, lacking change of speed and drive into the circle, the forwards failed to score the goals that they had prepared, and the team was beaten by two well-taken opposition goals. So to Radley where the opposition was outplayed except in the vital department of goal-scoring. Goals were missed, good shots went wide, the post was hit, but Radley scored first in the second half. A tremendous burst of pressure followed and two minutes from the end Balfour scored with a good cross-shot. The relief could be felt, and whilst it was being savoured the opposing centre-forward squeezed past two negligent backs and pushed the ball past the off-balanced Graham—eighty per cent of the game and another loss.

Pangbourne was in fact to begin the 'New Deal' though this was not apparent till a week later except that three goals were scored, more than in the previous three games together. Positional changes were made, the through ball used heavily, and the result was a more forceful, less constructive type of hockey. Having led 2—1 the team found itself one down with twenty minutes to go—weak clearances being the cause. Continuous and spirited pressure resulted, the woodwork was hit twice, Wyatt twice converted but found himself with the wrong-shaped ball and no two points, but at last Heyworth equalised. We deserved to win, we drew, but had scored three goals, one very good one from Kane moving fast at the extreme right of the circle. The match against Magdalen College School is best forgotten, though *The Times* recorded it for posterity. We did not play worse during the season, not the best way of beating a workmanlike M.C.S. XI. Pride damaged deservedly, blistering comment delivered, the team came back to restore themselves as hockey players, and after a deserved success at Bradfield looked and felt new men. Once again changes were made. Wyatt moved to the wing and had a field day. Bell moved to wing-half, and tactically we looked more dangerous. Four goals were scored and everyone looked happier. Injury necessitated changes against the Occasionals, who, without Blues but with elever goals down ten minutes from the start, was luckily achieved.

The Colts 2nd XI won both its games against Radley and Pangbourne.

JUNIORS HOCKEY

RESULTS

v. Dean Close. Lost 1—2
v. Radley. Drew 2—2
v. Bradfield. Won 3—1
v. Stowe. Won 2—0
Under 14s *v.* New College School. Won 4—2

The following made up the Juniors XI: Henderson iv, Lewis mi., Hutchinson, Hall mi., Drake mi., Scott-Harden mi., Ironside, Whitehead, Reed mus., Miller (Capt.), Langdon mi.

The following also played: Disney, Cunliffe mi., Broady.

A season of fine weather and considerable talent brought only mixed fortunes. On the credit side it can be said that the team was workmanlike, sensibly captained and successful in as much as it lost only one match and that only by one goal. Against this, it was frequently disappointing to have so great a territorial advantage and so few goals to show for it. Fortunately, the defence was steady and there were several good reserves available in times of illness.

SENIOR LEAGUE HOCKEY

After an enjoyable season with one League series the final positions of the House teams were:

		Points
1.	Tilly's	10
2. =	Cowell's	7
	Apsley	7
	Macnamara's	7
5. =	Field House	5
	Segar's	5
7.	Sing's	1

SECOND XI HOCKEY

RESULTS

v. Bromsgrove (H). Won 2—1
v. Dean Close (H). Lost 2—1
v. Radley (A). Lost 4—1
v. Pangbourne (H). Lost 4—3
v. Magdalen C.S. (H). Drew 1—1
v. Bradfield (H). Won 5—2
v. Martyrs (H). Won 5—2
v. Stowe (A). Drew 2—2

The following made up the 2nd XI: Johnstone, Hudson, Best, Phelps, Emslie, Mulligan (Capt.), Wilson iv, Cooper, Balfour, Hodson, Reed and Talbot.

Colours were awarded to the whole team.

The following also played: Adams mi., Drake ma.

THIRD XI HOCKEY

RESULTS

v. Dean Close (A). Lost 0—1
v. Radley (A). Lost 2—3
v. Pangbourne (H). Won 2—1
v. Magdalen (H). Won 3—2
v. Radley (H). Won 7—1

The following made up the 3rd XI: Brooke, Drake, Rostron, Webb, Mainwaring (Capt.), Haig, Blundell-Williams, Worden, Bliss, Beament, Englehart.

COLTS XI HOCKEY

RESULTS

v. Dean Close (H). Drew 1—1
v. Radley (H). Lost 1—2
v. Pangbourne (A). Won 4—3
v. Magdalen C.S. (H). Lost 0—2
v. Stowe (H). Drew 1—1
v. Wellington (A). Won 3—2

COLTS SECOND XI

v. Radley (H). Won 2—1
v. Pangbourne (A). Won 1—0

The following made up the Colts' XI: Wilson, Fairclough, Kerr, Williams mi., Abbott (Capt.), Palau, Brunning, Tonkinson, White, Colson, Scott v.

The following also played: Miller, Moore ma., Ironside, Stephens.

Hockey XI 1963

L to R standing	D.C.C. Balfour, G.R.H. Talbot, R.G. Wilson, J.J. Emslie, G.M. Townley, H.D.E. Brooke
L to R seated	J.N.C. Easter, G.K. Bell, A.C.K. Heyworth (Captain), N.J.A. Kane, C.J. Butterworth
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.))

Fixtures
Played 10 Won 4 Drawn 2 Lost 4

v Keble College, Oxford - Won 4-0
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 5-3
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Stowe School - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 1-5
(Away)

v Wellington College - Lost 1-3
(Home)

v Northern Province Junior Hockey XI - Lost 1-2
(Bloemendaal, Holland Tournament)

v Bloemendaal 'A' XI - Won 2-1
(Bloemendaal, Holland Tournament)

v Den Haag Hockey H.D.M.-H.H.Y.C. - Lost 1-2
(Bloemendaal, Holland Tournament)

HOCKEY 1963

Snow and ice made a mockery of the 1963 hockey season but when the grounds at last were released from the winter a great deal of hockey was crammed in during the last few weeks. While the snow still lay a foot or more thick the XI kept its enthusiasm and fitness remarkably well despite each optimistic prediction of thaw remaining unfulfilled. Heyworth here was an admirable captain throughout a difficult term. Circuit training and indoor hockey in Big School and the Range filled the first weeks, and then the hard area round the squash courts was cleared laboriously. Six-a-side hockey was possible on this area but fresh falls of snow made it a hard-won battle. When at last the snows cleared, the grounds stayed rock-like for a long time, but life and limb were hazarded on Lower II and some idea of positional play gained as well as the enjoyment of escaping postage-stamp sized areas. In fact by the time the grounds were fit on the Upper Fields the whole School was more or less ready for matches and Leagues though other schools had found it impossible to do more than organise two XIs.

Looking back it is obvious that the XI had too much to do, for hockey had extended into the athletics period and action in one form of sport or the other was almost continuous. Still it was excellent that all boys played, one season completely lost plays havoc with technique and tactical knowledge, and so in 1964 the game will not have to be learnt afresh.

At the beginning it seemed that the forwards had cast off their goal-shyness of former years. They moved the ball hard, fast and far and scored four goals against Keble and five against Bradfield. But after this spring-madness, a more staid approach developed and only four goals were scored in the next five matches. Heyworth drove himself closer and closer to the ground and was the one forward to show originality of pass. The two wings, Townley and Wilson, were fast and direct and could not be faulted—centres from right and left were numerous. Easter was too deliberate in his passing, though in flashes his stickwork promised better results. Balfour played with dash, and White, though awkward near goal, was an able reserve.

The defence was at times very good as when it contained an Occasionals forward line including three Blues. The basis of its soundness was at full back where Butterworth tackled firmly, hit well and improved in his covering; and Kane, moved from the forward line, proved a back of high class in the timing of tackle and interception. Hudson here proved a most able reserve—in most years a certainty for a place. Bell did not play as well in the early matches as his experience promised, but he became immensely capable in the last games and in all the matches on the Dutch Tour. Emslie was tenacious but was drawn out of position too easily though he improved much in Holland, and Talbot at right half was very powerful and a fine hitter of the cross pass. Brooke despite two matches when he lost all touch survived the crisis, and it was very pleasing to see that in Holland he hardly put a foot wrong.

Of the matches little need be said. A strong if very unfit Keble side were demolished 4—0, and Bradfield outplayed, the score being close at 5—3 only because Roope in the visitors' goal played brilliantly, and defensive errors allowed Bradfield to score three times. M.C.S. were held territorially but we rarely looked like scoring, and their four shots produced four goals. The strong Occasionals XI were held by very good defensive work and Stowe beaten 1—0 in a scrappy game. The last two matches were disappointing, the Pangbourne forwards proving the advantage of running into the open spaces and hitting hard in the circle scored five times to our once, and Wellington beat a tired-looking side 3—1 in a pleasantly open game.

R.H.M.A.

RESULTS

v. Keble College. Won 4—0
v. Bradfield. Won 5—3
v. O.U. Occasionals. Drawn 0—0
v. M.C.S. Lost 1—4
v. Stowe. Won 1—0
v. Pangbourne. Lost 1—5
v. Wellington. Lost 1—3.

The XI consisted of: A. C. K. Heyworth, G. K. Bell, N. J. A. Kane, C. J. Butterworth, J. N. C. Easter, G. R. H. Talbot, G. M. Townley, R. G. Wilson, Balfour D. C. C., Emslie J. J., Brooke H. D.
Also played: Abbott R., White J. M., G. D. Hudson.

HOLLAND 1963

The School's first tour abroad proved an immense success, though I'm afraid other festivals may suffer in comparison. The thanks of all are due to B.M.H.C. for arranging everything so brilliantly and being such kind hosts.

The tournament, played at Bloemendaal, near Amsterdam, consisted of two groups of six sides. Three of these were Netherlands Combination XIs and so were not eligible for the final proving too strong for the other club and school sides. After a tiring crossing and a hectic evening and first morning with our hosts, the XI found itself facing a Northern Province junior side. This game, lost 2—1, proved invaluable, introducing the School to the brilliance of continental stickwork, and teaching them the retreat and timed tackle. Throughout the Festival our defence proved better than any of the Dutch junior sides in tactics, and the forwards learnt from the skill of their Dutch counterparts. Despite a marked inferiority in stopping, hitting and dribbling, the School XI proved capable of holding all sides through teamwork, firm tackling, and the quick pass from defence to attack. In the Festival itself we lost to two of the combined sides having ourselves started by winning the first two games. Our place in the Final was gained in a play-off with Bloemendaal 'A' XI. This was perhaps the most exciting part of the Festival for each player in both sides had to hit a stationary ball placed on the edge of the circle at the defending goalkeeper. This resulted in a 2—2 draw, and so with a crowd of some 200, the forward lines did the same—and Brooke kept brilliantly to give us a 2—1 margin.

The Final we should have won, having the better of the game despite losing an early goal. Wild shooting was the trouble but we equalised with five minutes to go. So on to extra time when we did everything but score, but allowed H.H.Y.C., from the Hague, to score from their only chance, to win 2—1 after a hard and exacting game.

This is but a short account of the hockey. The stories told, I'm sure, are many and tall—but all bear witness to a week of hard hockey and hectic enjoyment.

R.H.M.A.

SECOND XI HOCKEY

A season which was unfortunate in that it was completely disrupted by the inclement weather. The departing snow left wet, slippery and muddy pitches. But despite the adverse conditions, the team played with admirable enthusiasm. The games were naturally slowed down by the conditions, but nevertheless there were some very exciting finishes. It however remained a scrappy, untidy season with little opportunity for concentrated practice or improvement in the shortened season.

Team: Drake H. C., Hudson G. D., Wilson, Rostron, Wood, Abbott, White, Cooper, Haig R. A., Fradd, Colson.

RESULTS

v. Magdalen College School. Draw 0—0
v. Wellington. Draw 1—1
v. Pangbourne. Won 5—2
v. Stowe. Lost 0—1.

H.C.D.

COLTS HOCKEY

Given a full term, this might have been a very good side indeed. After weeks of practice indoors, which worked wonders for stickwork, the side emerged to find that opposition teams had had little or no practice at all. The resulting matches were flattering, if not instructive, and a clever forward line found scoring all too easy. The defence was never under pressure until the last match, when the side woke up too late, to find that it was being out-played by a keener and more energetic team with less ability. The three inside forwards, Drake C. J., Broady and Tonkinson each scored 10 goals in the four matches, and Miller marshalled the defence and led the side with quiet authority.

RESULTS

v. Bradfield. Won 10—0
v. Stowe. Won 12—0
v. Nautical Coll., Pangbourne. Won 7—1
v. Wellington. Drawn 2—2.

M.D.P.

JUNIOR HOCKEY

To choose a Senior XI without a genuine trial game is difficult, but to choose a team, largely of new boys, under such conditions, can only be a lottery. The Juniors were perhaps fortunate to have a captain and centre-half who chose himself, but the other places were awarded largely on prep. school reputations and the ability to stop one ball in three in the mud.

The 'season' lasted nearly ten days, during which time we were lucky to beat Stowe 2—1 and less fortunate to draw with Pangbourne 2—2. The term 'unbeaten' is hardly applicable, but there was no lack of talent or shortage of promising players for the future.

Apart from the weather, the other chief regret has been the inability of the Warden to continue coaching the game. He has done this regularly for the past seven seasons and he is greatly missed now that his other duties prevent his attendance.

The team was chosen from: Henderson C. J., Williams Ll. F. T., Cunliffe C. O.; Bennett, Garne (Capt.), Barker, Gasper; Scott W. A., Radcliffe D. E., Rivett, Baldwin C. D., and Kyle.

P.N.C.

Hockey XI 1964

L to R standing	P.S. Brunning, R.D. Abbott, D.J. Miller, R.A. Haig, N.D. Tonkinson, A.J.M. Campbell
L to R seated	G.M. Townley, J.N.C. Easter, G.R.H. Talbot (Captain), J.J. Emslie, H.D.E. Brooke
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 16 Won 9 Drawn 5 Lost 2

v Keble College, Oxford - Won 2-1
(Away)

v Bromsgrove School - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 1-0
(Away)

v Wellington College - Won 6-2
(Away)

v Jesus College, Oxford - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 3-0
(Away)

v Lincoln College, Oxford - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-4
(Home)

v King's School, Canterbury Drawn 1-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Mill Hill School - Drawn 1-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Sherborne School - Drawn 1-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Solihull School - Won 1-0
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

Already in mid-February the School has played more hockey than it did in the whole ... season, and though early on the loss of la... year's practice was noticeable, especially among those under sixteen and in the league sides, improvement has been rapid. It is always dangerous to make interim reports but a mere statment of fact shows that at least until 23rd February the School had a singularly successful season.

More junior hockey is being played than ever before, and the Colts, though disappointing in losing their first match to Dean Close showed marked promise in beating Wellington 4—2 two days later. The senior teams have had a very good run and the Second XI shows in its play and results—20 goals against 6 in winning three times and drawing twice in five matches—that if injuries or loss of form occur in the First XI there will be ample reserve strength.

The First XI, as I write, is unbeaten. A number of preparatory 'A' XI fixtures were played and positional experiments did much to find the right combination for the later games. Emslie moved to full-back and has tackled finely, while the half line of Talbot, most forceful at right-half, Campbell and Miller, has proved the mainspring of the team's success. Brooke made a number of cool saves and only five goals were conceded in seven matches. Townley and Easter, the two remaining colours in the forward line, have played well together and Easter has passed most constructively; whilst Haig has worked well and passed intelligently and Brunning and Tonkinson have run forcefully and shown an improving sense of position.

Keble College were defeated in a game where the defence first showed its firmness and determination, and Bromsgrove were beaten by a single goal in a match in which the forwards played with pattern and skill. A somewhat fortunate victory over Dean Close was followed by the overwhelming of Wellington when the forwards at last allied ruthlessness in the circle to thoughtful approach work.

There are still a number of tough matches to follow but, whatever the results, the team has started well; a success gained by tireless covering and belligerent half-back support preparing the way for a forward line that has understood the importance of passing to an open space more than most previous School attacks.

RESULTS

FIRST XI

v. Keble College. Won 2—1
v. Bromsgrove. Won 1—0
v. Dean Close. Won 1—0
v. Wellington. Won 6—2

HOCKEY 1964

The March issue of *The Chronicle* told briefly the story of the season up till 23rd February, the story of four victories ending with that over Wellington by 6 goals to 2. That victory was the prelude to ten days of fine play by the XI. Hockey is not the best of spectator games but during this period the team was playing well enough to encourage more than usual to watch and find the effort worth while.

At RADLEY there was a nil-all draw, though a three goal margin was deserved even if the defence did have some moments of uncertainty. This failure to score was the one unhappy element in the team's make-up though throughout the season the defence ensured that the team would not suffer heavily for it. What was important about the Radley match was that a capable side was now playing like a very good one. Four days later PANGBOURNE were entertained and beaten two-nil. This time the defence so dominated the game that Brooke was not called on once and the forwards indulged in some quick and incisive passing, only to cast aside chance after chance as forward after forward lifted the head or shot fiercely wide. Every miss was forgiven if not forgotten when the XI defeated M.C.S. by two goals to nil, the first victory over this school since the war. For the seventh time in ten matches no goals were scored against the School, sure proof of the cool positioning of Brooke in goal, the firm tackling and sound covering of the two backs and the continued stranglehold that a fine half-back line held over opposing forwards. The School forwards again played with skill and this time took their share of chances shown the way by a brilliant first goal engineered by a change of direction by Easter and a through pass to the open space that Townley, on the left wing, was already running towards. The ball rattled against the backboards almost before one realised a goal was possible.

Just as the Spurs have come to realise the fickleness of the spectator surfeited with victory, so against BRADFIELD did the XI know that failure would not be appreciated. They played like jades, were outrun by a useful side, yet still showed signs of their old skill. A goal in the first minute was answered only in the last, but an unbeaten record was intact, though this record itself may well have been the cause of an over-confident and somewhat inept display. Still it takes a side of character to survive when playing badly. This was the forerunner of a sad anticlimax because two of the last three games were cancelled and the OCCASIONALS game was lost. The Occasionals brought up eight blues and showed the School how skilful a game hockey at the highest level can be. Their hitting and stopping were excellent, their change of pace and movement into the open space exemplary. Yet the School ought to have scored twice and lost 0—4.

The season with six wins and two draws in school matches and only one loss against clubs was an unqualified success especially as other teams carried on the good work, the Second XI and Juniors being unbeaten and only six games out of forty-three played by the School being lost. The XI earned that success by an understanding of their own limitations and by strength of tackle and purpose. Yet it was not just a powerful defence, letting in only four goals in nine matches before the Occasionals' game that brought victory, the forwards played better as a line until the last two games than any five for some years. If they could have scored the goals their play deserved they would have been a fine team, but lack of timing and balance at the crucial moment meant near misses not goals. Talbot, the captain, was a firm tackler and a fine positional player and striker of the ball. He thoroughly deserved his place in the English Schoolboys' Trials. Townley, owing much to Easter's service, was a good left-wing by any standards, fast and direct, with a skill in centring all left wings would envy. He too gained an English Schoolboys' Trial. Of the others, Emslie, the best of a good defence became a full-back above the average, rarely missing a tackle, always strong in the circle; and Easter with clever stick-work was the one forward able to prise open defences by a pass unexpected in direction or timing. Brooke made few mistakes; Abbott, though prone to obstruct under pressure improved with every game and showed great determination; Campbell proved a strong centre-half, whilst Miller at left-half, though a slow runner, made up for it by sound sense of position, clean hitting and good timing of interception and tackle. The right wing pair, Haig and Brunning, worked well together, the former passing well and positioning himself most ably in defence, the latter centring sensibly; and Tonkinson, though failing near goal too often for a centre-forward, played constructively—next year he should make a very useful inside forward.

The following made up an unchanged XI: H. D. E. Brooke, R. D. Abbott, J. J. Emslie, G. R. H. Talbot, A. J. M. Campbell, D. J. Miller, P. S. Brunning, R. A. Haig, N. D. Tonkinson, J. N. C. Easter and G. M. Townley.

RESULTS

'A' XI

v. Jesus College. Lost 1—2
v. Abingdon. Won 3—0
v. Lincoln College. Won 1—0

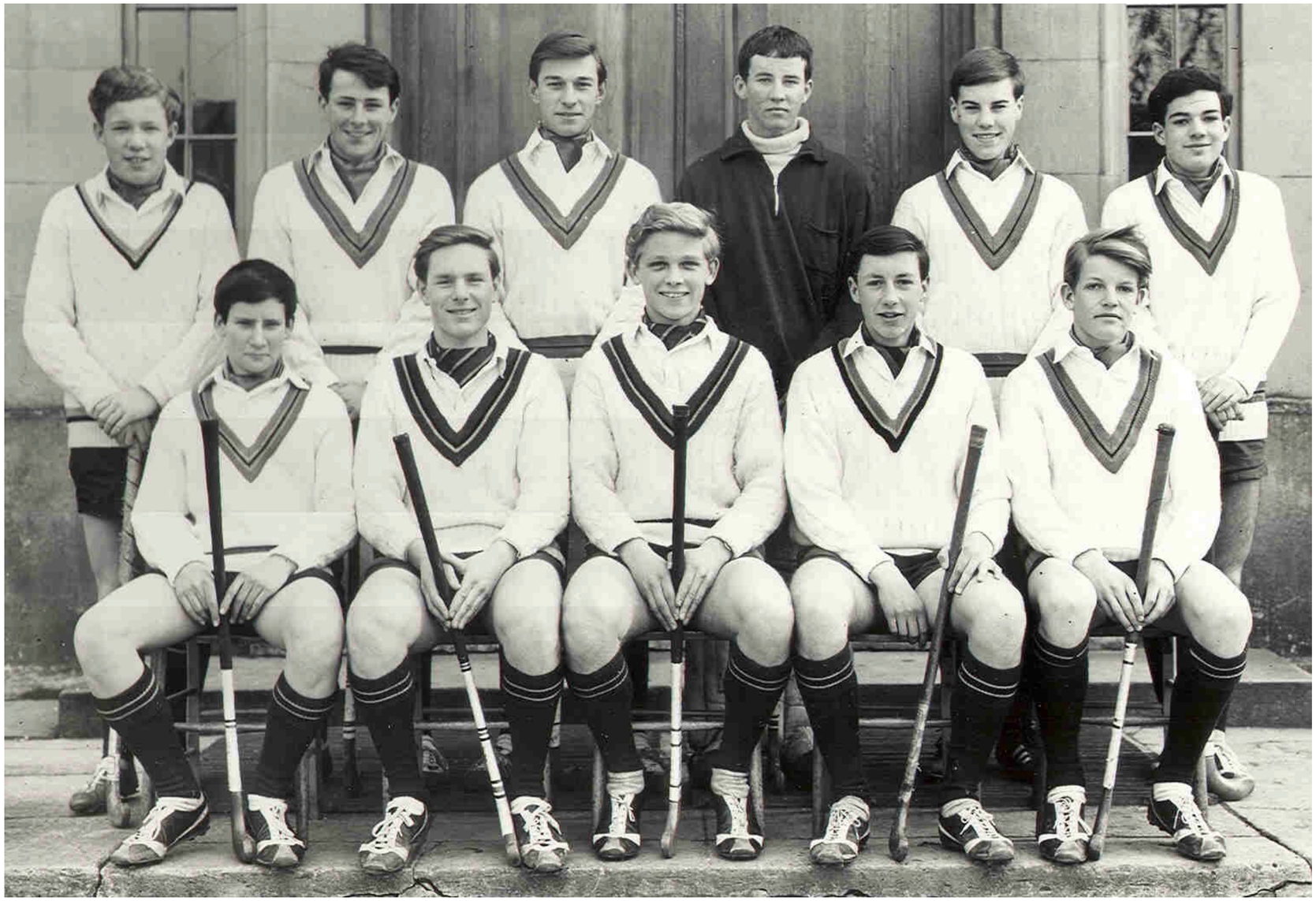
FIRST XI

v. Keble College. Won 2—1
v. Bromsgrove. Won 1—0
v. Dean Close. Won 1—0
v. Wellington. Won 6—2
v. Radley. Drawn 0—0
v. Pangbourne. Won 2—0
v. M.C.S. Won 2—0
v. Bradfield. Drawn 1—1
v. Occasionals. Lost 0—4.

The Oxford Festival

v. King's, Canterbury. Drawn 1—1
v. Mill Hill. Drawn 1—1
v. Sherborne. Drawn 1—1
v. Solihull. Won 1—0

1964 Colts



Hockey XI 1965

L to R standing	P.J. Whitehead, P.W. Pitt-Brown, N.H.W. Ironside, A.P. Holford, B.G.C. Trench, R.E. Barker
L to R seated	G.E. Bennett, B.J. Hutchinson, N.D. Tonkinson (Captain), D.E. Radcliffe, A.J. Garne
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 18 Won 11 Drawn 1 Lost 6

v Abingdon School - Won 4-2
(Away)

v Lincoln College, Oxford - Won 2-0
(Home)

v University College, Oxford - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Jesus College. Oxford - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School - Won 5-2
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Wellington College - Won 7-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 5-2
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 2-4
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Martyrs - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Oakham School - Won 3-2
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Uppingham School - Drawn 2-2
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Aldenham School - Lost 0-3
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 0-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Strathallan School - Won 3-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

The account has of necessity to be written at the end of the season: more is the pity this year as the XI ended on a bad note against Stowe, showing all those weaknesses one had feared before the term started, and which during the season they had done so much to overcome. With Tonkinson alone left of the highly successful 1964 side, a completely new team had to be modelled; and including as it did three of last year's 3rd XI and four Colts it must be considered successful in that it won six out of ten matches against generally stronger opposition than last year. They were a willing side, keen and active in practice. Their control was above average but sometimes they lacked tactical appreciation and urgency, taking far too long to understand that in hockey the ball should be hit firmly rather than pushed for most direct passes, especially those capable of being cut off by an opponent.

The Eleven's success was founded on as successful and dangerous a forward line as I can remember. (Though the scoring touch deserted them for the last three matches, up to that point they had averaged over four goals a game.) Tonkinson and Radcliffe were two strong inside forwards. The captain, a powerful striker of short corners and a scorer of nine goals during the season, was the best user of the cross-pass and combined well with his centre-forward. Radcliffe, perhaps the most dangerous near goal scoring twelve times, had excellent control and fed his other forwards better and quicker as the season progressed. The remaining three forwards had many virtues: Whitehead though at times playing too deep shot quickly and followed up fast, harrying opposing defences busily; Barker on the right wing was quick and often had the beating of his half, though until the end of the season he wasted too many good opportunities by thoughtless centering; and Ironside struck his centres from the left beautifully though sometimes lacking the confidence to go on his own.

The defence let through 21 goals in ten matches, but did much that was good. They were too inconsistent to be impregnable, playing efficiently for most of the game but allowing a crop of glaring errors to occur at times. When opponents took advantage of these mistakes as they did in the first ten minutes of the M.C.S. and Stowe games then the team was in trouble. Hutchinson, at centre-half, had an unfortunate season: just as he was again dominating in mid-field after recovery from illness he was injured in a practice game and missed another fortnight's play. He was sometimes slow in defensive covering when he had missed the cross-pass and was prone to dribble too much, but against Radley and the Martyrs especially he showed strong form. Bennett was perhaps the most consistent of the defence, showing excellent timing of tackle and thoughtful distribution. At right-half Garne usually had control of his winger and supported his forwards intelligently though sometimes under-hitting; whilst on the other flank Pitt-Brown, though inconsistent, did much of value—improving especially in his covering and quick distribution. Trench had moments of excellence but too often rushed his tackle and was too keen on playing the ball on the reverse side. Holford in gaol did little wrong, reacting quickly to the snap or fast shot though finding more difficulty with the slow ball.

The Eleven started well, winning the first four matches, scoring 17 goals to 5 against. The results surpassed expectations: the forwards were proving ruthless in the circle and the defence though dangerously stretched at times always saved themselves by the efficient covering at wing-half and Bennett's strong tackling. JESUS COLLEGE, a strong side by college standards, were beaten by two second-half goals after much last ditch defensive work and poor shooting had saved the School's goal in the first. At BROMSGROVE a goal came after much pressure but slack defensive work allowed the opposition to gain the lead after half an hour. From that point on the defence mastered their opposing forwards and Tonkinson scored three out of four goals that were added by the forwards. Though snapping up goals with welcome speed, the XI showed one of its early weaknesses: overclose passing between insides and resultant neglect of the wings. The whole XI played efficiently in beating DEAN CLOSE 3—1 after a hard-fought game in which the defence looked most compact; but against WELLINGTON though we led by the same score at half-time many frightening gaps had appeared in defence. In the second half the forwards gained complete mastery and scored four more times.

So to the disappointment of the first loss, RADLEY winning 3—2 after an exciting and close-fought game. The defence again showed marked improvement, but despite having the better of the tense second half, only one goal was scored to lessen the rather fortuitous 3—1 lead Radley has established on the stroke of half-time. At PANGBOURNE the forwards again played with verve though they were weakened by the withdrawal of Tonkinson to replace the injured Hutchinson. The defence, though capable of sound work, still was stretched to the limit and in the next game against a strong M.C.S. side was broken in the first ten minutes. Against a technically more skilful combination, the XI fought back strongly and were only 2—1 down at the beginning of the second half when Whitehead went off injured; though by the end they had to give way 4—2. The two club games were open and fast: a strong OCCASIONALS XI won 2—0 though the School forwards missed many good opportunities; and in perhaps the best game of the season, the MARTYRS, captained by John Davis, who this season played for the Midlands, were beaten 2—1 in a game in which the defence were at their most orderly. Three days later the STOWE match came as a sad anti-climax: only Tonkinson and Radcliffe could feel satisfied with their performance. It was annoying that a side that had done more than expected of it during the season, and played some fast, intelligent and skilful hockey should end on that note. It is better in this account to remember the fire of the Dean Close game, the excellent efforts against Radley and the free-scoring of the Wellington, Bromsgrove and Pangbourne matches, and the spectacle of fast open hockey during the Martyrs encounter.

RESULTS

Played 15, Won 8, Drawn 1, Lost 6.
Goals for 29, Goals against 21.
v. Jesus College. Won 2—0 (Tonkinson, Radcliffe)
v. Bromsgrove. Won 5—2 (Tonkinson 3, Radcliffe 2)
v. Dean Close. Won 3—1 (Radcliffe, Tonkinson, Ironside)
v. Wellington. Won 7—2 (Whitehead 4, Radcliffe 2, Tonkinson)
v. Radley. Lost 2—3 (Tonkinson, Whitehead)
v. Pangbourne. Won 5—2 (Radcliffe 3, Ironside, Whitehead)
v. M.C.S. Lost 2—4 (Radcliffe, Tonkinson)
v. O.U. Occasionals. Lost 0-2
v. Martyrs. Won 2—1 (Radcliffe, Tonkinson)
v. Stowe. Lost 1—4 (Radcliffe)

FESTIVAL

v. Oakham. Won 3—2
v. Uppingham. Drawn 2—2
v. Aldenham. Lost 0—3
v. Cheltenham. Lost 0—1
v. Strathallan. Won 3—1

The following made up the Eleven: N. D. Tonkinson, B. J. Hutchinson, D. E. Radcliffe, G. E. Bennett, A. J. Garne, P. J. Whitehead, R. E. Barker, A. P. Holford, P. W. Pitt-Brown, N. H. W. Ironside and B. G. C. Trench.
These also played: C. G. Scott-Harden, T. A. Kirkpatrick.

R.H.M.A.

JUNIORS

The firm ground permitted all juniors to play regular hockey this year and, in addition to a junior House League competition, six school games were formed. The top game thus had many more players than usual on whom to call, and there was no lack of talent competing for places in the two elevens, both of which had a very successful season.

The second XI only just beat Pangbourne 2—1, but played good hockey to beat New College School 3—0 and Stowe 3—0. The first XI contained some most promising players and but for one unlucky deflection would have had another unbeaten season. No single player was outstanding but all eleven showed good ball control and positioning and learnt to use their heads as well as their sticks as the season progressed. The forwards were thrustful in mid-field but sometimes showed a hesitancy in shooting and their gentlemanly passes to each other in other areas of the circle were to be deplored. The defence was uniformly sound and the wing halves in particular played delightful hockey.

Team: Silver A. E. C., Summerson, Northcote-Green, Mischler, Wheeler J. A. C., Williams E. A. F., Bourne, Boyd S. R. R., Sykes A. R. J. (Capt.), Agerholm, Tyson P., Thackeray.

RESULTS

v. Dean Close. Won 4—1
v. Pangbourne. Won 3—1
v. Radley. Lost 3—4
v. Stowe. Won 3—0

P.N.C.

HOCKEY

'A' XI

v. Abingdon won 4—2
v. Lincoln College won 2—0
v. University College won 3—1
v. Jesus College won 2—1

1st XI

v. Bromsgrove won 5—2
v. Dean Close won 3—1
v. Wellington won 7—2
v. Radley lost 2—3
v. Pangbourne won 5—2

'B' XI

v. Abingdon School lost 1—4

2nd XI

v. Bromsgrove won 2—0
v. Dean Close lost 1—3
v. Radley lost 0—3
v. Pangbourne lost 0—4
v. M.C.S. drawn 0—0

3rd XI

v. City of Oxford lost 1—2
v. Dean Close lost 3—6
v. Radley drawn 1—1
v. Pangbourne lost 1—4
v. M.C.S. drawn 1—1

COLTS XI

v. Dean Close won 2—1
v. Wellington won 2—1
v. Radley won 4—3
(2nd XI) won 2—0
v. Pangbourne won 4—0
v. M.C.S. drawn 0—0

JUNIOR XI

v. New College School won 3—0
v. Dean Close won 4—1
v. Radley lost 3—4
v. Pangbourne won 3—1
(2nd XI) won 2—1

2ND XI HOCKEY

Fixtures
Played 12 Won 7 Drawn 2 Lost 3

v Abingdon School - Won 3-1
(Away)

v Keble College, Oxford - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Lincoln College, Oxford - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 1-0
(Away)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-3
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 1-3
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 6-3
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Martyrs - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 1-0
(Away)

Hockey XI 1966

L to R standing	R.C. Rivett, T.W. Kyle, J.A.C. Wheeler, C.G. Scott-Harden, L.F.T. Williams, J.A. Dick, T.A. Kirkpatrick
L to R seated	G.E. Bennett, A.J. Garne, B.J. Hutchinson (Captain), D.E. Radcliffe. R.E. Barker
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.)

HOCKEY 1966

RESULTS

Played 12, won 7, drawn 2, lost 3
goals for 22, goals against 15

v. Abingdon ('A' XI): won 3—1 (Radcliffe 3)
v. Keble College: drawn 1—1 (Barker)
v. Lincoln College: won 4—1 (Radcliffe 3, Kirkpatrick)
v. Bromsgrove: won 3—1 (Rivett, Barker, Radcliffe)
v. Dean Close: won 1—0 (Kyle)
v. Wellington: lost 0—3
v. Pangbourne: won 2—1 (Kyle, Rivett)
v. Occasionals: lost 1—3 (Hutchinson)
v. Bradfield: won 6—3 (Kyle 2, Kirkpatrick, Barker, Radcliffe, Hutchinson)
v. M.C.S.: drawn 0—0
v. Martyrs: lost 0—1
v. Stowe: won 1—0 (Kirkpatrick)

The following made up the Eleven: J. A. Dick, G. E. Bennett (J. A. C. Wheeler), Ll. F. T. Williams, C. G. Scott-Harden, B. J. Hutchinson, A. J. Garne, R. E. Barker, T. A. Kirkpatrick, T. W. Kyle, D. E. Radcliffe, R. C. Rivett.

These also played: C. R. Cooper, W. A. Scott, P. A. Radcliffe.

The long-range weather forecasts were gloomy, but the snows held off, and though there was much rain it concentrated its efforts into just over a week and we didn't get too depressed. School hockey continues to flourish: of thirty-nine matches played by school teams, twenty-two were won and only eight lost; the Senior Leagues were of a higher standard than for some years and very even; and the Juniors all played a reasonable amount. The 1st XI had a thoroughly good season unlike the 'Cobblers', which would have been even better but for a falling-away of their goal-scoring power in the last three matches. Of the schools only Wellington beat them (and the School were far from their best in this game); whilst Stowe, Bradfield, Pangbourne, Dean Close, Bromsgrove and Abingdon (played by an 'A' XI) were defeated, and a drawn game played with M.C.S. These results were gained despite the loss of several of the leading players during the season, and it was particularly unfortunate that mumps claimed Kirkpatrick for the first three school games and Bennett missed the last six because of a broken wrist.

It seemed at the beginning of the season that the 1st XI's defence would be strong, but early on it was less sure than one had hoped. The Wellington defeat made it clear what was wrong and from this moment on the team became far more demanding of themselves in their covering and movement onto the ball. It is particularly true of hockey that an enormous amount of work is done by those not in possession of the ball, and most of the valuable movement is that made in covering or moving with an open space. It is a pity that teams below the top game take so long to realise this and also that hockey should be as demanding physically in its way as rugger.

Hutchinson, the Captain, at centre-half, was a tremendous worker, and he it was who showed the way in defensive determination and in maintenance of pressure in attack. Bennett, until he was injured, was playing very well and becoming more venturesome (he was moving through at inside left when he fell and broke his wrist): it is sound policy for full-backs to play well up the field for they are then nearer to the inside forwards they mark and can stifle attacks early; but if this is done they must cover each other and work with their wing-halves. Williams was extremely fast, a good tackler and coverer, and a sure stopper of the ball; whilst Wheeler, who deputised for Bennett, though rather slow, was reliable and willing to learn. The team was well served at wing-half: Garne usually had the measure of his winger and positioned himself well in attack and defence; and Scott-Harden was always fast onto the loose ball, and though he occasionally strayed dangerously from his wing was quick in recovery.

The forwards promised much and played forceful hockey throughout the term though they never scored the goals their play deserved. Radcliffe, the most experienced, controlled the line well, making good use of his wing where Rivett showed pace and skill, and opening up the game with hard-hit and accurate cross-passes. He has the ability also to split defences by putting the through-ball into the open spaces and Rivett began to see these openings more and more often as the term progressed. Kirkpatrick was a great worker and fed Kyle at centre-forward quickly and accurately though never seeming to strike up quite the same rapport with Barker on the wing. He tended to hold on too long for the through pass to the wing to be effective, but in attack he was quick to push the ball through to Kyle with the centre-half wrong-footed after a cross-pass from Radcliffe. Barker, like Rivett, was fast, and this year he centred thoughtfully and was willing to cut in and have a shot. Kyle, often off-balance early on, improved immensely and was a useful spearhead and willing harrier of defences.

The warm-up matches were promising, for KEBLE, the University 'Cuppers' winners, were held to a draw in a shortened game on a frozen pitch; and LINCOLN were defeated heavily. The BROMSGROVE match was therefore approached with confidence. They were a useful side though in heavy conditions they showed the demerits of close and square passing—a useful lesson for us to learn early in the season. Throughout the term the wings were given plenty of scope and the three insides never crowded one another. DEAN CLOSE were also defeated though out of many opportunities only one goal was scored. WELLINGTON were a successful side this season, but the team played much below form, the covering being woefully slack: it was disappointing to lose but much more pace and determination was shown after this rather weak performance. After a period of rain and no hockey PANGBOURNE were beaten in a close and exciting encounter, and BRADFIELD overwhelmed. Here the cohesion between defence and attack, and the change of direction in passing produced 20 minutes of excellent hocked though the superiority did not produce the goals it deserved till later in the match. The M.C.S. match should have been won easily with many unaccepted chances in the first half and sustained pressure generally. Their defence was quick and self-contained, and in the last five minutes the Eleven was lucky not to concede a goal in several hair-greying goal-mouth scrambles. In a somewhat scrappy game on an uneven pitch STOWE were defeated to bring the School matches to a satisfactory end. The two club games produced some of the best hockey of the term though both were lost. It was against the OCCASIONALS with five Blues and six Occasionals that the defence first proved its worth under sustained pressure, whilst the attack gave their seniors many anxious moments. The MARTYRS should have been beaten but were cool under pressure and took advantage of one mistake to win the game.

Now we sit back for a brief respite until over the Easter weekend the Eleven makes its first acquaintance with Continental hockey and social appetite. Who knows, a garbled account of the happenings may reach the *Chronicle*.

SECOND XI

RESULTS

v. Abingdon: won 3—1
v. Bromsgrove: won 2—0
v. Dean Close: drawn 1—1
v. Wellington: won 2—1
v. Pangbourne: won 5—1
v. Bradfield: won 5—1
v. Magdalen: won 2—1
v. Martyrs: drawn 2—2
v. Stowe: lost 0—1

The team: R. L. Allum; R. A. Purdon (Captain), C. R. Cooper; D. Reed, I. P. Gasper, J. G. Stephens; R. M. Barnes, R. H. Mills, P. A. Radcliffe, W. A. Scott, C. J. S. Turner.

THIRD XI

The 3rd XI came, as usual, out of Leagues, but this year, owing to the amount of rain in February, with less opportunity for trial games.

This, if unavoidable, was still a pity for there were plenty of hockey players, as Leagues showed, in potential 4th and 5th XIs. Under the cheerful captaincy of Cunliffe the side gave rather better than it got. There was some good hockey and 3rd XI games are always played to be enjoyed.

The side was: Cooksley; Porter, Buckton R. A.; Drake, Colson P. A. G., Boyd R. B. W.; Cunliffe (Capt.), Watts, Edwards, Strubell M. G. T., Hadley.

The following also played: Barnett R. D., Haig S. K.

RESULTS

v. Dean Close (A): won 3—1
v. City of Oxford School (H): won 3—0
v. M.C.S. (H): won 3—1
v. Cheltenham (H): lost 3—5
v. Stowe (A): lost 0—2

JUNIORS

The first trial games in the mud and snow of January suggested that there was less talent at this level than in previous years and matches were contemplated with some trepidation. Needless to say, such fears were groundless and though only five goals were scored in four matches it can at least be said that defeat was creditably escaped and, given a little more luck, two more victories might well have been scored.

The strength of the team lay in defence where marking was generally sound and a good mutual understanding was soon established. The attack was rather less successful and though it looked useful outside the circle few individuals possessed the combination of skill, speed and strength.

Team: Vivers, Halliley, Little S. C. M. (Capt.), Rathbone, Davis P. M., Broadbent C. M., Ellis R. J., Garner, Samuels R. H. A., Badger, Day.

RESULTS

v. Dean Close: won 3—0
v. Pangbourne: drawn 0—0
v. Bradfield: drawn 1—1
v. Stowe: drawn 1—1

2nd XI

v. New College School: won 3—0
v. Stowe: won 2—1

HOCKEY XI 1967

L TO R STANDING	S.A. BALDWIN, P.P. AGERHOLM, R.A. PURDON, J.G. STEPHENS, R.L. ALLUM, P.R. THACKERAY
L TO R SEATED	J.A.C. WHEELER, T.A. KIRKPATRICK, R.C. RIVETT (CAPTAIN), T.W. KYLE, D.A. VERSCHUUR
COACHED BY	P.R. CHURCH (C.R.)

FIXTURES
PLAYED 10 WON 6 DRAWN 2 LOST 2

V JESUS COLLEGE, OXFORD - LOST 0-1
(HOME)

V BROMSGROVE SCHOOL - DRAWN 1-1
(AWAY)

V DEAN CLOSE SCHOOL, CHELTENHAM - LOST 1-3
(HOME)

V WELLINGTON COLLEGE - WON 2-0
(AWAY)

V PANGBOURNE NAUTICAL COLLEGE - WON 4-2
(AWAY)

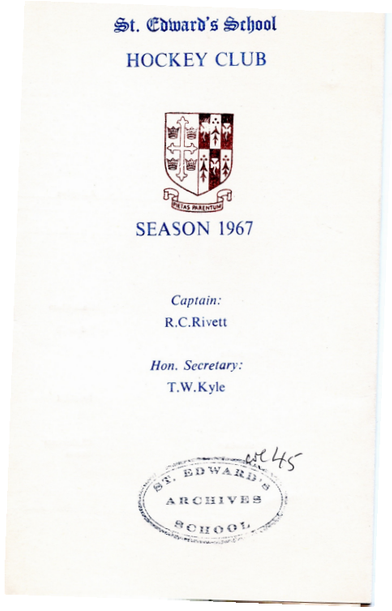
V OXFORD UNIVERSITY OCCASIONALS - DRAWN 1-1
(HOME)

V BRADFIELD COLLEGE - WON 2-0
(HOME)

V MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL - WON 3-1
(HOME)

V MARTYRS - WON 2-0
(HOME)

V STOWE SCHOOL - WON 1-0
(HOME)



HOCKEY

FIRST XI

The prospects for this season were not great. The forward line was almost ready-made, with three old colours and a judicious close season signing, but it was difficult to see where a really adequate defence would be found. In fact, if one judges by results, this year's eleven was as good as any we have had. The forwards scored an adequate number of goals, not quite as many as we had hoped, and as the season passed the defence progressed visibly from shakiness to reliability. In the last five matches only two goals were conceded.

The strength of the eleven is still not easy to pin down. In attack the thrust down both wings enabled us to go round, rather than try to get through, the defences, but the real virtue of the side was the complete absence of a weak link and the resulting mutual confidence which developed. It was also good to see a school side in which every member really knew how to run, and run fast, when not in possession of the ball. The forwards all moved into the open spaces without having to be told and the defence soon learnt the need to hurry back when beaten.

We started with two 'A' eleven fixtures, both against Keble College, and emerged with honours even. The season proper started with a match against Jesus College, but as the captain was away for the day he insists that it was really another 'A' eleven match. We lost by the only goal to a really good college side, and gave the first signs that the season might not be too bad after all.

The first school match was against Bromsgrove, and a very remarkable game. The forwards played superbly. Verschuur showed just how useful he was going to be by waltzing past his wing half every time he got the ball, and hammering across a stream of beautiful centres. The inside forwards, Kyle, Kirkpatrick and Agerholm, produced combined movements at great speed, and we spent most of the second half in the Bromsgrove twenty-five. We drew one all. This was followed by our only defeat in a school match. Dean Close did not allow us to play as we had at Bromsgrove, and a hard fast game was lost in the last quarter of an hour, when for the first and last time, our defence was split open. A 1—0 lead became a 3—1 loss, and the season seemed to be going exactly as expected.

The turning point came three days later at Wellington. Kyle scored two really well taken goals, the second one the result of the best combined movement of the season, and a fine through pass from Kirkpatrick. The defence, with the wing halves Stephens and Thackeray in fine form, and Wheeler seemingly indefatigable, remained calm under pressure and a good win was obtained. When it was discovered that Wellington had not lost to a school since our visit two years earlier, morale rose perceptibly, and we went ill-shod and over-confident, to a muddy game at Pangbourne. One down in two minutes did not change the casual approach of some of the side, while the inability of some of the others to stand up, or turn fast, could well have cost us the game which we should have won more easily.

By the time we played Bradfield the defensive problems were largely solved, and we were never in any real danger of losing. With an over-fed Verschuur somewhat out of touch, Rivett fortunately had a field day on the left, but the forwards as a whole were a little disappointing, seeming to lack some of the cohesion which had been seen in previous games. It is once again pleasant to record a good win against M.C.S. As is so often the case, their hockey looked more cultured than ours, but we won deservedly because we kept up a pace that in the closing stages they could not equal. The team played very well, but it should be recorded that this was Allum's match. If he had not produced two dazzling saves in the first five minutes it is doubtful whether we would have got into the game. It would have been nice to finish the season with a really resounding win, but we had to be content with a single goal against Stowe. One wondered whether a goal would ever come but, fittingly perhaps, Verschuur's stickwork provided that touch of real class which was needed, and Kyle, as ever, was there to score.

In conclusion mention should be made of the two most improved players of the year, Purdon and Baldwin, the full backs. Purdon hits a ball as well as any schoolboy one can remember, and Baldwin, discovered in a league game by a student teacher, developed into the outstanding member of the defence. In addition to the school matches we drew with the Occasionals and beat the Martyrs, to complete a most enjoyable and successful season.

The following played: R. C. Rivett (Capt.), T. A. Kirkpatrick, T. W. Kyle, J. A. C. Wheeler, D. A. Verschuur, R. A. Purdon, P. R. Thackeray, J. G. Stephens, S. A. Baldwin, R. L. Allum, P. P. Agerholm; Buckton, R.A., Moss, R.J.

RESULTS

v. Jesus College (H): lost 0—1
v. Bromsgrove (A): drew 1—1
v. Dean Close (H): lost 1—3
v. Wellington (A): won 2—0
v. Pangbourne (A): won 4—2
v. O.U. Occasionals (H): drew 1—1
v. Bradfield (H): won 2—0
v. Magdalen Coll. Sch. (H): won 3—1
v. Martyrs (H): won 2—0
v. Stowe (H): won 1—0

R.C.R. and P.R.C.

SECOND XI

P. 9; W. 7; D. 2; L. 0; F. 28; A. 9

Despite two cancellations the eleven has enjoyed a successful season. Undeterred by some eccentric behaviour on the touch-line during practices and matches, they created and ignored more chances in each game than more sophisticated sides encounter in a season. In goal, Jenkins provided flashes of brilliance that were rarely encored by the opposition thanks to the strength of the defence. Northcote-Green and Radcliffe played with confidence which was only occasionally over-optimistic, whilst Drake, also a full-back originally, was usually to be discerned in the half-back line where he was eventually located with distinction. His colleagues, Gasper and Buckton, were the architects of a mid-field stockade rarely penetrated and never matched by our opponents. The forwards were invariably dashing and linked excellently with the halves. Sykes showed real ability on the left wing, whilst Barnes provided experience and strength on the other flank. Moss was a dangerous striker unlucky not to get more goals and well served by Hodson and Tyson. The latter improved rapidly during the season and with a little extra speed will be a very good player.

The side was very entertaining to watch and delightful to coach. Special thanks are due to the captain. Gasper, and to Mr. Pedley who umpired for us, and absorbed a good many of the more hare-brained suggestions.

Team: Jenkins; Radcliffe, Northcote-Green; Buckton, Gasper, Drake; Barnes, Hodson, Moss, Tyson, Sykes.

Also played: Jack, Boyd S. R. R., Williams E. A. F., Summerson.

RESULTS

Bromsgrove: 1—1
Dean Close: 1—1
Wellington: 2—1
Pangbourne: 5—2
Bradfield: 5—0
M.C.S.: 2—0
Oxford High School: 7—2
Stowe: 3—1
Staff: 2—1

T.D.W.

THIRD XI

P. 6; W. 5; D. 1; L. 0

This team of League All-Stars has met under Hamer shortly before each bully-off and, uncomplicated by much in the way of tactical planning, has in fact played some thoroughly attractive hockey. There were plenty of goals. Only M.C.S. seriously dented our defence—but not to the extent of upsetting a run of victories which led to an unbeaten season after an exciting draw against Shiplake at the start. Only the Oxford School and Radley games were lost to the weather. There were some good players in this side who should certainly make their contribution to School and Club hockey.

RESULTS

v. Shiplake (H): drawn 1—1
v. Dean Close (H): won 6—1
v. Pangbourne (A): won 6—1
v. M.C.S. (H): won 6—4
v. Cheltenham (H): won 4—1
v. Stowe (H): won 3—1

Team: Crick J. G.; Summerson, Jack; Williams E. A. F., Bland, Ward A.; Gibson J. A., Watts, Bourne, Martin, Hamer (Capt.).

Also played: Boyd A. W., Smith S. C., Holmes, Gibb, Conway.

F.H.P.

COLTS

Played 7; Won 5; Drawn 2

This was nearly a very good Colts XI indeed whose results fully reflect their ability. It was disappointing to have the matches against Wellington, Radley and Bloxham cancelled by the weather.

The strength of the side lay in the forward line who moved together well and were always dangerous in attack. On the right wing, Day showed pace and good control and could invariably beat his man on either side; he was often dangerous in the circle and scored two important goals. On the other wing, Ward H. C. applied himself assiduously to the task of doing the more difficult things. He could usually beat his man for pace on the outside but he must try to learn to get his feet round the ball to hit his cross-pass firmly. The three inside forwards, Badger, Crawshaw and Mischler, showed great promise and scored some goals of the highest class. Badger worked hard in an unobtrusive way and his first goal against Dean Close was a gem of opportunism. Crawshaw chased everything tirelessly and made up for any lack of ability with ceaseless effort. Mischler, both as captain and inside left, stamped his class on every game. He showed the ability to take a defence to pieces on his own and created many openings. These three inside forwards averaged just under three goals a match between them.

The halves always provided sound support to the forwards and Davies P.M., though crude at times, was most effective in attack. He soon learnt to run through the forwards and scored some exciting goals. Broadbent, at left half, was neat and compact, and his positional play could rarely be faulted. At right half, Davis E. M. J. K. improved with every game and covered tirelessly. The backs, Little and Rathbone, performed soundly but their lack of pace was exposed whenever they were under real pressure. Scott A. M., in goal, never let the side down, but he should try to be more aggressive and come out to meet the through pass.

The opening encounter at Abingdon resulted in an easy victory. This was followed by a visit to Dean Close where the rain necessitated our playing on the all-weather pitch, and once we had become accustomed to the pace we slowly got on top to record a good win. Pangbourne combined very well together though they were perhaps a little lucky to draw level late in the second half. Our visit to Bradfield was marred by an injury to Crawshaw who left the field after ten minutes. This upset the balance of the side and a goalless draw was a fair reflection of the play. Magdalen College School were narrowly defeated thanks to a fine goal engineered by Mischler and scored by Day five minutes from time. Four goals in the second half produced a slightly flattering result against Cheltenham and our final game at Stowe was played on an exceedingly bumpy pitch when any sort of real control was out of the question. Under these conditions three goals were a considerable achievement.

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 1968

Team	S.A. Baldwin (Captain), J.G. Stephens, P.R. Thackeray, S.R.R. Boyd, R.D. Drake, F.P.J. Holmes
	A.R. Sykes, D.W.R. Jack, I.M. Bland, R.J. Moss, S.M. Mischler, P.M. Davies
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.) & P.R. Church (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 17 Won 9 Drawn 4 Lost 4

v St. Edmund Hall, Oxford - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Keble College, Oxford - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Bromsgrove School - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Wellington College - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Won 3-0
(Away)

v Martyrs - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 2-1
(Away)

v Uppingham School - Lost 2-3
(Oxford Hockey Festival)

v St. Edmund's Hall, Oxford - Won 5-0
(Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Felsted School - Drawn 1-1
(Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Liverpool College - Won 1-0
(Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Cheltenham College - Won 1-0
(Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

FIRST XI

This year has been one of new systems: athletics has moved for a trial year to the Summer Term; house matches have been played, the first time for many years; and talk of sweepers and link-men has abounded. The weather has been magnificent; only four matches have been cancelled; there have been two rounds of Senior Leagues, one of Junior; and the pitches have been fast—everything right for hockey.

The season has therefore been an interesting one and the Eleven has played well enough to make hockey as near a spectator-sport as it can ever be, though only occasionally have they scored the goals their work and technical ability have merited. Perhaps it has been a certain lack of experience (only three old colours, all defenders, remained) that has led to anxiety and over-eagerness near goal; perhaps the new attacking formation itself with only four forwards put an undue strain on the strikers close to the goal-keeper's pads—though it must be admitted the chances have been made if not taken. Most important of all about the changes in tactics has been the need of the players to think, to adapt to situations, to be flexible—for the system is based on close support and maintenance of pressure. Once players realised that this did not mean short passing only, but also meant quick hitting, and use of the through ball as well to the defender overlapping as in Soccer as to the wingers and centres, then a fascinating pattern of play emerged. Defensively the sweeper back gave much security (Jack improved with every game) though the new inside halves playing further upfield in attack and defence than the old backs led to occasional weakness in covering. In turn they stifled opposing inside forwards earlier, and the skilful Baldwin revelled in the attacking role. A thoughtful attacking mentality developed, and the hard work and clever stickwork needed for the close-support-and-possession play was much in evidence in this year's team.

With a new system to organise it was lucky that Rugger lasted only two weeks and the early matches instead of being much changed 'A' XIs were bona-fide 1st XIs with a win and a draw against strong College opposition. BROMSGROVE with 9 of last year's team were well-organised and fast; although the School were lucky to draw, the defensive advantages of the new order were obvious. WELLINGTON should have been beaten more heavily; not only were chances missed but defensive covering was slack. This vulnerability to the through ball almost proved disastrous against a RADLEY eleven who were outplayed in the first half and who threatened to annihilate their opponents in the second. The team panicked, lacked thought and were saved by Holmes in goal (who never let them down) and luck. After a poor game and a win over PANGBOURNE the Eleven reached maturity and began to play consistently entertaining and forceful hockey. The defence mixed skill in stickwork and sound technique in hitting and stopping with firmness and determination: they were hard and uncompromising yet with finesse (none more so than Stephens and Drake at wing-half). The attack, prompted by Thackeray in strong form throughout the season, played better and better, with strong running on the wings and the sharp speed and stickwork of Boyd linked to the work of Moss and after his injury, to the thoughtful dribbling and passing of Mischler. Everyone excelled themselves in the OCCASIONALS match (they had 9 of this year's Blues' side and the School's resident international). The Eleven covered tirelessly, tackled quickly and broke away effectively and fast in attack to score first; they only surrendered to a lucky goal in the last few minutes. M.C.S. came to watch, saw and were impressed, and a week later were conquered 3—0 in as good a display of intelligent forceful hockey as I've seen from a School XI: Boyd's last goal was one to remember for a long time. But in between these two fine games was the one and only defeat by a school, BRADFIELD, where the XI had all of the game, Holmes touched the ball once—to pick it out of the net—and the forwards, off-colour, missed many chances against a defence quick in the tackle and clearance. Early in the season before they had adapted themselves to the 'System' the School had been outplayed by Bromsgrove, now the MARTYRS did the same and in a fine display of control deservedly won 2—1—it might have been more.

The season was to recover from these three mid-term losses, two of them from very strong club sides. In the last two games STOWE were outplayed by 3—0 and were lucky to escape a drubbing; and finally DEAN CLOSE were defeated in a stern game. Here the defence showed its forceful qualities and toughness, whilst the Eleven as a whole showed for long periods in each half some skilful and attacking hockey against a very useful side.

Looking back over the season I can remember much of excellence in technique and style, some purple patches of attacking hockey, a number of brilliant goals (the one to put us into the lead at Dean Close was typical, with attacking half-back play, an easy dribble and reverse pass by Boyd for Mischler to push home) and an even greater number of misses. Above all the hockey was inventive and looked fun. For the statistically-minded, against schools 5 matches were won, 2 drawn and 1 lost (a game we could have won handsomely): a record to maintain those of last season and previous seasons when only 6 school matches have been lost and 28 won in 5 years and 39 games.

The following made up the Eleven: S. A. Baldwin, J. G. Stephens, P. R. Thackeray, S. R. R. Boyd, R. D. Drake, F. P. J. Holmes, A. R. Sykes, D. W. R. Jack, I. M. Bland, R. J. Moss, S. M. Mischler, P. M. Davies.

R.H.M.A.

RESULTS

Won 6, Drawn 3, Lost 3. Goals for 21, Goals against 13.

v. St. Edmund Hall: won 2—0
v. Keble: drawn 2—2
v. Bromsgrove: drawn 1—1
v. Wellington: won 3—2
v. Radley: drawn 1—1
v. Pangbourne: won 2—1
v. Occasionals: lost 1—2
v. Bradfield: lost 0—1
v. M.C.S.: won 3—0
v. Martyrs: lost 1—2
v. Stowe: won 3—0
v. Dean Close: won 2—1

OXFORD HOCKEY FESTIVAL

v. Uppingham: lost 2—3
v. St. Edmund's: won 5—0
v. Felsted: drawn 1—1
v. Liverpool: won 1—0
v. Cheltenham: won 1—0

Hockey XI 1969

L to R standing	W.W. Summerson, S.D.G. Williams, S.P. Gasper, M.F. Rathbone, S.P.B. Badger, R.H. Samuels
L to R seated	J.P.C. Gell, F.P.J. Holmes, P.M. Davies (Captain), S.M. Mischler, A.J. Graham
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 15 Won 6 Drawn 4 Lost 5

v Oxford High School - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 7-1
(Home)

v Wellington College - Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 4-6
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-4
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Martyrs - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Stowe School - Drawn 3-3
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Oundle School - Won 4-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Felsted School - Won 1-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Strathallan School - Lost 1-2
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

Solihull School - Drawn 0-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Uppingham School - Drawn 2-2
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY 1969

FIRST XI

The XIs of the last few years have been very strong and have played consistently mature hockey; the 1969 team, it seemed likely, would be less sure technically. As it was, the weather did little to help them, and although only three matches were cancelled, often days went by when practice on the pitches, or even round the edges, was impossible. Luckily we were able to use the hard tennis courts, and here stickwork, movement off the ball and the techniques of team-possession were learnt.

The side can be well pleased with its season's record: only two School matches were lost. Similar tactics to last year were employed, though in a less sophisticated manner.

The defence, often fully stretched but always determined, usually managed to hold out. Here Graham was skilful moving out of defence and was a fast tackler, Gell hit the ball cleanly, and Gasper kept his head in most crises. The others, Rathbone, Summerson and Williams (with Fry for part of the season) gained in positional sense and willingness to support the forwards—and were always tenacious. The defence may not have been the fastest boys in the School but they stuck to their job, tackled strongly and usually covered well. As the season went on they came to realize the dangers of rushing into the tackle. It must have given them great confidence to have Holmes in goal behind them, always safe, and often, with the minimum of fuss, saving brilliantly: he fully deserves his Schoolboy Trial.

If the defence was a little slow, the attack ran with rare dash; and with four front-runners spear-headed by the power and strong running of the captain, Davies, and the skilful dribbling of Mischler, always threatened to score goals—even when they had less of the game than their opponents. If we had managed to perfect the short-corner drill, which at times was deplorable in execution, scoring would have been heavy.

The warm-up games in which, this year, the full XI took part, were won convincingly against useful local opposition. In the first major school-match Holmes kept brilliantly and the defence battled successfully against constant Wellington pressure: the result a brave nil-all draw. After ten minutes the School were 2 down to Radley who a few days before had scored 8 against M.C.S. Once again the character of the team showed itself by a fight back to 2–2 and 3–3, only to succumb finally to some fine corner striking by the Radley captain. Bradfield were defeated in an untidy game, and our now regular victory (how laughable that remark would have been seven or eight years ago!) came against M.C.S. who lacked score-power but deserved some return for their hockey. An exciting if not very skilful game against Stowe resulted in a sharing of 6 goals, but the defence just failed to hold a strong Dean Close attack and the last match was lost 1–2.

Perhaps the best hockey was played against the Martyrs, a skilful but not fully fit side, though for once chances were not accepted. This and the Radley game were perhaps the only times that the ball ran at all fast and true, and it was not surprising that it was on these two occasions that the School's hockey was at its best. The full Occasionals side came, and but for their habit of hitting the ball away at free hits showed us many of the skills of the game, especially support of one another, and passing away from the direction of the body's movement. They were made to fight hard for their goals.

Congratulations should go to Davies who led the side well and scored many goals himself—for the season was not an easy one. The memories that remain most clearly are of mud, rain, frost and snow: the cancellation of Senior House Matches in the last ten wet days of the term summed up the disappointments that had gone before.

For the Oxford Festival at the end of March the weather was sharply cold but pleasantly dry. The first two games saw the XI at their best, and their game was at its most effective in the 1–0 defeat of Felsted; whilst Davies scored all 4 goals when Oundle were defeated. The hockey during the remaining three games was less tidy and incisive but two of the games—against Solihull and Uppingham—were drawn.

The following made up the XI: P. M. Davies; S. M. Mischler; F. P. J. Holmes; A. J. Graham; J. P. C. Gell; S. P. Gasper; M. F. Rathbone; W. M. Summerson; S. P. B. Badger; R. H. A. Samuels; S. D. G. Williams. R. J. C. Fry also played a number of times, and with S. J. G. Day played in the Oxford Festival.

RESULTS

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
15	6	4	5

v. Oxford School	Won 3–0
v. Abingdon	Won 7–1
v. Wellington	Drawn 0–0
v. Radley	Lost 4–6
v. Occasionals	Lost 0–4
v. Bradfield	Won 2–0
v. M.C.S.	Won 3–0
v. Martyrs	Lost 2–3
v. Stowe	Drawn 3–3
v. Dean Close	Lost 1–2

Results at the Oxford Hockey Festival:

v. Oundle	Won 4–0
v. Felsted	Won 1–0
v. Strathalan	Lost 1–2
v. Solihull	Drawn 0–0
v. Uppingham	Drawn 2–2

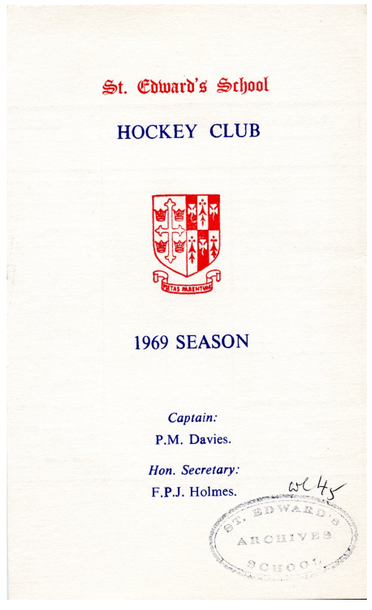
R.H.M.A.

Mischler too late to intercept *v.* Stowe

Badger breaks against Dean Close

R. J. Moss 'crosses' for the Martyrs

Davies takes on two Stowe defenders



PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 1970

Team	P.M. Davies (Captain), S.D.G. Williams, R.H.A. Samuels, M.J. Garner, S.P. Gasper, S.P.B. Badger
	P.J.C. Saunders, R.H.T. Kenyon, A.J.T. Wilson, W.H. Allum, I.A.F. Bruce
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 11 Won 6 Drawn 1 Lost 4

v Abingdon School - Won 5-0
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 4-0
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-6
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 2-1
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 0-3
(Away)

v Cambridge University Wanderers - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v City of Oxford H.C. - Lost 1-6
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v The Leys School, Cambridge - Drawn 0-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Victoria College, Jersey - Won 6-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Liverpool College - Won 2-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

1970 HOCKEY

In a season bedevilled by snow and rain, although some thirty-two matches were cancelled, a fair amount of hockey was played: a full senior and junior league cycle and both series of house matches.

The Eleven, strong in attack but rather slow in defence proved too powerful for most of its schoolboy opposition, though some of its more testing matches were cancelled. We were very likely to score heavily and with Bruce keeping well and the defence becoming more urgent, we approached all school games on terms of equality. The club games, however, showed how, under skilled and experienced pressure, goals could easily be scored against us.

In the Hockey Festival, teams from The Leys (drawn 0–0), Sherborne (won 2–1), Victoria College, Jersey (won 6–0), and Liverpool College (won 2–0) were the opponents. Field House won the Senior House Matches, Sing's the Junior. Sing's also won the Senior Leagues.

R. H. M. ARKELL

1st XI

Team: P. M. Davies (Captain), S. D. G. Williams, R. H. A. Samuels, M. J. Garner, S. P. Gasper, S. P. B. Badger, P. J. C. Saunders, R. H. T. Kenyon, A. J. T. Wilson, W. H. Allum, I. A. F. Bruce.

Results: 'A' XI *v.* Abingdon, won 5–0; 1st XI *v.* Pangbourne, won 4–0; *v.* Oxford University Occasionals, lost, 0–6; *v.* Bradfield, won 2–1; *v.* Dean Close, lost 0–3; *v.* Cambridge Wanderers, lost 0–3; *v.* City of Oxford Club, lost 1–6; *v.* Bradfield, won 2–1.

The matches againts Bromsgrove, Wellington Radley, Magdalen College School, The Martyrs and Stowe were cancelled.

2nd XI

Team: M. K. Watkeys (Captain), C. D. Cree, N. P. A. Boult, A. P. French, C. W. Rose, P. J. Slater, A. P. T. Strubell, R. A. C. Sears, T. R. Seton, S. R. Gidman, N. M. Paton, P. J. Richards, R. W. Heskett.

Results: 'B' XI *v.* Oxford City 3rd, lost 0–3; *v.* Abingdon, won 5–3; 2nd XI *v.* Pangbourne, won 2–0; *v.* Bradfield, lost 1–2; *v.* Dean close, drew 1–1.

The matches against Bromsgrove, Wellington, Radley, Magdalen College School, The Martyrs and Stowe were cancelled.

COLTS

Team: J. D. Smith, Blundon, Channell, Northcote-Green, R. J. Baldwin, Denton, Blake, Constantine (Captain), Hordern, T. J. D. Smith, Lawther. *Also played*: C. Womersley, P. Davidson-Houston. *Results*: Won 3, drawn 1.

JUNIORS

Team: McGhee, Procter, Whitworth, Vivers, D. H. Irving-Bell, Sexton (Captain), J. P. R. Womersley, R. H. Burgess, Plant, Skelton, Hughes. *Also played*: Padgham, Somerville, Faris. *Results*: Won 3, Drawn 1.

St. Edward's School

HOCKEY CLUB

1970 SEASON

Captain:
P.M.Davies.

Hon. Secretary:
S.D.G. Williams.

ST. EDWARD'S ARCHIVES

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 1971

Team	S.D.G. Williams (Captain), I.A.F. Bruce, P.J.C. Saunders, R.C. Blunden, A.J.T. Wilson, W.H. Allum
	S.R. Northcote-Green, J.R. Lawther, M.J.H. Constantine, R.A.C. Sears, S.R. Gidman
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 10 Won 3 Drawn 1 Lost 6

v Abingdon School - Won 4-2
(Away)

v Bromsgrove School - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 0-3
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Stowe School - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 2-3
(Away)

HOCKEY 1971

One must always be wary of making apologies in games reports. Particularly in hockey, however, a list of results can be depressing, reflective of a side's ability to score goals rather than of a side's skills with regard to play elsewhere. It seemed at the beginning of this season as if goals were to be no problem. We beat Abingdon 4–2 and Bromsgrove, somewhat luckily, 2–1. Using a formation 4–2–3–1–1, play in midfield and distribution to the wings was made very much easier. It was our inability to place the elusive ball in the back of the goal that became our undoing and however hard and skilfully we played outside the opposing circle, particularly against Bradfield with whom we drew 0–0, the ball just would not go in.

Although the team only won three matches this is not a fair reflection of the way in which individual players improved. Bruce in goal was a tower of strength and bewildered many an opposition forward. Saunders, playing sweeper, gained considerably in confidence and positional sense. Both Allum and Williams, acting as link men, settled very quickly into this role and in many games commanded the mid-field play. Williams has set a fine example of determination and has kept morale high in trying circumstances. The half-back trio have all shown increasing skill with their tight marking. The forwards have never quite hit their top form, with Sears the most penetrating. There has been no lack of trying, and now the team look forward to an Easter tournament under the celebrated hospitality of the Dutch in The Hague.

1st XI
I. A. F. Bruce; P. J. C. Saunders; R. C. Blunden; A. J. T. Wilson; S. R. Northcote-Green; W. H. Allum; S. D. G. Williams (capt.); J. R. Lawther; M. J. H. Constantine; R. A. C. Sears; S. R. Gidman.
Results: Abingdon, won 4–2; Bromsgrove, won 2–1; Wellington, lost 0–1; Radley, lost 0–3; Pangbourne, won 1–0; O.U. Occasionals, lost 0–2; Bradfield, drawn 0–0; M.C.S., lost 1–2; Stowe, lost 0–2; Dean Close, lost 3–2.
Matches against the Martyrs and Keble College were cancelled.

2nd XI
Richards, P. J.; French; Davidson-Houston, P.; Slater (capt.); Conway, C. R.; Pringsheim; Womersley, C. E. M.; Sowry; Smith, T. J. D.; Lawton-Smith, J. N.; Thomas, J. E. K.
Results: Abingdon, draw 0–0; Bromsgrove, drawn 2–2; Wellington, drawn 0–0; Radley, lost 3–2; Bradfield, won 3–0; M.C.S., won 3–0; Dean Close, lost 6–2.

3rd XI
Smith, J. D.; Thorn; Channell; Wright, P. J.; Whitby; Cloke; Hordern; Tandon; Thomas, R. C. (capt.); Badger; Blake.
Won 3; lost 1; Drawn 0.

Colts 1st XI
Stevens; Whitworth; Procter; Sexton (capt.); Irving-Bell; Cooper; Plant; Burgess, R. H.; Hughes; Dunt; Skelton.
Won 4; lost 4; drawn 0.

Juniors 1st XI
Buck; Murton (capt.); Burton; Edwards; Willison; Boult; Faris; Maxfield; Womersley; Rushing; Catling.
Won 4; lost 1; drawn 2.

In the Junior House Match Final, Apsley beat Macnamara's 2–1.

In the Senior House Match Final, Field House beat Tilly's 2–0.

St. Edward's School, Oxford
Hockey (1980 - 2016)

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 1972

Team	S.R. Northcote-Green (Captain), R.A.C. Sears, J.P. Whitby, J.D. Smith, C.R. Conway, D.O. Skelton, D.H. Irving-Bell, J.R. Lawther, P.E.O.B. Davidson-Houston, C.M. Sexton P.A. Hordern, C.E.M. Womersley
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.)

Fixtures
Play 13 Won 5 Drawn 1 Lost 7

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-3
(Away)

v Radley College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 2-0
(Away)

v Magdalen College School- Lost 1-3
(Home)

v Martyrs - Won 3-0
(Home)

v St. Lawrence School, Hurstpierpoint - Lost 1-2
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v St. Edmund's School, Canterbury - Won 4-2
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Welbck College - Won 1-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Uppingham School - Lost 0-1
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Aldenham School - Lost 0-1
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

HOCKEY

1st XI, 1972

Not even the most unenthusiastic League player will need to be reminded about this term's weather. Wet, heavy pitches do not make for good hockey, and people have been frustrated at every level with developing their skills with balls that do not run on to make good stick work and dribbling really possible. For the 1st XI results have been mixed. The problem has been, as often, to find forwards who can score goals. Defenders can more easily learn to mark closely and become efficient spoilers of oppositions' attacks. The enjoyment of fast open hockey only really became possible during the Festival games of the last week of term, and in the House matches immediately preceding. Control at once became more sure, and games established more obvious patterns. Although we lost one more match than we won in the Festival games, this was easily our best hockey, and two defeats went well against the run of play by individual breakaway goals.

Sears has been the most penetrating forward, as last year, and Northcote-Green has led the side very calmly and positively from left-half. His control has raised the play of his fellow defenders, and Whitby and Sexton have been particularly outstanding in their secureness. Behind everyone else Smith has been a genuine rock in goal, and his confidence and timing have improved beyond measure through the season. Space does not allow for details on the individual games. All the team has improved, and appropriately they played their best game against Aldenham on the last day of the Festival. Once again the old lesson was proved that nothing replaces the ability to stop the ball cleanly and give an accurate pass, however short. The hockey has been enjoyed, and played with a will.

RESULTS

v. Pangbourne (H), won 2-0
v. Abingdon (H), lost 0-3
v. Wellington (A), lost 0-3
v. Radley (A), drew 1-1
v. Occasionals (H), lost 0-3
v. Bradfield (A), won 2-0
v. M.C.S. (H), lost 1-3
v. Martyrs (H), won 3-0

Matches against Bromsgrove, Stowe and Dean Close were cancelled.

The team was: S. R. Northcote-Green (captain); R. A. C. Sears; J. P. Whitby; J. D. Smith; C. R. Conway; D. O. Skelton; D. H. Irving-Bell; P. E. O. B. Davidson-Houston; C. M. Sexton; P. A. Hordern; C. E. M. Womersley; J. R. Lawther.

OXFORD FESTIVAL RESULTS

v. St. Lawrence, lost 1-2
v. St. Edmund's Canterbury, won 4-1
v. Welbeck, won 1-0
v. Uppingham, lost 0-1
v. Aldenham, lost 0-1

Apsley won the Senior House Matches.
Tilly's won the Junior House Matches.

2nd XI, 1972

Those who played were: E. J. Taylor; J. H. Mainwood; E. W. Thom; C. R. Badger; T. T. Channell; J. R. Lawther; M. C. T. Plant; N. N. Blake; P. Flavel; C. Searle; R. Burgess; J. Proctor; P. Wrixon; J. Whitby; S. Higgins; D. Skelton; J. Case; R. Buck; C. Womersley; I. Staines; P. Horden; C. Sexton; P. Davidson-Houston; C. Conway. (24!)

v. Pangbourne (H), won 7-1
v. Abingdon (H), won 5-0
v. Wellington (A), drew 1-1
v. Radley (A), lost 0-5
v. Bradfield (A), won 2-1
v. M.C.S. (H), won 4-2

Cancelled: Stowe; Bromsgrove; Martyrs; Dean Close.

Junior Hockey

Junior 1st XI:	*v.* Wellington	(A),	lost	2–3
	v. Radley	(H),	drew	1–1
	v. Abingdon	(H),	won	3–1
	v. Bradfield	(H),	won	4–2
	v. Cheltenham	(H),	lost	0–2

The following played: Boult (captain); Wentworth-Ping; Schneiders; Burch; Alexander; E. J. P. Smart; Mackaness; D. A. Buck; Rusling; R. A. Wilson; C. J. M. Catling; Beeching; Hammond.

Junior 2nd XI:	*v.* Radley	(H),	lost	0–5
Junior 3rd XI:	*v.* Radley	(H),	drew	0–0
Junior 4th XI:	*v.* Radley	(H),	won	3–0

Junior House Match: Tilly's beat Segar's 2–0.

Hockey XI 1973

L to R standing	B.M. Hughes, R.H. Burgess, D.C.H. Whitworth, D.H. Irving-Bell, J.H. Mainwood, S.H. Lawton-Smith
L to R seated	E.W. Thom, J.D. Smith, C.M. Sexton (Captain), D.O. Skelton, J.R. Lawther
Coached by	R.H.M. Arkell (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 10 Won 5 Drawn 2 Lost 3

v Abingdon School - Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 3-2
(Away)

v Bromsgrove School - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Won 4-2
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Martyrs - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Wellington College - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 1-2
(Home)

HOCKEY

1st XI

In contrast to last year's puddle, skies have stayed clear and hockey pitches increasingly firm. Only the first game of the term was washed out, and the last three weeks' hockey has been played on ground of summer hardness. Ironically the season's performances have, if anything, moved the wrong way as far as results go. Up to 7 March, when we met M.C.S., the team was unbeaten with 4 wins and 2 draws under their belt. A loss to M.C.S.'s England Schoolboy trialist, who scored all 3 of their goals, was followed by an impressive victory over Wellington, who had beaten our next victors, Stowe. An undeserved loss against Dean Close closed the season, apart from the five Festival games in the last week of term.

The bad news has been the difficulty of scoring goals, despite the new offside rule and two increasingly successful wingers. The good news has been some excellent and constructive defensive play more than ably built on 'Twinkle-Pads' Smith in goal, who has shrugged off the hardest shots and opposing centre-forwards, and the ever-present Sexton at centre-half.

Everybody knows, even defenders in their more honest moments, that it is more difficult to score goals than keep them out, but our forwards, despite and, in a sense, because of their individual skills, have played too little together, trying to beat too many men. The sunshine of the Festival has seen the most effective combination with two games in one day producing 6 goals.

It has been encouraging to see so many of the team improving their play over the term, and some have shown real touches of class. Thom has nearly always played an adept and controlled game at full-back, and, in front of him at half, Lawton-Smith has demonstrated the importance of keeping the eye on the ball. Light of foot and quick of wrist he has set up some good attacks from the left. Still on that side of the field, Skelton has been a much better player than he was last year, and many an opponent has been conscious of his passing runs. Lawther on the other wing has been a difficult man to rob, and has used his speed most effectively. Burgess has dazzled with his stick-work and has sold dummies to everyone on the field, to lay on some splitting passes and provide scoring chances. All the other players have certainly had their sparkling moments, but perhaps not the same consistency. One will remember with awe Hughes appearing from nowhere to take a pass, Mainwood's excellent distribution, Irving-Bell's determination and covering, the long arm of Whitworth frustrating many an opposing forward. Sexton, however, has been especially impressive by the way he has dominated the mid-field of all but one match, and has initiated so many attacks. The width of his stick and the cover drives to find one forward or another must have encouraged the cricketers.

A pity about the three narrow defeats. This side might have remained undefeated, but they have certainly played spirited and increasingly skilful hockey.

RESULTS

v. Cheltenham (cancelled)	*v.* Martyrs, won 4–1
v. Abingdon, drawn 0–0	*v.* M.C.S., lost 2–3
v. Pangbourne, won 3–2	*v.* Wellington, won 1–0
v. Bromsgrove, won 2–0	*v.* Stowe, lost 0–2
v. Radley, won 4–2	*v.* Dean Close, lost 1–2
v. Bradfield, drawn 1–1	

Played 10; won 5; drawn 2; lost 3; for 18; against 13.

The following were awarded colours: C. M. Sexton; J. D. Smith; E. W. Thom; D. C. H. Whitworth; S. H. Lawton-Smith; D. H. Irving-Bell; D. O. Skelton; J. H. Mainwood; B. M. Hughes; R. H. Burgess; J. R. Lawther.

Senior House Match: Won by Apsley.

Hockey XI 1974

L to R standing	C.J. Pimlott, A. Peploe-Williams, R.A. Wilson, J.C. Alexander, S.M. Rusling, A.D. Burton
L to R seated	C.W. Mackaness, A.C. Murton, S.H. Lawton-Smith (Captain), M.J. McGhee, J.G. Sears
Coached by	I.D. Wright (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 14 Won 1 Drawn 4 Lost 9

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 5-1
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Oxford University Occasionals- Lost 2-8
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Wellington College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Stowe School - Draw 2-2
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Cranbrook School - Lost 0-4
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v St. LawrenceSchool, Hurstpierpoint - Lost 0-3
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Heidelberg University, Germany - Lost 0-3
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Canford School - Drawn 3-3
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Uppingham School - Lost 3-4
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

Hockey 1974

Flu has clearly been a depressing feature of the season, preventing us from fielding the full XI in 6 of the 9 term fixtures, but it cannot entirely explain the dearth of victories.

There was always plenty of enthusiasm to work for others and run hard, but at times a sense of defeat pervaded the team. It was generally accepted that the team had less than their fair share of luck, and the opposition more than their fair share of goals, but this cannot detract from the cold fact that only one match, way back in January, was won all season.

Cheltenham found the XI rather disorganized on a fine pitch, but a convincing victory over Abingdon promised better things. Pangbourne, certainly no better than Abingdon, were allowed to hold on for a draw. Despite a good beginning and end we lost convincingly to Bradfield, but more instructively to an Occasionals side predominantly made up of this year's Blues' side. Of the last four term-time matches, the XI lost deservedly to M.C.S. and Dean Close (on an all-weather pitch), but largely because players thought themselves into a position of inferiority; and drew with Stowe and Wellington. Faced with the challenge of an undefeated Stowe side the team produced their best hockey and achieved combinations they themselves were hardly aware of. Stowe only forced a 2–2 draw in the last minute or so of the game. Faced with a Wellington side which had not won a match, the opposite happened, and very basic hockey from both sides produced an unhappy game.

The Oxford Hockey Festival, played in the first week of the holiday saw no turning of the tide. Cranbrook, St. Lawrence, and Heidelberg all coasted home with little trouble, but this was followed by a 2–2 draw against Canford in the Parks, producing incidentally the team's first goal in 4½ hours of playing time! Despite a spirited finish in the final game against Uppingham, we were defeated 2–4.

As a rule the team produced their best hockey when a goal ahead, which was not often, but even here, rather than build on the advantage, the team tended to fall on to the defensive, and so allowed the opposition to get back into the game.

McGhee, in goal, improved beyond recognition as the season progressed, producing a magnificent display of uncanny anticipation against Stowe. The two full-backs, Alexander and Burton, showed touches of real skill, but not enough flexibility in their distribution of the ball which too often finished with the opposition. In midfield, Mackaness, the youngest member of the side, with a vital role, played consistently well, showing a natural ability to find and develop gaps in a defence, and measure his passes accordingly. The wing-halves, Pimlott and the Captain Lawton-Smith, were often towers of strength and began many attacks, sometimes to the neglect of their wings. Lawton-Smith has developed his own skill to a considerable extent, and, given a cooler head, will become a very competent player. Rusling and Peploe-Williams on the wings perhaps lacked the genuine speed to penetrate a defence, but positioned themselves well, and never stopped looking for the ball. Murton and Sears, as insides, were always back helping in defence, but found their linking roles more difficult and needed more individual control to manufacture attacks and make scoring chances. They only scored 3 goals between them in the 14 matches. Similarly, Wilson at centre-forward, scored 3 goals in the first 2 games, but then only 2 more in the season, and lacked the 'killer instinct' and sharpness in the circle to make something out of nothing.

The team in general, and the captain in particular, must receive credit for their tenacity and cheerfulness in the face of frequent disappointments. Nothing much went right for them, and so the confidence was missing which brings more skill; but they always kept trying.

Results

v. Cheltenham, lost 1–2
v. Abingdon, won 5–1
v. Pangbourne, drawn 1–1
v. Radley, cancelled
v. Bradfield, lost 1–4
v. Occasionals, lost 2–8
v. M.C.S., lost 0–3
v. Wellington, drawn 1–1
v. Martyrs, cancelled
v. Stowe, drawn 2–2
v. Dean Close, lost 0–2

Hockey Festival

v. Cranbrook, lost 0–4
v. St. Lawrence, lost 0–3
v. Heidelberg, lost 0–3
v. Canford, drawn 2–2
v. Uppingham, lost 2–4

The following were awarded colours: J. C. Alexander; A. D. Burton; S. H. Lawton-Smith (Capt.); C. W. Mackaness; M. J. McGhee; A. C. Murton; A. Peploe-Williams; C. J. Pimlott; S. M. Rusling; J. G. Sears; R. A. Wilson.
The following also played: G. P. Boult; D. A. Buck; T. P. W. Edwards; D. J. Fawcus; D. M. Todd.

2nd XI

That no fewer than twenty-three players played for the seconds this season reflects the problems faced by the side. Just when a settled team looked to be emerging illness struck. However, despite this they were a cheerful side and played some good hockey. Often we looked the more skilful side, but we lacked the necessary pace and drive to turn this to advantage.

Team: D. J. Maxfield (Capt); P. J. Arnold; G. P. Boult; D. A. Buck; R. C. L. Clifford; T. P. W. Edwards; D. J. Fawcus; K. E Halstead; S A. Hammond; G. P. Martin; E. J. P. Smart; D. M. Todd; J. P. R. Womersley.

Results

v. Cheltenham College, lost 1–7
v. Abingdon, won 2–0
v. Pangbourne College, won 6–0
v. Radley College, cancelled
v. Bradfield College, drew 1–1
v. Shiplake College 1st XI, lost 0–2
v. M.C.S., drew 1–1
v. Wellington College, lost 1–2
v. Martyrs, cancelled
v. Stowe, lost 0–4
v. Dean Close, won 3–1

Colts

As the team began to settle down in those early days in January, there were the makings of an effective and versatile combination. Two early victories did wonders for morale, confidence was improving, and there was a willing and busy air about the whole approach. And then came the flu—after which it was scarcely possible again to practise as a team, or even on occasions to select a team more than half an hour before the bully-off.

Unsettling though this was, and in spite of the rather makeshift appearance of the team which actually turned out, there were some wholehearted performances against much abler opposition. Nobody gave up, and Catling is to be complemented on the way he kept everybody going.

In goal, T. G. Wright was not always sound, but he could be very forceful in the circle, and made no serious mistakes. Reid and Birch were an effective pair of backs though Reid's move to centre-half later in the season created problems at left back. Winn was beginning to shape very well at left-half before illness removed him, while Skelton was always willing to learn at right-half, though he is still caught out of position too often. At centre-half Parkash was invariably neat though he tended to get over-involved in attack, thus leaving some worrying gaps at the back.

Of the forwards the two insides, Catling and Edwards, both possessed fine control and the ability to open a defence without quite learning when to pass. On the wings, Higgins on the right was always forthright and often effective, while Helsby on the left, caused opposition defences many anxious moments. At centre-forward Boyd lacked sufficient bustle though he had that happy knack of getting the ball in the net. His deputy, Thompson, was full of go and never stopped chasing. Congratulations and thanks are due to all those other deputies who stepped so willingly in to the gaps left by the stricken, often at very short notice.

The following played: C. J. M. Catling (Capt.); Birch; D. B. A. Boyd; J. W. Edwards; Helsby; Higgins; Parkash; J. D. Reid; J. M. Skelton; Winn; T. G. Wright; Appleton; D. J. B. Baker; Beeching; Booth; H. G. F. Schneiders; I. K. W. Stuart; R. G. Thompson; Todd.

Results

v. Cheltenham (H), drawn 2–2
v. Abingdon (A), won 4–2
v. Pangbourne (H), won 3–0
v. Wellington (A), lost 0–3
v. Bradfield (H), lost 1–4
v. Radley (H), lost 1–5
v. M.C.S. (H), lost 1–2
v. Dean Close (H), won 2–1

Colts 2nd XI

Results

v. Cheltenham (H), drawn 0–0
v. Wellington (A), lost 2–3
v. Radley (H), lost 3–7

Played: J. E. A. Barnes; C. Barrington Brown; I. K. W. Stuart (Capt.); J. R. Burgess; T. J. Carstairs; D. J. B. Baker; S. C. Beeching; W. J. Booth; P. d'O. Vigne; P. W. Thorn; J. A. Guest; P. de V. Buckingham; R. G. Thompson; R. Grimsdale; H. G. Wynn Jones.

Under-15

But for an unnecessary loss to M.C.S. and a deserved defeat by a strong Wellington XI, both whilst we were weakened by the flu bug, the Juniors have had a very successful season. A number of players were absent during the season but unlike some of the School teams we didn't suffer too drastically though practice of set pieces like short corners and free hits became almost impossible. It was a friendly, keen side, always wanting to play but less happy in skills practices: their stick-work was useful but hitting was untidy, with a few notable exceptions like Hinton.

Thom, the captain, was a strong tackler at full back and was well supported by Lee, who made up for lack of speed by much improved positioning. Mason and Hinton were strong supporters of the attack and helped to dominate mid-field. The forwards could move the ball sweetly at times though the heavy grounds didn't help; Hancock scored some good goals and was well supported by all the other forwards.

The following played: Thom (Capt.); N. J. R. Haddock; D. F. R. Lee; Hinton; Mason; Church; M. J. Rusling; Munsey; Hancock; Scragg; S. L. B. Gill; Karim; C. W. Jones; Goss; Bampfield; Howell-Pryce and Bowles.
Played 7; won 4; drawn 1; lost 2.

Results

v. Abingdon, won 5–1
v. Pangbourne, won 1–0
v. Wellington, lost 0–4
v. Bradfield, won 1–0
v. Rugby, drawn 0–0
v. M.C.S., lost 4–5
v. Dean Close, won 5–1

Under-14

	F	A	R	
v. Wellington	0	1	lost	
v. Radley	0	2	lost	
v. Dean Close Juniors	1	1	drawn	
v. M.C.S.	10	0	won	Strange 4 Blackett 2 Duthie 2 Wells 2
v. New College Juniors	5	0	won	Blackett 3 Strange 1 Wells 1
v. Stowe	5	2	won	Blackett 3 Strange 2

Played 6; won 3; drawn 1; lost 2; goals for 21; against 6.
Goalscorers: Blackett 8; Strange 7; Wells 3; Duthie 2.

The first game was against an Under-15 (B) side at Wellington and with a hastily re-arranged forward line the team played well, especially at the back, but their was no doubting the opposition's superiority, and they won by the only goal of the match. Against Radley the side was again confronted with a side a year older than themselves and they lost a very good game by a couple of goals. Dean Close provided the first Preparatory School opposition, the honours being shared at the end with a goal apiece. Magdalen College School were completely outplayed with the St. Edward's defence virtually redundant and Walters on the right wing set up many opportunities for his forwards with some fine crosses. New College Juniors were beaten fairly comprehensively as one would expect with the year difference in respective ages of the teams. There was no doubt that the performance of the season was reserved till the last game against Stowe. After conceeding an early goal the team settled down and played some fine hockey with Blackett and Strange providing the finishing touches in the 5–2 win. Matthews has played well throughout in goal and Williams, A.B.O., together with Stewart produced some good hockey at the back, with the former distinguishing himself with a very high work rate. The half-back line had Hobley, and most centre-forwards had difficulty getting around him! Smith had the skills at right-half but often was slightly handicapped on the heavy pitches by his lack of physique, but he still turned in some fine performances. At left-half towards the latter stages of the term, Church filled the role admirably, Weller also played in this position and once his distribution is improved his game undoubtedly will benefit.

The forward line went from strength to strength with Blackett setting a captain's example in his approach to the game and also the high standard of his own play. The right flank combination was first-rate and Walters showed on many occasions the flair he has for the game. Strange possibly improved more than any other player in this group, he is a competitor and a natural games player; it seems impossible that at the start of the term he had played no hockey at all! Duthie was very steady at inside left, he possesses the stick-work but the tendency is to play rather a defensively orientated game and one feels the work rate could be increased. Finally, the 'find' of the term was Wells on the left wing; he took over when Ackerman (who played well in his games) went ill and he held onto this position.

The attitude and approach to the game displayed by the team throughout was first class, which made this a very enjoyable and rewarding term.

I.D.W.

Team: J. S. Mathews; A. B. O. Williams; N. E. Stewart; A. M. Smith; M. J. Hobley; A. P. Church; R. F. D. Walters; H. W. Blackett; J L. G. Strange; A. R. Duthie; H. J. Wells.

Also played: N. R. Chaumeton; T. F. N. Weller; S. B. Marchant; A. I. F. Miscampbell; M. P. Mallalieu; R. P. Ackerman.

R.D. Aldred
Hockey Coach 1989-1990

P.D. Badger
Hockey Coach 1975-1988

Hockey XI 1975

L to R standing	D.H. Buck, P.K. Arnold, W.H.G. Higgins, H.T. Thursfield, J.W.W. Edwards, S.A. Hammond
L to R seated	R.A. Rose, R.A.Wilson, C.J. Pimlott (Captain), C.W. Mackaness, G.P. Boult
Coached by	R.D. Aldred and P.G. Badger (Both C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 9 Won 1 Drawn 2 Lost 6

v Abingdon School - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v City of Oxford H.C. - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-5
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Wellington College - Won 2-1
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 2-6
(Home)

Hockey

Unlike last year we did not suffer at all from illness, but the weather this year has been equally frustrating. Although we were able to play most of our matches, we lost much valuable practice time through wet weather. At the Junior end both the Junior Colts and the Under-14's have had unbeaten seasons, which is a great encouragement for the future. The Colts, after a bright start, did not maintain a consistent performance. At the Senior end results at team level have been disappointing, but the enthusiasm for the game has been most encouraging. The leagues have been most competitively played and the sad fact has been the little hockey played. However, the story no doubt has been the same throughout the country this year. We have played when we could and thus the pressure on the wear and tear of the pitches has been tremendous. The fact that we have played is due entirely to the hard work of the groundsman and his staff who have done an excellent job under such adverse conditions—very many thanks.

First XI

This has been a disappointing season from our results and could so easily have been very different if luck had run our way more. Some thirty returned early on the first day of term for practice and trials, and competition for places on the first game was great. There were a lot of reasonable players who challenged enthusiastically for places. It was most encouraging to see the way people were prepared to practice at the basic skills and it was particularly gratifying to hear one of the City of Oxford players comment on the quality of the basic skills. Certainly the hitting and the stopping improved over the season, but too often the control under pressure let the side down. The essence of the game is doing the simple things well and this is vital when the pitches are wet and heavy. The importance of stick work cannot be emphasized too much and few players really had the close control needed to get themselves out of trouble or to create space for themselves. I am sure plenty of practice on a hard surface would help this aspect of the game enormously.

The team has been a most enjoyable one to work with and even with a lack of success the spirit and atmosphere in the team was most pleasant. Certainly they never gave up, always working for each other and harassing the opposition. Probably the greatest weakness of the side was the failure to score goals. In several of the games lost the failure to translate midfield supremacy into goals let the side down. During the season three centre-forwards were tried which reflects the problem which was never really solved.

Rose, in goal, played most consistently and was keen to improve his game all the time, so much so that he invariably took the blame for goals far too personally. His anticipation and positional play improved enormously and usually he was in command of his circle. At full-back Arnold and Higgins formed a steady partnership. Arnold quickened up a good deal during the season and his timing of the tackle was good. His main weakness was his poor striking of the stationary ball, but he was prepared to push the ball accurately out of defence rather than the aimless hit. Higgins, converted from right wing, proved a most useful performer. His hitting was crisp and his positional play was efficient after a shaky start. His timing of the tackle and his speed of movement were good. The half-back line was the most experienced department of the team. Pimlott, at right-half, was a steady performer and led the side most ably both on and off the field. He played to his own strengths and always did the simple things well. His attacking play was excellent, supporting his forwards strongly. In Mackaness, at centre-half, we have a quality player and he ought to have dominated the middle of the field. This he did not always do, often trying to do too much himself. When he moved the ball on quickly and supported the forwards, then he looked the part. At left-half, Boult, a neat player, generally played most consistently. However, on occasions he was over-ambitious and put himself under pressure. He developed an excellent cross-pass to the inside right. The forward line was quite skilful and its approach play was sound. Thursfield on the right wing played most of his matches at centre-forward. Often he created room for himself only to fail to use it. On the right wing he found the extra space an asset, but did not always centre hard enough. Buck, at inside-right, produced some good performances, but was reluctant to move the ball to his wing early enough Wilson started the season at full-back, where he played quite successfully, but for the last three matches he reverted to centre-forward; here he gave more aggression and thrust to the forward line. Edwards, a Colt last year, gained useful experience this season and should be a real asset in the next two seasons. A skilful player, he must learn to move the ball more quickly and to realize that he has no need to panic. He combined well with his left wing, Hammond. As a side we used our left side in attack much more effectively than the right. While this is unusual in schoolboy hockey it gave our attacks a lack of balance. The old adage of 'attack down the right and finish on the left' was not too obvious in our play. However, it was good to see the left being used. Hammond developed well over the season and learnt to centre the ball well on the run

In the first two matches, against Abingdon and Pangbourne, we created no fewer than forty chances and had no goals to show for them. If goals had come in these matches the results for the season would have looked a good deal better and would undoubtedly have given the confidence to the side necessary to play consistently. Against the City of Oxford the 1st XI produced one of its best performances. With hard work and courage they gained a deserved draw. The losses against Radley and Bradfield were disappointing, especially as good chances were squandered in both games. The Occasionals produced a strong side and with John McBryde at centre-half the side was given a magnificent example of the basic skills of hockey being used at their simplest. Against M.C.S. we played really well and were unlucky to lose by a goal in the closing stages of the game; again there were chances missed. On an excellent pitch in pouring rain we recorded our only win of the season against Wellington. A well-contested match we were a little lucky to win. Only in the final match against Dean Close did the side do themselves less than justice. Dean Close deserved their win and the only excuse for us was that it was our first outing on our own pitches for nearly two weeks.

So a disappointing season from results and weather, but one in which much useful experience was gained. With four of the side returning next season this should be invaluable.

Team: R. A. Rose; P. K. Arnold, W. H. Higgins; C. J. Pimlott (Capt.), C. W. Mackaness (Secretary), G. P. Boult; H. T. Thursfield, D. H. Buck, R. A. Wilson; J. W. Edwards, S. A. Hammond.

J. J. Mc.P. watching the Colts by David Bennett

The following are to be congratulated on playing for Oxfordshire Under-19: C. J. Pimlott, C. W. Mackaness, S. A. Hammond.

Results:
v. Abingdon School (A), lost 0–1
v. Pangbourne (A), draw 0–0
v. City of Oxford H. C. (H), draw 2–2
v. Radley (H), lost 0–1
v. Bradfield (H), lost 1–2
v. O. U. Occasionals (H), lost 0–5
v. M.C.S. (A), lost 0–1
v. Wellington (A), won 2–1
v. Martyrs (H), cancelled
v. Stowe (H), cancelled
v. Dean Close (H), lost 2–6

House Hockey

With postponements for weather there were serious doubts whether the competitions could be played during the term. However, they all were and produced some keenly contested hockey. In both the Seniors and Juniors Sing's and Field House reached the final. Both were really close affairs. In the Juniors, Field House narrowly won by the only goal in a fine tussle. The Senior final was an excellent game and both sides had their chances. The first half belonged to Field House and once the score reached 2–0 Sing's took over. The final twenty minutes were most exciting and despite immense pressure, Field House hung on to their slender advantage.

Senior House matches

Cowell's / Tilly's	Tilly's 3–0	Field 0–0 (won by one long corner)	Field 2–1
Field / Mac's	Field 4–0		
Apsley / Sing's	Sing's 2–1	Sing's 3–1	
Segar's / bye	Segar's		

Junior House matches

Cowell's / Field	Field 1–0	Field 1–0	Field 1–0
Tilly's / Segar's	Tilly's 4–2		
Apsley / Mac's	Apsley 3–2	Sing's 2–0	
Sing's / bye	Sing's		

Hockey XI 1976

L to R standing	S.L.B. Gill, G.E.T. Mason, J.W.W. Edwards, D.H. Buck, C.J.M. Catling, C.Hinton
L to R seated	R.A. Hancock, W.H.G. Higgins, C.W. Mackaness (Captain), D.M. Todd, M.S. Scragg,
Missing	K.J.V. Aubrey
Coached by	R.D. Aldred and P.G. Badger (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 17 Won 6 Drawn 2 Lost 9

v Oxford Bulls H.C. - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 4-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 2-3
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Lost 2-3
(Away)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Magdalen College School- Lost 2-4
(Away)

v Wellington College - Lost 3-5
(Home)

v Martyrs - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 4-2
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 1-5
(Away)

v Felsted School - Lost 2-4
(Home)

v Elizabeth College, Guernsey - Won 2-1
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Cranbrook School - Lost 0-3
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Monkton Coombe School - Drawn 0-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Taunton School - Won 2-1
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Gresham's School, Holt - Won 3-2
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

Hockey

There can have been few seasons when so much hockey has been played at all levels. The weather apart from one week has been magnificent, even spring-like. Overall this has been an encouraging season. At the Junior level there have been some excellent results—the Colts and Junior Colts are to be congratulated on their unbeaten records. At the Senior end results have been disappointing but there is good evidence that the game has been enjoyed. Certainly there is strong feeling among boys and staff that there is enough talent to start a second game at the Senior end. With so many playing the game at that level there is no doubt that this sounds sense. The leagues, ably run by J.J.McP. and W.M.B., have been keenly contested and clearly enjoyed. Tilly's won the Seniors while Mac's were successful in the Juniors.

Again I would like to put on record our appreciation of the groundsmen and his staff for all the work they put in on our behalf. Whether it is supplying the balls or rolling pitches their efficiency and efforts are a vital contribution to our enjoyment of the game. Very many thanks.

First XI

This season was approached with mild confidence. Four old colours and several of last year's second eleven suggested that we could do so. However, in the end, this was a most disappointing season. At their best the side was capable of playing incisive and attractive hockey but at their worst they could produce a lack-lustre performance. Once results started to go against them there was a certain lack of conviction that they could ever win again. One of the important differences between hockey and other sports is that it is often very difficult to translate dominance into goals. This weakness pervades all levels of hockey. To a certain extent the more one strives in the game to score goals, the more difficult it is to do so. So often when we were a goal or so down the side tried desperately hard to do something about this, but all too often the result was to stop playing hockey. In hockey one depends so much on the player who can keep his composure when the pressure is on and who keeps trying to play hockey.

Anyway what of the side? In goal Todd played consistently well and brought off some exceptional saves. To blame himself for every goal scored against us was far too harsh a judgement on himself! At full-back, Scragg and Higgins played well individually but on occasions lacked composure. Scragg started the season at right-half, where he played several good games, but was moved to full-back to give the defence more pace. This he did and his covering at times was magnificent. His hitting was quite good but he failed to use the pass to the right-wing. Higgins at the start of the season looked uncertain in his game. On occasions he used the reverse stick when he could easily have moved his feet round the ball. However, his game steadied and he was generally sound in the tackle even if he was a little slow on the turn.

The half-back line was good in attack but at times relied on the full-backs to cope with the oncoming forwards. Hinton was an excellent performer when going forward and his distribution improved as the term went on. He lacked confidence in himself but with this season behind him ought to be a real force next year. Mackaness, the captain, was sound at centre-half. He led the team well both on and off the field and demanded high standards from his side. As a captain his main weakness has been to allow his dispiritedness to affect his game. His performances in the early part of the season were dominant and the fact that he was the main goal scorer was indicative of this. At left-half Mason was playing out of position. More used to centre-half and the freedom of that position, he found it difficult to discipline himself to the defensive nature of his new one. He had one or two disastrous games. However, when he was attacking he looked a real force. He is a hard-working, hard-running player who needs to learn to look around him more.

The forwards in the opening games looked promising but found it difficult to finish off their approach work. If there is a fundamental criticism of the side, it was that they failed to attack down the wings. The pass out of defence was directed towards the centre-forward. However, the shortest way to goal is down the wings and the sides who attack down them invariably stretch the defence. It was most disappointing that Edwards, the secretary, was only able to play in the latter stages of the season. His acceptance of his disappointment was an example to all and his efficiency and interest in the side as secretary was excellent. On the wings we had Aubrey on the right and, in the end, Gill on the left. Aubrey's speed was not utilised nearly enough. When he did get clear of his half he created havoc with the opposition. This happened too infrequently and often he marred his opportunities by failing to hit the ball cleanly enough. At inside-right Catling played some excellent games. His skill was obvious but at times he held onto the ball too long. He failed to get his right-wing away consistently. Hancock, the centre-forward, was a strong player and his confidence to take the opposition on was effective. However, too often he was forced to do so from too far out with the result he very rarely finished off the incisive run. The fact that he did not do so was not entirely his fault. In mid-field he failed to get support he needed. He often looked for a player to give the ball to but there was no one close to him. His main weakness has been that on occasions he allowed his head to drop. At inside-left Buck again produced some good performances, notably against Stowe when he scored a hat-trick. Generally he was constructive with his passing and linked well with others around him. Gill started the season at inside-left and was the most constructive of all the forwards. What he lacked in speed he made up for in skill. At inside-left he played well, but at times faded from the game. When moved to the wing he produced some telling centres but lacked the pace to round his half.

So much for the team. We started the term somewhat hesitantly with a draw against the Oxford Bulls. Against not a very strong Chletenham side we played some good team hockey but failed to put our supremacy to good advantage. We deservedly won against Abingdon. Then we had a week's bad weather and the match against Pangbourne was cancelled. We travelled to play Radley reasonably confident that we would do well against our old rivals. During the first twenty minutes we created two good scoring chances which we failed to put away. Within ten minutes of half-time we were three goals down, the first goal of which we allowed to unsettle us. The other two goals were from shorts, both of which should have been saved on the goal-line. We scored before half-time. The second half deteriorated, both sides content to allow the game to become physical. We scored ten minutes from the end and pressed hard for the equaliser which we failed to achieve. Against Bradfield we were deservedly beaten. They were quicker to the ball and moved it well. The match against the Occasionals was a good performance in that we created scoring chances, but we let them score three times very much against the run of play. M.C.S. and Wellington were hard games. In the first game we allowed them too much room in open play and they skilfully took advantage. However, we scored two good goals in open play. Wellington were unbeaten when they came to play us. In the first half we played some constructive hockey and ought to have been at least a goal up. However, they were then 4—2 up because they performed their set pieces more efficiently than us. In the end we lost 5—3. The Martyrs was a disappointing performance and we failed to translate first half domination into goals. Against Stowe we played better. Both defences gave a lot away and the score ought to have been much higher with the chances created at both ends. In the end we just deserved to win; we scored three goals in as many minutes which took the heart out of the opposition. Dean Close was a strange game, and they were the better side. However, the score suggests a heavy defeat but certainly they did not dominate to that extent.

All in all it was a mixed season. Certainly we ought to have done better. There are talented hockey players here and once they believe in their abilities I am convinced that they will produce consistent results.

Team: D. M. Todd; M. S. Scragg; W. H. G. Higgins; C. Hinton; C. W. Mackaness; G. E. T. Mason; K. J. V. Aubrey; C. J. M. Catling; R. A. Hancock; D. H. Buck; S. L. B. Gill.

Also played: J. D. Reid; J. W. W. Edwards; A. H. Munsey; N. B. Karim; S. Mathias.

Results:

v.	Oxford Bulls	Drawn	0—0
v.	Cheltenham	Won	2—0
v.	Abingdon	Won	4—0
v.	Pangbourne	Cancelled	
v.	Radley	Lost	2—3
v.	Bradfield	Lost	2—3
v.	O.U. Occasionals	Lost	0—3
v.	M.C.S.	Lost	2—4
v.	Wellington	Lost	3—5
v.	Martyrs	Lost	1—4
v.	Stowe	Won	4—2
v.	Dean Close	Lost	1—5

R.D.A.

Second XI

This season has been one of mixed fortunes. At the outset of the term expectations were high because the potential for a good season was evident from the group of players that were available. Unfortunately hopes were not fulfilled; nevertheless an enjoyable season was had by one and all.

The first two matches went according to plan with several goals being scored—six against Abingdon and six against Cheltenham College. Although these were worthy victories everybody agreed that they were not the sternest opposition.

The first real test came against Radley in which after quite a good first half we rather lost control in midfield and our basic skills declined and the result was that Radley managed to score three goals. There was not a great deal between the two sides except Radley had slightly more conviction both in tackling and getting the ball in the net.

The match against Shiplake should have been won because good chances were created particularly in the first half by right-wing J. Guest. Poor finishing allowed Shiplake to gain "a point." Again poor finishing against Magdalen College School allowed them to win by one goal to nil. Both sides totally ignored the wings; fortunately for us because the Magdalen College right-wing was rather a good player. It has been a criticism for most of the term that the wings have not been used enough. It is so much more difficult for the opposition to defend a wide frontline of attackers.

The highlight of the season was against Wellington in which six goals were scored. The game was played at a fast rate and good goals were scored by R. Akwei and N. Karim. Unfortunately the defence did manage to let in four goals but as long as you score more than them that is not important.

In contrast the game against Stowe saw St. Edward's hockey at its lowest ebb and as a result we were well beaten 4—0 and even then N. Haddock saved a penalty stroke. The basic skill of hitting a stationary hockey ball was very poorly executed on so many occasions.

The season, however, ended on a high note when Dean Close were beaten 2—1 in a most entertaining game. Some thoughtful and controlled hockey was played particularly by the two stalwarts in the defence, D. Reid and P. Thom, as well as J. Skelton (Capt.), R. Grimsdale and I. Stuart. In attack P. Buckingham, who had his best game of the season, and C. Davey put in an enormous amount of work. It was one of the few games in which the ball was not only passed square *and* through but also controlled by the players . . . it was about time!!

2nd XI Players 1976: J. M. Skelton (capt.); N. Haddock; P. Thom; D. Reid; R. Grimsdale; I. Stuart; J. Guest; N. Karim; S. Mathias; R. Hancock; A. M. Williams; C. Davey; R. Thompson; R. Akwei; M. Young; P. Buckingham.

Results:

v.	Cheltenham	Won	6—0
v.	Abingdon	Won	6—0
v.	Pangbourne	Cancelled	
v.	Radley	Lost	0—3
v.	Bradfield	Lost	0—1
v.	Shiplake	Drawn	0—0
v.	Magdalen	Lost	0—1
v.	Wellington	Won	6—4
v.	Stowe	Lost	0—4
v.	Dean Close	Won	2—1

Played 9; Won 4; Lost 4; Drawn 1

Goals for: 20; Goals against: 14

P.G.B.

THE OXFORD HOCKEY FESTIVAL

We arrived back on Sunday, March 28th and played a 'friendly' against Felsted School in order to work out our and their unfitness from a week's inactivity and to try the 3-3-3-1-1 system before the festival proper. With only six of the eleven in the side, we infused new blood from the seconds and colts into it. We played some excellent hockey in the first half and ought to have won the game then, but in the end Felsted's extra experience won the match for them 4—2.

And so to the festival. On the Monday we played two matches. In the morning we played well and deservedly beat Elizabeth College, Guernsey 2—1. In the afternoon we met our strongest opponents, Cranbrook School. They played mature hockey and won comfortably 3—0; we did well to hold them to 0—0 in the second half. The following morning we drew with Monkton Combe whom we ought to have beaten. In the end only a remarkable save by Haddock ensured a draw. On the final day we beat Taunton School in the morning 2—1, while in the afternoon we won 3—2 against Gresham's. This was a fine win. They were a strong side, but we did not allow their reputation to deter us from dominating the game. Both defensively and in attack we played with great verve. Certainly Mackaness's game at centre-half was one of his best. The success of the festival was a team effort and it was a happy side both on and off the field.

Finally, the team's thanks go to Mr. Aldred for organising our matches so well, to Mrs. Arkell and Mrs. Peregrine for the wonderful meals they gave us, and to Peregrines for putting up with us.

J. W. W. EDWARDS

Seniors:

Mac's v. Cowell's — Mac's 3—0

Segar's v. Sing's — Sing's 3—1

Sing's 0—0 (won on short corners)

Field v. Apsley — Field 3—0

Field 1—1 (won on short corners)

Field 1—0

Tilly's—bye

Juniors:

Final after two leagues:—Field v. Mac's — Field 2—0

Hockey XI 1977

L to R standing	H.W. Blackett, S.L.B. Gill, J.D. Reid, A.H. Munsey, N.B. Karim, C. Hinton, C.A.M. Reid
L to R seated	R.A. Hancock, M.S. Scragg, G.E.T. Mason (Captain), J.W.W. Edwards, N.J.R. Haddock
Coached by	R.D. Aldred and P.G. Badger (Both C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 10 Won 9 Drawn 1 Lost 0

v Oxford Bulls H.C. - Won 5-0
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 5-0
(Away)

v Radley College - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Won - 5-0
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 2-1
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Wellington College - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

v Martyrs - Won 7-1
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Dean Close , Cheltenham - Won 6-1
(Home)

Hockey

St. Edward's v. Cheltenham

This has been a notable term for St. Edward's hockey: unbeaten First and U-14 XIs, a Second XI who lost only one match, and hockey enjoyed at all levels. As in previous seasons the weather has been a handicap. Although we have had to cancel few matches, there has been little chance to practise on the pitches in between. The tennis courts have been a useful but poor substitute. As well as the tennis courts the indoor range, gym and even the quad in front of the chapel have all been used. Therefore when the pitches were available it was a bonus. The Senior leagues hardly got off the ground and the Junior leagues never functioned. Although it has been marvellous to have an unbeaten First XI, it is sad that such a large number of boys have had so little hockey.

First XI

At the start of the season it was clear that the First XI had the potential to be a good one. Certainly competition for places on the first game was keen and there were inevitable disappointments for some players. The selection of the First XI was no easy matter and it was evident that there were some really skilled forwards available. In the end the XI settled down early and was changed little apart from illness and injury.

It has not only been pleasing that the First XI has been unbeaten, but also the manner in which they have played the game has been excellent. Unselfishness has been the key to the quality of the hockey played. Each member of the team has contributed to the success of the side and has worked to eliminate weaknesses in his own game. Not only this; the individual has had confidence in the ability of every other player. It is vital in hockey to play as a team and as soon as individuals become selfish and go it alone, then the cohesion and team work of the side is all too easily lost. This has been in no way true of this side. In mid-field they have moved the ball efficiently and quickly and attacked down the wings. As a result they have created many chances, even against the best opposition and have been an attractive and entertaining side to watch. Certainly many more people have watched this term and one person who watched the final match was heard to say, 'If I had known that it was so enjoyable, I would have come to watch more matches.' The measure of the entertainment has been the fact that 40 goals have been scored. The style of the side has not been rigid and it has been encouraging to see the inventiveness of all players. A willingness to try new moves and to pass the ball first time put extra pressure on the opposition. Even if it did not always succeed frustration was not allowed to creep in.

The side was a well-balanced one. All players worked at the basic skills of hitting and stopping and learnt the art of moving the ball on quickly and accurately. The six-a-sides played on the tennis courts certainly helped in this greatly. The side was mobile, fast and competitive, but at no time did they question the umpire's decisions; thus they enabled themselves to get on with the task of playing good hockey.

The side has been excellently skippered by G. E. T. Mason both on and off the field. On the field he led by example and unlike some captains he was hardly heard by the spectators. But this did not mean he was not offering encouragement, advice or rebuke. As a player he was tireless and his distribution to both wings in particular was first rate. He supported his forwards well and was always available to the pass in mid-field. The only sadness was that he failed to get on the score sheet. In goal N. J. R. Haddock was a tower of strength. He gave confidence to the rest of the defence, especially in the early part of the season. He made several outstanding saves and saved two penalty strokes out of the three given against us. He also was most positive in his clearances out of the circle. On one occasion he gave away a short when he kicked the ball over the twenty-five yard line full toss on to the stick of the opposition's left-wing! At full-back we were well served by C. Hinton and J. D. Reid. They became a formidable pair and understood each other's play almost intuitively. Hinton, a reluctant convert to the position, timed his tackle well and distributed the ball efficiently. He was also most mobile often covering behind the defence effectively. Reid, at left-back, improved greatly over the season. He hit the ball cleanly from the sixteen-yard and was often able to find the centre-forward on the half-way line. As short corner taker he became a force to be reckoned with. He scored ten goals in all, nine in the last four games.

The half-back line was a fine attacking one. They supported the forwards whole-heartedly, if somewhat ambitiously. M. S. Scragg moved back to right-half after last season. He distributed the ball well and timed the overlap on the right with precision. As secretary he was most conscientious and organised the ball boys particularly well. At left-half C. A. M. Reid improved enormously. In the early part of the season he tended to overcommit but as the season went on he timed his interception well. He learnt too to play the cross ball to the inside-right, a most telling pass.

The forwards were well-balanced and, as I have said before, most inventive. They learnt the art of passing the ball quickly, often first time. This caused untold problems to opposition defences, throwing them off-balance at crucial moments. On the right wing, R. Hancock performed impressively. Last season he was centre-forward, but the right-wing looked more his position. He enjoyed the extra room, and was well served by the side. He ran powerfully and centred well. At inside-right H. Blackett played well and fed his wing. Usually he could be found by the defence and he distributed the ball accurately. Next season he should be a force to be reckoned with. J. Edwards, formerly an inside, moved to centre-forward. Here he caused tremendous problems to the opposing teams. He was tireless in his running and was prepared to take the opposition on with skilful stickwork. The measure of his influence was the fact that he was top scorer with eleven goals. The left wing partnership of S. Gill and A. Munsey contrasted with the rest of the forwards. Although not so quick they were skilful and shrewd in their passing. S. Gill improved over last season and could always be found in good positions. A. Munsey started the season rather sluggishly but with each match he gained in authority and was an excellent taker of half-chances. N. Karim was a worthy substitute and played in four games. P. Thom played in the first two games, but was unfortunate to break his arm in training.

The season began with a fixture against the Oxford Bulls whom we beat easily 5—0, Edwards scoring four goals. The first school match was against Pangbourne and, although we won easily in the end, there were shaky moments in defence. The match against Radley was a wonderful game of hockey. The first half performance must rank as the best hockey played during the season. The irony of it was that having had all the pressure we were a goal down after fifteen minutes. However, we did not allow this to unsettle us and scored three times in a ten minute spell at the end of the half. The second half was less spectacular and there were no further goals. Against Cheltenham we produced a more complete performance. After an even first fifteen minutes we took control of the game and deservedly won 5—0, Hancock's goal being a fine solo effort. Against Abingdon we played poorly. We created chances in the first half but did not take them and in the end were fortunate to score a winning goal in the closing minutes. The M.C.S. match was a tense game. We played well and scored a fine goal in the opening minutes when Edwards was put away by a fine through ball by Gill. In the second half we got on top and went further ahead through a well-taken goal by Munsey. We had other chances but did not take them and when M.C.S. scored from a penalty stroke, we survived a shaky final five minutes. And so we came to the Wellington game. The first half was well contested and there were chances either end. We scored first through J. D. Reid from a short and then allowed them to score two soft goals. We also had the ball in the back of the net on two occasions but they were disallowed for sticks and half-time. Then in the second half they went further ahead half way through the half. In the rest of the half we put them under enormouse pressure and managed to get back to three all. Their goalkeeper brought off two or three magnificent saves.

We beat a weakish Martyrs easily, J. D. Reid scoring a second half hat-trick. We had a fine tussle against Stowe. They were competitive in defence and we had to work hard for our victory. Certainly chances went begging both ends. So we came to the final match against Dean Close. We started poorly and they scored first. This woke us up and we gradually took control of the match. Especially at the start of the second half we played some good attacking hockey. The game was marked by J. D. Reid's four goals from short corners. So ended a memorable season marked by the quality of the hockey played.

Team: N. J. R. Haddock, C. Hinton, J. D. Reid, M. S. Scragg, G. E. T. Mason (capt.), C. A. M. Reid, R. A. Hancock, H. W. Blackett, J. W. W. Edwards, S. L. B. Gill, A. H. Munsey.
Also played: N. B. Karim, P. W. Thom.

Results:

v.	Oxford Bulls	Won	5—0
v.	Pangbourne	Won	5—0
v.	Radley	Won	3—1
v.	Cheltenham	Won	5—0
v.	Abingdon	Won	2—1
v.	Bradfield	Cancelled	
v.	O.U. Occasionals	Cancelled	
v.	M.C.S.	Won	2—1
v.	Wellington	Drawn	3—3
v.	Martyrs	Won	7—1
v.	Stowe	Won	2—0
v.	Dean Close	Won	6—1

Goal scorers: Edwards (11), J. Reid (10), Munsey (6), Gill (4), Hancock (4), Blackett (4), Karim (1).

The following have played for Oxfordshire's Under-19s:—Haddock, J. Reid, Scragg, Mason, Edwards, Gill, Munsey.

House Matches

The Senior house matches were keenly contested and if one team emerged as favourites it was Apsley after reaching the final with easy victories against Mac's and Segar's. On the other side of the draw Tilly's emerged as finalists. They had a bye in the first round and in the semi-final met Sing's who had what looked a strong side. However, Tilly's soaked up the great pressure and scored the only goal of the game. In the final Tilly's played to their strengths effectively and in the end won comfortably 2—0. Apsley had some key players but looked vulnerable at the back.

The Junior house matches provided some good hockey. Apsley and Mac's were worthy finalists. In the final Mac's were comfortable winners. They were bigger and stronger than their inexperienced opposition who with half their team under fourteen ought to do well next year.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL, OXFORD

The festival took place in the second week of the Easter holidays and included 40 schools from all over the country. On the first morning the team drew to Oundle 2—2. Edwards scored both the goals, one of which was a follow-up to a fine shot by Blackett. In the afternoon Doug Reid converted a penalty corner with Munsey scoring the other to beat Rugby. Bishop's Stortford, a good side who were determined to beat us, provided our best game of the festival. The opposition could not adapt their skilful game to the rough conditions, yet the match was nevertheless evenly balanced. The goal came from a penalty stroke by Munsey after Reid's shot from a penalty corner had been saved by a foot on the line On the following morning Cranleigh were soon ahead with two rather soft goals. Church had received a bad cut above the eye which meant that he was at the Radcliffe while his ten colleagues were fighting to pull back the necessary goals. A fine save by Haddock kept us from going further behind and in the second half a penalty corner by Reid narrowed the gap. Although Cranleigh looked dangerous on the break-away, we fought hard for the equaliser, the closest effort being a hard shot by Mason which whistled over the bar. The 3—3 draw against Uppingham was an open game. Our second goal was the best of the festival: Mike Scragg intercepted a ball on the half-way line, played a 'one-two' with Hancock and pushed the ball past the advancing 'keeper.

Mason must be congratulated for keeping the team spirit up when the players were tiring and, of course, Mr. Aldred for his coaching. Several members of staff supported the team well and Mr. Badger and his wife kindly invited the team to dinner. Douglas, a lively terrier, cannot be forgotten for he excelled in the profession of team mascot. The Festival was a very enjoyable and worthwhile occasion.

Results:

v.	Oundle	2—2
v.	Rugby	2—0
v.	Bishop's Stortford ..	1—0
v.	Cranleigh	1—2
v.	Uppingham	3—3

S. G. Gill.

Hockey XI 1978

L to R standing	M.P. Mallalieu, C.D.V. Isard, A.P. Church, C.G. Lawless, N.J. Clifford, C.B. Ewart, S.K. Lewis
L to R seated	C.W. Jones, C.A.M. Reid, H.W. Blackett (Captain), A.H. Munsey, R.T. Asbridge
Coached by	R.D. Aldred and P.G. Badger (both C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 16 Won 11 Drawn2 Lost 3

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v R.D. Aldred's Scratch XI - Lost 2-6
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 4-5
(Home)

v Radley College - Won 5-1
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

v Wellington College - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Martyrs - Won 4-0
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 4-0
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 9-2
(Away)

v Brentwood School - Won 4-2
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Marlborough College - Lost 0-2
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Gresham's School, Holt - Won 5-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v King's School, Bruton - Won 5-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v St. Lawrence School, Hurstpierpoint - Won 4-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

Hockey

It has been encouraging to see that the game is being enjoyed and is flourishing throughout the school. The only sadness has been that the early part of the season was marred by bad weather and 'flu. However, March proved to be a reasonable month and hockey functioned throughout the school. The Senior House matches competition was won by Field who defeated Cowell's 4—0. They were a strong side with four members of the first eleven and several of a strong second eleven. In the Junior final Apsley met Field. It was a fine game of hockey and Field were narrow winners, scoring a penalty.

1st XI

With three members of last year's unbeaten side and several members of the seconds this season promised to be reasonable. In the event the side was unbeaten by other schools for the second year running. Again it was encouraging to see that the hockey played was attractive. The side was not as balanced as last year's but the boys always promised to score lots of goals. They averaged almost four goals per game which is high by any standards. When we attacked down the wings, the opposition was always put under pressure, but there were occasions when we did not play to this strength. The defence was sound and increased in confidence as the term went by. With the weather so bad in the early part of the term team selection was very difficult and a settled side was only found in the final four matches of the season. There were disappointments for players in the second XI aspiring for first eleven places and Weller had every reason to feel hard done by; he was dropped after playing in a side that had defeated Radley 5—1. From this it can be deduced that there was hard competition for places and in the end the weather and illness made selection very difficult indeed. The side was well captained by Blackett who set very high standards for himself and the rest of the team. His feel for the game improved as the term advanced and he did not allow his side to let up when on top. An example of this was in the Dean Close game when he urged the side to greater efforts; eventually they were to win 9—2 after being 5—1 up at half-time. As a player his game improved enormously and his vision of pass increased. He used his wing well and made good use of the cross pass. He under-used the through ball but had the confidence to take on the opposition when the occasion demanded.

In goal Asbridge proved an able successor to Nick Haddock and with next year in the side he ought to become a class performer. He gave his defence a great sense of security; he positioned himself well, had quick reactions and was extremely mobile and courageous. In the end the backs were Clifford and Jones, both converted from the half-back line. Clifford played consistently through the season and learnt to time his tackle efficiently. Jones was mobile and hit the ball very hard which was most helpful in relieving pressure. His sixteen yard hits invariably found our men. Both backs improved their distribution and played well together.

The half-back line was sound and as they gained in confidence supported their forwards well. Lewis won the vote for right-half and played a sound orthodox game. He was dropped in mid-season only to regain his place immediately through illness. From then on his game improved; he marked his wing well and timed his interception successfully. He linked effectively with his wing and inside. Reid eventually found his way to centre-half. Although not a natural in this position, he adapted to it well. His distribution improved as the season progressed although at times he broadcasted his pass and committed himself to the tackle with little chance of success. At left-half Church proved a redoubtable performer. He marked his wing well and increased in skill enormously although there were occasions when his competitive instincts allowed him to give away unnecessary short corners.

We were fortunate to have a strong forward line. On the right wing Lawless was a tower of strength. He had pace and skill and, when he learns the art of hitting, will be an even better player. His main weakness has been that he loses concentration and fades from the game. He scored one or two vital goals and linked well with the rest of the forward line. Mallalieu, a complete outsider at the start of term, filled the centre-forward position and with nine goals in six matches deserved his selection. He often caught the opposition out by his long reach and his awkwardness of style. At inside-left Munsey constantly caused problems through his close dribbling and astute passing. If there was a weakness in his play it was a tendency to overdribble, but for all that he had a fine season. He scored sixteen goals, which must be a record, from both set pieces and open play. In two seasons he did not fail to convert a penalty stroke. On the left-wing Isard was playing out of position. He adapted to it quite well and with more experience will be a force to be reckoned with. Both his hitting and concentration let him down but he did score three important goals. Ewart played centre-forward for the early matches and with his speed caused problems to the opposition, but often his control let him down at the crucial moment. Weller played soundly in his two games, but was prone to over-committing himself in the tackle.

In the first game we defeated Pangbourne 4—1 scoring three goals late on. We played quite well but the defence looked vulnerable to the quick break. Against Abingdon we had a good first half, but we failed to take control as we ought to have done. We won 3—1, but not without giving the opposition hope of success. The game against Bradfield was played on the hard pitch at Pangbourne. It was frozen and this made control difficult for both sides. We allowed this to bother us and although we had enough chances to win, in the end we were fortunate to draw. The next match was against R.D.A.'s eleven, a side raised by P.G.B. and R.D.A. It was a strong side with a number of internationals and county players. The eleven defended strongly and the score at half-time was nil-all. In the twenty minutes after half-time R.D.A.'s eleven played some excellent attacking hockey and scored six goals. But the School were not to be outdone and Munsey, with an impudent scoop, and Mallalieu scored. The match with the Occasionals was a fine example of open hockey; both sides were committed to attack and the School were unlucky to lose 5—4. These two games set us up for our encounter with Radley. In this game we played extremely well and in the end overcame their defensive system powerfully. Against M.C.S. we allowed them to gain a 3—1 lead against the run of play but with great character came back to draw. The performance against Wellington was magnificent; we took control of the game from the start and played some fine attacking hockey using the right wing forcefully. We created many chances and in the end won well. The Martyrs were individually a strong side, but failed to press home their early control. Eventually the eleven won well. The match against Stowe was a poor game—neither side adapting to the conditions which were tricky. The final match against Dean Close produced our biggest win; late in both halves we took our chances well. Munsey scored the only hat-trick of the season. So we finished the season strongly which had started a little uncertainly.

The Team: R. T. Asbridge, N. J. Clifford, C. W. Jones, S. K. Lewis, C. A. M. Reid, A. P. Church, C. G. Lawless, H. W. Blackett (capt.), M. P. Mallalieu, A. H. Munsey, C. D. V. Isard.

Also played: C. B. Ewart, T. F. N. Weller.

Goal Scorers: Munsey 16, Mallalieu 9, Blackett 6, Lawless 5, Isard 3, Ewart 2, Lewis 1, Jones 1.

Results:

v.	Pangbourne	Won	4—1
v.	Abingdon	Won	3—1
v.	Bradfield	Drew	1—1
v.	R.D.A.'s XI	Lost	2—6
v.	O.U. Occasionals	Lost	4—5
v.	Radley	Won	5—1
v.	M.C.S.	Drew	3—3
v.	Wellington	Won	4—1
v.	Martyrs	Won	4—0
v.	Stowe	Won	4—0
v.	Dean Close	Won	9—2

We got away with some poor hockey in the morning but we were under no illusions as to how hard we would have to play if we were going to survive against Marlborough in the afternoon. We can thank a bitterly cold wind for waking us up and the fact that we had to run for miles to gather stray balls ensured a high standard of stopping. The score was 0—0 at half-time but we eventually went down 2—0. Lawless is convinced we can account for this defeat by the fact that we had to wear white shirts; on the only previous occasion we narrowly lost to the O.U. Occasionals!

Against Gresham's on Tuesday we managed to maintain the standard of hockey we had played against Marlborough. Asbridge saved a penalty but the umpire ruled he had pushed it forward so the goal stood. At half-time the score was 2—2. A keenly contested second half provided plenty of action but no further goals.

In the afternoon we played on a "ploughed-field" against King's, Bruton, a team we affectionately termed "agricultural!" which was somewhat resented by Jones who favours that method himself. Five goals including an arrogant flick over the 'keeper from a narrow angle by Lawless insured a fine victory.

A 4—0 victory over St. Lawrence provided a good end to the season. It included a fine team goal straight from the bully, down the right and into the goal, probably the best of the season. The score might have been 5—0 but Munsey missed the first penalty of his career. This evidence of his fallibility was a great comfort to the rest of the team and proved conclusively that he is human like the rest of us!

Thanks must go to Messrs. Badger and Aldred for braving the elements to umpire and encourage. A mention, too, for Blackett who shouted at us when we needed it most.

N. J. CLIFFORD.

S.E.S. v. R.D.A.'s XI

The Oxford Hockey Festival

A weekend spent celebrating an unbeaten record against schools probably accounted for our dreary Monday morning performance against the Canadian tourists from Brentwood, Vancouver. A legacy of ice-hockey provided their game with some interesting idiosyncracies. Over half the team played "cack-handed" making them very susceptable to the obstruction law. But being only half-awake we failed to take advantage of this. However, they were penalised enough to make them annoyed at our "British Interpretation." They were further upset by Mr. Badger's loose application of "sticks" especially when Reid insisted on playing "golf strokes" in the centre of the field. A 4—2 victory was as much as we deserved on such a lazy performance.

Hockey XI 1979

L to R standing	C.B. Ewart, R.M.G. Schuster-Bruce, S.G.C. Greenish, W.P.D. Walter, S.W.B. Brown, M.A. Heeley
L to R seated	S.K. Lewis, N.J. Clifford, C.G. Lawless (Captain), R.T. Asbridge, A.C. Smith
Missing	C.D.V. Isard, P.A. Burrows
Coached by	R.D. Aldred and P.G. Badger (Both C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 11 Won 4 Drawn 2 Lost 5

v Cheltenham College - Won 5-0
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Marlborough College - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Oxford University Occasionals - lost 1-4
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-3
(Away)

v Uppingham School - Won 4-0
(Home)

v Perse School, Cambridge - Drawn 2-2
(Away)

v King Edward VII Grammar School, King's Lynn
Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v Gresham's School, Holt - Won 5-3
(Away)

Hockey

To try and review this season without mentioning the weather is an impossibility. Snow and frost have eaten into our fixtures and only the first eleven have been able to play more than half their fixtures. In all, throughout the school, only thirty-three matches were played of the seventy-seven scheduled. Although this does not indicate a total disaster, it was most disappointing for all players. To spend the previous day in preparation for a match only for it to be cancelled was an all too frequent occurrence.

The game continues to be enjoyed at all levels; senior house leagues enthusiastically organised by J.J.McP. were keenly contested when they took place. This year for the first time for several years the fifth eleven was easily filled. Sadly none of their three matches were played. At the junior level too, the story is the same. The junior house competition proved to be a great success with much good hockey being exhibited in all the games; this can only augur well for St. Edward's hockey. It is encouraging to see groups of boys practising on the pitches even in the foulest of conditions. This enthusiasm is impressive for practice is the essence of improving an individual's skills. So let us hope that next year will bring us kinder weather and that this keenness can be built upon.

1st XI

With five old colours and another player with first team experience there was an optimistic mood at the start of the season. Further to this there was a lot or competition to gain a place in the top two sides. Certainly there were a lot of players of second eleven standard, but the tougher standard of first eleven hockey proved too big a hurdle for some. Selection then was very difficult. It was further exacerbated by the poor weather. In the event the side was never really settled and in the eight matches no fewer than nineteen players were used. In the early part of the season it was difficult to find the necessary time to practise the basic skills; what time there was was used in game practice for the next match. If there was one weakness that pervaded the team, it was poor hitting. This did improve in the later stages of the season, but it did prove to be our downfall in several of the matches. At the start of the season it looked as though we were going to find it difficult to score goals; this proved to be so and only in our three victories did we take our chances. The forwards often created chances, but failed to exert the pressure that goals scored inevitably bring.

Even if our results overall may appear disappointing, much good hockey has been played. The atmosphere in the side has been a pleasant one; there has been a willingness to learn and as a result much progress has been made. In goal, Asbridge played with commendable consistency and brought off many fine saves. His speed of reaction and recovery mark him out as a fine prospect. It was most disappointing for him that he was unable to play for the South (West Division) U-19 side which was to have been a trial to see whether he was worthy of an England trial. At full-back Clifford and Walter formed a useful partnership. Neither were really hard hitters of the ball which was exposed when they were put under pressure. Clifford took time to get into his stride; he timed his tackle well and his distribution was sound. Walter improved greatly over the season and his competitiveness was never in doubt. His distribution to the forwards became much more controlled and accurate and he learnt not to commit himself in the tackle in impossible situations. The half-back line was never settled. Schuster-Bruce started the season at centre-half, but lost form. However, after two games in the seconds he recovered his steadiness and began to assert himself effectively in the middle culminating in a fine performance against Uppingham. Brown played three games at centre-half. Although not very quick over the ground, he made up for this by sound positional play. He was moved to left-half which he did not find to his liking. However, he deputised most ably for Clifford in the final match against Uppingham. At right-half, Lewis played sensibly and often most imaginatively. His support of his forwards was excellent and often created the extra pressure needed in attack. If there is one criticism of his play it was his "soft" passing on occasions. Greenish started the season at left-back and then moved to left-half. He was beginning to assert himself in this position when he unfortunately dislocated a thumb. Initially he tended to wait for the right wing or inside to come to him, but he improved in his positional play and developed a fine cross pass to the inside-right.

The forwards played well on occasions, but often failed to translate pressure into goals. Lawless started on the right wing, which is probably his best position, but because he was not given enough of the ball was moved to inside-right. Here he developed as a player and asserted pressure on all defences with his close control. Sometimes he was prone to take on the opposition from too far out with the result he had too many men to beat. His passing improved and he developed a good understanding with the other forwards. As a captain he led by example on the field and came to read the game pretty shrewdly. His goal against Uppingham rounded off a fine season for him. In the end Burrows was selected for the right wing position. He gained good experience this year and showed some quite good close control. He must learn to beat his man from further out. He tended to take the ball too close to his half. At centre-forward, Ewart started the season with a hat-trick against Cheltenham, but failed to score again till the final match. In the first half of the season he tended to hang on to the ball for too long and to move to the left-hand corner flag. As a result he often nullified the value of his pace. However, in mid-season he started to give the ball in midfield to telling effect and with more luck would have scored more goals. He celebrated the news that he had gained a Welsh Trial with a fine individual goal against Uppingham. Smith, at inside-left, was the most improved player of the side. In the early part of the season he tended to lose control of the ball, but suddenly in mid-season he learnt the art of using his reverse stick and as a result created the time needed to pass the ball. Isard started the season at left-wing and played some reasonable games before he lost form. His stick work improved but all too often his hitting let him down when he had created space for himself. In the end, Heeley moved to left-wing. He is a stylish and skilful player, but mars his performance by hanging on to the ball for too long and failing to give the early ball. On the left-wing he showed deft touches and produced some telling centres. On occasions he took time to get involved in the game.

We started the season with a five-nil victory against Cheltenham. This flattered us; when the score was 2—0 the opposition failed to convert two penalty strokes. However, Ewart scored a fine hat-trick including a goal within seconds of the start. Asbridge in goal brought off several fine saves. Against Radley we produced a lack-lustre performance. In the first ten minutes we had several chances which we failed to utilise. In this game our hitting was very poor and gave Radley the opportunity to put us under great pressure. Lawless was recovering from 'flu and his experience was certainly missed. In the next match against Bradfield we again failed to take our chances. In the first half we played most penetratingly but in the end we allowed Bradfield to take charge and they deservedly beat us 1—0. The match against Marlborough was played despite the snow. The pitch was soft but free from snow by the start of the game. This was the first time the fixture has been played and it produced an excellent game of hockey. We started strongly and produced some fine hockey on the right only to let them score from their first short corner. Marlborough then put us under considerable pressure. Just before half-time we scored a fine equaliser. In the second half both goals were under pressure and both goalkeepers brought off some fine saves. One of Asbridge's was in the "Shilton" class. In the end Marlborough scored again and survived some near misses to win. The Occasionals were an experienced side and beat us easily 4—1. Against M.C.S. we recovered our winning ways. In this game we took control of the midfield and Smith had a fine game scoring two goals—even if he did miss a number of chances in the second half. The match against Wellington was played in spite of the snow and rain. The game revealed our inability to put away chances. Wellington were deservedly ahead 2—0 at half-time. At the start of the second half we put them under intense pressure and could have scored several goals. In the end this evaporated and Wellington scored a further goal. We saved our best performance till the last match when we beat Uppingham 4—0. As a side we played some excellent hockey and the measure of our control of the game was the fact that Asbridge did not have any real shot to save. If our short corner drill had been better we might have had more but this was to let us down as it had done on other occasions.

So this has been a season of mixed fortunes. But overall it has been a happy season in which there have been some high moments when we could see what might have been if everything had slotted into place at the first attempt.

Team from: R. T. Asbridge, N. J. Clifford, W. P. D. Walter, S. K. Lewis, R. M. G. Schuster-Bruce, S. G. C. Greenish, S. W. B. Brown, P. A. Burrows, C. G. Lawless (Capt.), C. B. Ewart, A. C. Smith, M. A. Heeley, C. D. V. Isard.

Also played: P. B. R. Coldstream, S. Jenkins, P. R. B. Samuel, D. W. Snushell, H. R. M. Stevenson, A. C. H. Valentine.

Results:

v.	Pangbourne	Cancelled
v.	Abingdon	Cancelled
v.	Cheltenham	Won 5—0
v.	Radley	Lost 1—2
v.	Bradfield	Lost 0—1
v.	R.D.A.'s XI	Cancelled
v.	Marlborough	Lost 1—4
v.	O.U. Occasionals	Lost 1—4
v.	M.C.S.	Won 3—1
v.	Wellington	Lost 0—3
v.	Martyrs	Cancelled
v.	Stowe	Cancelled
v.	Dean Close	Cancelled
v.	Uppingham	Won 4—0

R.D.A.

Short corner v. Radley

Senior House Matches

Apsley			
v.	Apsley		
Sing's	2—1		
		Apsley	
Mac's		4—2	
v.	Mac's		
Segar's	3—0		Field
			3—1
		Field	
Tilly's		2—0	
v.	Field*		
Field	1—1		
Bye	Cowell's		

**On Short Corners*

Amazingly the house matches were played. This year's competition produced some exciting and surprising results. Not least of these was the emergence of Apsley as one of the finalists. They surprised themselves and the pundits. In the end they were defeated by Field, but not without giving a good account of themselves. In the final they might have scored three times in the opening minutes. On one occasion, the ball was crossed from the right and it went across the goalmouth slowly with defenders and attackers mesmerised. Apsley were the first to score and kept their lead till well into the second half. In the end, Field woke up and their experience was too much for Apsley. They scored three times in the last fifteen minutes.

Hockey XI 1980

L TO R STANDING	K.A.J. YOUNG, A.M.A. LAMB, H.B. GRIFFIN, S.C.A. ELLIOTT, P.A. BURROWS, S. AYRTON
L TO R SEATED	J.R. STEVENSON, P.R.B. SAMUEL, R.M.G. SHUSTER-BRUCE (CAPTAIN), D.J. ASTON, S.B. OFFEN
COACHED BY	R.D. ALDRED AND P.G. BADGER (BOTH C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 12 Won 7 Drawn 3 Lost 2

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Radley College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Wellington College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v King Edward VII Grammar School, King's Lynn
Won 2-1
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Martyrs - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 1-3
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 1-0
(Away)

Hockey

Normally the hockey report opens with a complaint about inclement weather and water-logged pitches, but this year there can be no complaints except that March might have been warmer! Almost all the school matches were played this year and boys throughout the school were able to enjoy an almost unbroken term's hockey.

This of course is vital if a boy is going to learn the rudiments of the game. When the weather is bad the initial flush of enthusiasm is very often quickly eroded. The majority of boys who join the school have never played the game and so it is vital that they should have a period of learning the game, as it is a game which puts a high premium on individual skill.

There is every evidence that the game is being enjoyed throughout the school. Although the junior sides were not outstanding, it is clear that there are a number of boys with ability in each year group. At the senior end of the school the top three sides were most successful. The first lost only two games, and the seconds and thirds are to be congratulated on unbeaten seasons. With twenty boys of those three sides returning next year, the future looks promising.

1st XI

With only one old colour of last season this was quite clearly to be a year of building in which we expected to be under pressure. The competition for places was keen, and as can be seen from the results of the top two sides there was not much between them. In the end the side was most successful which meant that there were few changes during the season. Some members of the second eleven were therefore disappointed, but they should take heart not only because they enjoyed an unbeaten season, but also because success can be achieved after they leave school. Two previous members of the school, one from the seconds and one from the thirds, have been playing this year for Buckinghamshire U. 21's.

In the trial games many players were content to pass the ball diagonally, usually to the left, and there was little constructive hockey played. But eventually people learnt to pass the ball square and through. Although there was the pressure of matches, more time was spent on basic skills than in any of the previous three seasons. It is important for players to realise that these skills need practising and that they do not survive unless they do so. It was encouraging to see all members of the first game working at their skills and then to see them trying them out in matches. For instance it is vital to use the reverse stick and many learnt the value of this during the season, either in getting out of trouble or in beating a man on his reverse stick side.

Now to the team itself. It has been a pleasant one to be associated with. There has been a good atmosphere throughout the season, and the success of the side clearly helped in increasing individual's confidence.

In goal, Offen played consistently and with increasing authority. It is always good to hear a goal keeper talk to his defence and this he did constructively. His positional play was sound and his speed of reaction improved enormously. If he gave confidence to his backs, they too reciprocated. Aston and Stevenson provided a solid pairing of contrasting styles. Aston was the find of the season. Last season he was in the 4th XI (take heart 4th XI!) and not really considered before term began. He proved to be immensely strong in the tackle and quick in his covering. His hitting was good but sometimes he found it difficult to decide what to do when he came through with the ball. Stevenson J. made the left back position his own after a disastrous game against Radley where he had spent much of the game falling over. But with true grit he worked at his game. His tackling was excellent especially in the circle and, although not quick, he became much more mobile.

The half-back line was well-balanced. Elliott, at right half, showed immense skill and when he supported his forward line in attack posed lots of problems with his deft dribbling. Defensively he was less sure, sometimes giving the opposition too much room. With a little more strength and pace next year he should become a fine attacking right half. Schuster Bruce, the captain, was tireless at centre-half. He supported his forwards well and made good use of his wings. Sometimes he held on to the ball too long, but generally he used the ball well. As a captain he was excellent. He led the side by example and encouraged his team sensibly. At left half, Samuel had an excellent season. His positional play was marvellous. Although not particularly fast, he was never hurried and no winger was able to get the better of him. He is perhaps a little defensive at the moment, but next season we should see him coming forward more.

The forward line took time to settle. In the end Ayrton gained the right wing position. Once he gained confidence he played well and in the final three matches was prepared to take on his half and beat him on the outside. At inside right, Young played in fits and starts. At times he faded from games and at other times he was very sharp. His basic skills improved and by the end of the season he was moving the ball to his wing quite successfully. Lamb had a fine season at centre forward. He was tireless in his running and was constantly probing opposition defences. Perhaps we relied in his running roo much. He scored eleven goals, a number of those from well-struck short corners. With the experience of this year behind him and with his determination he has a rosy future. Griffin was inside-left for all but two of the matches. He played well on occasions, but at times he tended to hang on to the ball too long or to pass loosely. On the left wing Burrows showed increasing confidence. He worked at his control and eventually learnt the importance of keeping the ball on the right. He scored three important goals against Radley, Bradfield and Dean Close.

We started the season with a good win against an experienced Pangbourne side. In the first half we sustained a good deal of pressure, but managed to get on level terms at half-time. In the second we dominated and scored two good goals in open play, both scored by Lamb. In our second match against Abingdon we played quite well and looked effective when we attacked down the right wing. Too many passes were misdirected, but in the end we deserved to win two nil.

In the match against Cheltenham our finishing let us down and we tended to attack down the middle. We played some good team hockey, but allowed them to win with a late goal. Against Radley we started quite well and scored an early goal in open play. We ought to have taken control of the game when the opposition lost a player, but as so often happens the opposition raised their game and we had to be content with a draw. In the match against Bradfield both sides had chances to score goals. It was a scrappy game and a draw was a fair result.

Against Wellington we found our winning touch and played quite well. The opposition were not as strong as they usually are, but their left wing caused us problems early on. Fortunately they ignored him during the second half and we won comfortably through two goals by Lamb. It was good to welcome King Edward VIIth School from Kings Lynn after our successful visit there last year. The game was a hard fought one and we did well to beat them 2—1, as they had a number of experienced players in their side.

As usual we had an exciting game against the Occasionals who were well directed by Simon Gill. It was an excellent game of hockey and we deserved our draw although there were a number of tense moments in our goalmouth. The defence played heroically. Against M.C.S. we played well and although we did not score in open play, we created many chances. Lamb's hat-trick from short corners was impressive. The Martyrs brought their strongest team for some while. It was a hard-fought game and we deserved our win. Our first-half performance was impressive and we deservedly led at half-time. In the second half Munsey, Gill and Edwards exerted enormous pressure, but were only able to score once. The Martyrs' short corner drill fortunately was lacking.

Whether it was the result of our efforts against the Martyrs or not we put in an inept performance against Stowe who deservedly won 3—1. In the match-final against Dean Close we started as we left off against Stowe. Fortunately they did not score and we took charge of the game and won one nil.

So ended a very happy season, in which the hallmark of the side's success was its team work and commitment to one another.

The following played for the 1st team: S. B. Offen; D. J. Aston, J. R. Stevenson; S. C. A. Elliott, R. M. C. Schuster Bruce (Capt), P. R. B. Samuel; S. Ayrton, K. A. J. Young, A. M. A. Lamb, H. B. Griffin, P. A. Burrows.

Also played: R. D. Minty, H. R. M. Stevenson, A. C. H. Valentine, J. C. P. Vernon-Powell.

Results

v. Pangbourne	Won	3—1
v. Abingdon	Won	2—0
v. Cheltenham	Lost	1—2
v. Radley	Drawn	1—1
v. Bradfield	Drawn	1—1
v. Wellington	Won	2—1
v. King Edward VIIth School, King's Lynn	Won	2—1
v. O.U. Occasionals	Drawn	1—1
v. M.C.S.	Won	3—0
v. R.D.A.'s XI	Cancelled	
v. Martyrs	Won	2—1
v. Stowe	Lost	1—3
v. Dean Close	Won	1—0

R.D.A.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL '80

We all assembled at the San at 9.00 on the Sunday evening. Eleven players gathered in eager anticipation of the games the next day, but the twelfth lay in the corner and was not too sure if he would make it. He did just and showed us all the next day that the effects had not quite worn off by missing countless chances in front of goal against the Germans, Heidelberg, or perhaps he was distracted by the girls they brought along. Anyway we came through the game with an amicable goalless draw, despite hails of "Bonjour" at the start!

The afternoon game was played at Oriel's rather bumpy soccer, sorry, hockey pitch, against Victoria College, Guernsey, and we won comfortably 4—0 with goals from Lamb (3) and Hayward.

Tuesday morning heard the creaking limbs and smelt the aroma of "deep heat", as we prepared for the morning fixture against Cranbrook. That and the habitual warming up, which no other school that we played against seemed to bother with, stirred us to an early two goal lead (Griffin, Lamb) despite Schuster Bruce playing in the inside right position. 2—0 was the final result of a somewhat drab game.

In the afternoon we met our best opposition during the festival, and perhaps the term as well. Dulwich pressed us hard from the start to finish. After taking an early lead in open play we gave away two penalty flicks late in the second half, both of which Dulwich converted. When it looked as if they had won, Lamb managed to score from a short corner in the dying seconds, making the final score 2—2.

So after Tuesday morning, afternoon and evening, we came to our final match against Oundle, with every last drop of "deep heat" drained from its tube (or rather Samuel's) for one last big effort. It was indeed but the opposition were not as strong as some and we coasted to a 4—0 victory. (Ayrton (2), Lamb (2)). In fact so great was our confidence at half time that Ayrton was substituted, so that we could continue giving everyone a game in every match.

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Aldred for the great organisation and help we had, to Mr. Peregrine for some umpiring, to Mrs. Clarke for the excellent food, to the San nurses for the use of their premises and finally to Robert Schuster Bruce for captaining so brilliantly.

Team: S. Offen, D. Aston, J. Stevenson; S. Elliott, R. Schuster Bruce, P. Samuel; S. Ayrton, G. Hayward, A. Lamb, H. Griffin, P. Burrows, S. Smith.

P.R.B. Samuel

S.L.B. Gill - Oxford Hockey Blue in 1980 and 1982

N.J.R. Haddock (right) & C.G. Lawless Oxford Hockey Blues 1981

Hockey XI 1981

L to R standing	A.M.A. Lamb, S. Ayrton, P.D. Blanchard, D.J.E. Arkell, S.J.H. Smith, G.A. Hayward
L to R seated	J.R. Stevenson, K.A.J. Young, P.R.B. Samuel (Captain), S.B. Offen, S.C.A. Elliott
Coached by	R.D. Aldred and P.G. Badger (both C.R.)

Fixture
Played 16 Won 10 Drawn 2 Lost 4

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Won 4-1
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 3-2
(Away)

v Wellington College - Won 2-1
(Away)

v R.D. Aldred's Scratch XI - Lost 1-3
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 3-0
(Away)

v Martyrs - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Felsted School - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Gresham's School, Holt - Drawn 1-1
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Clayesmore School, Blandford Forum - Won 1-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Canford School, Wimborne Minster - Drawn 0-0
(Public School Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Laren H.C. Holland - Lost 1-2
(Final of The Bloemendaal Hockey Festival)

Hockey

With such a fine first half of the term it looked as though we were going to survive the term with few cancellations. However, this was not to be, and frost and then rain spoilt the first two weeks of March when the weather is often its kindest. Although this has not been a vintage year, at every level much good hockey has been played to celebrate fifty years of Teddies' hockey, or was it over a hundred years? There is a reference to hockey in the Chronicle of 1879! However, it is appropriate here to record our thanks to all who help in the running of the game and to thank in particular ground staff who under the leadership of Mr. Jacques prepare our pitches so thoroughly.

1st XI

Expectations were high at the start of this season. With seven old colours in residence and several members of last year's second team it looked as though the first ought to be a strong side. The side took a little time to settle, but in the end had a good season winning seven out of the nine school games. At their best they played constructive and imaginative hockey, but there were times when they became preoccupied with passing the ball to the left. The old adage of "attack down the right and finish on the left" is still the most valuable tactic and when we did so we looked a good side. The reliance on the long ball down the middle too was another weakness. Too many sides with their systems fail to remember the importance of width in attack and certainly we failed in this respect on occasions.

The side was reasonably balanced. The defence was sound, only conceding seven goals in the school matches and having five clean sheets. In attack we went in fits and starts, but could play controlled attacking hockey. There were times when the side failed to translate dominance into goals.

In goal Offen took time to settle and find the form of last season. Goalkeeping is so much a matter of confidence and concentration and as a result he was not too certain early on. But he showed determination and ended the season well. The two full backs settled into a sound combination. Arkell grew in confidence, was firm in the tackle and constructive in his use of the ball. His striking of the short corners was formidable, scoring six goals. Stevenson played consistently and his tackling in and around the circle was exceptionally well-timed and firm. He was not always accurate in his passing. Against Bradfield he surprised everybody and himself; having tackled someone well in his own half he found himself with just sweeper to beat. Unfortunately fatigue set in and he lost the ball!

The half-back line was well-balanced. Elliott at right half showed deft touches in attack. His well-timed dribbles into the circle caused problems to all defences and against the Martyrs he scored a memorable goal. At times he allowed his left wing too much room. Hayward took a little time to find his feet at centre half. But when he did he supported his forwards well and defended solidly. Samuel, the Captain, started the season a little uncertainly but in the end found his form. His positional sense was excellent and his distribution was good. As a captain he led by example and encouraged his players sensitively and firmly.

In the end Smith secured the right wing position. At times he was tentative in his approach; when he took his half on he showed skill and produced good centres. With this experience he ought to mature into a powerful player next season. Young, at inside right, had a good season and at times showed marvellous skill. Sometimes he faded out of the game but the side always threatened when he was in action. His goal against Bradfield was memorable. At centre forward Lamb had a "Jeckyll and Hyde" season. When he did what was wanted of him he played well, but on occasions he forgot that there were others around him. In the final matches of the season he played nearer his 1980 form. Against Stowe he set up the two goals by passing at the right time. Blanchard started the season at left wing, but with injury he was moved to inside. Here he showed some deft touches, but on occasions disappeared from the game. His distribution was not his strong suit and he was happier taking on the opposition. Ayrton moved to left wing for the second half of the season and looked much happier in that position. His judgement as to when to centre was uncertain, but his tortuous dribbles always posed problems.

In the first match we allowed ourselves to be beaten by failing to adapt to the conditions and by selfishness, and in the end Pangbourne deserved their win. Against Abingdon we produced a much more constructive performance and won well. Against Cheltenham we took time to settle and we did not control the midfield as we should have done.

The first half against Radley was excellent. We produced some fine attacking hockey and created some clear chances, but our shooting was not on target. We paid dearly for this and Radley scored an opportunist goal to win the match. Our second half performance was very poor; we failed to move the ball right at all. The match against Bradfield was an exciting contest, with both sides producing some fine attacking hockey. Young's goal was clinical in its execution as was the swiftness of the passing that led to the chance. Against Wellington we produced a more balanced performance and after an uncertain start we won well.

The jubilee game attracted a large crowd and they were not disappointed. In the first half the eleven dealt effectively with the skills of P. J. Wilson, J. Webb and I. Sobey and deservedly were leading at half time. In the second half the invitation side applied more pressure and in the end won quite comfortably. It was a fitting celebration and the standard of hockey was very high.

Against M.C.S. we did not build our attacks too tidily, but we won with plenty to spare. The Martyrs match was played at Radley on their hard pitch and we were fortunate to win two-nil with goals in the first and last minutes. The skills of H. Blackett and C. Mackaness put us under enormous pressure, but fortunately the Martyrs' shooting was found wanting.

In the final two games we beat both Stowe and Dean Close two-nil on their hard pitches—oh, for a hard pitch! In both games we took time to settle and our second half performances saw us through.

So ended our season in term. The results have been satisfactory, but we have tended not to have been as consistent as we ought to have been. However, while saying that, we have had an enjoyable season and are looking forward to the Oxford Hockey Festival and tournament at Bloemendaal, Holland over Easter.

Ist XI

S. B. Offen; D. J. E. Arkell, J. R. Stevenson; S. C. A. Elliott, G. A. Hayward, P. R. B. Samuel (capt.); S. J. H. Smith, K. A. J. Young, A. M. A. Lamb, P. D. Blanchard, S. Ayrton.

Also played:—
N. A. Friend.

Field House *v.* Segar's

House Matches

Senior:

Sing's *v.* Segar's } Segar's
Field *v.* Tilly's } Field
Segar's, Field } Field
Mac's *v.* Apsley } Mac's / Cowell's
Mac's, Cowell's } Cowell's
Field, Cowell's } Field 1—0

It was touch and go whether the house matches would be finished, but by playing the semi-finals and final on the last day of term we were able to do so. It was a fine tournament with no side dominating totally.

The final was an excellent game and considered by the Senior Master to be the best final he had witnessed. It was a well-contested game played in a most sporting manner. Much skill was shown and Smith's winning goal was hit with ferocity and precision. For Field, Samuel was outstanding.

Junior:

Final: Field 2, Apsley 0.

The Oxford Hockey Festival

The perennial problem of the weather upset the festival schedule this year, and a lamentable lack of hard pitches resulted in the cancellation of two matches.

The festival started with a precursor against Felsted. Previously unbeaten in four years they came unstuck against our determined hockey. The defence played extremely well to keep Felsted out in the first half, with Offen outstanding in goal. Felsted scored early in the second half after a barrage of shots at a short corner. We then scored twice, the first a ferocious short corner by David Arkell and the second by Al Lamb following up after a good run and shot from Phil Blanchard.

The first match of the festival, against Greshams, was a 1—1 draw. We played some good hockey, but lacked the drive to turn this into goals. Having conceded a ridiculous goal with most of the defence dummying superbly, we relied upon Guy Hayward to push one past the unsighted goalie from the edge of the circle.

A tactical discussion over Old Timer ended with slight qualms over the captain's thumb, sabotaged by James Stevenson in the match of the morning.

The match against Clayesmore, on Radley's hard pitch, was a keenly contested game. We created some good chances, but only managed one goal, scored by Al Lamb following up a long corner. The final match against Canford was close and physical. Both sides failed to adapt to the uncertainties of the hard pitch, and a 0—0 draw was a fair reflection of the game.

Everyone contributed greatly to the enjoyment of the festival, both on and off the field. Simon Offen, Dave Arkell and James Stevenson saw that only two goals were conceded, playing particularly well against Felsted. The captain directed proceedings skilfully and calmly, saving the day many a time. Guy Hayward and Simon Elliott showed what thoughtful players they are. Dick Sloper showed much maturity and will be a great asset next year. Al Lamb in attack played hard, while Simon Smith, Simon Ayrton, Phil Blanchard and Kev Young all had their moments.

Finally thanks are due to R.D.A., Mrs. Clark and the San Sisters, who led, fed and housed us. We look forward to 'shelling' it in Bloemendaal.

S. OFFEN.

Hockey

BLOEMENDAAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Easter, 1981

Our party of 12 players and Mr. Aldred arrived at Bloemendaal Hockey Club after a friendly but tiring journey with the Radley team, and a brief walkabout in Amsterdam where the more ambitious members sought the Rembrandt museum while the others settled for a "Big Mac."

At the pavilion we were greeted by our hosts who whisked us off in small groups to their luxurious homes, where we were to be treated with great hospitality throughout the tournament. They often ferried us to the club early in the morning in order not to miss early matches, fed us superbly (the captain and secretary were given strawberries for breakfast!), gave us all kinds of freedom, showed a lot of interest, although they doubted our chances against the home side, and were generally determined for us to enjoy our stay.

This tremendous welcome from the families with whom we stayed was matched by the Tournament Committee superbly. The evening we arrived there were drinks at the clubhouse for all 22 teams, both male and female, so that we could meet our opponents. In response to the question "Are the natives friendly?", we could safely say "yes" after our first introduction to them.

On the Saturday night after the first day of hockey, an enormous barbecue was put on by the organisers, followed by a lively disco in the clubhouse for all the participants. These festivities were followed the next night by an even more extravagant party at a night-club on the beach at Zandvoort where there was a live band and a disco to keep us moving after an exhausting day's hockey.

Monday was the last day, and after an informal Radley/St. Edward's game against the Bloemendaal girls' team, the toughest of all our games, we went for a final farewell drink with many of our Dutch friends whom we were disappointed to be leaving the next morning.

Since the main reason for going to Bloemendaal was to play hockey, it had better at least get a mention! We reached the final on Monday afternoon, having played three games a day, ahead of our rivals in our group, the hosts Bloemendaal. The final was against Laren, the other group winners, but despite strong support from our compatriots Radley, Rugby and Wellington, we lost 1—2 in a hard game. Perhaps it was the fact that most of the Laren team had declined from the previous night's entertainment that gave them the extra energy and speed in the final!

Guy Hayward

RESULTS

Pangbourne	Lost	0—2
Abingdon	Won	4—1
Cheltenham	Won	3—0
Radley	Lost	0—1
Bradfield	Won	3—2
Wellington	Won	2—1
R. D. A.'s XI	Lost	1—3
O.U. Occasionals	Cancelled	
M.C.S.	Won	3—0
Martyrs	Won	2—0
Stowe	Won	2—0
Dean Close	Won	2—0

R.D.A.

H.W. BLACKETT
HOCKEY COACH 1986-1987

C.G. LAWLESS
PLAYING FOR THE MARTYRS 1981

Hockey XI 1982

L to R standing	R.S.D. Sloper, J.A. Livingstone, W.P. Reid, D.A. Soper, P.J.A. Bishop, C.J.W. Jee
L to R seated	S.J.H. Smith, A.M.A. Lamb, G.A. Hayward (Captain), D.J.E. Arkell, P.D. Blanchard
On ground	M.M. Hoddinott
Missing	R.S.D. Sloper
Coached by	R.D. Aldred and P.G. Badger (Both C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 13 Won 5 Drawn 6 Lost 2

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 7-1
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Radley College - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Won 4-3
(Home)

v Bloemendaal Under-19 XI, Holland - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Dulwich College - Drawn 1-1
(Lord's Cricket Ground)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 6-0
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 2-1
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 4-6
(Away)

v Martyrs - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Wellington College - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

Hockey

The start to term was most inauspicious. Deep snow and freezing temperatures held us in their grip. But after a sudden thaw over the first weekend, hockey was possible for the next few weeks almost unabated until the final weeks of term when heavy rain took its toll. In the event few matches were cancelled and a good deal of hockey was played.

Results have been variable throughout the school with no really outstanding sides. However, generally the game has been played with enthusiasm and players have improved. The importance of practice cannot be overstressed. Individual skills need all the time to be developed. It is all too easy for them to become rusty. The Sports Centre will undoubtedly be an enormous asset in this area, and we look forward to indoor leagues of one kind and another next season.

1st XI

Like the curate's egg this season has been good in parts. The results have been adequate with only two losses. However, taking a close look at the season it is fair to say that we could have achieved better results than we did. In some games we played really well and in others we played in fits and starts.

With five old colours, one player of first eleven experience and players from last year's successful second eleven, the omens were favourable. There was therefore plenty of competition for places. Obviously some players would have been disappointed at not being selected. Hockey is a game that requires consistency and self-discipline and these at times were lacking in the side. On occasions too they allowed umpiring decisions to upset them; this inevitably upset the rhythm of their play and the control of their game. To be a successful hockey player you need to learn to accept the umpire's decisions and to get on with the game.

The side was a reasonably balanced one and at its best played entertaining hockey. When they used the wings they were most penetrating and they at times successfully outmanoeuvred man-to-man marking systems with imaginative changes of positions. There was no lack of goal-scoring ability and with more care with the final pass and shooting we would have scored more goals. In defence we were generally sound, but occasionally failed to clear the ball efficiently, letting the opposition punish our mistakes or indecision.

Hoddinott won the selection for goalkeeper and developed during the season enormously. A willing learner, he improved in positional sense and reactions greatly, though sometimes he became over-exuberant in his methods and panicked. Arkell played full-back, deployed as a sweeper. This he did successfully and his hitting out of defence was an asset. Sometimes he allowed his concentration to slip but all in all he had a sound season. Reid played with great commitment even if on some occasions early in the season he gave away unnecessary hits through over-powerful tackling. By the end of the season his timing of the tackle was much more secure and he began to distribute the ball more surely.

The half-back line had an inconsistent season. Each player had his off-day. Sloper, at right-half, started the season in fine style and supported his forwards really well. But in the final matches he tended to overcommit both in his tackling and in his support. Hayward, the captain, had a steady season. His support of the forwards was good and he distributed the ball well, although sometimes his hitting let him down. He captained the side by example and worked hard to motivate the side when it lost its way. At left-half Livingstone had a reasonable season and should have gained good experience for next year. His reverse stick tackling was strong and with more confidence he will be a most reliable player. His hitting on occasions was uncertain.

The forwards were an enigmatic group. Smith on the right wing was most penetrative, but when he was closely marked, he sometimes did not work as hard as he might for the ball. With Soper at inside-right they caused problems for the opposition, but sometimes the final pass let them down. Soper has great skill but needs to become more circumspect in his style. He improved over the season and will undoubtedly be a force to be reckoned with next year.

At centre-forward, Lamb had an inconsistent season. At best he was most penetrative and scored goals, but he allowed his temperament to get the better of him in mid-season and only in the final four matches did he play near his best. At inside-left Blanchard had a mixed season: he scored four goals against both Abingdon and M.C.S. and was the top scorer with fourteen goals, but he faded out of some games completely. He is very much a touch player and when on form is a fast incisive forward. Jee developed through the season into a sound left wing although there were occasions when he wandered too far from his wing. With more control and more consistent hitting he ought to develop into a most useful player.

The Lord's Match

In the first two matches against Pangbourne and Abingdon we were allowed to attack down our right wing freely and this we did well to win easily. Against Cheltenham we were not allowed to do so and as a result we struggled to get the attack moving on a wide front. Against Radley we played well in the first half and deservedly led 2—1 at the interval. In the second half we were less constructive and Radley were worthy of their lead. In the final ten minutes we earned a draw when Smith scored a good goal.

We again had a fine first half against Bradfield only to let things slip in the second; Bradfield very nearly snatched a draw after we had gained a 4—1 lead. Against Bloemendaal, defensive errors allowed our visitors to win; although we had more of the game we failed to translate chances into goals.

The match against Dulwich at Lord's was a thrilling encounter. The game was played at frenetic pace and both sides had good chances to win. In the end a draw was a fair result. It needed someone to slow the game more in order to control the attacks. The Dragon hard pitch was the venue for our annual encounter with the Occasionals. We ought to have won, but missed chances and a penalty flick hitting the post ensured a 0—0 draw after we had played really well.

We had a resounding victory against M.C.S. when we played some fine hockey in the first half, whereas we failed to settle down to build our attacks against Stowe. In the end we deserved our victory against them. Dean Close provided a remarkable score line. Ten goals in a game always means a spectacle and the spectators were not disappointed. We have only ourselves to blame for our defeat, for one ought not to lose a 4—2 lead with twelve minutes to go. To give Dean Close credit they showed great character, for many sides would have given up with that score line. In this game we again played well in patches but we allowed ourselves to be disturbed by one or two umpiring decisions, and in the second half our passing out of defence was poor.

The final two games were drawn. The game with the Martyrs was the best of recent years. In this match we again failed to translate chances in the first half into goals. Against Wellington we started most lethargically, and weak clearances allowed them to take the lead. We ended the first half well, scoring two goals just before half-time. But in the second half we did not build our attacks as we should, allowing Wellington to get back into the game.

So ended the season. There were many good moments to savour and much skilled hockey displayed, even if the consistency of our play was not all it might have been. It is easy to forget all that goes into making a season. Staff, ground staff, Mrs. Clarke and her catering staff, bursarial staff and ball boys all make their contribution, for which we are most grateful.

Representative honours. South (W): A. M. A. Lamb.

1st XI: M. M. Hoddinott, D. J. E. Arkell, W. P. Reid; R. S. D. Sloper, G. A. Hayward (capt.), J. A. Livingstone; S. J. H. Smith, D. A. Soper, A. M. A. Lamb, P. D. Blanchard, C. J. W. Jee.

Also played:—P. J. A. Bishop, T. R. de Putron, T. J. C. Rayne.

THE VARSITY MATCH AT LORD'S

By tradition, the Varsity Match is preceded by a schools' game, and this year the honour went to St. Edward's and Dulwich College.

Both sides were no doubt relieved to see the fine weather, and the game started at a furious pace, with play swinging from end to end and delighting the large number of supporters in the Nursery stands. St. Edward's were unlucky to fall behind to a goal from a short corner within the first ten minutes, but they were soon back on the attack with Lamb, in particular, causing the Dulwich defence all sorts of problems. There were two occasions in the first half when all the Teddies supporters were sure that a goal was going to be scored, but each time, instead of penalty strokes, the umpires decided on short corners (neither of which we managed to convert). The game reflected ideal conditions with goal-mouth incidents at both ends, and St. Edward's were in debt to Hoddinott who performed with inspiration and a lot of skill in keeping his goal intact. So it was with great relief to our supporters that Lamb capped all his previous endeavours by scoring the equaliser just before half-time.

St. Edward's turned round to play down the infamous Lord's slope, and were no doubt hoping that this would aid their progress towards the Dulwich goal. In fact, the pattern of play was similar to the first half—end-to-end stuff. Hoddinott continued to be outstanding in goal, Lamb did everything but score, and with Livingstone becoming more and more of an influence the pressure was unrelenting. To be fair, the score could have ended at five-all, as Dulwich put together some fine attacks which created numerous chances. In the end a 1—1 draw was a fair result, and both sides can be justly proud of producing a game which reflected the very best of schoolboy hockey—excitement, endeavour and no little skill.

It was then over to the pitch laid out in front of the Long Room for the clash of Light and Dark Blue. Of particular interest was the inclusion of three O.S.E.'s (Gill, Lawless and Blackett) in the Dark Blues' line-up. However, in my opinion the game was poor in comparison with the preceding one, and merely saw the Light Blues running out easy winners. It was perhaps best summed up by one professional critic as "a game reflecting the lowly positions held by the teams in the London League."

This should take nothing away from the occasion as a whole: it was a good day out, and one in which St. Edward's hockey was seen at its best.

I. S. BEVERIDGE

Hockey XI 1983

L to R Standing	N.D. Goldstone, R.J. Mitchell, N.H. Samuel, C.P. Carpenter, M.A. Haslam, N.R.E. Telfer
L to R seated	S.D.W. Horton, J.A. Livingstone, P.J.A. Bishop (Captain), D.A. Soper, C.W.J. Jee
Missing	R.J.K. Fry
Coached by	R.D. Aldred and P.G. Badger (Both C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 11 Won 1 Drawn 2 Lost 8

v Abingdon School - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Drawn 2-2
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 1-3
(Home)

v R.D. Aldred's Scratch XI - Lost 2-6
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Lost 2-5
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 4-7
(Away)

v Wellington College - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Martyrs - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Johanneum, Hamburg, Germany - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

Hockey

1983 has not been an outstanding season for St. Edward's hockey. However, enthusiasm for the game is apparent at every level and in particular the Under-14 age group have shown tremendous keenness, with at least 70 boys playing hockey. Of course success is vital in any game, for through success comes confidence to develop and use one's skills as a player. But it is important too to teach boys that winning at all costs will detract from the achievement. Winning with skill, team spirit and honest sportsmanship are the elements we should be looking for. I personally would like to thank all my colleagues for the hard work and enthusiasm put into the coaching and running of hockey. Also the groundstaff under the leadership of Mr. Jacques are to be thanked and congratulated for all the unstinting work they do on the pitches to ensure our enjoyment of the game.

Finally, in my opening comments I would like to put on record my own gratitude to Peter Badger, who has very much been my right-hand over the last nine seasons, for all the hard work he has put into the coaching, and to wish him well in the seasons ahead.

1st XI

This has certainly not been a vintage year for the first XI, and from the point of view of results it could be deemed a disastrous year. However, I would like to put on record my own regard for all the boys in the top game for the way in which they have taken defeat. Where many teams would have given up and become disgruntled with their lack of success, they kept smiling and trying.

So why were the results as they were? It is easy to find excuses and simply say the side was not very talented. This is partly true, but it could also be argued that there were too many changes. There certainly were many changes, yet only half the side were obvious selections and the remainder could have, and did, come from any number of players. In hockey it is not always possible to get it right first time. Certainly promising performances in practice games were often followed by individuals freezing in the matches, and the three weeks missed in mid-season did not help in finding a settled side.

Now to the team. In goal Horton held off all the challenges to unseat him: though not possessing the quickest reactions or the greatest agility, he improved enormously and in the final games produced some impressive saves. At full-back we eventually settled on Carpenter and Mitchell. The former should be an encouragement to all. Before this season he had never played in a school side and was only "fished" from rowing fairly recently; he worked hard at his game, and if not always the most accurate of passers, he tackled with determination and with improved timing. Mitchell too played with increased confidence. His tackling was generally sound and his positional sense improved, but at times he tried to hit the ball far too hard with the result that he topped it. He must learn to keep cool under pressure.

The half-back line was a competent unit. At right-half Fry played with commitment, but he is not quick and did not always mark his wing very tightly. However, he has the skill to become a good player. Bishop at centre-half was tireless. As a captain he was a fine example, always encouraging his team, while his own game did not suffer and his distribution improved. At left-half Livingstone had a successful season. No right-wing was given room and he showed great skill on the ball. His hitting this season was much better and he used the cross pass to good effect.

Jee moved to the right wing in the end, and showed much more control on the ball this season, being most penetrative when he used his reverse stick. At inside-right Telfer was an enigmatic performer. On the ball he was most skilful and by the end of the season made some most penetrating runs, but he did not always finish them off, for his passing and hitting were erratic. Soper at centre-forward was skilful but on occasions tried to do too much. He ought to have scored more goals than he did, but all too often he hit too high or wide because he was more interested, it seemed, in depositing the goalkeeper in the back of the net as well.

Haslam and N. Samuel eventually won the left side forward positions and combined successfully though neither was particularly quick. Haslam at times faded from games, and needs to become more positive and direct in his passing. Samuel, when he has learnt to use his reverse stick more fully, will cause more problems.

As for the matches, we ought not to have lost to Pangbourne where a defensive error allowed them a simple goal in a game which neither side really deserved to win. Against Abingdon we allowed a 2—1 lead and control of the game to slip. Radley deservedly won this year's encounter. They were quicker to the ball and scored three exceptional goals. However, the goal of the match was Jee's first time shot from a firm centre by Soper.

The next two matches were cancelled due to the frost. In the matches against R. D. A.'s XI and the Occasionals we produced some good moments but the strength of the opposition and our lack of experience allowed them to win. However, playing against experienced players ought to be valuable and Peter Baker's four goals should have inspired the forwards to shoot more — a problem throughout the season.

Against M.C.S. we were generosity itself. Three goals down in 10 minutes we drew the rest of the game. That was credit in itself, but with more tightness in defence we might have caused them more problems. The second half revealed M.C.S.'s vulnerability at the back as well. The Wellington match was disappointing because we lost our way and having recovered to 2—1 ought to have been encouraged. A series of mistakes led to Wellington taking control of the final quarter.

We saved our best performances till last. We deserved a draw against Cheltenham after a fine second half performance, only to be robbed in the closing moments. Against Dean Close we had most of the game, but failed to convert our possession into goals. Against the Martyrs we nearly lost a 3—0 advantage in the closing moments of the game, but we deservedly won. Against the Germans, we produced a fine performance and if chances had been taken in the first half we should have won comfortably. As it was they equalised three minutes from the end. We could not put that down to bad luck.

I hope this gives a faithful reflection of the season. I have enjoyed the company of the team and, although disappointed by the results, I feel much good experience has been gained by all.

R.D.A.

RESULTS:

v.	Pangbourne	0—1	Lost
v.	Abingdon	2—2	Drew
v.	Radley	1—3	Lost
v.	Stowe	Cancelled	
v.	Bradfield	Cancelled	
v.	R.D.A.'s XI	2—6	Lost
v.	O.U. Occasionals	2—5	Lost
v.	M.C.S.	4—7	Lost
v.	Wellington	1—4	Lost
v.	Cheltenham	1—2	Lost
v.	Dean Close	1—2	Lost
v.	Martyrs	3—2	Won
v.	Johanneum, Hamburg	2—2	Drew

Team: S. D. W. Horton, C. P. Carpenter, R. J. Mitchell, R. J. K. Fry, P. J. A. Bishop (capt.), J. A. Livingstone, C. W. J. Jee, N. R. E. Telfer, D. A. Soper, M. A. Haslam, N. H. Samuel.

Also played: D. A. Cane, M. J. Duthie, N. D. Goldson, R. J. Hall, C. E. S. Morrison, T. J. C. Rayne, P. J. Richardson, A. J. Walliker, N. J. Wills.

MARLBOROUGH HOCKEY FESTIVAL

RESULTS:

S.E.S. *v.* Marlborough	0—8
S.E.S. *v.* Seaford College	3—7
S.E.S. *v.* Caldy Grange	0—2

Scorers: Goldson, P. Bishop (penalty flick × 2)

The festival took place during the weekend after the end of term, and consisted of a league of four teams, each team playing the others.

Much to our shame, our first game was recorded on a video camera — only a brave few have seen it. Against Caldy Grange we at times ran all over the opposition and gave the right-wing plenty of service. Apart from not having a single shot on target, despite valiant efforts above and to the side of the goal, this game was by far our best.

It was a most pleasant weekend. Marlborough were impeccable hosts, looking after us extremely well.

R. Hall

SENIOR HOUSE MATCHES

Cowell's bye

Field		Field	
v.	Field	3—0	
Apsley	5—0		
			Sing's
Mac's			2—0
v.	Mac's		
Tilly's	1—0		
		Sing's	
Sing's		3—1	
v.	Sing's		
Segar's	6—0		

The final was an even game which Sing's deserved to win, for their second half performance was much more direct, and Ho's performance in goal was amazing, with four or five tremendous saves. Certainly Field missed the steadying influence of Livingstone, injured the day before.

JUNIOR HOUSE MATCHES

Corfe beat Field 2—0.

Hockey XI 1984

L to R standing	A.G. Corrie, N.P. Adam, A.J.C. Burke, T.J. Burley, R.J.K. Fry, N.D. Goldson
L to R seated	M.A. Haslam, D.A. Cane, R.J. Hall (Captain), N.H. Samuel, M.J. Duthie
Missing	P. Holloway, J.R.H. Curley, M. Campbell
Coached by	P.J. Badger (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 13 Won 3 Drawn 3 Lost 7

v Abingdon School - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 0-3
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Lost 2-7
(Home)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Oxford University Occasionals - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v P.G. Badger's Scratch XI - Lost 0-4
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Martyrs - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Calday Grange Grammar School, West Kirby - Won 2-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Bedford School - Lost 2-4
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

Hockey

1st XI

As can be seen from the results, this has not been a vintage season. However, with a little more luck and greater discipline in defence, one or two games that were drawn might have been won. The team had to wait until the Public Schools Hockey Festival in the last week of the term to record their first victory over a school side: 2—1 against Calday Grange, which was well deserved.

The season got off to a poor start largely due to the weather being a mixture of rain/frost/snow, and hence training was restricted to the Sports Centre which, good as it is, is not sound preparation for playing on grass.

Abingdon was a game that should have been won but lack of expertise at the set pieces was the pitfall. M. Duthie, I am sure, remembers how not to take a penalty stroke! As often is the case in hockey, scoring goals is very difficult and there was nobody in the side who had the "hunger" to score. It is a rare but invaluable asset to have.

In the rest of the early games it was Bradfield who really gave us a thrashing. They were fast, physically strong and keen to win, which they did by five clear goals.

It was a great fillip for the team to beat the O.U. Occasionals (3—2) captained by Guy Hayward (O.S.E.) — a hard-fought game with the correct result.

In the latter part of the season the drawn games against Dean Close and M.C.S. could have been won but the lack of a natural goal scorer was again very evident. Against Cheltenham, who had yet to be beaten, we showed some early lapses in defence but then began to play with some determination and in the second half we were very much in control, especially in the midfield. A. Cane probably had his best "half" of the season, but we again suffered from the lack of a goal scorer.

The Festival was very good fun, and competitive. The victory over a slightly arrogant Calday Grange was very satisfying. For once the inside-forward trio of N. Samuel, T. Burley and N. Adam put the defence under a lot of pressure and goals resulted. Against Bedford some complacency crept in and after being 2—1 at half-time we rather lost our way and eventually lost 2—4 to a rather ordinary side.

In conclusion the season, despite its lack of success, showed the emergence of many good points. Richard Hall (captain) improved as a player, particularly in the timing of the tackle. The half-backs of James Fry, Alastair Cane and Malcolm Duthie often played well as a unit with Cane and Duthie on occasions being outstanding. Alan Burke, after struggling to gain a place, began to play with confidence and became reasonably dependable although his lack of pace is limiting. Of the forwards Tim Burley worked like a Trojan, Nick Samuel produced the odd good moment as did Nick Goldson, but Nigel Adam probably became the most improved player of the season, having finally found his correct position of inside-right. Unfortunately the right wing was a problem position. Jim Curley attempted but never really made any impact, and Paul Holloway tried but again lacked the experience to adapt to a new position. I hope that there is potential yet to be realised but he has to want to play *and* improve.

All in all, though a disappointing season, the players always worked hard and gave their best, and seemed to enjoy the matches, if not the training!

P.G.B.

RESULTS:

Played 15, Won 3, Lost 9, Drawn 3, Cancelled 1

v.	Stowe	Cancelled
v.	Abingdon	1—1
v.	Radley	0—3
v.	Bradfield	2—7
v.	Wellington	0—1
v.	O.U. Occasionals	3—2
v.	Pangbourne	2—3
v.	P.G.B.'s XI	0—4
v.	Dean Close	1—1
v.	M.C.S.	1—1
v.	Cheltenham	1—4
v.	Martyrs	2—1

Public Schools Festival:

v.	Calday Grange	3—1
v.	Canford	0—2
v.	Bedford	2—4
v.	Charterhouse	0—2

The following played: R. J. Hall (captain), A. Cane (secretary), M. Duthie, J. Fry, A. Corrie, A. Burke, N. Goldson, N. Samuel, T. Burley, P. Holloway, N. Adam, M. Haslam, J. Curley, M. Campbell. Also played: F. Livingstone, J. Young, P. Brunner, G. Finch.

The 1st XI defending against the Martyrs

Hockey XI 1985

L TO R STANDING	J.P. YOUNG, B.L. SMITH, A.G.C. BROWN, P.G. ST J. DANIEL, G.J. YOUNG, S.K. GRAY
L TO R SEATED	A.J.C. BURKE, A.J. SMITH, P.D.C. BRUNNER (CAPTAIN), F.Q. LIVINGSTONE, D.A.X. SANTOS
MISSING	M. CAMPBELL, P. HOLLOWAY
COACHED BY	P.G. BADGER (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 8 Won 1 Drawn 1 Lost 6

V ABINGDON SCHOOL - WON 4-1
(AWAY)

V RADLEY COLLEGE - LOST 1-2
(HOME)

V WELLINGTON COLLEGE - DRAWN 0-0
(AWAY)

V MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL - LOST 0-2
(HOME)

V P.G. BADGER'S SCRATCH XI - LOST 3-7
(HOME)

V STOWE SCHOOL - LOST 0-2
(AWAY)

V CHELTENHAM COLLEGE - LOST 2-3
(HOME)

V MARTYRS - LOST 2-3
(HOME)

Hockey

In terms of hockey played outside, this season has been one of the worst in recent years. Snow was the main problem, but frost also had its say. As a result of the appalling weather conditions, the Sports Centre was used to the full. Although it is no substitute for outdoor hockey, basic skills can be practised under ideal conditions, and, not least, some strenuous exercise is taken. However, as many teams throughout the School discovered, it was the skill of hitting that was most poorly performed (this is the one skill one cannot practise outdoors).

There are some promising players in the lower part of the School and it has been their ill luck to have such a curtailed season. I hope they will not be disheartened by it and will look forward to a full season next year.

1st XI

P 8 W 1 L 6 D 1 Cancelled 4

As one can see from the results, this was not one of the outstanding seasons of St. Edward's hockey. However, there was one improvement from last year—a victory over a School side! Despite the record, there were some very close matches and we were never totally outplayed, with two goals being the largest margin.

Before the snow set in, two hard-fought contests were played against Abingdon and Radley. The 4—1 victory over Abingdon was well deserved. Abingdon rarely penetrated our circle and some quick thinking from S. Gray allowed F. Livingstone a first time shot that resulted in an impressive goal. With our tails up we were "psyched" up for the match against Radley. They were the better side, but it was not until the dying seconds that they scored the winning goal. Again, the defence had absorbed much pressure and it was disappointing not to hold out.

During the snow-bound period we managed to play Wellington at Bisham Abbey on an artificial surface. Wellington had several good chances in the first half but failed to score. In the second half it was much more even and a draw was a fair result. Against Magdalen College School, all was going very well until an irresponsible piece of retaliation caused our goalkeeper and their centre forward to be sent off for violent play (which was totally justified). This disrupted our pattern of play and inevitably a goal was conceded; but not before one brilliant save on the line by P. Brunner. In the end we lost 0—2 and did not deserve to win.

On a magnificent day, P.G.B. amassed some useful hockey players, with experience counting rather more than youth in some positions. Some impressive goals were scored, notably by C. Steward (Oxford Hawks H.C.) and one A.R.D. Towards the end of the second half, with fitness beginning to tell and lack of covering, the School scored three good goals, two coming from substitute G. Finch.

Against Stowe, the nadir of the season was reached. 'Flu had taken hold and several changes in the team were necessary. Although we should have scored first, we did not deserve to win. Stowe were faster and fitter, and their centre half, who looked a quality player, in the end caused our downfall. In the final school game against Cheltenham, we, for once, were the better side and deserved to win; but a couple of crucial errors allowed Cheltenham to get back into the game from being two down at half-time, to win 3—2. The first half was probably the best hockey we had played all season.

I would like to praise P. Brunner who developed his own style of play effectively and improved as a captain. In S. Gray, there is a very good attacking half back in the making. A. Smith improved his basic skills, especially tackling, but is not the greatest distributor of the School. F. Livingstone and J. Young on the right never properly realised their full potential and there is still room for improvement next year, when they should be quite a force.

All in all, it was an enjoyable team to coach, and I hope they enjoyed their season, even though their results were hardly impressive.

RESULTS:

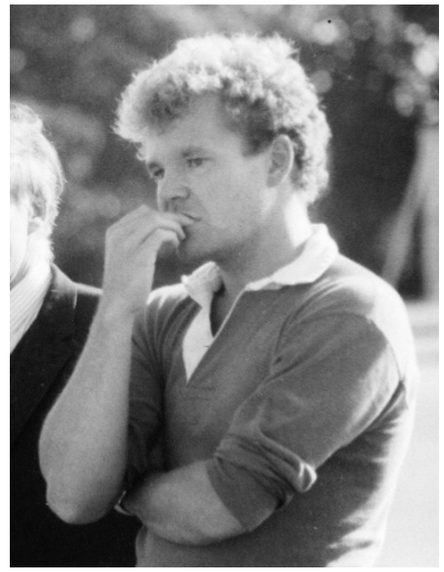
v.	Abingdon	Won	4—1
v.	Radley	Lost	1—2
v.	Pangbourne	cancelled—snow	
v.	Bradfield	cancelled—snow	
v.	Wellington	Drawn	0—0
v.	Occasionals	cancelled	
v.	M.C.S.	Lost	0—2
v.	P.G.B.'s XI	Lost	3—7
v.	Stowe	Lost	0—2
v.	Cheltenham	Lost	2—3
v.	Dean Close	cancelled	
v.	Martyrs	Lost	2—3

Colours were awarded to: P. Brunner, A. Burke, A. Brown, S. Gray, A. Smith, P. Daniel, J. Young, F. Livingstone, B. Smith, D. Santos.

Also played: M. Campbell, P. Holloway, G. Young, J. Adam, G. Finch.

P.G.B.

The Martyrs take a tumble



S.B. Offen
Won Cambridge Hockey Blue 1985
and Oxford Hockey Blue 1987

Hockey XI 1986

L to R standing	D.A.R. Gurney, O.A.C. Watson, D.N. Webster, S.A. Goldson, A.G.C. Brown, M.J.D. Burke
	R.C. Howard, A.M.E. Robinson
L to R seated	J.M.E. Sale, S.K. Gray, F.Q. Livingstone (Captain), J.P. Young, G.J. Young
Coached by	P.G. Badger (C.R.) and H.W. Blackett (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played7 Won 0 Drawn 1 Lost 6

v Keble College, Oxford - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Lost 0-4
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 0-4
(Away)

v Martyrs - Lost 1-3
(Home)

Hockey

The 1986 hockey season, like that of 1985, will be best remembered for the number of matches that were cancelled due to a severe frost which set in at the end of January and lasted until the beginning of March. In all, 51 out of 108 fixtures at all levels were cancelled. There is no doubt that we need an all-weather surface, particularly in view of the fact that in a few years most of our opponents will have one.

Senior and Intermediate Leagues took place, although they were of course seriously disrupted. They alternated between soccer on the lower fields and hockey, depending on the state of the ground. When the frost was at its worst even the soccer had to be cancelled.

The house matches produced some close games but in the end Corfe managed the double, as Tilly's had done in the rugby, by winning both the senior and junior competitions. Corfe beat Apsley in the senior final on penalties after extra time. G. Young (H) was particularly dominant. Corfe beat Tilly's in the junior final 3—1 with goals by Lane (2) and Chavasse. Sandeberg scored for Tilly's.

The hockey at the top of the School was weak. The top three sides were unable to record a single victory between them. The Colts had a reasonably successful season; the Junior Colts struggled; and the U.14 'A' XI remained unbeaten which bodes well for the future.

It was a very frustrating season, but when they could play the boys performed with enthusiasm and vigour.

H.W.B.

1st XI

Played 7, Won 0, Drawn 1, Lost 6.
Goals for 4, Goals against 19.

This was a desperately disappointing season because we failed to record a single victory. Some patches of good hockey were played, but we were too happy to accept defeat and lacked the grit to fight for good results.

Despite the fact that we conceded 19 goals, it is no contradiction to say that if we did have an area of strength it was our defence. Burke and G. Young both performed well at back throughout the season, as did Brown in goal. Latterly Gurney moved to centre-back and successfully kept opposition centre-forwards under control. We did, however, let in some soft goals which undermined some otherwise stirring defence. S. Gray, Livingstone and Howard made up the mid-field trio. Gray looked good going forward and Howard grew in confidence. Livingstone failed to make the impact we needed at centre-half. We never achieved the essential dominance in this area of the field. J. Young and O. Watson performed well, but too inconsistently on the wings. J. Sale looked dangerous at centre-forward but lacked any finish. Webster, Robinson and Goldson all played inside-forward at one time or another, and occasionally combined well with the other forwards. Like Sale, they all lacked the ability to score goals. Whereas we managed to concede some soft goals we were unable to punish our opponents' defensive errors.

Our first two games against Bloxham and Abingdon were both cancelled but we did manage to play Keble College instead. We drew 2—2 after Watson first, and then Sale, scored goals. Radley was our first school match and in going down 0—2 we played some of our best hockey against a strong side. Pangbourne, Stowe, O.U.O.H.C. and M.C.S. were all cancelled during the freeze, but we did play Bradfield on their all-weather pitch. Just prior to the game, G. Young called off with a leg injury as did Livingstone, who had some sort of ailment. We played appallingly and lost 0—4 against a side who were no better than us.

After half term, we played Cheltenham, Wellington and the Martyrs in quick succession. In each game we played some good hockey in the first half, but failed badly in the second period. Watson scored from a good piece of open play against Cheltenham, as did Goldson against the Old Boys. These three games in particular highlighted our inability to play consistently well and to score goals. Despite these defeats we approached the final fixture against Dean Close with some confidence. It was therefore especially disappointing that we played our worst hockey of the season in going down 0—4 to a side that was worse than us.

It was a curious season in that the two sides which we could have beaten both beat us easily, and in being defeated narrowly in the other fixtures we played some reasonably promising hockey. I will always have bitter-sweet memories of the side. On the one hand they were a cheerful, pleasant group, but on the other they were just too casual and lacked fibre; winning simply didn't matter enough to them.

RESULTS:

v.	Keble	Drawn	2—2
v.	Radley	Lost	0—2
v.	Bradfield	Lost	0—4
v.	Cheltenham	Lost	1—2
v.	Wellington	Lost	0—2
v.	Dean Close	Lost	0—4
v.	Martyrs	Lost	1—3

Team: A. Brown, G. Young, D. Gurney, M. Burke, S. Gray, F. Livingstone (captain), R. Howard, J. Young, J. Sale, D. Webster, O. Watson, S. Goldson.

Also played: M. Robinson, M. Reid.

H.W.B.

Hockey XI 1987

L to R standing	R.A. Peperell, D.S.B. Seymour, C.D. Maher, O.A.C. Watson, M.J.J. Wethey, I.M.S. Davidson
L to R seated	R.M. Reid, A.M.E. Robinson, M.J.D. Burke (Captain), G.N.F. Tulloch, P.R. Harrison
Missing	N.K.T. Seddon
Coached by	P.G. Badger (C.R.) and H.W. Blackett (C.R. & O.S.E.)

Fixtures
Played 11 Won 6 Drawn 3 Lost 2

v Abingdon School - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 2-0
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Stowe School - Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v Radley College - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Wellington College - Lost (No Details)
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 5-0
(Home)

v Magdalen College School- Won 1-0
(Away)

v Dean Close School , Cheltenham - Won 5-0
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Magdalen College School - Won 1-0
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

Hockey

As usual pride of place has to go to the weather. This season has been dominated by appalling conditions particularly caused by snow and frost. Brian Edrich, Head Groundsman, and myself have spent hours walking the fields trying to convince ourselves that the pitches were fit. Invariably they weren't and invariably we played. Consequently I must thank Brian and his staff for allowing so much hockey to be played this season.

There is absolutely no doubt that access to an all-weather artificial surface came into its own this season. Many schools on our circuit now have them and not only is their hockey going to improve, they will also play more hours. St. Edward's, hopefully, in the not-so-distant-future will have an "astroturf" and hence compete on equal terms. Several schools on our circuit now have them and if we are to maintain standards then it will be essential to have one. I foresee in only a few year's time nearly all important hockey will be played on these artificial surfaces.

During the term, despite the poor playing conditions there was tremendous enthusiasm right through the School, which bodes well for the future. In particular the U.14 XI's had a very good season, as did the Junior Colts and Colts 'A'.

1st XI

Pre-Season Training

Before term began 20 prospective 1st XI players came back for pre-season training. No sooner had we picked up a hockey stick than the weather turned very cold indeed. The programme was inevitably changed but the 7.30 a.m. weight training went as planned which pleased all concerned! We managed a couple of sessions on the "clubturf" at Bisham but it was so cold it was difficult to be over-enthusiastic. By Sunday afternoon many realised how unfit they were.

The Season

Played 12 Won 5 Lost 5 Drew 2 GF 14 GA 16

The 1987 season has been the most successful one for a few years and consequently it has been most enjoyable both on and off the pitch. Martin Burke proved a worthy captain and at times played extremely well. Despite the disruptions caused by the weather he managed to keep enthusiasm going throughout the term. It was extremely pleasant to win the first match against Agingdon albeit only 1—0, but it was enough to raise hopes for the remainder of the season and in many ways this was true. It was, incidentally, the first school match victory for over three years!

Chris Maher tries for goal against Abingdon

In beating Pangbourne (2—0) in the next game and on their shale pitch was a creditable performance despite the fact that our second goal was slightly dubious. Nevertheless with two wins under our belt confidence was quite high. Travelling to Bradfield to play on yet again a different surface (artificial) we fought hard to draw the match. Peter Harrison playing at left half defended extremely well to keep them at bay. At Stowe we ought to have sealed the match in the first 15 minutes but the longer the game went on the less we looked like scoring. It was a lack-lustre performance and on another day I think we might have beaten them. Against Radley on their shale pitch we fought hard to force a goalless draw. In retrospect Radley did not play well but we defended with some determination and hence the result was fair. Radley had one very skilful player who caused quite a few problems but they just never managed to make the final thrust into the circle.

After the exeat we came up against possibly our two strongest fixtures in Cheltenham and Wellington. Both games were lost but not without a struggle. In the second half against Cheltenham we were very much in command but could not penetrate their solid defence. On a most unpleasant day when little or no hockey was played in Southern England we managed to play on their new artificial surface. On the morning of the match there was about a 4in. snow cover. The pitch was cleared and two matches were played in driving sleet and snow. We lost 3—0 to a stronger and more skilful side.

It was nice to finish the season off, apart from the Oxford Festival, on a winning note. The 5—0 defeat of Dean Close was undoubtedly the best performance of the season. We dominated so clearly in mid-field that they hardly were allowed to get into the game. All they could offer was a barrage of overhead passes which were easily dealt with.

On a pitch at Sandford, Magdalen College School were a difficult side to beat but a brilliant goal by Dominic Seymour sealed their fate. They had their chances but rarely had shots on target (fortunately for Graeme Tulloch, who seemed to be playing in another game).

In conclusion it was a good season in which the team could best be termed "workmanlike." There were no "prima donnas" and everyone gave of his best on every occasion. Mike Reid developed into a formidable central defender as many centre forwards will testify! Matthew Wethey was a reliable right half and next year should be a major influence on the side. At left half Peter Harrison was as keen and hard as anyone in the defence but had days when his timing of the tackle was not always quite perfect. Ian Davidson came into the side later in the term and scored in his first match! He has skill and speed and if he could motivate himself he could be a very good right-wing. Mark Robinson grew in confidence, was at times aggressive, and caused one or two sore ankles! He certainly enjoyed his season. Dominic Seymour had a variable season—at times showing considerable aggression and determination but in some games he just faded. Nigel Seddon, once he settled down at centre-half, became a dependable player in defence but his distribution was always a little suspect. Richard Peperell is developing into a sound player. His speed and determination will always give him an edge over many opposing players. Oliver Watson on the left-wing showed a lot of skill and in the latter stages of the season scored a couple of superb goals, the best of which was against the Old Boys.

P.G.B.

LADIES' HOCKEY

For the first time in the history of the St. Edward's School, a ladies' hockey team was seen to grace the sports fields with their presence. Twice a week they could be seen attacking their opponents with the greatest of style and vigour.

Unfortunately, on the majority of occasions their efforts went unrewarded, so far as winning was concerned. A win was achieved on just one of the days when matches were played. All other matches were lost. Our greatest victory came when we beat Wellington away and so made up for the boys' rugby defeat there the previous term.

Though we never lacked in enthusiasm, the skill and agility possessed by all opponents often overwhelmed the St. Edward's ladies. One of our best demonstrations of loyalty and support came when we played Cheltenham College, away. Four of our team members on that day had never picked up a hockey stick before, yet because we were unable to field our usual team these girls were more than willing to participate. This reflected the general feelings of enthusiasm and sportsmanship which the girls had throughout the season.

Special thanks must be given to Helen Cook who was a responsible and highly motivated captain. I would also like to pass on my feelings of appreciation to all those girls who have partaken in the playing of hockey at any time for the School.

It only leaves me to say that next Michaelmas term games for the ladies will again commence, when we shall attempt to break this year's record of only one victory.

P. Brees.

LADIES' HOCKEY

During this year's mild Michaelmas Term, the girls were again seen to grace the playing fields of St. Edward's School. The team consisted of several girls in the Sixth form, with the majority of the team being Lower Sixths. It was a much more experienced team this year, with many of the girls having been involved in team sports of a kind at their previous schools.

The season started well with the introduction of a new hockey strip, so not only were we playing to a higher standard, we also now looked the part. The team captain was again Helen Cook, who took her responsibilities very seriously, and gave her all in every match, without question. I would like to take this opportunity of offering thanks to Helen on behalf of both the team and myself.

The School played seven matches in all, winning four, drawing one and losing two. These results compare favourably with last year's where we won only one and lost the remaining six.

On the whole this has been a successful hockey season, where continued improvements have been made.

Finally, I would like to thank all those girls who were a part of the hockey team, for their loyalty and support throughout the season.

P.B.

Hockey XI 1988

L TO R BACK ROW	S.A.R. Lane, S.M. Ghalib
L TO R MIDDLE ROW	I.M.S. Davidson, O.J. Seddon, N.R. Tustian, C.W. Russell, C.D. Sandeberg, R.J.C. Hawkins
L TO R SEATED	M.J. Wethey, N.R. Peperell, N.K.T. Seddon (Captain), A.C. Dobson, G.A. Wright
Coached by	P.G. Badger (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 13 Won 4 Drawn 1 Lost 8

v Oxford University H.C. - Lost 1-7
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 2-1
(Away)

v Bloxham School - -Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Won 2-1
(Away)

v P.G. Badger's Scratch XI - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-8
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 1-3
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 3-5
(Away)

v Martyrs - Lost 1-5
(Home)

v Trent College, Nottingham - Lost 0-1
(Home)

Oliver Seddon mounts an attack, supported by brother Nigel

HOCKEY

Hockey at St. Edward's is still thriving in terms of the enthusiasm at all levels in the School. Results have been a little mixed but the Colts had a marvellous season without losing a match. The Junior Colts did quite well but lost the odd match which they should have won. The future does not look at all bad.

As usual in any sports report the weather has to play its part and this season was no exception. This year it was the turn of the rain to disrupt the first six weeks of the term in which only 3 matches were played and only one at St. Edward's. Never has the need for an artificial surface been so emphatically underlined as in this particular season. A large number of the schools on our circuit have or are getting such surfaces and we are undoubtedly the losers in more ways than one. I sincerely hope in the near future that funds can be raised to build a "plastic" pitch so that hockey can continue to flourish at St. Edward's.

1st XI

Played 13, Won 4, Lost 8, Drawn 1

The results do not look very encouraging but in school matches the balance is 4 wins and 5 losses which truly reflects the season. In short we beat the poorer sides and we lost to the better ones. The very wet conditions hampered a great deal of preparation and the team did not really take shape until after half-term.

The lack of preparation was partly to blame in our losing to Bloxham but the opposition were a competent side who deserved to win on the day, playing in quite appalling wet and cold conditions at Bisham Abbey.

At Bradfield we again had to play on an artificial surface but showed resilience and determination to beat them 2-1 having been a goal down. Andrew Dobson (left half) had a particularly good game. In these early days another player who was to feature significantly was the goalkeeper Neil Tustian who has improved so much during the season. He had a magnificent game against P.G.B.'s XI.

The pitch at Abingdon was not conducive to high quality hockey but both teams managed to produce some good moves with chances being created at both ends. Our stronger midfield took control and we emerged the winners with a scrambled goal (2-1).

In the derby against Radley a very poor game of hockey took place with neither side mastering any control. A goal-less draw epitomised the level of skill on display. Again it was the goalkeeper in saving a penalty stroke who prevented a loss, as we certainly did not look like scoring.

Pangbourne, impressive at producing so many teams, were not as strong as Radley but we still had to work hard to beat them. If the right had been used, more victory would have been far easier. Graeme Wright scored a good goal that sealed the match.

Wellington College have become a formidable force in all major sports in recent years and their hockey side was no exception. They scored 8 goals in all, one or two of which were the result of extremely skilful play. On their artificial surface they played with a great deal of confidence and I think this was the best schoolboy team I have seen for a long time.

Dean Close were not in the same league as Wellington but they were more used to their shale pitch. We let in a couple of soft goals and then came back at them in the second half with a very good goal from Graeme Wright, but it was not enough.

The match against MCS was a tough game but strength in the midfield (Nigel Seddon and Sham Ghalib particularly) kept the opposition at bay. A superb goal from Richard Peperell was probably the best of the season. We should have won more easily but chances went begging and again the pace of Ian Davidson on the right was not fully utilised.

At Cheltenham we again played on an artificial surface and the scoreline of 3-5 would seem to indicate a fast flowing exciting game. However this was not the case as it was rather physical and not overskilful with the exception of A. Thompson (Cheltenham) who was the outstanding player of the game. We came back in the second half but it was never enough to win; they were overall a better side.

The last games of the season were against the Martyrs and Trent College. The Martyrs brought a very strong team and played some delightful hockey mostly engineered by C. Lawless, G. Hayward and S. Smith. It was good to see the Old Boys play such good hockey in the right atmosphere.

Trent College were returning from a short tour and this was probably the one game which we ought to have won. Robert Hawkins and Ian Davidson combined well on the right flank but it was never finished off. Some lax defence and one goal was enough to seal our fate.

It was a sad moment when the captain Nigel Seddon had to leave the field (v. MCS) with his recurrent shoulder injury. He played solidly but lacked the passing skills to become a really good midfield player. Matthew Wethey matured as a hockey player and moving him to the sweeper position was critical for the team and his improvement. Cas Sandeberg was a tireless marker and again if injury had not intervened he would have made a great impact on the course of the games. Sham Ghalib began well. He has some skill but has not yet mastered when and when not to use it. In due course he will become a force in the XI. Andrew Dobson was hardworking and had some good games but his tendency to over-dribble created a few problems for his fellow defenders.

Among the forwards Ian Davidson showed flashes of brilliance. Graeme Wright proved a far more forceful centre forward than inside forward and began to score a few goals. Stephen Lane moved to the left wing and began to gain more confidence in this position where his skill on the ball was easier to use. He had a particularly good match against Cheltenham. Richard Peperell never quite realised his potential though he did have some very good moments, notably against Bradfield and P.G.B.'s XI.

In conclusion it was an enjoyable season in which the results went mostly according to the form book. I am convinced that if SES are to compete on this very strong circuit an artificial surface is essential—not just for the First XI but for anybody in the School at whatever level who wants to play hockey and enjoy it.

Colours were awarded to: N. Seddon, R. Peperell, A. Dobson, I. Davidson, R. Hawkins, G. Wright, S. Lane, O. Seddon, S.Ghalib, C. Sandeberg, M. Wethey, N. Tustian.

Also played: C. Lawes, C. Russell, H. Martin, E. Donald.

RESULTS

v.	O.U.O.H.C.	1—7
v.	Stowe	Canc.
v.	Abingdon	2—1
v.	Bloxham	0—2
v.	Bradfield	2—1
v.	P.G.B.'s XI	0—2
v.	Radley	0—0
v.	Pangbourne	3—2
v.	Wellington	0—8
v.	Dean Close	1—3
v.	M.C.S.	2—1
v.	Cheltenham	3—5
v.	Martyrs	1—5
v.	Trent College	0—1

P.G.B.

Hockey XI 1989

L to R standing	R.M. Lane, J.E. Conder, A.J. Kane, C.D. Sandeberg, R.J.C. Hawkins, D.E.C. Wethey, M.S. Ghalib
L to R seated	J.M.E. Lawes, A.C. Dobson (Captain), J.M.W. Betts, N.R. Tustian
Coached by	R.D. Aldred (C.R.), J.F Hudson and B. Van Asselt

Fixtures
Played 14 Won 5 Drawn 2 Lost 7

v Old Dragons - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Bloxham School- Lost 2-4
(Away)

v Radley College - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Wellington College - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Johanneum, Hamburg, Germany - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 0-6
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Martyrs - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Merchant Taylors School - Won 7-1
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Clayesmore School, Blandford Forum - Won 3-2
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

v Forest School, London - Won 1-0
(Public Schools Oxford Hockey Festival)

Hockey

This has been a full and enjoyable season for hockey at St Edward's. There is plenty of enthusiasm for the game and at the top end of the School we could have run six sides. It is customary to mention the weather in the hockey report and this year will be no exception. This has been one of the best years for weather, but ironically rain has often come at the end of the week, and as a result matches have been cancelled. Many of our rivals enjoy the facility of an astro-turf pitch. There is no doubt that this is the surface of the future and that we should have one. Inevitably in a school there is the matter of priorities, and we have several major and essential projects in the pipe-line. Therefore if anyone has any imaginative ideas on how to raise the money for one, please contact me at once.

This year has seen the introduction of a coach from outside. We have been extremely fortunate to have had two outstanding coaches in Freddie Hudson and Bram van Asselt, who have coached at all levels during the term. They have introduced the boys to new levels of playing with their professional approach, but have also engendered a sense of fun and enthusiasm in their sessions. Steve Batchelor's two visits added the icing to the cake, and his talk on hockey was an inspiration.

I would like to thank all the staff who have been so dedicated in their organisation and support for the game. In particular R.H.M.A. has spent many hours organising the fixtures and pitches. Also I would like to thank Bob Bowerman and his staff, who have worked so hard on the grounds. Sometimes their efforts are taken for granted and I am sure that it is in some part due to the fact that it is all done so unobtrusively and efficiently. Thank you very much, Bob.

R.D.A.

The team talk at half-time

1st XI

This side has been an extremely pleasant one to be with. They have worked hard individually to improve their games and the coaches were impressed with the rapid improvement they have made. They were coached to play good hockey which they have endeavoured to do. If the results do not look all that startling , it must be recorded that they improved greatly and have always kept going when they have been outplayed. They managed to maintain the belief that they were playing good hockey. Apart from the two games against Wellington and Dean Close, we could have won all the others. That we did not was in some part due to the fact that we did not take our chances. However, in the final week of term we did so and completed the season on a winning note.

Neil Tustian in goal had a fine season and continues a long succession of good St Edward's goal-keepers. He is fast in his reactions and aggressive, in the right sense of the word. As sweeper, John Lawes used his reach in the tackle to good effect and struck the ball sweetly and accurately. His undercut passes from the left to inside right were consistently accurate. Only occasionally did he commit himself in the tackle.

The back three played well as a unit. On the right, Robert Hawkins grew in confidence and began to support his forwards effectively. Although not particularly quick, he used his stick work to good effect. At centre back, Cassian Sandeberg became much more cultured and constructive. In the final games of the season he marked the centre forward well and gave away few free hits. Duncan Wethey learnt with every game and marked his wing increasingly closely. He is not particularly quick, but he made up for this with intelligent positioning. He had a good season, even if he did give away two unusual penalty flicks.

The mid field trio played with increasing authority. Andy Dobson developed enormously in his new role. Early in the season he tended to hang on to the ball for too long, but later he distributed the ball well and fed his wing with long through-balls to good effect. He was an excellent captain and he is to be congratulated for keeping his side in cheerful spirits. At centre mid-field Sham Ghalib was the old man of the side! When he was on song he played very effectively. He has good skills and distributed the ball well, but sometimes he faded from the game. Al Kane on the left developed his game enormously. From being an enthusiastic goer he became a most skilful and constructive player. He learnt to distribute the ball well and in every game gave his all.

Richard Lane on the right used his pace to good effect. In the final games his confidence increased and he scored some crucial goals, not least in the final game. His skills developed but he still needs to use the reverse stick more to get himself out of trouble. At centre forward Jo Conder had a good season even if he did not score the goals he ought to have done. He had plenty of chances, but he tended to go for the spectacular hit rather than the accurate push. In mid-field in some games he was more effective in his constructive play. On the left wing Bill Betts had a fine season. Never having played in an 'A' team up the school, he is a good example of perseverance. This year he displayed his undoubted skill and combative spirit and always caused the opposition problems.

As I have suggested already, the Dean Close and Wellington sides were the strongest. Both these games were played on astro and were much enjoyed by the team. Dean Close were a very good side, the best we played. Wellington were a strong side, but we did cause them problems in the final fifteen minutes, when we had some good chances to level the scores. Of the other matches, we had a convincing win against Radley, where we played excellent hockey with commitment. We acquitted ourselves well against a strong side from Johanneum, Hamburg. We could easily have lost the game in the first half, but we hung on and should have won the second half. The final flourish to the season was utterly deserved. Against the Martyrs we played well, particularly in the second half. We were indebted to Simon Offen for our first goal scored by him just before half time! The match against Merchant Taylors' was a good one, not least because the opposition had some fine players. Neil Tustian kept us in the game in the first half with some outstanding saves and then we ended powerfully, scoring four goals in the last ten minutes (the last three a hat-trick for Jo Conder). The games against Stowe, Bloxham and Pangbourne were conspicuous for the fact that we gave the opposition the results.

To conclude, this has been a happy, enjoyable and fruitful season and I am sure the whole side can look forward to developing their hockey in future seasons.

Team: N.R. Tustian, J.M.E. Lawes, R.J.C. Hawkins, C.D. Sandeberg, D.B.C. Wethey, A.C.Dobson(Capt.), M.S. Ghalib, A.J. Kane, R.M. Lane, J.E. Conder, J.M.W. Betts.

Also played: K.M.Aylmer, A.E.R. Craven-Smith, J.C.Elvin, J.E.F. Kirkham, G.W.J. Mullin, C.F.A. Rowbotham, H. Varney.

Results:

v	Stowe	Lost	1-4
v	Old Dragons	Lost	0-1
v	Bloxham	Lost	2-4
v	Radley	Won	1-0
v	Pangbourne	Lost	1-2
v	Wellington	Lost	1-4
v	Johanneum,Hamburg	Drawn	0-0
v	Dean Close	Lost	0-6
v	M.C.S.	Drawn	1-1
v	Cheltenham	Lost	0-1
v	Martyrs	Won	3-2
Hockey Festival			
v	Merchant Taylors'	Won	7-1
v	Clayesmore	Won	3-2
v	Forest	Won	1-0

Matches v Bradfield & Abingdon - cancelled.

R.D.A.

1st XI v. Radley: Andy Dobson clears the ball, with Sandeberg, Ghalib and Lawes in support.

GIRLS' XI

The ladies could again be seen gracing the hockey fields in the Winter Term. The squad worked hard throughout the term, showing enthusiasm and aggression with much progress being made by competing regularly against a boys' team whose skill and strength helped to develop the same in the girls.

So far as results were concerned, it was not a successful term. We played ten matches, drew one and lost nine. Despite this we competed well, and in the latter half of the term the results got closer as we started to gain in confidence and skill.

The field of play was dominated by Hannah Kirkland, whose steadfast approach in midfield produced many scoring chances and solid defensive moves. She has great ability and a natural eye for the ball, which is backed up by her athletic prowess.

The organisation and morale have been maintained at an extremely high level by this year's captain, Nicola Stuart-Clark. A most competent leader on and off the pitch, Nicola has also kept the defence solid throughout the season.

Socially, the team provided me with much entertainment. Amongst themselves they became good friends, and made travelling to and from match venues an enjoyment. This has maintained morale and improved communications between players, thereby improving the playing standard too.

I would like to thank the ground staff for their efforts during the term in keeping the pitch in perfect condition. And finally my thanks go to those sixth formers who have represented the School during both their years here: these include Amanda Bates, Tamsin Hughes, Bridget Herdman and Nicola Stuart-Clark.

P.B.

Hockey XI 1990

L to R standing	A.M.B. Goodwin, S.T.K. Al-Said, T.J.R. Jolly, C.F.L. Prior, H. Varney, C.L.W. Thomas, M.J.R. Bentley, N.J.J. Dance
L to R seated	S.T.L. Bullmore, R.M. Lane, D.B.C. Wethey (Captain), P.L. Burtt, G.W.J. Mullin
Coached by	R.D. Aldred (C.R.), B. Van Asselt and R. Thompson

Fixtures
Played 13 Won 3 Drawn 3 Lost 7

v Stowe School - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Bloxham School- Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 2-3
(Away)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-8
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 1-4
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 4-2
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Martyrs - Lost 1-6
(Home)

v Gresham's School, Holt - Drawn 0-0
(Home)

v Tonbridge School - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Colston's School, Bristol - Won 4-0
(Home)

Hockey

It is ironic to report for once that the weather has been good this season and that we have lost fewer days to bad weather than is usually the case. Nonetheless, the all-weather playing surface is awaited eagerly and will undoubtedly be an invaluable asset. There is no doubt that schools with such a surface have been able to improve the quality of their hockey skills. The School is indebted to the donor of the gift which is making the pitch a reality - thank you very much indeed.

Hockey in the School continues to be enjoyed at all levels, from the so-called expert to the league player. It is good to see younger players in their spare time practising endlessly, because this is the way in which individuals develop their skills.

Much hard work goes into each season and I would like to thank colleagues for all their hard work in organising and coaching the various teams. In particular I would like to thank Myles Arkell for all the hard work he has put in, not only this year in organising the fixtures and pitches, but also over many years of service to St Edward's hockey, both as Master-in-Charge and as coach to junior sides. Many boys owe their enjoyment of hockey to him. Many thanks too to Charlie Baggs, who has been a great support; we wish him all the best as he takes on the hockey, especially with the exciting prospect of the new pitch. Again Bob Bowerman and his staff deserve our appreciation for all their hard work in producing such excellent pitches for us.

This year we have again enjoyed the help of Bran van Asselt and Rob Thompson. They have been marvellous coaches who have made the practices varied, demanding and enjoyable. We look forward to their return next year to carry on the good work they have been doing at every level.

Duncan Wethey - late on a short corner v. Tonbridge

1st XI

This has been an interesting season for the 1st XI. They have benefited enormously from the coaching of Bram van Asselt and Rob Thompson and I am sure the results would have been very different if the season were to be started where the team finished. Every member of the side has improved as a player and has developed his skills. As a team there were occasions when they played with great command, but there were others when we allowed the opposition to dictate. In the end it comes down to doing the basics efficiently: stopping and passing the ball firmly and accurately. In the early part of the season we tended to play the game in a rather leisurely fashion, but towards the end of the season the side played with much more confidence and passed the ball with much more purpose.

Only Wellington, Radley and the Martyrs beat us convincingly. In each case they were much more experienced and skilful. However, we learnt much from the experiences and could see what we needed to do to develop. In other matches we lost by the odd goal. Against Bloxham we controlled the game, but allowed them to score twice while we missed chances. We allowed Bradfield to build a three goal lead before we started to play and came back strongly to score two goals before time ran out. The first half against Dean Close was excellent, but we were only 1-0 up at half-time. In the second half silly defensive errors allowed them to score three goals, but we finished strongly and should have forced a draw. The wins against Stowe, Abingdon and Colston's were deserved and in each game we played well for periods. From all this it can be seen that there were always moments of good hockey, but there were periods when we allowed the opposition to score very often against the play.

Simon Bullmore in goal had some great games, especially in the match against Wellington. However, sometimes his concentration went and he made mistakes. Patrick Burtt grew in confidence as the season went on and became a fine, if slow, sweeper. Duncan Wethey captained the side efficiently and developed his game well. He gave good support in attack and distributed the ball with increasing vision. Henry Varney played with great commitment and with increasing authority. Although not particularly quick, his positional play was good. At left back Matthew Bentley, a Colt, played with great skill and gained tremendous experience.

The midfield players improved greatly through the season. George Mullin showed some deft touches and fed his wing well. At centre half Charlie Thomas was tireless and his skills developed dramatically; he learnt to vary the point of attack successfully. Tim Jolly played with great skill and often caused defences trouble with his weaving dribbles.

On the right wing, Rick Lane showed great pace and was happiest when running onto the ball. There were moments when he caused real problems for the opposition. At centre forward Allen Goodwin improved throughout the season. At times he was uninvolved, but once he understood his defensive role he played with greater purpose, scoring some fine goals. Al Said ('Sid') on the left wing showed some excellent skills and, as his confidence increased, so did his effectiveness. Both Nick Dance and Chris Rowbotham played with great commitment on a number of occasions.

Team: S. Bullmore, P. Burtt, D. Wethey (Capt.), H. Varney, M. Bentley, G. Mullin, C. Thomas, T. Jolly, R. Lane, A. Goodwin, S. Al-Said.

Also Played: N. Dance, C. Rowbotham, H. Salter, L. Siriwardene, C. Prior.

Results:

v	Stowe	Won	3 - 0
v	Bloxham	Lost	1 -2
v	M.C.S.	Cancelled	
v	Bradfield	Lost	2 - 3
v	Wellington	Lost	0 - 8
v	Radley	Lost	1 - 4
v	Pangbourne	Drew	2 - 2
v	Abingdon	Won	4 - 2
v	Dean Close	Lost	2 - 3
v	Cheltenham	Lost	1 - 2
v	Martyrs	Lost	1 - 6
v	Greshams	Drew	0 - 0
v	Tonbridge	Drew	1 - 1
v	Colston's	Won	4 - 0

R.D.Aldred

MYLES ARKELL
HOCKEY COACH 1961- 1973

GIRLS' XI

Yet again the girls at St Edward's have been seen gracing the hockey fields. It has become a common sight now, and the boys are even providing us with some much needed support.

The team has consisted mostly of Sixth Form girls this year, with only four places going to Lower Sixth girls on a regular basis. We have had a successful season, having played nine matches, winning five, drawing two and losing two. Since we have such a small number of girls to choose from, I consider these results to be a considerable achievement, when we are playing against schools such as Haileybury who have over a hundred girls in their upper school. Our two main goal scorers have been Henrietta Eyre and Susan Harrington, who scored 6 and 4 goals respectively.

Our greatest opponent this season has been the varied weather, which has caused matches to be cancelled on two occasions,and made playing difficult on several others. Our match against Bloxham was one such occasion, when the day had started with freezing fog. It had wavered between being thin and then dense throughout the morning, and by one o`clock it was clear that it was going to be difficult to see across the hockey pitch unless it cleared. We eventually started the match in hazy sunshine, but had to bring it to an early finish when the freezing fog came down again. I hasten to add that we were leading when the final whistle was blown.

The team's thanks go out to this year's captain, Hannah Kirkland, who has played with great enthusiasm, skill and determination throughout her two years at St Edward's. She has selected and motivated a successful team, which has had one single aim in playing hockey, that is to enjoy themselves.

We would also like to thank the groundsmen who have always provided us with an excellent pitch to play on, whatever the weather.

Finally, I would like to thank all the team members for giving me a lot of enjoyment on both a personal and professional level.

Paula Brees

Hockey XI 1991

L to R back row	J.R. Summers, M.J.R. Bentley
L to R middle row	R.K. Howe, M.C. Brodie, J.R. Hill, C.F.L. Prior, A.D. Knight, B.H. Arber
L to R seated	L. Siriwardene, S.T.K. Al-Said, T.J.R. Jolly (Captain), A.M.B. Goodwin, H.S. Salter
Coached by	C.F. Baggs (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 10 Won 2 Drawn 3 Lost 5

v Stowe School - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-5
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 4-3
(Away)

v Martyrs - Lost 1-3
(Home)

v King Edward School, Birmingham - Drawn 1-1
(Bath Festival)

v Bishop Vesey's Grammar School, Sutton Coldfield - Drawn 1-1
(Bath Festival)

v West Of England Schools XI - Won 5-3
(Bath Festival)

HOCKEY

HOCKEY 1991

The 1991 season will be remembered for the appalling weather and the First XI's poor results. That is a shame considering the success of the other sides throughout the school. Eleven out of fourteen sides have had a fifty percent record or better.

The advent of a plastic pitch next season will help to ease the weather problem, but more fundamental issues will need to be faced if we are to become more consistently successful.

As a rowing school it is inevitable that many of the bigger boys will opt to row in the Easter Term and we must therefore emphasise our skills rather than physical presence from the word go. We have started to do this with this year's skills and I hope with continued support from our outside coaches we can build on this next year.

Improved skills and professional coaching in the early years will pay dividends only if we can persuade the good ball-players to maintain their interest into the Sixth Form. At present too many fall by the wayside either to do other things or simply to loaf about. It is essential we address the reasons for this now. The pull of minor sports - 7-a-side Rugby, Squash and Football, to name but three - should not be ignored. Boys are torn, particularly if they feel they will be more successful doing the other sports, and we must organise the day to try to remove the dilemma. Slothfulness is more difficult to challenge but higher expectations of the 'grey sixth' in terms of participation would be a step in the right direction.

I am, of course, immensely grateful to all my colleagues for the time and effort that has gone into producing the creditable results listed below. My comments above are merely my thoughts on what is needed to strengthen the situation and make us a more dominant force. 'The Astroturf' should act as a catalyst to school hockey and we must be ready to supply all the other ingredients needed to make progress.

C.F. Baggs

RESULTS - 1991

	1	2	3	4	CA	CB	CC	JCA	JCB	JCC	YA	YB	YC	YD
Stowe	1-2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M.C.S.	1-5	1-1	0-2	7-1	2-1	4-0	-	4-1	6-0	-		3-0	-	-
Bloxham	0-2	4-2	1-1	-	4-1	4-0	-	4-1	3-1	3-2	4-1	2-0	-	-
Radley	0-2	1-6	0-2	2-0	0-6	1-4	1-2	1-2	1-3	2-4	0-3	1-2	1-6	-
Pangbourne	3-3	5-0	5-0	10-0	2-2	4-0	4-0	1-0	-	2-2	1-0	-	-	-
Cheltenham	1-2	-	-	-	-	0-2	-	0-1	0-1	-	4-2	0-0	1-0	-
D.C.	4-3	4-3	-	-	3-2	-	-	1-0	0-1	-	1-3	2-0	2-0	5-0
A.B.	H	0-2	-	-	3-1	3-0	-	2-2	-	-	2-0	2-0	-	-
Martyrs	1-3	1-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

BATH '91

The trip started off on the right foot with Mr. Baggs practically writing off the mini-bus before even leaving the gates. Still recovering from this incident we unwittingly left on the 'Baggs intensive driving course', taking in kerbs, gear changing and finally arriving in Bath - just.

The first game against King Edward's School began well with an early goal from a short corner by M. Bentley but ended with 1-1 draw after they equalised in the last minute.

We were then treated to the 'haute cuisine' of the KES dining hall, which gave us the lift required to go on to greater things in the following games. But, alas to no avail as we lost (again!) 2-1 to Claysmore.

This was followed by a picturesque tour of the Bath countryside, including an invasion of the Salters residence and ending up at our luxury accommodation the Bristol Youth Hostel!

That evening, to show how pleased Mr. Baggs wa with our season, we were treated to an Indian mea (thanks a lot!).

The next morning was taken up by pre-matcl preparations; recovering from last night's curry an writing letters to loved ones. These obviously worke as we managed to pull off an undeserved 1-1 draw in th first game of the day against Bishop's Vesey, thanks t a precisely executed goal by J. Summers.

In the afternoon we faced the onerous task of playin the West of England Schools' XI. However, producin the best performance of the season and with a litt black magic, we came away with a 5-3 victory, thank to a hat-trick from the start striker S. Bugingo an goals from S. Al-Said and A. Knight, who along wit J. Hill, was awarded his colours.

All in all it was a very worthwhile trip and I know th I speak for all concerned in expressing my thanks Mr. Livingstone and Mr. Baggs for organising a running the tour.

Adam Knight

1st XI HOCKEY REPORT 1991

P.9 W.1 D.2 L.6 F.12 A.23

J.J.Mc.P. returned from Australia with a wonderful Rugby report from the Kings School, Paramatta Magazine. It managed in one and a half pages not to mention a single result and talked only of spirit, enthusiasm and parental support. How tempted I was to quote verbatim from it for this year's 1st XI report.

Facts must however be faced. Our basic skills let us down early on and a mixture of bad luck and crass mistakes led to us losing matches we should have won. Stowe, Bloxham, Pangbourne and Abingdon were certainly no better than we, yet we failed to gain a single victory against them.

We saved our best hockey for the latter half of the season when we began to adapt to playing on plastic. Against a good Radley side we worked hard and were a shade unlucky to go down 2-0. Lady Luck had not returned when we lost a thrilling encounter 2-1 with Cheltenham, playing 'at home' on the Oxford Hawks pitch. The balance of fortune was redressed at Dean Close with a 4-3 see-saw win.
It is important to try and find something positive to carry forward from this disappointing season. A number of Lower Sixth players developed well. Matthew Bentley in his second season in the XI tantalised opposition defences and tackled superbly from left back. Adam Knight gained confidence as the season developed and looks a good prospect. Jim Hill had moments in goal when he must have wished the ground would swallow him up, but his performance against Abingdon at the end of the school term was faultless and let us hope he learns from his mistakes. Mark Brodie was plagued by injury, but when fit looked steady at centre back. A number of Lower Sixth players were blooded at various stages of the term.

Of those leaving, Tim Jolly excelled until a bad knee injury ended his season and Charlie Thomas worked tirelessly except when under the effects of flu. Al Said and Siriwardene never really found the space out wide but caused opposition defences moments of worry.

Hugh Salter was unpredictable, marking his winger tightly in one game, only to leave him unattended in the next. Chris Prior looked a fine prospect at sweeper but persisted in giving the ball straight back to the opposition too often. After his initial reluctance to play, Allen Goodwin made the centre forward spot his own, but despite a lot of hard work he never really fulfilled last year's potential.

All in all this was a poor term when we failed to take our chances and paid the price.

Charlie Baggs

GIRLS' HOCKEY

The hockey season has been a successful one both in terms of matches played and those won. The good, dry weather has meant a firm and flat pitch throughout the season with no matches cancelled. Much credit must be given to the groundsmen who repaired a well-worn pitch and returned it to a high standard of turf after the hot and dry summer had scorched it badly.
We have played 9 matches, have won 5 and lost 4. There have been 24 goals scored for and 23 goals scored against us.

Much of our success has been due to Anne Klusmann whose official position was centre-half, although her stick-work and ball skills were often seen in both the forward line and defence. She was the mainstay of the team. The other 10 players pulled together and learned a lot from Anne's positioning and style of play.

Becky Greaves also emerged as one of the stalwarts of the team, playing goalkeeper. She trained hard to gain some skill in playing a position to which she was new this season. She played well, often behind a disorganised defence, against oppositions who had little regard for her.

Our most memorable matches were played against Wellington and Marlborough. Against Wellington, on astroturf, we completely swamped our opposition, and spent most of the match in their half scoring goals and returning to the centre line for another push-back. We scored 6 goals in all. The same experience was had against Marlborough, whom we beat 4-0.

Two tough matches were played against Rye St. Anthony who beat us at home and whom we beat when playing away.

The away fixture was played early in the term on a rough pitch, and through fighting hard, and scoring at every opportunity, we beat them 3-1. On the return fixture, the team was very determined not to lose, and really tried too hard, getting tense when scoring chances, of which there were many, occurred. As a result we did not score, and they scored at each of the three chances they had, eventually winning 3-0.

The season ended with our annual dinner, attended by the whole squad, with much food and fun being had by all.

My thanks go to Linda Sansome, who captained the team well, arranging practices and teams throughout the season. Her standard of play also underwent notable improvement, with her stick-work especially developing in skill and fluidity.

The thanks of the squad go to Robert Aldred who stepped in with coaching and umpiring when Mrs Brees was no longer mobile.

P. Brees

Hockey XI 1992

L to R standing	J.R. Summers, S.J. Bentley, A.R. Phillips, E.C. Lonsdale, P. Schreck, N.S. Platt
L to R seated	M.C. Brodie, G.A. Kane, M.J.R. Bentley (Captain), A.D. Knight, J.R. Hill
Coached by	C.F. Baggs (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 10 Won 2 Drawn 0 Lost 8

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Bloxham School - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Lost 0-6
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Wellington College - Lost 3-7
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-6
(Away)

v Martyrs - Lost 0-4
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 2-1
(Home)

Hockey

The first season with the Fisher Field open has not been a successful one in terms of results. Only 33% success in all school games is a dismal record by any standards. The surface has, however, been a great benefit in many ways and far more coaching, practice games and matches have been possible than in previous years. The standard will not improve overnight and our inadequacies when playing against schools with a tradition of 'astroturf hockey' were, if anything, highlighted. We did however see an all-round improvement in the level of skills and over the coming years the gap will narrow.

There have been far more boys wanting to play hockey and we have managed to field up to eighteen sides at a time and they have practised virtually every games afternoon without the usual dreaded 'cross country runs or free days'.

One result of the increased numbers is that I have had to ask ever more members of the Common Room than usual to help run sides and this they have willingly done. I am extremely grateful to them for all their time, efforts and forbearance.

C.F.B.

1st XI

Played 10, Won 2, Drew 0, Lost 8.
Goals For: 10, Against: 33.

This was undoubtedly a better side than last year's, but they were still no match for sides that had grown up playing on Astroturf throughout their school careers. Add to that the fact that we failed to take our chances in games where we were the better side and the record is understandable.

Wins were recorded against Bloxham and Abingdon, but even these games were close due to our inability to convert pressure into goals. The high points of the season came in two games we lost. Against Wellington we led 2-1 at half-time and despite going 3-4 behind in the second half we pressured strongly and only a stumble by Phillips after rounding the goalkeeper stopped us drawing level with five minutes left. Against Radley we went 0-2 down early on but dominated the second half only to squander a number of clear chances and finish 1-2.

In the other games Bradfield and Cheltenham were much too good for us, whilst Dean Close and Pangbourne were perhaps a little lucky to win.

Matthew Bentley was the outstanding player of the side and he worked tirelessly as Captain to keep peoples' spirits up when Lady Luck deserted us. He has a bright future in the game and I wish him well.

James Hill and Ed Montague both played in goal and there was little to choose between them. They both made many good saves but were left exposed on occasions. Sam Bentley at sweeper grew in confidence and looks a good prospect for the next two years. Giles Kane and Mark Brodie found that neither the requirements of the new obstruction law nor the surface suited their style, but they were determined in all they did. Peter Schreck was perhaps wasted at right-half; he is strong on the ball and looked better when attacking. In midfield Adam Knight is a skilful player but his fitness was suspect early on and James Summers never quite produced his best.

Up front Nick Platt, Alastair Phillips and Ed Lonsdale created many chances but too often failed to convert them.

There will be worse sides than this that have better records simply because they have some luck and also a player to put the ball in the net.

Team from: M. Bentley* (Captain), J. Hill, E. Montague, J. Drake-Brockman, S. Bentley*, M. Brodie, P. Schreck*, J. Summers, A. Knight*, N. Platt, A. Phillips*, E. Lonsdale, D. Evans, G. Kane.
* Colours Awarded

Results:

v. M.C.S.	Lost	0-2
v. Bloxham	Won	1-0
v. Radley	Lost	1-2
v. Bradfield	Lost	0-6
v. Pangbourne	Lost	2-3
v. Wellington	Lost	3-7
v. Dean Close	Lost	0-2
v. Cheltenham	Lost	1-6
v. Martyrs	Lost	0-4
v. Abingdon	Won	2-1

C.F.B.

2nd XI

While the benefits of astroturf have been obvious, the skills are not acquired in five minutes and it will take a year or two before we are on a par with those schools who have had this surface for longer. Interestingly, two matches were cancelled, against Stowe and Bloxham, but only the latter due to the weather.

As a team, this year's 2nd XI played patches of pretty good hockey without really discovering how to unlock opposition defences. Lessons still need to be learned about the pace of a pass, about dwelling on the ball, and about taking up more useful positions once the ball has been released.

While wins were recorded against Pangbourne and the Martyrs, goalless draws were achieved against M.C.S., when we looked the better side, and against Radley, when we certainly didn't. The Bradfield game produced five cracking goals when a draw might have been a fairer result, while only Wellington and Cheltenham, in the first half, showed up the lack of pace in the defence.

The team was captained by Ed Montague in goal, until his promotion to the 1st XI, and then by Kieron Howe.

The following played: M.R. Alden, S. Bugingo, A.P.Clark, J.G.Drake- Brockman, T.J. Hill, R.K. Howe, N.G. Ireland, N. Main, H.E.J. Mullin, E.J. Montague, J.P. Nuttall, R.C. Rand, S.R.H. Smith, S.D. Wakefield.

Results:

v. M.C.S.	Drawn	0-0
v. Radley	Drawn	0-0
v. Bradfield	Lost	2-3
v. Pangbourne	Won	3-0
v. Wellington	Lost	2-5
v. Dean Close	Lost	1-2
v. Cheltenham	Lost	2-5
v. Martyrs	Won	2-1
v. Abingdon	Lost	0-1

M.D.P.

3rd XI

Played 7, Won 3, Lost 4.

v. Radley	Lost	0-1
v. Bradfield	Lost	0-3
v. Pangbourne	Won	7-0
v. Wellington	Lost	0-1
v. Dean Close	Won	2-0
v. Cheltenham	Lost	1-5
v. Abingdon	Won	4-0

4th XI

Other than in the Radley game, the team put up spirited performances against varied opposition. Cheltenham were by far the most skilful and organised team and the IVths managed to contain them, in a highly entertaining game, for much of the match. Wellington provided another spirited performance, while the match against Pangbourne enabled the skill to come through against weaker opposition. The black spot of the season was the game at Radley. Only Wright and Douglas played with effort and gamesmanship. All others descended to play and language not normally associated with teams in our circuit, so much so that we played with only ten men rather than use one of those involved.

In fairness, the majority were pleasant and friendly and could play well, but at first were unwilling to accept defeat graciously.

Hockey XI 1993

L to R standing	A.M. Edwards, A.S. Peebles, J.G. Drake-Brockman, S.R.H. Smith, W.A.F. Warren, O.M. Slipper, C.D.H. Jolly
	D.T.J. Evans
L to R seated	G.M.W. Allardice, S.J. Bentley, A.R. Phillips (Captain), T.J. Hill, P.E.H. Franks
Missing	P.A. Cook, N. Obolensky
Coached by	G.P. Boult (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 15 Won 5 Drawn 2 Lost 8

v Stowe School - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Magdalen College - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Bloxham School - Lost 3-5
(Home)

v Bradfield School - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 0-3
(Home)

v Wellington College - Lost 3-6
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 1-5
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Box Hill H.C. - Won 4-2
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 5-1
(Away)

v Martyrs - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Bryanston School - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Cranleigh School - Won 4-3
(Home)

v Gresham's School, Holt - Won 4-0
(Home)

Hockey

1st XI

Half-time advice from the coach: 1st XI v. Abingdon *Photo by Nick Quartley*

Results:

v. Stowe	Lost	0 - 1
v. M.C.S.	Lost	0 - 1
v. Radley	Lost	0 - 1
v. Bloxham	Lost	3 - 5
v. Bradfield	Won	3 - 1
v. Cheltenham	Lost	0 - 3
v. Wellington	Lost	3 - 6
v. Dean Close	Lost	1 - 5
v. Pangbourne	Lost	0 - 1
v. Box Hill	Won	4 - 2
v. Abingdon	Won	5 - 1
v. Martyrs	Drew	2 - 2
v. Bryanston	Drew	1 - 1
v. Cranleigh	Won	4 - 3
v. Gresham's	Won	4 - 0

This was always going to be a difficult season for the 1st XI with few players back with any experience, and against opponents mostly much more used to playing on Astroturf that us. However, we ended on a positive note, being undefeated in our last six games and looking like a side who can really make progress in the future. The results look very unbalanced, but in reality the side played some excellent hockey early in the season and although the final score went against us our performances were encouraging. We simply were not able to sustain effort or concentration throughout the game and the loss of key players through illness or injury in the early weeks kept disrupting our plans. N. Platt sadly never played due to his broken leg sustained in the rugby season. J. Drake-Brockman looked surprisingly slow and lethargic until we found out he had glandular fever and his return to form and fitness in the last three weeks played a crucial part in our revival. C. Jolly, a player of great promise, was just beginning to dominate the midfield when he disappeared for three weeks with a broken nose, and the flu virus after half term meant we played Wellington and Dean Close with several players missing or under the weather. The loss of our captain A. Phillips was also crucial in our defeat against Bloxham, as we only found out as the coach was leaving that he was not in school that day. Events were conspiring against us.

It must however be pointed out that one of the reasons for the disappointing early results was a lack of basic skills in many players, and an extraordinary reluctance to take training seriously. Unless players are fit and have command of the ball, then they cannot sustain a game plan; and so it was that all through the season we passed to opponents when under no pressure and failed to control the ball with our first touch. This casualness also contributed to a lack of team-work and commitment, with several players only interested in their own performance, rather than working for the team. This led to several players having to be dropped, and like the Cambridge boat a united side proved more successful than skilful individuals.

At the end of a long season, all the players deserve a mention. G. Allardice was an inspirational goalkeeper and, apart from the match against Dean Close, played exceptionally well all season. S. Bentley and P. Franks were strong at the back and good tacklers, but they both need to improve their speed of thought and the quality of their distribution. W. Warren was consistent and intelligent and he will grow in confidence next season. C. Jolly, a natural athlete, has pace and intelligence and as his skills improve could be really successful next year. A. Phillips looked happier at right half than in the centre, but had the skill and commitment to dominate the midfield in many games. He was always positive and an enthusiastic leader. He took our penalty strokes when no-one else would and converted several important chances, but missed a crucial effort which would have secured us a draw with Radley in the last minute.

Up front, numerous players and permutations were tried. D. Evans and T. Hill were both skilful and quick inside forwards or (latterly) twin strikers, and their ability to take players on and eventually to score goals secured our victory over Cranleigh in an exciting recovery from 1 - 3 down, and both players improved their skill and vision as the season progressed. At centre-forward S. Smith and N. Obolensky worked hard, with neither having quite the control or touch to worry the best defences. In the last matches Smith looked happier on the wing, while Obolensky as a Colt looks a great prospect for the future. On the wings, Edwards and Slipper played well on occasions before Drake-Brockman and Smith took over. They both had strengths, but lacked discipline and consistency, both features they can put right next year. Of the others who played, P. Cook showed the greatest improvement and became a useful midfield worker or defender. Peebles was combative and skilful, but often failed to think about his position or learn from his mistakes. Delafield, another promising Colt, looked useful on the right wing, as did Arber on the left. The competition for places should be immense next year and I hope that more players will be available for the occasional Winter term practice and for pre-season training. It would be a shame to have to wait until half-term next year before we start playing competitive hockey.

Final memories of an enjoyable season will be the win over Bradfield when 20 purple minutes and some resolute defence brought an extraordinary result against a very good side. The second half against Radley proved we could complete against good sides, while the wins against Abingdon, Cranleigh and Gresham's all showed the importance of working the ball right and attacking at pace. A. Phillips' final goal of the season was a coach's delight and a wonderful way for the captain to end his hockey at St Edward's.

Lastly, my thanks need to be recorded to C.F.B. for all his excellent administration and support and to 'Chap' for his help with the coaching.

Team from: Phillips, Hill, Bentley, Franks, Allardice, Warren, Jolly, Drake-Brockman, Evans, Smith, Cook, Slipper, Edwards, Peebles, Obolensky.

G.P.Boult

Reverse stick control by Charlie Jolly v. Abingdon, with Phil Cook in support *Photo by Nick Quartley*

C.D.H. Jolly

G.P. Boult
Hockey Coach 1993-2001

Hockey XI 1994

L to R standing	D.T.J. Evans, A.D.S. Shawyer, N. Obolensky, N.G.L. Prior, A.M. Edwards, A.S. Peebles, C.P.R. Delafield
L to R seated	G. Allardice, C.D.H. Jolly, S.J. Bentley (Captain), W.A.F. Warren., P.E.H. Franks
Coached by	G.P. Boult (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 16 Won 7 Drawn 3 Lost 6

v Stowe School - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 4-0
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Wellington College - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 4-5
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-5
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Henry Box School, Witney - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Marlborough College - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Martyrs - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 5-1
(Home)

v Daunstey's School, Devizes - Drawn 1-1
(Bath Festival)

v Newcastle -Under-Lyme School - Won 2-0
(Bath Festival)

v Royal Grammar School, Newcastle - Won 4-1
(Bath Festival)

v Methodist College, Belfast - Lost 1-4
(Bath Festival)

Andrew Shawyer with the ball, Charles Jolly and William Warren in support

Hockey

The 1994 season must have been one of the wettest for many years. As I write this, Lower Three is still not fit for use and yet we have played more matches this year than in any other. Thank goodness for the Fisher Field!

The results have also been better than for a number of years and that too is in part due to the Astro turf. We must, however, look carefully at the allocation of time on it. It is a difficult balance between the need to exercise two hundred boys every afternoon and the time needed by the top teams to hone individual skills. At present I fear the majority are benefiting at the expense of the few.

We lose three hockey coaches this year and in their own ways they have given enormous service to hockey at the School. Miles Peregrine has coached seven school generations and it is fitting that he should have been involved this year with a very successful and skilful 2nd XI. Chris Lane also retires and his contribution will be sorely missed. Andrew 'Chap' Seirlis leaves us after two years during which time he has spent many enthusiastic hours not only with his own team but with anyone else who happened to be on the Fisher Field at the time. I thank them all for their help.

You will find team reports elsewhere but I feel I must make mention of my delight at the 5th XI's success against Marlborough and the enjoyment I take from watching teams at all levels, from the Under 14's to the 1st XI, playing good hockey on a good surface.

My thanks go to all staff who have helped coaching and umpiring and to Bob Bowerman and his groundstaff. It has been a very busy, happy and reasonably successful season.

C. F. Baggs

1st XI

Results:

v. Stowe	(H)	Drew	1 - 1
v. M.C.S.	(H)	Won	4 - 0
v. Pangbourne	(H)	Won	3 - 1
v. Wellington	(H)	Drew	2 - 2
v. Radley	(A)	Lost	4 - 5
v. Bradfield	(A)	Lost	0 - 2
v. Cheltenham	(A)	Lost	1 - 5
v. Dean Close	(H)	Lost	2 - 3
v. Henry Box	(H)	Won	3 - 2
v. Marlborough	(A)	Lost	0 - 1
v. Martyrs	(H)	Won	3 - 2
v. Abingdon	(H)	Won	5 - 1
At Bath:			
v. Dauntseys		Drew	1 - 1
v. Newcastle u/Lyme		Won	2 - 0
v. RGS Newcastle		Won	4 - 1
v. Methodist (Belfast)		Lost	1 - 4

As ever, a report on any hockey term needs to focus on the positive, so just in case you wonder why certain people and events are not included I want you to know that I have forgotten various things, including

a) the last two minutes against Dean Close.
b) the training week before Radley.
c) the people missing games due to illness, D of E, weddings, interviews, injury etc.
d) the lack of practice time.
e) the penalty stroke against Wellington in the last minute.
f) Charlie Scott's training.

Instead, I can remember a term in which, from pre-season onwards, the attitude towards training and matches was vastly improved on the previous year, and a term in which the individual skills of all the players in the top 22 improved dramatically. We knew that selection was not going to be easy with so many of last years' players back, but the approach, commitment and sense of humour of all the players was excellent. There was never much to choose from in selection, but the top twelve players all stood out by the end of term.

George Allardice in goal was not always at his best this season, but recovered from injury to look outstanding against Marlborough and in the final games. Sam Bentley as captain continued to improve his game, and the power and accuracy of his hitting and his reverse stick tackles will be remembered for years. He developed an aerial pass and when his legs moved he supported the attacks well. Peter Franks, after a slow start, became a vastly improved tackler and skilful distributor of the ball. William Warren on the left of the defence was utterly consistent all season and as his hitting and confidence grow he will develop into an outstanding player. At right half, Alex Peebles was combative and committed, the 'Gascoigne' of the side. Team mates and opponents alike gave him a wide berth.

In midfield Nick Prior and Andrew Shawyer both ran and tackled positively, while Charlie Jolly had some memorable matches and also a few disasters. His hitting improved as the season went on, as did his confidence on the ball, but against some superb oppponents he was sometimes found out. On the right, Dan Evans took time to develop his touch, and while his skill and pace carved out many excellent openings, his goal scoring record was disappointing. He did, however, recover well from injury and at Bath once again looked outstanding.

On the right wing, Christian Delafield developed some excellent skill to go with his pace, and his accurate crossing created numerous chances in all our matches. In the centre, Nick Obolensky battled tirelessly. His first touch must improve and his distribution is poor, but he took defenders on, scored some memorable goals and never conceded defeat. On the left wing, both Prior and Edwards served us well - Prior skilful and composed, and Edwards providing pace and moments of class. Alan remains an unfulfilled talent in some areas, but he thoroughly deserved to establish himself in the side after half term and earn his colours with the rest.

In the matches, the highlights were undoubtedly the games against Wellington, Radley and Marlborough. In the first, against class opponents we took the game to them, and having conceded an early goal we played attacking and inventive hockey. The Radley match was memorable for its sheer excitement: we were two down in two minutes and although we played badly in places we created so many chances that four goals was really poor reward for our efforts. Finally, the Marlborough match showed that we could battle away from home. Against experienced opponents who put us under tremendous pressure and facing a volatile crowd, we worked as a team. The pace was unrelenting and a goal conceded in the final minutes gave Marlborough a deserved victory, but we emerged with great credit.

So, overall an enjoyable season in a very hectic term. The festival at Bath gave us time to play competitive hockey in a more relaxed manner and all the players did themselves and the School great credit.

GIRLS' HOCKEY 1994

This was a disappointing season in many ways, with the side never really fulfilling its early potential. Early matches resulted in draws with our rivals Headington and The High School. The defence was very sound with Saloni Thakerar outstanding in goal, Johannes Meinecke powerful in midfield and Sophie Wilsdon an aggressive sweeper. However, we never found it easy to score goals, and although the driving force of the captain Kirsten Harper kept creating chances, there was no-one with quite the skill to apply the finishing touch. Sarah Lamping was committed to training, but never quite produced the composure needed in key situations; Rebecca Duckworth looked a very good player until overcome by glandular fever; and up front, several Lower Sixth players like Anna Axtell, Tara Wood, Petra Lambert and Lindsey-Anne Macfarlane all showed promise, but not quite enough experience or commitment. Several matches were won and it was only against a powerful Cheltenham team that we looked outclassed.

I hope that all the players enjoyed the training and the games. The excellent Astroturf is now being well used all year round, but the perfect surface can produce laziness in technique and certainly the skill level of all the players needs to improve as does their team-work. I am however optimistic for 1995 and hope all the girls who want to play will really show the desire necessary to produce a strong team, as well as providing an enjoyable form of exercise.

G.P. Boult

Special thanks need to go to Sam Bentley for his calm leadership and to 'Chap' Seirlis for all he has contributed to S.E.S. hockey during his two coaching terms with us. Final thanks are due to C.F.B. for running the School hockey so well, and to V.A. for his administrative help.

Standards have risen in recent years and this team have proved that no-one is going to find us easy to beat. If you want proof of that, ask any of the Martyrs who played against us.

G.P.Boult

GIRLS' HOCKEY

Congratulations! The girls' hockey team have had a magnificent season, with some very impressive results. They won their first match 2-1 against Rugby and that gave them an encouraging start and made them even more determined to have a successful string of results. It was their second match against Headington (drawn 0-0) which reaffirmed their belief that they were a strong team. Likewise they managed to draw 0-0 with Cheltenham, another formidable side. They lost only one game (on grass) 1-2 to Stowe; even during this match they played with determination and their spirits were high despite it being almost dark by the time we arrived. The navigation was not so accurate as the hockey playing! It was perhaps the last match against Bloxham which was the most enjoyable. They drew 1-1 but it was a very close, friendly game where both sides played extremely well and were exhibiting the skills they had acquired over the term.

Needless to say, the dedication and skill of their coach, Chris Cook, was instrumental in making this the best season yet. Chris has worked hard at ensuring that each of the girls played to her full potential. They responded well to her enthusiasm, abounding energy and positive criticism. But Chris would be the first to agree that without the innate talent and motivation of the girls she would have had a difficult job. They were always keen, even on frosty days!

The girls were fortunate to have Emma Swainson as captain. She proved to be extremely capable at organising and motivating the team both on and off the pitch. She is a strong player with a great deal of determination and she has the guts to tackle almost anything! We will miss her next year. Indeed, we will miss all the U6 players: Pip Halls, Tara Castaldini, Charlotte Ball, Sally Edwards and our scorer Margo Jackson! Keep up the hockey at University!

Kirsten Harper (L6) has also been a real asset to the team. She is a superb player and well worth watching. She has great control of the ball, is fast and never gives in. Indeed, she qualified this season for the county team - so congratulations!

The remaining members of the team (Caroline Anderson, Clare Nolder, Meg Neal, Sarah Lamping, Sophie Wilsdon and Saloni Thakerar) have all played splendidly. What has been so pleasing about the girls' hockey this term is the way in which they jelled together as a team. They never failed to support each other and they all felt a responsibility to try as hard as they could and to improve as much as possible. What's more, five of them are playing for a local under 18 team in January.

We must not forget our goalkeeper, Saloni. She played extremely well and always appeared to be remarkably calm - even when Cheltenham had about seven short corners in five minutes. They failed to score.

The girls appreciated the willingness of some of the boys (1st XI hopefuls) to attend practice. They added speed to the game and lifted the standard. Similarly we are grateful for the support of Robert Aldred and Andrew-Paul Seirlis and their advice during matches.

A special thank you also goes to parents. So many of them supported match after match and joined me running up and down the sidelines urging the girls on. I certainly appreciated their being there.

Jacqueline David

Half time - and looking as though they expect to win this one!

Hockey XI 1995

L to R back row	S.J. Perks
L to R middle row	T.R.H. Franks, L. Bolsover, M.I. Bamber, R.J.H. Redfern, C.J. Heck, A.J. Beeston
L to R seated	W.J. Torrance, N.G.L. Prior, A.D.S. Shawyer (Captain), C.P.R. Delafield, N. Obolensky
Missing	C.P.R. Delafield, S.M. Ashall, S.J. Perks
Coached	G.P. Boult (C.R.) and G. Fetherstone

Fixtures
Played 14 Won 7 Drawn 3 Lost 4

v Stowe School - Won 1-0
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 6-2
(Away)

v Old Dragons - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-3
(Away)

v Radley College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 3-3
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Bloemendaal, Holland - Lost 0-10
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 0-6
(Away)

v Marlborough College - Lost 2-5
(Home)

v Campbell College, Belfast - Won 5-0
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Drawn 2-2
(Away)

v Martyrs - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Bloxham School - Won 3-1
(Away)

Hockey

1st XI

Played 15, Won 7, Drawn 3, Lost 5.

Results:

v. Stowe	Won	1 - 0
v. Pangbourne	Won	6 - 2
v. Old Dragons	Drew	2 - 2
v. Wellington	Lost	0 - 3
v. Radley	Won	2 - 1
v. Bradfield	Drew	3 - 3
v. Cheltenham	Won	2 - 0
v. Bloemendaal	Lost	0 - 10
v. Dean Close	Lost	0 - 6
v. Marlborough	Lost	2 - 5
v. Campbell College	Won	5 - 0
v. Abingdon	Drew	2 - 2
v. Martyrs	Won	2 - 1
v. Bloxham	Won	3 - 1

Hockey remains one major game still influenced regularly by the weather and in spite of the magnificent Fisher Field this proved to be the case in 1995. Pre-season training in the arctic winds of Norfolk set the tone for the season: brief practices before the hands froze, kit permanently soaked and most of the coaching taking place indoors. This was also the year that the 1st XI came of 'Post Astroturf age', beating some of our more illustrious opponents and playing some excellent hockey even in defeat.

The early omens were not very promising. The lack of fitness and practice in all the players was worrying, and the senior players were trying to do too much which inhibited the newcomers to the side. Several players were, however, rapidly improving - Chris Heck and

Nick Obolensky looking for support

Andrew Shawyer, with Nick Prior in support - 'reverse stick stop' against Bradfield

Richard Redfern at the back, and Tim Franks on the right flank. In midfield the running of Nick Prior, Andy Shawyer and Matt Bamber was tireless, but their positional play was poor and so patterns were slow to emerge. On the right wing Chris Delafield was quick and committed. He ran tirelessly and, apart from missing two penalty strokes, will be remembered as the player of the season. He scored vital goals and created numerous chances for others with his unselfish distribution. At centre forward Nick Obolensky had several great games, but also a few disasters. He is a poor trainer and when his confidence was low he was more of a handicap than a help. He did however score vital goals for the side in several games, many of them memorable.

The influence of flu, 'mocks', open days, two exeats, injuries and the European imports found in key positions in many of our opponents' teams need to be remembered when looking at the results. There is also that precious ingredient of luck and the crucial umpiring decisions which can often decide games. The results, however, show that on our day we could score excellent victories over strong sides such as Cheltenham, and lose heavily to a weaker side like Dean Close. The Dutch champions Bloemendaal were magnificent and caught us on exeat with some very tired players who could not match their fitness or skill level. The final score might have been 7-3, but there you go. In goal, Torrance learnt a lot about finishing skills in that match, but anyone who had seen his heroic performance against Cheltenham would have forgiven him.

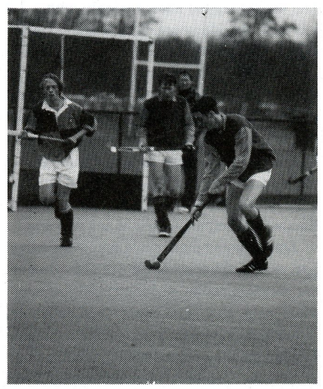
Radley were well beaten with Nick Prior superb at left midfield, and Bradfield was the match of the season with skill, energy, teamwork and enthusiasm in abundance shown by both sides. In truth, many matches after this appeared to be in slow motion. This could not be said about Alex Beeston who showed great skill and pace on the left wing and who looks to be a key player for '96, along with Simon Ashall, Lincoln Bolsover and Simon Perks who all have real promise.

Memories of the season will be the skill of Matt Bamber and Nick Prior running with the ball, and the pace of Richard Refern! Also the variety of moves designed for short corners which produced many goals for Nick Obolensky and Andy Shawyer, and the determination of Chris Delafield to win every game. The disappointments were the poor attitude of a few players to training (which lowered the morale of everyone), and our inability to play two-touch hockey in matches despite hours of working at this in practice.

Final thanks must go to C.F.B. for all his support and administrative skill, to Gavin Featherstone for helping with the coaching and to Tom Boyles for running the 2nd XI so enthusiastically. With several senior players leaving, 1996 looks like being a challenging season.

G.P. Boult

Matthew Bamber - 'eye on the ball' in the Bradfield match



Hockey XI 1996

L to R standing	L.R.E. Millar, C. Vermeylen, L. Bolsover, E. Obolensky, A.J. Beeston, R. Toothill
L to seated	J.A. Pigott, M.S. Cannon, S.J. Perks, C.J. Heck (Captain), G.S. Peddy, R. Gardner, T.R.E. Pellereau
Coached by	G. Boult (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 10 Won 4 Drawn 0 Lost 6

v Stowe School - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Oxford Hawks H.C. - Lost 3-5
(Home)

v Bloxham School - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Won 2-0
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Marlborough College - Lost 3-6
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Won 4-2
(Home)

The 1st XI defending a penalty corner

Photo by Andrew Norton

Hockey

I hope it may be possible to look back to 1996 as the season when St Edward's hockey started to take off. We now have boys in the School who have grown up playing all their hockey on Astroturf and the skill levels have risen enormously. Many of our junior teams have enjoyed far more success than in previous years and confidence is high. The weather, however, was unkind to us, which meant the usual clutch of cancelled fixtures and some bitterly cold sessions on Fisher Field.

Congratulations are due to our two unbeaten sides, the Colts A's and the Yearlings B's, and also to the Yearlings A's who missed out on a trip to the National Finals Day only on goal difference. Nine of the Yearlings squad also represented Oxfordshire U.14's, and Peter Swainson went on to win a Divisional place.

My thanks as ever to all my colleagues for their patience, efforts and time.

C.F. Baggs

1st XI

Results:

v. Stowe	Won	2-0
v. Pangbourne	Lost	1-2
v. M.C.S.	Lost	1-2
v. Bradfield	Lost	0-1
v. Oxford Hawks	Lost	3-5
v. Bloxham	Won	2-0
v. Radley	Won	2-0
v. Dean Close	Lost	2-3
v. Marlborough	Lost	3-6
v. Abingdon	Won	4-2

This was always going to be a difficult season with only two old colours returning and no player in the squad having played regular hockey since the previous March. This is not, however, going to be a report full of excuses about umpiring decisions, German imports, snow, mock exams etc., because we had a lot of fun, all the players tried enormously hard, they improved and can take a lot of pride in their efforts and achievements. Pre-season training in Norfolk went extremely well thanks to the fine weather, the hospitality of Greshams and the positive attitude of all the players present. We were sadly missing many key men but we learnt we had an outstanding captain in Chris Heck, two talented goalkeepers, an industrious midfield, a lack of pace at the back and few forwards - a lot to work on!

The results of the early matches suggested that in fact we were quite close to being a good side. James Pigott was exceptional in goal, Giles Peddy increased his mobility to make more interceptions as our sweeper, Tom Pellereau grew in composure at left back, Ed Obolensky worked heroically at left of the midfield and Simon Perks grew in stature on the right. Up front Matthew Cannon looked dangerous at centre forward while Alex Beeston gave us bursts of pace and also scored some critical goals. All the matches were close early on, with our defence stretched and no control in the central midfield area. We worked hard to beat Stowe, with the late second goal starting with a tackle by Heck in our 'D' and ending four passes later with him scoring with a magnificent strike. Pangbourne was a fine game but a disappointing result, with our frenetic efforts to score a winner ending up in chaos and a last minute defeat from the penalty spot. M.C.S. were far better than us but we defended bravely and intelligently and again we only lost to penalty strokes - seemingly the only way Pigott was going to be beaten!

After this we had a break and a chance to rethink. Lincoln Bolsover moved to centre back where his excellent tackling more than made up for his lack of speed. Bloxham were well beaten in an end-to-end game, with Richard Gardner positive on the right wing and Luke Millar settling in well at right back. Our attacking options now looked more varied and we travelled to Radley in good spirits. A fine win here, against a talented side, was one of the highlights of the season. Peddy struck the ball beautifully (a cricketer in full flow), Cannon was superb, holding the ball up and keeping possession, the midfield were all heroes, and Pellereau kept his cool to convert a penalty stroke to give us a two goal win in front of a large crowd and most of the players' parents.

The final games all had their moments, good and bad. The fightback against Dean Close, the massive effort away at Marlborough, the convincing win against Abingdon with Perks finally scoring a goal, and the spirited end of season match with the Martyrs. Unsung stars like Charles Vermeylen did really well at the end, while others, notably Richard Tootill, were always loyal even when not selected. Their attitude to training was excellent and the progress of many players really showed in the house matches, as well as their fine examples of sportsmanship.

Final thanks must go to the captain for his commitment and leadership, to Duncan Wethey for his support and magnificent efforts with the 2nd XI, to C.F.B. for all the admin., and to all the parents who supported us so uncritically. With five of the eleven back next year the future looks healthy, but everyone must be committed to pre-season training and to playing some hockey in the Autumn term. Who knows? - we may even have a second astro to train on next year.

G.P. Boult

Simon Chapman Photography

GIRLS' HOCKEY

Many thanks to Rebecca Duckworth (captain), Petra Lambert (vice-capt.), Fleur Buckland (capt. 2nd XI), IHAM, IH and all the girls who attended practices and made hockey so enjoyable this year. With a squad of only 24 it was a great achievement to be able to field two teams on five separate occasions this season. Thanks must also go to the non-hockey playing girls who filled in for us when we were short. Rebecca Duckworth, Petra Lambert and Tara Wood were awarded their School colours for hockey.

GIRLS' 1st XI

The season started with a hard fought match against Oxford High School in which both teams had their chances but the opposition put the ball in the net. The game against Rye St Antony followed much the same pattern with Tara Wood and Petra Lambert playing very well. This year we attended the Oxfordshire Tournament for the first time: in terms of team cohesion, spirit and arriving at positional decisions it was very successful, but we never really adjusted to playing on grass with the result that our game lacked real flow, and we did not progress beyond the pool stage. Headington and Stowe were both close fought battles and thanks to excellent goal-keeping by Louise Shenton and defending by Catherine Jackson, Rebecca Duckworth and Ellie Harris we managed to draw both games. Cheltenham brought a very polished and hard-running side; despite a hard battle, we came second on the day. The season finished with a very open game against Bloxham: we had all the chances....goal disallowed for off-side, penalty stroke missed... and we drew again.

The following girls also represented the first team during the season: L.A.Macfarlane in the mid-field, a new and demanding role which she handled with growing confidence; Anna Axtell on the right wing, doing well when she received the ball, but tending to get lost behind her marker; Robyn McDonald with her dynamite hit, often clearing well out of defence; Polly Dugmore, who played in various positions and concluded the season with an excellent game on the wing against Bloxham. Fiona Thompson, Leonie Roberts, Ellen Salway, Sara Haddow and Caroline Scott also contributed well during the course of the season.

We played hockey and enjoyed it, but failed to chalk up any victories. Our real downfall lay in a number of areas. Due to various other school commitments we seldom had 22 girls at practice sessions and therefore did not manage to practise as a unit. Also with only six fixtures in the season we never established a consistent playing pattern or good positional play. Finally, there was our inability to make accurate passes quickly and our lack of goal scorers. However, one must not lose sight of the fact that our opponents, except for Cheltenham, found us very difficult to beat. This was largely due to the fact that we never gave up and our defence often held out under much pressure.

GIRLS' 2nd XI

Teams and positions varied from week to week as the first team requisitioned players, returned them and then took them again. We also had our fair share of injuries and illness, so nothing was ever certain or planned. The hallmark of the team was determination and the fact that we never gave up. The best performance of the season was against Rye St Antony; with a little more luck we might have won. There was much excitement when we scored our one and only goal against Bloxham.

Results:

	1st XI	2nd XI
O.H.S.	Lost 0 - 1	Lost 0 - 3
Headington	Drew 0 - 0	-
Rye St Antony	Lost 0 - 1	Drew 0 - 0
Stowe	Drew 0 - 0	Lost 0 - 1
Cheltenham	Lost 0 - 5	Lost 0 - 1
Bloxham	Drew 0 - 0	Lost 1 - 3

Oxfordshire Tournament

O.H.S.	Drew 0 - 0
Headington	Drew 0 - 0
Woodgreen	Lost 0 - 1
Bloxham	Drew 1 - 1

Ingrid Lush

Hockey XI 1997

Team	T.R.E. Pellereau (Captain), M.S. Cannon, J.A.B. Nixon, P.O.B. Swainson, P.G. Neal, E. Obolensky, H.C. Betts
	L.R.E. Millar, G.T. Von Bergen, T.C.Y. Gibson, J.A. Pigott, D.J. Tedridge, B. Franks, A.J.S. McDonald
	C.J. Brierley, T.P. Sutton
Coached by	G. Boult (C.R.) and T. Griffiths (Oxford Department of Education)

FIXTURES
Played13 Won 6 Drawn 2 Lost 5

v Stowe School - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 6-1
(Away)

v Henley H.C. - Won 5-0
(Home)

v Magdalen College School- Won 3-0
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 2-4
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-6
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 3-2
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Drawn 2-2
(Away)

v Marlborough College - Won 5-3
(Home)

v Monkton Coombe School - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 4-5
(Home)

v Martyrs - Lost 3-4
(Home)

v Kingston Grammar School - Lost 2-6
(Southern Divisional Tournament)

The 1st XI and reserves at the National Hockey Stadium at Milton Keynes

Hockey

1st XI

Early thoughts about this season centred on two clear pictures; firstly we were likely to score a few goals, and secondly, in spite of having a magnificent goalkeeper, we were likely to concede a lot. In the event this proved exactly right, although the injury to Tom Upchurch which kept him off hockey all season and the early 'flu virus which lost us several defenders were also partly to blame. The no off-side rule also opened up the game, helping to create more chances either end and making it difficult for our athletically challenged midfield ever to be in the right place. The lack of practice time in a busy term also meant that players not really up to 1st XI standard at the beginning of the season took a long time to acclimatise.

This was, however, a side whose final record was far better than might have been expected. Matthew Cannon scored goals at will throughout the season, including all seven on the final weekend of term. James Nixon improved beyond all recognition on the left wing and scored many goals, none more crucial than the winner against Monkton Combe in the Varsity warm up match. Peter Swainson played well on the left wing and in the midfield, scoring many memorable goals, especially in the early matches; and to have a Junior Colt in the XI is really exciting for the years ahead. In midfield Peter Neal ran tirelessly and improved his vision and distribution markedly. Ed Obolensky continued to terrify the opposition and Henry Betts ran strongly for brief patches. At the back, the captain Tom Pellereau had fits of generosity to the opposition but also tackled effectively and showed a genuine passion for the game. Luke Millar always gave 100% in matches (1% in practice) and saved us with heroic tackles on many occasions; George von Bergen stuck brilliantly to his task without ever looking comfortable when he had possession; and Theo Gibson as sweeper or centre back had magical moments, as well as complete concentration lapses. The end result was that James Pigott in goal had plenty to do in every match, even against Pangbourne where the score looks so one-sided. His saves against Marlborough, Radley, Dean Close and others will long live in the memory, and if there was a better keeper on our circuit then I never saw him.

This season also saw us competing at the highest level in the south divisional tournament as Oxfordshire champions. This was part of a run of thirteen matches (not all full time) in the last two-and-a-half weeks of term. We competed heroically, losing 6-2 to the group winners Kingston Grammar but always looking capable of scoring goals, and a fine win over Wellington showed the progress we had made. In other school matches the win against Dean Close was unexpected (deservedly two down entering the final quarter), the victory over Marlborough thrilling, the triumph over Monkton Combe nail-biting on a really wonderful day for the School, and the defeat by Radley when we had been 4-2 up - devastating! It all however added up to an exciting season. The players all behaved well in every match and several times drew unsolicited praise from umpires for their sportsmanship and wholehearted effort. We were defeated by sides who were clearly better than us, such as Cheltenham and Bradfield, but we always tried to play hockey and compete effectively, and this was certainly true in the end-of-term festival at Bath. Here, Bud Franks really won his spurs and his colours as a brave defender. The two Colts, Angus McDonald and Chris Brierley showed enthusiasm and skill, while Tim Sutton played with vision and intelligence. David Tedridge suggested the line of talented keepers will not end with Pigott, and not even a magnificent Saturday night team curry could stop us ending the season on a high with an excellent 3-2 victory over Solihull.

Finally I need to say some sincere thanks to several people for their support to me and the hockey squad this term. Toby Griffiths, from the Oxford Department of Education, gave top class coaching to all the senior teams at least twice a week. R.D.A. did a wonderful job with the 2nd XI, and John Rea also helped on several occasions. C.F.B. did all the administration of pitches and umpires, the ground staff ensure we still have an excellent Astroturf to train and play on, and many other members of staff helped with their support and encouragement. It is difficult to be a one-term sport if you get the Spring Term, but this term proved that if you can treat triumph and adversity equally then you can have an enormous amount of fun. We were bad trainers and I hope this will improve next year, but memories will be mainly positive, with the day out at Milton Keynes at the National Stadium the highlight of an enjoyable season.

Results:

v. Stowe	Drew	3-3
v. Pangbourne	Won	6-1
v. Henley	Won	5-0
v. M.C.S	Won	3-0
v. Bradfield	Lost	2-4
v. Cheltenham	Lost	1-6
v. Dean Close	Won	3-2
v. Abingdon	Drew	2-2
v. Marlborough	Won	5-3
v. Monkton Combe	Won	3-2
v. Radley	Lost	4-5
v. Martyrs	Lost	3-4

G.P. Boult

Many other players had their moments through the season. Tom Windsor-Lewis went from strength to strength as the season progressed: always strong and alert, and a powerful striker of the ball, he became increasingly mobile and effective, moving forward as his confidence on the ball developed. Robert Bull frequently showed glimpses of skill, although it was not until the final two games of the season that he played his very best hockey. His reading of the game improved in leaps and bounds, until more often than not he would find himself in a good position, both in attack and defence. His close control could beat men in the final third of the pitch, and create the space for Oliver Aplin, David Copp or Ross Scullion to have a scoring chance. Jon Hodson also played extremely well, quick on his feet and with a powerful strike, he frequently made the vital tackle or interception that broke up a promising attack. Aidan Holloway and Philip Uribe-Mosquera were skilful and creative in the midfield, whilst George Pack showed some deft touches and powerful hitting from defence.

A pleasing moment off the field came when my opposing number came to me to say that the game we had just played had been the most good-natured and enjoyable of his season....I wonder if he would have thought the same had they not just won by 4 goals! A promising and enjoyable season, and good luck in the Junior Colts.

I. Hart

The Girls' 1st XI -
Front row (l. to r.): Ellie Harris, Amy Ridler, Polly Dugmore, Louise Shenton, Ellen Salway.
Back row (l. to r.): Susie Wilson, Emily Ferrary, Alex von Retzdorf, Robyn McDonald, Laura Reiss, Lucy Monro.

Girls' Hockey

We had a greater take-up than last year and were able to field two teams with ease. Although the results may not reflect it, the standard of hockey, especially at practices, was higher than in 1995. This is due to two factors: there were a larger number of Upper Sixths playing, and two non-rugby playing boys (Theo Gibson and Nick Allen) attended practices throughout the season and helped on the coaching front. Many thanks to Polly Dugmore (captain), Robyn McDonald (vice-captain), IH, JB and all the girls who attended practices and made hockey so enjoyable.

Polly Dugmore, Robyn McDonald, Ellie Harris, Amy Ridler, Ellen Salway, Louise Shenton and Emily Ferrary were awarded their School colours for hockey.

1st XI

The first team played good creative hockey this season, scoring well but also conceding goals. We started with a friendly against Bloxham, playing three twenty minute sessions. Bloxham controlled the first and scored, but we came back to dominate the second and score. Neither team managed to dominate the last session and we ended in a 1-1 draw.

Next up was Oxford High. They were a very well-polished side who have played together a number of years. We showed great determination but were well beaten 1-3. We then travelled away to Bradfield, and started to play as a team. It was a thrilling match which could have gone either way; unfortunately they won 3-2. Emily Ferrary dominated the midfield and Polly Dugmore played with great flair up front.

We attended the Oxfordshire Tournament again this year, but found the adjustment to playing on very bumpy grass difficult and our game lacked real flow. We started with three matches on the trot and had little time to gather our thoughts or breathe, so we did not progress beyond the pool stage. A hallmark of our game was that we never gave up but believed in our ability to score goals. This was particularly evident against Rye St Antony when we conceded a goal in the first minute. We fought back and scored within three minutes. Unfortunately that was the end of the scoring.

Our first match after half term was against Stowe. It was a thrilling encounter in which we played particularly well in the first half, where our defence (Louise, Robyn, Amy and Ellen) stood firm in an evenly fought contest. Emily, Alex and Lucy dominated midfield and played the ball wide to our wingers Ellie Harris and Susie Wilson, and with Polly Dugmore's sights firmly fixed on scoring we split their defence and went 2-0 up at the break. They managed to even the scores, but with two minutes to go Alex had to leave the field injured. This seemed to stir the rest of the team and they stepped up the pace again, strung a number of passes together and scored immediately. We survived the last minute and won 3-2.

So to Cheltenham on a high, but we soon had the wind knocked out of us. They were a skilful and hard-running side, and despite a hard battle we came second on the day. We finished the season with a very open return match against Bloxham; although we had our chances we failed to take them and the match ended in a goalless draw - the first and last of the season.

2nd XI

There were three major factors which worked against us as a team. Firstly, as with all second teams, we suffered from having to lose our best players to the 1st XI whenever they needed them; secondly we were plagued by illness and injury; and thirdly we always practised on astro but played all our matches on grass. Positions were constantly changing and we were unable to build up any set patterns. Although we never managed to win any matches we had great team spirit and this was thanks to the undying enthusiasm of Dr Hart, Cecilia Hudson-Davies and Fiona Thompson.

Ingrid Lush

Hockey XI 1998

L to R back row	G. Boult (Master-in-Charge of Hockey), K.R.J. Bingham, C.J. Brierley, T.S.J.W. Price, R.C. Powell
	D.R. Leadbitter, J. Rea (Coach)
L to R seated	D.J. Tedridge, J.A.B. Nixon, P.G. Neal (Captain), T.C.Y. Gibson, H.A. Franks
Missing	T.P. Sutton, P.O.B. Swainson, N.J. Allen

Fixtures
Played 8 Won 3 Drawn 1 Lost 4

v Bradfield College - Lost 2-4
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - lost 1-6
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 3-2
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Drawn 2-2
(Away)

v Marlborough College - Won 5-2
(Home)

v Monkton Coombe School - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 4-5
(Home)

v Martyrs - Lost 3-4
(Home)

HOCKEY

This was an exciting season for boys' hockey at St Edward's. For many weeks we had several unbeaten teams, there was real quality available at every level right down to the U14 'C' team, and the new kit meant that smartness and success were very much in evidence. The 1st XI were inconsistent, but all the other 'A' teams produced excellent results and the fine weather and the faultless administration of CFB meant the season went quickly and without a hitch. Highlights were the Colts' performances to reach the last four teams at the National finals, the goal scoring of Matthew Baggs in the U15's, and Peter Swainson's achievements in the Welsh International team.

The quality of hockey was shown in some exciting and fiercely contested House matches, with a composite A/B/G team winning the Seniors against Corfe (H) on strokes, and Apsley (E) winning the Junior final.

Final thanks as ever to Bob Bowerman's team for the excellent condition of the Fisher Field and all the games pitches, and to all the coaches for making sure the 1st XI next year looks like being one of the most competitive in recent years.

G.P. Boult

1st XI

Played 11, Won 3, Lost 7, Drawn 1.
Goals For: 22, Goals Against: 35.

This has been a season of disappointing results and unfinished work. Much of the season is reflected by two performances, those against Magdalen and Bradfield. In both of these matches strong winning positions were surrendered. Had they resulted in wins for the team, we would have had far more confidence in the fixtures thereafter and I would be reflecting on a reasonable results record and a good season. However, this is not the case and our failings in these matches accurately reflect our main failings: an inability to perform under pressure as a team and a lack of confidence in the ability of our team-mates. The result of this has been that, while under no pressure the team functioned well, when pressure was on any patterns of play or game plans were forgotten and we were reduced to eleven individuals.

However, it would be ludicrous to ignore the elements of development and play which have made up most of the season. It must be remembered that the three victories were achieved from excellent performances and that in the first halves of the matches against M.C.S. and Bradfield we completely dominated our opponents. This was also the case against Bedford where we were unable to convert territorial and possession superiority into goals. There has only been one occasion where we were outclassed and that was in the second half at Cheltenham. The losses against Dean Close, Stowe and Marlborough came from poor phases of play rather than disastrous performances for the whole match.

It has been pleasing to see patterns of play transferred from practices into matches. As a direct result we have been able to move the ball down the touch-lines and around defences. However, when pressure has been on us we have resorted to trying to force play through opponents rather than around them. This invariably created more pressure which, all too often, we were unable to withstand. This lack of confidence in our patterns of play was often further compounded by our tendency to put ourselves and team-mates under pressure. Too often players were satisfied by putting a pass roughly in the area of a team-mate, rather than onto his stick. Players were rarely prepared to put the extra leg-work in off the ball to get themselves that vital yard of space. The lesson this team is learning is that unless you do these basic tasks you are reliant upon your own first touch and the pass to you being perfect.

There is not one player who has represented the XI this year who did not at some stage produce a great piece of play. No-one however, with the possible exception of Peter Neal, consistently produced good performances just by doing simple things well. At times we passed simply and superbly, ran off the ball, marked tightly as a unit and defended and attacked as a team, but too often we only did parts of the job for parts of the matches. As a result we reflect on a season of missed opportunities and unfulfilled promise.

Despite the relatively disappointing results I would like to thank all the players for their efforts. I have enjoyed coaching this group enormously. While it is frustrating that they have not achieved more victories I have taken great pleasure from their good performances.

J. Rae

GIRLS 1st XI HOCKEY

Results:

v. Bloxham	Won	3-1
v. Oxford H.S.	Lost	1-5
v. Bradfield	Won	4-2
v. Marlborough	Lost	0-5
v. Our Lady's Convent	Won	1-0
v. Rye St Antony	Won	4-2
v. Wellington	Won	3-0
v. Cheltenham	Lost	1-0
v. Stowe	Won	3-0
v. Bloxham	Won	3-0

This was a long season but the effort and enthusiasm of the players never waned, and the increase in the skill level made practices rewarding and exciting. The captain and vice-captain, Alex von Etzdorf and Emily Ferrary, were the driving force in the midfield, with many talented Lower Sixth formers providing strength at the back, and competitive running up front. We had no experienced goalkeeper, but Julia Kanerick was a brave and increasingly dependable performer. Lucy Monro was quick in the tackle and hit the ball hard, Victoria and Sophie Howard were excellent, and from the Fourth Form Mia Brunner more than held her own at centre forward, and scored several spectacular goals.

As the results show we were a little inconsistent, but highlights were the second half against Marlborough (having turned round 0-5 down), the commitment against a good Stowe team, and the dominant performance against Wellington. With ten of the squad back next year and some very talented players coming up, we should have a competitive side in 1998.

Final thanks to Miss Ryan and all the players in the 2nd XI for their efforts and commitment. They proved that if you train hard and enjoy your sport then you will have fun and be successful. They all set a great example in our first fully co-educational term.

G.P. Boult

Hockey XI 1999

L to R standing	C.A. Allen, Z.D. Jones (Coach), A.P.G. Delafield, F.C. Andrewes, L. Strange, C.M. Bates, S. Waley-Cohen
L to R seated	P.O.B. Swainson, R.C. Hegarty, K.R.J. Bingham, P.G. Lane, D.R. Leadbitter
Coach by	G.P. Boult and Z. Jones (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 21 Won 10 Drawn 3 Lost 8

v St. George's School, Leatherhead - Drawn 1-1
(R.A.F. Cup)

v Kingston Grammar School - Lost 0-1
(R.A.F. Cup)

v King Edward's School, Southampton - Lost 0-2
(R.A.F. Cup)

v Wellington College - Lost 0-2
(R.A.F. Cup)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 7-0
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 3-0
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 3-3
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 9-0
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v Marlborough College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 2-4
(Away)

v Martyrs - Won 4-3
(Home)

v Cranleigh School - Lost 3-4
(Away)

<u>BATH FESTIVAL</u>
v Haberdashers' Askes School - Won 6-0
v Wellington College - Won 7-1
v Birkenhead School - Lost 2-4
v Portsmouth Grammar School - Won 10-1

<u>AUSTRALIAN TOUR</u>
v Christchurch School, Perth - Won 1-0
v Hale School, Perth - Won 5-1
v Scotch College, Perth - Lost 0-3

McDonald splits the M.C.S. defence, with Bingham and Allen in support *Photo by Dr R. Bingham*

Hockey

1st XI

Results:

v. Pangbourne	Won	7-0
v. Cheltenham	Won	2-1
v. M.C.S.	Won	3-0
v. Bradfield	Drew	3-3
v. Stowe	Won	9-0
v. Dean Close	Lost	1-4
v. Marlborough	Drew	1-1
v. Radley	Lost	2-4
v. Martyrs	Won	4-3
v. Cranleigh	Lost	3-4

Bath Festival

v. Haberdashers' Aske's	Won	6-0
v. Wellington School	Won	7-1
v. Birkenhead School	Lost	2-4
v. Portsmouth G.S.	Won	10-1

This was a very successful season, and although it was not all plain sailing - with several difficult moments - it was a term in which the positives outweighed the negatives. We played some wonderful hockey attacking down both flanks, we had numerous short corner routines which all occasionally worked, and in the Zac Jones we had a tremendous coach capable of developing everyone's skills and tactical appreciation. The reasons that we didn't succeed all the time were a mixture of chemistry, illness, immaturity, bad luck and poor management - all things which the players have to deal with every year.

The season certainly started slowly, with mocks and modules in week one and several players off through injury. The trials were therefore rather muddled, but with players of the quality and experience of Peter Swainson and David Leadbitter to call on we were always going to be too strong for many schools. We also had several players to choose from who had played club hockey or for the county, so the toughest decisions were selection and choosing the right system for the players. At the back Richard Hegarty eventually won the goalkeeping shirt from Ed Cook, but the competition pushed them both along and they were two of the most improved players in the top game. Sam Waley-Cohen's determination won him the right-half berth, and Chris Bates and Luke Strange played left-half with skill and enthusiasm. David Leadbitter was our rock at the back, with Philip Lane a star performer in every game; together they marked their centre forward and linked well with other players. The midfield never wholly clicked; Charles Allen was gritty and effective in the centre, but neither Angus McDonald nor Peter Swainson really looked comfortable at inside right, and on the left Ross Haddow and Barnaby Rodgers both played well but only in patches. They are all good players but collectively lacked confidence, which meant we could never dominate against the better opposition. Up front Freddie Andrewes started the season brilliantly, wobbled with 'flu, but came back strongly, especially in Bath. Kenny Bingham was continuously energetic, leading the front-line and the team excellently, and scoring many wonderful goals, and also missing a few easy ones (such as at Radley!). On the right wing Alastair Delafield worked hard and created many opportunities for others, but lacked confidence about scoring himself until two fine goals against the Martyrs.

The hockey highlights of the season were undoubtedly the second half against M.C.S., our total domination of Stowe, the control we showed against Marlborough (but without the goals which would have illustrated our superiority), and the teamwork and quality of the players selected on the Bath tour at the end of term, all of whom will be back next year. Australia has obviously dominated our thoughts on occasions, but all the Upper Sixths in the top game have my sincere thanks for their commitment and enthusiasm for the game, even when they suffered disappointment over selection. Angus McDonald and Chris Brierley have certainly been star men in this regard, and set a tremendous example for others to follow.

For the rest of us the wagons roll on South in July, with the new millennium promising to be an exciting one for SES hockey. My thanks as ever to CFB for his huge admin task done so efficiently, to RDA for his support and for nurturing the 2nd XI so well, to Zac Jones for giving all the SES teams such excellent coaching and individual care, and to all the parents for their support.

We have strong foundations to build on in the years ahead, with many promising players coming up through the School. Competition is likely to be intense, so the players who are mentally tough and keen to listen and learn are likely to be the ones to be selected. There is also no doubt that experience in club hockey or gained from holiday coaching courses pays real dividends. Keep practising and enjoy it all!

G.P. Boult

The Martyrs Hockey squad *Photo by Mrs V.G. Bagnall*

Girls' Hockey

1ST XI

v. Bloxham	Won	7-0
v. Oundle	Lost	1-5
v. Marlborough	Lost	0-8
v. Oxford H.S.	Drawn	1-1
v. Bradfield	Won	4-1
v. Stowe	Won	2-0
v. Tudor Hall	Won	3-0
v. Canford 'A'	Won	6-1
v. Gosford Hill	Won	3-1
v. Wellington	Won	5-1
v. Lord Williams'	Won	3-0
v. Cheltenham	Drawn	2-2
v. Our Lady's Convent	Lost	0-1

Even with the disappointing finale these results speak volumes for the progress of senior girls' hockey at St Edward's, and with the Australia tour looming the omens for the future look extremely encouraging. The inspirational coaching of Zac Jones raised morale at just the right moment, and the brilliant admin of TJR meant we were always looking forward.

The early fixtures saw some rather unbalanced games, with two heavy defeats against experienced and strong teams, but a finely balanced draw with the High showed our quality and the passing and movement off the ball all improved dramatically. Our fitness was suspect and it was only about half-term that some of the Upper Sixth really got involved in training or matches. We were fortunate however to have a keen captain in Vicky Howard, Julia Kanerick kept goal bravely and Katie Sapsford worked tirelessly on the left wing. Our full backs Serena Wilson and Camilla Nicholson were twin pillars of strength, tackling bravely and improving their distribution with each game. In midfield Charlie Berkin was committed and skilful, and reinforced by some juniors we set off on a run of victories by playing excellently against Bradfield. Mia Brunner continued to score memorable goals of great power, Philippa Minty grew in confidence and destroyed Wellington with her pace and skill on the right wing, while Gemma Berkin broke down everything in midfield and kept us attacking. Injuries and illness provided many opportunities for fourth formers Emma and Marion Yarrow and Tomi Akande, and they never let us down; their enthusiastic running kept creating scoring opportunities for us in all our matches.

Next season should see further consolidation and the future looks promising. Girls' hockey at St Edward's is on the map, and we look forward to playing an open, attacking and attractive style of hockey for years to come.

G.P. Boult

The tour party in Australia

HOCKEY TOUR OF AUSTRALIA, 1999

The School's first major co-educational sporting tour left Heathrow on July 19th, and after a long, uneventful fight arrived in Perth, W.A. mid-afternoon on Tuesday July 20th.

After an excellent meal together at 'Fast Eddies' and a good night's sleep at an apartment hotel in central Perth, we all moved to host families for five nights. The girls and twelve boys enjoyed time with Australian families, whilst five of the boys and a member of staff experienced boarding school life Australian-style. C.F.B. used his local contacts to arrange billeting for these five over the weekend and hence avoided having to endure his rota night on duty in the San. The weather in Perth was unusually hot and dry for mid-winter, and this allowed days off to be spent on the beach or out on boats. An intrepid threesome spent much time seeking out surf, and sometimes in it. It was also in Perth that T.J.R. began a deep if not very successful relationship with Australian Taxes. It would take far too long to recount but if you have an hour to spare she will happily fill you in over a tube of Fosters.

The hockey in Perth proved disappointing, mainly due to the complete lack of artificial pitches. Both boys and girls played three matches, all of which proved competitive. The boys beat Christchurch and Hale School 1-0 and 5-1, and suffered what would prove the only defeat on tour (0-3) to a very good Scotch College side. What could have been an excellent game was marred for me by weak umpiring at one end and a lack of discipline amongst our boys under some provocation. The girls lost twice narrowly to an U.18 Methodist Ladies' College side and earned a magnificent draw with a big, physical Presbyterian College 1st XI. Sunday night saw the adults celebrating a double birthday with friends in the King's Park restaurant. Other notable Perth highlights involved a kookaburra seemingly carved on an Anzac memorial, a bottle of 1980 Grange Hermitage, Scarborough and Cotteslowe beaches, and a wonderful day for some on Rottnest Island.

Next stop was Geelong, an hour west of Melbourne and an old stamping ground of G.P.B. He was greeted like a long-lost friend and the pupils were quickly distributed amongst four boarding houses. The weather continued to shine and four excellent half-day trips preceded four good hockey matches. A recreated gold mine in Ballarat, the Victoria markets of Melbourne and the cheap surf shops along the Ocean Road allowed St Edward's to do its bit to put the Australian economy on an even keel. The hockey in Victoria, played on excellent sand-filled astros, allowed both our boys and girls to show their true strengths. The girls, still playing opponents two years older than themselves, drew one game and won the other 3-0, while the boys recorded comfortable wins 3-0 and 4-1 over both Geelong Grammar and Geelong College. The last two nights in Victoria were again spent in host families and once again all seemed both happy and well behaved.

The group's arrival in Sydney will long be remembered by G.P.B and C.F.B. who were invited into the cockpit to assist the pilot as we landed. The view of next year's Olympic city was quite extraordinary and whetted the appetite for what was to come. A hotel upgrade to the Millennium on the edge of King's Cross proved an excellent move and we all fed and watered there. A very full Sunday of sightseeing included the Harbour trip, the Aquarium, the monorail, the AMP Tower and, as an added bonus, the World Marching Band Championships. All returned to the hotel for an early night, most impressed with this beautiful city.

Bondi Beach proved a popular spot the next morning before a long trip out to Macarthur High School, Narellan and two high-scoring matches. The girls played well, created lots of opportunities and lost 1-5! They felt a bit better when they learnt that the blonde girl at the back who seemed to be all over the pitch was an U18 Australian International! The boys really turned it on and won in style 11-0. There was only one night here with host families before moving on to our next school via four fun-filled hours at Australia Wonderland. It may not be as big as Alton Towers but with no queues at all and cuddly koalas to boot it was a great venue.

David Campese, the Australian Rugby international, outside his restaurant in Sydney, with Richard Hegarty, Barnaby Rodgers and Chris Bates.

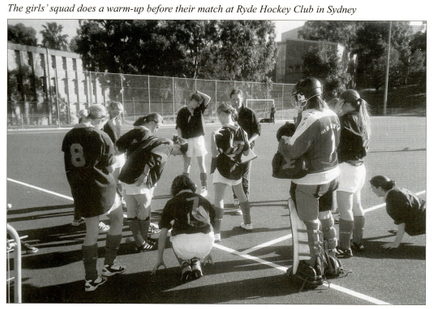
And so on to SCECGS Redlands, two nights' hosting and the most successful day of the tour. This started with a chance to tour the Olympic site, including a walk on the hockey pitch and a swim in the Aquatic Centre. Lunch was in a local food court, followed by a short trip to Ryde Hockey Club, whose water-based Astro (identical to that at the Stadium) is to be used for Olympic warm-ups. The girls played SCECGS first, going behind 0-1 very early in the game. However, with tremendous support from the boys and hard work and determination, they took a stranglehold on midfield and scored three good goals to secure their second win of the tour. The boys followed the girls against a very skilful Ryde Hockey Club team and also went one behind before playing their best hockey of the tour to win an excellent game 6-1. Spirits were high, the sun still shone and we all looked forward to 'sun and fun' in Cairns. New South Wales failed to produce the weather. Due to a booking problem, the lack of astros and torrential rain, the final games were cancelled. This did not stop the fun, however. A day in the rain forest , including a very informative amphibious vehicle drive, was enjoyed by all. The highlight of the tour for many, however, was to come on the final day. A fairly rough 90-minute boat ride delivered us on the Outer Barrier Reef, and the snorkelling and diving that followed were a quite incredible experience. This was followed by a tour dinner with speeches from many and a quiet last night spent talking around the pool.

'Played 14, Won 8, Drawn 4, Lost 2' - the results show that this was a successful tour, but it will be remembered for more than that. The good behaviour of all allowed the staff to enjoy their tour, and as time went on the co-educational nature of the trip became more and more important. To see Upper Sixths and Fourth formers mixing naturally as we relaxed around the pool waiting to depart showed me that the decision to take a mixed age party of both sexes was the correct one.

Australia '99 was a great experience. Where to next?

C.F. Baggs

The girls' squad does a warm-up before their match at Ryde Hockey Club in Sydney



The members of the tour party were - **Boys:** Charlie Allen, Will Allen, Freddie Andrewes, Matthew Baggs, Chris Bates, Tim Conibear, Will Conibear, Ross Haddow, Richard Hegarty, David Leadbitter, James Moss, Dan Ridler, Barney Rodgers, Johnny Shawyer, Peter Swainson, Luke Strange, Sam Waley-Cohen.
Girls: Katie Bartlett, Charlie Berkin, Gemma Berkin, Mia Brunner, Olivia Darlington, Polly Dick, Zeeki Gerloff, Crystal Logan, Georgina Medwell-Bates, Sarah Ritchie, Anthea Townsend, Hermione Townsend, Emma Yarrow, Marion Yarrow.
Staff: Charlie Baggs, Geoff Boult, Chris Lush, Tabatha Ryan.

HOCKEY XI 2000

L TO R STANDING	R.L.W. HADDOW, T.R.W. CONIBEAR, M. BAGGS, W.G. CONIBEAR, L. STRANGE, J.R. MOSS, G.P. BOULT (COACH)
L TO R SEATED	C.A. ALLEN, F.C. ANDREWES, D.R. LEADBITTER, R.C. HEGARTY (CAPTAIN), P.O.B. SWAINSON, S.B. WALEY-COHEN
	C.M. BATES
COACHED BY	G.P. BOULT AND Z.D. JONES (BOTH C.R.)

FIXTURES
PLAYED 19 WON 15 DRAWN 3 LOST 1

<u>CRANLEIGH TOURNAMENT</u>

V CRANLEIGH SCHOOL - WON 1-0
V ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, GUILDFORD - DRAWN 0-0
V REED'S SCHOOL, COBHAM - WON 1-0

V PANGBOURNE NAUTICAL COLLEGE - WON 1-0
(AWAY)

V ST. PETER'S SCHOOL, ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA - DRAWN 1-1
(HOME)

V CHELTENHAM COLLEGE - WON 2-1
(AWAY)

V MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL - WON 6-1
(HOME)

V BRADFIELD COLLEGE - WON 3-2
(AWAY)

V STOWE SCHOOL - WON 10-0
(AWAY)

V DEAN CLOSE SCHOOL, CHELTENHAM - WON 4-3
(AWAY)

V MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE - WON 3-1
(HOME)

V RADLEY COLLEGE - WON 4-1
(HOME)

V MARTYRS - WON 5-0
(HOME)

V BEDFORD SCHOOL - WON 4-1
(AWAY)

<u>R.A.F. CUP</u>

V MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL - WON 2-0
V ABINGDON SCHOOL - WON 1-0
V BRADFIELD COLLEGE - DRAWN 1-1
V HAVANT GRAMMAR SCHOOL - WON 3-0
V KINGSTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL - LOST 0-3

The 1st XI *Photo by Beaumont Photography, Banbury*

Girls' Hockey

1st XI

Played 14, Won 8, Drawn 2, Lost 4

Mia Brunner

Captain's Review:

We started the season with high expectations within the team after a good two days' pre-season training. Unfortunately our first match was cancelled, leaving us with a tough opening match against Oundle, which we lost. However, from then on it was always upwards and we enjoyed some convincing wins throughout the season, notably against St Clare's, Oxford High School and Marlborough. We could feel our confidence growing throughout the season and with it came the cohesion and team spirit which produced a very exciting last game against Cheltenham (4-4). The two Yarrows were amazing in attack down the right, with the brilliant and solid support of Gemma and Charlie Berkin in the midfield. Being a centre forward I marvelled at the defence who seemed to manage to keep clearing the ball out, much to the distress of the opposition. All in all I feel the team had a successful season, and we are now looking forward to the next. Unfortunately we will have to say goodbye to Charlie and Chantelle who will be leaving at the end of the year. It only remains to thank everyone who played, as well as Dr Hart, Miss Warren and Zac for their coaching and support.

Coach's Review:

Even before starting, I knew that the team I would have the privilege of inheriting contained many strong players, a number of whom had now had the benefit of several years of coaching at St Edward's. Looking back now, I must say that this was in all respects a tremendously encouraging and successful season - some comprehensive wins against good opposition, and a relentless commitment from the members of the squad, particularly during some of our most difficult matches.

Two extremely useful and productive days of pre-season training were designed to give us a flying start into the season, although the cancellation of our first two games meant that it was almost three weeks before we had our first test, and a very stern one at that, playing a strong Oundle team some way into their season. Untempered by match practice our rustiness was revealed in a disappointing 0-2 defeat, a slightly inauspicious start, although the season was to go from strength to strength after this. It was particularly pleasing that the team always performed strongly, whatever the strength of the opposition, and were nearly always able to convert good possession into goals.

High points of the season must include the performance at Marlborough, winning 4-0 and putting in a fantastically competitive performance, a match that served as a real coming-of-age for this young team. An enlarged squad also put in a strong performance at the County Tournament, coming runners-up to Oxford High School, whom we were later to beat 1-0 in our regular fixture.

Whilst Mia Brunner finished the season as the team's top scorer, many of the squad contributed to the haul, with virtually all of the midfield and forward players scoring many times. Both coach and players were agreed on their respective choice of player of the season: Marion Yarrow fought off strong opposition from a number of other players to achieve this very creditable achievement. Clare Nelson was perhaps the 'find' of the season, going from 3rd team to 1st team in one term, although this would probably have happened even earlier had she not suffered from an early season injury. Other new Lower Sixth girls added to the strength of the squad, notably Clare Trythall, Antonia Robinson and Caroline Rothlaender, all three very strong defenders. However the core of the team, and their main strength, was built around two excellent midfield pairings. Charlie and Gemma Berkin never gave less than 100% in any match, and their tireless and combative approach won us much of the ball that enabled us to build an attacking platform. Both were also very effective going forward and scored a number of goals between them. Our other pairing was that of Marion and Emma Yarrow, twin sisters whose understanding of each other's game, combined with tremendous pace and athleticism, proved a potent combination on the right side of the field. It was this midfield base that provided so much ball for our strikers to work with. Mia Brunner led the team by example from the front, and was again outstanding in front of goal, seemingly able to score from the most acute of angles, whilst Katrina Head made many chances from nothing with her effective and well timed running off the ball.

At the other end of the pitch, our defence were doing their job very effectively, only 22 goals being conceded during the entire season, compared to the 55 scored. Chantelle Staynings made a welcome return to the 1st team, always comfortable on the ball, and aware of those around her, as was Tomi Akande whose excellent eye for the ball and powerful striking made her invaluable in the heart of the defence. Antonia Robinson simply got better and better as the season progressed and her confidence in her ability grew, whilst Clare Trythall was incredibly impressive at sweeper. Good stick skills, a powerful striker of the ball and an outstanding reader of the game, she was perhaps our most complete hockey player. Caroline Rothlaender played a number of times in defence and never looked out of her depth; as her confidence grows she too will become a real asset to the squad. Clare Nelson came into the team comparatively late in the term, and seemed equally at home in attack or defence. Another player with tremendous pace and athleticism, she remains a very exciting prospect for next year. Crystal Logan started the season promisingly before back injuries put a premature end to her season, and we were very grateful to be able to call upon the U15 goalkeeper Katherine Tuckett to fill in towards the end of the season

The most exciting aspect of the season is the fact that because the squad is so young, virtually all will be able to play next year, when I would hope that they will be able to fulfil their potential as one of the strongest sports teams at St Edward's.

Ian Hart

Hockey

St Edward's Hockey has had an exceptional year. The 1st XI have won every school fixture for the first time ever, whilst the 2nd XI have remained unbeaten as well. The foundations for the success of the senior sides was laid in Australia and it has been a great pleasure to watch both first and second teams benefit from the games played there. The 3rd XI too have had an excellent term, losing only once. There has not only been success at the top, however. The Yearlings, having lost every Rugby match, have shown what a talented group they are by bouncing back with some significant victories, including winning the Oxfordshire Cup and reaching the final of the Merchants Taylors' Tournament.

On an individual level too there have been some performances of note. Foremost amongst these must be Peter Swainson's inclusion in the England U18 side for both the Home Nations Championships and the Europeans. He is the first St Edward's hockey player to represent England for many years. We have also had numerous boys representing Counties and Clubs at all age groups.

The reasons for the success are many and varied, but crucial among them is the fact that we have secured the services of Zac Jones as first team coach. I cannot stress enough how beneficial it is to have a top class coach who is also in touch with the modern game. Important too has been the ground work done over many years by the coaches of the junior sides.

The standard of schools' hockey has gone up and up since the advent of artificial surfaces and even against better than ever opposition we have had our most successful record ever. The next step is to ensure we maintain this level and the most important factor will be the building of a second artificial pitch. We are now one of very few schools on our circuit with use of only one pitch and it will soon begin to show. Twenty minutes on a third of a pitch is not sufficient time for the first eleven to prepare for a vital game and yet that is all that is often available.

My final note is to thank all those who have helped and had a part in this wonderful season. Whether you be coach, player, helper or supporter, thank you and let's hope we can continue as we have started in this 21st Century.

C.F. Baggs

Girls' Hockey Results

School	1st XI	2nd XI	U15A	U15B	U14A	U14B
Gosford Hill	-	-	8-0	-	9-1	-
Oxford High	1-0	0-2	2-3	-	4-0	-
Oundle	0-2	0-2	4-1	-	-	-
Bloxham	7-0	3-0	5-0	-	-	-
Bradfield	2-2	4-0	-	-	-	-
St Clare's	5-0	-	-	-	-	-
Dragon School	-	-	-	-	0-0	0-1
Dean Close	1-5	0-6	1-1	0-2	0-2	-
Stowe	2-0	3-1	-	-	-	-
Headington	-	-	3-0	-	2-2	-
St Hugh's	-	-	-	-	-	2-1
Tudor Hall	8-0	1-1	6-0	1-3	3-2	0-0
Rye St Antony	6-0	-	-	-	-	-
Canford	1-5	0-2	0-3	0-2	3-0	0-1
Wellington	6-0	-	-	-	-	-
Marlborough	4-0	0-3	0-2	0-3	0-1	0-5
Lord Williams'	-	-	3-0	-	2-1	-
Rugby	1-2	0-1	1-0	-	1-2	-
Cheltenham	4-4	0-2	1-0	-	4-1	-

U.18 Oxfordshire Tournament: drew with Oxford High 1-1, drew with Bloxham 1-1, beat Tudor Hall 2-0, beat Headington 1-0, beat Henley 2-0. **Overall position: 2nd.**

B.C.I. Battock
Oxford University Hockey Blue

1st XI

Results:

v. Pangbourne	Won	1-0
v. St Peter's Adelaide	Drew	1-1
v. Cheltenham	Won	2-1
v. M.C.S.	Won	6-1
v. Bradfield	Won	3-2
v. Stowe	Won	10-0
v. Dean Close	Won	4-3
v. Marlborough	Won	3-1
v. Radley	Won	4-1
v. Martyrs	Won	5-0
v. Bedford	Won	4-1

RAF Cup:

v. M.C.S.	Won	2-0
v. Abingdon	Won	1-0
v. Bradfield	Drew	1-1
v. Havant	Won	3-0
v. Kingston	Lost	0-3

This was a season which started with great expectations based on the successful tour to Australia, but like all seasons had the potential to go wrong. In the event the pre-season aims were fully realised and for once it is wonderful to report about an unbeaten season, and a style of hockey played which thrilled our supporters and was admired even by our opponents. The coaching of Zac Jones and the individual skill and professionalism of the team meant many sides were simply swept away, and if some of the score lines look close, the reality on the balance of play and the number of chances created was overwhelmingly in our favour. For once illness, University visits, strange umpiring decisions, injury were not relevant factors and the depth of the squad was shown in the excellent results of the 2nd XI and the way they all trained together as a unit. They set high standards and overcame difficulties and the commitment, discipline and team work they showed has set the standard for all future teams.

The pre-season was blessed by excellent weather and with twenty-five players in training the competition for places was evident from day one. A successful tournament at Cranleigh (where we didn't concede a goal) was encouraging, and all the players were given a chance to show their worth. A full trial match on the Sunday was equally impressive and showed the skill, fitness and improvement many players had made. Mock exams and modules then hit us, and the squad against Pangbourne totally controlled the game without having the cutting edge to break down a well organised defence. The following Wednesday saw a game against St Peter's Adelaide, billed internally as our final trial. We played well without again converting a hatful of chances, and the final score owed everything to the quality of their goal keeper, and our goal to the lightening reflexes of Matthew Baggs.

Training increased in intensity, the senior twelve players were selected and, apart from illness to Luke Strange which gave him a quiet start, everyone looked in good form. Richard Hegarty's captaincy was enthusiastic and inclusive, Peter Swainson dominated the midfield with improved positional play and a range of weighted and disguised passes which meant we kept possession and were able to attack down either flank. Cheltenham were beaten away from home in a game where the strength and discipline of the side was outstanding. Competitive opponents with first class hockey facilities, they were never in the game in spite of scoring a late goal. M.C.S. before the first exeat were simply overrun. David Leadbitter's class in defence was apparent again and his accurate hard striking of short corners gave us then, and throughout the season, the lift we needed. Unbeaten and beginning to fire on all cylinders, we returned early from exeat to prepare for Bradfield. They were also unbeaten and as Berkshire Champions were keen to put on a good show. As ever, it was a competitive, thrilling game with some excellent goals. James Moss tackled superbly at the back, Sam Waley-Cohen flew down the right flank, while the midfield controlled the game. A late goal gave us a scare, but it was a hard earned and thoroughly deserved victory. Stowe came next and succumbed to an onslaught of goals, following our week of quality training on our own pitch. Both Conibears showed skill and increasing vision and pace, the short corners produced a variety of options - many finished in style - and Stowe ended up suffering a record defeat. Full marks however to their coaches and players who tried to the end, and no doubt things will be closer again in years to come.

Charlie Allen goes past his man in the Radley match, played on the Fisher Field.

The following weekend saw the 2nd XI winning well at Eton while the senior squad of sixteen players prepared for the divisional tournament at Epsom in Surrey. Three tough 20-minutes-each-way games saw us draw agonisingly with Bradfield, beat a strong Havant team 3-0 but come up in our final game against Kingston, needing to win to go though. Here Lady Luck deserted us, and although we dominated the first half we failed to score the goal we deserved, even more frustratingly scoring as the whistle blew to award us a short corner. Kingston then raised their game to take their chances while we missed sitters - a hard lesson.

After the second exeat came the real 'show down' games. Dean Close at home, the only unbeaten school on our circuit the previous year with most of their team back, and Marlborough away. The question being asked was: would we rise to the challenge or suffer from the Kingston disappointment? The first twenty minutes against Dean Close answered the question in style. Four wonderful goals, Freddie Andrewes destroying their right half and Ross Haddow, Peter Swainson and Will Conibear overruning their midfield. The second half was tense as errors crept in, but we kept our discipline and only a series of outstanding saves by their goalkeeper stopped us scoring again. Excitement and tension in full measure. Marlborough were, however, not in the same league as Dean Close, and although they played with great commitment, the quality of our passing and movement saw us to an excellent victory. Tim Conibear scored the team goal of the season; Chris Bates refused to allow their right wing to touch the ball, marking him higher and higher as the game went on; Freddie Andrewes scored a poacher's goal, and Leadbitter tried to break the back board. A splendid three days.

As ever, Radley awaits near the end of the season and we knew they were quick and competitive, and it would be a typical local derby. In the event, inspired by the 2nd XI result we went out and played a massive game, scoring some excellent goals and dominating possession throughout the match. They looked dangerous on the break, but Charlie Allen was back in form and our strength across the park meant we never got exposed and in Freddie Andrewes we had a player capable of showing strength, pace and skill to score a stunning individual goal. The Martyrs the next day gave the players a chance to show previous 'stars' how good this side were, and in an even game our teamwork and fitness proved decisive. Swainson delivered the bullets, and Haddow, Baggs, Conibear and Leadbitter fired them in. Glorious weather, a fun game, and the compliments of the Martyrs rounded off a happy weekend.

The final chapter still needed to be written. The new fixture with Bedford waited on the final Thursday. Could Hegarty keep his men focused? Was the unbeaten season going to slip at the last moment? In a tight game on an excellent water-based pitch at Milton Keynes, the final result was a good win, although being a goal down at half time had everyone on edge. In the end the chances went in, Leadbitter posted his tenth short corner strike, Haddow converted our first penalty stroke of the season, and Tim Conibear finished superbly some excellent team goals. The dinner could finish a wonderful term off in some style. The thank you's to parents, Zac, CFB (for all his amazingly efficient administration) and all the players could be made. We wish Peter Swainson, after over 50 games for the 1st XI, success as an England U18 international, and I hope all the others will continue to enjoy their hockey in the years to come.

G.P. Boult

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 2001

Squad M.F. Baggs (Captain), W.G. Conibear, S.A.B. Chase, D.J. Eastwood, N.Rudge, H.D.F. Barratt

O.J.S. Heaton, J.L. Mason, J.A.I. Monro, M.G. Gitrowski, W.M. Allen, A.S. Ward, A.J. Simmie

Coached by G.P. Boult and Z.D. Jones (Both C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 21 Won 14 Drawn 2 Lost 5

<u>CRANLEIGH TOURNAMENT</u>

v Royal Grammar School, Guildford - Won (No Details)

v Cranleigh School - Won (No Details)

v Wellington College - Lost (No Details)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 1-0
(R.A.F. Tournament)
v Abingdon School - Won 4-2
(R.A.F. Tournament)
v Stowe School - Won 8-0
(R.A.F. Tournament)

v Eton College - Lost 1-5
(Away)
v Marlborough College - Drawn 2-2
(Home)
v Radley College - Won 5-1
(Away)

<u>COBHAM DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENT</u>

v St. George's College. Addlestone - Won 3-2
v Havant Grammar School - Lost 3-4
v Bradfield College - Won 5-0
v Kingston Grammar School - Lost 1-4

v Bedford School - Drawn 5-5
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 2-1
(Away)

v Martyrs - Won 8-3
(Home)

Hockey

This has in many ways been an unexpectedly good year for S.E.S. hockey. After last year's 100 % season for the 1st XI no one anticipated a vintage year, and yet only one 1st XI game was lost and we won all three age groups of the County Cup, with the Under 14's reaching the national quarter-finals. All this in the year when football has become an equal option for senior boys and a larger than usual group of talented boys have concentrated on sevens.

The recent announcement of the go-ahead for the second all-weather pitch to be ready for 2002 has boosted morale, and the success of junior sides is reason for optimism for the future. The weather has been atrocious but this has merely led to some very long wet afternoons on Astro rather than dreaded cancellations. In fact we have cancelled fewer games than ever before.

It is difficult to pick out individuals in what is a team sport but I feel it right to mention one or two. Matthew Baggs, the 1st XI captain, scored his 100th goal for the School during this season's tally of 22. I wonder if anyone reading this can remember a more prolific career? Zac Jones has continued to be our professional coach, and at all levels boys have benefited from his knowledge and up-to-date techniques.

Finally I would like to record my thanks to 1st XI manager and coach for the last nine years, Geoffrey Boult. As he moves to Yorkshire to become Headmaster at Giggleswick, he leaves behind two full generations of Teddies hockey players who play the game in a competitive and yet fair manner. We will miss his bounce and enthusiasm and wish him, Katie and their four hockey playing daughters every success in their new home.

C.F. Baggs

1st XI

After the successful 2000 season, this 1st XI always had a tough act to follow, and their excellent results are a testimony to their teamwork, skill and commitment. The pre-season tournament held at **Cranleigh** saw two good victories over our hosts and **RGS Guildford**, and a narrow defeat by **Wellington**. The two old colours, Matthew Baggs and Will Conibear, were in impressive form, the goal-keeping of Simon Chase looked promising, and in Donald Eastwood and Neil Rudge we had two quality defenders, both brave and skilful. This did not make a team, but it provided a solid spine to the side.

Term started with the usual mixture of mocks, modules and minor injuries, but a victory against a typically resolute **Pangbourne** and an excellent performance against a strong **Cheltenham** raised morale enormously. The pace of Henry Barratt, Oliver Heaton and James

1st XI attack on the Eton goal: Hodson, Baggs, Heaton, Mason.

Mason added to our attacking options. Alastair Simmie looked an increasingly impressive and balanced performer on either wing, and the coaching of Zac was producing a disciplined approach to our marking, while a diamond midfield operating behind twin strikers was beginning to gel. On to **M.C.S.** before the first exeat. On a wet Wednesday the side dominating the game lost to a controversial penalty stroke in the last minute. Numerous chances went begging at one end against a composed and packed defence, while the M.C.S. strikers somehow managed to look dangerous and unmarked against our back four. A bitter defeat and a long inquest!

After the exeat we reassessed our targets and the intensity of the training increased. **Bradfield** were well beaten and the captain's confidence grew with his two second-half strikes. Stowe were swept away after a tight opening quarter and we entered the Oxfordshire Under 18 tournament moving forwards. Four superb goals defeated a strong **Abingdon** side in a thrilling open game, and **M.C.S.** were defeated in a close match. Revenge was sweet.

Adam Ward came into the side to replace the over age James Monro and Marek Gitrowski, and his enthusiasm and commitment kept him in the team. In fact the squad then had remarkably few injuries or replacements which enormously helped our progress. **Abingdon** were well defeated in our full midweek fixture, and **Eton**, a new fixture at 1st level, put up a brave fight before going down 1-5. William Allen finally got on the scoring board, while his strong running and skilful stick work combined to create numerous chances for the forwards or won us short corners. Confidence was still growing and with excellent fitness levels the whole squad looked forward to the busy final weeks.

An exciting draw with **Marlborough**, with two late goals bringing us level, showed our character and commitment. They didn't like losing and they worked incredibly hard to 'paper over' technical cracks. The midfield were particularly tireless and the sight of Will Conibear drifting up and down with Oliver Heaton and Will Allen chasing on either flank is one of the memories of the season. We switched play rapidly from either side, and supported at pace. Exciting going forward and sometimes nerve-wracking at the back. **Radley** as usual set the Teddies pulse racing and an early lead looked very fragile at half time. The manager's comments stiffened a few sinews, and Radley buckled. The captain's four goals were a notable achievement, quality finishing not witnessed since Matt Cannon at his best. On to Cobham and the Divisional Tournament.

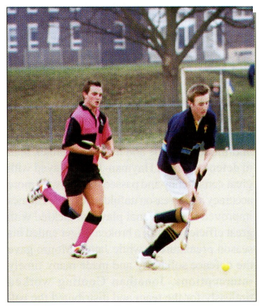
After the adrenalin rush of the Saturday, a calm and focused coach set out early Sunday morning. The performance of the players, their skill, character and commitment could not be faulted. I could 'Bore for Britain' about the day but suffice to say I have never been prouder of an SES XI, or seen a side play better hockey. We beat the eventual winners, **St George's** (a two-term hockey academy) 3-2, with three wonderful goals and a brilliant penalty stroke save by Chase. We lost 3-4 to **Havant** (who had six players who had played in the club's 1st XI in the National League) in the best game I have ever seen. Three times we drew level to lose to a goal when the ball had clearly gone out of play. We destroyed **Bradfield** (who had beaten Wellington to be Berkshire champions) in an ugly game, and finally lost to **Kingston G.S.** when we ran out of steam after being 1-1 at half time. The small squad had given everything and impressed all the watching coaches and umpires, as well as the spectators.

Next to **Bedford** and a dramatic 5-5 draw, with thrilling goals, suicidal defence and a nail-biting finish. The last game was away to **Dean Close**, the best side we have played in recent years. A resolute defence, well marshalled again by Eastwood and Rudge, kept the first half goal-less. Then Dean Close converted a short corner and the clock was ticking away. Back came St Edward's, Mason finished a superb team goal at the far post, and then Baggs scored a dramatic winner. The opposition were stunned, but generous in defeat. A thrilling end to the season. **Martyrs Day** then had a real festival feel, Offen juggled his huge squad, but the XI showed the Old Boys how to score (8-3): more goals to add to the captain's tally, and the first of the season for Heaton and Ward.

This has been a wonderful season. Sixty seven goals scored, attacking hockey at its most exciting, a great team spirit, and the professionalism of the coach Zac keeping it all in perspective. Thanks as ever to all the umpires, to CFB for his superb administration and support, to RDA for his calm solid leadership of the 2nd XI, and to all the senior players. Next year will be a challenge, but with the new pitch becoming a reality, and the quality of the young players coming up the School, the future looks bright.

G.P. Boult

Will Conibear makes a break against Cheltenham



BOYS' HOCKEY RESULTS

	1st XI	2nd XI	3rd XI	Colts A	Colts B	J Colts A	J Colts B	J Colts C	U14 A	U14 B	U14 C
Pangbourne	W 1-0	W 1-0	L 0-4	-	W 6-1	L 1-3	W 4-1	L 0-1	W 5-1	W 4-1	-
Cheltenham	W 2-1	L 0-1	-	L 0-2	L 0-3	L 2-4	L 1-4	-	W 4-1	W 4-0	W 3-1
M.C.S.	L 1-2	L 1-2	-	L 0-1	L 1-3	D 2-2	-	-	W 6-0	D 1-1	-
Bradfield	W 3-0	L 0-5	L 0-5	L 1-2	L 0-3	D 1-1	L 2-3	L 0-7	W 2-0	L 2-4	W 2-0
Stowe	W 8-0	W 2-1	W 1-0	L 1-2	W 1-0	L 1-2	L 1-2	L 0-1	-	-	-
Abingdon	W 4-1	L 0-2	-	W 4-2	W 2-1	W 3-0	-	-	W 5-0	W 3-1	-
Eton	W 5-1	W 3-1	W 3-1	L 0-2	D 1-1	W 3-2	D 2-2	-	W 5-1	D 2-2	-
Marlborough	D 3-3	L 0-1	-	L 2-4	L 0-5	W 5-3	L 0-4	L 0-8	W 3-1	L 0-1	L 0-2
Radley	W 5-1	L 0-4	L 0-1	W 4-3	L 1-6	L 2-3	L 1-2	L 1-8	W 4-1	D 1-1	L 2-3
Bedford	D 5-5	W 4-1	L 1-2	D 3-3	W 3-2	W 4-0	D 1-1	-	W 5-2	D 2-2	-
Dean Close	W 2-1	W 2-0	W 2-1	L 2-3	-	L 0-3	W 2-0	-	L 1-2	L 0-1	-
Martyrs	W 8-3	L 0-3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Hockey Association Cup
1st XI

v. M.C.S.	Won	1-0
v. Abingdon	Won	4-2
v. St George's	Won	3-2
v. Havant	Lost	3-4
v. Bradfield	Won	4-0
v. Kingston	Lost	1-4

Hockey Association Cup
Colts XI

v. Henley	Won	7-0
v. Abingdon	Won	4-2
v. Wellington	Drew	0-0
v. St George's	Lost	0-5
v. Whitgift	Lost	0-2
v. Winchester	Lost	2-4

Hockey Association Cup
Yearlings XI

v. Rover Oxford	Won	5-0
v. Abingdon	Won	5-0
v. Reed's School	Drew	1-1
v. City of Portsmouth HC	Won	3-2
v. St George's	Won	7-3
v. Bradfield	Won	4-3
v. Kent College	Lost	4-5

GIRLS' HOCKEY RESULTS

	1st XI	2nd XI	U16	U15A	U15B	U14A	U14B
Gosford Hill	-	-	-	Cancelled	-	Cancelled	-
O.H.S.	W 5-0	Cancelled	-	Cancelled	-	-	-
Oundle	W 3-2	L 0-5	D 1-1	W 1-0	L 0-2	-	-
Bloxham	W 6-0	W 2-0	W 5-2	-	-	W 4-2	-
Bradfield	W 6-2	W 2-0	-	-	-	-	-
Cheltenham	D 2-2	W 3-0	W 2-0	W 1-0	W 2-0	D 1-1	-
Dean Close	L 1-5	W 1-0	L 1-2	D 1-1	-	L 0-1	L 0-3 (Mixed)
Stowe	W 8-0	-	W 13-0	-	-	-	-
Abbey School	-	-	-	-	-	-	W 4-0
Headington	W	-	L 4-2	W 3-0	-	Cancelled	D 1-1
Lord Williams'	-	-	-	W 4-0	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled
Tudor Hall	W 14-0	D 0-0	W 5-0	W 3-0	W 4-1	D 0-0	W 2-0
Canford	W 3-2	L 0-4	Cancelled	D 0-0	L 0-1	D 0-0	Cancelled
Wellington	W 7-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Headington	-	-	L 2-4	-	-	-	-
Rugby	L 2-3	W 2-1	-	D 0-0	-	L 0-5	L 1-2
Marlborough	L 2-4	L 0-2	-	D 2-2	L 0-1	L 0-2	L 0-3

Oxfordshire U19 Tournament: 1st place

v. Headington	Won	1-0
v. Oxford High School	Drew	0-0
v. Tudor Hall	Won	2-0
v. Kingham Hill	Won	4-0
v. Wood Green	Won	2-1
v. Our Lady's Convent	Won	3-0

Oxfordshire U16 Tournament: 3rd place

v. Marlborough	Won	1-0
v. Bloxham	Drew	0-0
v. Tudor Hall	Won	1-0
v. O.H.S.	Drew	0-0
v. Headington	Drew	1-1
v. Lord Williams'	Lost	0-1

Hockey Association Cup (U15A):

Round 1:	Beat Abbey School	4-3
Round 2:	Beat Waddesdon	6-0

Girls' Hockey

1st XI

Played 14, Won 10, Drawn 1, Lost 3.
Oxfordshire U18 County Champions

With the vast majority of last year's squad returning to the side again this term, hopes were high for a successful season, and it is very pleasing to be able to say that the results and performances certainly lived up to expectations.

After a profitable two days of pre-season training, it was slightly unfortunate that our first formal fixture was almost three weeks into term. However, in the event we were far too strong for Oxford High School, and the team showed from the start what their style would be throughout the term – physical, dynamic and always likely to create chances. Another good performance against Oundle saw us reversing last year's defeat with an encouraging 3-2 victory, a victory followed by two relatively comfortable wins against Bloxham and Bradfield. This therefore put us in the position of having played four and won four, confidence was very high and we looked forward to what we expected to be a tough match against Cheltenham. A tough match was exactly what it turned out to be, and although we were leading 2-1, in the final moments Cheltenham were awarded a penalty corner, from which they scored. The team was understandably upset, but this in itself spoke volumes about their desire to win and their commitment to each other.

Having lost 1-5 to Dean Close the previous year the team was keen to turn the scoreline around this time. That we again went down 1-5 might - on paper at least - seem a little disappointing; however; the truth was quite different. Apart from a six-minute patch during which we lost concentration and conceded three goals, for the bulk of the game we matched what was a very good team in every department.

The Oxfordshire County Tournament had always in the past been something of a bugbear for St Edward's girls, but after coming very close last year the team were determined to prove that they were the best in the county. A large number of relatively short games, together with some challenging grass pitch conditions, meant that nothing could be taken for granted, but a combination of great concentration and some attacking hockey saw us finish the day as tournament winners, having scored 12 goals and conceded only 1 in a series of six unbeaten games. From this win (the first to my knowledge for an SES girls' U18 team in this competition), we would go forward to the Divisional Round at Cranleigh School after Christmas.

Mia Brunner stops a short corner for Sally Appleby to strike

The season continued extremely well, with a total of 29 goals from three very comfortable victories over Stowe, Tudor Hall and Wellington, and then two close and hard fought victories over Headington and Canford.

Our final two matches of this term promised to be two of our toughest games to date. Rugby played well for their 3-2 victory, although it would be fair to say that we manufactured enough chances to put the game beyond their reach. And so to Marlborough, from whose 1st XI we expected a very tough match, despite a comfortable win over their 2nd's last year. There was indeed no mistaking the quality of our opponents, who deserved their win over the course of the whole match, but we frequently looked their equals, and if this team is to continue to develop then we must look to play the strongest opposition available.

What of the players themselves? As captain, Mia Brunner returned for the second year and continued to lead from the front. More than once on the touchline I could be heard to say "Oh for goodness sake! You'll never score from th….Oh, nice goal!" as she put another outrageous reverse stick shot into the roof of the net from some impossible angle. For Gemma Berkin, playing for the 1st XI is just one of her many distinguished contributions to the School: she was strong and fiercely determined, our most combative midfielder and an important part of the team's success. Clare Trythall is a very accomplished player, and was a rock at the heart of our defence. Her superb tackling and great awareness meant that many of our attacks started from her ability to win the ball when the opposition expected it least. She also seemed to be a magnet for any lifted balls, and finished the season with more bumps and bruises than the rest put together. Claire Nelson and Toni Robinson also made valuable contributions to the defence. Claire's tremendous pace combined with Toni's close control and powerful striking of the ball would in fact make the perfect player!

Gemma Berkin holds off the opposition

Marion and Emma Yarrow returned for another season in the 1st XI, as did Tomi Akande and Crystal Logan. Both Marion and Emma have shown real improvement in both technique and understanding of the game, and when combined with their tremendous athleticism the result is extremely effective. Whilst Emma remains more watchful and is perhaps a better reader of the game defensively, Marion has become more and more dynamic going forward, and shows increasing confidence on the ball. Tomi has retained her calm and unflustered approach and her outstanding close control when on the ball. Crystal remains uncompromising in goal, and it is to be hoped that the recurring injuries that have beset her during her school career will cause no further problems, since she has shown some of her very best form at times during this season. Sally Appleby joined the School in the Autumn term, and the 1st XI has benefited greatly from her presence. She is a hockey player of real quality, and has adapted extremely well over the season to fill the difficult and demanding central midfield role. The final member of the regular 1st XI team is Miranda Arneil. Miranda has come to the 1st XI from the U15 squad, and to play 1st team hockey during the 4th form is a tremendous achievement. Although it took her a match or two to adjust to the pace and physical nature of the game she now looks very comfortable at the top level and certainly has the potential to become one of the team's most influential players. A mention must also go to members of the U16 squad who strengthened the 1st XI considerably for the Divisional Championship.

The victory in the County Tournament meant that our season spilled over into the Spring term. Clashes with netball and rowing after Christmas made regular practice difficult, but I remained confident about their chances in the Divisional Tournament. However a combination of naivety against the better sides and a significant lack of preparation meant that we went into our last two out of five matches with few points, knowing we had to win them both to have any chance of going through. The girls played good attacking hockey, but we were not able to dominate the possession for long periods of time, and our attacking style left us vulnerable in defence against quality opposition. Nevertheless, the girls showed impressive resolve during the competition and all of the matches could have gone our way with a little bit of luck.

Our final match of the season, a 'friendly' against Oxford Brookes' Ladies 1st XI, resulted in a 4-2 win, as once again our pace and dynamism in attack proved too much for a very organised Brookes team.

My thanks go once again to Zac Jones for his calm professionalism and his acute technical and tactical observations, and to Lucinda Warren for her hard work behind the scenes. It has again been a privilege to coach such a talented and amiable squad.

Ian Hart

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 2002

Team	W.M. Allen (Captain), A.J. Simmie, C.E.P. Bowles, A.J. Stevenson, R.T.A. Hazleton, J.B. Barrett
	S.P. Hayman-Joyce, C.M. Sutton, P.K. Drummond, G.T. Williams, A.G. Bentley, J.R. Codling
	A.R.J. Eldridge, S.C. Pearson-Burton, M.C. Sutton, T. Akande
Coached by	C.F. Baggs and Z.D. Jones (Both C.R.)

Fixtures

Played 22 Won 9 Drawn 5 Lost 8

<u>CRANLEIGH TOURNAMENT</u>

v Cranleigh School - Won 1-0
v Wellington College - Lost 0-2
v Royal Grammar School, Guildford - Drawn 1-1

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 3-0
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 4-1
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Lost 2-3
(Away)

<u>OXFORDSHIRE UNDER 18 TOURNAMENT</u>

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-1 (on strokes)
v Rover Oxford United H.C. - Won 2-1

v Stowe School - Won 5-1
(Home)

v Eton College - Won 5-2
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Marlborough College - Lost 0-2
(Away)

v Radley College - Won 2-1
(Home)

<u>ST. GEORGE'S SIXES</u>

v Seaford College - Won 5-0
v Kingston Grammar School - Drawn 0-0
v Borden Grammar School - Lost 1-3
v Repton College - Won 3-2
v Desborough College - Lost 1-2
v Framlington College - Drawn 2-2

v Bedford School - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 1-2
(Away)

Hockey

As the 2002 season draws to a close it is pleasing to look back on what has been a busy and largely successful season. We knew from the start that it was not going to be possible to match the success of the last two outstanding years but it is pleasing to note the many victories we have achieved at all levels. The 1st XI has had a winning season, and had they taken more chances in games they dominated they would have won even more games.

The Colts coped with losing their best three players to the Firsts and achieved some notable results. Meanwhile the Junior Colts continued to dominate opposition even if they did not always beat them as well as they should have done. They are to be congratulated on a 100% season and we look forward to watching them next year. The Yearlings too have the makings of a good side and their victory in the last game of the season against national quarter-finalists Dean Close was most encouraging. Added to that we are County Champions at Under 14 and Under 16, and I think we can be pleased with the term's results.

The second Astro helped. We have hardly lost a game to the weather in another 'wettest ever' season and we have all had longer to practise. As I hand over the reins after twelve years as Master-in-Charge I do so knowing we have some very talented youngsters moving up towards the 1st XI. I wish my successor luck and hope he or she has as much fun as I have had. I also thank all the people who have helped to make it so - fellow coaches, groundstaff and umpires to name but a few.

Charlie Baggs
i/c Hockey

1st XI

It was always going to be tough for this year's team to match the successes of the last two seasons. The results are testament to this but they are only half the story. At times this year's side played some fabulous hockey showing great teamwork, spirit and commitment. Defensively they were more solid than last year's team, conceding a miserly eighteen goals and creating lots of chances but merely lacking the clinical finish.

Cranleigh's pre-season tournament saw intense competition for places and a big squad managed a good victory over the hosts, a narrow defeat to a strong Wellington side and a disappointing draw with RGS Guildford. However, with captain Will Allen and vice-captain Alastair Simmie looking threatening and Colts players Charlie Bowles, Andrew Stevenson and Robert Hazelton showing their worth, things were looking good.

Chris Lawless (Martyrs) is pursued by Adam Bentley, Robert Hazelton and Oliver Bujic in the Martyrs match on the 'Bader Field', the new Astro.

The season started well with a sound 3-0 victory over a very defensive and unadventurous Pangbourne – all the more impressive considering we had only beaten them 1-0 in both the previous seasons. Then followed a good performance against a strong Abingdon side, only for victory to be snatched away with the last hit of the game. Though the pace of James Barrett and Alastair Simmie created lots of chances, we just could not find that elusive final touch. Yet with the side looking increasingly assured and Andrew Stevenson at the heart of the defence, there was hope of better things to come. MCS were beaten comfortably at home and the first exeat passed with the team feeling content and confident.

Against Bradfield we gave our best performance of the season, but unfortunately our lack of finishing and two contentious umpiring decisions conspired to see us go down 2-3 and left the coach a little more than frustrated.

We entered the Oxfordshire U18 tournament minus our captain (due to his age), but determined to do well. Conceding a soft goal in the opening minute did little to help. This was followed by a serious injury midway through the first half to Simon Hayman Joyce, which saw him rushed to the JR's eye unit. A hasty re-jig of the back four at half time and a steely second half saw us draw level, creating enough chances to win the game. But it was not to be, and we lost 0-1 in sudden death penalty strokes. Still, our pride and spirit shone through, epitomised by James Barrett and Charlie Sutton, winning the 3rd/4th play-off against a very strong Rover Oxford HC. With Kerr Drummond, Gareth Williams and Adam Bentley all impressing, the squad gained strength and depth.

Stowe were comfortably beaten at home in horizontal hail which had even the hardiest of our supporters running for cover. Will Allen scored a great individual goal after a mazy dribble. The second exeat came and went with the side still unbeaten at home.

The resumption brought another win away at Eton but only after a fashion. An abysmal first half saw the side trailing by the only goal. A half time dressing down resulted in a much improved second half and comfortable victory.

Confidence was still high and with no injuries the side looked forward to the hardest weeks of the season. A fantastically competitive midweek game against Cheltenham resulted in a spectacular Sutton deflection goal and honours even - a fair result and the only game Cheltenham did not win this season. Saturday versus Marlborough saw our largest defeat. A bitter blow. Arriving late we were met by a side who were quickly out of the blocks. Two down after fifteen minutes, we finally got into gear. Teddies spirit, determination and teamwork finally kicked in. We were the better side for the remaining fifty minutes but a mixture of good defending, poor finishing and two questionable yellow cards meant we could do nothing to redress the balance.

After a much needed week without a Thursday fixture, we stepped out refreshed for the local derby against Radley. In a typically physical match the best side won, not playing particularly well but with our proud home record intact.

Injuries, avoided until now, reared their heads in the final week. Jonny Codling and James Barrett were both out with ankle injuries, but Andrew Eldridge returned after a dislocated shoulder - maybe things weren't so bad. On Wednesday we attended the prestigious St George's Sixes for the first time, recording a comfortable win over Seaford College, a goalless draw with last year's finalists and current Indoor National Champions Kingston GS, a loss on grass to a poor Borden side, redeeming ourselves with a fine win over a quality Repton side, only to lose narrowly to last year's champions Desborough and finally draw with Framlingham. A respectable first outing made memorable by some great goals and a cameo performance up front from central defender Robert Hazelton. However, it was not all good news: captain Will Allen turned his ankle early on in the Kingston game and could take no further part.

A disappointing loss to Bedford followed the very next day. Six minutes saw us a goal down, Andrew Eldridge on the sidelines with a recurrence of his shoulder injury and Will Allen on, having to play through the pain barrier. After a poor first period, we dominated the second period, again conceding an early, sloppy goal and again only managing to convert one of our numerous chances.

A day's rest, then on to our final school fixture away to Dean Close. We arrived with plenty of time only to find the boot of the bus jammed tight - kit and sticks safely inside. Baggsy, on his last ever hockey fixture, to the rescue. Fifteen minutes later we had our kit and the bus had a redesigned ventilated boot *à la Baggs*. A delay to the start allowed us our normal warm-up, but we began more poorly than ever, finding ourselves two down after only a minute and a half. It could have been far worse inside the first fifteen minutes had Simon Pearson-Burton, determined to atone for his earlier aberration, not made a string of wonderful saves to keep us in it. Yet again for the next fifty-five minutes Teddies dominated the game but yet again squandered chances, even missing a penalty stroke. Sadly, the story of our season - lapses in concentration gifting our opponents goals and not being able to convert enough of our own opportunities at the other end.

Although the results could have been better, I am very proud of the way this side dealt with all manner of adversity thrown at them. It has been a season full of Teddies fighting spirit and dogged determination, not to mention some fine play. As always thanks must go to the umpires; to Rob Aldred for his ageless enthusiasm in running the seconds and his help and support of the 1st team; to Charlie Baggs for his excellent organisation. As we all know, Charlie is to become Director of Sport. Although he will not be far away he is a huge loss to us. It will be impossible to find anyone who was more committed or who cared quite so passionately about the boys and Teddies hockey. He has also been a great support to me.

Next year will again be a challenge both on and off the pitch, but with eight of this year's first team still available and some promising young players looking to break through, expectations for next season are high.

Zac Jones

Girls' Hockey

1st XI

Captains' Report

Pre-season began with everyone in high spirits until we were welcomed back by Zac with the dreaded bleep test, in which top scores were reached…obviously!

We had a victory warm-up game against Beaconsfield High but tragedy struck in the second half when Marion was seriously injured and wasn't to take part again until the later stages of the season. We continued the season with a positive attitude and a mixture of results were achieved. The highlight of the season was against Cheltenham, where we won 4-1, for the first time ever.

Although we worked well as a team, many individuals stood out and showed their true ability in different games. Our two central strikers, Lulu and Miranda, scored some great goals and managed to outplay their opponents on many occasions. Polly and Clemmie were valuable wingers, showing lightning pace and prolific skills. This resulted in Polly concluding the season as top goal scorer.

The strength of the team was built around Ella and Anthea who opened up the play across the pitch, while Tomi, Georgie and Katy provided solid defence, which was much needed against the stronger sides, such as Dean Close. Crystal, our super-saver, only conceded 19 goals against 43 scored by the team throughout the season. Many of her saves kept us in the game. Finally, the find of the season was Laura, who put nothing but 110% into every game.

The season wouldn't have been so successful or enjoyable without Dr Hart's encouragement. Thanks from us all for a great season. Final thanks to Zac for his continuous support and excellent training sessions, and to Miss Warren for organizing the fixtures.

Marion Yarrow & Sally Appleby

Coach's Report

Watching the girls in this 1st XI squad move up through the years, it seemed likely that they would prove to be a very strong collection of hockey players, and so it turned out to be. All those involved in coaching this squad had high expectations from the start, and whilst there were one or two disappointing moments, they performed admirably throughout the season and at times produced some sublime hockey.

We were very unlucky to lose Marion Yarrow, our captain and potentially one of our strongest players, partway into our first game. However, we were very fortunate that Sally Appleby was able to step very comfortably into this role and guide the team in exemplary fashion throughout the first half of the season. Our midfield and forward line were particularly strong, with Ella Verney looking increasingly composed and effective as the season wore on, supported by Emma Yarrow and Laura Trythall. Both Laura and Emma covered tremendous amounts of ground both attacking and defending, and won us much of the ball that we were able to use to good effect. In attack Polly Dick really started to look like the finished article, playing simple and tremendously effective hockey on the right wing, whilst Clemmie Andrewes troubled every defence with her lightning pace. Miranda Arneil looked a strong and accomplished centre-forward, with great touch around the top of the 'D', whilst Olivia Darlington played selflessly in the same position, often setting up her team-mates with her vision and passing. In defence we looked very settled. Anthea Townsend showed anticipation and awareness in equal measure whilst Tomi Akande fully justified her selection with continued composure and great close control. As ever Georgie Medwell-Bates played with great energy and commitment, and was always a threat going forward. Sally Appleby had a magnificent season playing just in front of the defence; her skill and strength on the ball set up many of our most rewarding attacks, and she always seemed able to raise her game when playing the best teams. In goal Crystal Logan had what must be her best season so far, and kept us in the game on many an occasion. Finally, towards the end of the season Marion Yarrow was able to return, and despite never quite reaching the heights we might have expected at the start of the season, was nevertheless a talismanic figure for the whole team, and led by example in the way that she played and trained.

Thinking back over the high and lows of the season several events stand out. Having won all of the group games in the Oxfordshire County Tournament and played some excellent hockey, we were unlucky to go out in the semi-final on a penalty-flick shoot-out to Oxford High School. We were also disappointed to have lost some very even games by the odd goal: how easily the look of the final result sheet might have been transformed! However, some very encouraging wins against Cheltenham and Clifton, combined with the way in which the girls were determined to play attractive and attacking hockey, meant they were always a good side to watch, and would always create chances against any opposition. In short, a successful and rewarding season, and it has been my pleasure to be involved once again with such a committed and talented group of players.

Ian Hart

Results:

v. Beaconsfield H.S.	Won	4 – 1
v. Oundle	Lost	1 – 3
v. Bradfield	Won	8 – 0
v. Cheltenham	Won	4 – 1
v. Dean Close	Lost	1 – 3
v. Clifton College	Won	4 – 2
v. Bloxham	Won	2 – 1
v. Canford	Lost	2 – 3
v. Wellington	Won	10 – 0
v. Marlborough	Lost	1 – 5
v. Rugby	Lost	1 – 2
v. Bryanston	Won	8 – 0

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 2003

Team	A.R.J. Eldridge (Captain), S. Witte, B.C.I. Battcock, W.J.P. Power, R.F.G. Conibear, A.J. Simmie
	C.E.P. Bowles, A.J. Stephenson, P.K. Drummond, J.A. Hadkinson, G.T. Williams, O.B. Bujic
	W.G.F. Myers, F.R. Hustler, T.F. Armstrong, A.R. Baggs, R.T.A. Hazleton, J.E. Barrett
Coached by	Z.D. Jones (C.R.)

Fixtures

Played 26 Won 14 Drawn 2 Lost 10

<u>CRANLEIGH TOURNAMENT</u>

v Cranleigh School - Drawn 1-1
v Wellington College - Lost 0-1
v Royal Grammar School, Guildford - Lost 0-1

v Abingdon School - Won 2-1
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Won 8-2
(Away)

<u>DIVISIONAL UNDER 18 TOURNAMENT</u>

v Magdalen College School - Won 3-2
v Abingdon School - Won 1-0
v Lord Wandsworth College, Hook - Won 2-1
v Whitgift School - Won 1-0
v St. George's College, Addlestone - lost 0-5
v Wellington College - Won 5-0
v Warwick School - Lost 1-4 (Qtr Finals-- Man'r)
v Langley Park, Beckenham - lost 0-1
(Qtr Finals - Man'r)

v Stowe School - Won 5-0
(Away)

v Eton College - Won 5-3
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Marlborough College - Won 7-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 4-5
(Away)

<u>ST. GEORGE'S SIXES</u>
v Watford Grammar School - Won 1-0
v Brighton College - Lost 0-1
v Sir William Borlaise Grammar School - Lost 0-3
v Whitgift School - Lost 0-2

v Chatham House Grammar School, Ramsgate - Won 2-0
v Bedford School - Won 1-0
v Bedford School - Won 6-2
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

Boys' Hockey

A short and disjointed season will be remembered mostly for a series of high scoring record wins by the 1st XI and only one loss in a regular school fixture. In addition they reached the quarter-final of the RAF Cup - the first time our seniors have reached this stage in a national competition. It has also been a very successful term for the 2nd XI who drew only one game and won the rest. Junior sides have not all faired so well but there have been encouraging performances at all levels and the future looks rosy.

I would like to pay special tribute to three coaches who leave us this year. Ian Hart has coached the Under 14's for a number of years and the success of sides further up the School is partly due to the solid foundations laid by him. James Quick has been the perfect 3rd XI coach for many years, persuading and cajoling the disaffected whilst encouraging the keen. The Thirds, in their distinctive orange shirts, have been a happy, purposeful band under his care. Finally, Robert Aldred retires after more years than he would be willing to admit to (30 by my reckoning!) He has run the hockey, coached Under 14's and the first team, and recently masterminded the 2nd XI. It is fitting that in his final season they should play so well and remain undefeated. Robert has been a key man as S.E.S. hockey has risen from poor relation to shining light. Generations of current and old boys are indebted to him and I thank him most deeply on behalf of them all.

C.F. Baggs

Stefan Witte crosses the 'D' for a reverse stick shot on the Marlborough goal.

1st XI

A season to remember. Three record results and fifty-nine goals in eighteen games testify to the attacking hockey that this side played. More often than not it was a pleasure to watch for both supporters and staff, and clearly demonstrated the merits of great passing, teamwork, spirit and commitment.

Pre-season again saw some hard training and intense competition for places. At Cranleigh the side managed a 1-1 draw against the hosts, followed by 0-1 defeats by Wellington and RGS Guildford. A pretty inauspicious start. However, with the players beginning to understand the new system, German international Stefan Witte and the front line looking threatening and Colts players Ben Battcock, Will Power and Bertie Conibear starting to fulfil their potential, the coach was not unduly worried.

The season started with a hard fought 2-1 victory over a solid **Abingdon** side, with two outstanding goals: the first a powerful drag flick into the top corner from Witte, the second a great run from Power unleashing an unstoppable reverse stick shot in the final minute of the game. The side also looked secure defensively, with signs of better things to come. The **MCS** game demonstrated what this side was capable of, leading 5-0 at half time, and with a record 8-2 final score. There were hat tricks for both Simmie and Witte and goals for Power and Bowles, but a poor last five minutes saw us concede two late goals.

Bradfield away proved to be the side's best performance of the season, resulting in a 7-0 victory – another record. We totally dominated a more than competent side with some stunning attacking play (Witte 4 goals; Simmie, Power and Bowles 1 apiece) and an outstanding game at the back from Stevenson.

That Sunday SES entered the **Oxfordshire U18 tournament** full of confidence and determined to do well. A fine Witte reverse stick goal in the opening minutes against MCS settled the side, but a combination of missed chances and sloppy defending continually let MCS back into the game - 1-1, then 2-1 (Witte again), 2-2 and finally 3-2 courtesy of Williams on a short corner rebound. The final against Abingdon was always going to be tough. Within two minutes Simmie put us 1-0 up, but Abingdon's determination kept the game in the balance, and in the dying moments Myers had to be at his best once again to face a series of corners. A satisfying day meant that the boys were County Champions although all felt they had underperformed.

Stowe were comfortably beaten away, Witte scoring all five goals and Drummond and Hadkinson making solid debuts. In the last game before half term, **Eton** were beaten at home in a very physical encounter, the opposition receiving no fewer than six yellow cards. Witte netted another hat trick, Simmie and Williams got one each and Bujic performed well on his debut. Half term came and went with the side having won every game.

The resumption saw confidence high – maybe too high. A traditionally competitive game against **Cheltenham** resulted in the XI's poorest performance of the season. Maybe it was overconfidence, the week off, the late arrival, the sloppy warm up or a combination. Whatever it was, Teddies conceded two very soft goals and squandered opportunities in an abysmal first half. Stern words at half time meant SES started the second period strongly, creating lots of pressure and earning a number of penalty corners until a collision with a defender saw Witte go down with what appeared to be a serious neck injury. An ambulance was called and the game was abandoned with fifteen minutes still to play. Fortunately, the injury was not as serious as it first appeared and after three days' rest Witte was back.

Renewed determination for the next match against **Marlborough**, produced a sparkling performance and another record result (7-0) with two goals apiece for Witte, Williams and Simmie and a rare but deserved goal for captain Andrew Eldridge.

The next day at the **Divisional Round** the boys became the first U18 team to reach the last eight of the national competition. Despite showing signs of tiredness they persevered to beat Lord Wandsworth 2-1 (goals by Simmie and Witte) and a strong Whitgift side 1-0 thanks to another Simmie strike. They then lost 0-5 to St George's in a far from one-sided game, though the current champions handed out a lesson in clinical finishing, converting 3 of 5 corners. All this left the boys needing a result against Wellington in order to progress. The fierce rivalry produced a fantastic display of attacking hockey. Another fine hat trick by Witte and goals from Power and Bowles made the final score 5-0, with Myers pulling off another outstanding save on the last hit of the game, and Stevenson immense once again at centre back, ably supported by Hadkinson.

The following Saturday, complacency saw Teddies quickly go 0-2 down to an athletic and skilful **Radley**. On fifteen minutes Teddies began to click, scoring four goals to go into half time 4-2 up (Williams a scorching corner, Witte yet another reverse stick and Bowles two, one a spectacular volley). However, Radley started the second half with two more goals, and a series of missed chances followed by a late Radley winner resulted in a painful loss.

Into the final hectic week, with captain Andrew Eldridge out with a serious shoulder injury sustained playing sevens and Simmie taking over the captaincy. At the **St George's Sixes** on the Wednesday, we beat Watford GS 1-0 before losing to Brighton College (0-1), Sir William Borlase (0-3) and Whitgift (0-2). We redeemed ourselves with wins over Chatham House (2-0) and Bedford (1-0), but it was disappointing to finish fourth in our group and exit the competition before the knockout stages.

On the very next day we travelled to **Bedford**. A reshuffle at the back meant a deserved recall for the ever-reliable Arber, and a fine first half saw us 3 goals up at half time (another Witte drag flick, Power's fifth of the season, and a mazy dribble and finish from an increasingly confident Conibear). The second period started well with goals from Witte and Williams inside the first six minutes, then Bedford rallied to score two goals before Williams got his second to ensure a 6-2 win.

A day's rest before our final school fixture - at home to **Dean Close**. With three starting players away on the Spanish exchange and Eldridge still out injured, this young side (led by Williams) produced an excellent performance that deserved victory but ended 2-2. Newcomers Max Cunningham, Freddie Hustler, Tom Armstrong and Andrew Baggs made valuable contributions, and first team regulars Stevenson, Battcock and Witte were outstanding, the latter scoring a drag flick and a fantastic solo effort ending with an unstoppable reverse stick shot.

A week into the holidays the squad reassembled (minus Conibear, Drummond and Bujic) in order to travel to Manchester for the **National quarter-finals**. In an agonising decision for both coach and captain, Andrew Eldridge was declared still unfit to play. Warwick were out of the blocks quickly and 2-0 up inside two minutes, their first a hotly disputed penalty stroke inside forty seconds. The boys had a huge mountain to climb and it could have been worse had Myers not saved a second stroke minutes later. However, the boys rallied to play much better for the remainder of the half, conceding a third against the run of play when Myers made a fine save only for the ball to fall kindly to an opposition forward. The second half started well with Witte dispatching a penalty stroke, but try as they might Teddies could not find another way through. A hugely disappointing result (1-4), the one plus being an outstanding display at the back from Robert Hazelton. Our very young side then lifted themselves for one final effort in the consolation game against Langley Park. We created a number of chances but were unable to capitalise and conceded the only goal of the match. John Barrett made an impressive debut up front, Battcock was at his combative best, Myers inspired in his last game and Hazelton immense again in defence.

Although the Cheltenham and Radley games still rankle and the boys were disappointed with their quarter-final performance, I am very proud of this side. It has been a sensational season full of exciting and attacking play. As always a big thank you to the umpires. Also to Robert Aldred for running the unbeaten seconds and helping with the senior squad. What a great season to end on! Both the players and myself will miss your infectious enthusiasm. My thanks to you for your friendship and many enjoyable hours spent both on and off the hockey pitch. My thanks also to Chris Lush for all his help and support with the RAF Cup squad and of course to Charlie Baggs for all his hard work and organisation.

Next year will be a real challenge as this year's XI have raised the bar both on and off the pitch, but with six of the team back next year and a number of young players looking to break through, the future looks bright.

Zak Jones

2nd XI

Eight matches played, six wins, twenty eight goals scored. With five Lower Sixth players, next year's 1st XI should prosper.

The season was concluded in wonderful fashion, again showing the depth of talent in the team and illustrating Mr Aldred's fine coaching technique. Our performance against Bedford, a very capable side, was terrific. We combined hard work with enjoyment in a fashion that overwhelmed our opponents.

Perhaps the only disappointments of a great season were our draws with Eton and the 'derby match' at Radley: in both matches we deserved to win but failed to finish off a lot of constructive midfield movement.

Every player shone at different points in the term. Of the goalkeepers, Luke Kelly's

Girls' Hockey

1st XI

The season started well with a large number of girls attending pre season training. Competition for places was fierce.

A fantastically competitive first game at home resulted in a 2-2 draw with Cheltenham which could have gone either way. The team created good chances and Kathryn Tuckett produced some fine saves.

The girls then took on a strong Beaconsfield High team who had been National U16 runners-up the previous year. With Anthea Townsend marking their England player out of the game, and captain Ella Verney and ex-Beaconsfield pupil Laura Trythall both having outstanding games in midfield, a fine performance resulted in a 3-1 victory.

It was therefore disappointing to lose 0-4 to Oundle soon after: the pressure of two matches in three days and the opposition's strong physical play proved too much. However, there followed a comfortable 2-0 victory over Sir William Borlase in a shortened game due to problems with pitch bookings. Goals came from Lucy Yorke-Long and Clemmie Andrewes.

After a goal-setting session the girls produced a fine performance against a strong Headington side, coming out worthy 3-1 winners courtesy of a Miranda Arneil hat-trick.

Next we played host to Dean Close, and although the girls produced one of their best performances of the season it was not enough to prevent us losing 1-3 to very good opponents. Immy Lloyd got her first senior goal and Emma Power had an outstanding game in midfield.

On to the County round. The group phase saw us win all our matches, beating Banbury 5-0, Kingham 1-0 (thanks to a rare Katie Bartlett goal), Gosford Hill 3-0 and Headington 2-0. The semi final saw SES dominate against a good Oxford High team, but we were unable to take our chances. With the game ending 0-0 it was all down to penalty strokes. It was 2-2 after the first barrage and so went to sudden death with Oxford High winning 3-2 and going on to become County Champions. Yet again SES were unbeaten in normal play at the county competition, but yet again the title eluded us, and the coach was left to ponder the merits of playing 12-minute, one-way games.

A new fixture against Wycombe High, the National Indoor Champions resulted in another fine performance and 1-1 draw. In a closely fought contest Teddies couldn't quite find the finishing touch that their slight dominance of possession deserved.

Another 1-1 draw, this time against Bloxham, saw the girls dominate the first half, but then allow their opponents back in the second to catch us with a goal on the break.

Away at Canford the girls produced a fantastic display of attacking hockey – the best performance I have ever seen from a SES girls' team. In a blistering first half against a quality, unbeaten side, the girls raced into a 4-0 lead. Polly Dick scored two and revelled in her new

Miranda Arneil tries a reverse stick shot on the Cheltenham goal.

Australia 2033 Girls' Hockey Tour

Front row: *Bella Stanley, Sophie Tuckett, Immy Lloyd, Bella Bassadone, Kate Geekie, Alanna Hume.*
Back row: *Rosie Hamilton, Laura Trythall, Christina Minty, Fran Nimmo, Emma Power, Serena Manners, Jenny Barter.*

PHOTOGRAPH TO BE ADDED
WHEN AVAILABLE

Hockey XI 2004

Team	R.T.A. Hazleton (Captain), A.R. Baggs, B.C.I. Battock, N.D. Roblin, A.J. Stevenson, W.J.P. Power, J.W. Barrett
	H.M. Redknap, M. Bramble, T.F. Armstrong, D.J. Ball, R.F.G. Conibear, C.E.P. Bowles, M.E. Cunningham
	J.E. Skull, I. Oliver, F.R. Hustler
Coached by	Z.D. Jones (C.R.)

Fixtures

Played 31 Won 17 Drawn 2 Lost 12

v Abingdon School - Lost 0-4
(Away)
v Cheltenham College - Won 4-1
(Home)
v Stowe School -Won 5-2
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Won 1-0
(County Preliminary Semi Final)
v Radley College - Won 2-1
(County Preliminary Final)
v Marlborough College - Won 2-1
(Away)
v Eton College - Won 3-0
(Home)
v Radley College - Won 5-4
(Home)
v Epsom College - Lost (No details)
(Divisional Round at Epsom)
v Churchers College, Petersfield - Drawn 2-2
(Divisional Round at Epsom)
v Bradfield College - Lost 1-2
(Divisional Round at Epsom)
v St. George's College, Addlestone - Lost 1-5
(Divisional Round at Epsom)
v Charterhouse School - Lost 1-2
(Divisional Round at Epsom)

<u>ST. GEORGE'S SIXES</u>
v Charterhouse School - Won 3-1
v Millfield School - Won 2-1
v Framlingham College - Won 3-1
v Hitchin Boys School - Drawn (No Details)
v Watford Grammar School -Won 3-1
v Tonbridge School - Won 3-1
v Kingston Grammar School - Drawn 1-1
SES Win on Strokes
v St. George's College, Addlestone - Lost 1-2

v Bedford School- Won 2-0
(Home)
v Dean Close School, Cheltenham Lost 2-7
(Away)
v Magdalen College School - Won 6-2
(Home)

<u>SOUTH AFRICAN TOUR</u>

v Belville High School Won 5-0
v Pinelands H.C., S.A - Lost 1-3
v Western Province Country Club, S.A. - Won 5-4
v Central Development Under 21s, S.A. - Lost 2-5
v Martizberg College, S.A. - Lost 1-9
v Hilton College , S.A. - Lost 5-6
v Michaelhouse, S.A. - Lost 3-4

Boys' Hockey

1st XI

Another good season for the 1st XI. To be county champions, unbeaten at home, winning all but two of their school matches and runners-up in the prestigious St George's Sixes seemed like a reasonable return. But with the players setting themselves high standards there was a tinge of disappointment at not reaching the National quarter-finals again.

Pre-season saw two hard days testing and training at school, but no matches due to term differences. The lack of match practice showed: Abingdon, having already played one fixture, were more determined and clinical. A combination of good goalkeeping and poor finishing ensured SES did not score. A disappointing start, though the 0-4 score line flattered our hosts and did not fully reflect the game. Cheltenham were comfortably beaten 4-1 at home thanks to an Andrew Baggs hat-trick and Ben Battcock rebound. Whilst SES played well at times the margin really should have been more.

The Bradfield match before Exeat was cancelled due to snow, but another good (after a fashion) win followed at Stowe. A sloppy first half saw the side 0-2 down, captain Robert Hazelton in their medical centre after nosing in a bizarre own goal and Nick Roblin hastily installed at right back. After the riot act was read at half time, SES started with renewed vigour and were rewarded with a goal courtesy of Baggs from the penalty spot. From then on it was one-way traffic as Teddies piled on the pressure, running out 5-2 winners with Baggs completing his hat trick, Andrew Stevenson netting a rare goal, Will Power completing the scoring after a fantastic passing move and John Barrett outstanding throughout.

At the county round the following day, the side beat MCS 1-0 in a hard fought semi-final thanks to a well taken Henry Redknap goal. The final against Radley was a fantastic game. Power weaved through a packed defence to score an amazing individual goal inside two minutes. Radley fought back, forcing the Teddies defence of Matt Bramble, Tom Armstrong, Danny Ball and Roblin to be at their best. Good as they were they could not prevent Radley from equalising before half time. In a tense second half it was always going to take something special to break the deadlock. The outstanding Bertie Conibear stole the ball near the halfway line and began a rapid counter attack, superb passing forced Radley's last defender to foul in order to prevent a goal. Baggs dispatched from the spot and Teddies played out the remaining minutes to become Champions. Stand-in captain and Player of the Season Andrew Stevenson had an immense tournament in the heart of midfield.

With fixtures now coming thick and fast, the team tackled Marlborough away that Thursday. In a competitive encounter SES won 2-1 thanks to goals from Charlie Bowles and John Barrett. Although the team did not perform at their best it was a very hard fought and well earned victory. On returning from half term Eton were well beaten 3-0, With a goal from Conibear and two from Baggs. It was a very mature performance, with Teddies dominating throughout.

Fierce local rivalry and both teams desire to play attacking hockey ensured that the home game against Radley was an epic. The large and vocal crowd were not disappointed. Radley started well and opened the scoring, Teddies responded through a Power rebound soon after and took the lead two minutes later after an excellent early free hit from Max Cunningham found Barrett who scored. Radley rallied, scoring again to leave the sides level at half time. A bright start to the second period resulted in Baggs netting two drag flicks, leaving Teddies 4-2 up and playing breathtaking hockey, much to the crowd's delight. With the game almost won, the team relaxed and Radley took advantage to pull a goal back. An immediate response came in the form of a flowing passing move which led to a stroke. Baggs calmly netted for another hat-trick. Any thoughts that this would settle the side quickly evaporated as composure deserted them, Radley scoring again to make it 5-4. Fortunately, the boys were strong enough to hold on, ensuring a memorable win. With the Divisional Round the next day there was little time to savour victory. Bananas, jelly babies, sports drinks were consumed and iced baths duly taken (if not enjoyed!) in preparation for Sunday.

High hopes were quickly suppressed on arrival at Epsom's new pitch. It was a disgrace for a national competition, resembling sand dunes and making it impossible to play fast, attacking hockey. Try as they might, the boys just couldn't find their rhythm, conceding soft goals and missing chances in drawing with Churcher's and losing to Bradfield. A change of pitch resulted in a much improved performance. The boys eventually lost 1-5 in a very fast and entertaining game of hockey to the current champions St George's. It was a glimpse of what might have been (given a better surface for our other games) as St George's England goalkeeper was called on to make a number of superb saves, mid-field players Battcock, Conibear and Power looking as good as any of their internationals. The squad rounded off a disappointing and frustrating day back on 'the beach' conceding a goal in the last thirty seconds to lose 1-2 to Charterhouse.

However, there was no time to dwell on what might have been. At the prestigious St George's Sixes, SES headed their group, with the most points in the competition. Charterhouse were beaten 3-1, Millfield 2-1 and Framlingham 3-1 (much to Mr Baggs delight). A scoreless draw with Hitchin followed before Watford GS and Tonbridge were both beaten 3-1. A tense semi-final resulted in a 1-1 draw with Kingston GS. With no score in extra time it came down to penalty strokes, the outstanding Bramble saving four and Stevenson calmly putting both of his away to ensure a 3-2 win. In a tight final SES were beaten 1-2 by the hosts: Most Improved player Barrett capped a fine day with a goal in the final taking his day's tally to four, and Conibear at his mercurial best wove his magic and scored six goals in the process.

With barely time to draw breath a strong Bedford side were beaten 2-0 the next day with goals from Bowles and Baggs.

Exeat provided a much needed rest before the last two games. Dean Close was a game to forget. A solid first half meant the scores were level at half time, Teddies conceding a soft goal and Barrett scoring with a delightful reverse stick. Although SES started the second half brightly, poor defensive errors allowed our hosts to score six goals in seventeen minutes. A late rally resulted in a second for Barrett, only a goal line clearance preventing his hat-trick. However, the damage had already been done - a painful 2-7 defeat, the 1st XI's worst in a number of years.

With five regulars out through injury or Sevens, the last home game against MCS took on even greater significance. The 1-2 half-time score line was testament to some sloppy defending and poor finishing, but in the second period, with defenders Skull and Ball dominant and colt Iain Olivier impressing in midfield, the forwards found their range. Battcock scored with a volley, Top Goalscorer Baggs netted another hat-trick, and Freddie Hustler and Roblin completed the scoring in a fine 6-2 win.

It has been a fulfilling season, full of exciting, attacking hockey and some very fine individual and team performances. As always a big thank you to the umpires and all the coaches who make SES hockey possible. My thanks also to David Corran and Huw for all their help with the senior squad. To Chris Lush, our best wishes go with you and also our gratitude for all your time and hard work in the name of Teddies hockey. It is also worth noting that we lose three stalwarts in Robert Hazelton, Andrew Stevenson and Charlie Bowles who deserve recognition. All have represented the School over fifty times at first team level and have played a huge role in the continued development of our hockey.

Next year again looks promising, with seven of this year's first team remaining, a summer tour to South Africa and some promising youngsters.

Zak Jones

Girls' Hockey

With more fixtures than ever before, it has been another good year for girls' hockey. New fixtures such as Cheltenham Ladies, Oakham, Uppingham and The Royal Latin have enhanced the quality of our matches. With the U18 and U16 XIs both becoming County Champions, the U14 county runners up and a number of girls representing Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, we are beginning to reap the benefits of having two all weather surfaces and high quality fixtures week in, week out.

My thanks to all staff who have given so generously of their time to umpire and coach in all weather conditions and who have made this season one of our most successful.

Z.D. Jones

1st XI

We all knew playing in Australia would be tough, and so it proved to be, but it was also the making of a fantastic and close-knit team whose company was always a joy.

After a hard pre-season, the first match was a new fixture away at Uppingham. A poor first half saw the team 1-3 down. Strong words at half time jolted the players into action and they produced a brilliant second half performance to run out 5-3 winners, with goals from Laura Trythall, Immy Lloyd (2), Serena Manners and Sophie Tuckett.

A late arrival at Rugby did nothing to shake confidence, the team starting particularly well, creating chances aplenty in the first 15mins but finding Rugby's goalkeeper in inspired form. Before they knew it they were going into half-time 0-3, much to the astonishment of the coach and away supporters. Rugby were a quality side and try as they might, Teddies just couldn't get the upper hand, hitting the post twice but eventually losing 3-6 in a fantastically competitive and open game of hockey. Lucy York-Long, Serena and Immy scored the goals, while Jenny Barter was a constant thorn in Rugby's left-hand side.

The first home game saw a 0-2 loss to very determined Cheltenham College. Teddies dominated for much of the match but were unable to take their chances or convert any of their eleven short corners. A good 3-0 home win over Sir William Borlase in a shortened game restored confidence, with goals from Serena, Chrissy Minty and Miranda Arneil.

Dean Close came and went with a lesson in clinical finishing. Another poor first half saw the team 0-5 down to very fine opponents, and although things improved significantly in the second half it was not Teddies' day. The 0-9 score line provided a slightly distorted and harsh reflection of the game.

Some deep soul searching followed. With the Teddies fire and spirit rekindled, the girls produced a memorable performance in beating a very strong Cheltenham Ladies side 4-0 with goals from Immy, Miranda (2) and Laura. It was a fantastic team performance with the captain immense, capping a fine individual display with a sixty yard run in which she beat five or six players and rounded the goalkeeper to score.

Another new fixture at Oakham followed a week later. In another memorable game of hockey, Teddies again produced a poor first half, conceding soft goals to find themselves 0-3 down. The now familiar half-time riot act was read. Yet again the girls responded, producing fine attacking hockey (Laura scoring two goals to pull the game back to 2-3), but the home goalkeeper produced a string of good saves (aided by both posts) to deny Teddies, and then Oakham scored late on to secure themselves a 4-2 victory.

In the county round Lord Williams', Cherwell, Henry Box and Bloxham were beaten in the group stages. The victories included rare goals for both Fran Nimmo and Rosie Hamilton. The semi-final saw a comfortable 2-1 win over Our Lady's Convent and the final a less comfortable win over our old rivals Oxford High, thanks to an early Miranda strike and late Laura penalty stroke.

As County Champions the team recorded three successive victories. Canford always seem to bring out the best in Teddies and the home supporters were not disappointed. An exhilarating first half display saw the girls race into a 3-0 half-time lead with goals from Laura and Miranda (2). Canford rallied in the second half but could not prevent Miranda getting her hat-trick to ensure a memorable 4-1 win. Headington were comfortably beaten 5-0 in midweek with goals from Rosie, Laura, Fran and Miranda (2). A defiant Bloxham were beaten by a solitary Miranda goal in the local derby, though the score line did not reflect Teddies' dominance of possession and territory.

A tough away match at Marlborough with an injury-depleted side resulted in a 1-3 loss but a great game of hockey. Even without Lucy or Sophie, the girls produced one of their best performances of the season and could consider themselves very unfortunate not to get anything from the game. Fran Allen and Chrissy Minty (returning from long-term illness) filled in well, and Immy scored on the end of a free-flowing passing move that went the length of the pitch.

In the Divisional round, the girls acquitted themselves well, losing 0-1 to both Beaconsfield High (last year's National U16 runners up) and Kingston GS (the eventual winners) in two tight contests. They beat Godolphin and Latymer 2-0 with goals from Immy and Fran Nimmo, drew 1-1 with King Edward VI with a goal from Lucy, and beat The Abbey 3-1 with two goals from Serena and one from Fran Allen, before losing 0-1 in their final game to a very strong Eastbourne College – a game in which Bella Bassadone was outstanding between the posts. All this meant the girls finished just outside their 'top three' target. However, the team played well and with a bit more luck could have finished unbeaten. Emma Power and Rosie Hamilton both had exceptional tournaments.

The last home game saw a 4-0 win over The Royal Latin in another new fixture. A very good performance resulted in some magical hockey and a totally deserved win, with goals from Serena (2), Immy and Lucy. Left back Alanna Hume had another outstanding game in both defence and attack, aided by an ever more assured Sophie at CB.

The final game was at Oundle. Without the injured Jenny, the re-shuffled side played and competed well in a tight and very physical encounter, eventually losing 1-2 when a draw seemed the only fair result. Emma Power had another immense game.

It has been another fun and enjoyable season. Exciting, attacking hockey combined with great team and individual performances. Once again I would like to thank Miss Dunkerley for her organisation and wish her well in her new job. Thanks also to Mr Gibbon for all his umpiring and coaching of the senior squads. Finally, my thanks to Laura for her enthusiasm, commitment and sense of fun: she led by example both on and off the pitch and will be sorely missed. Next year again looks promising; with a crop of talented youngsters coming through and only three 1st team players leaving, expectations of another good season are high.

Z.D. Jones

2nd XI

The 2nd XI enjoyed a most worthwhile season. After a slow start, the girls settled in and played some good quality hockey. Most games were closely contested: the team was well-known for rising to the level of their opposition, and fighting hard in the second half to come back for a tight finish. If any lessons were learnt, one of the most important would be the value of starting a match with the same degree of determination with which you wish to end. Many matches were played, and many more hours were spent travelling to far-flung fields. By the end of the season, the members of the team knew one another very well, and a positive team spirit prevailed. Well done to all the players and their loyal supporters!

D. Gibbon (coach)

Hockey XI 2005

L to R back row	J.W. Barrett, A.R. Baggs, Z. Jones (Coach), J.E. Skull
L to R middle row	N.D. Roblin, J.P. Redknapp, T.F. Armstrong, I.R.M. Oliver, M.H. Bramble
L to R seated	R.F.G. Conibear, B.C.I. Battcock (Captain), W.J.P. Power
Missing	C. Forsythe
Coached by	Z.D. Jones (C.R.)

Fixtures

Played 25 Won 19 Drawn 2 Lost 4

v Abingdon School - Won 6-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 3-1
(Away)

v Stowe School - Won 10-0
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 5-0
(Away)
v Bloxham School - Won 7-0
(County Preliminary)
v Magdalen College School - Won 3-0
(County Preliminary)
v Radley College - Won 4-2
(Final County Preliminary)

v Marlborough College - Won 6-2
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Won 7-1
(Away)

v Eton College - Won 3-0
(Away)

v Kingston Grammar School - Lost 0-2
(Divisional Round)
v Wellington College - Won 1-0
(Divisional Round)
v King Edward VII Grammar School, King's Lynn - Won 5-2
(Divisional Round)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 2-2
(Away)

v Radley College - Won 3-2
(Away)

v Bedford School - Drawn 4-4
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 5-2
(Home)
<u>Gresham's Festival</u>
v Woodridge College, South Africa - Won 2-1
v Gresham's School, Holt - Lost 2-5
v Repton School - Lost 1-7
v Kearsley College, South Africa - Lost 1-2
v Woodridge College, South Africa - Won 6-0
v St. Dominic's School, South Africa - Won 7-1
v Birkenhead School - Won 6-1
v Como Academy, Australia - Won 5-2

The 1st XI after the Dean Close match: (back row) Chris Forsythe, Nick Roblin, Jonathan Skull, Andrew Baggs, Jack Redknap, Tom Armstrong, Iain Olivier; (front row) Bertie Conibear, Will Powell, Matthew Bramble, John Barrett, Ben Battcock (captain). *Photo © R. Power*

Boys' Hockey

1st XI

Another superb season for the first XI. Unbeaten in school fixtures, and County Champions. But once again there was huge disappointment at not reaching the National quarter-finals.

The season began well with a convincing home win against local rivals **Abingdon**. Teddies took a while to get going but two Andrew Baggs goals just before half time calmed the nerves (his second was a milestone - his 100th goal for the School). The second half started well with Baggs netting early for his hat trick and John Barrett pouncing on a penalty corner rebound for number four. Jack Redknap deflected a fifth high into the net soon after, but a poor spell resulted in Abingdon pulling one back from a penalty corner, before Redknap's second completed the scoring 6-1.

Away at **Bradfield** the 1st XI put in another solid performance in a comfortable 3-1 win. A poor start almost gifted the hosts a goal from the push back but Henry Allum (in for the ill Matthew Bramble) stood firm, making some fine saves. A passage of Teddies dominance followed. With the press working well, Redknap stole the ball and the resulting interchange between Barrett and Baggs resulted in the former slotting home from close range. A similar move minutes later saw Baggs net in the top corner for 2-0. However, a lapse in defence let the hosts in for the softest of goals not long before half time. With the team asked to be tougher defensively, the second period began well with Baggs scoring a wonderful individual goal. Though SES dominated the remainder of the half they could not add to their total and were disappointed not to have won by more. Captain Ben Battcock had a fine game in mid field.

Stowe had surprised Teddies last year but this year's XI were determined not to make the same mistake. A goal from Baggs inside one minute augured well, and the side continued the half in the same vein to lead 6-0 at the interval (Baggs getting his second, Will Power netting a hat trick and Redknap scoring on the half time whistle). With Tom Armstrong orchestrating things from the back Stowe were given no respite in the second period. Power scored his fourth and the prolific Baggs scored a second half hat trick, taking his game tally to five and the final score into double figures 10-0.

At the **County** round the following day, the side swept all before them, scoring 19 goals and conceding only 2 to become County Champions for the 3rd successive year. Abingdon were beaten 5-0 (Baggs 4, Barrett 1), Bloxham were outclassed 7-0 (Baggs 5, Barrett and Huw Trythall 1 apiece), MCS proved to be a much sterner test but were eventually beaten 3-0 (Baggs 2, Power 1). In the final match Teddies beat a good Radley side 4-2. Baggs netted another drag flick, Power scored a fantastic individual goal on the reverse stick, Barrett popped up to score a penalty corner rebound and Bertie Conibear earned his just reward for a fine tournament by tapping in after a trademark mazy dribble.

That Thursday the team tackled **Marlborough** at home. Teddies started where they had left off in the County Tournament and raced into a 4-0 lead. Barrett scored after some fine passing, before Baggs chimed in to net three drag flicks inside ten minutes. At this point the side relaxed a little too much, allowing the visitors a soft goal before half time. With their sights re-focussed, the home side started brightly with Baggs scoring his fourth. But try as they might Teddies could not quite find their rhythm, and they conceded again before Barrett completed the scoring. Although slightly frustrated at their inability to 'cut loose' in the second period, a 6-2 win over Marlborough was nevertheless a fine result. Power had an outstanding game at the heart of the team.

On returning from half term the 1st XI played their rearranged fixture against **Cheltenham**. A bright start saw Baggs dispatch a drag flick, before adding a second from open play. Barrett finished off a fine move and Conibear scored after a mazy dribble to leave the visitors 'shell shocked' and 4-0 down after 15mins. The remainder of the half was more even, Cheltenham pulling a goal back before half time. It took Teddies 15mins to re-establish their superiority after the break but the XI finished strongly. Conibear scored a second from another individual run, and Power and Trythall rounded things off after two fine passing movements to leave the final score 7-1.

Will Power in play against Radley *Photo © R. Power*

Bertie Conibear *Photo © R. Power*

That Saturday the winning ways continued as **Eton** were beaten 3-0 in a rather scrappy encounter. Two goals from Baggs and one from Power proved enough to ensure victory.

With high hopes of **Divisional Round** success the next day there was little time to savour victory. A bright start against Kingston boded well but a poor 5min spell just before half time saw Teddies gift the opposition two soft goals. In a good second half Teddies created chances, but up against some resolute defending they were unable to break through. From then on it was always going to be a case of keeping the pressure on Kingston and hoping they would slip up. Another bright start saw the XI go 1-0 up against a strong Wellington side and though they created lots of chances that is how the score remained. Against King Edward's the XI went 1-0 up inside 1min courtesy of Redknap. Conibear, Baggs and Power stretched the lead to 4-1 at the break, and Barrett put Teddies further ahead after a fine passing move before King Edward's scored a consolation for 5-2. The XI would then have gone through on goal difference if Kingston had lost to Wellington, but unfortunately it was not to be.

Picking themselves up from the disappointment was never going to be easy. Against **MCS** Teddies created lots of chances and had over 20 SC but a combination of a shortened game, poor finishing and inspired goalkeeping conspired against the boys. Yet the XI showed great spirit to come back from 0-1 and 1-2 down to salvage a draw from the jaws of defeat. Baggs and Barrett were the scorers.

The local rivalry continued that Saturday away at **Radley**. Teddies began sharply and should have opened the scoring inside a minute. Although the XI played some fine hockey they just could not find a way through, Radley taking the lead from a penalty corner mid-way through the half. Not long before half time some fantastic passing between Roblin and Power found Conibear in the D who scored with a fine half volley. The second half began poorly, Radley regaining the lead inside two minutes. However, with Iain Olivier tireless in midfield, SES quickly recovered their rhythm. Baggs scored from close range after a wonderful individual run from Conibear and got his second minutes later to take the score to 3-2. The XI dominated the rest of the half and although there were a few nervous moment for the coach, it was a thoroughly deserved victory.

Bedford away was always going to be tough and with two German imports strengthening their team it proved so. In a poor first half Teddies went a goal down early on but, thanks to some inspired goalkeeping from Matt Bramble and poor Bedford finishing, managed to go into half-time level at 1-1, after Baggs scored with a drag flick. The second half saw a much improved performance, with captain Battcock to the fore. The XI showed their character to come from behind on three occasions and earn a 4-4 draw. Most Improved Player Chris Forsythe scored from a short corner rebound, and Baggs got the other two.

If last year's game against **Dean Close** was one to forget, then this year's was certainly one to remember. The XI had saved their best hockey for last. Power burst through for Baggs to score early on, only for Dean Close to draw level. With Jonathan Skull outstanding in defence, Teddies took the lead once again before the break with top goal-scorer Baggs netting yet another drag flick for his 40th goal of the season. Though the XI started the second half well, Dean Close were the first to score from another well worked penalty corner. However, the home side would not be denied. Power smashed in a penalty corner and Conibear scored from another penalty corner, while at the other end Bramble saved a dubious penalty stroke. Then with thirty seconds left, a fabulous passing move resulted in Barrett walking the ball into an empty net, much to the crowd's delight.

It has been a fantastic and memorable season full of breathtaking, attacking hockey and wonderful team play. As always a big 'thank you' to the umpires and all the coaches and ground staff who make SES hockey possible. My thanks also to David Corran for all his help with the senior squad. It is also worth noting that we lose eight of this year's team (including Battcock, Conibear and Power who have all played over 50 first team games), all whom have played a huge role in the continued development of our hockey.

Zak Jones

2nd XI

This was a successful season with, at times, outstandingly good hockey played. There was a core of veterans from last year (Ball, Binning, Allum, Bartlett, Sutton, Trythall) who brought know-how and experience to our first matches, in contrast to last year, and this created an air of expectancy which in the end was not quite

Girls' Hockey

With a now established and extremely competitive fixture list it has been an enjoyable yet challenging year for girls' hockey. A notable success was the U16s' retention of their County title; the U18s unfortunately went out on penalty strokes in their semi-final. We also have a number of girls representing Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire and also playing for club sides, which will only continue to raise standards further.

My thanks to all staff and outside coaches who have umpired and coached in all weather conditions and have made this season enjoyable for all involved.

Z.D. Jones

1st XI

After an exhausting pre-season, the first match was upon us, Uppingham at home. A fantastic start saw Teddies 1-0 up inside the first minute, courtesy of an Imogen Lloyd strike. A fine individual goal from vice-captain and 'Player of the Match' Rosie Hamilton doubled the score 10 minutes later. Although Uppingham pulled one back mid-way through the half the home side remained in control and extended their lead early in the second period when Immy rounded off a fine passing move to claim her second. Late on, another superb passing move saw Serena Manners open her account to leave the final score a resounding 4-1.

Against Rugby at home, the team continued their winning trend with a 4-2 victory over very good opponents to gain revenge for last year's away defeat. Sophie Tuckett scored two fine penalty corners, Serena and Immy got one apiece by finishing off flowing passing movements, and Fran Nimmo and Bella Bassadone were outstanding on the left hand side and between the posts respectively.

The first away match resulted in a 1-5 loss to a talented Cheltenham side in a very physical encounter. Fran Nimmo scored our only goal. On the plus side, U15 Zoe Shipperley (on her debut) was only denied goals by some fine goalkeeping and captain Emma Power put in a commanding performance in the centre of midfield.

In their next home game the girls more than met their match when Wycombe High gave them a lesson in passing and clinical finishing. In our worst performance of the term we were outplayed in every department, and a bad day also saw the loss of Rosie with a back injury for what would prove to be most of the season.

With last year's thrashing still fresh in their minds the girls set about heeling old wounds and put in a good home performance against a strong Dean Close side, finally losing a tight encounter 0-3 and playing the last 10 minutes with only 10 players after Emma Power suffered a neck injury. U16 Ione Braddick made a fine debut in midfield and Player of the Match Serena was tireless up front.

Borlase at Handy Cross in horizontal rain was a game most would rather forget. In the two shortened halves Teddies played poorly against committed and skilful opponents, and the only rays of light were a rare but spectacular Alanna Hume volley, a towering display from Sophie Tuckett at centre back and a solid debut from U16 Sarah Baggs.

Oakham at home followed two days later. A poor start saw Teddies 0-1 down inside three minutes. Thankfully the girls battled back and, with Emma Hamilton and Sophie Tuckett to the fore, dominated the rest of the half and the start of next, but with Oakham's keeper in inspired form there was no way through. A defensive lapse midway through the period and two late breakaway goals giving the visitors a flattering 0-4 victory.

The County Tournament saw a brief return for Rosie. A 1-0 victory over Bloxham came from a solitary Immy strike, and Cherwell were well beaten 3-0 courtesy of a Serena hat trick. A disappointing 2-2 draw with Our Lady's Convent followed (Immy scoring twice) before Headington were beaten 3-0 in the final group game with goals from Sophie, Serena and the ever present Jenny Barter. The semi-final saw Teddies draw 0-0 with a young but very talented Henry Box, finally losing 2-4 on penalty strokes to the eventual winners.

Canford again seemed to bring out the best in Teddies but not until the second half. Our late arrival - after getting lost en route - hardly helped: unsurprisingly we started poorly and were 0-3 down at half time. A fabulous second half fight back, in which the girls dominated but could capitalise on their opportunities, resulted in a 1-3 score line. Player of the Season Sophie Tuckett was again outstanding and on the score sheet from a short corner.

Bloxham also saw a poor start - this time with no excuses - and we gifted them two goals early on, but another fantastic second half left the score at 2-2 with goals from Immy and Serena before a defensive lapse let Bloxham in for a late winner. The season's Most Improved Player Laura Sarao put in a Player of the Match performance, with Ione again impressing in midfield.

Teddies next faced a strong Marlborough who had retained 10 of last year's team. With captain Emma now out with a broken leg but cheering from the bench, the girls produced one of their best performances of the season. In fact it was a performance that ranks alongside the best from any previous years. Looking like the team from earlier in the term, they played with great passion, commitment and skill and took the game to the visitors from the start. Immy netted an early goal, then Marlborough equalised midway through the half. With the pulsating contest locked at 1-1 and ten minutes to play Immy scored her second after a fine passing move, but to the visitors' credit they never gave up and were awarded a penalty stroke with time running out. Its conversion left the final score at 2-2.

The final game was Oundle away. Minus the injured captain, vice captain and Jess Touschek, a reshuffled side competed well in a tight and very physical encounter, eventually losing 2-3 when a draw seemed the only fair result. U16s Sarah and Ione showed well in the heart of midfield, and our goals came from Sophie and Top Goal Scorer Immy Lloyd with her tenth of the season.

It has been another enjoyable term, with lots of exciting, attacking hockey. Thanks to Huw for all his help with the 1st team. Finally, my thanks to Emma for her determination, enthusiasm, and sense of fun, and my best wishes for a speedy recovery. Next year will see some big changes, with nine of this year's first team leaving. However, with our successful U16s coming through and three experienced players remaining, our prospects are good.

Z.D. Jones

2nd XI

Goalkeeper: Lulu Snell.
Defenders: Chelsea Bain, Bella Skull, Dani Devenish, Pippa Warner, Megan Baddeley, Boo Haig, Emily Cama.
Mid-field: Lexy Murr, Lara Pigott, Lizzie Fiducia, Harriet Maas.
Forwards: Clare Lewis, Corinne McLardy Smith, Bugs Laing, Jo Harper.
Coach: Mr D.R. Gibbon.

The start of the season was always going to be difficult, with an influx of new players from lower years, new pupils to the School, and players moving up from last year's 3rd XI. We didn't know each other too well to begin with, which led to a few early losses against teams no better than us. Oakham was, however, our only major defeat. We defended hard, but not only were they the better side, they also seemed to want the win more. There were many learning points from this game which were taken on board in the first half of the season.

As we got to know each other better we began to win games, notably against Bloxham and Stowe. We worked well as a team and supported each other in a way which was encouraging. The determination and willingness to give 110% shown by some team members were emulated by the rest of the team as the season progressed.

We started our last match, against Oundle, by playing the wrong team! We were already in a dominant position when the whistle went after a few minutes for 'full time'. Confused glances were exchanged before we were moved to the other astro to play the 'real' match! We 'restarted' impressively and were a goal up at half-time, but, sadly, Oundle came back with two goals and just beat us. Nonetheless, we had all played well.

Despite our losses over the season, everyone tried their best, and a great team spirit prevailed. Decent hockey was played and a good time was had by all. I am glad to have been part of this awesome team for the last season of my school hockey career.

Boo Haig (Captain)

Hockey XI 2006

L to R standing back row	T.H. Corpe, Z.D. Jones (Coach), E.J. Fremlin-Key
L to R middle row	W.T. Kerr Dineen, A.W.N. Creed, G.J.O. Lowe, G. Dennison
L to R seated	M.G. Brunner, J.P. Redknap (Captain), C.J. Forsythe
Missing	I.R.M Olivier, C.A. Penny, H.C. Hunter-Pease, D.G.M. Ross, T.W.H. Smart
Coached by	Z.D. Jones

Fixtures
Played 20 Won 6 Drawn 6 Lost 8

v Abingdon School - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Lost 0-2
(County Round)
v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-2
(County Round)
v Bloxham School - Lost 0-1
(County Round)
v Radley College - Drawn 1-1
(County Round)
v Cheltenham College - Lost 3-4
(County Round)

v Stowe School - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Marlborough College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Bedford School - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

v Radley College - Won 3-2
(Home)

<u>St. George's Sixes</u>

v Langley Park School, Beckenham - Lost 0-2
v Brighton College - Won 1-0
v Seaford College - Won 3-1
v Borden Grammar School - Lost 2-4
v Repton School - Drawn 0-0
v Simon Langton Grammar School, Canterbury - Won 2-0

v Harrow School - Won 2-0
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Won 4-2
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 3-4
(Away)

Boys' Hockey

1st XI

It has not been a vintage year in terms of 1st XI results, but these do not fully reflect the quality of hockey that has been played or the improvement in the side throughout the season.

v. Abingdon (A) Drew 3-3
In a thrilling opening game of the season SES and Abingdon shared the spoils. A slightly scrappy first half saw the1st XI pay dearly for a couple of errors and trail 0-2 at the break, though colt Will Kerr-Dineen totally justified his selection with a fine performance in the centre of midfield and Guthrie Denniston was a constant threat on the right. Things got worse when the home side made it 3-0 early in the second half, but SES showed excellent character, fitness and skill to come back from the dead with a hat-trick from Captain Jack Redknap.

County Round
In a re-match of the day before against Abingdon, SES again began poorly and again found themselves two goals down. However, the shortened cup match time gave no chance of a comeback, and although SES rallied late on and should have been awarded a penalty stroke, it was all too little too late. Against MCS the 1st XI made a brighter start, but were caught twice on the counter before Alec Creed pulled one back to leave the score 1-2. In a very even game against Bloxham, Teddies had their opportunities but could not convert and lost to a solitary penalty corner goal. The boys then lifted themselves for the challenge of Radley and started superbly, with Creed getting his second of the day after a fantastic passing move. Lots of further chances were created but without another goal, and Radley earned a draw with a late penalty corner strike.

v. Cheltenham (H) Lost 3-4
The visitors played with intensity and outworked the home side for much of the game. They opened the scoring from a penalty corner midway through the half, but with the home forwards operating on scraps of ball, Redknap was clinical with his first real chance a few minutes later and levelled the score. Teddies immediately gave ball away and the visitors regained the lead. Shortly before halftime a long through ball found Gabriel Lowe who collected and finished his first chance neatly to bring the home side level once again. However, sloppy defending allowed Cheltenham to score with only seconds remaining. The second period saw Teddies playing with a better intensity led by the outstanding Max Brunner, but still struggling to find their passing rhythm and it was no surprise when the visitors stretched their lead with ten minutes to go from a neat penalty corner routine. Suddenly stung into life the home side upped the pressure: Redknap fired in a penalty corner strike with a couple of minutes remaining and Lowe had a fine shot saved on the last play of the game.

Ed Fremlin-Key in action, supported by Jack Redknap and Max Brunner.

v. Stowe (A) Lost 0-1
In a scrappy game that was full of energy, enthusiasm and endeavour but
not a huge amount of skill, both sides worked extremely hard without creating too many opportunities. With the umpires not really allowing a free flowing game, defences dominated: back three Tristan Corpe, David Ross and Chris Forsythe all havd fine games ably supported by superb midfield duo Iain Olivier and Brunner. SES had more possession and the better chances but could not find the net as Stowe hung in there to score a late winner with only a minute to go.

v. Marlborough (A) Drew 1-1
In the last game before half term Ed Fremlin-Key made his debut against his old school and the side produced the type of performance the players and coach had been waiting for. In a very evenly matched encounter it was high tempo, open hockey but neither side could find easy openings. With Henry Hunter-Pease making some outstanding saves, it took a harsh penalty corner decision to break the deadlock as Marlborough scored. There was no panic in the half-time huddle, as the side knew they were playing well and passing the ball superbly, and in the 2nd half they forced Marlborough to defend deeper and deeper. It looked increasingly like the hosts were going to hold out before Redknap stepped up and fired in a fine penalty corner to level the scores with only minutes remaining.

v. Bedford (H) Drew 2-2
SES started slowly and the visitors scored after thirteen minutes, and then doubled their lead before half time from a well-worked corner routine. Again there was no panic and in a very good second half Teddies dominated. With Guthrie Denniston fantastic in the centre of midfield, Redknap scored a spectacular individual goal after a mazy run and then calmly dispatched a penalty stroke to earn a deserved draw.

v. MCS (A) Drew 3-3
With the side in danger of becoming draw specialists this game started in bright sunshine. But with clouds on the horizon SES conceded two soft goals in the first quarter before pulling one back when Charles Penny pounced on a corner rebound. They then conceded "a howler" just before the break, but immediately put MCS under pressure in the second half, and with Chris Forsythe and vice-captain Olivier having fantastic games on the left it was no surprise when Lowe scored with a crisp shot after some great passing down that side. Redknap then stole the ball to fire home a third, but as a blizzard descended SES were unable to conjure a winner.

v. Radley (H) Won 4-3
Saving one of their best performances for their second local derby in four days Teddies produced some fine hockey in a game marred by five yellow cards. They began brightly, passing the ball well and always looking dangerous on the counter, and were rewarded when from their 3rd corner Fremlin Key deflected the ball home. This brought an immediate response from Radley as some weak defending allowed a midfield player to dribble through to score. The game remained competitive but clean, and after thirty minutes Penny collected a penalty corner rebound and restored the lead. In the second half a fabulous passing move down the right resulted in Denniston pulling the ball back for Brunner to net a rare goal. It was just reward for the central midfield trio of Olivier, Brunner and Denniston who were immense throughout. The game became disjointed as the cards rained but SES maintained their discipline and composure better than the visitors who could only manage a late consolation.

Iain Olivier in action against Dean Close.

St George's Sixes
SES finished 4th in a very tight group, missing out on progressing to the knockout stages by one goal. They were beaten 2-0 on grass by National Champions and eventual winners Langley Park. On the more familiar astro, they beat Brighton College with a solitary goal from Denniston, before playing some fantastic hockey in beating Seaford College 3-1 with goals from Tim Smart, Redknap and Penny. SES then lost 2-4 to Borden with a rare goal for Ross and another for Redknap. Back on the grass Teddies dominated but could only draw 0-0 with Repton before beating Simon Langton in their final game 2-0 with goals from Denniston and Redknap.

v. Harrow (H) Won 2-0
With barely time to draw breath the XI played Harrow in a new fixture. Beginning well and controlling the game for long spells as the visitors were restricted to a few counter attacks, SES were disappointed to go into the break with the score still at 0-0. The second period began well: Redknap scored after a couple of minutes from a fiercely struck penalty corner, and got his second soon after as SES dominated the rest of the half with Brunner and Denniston again to the fore. Only some fine goalkeeping by Harrow prevented a further score.

v. Bradfield (H) Won 4-2
In a very even first quarter, it was Fremlin Key who broke the deadlock with an individual goal in the 18th minute. The game continued to be tight until six minutes later when Denniston produced a quality piece of individual skill for Redknap to score from close range. Teddies continued to press home their advantage and were rewarded when top goal scorer Redknap fired his second into the net from a penalty corner rebound. The 3-0 score line was slightly flattering but the home side had taken their chances well and defended superbly with 'Most Improved Player' Ross immaculate. The second half began positively with Teddies in control, but a sloppy turnover ten minutes in gifted Bradfield a penalty corner from which they promptly scored. This spurred SES into action. A fantastic passing move down the left presented Lowe with an empty goal, and he made no mistake. Bradfield pressed hard for the last quarter and, although Pease saved a penalty stroke, they scored with a drag flick to leave the players slightly frustrated at the final whistle.

v. Dean Close (A) Lost 3-4
This is always a tough game, especially away from home. The 1st XI started poorly and, after missing an early penalty stroke, Dean Close took the lead ten minutes later when some poor defending allowed them to dribble in and score. SES bounced back quickly when a defence-splitting pass from Denniston found Fremlin-Key who dummied to put the keeper on the floor and finished high into the net. The second period began well but a soft penalty corner goal and a defensive error within a minute of each other saw Dean Close race into a 3-1 lead. The hosts dominated the next period and it was no surprise when they extended their lead on twenty minutes. However, SES showed fantastic spirit, commitment and skill in not going quietly as they fought back with two Redknap penalty corner strikes to make it a nail-biting last seven minutes.

My thanks to captain Jack Redknap and vice-captain Iain Olivier for their leadership, enthusiasm and contribution to the 1st XI over the past two years. Congratulations too to Jack for managing to score his 100th goal for the School in his last game against the Martyrs. We lose five very experienced players this year which is bound to have an effect, but with a good crop of Lower Sixths remaining in both the 1st and 2nd teams and some promising Colts coming through, the outlook is again good.

Zak Jones

Girls' Hockey

With an extremely competitive fixture list it has been another challenging year for girl's hockey. There were no successes at County level (with the U16's losing on strokes in their final and the U18's slipping to finish 3rd), but several girls represent Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire and some also play women's club hockey. One notable individual success is Zoe Shipperley who becomes the first St Edward's girl ever to represent England, having been selected to play for England U16 in a Four Nations Tournament in Holland.

My thanks to all staff and outside coaches who have given so generously of their time to umpire and coach in all weather conditions and have made this season fun and enjoyable for all involved. - [Z.D.J.]

1st XI

v. Uppingham (A) Lost 2-3
In a very good opening performance the girls played with fantastic intensity and spirit considering their limited training time. In a hotly contested 1st half the teams shared 4 goals, with Laura Sarao and 'Player of the Match' Zoe Shipperley scoring one apiece. Despite dominating for long periods in the 2nd half Teddies just could not take advantage of their opportunities, while Uppingham managed to make the most of their limited chances to win the game. This was to be a common tale: a season of missed opportunities at one end and defensive lapses at the other.

v. Rugby (A) Lost 0-2
Teddies were dominant in most aspects of play including seven penalty corners in the first half, but they had failed to score as the half ended 0-0. In a physical encounter which had already seen Sophie Tuckett and Ione Braddick struck and Hermione Russell injured on the sideline, the girls continued to work hard but failed to convert their chances, and the home side won the game with scores from a penalty corner and open play. Nonetheless it had been a very good team performance, with Liberty Nimmo and Lettie Cary playing well up front; Shipperley, Russell and Alicea Berkin dominating the midfield; and Captain Sophie Tuckett orchestrating things from the back.

v. Cheltenham College (H) Won 2-1
The first home match saw the young side come of age with a stunning performance against a talented Cheltenham College who had beaten SES 5-1 last year. In a physical encounter the home side played with intensity and passion. 'Player of Match' Shipperley had a brilliant game, scoring with a sweetly struck reverse stick midway through the half and then making it two a few minutes later to give the home side a deserved 2-0 lead at the interval.

v. Marlborough (A) Lost 0-1
In the first half against a strong Marlborough side, Teddies found it hard to get their attacking hockey going and failed to score despite having twice as many penalty corners. After the break the girls still created lots of chances, but the hosts sealed their win with a well worked penalty corner. A disappointing result, but the back three of Tuckett, Andrewes and McHardy played really well.

Zoe Shipperley, who has gained a place in the England U16 hockey team. She travels to Spain with them over Easter and to Holland in the summer.

Cheltenham stepped up the pressure in the second period and were rewarded with a goal midway through the half but the Teddies defence of Milly Andrewes, Georgia McHardy and Tuckett were superb and though Cheltenham threw everything at them the home side remained calm to earn a well deserved 2-1 victory.

v. Oxford High (H) Won 1-0
Although Teddies started well and created lots of chances, their finishing had once again deserted them. Russell's goal, on a rebound midway through the first half, turned out to be the only goal of the game. In the second half, with the outstanding Braddick prompting things from the heart of midfield, Teddies dominated, creating numerous chances but again failing to capitalise.

v. Oakham (A) Lost 0-2
In this away fixture the girls encountered a very experienced and well organised side, who dominated possession and territory in the first period and deservedly went into the break with a two goal advantage. It could have been worse had Anna Searle not been having such a magnificent game in goal. The second half was much more even with few chances for either side as Berkin and Shipperley worked tirelessly in midfield, and on the long trip home the girls reflected on a positive performance in which they had learnt much.

v. Borlase (H) Drawn 2-2
Without the U16 quartet who were preparing for their county round, it was up to Lizzie Heeley, Lilly Knight, Ro MacRitchie, Olivia Barter and Lara Pigott to step into the breach. With Sarah Baggs showing all her qualities in a fine midfield display, the Teddies back three also played really well against a strong Borlase side, and Tuckett scored from a penalty corner to give the home side a half-time lead. Borlase fought back and scored before Knight, on her debut, finished off a fine passing move midway through the half. Borlase responded almost immediately to earn the draw.

v. Oundle (H) Won 2-1
Although matches against Oundle had always been close, Teddies had never beaten them. That was about to change. In a tight, physical encounter., Teddies started well but conceded a soft goal after only ten minutes. In the second half however, with Baggs at the heart of things the girls fought back. After a good period of early pressure 'Player of the Season' Berkin levelled the score and the season's top goal scorer Shipperley added the winner from a penalty corner after twenty minutes to seal a satisfying and hard fought victory.

v. Dean Close (A) Lost 1-7
This game against Dean Close brought back memories of two years ago. With in-form Louise Snell playing instead of the injured Searle things began well but went rapidly down hill, and the hosts scored regularly to race into a 4-0 half time lead. With Braddick again to the fore Teddies showed admirable spirit in 2nd half and were on top for 20 minutes without scoring before poor communication and marking gifted the home side a fifth. The girls bounced back with a fine fast break goal from Cary, but our hosts finished strongly with a sixth and then a penalty corner goal in overtime to hand out a harsh lesson in clinical hockey.

County Round
The County Tournament started poorly in a 0-0 draw with Cherwell: though dominant, the girls could not find a way past the opposition's outstanding goalkeeper. A fine 2-0 win over Henry Box followed with goals from Sarao & Russell, before another sloppy performance resulted in a 0-1 loss to Tudor Hall. Goals from Olivia Barter and Tuckett then ensured a comfortable 2-0 victory over Cokethorpe. In the next game the girls totally dominated the eventual winners Oxford High for a 2-1 win, with goals coming from MacRitchie and Knight. The final game - a frustrating 0-0 draw with Headington - meant Teddies finished 3rd in a tournament they could have won.

v. Cheltenham Ladies (A) Won 3-2
In a good performance Teddies created lots of chances but again failed to capitalise, whilst at the other end defensive lapses saw the girls 1-2 down at half time (Shipperley getting the only goal from a penalty corner). However, the side remained calm and refocused their efforts in the second half, and with Tuckett scoring from another penalty corner and 'Player of the Match' Shipperley getting her second from open play, the girls ran out deserved winners.

v. Bloxham (H) Won 2-1
After starting poorly and allowing the visitors to dominate the initial exchanges, Teddies opened the scoring when a cross from Cary on the base line found the in-form Berkin on the penalty spot with an open goal – she made no mistake in finishing off the slick move. The girls continued to play well as the game got more physical, but Bloxham brought the scores level just before half time.

With the Teddies' dominance evident in the 9-1 penalty corner count, it was only a matter of time before they got their second. Tuckett picked the ball off a defender and rounded the keeper after Bloxham failed to clear from a penalty corner. Teddies' ascendancy continued for rest of game bar one scary moment when the outstanding McHardy made an awesome goal-line save to prevent an equaliser.

It has been an enjoyable term with lots of exciting, attacking hockey, if not as many goals as we would have liked. My thanks to Sophie for her superb leadership and enthusiasm. She has played three years and over 60 games for the 1st team and has been an outstanding ambassador for girl's hockey. Next year has the potential to be one of our best, with nine of this year's team remaining, a tour to Chile and Argentina in the summer and some promising young players coming through.

Z.D. Jones

Hockey XI 2007

L TO R STANDING	Z.D. Jones (Coach), J.M. Lawrence, N.M. Ball, R.H.W. Martin, T.R.M.Hargreaves
	H.C. Hunter Pease
L TO R SEATED	M.I. Battock, T.H. Corpe, C.J. Forsythe (Captain), G.J.O. Lowe
	E.J. Fremlin-Key
MISSING	A.W.N. Creed, C.A. Penny, J.N, Robinson, W.T. Kerr-Dineen, A.R. Strong

Fixtures
Plated 16 Won 4 Drawn 3 Lost 9

v Abingdon School - Won 5-2
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 1-3
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Lost 1-2
(County Round)

v Bloxham School - Won 2-1
(County Round)

v Bedford School - Lost 0-3
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 1-1
(Home)

v Radley College - Lost 2-4
(Away)

v Reed's School, Cobham - Lost 1-2
(St. George's Sixes)

v Framlingham College - Lost 0-2
(St. George's Sixes)

v Eastbourne College - Won 1-0
(St. George's Sixes)

v Watford Grammar School - Lost 0-2
(St. George's Sixes)

v Whitgift School - Lost 0-2
(St. George's Sixes)

v King's College School, Wimbledon - Drawn 0-0
(St. George's Sixes)

v Cheltenham College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 3-3
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 2-3
(Home)

HOCKEY

1st XI (Boys')

It has been a disjointed season what with cancellations, postponements & injuries which is reflected in the slightly disappointing 1st XI results. However, these do not fully reflect the ability of the group or the quality of hockey they were able to produce once they got going.

Abingdon (h) W 5 - 2

In a very open first game of the season St Edward's took the spoils. The XI started with a bang when a great break and pass from man of match Joe Robinson found Will Kerr-Dineen who scored Teddies first of the season. Their second was not long coming as Chez Penny pounced on a penalty corner rebound to double the lead a couple of minutes later. With the game seemingly under control Abingdon were handed a lifeline when some sloppy play at the back gifted them a goal mid way through the half. There was a frantic start to the second period as both sides traded goals. Robinson tipping in from a penalty corner after five minutes only to see the lead pegged back a minute later after more sloppy defending. However, two minutes later Kerr-Dineen settled the nerves with a drag flick to take the score to 4-2. A fine passing move and quality finish by Gabriel Lowe with a quarter of an hour remaining completed the scoring. It was a good start, the score could have been closer but Teddies were clinical with their finishing which boded well for season.

Stowe (a) L 1 – 3

With the Cheltenham fixture rearranged and leave weekend in between, the boys had not played a competitive match for nearly three weeks. It showed. In a scrappy game both sides played with enthusiasm & worked hard but there was little quality hockey on show. The XI began well enough, creating chances but unlike the Abingdon game they could not convert. A mistake in midfield gifted Stowe their first, before some very naive defending on a quickly taken penalty corner allowed the visitors to stretch their lead. The second period began well, Penny reducing the deficit inside a minute. With Ed Fremlin-Key to the fore, the XI continued to create chances but could not convert from open play or any of their nine penalty corners. Stowe scored from their second and last penalty corner with eight minutes left to hand the boys their first loss.

County Round

In a re match of the first game of the season Abingdon gained revenge inflicting a 2-1 loss and effectively ending any chance of St Edward's reaching the final. Once again the XI played well and created plenty of chances but conceded a soft early goal and with shortened matches never really recovered. Once again Teddies lack of ability to score from penalty corners (just one from eleven) proved to be their downfall. Alex Strong levelling the score just before half time with a drag flick. Once again a cheap turnover in midfield led to Abingdon's winner a mere five minutes into the second period. Although, the XI dominated for long periods and only allowed Abingdon one penalty corner in the whole match they paid the price for not being able to convert their chances.

The next group game against Bloxham started brightly. After a fantastic build up, the ball ended up with Alec Creed in the D. He made no mistake, firing the ball home in the fourth minute to give Teddies a deserved lead. A few minutes later, another fantastic passage of passing found Lowe in the circle and he finished with ease to double the lead. The match became a little disjointed in the second half as Teddies lost their rhythm. Bloxham getting a consolation goal in the last minute. With Abingdon beating Bloxham in the next match the XI would have to wait another year to challenge for the county title.

Bedford (a) L 0 - 3

With Marlborough cancelled due to snow and exeat it was nearly another three weeks before the XI played again! The coach having to umpire only added to the disruptions and the result was easily the worst performance of the season. The side never really got going as Bedford took a deserved 2-0 lead. Had it not been for the outstanding Henry Hunter-Pease in goal the half time score could easily have been worse. However, it was not all doom and gloom as Teddies were still creating chances and with both defences in generous moods the halftime score could easily have been 4-7. With the appearance of an umpire for the second half, the XI played better but just couldn't find any rhythm or a goal despite a number of chances and another five penalty corners. Bedford inflicting a disappointing loss as they completed the scoring from penalty corner midway through half.

MCS (h) D 1 – 1

Finally, with a run of regular games the 1st XI started to perform to their undoubted potential. The game started well with Teddies pressing MCS back and forcing their keeper into some fine saves. The game then became more even as both midfields battled to gain some control. When a couple of very good chances to open scoring went begging the doubts began to creep in. Sure enough, MCS opened the scoring when an innocuous looking free hit found an unmarked man on the far post. However, the XI doubled their efforts and were rewarded when Fremlin-Key scored on a penalty corner rebound with just three minutes of the half remaining. With neither midfield able to establish control and Tristan Corpe, Nathan Ball and Michael Battcock solid in defence, the second half was a pretty dour affair with few chances for either side.

Radley (a) L 2- 4

Saving one of their best performances for the big local derby Teddies produced their best hockey in a game marred by a spate of yellow cards. The 1st XI began superbly, Robinson putting a rebound away to score from the first penalty corner of the game. St Edward's dominated the first twenty minutes with good passing and movement on offence and great intensity and work rate on defence. Once again the boys created both chances and penalty corners but could not increase their lead as Radley scored from their only penalty corner of the half. Shortly afterwards, another good attack forced the Radley keeper to parry and Fremlin-Key pounced to give Teddies a deserved 2-1 halftime lead. The second half began well as the boys pressurised and frustrated the home side. However, a fortunate deflection allowed Radley to equalise before another cheap midfield turnover gifted them the lead two minutes later. Still playing really well and showing fantastic spirit, the 1st XI then missed two guilt edged chances to equalise and take the lead. With a tight and tense finish in the offing the game became disjointed as the umpires got a little excited and dished out a flurry of yellow cards. With Teddies down to ten, another mistake sealed the loss as Radley claimed their fourth goal. This was the 1st XI best performance by some way, they dominated a quality side for long periods but ultimately paid the price for defensive errors and missed chances.

St George's Sixes

Considering the successes of recent years this was a hugely disappointing day. St Edward's finished last in a tough group and may have to wait to be invited back in two years time. The side never really got going, losing their first game 1-2 to Reeds, Penny getting the goal. The boys then lost 0-2 to eventual runners up Framlingham before beating Eastbourne courtesy of a solitary Lowe strike. They then lost 0-2 to Watford in what was the easily the worst performance of the day. The six then lost 0-2 to a strong Whitgift side who were the eventual plate winners and finished the day with a 0-0 draw with KCS Wimbledon.

Cheltenham (h) W 2 - 1

In the rearranged Cheltenham fixture the 1st XI performed well. Playing some good hockey combined with great work rate and structure. Penny dominating midfield with his presence and Captain Forsythe outstanding at the back. With these two in tandem and the team playing with intensity Teddies controlled the game. Just five minutes before halftime a good quick free hit found Strong in circle and he finished well from close range. The XI increased their lead a couple of minutes later when Penny scored from a well rehearsed penalty corner move.

The second period did not begin well as Teddies conceded after just two minutes. The remainder of the match was tight and nervy as the side struggled to recapture their passing rhythm. However, with the tireless running of the midfield, epitomised by Tom Hargreaves, the side fought hard and held out for the win.

Bradfield (a) D 3- 3

This game started slowly with both sides playing with a lack of intensity and spark. The boys passed the ball whilst controlling the game and always looked the more likely to score. They were rewarded when Lowe opened the scoring after a flowing passing move. Teddies continued to maintain possession and create openings until they conceded a cheap penalty corner after twenty minutes. Bradfield did not need a second invitation as they sent a flick high into the net to equalise. Again both chances and penalty corners came and went before Penny scored with five minute left to give the 1st XI a deserved lead.

The second half began positively with Teddies again in control and the lead was extended when Creed fired home from a penalty corner. Yet again chances were squandered - Creed missing a penalty stroke put the result beyond doubt. To their credit Bradfield fought back scoring two late goals to draw level. Both sides had opportunities to steal a result and the travelling supporters were relived when Hunter-Pease made an outstanding save on the last hit of the game to safeguard the draw. With 'Player of the Season' Forsythe again immense this was yet another game the 1st XI should have won.

Dean Close (h) L 2- 3

Hargreaves and Lawrence in the last game of the season saw another fabulous performance on a par with the Radley game. Teddies began well, playing with good intensity in pressing Dean Close aggressively. Whilst playing well, Teddies made a couple of their usual defensive errors and were fortunate that visitors put their chances wide and over the goal. However, Teddies luck didn't last long when an overhead caused some confusion in the defence. In the mêlée and confusion that ensued the ball somehow found its way over the line and a goal was awarded. Not put off boys continued and put together some good attacks and fine passages before a rare defensive lapse from Captain Forsythe gifted Dean close their second a few minutes before halftime. The 1st XI pressed forward again and were rewarded when Creed scored from Teddies third penalty corner to make it 2-1. The second period began really well with Teddies going close penalty corner in the opening seconds. This early pressure was soon rewarded when Creed scored his second after some fine passing and movement in midfield from Josh Lawrence and Battcock. With Most Improved Player Rupert Martin standing firm, both sides probed for a winner as the game became tense. Dean Close, getting the all important breakthrough when they scored from their second penalty corner. Determined to find an equaliser Teddies threw caution to the wind leaving them selves vulnerable to the counter attack – Hunter-Pease making two stunning saves late on. Unfortunately, there was no way back and Dean Close held on for the win. Although it was a disappointing result it had been a fine team performance to end the season on.

It has been an enjoyable, if sometimes frustrating season. I am convinced that without the disruptions the results could have been so different and would have more fairly reflected the ability of the group. As always a big thank you to the umpires, all the coaches and ground staff who make St Edward's hockey possible. A huge thank you to Chris Forsythe for his outstanding leadership, he has played over fifty games for the 1st XI since 2004 and has been an outstanding role model for future first team hockey players. This year we lose eight of the first team but it is my hope that some of the young, exciting talent I see lower down the school will come through and fulfil their potential

Zak Jones

Simon Barrington Ward, Tommy Webster, George Chetwood, Sandeep Khaira, Richie Meredith, Ben Lebus, Sam Hunter, Kit Loyd, Walter Brown, Ben Street, Phillip Osbourne, Hector Besant, Ollie Fairhurst and Nayuta Shoji.

GIRLS' HOCKEY

It has been another enjoyable and highly successful year for girl's hockey. The 1st XI becoming both County and Divisional Champions and playing in the National Finals for the first time ever and the U14's narrowly losing in the final of the County Tournament. A number of girls continue to represent Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and club sides helping to maintain the high standards that have now been set.

My thanks again to all the staff and outside coaches who have given so generously of their time to umpire and coach and have made this season both fun and successful for all involved.

Girls 1st XI Results:

Uppingham (h) W 5 – 0; Rugby (a) D 1 – 1
Cheltenham College(a) W 2 – 1
County Tournament
Henry Box W 3 – 0; Lord Williams W 3 – 0
Cokethorpe W 4 – 0;Bloxham W 1 – 0 (Semi Final)
Henry Box W 4 – 1 (Final);
Oakham (h) W 3 – 0; Royal Latin (h) W 7 – 0;
Dean Close (h) L 1- 3; Clifton College (a) L 1 – 4;
Canford (a) W 6 – 1; Bloxham (a) D 2 – 2;
Cheltenham Ladies (h) W 7 – 2
Marlborough (a) L 1 – 3
Divisional Tournament
Pangbourne College W 3 – 0; Alleyns W 2 – 1
Wycombe High W 3 – 0;
Eastbourne College W 1- 0
Godolphin & Latymer W 2 – 0
King Edward's VI W 1 – 0;
Oundle (a) W 2 – 0
National Finals
Arnold D 1 – 1; Felsted L 0 – 1
Millfiled D 1 – 1;Repton L 6 - 0

With most of last years team remaining and a tough tour to South America under their belts there were high hopes and expectations for this years 1st VI.

In their first home fixture against Uppingham the girls started a little tentatively but slowly worked their way into the match always seeming to have the upper hand. From Teddies 2nd penalty corner Player of the Match Alicea Berkin deflected the ball high into the net. A couple of minutes later the same player scored again - this time from close range after a mazy dribble. The second period began well when Hermione Russell getting her 1st of the season. Zoë Shipperley made it four with a fierce strike into the net after another positive attack. Though the visitors battled hard, the home defence offered them few opportunities. Lizzie Heeley sealing a fine winning start to the season two minutes from time.

Once again the girls started a little slowly against a well organised Rugby side that had also spent time in the summer on tour to Chile and Argentina. Having worked their way into the match Teddies began to dominate both possession and territory. The XI coming close on a number of occasions with some neat passing moves down the right involving Shipperley, Ione Braddick and Lettie Cary. Rugby began the 2nd half with renewed vigour but the defensive line of joint players of the match Natalie Touloumbadjian, Milly Andrewes and Georgia McHardy held firm giving the hosts very few opportunities. Having seemingly ridden out the storm Teddies put together a wonderful sweeping passing movement that began at left back and seven passes later finished with Berkin sweeping the ball into the net for a deserved lead. However, Rugby would not lie down and piled on the pressure, keeping Teddies pinned back. Having earned their third and last corner Rugby scored a far post deflection with minutes remaining. Though both sides probed for a winner, neither could make a clear chance and take the game.

Cheltenham away is always one of the toughest fixtures but this time the Girls XI were fired up and ready to go. Teddies began brightly and put the opposition on the back foot from the off but the home side proved their athleticism and quality as the game ebbed and flowed. Yet it was Teddies who always looked the more likely to score. With 10mins left in the half Player of the Match Heeley fed Cary down the right, who squared the ball for Berkin to score from close range. The XI started the 2nd half even better than the first and should really have had the game out of reach by the 6th minute. However, numerous chances came and went as the score remained 1-0 with Cheltenham remaining dangerous on the break. Midway through the half the girls got the jitters as the errors crept into their game, allowing Cheltenham to level the scores from only their 2nd penalty corner. The shock seemed to spur Teddies on. Berkin slapping the ball into the net only to have it disallowed. Just as it seemed the game was destined to end in a draw the pressure paid off when Shipperley fired home the winner in the dying moments to send both girls and the many travelling parents into raptures.

Determined to make up for the bitter disappointment of last year County Tournament the girls began well with a 3-0 win over a strong Henry Box outfit. Berkin, outstanding, scoring a brilliant hatrick in a superb team performance. The girls followed this up with another 3-0 win over Lord Williams this time the goals came from Cesca Knight, Cary and Shipperley. The XI completed the group phase with a 4-0 win over Cokethorpe. Lilly Knight and Shipperley collecting a brace apiece. In the semi final Bloxham rarely threatened but defended for all they were worth making the girls work hard to earn their place in the final courtesy of a solitary Lilly Knight goal. The final was a rematch of the opening game and began well. Teddies dominating and coming close on a number of occasions before being caught on the break but a break in play due to injury allowed the girls to regroup. Lilly Knight levelling the scores with a neat deflection just before the break. From then on there was no looking back as Teddies took control Shipperley firing home a second half hat trick to seal a memorable 4-1 win and see a delighted 1st XI girls crowned County Champions.

Having never beaten Oakham and buoyed by their county success Teddies began well. Andrewes scoring from the home side's second penalty corner as early as the third minute. Teddies continued to press and were rewarded when player of the match Cary scored from close range a few minutes later. Though the girls continued to dominate and create numerous openings, it was not until the 20th minute that Cary got her second and extended the lead to 3-0. There was no score in the second period as the opposition fought really hard making it difficult for Teddies to establish any rhythm. Although all were slightly disappointed with the second half, nothing could not detract from this historic win.

With the fixtures now coming thick and fast the girls hosted a Royal Latin side containing a number of club players. They began with real purpose, Shipperley opening the scoring early on with a fierce slap into the net after some fantastic individual skill from Berkin. The girls continued to dominate and were rewarded when Shipperley struck home her second mic way through the half. More chances came and went but the girls could not add to the score The visitors held out for 10mins after half time until Cary got her first from close range and followed it up a couple of minutes later with a sweetly struck shot from the top of the D Teddies continued to score at regular intervals until the final whistle. Shipperley completing her hat trick, closely followed by Cary whils Berkin added a seventh. It was a fine team performance underlined by the fact that defende McHardy was named player of the match

Dean Close was always going to be a tigh and physical encounter and so it proved to be. Teddies began really well, playing some superb hockey, dominating for long periods and coming close to opening the scoring. Ye the visitors held firm and applied their own pressure in the last 10mins of the half. However the girls defended superbly and the teams went into the break level. The visitors began the second half as they had ended the first After just five minutes a momentary lapse in concentration allowed them to sweep from one end of the field to the other and score. Teddies fought back as the game ebbed and flowed for the next twenty minutes. With ten minutes remaining a Shipperley long ball found Cary who rounded the last defender and keeper to score. Both sides stepped up the intensity and created chances as both went in search of victory. However, with just five minutes remaining a harsh penalty corner decision and a clinical finish saw the visitors 2-1 up Another harsh decision a minute later resulted in another goal. Though Teddies fought hard there was not enough time to find a way through

A long away trip and a new fixture against Clifton followed. They were a quality side bu Teddies began well earning a penalty corner in the first minute. In a very even half both sides played some good quality hockey and created openings. Clifton took the lead when they broke out of defence to earn their only penalty corner of the first period and score. A few minutes later a sloppy turnover allowed our hosts to double their lead. The second half began badly as another miss handle in midfield allowed Clifton in for their third. However, Teddies fought back and were rewarded a few minutes later when Shipperley fired home from Teddies second penalty corner. The rest of the game remained even with Teddies unable to convert from another four penalty corners. On the day Clifton proved the more clinical, although the 1-4 score line was not a true reflection of a very close and competitive game.

After the disappointment of their first losses. The girls bounced back with a fine win away at Canford. The side began brightly and when Sarah Baggs broke through early in the game she found Russell who made finished calmly. A lapse in concentration gifted the home side a penalty corner which led to a penalty stroke and the scores level. Teddies went straight back on the offensive this time Shipperley driving forward to find Cary who made it 2-1. The second half began a little slowly but Teddies soon regained the ascendancy. After a clash in midfield, a fired up Berkin took control – leaving four defenders trailing before passing to Cary who calmly placed the ball past the on rushing keeper. A couple of minute's later Cary claimed her hat trick with another composed finish. As Canford tired player of the match Cary put the boot in, firing a volley into the net before rounding off a remarkable individual game in the last minute with her fifth goal.

After the elation of Saturday the girls were brought back down to earth on Tuesday with draw in a very tough encounter with Bloxham. The game began well with Cary scoring early and increasing the lead mid way through the half. This gave Teddies a false sense of security as Bloxham began to battle back. With injuries to both Shipperley and Braddick the girls lost both cohesion and structure and Bloxham capitalised to draw level in the second period. With Berkin pulling the strings Teddies created enough chances to win but could not find a way through Bloxham's resolute defence.

Missing Shipperley - still out due to the broken nose she sustained in the previous match, the girls took on a good Cheltenham Ladies side and immediately got back to winning ways in style. With Cesca Knight outstanding in midfield Teddies scored at regular intervals to lead 4-1 at the break. Cary scoring early and Andrewes adding a second before Cary popped in two more to complete a first half hat trick. The same player scored her fourth shortly after the break before Lilly Knight and Berkin weighed in with a goal each to round off a superb performance.

With Shipperley back from injury but Baggs out with a badly damaged finger Teddies played their rearranged fixture with Marlborough. It was a disappointing performance. The first half was a very even midfield battle with few chances for either side. It was the home side who struck from close range after some weak tackling just before the break. The second half started poorly when Marlborough doubled their lead with a somewhat fortuitous deflection. A minute later it was 3-0, after more sloppy defending left Captain Anna Searle exposed. As the game opened up Searle made a number of good saves and also saved a penalty stroke.

She was ably assisted by Andrewes who was in outstanding form at centre back. At the other end Shipperley converted a penalty corner mid way through the half to reduce the deficit but Marlborough's defence remained resolute and Teddies just could not find another way through.

The Divisional Tournament began well with a resounding victory over Berkshire Champions Pangbourne College. The side took a while to get going but with goals either side of half time from Shipperley and one from Berkin the result was never really in doubt. The second match began poorly as a series of errors gifted Surrey winners Alleyns an early lead which they maintained until half time. Regrouping after the break, St Edward's showed immense spirit in dominating the second period. First, Cary levelled the scores after a fine passing move before Lilly Knight scored the winner with just minutes remaining. The next match was against seven time previous winners Wycombe High who were a quality outfit. However, Teddies rose to the challenge producing the performance of the day to run out 3-0 winners. Berkin and Cary scoring late in the first half and Knight putting the icing on the cake with a third in the dying moments. There were also some fine saves from 'in form' Captain Searle during Wycombe's periods of pressure.

The first game after lunch was an extremely physical encounter against the Sussex Champions. It was a tight and tense first half that remained scoreless. The second half began brightly with Shipperley scoring from a penalty corner after just three minutes to give Teddies a slender lead. For the remainder of the second period the girls had to dig deep to see off the Eastbourne pressure but did so extremely well considering they lost Andrewes with a knee injury mid way through the half. However, they held on to win 1-0. Feeling a little tired, battered and bruised from four tough matches the girls next took on Middlesex Champions Godolphin & Latymer. The game began positively with St Edward's creating numerous chances but being unable to convert. However, Shipperley settled the nerves with two goals in the last two minutes of the half. Driving home a penalty corner, before smashing home her second after a long individual run. Although St Edward's dominated the next period they could not add to the score and the game finished 2-0. With Wycombe High and Eastbourne College drawing in the penultimate round of matches, the side went into the last match knowing they were already Divisional Champions. It is testament to the group that this did not deter them from their aim of finishing the tournament unbeaten. In fact they went one better, beating Hampshire Champions King Edward's VI Southampton 1-0. It was a fast paced game of hockey with the sides evenly matched as the game flowed from end to end. Ultimately, it was decided in the last minute when Berkin scored a fine individual goal. The final whistle sent the whole squad into raptures as the girls enjoyed & celebrated their historic achievement. The first St Edward's side to qualify for the National Finals and the first side since 1985 from Oxfordshire to claim the South Divisional Title.

The final long away fixture to Oundle has often been a banana skin. Though the side were without Shipperley and Baggs they were determined to finish on a high especially as the Warden had also made the trip. Teddies started well and controlled the game. Their persistence was rewarded when Cary scored to give the girls a slender halftime lead. The second half remained as tight and physical as the first. Once again, it was Cary who pounced on a short corner rebound to double the lead after ten minutes in. This seemed to settle the side and although Oundle always remained a threat Teddies controlled the game closing it out 2-0. Debutant Sophie Bentall producing a fine Man of the match performance in her first outing.

On a wet and windy weekend the girls ventured to East Grinstead for the National Finals. Though a little nervous in their first appearance the girls began brightly against Arnold creating a couple of very good chances that they were unfortunately unable to convert. In the second period Arnold stepped up a gear and took the lead through a penalty corner. However, Teddies showed great spirit and with just a few minutes remaining Shipperley found Cary with a long ball. This time, Cary made no mistake rounding the keeper and finishing superbly from a narrow angle. With a point, Teddies were up and running.

The second match was a tight and physical affair with Felsted looking the more hungry for victory. But with Andrewes, Shipperley, McHardy and captain Searle in fine form the side keep battling and went into the break level. An unfortunate injury to the other in form defender Bentall disrupted the defence and led to Felsted scoring from a penalty corner mid way through the half. Try as they might Teddies could not find a way through Felsted's well marshalled defence and the game ended 0-1.

In their new yellow shirts the girls took on eventual runners up Millfield. In a fantastic game of high tempo hockey there was plenty of action at either end to keep the large crowd of Teddies supporters on their toes. Teddies came close on a number of occasions but just couldn't convert and it was Millfield who reacted first to a lose ball in the circle to take the lead. Teddies created another opportunity to score from a penalty corner on the stroke of half time but the ball flew agonisingly wide. With Andrewes and Berkin to the fore and Shipperley absolutely outstanding in midfield the girls began the second half superbly. Lilly Knight levelling the scores with a fine snap shot early on. The rest of the game was extremely exciting as the game flowed from end to end. Ultimately, neither side could find a way through with both Searle and the Millfield keeper making some vital saves.

After, the high of the Millfield performance, the girls - wet, tired and carrying injuries - had to lift themselves to play Repton who had already secured the National Title. With Teddies really up for the challenge things began badly as Repton raced up the field from the push back and were awarded a dubious penalty corner from which they scored. With Teddies stunned Repton showed why they were National Champions as they clinically put away their opportunities to lead 4-0 after just six minutes. However, as has become the norm the girls rallied creating a number of good chances. They could easily have had a couple of goals before Repton scored again just before the break. Never a side to lie down - Teddies picked themselves up for one last big effort and played some really good hockey throughout the second period. Shipperley missing a chance to reduce the deficit immediately after half time when she sent her penalty stroke over the bar. Three or four more good chances came and went before Repton completed the scoring with a penalty stroke towards the end.

It was a fantastic day of quality hockey and a major achievement to get there. The most pleasing aspect was that the side were never outclassed. The Millfield result proof that they were able to compete with the very best.

It has been a hugely successful and enjoyable season, with lots of goals and plenty of superb attacking hockey. My thanks to Anna for her superb leadership and enthusiasm. This year's side created history. It was my privilege to coach them. They lived up to and surpassed the high expectations placed on them and were always a huge pleasure to be around. Although we lose eight players from this year's team a strong core remains and I look forward to blending them with some promising young players for another exciting season.

ZDJ

Hockey XI 2008

L to R back row — Z.D. Jones (Coach), W.P.C. Krespi, O.P. Hargreaves, A.R. Strong, A.G.H. Precious, H.J. McHugh

L to R seated — G.W. Blanchard, W.T. Kerr-Dineen, J.N. Robinson, R.H.W. Martin (Captain), N.M. Ball, A.J. Davidson

M.I. Battcock, G.A. Creed

Fixtures
Played 16 Won 4 Drawn 3 Lost 9

v Abingdon School - Lost 3-6
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 2-4
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 1-0
(County Round)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-3
(County Round)

v Marlborough College - Lost 0-4
(Away)

v Stowe School - Drawn 4-4
(Away)

v Martyrs - Won 4-3
(Home)

v Bedford School - Won 5-4
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-5
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 1-3
(Home)

v St. George's College, Addlestone - Lost 1-3
(St. George's Sixes)

v Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe - Lost 2-3
(St. George's Sixes)

v Eastbourne College - Lost 1-4
(St. George's Sixes)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Drawn 2-2
(St. George's Sixes)

v Bradfield College - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Drawn 3-3
(Away)

Boys' Hockey

1st XI Boys' Hockey

Squad: *N. Ball (VC), M. Battcock, G. Blanchard, G. Creed, A. Davidson, O. Hargreaves, W. Kerr-Dineen, W. Krespi, R. Martin (C), H. McHugh, A. Precious, J. Robinson, A. Strong.*

Although at times the season was slightly frustrating, it was nevertheless enjoyable. The 1st XI played some quality, attacking hockey and also showed fantastic spirit but did not always get the results they may have felt they deserved.

Abingdon (a) L 3–6

The XI started the season well when Joe Robinson – who proved to be the side's player of the season – opened the scoring with a fantastic reverse stick shot and Will Kerr-Dineen pounced on a corner rebound as Teddies raced to a 2-0 lead. Abingdon managed to pull one back but Robinson restored the two goal advantage when he slotted the ball into the bottom left corner following a swift counter attack. Teddies began the second period with confidence. However, it was short-lived as Abingdon somehow managed to score five unanswered goals in the second half. It was a disappointing defeat.

U16's Jasper Joyce in action for the Colts 'A'

Cheltenham (h) L 2–4

The XI began well against a Cheltenham side which had spent two weeks on tour in Malaysia before Christmas. The boys pressed early on and were rewarded when good passing and a fantastic finish by Robinson gave them the lead after ten minutes. Another good passing move a few minutes later resulted in a penalty corner, from which captain Rupert Martin popped in the rebound for a 2-0 lead. This lead was reduced when some poor defending led to the first of two penalty strokes in the space of three minutes. These two events handed the initiative back to the visitors as they converted both to bring the scores level. Teddies recovered their composure but a cheap turnover on the stroke of half-time gifted Cheltenham the lead. Although the 1st XI battled hard in the second half they could not regain their rhythm and another defensive lapse led to the visitors' fourth which completed the scoring in a second frustrating loss.

County Round

In a re-match of the first game of the season Teddies gained revenge for their earlier defeat. This was a tight match. A solitary goal from Alex Strong, who was on the end of another fine passing move, was enough to give Teddies a 1-0 win. However, it took a dominant performance from Michael Battcock in midfield, some fine defending from Harry McHugh and a number of good saves from Will Krespi to hold out. Teddies began their second game against MCS strongly, earning a penalty stroke in the opening minutes. However, Robinson fired the stroke high and wide. Although the 1st XI continued to pass the ball well and create the better chances, it was MCS who took the lead from a soft penalty corner. They scored again just before half-time. The second period followed much the same pattern until a turnover on the edge of the MCS circle was compounded by poor defending and goal-keeping to gift MCS a 3-0 lead. Strong immediately pulled a goal back and James Webster stuck a post but it was too little too late as Teddies went out of the tournament.

Marlborough (a) L 0–4

This was easily the most disappointing performance of the season. The game began poorly yet in their first attacking move the 1st XI hit the post. Little did they know that this would be as close as they would come to scoring. The side's play improved slightly as the game became a midfield battle but a defensive error saw Marlborough break the deadlock after 25 minutes. The hosts took advantage of a turnover five minutes later to extend their lead and made it 3-0 from their second penalty corner when the defence failed to clear Krespi's pads. Teddies made a positive start to the second half creating a couple of chances in the opening minutes but in all honesty the ball handling was poor, the team did not work as a unit and was far too passive to mount a serious challenge. In spite of heroics from Martin and Nathan Ball, Marlborough added to their lead. The hosts were worthy winners.

Stowe (a) D 4–4

In a scrappy game both sides played with enthusiasm and worked hard although quality hockey was not always evident. The XI began well enough creating chances and when George Creed opened the scoring with a fine individual effort in the third minute things were looking good. With debutant Ali Precious to the fore, Teddies continued to pass the ball well and were rewarded when Robinson extended the lead. Although a number of other chances came and went, the score remained 2-0 at the break. The second period also began well as Teddies secured a penalty stroke. Kerr-Dineen made no mistake from the spot to give the XI a commanding lead. Once again, some sloppy defending gave Stowe a glimmer of hope just a minute later. The mistake was repeated five minutes after that as the score went to 3-2. The game then turned into a bit of a mêlée. Robinson was temporarily suspended but responded by returning to score a fine individual goal and restore the two-goal advantage. Following that Kerr-Dineen was temporarily suspended and a penalty stroke decision gave Stowe a lifeline at 4-3. The final act saw Martin also temporarily suspended. With all this going on it looked as if the XI might still hang on for victory; however, a defensive calamity from the usually reliable McHugh resulted in Stowe's equaliser with just minutes remaining. It was a very disappointing result.

Martyrs (h) W 4–3

In a competitive but friendly atmosphere a strong Martyrs' team was beaten 4-3. Kerr-Dineen scored a drag flick from open play and George Creed took a hat-trick.

Bedford (h) W 5–4

This was one of the performances of the season. Teddies started brightly and had a goal disallowed in the opening minutes. With both sides attempting to play attacking hockey it was the visitors who opened the scoring from their second penalty corner midway through the half. The response was almost immediate as Robinson scored after some good interplay. Bedford restored their lead with a well-taken goal after 25 minutes but the lead did not last long as the outstanding Giles Blanchard found Robinson with a fine pass and the latter finished well to take the score to 2-2 at half-time. The second period began promisingly, with the XI creating chances and penalty corners in the opening minutes, but once again it was the visitors who took the lead. The game continued to be open and attacking yet some poor passing around the back resulted in Bedford extending their lead. However, soon after Robinson earned a stroke that Kerr-Dineen duly converted and they were level soon afterwards when Strong finished a fine team move. The victory was sealed with just two minutes remaining when a well-rehearsed corner routine saw Alex Davidson's slap find the corner of the goal.

MCS (a) L 1–5

With confidence high from the previous game Teddies totally dominated the opening period, making the county champions look anything but that; the XI's great defensive intensity and pressure forced mistake after mistake. Although Teddies created plenty of chances and earned a number of penalty corners they just could not convert and it was the hosts who took the lead with their first attack midway through the half. Teddies

Third XI, Matt Laird evades a defender

continued to dominate and were finally rewarded when Robinson scored. With the scores level, the XI began the second half really well but missed another great chance in the opening minute. The hosts took the lead seven minutes later and from then on it was downhill as MCS showed why they were county champions. Two soft goals in as many minutes (both from poor individual mistakes) left Teddies reeling at 1-4 down. To the boys' credit they kept battling, but there was no way back. MCS added a fifth goal late on. It was a harsh lesson: wasted chances and the concession of soft goals will result in a side coming off second best.

Radley (h) L 1–3

Saving one of their best performances for the big local derby, Teddies produced some fine hockey. Once again the boys created lots of chances but were unlucky to come across a Radley goalkeeper in fine form. As expected the first half was a hotly-contested affair and although there was much attacking hockey from both sides there was no score. Teddies created a couple of good chances early in the second period but once again Radley's defence held firm. In the seventh minute Robinson used his pace to good effect before firing in a fantastic finish to give Teddies a deserved lead. Having worked so hard to gain the upper hand the next two minutes saw the home side self- destruct as two sloppy errors gave Radley the lead. Teddies showed commendable fighting spirit to get back in the game, creating better chances and more penalty corners than the visitors. However, when Teddies hit the post on the half hour mark the boys realized it was not to be their day and Radley scored with a minute to go to rub salt into the wound. Although it was a disappointing result it had been a very good performance at the end of a tough week.

St George's 6-a-side

With the best schools in the country entered, this was always going to be a hard competition. So it proved to be as St Edward's finished last in a tough group. The side never really got going, losing the first game 1-3 to the hosts. They then lost 2-3 to RGS High Wycombe with goals from Ollie Hargreaves and Robinson. The boys played poorly against Eastbourne College (losing 1-4) before playing really well to draw 2-2 with eventual plate winners Dean Close. The goals were scored by Davidson and Robinson. They then lost 0-2 to Desborough and in their final game lost 1-2 to eventual winners Dr Challoner's.

Bradfield (h) W 3–1

This game was the exact opposite of the Radley game. Bradfield started the brighter and soon capitalised on a defensive error to take the lead in the fourth minute. Whilst Teddies were struggling to put more than one pass together, the visitors were passing the ball well, but fortunately could not convert any more of their chances. After 26 minutes a fantastic passing move enabled Robinson to level the scores from close range. Although the first half was probably one of the worst of the season the 1st XI had managed to battle through it with the score at 1-1. The second half was far better. Creed scored with a neat deflection after five minutes and Krespi made some good saves as both sides created openings. Nathan Ball – the side's most improved player – was dominant throughout, controlling the defence and instigating attacks with his masterful distribution. Midway through the half a fine overhead from McHugh found Robinson whose pinpoint pass allowed Strong to make it 3-1. With seven minutes remaining Kerr-Dineen put in a reckless tackle that saw him suspended until the end of the game, but the ten men held on. It was a performance that showed huge courage and determination and one in which the 1st XI took opportunities clinically.

Dean Close (a) D 3–3

With Creed and Strong out with illness and injury respectively, Kerr-Dineen suspended and Blanchard (who had been outstanding for the last two games) at Great Britain eventing trials, it was up to Battcock, Webster and U15 Rupert Shipperley to step up. This they, and the side, did, as the last game of the season saw another fabulous performance. Once again the 1st XI demonstrated the fine fighting spirit of St Edward's sport. The XI began well, playing with intensity and pressing Dean Close aggressively, but a fast break on seven minutes resulted in a penalty corner and an error by Krespi gave the hosts the lead. Whilst continuing to attack well, Teddies made a couple of defensive errors and were fortunate that the home side put their chances wide or over the goal. With young Shipperley outstanding in midfield, the XI put together some fine passages of play. The second period began poorly as Dean Close extended their lead from another penalty corner early on. When they made it 3-0 the game seemed all but over. However, Teddies would not lie down and dominated the remainder of the match. First a fantastic pass from Shipperley found Robinson who scored on 20 minutes. With belief flooding back, even the temporary suspension of Ball did not allow Dean Close any respite. Ten man Teddies got back to 2-3 courtesy of yet another Robinson goal with four minutes remaining. Back to eleven, Teddies pushed for the equaliser and were rewarded when Webster calmly rounded off a fine passing move with just one minute to go. It was a fitting end to the game and a superb team performance to end the season.

Overall, the XI played fast, attacking hockey for much of time but ultimately defensive frailties proved their undoing in many games they could have won. I was especially proud of the performances in the last two games of the season when the players dug deep. As always I offer thanks to the coaches and ground staff who make St Edward's hockey possible. Rupert Martin is to be commended for outstanding leadership alongside Nathan Ball as vice-captain.

Zak Jones

Girls' Hockey

Girls' 1st XI Hockey

Squad: *S. Bentall, A. Berkin (V-C), L. Cary, V. Cole, T. Galloway, P. Jamie, G. McHardy (V-C), I. Orr, G. Pigott, Z. Shipperley (C), L. Skull, J. Stevenson, M. Tuckett.*

It has been another enjoyable and highly successful year for girls' hockey. The 1st XI became both county and divisional champions and played in the national finals for the second year running. The U16 and U14 also became County Champions – the first time in history that all three age groups have been won by the same school in the same year. A number of girls continue to represent Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and club sides helping to maintain the high standards.

Last season's success was always going to be hard to follow but with eight of last year's national finals squad remaining the girls were determined to give their best.

Captain player of the season Zoe Shipperley makes a break

Hockey XI 2009

L to R back row	H.J. McHugh, O.H. Figg, R.S. Shipperley
L to R middle row	G.A. Creed, K.G. Pharaon, J.L. Joyce, M.T. Manners, Z.D. Jones (Coach)
L to R seated	O.P. Hargreaves, A.J. Davidson, G.W. Blanchard (Captain), A.G.H. Precious, T.C. Morgan
Coached by	Z.D. Jones (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 13 Won 4 Drawn 2 Lost 7

v Cheltenham College - Lost 2-3
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Drawn 1-1
(County Round)

v Bloxham School - Lost 2-3
(County Round)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-4
(County Round)

v Radley College - Drawn 1-1
(County Round)

v Marlborough College - Won 5-3
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 6-0
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 1-3
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Radley College - Won 3-1
(Away)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 2-3
(Home)

v Martyrs - Lost 2-3
(Home)

Boys' Hockey

1st XI

County Round

In the first game of the tournament Teddies made a sluggish start as they struggled to put any passes together or play with any intensity, but were fortunate that the opposition were having a similar game. They were denied an opportunity to go ahead when it seemed Tetsell had deflected the ball home but the goal was not given. Teddies were marginally better in the 2nd half, McHugh putting Teddies ahead with a drag flick from a penalty corner. However with 5 mins to go, some poor defensive play gifted Abingdon their only penalty corner and when the ball struck a foot from the first shot many froze, expecting a whistle, but the umpire rightly played advantage, Abingdon equalized and the game finished 1-1. The next game was against Bloxham, who went on to win the tournament. Teddies started poorly once again and found themselves 2-0 down early on. The second half began in much the same vein as Bloxham, extended their lead in the opening minutes. This seemed to spark Teddies into life. The side fought back, Matt Manners getting on the end of a fantastic passing move to reduce the deficit. McHugh scoring with another drag flick with a few minutes remaining did provide some hope. The XI battled for an equalizer but it was not to be as they lost 2-3. After the positive 2nd half of the last match the side began really well against MCS but couldn't find a way through. MCS scored just before half time from their only penalty corner. Teddies began the second period superbly but wasted three brilliant chances in the opening period. When poor defending resulted in MCS's second the boys spirit seemed broken as Teddies conceded another two goals in the final five minutes to lose 0-4. After that disappointment, the boys picked themselves up and with nothing to play for but pride put in a really pleasing performance against Radley. They dominated from the outset with quality passing and aggressive defence but could not convert in the first half. The second half continued with Teddies on the offensive, but once again the final pass eluded them and Radley scored midway through the half following a lack of composure in the defensive circle. However, the XI bounced back, controlling the last 10 mins and were rewarded when Matt Manners calmly equalized after a period of pressure.

Ali Precious injecting on a short corner

Girls' Hockey

1st XI

Uppingham W 2-0: Wanting to begin this year with a bang, the team first had huge desire and determination to play well and win. Due to this they fought hard, helping and supporting each other through the torrential rain. For the first game of the season the side were passing the ball well, the chat was up but unfortunately even though the XI earned a number of penalty corners they couldn't convert and went into half time 0-0. With such a successful season last year, every one of them, even those who were not previously in the firsts, were determined to keep the standard and quality up. Teddies began the second half soaking wet but with high spirits. Just minutes in the side won a penalty corner, from which Captain Vicky Cole skilfully placed the ball into the goal. With the rain still pouring both teams were beginning to tire, but with just 10 minutes to go Mel Tuckett tipped in a deflection from Grace Piggot's well timed slap to seal the win and get the new season off to the best possible start.

Rugby W 4-3: By week two the sun had finally come out as Teddies took on Rugby knowing it would be a physical battle. The girls stood up to the physical challenge well in the first few minutes and won a penalty corner. Cole dribbled round the first line of defence and scored. The girls then began to feel the heat, and made mistakes which allowed Rugby to get two goals before half time. The feeling at half time was that if the XI out worked their hosts and concentrated on the basics they could come out on top. Teddies' second goal was not long coming as Cole pulled the ball back from a penalty corner rebound and flicked into the net to level the score but Rugby quickly replied with a breakaway third goal. With both teams tiring in the heat Teddies battled on and were rewarded when player of the match Jessie Stevenson fired the ball home from another penalty corner. The opportunity to win came when Teddies were awarded another penalty corner with just minutes to go. The ball was pushed out and stopped but for some reason the Rugby defence had made no move. However, Cole did not hesitate, she struck the ball at the goal and Leonora Skull neatly deflected the ball home to ensure a second victory.

Cheltenham College L 1-9: This game was a high tempo affair with both sides playing some free flowing hockey. They were County champions having beaten both Cheltenham Ladies and Dean Close. However, things did not begin well. A cheap goal following some poor defending and keeping after just two minutes did not help. Then Teddies failed to clear the ball twice in a short space of time and our hosts raced into a 3-0 lead. Cheltenham scored again two minutes later and completed a miserable half for Teddies with a 5th five minutes before the break.

Girls 1st XI - County Champions

To their credit the girls stared the second period far better creating a flurry of chances in the opening ten minutes but could not convert whilst Cheltenham took both theirs thus extending their lead. The 1st XI battled hard for the next fifteen minutes and were rewarded when some fine passing resulted in Piggot scoring. However, frustratingly the side conceded another two goals in the closing minutes. Though Teddies played poorly the penalty corner count was only 3-2 to the hosts but Cheltenham ensured we payed dearly for our errors, converting the majority of their chances and giving Teddies a lesson in finishing.

Wellington W 4-3: With confidence having taken a knock this was a scrappy game and a very physical encounter. The XI started really well and were 1-0 up after just six minutes courtesy of Immo Orr. However, the side struggled to get into their stride and didn't play very well but fought really hard to grind out a narrow win. A second goal from Orr and two from Tuckett restored some pride and confidence after last week's defeat.

Oakham D 1-1: This fixture is always a tough encounter and this game was no exception as both sides battled to a hard-fought draw.

Stowe W 4-1: The 1st XI dominated this game with the Teddies midfield keeping Stowe's England international quiet. The side started superbly and scored inside one minute after good passing led to a goal from Piggot. Cole added a second inside ten minutes from a penalty corner with Piggot netting a third with a neat deflection from a well rehearsed penalty corner routine. Despite a quality first half the girls began the second period really poorly as they gifted the visitors a goal almost immediately. However, they responded well and dominated the rest of the game, a goal from Skull sealing a fine win.

Dean Close D 1-1: Teddies played well in an even and well contested first half, Dean Close scoring after twenty five minutes to take a narrow lead into the break. In the second period the girls dominated both possession and territory as they pressed really well. Top Goal Scorer Cole levelled the score from a penalty corner straight strike after ten minutes. Though the 1st XI earned another four penalty corners (and the final corner count was 12-3 in Teddies' favour) they were not clinical enough in this aspect and the game ended 1-1.

In midweek the 1st XI retained their County title beating Headington 3-0 with goals from Piggot, Orr and Cole, Coketh orpe 1-0 with another Orr goal, Lord Williams 2-0 with goals from Cole and Orr, OLC 4-0 with goals from Cole, Piggot and two from debutante Anabelle Burt in their group. They defeated a strong Bloxham 2-0 in the semi final with goals coming from Cole and Tuckett and Oxford High 2-0 with goals from Fran Jolley and Pigott in the final to take the title in emphatic fashion, having not conceded a goal.

Canford L 2-3: In torrential rain the following Saturday the 1st XI lost only their second match of the season. Despite the rain there was some quality hockey on show from both sides as the half ended 2-2. Teddies goals came from Cole and Piggot. Despite more quality hockey in the second period the rain was starting to have a detrimental effect on the game, Canford stole the lead and try as they might Teddies could not find a way through the home side's defence.

Bradfield W 4-0: With their U16 players away at the divisional tournament the 1st XI enjoyed a comfortable win away from home which included a goal from Piggot and a hat trick from Orr.

Cheltenham Ladies D 2-2: Once again the girls began well and created some good chances, however it was the ladies who struck first for the only goal of the first half. Teddies started the second half with a bang as a good early free hit resulted in Piggot levelling the score after just two minutes and took the lead inside ten minutes after another good quick free hit saw Orr deflect the ball in for the lead. With twelve minutes to go Teddies earned their fourth penalty corner and from the resulting shot were unlucky not to be awarded a penalty stroke but to add insult to injury the visitors broke and scored so the game ended with the score tied.

The following Thursday the 1st XI played in their third consecutive Divisional Tournament, defending the title they had held for the past two years. The first XI did Teddies proud once again and played some fine hockey to eventually finish 3rd beating Pangbourne College 2-1 with goals from Cole and Orr, losing to the eventual winners Kingston GS 3-0, before beating Sir William Borlase 1-0 with another gaol from Orr, this year's runners up Seaford College 2-1 with goals from Piggot and Orr, drawing 1-1 with a quality Mill Hill outfit, Piggot scoring once again, before losing their final match 0-2 to Portsmouth GS. There was no doubt that Kingston were the best side on show though the girls were a little disappointed that they did not manage to finish as runners up.

Marlborough W 2-1: In their rearranged match against Marlborough the 1st XI played some quality hockey in a tight encounter. Teddies began well having a goal disallowed as early as the first minute but it was the visitors who took the lead from a penalty corner shortly afterwards. This spurred the home side into action as they created a number of good chances. Tuckett went close, before Cole levelled the scores from Teddies' third penalty corner. Although the girls XI had the better of territory and possession they couldn't add to that score before half time. Once again the girls began the second half well, creating a number of good chances before Cole put them in the lead from another penalty corner. Marlborough fought back forcing some good saves from GK Tanya Galloway and some sound defending from Lil Jackson, Grace Hadman and Harriet Conafrey. However, Teddies weathered the storm and took control in the last ten minutes to earn a hard fought 2-1 victory over a strong visiting side. The win was made more impressive by the fact that this was the first time Teddies had ever defeated this opposition at girls1st team level.

Hockey XI 2010

L to R standing	Z. Jones (Coach), C.M. Blanchard, M.T. Manners, H.A. Coles, J.R. Fraser, H.M. Adcock, J.J. Tetsell
L to R seated	J.A.M. Cuthbert, F.P. Bibby, J.L. Joyce (Captain), G.A. Creed, R.S. Shipperley
Missing	B. Abdoo
Coached by	Z.D. Jones (C.R.)

Fixtures
Played 12 Won 4 Drawn 7 Lost 1

v Marlborough College - Drawn 1-1
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Won 5-1
(Home)

v Radley College - Drawn 0-0
(County Round)

v Magdalen College School - Drawn 0-0
(County Round)

v Abingdon School - Drawn 0-0
(County Round)

v Bloxham School - Lost 0-1
(County Round)

v Bradfield College - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 9-0
(Home)

v Radley College - Won 4-3
(Home)

v Wellington College - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Drawn 2-2
(Away)

v Martyrs- Drawn 2-2
(Home)

Boys' Hockey

1st XI Boys

It has been a fantastic season for the 1st XI who remained unbeaten in school fixtures and were the first ever winners of the Charlie Barker Trophy. But with the players setting themselves high standards there was a tinge of disappointment at not reaching the Divisional Round of the National Competition.

Marlborough (away): 1-1
The first fixture of any season is always a potentially difficult encounter, especially with arctic temperatures preventing any pre-season training before term started. Marlborough, on the other hand, had just returned from a successful tour and on home turf were always going to be confident of a positive result. Teddies started slowly and were 1-0 down within five minutes, after a superbly crafted Marlborough attack. Teddies then had all the pressure for the rest of the first half but could not convert chances into goals, with a number of balls sliding past the back post, begging for any touch from a forward. The travelling side finally converted an opportunity early in the second half when Player of the Season and Top Goal Scorer George Creed pounced on a deflection after a well worked passing move on the right hand side. Teddies had the majority of chances for the rest of the fixture but failed to take the lead and the match finished one apiece, probably a fair result given the time it took for Teddies to start putting together fluid passages of play.

Abingdon (home): 5-1
The Abingdon game was an example of how well Teddies could perform. Perhaps the score line did not reflect accurately the possession that Abingdon enjoyed but the home side gave their opposition a lesson in how to convert possession into chances and chances into goals. Teddies went into half time just 2-1 up, conceding a penalty stroke and scoring two well crafted goals. The first goal was a fine passing move that saw St Edward's break forty metres down the left wing before squaring up and neutralising the Abingdon defence, slapping a penetrative ball towards the back post for Charlie Blanchard to finish. Matt Manners scored the other first half goal, a similarly clinical strike.
In the second half, Teddies punished Abingdon's reckless endeavour to gain parity, scoring two smoothly worked goals on the counter attack after absorbing much opposition pressure. Most Improved Player Jonny Tetsell pounced on a deflection and Manners slid in his second after the keeper had been committed to challenging the first wave of on rushing attackers. Blanchard claimed his second mid way through the second period, Teddies executing a slick penalty corner move and Blanchard drag flicking sweetly into the bottom corner. The win over local rivals was made all the more impressive by the fact that Teddies played 15 minutes of hockey with just 10 players and 5 minutes with 9.

Bradfield (home): 2-2
This encounter produced an exciting 'end to end' style of hockey as both sides attempted a fast moving and expansive style of play. Teddies started the strongest, with Creed scoring a superb reverse stick strike from the top of the 'D'. Blanchard then provided the home side's second after a well worked attacking move forced a penalty corner. Unfortunately, as Teddies raised their attacking game in the second half, they also lost some composure in defence. With an unfortunate stumble from the first play of the second half Bradfield gained one goal and the momentum to drive for an equaliser. Although Teddies had the better of the chances in the remainder of the match clinical finishing was missing and the team had to be content with a draw.

MCS (home): 9-0
In this encounter against local rivals MCS the home side dominated every aspect. Coles was superb in goal making some instinctive and stunning reaction saves, though in truth he was rarely called upon to stamp his presence on the game. The back three transferred and distributed with confidence whilst the midfield penetrated the 'D' and found space for the forwards with relative ease. The forward combination of Creed and Tetsell stole the show however, with Creed clinically finishing five and Tetsell poaching two, whilst doing tireless work to retain possession deep in the Magdalen half. Shipperley also contributed one goal, after a slick and speedy counter attack brought about an equally impressive penalty corner move. Teddies' ability to counter attack was the most attractive feature of their play against Magdalen as they absorbed pressure when it was imposed on them and then broke with pace, stretching the pitch to its full dimensions.

Radley (home): 4-3
Perhaps the most meaningful of the local derbies, the encounter with Radley was always going to be a hotly contested affair. Teddies took their form from the Magdalen fixture straight into this contest. Teddies played their most attractive and threatening hockey of the season thus far as they scored three goals in thirty minutes, conceded no real opportunities and dictated the pace and nature of the game. Creed slotted calmly home for the first after Teddies broke quickly and isolated each defender and finally the goal keeper, leaving Creed with an empty net . The second was a perfectly timed and executed short corner that saw Shipperley drive the ball into the back of the net. As the half closed Creed scored his most stunning goal of all: receiving the ball from a long, penetrative slap at the top of the D he weaved his way through three lunging tackles before sliding the ball beneath the diving keeper. The second half brought fifteen minutes of equally impressive hockey as Creed grabbed his third and Teddies held out comfortably against all Radley attacks. However in the final twenty minutes, as Teddies tired and the game grew scrappy, chances were created at both ends. Radley upped their level to score three in quick succession leaving Teddies to defend desperately for seven minutes to ensure the win, despite waves of Radley attacks.

Wellington (home): 3-0
With a bonus point win needed to secure a place at the top of the Charlie Barker league table, Teddies needed a dominant performance over a traditionally strong Wellington side. The athleticism and pace of the visiting side slightly overawed Teddies for the first 20 minutes but once the home side found their rhythm, the pace and confidence in attack allowed Tetsell to finish an impressive passing move to leave Teddies one goal up at the half way stage. Wellington, desperate to equalise, attacked with flair and determination early in the second half and Teddies did tremendously not to concede, after absorbing 15 minutes of continuous pressure. The fitness and ability of the 1st team shone through in the last ten minutes of play, with Teddies creating a series of chances, to ensure a 3-0 score line by the close . Tetsell snatched a second and a slick and potent corner move saw Blanchard fire a drag flick into the side netting from the top of the D. This result ensured that Teddies could not be caught at the top of the table and would be crowned the inaugural Charlie Barker Champions.

Dean close (away): 2-2
The final school match of the season was always going to be a competitive and physical affair, with Teddies just one match away from an unbeaten season. The home side started the contest formidably and it was clear that two particularly skilful individuals in the heart of their midfield would be at the centre of all the attacks on the Teddies goal. The first half was a scrappy period, with both sides struggling to gain a hold on the game. Teddies had the best open field chance of the half, with an attacking move down the right resulting in a missed opportunity just feet from the goal mouth. The first half ended 1-1 with both sides finishing chances from penalty corner rebounds. Teddies were the dominant side at the start of the second period. The 1st XI created a number of chances before Blanchard and Tetsell combined to see the ball cannon into the backboard from close range. Unfortunately, Teddies were unable to hold on to their lead, with a series of decisions going against them in the closing minutes, Dean Close won a succession of short corners which provided them with the equaliser. A draw was probably a fair result, given the ability of the opposition's individuals. However, the fixture provided living proof that Teddies' willingness to play as a team rather than as individuals was the factor that secured a historic unbeaten season.
B. Abdoo, Harry Adcock, F. Bibby (v. Capt), C. Blanchard, H. Coles, G. Creed, J. Cuthbert, J. Fraser, J. Joyce (Capt), M. Manners, R. Shipperley, J. Tetsell.

It has been another hugely enjoyable and successful season, and I was especially pleased with the final three performances against Radley, Wellington & Dean Close. The XI played a pacy brand of attacking team hockey to become only the 4th team in history to go unbeaten, following in the footsteps of 1977, 2000, 2005. As always a big thank you to the coaches and ground staff who make St Edward's hockey possible. A huge thank you to Jasper Joyce for his calm & intelligent leadership and to Fergus Bibby for his boundless enthusiasm & support as vice captain. This year we lose eight U6 players whose experience will be sorely missed but with four quality players remaining and a good crop of young players coming through, I am confident boys' hockey will continue to be successful.

Hockey

Girls' 1st XI

There had been much anticipation with regards to selection for this season's 1st XI as only four members of last year's team remained. But it was not an easy transition as the new players were quickly having to adapt to the fast pace and ferocity of 1st team hockey as well as learn new formations and set plays. It proved to be a tough start against a Wellington side who, having just returned from a tour of South Africa, were looking in good shape. It was Wellington who took an early lead and never really looked back as they went on to win 4-1. In their next match against Cokethorpe, the girls stood up to the physicality of 1st XI hockey far better. They looked a far more confident unit, piecing passes together and allowing formations to flow. Emma Cadoux-Hudson made some fantastic saves in goal and Bubble Baddeley produced some excellent play on and off the ball in mid field as the side went on to win 1-0 courtesy of a Leonora Skull goal. In their next two fixtures the girls battled hard to two well earned draws. In the 3-3 draw with Cheltenham College, joint Most Improved Players of The Season Harriette Brown and Sophie Slemeck were conspicuous and in the 2-2 draw away at Bloxham Katie Withers Green was superb in midfield. The girls then went on to lose 0-3 to a strong Marlborough outfit before going on a six game winning streak.

At Oakham the 1st XI played an extremely competitive match against quality opposition. Teddies were really beginning to gel as a team and regardless of recent results were improving week on week. With Jessie Stevenson outstanding in mid field they played some fantastic and at times inspired hockey and thoroughly deserved their hard fought 1-0 win. Cadoux-Hudson once again made some incredible saves.

At the U18 county tournament the girls defended their title in style. In the first pool game against Henley College it took a while to warm up but the side came through with goals from Lily Davies and Bubble Baddeley to win 2-0. Now warmed up and used to the curtailed matches the side beat Tudor Hall 3-1 to top their group with goals from Stevenson, Baddeley and Davies. In the semi-finals, they faced Bloxham. Teddies knew this would be a tough match, having drawn with them in a block fixture a couple of weeks previously and so it proved to be. The match was end to end hockey but the 1st XI failed to capitalise on some great opportunities and at the full time whistle the score remained 0-0. This meant the girls faced the dreaded penalty stroke barrage. Once again it was Cadoux-Hudson who came to the rescue, making two fantastic saves, and with goals from Bubble Baddeley, Mel Tuckett, Leonora Skull and Grace Robinson Teddies won 4-3. The final against Cokethorpe was a hard fought and enjoyable match where the team showed just how far they had come since beating the same opposition 1-0 just a few weeks before. Top goal scorer Lily Davies, Leonora Skull and Goose Charlton (on her 1st team debut) all scored in the 3-0 win, for the side to become county champions for the fourth consecutive year.

The next fixture against Rugby was another tight affair. The 1st XI coming back from 1-0 down to eventually win 2-1 in another 'nail biter'.

Another tight match followed against Dean Close but this time the side lost 0-1 to a strong side before going on to beat Cheltenham Ladies College 2-0 and Bradfield 3-1 in their next two fixtures. With the Stowe fixture cancelled due to swine flu the side beat Pangbourne 3-1 to take confidence and a three game winning streak into the Divisional Tournament at Bradfield. Here, led by Captain Harriet Conafray and Player of The Season Mel Tuckett, they produced some superb performances to beat Seaford College, Pangbourne and Mill Hill 1-0, draw with King Edward VI Southampton 1-1 and Beaconsfield High 0-0, before losing 3-0 to St George's to finish runners up and qualify for the semi finals. This match they lost to National Runners up Kingston Grammar School who were just too strong and experienced.

The last two fixtures were always going to be difficult ones against some of Teddies strongest opposition. Unfortunately, the 1st XI narrowly lost both, going down 1-0 to Oundle and 2-1 to Canford in two hotly contested fixtures.

However, it has been another enjoyable and successful season for this year's 1st XI who always played with tremendous spirit and commitment. The side were superbly led by Captain Harriet Conafray and her outstanding vice captain Mel Tuckett.
Though we lose four senior players this season the bulk of the side will remain and it is hoped that they can emulate the successes of this season next year.

Hockey XI 2011

L TO R STANDING	H.A. Coles, R.H. Swan, R.T. Mynheer, F.J. Kerr-Dineen, C.P. Instone, C.M. Asembo, G.E.J. Chaffer, R.T. Willis, Z.D. Jones (Coach)
L TO R SEATED	T.A. Blanchard, H.M. Adcock, R.S. Shipperley (Captain), C.M. Blanchard, P.A. Maynard
MISSING	E.J. Jamie, R.H. Swan

Fixtures

Played 27 Won 11 Drawn 9 Lost 7

v Rugby School - Won 5-0
(Away)
v Cheltenham College - Lost 1-4
(Away)
v Bloxham School - Drawn 0-0
(County Round)
v Abingdon School - Drawn 1-1
(County Round)
v Radley College - Drawn 0-0
(County Round)
v Magdalen College School - Won 3-2
(County Round)
v Shiplake College - Drawn 1-1
(County Round)
v Abingdon School - Won 3-1
(Home)
v Bradfield College - Lost 1-2
(Away)
v Radley College - Drawn 2-2
(Away)
v Magdalen College School - Won 3-1
(Home)
v Oxford University 3rd XI - Lost 1-2
(Home)
v Wellington College - Drawn 3-3
(Away)
v Bloxham School - Won 3-0
(Home)

<u>ST. GEORGE'S SIXES</u>

v Ardingly College - Won 4-0
v Trinity College, Cambridge - Lost 0-1
v Sir William Borlase's Grammar School - Drawn 1-1
v Dulwich College - Won 3-0
v Charterhouse School - Drawn 1-1
v Eltham College - Won 1-0
v Lancing College - Won 3-2
(Quarter Finals)
v Charterhouse School - Won 3-1
(Semi Finals)
v Whitgift School - Lost 0-3
(Final)v Eton College - Lost 0-1
(Charles Baker Trophy)

v Marlborough College - Drawn 3-3
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 5-1
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 2-3
(Home)

St Edward's Rugby & Girls' Hockey Tour to Canada 2011

In July, St Edward's Rugby and Girls' Hockey teams experienced a very successful and most memorable tour to the West Coast of Canada. The tour started as we hoped it would do, when the pupils were commended for their courtesy and manners by the cabin crew of Air Canada. What should have been a mundane ferry journey became incredibly exciting when we crossed the path of a pod of killer whales.

Our excitement at our first wildlife encounter quickly turned to apprehension when, on our tour of Shawnigan Lake School, we were warned of recent and regular sightings of black bears and cougars! Apparently, the tactics needed to survive such an encounter are: look big, make a lot of noise and whatever you do don't run!

Shawnigan Lake School is in the most idyllic setting, and the breath-taking scenery was even more spectacular at 6.30 am when participating in an early morning lake swim to recover after the first fitness session. This scenery was complemented by the first class training facilities and hospitality and we felt truly privileged to be staying there. The evening saw a light hearted meeting, with roles and responsibility being handed out, singing practice (from Mr Dalgleish' s tour songbook) and then an early night after a hard day's hockey and rugby training, with the lake beckoning at 7 am!

Following two hard days of intensive training, both the hockey and rugby squads were ready for some competitive action. Both matches were played in warmer conditions than we would associate with the autumn term. The girls kicked off first against Cowichan HC, with the support of the boys. After a great start, and a goal from Lily Davies, we led 1-0 at half-time. Another exciting half of hockey followed and with a goal from Helen Baddeley, we thought the game was in the bag; however, they came back, with the help of their Canadian full international, to score 3 goals in quick succession making it 2-3. In the dying seconds of the match, we strung together some quality passes, culminating in another goal from Helen to level the final score at 3-3.

Helen Baddeley

1st XI Girls Hockey

Pre season began well with a comfortable 5-1 win against Stowe. With a good blend of experienced U6 players like Captain Jessie Stevenson, Leonora Skull, Maxine Mackintosh and Sophie Slemeck and many of the U16's from last season now established in the 1st XI there were high hopes for another positive year. Things began well with a thrilling 5-4 win against Wellington. With Freya Swan, Freya Berkin and fourth formers Helen Baddeley and Lucy Poffley making their debuts the side went into the break 2-1 up. They extended this to 4-1 just minutes into the 2nd half, yet had to withstand a strong Wellington fight-back in order secure a fine win. However, Teddies were quickly brought back down to earth the following week when they were soundly beaten 5-0 away at Cheltenham. After conceding an early goal, Teddies never really recovered and received a lesson in clinical finishing. The next day, St John's College from Argentina provided the perfect opportunity to get 'back on track'. In a game of contrasting styles Teddies dominated for long periods and ran out deserved 2-0 winners with goals from Bubble Baddeley and Katie Withers Green. With U15 Lucy Poffley and Player of The Season Jessie Stevenson outstanding, the 1st XI next beat Cheltenham Ladies 3-1 at home. In a high quality game, Teddies had Emma Cadoux-Hudson to thank for some superb saves but still found themselves a goal down. However, they were soon level when Bubble Baddeley scored following a good passing move. The girls began the second half well and took a deserved lead when a fantastic pass from Stevenson allowed Maxine Mackintosh to score. The win was ultimately sealed when the seasons Most Improved Player Poffley calmly executed a slick penalty corner move. A disappointing 3-2 loss at home to Marlborough followed. The side started poorly and conceded a soft goal before Polly Mainds brought the teams level. No sooner had she done so than another defensive error allowed the visitors to restore the lead. In a really positive start to the second half, some good interplay down right side between Withers Green and Stevenson resulted in Mainds scoring her second of the game. However, mid way through the half a cheap turnover and rare goal-keeping error gifted the visitors what turned out to be the decisive goal.

Hard hit by injuries the 1st XI played with huge spirit to lose 4-3 at Canford. After the long journey, the girls got off to the worst possible start and were 2-0 down inside two minutes. Though Stevenson pulled a goal back, immediately Teddies conceded another as the home side restored their two goal cushion. However, the girls did not lose heart, Freya Berkin made it 3-2 and then Leonora Skull levelled things at 3-3, only for Canford to make it 4-3 on the stroke of halftime. The second half also started badly. Mainds was struck on the head from close range and suffered a nasty head injury. Fortunately Teddies' own neurosurgeon Mr Cadoux-Hudson was on hand but this did not help entirely as the side were forced to play the remaining thirty minutes with ten players. Although the girls displayed amazing courage and huge hearts they could not quite manufacture the elusive goal that would have given them the draw their efforts deserved.

At the County Tournament Teddies were determined to retain their title. They began well with a resounding 4-1 win over a Bartholomew side that contained some very fast, skilful forwards. Top Goalscorer Lilly Davies scored early on, only for Bartholomew to level a minute later. From then on Teddies took control as Berkin, Davies and Freya Swan all scored to secure the win. Teddies then beat Henley College 5-0 with five different players getting on the score sheet: Davies, Stevenson, Berkin, Slemeck and Withers Green. Next the side played Oxford High in a key game. With Bubble Baddeley and Withers Green dominating the midfield, Teddies raced into a 2-0 lead. Fittingly it was the same two players who scored the goals. Though Oxford High fought hard and scored to make it 2-1, Teddies remained calm for a relatively comfortable win. In their final group game Teddies played a strong Bloxham side and in a pretty physical encounter dominated both possession and territory to win 2-0. Poffley finishing off a superbly executed penalty corner and Davies following up with a rebound goal. Four wins saw Teddies top the pool which meant a semi final against Tudor Hall. Now with the bit firmly between their teeth the 1st XI raced into a 4-0 lead with two goals from Davies and one each from Slemeck and Berkin. Tudor did manage a reply but Teddies were determined to have the last say, Mackintosh scoring just before the final whistle to make it 5-1. The final was a rematch of the last group game against Bloxham and in another physical encounter Teddies once again dominated. Bloxham defended stubbornly and Teddies struggled to find a way through and as the frustration grew the 1st XI lost a little discipline as the game became a little fraught. First, Bloxham were reduced to ten following a yellow card, then with just a couple of minutes remaining Swan proved the hero. A neat turn and powerful shot into the bottom corner was enough to seal the win. Though she herself was sent off in the final minute, it had little impact as Teddies sealed their 4th successive County Title. It had been a hugely impressive tournament with the side scoring nineteen goals and conceding just three in its six matches.

In a good performance at Rugby the side ran out 4-1 winners with goals from Slemeck, Bubble Baddeley, Withers Green and vice captain Leonora Skull. In their next two matches the 1st XI came up against two top quality sides. Against Dean Close Teddies started poorly and quickly went 1-0 down. However, Stevenson levelled the scores with a well struck penalty corner and repeated the feat a few minutes later to give Teddies the lead. It was then that things began to unravel as poor communication and soft defending allowed the visitors to score four unanswered goals in fifteen minutes. Whilst the second period began well, Teddies could not capitalise on any of their opportunities and as they tired Dean Close added three more goals to run out comfortable winners. In their next home game Teddies came up against a superbly skilful, fit and athletic Oakham side containing a large number of future cup players. Despite Poffley, Berkin & Harriet Lunnon having excellent matches in defence and Stevenson being outstanding again in midfield the visitors were just too good and ran out deserved 3-0 winners. The Stowe fixture began well with Stevenson scoring from a penalty corner and Slemeck adding a second following a good passing move to lead 2-0 at half time. The second half continued in the same vein as first Withers Green, and then Poffley extended the lead. With Teddies dominating Withers Green claimed her second and though Stowe pulled a goal back the 1st XI ensured they had the final say when Mackintosh added another to make the final score 6-1. Headington were comfortably beaten 7-0 in mid week and in the last school match prior to the divisional tournament the 1st XI made a really sluggish start away at Bradfield. Playing really poorly for the first thirty minutes the girls found themselves two goals down but fought back impressively to go into half time level at 2-2. After regrouping during the break, Teddies dominated the second half to run out 5-2 winners. The goals coming from Withers Green (x2) and one apiece from Slemeck, Davies & Berkin.

In the Divisional round the girls began brightly against a quality St George's outfit. They put the opposition under pressure from the off, but despite two penalty corners and a couple of good chances could not open their account and it was St George's who opened the scoring with their first attack. Teddies squandered another good opportunity shortly afterwards and were immediately punished as St George's claimed their second and added a third in the final minute for a frustrating loss. Against Hampshire CS Teddies found themselves a goal down inside the first minute thanks to some poor defending but bounced back, Withers Green levelling the scores. It was Polly Mainds who sealed the win late on, tipping in a Bubble Baddeley shot after a fine passing move. A good 4-0 win against Godolphin and Latymer followed with goals from Slemeck, Helen Baddeley, Stevenson and Withers Green. This was followed by a hard fought 2-0 win over Beaconsfield High. A fantastic passing move involving Bubble Baddeley and Davies left Swan with an easy finish for the first and it was Swan who turned provider for the second when Slemeck followed up her initial shot to cement the win. Next the girls player Richard Collyer College who were a very good side. In a closely contested game it was Mainds who sealed victory with a solo effort in the final minute, using her pace to outrun the defence and slide the ball past the oncoming keeper. The girls went into the final game against Wellington knowing that a draw would probably be enough to secure a semi final spot. Although Teddies began well and dominated the early exchanges they were caught on the counter after five minutes. The 1st XI pushed hard for the equaliser but could not convert any of their penalty corners or find a way through Wellington's defences despite having the majority of territory and possession. Somewhat inevitably, as Teddies threw an extra player forward in search of the equaliser, they got caught again to leave the final score 0-2. It was a hugely frustrating end to a tournament in which the girls had played really well.

Disappointingly, this proved to be the final act of the season as the remaining fixtures against Oundle and Pangbourne were cancelled due to the arctic conditions that gripped the country. However, it has been another successful and hugely enjoyable season. This year's 1st XI always played with tremendous spirit and were brilliantly led by Captain Jessie Stevenson and her vice captain Leonora Skull. Both have played in the 1st XI since the fourth form and have represented the 1st XI over ninety times (Jess 93 & Leonora 91), which is an incredible achievement. Their attitude, experience and quality will be sorely missed. Though we lose four senior players this season the bulk of the side will remain and it is hoped that they can surpass the successes of this season.

Emma Cadoux-Hudson (D), Harriet Lunnon (D), Freya Berkin (D), Lucy Poffley (D), Katie Withers Green (D), Jessie Stevenson © (D), Leonora Skull (vc) (J), Lilly Davies (M) Sophie Slemeck (M), Freya Swan (K), Maxine Macintosh (D), Polly Mainds (M), Bubble Baddeley (K), Helen Baddeley (K).

J.L. Joyce Cambridge University Hockey Club 2011-2012

Hockey XI 2012

L TO R STANDING	J.B. Fairhurst, P.G. Nagle, F.P. Simon, J.F. Connolly, A.J. Spratling, E.R. Measey, H.R.F. Keen
	Z.D. Jones (Coach)
L TO R SEATED	A.S. Hargreaves, C.M. Asembo, T.A. Blanchard, F.J. Kerr-Dineen (Captain), E.J. Jamie, R.J. Willis
	G.E.J. Chaffer

Fixtures
Played 21 Won 3 Drawn 3 Lost 15

v Bradfield College - Lost 0-1
(Home)

v Cheltenham College - Lost 2-4
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 1-6
(Home)

v Abingdon School - Lost 0-1
(Away)

<u>COUNTY ROUND</u>

v Bloxham School - Lost 0-2

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-1

v Radley College - Lost 0-1

v Abingdon School - Drawn 1-1

v Eton College - Lost 2-5

v Magdalen College School - Lost 1-3

v Wellington College - Won 3-2

v Bloxham School - Drawn 3-3

v Stowe School - Drawn 1-1

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 0-3

v Marlborough College - Lost 3-5

<u>ST. GEORGE'S SIXES</u>

v Sir William Borlase's Grammar School - Lost

v Tonbridge School - Lost 1-3

v Whitgift School - Lost 0-4

v Eastbourne College - Won 1-0

v Lancing College - Won 1-0

v Reed's School, Cobham - Lost 0-1

1st XI

Coach: *Mr Jones*
Captain: *Freddie Kerr-Dineen*
Players: *Asembo, C; Blanchard, A; Chaffer, G; Connolly, J; Fairhurst, J; Hargreaves, A; Jamie, E; Keen, H; Kerr-Dineen, F; Measey, E; Nagle, P; Simon, F; Spratling A; Willis, R*

It has not been a vintage year for boys' hockey results and Bradfield at home proved to be a disappointing start to the season. In a tight, scrappy affair, neither side played fluent hockey, and with chances at a premium it was probably inevitable that the match would be decided by an error. This came midway through the first half when a wayward cross field ball gifted Bradfield possession near Teddies own circle and the visitors made no mistake, firing the ball into the bottom corner. Though The 1st XI battled hard and created a number of opportunities to score, they were unable to do so and the game ended 1-0.

The Cheltenham fixture was another that could have gone either way. Having gone behind early on, Archie Blanchard equalised from a short corner but Teddies conceded two goals in quick succession to find themselves 3–1 down at half time. After the break Teddies hit back with a goal from Ruairi Willis following some fine work from Blanchard but despite the boy's best efforts Cheltenham held firm and scored just before time to win 4–2.

Radley was another tough day and although the 1st XI produced a much improved performance, they were punished for every error by a clinical Radley outfit. Teddies were unfortunate not to take an early lead when an Ed Jamie drag flick was cleared off the line. However, just a couple of minutes later it was the visitors who were ahead when slow reactions to a free hit resulted in a simple goal. Some soft defending twenty five minutes into the half resulted in the visitors extending their lead. Teddies continued to work hard but with just three minutes to go until half time a cheap turnover resulted in another Radley score. The visitors began the second half in the ascendency and it was only a fantastic save from Jack Fairhurst, with his helmet, that prevented them extending their lead further. Teddies came back into the game when Radley were twice reduced to ten men but the 1st XI could not capitalise, and a swift counter attack during the second of these phases took the score to 4–0. To their credit, Teddies fought back and Jamie reduced the deficit with a drag flick. In the final five minutes, a poor tackle from Asembo resulted in a yellow card. Radley duly scored from the resulting penalty corner and rubbed salt in the wound when they scored again from a dubious penalty stroke in the final seconds. The visitors had certainly been the better side on the day but 6–1 was not a true or fair reflection of the game and how hard the 1st XI had worked.

In a tight game against Abingdon, the 1st team produced their best hockey of the term, so far but again failed to make the best of their opportunities and were beaten 1–0.

In the rearranged county tournament Teddies played some fantastic hockey but were unfortunate to come away with a solitary point to show for their efforts. The side missed a number of guilt edged chances in losing 2–0 to Bloxham before being edged out 1–0 by MCS. Though Radley dominated the next encounter, they found Fairhurst in inspired form and it took a controversial penalty stroke on half time to see him finally beaten. Teddies battled hard in the second period and it was only a goal line clearance from a Jamie effort that prevented a draw. With all the sides tiring, the final game was a scrappy affair against Abingdon. Although Teddies took the lead in the first half courtesy of a Willis strike Abingdon levelled things in the second period and the game ended in a draw.

Following their promising performances in the county tournament, the 1st XI travelled to Eton with high hopes but returned disappointed as their frustrating season continued. They began brightly and created some good opportunities in the first quarter of the game. However, despite this dominance, they could not convert any of their chances and any hope of victory was dashed when they conceded three soft goals in as many minutes midway through the half. To their credit the boys regained their composure only to be caught out again on the counter. Eton scoring a fourth just before the break, though Jamie did pull one back with a drag flick on the stroke of half time. Once again the 1st XI started the second half positively with good distribution from the back, but a cheap turnover after ten minutes gifted Eton a fifth goal. Teddies displayed tremendous courage & spirit to battle back. With just ten minutes to go, an improbable comeback looked possible when a fantastic, length of the pitch passing move saw Connolly atone for his earlier error by scoring with a superb reverse stick shot. When another fine passing move resulted in a penalty stroke being awarded hopes again rose. Unfortunately, Blanchard's effort was saved and although the side created other opportunities they were unable to capitalise and were left rueing their three minutes of madness.

The 1st XI started superbly against MCS with Jamie going close in the opening minutes. The side were now playing with real intensity and were soon rewarded when Willis stole the ball and fed Jamie, who calmly lifted the ball over the onrushing keeper to give Teddies a deserved lead. Teddies continued to pass the ball well and created a number of good opportunities but despite coming close on a number of occasions, could not extend their lead. Having dominated for the majority of the half, it was frustrating that MCS scored from their first penalty corner just two minutes before the break. Teddies began the second half poorly and after ten minutes the umpires were forced to suspend play due to floodlight failure. A twenty minute delay occurred and this break badly affected the 1st XI's concentration. MCS scored shortly after the restart and from then on they dominated. Fairhurst keep Teddies in the match, saving eight penalty corners in the process, but with just two minutes remaining MCS scored again to ensure Teddies came away disappointed again.

Against Wellington, the 1st XI produced a performance full of character to win 3–2. Though the hosts dominated both possession and territory from the outset, Teddies always looked dangerous on the counter attack and took the lead when Blanchard fired in a penalty corner, Teddies extended their lead further when Player of The Season Blanchard stole the ball and after a mazy dribble fed Willis, who finished smartly from close range, to send the 1st XI into the break 2–0 up. The second half began poorly as Teddies conceded an incredibly soft goal in the opening minute. With the game on a knife edge, Jamie settled the nerves with a drag flick into the bottom corner to restore the two goal advantage. However, Wellington fought back hard and reduced the deficit with a well worked penalty corner goal of their own. For the remaining five minutes Teddies defended for all they were worth and held on for a much needed & deserved win.

Having gained confidence from victory, the 1st XI played well against Bloxham and dominated for long periods. Jamie gave Teddies the lead with a trade mark drag flick in the eleventh minute and despite chances for both sides the score remained 1–0 at the break. The second period began well, when Jamie increased the lead with another drag flick. However, five minutes later some sloppy defending resulted in a penalty stroke being awarded. From this, Bloxham scored to reduce the deficit. Teddies responded immediately, a Willis snap shot, from a penalty corner rebound restoring the two goal cushion. Although Teddies created a number of other chances they could not extend their lead and when Blanchard was harshly sin binned with ten minutes remaining Teddies lost all composure and conceded almost immediately. When Blanchard returned to the fray with five minutes remaining, Teddies created chances to seal the win but were unable to do so and when they failed to deal with a speculative overhead in the last minute the visitors somehow managed to scramble the ball home to earn a draw.

Away at Stowe, the 1st XI produced a good first half performance to lead 1–0 at the break courtesy of another Willis strike. However, they failed to build on this in the second period, as instead of concentrating on playing hockey, they got dragged into a physical and verbal battle and frustratingly conceded in the final two minutes to draw 1–1.

The St George's Sixes provided a welcome break from school fixtures and the boys responded well.

They narrowly lost 1–2 to Sir William Borlase, then started really well against Tonbride scoring a fantastic team goal before conceding three soft goals to lose 3–1. They then lost 4–0 to U18 National Champions Whitgift, who's side contained five England internationals, before beating both Eastbourne College and Lancing College 1–0. In the final match they were unfortunate to lose final 1–0 to Reeds to finish fourth in their group.

The following day the 1st XI had a tough away fixture at Dean Close and from the start it was obvious that the home side had quality players throughout. They dominated possession and territory from the outset and were unlucky not to be awarded a penalty stroke following a heavy tackle by Most Improved Player Freddie Simon early on. However, despite being on the back foot, Teddies defended really well and remained a threat on the counter. Having defended superbly for the majority of the half, the home side finally managed to break through just before the break when Teddies failed to clear their lines. The 1st XI began the second period with renewed vigour and once again defended superbly. Though Willis came close to equalising on the counter on a couple of occasions, the home side deservedly extended their lead with a penalty corner as they continued to dominate. Teddies valiantly defended another five penalty corners before the home side finally broke through once again to score their third goal in the final minute. Though they lost to the better side, the boys showed immense spirit and commitment throughout.

With all the senior teams weakened by illness and injury, it was a tough final day away at Marlborough. As they had done all season, the 1st XI fought valiantly but were eventually beaten 5–3 in a thrilling game of hockey. With Teddies struggling to settle into the game, Marlborough dominated the early exchanges and deservedly took the lead. However, the 1st XI were soon level when Jamie scored with a straight strike to level things at 1–1. Then, against the run of play Teddies took the lead when a fine break from Paddy Nagle and a superb turn and shot from Willis made it 2–1. However, this lead was short lived as Teddies allowed Marlborough to score two quick fire goals to go into half time 3–2 up. The second period began badly when the hosts made it 4–2 in the opening minute. But as had been the case all season, Teddies responded magnificently as the game went end to end, with both sides creating chances. When Marlborough extended their lead from another penalty corner rebound midway through half the game looked all but over, but once again Teddies fought back. However, despite creating a number of good opportunities the side could not reduce the score until Top Goalscorer Jamie fired home a trade mark drag flick with just over a minute to go.

As always, my immense thanks go to the coaches and ground staff who make St Edward's hockey possible. Despite the results, this has been another enjoyable season. At times the side produced some excellent hockey and always played with huge commitment, passion, spirit and courage. A huge thank you must also go to captain Freddie Kerr-Dineen for his calm, positive leadership and his boundless enthusiasm. Many thanks also to his vice captains Ed Jamie and Archie Blanchard for their support. This year we lose only four U6 players and whilst their experience will certainly be missed, I feel that those that remain will have learned a great deal from this year and will use the tough experiences as a springboard for next season.

Zak Jones

Bradfield	Lost 0–1
Cheltenham	Lost 2–4
Radley	Lost 1–6
Abingdon	Lost 0–1
County	
Bloxham	Lost 0–2
MCS	Lost 0– 1
Radley	Lost 0–1
Abingdon	Drew 1–1
Eton	Lost 2–5
MCS	Lost 1–3
Wellington	Won 3–2
Bloxham	Drew 3–3
Stowe	Drew 1–1
Dean Close	Lost 0–3
Marlborough	Lost 3–5

Girls 1st XI

Wellington	Won 4–3
Cheltenham	Lost 1–3
Cheltenham Ladies	Lost 1–4
Canford	Won 3–1
County Round	
Oxford High	Won 1–0
MCS	Won 3–1
Tudor Hall	Drew 0–0
Cokethorpe	(SF) Won 2–1
Bloxham	(Final) Won 1–0
Rugby	Won 2–0
Dean Close	Lost 0–7
Stowe	Won 4–0
Bradfield	Drew 3–3
Divisional Round	
Collyers	Lost 2–4
St George's College	Lost 0–3
Sir William Borlase	Won 1–0
Oundle	Lost 1–4
Bloxham	Drew 3–3

Coach: *Mr Jones*
Captains: *Bubble Baddeley & Katie Withers Green*
Players: *Rowe, D; Cadoux-Hudson, E; Atkinson, F; Berkin, F; Purle, N; Withers Green, K; Poffley, L; Baddeley, E; Clarke, E; Baddeley, H; Verdon, G; Davies, L; Mainds, P; Swan, F; Miesegaes, C.*

The 1st XI season got underway with a tough fixture against Wellington College. The match was an exciting encounter with both sides endeavouring to play fast attacking hockey. Teddies considered themselves unfortunate to go into the break 2-0 down but a stirring, four goal, second half performance secured an impressive away win. In the second minute of the half Lilly Davies reduced the deficit from a penalty corner and Claira Miesegaes levelled things from another penalty corner a minute later. After a fine dribble and strike, Ella Clarke gave Teddies the lead with ten minutes remaining and Polly Mainds extended the lead shortly afterwards scoring from close range following a goal mouth scramble. Danni Rowe was called upon to make some smart saves but there was little she could do about Wellington's third goal which ensured a nervous last few minutes. Wellington threw everyone forward in search of an equaliser and it was only some fully committed defending from Freddie Atkinson, Nancy Purle and the corner defence unit that kept two overtime penalty corners out to ensure victory.

Against Cheltenham College a lacklustre first half performance resulted in the girls being 1–0 down at the break and although the performance improved markedly in the second game and at half time the score remained 0–0. Canford opened the scoring just three minutes into the second half with a fine goal but Teddies responded immediately. Berkin deflecting the ball home from Teddies first penalty corner a minute later. Thereafter, the contest remained in the balance until the eighteenth minute when a fantastic passing move down the right hand side led to a chance. Though the initial shot was well saved, Freya Swan calmly dispatched the rebound high into the net. Canford remained a threat until the end, and there were times when Teddies were forced to defend for all they were worth. But with just three minutes to go Davies sealed the win with a smart finish.

The girls... dominated proceedings from the first minute with their intensity on defence and their passing and tempo in attack.

At the county tournament, the side began the defence of their title with a good performance against Oxford High. Although Teddies dominated and did not allow the high school to enter their defensive third, it was not until seven minutes from time that Georgia Verdon scored to secure a 1–0 win. In their second game the side once again dominated, scoring three goals in the first ten minutes, with two from Davies and one from Verdon. Although, a defensive lapse in the dying seconds allowed MCS a consolation the result had never been in doubt. Next, Tudor Hall proved a tougher test. The 1st XI dominated possession and territory once again but could not find a way through a resolute Tudor defence. The 0–0 result ensured that Teddies won the group courtesy of having scored more goals and meant a semi -final against a strong Cokethorpe side. Once again the girls dominated with their intensity and tempo. Some good interplay resulted in Davies opening the scoring inside five minutes and Verdon doubled this lead in the twelfth minute. At this point things were looking good but a defensive lapse allowed Cokethorpe to reduce the deficit and which resulted in a nervy last few minutes. However, the 1st XI dealt with the pressure well and held on to win. The final was a re match of last years, against the winners of the other group. Bloxham were a good side and with both teams wanting to play an open game there was hope of a classic final. Teddies once again enjoyed the lions share of possession and territory but with both teams tiring it looked like the game was headed for the dreaded penalty stroke competition. However, with just four minutes remaining captair Bubble Baddeley stepped up to fire a penalty corner home to secure a fifth successive County Title.

The girls then capped off a hugely successful week with another fine performance against Rugby. They dominated proceedings from the first minute with their intensity on defence and their passing and tempo in attack. Helen Baddeley opened the scoring with a neat reverse stick effort following a fine passing move involving Lucy Poffley, Withers Green and Bubble Baddeley, but despite dominating the remainder of the half, some good defending and goal keeping from Rugby prevented Teddies adding to the score. The game continued in much the same way for the duration of the second half and once again it was Helen Baddeley who found a way through. Despite creating a number of other opportunities Teddies could not add to the score yet that could not detract from what had been another hugely impressive team performance.

Against Dean Close the 1st XI were brought back down to earth with a bump losing 7–0. Starting poorly, the side found themselves 4–0 down after just fifteen minutes and 5–0 down by half time. Though the second period saw a much improved performance and a more evenly contested half, the damage had already been done.

Away at Stowe, Teddies got back to winning ways with a comfortable 4–0 win. Though they had two goals disallowed early on and found the Stowe goalkeeper in inspired form they were not to be denied. Helen Baddeley opened the scoring midway through the first half but Teddies were unable to extend that lead before the break. The second half resulted in a much improved performance, although the girls did miss a number of fantastic chances. As Stowe began to tire Teddies took advantage scoring three goals in the last ten minutes. Davies making it 2–0 from close range, Withers Green converting from a well worked corner move and Bubble Baddeley completing the scoring with a neat finish following a quickly taken free hit.

Having not had a game the previous week the coaches fully expected the side to be raring to go for the match against Bradfield, but instead the 1st XI started poorly and looked lethargic for the majority of the first half. The visitors took full advantage and raced into a 2–0 lead thanks to some weak defending. However, three minutes before half time Withers Green began the revival scoring from a penalty corner before Minds brought the scores level. The 1st XI Played far better in the second half and when Bubble Baddeley put Teddies into the lead all present felt they would go on to win. Yet despite the majority of pressure Teddies couldn't extend the lead and when Bradfield equalised with ten minutes to go the writing was on the wall. Despite their best efforts Teddies could not find a way through and the game ended in a draw.

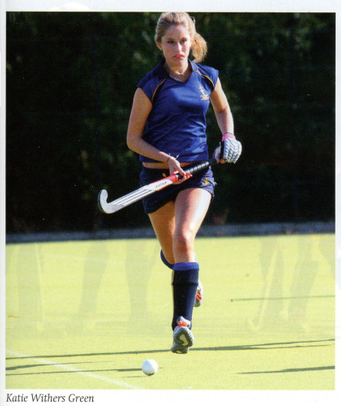
In the divisional round with Withers Green now at the helm, Teddies began well dominating the early exchanges against eventual heat winners Collyers but two defensive errors gifted the opposition a 2–0 lead. Though some fantastic passing saw Helen Baddeley reduce the deficit, another defensive error a minute before the break Saw Collyers restore their two goal advantage. Another error gifted them a fourth and though Teddies came back well, in the shortened match format they had given themselves too much to do. Mainds scoring no more than a consolation goal late on. Next, the girls took on St George's and started fantastically well in a really open game of hockey. Cadoux-Hudson made a sharp save in the early stages before an unfortunate deflection at a penalty corner gave St George's the lead and they scored again immediately afterwards to make it two. Although Teddies were still creating chances at the other end a rebound just before halftime took the score to 3–0. Teddies played superbly in the second period and created a number of fantastic chances but some superb goal keeping and a couple of golden opportunities spurned meant they could not reduce the deficit. In their last game the girls were forced to dig deep against a strong Sir William Borlase outfit. By this stage both teams were looking tired and the game became a war of attrition. Top goal scorer Davies's goal from a penalty corner midway through the half was enough to give Teddies a hard fought victory. Whilst the results were a little disappointing, the side had actually played really well and showed that they could compete against some of the best sides in the country.

Helen Badderley

Without a number of key players due to illness and injury the 1st XI began superbly away at Bloxham dominating from the outset. They created a number of good chances early on but found the home goalkeeper in fine form. Despite their superiority Teddies were unable to find a way through until Mainds deftly deflected in a Bubble Baddeley cross. However, just two minutes before the break the hosts were back on terms, scoring past an unsighted Cadoux-Hudson from their only penalty corner of the half. At the break the 1st XI felt aggrieved that the scores were level but were even more frustrated when some sloppy defending gifted Bloxham the lead. Teddies regrouped and once again dominated possession and territory. Yet despite numerous chances and penalty corners they could not find a way through a resolute Bloxham defence. Their persistence was finally rewarded when Verdon pounced on a rebound to level the scores with under ten minutes to go. With just three minutes remaining the pressure told again when Mainds claimed her second from close range. However, as Teddies pushed forward in an effort to finish their season in style they were caught out by a swift counter attack, which Bloxham finished well to leave the final score 3–3.

In their penultimate game the 1st XI produced a top quality performance but were ultimately beaten by a slightly stronger side. In a high intensity, fast paced game Teddies began brightly as Helen Baddeley saw her powerful high shot well saved. The game was end to end with both sides creating chances but it was not until the twenty fifth minute, just after Berkin went of injured that the deadlock was broken. Oundle took advantage, almost immediately by pouncing on a defensive error to score. Though the visitors were now in the ascendency it was not until the final minute of the half that they extended their lead, when a moment of ill-discipline gifted Oundle a corner from which they scored. Teddies began the second half well and remained dangerous on the counter whilst the visitors dominated possession and territory. The pressure told after just ten minutes when the visitors extended their lead and when they made it 4–0 shortly afterward the game look all but over. However, Teddies showed fantastic spirit to come back well in the last fifteen minutes. They now dominated possession and territory and created a number of chances and penalty corners. Their efforts were finally rewarded when an infringement on the goal line resulted in a penalty stroke being awarded. Bubble Baddeley calmly stepped up to score what would be the last goal of the game.

It was slightly frustrating end to what has been another hugely enjoyable season. This year's 1st XI always played with tremendous spirit. They were led superbly by Bubble Baddeley and latterly by Katie Withers Green who were ably supported throughout by vice captain Freya Berkin. Both Katie (86) and Bubble (63) have represented the 1st XI over sixty times, which is an incredible achievement and their experience, attitude and quality will be sorely missed. Though we lose seven experienced senior players this season, a number of key young players remain who will form the backbone of next years side.


Katie Withers Green

Ella Clarke

Hockey XI 2013

L TO R BACK ROW	M. Hammond, A.J Spratling, J.F. Connolly, C.M. Asembo, E.R. Measey
L TO R MIDDLE ROW	J. Ellis (Coach), F. Baig, H.R.F. Keen, F.P. Simon, R.J.Willis, Z.D. Jones (Coach)
L TO R SEATED	G. Traem, P.G. Nagle, T.A. Blanchard (Captain), A.S. Hargreaves, I.H. Touloumbadjian

Fixtures
Played 11 Won 5 Drawn 2 Lost 4

v Abingdon School - Lost (No Further Details)

v Radley College - Won 1-0 (No FurtherDetails)

v Marlborough College - Won 1-0 (No Further Details)

v Cheltenham College - Won 2-1 (No Further Details)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 4-1 (No Further Details)

v Dean Close, Cheltenham - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Eton College Drawn 2-2 (No Further Details)

v Wellington College - Drawn 0-0 (No Further Details)

v Bradfield College - Lost (No Further Details)
(National Knock out Competition)

v Windsor Boys - Won 4-0 (No Further Details)
(1st Round of the Plate)

v Reed's School, Cobham - Lost (No Further Details)
(2nd Round of the Plate)

Boys' hockey

By Zak Jones, master i/c hockey

It was another busy term for the hockey club with the boys taking centre stage. The 1st XI season did not begin well with an opening day loss to Abingdon but, with Harry Keen (*St Hugh's*) at the helm, things improved throughout the season with the side producing some quality hockey by the last few weeks of term. They enjoyed fine wins including a fantastic performance to beat Radley 1-0 as well as beating Marlborough 1-0, Cheltenham College 2-1 and Pangbourne 4-1. They also produced a superb display away at Dean Close to narrowly lose 2-1 against a side that were U16 national champions two year ago. In addition, there were two hard fought draws against Eton 2-2 and Wellington 0-0 in games that could have gone either way. In the new national knock-out competition, the 1st XI were defeated by a strong Bradfield side in the first round. They then beat Windsor Boys' 4-0 in the 1st round of the plate before losing to Reed's in the 2nd round.

The 2nd XI, coached by Rachel Bellamy and former1st XI captain and Cambridge blue Jasper Joyce, had an enjoyable season securing draws v Abingdon and Bradfield as well as posting impressive victories over Pangbourne 6-0 and Stowe 6-2, and a superb 3-1 win v Eton. Will Cornish (*Abberley Hall*) was excellent at centre back, Alexander Esser (*International School, Brussels*) made many crucial saves in goal, Simon Burns (*Winchester House*) made a number of barnstorming runs from left back, complemented by some impressive attacking skills from Olly Butcher (*Dragon*) and Alexander Shaper (*Beechwood Park*) in particular.

With two of the best colts playing up in the 1st XI, it was always going to be a tough season for the colts A. However, under Nathan Monk, they improved considerably and battled hard throughout the season drawing with Abingdon on the opening day, beating Pangbourne and securing a fine 2-1 away win at Wellington on the final day of the season. Led by captain and top goal scorer Pascal Hardy (*Cherwell*), the U16B team had their most successful season to date, winning four and drawing two of their 11 matches. Instrumental to this success were the energy, composure and creativity of JJ Postlethwaite (*Bruern Abbey*), Alex Wilkins (*Cayman Prep and High*), Ken Laeremans (*Summer Fields*) and Ralph Outhwaite (*Windlesham House*).

At the junior end, the junior colts A played out many tight games, including draws with Bradfield and Wellington, and wins against Pangbourne, Cheltenham and Dean Close. The junior colts B highlights were wins against Pangbourne and Dean Close. Whilst the season was a mixed bag for the junior colts C, their team spirit was never in doubt, and they always gave their all. The highlight of their season was undoubtedly the win over Stowe but they also enjoyed wins against Abingdon, Bradfield and Dean Close.

The shell A had a difficult season, earning a draw with Bradfield and wins v Pangbourne, Cheltenham and Wellington. However, the results do not reflect the potential of this team. Many of the boys had not picked up a hockey stick before arriving at St Edward's and their development has been exponential. The season culminated in a dominant 1-0 victory against Wellington in which the boys finally put together all the elements the coaches had been working on. The shell B did very well in securing wins over Bradfield, Pangbourne, Cheltenham and Wellington. Whilst the shell C's only draw came against Dean Close, goalkeeper Yves Rowe (*St Hugh's*) featured most regularly as man-of-the-match, and the most improved player was Taha Shamsi (*St John's Beaumont*).

Taking the England squad by storm

The girls' 1st XI enjoyed another positive season on a highly competitive circuit. Highlights of last term included wins against Bradfield 9-0, Stowe 3-1, Beaconsfield High 3-0, Headington 5-1, Kimbolton 2-0 and Pangbourne 5-0, and draws with Cheltenham College, Canford and Bloxham. Minus their regular junior players and captain, Lucy Poffley (*Windlesham House*), the 1st's battled gamely in the county tournament and were unlucky to lose a tight semi-final to the eventual winners. Senior players Helen Baddeley (*Dragon*) and Megan Jones (*Cranford House*) deserve special mention for their consistently impressive play. Georgie Blanchard (*Headington Prep*) and Storm Sunderland (*Winchester House*) achieved national recognition – Georgie was selected for the U17 high performance assessment camp and Storm for the England U16 team – congratulations to both.

The 2nd XI's highlights included wins over Bradfield 2-1, Bloxham 4-2, Stowe 1-0, Kimbolton 4-1 and Pangbourne 4-1, but also included a hugely impressive 1-1 draw away at Marlborough. The 3rd XI had a fine season winning over 60% of their matches, including victories over Cheltenham 3-2, Oundle 1-0, Bradfield 5-1, Canford 1-0, Bloxham 6-3, Kimbolton 4-2 and Pangbourne 5-0. The 4th XI's highlight was an impressive 6-2 win against Cheltenham.

The U16A's lost only once in School fixtures last term with notable wins away from home: Dean Close 4-1, Oundle 7-1 and Marlborough 1-0. The squad retained their county title in impressive fashion, scoring 12 goals and conceding just 1 in their 4 games. In the divisional round, the girls produced two excellent performances to beat Surbiton High School 5-0 and Epsom 6-0 but lost their final match to a very strong Eastbourne College side.

Highlights elsewhere included wins by the U15A's v Dean Close, Marlborough, Tudor Hall and Stowe; the U15B's victories over Bloxham, Dean Close and Kimbolton; the U14A's wins v Stowe, Oundle, Bloxham and Kimbolton; and the U14B's wins v Dean Close and Tudor Hall. The U14A squad qualified for their regional competition by finishing runners up in the county tournament where, despite remaining unbeaten and beating the eventual winners, they drew too many games to claim the title. At the regional tournament, the side played incredibly well, with an outstanding performance and great leadership from Zoe Scott (*Dragon*) in defence, and good distribution and energy from Ashlyn Dickinson (*Ryde with Upper Chine*) in midfield. Goalkeeper Sassy Hammersley (*Dragon*) should also be commended for numerous crucial saves along with Ella Royden (*Maidwell Hall*) for being a constant attacking threat at centre forward.

Hockey XI 2014

L to R standing	J.J.P. Woodcock, M.E. Adcock, E.T. Kinman, L.A. de Ferran, T.C. Lotter, W.H. Bull, C.P. Shipperley, G.D. English, J.M. Power
L to R kneeling	F. Baig, H.R.F. Keen (Captain), G. Traem
In front	M. Hammond
Coached by	Z.D. Jones

Fixtures
Played 21 Won 6 Drawn 2 Lost 13

v Abingdon School - Lost 1-4
(Home)

v Bradfield Collage - Lost 1-5 (National Cup)
(Away)

v Magdalen College School - Lost 0-2
(Home)

v Windsor Boys - Won 4-0 (National Plate)
(Home)

v Radley College - Won 1-0
(Home)

v Pangbourne Nautical College - Won 4-1
(Home)

v Reed's School - Lost 0-4 (National Plate)
(Away)

v Marlborough College - Won 1-0
(Away)

v Bradfield College - Lost 1-2
(Home)

v Stowe School - Lost 0-1
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Eton College - Drawn 2-2
(Home)

v Dean Close school, Cheltenham - Lost 1-2
(Away)

v Wellington College - Drawn 0-0
(Away)

v Martyrs - Lost 3-4
(Home)

<u>St. George's Sixies Competition</u>

v Eastbourne College - Won 1-0
v Langley Park - Lost 0-4
v King Edward School, Southampton - lost 1-2
v Tonbridge School - Lost 0-2
v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Lost 0-2
v Wellington College - Lost 1-2

Hockey

By Zak Jones, Master i/c Hockey

It has been another impressive term for the girls' hockey club with some fine performances, results and achievements across the board, both collectively and individually.

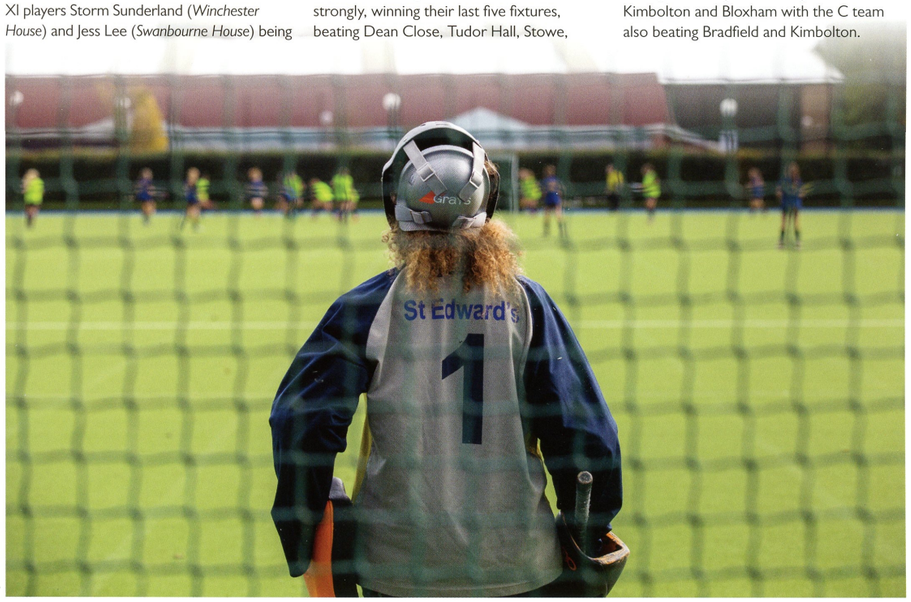
A young 1st XI were runners-up in the county tournament where, despite scoring 15 goals and conceding none in normal play, they were beaten on penalty strokes. However, they went one better in the first round of the south Divisional Tournament. Once again they did not concede a goal but on this occasion won the tournament. Unfortunately, they went on to lose the divisional play-off quarter-final to Sir William Borlase. The early season saw them reach the semi-final of the St George's Sixes where they were beaten by an extra time golden goal. Their season also included an impressive 8-2 win away at Kimbolton as well as victories over Tudor Hall, Stowe and Pangbourne and creditable away draws with Cheltenham College and Canford. Individual success came with 1st XI players Storm Sunderland (*Winchester House*) and Jess Lee (*Swanbourne House*) being selected for the Mercia Lynx U18 and U16 Futures Cup teams respectively, with the latter going on to win their age group.

The 2nd XI enjoyed a mixed season but recorded good wins against Bradfield, Kimbolton, Tudor Hall and Pangbourne whilst the 3rd XI enjoyed wins over an MCS 2nd XI as well as Stowe and Bloxham.

Despite having two key individuals playing up in the 1st XI all season, the U16A won both the county title and the first round of the divisional tournament, winning all their matches in the process. They too were eventually knocked out in the divisional play-off quarter-final. Their hugely successful season also included fine wins against Wellington, Bradfield, Kimbolton, Tudor Hall, Stowe and Bloxham and a draw with Oundle. The B team however, experienced a tougher season, their only win coming against Bloxham.

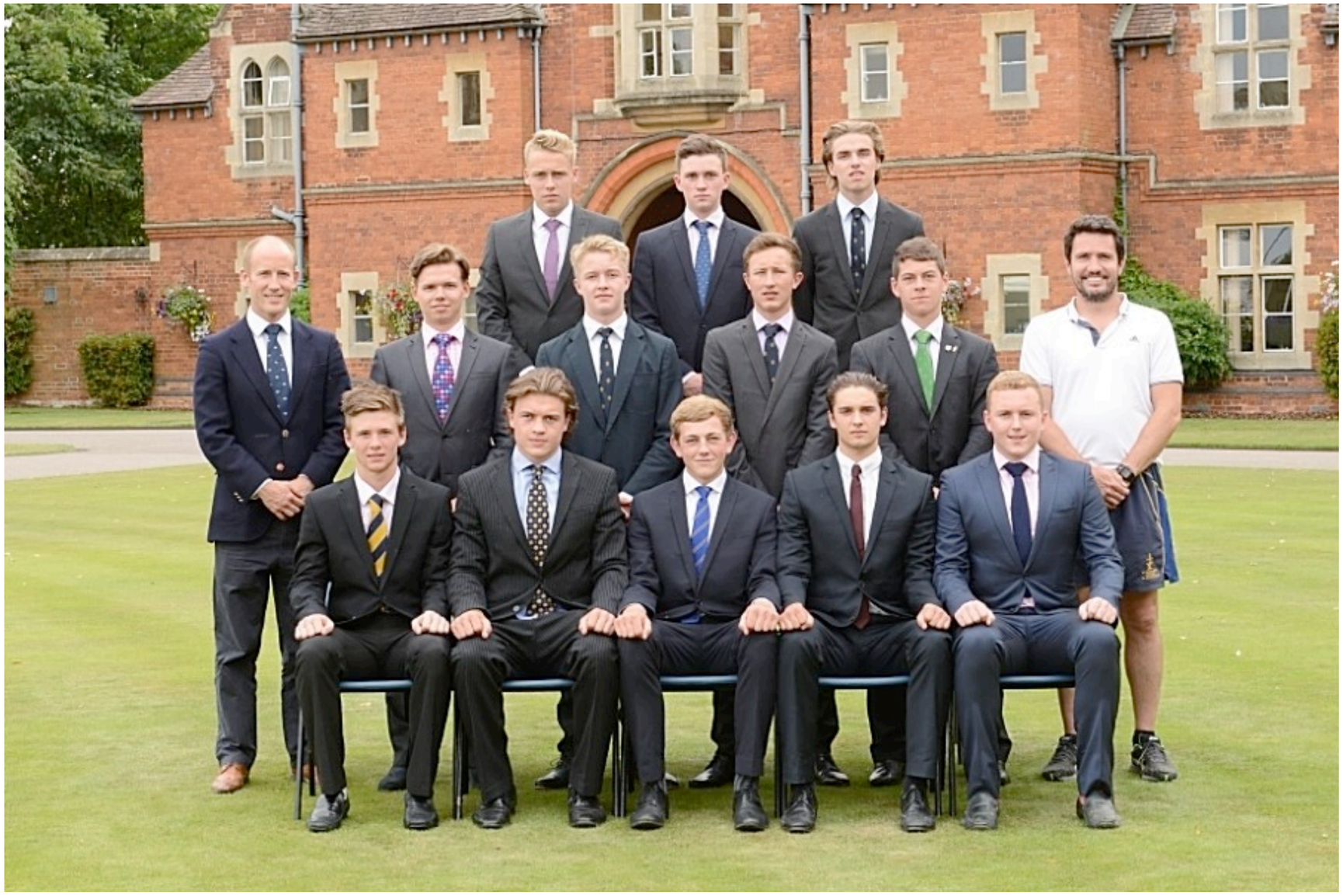
At the junior end of the club the U15A endured a tough start to the season but improved throughout and went on to finish strongly, winning their last five fixtures, beating Dean Close, Tudor Hall, Stowe, Bloxham and Pangbourne. Despite a heavy opening-day loss to Wellington, the U15B can boast the best results in the hockey club. They have not lost since just after the first leave weekend and finished with a record of eight wins, two draws and two losses. These results included draws with Cheltenham and Bloxham, and wins over Oundle, Bradfield, Kimbolton, Dean Close, Tudor Hall, Stowe (an incredible 5-4 match) and, finally, Pangbourne. The C team managed wins over Cheltenham College, Oundle and Cranford House.

The U14A have worked hard all season and have gained in confidence and become a good team. Despite many close games, they struggled to convert opportunities and their only victory in school fixtures came in their 3-0 win v Pangbourne on the last day of the season although they also enjoyed victories against Kingham Hill and Rye St Antony in the U14 county tournament. The B team managed three good wins against Bradfield, Kimbolton and Bloxham with the C team also beating Bradfield and Kimbolton.



Coaching Award

Congratulations to Head of Hockey Zak Jones, recently named as Buckinghamshire's Performance Coach of the Year. Head Coach at Buckingham Ladies Hockey Club, as well as GB U21 Women's Assistant Coach, Zak has overseen 11 promotions in the last 15 years including the promotion of the women's team to the Premier League. The awarding body said: "Zak is patient, committed and knowledgeable and has supported individual players and the club to achieve phenomenal success."



Hockey XI 2015

L to R back row	J.M. Power, G.D. English, J.J.P. Woodcock
L to R middle row	J.E. Mather (Coach), A.J. Shaper, W.J. Pickford, A.J. Woodland, W.H. Bull, Z.D. Jones (Coach)
L to R seated	C.M. Dickinson, T.C. Lotter, C.P. Shipperley (Captain), M.E. Adcock, E.T. Kinman
Missing	A.M.P. Wyles and L.A. De Farran

Fixtures
Played 18 Won 12 Drawn 1 Lost 5

v King's School, Bath - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Bradfield College - Lost 1-3
(Away)

v Abingdon School - Drawn 2-2
(Away)

v Radley College - Lost 2-3
(Away)

v Eton College - Won 3-1
(Away)

v Cheltenham College - Won 4-1
(Away)

v Marlborough College - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Magdalen College School - Won 2-1
(Home)

v Stowe School - Won 3-2
(Home)

v Wellington College - Won 3-0
(Home)

v Martyrs - Won 3-1
(Home)

v Dean Close School, Cheltenham - Won 5-0
(Home)

St. George's Sixies Competition

v Desborough College - Won 3-1
v Dr. Challoner's School, Amersham - Lost 0-1
v Ardingly College - Won 3-1
v Royal Grammar School, Guildford - Lost 2-3
v Cranleigh School - Won 1-0
v Ipswich Grammar School - Lost 2-3

Boys' Hockey

By Zak Jones, Master i/c Hockey

Following a good 2-1 pre-season win against King Edward's School, Bath, the 1st XI started slowly, conceding two late goals to lose 3-1 away at Bradfield before drawing with Abingdon and losing 2-3 to Radley. However, once the early season discipline issues were solved, the side produced some fine performances. They beat Eton 3-1 and Cheltenham 4-2 away before defeating Marlborough, Stowe and Wellington at home. They completed a fine season by beating a strong Dean Close side 5-0. The side also enjoyed a positive St George's Sixes, narrowly missing out on a quarter-final place with wins over Desborough, Ardingly and Cranleigh. Charlie Shipperley (*Ashfold*) led the side fantastically well both on and off the field and was ably supported by vice captains Maxim Adcock and Tom Lotter (both *Caldicott*).

After a slow start to the season, the 2nd XI enjoyed some positive results with highlights including wins against Wellington and Winchester, and hard-fought draws against Marlborough and Stowe. Alexander Esser (*International School Brussels*) was outstanding in goal. Gus Knott (*The Beacon*), as the top goal scorer, and Freddie Williams (*Pinewood*), with his impressive work-rate in midfield, both captained the side with distinction.

The 3rd XI, featuring a large number of colts players, produced some admirable performances. Strong play resulted in a fine 2-2 draw against Marlborough and there were also agonisingly close defeats against Radley and Cheltenham. Ewan Brewster (*Tower House*) led the side superbly and was well supported by Alex Coetzee (*Knightsbridge*), Nikita Radkevitch (*Ludgrove*), Pol Bernat (*St Paul's, Barcelona*) and Hussain Popat (*International School, Kenya*). Special mention must also go to Pavel Galsworthy (*Abingdon Prep*) for some truly awesome saves.

The U16A's, led by Angus Atkinson (*Dragon*), had a mixed season. They enjoyed good wins over Stowe and Cheltenham College, and creditable draws with MCS, Radley and Marlborough, but also some frustrating losses. The U16B's began their season with a fantastic 3-1 at Bradfield and also enjoyed impressive 7-0 and 3-1 wins over Eton and Cheltenham respectively before injuries took their toll. However, they completed their season on a high with a 3-1 win against Dean Close.

The U15A's made huge improvements from game to game, picking up some hard-fought draws and finishing with a strong win against Wellington. Tom Powell (*St Andrew's, Pangbourne*) was the player of the season with Bruno Aldridge (*Vinehall*) the most improved. The U15B team worked hard and performed creditably all season. Results rarely favoured them, but they fought hard for draws with Radley and Marlborough, and in the penultimate game against Wellington everything came together and the team won 6-0. The side followed this up with another fine 4-2 win against Dean Close. The U15C's enjoyed a highly successful season which included draws with Bradfield and Radley, and wins against Marlborough, Stowe and Wellington. Led by leading scorer Merlin Elias Jones (*Dragon*), the forward line demonstrated great agility and speed, and never seemed to tire. Harry Woodall (*Davenies*) marshalled the defence superbly and, as captain, led by example.

Highlights of the U14A's season included early wins against Bradfield and Abingdon, three goals in the final eight minutes to win 4-3 against MCS, a fantastic team performance to beat Cheltenham 3-0 and a good showing against league winners Marlborough. The side also reached the semi-finals of the inaugural National Sixes tournament at Rugby where they lost to champions Repton. Harry Power (*St Hugh's*) was strong in defence all season, Toby MacLachlan (*Moulsford Prep*) led the side with aplomb and Max Liddy (*Dragon*) scored a number of important goals for a side full of potential for the future. As far as results go, the U14B side have had a tough season. However, the boys should take pride in the fact that their standard of hockey and skills, both as a team and as individuals, has dramatically improved. Anish Mehta (*Caldicott*) and Archie Redman (*The Beacon*) were both crucial components of the defence, making low, solid tackles. Joseph Burton (*Dragon*) offered the team an injection of pace and was a stand-out player throughout the season.

Boys' Hockey

Zak Jones, Head of Hockey

The 1st XI produced some fine performances beating Eton and Cheltenham away and defeating Marlborough, Stowe and Wellington at home. In their final game they beat a strong Dean Close side 5-0. In the St George's Sixes, they narrowly missed out on a quarter final place with wins over Desborough, Ardingly and Cranleigh. Charlie Shipperley led the side fantastically well and was ably supported by vice-captains Maxim Adcock and Tom Lotter. The 2nd XI enjoyed some positive results including wins against Cheltenham College, Wellington and Winchester, and hard-fought draws against Marlborough and Stowe. Strong play from the 3rd X1 resulted in a fine 2-2 draw against Marlborough and there were also agonisingly close defeats against Radley and Cheltenham. The U16A's had a mixed season with some good wins, creditable draws and frustrating losses. The U16B's were hampered by injuries but nevertheless enjoyed some impressive wins. The U15A's achieved some hard-fought draws and strong wins against Bradfield and Wellington. The hard work all season finally paid off in the last two games for the U15B team as they won 6-0 against Wellington and 4-2 against Dean Close. The U15C's had a very successful season beating Abingdon, Marlborough, Stowe and Wellington with a forward line that demonstrated great agility and speed and never seemed to tire. Highlights of the U14A's season included early wins against Bradfield and Abingdon, a 4-3 victory over MCS with three goals in the final eight minutes, a fantastic team performance to beat Cheltenham 3-0 and a good showing against league winners Marlborough. The side also reached the semi-finals of the inaugural National Sixes tournament at Rugby where they lost to champions Repton. The Under 14B's had Anish Mehta and Archie Redman as crucial components of the defence and Joseph Burton was a standout player throughout the season.

1st X1
Coach: Zak Jones
Maxim Adcock (Vice-Captain), Angus Atkinson, Will Bull, Luke de Ferran, Calvin Dickinson, George English, Ivan Fairchild, Ed Kinman, Tom Lotter (Vice-Captain), Jack Power, Alexander Shaper, Charlie Shipperley (Captain), AJ Woodland, James Woodcock, Andy Wyles

Bradfield (Lost 1-3)
Abingdon (Drew 2-2)
Radley (Lost 2-3)
Eton (Won 3-1)
Cheltenham (Won 4-1)
Marlborough (Won 2-1)
MCS (Lost 1-2)
Stowe (Won 3-2)
Desborough (Won 3-1)
Wellington (Won 3-0)
Martyrs (Won 3-1)
Dean Close (Won 5-0)

Girls' Hockey

Zak Jones, Head of Hockey

A young 1st XI were runners-up in the county tournament and won the first round of the south Divisional Tournament, losing the quarter-final to Sir William Borlase. They reached the semi-final of the St George's Sixes where they were beaten by an extra time golden goal. Their season also included an impressive 8-2 win away at Kimbolton as well as victories over Oxford High, Tudor Hall, Stowe and Pangbourne and creditable away draws with Cheltenham College and Canford. Storm Sunderland was selected for the Mercia Lynx U18 and Jess Lee for the victorious U16 Futures Cup team.

The 2nd XI enjoyed a mixed season but recorded good wins against Bradfield, Kimbolton, Tudor Hall and Pangbourne whilst the 3rd XI enjoyed wins over an MCS 2nd XI as well as Stowe and Bloxham. The U16A won both the county title and the first round of the divisional tournament. They also had fine wins against Wellington, Bradfield, Kimbolton, Tudor Hall, Stowe and Bloxham and a draw with Oundle. The B team experienced a tougher season, their only win coming against Bloxham. The U15A had a difficult start to the season but went on to win their last five fixtures, beating Dean Close, Tudor Hall, Stowe, Bloxham and Pangbourne. The U15B recorded the best results in the hockey club with wins over Oundle, Bradfield, Kimbolton, Dean Close, Tudor Hall, Stowe and Pangbourne as well as draws against Cheltenham and Bloxham. The C team managed wins over Cheltenham College, Oundle and Cranford House. The U14A had many close games but their only victory in school fixtures came in their 3-0 win v Pangbourne on the last day of the season, although they also beat Kingham Hill and Rye St Antony in the U14 county tournament. The B team managed three good wins against Bradfield, Kimbolton and Bloxham and the C team also beat Bradfield and Kimbolton.

1st X1
Coach: Zak Jones
Izzy Barrand, Georgie Blanchard, Rosie Hart, Emma Isola, Grace Jones, Lucy Kellock, Flora King, Jess Lee, Ellie Lloyd, Serena Lloyd, Emma Measey, Romey Oulton, Francesca Sargent, Storm Sunderland, Rosanna Verdon

Wellington (Lost 0-3)
St George 6's Tournament (Won 4, Drew 1, Lost 2)
Cheltenham (Drew 1-1)
Oxford High (Won 3-0)
Oundle (Lost 0-1)
Bradfield (Drew 2-2)
Canford (Drew 2-2)
Kimbolton (Won 8-2)
County Tournament (Won 4, Drew 1)
Dean Close (Lost 2-6)
Tudor Hall (Won 2-1)
U18 Divisional Round 1 (Won 2, Drew 1)
Stowe (Won 1-0)
Borlase (Lost 0-2)
Bloxham (Drew 1-1)
Pangbourne (Won 6-0)

Girls' Hockey

By Zak Jones, Head of Hockey

The 1st XI enjoyed an incredible season - one in which they lost only one school match all term. Their record in all competitions read: won 22, drew 6, lost 4. They scored an impressive 98 goals whilst conceding only 34. This is the second best set of numbers in the School's history; only the legendary girls' 1st XI of 2007 secured better statistics. They were crowned County Champions once again, coming through the tournament unbeaten, conceding just a single goal. In the South Round, they conceded with the last hit of the game to draw with eventual winners Eastbourne, having lost to Ardingly 3-2 and beaten Peter Symonds 5-0. The 1st XI also entered the inaugural Independent Schools Hockey Cup where they beat Tudor Hall in the first round, then produced a stunning performance - one of the best in recent memory - to beat a quality Bromsgrove side 3-1. Despite playing superbly they were eventually knocked out by Millfield in the last 16. The side were also semi-finalists in the prestigious St George's Sixes. Having won all their group games, including victories over Kingston GS and Ipswich, they eventually lost their semi-final to Cranleigh.

After a tough start to the term the 2nd XI found their feet with a draw against Pangbourne. Taking confidence from this they moved forwards with wins against Bradfield, Stowe and Kimbolton playing some free-flowing hockey. Marlborough provided a challenge but the girls bounced back with wins against Tudor Hall and Bloxham before a hard-fought loss to Wellington. The 3rd XI enjoyed a fantastic season, winning seven of their eleven fixtures and scoring freely. Wins were secured v Pangbourne, Bradfield, Stowe, MCS, Bloxham and – after a hard-fought, final-day match - away at Wellington.

It has been an excellent term for the U16As who have come a long way in terms of their hockey. Highlights of the season were the 5-1 win at Stowe where they played some of their best hockey and the real grit displayed in the 2-1 win over Marlborough. As a team, they have played with spirit and humour while always looking to focus on the positives. The U16B also enjoyed a positive term with fine wins over Cheltenham College, Pangbourne, Bradfield, MCS and Marlborough.

It has been an up and down season for the U15As. Having recorded 3 wins, 2 draws and 6 losses, the girls were pleased with their success yet also disappointed as they believe they could have achieved more. They were always a pleasure to coach as they improved enormously over the term, and played some incredible hockey in parts, as their hard work and willingness to improve paid off. The U15Bs had a tough start to the season but despite losing their first game, the girls worked hard during training and started to gain a better understanding of the game. They displayed great teamwork to win their next six fixtures against the likes of Marlborough, Cheltenham and Bradfield. In the last game of the season they lost to a strong Wellington side. The U15C's definitely progressed throughout the season. As their passing and stick control improved they came together as a team and they won a number of their matches towards the end of term.

The U14A team made very good progress despite facing a tough fixture list; the highlight was the win against Tudor Hall with Alana Wilson (*Cheam*) scoring the decisive goal. Maddie Catchpole (*Dragon*) was the player of the season with many excellent saves as the team's very busy goalkeeper. The U14B team were totally committed throughout the season which made their successes all the more pleasing. They worked hard as a team and persevered, staying motivated and positive at all times. Special mention must go to captain, Alanna McCrum (*Jumeirah College, Dubai*), Cate Luke (*Dragon*), Sophie Marston (*Winchester House*), Elly Won (*Schule Schloss Salem*), Natalia Elezovic (*Fulham Prep*) and our secret weapon, the skilful Ruby Smith (*Dragon*). The U14C came together at the start of term with little or no hockey experience. They faced opposition with courage and enthusiasm, developing their understanding of the game as they progressed through the term. Many have worked hard on improving their individual skills and match play which has allowed a number of them to be selected for B team matches.

Scoring v Canford in September