

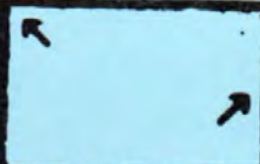
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OLD STOCKTONIANS' ASSOCIATION

(Founded by Evan Baldwin 24th January 1913)

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION £1.00

(Advance subscriptions for two, five or ten years would be welcomed)

Cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed and made payable to:

"Old Stocktonians Association"

Association ties are available from the Secretary

Prices: Rayon (to clear) 25p
Terylene £1.60p (both incl. of p & p)

Communications should be addressed to:

P. GRAHAM (Hon. Secretary)
OLD STOCKTONIANS ASSOCIATION
8 THORNBOROUGH CLOSE,
HARTBURN
STOCKTON
CLEVELAND TS18 5PA
Telephone: Stockton 583057

BACK ISSUES OF THE MAGAZINE

Limited numbers of past issues of the magazine are available from the secretary price 35p including postage.

Copies will be sent on a 'first come first served' basis and all years from 1947 – 1975/76 are available; including the 1973 'bumper issue'.

(Note: there are only 10 copies of years 1947-72).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Old Stocktonians,

It seems strange to be writing under this title but I must say it is an honour to be able to do so.

What of the Association? We are still, I feel, in a transitional stage. A Sixth Form College is not a Grammar School and many would fail to understand the philosophy behind ours, if indeed they accepted there was one!

One of my hopes is to introduce a new member to the Association – not an "Old" Stocktonian but a "New" Stocktonian – members of the College in their second year.

We already have members of the Student Council attending Committee meetings and I see it as a short step to inviting current College students to participate more fully in our Association (Pas a pas.....?)

Our attempts to meet the cost of the magazine with advertising are still not fully realised. As fast as we find new advertisers we lose others. We are greatly in debt to all those who support us.

One sad fact of life was once again brought home to me this year. Two people I respected and admired died. Tributes are paid to them on later pages, but I must record my personal sadness at their passing – George Lee, my own Physics Master and my first Head of Department, and Charles Hall, Headmaster when I was a prefect and a man who never forgot me after I left.

Brian Brand.



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(Telephone: 583057)

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J. Ingham

Mrs. J. Thomas

B.P. Brand

P. Graham

THE OLD STOCKTONIANS BENEVOLENT FUND

The credit balance at the bank of £853.58 on 1st January 1976 was augmented during the year by interest amounting to £58.13. No donations were received. No repayments were made. It was found necessary during the year to make loans totalling £150.00 to students attending, or wishing to attend, University. (Further loans of £100 have been made since in the present year). The credit balance at the bank on 31st December 1976 stood at £761.71.

Thanks are due to Mr. Harold Dodsworth for auditing the accounts. Mr. W.Munday has found it necessary, for health reasons, to resign as Trustee. His resignation has been accepted with regret by his fellow Trustees. All Old Stocktonians will want to thank Mr. Munday for his past services to the fund and for the kindness and understanding with which he has approached this task.

The Trustees wish to point out that neither donations nor repayments of loans have been received since 1972. Inflation causes requests for assistance to be set at a higher level than previously. Lower bank interest rates are payable to us because of the upturn in the national economy. The Fund can continue for some time yet, but it would be much appreciated by the Trustees if some special effort could be made to ensure that in the future those needing immediate assistance would not be turned away.

Donations should be sent to the Secretary of the Association or to the Convenor of Trustees.

Appeals for Assistance should be made in the first place to the Principal of the Stockton Sixth Form College or to the Convenor at 2 Highfield Crescent, Hartburn (580690).

THE 51st ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner was held at the Queen's Hotel, Stockton-on-Tees, on Saturday 8th January 1977. The President of the Association was in the chair. The Worshipful, the Mayor of Stockton-on-Tees, Councillor Jim Tatchell proposed the toast of the Association. No one in his experience appreciated the enormousness (or did he say enormity?) of the new Stockton. In round figures £50,000,000 was being spent by the new authority on public services on behalf of 50,000 households — £1,000 per household as compared to an average rate payment of £130. The balance came from industry and taxes. The economic realities of the present situation had caused shock waves to run through the system.

The President was noticeably affected by that "£1,000 per household" and looked forward to receiving his cheque "in lieu". He was pleased to say that membership was now improving and the future of the Association was now assured.

Mrs. Gwynneth Cole proposed the toast of the College, and most enthusiastically did she do so. Her conversion to the new system was complete and absolute.

The Principal reminisced on how three years ago, at his first dinner, he was at great pains to reassure Old Stocktonians that the decision to go comprehensive and "Sixth Form College" was a wise one. Happily the system was now an accepted fact of life in Stockton-on-Tees.

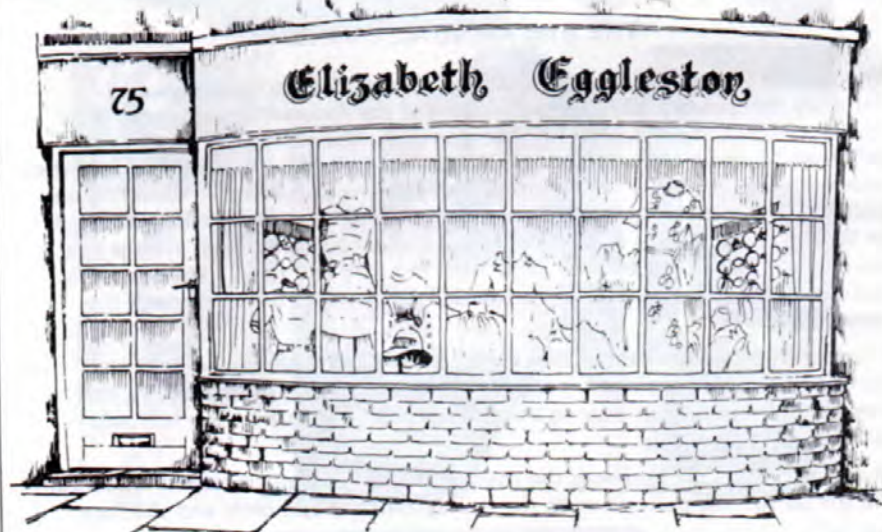


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52nd ANNUAL DINNER

The venue is once again the Queens Hotel, Stockton. The guests are Dr. John Houghton, Director of Teesside Polytechnic and Old Stocktonian Peter Hunt (62 - 69).

Remember, the dinner is now a mixed function, come along yourself, bring a companion and friends – the continuation of this function depends solely on your support!

Tickets price £4.50 from the Secretary, S.A.E. if possible, or from Committee members.

Date of dinner: Saturday, 7th January 1978 (7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1976

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Stockton Sixth Form College on Wednesday 15th December at 7.30 p.m. Only three non-committee members were present, two of these being observers from the GGS for Girls Association. Mr. C. Bell the retiring President took the chair.

The Hon. Sec. first of all apologised for the exclusion of the dinner date from the year book and proceeded to give membership figures.

The number of annual members was 96, of which 47 were in arrears. Only 29 new members had joined the annual list but five of these had paid for 'years in advance'.

There were 650 life members with known addresses, 140 with addresses unknown.

The Treasurer was unable to be present to give his report but the Hon. Sec. was able to confirm that the accounts had been audited and found correct. The question of Income Tax owing was still being considered by the Inland Revenue.

In his report as Convenor of the Trustees of the Benevolent Fund, Tom Sowler said that they had been more active than the previous year and Funds now stood at £733.68. Mr. Sowler outlined the original intentions of the fund as an aid to help students at University or College and give financial support to 'destitute' students of the 1920's. Although the latter problem had now largely disappeared donations were still needed to keep the fund buoyant and repayment of outstanding loans were few if any.

Officers were elected as follows – Old Boy President - Mr. B.P. Brand; Vice-Presidents - all re-elected Hon Sec. - Mr. P. Graham; Asst. Hon Sec. - Mr. M. Morton; Hon. Treasurer - Mr. D. Willetts re-elected.

Committee: Although unable to be present Mr. C.J. Beeston had written to offer his help to the Association and it was proposed that he be asked to join the Committee to replace Mr. Morton.

Other members re-elected were as shown in the list of officials in the front of the year book.

Mr. Carr gave a vote of thanks to Mr. C. Bell for his work as President and Mr. B.P. Brand for his as Hon. Sec. during the transition period. Their efforts had resulted in the making of a true College Association.

Under AOB Mr. Ingham stated that the present College recruiting literature needed revision and Mr. Brand said he was considering a new method of printing the leaflets. Mr. Bradshaw said that the Committee should raise the matter of subscription increases in the New Year.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1977

This meeting will be held in the Stockton Sixth Form College, Bishopton Road West on Monday 12th December 1977 at 7.30 p.m. All members are invited.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last AGM
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Hon. Secretary's report
5. Hon. Treasurer's report
6. Benevolent Fund report
7. Vote of thanks for retiring officers
8. Election of Officers
9. Appointment of Auditor
10. Any Other Business.

OUR SPORTING LIFE

Wednesday, 30th March 1977

Once more the Old Stocktonians successfully turned out teams in seven sports including full teams in the ladies events and mixed volley ball followed by an extremely successful social at Pharaohs.

I have said in the past that the results were of little importance but I'm sure the College would like it recording that only the ladies basketball and mens rugby provided victory for the 'old timers'.

Thanks must go to Chris Ross and Pam Cox for organising the ladies teams and of course Ruth Grange and Pete Hudson in particular for the College side. Pete has been of invaluable help to me over the years in organising the event, doing much of the unseen spade work on the day to say nothing of the necessary organisation of the after-match teas.

The teams were:

RUGBY: Parton, Fawcett, Douglas, Phillips, Murray, Pitt, Beadle, Kirkwood, Edmunson, Wild, Grange, Daniels, Peagam, Cook, Willetts.

SOCCER: Harris, Pearson, Davies, Brookes, Cockburn, Umpleby, Kirton, Reed, Bennington, Fowler, Bailey.

HOCKEY: Jackson, Whitfield, Baker, Dick, Ions, Brearly, Clark, Pragnell, Jameson, Race, White.

BASKETBALL: Sutherland, Waller, Thompson, Marley, Hayton, Routledge, Scott, Reed, Rayner.

MIXED VOLLEYBALL: L. Hodgson, S. Burrige, V. Ramsden, Waller, Sutherland, Dinsdale, E. Smith.

LADIES HOCKEY: L. Ramsden, J. Kennedy, L. Ross, F. White, S. Bance, S. Hayton, A. Gall, S. Reed, M. Bullock, A. Chester.

LADIES BASKETBALL: M. Bullock, S. Reed, J. Kennedy, L. Rush, P. Townes, S. Hayton, A. Gall, S. Bance, J. Tiffin, L. Ramsden.

NEXT YEAR

Unfortunately, there are no plans for next year, the current organiser has now retired following the adequate advanced notice given in last year's magazine — Does no one read it? or does no one care?

Organising the annual sporting fixtures is not the easiest of jobs but it is far from impossible and can be very rewarding.

Surely there must be some body, somewhere who has got a lot out of either, Grangefield Grammar, Stockton Sixth Form College, or the Old Stocktonians to want to put something back? The Association desperately needs some new faces and new ideas to give it a face lift.

The Old Stocktonians Association will only be as strong as its active members want it to be — perhaps I'm wrong and the sporting extravaganza won't be missed.

To any prospective organisers:

- (i) I'm available for basketball
- (ii) I will give every assistance possible, i.e. names, addresses etc. for all other sports.

Graham Rayner,
8 Ingleby Grove,
Hartburn.

Tel: 580772.

NEW MEMBERS

Where possible future plans are given.

Marion Butler, Chris Cannon, Chris. Davis, Jill Dobson (5 years subs), Colin Edmondson, Neil Etherington, Paul Ferguson (U.C. London to read Chemistry) David Hall, Susan Hall, Clare Hudson, Roger Jameson, Rosalind Jeavons, Dave Lee, Adrian Pocock, Howard Russell, Susan Thompson, Trevor Wild, Janice Williams (Durham to study Chiropody), Keith Wivell.

Note the lack of information! Come on, don't be shy, let us know where you are and what you are doing.

FORMER STUDENTS HERE AND THERE

Some Old Stocktonians from the 50's have had a tradition of many years' standing of meeting, on New Year's Eve, with others in the Black Horse, Billingham Green. The venue this year was altered at the last moment to the Ship Inn at Wolviston, and much valuable drinking time was lost during the changeover!

Former students present on this occasion included:

PETER (Pop) SOWLER (53-60) now Laboratory Manager, C.A. Parsons, Newcastle; IAN (Little Mac) McALEER (53-58) teaching at Abergavenny; JEAN (nee Bronskill) McALEER who taught at GGS for Girls 1972-74 and now the proud mother of a lovely daughter Fiona; BRIAN BUTE (52-57) who has "stayed local and gone limited" — his own expression. Wives attended to bring some sort of respectability to the gathering. Apologies for absence were received from M.W. (Big Mac) OZELTON (53-60) and CLIVE WILSON (53-60). Big Mac has returned to "the States" from I.C.I. Harrogate. Clive, in Dar Es Salaam, has continued with his hobby of skin diving (reputedly to escape from the flies).

WALTER AUTON (49-54) joined the Army in 1956 and served in Tripoli, Hong Kong, Germany, with NATO forces in Belgium, Northern Ireland and Malaysia. He is now married with three children and has recently been commissioned. At present he is serving in Germany as a Captain.

MARTIN BARNETT (51-58?) was awarded his Doctorate of Philosophy at the University of London, Ontario, Canada in June 1977 for his research into – wait for it! – Glacial Geomorphology in a Sub-Polar Proglacial Lake Basin: a Process - Response Model”.

SIMON BEAUMONT (74-75) is now manager (or so he believes!) of a local sportshop and frequently sees many old faces from his schooldays, for example LEN PORTER (62-69) who has spent a year sailing round the Med. as a break from metallurgy – can't be bad!

News of other BEAUMONTS: CHRIS (65-72) after obtaining his degree at Cambridge is now working in South Africa for a civil engineering firm. STEPHEN (62-69) is still in catering and at the present time is at the Birmingham Exhibition Centre in the 5-Star Hotel.

A.E. (Bert) BISHOP has returned home after 46 years in 'exile' and has settled into his new 'haven' in Warwickshire (or, as the G.P.O. insist on calling this area – Worcestershire!).

ISOBEL CAMPION (67-74) is now working as an assistant collector at the Middlesbrough tax office.

STANLEY CARTER (74-76) is studying Chemistry at the University of East Anglia.

RICHARD FENSOM (73-74) has returned to Leicester University for his final year of study for a degree in Physics.

WALTER DOBSON (34-39) became the BBC's "Mastermind" Champion for 1976-77. Walter was a guest at this year's dinner and brought along his Mastermind trophy for us to see – and a magnificent work of art it was!

COLIN GARDENER (44-52) became a new Life Member this year. Colin expressed his sadness at the death of Taffy Rhys and felt the world in general was much poorer for the passing of his like. He is employed by Aer Lingus as a Senior Captain flying Boeing 737's around Europe but recently finished an eighteen month secondment to Air Algérie. Colin married a Belgian girl (which has done nothing for his French – J.G. Rattenbury please note!), has three children and is living within 'driving' distance of a golf course near Dublin. A new idea – Colin suggested that there must be quite a few golfers in the Association and that an Annual Golf outing may be a great excuse for a get together – anyone interested?

We were pleased to hear that ELIZABETH GOULD has gained a BA with Honours in Sociology and Social Administration at the University of Stirling.

PAUL GREGORY (73-75) has changed his course at Leeds University from one of Zoology to Dentistry – hope he didn't find it too much of a yank!

JOHN F. GUILÉ (16-22) wrote to express his pleasure at receiving and reading "The New Stocktonian" which is now his only link with Stockton. John was particularly interested in references to contemporaries CHRISTOPHER HOGGETT, BILLY BOUCH and HARRY BELL.



Sharp's

**FOR
SEA FOODS**



STOCKTON MARKET

RICHARD JACKSON (74-76) has recently secured a position as Commercial Trainee in the Sales Service Office of GKN Steelstock, Macnays Division in Middlesbrough and promised us more news of his "progress in life" in future along with the remainder of his Life Subs. Note the date of the Annual Dinner Richard!

LAWRIE LLOYD (43-50) who has been in Brussels for four years as European Manager for Catalyst and Licensing Dept. of ICI and visited most countries on the Continent in that time writes to say he is returning to Teesside in August 1977 and looks forward to meeting old friends and being able to attend AGM's and Annual Dinners once again. We look forward to seeing you too Lawrie!

JOHN LITTLE (62-68) is currently working for Quadrant Computer Services Ltd. in Altrincham in the Systems Software Division, having recently completed two years with the Port of Liverpool in their Management Services Department.

CHRIS LITTLE (61-67) is a research officer in the European Weather Centre at Bracknell.

KEN MACDONALD (73-75) is still at Strathclyde doing Prosthetics and Orthotics (spelling O.K. now?) which, he says, "for the uneducated is the Biomechanics and Clinical Application of Artificial limbs (Prostheses) and such things as leg braces, lumber supports etc. (Orthoses)". He sends his best wishes to the College Staff and Fellow Members of the Association.

JANET MACKENZIE (73-74) is in the third year of her course at Newcastle University reading Bacteriology and Plant Biology.

J.N. MILES (73-75) is studying Computer Science/Maths at Teesside Polytechnic.

GEOFFREY NATTRASS (55-62) wrote early in the year to give us news of himself. Geoff spent three years at King's College, London studying law but was unfortunate enough to contract glandular fever two weeks before his finals and consequently was awarded an "aegrotat" degree (which, he informs us is Latin for "he is ill" — Mr. Munday will no doubt correct any error here). After his finals and articles in London, Geoff learned the "court-work side of the practice" with a firm of Gloucester Solicitors.

In 1974 Geoff started his own firm and, although he is involved with a certain amount of "matrimonial" work claimed he was still a great believer in marriage. Suffice to say he showed the courage of his conviction by marrying in May 1976! Geoff passed on news of other former students: JOHN WAINWRIGHT (56-63) is in public relations and selling, PHIL DOVER is in Pennsylvania U.S.A. working as a University Lecturer and ALAN COATES is involved in selling oil refineries in distant lands — mainly India, at present.

M. PEARSON (66-74) claims he will probably be remembered as "PO the nut" by his contemporaries. Martin hopes to graduate from Newcastle University this year with a B.Sc.

MARGERIE PUGH is a name few Old Stocktonians will know but perhaps they may be more familiar with her maiden name of BALDWIN. Margery is the daughter of the late EVAN BALDWIN, the founder of the Association, and a former pupil of the Secondary School (27-33) and still keeps in regular contact with us. Her latest letter expresses the pride she derives and that which her father would derive if he could know that the Association continues to flourish, 64 years after its inception.

MIKE REED (67-74) is working in the Estimation Department of William Press and Sons Ltd. In September 1975 Mike married Sharon Bradley, a former student of Grangefield Girls School.

News of IAN PRAGNELL (64-66) comes to us via Graham Rayner. Since graduating with a BSc in Civil Engineering from Teesside Polytechnic Ian has become a chartered engineer and now "works" (his inverted commas!) as a Senior Assistant Engineer with Weymouth and Portland B.C. Much of his work is involved with the designing of sewers, pumping stations and rising mains for Portland Island but Ian still finds time to play hockey, badminton, squash and more recently has taken to playing golf. In closing he adds, "just for the records", that he now has a wife Yvonne and two children, Mark (3½) and Rachael (1½). We look forward to seeing you at the hockey match at Easter Ian.

BRYAN RIDGE (67-74) originally went to University College Swansea until mid-1975 when he left to join the Royal Navy as a Technician in the weapons and electrical branch; at the time we received his letter he was about to join Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth as an officer. Bryan sends us news of KEVIN BROWN, ERIC PARRY and MALCOLM TODD, all in their final year of degree courses and seeking employment whilst NIGEL WADDLE is still engaged in a sandwich course with Hawker Siddley.

JOHN ROGERS (65-72) wrote enclosing his second instalment of life funds despite his tight financial state – who isn't in such a state at the moment! We pass on congratulations to John and his new wife Lynette – hope to hear more news in the future.

CAROL SCOTT (74-76) is now in her third year of study for a BA in Business Studies at Birmingham Polytechnic.

W.S. SHIPMAN received the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal this year, two years after his retirement as a farmer. No 'mere farmer' we hasten to add. He founded a pedigree herd of British Friesian cattle in 1933 on his farm near Sunderland. An active participator in farming and public service he was branch chairman or vice-chairman of County Durham NFU for eight years and is a life vice-president and past chairman of Durham County Agricultural Society. Apart from his farming interests he was a member of Easington Rural Council for nine years until he retired from that position and is also a magistrate and member of the Magistrate's Court's Committee. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

TOM SOWLER (25-32) continues to serve Stockton. Tom recalls the loneliest but proudest moment of his life during the recent visit of the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh to Stockton-on-Tees this year. He was the halberdier in the ceremonial guard mounted at the Town Hall and his moment of pride was when bringing the halberd to the salute before the Queen as she turned to enter the Great Doors.

DAVE STEWART (57-63) wrote not only to inform us of his address and enclose a donation but gave us news of his appointment in 1976 to the Board of County Bank – the wholly owned merchant banking subsidiary of National Westminster Bank. David's wife Gill (nee Sample) was a student at "Queen Vic" and is at present lecturing in catering and related subjects at Southgate Technical College.

We hope JOHN TAYLOR (66-73) has managed to find a permanent position after his temporary job with British Steel as a fitter's mate! John has been offered a training contract with a local firm of accountants but was also considering taking up a research post. We gather that his wife was due to graduate this year which was a further complication – we trust all has been resolved to their satisfaction.

ALISTAIR THORBURN (63-75) is now at Liverpool Polytechnic studying Sports Science and is currently playing rugby for the Poly 1st XV and New Brighton 2nd XV – Sports Secretary please note!

ROBERT WALLER (32-36) writes to say he received a note this year from an old school pal JIM SHARKEY who is a heart specialist (and a V C reprobate?) practising in the Burton-on-Trent area and this together with notes from an old neighbour and wife of HARRY MANN (Staff 37-46) justified his investment in adverts in the O.S. Magazine. Many thanks for your support Robert, hope you get some replies to this year's advert. Come on VC reprobates let's hear from you!

With apologies for his delay BARRY WIGGINS (40-46) informed us of his MBE award of December 1975. Barry received his award for service with the Kenya Airforce as their Chief Engineer and was the last white man to serve in, rather than with, that Airforce. Barry is at present a Wing Commander and is now responsible for the specification of and selection of vehicles being bought by the R.A.F. rather in contrast to his family connections with the retail side of the Motor Industry. The job keeps Barry travelling and he has already visited Switzerland and Canada to assess snowploughs. Barry is rather disturbed by the lack of news from his contemporaries in the magazine but does manage to see ARTHUR WILLIS frequently and DAVID INGMAN at least once a year. Let's have some news from Old Stocktonians of that era to counter this statement!

WALTER WILKINSON (10-14) writes not only to inform us of how much he enjoys reading the "New Stocktonians" but of the death of his eldest brother GEORGE WILKINSON in December 1976. Walter himself retired in 1959 from his position as General Manager and Director of Pickering Lifts and has lived in Great Ayton for 26 years – the latter position qualifying him, he believes, as "an old inhabitant".

D.G. WILLMER (61 & 63-68) informs us of a recent move from London to Scarborough to take up a teaching post as a Mathematics specialist at Scarborough Sixth Form College. His new head of department is JOHN (Butch) DAVISON (51-58) which only goes to show how small the world really is in terms of 'Old Stocktonians'.

We hope to continue to prove this in the future but can only do so if you continue to send us news about yourself.

IN MEMORIAM

MR GEORGE G. LEE, Physics Master and later Senior Science Master at Grangefield Boys' Grammar School from 1942 to 1964, died suddenly at his home in Norton on 14th April 1977.

George Lee was born and bred in County Durham, and was a graduate of Armstrong College, Newcastle, then part of Durham University. He was living at Houghton-le-Spring and teaching at Marton College before he came to Stockton Secondary School on a war-time appointment. He succeeded Mr. Bremner as Head of the Physics Department in 1948.

A reference to old 'Year Books' shows that in 1948, only six boys gained Higher School Certificates, but in 1964, 61 gained 'A levels', 35 in Physics. This indicates something of the development of the school in Mr. Lee's time, the sheer numerical increase in the responsibilities and successes on the scholastic side of the school's work, particularly in Science subjects. The debt which many generations of boys owe to George Lee is therefore great in the first place on account of years of hard work and devotion to

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HIGH STREET, STOCKTON**

duty. But he was much more to the school than just an efficient teacher and organiser.

He was often prominent on the cricket field in the umpire's white coat; he took over from Dr. Kinnes the double-bass in the school orchestra; he helped devotedly as accompanist at rehearsals for operas as well as Assemblies; he had a very high reputation in the Staffroom as an unhesitating and infallible solver of awkward crossword puzzle clues! In many other ways he made his contribution to the life of the school, always with his own combination of absolute reliability with a very individual sense of humour. All in all he was a real 'character' who won the respect and affection of everyone.

He was for many years until his death organist and choirmaster at Norton Methodist Church.

To Mrs. Lee and to Christine and Marion we extend our sincere sympathy in their loss.

MR. CHARLES L. HALL, Headmaster of Grangefield Grammar School for Boys from September 1953 to December 1956, died at St. Anne's on Sea where he was living in retirement.

Mr. Hall, a graduate of London University in both Geography and Economics, had had a very varied career before coming to Stockton, teaching at schools in South Shields and Huntingdon, lecturing at Peterborough Training College serving on the Education Staff at Scunthorpe and finally acting as Head-Master of a new school in Chesterfield.

He arrived at Grangefield soon after the move from Nelson Terrace and made many of the changes in curriculum, and organisation necessitated by the increase in size of the school and its new home. In particular, the sixth form increased considerably in size and in scope in his time, a growth which was afterwards continued under Mr. Bradshaw. Although Mr. Hall did not stay long at Stockton his headmastership was a period of fruitful and important development.

Mr. Hall went from here to Bury Grammar School and three years later to Darlington Grammar School until his retirement in the mid-sixties.

We send greetings and sympathy to Mrs. Hall and to their two sons, particularly to Roger who spent three years as a boy in the junior school here.

MR. G.W. WILKINSON in early December 1976 whilst in London for a meeting of the Cambridge University Examinations Board for which George was an examiner in mathematics.

George was born in Stockton and left Nelson Terrace to go to college in London. On leaving college he joined the Royal Navy and spent four years at Scapa Flow after which he returned to college. His first teaching post was as Mathematics master at the Grammar School at Armley Leeds and moved from there to Whitby County School in 1929. Four years later found George in Sheffield and eventually he became headmaster of Abbeydale School until his retirement to Whitby in 1961. He was an active Rotarian being secretary of the Whitby club for many years, a past president and bulletin editor and reporter. George was a keen worker in the home safety movement, for the past three years had been co-chairman of the Eskdale Tournament of Song and also worked with great efficiency for the local committee of Social Service.

George's wife predeceased him and he is survived by a son and a daughter.

MR. E.D. LOFTHOUSE of Station Rd., Sedgefield died recently.

LATE NEWS

BARBARA RODDAM (nee DEEHAN) is a Writer/Producer for B.B.C. Play-school.

NICOLE TIBBELS is a member of the B.B.C. Singers and also of Swingle II

MARTIN BARNET, we hear, has been awarded his Ph.D. in Ontario (The place not the specialism!)

R.E.B. WILLIAMS (Scorcher) writes from Luton to offer us what must be price-less magazines — originals of the S.S.S. magazine Nos. 1 — 5 etc! We do have some old mags. but I'm sure the Secretary will have taken Scorcher up on his offer by now.

G.W.DAVIS has now retired and moved from Lanarkshire to Catterick Village.

He intends to visit us and hopes to meet some old associates. (The Dinner?)

JIM COLTMAN (47-52) is now teaching at Longlands College, Middlesbrough.

Editor:— I was put firmly in my place by HARRY PIERCY (my bank manager!..

Dramatic music!...) Whilst sympathising with us for sending his magazine to Conifer Crescent for many years he did gently point out that in fact he used to live in Conifer Grove! (or have I got it wrong again!). I had a pleasant chat about the Old School with Harry and I hope he can make it to the dinner this year.

BOB WARD (54—59) distinctly remembers being "encouraged" by GORDON RATTENBURY to part with money and enrol in the Association! He wants to encourage his contemporaries to give news and starts the ball rolling by sending us an account of life so far. He joined British Rail after leaving school and worked for them, on the Commercial side, for 9 years. He now works for I.C.I. as a buyer of Engineering Materials. He is married to Kathleen (nee TIVNANN) who attended Grangefield at the same time as himself (and he swears he never knew her then!) They have three children and have lived at Eaglescliffe since their marriage in 1966.



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THE SAGA OF SAM OR AT LEAST THE BARE BONES OF IT

Dear Editor,

I think I can explain the 'Sam' incident referred to in your letter from Bryan Berry. In fact there were several occasions when Sam figured largely in our lives between 1930 and 1932.

Sam was a skeleton whom the Sixth Form boys released from his cupboard in their science lab.

At that time the girls' Sixth Form classroom was on the upper floor of the cookery building, and separate from the main school. One morning we arrived to find ghostly footprints drawn in chalk all the way up the stairs, and there in the classroom was Sam trembling in every limb but grinning at us all in friendly fashion. We wondered what to do with him before the staff arrived but we need not have worried for when we returned from Assembly he had gone.

But not for long. That morning the whole school assembled to witness the handing over of a large Union Jack, a parting gift from the Geography mistress, Miss Miller, who was retiring. As we stood in solemn silence watching the flag being run up the pole, Sam appeared at the gym windows, with ghastly grin and waving arms. Quite wrongly Miss Nelson took this as a direct insult to Miss Miller, a somewhat thin lady. She rushed round to see Dr. Crockett with the result that all the boys' prefects were unfrocked — Stan Proud, David Livingstone, Win (Bill) Coates, Stan Brown and the rest.

But we had not seen the last of same. As Fiona Johnstone pointed out the imaginary line between the two schools was very easily crossed. Our classroom window overlooked the boys' yard and we spent many a happy hour assessing the charms and shortcomings of the boys as they paraded below. Christmas came and the boys invited us to a party at Sparks Cafe in the High St. — ever afterwards known as the 'Sam Party'. For Sam was there, sitting in state and receiving his guests. He even expected to be partnered during the evening. What a marvellous party that was! Win Coates rendering of 'I lift up my finger and say Tweet Tweet' is something to remember for ever.

Like all good things the party came to an end all too soon and poor Sam was unceremoniously bundled into a cricket bag and taken back to Nelson Terrace accompanied by a group of his well-wishers. We watched on tenterhooks while Win shinned over the wall and deposited our beloved skeleton back in the cupboard, but no prowling policeman or curious passer-by disturbed us.

In the spring and summer we joined the boys for what in those days were called 'hikes'. For these poor Sam was left behind as he was rather short of leg muscles. One such trip I shall never forget. We were to eat our sandwiches at Chequers Inn (now only a farmhouse) and the boys promised us the speciality of the house, brown lemonade. Sure enough it was brown and quite unlike any lemonade we had ever tasted. Disbelieve me if you will, but I swear it is true. It was years before I realised I had tasted my first shandy. O the innocence of my youth!

But what a grand crowd they were and what happy times we had. I hope the present College Students have as much fun as we had. But I doubt it. You see it was so deliciously wicked then just to look at or speak to the boys.

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Nancy Bell (nee Mackew)
1925 — 32

DRESSERS

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STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

(by Mike Sayers)

Writing this report is arguably one of the most difficult things I have had to do so far in my year of office. I would much rather face an army of 'Record Playing Committees' demanding new speakers for the lounge than put pen to paper to write an article such as this.

At Christmas the present council will be replaced giving way to new blood from the first year. The officers – Simon Pugh:-vice -chairman, Helen Stevenson:- secretary, Steven Beeton:- treasurer, Dave Thompson:- vice-secretary and myself will stay on, however, until Easter. This arrangement is designed to maintain continuity in council affairs. New sub-committees are also to be elected and most of these take over their duties immediately. The Entertainments Committee is the one exception to this. The old and new members jointly organise the first event of the Spring Term so that the new members can learn the 'ins and outs' of the job from their previous counterparts.

The latest venture into the world of bright lights and entertainment is the formation of the Film Club. This is the result of a lot of hard work, mainly on the part of Dave Thompson. An impressive array of films has been ordered and will be shown over the next twelve months. Unfortunately the first film was not a huge success as it was in black and white but we have high hopes for future performances.

Our exclusive range of college casual wear has now been added to by the provision of college T-shirts available in two colours and several sizes. Another batch of sweat shirts are being ordered with the slight modification of the official college badge – castle and anchor – printed in white on any one of an abundance of colours. Whatever else people may say about us, we are undoubtedly the best dressed academic institution in Cleveland.

A liaison committee has been formed to help generate more enthusiasm in college towards the Old Stocktonians' Association. Many students are obviously not aware of the valuable services offered by the Association if they join on leaving college.

One of the college mini-buses is in need of immediate repair. It will be replaced as soon as possible and, with the co-operation of the students, fund raising efforts, such as the dance just held, will provide the money for the new one. Staff and council representatives are planning a series of such events.

I feel that a report on the year's activities would not be complete without some mention of Mr. Gwinnett. We all extend to him our best wishes in his new post. The council, especially, owes him a great debt for all the help and support he has given us.

To conclude I shall use those three immortal words, steeped in mystique and magic, which, over the years, have become a college tradition.....
'You can go!'

1976/1977 GIRLS' HOCKEY

The girls' hockey team had a fairly successful season, playing 17 matches on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Unfortunately the poor weather during the autumn term caused the cancellation of at least eight matches.

RESULTS:-

Played	Won	Lost	Drew
17	13	1	3

Several girls from the College team, represented the Stockton District X1 Rosalind Jeavons and Jane Foster playing for Cleveland County 1st X1, and Vicky Newey, Kay Butters and Caroline Burton being selected for the County 2nd X1.

The highlight of the season for the Stockton Sixth Form College was their success in the Cleveland Indoor tournament. The girls progressed to the finals after winning the Stockton section. Here they beat Southlands school in the semi-final, before gaining the Cleveland Indoor trophy by defeating Marton S.F.C. 6-2 in an exciting final.

TOP-TOP

Illustration of three young people: a girl, a boy with a camera, and another girl.

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1976/1977 BADMINTON

Once again, badminton proved to be an extremely enjoyable sport at the College. At least 40 students were members of the 6th form Badminton Club, playing both Monday lunch-time, as well as Monday evenings.

The club arranged their own internal competition organised by Judith Murta and Neil Wanless with Philip Davison and Karen Scott winning the singles tournaments.

The following badminton results show that the team fared well during the season winning the majority of their matches.

Played	Won	Lost	Drew
14	11	3	-

EVENING

(by Christine Freeman)

When the sun shines on the mountains
Thrusting upon them its glow,
I feel a sense of excitement,
Happiness, Freedom and candour.

Setting a red tinge to its summits,
And a white sparkle to its rocks,
Turning the greenness to gold,
Enshrouding the sheep in their flocks.

I want to challenge their mightiness,
To see what I can't see below,
Where ridges stretch for ever,
And quiet waterfalls flow.

HITCH-HIKING THE FRENCH WAY

(by Claude Frey – Assistant 1976-1977)

As soon as I was on holiday in February, I thought it would be worthwhile to take advantage of this time off and to travel around in the British Isles and that is what I did. I am fond of travelling, and usually ready to go anywhere by any means. So for the first Half Term holiday in February I set off for Scotland, with a first stop in Edinburgh. By the way, I was surprised by the amount of drunk people I saw in this city, and it was not a sinecure to enquire about the way to the next Youth Hostel! Around 7 o'clock everyone was rushing round me, almost running into the pubs. Four hours later, they came out and zig-zagged their way home, when they didn't fall on the pavement. I was alarmed – very seriously! The reason for this was that pubs used to close at 10 o'clock and, as they were open for a short time only, Scots used to drink quickly. Now, pubs are allowed to close one hour later, but the Scots drink as quickly as before and one hour longer and so they get drunk! No need to say that I hardly believed this trivial explanation. I resumed my journey to Oban via Glasgow and its Gorbals, and then along the Caledonian Canal to Inverness. All foreign visitors want to go to Loch Ness and Inverness which are famous all over Europe, and of course everybody has heard of Nessie and would like to see him. I was rather pessimistic on that point, and I was right since I failed to see him and couldn't say a friendly "Hello". However I met a man who told me there was not only one monster but several. I never could make up my mind if he



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was a mere joker or if he wanted to promote the tourist industry in Scotland. Anyway, with or without Nessie, the Loch Ness area is one of the most beautiful places I know, as are the Grampians which I crossed when covered with snow – not I, the Grampians – most of this unfortunately with a man who drove like a maniac, as many Scots do! In that, I think they have had French teachers!

Two months later I set out for Ireland via Wales, crossing overnight from Fishguard to Rosslare, then thumbing my way to Cork, Killarney, Limerick, Galway, Wishart, Roscommon, Dublin, Belfast, then back to England, from Larne to Stranraer, heading for Newcastle along Hadrian's Wall and back to Stockton again. I enjoyed this trip very much and met a lot of people and tried a lot of cars, since I needed seventy two lifts, from a beautiful and comfortable Mercedes to a lorry basket – sometimes it isn't worth being fussy about the vehicle! Some years ago when hitch-hiking in France I was given a lift by a hearse.

My main problem on these two trips was to find anybody to share my ideas on travelling. Most people like to be comfortable and told me I was mad to hitch-hike in Scotland in February "It's too cold, too wet and too windy" my friends said and of course it was – but it didn't prevent the sun from shining from time to time and when hitch-hiking you hardly know when you will start or when you will arrive. But that's what makes it interesting and attractive. Moreover, the less luggage you carry the better it is, but many people can't help carrying a lot of things that 'may be useful' and that they never use. The less luggage you have the quicker you get a lift. As for me, I carried a very small bag with everything I needed inside. Most drivers couldn't help pointing out that I was travelling very light, but actually they didn't know that half of the bag was reserved for my camera and lenses, as I am as fond of photography as of travelling. The other half held all the stuff I needed for a fortnight's trip, toothbrush, razor, soap and ingredients for what I call "supersonic" meals, which I bought day after day. Of course it is not the most comfortable way of travelling, but it is really enjoyable when everything comes "out of the blue" and you have to face a new situation almost every day. Of course some little problems may occur; once I got a lift within ten seconds, but two or three times I've waited almost three hours before being picked up and have had to start walking to the next town ten or fifteen miles away. This happened to me on the small road from Limerick to Portumna. These areas are absolutely marvellous too, because it only happens once an hour on average, except in summer. It is really enraging to see a car pass by when you've been waiting for two hours or more, and the longer you wait the more furiously you kick stones into the road! Fortunately I have always managed to get a lift before reaching the next town.

When you are in a foreign country hitch-hiking is one of the best ways of learning the language by meeting people with all kinds of speech and accents. I confess I had some problems with Irish people and usually these poor people had to repeat themselves at least twice before I understood one half of what they said. But it doesn't really matter for the people are very nice and happy that foreigners visit their country; two of them even made detours just to show me how beautiful and interesting their country is.

I remember one fine afternoon, on my second day in Ireland, I was heading for Limerick from Killarney and wondered why all the people crossed themselves when driving past me. The first time I thought it was a trick of my eyesight; the second time I thought it was very strange but the third time I realised I was standing in front of a Calvary about twenty metres behind me! As you know Irish people are true believers and cross themselves each time they pass a Church or Calvary or a cross. So if you go to Ireland and people cross themselves when driving past you just look around for the cross.

These trips were full of unexpected events, sometimes funny, sometimes less so. The last days of my holiday were spent in Northern Ireland. As I had been warned there is no possibility of hitch-hiking there as drivers are afraid of giving a lift to any chap they meet and I quite understand. The Northern Irish people are living in a strange atmosphere and usually they seem not to trust strangers. In Newey I asked a man in a bus shelter for a time table. The bus station was desolate and dark surrounded with blown up buildings and barricades. It was almost midnight and the man was alone and very surprised to see a visitor at this time. He gave me a time table which was very useful afterwards since the only lift I got was from a man I had met in the afternoon on the way from Dublin. He recognised me and I entered the border town easily as he crossed the border several times a day and knew the men at the check point. I was checked four times in a day and policemen were interested in the contents of my bag and what I was doing there. Belfast is awful since there seem to be more military men and policemen than civilians. For myself I did not mind, but it is very sad for those who live there. Everything reminds them of their sad situation - police checkpoints, patrols, barricades, brick blinded windows, even letter boxes are reduced to three millimetres in depth. In spite of all these drawbacks Northern Ireland was one of the most interesting of my visits.

From there, as my holidays were coming to an end and my wallet was increasingly flat, I returned to England by boat from Larne to Stranraer and then thumbed lifts to Stockton where I arrived at six in the morning. Later in the day I was teaching at the Sixth Form College.

A GEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION TO THE UPPER REACHES OF THE TEES (by Sandie Brennan)

Many people are under the impression that when the geology department goes "out in the bush" it is a day out of college and a chance to miss lessons. However, when you go out on field trips you work twice as hard both physically and mentally than you do in a normal college day. A field trip involves a trek of 2 to 3 miles between locations and several locations are visited in one day. On arrival at a location notes must be taken and sketches made, all of which have to be copied up on returning home. A succession of 5 Geography and 5 Geology Field Trips is quite an exhausting 10 days.

Here is a short section out of a field notebook to prove the case in point.

Location 4 (14.7.77)

High Force

At this point the whin sill cuts across the valley forcing the water to cascade over this band of very hard rock so forming a spectacular waterfall.

The top 15 feet of Rock is Whin Sill dolorite but a very thin layer of highly thermally metamorphosed shale is interbedded. There is another 4 feet of dolorite and a second layer of shale (about 1 foot in thickness). The last 10-12 feet are igneous and this brings us to the contact of the Base of the Sill on the Tynebottom limestone. This limestone is well bedded and jointed and contrasts markedly with the columnar structure of the igneous rock. The Sill was, therefore, intruded between the top of the Tynebottom Limestone and the bottom of the Single Post Limestone although this top layer has been removed by denudation. Before the Cow Green Dam was constructed further up stream the River used to cover the whole South bank but it is now possible to get down to the waters edge at this point and from there, there is an excellent view of the falls and contacts in the Rock Face.

Editors' note — Sandie also produced an excellent diagram to accompany the above item but unfortunately it was not suitable for printing.

RECENT DEGREE SUCCESSES

News is always welcome of any old student who has successfully completed a course of further study or training.

A. Bell	B.Sc.	Ophthalmic Optics	U.M.I.S.T.
B. Bonner	B.Sc.	Agricultural Zoology	Leeds University
S. Boulton	B.Sc.	Boiochemistry	Sheffield University
D. Burleigh	B.Sc.	Biochemistry	Sheffield University
G. Calvert	B.A.	Law	Cambridge University
J. Clark	B.Sc.	Biochemistry	Leeds University
P. Clough	B.Sc.	Geography	Leeds University
G. Cockcroft	B.Sc.	Zoology	Sheffield University
P. Dargue	B.A.	Natural Sciences	Cambridge University
S. Downing	B.A.	Accountancy	Kent University
S. Elliot	B.Sc.	Biological Sciences	Birmingham University
T. Evans	B.Sc.	Control Engineering	Leeds University
J. Galley	B.A.	Natural Sciences	Cambridge University
S. Goldthorpe	MB.BS	Medicine	Newcastle University
M. Heads	B.Sc.	Agricultural Zoology	Leeds University
J. MacKenzie	B.Sc.	Biology	Birmingham University
C. Marwood	B.Sc.	Mathematics	Manchester University
E. Parry	B.Sc.	Mathematics	Southampton University
L. Rush	B.A.	History	Lancaster University
S. Smith	LL.B.	Law	Manchester University
A. Stephenson	Diploma	in Formulation	Leicester Polytechnic
P. Strickland	B.Sc.	Chemistry	Sheffield University
D. Stubbs	B.Eng.	Mechanical Engineering	Sheffield University
P. Summersgill	B.Sc.	Economics & Government	Bath University
D. Turnock	B.A.	Architecture	Sheffield University
C. Whitfield	B.Sc.	Botany	Manchester University
F. Woodthorpe	B.A.	Economics	Manchester University

OLD STOCKTONIANS' PRIZES

This year prizes have been awarded to Rosalind Jeavons, Christopher Thomas and Mark Pallant. Rosalind was a good, all-round sportswoman. She was an extremely good gymnast, an above average trampolinist and a member of the college tennis and basketball teams. She captained the college hockey team and also the Cleveland County 1st X1 and took part in a final trial for the North of England team. Above all she was an excellent organiser and her help in this direction was very much appreciated.

Chris captained the college cricket team for the last two seasons the only defeat during his term of office being at the hands of the Old Boys. Whenever he personally failed with the bat he more than made up for it with the ball. He played for the Durham County under 19 team during his first year at the college and in his second year also had several games for the senior county side in the Minor Counties Championship. Chris was also captain of the college rugby 1st XV and played for the basketball and hockey teams.

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During his time at the college, Mark took leading parts in several dramatic and musical productions including *The Business of Good Government*, *Salad Days*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *Oh What a Lovely War*. He also played in the college jazz band and orchestral group and sang in the choir. His contributions to the musical life in the college will be long remembered.

ORIENTEERING

(by N. Taylor)

The 1977 orienteering calendar kicked off in style in January at Wass forest with the college runners doing well even after enjoying the usual Christmas celebrations. Newcomers to the college began to make their mark under very cold conditions at Hovingham in February with Sue Justin and Ann Ward having good runs in the W17 event.

Mr Vasey continued his Wednesday afternoon programme of training events. These were well attended and generally appreciated despite housing estates appearing where fields were expected and the occasional map being printed upside down.

The most enthusiastic college runners attended four badge events during the year with Neil Forrest and Nick Taylor gaining silver awards in the M17 group and Harry Dowdell reaching gold standard in the older age group. The two girls mentioned earlier achieved bronze or silver times in most of their badge events.

The year ahead promises to be an exciting and hopefully a successful one with the club members particularly looking forward to both the British and the Northern Championships.

COLLEGE RUGBY 1976-77

(by B. Gibson)

The 1st XV's performance this season was down on the previous one. This was due mainly to a lack of experienced players in the side, a consequence of losing the majority of last season's team.

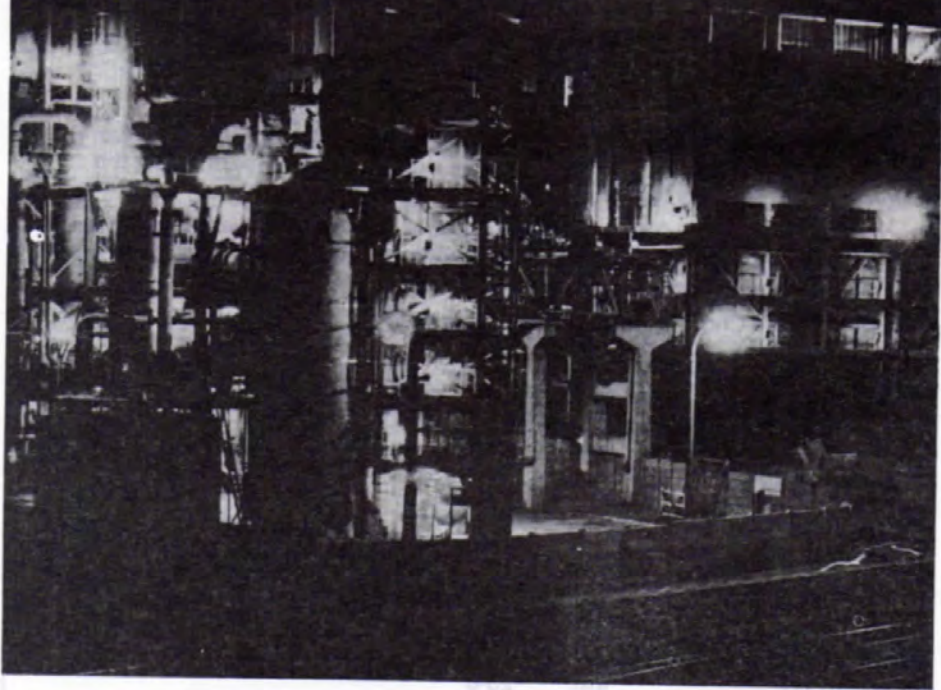
The early part of the season was disappointing for the team, but better results were obtained in later matches. Bad weather during the winter meant that no matches were played between December and early January.

Top scorers were Chris. Thomas with 90 points and Ian Rennison with 9 tries.

RESULTS -

Brinkburn (a)	lost	76-0
South Park (h)	lost	16-12
Morpeth (h)	lost	34-6
Dame Allans (a)	lost	68-0
Sir William Turners (h)	lost	26-12
Wellfield (h)	won	30-3
Middlesbrough Sen. Colts(h)	lost	34-6
St. Mary's S.F.C. (h)	won	58-12
Kings Tynemouth (a)	lost	44-0
Acklam S.F.C. (a)	won	13-10
Harton C.S. (a)	won	8-4
St. Aidens (a)	lost	25-6
St. Mary's S.F.C. (a)	won	32-0

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Hartlepool Rovers Sen. C(a)	lost	34-7
Sir William Turners (a)	lost	22-0
Scarborough S.F.C. (h)	lost	20-0
Gosforth H.S. (a)	lost	36-0
Grange School (h)	won	43-6
Wellfield (a)	lost	11-4
Richmond (a)	lost	13-12
Brinkburn (a)	lost	40-0
South Park (a)	lost	25-6
Doncaster (a)	lost	47-0
Old Boys XV (h)	lost	64-7

1st XV Regular members were:

Thomas (capt.), Howes, Fleatham, Raisbeck, Berriman, Tingle, Hazelton, Daniels, Ferguson, Cowley, Watson, Gibson, Robinson, Thompson, Rennison.

A shortage of players handicapped the 2nd XV's chances, their best result being a 43-0 win against Northailerton.

Record: Played 12, won 4, drawn 1, lost 7

Regular members: Pugh, Gardiner, Barnes, Ross, Jakobson, Clegg, Callender, Mannings, McGregor, Race, Wivell, Roberts, Dack, Huckle, Ledsham.

The sevens team did not have very much luck, but reached the plate final at Harrogate.

Thanks go to Mr. Hudson for help and support throughout the season.

BOYS' HOCKEY 1976-1977

Unfortunately, there are few schools in Cleveland which can raise a full team of boys but many which have mixed teams.

The results for Boys only were as follows: Played - 4, Won - 2, Lost - 2, with two games cancelled because of wet weather.

There was, however, a little more success in the Durham County Schoolboy knock-out Shield competition in which we reached the final for the very first time. We had a bye into the Quarter Final Round in which we met Boynton Comprehensive an Under 16 Team from Middlesbrough. They put up a brave fight, but, with age and experience on our side we won 5-0. In the semi-final we met Harton Comprehensive from South Shields and knowing that they had a strong team, we gathered together our most experienced players in the college and beat them 5-0. In the Final we met Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College on a perfect 'all-weather' pitch at Darlington and held a 1-1 draw until one minute before the final whistle when Queen Elizabeth netted the winning goal, leaving no chance for us to recover.

Special mention should be given to Ian Sawyer and Martin Robson who played for the county and, in particular, Martin Robson who, also, played for the North of England, U19, both outdoor and indoor.

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GIRLS' TENNIS 1977

(by Jane Foster)

The college tennis team had a most successful season winning all nine of their friendly fixtures.

In the national inter-school tournament, the Aberdere Cup, the 1st team reached the final of the North-Eastern section, in which they were beaten 2-1 by Whitley Bay.

Our team, represented by Jane Foster, Les Rayner, Vicky Newey and Julie Vaulks plus Pam Snowdon reached the final of the Durham Cup by beating Polam Hall, St. Annes Wolsingham, Hylton Red House and Chester-le-Street but unfortunately Durham Johnstone proved too much for us in the final and beat us by 3 rubbers to 1.

Jane, Pam and Vicky were also selected to play for the U19 Cleveland County girls team - they were involved in matches against Sunderland Schools, North Yorkshire and Durham.

The climax to the season was when Mrs Grainge took Vicky and Jane along with others from the Grange School to play in the Commercial Union Schoolgirls' Tournament at Queens Club, London. This was a marvellous experience for us which we thoroughly enjoyed but regret that our tennis did not excel.

Many thanks to Mrs Grainge for her help and expert guidance throughout the season.

COMPETITION

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2nd Prize £3

3rd Prize £2

Five consolation prizes of hexahexaflexagons.

Attempt the following questions. Entries will be judged on the quality of the explanations given as well as the actual answers. Partial solutions will be considered.

1. A farmer goes to market with £100 to buy at least one of each type of animal available. He finds cattle at £10 each, sheep at £3 each and rabbits at 50p each. If he spends all his money and buys exactly 100 animals, how many of each does he come home with?
2. A visitor from outer space who can be heard but not seen is overheard chanting rhythmically. One phrase sounds like 'EXARS AR CUTIE GEE'. Show using simple mathematics that the visitor probably looks rather like a starfish.
3. The name of the number 10 is concealed in the word WHITENESS so that the letters TEN are not pronounced in the expected way. Conceal in a similar manner the names of the numbers from ONE to NINE in other English words.

Entries to Mr. Ingham by January 16th.

OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR

(by Sue Hardy)

Fired with enthusiasm following the success of 'Salad Days' in 1976, the college drama society decided to produce another musical for public presentation at Easter 1977. However, past experience has made us very critical regarding the choice of play. Some were thought to be too ambitious, some too similar to 'Salad Days' and

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some just unsuitable for our group. Eventually, when we were almost on the point of despair, 'Oh What a Lovely War!' was suggested. I must confess that some of us were a little dubious about this type of play but we decided to try it.

Work began on the songs and dances almost immediately, and as they improved, so did our enthusiasm. We are extremely grateful to Father Ricardo Morgan for the hard work which he put into the choreography. His cheerfulness and enthusiasm certainly raised our morale on those few occasions when incentive and determination seemed to be somewhat lacking.

Then, all too soon, it was the dress rehearsal. Props and costumes for the play and the exhibition had been made and borrowed, and there seemed to be a multitude of helpers, all eager to make this all-important rehearsal run smoothly. Unfortunately it didn't! Or perhaps I should say fortunately, because it is generally thought in theatrical circles that a disappointing dress rehearsal augurs well for the actual performances. Therefore, determined to do better and thus impress the newspaper critics in the audience, we put heart and soul into that first night. The atmosphere on stage was electric and the warmth of our audiences inspired us from the very beginning, when they joined in so unrestrainedly with the sing-song.

Of course, each performance had its own individual characteristics, but by far the most rewarding thing of all for me was the presence of one special guest, Major Cooper, the only surviving VC in Cleveland from the First World War. His happy, appreciative face made all our hard work seem worthwhile.

Therefore, the cast would like to thank everybody who made 'Oh What a Lovely War!' such an outstanding success, especially Mr. Shaw, Mrs Gwinnell, Father Morgan, Mrs Robson and Mr Robinson. In addition, I, on behalf of the Upper Sixth, want to wish the Lower Sixth success in any future productions.

CHARITIES COMMITTEE REPORT 1976/1977 (by Susan Westwood)

This year the Charities committee has raised £642 which has been divided between International Boy's Town Trust, Teesside Disablement Income Group, Eastern Ravens, Jubilee Appeal, Institute for the Blind, Save the Children Fund and an underprivileged childrens' outing.

The year started with its traditional Ceilidh held on October 7th with the Stranton Ceilidh Band. It was very well attended and a huge success. On November 11th a coffee evening was held and the local Save the Children Fund Committee sold Christmas cards. The first three evenings of the Christmas holidays were spent carol-singing in Norton, Hartburn and Fairfield. Although the weather was rather cold everyone enjoyed themselves. Members of the committee used some of the money raised to help renovate a moorland cottage for the Eastern Ravens.

In February Parent Evenings were held and the committee helped by serving coffee and showing parents to the various parts of this bewildering building. On 16th March, the college held an open evening and as usual the committee were in the kitchen serving coffee and home-made cakes. Mr Allison helped us by holding a tombola run by the computer which raised £25.00.

During the first two weeks of May the committee held a sponsored soccer tournament as it had been such a success last year. It was won by Tutor Group 27 after some very enjoyable matches. Thanks go to Mr. Watton and Dr. Moorhouse for refereeing.

On May 12th, the committee held its "Goodbye Second Year Ceilidh," a final fling for everyone before the examinations. It was not as successful as the first but the people who attended had a very enjoyable time.

This year it was decided that instead of taking the underprivileged children to a pantomime as in previous years, we could take them on a summer outing to Beamish. All the children seemed to enjoy it and the highlight of their day was beating us at a game of football although they also enjoyed the food and the tram.

Future planned events include a "welly race" (in which 4 people from each T.G., dressed in wellies are tied together at the waist and have to complete an obstacle course in the hope of helping to finance another group of enthusiastic renovators for Eastern Ravens). Then in November another ceilidh will be held.

THE YOUTH CHARTER TOWARDS 2000 CONFERENCE

In January of this year I attended the "Youth Charter Towards 2000" conference in London. The conference lasted a week and was held in the newly opened Wembley Conference Centre. The conference was intended to act as the starting point for a nationwide debate about youth affairs which would result in the formation of a "youth charter". This document would outline the problems faced by young people today, and offer solutions to these problems. It was intended that it would be handed to the government and they would act upon its findings.

A number of industrial firms provided money to enable young people to attend the conference. I was lucky enough to receive a full bursary which paid for the return rail fare, conference fees and five nights stay in a YMCA Hostel in central London.

Each day was devoted to a different topic such as, education or youth and society. In the morning all the 1,000 delegates were addressed by a prominent political figure. After the speech the topic was discussed by members of a panel. Every panel member was in some way connected with the topic and the ideas they expressed often formed a basis for later discussions.

Later in the morning there were a number of smaller meetings held simultaneously. Each of these meetings was addressed by one of the panel members. These sessions gave delegates a chance to stand up and put forward their own opinions. Many delegates had strong points of view which were not shared by some other people and so a lively meeting often resulted.

Each delegate was also a member of a workshop group which contained about fifteen people. The workshop groups met each afternoon to discuss a specific problem in greater depth.

The speakers and panel members were very well chosen and they provided all the necessary stimulus. The speakers included the Duke of Kent, Shirley Williams, Edward Heath and Sir Harold Wilson.

By the second day of the conference a stormy argument had developed over the way the conference was being conducted. The problem was that the proceedings were being dominated by the older delegates most of whom were council officials and civil service executives. They were leading discussion away from youth affairs and using so much jargon that the young people could not understand them. The young delegates and those who were concerned with the problems of youth today banded together and protested about the way the conference was progressing. The protest succeeded and the conference improved as a result.

The whole week was lively and enjoyable and I learned a lot from listening to the opinions put forward and talking to other delegates. I soon became aware that the most worthwhile discussions occurred in the bar during the evening. This state of affairs is apparently typical at such conferences.

Almost every minority group imaginable seemed to be present and they all got up and had their say. There were complaints of discrimination and victimisation against, women, racial minorities, homosexuals, naturists and many others. These accusations were directed against groups such as the police, intolerant heterosexuals, the Church, capitalism, society in general, labour governments, conservative governments and male chauvanist pigs. In fact those people who like myself are lucky enough not to belong to a victimised minority group sometimes felt a bit out of place.

The conference itself was undoubtedly a great success and praise must go to the chairman Alan Hazelhurst and the other organisers for somehow managing to please most of the people most of the time. Unfortunately the long term aims of the conference do not seem to have been realised and those delegates who expressed the opinion that the conference was just a public relations exercise to open the new Wembley Conference Centre appear to have been proven correct. I would like to thank Mr Carr for allowing me to spend a week representing the college at the conference.

(by Aidan Whitfield)

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A SONNET TO LITTLE JOHN**

I know a funny little man
He teaches Geology
'Cos he's forever going on about
His bits of stones you see.

He's got graptolites like tuning forks
And gastropods like snails
And loads and loads of brachiopods
And trilobites with tails.

He loves to talk of minerals
Of Hornblende and Augite
And his zircon crystals quite surpass
Those of his muscovite.

He likes his little classroom
With all his specimens
But if you cross his lawn outside it
He'll make you one of them.

Whatever your religion
Creed or colour of your skin
When you enter room eleven
You are all subjects to Him.

If you're stuck with any question
He will elucidate
But be careful he might just
Ask you to extrapolate.

His many pearls of wisdom
Often fall on barren ground
But if you show you're interested
He'll always be around.

But for all this he's a teacher
And that shows by his success
And for all we laugh and joke with him
We work and toil and sweat.

If you like this silly poem
You're a Geologist no doubt
But the ID of this poet
You never will find out.....

it's just as well!

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