



OLD ROAN

Chronicle

Vol 1 No 3

March 1978

OLD ROAN ASSOCIATION

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No. 3

March 1978

FROM THE EDITOR

Issue Number 3, and it would seem from many letters, so far so good.

This issue contains more news of the School, which is something all Old Roans will welcome. The changes there have only just begun, and not all of them can be to advantage, particularly as regards their effects on the Staff, for the intricacies of the comprehensive system could well act against the continuity that has been so valuable in the past. On the other hand the numbers of Old Roans will increase as the number of pupils at the School increases and this presents the Old Roan Associations with considerable challenges out of which can come even more active and interesting organisations (or organisation), with all the attendant advantages that could bring. Elsewhere in this issue is an illustration of a design for the new school building that is to be built not far from the present Boys' School; it looks like being an interesting place in which to teach and learn.

The current ties between the School and the Association are valued on both sides but not a little effort will have to be exerted to foster them and maintain a corporate memory of past glories as well as those that are to come. The Association's General Committee have this constantly in their minds and it will be a standing item on their agenda for a long time to come.

The recent Life Members' appeal, and the production of the Tercentenary Plate gave rise to a great deal of interesting correspondence and provided much material for news of John Roan's Men. Such special events cannot be often repeated — which is to say that it is to be hoped that Old Roans will continue to let us have news of their doings, for if there is one common theme in the letters we receive it is that such news is eagerly read by our far-flung membership.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It seems hardly possible that my term of Office is nearing its end but with the turmoil of the Annual Dinner/Dance arrangements upon us I'm sure it is true. By the time you read these notes that function will have come and gone and another President will be embarking on a very pleasant year.

Apart from the various Committee Meetings which seem to be almost a way of life these days, the year has been particularly interesting by virtue of kind invitations from the Headmaster, Dr. Taylor, to represent the Association at many School activities both inside and outside the confines of Maze Hill.

In May we didn't need inviting to make the trek to Birmingham to support the School football 1st XI in their bid for the National Trophy — wild horses wouldn't have kept us away — and it was appropriate in the Tercentenary year to return victorious for the second time. A few days later somewhat smaller but no less fervent support in Surrey saw the same side complete a superb double by lifting the London Trophy. Congratulations to them all!

A wet day in July marked the Sports Day at the Field and it was clear to us all that mere weather could not dampen the enthusiasm of some fine athletes. A vastly different venue in July was St. Alfege Church, Greenwich where I was privileged to attend Founder's Day Service conducted by Mervyn Stockwood, Lord Bishop of Southwark. Such is the aura of that particular Church that 1200 boys and girls behaved quite perfectly, although what they did when they left the service is anyone's guess!

Early November was the time of the Association Reunion and Dinner at the Pavilion and many of you are, from first hand experience, aware of its huge success. It gave me much personal satisfaction to welcome Bill Brooks as our Guest of Honour as it did to welcome Fred White as an official guest after his close on 30 years with the School staff. The Headmaster is always a welcome guest when his many other commitments allow. My thanks to Fritz Henning for stepping into the breach when the Social Secretary's job was left vacant and if this particular evening has set his standard we are on a sure winner!

Later in November there was a light hearted but nevertheless interesting 'Animated History' of the Roan School on stage at the School, which was also the setting in early December of "Knott again" (No prizes for guessing who was behind that!) — an extremely witty and well produced Revue. Some of the boys have to be seen to be believed.

In mid December I was asked by the Headmaster to present the prizes at the 100th Annual Prize Giving. As your representative I was delighted to accept the invitation and enjoyed the evening tremendously.

Before closing these notes it would be remiss of me not to thank my Association Committee for their help and understanding throughout the year. Obviously they haven't always fully agreed with things I may say or do but have tended to gently guide me in the right direction rather than stand in direct opposition. This I have appreciated — thank you Gentlemen.

In conclusion I would like to thank you all for making this year a memorable one for me and I wish my successor, whoever he may be, as much pleasure as I've experienced during my term of Office.

G.J.S.

FROM THE HON. SECRETARY

1977 should be a year to remember. A memorable year for the boys and girls Schools and naturally for the Old Girls and Old Boys Associations, who have been privileged to be part of the Centenary and Tercentenary celebrations.

As Secretary, I think that the next two or three years will also be of importance as the time has come for us to discuss with the Girl's Association our various interests, with a view to becoming one Association, hopefully coinciding with the emergence of the new School.

The Association has gone from strength to strength over the last few years and progress must continue; this is why I would like to see, not only one Association for the girls and boys, but at the same time an amalgamation of the Club and Association affairs as well with one Committee embracing all these activities.

We have been very fortunate in having Geoff Sawyer as President this year. He has worked very hard for both the Association and Club and our sincere thanks are due to him for his efforts. His year of office will end about the same time as this issue of the Chronicle appears. This, perhaps unfortunate timing results from the Committee's decision to have an issue of the magazine every eight or nine months, which has advantages in many respects, but means that members will have to wait for news of the AGM and the new President on this occasion.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPEAL

R.L.H.

The Life Member's Appeal had reached £1441.65 by 31st December 1977 and it is now officially closed. As promised we now list the names of those Members whose donations were received after the last magazine went to press.

Andrews D.A.P.
Arter D.W.
Ashby A.J.
Baker P.A.
Barton R.J.
Bevan P.L.T.
Bristow L.F.
Brooks K.W.
Broome D.R.
Bruce G.
Butler R.B.
Butterfill A.M.
Byford D.J.
Cables C.H.T.
Chambers G.J.
Clarke B.W.
Clifton F.W.
Cowdroy C.H.
Cutbush R.F.
Cutting D.R.
Dibblin E.W.
Dines W.F.

Eagle H.W.
Errington L.G.
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Hewlett A.D.
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Layson V.E.C.
Lee Dr. B.C.
Long J.A.
Loryman L.W.
Lyon E.R.H.
McHale P.J.
McHale W.J.
McHale W.P.
McKenzie R.
Mitchell P.G.

Mitchell R.H.
Mullings K.A.V.
Nightingale H.G.
Peachey D.J.
Peacock M.
Perry S.J.
Phillips H.
Prior L.A.W.
Rickson A.R.
Rolfe C.D.
Scott F.W.
Shute F.E.
Titheridge M.W.
Tomley D.J.
Townsend E.G.
Trott R.H.
Walker L.H.T.
Wallis T.D.
Wedge P.L.
Wellard F.W.
Willson W.A.

SCHOOL NEWS

1. THE CHANGING FACE OF ROAN

The first hurdle has been passed. In September 1977 we accepted as our first year intake boys of all abilities — it's a long time since that last happened. The only people to notice much difference are those who teach the first year. The first year boys are well-dressed, polite and, for the most part, keen and enthusiastic. Indeed, this year we have fielded two first year soccer teams most Saturdays and a fair selection of first year boys took part in the Historical Pageant and the Revue last term.

To ensure that the needs of the less able as well as the more able academically are catered for, the Staff of the School has been strengthened. We have the services of a qualified librarian for most of the week, who is making the Library an attractive reading centre; the Staff have the help and advice of a Media Resources Officer, and a full-time teacher who specialises in the needs of the slow-learners has been appointed.

Additional building on the Maze Hill site which was completed last December looks more to the needs of the future. It includes girls' toilets, girls' changing rooms and a rest room for girls — but it also provides offices for the future Deputy Heads of the School.

The plans for the New Lower School, at the junction of Vanbrugh Fields and Westcombe Park Road are just about completed. The design of the building incorporates three separately identifiable two-storey year blocks, each of which will be used for the registration of 180 pupils; the blocks contain cloak-rooms and general classrooms. Specialist accommodation — sciences, crafts, and so on — lies in a single-storey extension behind the year blocks. Every effort will be made to preserve as many trees as possible on the 4½ acre site. At present planning permission is being sought and it is hoped that building will commence in the Summer.

The new building with the existing Boys' School will eventually accommodate the new six-form-entry mixed Comprehensive School which will replace the existing Roan Boys', Roan Girls' and Charlton Schools. During this Spring Term it is hoped that appointments will be made to the senior posts of the new school. The amalgamation of three schools into one means that some members of the existing Staffs are bound to lose seniority and this is a difficult and worrying time for all who are affected by it.

The actual process of amalgamation, as far as the pupils are concerned, will be a gradual one. There will be no 'throwing together' of boys and girls from different schools. Those who entered the Schools before 1980 will continue their education in the buildings to which they were admitted, at least until they reach the Sixth Form. In September 1980 all children admitted to the first year will go to the new Lower School and stay there for three years: in the fourth year they will transfer to the Maze Hill site — and that will be the pattern for all future admissions.

While this has great advantages and should enable us to retain and carry through into the new situation the strengths and best features of each of the existing schools, it also poses its problems. For example, in 1980 teaching will still be going on in the Roan Girls' and Charlton School buildings as well as in the Maze Hill and Westcombe Park buildings and it will be 1984 before all the personnel and resources are together on the Maze Hill/Westcombe Park site.

There is no doubt that the Staff have problems and difficulties ahead of them. Some, who have given a great deal to the School, will not be able to attain the positions they would like and those who do will have exacting demands made upon them. Fortunately, the School has a great fund of goodwill on which it can draw and many who wish it well and are prepared to work for its good. I am sure that the Old Roan Association will maintain its close ties with the School and play its part in the future as it has in the past.

A.J.T.

2. GOINGS-ON

A School, and Roan is no exception, is a microcosm — a highly active little world, a hive populated by little B's. These little B's eventually, dear reader, become old B's and it is to you I write of what is going on in the School at present.

You will, from your classical education, recall the words of the philosopher and statesman Seneca who as tutor to Nero wrote

'It is when the gods hate a man with uncommon abhorrence that they drive him into the profession of a school-master'. (It was Nero, by the way, who administered poison to Seneca — who recovered only to be forced to commit suicide!) It is for those very reasons that few of us eat school dinners and the more astute of us seek early retirement.

If you detect a false sense of values here it is perhaps because as the first Marquess of Halifax wrote in the 17th century

'The vanity of teaching often tempteth a man to forget he is a blockhead'.

I digress, what has been happening in that microcosm? On the sporting front we continue to excel. The School 1st XI are through to the final of the London (Palmer) Cup and play the first round of the English Schools Trophy on the 18th January.

In the semi-final of the London Cup we beat Archbishop Tennyson School, 4 — 2 and at that point our cup record was: played 19, won 17, drawn 2, lost 0, goals for 57, against 13. It is possible then that we could repeat last year's great achievement.

The 2nd Year team are undefeated and the 2nd XI can often beat other schools' 1st XI's.

In the London Schools Cross-Country Championships we had the winner of the Senior Race — Rob Bryant and 3rd and 7th in the Intermediate Race — Peter Benton and Paul Barber.

Outside school we have had a group of boys going on an educational cruise to Helsinki, Leningrad and Copenhagen. Some twenty-five senior boys spent a fortnight in Braithwaite in the Summer and forty boys went on the annual Sailing and Canoeing Adventure Holiday to Drake's Island in Plymouth Sound.

The School now has a Mountaineering Club — but we are short of our own mountain — if any of you have one you have finished with we would be most grateful to receive it.

The special events that have taken place since the last magazine included an animated 'History of the School' in which both boys and girls took part. This was the final event of the Tercentenary Year and attracted a visit from the Chief Education Officer.

A School Revue, aptly called "Knott Again", was produced on the 9th and 10th of December and the Sixth-Form Evening — a pleasant social occasion — took place on the 14th December. The prizes were presented by Mr G. Sawyer, the President himself.

The Parents' Association Autumn Fair was held in November (fittingly enough) and raised over £600 for the School.

The academic standards remain high in the School. In September some thirty-two boys went off to University or Polytechnic. The remaining leavers from the Sixth and Fifth Forms have all succeeded in getting good jobs — even in these difficult times. This year forty boys have applied to go to University and one (Jon Riley, who is one of the School's Officers) has gained a place at Clare College, Cambridge to read English in 1979.

The Staff remain enthusiastic which, as always, is reflected in the attitudes and endeavours of the boys. We miss Freddie White and his sardonic humour, but we have welcomed his successor Mrs. Bourdillon. She is one of the ever-growing band of ladies on the Staff. The more youthful members of the Staff field a controversial Soccer XI and we are designing an elegant cricket team for the Summer.

The atmosphere in the Staff-room remains happy in spite of the insecurity which accompanies the inevitable changes that are taking place. One wag has suggested we write to the I.L.E.A. reminding them of the Duke of Argyll who wrote

'As far as I am concerned there are only two kinds of people in the world — those who are nice to their servants and those who are not'.

I trust that what I have written gives some impression of what is going on. If you are still confused then it must be as H.L. Mencken wrote on the 23rd January, 1908

'The truth is that the average schoolmaster, on all the lower levels, is and always must be . . . next door to an idiot, for how can one imagine an intelligent man engaging in so puerile an avocation'.

G.B.

OLD ROAN CLUB REPORT

Since our last magazine issue, the Club has continued to operate satisfactorily although the comments that were made concerning the need for voluntary assistance are still relevant. Owing to the lack of responsible volunteers, the Committee decided to close the Club on Friday evenings but it has now been possible to reserve this decision thanks to those who have agreed to run the Bar on these nights. The Committee were also concerned to note that a number of boys are leaving school in the fourth and fifth years and were using Club facilities whilst under the age of 18 years.

Our Licence, like any other, forbids the sale of alcohol to persons under 18 and, in order to avoid difficulties and comply with our undertaking to the Governors, we have ruled that Old Roans may not use the licensed facilities at the Club until they reach the required age.

We suffered a break-in just prior to Christmas but, fortunately, nothing appears to have been stolen. On the brighter side the Bar takings for 1977, together with proceeds from the "one-armed bandit" etc., amounted to nearly £15,000, and £250 of the nett profit has been transferred to the O.R.A. capital account. Most of the profit is being spent in redecorating the ladies' toilet, renovating those areas of the floor which require new tiles and in purchasing a new "Fruit Machine". By the time these notes are read, the projects should all have been completed.

F.P.B.

TERCENTENARY PLATES

Over 500 Roan Commemorative Plates have been despatched and it is hoped that all have arrived safely.

The overseas orders, together with most of those outside the London Area, were packed and posted by Wedgwoods and should have been delivered by the end of 1977. I have received one major complaint, together with a few of a minor nature, but the majority of purchasers were very appreciative. In an effort to meet the requirements of those people who, for one reason or another, missed the main issue, I ordered a further 50 plates and most of these have been completed. At this time of writing, there is a delay in the supply of wire "hangers" but I hope these will be delivered shortly; the final despatches should have been made by the end of January.

For the record, the total number of plates sold is 560 and whilst, at times, it has been a frustrating job, I believe it has been very worthwhile.

F.P.B.

OLD ROAN CRICKET CLUB

(Hon Secretary: R.A. Stanbridge, 13 Marne Avenue, Welling, Kent.)

The First XI in 1977 played 43 games, winning 16 and losing 9. This is by no means an unsatisfactory record, but the summer was, for a variety of reasons, a disappointing and at times a frustrating one. The complete breakdown of results is given below:-

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Abandoned	Cancelled
Saturday League	10	5	3	2		4
All Saturday (inc. NKL)	19	9	4	5	1	5
Sunday	21	7	10	3	1	2
Mid-week	3	0	2	1		4
TOTAL	43	16	16	9	2	11

No fewer than eleven scheduled games were cancelled – the great majority due to the weather – culminating in August when, between Saturday 20th and Saturday 27th inclusive, of the eight games arranged on successive days, taking in the Kent tour – Monday to Friday – only one (Tuesday) was completed; of the others, we played for just an hour on Sunday before the rain set in. Six games never started; the tour was a non-event.

Another disappointment was the batting. With the exception of Graham Townsend, who scored 1100 runs averaging 44, it showed at best a lack of conviction and at worst a contagious fragility. Of course other dogs had their days, but in point of fact there were only 18 fifties scored and Graham's bat produced ten of these. It would not be unfair to say that nobody looked a better batsman than in 1976 – whilst conceding that the weather that summer made the scoring of runs easier – and a number were pale shadows of their former selves.

The bowlers performed well, were seldom expensive and we generally succeeded in deploying fielders in the appropriate positions to make tidy bowling seem that much better – but skill and concentration in the field were often lacking, as was that extra awareness and penetration so essential when the opposition is down but not out.

Finally there were, it seemed, fewer than usual outstanding "contests" that one can readily recall and savour again, and indeed we suffered a handful of games that were thoroughly boring almost from the first ball but perhaps this was due largely to a combination of the weather and our own shortcomings.

Let me now try to paint in rather brighter colours and describe some of the better moments – and whilst doing so pay tribute to deserving individuals.

Three centuries were scored – the most belligerent of these, containing five sixes, coming from a guest player at Broadstairs, the only game to survive our ill-fated tour. Chris Rodwell, who has reached the target before, scored his second hundred for the 1st XI v Blackheath Wanderers and Nasim Khan his maiden century at Gravesend. This latter game – albeit drawn – is worth more than a passing reference; it had most of the ingredients that go to

produce nail-biting, if not high drama. The day began with our hero-to-be encountering problems with public transport and arriving late at the Club rendezvous. It was agreed that Joe Broadfoot, self-styled local James Hunt, should wait with co-driver Chris Rodwell at the rear of the grid whilst the rest of us departed. The advance party – eight in number – managed to win the toss (a noteworthy accomplishment, all else apart) and naturally elected to bat. I should point out at this juncture that our three malingers would normally expect to be 2, 3 and 4 in the order and, moreover, G (Boycott) T was, for some reason that escapes me, not playing. However, as a promoted and jubilant Terry Barry strode to the wicket with his makeshift opening partner, all seemed to be well as a cloud of dust announced the arrival of Joe's Jag. What we didn't know immediately was that Chris Rodwell's debauchery of the previous night had caught up with him, he had been ill on the journey and was to spend the morning session sleeping it off. If this was not enough numbers 2 and 3 succumbed in the very first over, and within five minutes of arriving on the ground N.K. found himself at the wicket, no doubt wondering what vital piece of equipment he had omitted to don! One run for two wickets became 19 for 3, but N.K. joined by "James Hunt" averted further disaster. He batted quite beautifully; a pre-lunch fifty was duplicated after the interval and he completed his hundred with an effortless straight six to come in undefeated with 104 of an eminently satisfactory total of 204. The saga of Chris Rodwell was hilariously concluded when, in mid-afternoon, he zig-zagged to the crease, lost his balance trying to hook, and trampled on all three stumps. Our efforts to win the game ebbed and flowed, but at 170 for 4 we were definitely not favourites. Fred Spink then took three wickets in two overs and when he began to bowl the last the score read 188 for 8. They got another 12, Fred's figures were 5 for 88, and we had a marvellous evening.

Three other drawn games produced similarly exciting climaxes. At Bromley we were not entirely content with our 166 for 7 dec. (Rodwell 47, Broadfoot 38), but with F.S. again the most successful bowler (4 for 78) Bromley closed with 156 for 9 after another fascinating struggle. A week later at Bexley we lunched at 119 – 0 after a superb display of batting from G.T. and C.R., and the declaration at 217 for 5 set the stage for yet another absorbing exercise; again we captured nine but not that vital last wicket, for 193 runs. On both of these occasions we were without Terry Barry and Graham Briscoe siezed one of his infrequent opportunities with three Bexley wickets. Our September visit to the hinterland of Southend to meet Broomhills – composed largely of Saturday Westcliff players – produced another fine match, this time with the innings reversed. Broomhills declared at 199 for 8 (T.R.B. 4 for 45) and we began well, reaching 100 – 2 and later 150 – 3, with Graham Townsend (70), as he so often did, holding the innings together. Then we had to press, J.B. was unfortunately run out, and we finished ten short at 190 for 7.

Lest I am thought to be making rather a meal of Sunday games at the expense of Saturday league encounters, I am, I confess, reporting games that I most clearly recall, if I think them worthy of attention and it is a sad but (I think) indisputable fact that many Saturday matches have been somewhat colourless. An exception, and this also gives me an opportunity of congratulating Roger Dale – whose innings of 91 was a personal best – was an exciting draw (again) v Catford, any result being possible until the very last ball. Roger's knock was full of authority and enabled a declaration after 48

overs at 184 for 6. Catford (by the rules) had precisely the same number of deliveries and with one ball to go their score was 179 for 9. Six to win; a wicket to fall so it ended, with Terry Barry again chief executioner (6 for 79).

Two of the best bowling returns were at the expense of Poly of the South Bank. In the league encounter Fred Spink took a remarkable 7 for 9, and in the return Sunday fixture Nasim Khan was delighted with his 6 for 14. Both games needless to say were won. Terry also had a 7 wicket return (for 34) v Horsmonden and a further 6 for 61 against O. Dunstonians. Brian Hamer was as willing and as voluble as ever, and mostly bowled very well with a best (paper) performance of 6 for 44 v Warlingham. I think Brian has just about convinced me; he is not the luckiest bowler who ever turned an arm over. A word too about his batting. It was as a batsman and not as a bowler that he was known in his 2nd XI days; and in fairness it is not altogether his fault that opportunities with the bat these days are limited. The 1st XI in 1971, with arguably the strongest batting line-up of all time, pinched a leading 2nd XI batsman and asked him to bowl; and Brian has been bowling ever since, and going in around number 9. Once in a while — who knows when or why? — he will get the bit between his teeth and produce a positively lethal little innings just thirty or forty, maybe even fewer, but when it happens it is worth being there to see. He may incidentally have a rival next summer. Graham Lawrance came into the side in mid-season with something of a reputation as a long hitter and a bowler of some class. We like his bowling, and look forward to seeing him in partnership (or competition?) with Brian.

The leading individual records are given below:-

Batting: (Qualification 200 runs)	Innings	Not out	Runs	Average	Fifties
G. Townsend	32	7	1123	44.9	10
C. Rodwell	34	3	830	26.7	4 (inc 100)
J. Broadfoot	32	6	667	25.6	—
T. Barry	30	6	572	23.8	—
N. Khan	28	2	555	21.3	2 (inc 100)
R. Dale	25	1	396	16.5	1

and an honourable mention for Viv Lawrence who scored 189 runs in six innings and went some way to proving he is not just a pretty face

Bowling: (Qualification 20 wickets)	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
T. Barry	448	90	1271	78	16.2
F. Spink	408	91	1197	73	16.3
G. Lawrance	122	33	336	20	16.8
B. Hamer	337	95	907	47	19.2

followed by C. Rodwell (18 wickets) and N. Khan (17 wickets)

SECOND ELEVEN

The Saturday 2nd XI had another enjoyable season, finishing fifth in the Lillywhite-Frowd North Kent League and with the satisfaction of inflicting the only defeat upon the champions Orpington.

Graham Lawrance, a master at the school, was top of the batting averages and the highlight of the summer was his not out century. In addition to the regular members of the side we were fortunate to have Alan Dawe, Graham Briscoe and Keith Mexter all scoring important runs. Del Dreher, Dave Carter, "Fiery" Fred Fuhr and Martin Pendergast were the most consistent wicket-takers.

Andy Bloyce, a Roan boy, was top of the bowling averages and there are a number of promising schoolboys who look like forcing their way into sides of the future.

SUNDAY 2nd ELEVEN

The highlight of the Season was shared by Graham Lawrence, Mike Baxter and Geoff Sawyer.

The like of Graham's hitting has not been seen in 2nd XI cricket since the era of Freddy Smith at his best, and Peter Brown.

Graham not only achieved, at Harvel, the distinction of hitting out of the cricket ground everything that was bowled at him, but actually hit 5 balls so hard and far, that they were lost for ever. He also managed the biggest hit seen at the school field for some years — from the Pavilion end straight up and over the quaggy, at the north end of the ground. However, Graham showed ability to 'bat' as well, and many an exciting stand was witnessed when he and Mike Baxter were together. In cricket context the fielding agility of Graham on one side of the wicket and Mike on the other, was indeed a pleasure to watch. Mike Baxter is now learning 'control' of his game and will improve to the advantage of the Club in the seasons to come. So much of our two youngsters, but what of those ancients who gave many a fine performance. Geoff Sawyer's innings of 99 n.o. against Catford Wanderers was indeed a fine innings. Recalling other performances, Viv Lawrence was not so consistent as in the previous two seasons but he certainly looks a batsman of stature. Brian Endersbee still continues to produce many a fine innings, as does Simon Perry, who was promoted up the order and batted soundly. Del Baxter who retains no real wish these days to bat early in the order, produced a lightning 50 n.o. in 42 mins batting at No. 8 against Worcester Park. However he had his problems last season and now they have hopefully passed it would be pleasant to see him just a little earlier in the order. The bowling was steady, without flair. Rod Stanbridge an ever willing performer and Brian Burton, 'a never take me off' merchant, bowled with their usual determination and were awarded their just dues by opening the batting in the last match of the season against Telston. It was rumoured that their opening stand of 34 was the highest of the season. Rod must be congratulated on obtaining in this match his first 50 for the 2nd XI. Martin Pendegast was unfortunately not able to make himself available as often as in past seasons and his variety of bowling was badly missed. The most promising entry into the side has been young

SCHOOL, BLACKHEATH, LONDON GLC Department of Architecture and Civic Design (Education Branch)

CLIENT Inner London Education Authority.
SITE 3.09 acres within the Blackheath Special Area and Greenwich Park Conservation Area, close to Roan Boys' School.
STRUCTURE Planned on a 1.8 m planning grid, the single-storey element is constructed from mono-pitch gang-nail trusses spanning 5.4 m on to laminated timber beams supported on hollow section steel columns. At the building's perimeter, tiled pitched roofs overhang the windows to provide sun shading. External cladding is brickwork as are permanent partitions; a demountable system is used elsewhere.

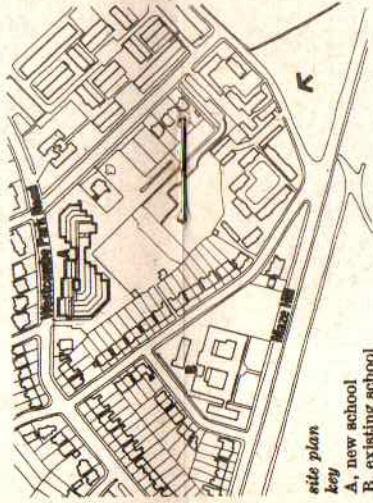
COST £1.2m.

COMPLETION June 1980.

CREDITS

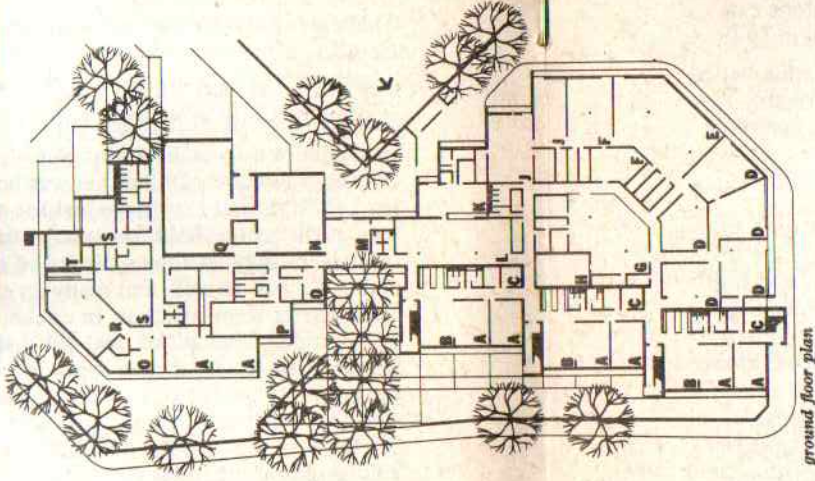
Architect to the Council: Sir Roger Walters; education architect: Peter Jones; divisional architect: David Grove; group architect: Jeremy Thomas; job architects: Ann Webb, Geoff Denison; engineer: E. W. Bunn; quantity surveyor: H. S. Page; mechanical and electrical: P. C. Hoare; landscaping: J. C. Kennedy.
Roan Boys, Roan Girls and Charlton Schools are to be amalgamated to form a six-form entry voluntary controlled mixed comprehensive school. The school is to serve both social and curricular activities.

DESCRIPTION

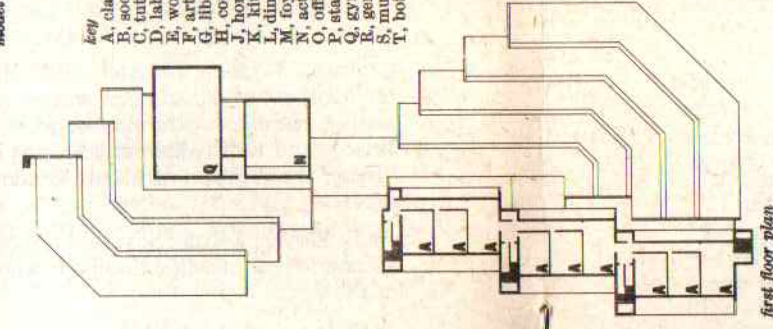


site plan
key

A, new school
B, existing school



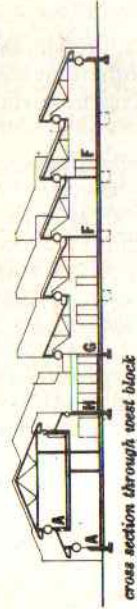
ground floor plan



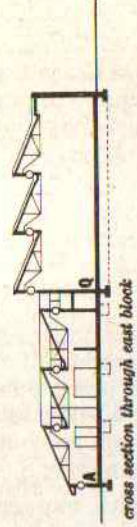
first floor plan

key
A, classroom
B, social area
C, tutorial
D, laboratory
E, workshop
F, art department
G, library
H, courtyard
I, home economics
J, kitchen
K, dining area
L, foyer
M, activities hall
N, office
O, staff room
P, gymnasium
Q, general purpose room
R, music drama classroom
S, music drama classroom
T, boiler

model from the south-west



cross section through west block



cross section through east block



above: elevation to Westcombe Park Road; below: north-west elevation; below right: north-east elevation



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Dave Carter. He bowls a slow medium loop with the occasional quick one; his own intelligent thinking and his willingness to listen to the 'ancients' may well develop his bowling to 1st XI standard in the future. Now with the winter behind us we are hopefully looking forward to good weather, good friendship and enjoyable cricket.

THIRD ELEVEN

In recent years it has become increasingly difficult to field a 3rd XI on Saturdays. At the beginning of a season, with the encroachment of soccer into May, getting even twenty-two cricketers has often posed a problem, and so 3rd XI fixtures were restricted to July and August. We then found that without regular games when soccer boots were finally put away interest was apt to wane and recruitment later in the summer was not easy.

Thanks largely to Michael Baxter's efforts in 1977 we had more success — half a dozen or so games were played — and the Saturday 3rd XI alone can claim to have been undefeated, and will hope to continue their run in 1978.

On 26th June the Sunday 3rd XI lost by 2 runs to Bromley Town; this was to be the last defeat of the season, a very satisfactory outcome for probably the weakest 3rd XI (certainly in terms of experience) ever fielded. The complete record was:-

Played 17 Won 6 Drawn 5 Lost 5 Abandoned 1

It has always been a fact that our strongest fixtures are in May and June and we were fortunate to have Jimmy Russon available for most of the early matches. He contributed a rapid 42 match — winning runs against Knockholt; an innings of 39 v Bromley Town set up the chance of victory, thrown away due to bad batting by the rest of the side. Nigel Potter also played excellent innings in these two games, but on other occasions was unable to score at the run rate required in half-day games.

Our final defeat coincided with Jimmy's last game — no reflection on Mr. Russon — but his absence induced more effort from others and the arrival in the squad of Keith Bradbrook, Paul McGann, Keith Pullen, Kevin Cheesman and Dave Lee brought about a tremendous team spirit and determination.

Due to inexperience the batting remained brittle and responsibility for a reasonable total rested heavily upon Ian Clatworthy. "Chopper", as the score-book shows, responded with three fifties, 312 runs in all at an average of 31.2 (and he still remained reluctant to put on his pads). Tim Leask and Malcolm Brown, in vastly different styles, were the other main contributors — both scoring fifties. These occurred in the same match; a second wicket stand of 100 v O. Dartfordians, which gave an unaccustomed eight wicket victory. Both also took the honours in the field, Tim's speed making us wonder why he plays in goal and Malcolm's agility adding to his laundry bills. John Hardy was badly missed both as opening bat and wicket-keeper, although you would never have believed it from his mid-season 'guest' appearances. Mike West and Dave Lee stood-in behind the stumps, and if they had 'off' days they must be forgiven; both played useful knocks, and it was nice to have Dave back again (orf stump, please!)

The bowling was spearheaded by Dave Ellis: — 206 overs, 74 maidens, 395 runs and 36 wickets. Few would disagree that his bowling is a class above 3rd team standard; moreover, many of our opponents are not 3rd elevens, and without a bowler of Dave's calibre the fixture list would quickly be decimated. At different times during the season the pace support came from Adrian Jackaman, Kevin Hutchins, Keith Bradbrook, Kevin Cheesman and Andy Bloyce (Andy in spectacular style with ten wickets in the last two games). In the absence of a spinner, Mike Callaghan showed he did not require a 'turner' to exploit his talents, the result being 28 wickets at an average of 15.6 — with decisive spells against St Mary Cray, Knockholt and Bardhill.

Many of the side need practice (nets would help) and boots . . . and next season perhaps we can win some of the early matches.

In conclusion I would like on behalf of the Cricket Club to thank Reg Lentle and Cyril Davies for all that they do for us. After the long drought of '76 the field really looked a picture.

P.W.

OLD ROAN BRAITHWAITE CAMP

It is a pity that a report of the proceedings of the 1976 camp was not included in the last magazine as that year's camp must surely have been the most successful we have had since the first such in 1970.

The first intimation that it was going to be exceptional was on the first night when Malcolm (Atilla) Waterton decided to make his own short cut walking from Keswick to Braithwaite. This is a journey which should take about an hour along the road. It took Malcolm four hours after trying and failing to navigate his way across pitch black fields and the occasional ditch.

This was the year of the drought but there was no shortage of water when we had a 'rest' day in Keswick. Having paid our customary respects to The Crown we converged on the shores of Derwentwater, and a flotilla of vessels set sail. Havoc duly set in, mainly caused by the "Laird's" boat, cunningly coxed by Fred Spink who, equipped with bucket, drenched every crew in sight.

The weather was excellent and much was achieved. On Scafell Pike Malcolm surprised other walkers by being kitted out in what all the best dressed walkers were wearing that year (or so he said), a large brown dressing gown and swimming goggles. Yes, I know what you're thinking but keep it to yourselves. A holiday to remember indeed.

In 1977 normality returned to the camp. The weather was not on our side and not so many climbs were undertaken. Nevertheless a pleasant holiday and one to be recommended.

The 1978 camp will be split this year. We have booked the camp for the 3rd — 10th June and 2nd — 9th September. There is also the possibility of continuing to the 16th September but only if we can fill both September weeks. Anyone interested is invited to contact Tony Slaney, 1 Bushmoor Crescent, London SE18 3EG (phone 01-854-3753) or Alan Palmer, 42 Elliscombe Road, Charlton SE7 7PY for details.

A.S

FOOTBALL CLUB

(Secretary: G.J. Sawyer, 18 Beaconsfield Close, Blackheath, SE37LL)

As we approach the final run in to the end of the season the Football Club in general seems to be even stronger than last year. The top three sides have enjoyed the football played but without perhaps getting results to set them among the winners, while the lower three elevens, left to their own devices, seem to be contesting matches which used to be given up as lost and often surprise themselves with the results of their efforts.

The 1st XI are just on the credit side in league games so unfortunately are in no danger of winning their particular Division, although an unusually high number of 7 games have been drawn so we can reflect on what might have been. They are through to the later stages of the London Intermediate Cup though, and are still alive in the Spartan League Cup. Maybe.....? Lets hope we'll have a success or two to report later! We have been delighted to welcome Rod Pepper to our ranks this year although his obvious assets on the field are partially offset by the number of colleagues he injures in training! Seriously Rod, we do welcome you and admire your fine attitude of hard work with a smile. Neil Campbell has, I think, enjoyed his taste of 1st XI football when commitments of School games, London and England trials or sheer exhaustion allow. Dave Carter has grown in stature by the week and has been coaxed into playing well by the effervescent John Hardy who quickly recovered from his close season cartilage operation to improve beyond recognition once he was given responsibility. David Hutley has been tremendous both in his usual role at full back or very often adding power to midfield. He has represented London on seven or eight occasions and is to be congratulated on being awarded his London F.A. Cap. Well done David! Paul Petty has captained the side for most of the season while Cyril Davies was sorely missed when injury forced him to stand on the sidelines for such a long period. He really is a terrible spectator! Don Boon and John Stanford have retained their place for most of the season — which is recommendation in itself! Steve Gillman has once again kept the goal scoring knack while Graham Briscoe and Dave Ellis have served on the side well on many occasions and Bob Grimwood has been... Bob Grimwood! Keith Thomas has never let the team down but for reasons best known to him, elected to play for the 2nd XI midway through the year.

The 2nd XI have been skippered by Doug Weaver this year and yet still have been inconsistent. Not one draw in the first 15 games! That speaks for itself. The presence of Keith Thomas helped the team as did the welcome return to Old Roan football of Dave Lee and newcomer Alan Grove. Peter Grindley, Graham Townsend, Fred Fuhr and Keigh Mexter have been almost ever present but too many can never achieve that distinction by being not available on so many occasions and for so many different reasons. This doesn't help the individual, the Club or indeed the Skipper.

The 3rd XI under the guidance once again of Chris Wyton have picked up many useful points in the Premier Division of the South London Alliance and are currently still in the AFA Junior Cup. Teamwork has been the key to their successes although Kevin Hutchins tells me his goal scoring has got something to do with it. Congratulations Kevin, not on your goals, but on your marriage during the season, though heaven knows why Saturday's game was cancelled when you got married on Friday!! Nick Riley has made a welcome return to form and with Frank Gosling, Chris Wyton, Phil Pearce, Roger Dale, John Leach and Alistair Mitchell (not forgetting Kevin) turning in consistent performances it wasn't easy to score against the 3rd XI. Chris Winter struck a purple

patch in November with consecutive hat tricks and Terry Barry was no doubt reflecting on yesteryear when it was the 1st XI winning the honours in that same Division. They had a good skipper too!

Mike Baxter's 4th XI have remained fairly stable and have gained some very good results with the following squad; Tim Leask, Malcolm Brown, Martin Harris, John Dennis, Fred Spink, Ian Maxwell, Ian Williams, Andy Page, Nick Green, Simon Perry, Garry O'Hanlon and Ricky Hone with the Captain well among the goals. They have been participating in the AFA Minor Cup and after a close first game which they won 3-2 came two emphatic wins 6-0 and 8-0 one of which was against a 3rd XI! Well done lads. They finally had their wings clipped by Midland Bank.

This season under the captaincy of Brian Goddard some of the older faces seen in the 5th XI in recent years have disappeared and been replaced by younger players. After several indifferent displays in the early fixtures the team settled down with a run of exciting wins, but having climbed the table a few poor results around Christmas saw them drop back a little to hopefully finish somewhere in the middle. The most consistent goal scorer has been Kevin Cheeseman from the left wing with good support from centre forward Len Sales. Even Brian Matthews has scored a few but I hear it rumoured that it's the oranges he brings for half-time that secures his place in the side! Ted Hadrill, Graham Snaith, Paul Watts and Mike West have been the stalwarts and if anything is missed then Nigel Potter at sweeper usually tidies up. Steve Nelson in goal has enjoyed his best season for many years (ever?) and with plenty of other players available prospects for the future look good.

The 6th XI started the season in magnificent, and not altogether expected, style with a 3-1 victory. Enthusiasm is probably as high as it has ever been despite a frequently changing line up. Of the regular players much of the success is owed to the youngest player, Mark Leverick in goal, who continues to hold more shots than escape him. Bobby 'Goal a Game' Webber enjoys himself 'up front' together with Howard Baines who scores the occasional spectacular goal. Will Easterling, 'Spot' Hughes, Dave Horsburgh and Bernie Hampton provide an interesting new dimension to midfield play and behind them Mike Titheridge (where have we heard that name before?) and Rod Stanbridge are the strength in defence. Phil Snaith has destroyed last season's record of no own goals but did score two penalties in one game! The New Year was started with yet another victory so the side is anticipating better things for the rest of the year.

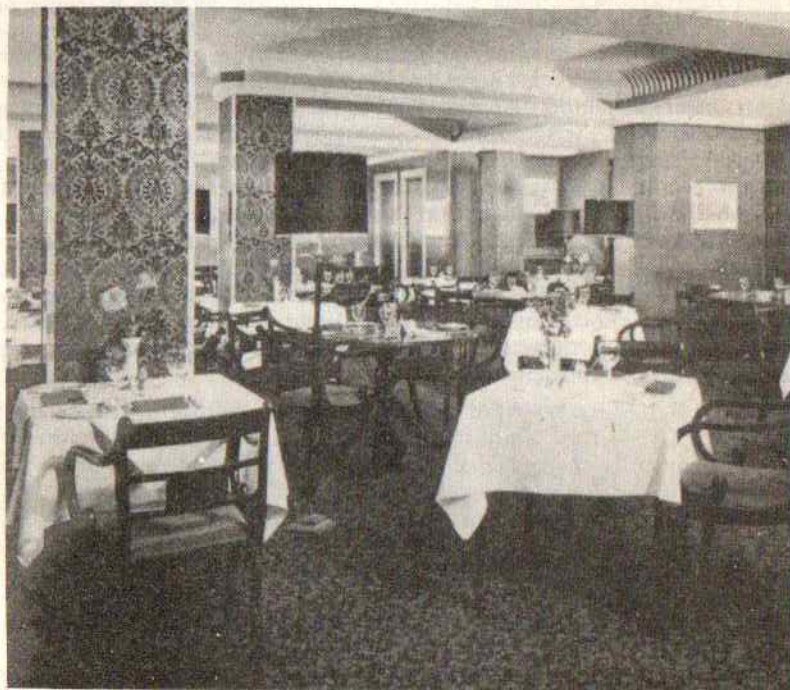
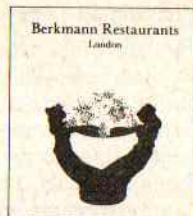
Our sincere thanks to all the Officers of the Club, particularly Vic Brooker for his unfailing efforts, and to Reg Lentle for his help and excellent pitches once again.

May I end these notes with a plea to you all. When the date of the Football A.G.M. is announced please do your utmost to attend. All too frequently people who are missing at the meeting spend the rest of the season complaining. Your views and nominations will be welcome — come and voice them — they will be heard!

G.J.S.

P.S. To promote fresh ideas, any volunteers for this spot in the next issue?

LOCKETS



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Closed Saturday and Sunday

Locketts is a traditional English restaurant, serving favourite English dishes like Lamb in the Manner of Shrewsbury – which is an excellent manner. The “in” sweet is Strawberry Locketts which has a thin toffee crust over cream thickly beaten upon a layer of strawberries steeped in liqueur.

Locketts, within shuffling distance of the Houses of Parliament, has a Division Bell. If you race out of the restaurant when it rings, people will be very impressed.

There is also a particularly attractive private dining-room which has inspired many a machiavellian scheme in the order of things at Westminster.

OLD ROAN DRAMATIC SOCIETY

(Hon. Secretary: T.E. Talbot, 15 Shelley Drive, Welling, Kent)

The past year has been an extremely busy one for the O.R.D.S., and has seen us attempting a completely new venture – a Pantomime.

After our last production, ‘Rookery Nook’, the Ben Travers farce, which we presented in January ’77, and which I am assured by those who supported us, may be added to our list of successes, it was felt that we should consider taking the opportunity of presenting ourselves to our audiences in a totally different style.

This opportunity presented itself when one of our members, and a fairly new member at that, Richard Rickson, told us that he would like to write an original Pantomime. The idea struck us as having great potential in that we could not only introduce some singing and dancing, but also present a production which would appeal to a wider audience, including the children of those who generally support us; he came up with ‘Beauty and the Beast’, based on the well-known fairy tale and a report appears elsewhere in this issue.

We have greatly increased our membership over the past few presentations and productions involving large casts seem to have become commonplace. We are constantly on the look-out for new members, so may I repeat the request made in recent reports that if anyone feels that they can be of help to us, either in an acting or back-stage capacity, please contact me on 01-855-4487.

Finally, I would like to add a note that at the 1977 A.G.M. we were all very sad when Brian Thomas announced that he was to stand down as our Chairman. I would like to express all our thanks to Brian for all the good work he did and the help he gave to other members during his very active term of office. We have missed him very much during the preparations for our latest production, but we send him all our good wishes for the future, and are happy to feel that he remains an Honorary Member, available for us to seek the benefits of his experience whenever needed.

I would like also to pay tribute to Brian’s successor, Martin Rider, and on behalf of all members to thank him for the good work he has done during his first year of office.

T.E.T.

Beauty and the Beast

The Society is to be congratulated for its enterprise in producing their first Pantomime and for making such a success of it. It must have been rewarding to play to such large audiences – even the balcony had to be brought back into use – something the Society have not experienced for many years.

An original script by Rupert Cake (alias Richard Rickson) provided excellent material to exploit the varied talents available – and there was quite a lot. Perhaps the cast wasn’t quite the largest the Society has put on stage, but there were many new faces – not least those of a cohort of very young artistes who clearly enjoyed every minute they were on.

The whole production, assisted by three talented musicians from the School, was a great team effort and it would be invidious to single out any particular member — suffice it to say that all the ladies were attractive and all the men suitably manly — even 'Waldo' — eventually!

Versatility was the word and it was exploited to the full — what a pity that the sets didn't quite match the performances or the costumes in ingenuity, variety or splendour.

The whole enterprise must have been vastly encouraging to the Society's members and their friends. Their activities are clearly in good heart and we look forward to future shows with considerable interest and expectations.

JOHN ROAN SCHOOL LODGE No. 5085

(Secretary: W. Bro. G.P. Marsh,
33 Rennets Wood Road, Eltham, SE9 2NF)

The Installation Meeting held on Tuesday, 25th October, 1977 was well attended by members and their guests; the Worshipful Master Dennis Fredrick Brookland (1942–50) installed as his successor Geoffrey Ernest Thomas (1935–40) who in turn appointed his Officers for the current year. This Meeting starts a new Masonic year in the life of the Lodge which is enlivened by the work engendered in the Lodge of Instruction by the enthusiasm and keenness of the Preceptors and members.

The next Meetings of the Lodge will be held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London W.C.2., on Tuesdays 28th February and 25th April, 1978. Enquiries from old Roans interested in the Lodge are always welcome and may be sent to the Secretary as above. Recent contacts have included an old Roan, Francis Murdoch (1948–52) now based in Hong Kong.

The Lodge of Instruction meets on Tuesday evenings at the School Sports Pavilion, Kidbrooke Park Road, S.E.3; it is very well supported so that on occasions two rehearsals at the same time are possible. The Annual L.O.I. Wine and Cheese party was this year held on the 10th January at the Sports Pavilion; an event enjoyed by members and their ladies thanks to the efforts for many years of W. Bro. Thomas E. Flack (1926–30) and his wife, Joan. Particulars of the Lodge of Instruction may be had from the Secretary, W. Bro. V.T.J. Penfold (1927–31), 11 Studland Road, Hanwell W.7.

This year's Ladies Festival will be held as on previous enjoyable and happy times, at the Forest Hill Banqueting Suite, on Saturday 21st October, when our Worshipful Master Geoffrey Thomas and his Lady will receive members and their guests — further details from W. Bro. R.L. Harmer (1934–39), 6 Chesterfield Drive, Chipstead, Sevenoaks, Kent.

G.P.M.

JOHN ROAN SCHOOL CHAPTER No. 5085

In the year ending September 1977 the Principals exalted a new companion B.J. Madden (1945–48), and an Old Roan Principal was welcomed as a joining member. Chapter members include Old Roans from 1903 onwards, e.g. Ex. Comp. W.J.R. Bullers (1903–08). Ex. Comp. G.P. Marsh, (1923–29) was installed in the Principal's Chair at the September Convocation. Companions and Masons interested in joining the Chapter should contact the Secretary A.J. Jarrett, 90 Chislehurst Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 0DN; phone Orpington 26557.

The next convocations will be held on May 23rd, June 27th and Sept. 25th, 1978.

BIRTHS

HITCHEN — to Rita, wife of Richard Hitchen (59–67), on 30th June 1977, a son Mathew Thomas, a brother for Richard James.
WEST — to Margaret, wife of Michael West (58–65), on 13th July 1977, a daughter, Rebecca Mary.
BRYDEN — to Barbara, wife of David Bryden, a son, Jonathan David, a brother for Mathew.

MARRIAGES

MARDLE — CLARKSON: on 6th August 1977 at St. Edmund's, West Kingsdown, Steve Mardle (68–72) to Kim Clarkson.
KENNEDY — KNAPP: on 10th September 1977 at St. Luke's, Charlton, Paul Kennedy (67–70) to Gwen Knapp.
COOK — WISEMAN: on 26th November 1977, at St. Matthew's, Oxley, Fred Cook (58–65) to Janet Wiseman.
HUTCHINS — CAFFELL: on 16th December 1977 at Sidcup Registry Office, Kevin Hutchins (68–72) to Gina Caffell.
PLUNKETT — BULLOCK: on 10th December 1977 at Enfield Registry Office, Stuart Plunkett (66–71) to Jane Bullock.

DEATHS

REID: on 9th May 1977, Allan D. Reid, former President of the Old Roan Association and architect of the Pavilion and the War Memorial Room.
WEBB: on 13th April 1977, Philip Walter Webb, after a long illness.
DRYSDALE: on 7th December 1977, Thomas (Tommy) Jamieson Drysdale at Eastbourne.
HESSEY: on 16th August 1977, Vere George Hessey, aged 86.
HEWLETT: on 30th October 1977, Frank Hewlett, sometime Treasurer of the Boroughs of Woolwich and Greenwich.

OBITUARY

Mr. D. White

It is with deep regret that we have to record the sudden death, on the 30th December, of Mr. D. White, Head of Music at the Roan Boys' School.

Although he had been on the Staff for only 3½ years he had already made a significant contribution to the life of the school. A skilled musician himself he was a particularly good teacher of vocal music and under his direction the junior choir had reached a high standard. As a result of his work there has also been a great increase in the number of boys learning to play instruments and especially in the number holding Awards for individual instruction.

An Australian by birth he came to this country as a young man and taught at Catford for many years before he came to Roan. He is greatly missed by his colleagues.

OF JOHN ROAN'S MEN

Reference in the last issue of the Chronicle to the Tercentenary Plate prompted a lot of correspondence and news of Old Roans. The response was very gratifying and led to orders for 560 plates. Our thanks are due to Frank Barnes for taking on this, at times, quite onerous task.

BILL SOLKHON, writing from East Sussex, sent his regards to Bill Gosling and Ginger Carter, and it was good, too, to hear from **JOHN MITCHELL** in Cambridge. **CLIVE SEWELL** wrote from California, and **B.C. LEE** from New Zealand; it was particularly good to hear from **KURT BAC** from Dusseldorf.

We note **L.A.W. PRIOR**'s corrected address and congratulate him on receiving the Queen's Silver Jubilee medal. We hope that **LEN WATTS** received his plate in good time for his seventy-fourth birthday. **DICK STRUTT** sent news of himself, **WALLY WEBB** and **RAY BURGESS** from Berkshire; their families now include fifteen grandchildren.

Old Roan travellers in the Margate area might care to look in on **MICK MINTER** who keeps the Orb Inn at Chapel Hill on the Ramsgate Road. **GEORGE BRUCE** sent his congratulations to the Schools on their respective anniversaries. We hope that **ARTHUR MEUX** got to the Founder's Day service in spite of his health and the long journey. We hope, too, that his plate reached **W.E. SHAW** safely, in Durban.

We hear that **KEN WHEELER**, one-time Captain of the School now has two grandchildren; he is apparently keeping extremely busy teaching in three schools at once. From **CHICK (T.N.) FOWLES** we learn that there are no complaints from St. Margaret's Bay, where a menagerie of two dogs, two cats and two birds keep him on his toes and the furniture under wraps. **PAUL DYKE**, we learn, finds that retirement suits him very well and that he is enjoying it enormously. **NORMAN HAGGETT** is now on the 'home straight' towards retirement in 1981; he has recently returned from a two week visit to California, and sends his greetings to all O.R.s.

Later news of **B.C. LEE** is that he has now retired for the second time and is living with his wife (an Old Roan Girl) in a retirement community, a co-operative venture by about ninety people who have their own homes in a park-like area run by a charitable trust.

The mention in the last issue of a photograph of the prefects (circa 1931) led **F.H. KING** to recall those days and remark that at least three, **G.F. FRANKLIN**, **DADE** and himself are still with us.

LEN GROVES tells us that **GLENN AITKEN**, who captained the School football XI that won the English Schools F.A. Under-19 Championship Trophy in 1971, is now the Captain of Wimbledon Football Club which was recently elected to the Football League. He transferred to Wimbledon from 3rd Division Gillingham.

GEOFF RICKSON sent his new address in Ely, where he is now Head of a large junior school; in the course of house-hunting he chanced upon one with a picture of Eastney Street in one of the rooms and discovered, to his surprise that the prospective vendor was also an Old Roan — the **G.F. FRANKLIN** just mentioned.

We are grateful for (for the most part) many appreciative comments about The Chronicle. **P.J. BARNWELL** wrote some from Cambridge, with comments on the amounts of space given to various activities; certainly the Sports Clubs are the most active sections of the O.R.A. and their news provides the opportunities to refer to a large number of the younger O.R.s. We were interested to hear of his climbing recommendations for the Braithwaite campers. For other travellers he mentions the Stelvio, 'King of the Passes' near the Tyrol where there are forty-eight hairpin bends. He recalled a recent camping visit to St Omer (where the 1928 School camp was held) where many of the old haunts have now disappeared. Another Roan campsite revisited was at the Ballon in the Vosges; the old site is still grassed but the big hotel seems even bigger and there are kiosks that were not there in 1931. This was a Binnie and Mills camp. A link between past and present is the fact that the 1930 German campers included Slaney and Palmer Seniors, the fathers of the two current O.R. Braithwaite enthusiasts.

DERRICK BYFORD, now a Systems Analyst with the G.L.C. sent us news of **BOB LOCKHART** who is lecturing in Pure Mathematics in Nigeria at the National University at Nsukka.

We were glad to receive news of **ARTHUR HEWLETT** who lives in Deal; he retired some ten years ago from the post of Education Officer for the Dover and Deal division of Kent, and since then has, he says, been busier than ever; he teaches voice production on the theory, incidentally, formulated by an ex-President of the O.R.A., **ERNEST G. WHITE**, and has written a book about it; he has also been engaged on international, non-governmental work for world peace, having been for seven years Chairman of the Friends (Quaker) Peace and International Relations Committee. For part of that time he was also Chairman of the National Peace Council, which he has represented on the International Peace Bureau in Geneva; his travels on these activities have taken him to the U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

R.H. MITCHELL tells us that he had to retire prematurely on health grounds from the Midland Bank (he was manager of the Rye Lane, Peckham Branch for over ten years), but he is gradually recovering a measure of good health and has set up a small (at present) financial consultancy business.

ERNEST TOWNSEND owns and runs a small private hotel, The Beechwood, at North Walsham in Norfolk.

The Headmaster passed along to us a long and interesting letter from **Dr. JEAN-PAUL VINEY** who was an Assistant at the School in the pre-war era. He is Emeritus Professor of Linguistics at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, and he wrote nostalgically of his days at Roan and his association with such as Kirby, Harris, Mitchell, Parker, and his oboe-playing days with the School orchestra under the Amesbury baton.

FOOTNOTE. Reports when Mr. Ridger was Headmaster contained spaces for 'No. of Detention Cards', 'Number of Lates', 'No. of Absences', 'Conduct' and 'Attendance'. A remark at the foot of a 1905 report recorded 'Late 2 times', qualified by the entry 'A bad record, but due to delay of train through fog'.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Circumstances have made it necessary to defer the date of the O.R.A. Annual General Meeting which will now be held at the Pavilion on Friday 31st March, 1978; the time will be 7.15 for 8 p.m. The Committee regret any inconvenience this may cause to members.

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