



OLD ROAN

Chronicle

Vol. 1. No. 5

July, 1979

OLD ROAN ASSOCIATION

<i>President:</i>	A.S. BERRY, 187 Westmount Road, Eltham, SE9.
<i>Vice-Presidents:</i>	L.J. BERRY, K.S. BINNIE, W.J.R. BULLERS, G.C. CARTER, W.L. GARSTANG, W.S. GOSLING, L.W. GROVES, J.V. LOVELL, G.C. SMITH.
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No. 5

JULY 1979

FROM THE EDITOR,

With the structure of the new school building beginning to appear along the south side of Westcombe Park Road there is an increasing need to concentrate the Association's collective mind on the future so as to ensure that there is a flourishing and attractive organisation ready to welcome both the boy and girl pupils when the time comes – around 1985 – for them to leave the new co-educational establishment. Exploratory talks have been held between representatives of the O.R.A. and Old Girls Association committees and they will continue. There is every reason to hope that a consensus will emerge that can be confidently recommended to the respective memberships in the form of a revised joint constitution. One feature of such a document – not included in the present O.R.A. constitution – should perhaps be a statement of the aim of the new organisation which, it is suggested should be to maintain the closest possible links with the School and provide means and facilities for ex-pupils to continue and enjoy the associations and friendships formed during their school years.

In the interim and while the two Associations are catering, as they must, for their different and, for practical purposes unrelated, memberships the objective must surely be gradually to integrate the two managements at the top so that they can jointly work towards the promising future that is undoubtedly there.



STAN BERRY

President 1979

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Let me say first of all how proud and honoured I am at being elected as your President for the current year — an honour not sought, but none the less cherished. I cannot help feeling, however, a slight apprehension at the prospect of following in the footsteps of my illustrious predecessors and of striving to emulate their good works and example, but I know I can count on them to throw me a life-belt should I find myself floundering.

The attendance at the Annual General Meeting was, as usual, disappointing. Although the faces have changed over the last few years the numbers have remained constant at about four percent of the total membership. Even allowing for those for whom distance prohibits attendance I am sure we can do better if we try (a time-honoured expression in educational circles!) if only to ensure that the next President and Committee are spared the feeling that they have been elected by a very small minority.

With the impending restructuring of the School there will inevitably have to be some new thinking about our present Constitution. The Secretary will be writing elsewhere in the Chronicle on this subject, but I would take this opportunity of assuring all Old Boys that the Committee will do their utmost to ensure that whatever changes are thought necessary they will be achieved as harmoniously as possible and with a minimum of disruption of Old Roan activities.

On a lighter and more personal note: as some of you already know my wife has been actively involved in Old Roan affairs (in the nicest possible sense of the word!) even longer than I have, having joined the O.R. Dramatic Society as one of Lionel Berry's young ladies in 1949. After thirty years I think she can be forgiven for being an Old Girl of a rival establishment, but I am sure long-suffering Old Roan wives will be pleased to know that Margery regards my election as President almost as much an honour for her as it is for me.

A final thought: the Committee and I regard ourselves very much at your disposal and we will always welcome your views. We are all quite approachable (speaking personally I can assure you that even Toastmasters are human!) and I will take great comfort in knowing that at whatever function or meeting to which I may be invited — whether at the School or elsewhere — I will be truly representative of the Association.

A.S. BERRY

FROM THE SECRETARY

At the Annual General Meeting held on 30th March 1979 Stan Berry (1933-1939) was elected President and took over from Alan Weir. Alan remains on the committee as Deputy President and has offered to stand for election to the job of Social Secretary next year, being too heavily committed elsewhere to take on the task this year. In this capacity we welcomed back Del Baxter (1944-1948) and thanked Fritz Henning for the work he put in to organising the principal events over the last few years.

The two principal functions organised by the Social Secretary for the Association are the annual dinner and dinner/dance, both of which continue to be highly successful and well supported. The annual dinner is normally held at the end of October or early November at the Pavilion. This year it seems likely to be either 26th October or 2nd November (hopefully a 'stop press' will appear somewhere in this magazine confirming the date). The dinner/dance has provisionally been fixed for 22nd March 1980 at the Surrey Tavern, Kennington Oval. Postage costs prohibit the Social Secretary sending circulars to each member and the timing of the Chronicle cannot easily be set to coincide with his needs. Anyone, therefore, wishing to attend either of these functions is invited to write to Del Baxter or ring me about a month before the expected dates to obtain exact details.

Val Lovell (1927-1930), a Vice-President, has now retired and moved to West Sussex, which regrettably means he will no longer be able to attend committee meetings. Tom Flack (1926-1930) has decided that he is too heavily committed elsewhere and has resigned from the committee. Both these Old Roans have been Presidents, have contributed much to making the Association what it is today and given up much time and effort into helping run the bar at the School Field.

In my last report I mentioned a sub-committee had been set up to look into the possibility of a merger with the Old Roan Girls' Association and I said then that progress would be slow. The response the Girls' Association has had from their members has not been decisive but they have formed a sub-committee and we are to start talks soon. The breakdown of our membership as at 31st December 1978 was:- 326 fully paid annual members, 570 life members, 6 honorary members and 8 associate members totalling 910. This total is down on our maximum, since at one time we had more than 1,000 names on the current file. Part of the reason is that a number of life members who had not been on the mailing list for over 25 years have been taken out of the current figure.

As a result of Brian Thomas' and my appeals for news of Old Roans we have received quite a number of contributions for publication in the Chronicle and I thank those who did set pen to paper. More news is always welcome and when reproduced is of interest to other Old Roans. Please don't stop sending copy to Brian. This includes ALL Old Roans.

I do meet ORs in quite unexpected circumstances. On 7th April 1979 London Transport ran the last of its 'RT' type buses in public service. This type of bus had been in service for forty years, the last being built in 1954. Having an interest in public transport I was over at Barking to mark the event. The following day, while driving to Catford, I was surprised to see RT 1798, displaying the special destination blinds used the previous day, travelling along the South Circular Road from Catford. I turned round and followed it to Eltham Bus Station. I went over to find out what was going on and was informed that the bus was on private hire and this was in fact the last revenue earning journey of an RT in service with London Transport, as they would no longer be licensed to carry passengers. All very interesting to me, but why write about it here? The driver turned out to be the hirer, and Old Roan, one John Marshall (1949-1957), who works in the Finance Department in London Transport's Head Office. Having introduced ourselves I 'hitched a lift' with the small party back to Barking for a last trip.

Although that was the first time I had met John he has been kept in touch with the Association by the magazine which he has been receiving as he has kept the Association informed about his several changes of address. Magazines have been returned from the following members because I have not been notified of their changes of address:-

W.J.P. Aggett (1930-1939)
J.F. Bishop (1922-1927)
R.J.C. Blackhall (1937-1940)
R.P. Burridge (1954-1960)
C. Finlay (1965-1970)
T.B. Gooding (1951-1956)
R. Lane (1962-1969)
M.H. Livermore (1956-1963)
D.G. Minter (1953-1961)

G.J. Moore (1963-1968)
D.R. Morgan (1965-1970-)
J.D. Mullenger (1961-1967)
L.P. Petty (1929-1935)
H.M. Ross (?)
C.J. Saunders (1918-1923)
H. Skinner (?)
D.G. Smith (1958-1965)
R.B. Woolley (1928-1937)

If anyone knows the current address of any of the above please send it to me. As a result of a similar list in the last Chronicle I have been able to put K.P.M. Brewer (1958-1964), J.T. Budgen (1926-1929), G.F. Franklin (1909-1916), D.J. Fyfe (1951-1958), J. Jaques (1952-1957), S.C. Pearce (1936-1943) and A.E. Ringer (1919-1924) back on the mailing list.

With the last distribution of the Chronicle I decided to test the efficiency of the Post Office by posting one magazine to myself along with the main posting of about 600 others. These were posted on Sunday 3rd December (second class). On the following Wednesday I arrived home to find not only my magazine postmarked as expected Monday the 4th, but also one that bore the postmark of Saturday the 2nd and had been returned 'addressee unknown' from Eastbourne. Subsequently, out of all those returned, it turned out that those posted to addresses outside London were postmarked the day before they were actually posted.

Members might be interested to know that car badges and wall plaques of the Association's coat of arms are available and examples of each are in the display cabinet at the Club. Only a very small stock is kept and prices cannot be quoted in advance as I can only order when I have sufficient requests but, as a guide, the last batch of car badges sold at £5.25 and plaques at £6.25 excluding postage. A new batch of Old Roan Association ties has arrived; the price to the Association has gone up but cost to purchasers will remain at £2, except that 15p must be added for orders by post. Also still available at £2 including postage are tercentenary ties. At the time of writing there were six left out of a total of 350 ordered.

As regulars of the Club will know Reg Lentle, the Groundsman, has left to work for St. Dunstan's College as College Marshall (i.e. Head Groundsman and Chief Caretaker). He has been of great help to the Association in our functions at the Field and also to the various sports clubs and the Club itself. A vote of thanks for the work Reg did for us over the ten years he was at the Field was recorded at the AGM. It is because we have thriving sports sections and a well used bar that the Association continues to be a strong organisation.

FROM THE TREASURER

For the benefit of the majority of O.R.A. members who were unfortunately unable to attend the last Annual General Meeting the Association's audited accounts are set out below.

Although our finances are highly liquid, interest accrues on a substantial proportion of the cash held on money-market deposit, and flexibility is maintained.

It should be noted that income is insufficient to meet the recurrent costs of the Chronicle which is issued at nine-monthly intervals, but this is an economic fact of life which must be accepted if the aim of the Association that the magazine keep its members in touch is to be maintained.

Old Roan Association

Balance Sheet as at 31.12.78

	£	£
FIXED ASSETS (cost less depreciation)		
Presidents Board and Collar		38
Addressing machine		14
		<u>£52</u>
INVESTMENTS		
8¼% Treasury Stock 1980/82		£1150
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stock of ties etc.	140	
Debtors and prepayments	243	
Cash on deposit	4072	
Cash at Bank and in hand	300	
	<u>£4755</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Subscriptions in advance	32	
Sundry Creditors	50	
	<u>£82</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		4673
		<u>£5875</u>
Represented by:		
Accumulated Fund		3895
Benevolent Fund		680
War Memorial Fund		13
Icough Memorial Fund		1287
		<u>£5875</u>

**General Revenue Account
For the year ended 31.12.78**

	£	£
INCOME	332	
Ordinary Members subscriptions	71	
Trading Profit (ties etc.)	48	451
Surplus on social functions		
less EXPENDITURE	807	
Cost of Chronicle (two issues)	36	
Printing, postage and stationery	33	
Sundry expenses	50	
Secretary's honorarium	7	933
Deficit		<u>£482</u>

**Accumulated Funds Account
For the year ended 31.12.78**

	£
Balance at 1.1.78	4155
Donations	28
Interest received	194
	<u>4377</u>
Deficit for year	(482)
Balance at 31.12.78	<u>£3895</u>

THE OLD ROAN CLUB

This report, like those in past issues of this magazine, consists of two parts, one good and one not so good. Dealing with the good news first it is pleasant to report that the Club continues to make satisfactory progress. As promised, last October, the lighting in the War Memorial Room has been replaced and this has resulted in a great improvement in the general appearance of both the room, and the inhabitants. Further, the reigning Bar Steward, Neal Haslam, has master-minded and organised a number of improvements behind the bar and these, in the main, have eased the problems of serving and of storage. We have also had the bar floor re-covered with a special "pub" quality tiling and, as a result, the whole area is now much cleaner and less susceptible to dirt and grime. Our thanks are due to Paul Petty for arranging and executing the new bar flooring together with the replacement tiling in the Bar Extension.

All these improvements have contributed towards the more effective administration of the Bar and this is being shewn in the monthly stock-takings where the percentage profit on sales is being held at a steady 17/18%. It cannot, however, be over emphasised that most of the credit for these improvements goes to Neal Haslam who is tackling the job of Bar Steward with a degree of enthusiasm never before experienced in this particular office. There have been minor problems arising from the need to find a lady-cleaner but these have now been overcome. It is certain that the departure of Reg Lentle will be felt by the Club but we can be assured that we shall receive the same degree of co-operation from his successor, Cyril Davis.

These good tidings are of no avail, however, if the present dearth of volunteers for bar service continues. We know this appeal is repetitious, and that, in many cases, we are preaching to the converted, but the hard fact is that we cannot continue to enjoy the present facilities unless we can ensure an adequate bar service on those nights when the Club is normally open. Currently we are having difficulty in arranging a satisfactory rota for Sunday evenings and we are experiencing problems at other times due to the late arrival, or non-arrival, of members who have volunteered to work behind the bar.

The efforts of the few in making sure that the Club is kept clean, that supplies are ordered and controlled, that money is checked and banked and that all other administrative tasks are performed are of no avail unless the majority of members are prepared to give us a little of their time in serving behind the bar. I feel sure that the bar rota system can be so organised that the duties per member would only occur one every six or eight weeks and this, surely, is a small price to pay for the facilities that all enjoy. So, if you are not helping out, please give the problem some thought, and advise Neal Haslam, or any member of the Committee, if you decide you can give some assistance.

We can only repeat what has been said so often in the past that the Club is dependant upon voluntary effort. This effort is exercised by the Bar Executive who make every effort to ensure that their administration is effective and who spend a lot of their spare time in achieving this object.

Concluding this report on a somewhat sad note, I must make reference to that great Old Roan, Val Lovell, who has recently retired from business and has now moved away to Selsey. Val was a member of the small team who made the Old Roan Club a reality and he was primarily responsible for the initial organisation in 1956 when he was our first ever Bar Steward. We all wish Val and Wendy a happy and healthy retirement and hope that they will find the opportunity to visit the Old Roan Club on some future occasions.

OLD ROAN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE 1979/80

President	A.S. Berry (1933-1939)
Vice Presidents	L.J. Berry (ex Staff), K.S. Binnie (1910-1921 & ex staff), W.J.R. Bullers (1903-1908), G.C. Carter (1916-1924), W.L. Garstang (ex staff), W.S. Gosling (1917-1922), L.W. Groves (1930-1936) J.V. Lovell (1927-1930), G.C. Smith (1926-1931).
Past President	A.G. Weir (1936-1942)
Past President	G.J. Sawyer (1949-1954)
Secretary	A.J. Slaney (1959-1966)
Assistant Secretary	R.T. Hitchin (1959-1967)
Treasurer	D. Hawkins (1964-1971)
Asst. Treasurer	P. Williams (1938-1944)
Social Secretary	D.A. Baxter (1944-1948)
Headmaster	Dr. A.J. Taylor
Master at School	G. Brooks
Cricket Club Rep.	H. Henning (1956-1963)
Dramatic Soc. Rep.	I. Hughes (?)
Football Club Rep.	D. Boon (1956-1962)
Table Tennis Club Rep.	G.J. Sawyer (1949-1954)
Tennis Club Rep.	(vacant)
Committee Members	F.P. Barnes (1933-1937), G.C. Carter (1916-1924), J. Dennis (1965-1971), K.M. Graf (1928-1932), N.S. Haslam (1967-1974), R.T. Hitchin (1959-1967), S.C. Nelson (1961-1967), T.J. Roe (1942-1947), B.R. Thomas (1933-1939).

OLD ROAN CLUB COMMITTEE 1979/80

Chairman	F.P. Barnes (1933-1937)
Secretary	R.T. Hitchin (1959-1967)
Assistant Secretary	S.C. Nelson (1961-1967)
Treasurer	D. Hawkins (1964-1971)
Assistant Treasurer	P. Williams (1938-1944)
President, Old Roan Association	A.S. Berry (1933-1939)
Secretary, Old Roan Association	A.J. Slaney (1959-1966)
Headmaster	Dr. A.J. Taylor
Reps. from Gen. Committee ORA	1) G. Brooks (staff) 2) vacant
Reps. from Cricket Club	1) H. Henning (1956-1963) 2) C.D. Rodwell (1965-1972)
Reps. from Football Club	1) D. Boon (1956-1962) 2) T. Puddifoot (1964-1971)
Rep. from Dramatic Society	I. Hughes (?)
Rep. from Tennis Club	vacant
Rep. from Table Tennis Club	G.J. Sawyer (1949-1954)
Committee Members	1) D.A. Bryden (1954-1961) 2) J. Dennis (1965-1971) 3) T.J. Roe (1942-1947)
Bar Steward	N.S. Haslam (1967-1974)
Co-opted	J. Williams (1939-1941)

SCHOOL NEWS

1. Reorganisation

We are reaching, I think, the most difficult period of the re-organisation. The year commencing September 1979 is the last before the 'new' School comes into being. In that year only boys of the fourth, fifth and sixth forms will remain in the Charlton buildings and a contracting situation of this kind is not an easy one in which to work, but the morale and dedication of the Staff there has prevented any sense of the School running down. As numbers grow smaller there is not enough work to fill the time of specialist teachers and so it is necessary to share teaching between all three Schools. This imposes constraints on timetabling and the burden of travelling between sites for a number of teachers.

Further, since the new School will take fewer children than amalgamating schools the number of teachers employed will eventually decrease. The immediate effect of this is that all current Staff vacancies must be regarded as temporary and advertised as such. This is not likely to attract a large

number of applicants and some difficulties are being experienced in filling posts in those subjects in which teachers are in short supply. We are, however, receiving a great deal of help and support from the Authority and this particular problem should not obtain next year.

The new building, at the corner of Westcombe Park Road and Vanbrugh Hill, is well under way; parts of it are reaching first storey level. The bad winter has put the work about six weeks behind but there is still time for it to be ready for occupation by September 1980. Meanwhile discussions are being held about the alterations which must take place in our present building to make it suitable for use as the senior part of a mixed School catering for children of all abilities.

The Governors have proposed that the new School be known as the "John Roan School" hoping in this way to mark both its new beginning and its associations with the past. This was a suggestion which came in the first place from the working party of the three Schools which was set up in 1975 to make recommendations about the re-organisation.

A.J.T.

2. Goings On

"The night cometh, when no man can work" (St. John 10:11).

"The time's come I'm going to work, and in twenty-five or thirty years' time every man and woman will be working"

(Anton Chekhov: Three Sisters)

These are difficult days, and old Anton could well be wrong. It is the end of another year and the exodus begins. The Upper Sixth have taken stock and now prepare to face the real world — the world of work. Many, of course, postpone the evil day and seek refuge in Universities and Polytechnics; the rest join the ranks of the employed — or is it to be the unemployed?

In this issue I thought I would try to convey an impression of what the 1979 school-leaver is doing. Each year, about fifteen to twenty fifth-year boys leave and all of the Upper Sixth. As Careers Master I know where they all end up — as with an overworked hedge-sparrow — and I watch with interest the flight from the nest of my over-sized charges. Not all of the fledglings are cuckoos of course!

The sixteen year old leaver with the promise of some "O" levels and a good reference can still get a good job: I wonder about the future in the light of the juggernaut technology and restricted public expenditure. A number of boys are joining the Banking profession — but look out for the one who told me he preferred the Middleland to the NatWest! Eat your heart out Bilbo Baggins.

A number of boys are joining the Post Office as trainee technicians and one interesting character is set to be a philately trainee with Stanley Gibbons — salary £1750 plus stamps?

Those boys who are taking "A" levels have the enormous problem of choosing a degree course or seeking a job that offers training. The true academics still exist and they are going to read History, Music, Politics, Economics and so on. The more practical have obtained sponsorships — one to do Automotive Engineering (he has been offered five sponsorships), another needs three grade B's to join the Midland Bank and take a degree at Loughborough, and another is being financed by the Ministry of Defence to do Electronic Engineering.

The entry requirements vary greatly; to do Cybernetics and Computer Engineering the University of Reading has asked for two grade E's — Kent requires CDD. Surrey needs three C's to do Civil Engineering and Dundee wants a C and a D to embark on Urban and Regional Planning. Industrial Chemistry at Brunel will need three D's and Medicine at Sheffield, three grade A's. The Bank of England will pay about £3,000 to an "A" level leaver (they do issue the stuff after all) and five of this year's leavers have been attracted to the Old Lady. Two "A" levels will get you into the Prudential and set on a course of Surveying at Thames Poly: that way you get a useful degree, a salary and, hopefully, security.

A couple of blokes are combining a language with Business Management: Leeds requires BCC, Aston DCC at "A" level. If you wish to avoid Verlaine chasing Rimbaud's (i.e. skip the literature and concentrate on the language) then Stafford and Bradford ask for BCD and BBC respectively to study Modern Languages.

You could be a Library Assistant in Southwark — no "A" levels required — and earn £2,600. If you stand something over five feet eight and have played for the School 1st.XI, scoring with monotonous regularity with your size 11's then the Metropolitan Police could be the answer — it will make you the highest paid school-leaver by some £1,500. P.C. Savage is the name

The School Captain is set to do Art at the City of London. He hopes to specialise in Theatrical Design. He's the chap who painted the delightful panels that now replace the clock that once stood on the top of the shelter opposite the War Memorial on the edge of the Park. Since it was Roan boys who dismantled it I suppose it is only fair that we should have a hand in the re-decoration; the panels depict the Cutty Sark, the Observatory, the Queen's House and The Oak in the Park. Look out for them when you next pass that way.

There are still some six boys yet to be fixed up, but they all have a lot to offer so I am hopeful that, come September, we will not have anyone on the dole. Which means that I can fly south to restore health and batteries ready for the next brood who are already demanding constant feeding and

encouragement. Some have feathers already and stand tentatively on the edge of the nest ready to make their own way in this challenging world.

"I like work: it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours.
I love to keep it by me: the thought of getting rid of it nearly breaks my heart". (Jerome K. Jerome).

* * * * *

Stop Press: The School 1st XI became District Champions by beating Sedge Hill 3 – 1 at the School Field on 26th May.

G.B.

THE SCHOOL CREST

Old Roans other than those of the Eastney Street vintage, may remember that in the Library of the present building in Maze Hill there used to be hung over one of the fireplaces the warrant of the School's Coat of Arms. On a recent visit I unearthed it on top of one of the bookcases and it occurred to me that other O.R.s might be interested in what it says. It reads as follows:

"TO ALL AND SINGULAR to whom these presents shall come
Sir Henry Farnham Burke, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Garter Principal King of Arms, Gordon Ambrose de Lisle Lee, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Clarenceux King of Arms and Arthur William Steuart Cochrane, Esquire, Member of the Royal Victorian Order Norroy King of Arms, Send Greeting:

Whereas Richard Stephens Jackson Chairman of the Governors of the Roan Schools, hath represented unto Edmund Bernard, Viscount Fitzalan of Derwent, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, One of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council and Deputy to the Most Noble Bernard Marmaduke, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshall and Hereditary Marshall of England that the Management of the Roan Schools in the Parish and Metropolitan Borough of Greenwich, was duly vested in a Governing Body by a Scheme authorised by the Board of Education on the Ninth day of November One thousand nine hundred and nine That the said Governing Body being desirous that Armorial Bearings should be assigned to the said Schools, he therefore, on behalf of the said Governing Body requested the favour of His Lordship's warrant for Our granting and assigning such Armorial

Ensigns as may be proper to be borne and used by the said Governing Body of the Roan Schools and their successors in their Official capacity on Seals Shields or otherwise according to the Laws of Arms: AND FORASMUCH as his Lordship did by Warrant under his hand and the Seal of the Earl Marshall bearing date the Twenty fourth day of June last authorise and direct Us to grant and assign such Armorial Ensigns accordingly: KNOW YE THEREFORE that we the said Garter, Clarenceux and Norroy in pursuance of His Lordship's Warrant and by virtue of the Letters Patent of Our Several Offices to each of Us respectively granted do by these Presents grant and assign unto the said GOVERNING BODY OF THE ROAN SCHOOLS the Arms following that is to say:-

Vert three Stags trippant within a Orle of fourteen Mullets Or And for the Crest: On a Wreath of Colours In front of a Stag's head erased Or holding in the mouth a Sprig of Oak fructed proper an Anchor fessewise Vert as the same are in the margin hereof more plainly depicted to be borne and used for ever hereafter by the said Governing Body of the Roan Schools and by their successors in their Official Capacity on Seals Shields or otherwise according to the Laws of Arms: IN WITNESS whereof We the said Garter, Clarenceux and Norroy Kings of Arms have to these Presents subscribed Our names and affixed the Seals of Our several Offices this eighth day of August in the Eighteenth year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Fifth by the Grace of God of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the faith etc. and in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty seven."

The meaning of most of the heraldic terms can be gleaned from Chambers, for example "trippant" means "tripping with right foot raised", an "orle" is a border within a shield, a "mullet" is a five-pointed star, "erased" means torn off so as to leave jagged edges, "fructed" means bearing fruit – in this case, acorns, "proper" means in natural colourings, "fessewise" is lying horizontally across the escutcheon and "vert" is a green colour which can be represented by parallel lines sloping diagonally from the dexter chief (top right) to the sinister base (bottom left). The significance of the symbols is a matter for further research.

OLD ROAN PERSONALITIES

STAN BERRY

Stan Berry has been a substantial figure in O.R. activities for many years. A long-time member of the Association's General Committee, he has been a leading member of the Old Roan Dramatic Society and, for a number of years an enthusiastic O.R. cricketer; no O.R. social function would be complete without his ample voice introducing speakers and announcing toasts.

He was at the School from 1933 until 1939 when he left to join the Royal Air Force along with so many of his contemporaries around that time. Surviving that experience and emerging as a Pilot Officer, he joined the Customs and Excise — but has remained on the friendliest terms with his O.R. associates in spite of that.

His acting roles took him to higher ranks — the Captain in the "Middle Watch" for example, and a Captain of Hussars in "The Bridge of Estaban" — and he could always be relied upon for a thoughtful and convincing performance.

Stan never achieved the higher echelons of Club cricket, but he played with enthusiasm and certainly enjoyment in the lower elevens. Throughout the Fifties he was a very useful performer with both bat and ball — instantly recognisable from the ring by his distinctive headgear, worn in those days entirely for decorative purposes: a blue and yellow quartered cap which received many an authoritative tug. He decided to hang it up in the mid-sixties when, rumour has it, a full summer's endeavour yielded but a solitary run.

He brings to the Presidency of the Association a deep interest in its well-being and a fund of common sense, both qualities much needed in the times of change.

HAROLD DANIELL

The late Harold Daniell, who died in the early sixties was at school with me in the early 'twenties. He was shortish, and carried rather a lot of superfluous flesh, and wore nickel-framed glasses with circular lenses: in fact, it would hardly be unfair to say that in those days he had more than a slight resemblance to Billy Bunter, the Owl of the Remove. Harold was, however, no fool and we often found it advantageous to do our Maths. homework together, usually just before school, with a scrambled finish in class just before Mr. Poyser came in.

At one of the first Old Boy dinners I went to after returning to London in 1955 I met Harold, and in the course of conversation asked him what he had done in the War: not quite as bluntly as that, of course. I can reasonably put his reply in italics or quotation marks, because I remember almost his exact words:-

"I'm as patriotic as the next man, and although I was a few months over the age limit, I went down to the Army Recruiting Office and offered my services. The sergeant on duty asked me what sort of job I could do, and I said I wanted only to be a motor-cycle despatch rider. He burst out laughing and said "What, you?" which annoyed me so much I walked out of the office and went home. I spent the rest of the war running my business."

The point of this is that Harold at that date was without doubt the finest motor-cyclist in Britain, if not in the world. At the age of 14 (there was no nonsense about not driving a motor-cycle under the age of 16 in those days) he used to come to school on a 980 c.c. A.J.S., sometimes with the sidecar on, but as often as not solo. It was not an uncommon sight to see him tearing up Maze Hill after school with the Antient (Headmaster A.H. Hope, M.A.) on the pillion or in the sidecar.

In the later 'twenties Harold made a name for himself as a racing motor-cyclist: I saw him several times at Crystal Palace. In 1938, 1947 and 1949 he won the Senior T.T. race in the Isle of Man as the leading driver of the 'Norton' team.

This will make it quite clear to you why at the Old Boys dinner referred to above, Harold was guest of honour! If you visit the Montagu Museum at Beaulieu you will see a complete section devoted to Harold, and one of the Nortons he rode to victory.

J.W.P.

ANDRE VAN GYSEGHEM

School dinners in the early twenties were very much the same as today: savoury mince doesn't change very much, does it? The price was a bit different, and I am sure there was no subsidy. We used to pay half a crown (12½p) for a week's dinners. We got five fourpenny pink tickets and five twopenny blues (or was it the other way round?), the former for the first course and the second for 'pudding'. In those days before the arrival of frozen foods we had dried peas — the ones that had to be soaked overnight in water, together with the contents of a little gauze bag. Even so, they could rattle on the plate, and contained a few black and brown rejects which were ideal for flicking. On the other hand, I remember with pleasure the gorgeous 'Spotted Dick', cooked in bags placed in a cylindrical tin about twice the length of a swiss roll. And there was no queueing: three or four young waitresses brought our meals to us.

I can't remember many masters on the platform: however, the 'Antient', Headmaster A.H. Hope, Esq., M.A., was always there, and he it was who made things so different. At the end of the meal we were not hurried out into the yard. Oh no! The 'Antient' would bawl out 'Cutty!' and a lad named Cutbush, who was an extremely good pianist, would entertain us with a Chopin Nocturne, or one of Mendelssohn's Lieder ohne Worte.

Remember, in those days there was no radio, and gramophones were rudimentary and rare. And on other occasions it would be 'Van Gyseghem!' and a tall, slim dark handsome lad would walk onto the platform and recite from what seemed to me to be a huge repertoire. I particularly remember a masterly rendering of Belloc's famous cautionary tale, 'Matilda, Who Told Lies, and was Burned to Death'. It was the first piece of verse I learned because I wanted to, and not because I was told to. I used it for years in school verse speaking, to the great delight of my pupils, but never without thinking of André Van Gysethem.

He must have left school about 1923, and then embarked on an acting career. In 1928 he was playing Lewis Dodd in 'The Constant Nymph', for long his favourite part. You may remember him in 'Search for the Nile' and 'Napoleon in Love', and other plays on television. He married the lady who was for me the best ever Peter Pan, Jean Forbes-Robertson, who died some years ago. For those whose curiosity is stirred, I recommend 'Who's Who in the Theatre', which has two full columns. Although now over 70, he delights playgoers still. A couple of years ago he was a marvellous Polonius at Stratford.

J.W.P.

R.A. POMEROY.

His Christian names were Reginald Arthur, but nobody called him anything else but 'Pom'. He came to the school from down in Kent about 1924, and quickly made an impact on the sporting life of the school. He won the cross-country, the high jump and before long was a bustling, if somewhat clumsy inside forward in a very successful First XI soccer team. His favourite game however, was rugby football. His forceful character led to the school adopting the game, and the Roan First XV was soon playing and beating the best school sides in London.

'Pom' spent a year in the sixth form, and then went to Goldsmith's College, New Cross, for a two-year Teachers' Training Course, and in 1930 started Primary teaching at Haimo Road Junior School. Family circumstances had meant that a university career was impossible, but 'Pom' enrolled at Birkbeck College of the University of London, and by evening study got a good honours degree in Economics. At week-ends he played Rugby for Westcombe Park, and later for Blackheath and Kent. In 1937 he was seconded to the R.A.F. Educational service, and taught at Cranwell until the outbreak of War. He was transferred to the Administrative Branch, and within a couple of years was Squadron Leader (Admin.). His office was known as "Earls Court" as he had a couple of noblemen, one of them Lord Brownlow, under him. He of course, played Rugby — at first for Notts., Lincs., and Derby, and later for the R.A.F. At the end of 1941 he was posted to the School of Administration as a lecturer, and after a couple of years was Wing Commander commanding the unit.

At the end of the War he called at County Hall, London, and asked for his job back. He got it of course, but on the way down to Kent to see a relation, John Brown, the then Deputy Education Officer, got in the compartment, and they got talking. As a result, 'Pom' resigned his London job, and took a lecturing post at Canterbury Technical College. Within a few years he was at 40 the Principal of Taunton Technical College, and by the mid-seventies had transformed this rather sleepy little agricultural centre to the largest and most important College of Technology in the West, and had acquired an O.B.E.

There is a lot more that could be said — in 1928 'Pom' with three other sixth-formers (I was one of them) spent six weeks cycling over Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany, parking ourselves on Mr. Harris's parents-in-law, for the best part of a week. A few years later 'Pom' climbed over the Pyrenees to see what was going on in the Spanish Civil War. Having been thrown out, he stayed at a small hotel in Cèrbère, and complained of the squawking and scraping in a neighbouring room — there was a chap named Casals practising on a 'cello!

J.W.P.

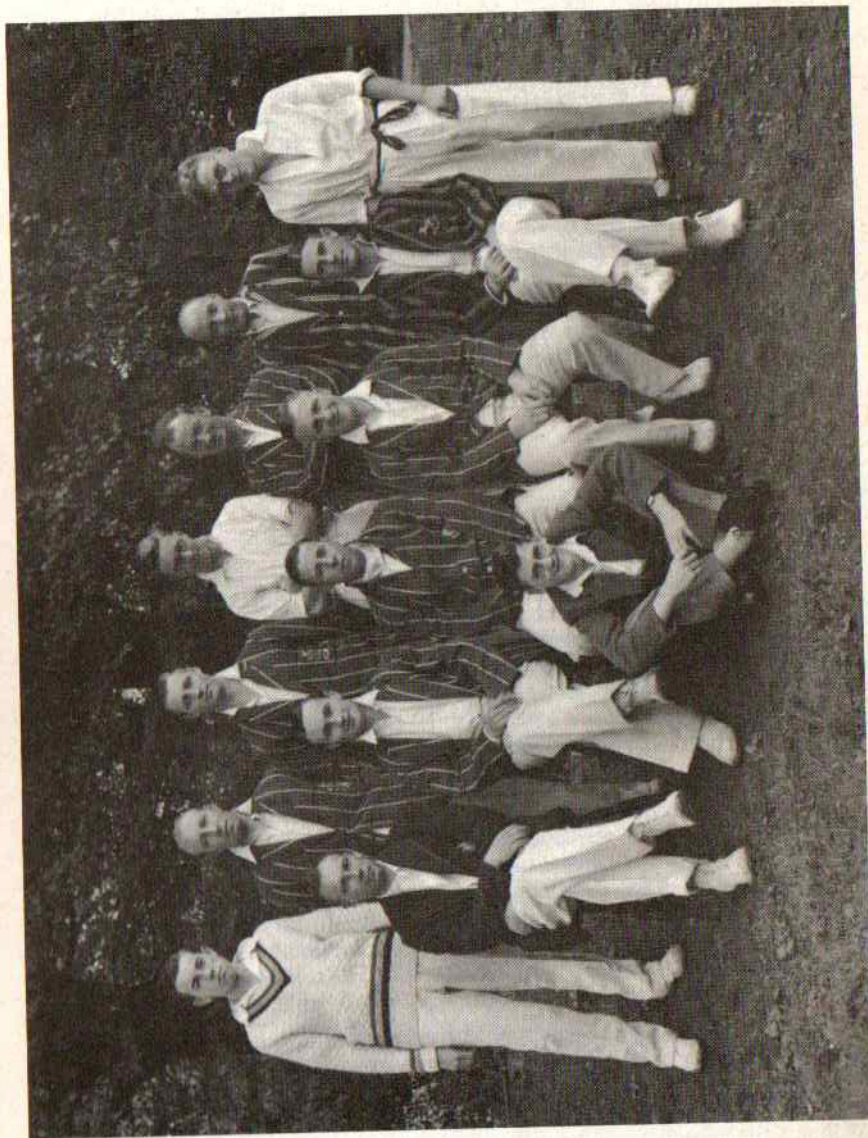
OLD ROAN CRICKET CLUB

(Secretary H. Henning 129 Kempton Walk, Shirley, Surrey)

Though at the time of writing the season is only a few weeks old there is already the familiar pattern of games rained off and frequent wicket inspections between the showers. We can only hope that things will improve. Some cricket has been possible, however, with the First XI achieving two draws and two wins and the other sides getting down to the serious business of enjoying their games.

It is pleasant at this early stage of the season to record some individual successes. Chris Rodwell, the new First XI skipper on Saturdays, helped himself to 116 against a benevolent Phoenix, and Viv Lawrence reached the magic three figures for the second time when scoring 101 against Sanderstead 2nd. XI. Other early season scores include fifties from Nigel Potter, Len Sales and Graham Lawrence. Pride of place amongst the bowlers goes to Terry Chance with a match winning return of 7 for 30 against Old Wilsonians 2nd. XI, the last wicket falling on the last ball of the final over.

The club held it's annual supper at the Pavilion in February. Support was excellent and the company was entertained by arguably the best set of after dinner speeches that this event has produced. Led by Graham Chambers with David Nicholls (Kent) and interspersed by Graham Johnson and Peter Williams the speeches will be difficult to match in future years, but we shall try. Ann Chambers and the rest of the ladies were once again magnificent in getting the show on the road.



D. MARSHALL, D.A.W. BONNER, R.A. SMITH, J.B. ELLINGHAM, T. HOLT, F.H.B. DALTON, A.T. CUTTS,
S.H. DALTON, H.J. TOWNSEND, L.R. WATTS, W.S. GOSLING, S.F. STOCKWELL.
E. Swann (Scorer).

There have been a number of changes behind the scenes. Len Groves kindly accepted the invitation to be our President; he is already taking a very active role in our affairs. Freddie Smith retired as Treasurer, after some eight sterling years in the post and many, many years of service to the Club. His place has been taken by Rod. Stanbridge, who moves over from the Secretary's job. Rod is also the new skipper of the Sunday 2nd XI. Other new captains, apart from Chris Rodwell, are Len Sales and Tim Leask, in charge of the 3rd. XI on Saturday and Sunday respectively. We wish them all success.

One problem which affects not only our club but club cricket in general, is the lack of umpires. May I appeal, on behalf of all elevens, for volunteers? Even if you are only able to stand in one or two games I am sure that the individual skippers would be most grateful.

Cyril Davies who is taking over from Reg Lentle — to whom we owe so much is already well known to us. We were delighted to hear of his appointment as Head Groundsman. Already, despite the miserable weather he has shown that he can produce excellent wickets — let us ensure that we make good use of them!

H.H.

OLD ROAN FOOTBALL CLUB

(Secretary G.J. Sawyer 18 Beaconsfield Close, Blackheath SE3 7LL)

Who ever heard of a football match being rained-off in the middle of May? That was the stupid situation that our monsoon climate dictated a few weeks ago. So what have we achieved in this frustrating season, apart from almost double work for yours truly and the team Secretary Graham Briscoe?

The 1st XI finished a disappointing mid way in their London Spartan League when the trouble was plain to see — they couldn't score goals! The defensive record was one of the best in the Division but they just couldn't find the net often enough. A fine run in the London Intermediate Cup ended in the quarter final when Pennant narrowly defeated us and the same Club beat us in the Final of the League Cup 1 - 0.
Player of the Year: John Hardy.

The form of the 2nd XI was more consistent than ever before under the watchful eye of Barry Thomas and they finished a creditable 5th in their Division of the London Spartan as well as reaching the Final of the League Reserve Cup (as yet not played). An enjoyable run in the London Junior Cup ended in the quarter final — again narrowly.
Player of the Year: Doug Weaver.

For a few years now it has been felt that the Premier Division of the South London Alliance was generally too strong for our 3rd XI bearing in mind all the opposition are 1st teams. This season conclusively proved the first point and we were duly relegated. The spirit of the team was understandably low and we can only hope that next season will bring improved fortunes.

Player of the Year: Roger Dale.

Fortunes of the 4th XI were varied with many well contested games and a generally enjoyable season. It's always nice to hear that they had a 0 - 0 or 1 - 1 draw or even better a 1 - 0 win! Obviously the presence of older experienced players helped to maintain a respectable final league position.

Player of the Year: Malcolm Brown.

The 5th XI found themselves to be the last team in the Club this year with the unfortunate disbanding of our 6th XI due to lack of playing support. The 5th's nevertheless rallied round the seemingly ageless stalwarts of the lower elevens and proved that a little organization can often defeat stronger opposition. They seemed to enjoy their football and, not least, the after-match inquest in the Bar!

Player of the Year: Ted Hadrill.

Our thanks to the over worked Ian Clatworthy for his continued dedication to the lower teams and to Vic Brooker for his unenviable job of keeping up the appearance of Old Roan football, both on the field and off. (His teas are a delight in the chill of Winter).

May we thank Reg Lentle for the excellent pitches he prepared for us before he took employment elsewhere and wish him well for the future, and both congratulate and warmly welcome Cyril Davies as the new Groundsman — he is no stranger to us and we can only hope our happy relationship with the School will continue.

REG LENTLE — AN APPRECIATION

Since the last issue of this magazine the School Groundsman, Reg Lentle, has moved on to fresh fields and pastures new. Accompanied by his wife, Lynne and, what were then two small boys, he became senior Groundsman in 1969 and was the first occupant of the newly built accommodation at the School Field. Since that time Reg showed great interest in the affairs of the Association, and the affiliated Clubs, and these notes are intended to express our thanks to him, and his wife, for the assistance and co-operation they have given to us during the past ten years.

It should be appreciated that the Groundsman's task is not an easy one and his prime duty and interest, without any qualification, is to the Schools and the I.L.E.A. Any work or services that he performs for the Old Boys is

undertaken on a voluntary basis and, as far as possible, carried out in his own time. It is against this background that his involvement with Old Roans must be assessed and I think it may fairly be judged on the fact that Reg has become a personal friend to the majority of us who regularly use the Club and sporting facilities at the Field. The smooth functioning of the Club Bar depends very much on the Groundsman's co-operation in accepting and signing for deliveries, ensuring that the cleaner is paid and, above all, taking the Club within the general security of the Field and the Pavilion when these are not in use. In this respect Reg has been an enthusiast and, for long periods, has accepted the onerous job of Bar Steward and has been a member of the O.R. Club Committee. All of us who have used the Bar over the past ten years owe him a debt of gratitude.

Equally, if not more, important is the help he has given to the Sports Clubs, both Football and Cricket. Here again we enjoy playing facilities on a "grace and favour" basis and we have derived a very great and very important indirect benefit from Reg Lentle's expertise as a Groundsman. I think it is true to say that the School Ground has never been better cared for and this care is reflected in the quality of the soccer pitches and the cricket wickets that are now available. The School, I am sure, must be appreciative of the state of the Field and we, the Old Boys, are equally appreciative and grateful for the use of pitches of such high quality. As a side issue many Old Roans, living locally, have sought Reg's help on matters horticultural and, here again, he has always been more than helpful. Many owe the present "lush" state of their lawns to the advice, sometimes drastic, given to them by Reg.

Although we have said farewell to Reg and Lynne they have only moved to St. Dunstan's School, at Catford, and still make regular visits to the Club. We hope they will continue to do so for many years to come and assure them they will always be welcome.

At this time it is apposite to welcome the new incumbent, Mr. Cyril Davies, together with his wife, Veronica. We hope that the present relationship between the Groundsman and the Old Boys can be continued and we assure Cyril that we, on our part, will do all that we can to make this effective.

OLD ROAN DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Our 50th Anniversary season saw the successful completion of two presentations: in November, "Blithe Spirit" which faced us with a number of staging problems, and another original pantomime "Rumpilstiltskin" which employed a large cast and played to crowded audiences on three nights.

In June, thanks to the hospitality of Maud and Lionel Berry who let us use their delightful garden, a large number of past and present members of the Society enjoyed a rare rainless evening reminiscing on past successes and planning future ones.

Plans for the winter season include another pantomime — less traditional than usual with more modern settings. It will be an original script as before and we hope it will meet with the success of its predecessors.

OF JOHN ROAN'S MEN

Our post-bag has produced a welcome quantity of correspondence since the last issue of the Chronicle and it is evidently fulfilling its function of keeping O.Rs. in touch.

To begin with more recent news first — we offer our congratulations to R.E.D. BISHOP (1936-1943) Kennedy Professor of Mechanical Engineering at University College, London on the award of the C.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. His younger brother H.J.D. BISHOP (1938-1945) is with the Ministry of Defence at Woolwich having spent most of his time since leaving school and doing National Service with the Royal Marines, travelling with the Merchant Navy.

As always, news of O.Rs. comes in from far and wide. Jerry SHEPHERD (1964-1971) writes to tell us that he has left London after many years and is now working as a physicist at the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment in Great Malvern. From the other end of southern England Don HENNING (1963-1970), who lives in Staplehurst, has "come home" to south-east London where he is Assistant Editor of the "Mercury" after spells on the "Surrey Daily Advertiser" in Guildford and the "Evening Chronicle" in Bath; he was married in August 1977 and now has a six-month-old daughter, Jennifer.

From further north, Ilkley in Yorkshire to be exact, we were delighted to hear from Alan MCGREGOR (1936-1943) — who we seem to remember had a lot more initials than that? After University at the end of the war he returned to the Navy for sixteen years, retiring early, in 1966. He went north to Leeds to teach at the College of Technology there and watch Leeds United (while worrying about Charlton Athletic) and daydream at Headingley

(while reading about Kent). He is now Head of Humanities at Leeds Polytechnic (and still worrying about Charlton Athletic). By a strange coincidence, the very day the last Chronicle reached him, his children came across a photograph of the Roan Football XI of 1942 in Ammanford. It will not reproduce very satisfactorily I'm afraid, but it pictures some familiar faces including Peter Williams and would recall many games against miners' teams with a bit of rugby thrown in from time to time. He will be glad to know that John Mitchell, George Witten, Kenneth Binnie and Lionel Berry, all of whom he enquired about, are carrying their years very well.

In February last, the O.R. "Fine Yartz Task Force", led by the Ayatollah Callaghani spearheaded a cultural invasion of Germany. They were met in Darmstadt by Kevin TODD (1960-1965) who is a computer operator with responsibilities for the satellite pictures that now appear regularly in television weather forecasts. Also there on a long weekend from Hanover where he also works with computers was Dave ELLIS (1967-72); he expects to be back for the Isle of Wight Cricket Tour which will hopefully include Steve GILLMAN (1965-1972) who is with the same computer agency as Dave and is hoping to work in Luxembourg soon.

Will EASTERLING (?-1965), previously reported as working in Brussels has been transferred to Toronto. Graham MATHEWS (1945-1952) formerly Assistant Manager at the St. Ives, Huntingdon, Branch of Barclays has been promoted to Manager at their Chatteris Branch.

Gordon SMITH (1926-1931), one of our Vice-Presidents was recently elected Vice-President of the Society of Company and Commercial Accountants.

Readers will have noticed advertisements in recent issues of the Chronicle for Berkman Restaurants; these appear thanks to Dan CALNAN (1958-1965) who is a Director of the Company.

From Paignton comes news of Clifford STIMPSON (1937-1944) who writes of his teaching associations with Les DOWNS (?-1937) at the King Edward VIth Comprehensive School, Totnes. Les retired last July after thirty-nine years.

John MITCHELL (Staff) is still editing his own old school's magazine in Cambridge where, he says, there are seven or eight O.Rs. He still runs seven miles every Saturday — many O.Rs. will recall his keen activities in Roan athletics.

Frank SWIFT (1934-1938) writes from Herne Hill where he moved from Tunbridge Wells. Apparently he was surprised to learn from the 'Chronicle' that Arthur HEWLETT (1914-1921) with whom he has been associated for some years, is also an O.R.!

Another unexpected meeting of O.Rs. is related by D.E. PHIPPS-JONES (1924-1931) who left teaching sixteen years ago and was ordained at Christ Church, Hatfield, to find there another O.R. and contemporary, John W. STOW

who had been installed as Rector a year previously. Eleven years ago he took oversight at Wheathampstead and now on retirement has moved there; the curate in the next parish is the son of the late Rector of Hatfield. He would welcome news of T.A. Ratcliffe and Bernard Fisher.

In a letter from W.F. (Bill) DINES (1916-1920) he recalls P.C. Escott whose death was reported in the November 78 Chronicle, and who was one of two gifted pianists during his years at School – the other being R.F. Cutbush. In those days it seems the School had a Nigger Minstrel Troupe that included such stars as 'Nobby' Crabb and 'Jumbo' Newberry. Is there any news of them?

P.J. BARNWELL (1923-1931) provided news of G.F. Franklin whose address we were seeking. He recalls being at Braithwaite first in 1927 and last in 1977 and is still a keen camper.

We would be interested to have copies of John SMITH'S (1933-1938) photos of the School Sports Day with Peter White, Brian Thomas and himself competing in the 100 yards, and of the undated cricket XI captained by Peter Trafford.

Francis GOLD (1924-1926) is anxious to acquire one of the old metal cap badges and one of the green blazers with the black edging. He writes with nostalgia of the days at Eastney Street with the Antient glowering at the assembly at lunch from his position on the stage before selecting a victim to come up and be harangued, more usually praised, for recent behaviour, and visiting Old Roans sometimes said a few words. He retired from the position of senior architect with the National Health Service in 1975.

H. LISTER (1916-1923) recalls meeting our Secretary's uncle and father at Roan. He may be interested to know that rugby was recently revived in a small way at the School but has not apparently flourished. We will bear in mind his experience of an exhibition of old photographs etc.

O.R. Sportsmen will be interested in news (via Bill Jordan, the former groundsman) that Tom Carter (another ex-groundsmen) arrived here in the U.K. at the end of May from New Zealand for a prolonged holiday.

Contemporaries may be interested to know that John HILLS (1951-1956) has been a Quality Assurance engineer with the British Gas Corporation since 1977; prior to that he was with the Ministry of Defence initially as a design draughtsman or weapons inspector but for more of the time as a Q.A. engineer on aircraft.

C.H. POTTER (1915-1921) writing with news of G.F. Franklin, remarks that his family now has three generations of Headmasters – W.J., himself, of Neale-Wade Comprehensive School from 1969-1972, and a relative C.F.R. Potter (not an O.R.) of Old Swinford Hospital School, Stourbridge.

We wish Harold COWIE (1926-1935) well in his retirement from school-mastering; he now lives in Chester which he recommends to any O.R.

contemplating a change of address. He would be glad to see any O.Rs. in or visiting the area, especially members of the 1924/5 1st Football XI or the hockey elevens between 1933 and 1935.

Charles E. CLOWSER (1914-1920) has sent us the menu card for the Association's Twelfth (sic) Annual Dinner held on 15th December 1923 at the Monico Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus. The Chairman was E.G. White, the Guest of the Evening A.E. Russell, M.D., F.R.C.P., and the toasts and responses were made by Mr. W.J. Potter, Mr. J. Ronald, Mr. T. Drysdale, Mr. S.R. Ducker and Mr. W. Poyser – a collection of famous names to be sure.

We are particularly pleased to hear news of Kurt BAC who was at the School during the – for him, difficult days of 1914/15. I say, "for him" because he, a German, was prevented from leaving England to return home by the outbreak of war and spent two years at Roan – of which he retains affectionate and treasured memories. He writes with genuine feeling of the fair treatment he received and demonstrates in the most human terms the value of associations formed at School between sometimes the most unlikely contemporaries. It is of peculiar interest that during his subsequent internment on the Isle of Man he was able to transmit through the good offices of the Commandant and the Swiss Legation the evidence of his schooling at Roan so that his was granted the Maturum in 1916. We send him and his wife the warmest greetings and good wishes and hope he will receive many more copies of the 'Chronicle'.

JOHN ROAN SCHOOL LODGE No. 5085

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

On Tuesday, 24th April last, the Lodge celebrated its Golden Jubilee; the Meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London and afterwards all sat down to dine at the Connaught Rooms. Just one hundred attended and among the many guests were the Worshipful Masters of the Borough of Greenwich Lodge (our Sponsor Lodge) and the Addey and Stanhope Lodge (our daughter Lodge) and the President of the Federation of School Lodges of which we are a Founder member.

R.W. Bro. Sir Austin Strutt, K.C.V.O., C.B., an Old Roan, was to dedicate a Bible Fall, designed and prepared for screen-printing by a member, Alan Penney (1948-1951), but illness prevented his attendance and his old school friend, Kenneth Binnie (1910-1921, Staff 1925-1967), also a member, read his prepared dedication in his absence. W. Bro. A.G. Robinson (1926-1933) gave the Golden Jubilee Oration, an excellent and well delivered oration, received by all with gratification. Our Master, W. Bro. A.C. Ellis (1938-1941) most ably assisted by his Officers, presided over the Lodge. Every year, apart from the war years, since the Lodge was consecrated fifty years ago, there has

been a new member to enter the Lodge but as yet no one has come forward for the coming year.

Two of our members have died during the past few months, W. Bro. T.E.C. Owen (1928-1933) and W. Bro. J.N. Spence (1919-1926); both took an active part in the work of the Lodge and Norman Spence in particular as Preceptor of the L.O.I. and Director of Ceremonies.

The next Meeting of the Lodge is the Installation Meeting on Tuesday, 23rd October when W. Bro. A.C. Ellis will instal his successor Brian R. Thomas (1933-1939) who, in turn, will appoint his Officers for the ensuing year. All meetings are held on Tuesdays, being the fourth Tuesday in October, November, February and April, at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London WC2. Should any Old Roan be interested in joining the Lodge, will he please contact any member, or the Secretary, as above.

The Lodge of Instruction meets on Tuesday evenings, September to May, under the very able and instructive guidance of our Preceptors at the Roan School Sports Pavilion — further details may be had from W. Bro. V.T.J. Penfold, 11 Studland Road, Hanwell, W.7.

The Ladies Festival will be held on Saturday, 27th October next at the Forest Hill Banqueting Suite, when our Master, Tony Ellis and his Lady, will receive their Guests. Previous Festivals have been held there and a very enjoyable and happy evening is anticipated. Further information may be had from W. Bro. R.L. Harmer, (1934-1939) 6 Chesterfield Drive, Chipstead, Sevenoaks, Kent.

JOHN ROAN SCHOOL CHAPTER No. 5085

The September convocation was devoted to Installing the Principals and to the investiture of the officers for 1978-1979.

Regular Convocations are held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London WC2., on the fourth Tuesday in May and June and the fourth Monday in September, Companions and Old Roan Masons interested in joining the Chapter should contact the Secretary: A.J. Jarrett, 90 Chislehurst Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 0DN, 'phone Orpington 26557.

BIRTHS

ALLEN	—	to Freda, wife of Michael Allen (1966-1971) on 9th February 1979, a son, Matthew Dominic.
BARKER	—	to Jeanette, wife of Keith Barker (1964-1971) on 11th March 1979, a daughter, Katy.
HEDGES	—	to Jackie, wife of Roger Hedges (1958-1965) on 1st November 1978, a son, Robert Dennis.

DEATHS

BROWN, A.H.T.	(1931-1937)	on 5th July 1978.
FOWLES, T.N.	(1928-1933)	on 13th March 1979.
OPPER, C.J.	(1919-1926)	on 23rd May 1978.
SOPER, S.G.	(1901-1903)	in 1975.
SPENCE, J.N.	(1919-1926)	on 1st February 1979.
STRUTT, Sir Austin, K.C.V.O., C.B.,	(1914-1921)	on 2nd May 1979.

OBITUARIES

NORMAN SPENCE

Norman Spence, more affectionately known as Jimmy, was a gentle man. He had suffered for some years from heart trouble, but he never allowed it to distract him from his responsibilities which he took very seriously, particularly those connected with his position of Preceptor of the John Roan School Lodge where his primary interests lay for the past several years and where his gentle firmness and respect for tradition — both applied with a keen sense of humour, will be sadly missed. His qualities of good humour and concern for others were fully shared by his wife Peggy with whom, in spite of formidable difficulties and considerable discomfort, he used to visit patients in Lewisham Hospital not otherwise blessed with visitors, bringing their own particular brand of cheerfulness and friendship.

Jimmy was President of the Association in 1958/59, an honour well earned by a long-term devotion to Old Roan affairs and interests. He was for many years a member of the Old Roan Dramatic Society, and its Secretary for a time; he rarely forgot a line or a movement and lent a quiet distinction to every play he took part in.

There are too few like him for him to be easily spared.

SIR AUSTIN STRUTT, K.C.V.O., C.B.,

Austin Strutt was a member of the first Vith form in the School which he attended from 1914 to 1921. He won a scholarship to Magdalen College, Oxford, where he took a first class degree. He served in the Home Office from 1925 to 1961, rising to the rank of Deputy Under Secretary, and was an authority on matters concerning Royalty and ceremonial: it was he who signed the proclamations of accession for both King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II. He was a Gentleman Usher to the Queen from whom he received the personal honour of K.C.V.O. in 1953. His many and varied interests included the Chairmanship of the Council of Voluntary Welfare Work and Freemasonry in which he was a Past Junior Warden of Grand Lodge.

His death removes a very distinguished member from the ranks of Old Roans.

T.N. FOWLES

T.N. Fowles, more familiarly known as Chick to his many O.R. friends, was a noted sportsman in his day and his memory will remain fresh in the minds of O.R. cricketers and footballers of earlier years. He was a senior officer of Customs & Excise and served for the last part of his career at Dover when, following his retirement, he devoted his spare time to gardening and golf. Many O.Rs. will have met him on their journeys to and from the Continent and learn of his passing with sincere regret.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

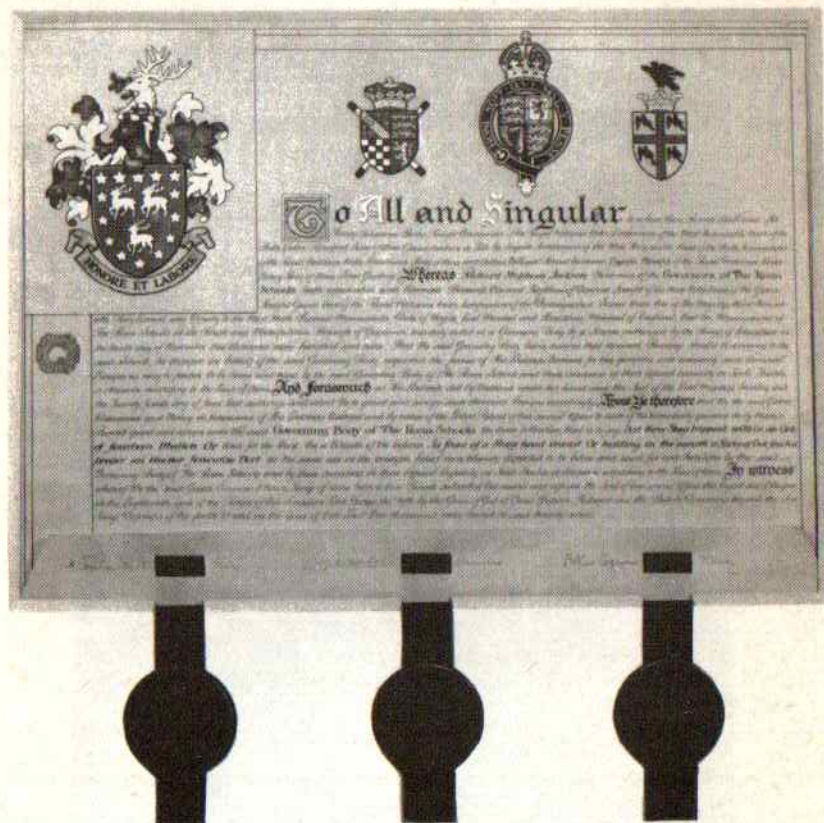
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|---------------------------|---|
| 8th – 22nd September 1979 | : O.R. Braithwaite Camp.
Details from Tony Slaney (O.R. Secretary -
see inside front cover) or Alan Palmer
(42 Elliscombe Road, Charlton SE7 7PY). |
| 19th October 1979 | : O.R.A. Dinner at the Pavilion, the School
Field. |
| 22nd March 1980 | : O.R.A. Dinner and Dance at the Surrey
Tavern, Kennington Oval. |
| 28th March 1980 | : Annual General Meeting at the Pavilion,
the School Field. |

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THE WARRANT FOR THE SCHOOL CREST
(See pages 14 - 15)

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