



# OLD ROAN

## *Chronicle*

Vol. I No. 6

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## OLD ROAN ASSOCIATION

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No 6

March 1980

### FROM THE EDITOR

The Association's Annual General Meeting will be held at the Pavilion on the School Field at 8 p.m. on FRIDAY 28th MARCH, and it is to be hoped that a large number of members will attend. It will be an important, not to say historic occasion, the main item of business being to consider a new draft constitution for an association of former pupils of the Roan Schools, which has been drawn up to provide for the John Roan School of the future.

The importance of this document cannot be overstressed. A fundamental change is in progress in the status of both the Boys and Girls Schools and the Old Roan Association must change to take account of it, if it is not to become moribund and eventually die away altogether. Besides having much to offer to the Old Roans of the future, the Association is the repository of much of the long and distinguished traditions of the schools of the John Roan Foundation, and these can best be kept alive and fostered by a new Association that grows naturally out of the old one.

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It is gratifying to get so much favourable feed-back to issues of the Chronicle. It is the work of many hands which reflects the many activities of the Association. We are fortunate in having the Clubroom which is not simply financially helpful, but affords a focus for personal contacts for which the Chronicle is no substitute; but only comparatively few members can take advantage of its facilities and it is important therefore that O.R.s keep in touch with the Secretary so that individuals' news that is usually of wide interest can be broadcast.

Floreat Roana!



From the similar list in the July 1979 Chronicle I have the addresses of D.G. Minter ('53 — '61), G.J. Moore ('63 — '68) and L.P. Petty ('29 — '35) again. Whilst mentioning addresses I would like to draw members attention to my own change of address and telephone number which is now as appears on the inside of the front cover of this edition.

A matter that cannot be put off much longer is the rate of subscriptions. In the last edition of the Chronicle it was reported that the Association incurred a deficit of £482 for the year ended 31st December 1978. The major cost is the Chronicle and it appears necessary to increase the subscriptions to at least £2 per annum. However it seems likely that a figure of £2 will only just cover today's costs and would not be sufficient even in two years time. In order that the high number of members who pay by Bankers' Orders will not have to adjust their payments twice in a short time it has been suggested that the current rate may be held for another year or two and then increased to £3. I do not expect that a request for donations from life members will be made for several years but a number of life members voluntarily pay the equivalent of ordinary members subscriptions. If any life member wishes to make donations on this basis I shall be pleased to supply Bankers' Order forms.

The last of the tercentenary ties was sold at the annual dinner held in October 1979, but star salesman must be Tim Leask ('66 — '73) who sold at least a dozen Association ties. In stock are wide ties costing £2 and ordinary narrow versions at £1, both plus 15p postage.

A final reminder. The annual general meeting will take place on 28th March 1980 at the Pavilion; see separate notice. I hope as many Old Roans as possible will come along for both the meeting and the informal reunion that precedes it.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### 1. The John Roan School. 1980 — ?

In 1643 Mr. Roan left "an estate in houses ..... for teaching twenty boys reading, writing and arithmetic and allowing £2 for each boy's clothing, these wear grey coats."

(Halstead. "History of Kent" 1778)

The value of Mr. Roan's bequest appreciated considerably and by 1874, 320 boys were receiving free education in two schools, of whom 70 were being clothed, and the local National Girls' School was also benefiting from the funds of the Roan foundation. But other things, besides the value of property were changing; State Education came into being and the London School Board began its work of instructing the poor in 1871. So, in Greenwich, the work of the Roan Schools Foundation was duplicated by the State and the Roan Schools closed in 1874. For three years the Foundation had scholars but no schools — for every boy on roll at the time of closure had his education paid for at any public elementary school in Greenwich for as long as he would have continued at the Roan School.

In 1877 two new schools were opened to provide a higher class of secondary education, in Eastney Street for boys, at Devonshire Drive for Girls; the provision of clothing ceased and more than half the places were for fee-paying pupils. This change was not without its opponents who felt that "the real intention of the donor has unquestionably been set aside".

(William Howarth "History of Greenwich" 1882. William Howarth was either the Head of the boys' School when it closed in 1874, or his son).

On August 31st, 1980 the Roan Schools will close again but this time they will re-open on the following day joined with one another, and with the former Charlton School, as The John Roan School. This time the changes involved for the pupils will be far less dramatic, in fact we hope that they will be almost unaware of them. The main differences are that there will be one mixed school and that, over the next few years, all the work will be transferred to the Maze Hill area, to the former Roan Boys' School and the new building in Westcombe Park Road. There will be a 'new' uniform so that all pupils of the one school wear the one uniform and this will be introduced gradually as present clothes wear out: the differences are not great, black and green remain the predominant colours and the stag's head badge is retained.

The new building which will house the 1st, 2nd and 3rd years of the School is nearing completion. It stands in more spacious grounds than the Maze Hill building and several netball/basketball courts, cricket and football practice areas, facilities for high jump and long jump as well as a small ecological area are included in the site. Unfortunately it will not be ready for occupation for September 1980 when it was intended to receive the new first year intake. For the time being these girls and boys will have to be accommodated at the Devonshire Drive and Maze Hill buildings respectively and they will transfer to Westcombe Park Road sometime during the academic year.

Meanwhile a great deal of preparation work is going on. Work has begun on the time table for 1980/81. This is the task of the second Deputy Head, Mr. D. Billington. It is a very complex business because, for that year, the school will comprise some 600 boys at Maze Hill, 140 at Maryon Park (the former Charlton School) and about 500 girls at Devonshire Drive. Every effort is being made to ensure that pupils continue their courses undisturbed with, as far as possible, the teachers they are used to, and that Staff movement between buildings is kept to a minimum.

On the other hand we are anxious to develop the sense of unity and common purpose in the John Roan School, and Staff are already seeking to achieve this. Those charged with pastoral care in the new School gave a week end in January to attend a residential conference to plan their share of the work and a similar conference for the majority of the staff is planned for June.



So, to some extent the School will change its character in September (by no means for the first time) but the association of the name of John Roan with education in the Borough of Greenwich will be maintained despite the immense changes in ideas about education which have taken place since his bequest 337 years ago.

A.J.T.

## 2. GOINGS ON

“Ye curious carpet knights, that spend the time in sport and play,  
Abroad, and see new sights, your country’s cause calls you away.”

Humphrey Gifford (1550-1600)

We have, in the past, spent much time dealing with the sporting achievements of the school and little on the more cultural activities. Let me amend that.

In the Autumn Term the School presented “Oh What a Lovely War” — a monumental undertaking. The Staff and Pupils were undaunted, however, and throughout the term rehearsed nightly to ensure that the play would be a success. There were twenty six members of staff actively involved, either in acting itself or in the lighting, staging, sound, art work, costumes or whatever. Rehearsals in the Hall had all the appearances of a chaotic assembly with over one hundred participants.

The country’s cause became the school’s cause and whilst the work of teaching carried on normally the “War Effort” was always in evidence — a dozen tin helmets in the Dining Room, choruses of soprano voices at Break and bemused members of staff somnambulantly learning lines.

The First or Great War is dim and distant history for little boys living in the late 1970’s — the message must never be forgotten, of course — but how to maintain its force is not an easy task. The idea of didactic drama is not immediately appealing — but a story of carnage, incompetence, class differences and conscience can be enlightening when told through the songs and documents of the period. The aim is to entertain and inform, in that order. So the story unfolded and the lamps went out all over Europe; they came up again on the Roan School stage!

The music was provided by Steve Dagg and Bill Ellis. Three tyros from the fourth and fifth performed beautifully and held the numerous scenes together. The complex sound and lighting effects added to the images presented on stage and at times, one did believe that those British Tommies were “going over the top” — Alfie Knott as the Gergeant-Major had total authenticity. In a term in which he was also Acting-Headmaster one can only wonder at the energy of the man.

The play was produced by Fiona Weston — the new Head of Drama — she inspired us all; not an easy task when dealing with errant first years, lively fourth years, tired teachers and the Acting-Head. She also performed in the big number. The female members of Staff have, by their very existence, enabled us to reach new dramatic heights — it is good at last to see real women on the stage.

This term the School intends to present four one-act plays — not, as in the past, in a competitive form but as a festival. The four Houses have rallied their talents and soon work will begin. All boys are eligible and it is refreshing to see the interest and enthusiasm of big and small boys alike. Music now plays a big part in these productions and Staff are always willing to give of their time to ensure success.

Despite the uncertainty and disturbance caused by amalgamation the spirit of the School still shines and morale is high. It is going to be through these corporate activities that we will maintain the valuable old traditions and create new ones.

Sport continues to play a big role in the school — we run all the normal eleven and often ‘B’ sides as well. The 5th and 6th Forms have combined to form a Rugby XV and have occasional matches — they held the Staff XV to an honourable draw (6 - 6) and could have won if one of the team had not mistaken the “25” (or is it 22?) for the goal-line!

This term the Staff said fond goodbyes to two stalwart teachers and friends — Bill Ellis and Bob Hoare. Their influence, experience and skills will be missed. They have both taken early retirement and we trust that they will find fulfilment in rewarding activities. They have wide-ranging interests and should have little trouble in filling their days. Perhaps they will be able to help us learn how to educate the present generation in the pursuit of leisure.

The out-of-school activities we help promote are designed to enable boys (and girls of the future) to enrich their lives. The problems facing this and every society can be resolved and it is in schools like ours that it must be done. This may sound cliché-ridden but we take the task seriously. Early in January some eleven members of Staff of the new school spent a weekend in residence in Chislehurst hammering out the Pastoral side of the job facing us in the new school. Apart from the Academic work we need to cater for all the needs of young men and women growing up in the 1980’s. To have seen a play performed by vast numbers of boys and staff may have helped to instil values that will hold good in the future.

“The wisdom of a learned man cometh by opportunity of leisure”  
Ecclesiasticus XXXVIII 24



## THE OLD ROAN CLUB

If you take the trouble to re-read the Old Roan Club reports, published in previous issues of this magazine, there is little doubt you will observe a degree of repetition verging upon boredom. This report, unfortunately, is no exception to the rule.

Since June 1979 the Club has continued to provide a facility to members and, at the same time, has achieved a steady turnover and profit ratio that does much to assist and stabilise the finances of the Association. The bar sales for the year 1979 amounted to £14,300 and gave a gross profit of over £2450. There is, of course, extraneous income from the 'Fruit Machine' and, on the debit side, the day to day running costs for cleaning, heating, lighting and miscellaneous repairs etc. Despite the continued trend of inflation we have managed to keep the Bar prices to a very reasonable level for not only are we a lot cheaper than all pubs but we are also a little cheaper than most clubs. This Utopia of low prices and adequate profits is not the result of a miracle (nor do our own particular brand of fairies own wands of great potency) but it is the result of all the hard work put into the Club by the General Committee and by those members who give voluntary service behind the bar. I hope it will not be considered invidious to, once again, refer to the tremendous amount of work put in by the present Steward, Neal Haslam, who seems to have a never ending list of jobs designed to improve the facilities we all enjoy.

On the practical side we have recently installed additional heating in the 'new' bar and have also purchased a new 'Fruit Machine'. Both of these innovations appear to be much appreciated. There are still some repairs and renovations requiring urgent attention, particularly sections of the floor tiling badly damaged by the passage of the metal beer casks. This work will be carried out, in the immediate future, and the usual efforts will be made to maintain the standards that the Club has always enjoyed.

I must, as usual, make a plea for additional volunteers to do the occasional bar turn. This service, so vital and fundamental to the successful operation of the Bar, is still undertaken by relatively few members and we are reaching the stage where even the most willing horse can be overtaken. So, please, if you are not already committed to helping behind the Bar, do give this problem a little thought and see what you, personally, can do to assist us.

You will read, in this magazine, details of the impending merger of the Old Roan Association and the Old Roan Girls' Association. Such a merger will impinge upon the rules and administration of the Old Roan Club but I do not foresee any major problems in this respect. The Club Committee is very appreciative of the changes that will result from this merger and, provided they are dealt with sensibly, these changes will surely be of great benefit to the Club and to the members.

In conclusion may I take this opportunity of thanking the Officers, the members of the General Committee, and our voluntary bar staff for their efforts during the past year and express the hope that, with a little bit of luck, we shall do even better in 1980.

F.P.B.

## OLD ROAN CRICKET CLUB

Hon. Sec: H. Henning, 129 Kempton Walk, Shirley, Surrey. (tel: 777 9600)

### FIRST XI

Captains — Saturday: C. Rodwell  
Sunday: P. Williams

The summer of 1979 is unlikely to linger in the memory. We finished with a credit balance of wins against losses, but almost half the games were drawn — and as many as nine were cancelled. The complete analysis reads:

		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Cancelled
SATURDAY	League	9	3	3	3	3
	Others	11	2	6	3	1
SUNDAY		17	7	8	2	5
TOTAL		37	12	17	8	9

It was also a colourless season. For the first time within recall no bowler took fifty wickets; and, as in 1978, no batsman achieved a four figure aggregate. Two centuries (Chris Rodwell & Graham Lawrence) were scored, but, with due respect, the opposition in each case was scarcely first-class. Our league performance — indeed, our Saturday record generally — can only be described as mediocre, for which there are reasons.

Our problems (on Saturdays) were highlighted before a ball was bowled. Graham Townsend — arguably the most successful batsman of the past decade — and Terry Barry (likewise bowler; certainly all-rounder) decided to sample the atmosphere of the undoubtedly superior South Thames League and threw in their combined lot with near-neighbours Blackheath Wanderers. They continued to play for the O.Bs. in Sunday fixtures. In 1978 TRB (85) took more than twice as many wickets as the next most successful bowler, and with a combined aggregate of 1500 runs they had proved to be the cream of our batting. Small wonder we struggled last summer.

Chris Rodwell took over as skipper from GT and learned quickly what it was all about. To his great credit he did not allow his new role to affect his personal game and in the restricted league programme headed both batting and bowling lists; in retrospect he may have under-bowled himself — but for that to be offered as a criticism is churlish. Nasir Khan was almost equally productive at No. 3, and the find of the season was Mark Squire who in seven league knocks scored two fifties, bowled occasionally (with considerable haste) and whilst very much "his own man" certainly added a touch of colour. But in the restless search for replacements we offered opportunities to 28 different players in nine league games — and this smacked of desperation. We need to strive for a settled side.



Few of the Saturday fixtures produced any memorable feats, but one game was eagerly anticipated.... the clash with Blackheath Wanderers, with Roan supplying 60% of the playing strength! Chris Rodwell set the tempo by hitting the stumps with his first ball, and repeating the trick in his opening over. This brought in TRB to join GT — but not for long. The bowlers remained very much on top, and we were set 91 to win. This we managed for the loss of 7 wickets, thanks to a resolute unbeaten 30 from Dan Calnan, who, with Chris, had earlier bowled beautifully. A victory to be savoured.... but in the main it was left to the (admittedly stronger) Sunday XI to fly the flag. Stable in composition and strong in batting — at least on paper — they overcame the frustrations of early season cancellations and often looked a good side. Indeed it was September before the colours were lowered, first at Gravesend and again at Walthamstow in the final match. The first thirteen games produced five wins and eight draws, and an indication perhaps of the lack of a match-winning bowler.... but perversely it was poor batting which contributed to the two losses.

This is not to say that we were never close to defeat earlier in the season. We struggled against the Rabbits, but denied them victory, and lost 6 wickets for 70 before lunch at Warlingham. Terry Barry and Graham Lawrence then stayed whilst 96 were added and we reached the calm waters of 200 and even declared. When the reply reached 180 - 4 it began to look as though the declaration had been premature, but an exciting game ended with Warlingham 192 - 9, and a fine double of 83 and 5 for 62 from TRB. Our customary thriller with Bromley could have gone either way — and also ended with our needing to capture the tenth wicket. At Bexley we batted second and came within ten runs of matching their 236 — seven wickets down in each innings. It was however a new fixture at Holmesdale that produced the tightest finish. We bowled them out for 99 and, not surprisingly, fancied our chances. At 61 - 7 we were somewhat less confident.... 77 - 8.... 94 - 9.... and at 98 (left-handers Williams & Spink in occupation and oozing confidence?) the skipper embarked upon a sixth-ball single and was involved in a photo-finish as cover scored a direct hit on the bowler's wicket. The decision went in the batsman's favour, and next ball he was dropped at first slip, the unfortunate bowler (8 for 38) almost having a seizure. After which the winning run was an anticlimax. We achieved rather more convincing wins over Reigate Pilgrims & Broomhills, to everyone's satisfaction.

The credits follow :—

#### BATTING

	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Average	100/50	
C. Rodwell	30	1	853	29.4	1	5
T. Barry	13	3	291	29.1	-	2
N. Khan	32	2	856	28.5	-	6
G. Lawrance	29	6	622	27.0	1	3
J. Broadfoot	24	4	523	26.1	-	1
G. Townsend	13	—	311	23.9	-	3
M. Squire	21	5	368	23.0	-	3
J. Russon	15	3	262	21.8	-	1
R. Dale	17	3	297	21.2	-	1

#### BOWLING

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average	5+ wkts/inns
C. Rodwell	129	38	290	21	13.8	1
G. Lawrance	265	68	692	47	14.7	1
T. Barry	230	48	580	38	15.2	2
B Hamer	290	58	942	47	20.0	2
F. Spink	309	56	1044	48	21.7	1

May I conclude by expressing my personal thanks coupled with those of the Club to Cyril Davies for all his work on our behalf.



## A LOOK BACK ON THE SEVENTIES .... OR "Was it really that long ago..?"

In the course of compiling the foregoing report I allowed myself to ponder the popular occupation of all cricket-lovers — that of picking "Best XIs" — in this instance the "best O.R. XI of the seventies" .... and should you wish to play the game I shall presume to help you a little with a brief nostalgic review of the last ten years.

Beginning in 1970, we won 23 of the 47 games played and Joe Broadfoot opened up a huge lead in the run race, setting a new record with 1544, followed by Terry Barry (741), Graham Chambers, Graham Townsend, John Huntley, Ken Farrer (one day), Colin Moore, Alan Dawe, Peter Williams & Dan Calnan. The corresponding list of wicket-takers reads: TRB (98), Chris Wyton, Huntley, Calnan, Chambers, John Williams & Ron Parker. This year Del Dreher took the last of his 292 wickets, and Ray Hutchins made his final appearance of an all too brief career. Roger Dale & Brian Hamer had just arrived. Having set the scene and presented the cast, we can move on through the decade....

1971 is remembered for an orgy of run-making and only four defeats in 48 games. Graham T, Joe and Ken each made over a thousand runs — the last named, who subsequently played only a handful of games, scoring his in Sunday matches only, for an average of 63! Barry, Huntley & Calnan together contributed a further 2500. On the bowling front, Fred Spink made an unpretentious debut, Brian Hamer began to show his hand, but TRB (91), Wyton & Calnan were the backbone.

The following year saw Hamer to the fore with 86 wickets, Barry & Chambers also exceeding fifty. Ron Parker reappeared briefly, and Chris Rodwell played for the first time. No batsman quite managed the magical thousand — 998 for TRB, with Townsend, Huntley, Williams (P) and Colin Moore (in his farewell summer) all scoring 500 plus. John Williams subsequently made only token appearances.

League cricket was introduced in 1973, and in the first three years we promised much but finished indifferently for 4th, 3rd & 4th places. Joe Broadfoot topped the run-getters with a hat-trick of thousands — joined in '73 & '74 by John Huntley and in '75 by Chris Rodwell. Terry claimed exactly 100 wickets in '73 and 116 in '75. In the intervening year Fred Spink, with 87, beat him by three. Brian Hamer completed the leading trio. Chambers departed after 1973, and Huntley the following year which also saw H.J. Townsend's last innings (on tour) for the club.

1976-7-8 saw GT take over from Joe at the top, and in the first of those years he annexed the record with 1594 runs. He again scored a thousand in '77, but no-one has achieved it since. Chris Rodwell took over second place, Calnan, Barry & Broadfoot continued to contribute materially, and newcomers to the 500-club were Roger Dale ('76) and Nasir Khan ('77) in which year Graham Lawrence demonstrated his all-round ability. Fred Spink took a hundred wickets for the first time in '76, but conceded top spot to TRB again during the next two years.

And so to 1979, with Khan just three runs ahead of Rodwell, and Spink, Hamer & Lawrence separated by a single wicket.

During this span we won 197 games and lost 92. We can surely take heart, which is not to say we can afford to be complacent. And what about that "Best XI"? I have I am sure mentioned by name all the contenders.... for purposes of selection it is usual to regard them as being at their peak (appearance in the seventies being the necessary qualification). I have picked mine — and the batting order is just one further problem. I hope you have some fun making your choice.

## WANTED

If you are reading this you are presumably interested in cricket.  
It is therefore possible you might care to offer your services as an umpire....

## UMPIRES

If so, we should be most grateful, whether it be on a regular or an occasional basis. Please contact the Hon. Sec., H. Henning.  
Ring.....

777 9600

## SATURDAY 2nd XI

Captain: V. Lawrence

I stood for the captaincy in 1977 mainly because I felt that talented young blood was not being encouraged in the right way, and the club was suffering. Looking through the scorebooks since one immediately notices names such as Graham Lawrence, Mark Squire and Len Sales.... not inconsiderable additions in three years to the 1st XI.

In 1980 I suggest that middle-order batsmen like John Hardy and Mike Baxter, and bowlers Fred Fuhr, Ian Daniels and perhaps Steve Dagg will be pushing for places in the 1st XI also.



Alas, after three years, having failed to display the leadership qualities of a Brearley or an Illingworth, it is felt that I should concern myself primarily with opening the innings and so make way for new ideas and different attitudes. At this point I would like to wish Graham Johnson, my welcome successor, the very best of luck in 1980, and assure him of my continued and dedicated support.

In conclusion the results for 1979 :-

Played 19 Won 4 Drawn 9 Lost 6

#### SUNDAY 2nd XI

Captain: R. A. Stanbridge

Owing to a wet start to the season, when only one game of the first five was played, and an early end to our fixtures in September, only 15 games were played, resulting in 5 wins, 4 defeats and 6 draws. The batting was usually adequate, but the bowling lacked penetration and all five victories were achieved batting second, as we were able to bowl out the opposition only once all season.

All the usual batting stalwarts played their part, Viv Lawrence scoring fifties against Britannic House and Spencer, Bryan Endersbee against Ashford and Hayes. Martin Hooker, Geoff Sawyer and Del Baxter each produced valuable innings at critical times. Michael Baxter, on the few occasions he was available, scored 200 runs in four innings and also ran himself out at 98 against West Kent Wanderers.... If only he had been available throughout the summer! The wickets were shared by Rod Stanbridge, Dave Carter, Keith Barron, Brian Burton and a welcome recruit from Saturday, Fred Fuhr. Looking towards the future it was good to see Keith Barron developing as a slow bowler, and Stuart Williams playing out the last over with 9 wickets down against Kenley.

Perhaps the highlight of the season occurred with not a little drama in the last game of the season. Granby batted first and scored 160 - 7. We were soon in trouble, entering the final 20 overs at 30 - 4, Simon Perry and Del Baxter at the crease. Simon chose the moment to score his maiden fifty, ending probably his best ever season (only Mike Baxter scored more than his 284 runs). Len Sales replaced Simon with 40 needed from five overs and hit a whirlwind 26, winning the match in the last over. Meanwhile the "Bear" had, in the course of running more quick singles than for many a year, moved serenely on to 45 not out. It is on this note we look forward in anticipation to 1980.

#### SUNDAY 3rd XI

Captain: T. Leask

The 3rd XI won only three matches, with an equal number of defeats and the balance drawn — a disappointing season.

Tim Leask, captaining a side for the first time, found as have others before him that the job poses many problems, especially with such a young team. The

bowling line-up lacked both experience and depth and relied much upon Kevin Cheesman (24 wickets in nine matches). Alan Goodyear in his first season has the ability to move the ball both ways but at the moment is too wayward in length and direction. A third steady seamer was badly missed; Peter Ellis and Len Sales were used in this capacity with varying success, and in the slow department Keith Weaver and Mike Callaghan proved somewhat expensive. Tim, however, led by example in the field and rarely failed with the bat, scoring 220 runs (average 22). Len Sales (aggregate 250 plus), Peter Ellis and Steve Dixon all made good scores without being consistent. In the second half of the season Kevin Cheesman moved up the order and, together with John Stanford, considerably stiffened the middle-batting.

The most satisfactory performance was a four wicket victory over the strong Addington Village side, chasing 179.... thanks to Jimmy Russon "guesting" for his 78 runs. Mike Callaghan resumes the captaincy in 1980, and if Ian Clatworthy and another medium-pacer can be persuaded to play then the nucleus of last year's side should enjoy a greater measure of success.

The Isle of Wight Tour took place in July (for the 22nd consecutive year) and fortunately the weather relented and allowed all matches to be played without interruption. Hopefully the 23rd will take place in 1980.

#### FOOTBALL CLUB

Secretary: G J Sawyer, 18 Beaconsfield Close, Blackheath SE3

A keen fit youth, having recently left the protective confines of the School, a lad who is used to getting the ball when he kicks it into touch, one who makes it his business to find out when and where he is due to play, a civil type who calls three cheers at the end of the game and thanks the referee, might find himself submitted to one of these extracts from pre-match talks;

- 1st. XI (tense, serious, eager, keen) "C'mon lads. Tuck in tight when they break; Midfield, don't forget the diagonals. Go at 'em and have a go. The keeper's spaso. I'm taking the penalties".
- 2nd. XI (All in the same kit) "Where are they in the League? They must be rubbish. What's the defence this week? Who wants to play midfield? Are we allowed two subs? The ref is a very nice man; we're on first name terms already".
- 3rd. XI (Happy) "Stick the ball in the back of the net. Harpo, have you got the pies"?
- 4th. XI (Sober) "Once more unto the breach....."
- 5th. XI (Relaxed, contented, knowing) "Welcome son, our average age last week was 34. You're doing the running. Who's going ref in the second half? Did you hear the one....."



The football Section offers a diversity of levels in its five sides, and we have this year gratefully received an intake of skilful and potentially excellent players. There must be, though, a number of boys who could fit well into the lower sides and who never appear to reach us. Given close liaison with the School there should be a way in which we can capture the milk with the cream. It is interesting to imagine how a young player new to us sees our administration as it huddles in a corner of the clubroom possibly playing out its old pal's act. In reality committee meetings so far this season have not proved easy. Within two months there were eight players of good 1st or 2nd XI standing genuinely not available. The 1st team is the only side picked with the luxurious freedom of choice. They have used 16 players in 20 matches. The 2nd XI have used 42 in 18. This tale of woe is felt with increasing agony as selection runs through. A young player, or a more mature model, in consequence may well find himself moved around the teams, or be substitute after playing well the week before.

The old hand may offer consolation but it does no harm to explain what is necessary throughout the season in order that matches can be played. For all the sides, League meetings must be attended, pitches must be booked, teams picked and players contacted, reports written and hearings attended after disagreements with the referee. Kit must be washed then packed and bagged up. Unfortunately footballs need inflating, referees have to be paid, and subs collected. The youngster with the rest of us returns the following week and the noble event takes place again. It is a mistake to take for granted, and no bad thing to realise that a Club like ours does not run itself on automatic. Hopefully our aspiring lad will in time come to play an increasingly active role.

The young players in our 1st XI (London Spartan League, Intermediate Division I) find themselves in a Division which has no outstanding team. The League is there to be won. In the main the lads are overcoming their experience of ultimate success in Schoolboy Soccer and are coming to terms with the Man's game. The defence in particular has been consistent this season and probably remains the most effective department.

The 2nd XI (London Spartan League, Intermediate Division II) has had a checkered season to date. Their league standing is sound, but having won the League Intermediate Reserve Cup held over from last season found themselves knocked out of three competitions by mid-December. Again the defence is secure, but at times it has seemed that selection would lead to a move away with the Company, emigration, or at best, injury. With signs of a more settled pool of players even better times could be around the corner. Team spirit is good and the side has an identity which in recent seasons has not always been obvious. Yet it remains that only one player has taken part in all the games.

It is a fact that the remaining Old Roan teams invariably play other clubs 1st or

2nd XIs. Our 3rd XI (South London Alliance Division I) was relegated last season yet still finds itself pitted against strong opposition. They have undoubtedly suffered from the higher XIs' losses of one description or another. The inspired leadership will have to work the oracle if another drop is to be avoided.

Our 4th XI (Bromley & District Division I) has had in its own terms a "rather lean" season. They have been subject to wholesale removals of their players, strong opposition, new teams entering the League in the wrong division and even "bad luck". No one appears to have played below himself, and several established men have simply not been available. It is immensely difficult to organise a constantly changing side as results suggest. Players returning from abroad or injury should restore a measure of both balance and consistency. The spirit is definitely willing.

The 5th XI seems paradoxically to be the side least affected by the ills already outlined. Regulars from past seasons remain the regulars of this. The team's strengths are reliability and perseverance, and in recent weeks a goalkeeper. Results have improved and a better second half of the season is anticipated.

No pen can capture the experience of being in one of our teams, but there would be none were it not for the backroom activities undertaken by G. Sawyer, I Clatworthy, F. Fuhr or M. Titheridge. All the players will wish to thank V Brooker for his tea, kit, footballs and financial skill. The higher XIs are indebted to C. Davies and his groundstaff for preparing true surfaces on what, in our area must be the most used pitches over a season. Most important to our young friend as he stands in the Bar talking to teammates, unable to recognise the game under discussion, he can relax and be served by 'Buster' Roe and Bryan Coshell for whom we are all thankful. Our newcomer might wish to avoid the rest of the Committee; 5th XI M. West, 4th XI N. Potter, 3rd XI J. Broadfoot Snr, 2nd XI B. Thomas and 1st XI C. Davies.

And should the lad survive to the end of the season, it is written;

"If you can fill the unforgiving game  
with 90 minutes worth of running  
Yours is the Bar and everything that's in it,  
and — which is more — you'll be....."



## OF JOHN ROAN'S MEN

As always, news of Old Roans comes in from far and wide; but to begin near home.... NORMAN LEACH (58-65), and a recently joined member of the Association, is running his own business (Greenwich Machines and Typewriters — the significance of the initials will surely be immediately apparent) in Trafalgar Road, just opposite the swimming baths; as it happens, the original copy for this section of the Chronicle was typed on a machine that he serviced — very satisfactorily too. GMT covers an area within a thirty-mile radius of Greenwich and copes with office machinery as well as typewriters. TONY SLANEY (59-66) our hard-working Secretary has passed the Institute of Bankers examinations to become A.I.B.; he is currently working for a Head Office department of Barclays Bank at their Lombard Street office. (Will members please note his new home address inside the front cover of this issue).

Recent issues of the Chronicle, having caught up with GEORGE FRANKLIN (09-16), he has some kind words to say about it that are appreciated. Following George Witten's remarks in a recent issue about the School's masters of the 1910s and 1920s, he recalls W.E.M. Llewellyn, 'Froggy' to most, as among those to whom he is indebted. His instruction was not always the easiest to follow perhaps, and his temperament was mercurial, but his knowledge seemed encyclopaedic and he was a man of wide interests — not least in the advancement of child welfare.

KEITH BILES (59-66) with his wife and small son, is at present living and working in Manila. KEITH SILCOX (60-68) recently moved with his wife to Spain where he expects to stay for a couple of years. A.J. JACKAMAN (62-69) is now married and is working as a Solicitor in Stroud, Glos. J.T. BUDGEN (26-29) retired after a career in surveying — rising to be Managing Director of a medium-sized building company — but is finding himself becoming increasingly involved in the business of publicising stately homes in the West of England; he lives in Lower Chillington, near Ilminster.

From Angmering comes news of S.T. LISTER (16-20), now severely restricted in his activities because of his health. He writes in praise of an electric typewriter he uses a great deal and which he gets more enjoyment from than reading or watching the television. He recalls retiring in 1966 from the sawmills in Blackwall Lane which his grandfather built in 1895.

It was he who presented the fine photograph of Mr. Ridger and his staff that hangs in the Pavilion. He was a pioneer motor-cyclist and a friend of Harold Daniell about whom an article appeared in the last issue of the Chronicle. He was also able to provide FRANCIS GOLD (24-36) with one of the old metal cap badges — his desire to obtain one was mentioned in the last issue. The badge was one of the very old ones — circular in shape and made of blue enamel — rather than one of the 'silver' stag's heads, an example of which is still sought. Mr. Gold recalls having a school blazer made by Dubois of Lewisham (sadly no longer there) for £1.76. If he should be in a position to visit the Club one day, the entrance now is in Kidbrooke Park Road....

DONALD KEATING (32-40) became a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn in 1979, having become a Q.C. and a Recorder in 1972; his book on building contracts is now in its 4th edition. L.G. ERRINGTON (24-28) sends his greetings from Polegate in East Sussex, to the School and the Association, and particularly to Lionel Barry and Kenneth Binnie.

After years in shipping with Furness Withy, more than half of them spent in the Mediterranean, and seven years with the General Council of British Shipping, GEOFFREY STOW (21-29) is now attached to the National Maritime Museum helping to index and classify their considerable collection of merchant shipping records. A. MOSS (23-31) and his wife are now the proprietors of the St. Anthony's Private Hotel in Sandown, Isle of Wight. R.D. MANN (12-14) now "pushing 80" regrets his inability to maintain more personal contact with the Association; he seems to be coping well with diabetes, his main regret on this score being that he is prevented from indulging his taste for good French wine. By coincidence, he also writes of 'Froggy' Llewellyn (see above) and of the debt owed him for the good grounding he received in French, and he should know having lived and worked for thirty years in Rouen. He wonders if anyone has news of A.J.D. Ronald or L.C. Walker....?

It was good to hear from E.A. HOWSE (35-42) who has been out of touch with the Association for a while; he is an Assistant Director in the Directorate of Atomic Warhead Development in the Ministry of Defence. From Lionel Berry — who needs no other identification — comes news of D.J.B. WHITE (28-36), who is strictly speaking Dr. White, is "still at University College and still enjoying it"; he was elected a Fellow four years ago. About three years ago he was made a Fellow of the Institute of Biology and in 1979 became President of the Institute of Wood Science, a young (25 years) and relatively small institute with about 2,000 members. There are now two O.R. Fellows, the other being R.E.D. BISHOP (36-43) who has given up his Headship of Mechanical Engineering at U.C. and is now a Research Professor.

PAUL APPLEBY (68-75) to whom we were indebted for the photograph of the President, Stan Berry, in the last Chronicle, has gained First Class Honours in Industrial Design from London University and now lives in Horsham where he is working for a small Industrial Design consultancy.

## OLD ROAN DINNER

Nearly one hundred Old Roans (and a trio of current ones) sat down to a very pleasant meal in the Pavilion on 19th October 1979. Their years at School spanned the whole period from 1921 to 1979 so there was no lack of familiar faces. Regrettably, the function was without its intended guest of honour, Andre van Gyseghem, the actor and theatrical producer, who died only a day or two before.



It may be of interest to those who had decided not to attend, fearing that there would be no-one there that they would know, and with the intention of encouraging them to support a future occasion, that the names of those present are set out below.

Allen D.	24-31	Fuhr F.	62-69	Potter N.	72-74
Banks K.	66-73	Gillman S.	63-72	Roberts M.	57-64
Barnes C.	59-66	Gosling W.	17-22	Rodwell C.	65-72
Barnes F.P.	33-37	Graf K.	28-32	Sales L.	72-77
Barry J.	21-27	Green N.	71-76	Sawyer G.	49-54
Batt J.	59-67	Griffin G. (Staff)		Seal R.W.	34-39
Baxter D.	44-48	Groves L.	30-36	Slaney A.	59-66
Benford C.	70-77	Hamer B.	59-65	Smith F.	16-21
Bennett N.	68-75	Hampton B.	58-65	Smith M.	58-65
Berry A.S.	33-39	Harmer R.	35-39	Smith M. (School Capt)	
Berry L.J. (ex Staff)		Hedges K.	59-65	Snaith G.	69-76
Berry P.	68-75	Hedges R.	58-65	Snaith P.	65-70
Biggs J. (vice Capt.)		Henning H.	56-63	Spink F.	64-71
Bonner D.	18-24	Hitchin R.	59-67	Stanford J.	65-70
Bradgate N.	34-39	Hone R.	71-77	Syrett S.H.	38-42
Briscoe G.	62-69	Horsbrough D.	62-69	Teodorini M.	73-78
Brittain D.	43-48	Hughes L.	65-72	Thomas B. (ex Staff)	
Broadfoot J.	51-56	Hullford J.	28-35	Thomas B.R.	33-39
Brooker V.	30-35	Humphreys D.	25-33	Thomas G.	35-40
Brookland D.	42-50	Johnson G.	60-67	Thurley T.	66-73
Brooks G. (Staff)		Knott A.G. (& Staff)	41-47	Ulyton C.	60-67
Brown M.	66-73	Leach J.	55-62	Weir A.	66-74
Calnan K.	58-65	Leask T.	66-73	Weir A.G.	36-42
Carter D.	69-76	Long J.	32-37	Williams P.	38-44
Chamberlain B.	32-38	Lovell V.	27-30	Winter P.	37-40
Chamberlain P.	32-39	Mills R.	71-78	Carter G.	16-24
Clatworthy I.	58-65	Nelson S.	61-67		
Davies C. (Groundsman)		Pawson P. (Vice Capt.)			
Dennis J.	65-71	Penney A.	47-51		
Drury T.	57-62	Perry J.	21-28		
Edwards S.P.	60-66	Perry S.	56-60		
Edworthy R.	66-73	Petty P.	63-71		
Emler R.	24-29				
Endersbee B.	44-49				

#### OLD ROAN DRAMATIC SOCIETY

In November we put on Alan Ayckbourne's "Confusions", an interesting set of linked one-act plays that gave us plenty of opportunities of portraying a variety of characters. Our plans for a modern, space-age pantomime have had to be temporarily shelved, but it is hoped to present this original work in the Autumn. Current projects include preparations for the Lewisham Festival, when we hope to repeat one of the November production's acts.

New members are always welcome and anyone interested in joining us, in any capacity, should contact Martin Rider, telephone 01-467 4300.

#### OLD ROAN BRAITHWAITE CAMP 1979

Some fifteen Old Roans descended on Braithwaite for their annual visit to the neighbouring pubs and fells. I do not propose to report on all the activities of the camp — no doubt some would be censored by the Editor anyway — but will instead mention some of the events which will cause this particular camp to stand out in my own mind.

The sight of John Stanford on the morning after a very heavy Friday night was almost matched by that of Nick Kedge and Mike Shaw the next Saturday morning. A photograph of the three together would have made a superb poster showing the effects of drink.

A group of six attempting to climb Grisedale Pike was met just before the summit by a head-wind of about force 10. One member managed to crawl to the top, but it was decided that the safest course would be an immediate descent. On the same day three others attacked the mountain from the Coledale Valley. Their method of progress apparently entailed lying flat against the side of the mountain for at least five minutes, running forwards for about 30 seconds when the wind abated momentarily and then collapsing against the side of the fell. Their movements seemed similar to those of troops 'going over the top' during the Great War, except that the period of movement entailed running up a steep scree slope.

Other enjoyable days were spent in the climb of Sharp Edge on Blencathra and that perennial favourite of OR camps, the Jack's Rake route up Pavey Ark. John Howcroft discerned the way to distinguish the softer parts of a bog by jumping feet first into an especially juicy area and disappeared up to his knees before being rescued.

Most of our evenings were spent in the Coledale Inn where, with the assistance of Ellen and Ray Scarr of Hutton, N. Yorks, who were made honorary Old Roans for the fortnight, we monopolised the dartboard.

We were pleased to receive a visit from C. E. Loveman (-27) who recalled visits to Braithwaite with the 'Antient' in the early twenties; on his first visit he slept in a local barn and on his second the school hall. He is now retired from a lifetime of teaching and lives at St. Annes on Sea. We were also visited by S.G. Ransom (34-39) now living in Chellaston, Derbyshire, who sent his regards to John Williams and David Spearing.

For the Coledale's information, and that of any Old Roans interested, the next camp will be September 6th - 20th 1980. For further information please contact Tony Slaney, Hon. Secretary, ORA or Alan Palmer, 42 Elliscombe Road, Charlton, SE7 7PY.



## JOHN ROAN SCHOOL LODGE, No. 5085.

(Secretary: W/Bro. V.T.J. Penfold, 11, Studland Road, Hanwell, W.7.)

Our Installation Meeting was held on Tuesday, 23rd October, 1979, when the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. A.C. Ellis installed his successor, a Past President of the Old Roan Association, Brian R. Thomas (1933-1939), who in turn appointed his officers for the current year; the appointments included W.Bro. D.A. Baxter, who has now become our Treasurer. The unstinted work for the Lodge over many years by the retiring Secretary and Treasurer, W.Bro. G.P. Marsh and W.Bro. J.A.C. Beckwith, was recorded.

The year 1979 has been an eventful one for the Lodge — celebrating our Golden Jubilee and putting in motion an application to move to the Province of West Kent and our meeting place to Bromley Masonic Centre, Oakley House, Oakley Road, Bromley Common.

The Lodge of Instruction continues to flourish, meeting Tuesday evenings, from September until May. Details may now be obtained from W.Bro. F.W. Clifton (1926-1930), 42, Walton Road, Sidcup, Kent.

The Ladies Festival will this year be held on 4th October, 1980 and full details for this will be available later in the year.

We should be happy to hear from any Old Roan Masons, particularly those who have not had the opportunity of attending our Meetings.

## JOHN ROAN SCHOOL CHAPTER, No 5085

The chapter had a very successful year in 1978/79, including the Exaltation of W. Bro. D. F. Brookland. 1942-50. 1978/80 also promises to be a good year having Installed W. Bro. A.G. Robinson. into one of the Principal's Chairs, we look forward to exalting another "Old Roan" in May. Companions and Masons interested in joining Chapter should contact the Secretary A.J. Jarrett, 90 Chislehurst Road, Orpington, Kent, BR6 0DN. Telephone: Orpington 26557. The next convocations will be held on 27th May, 24th June and 22nd September.

## BIRTHS

COOK — to Janet, wife of Fred Cook (58 - 65) on 6th December 1979, a son, Iain Alexander.

DAVIES — to Veronica wife of Cyril Davies (Groundsman) on 24th January 1980 a son, Paul James.

GREEN — to Margaret, wife of Norman Green (59 - 66) on 29th December 1978, a daughter, Patricia Ann.

HARDY — to Christine, wife of John Hardy ( ) on 12th November 1979, a daughter, Sarah Louise.

LEE — to Sandra, wife of Dave Lee (63 - 68) on 24th September 1978, a son, Robert Edward.

TOWNSEND — to Janet, wife of Graham Townsend (61 - 67) on 26th August 1979, a son, James Peter.

WEST — to Margaret, wife of Mike West (58 - 65) on 9th July 1979, a daughter, Charlotte Louise, a sister for Rebecca.

## MARRIAGES

EDWORTHY — READ: on 23rd August 1979 at St. Michaels and All Angels, Abbey Wood, Ron Edworthy (66 - 73) to Mandy Jane Read.

MULLINGS — NUNN: on 28th April 1979 at All Saints Church, Birchington, Kent, Keith Mullings (62 - 69) to Wendy Nunn.

PALMER — FAWCETT: on 20th October 1979 at Woolwich Registry Office, Colin Palmer (63 - 70) to Deniece Fawcett.

TODD — WILSON: on 15th July 1979 at Ventnor, New Jersey, U.S.A., Kevin Todd (60 - 68) to Ellen Wilson.

WALPOLE — WARD: on 21st July 1979 at St. Mary Magdalene, Whetstone, Mick Walpole (63 - 73) to Geraldine Ward.

## DEATHS

JEFFKINS, D. (71 - 78) on 20th November 1978 after an accident in his first term as a student at Manchester University. He was the son of Ronald Jeffkins (43 - 50). His mother also worked at Roan as a laboratory technician (55 - 59).

KEMP, W.B. (07 - 10) in February 1979.

ROLFE, H.B. (10 - 15) died suddenly on 16th August 1979.

SMITH, Sir Harvey, CBE (18 - 23), one time H.M. Chief Inspector of Fire Services and during the war a Chief Regional Fire Officer, on 27th October 1979.

VAN GYSEGHEM, Andre (20 - 22), author and theatrical producer, on 16th October 1979.

WIDDRINGTON, G.A. (38 - 43) on 1st July 1979.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 22nd March 1980 O.R.A. Dinner and Dance at the Surrey Banqueting Suite, Kennington Oval. Details and tickets from D.A. BAXTER (see inside front cover).
- 28th March 1980 Annual General Meeting at the Pavilion, the School Field.
- 6th - 20th September 1980 O.R. Braithwaite Camp. Details from Tony Slaney (O.R. Secretary — see inside front cover) or Alan Palmer 42 Elliscombe Road, Charlton, SE7 7PY0.

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