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The Blessing of
ABBOT PATRICK BARRY
as sixth Abbot of Ampleforth
24 April 1984

Father Patrick's blessing as the sixth Abbot of Ampleforth took place on a brilliantly sunny day and in an atmosphere of great rejoicing. Bishop Augustine Harris, Bishop of the diocese, was unwell and preparing to undergo surgery. In his absence, Cardinal Basil was happy to perform the blessing and to be the principal celebrant at the Mass which was attended by His Excellency Archbishop Bruno Heim, the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, and many other Abbots and Prelates as well as numerous monastic and personal friends. Bishop Kevin O'Brien, the Auxiliary Bishop of Middlesbrough, represented Bishop Harris and spoke for the diocese at the end of the ceremony. The Anglican Bishop of Whirby the Right Reverend Gordon Bates, headed a dozen representatives of the Anglican and Methodist churches.

Two particular communities for whom Abbot Patrick has a special regard, St Peter's Monastery in East Dulwich where he had spent the previous months of his monastic apostolate; and New Hall Convent, where he has been Chairman of their Board of Governors since 1972, were strongly represented, as indeed were many other bodies and communities for which he has worked in the past years.

After the ceremony the whole company of guests and the Community assembled in the St Alban Centre where the Prior, Fr Sigebert D'Arcy, proposed the toast of the new Abbot. His Grace the Duke of Norfolk also gave a short speech of welcome on behalf of all the guests, friends and Old Boys of Ampleforth.

HOMILY OF CARDINAL HUME

My dear Father Abbot, my dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. The election of an Abbot is a very business-like affair. Our constitutions require that it be so. Everything has to be done in due order and efficiently. And if I remember rightly there is not a great deal of opportunity for prayerful reflection. That is one of the reasons why you, the community, doubtless feel the need to come together and in this solemn manner to celebrate before God. You are joined also by the friends of the community, both from this diocese and outside it.

The election of an Abbot is also a very domestic affair. It is awesome for a community to go through the process of electing its Father in God from among its members. The rest of us have no part in that at all — save to pray that God's will be done and then to learn the name of the new Abbot. We have no part but we have a keen interest. For every monastery has a profound influence on the lives of the rest of us and this is what we would expect; a monastery exists for the church and that is why the instruction which tells us how to proceed in this present ceremony details that the Blessing of an Abbot is "usually celebrated by the Bishop of the place where the monastery is situated". Only ill-health, sadly, prevents the Bishop of this Diocese of Middlesbrough from being present here today. And he has kindly consented that I should act in his place and I am grateful for that.

On the occasion of his visit to Ampleforth Abbey
26–7 June 1984
A Monastic Community must change if it is to survive. Yet, more than most human communities, it also depends on continuity and on stability to preserve its fidelity to its intangible and spiritual purpose. Abbot Ambrose Griffiths has been the humble and selfless servant of our Community for the past eight years of our living tradition.

We elected him in 1976, after the appointment of Abbot Basil Hume to Westminster. The Second Vatican Council had been over for ten years. In its wake the Community had had to adjust not only to the new form of Mass with the rest of the Church but also to the Divine Office in English and the new Monastic Breviary. The initial momentum of enthusiasm that had carried through these and other immediate changes was spent.

It fell to Abbot Ambrose to follow, build on and develop Abbot Basil's lead in encouraging the Community in answering the call to Monastic Renewal in the Decree Perfectae Caritatis of the Vatican Council. For example, we had always been reminded of the importance of our fidelity in attendance at Divine Office but it was Abbot Ambrose who insisted on changes in the school timetable to make it possible for the brethren to be present at Vespers and Midday Office. He was not afraid to send men away to make special study of new movements in the Church in order to bring back into the Community the benefits of developments in liturgy, music and pastoral theology that were taking place in the wider Church. There followed a period of experimentation and adaptation which, while irritating and unsettling for some as a process, has led to notable improvements in the dignity and style as well as naturalness with which we celebrate Mass and pray the Divine Office.

He also led us to experiment in many different forms of community discussion and consultation in an attempt to arrive at workable means of consulting the members of a large community in the hope that change and development would be able to be organic and carried out by all with common purpose. Certainly the extension of the annual Conventual Chapter from one day to two has led to a depth of discussion and listening to each other that has often been most moving.

He saw his office of Abbot as one of service to his brethren and he spared himself not at all. The humility that made it natural for him to be found helping with any job that needed doing, no matter how menial, was typical of his total lack of pomp. It was as servant of the brethren that he strove to be an example at all times of Chapter 71 of St Benedict's Rule: "That the Brethren Be Obedient to One Another". It was this same concern for mutual support of each other in the Community that led him to establish the new Calefactory with its welcoming and comfortable atmosphere so that the Community recreation became a much more natural, relaxed and extended social occasion than the previous rather formal coronas in the old Calefactory.

As Procurator, before his election as Abbot, he had been responsible for the
building of Neville House, the East Wing and St Alban Centre. As Abbot he
was conscious of the inevitability of a second phase to the building development
programme started in 1972 under Abbot Basil and the Headmaster, Father
Patrick.

In early 1982 he wrote for his brethren “Possible developments and an
Appeal”, a low key title to an outstanding document which indicated the
breadth of his grasp of the concept of what was physically needed by way of
buildings to replace the old house and what was particularly desirable in order
to reduce running costs and at the same time radically improve the school houses.

Indeed, he was the first, since the previous building programme of 1972-6
to produce a blueprint for future development and to tackle constructively a
problem of Ampleforth whose solution had lain dormant — or
unknown — since St Oswald’s was propped up in 1947. Not surprisingly there
were hesitations and a cautious feeling — of -the -way towards a major Appeal
and building plans. But Abbot Ambrose had taken the decision courageously
and allowed others henceforth to make the running. He had already presided
over the building of St Thomas’s extension; between 1982-4 the Bernard Sunley
Design and Technology Centre was built. Final plans for the music department
were drawn up and planning for the central block taken in hand. The debt that
the Community owes him, with his meticulous grasp and mastery of detail, for
his work on the material development of Ampleforth over the past fifteen years
is itself enormous.

An Ampleforth Abbot is responsible not only for the monks and
monastery at Ampleforth but also for our parishes and the half of the
Community who are engaged in running them and upon other Pastoral work. It
was a measure of his concern that the Abbey should continue with its traditional
response to the Apostolic needs of our country that he instituted the common
study of the Easter People document from the National Pastoral Congress. At the
same time he had to respond to a decrease in the availability of monks by giving
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study of the Easter People document from the National Pastoral Congress. At the
same time he had to respond to a decrease in the availability of monks by giving
up a significant number of Parishes. Despite his own lack of parish experience,
his sensitivity to local needs and concern and care for the individuals involved
were much appreciated — as was the sincerity and openness of his own Pastoral
contribution in the many Retreats and Conferences that he was asked to give as
Abbot. Under his Abbacy, the variety and number of guests who came to enjoy
monastic hospitality and to find what we can share with them has greatly
increased.

Fr Ambrose’s reign as Abbot has made it possible for the Community both
to accept change and also to appreciate the need for a clear sense of direction that
is shared by all. However, what we value most in him are his personal qualities
of humility, fairness, kindness and generosity of which he gave so unstintingly.

Few were more surprised than he was when we elected him; nobody was
more grateful than he was when we elected another; we thank him for all that he
has given us; we will value all that he did for us and we rejoice to have him as our
titular Abbot of Westminster.

Ad Multos Anno

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Visit to Ampleforth of
His Holiness the Dalai Lama
26–7 June 1984

Shortly before midday on 26 June, Fr Abbot and the community assembled on
the front lawn of the monastery. Within a short time they were joined by a large
group of boys on the path above the ball place. It was a beautiful summer’s
morning: blue sky, birdsong, the sound of tractors coming up from the fields.

There was an air of excited expectancy. At about 12.30, a slow procession of cars
turned onto the top walk. As they stopped, from out of the principal vehicle
stepped a medium-sized man, shaven-headed, dressed in the yellow and maroon
robe and carrying the mendicant’s bag of the Tibetan Buddhist monastic order.
Laughing with pleasure, he greeted the Abbot, Prior, Sub-Prior and
Headmaster with bows and handshakes and then the community and boys with
the joined hands of traditional oriental greeting. There was much amusement
and informality and much clicking of cameras. Glancing quickly around him
and up at the church tower, he smiled. “Nice place,” he said.

THE DALAI LAMA, A HISTORICAL NOTE

The jovial and simple humanity of this first meeting with His Holiness the Dalai
Lama impressed and warmed everyone and such was the immediacy of his
presence that, during the twenty or so hours of his stay at Ampleforth, it was
difficult to remember that here was the spiritual and temporal leader of a
country which all during the nineteenth century and right up to the early 1950’s,
had been an unknown land, impossibly remote and closed to the outside world,
a ‘Hermit Kingdom’ of mystics and magicians, the object of intense fascination
and the unrealised goal of almost all would-be explorers. It was the thirteenth
Dalai Lama, our visitor’s immediate predecessor, who at the approach of Lord
Curzon requesting trading agreements, had returned the viceroy’s letters
unopened and who had removed himself from Lhasa as the British
expeditionary forces drew near, refusing all contact until they had quitted the
country. Paradoxically, it was that same Dalai Lama who, at the time of the
incursion into Tibet of the Chinese Kuomintang, was obliged to seek asylum
with the British in Sikkim and who subsequently, by virtue of the close
friendship which he made with Sir Charles Bell, the then political officer,
authorised tentative interchanges between Tibetans and English to the point
where a small number of children from Lhasa were sent to India and even
England to be educated.

From the numerous books on Tibet, its particular form of Buddhism and
ancient traditional institutions, that have appeared in recent years (including His
Holiness’s autobiography, ‘My Land & My People’), many people will already
be aware of the remarkable events that surrounded the Dalai Lama’s birth, his
discovery and recognition as the reincarnation of his predecessor. Suffice it to
say that the details which seem so fantastic to westerners, e.g. the recognition by
the young child of the lamas who came in search of him (they had formed the
entourage of the thirteenth Dalai Lama); his ability to speak the Lhasa dialect,
unknown to his parents; the fact that he could single out objects which had belonged to his predecessor and his spontaneous knowledge of certain aspects of the state apartments; the preternatural aptitude and composure which the little boy of less than five years showed on his arrival at the capital, in conducting the long and complicated ceremonial and in the reception of foreign, including British, officials — all these details are regarded as every day normality to the Tibetans. In fact it is said that before it fell the helpless victim of Chinese ‘liberation’ Tibet boasted a spiritual hierarchy of some 4,000 Tulkus or reincarnating lamas, individuals, whether laymen or monks, said to have achieved, over a series of many lifetimes, a peak of such spiritual eminence and yogic power as to be capable of directing the otherwise uncontrollable and automatic process of death and rebirth. For it is a central tenet of Mahayana or the Buddhism of the Great Vehicle (the type prevalent in the countries of northern Asia) that the ultimate goal of the spiritual quest is not, in Christian terms, the saving of one’s own soul but the working for the salvation of everyone else’s; not the annihilation of one’s own suffering in the bliss of Nirvana, but the intentional postponement of this emancipation until the liberation of all sentient beings has been attained. And it is the living out of this supreme sacrifice, the Bodhisattva ideal that, while being the objective of all Mahayana Buddhists, is held to be the especially evident motivation of reincarnating Tulkus; always, out of love for all beings, to return to the suffering world to teach the Doctrine and sustain Religion. For, as it is said, only when one has achieved true freedom can one help to liberate others; only when one has penetrated beyond one’s own sufferings can one hope to alleviate the sufferings of others, only when the heart is clear and has passed beyond greed can it truly love without possessiveness and without that subtle desire to transform the beloved into its own image.

Among such Tulkus, the Dalai Lama holds a preeminent position. The hierarchy of the Gelugpa order — the most recent and reformed branch of the Tibetan tradition — is held by all Tibetans to be the vehicle whereby Avalokiteshvara, the Bodhisattva and personification of Compassion projects his influence into the world, substituting in the Dalai Lamas in a manner not unlike what Catholics mean when they speak of the Real Presence. And in fact it is precisely by this term that the Dalai Lama is referred to by his followers.

The line of Dalai Lamas extends back as far as the end of the fourteenth century although temporal jurisdiction was only assumed in the seventeenth by the fifth Dalai Lama (often referred to simply as the ‘Great Fifth’), a great reformer and stimulus of Tibetan culture. Since then, these Priest-Kings of Tibet have united both spiritual and temporal in their own persons. At the death and during the minority of the sovereign, Tibet was administered by Regents and these interregna were habitually periods of unrest. But though the history of dynastic succession was not eventful, it is true to say that in the affection and faith of the people, the position of the Dalai Lama has been unshakably and irreducibly constant.

The fact of being a Tulku does not dispense with the need for education, indeed, the contrary is true. For although it is said that incarnate lamas usually show precocious facility and diligence in learning, their programmes of study are generally long and gruelling. The Dalai Lama began his education at the age of six and even now is still receiving teachings. This might seem strange to westerners if they are not aware that the most profound doctrines in Tibetan Buddhism are esoteric and are bestowed only on those considered to be well advanced in the spiritual life. By the time he was 24, the Dalai Lama had finished his study of the five Great Treatises namely the Prajaparamita, the Perfection of Wisdom; Madhyamika, the doctrine of the Middle Way; Vinaya, the canon of monastic discipline; Abhidharma, metaphysics and Pramana, logic and dialectics — all of which form the core of the traditional Tibetan system of learning and lead to the Geshe or Doctorate degree. The Dalai Lama’s final examinations, in view of his position, were an event of national importance and, in accordance with time-honoured practice were conducted in public and with great rigour. The preliminary test lasted three months and consisted of a tour round the three great monastic universities situated around Lhasa: Ganden, Drepung and Sera, the so-called Three Pillars of the State — communities which altogether comprised 22,000 monks. At each of these monasteries the Dalai Lama debated daily and in day-long sessions with teams of fifteen scholars, three for each of the five treatises. This final examination took place in the central temple of Lhasa in the presence of thousands of monks and government officials. The debates lasted from dawn till ten o’clock at night in the course of which the candidate was interrogated by a rotating panel of eighty scholars. At the end of the day he was declared Geshe Lharampa, that is, of the highest attainments, and his performance was described by witnesses as ‘incomparable.’ To which one might add that it must have seemed almost incredible in view of the fact that the Chinese, now occupying Lhasa, were relentlessly harrying the Tibetan Government towards a crisis so that the rest periods between the debates were constantly punctuated by hastily convened and panic-stricken cabinet meetings.

**VISIT TO AMPLEFORTH**

Against this historical and cultural background, the visit to Ampleforth of the Dalai Lama, the Precious Protector of Tibet, the Precious Conqueror and Wishing Jewel, the Compassionate Treasure and Lord of Migrants in the Land of Snows, might have been expected to be an event of unparalleled exoticism, but in reality, something different happened. Welcoming His Holiness in the words of the Second Vatican Council, Fr Abbot expressed the Church’s concern to salute and respect the Buddhist Tradition in general and the Tibetan people in particular. In response, the Dalai Lama reacted in a spontaneous and in some ways disarmingly ordinary way. He established an immediate rapport with the boys who enthusiastically followed him round as he walked through the school shaking hands, chatting, laughing, posing for photographs. It was a relaxed and holiday atmosphere. Likewise the staff and monastic community were impressed and captivated by their illustrious visitor’s infectious humour.

Originally invited to the United Kingdom on a cultural and religious visit by the Right Reverend Edward Carpenter, Dean of Westminster, the Dalai Lama had expressed the desire to see a Christian monastery, as he had done during his visits to Spain and Switzerland in the past. And it was a tribute to the
close ties of friendship existing between Westminster and Ampleforth that the Dean should have forwarded the request to Fr Abbot. Walking round the monastery and school, the Dalai Lama and his entourage were shown into the library, where His Holiness appreciated seeing Remove students and sixth formers revising for their G.C.E. examinations, and into the Abbey church where there was a brief pause for prayer and where the party was later to attend vespers with the community.

This meeting, emblematic as it was, between the Buddhist and Christian monastic traditions was naturally seen as 'news worthy' and so T.V. and Press interviews were inevitably accommodated into the time-table. Questions were asked which by now have become almost routine: e.g. 'When will you return to Tibet?'; 'Will there be a fifteenth Dalai Lama?' The answer to the first question was straightforward: 'When we know that the Tibetan people are happy.' The second question His Holiness seems to have understood in the sense of the numerous prophecies that have been made to the effect that the fourteenth Dalai Lama will be the last. 'All institutions have their use,' he said. 'When they are no longer required, there is no point in their continuing. But whatever happens to the Dalai Lama, it will be for the people of Tibet to decide.' Perhaps this was an oblique reference to the Tibetan Constitution drafted and promulgated by His Holiness in 1963 wherein Tibet is assured a democratic government should the country ever be able to wrench itself free from the baneful gravitational pull of Peking. There can be few nations in the history of the human race which have moved in such a peaceful and single step from absolute monarchy to constitutional democracy.

In his half hour talk in the school theatre, His Holiness's message was one of disarmingly and perhaps deceptive simplicity but so fundamental that the cultural abyss, which apparently separated him from the average Englisher (little or otherwise), not to mention possible suspicion and bias of a sectarian nature, was at once transcended. For his message was Charity: loving kindness as the preeminent and indispensable ingredient of all humane living — the first of the four Brahma-Viharas, or Divine Abidings, of Buddhist Doctrine. It is good, His Holiness told the boys, laystaff and monks, to have a quick and informed mind, an intelligence clear and open like the sky, but without warmth of heart and the sincere realisation that other people are as precious as oneself, intelligence and cleverness can actually turn out to be instruments of darkness and suffering. To pursue exclusively intellectual studies without the skilful and effective generation of altruistic and selfless attitudes is to embark on a path fraught with unhappiness and danger both for oneself and the universe in general.

These were striking words coming as they did from a Buddhist monk (for how many westerners have been satisfied with the idea that Buddhism is nothing but a cold, world-rejecting, nihilistic philosophy?), and leader of a 'third world' nation, itself saved only by a hairsbreadth from cultural extinction. And they were words addressed to people of the affluent West, beneficiaries (but for how long?) of a tremendous scientific and technological progress, a science and technology however which has been pursued in a metaphysical vacuum without reference to the sovereign concerns of humanity and which, whether one thinks of bio-chemical manipulation, the appalling imbalance of the earth's resources due to the misapplication of economic theory, or the fabrication and brandishing of nuclear weapons, threatens to plunge the world into a seemingly definitive chaos. Significantly there was no mention of religion, no word about politics, nothing calculated to stimulate support or sympathy for the sufferings of his countrymen. It was characteristic of His Holiness to address himself to our problem, and the world's problem: lack of love, lack of the Good Heart.

Besides his talk in the theatre, the Dalai Lama also addressed — or rather had an informal conversation with — the community, sharing views and answering questions on meditation, the problem of educating the young etc, complimenting the religious orders of the West for their many works of practical charity. But perhaps the most moving event was a meeting between His Holiness and Fr Aelred Graham who was then within only weeks of his death. At the end of his two terms of office as superior of the Benedictine Priory of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, U.S.A., and after many years of theological work, assiduous writing and a profound study of the great oriental religious traditions, Fr Aelred had made in 1967 an extensive journey through the Far East during which he met the Dalai Lama in exile in Dharamsala. It was a meeting which Fr Aelred described in his penultimate book 'The End of Religion,' as 'one of the most memorable personal encounters of my life.' The Dalai Lama returned the visit and it seems that this reunion, besides bringing a great deal of happiness to Fr Aelred, also moved and impressed His Holiness, for he referred spontaneously to Fr Aelred during his numerous discourses in Edinburgh, Dumfries and London, praising his spiritual serenity, his clear mind, his peace. As His Holiness was leaving, Fr Aelred, thanking him, expressed the hope that the time would soon come when the Dalai Lama would be able to return triumphantly to his land and his people. This is our hope also.

Wulstan Fletcher O.S.B.
PENANCE: A SACRAMENT ADRIFT

by

ADRIEN NOCENT O.S.B.

This is a rather journalistic title and certainly inadequate in view of the facts. It is nevertheless essential to understand that the sacrament of Penance poses a number of problems for our generation, and the Synod has been attending to them (so we are told, by those able to take part) in a spirit of loyalty and candour. We know of only a few of the proposals made to the Holy Father and can still only guess at what will emerge from the meeting of bishops. Be that as it may, it is not perhaps inappropriate or presumptuous to reflect for a little, and in all simplicity, on Penance: reconciliation and its sacramental expression. This short article has no other aim than to offer food for thought.

It seems certain that the Synod has rightly insisted first and foremost on the primacy of conversion. An obvious point, one would think, and yet it must be admitted that, more often than not, more attention is frequently given to the question of absolution than to that of conversion. This practice, though scarcely in harmony with the evidence of the Gospel and though still a characteristic of many contemporary Christian attitudes, derives from an already existing procedure which can be traced as far back as the 10th century. At that time, when the satisfaction imposed for sins was often very severe, people were allowed to commute their penances, especially by having an appropriate number of masses said in exchange for a given penance. And one cannot gainsay such a practice which may appeal to the doctrine of the communion of saints and the application of the merits of Christ’s passion. Nevertheless, in an attempt to remedy a spiritual condition, this practice in fact constituted a dispensation from voluntary action (quite apart from the abuses to which it was liable to give rise) and cannot be said to have done anything to favour an effort towards conversion. When, as happened a little later, it became the habitual practice to give absolution before the imposed satisfaction had been fulfilled, there arose yet another reason for neglecting an attempt at conversion. From this moment onwards, all attention was focussed on the obtaining of absolution. Without wishing to claim that the earliest customs are always the best, one must still recognise that the ancient discipline, wherein there was no thought of granting absolution before the satisfaction, already imposed and monitored, had been fulfilled, was aimed primarily not at absolution but at the quite different goal of conversion.

What, in practice, could we do nowadays to restore Conversion to its primordial place and to remedy what may become a mechanical and inauthentic sacramental performance? Perhaps the restoration of a certain time-lapse in the sacramental procedure might be effective. In certain cases (given that the penitent could accept it without detriment) this would mean a postponing of absolution to the point where a real step towards conversion had been manifestly taken. This would not be to inflict a punishment, nor to founder in jansenistic attitudes, but simply to emphasise conversion of which the absolution offered by the Lord acts as a kind of glorious fulfillment. It would be necessary to relinquish the ‘Sacramental moment’, i.e. absolution, in order to expand the process into a ‘Sacramental period’.

Should such a practice ever be reintroduced, it would always require a great deal of sensitivity in its application. To allow for a moment of trial seems most useful in many cases. What is there to be gained from the immediate absolution of a public sinner when it is not known what course of action he will take so as to avoid the occasions of falling again? The grace of the sacrament is not mechanical. Of course one is confronted at this point with another problem: the penitent will be denied communion for a certain period until he is absolved, and this introduces another way of approaching the Eucharist: qualitative rather than quantitative. For if we wish the sacrament of Penance to assume once more its qualitative demands in the eyes of the faithful then it seems that we cannot afford to neglect serious consideration along the lines described above and which, passing beyond the merely disciplinary attitude, engages a spirit of Conversion.

With this idea in mind, one might also wonder whether this is not the place to reconsider the possibility of a prudent return to lay confession. We know that this discipline existed in the past. Obviously this would not mean the granting to the non-ordained of the powers of absolution, but simply that of hearing confession and guiding the penitent in his effort towards conversion: in other words it would mean the clericalisation of spiritual direction. There is nothing original about this. It is well known that in the Eastern Church a good number of Christians confide in non-ordained but spiritually gifted monks in their efforts towards a change in life. It would be in the nature of such a practice to safeguard discretion and intimacy, — for example in the case of young women in difficulty who might thus open their hearts to the mother of a family but from whom the priest in confession would receive only general admissions of guilt, devoid of any specific detail. In this way, many useless conversations with priests who are not always adequate in dealing with psychological states which are likely to be quite foreign to him would be avoided. Here again, within the context of conversion — which is the heart of what it means to return to God — one must have the courage to envisage new ways which could become available to us in our day: nevertheless novelties which must be embedded in the Tradition.

The part which the Church plays in the remission of sins is something which, during catechesis, needs to be taught quite firmly. Indeed, the need for it is by no means always apparent to Christians who are quite ready to understand that they must ‘confess themselves to God.’ Moreover this ecclesial intervention was not always clearly understood during the Middle Ages either. The question was asked as to the effect of absolution in the case of someone who, having sinned grievously, had already sincerely repented. Some tended to the view that absolution was merely the declaration of a pardon which had already been obtained: a dangerous position which already heralded the thought of the Reformers. St Thomas believed that the forgiveness granted at the moment of repentance was already conditioned by the absolution which would...
subsequently be granted. There was nothing in these positions which corresponded with what will be referred to as the Pax Ecclesiae. Every sin is an offence against Christ but also against his body the Church, and it follows that the Church should play a part in the remission of sins. The formula in the ritual of 1973 insists on the ministry of the Church but this is not expressed with a clarity sufficient to show in what way the Church remits sins, inasmuch as she is the body of Christ corporately wounded by the actions of the sinner. By contrast, the ancient rituals of the Church of the kind to be found in the Gelasian Sacramentary emphasise the way in which the entire Church is wounded by individual sin. This is why the part played by the Church in the forgiveness of sin is bound up with the exercise of the priesthood of the Church understood as a whole and not merely with the ordained priesthood. Lumen Gentium has placed in clear focus the theology of the priesthood and the status of the priesthood of all the faithful, a true priesthood deriving the unique priesthood of Christ but on a level essentially different from that of ordination. This priesthood of all the faithful comes into play not only in the celebration of the eucharist, but in all the sacraments. A simple reference to Scripture reveals that if St Paul expels a sinner from the Church and readmits him — and this by virtue of the priesthood that has been entrusted to him — (1 Cor 5,3-4 12-14), the community exercises its own priesthood in the same way (2 Cor 2,6). The community celebration of reconciliation is excellent not only because it prepares for confession, but because it supposes and manifests the exercise of the baptismal priesthood of the community in the remission of sins.

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LIBERATION THEOLOGY
by AIDAN NICHOLS O.P.

In presenting the recent Instruction from Rome, four elements are involved: firstly, the limitations of this document: what it sets out to do, and what it does not set out to do; secondly, the general tone of the document; thirdly, the principles which underlie the argumentation of the document: fourthly, the specific content of the critique it offers.

Firstly, the limitations. The document does not aim to be an exhaustive treatment of its subject. Its title is Quaedam rationes, 'certain aspects', theologiae liberationis, 'of the theology of liberation'. According to the Introduction, while the theme of the liberation is 'of great richness for the doctrine and life of the Church', the authors propose to deal only with misconceptions in the theological handling of it in recent years. In other words, they restrict themselves to saying what liberation theology should not be like, and propose to deal in a subsequent document with what it should be like. There is, then, a division of labour here. The document describes the errors that a theology of liberation can express.

This division of labour corresponds to the two main functions of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith at least in the mind of its present Prefect. These are, firstly, the negative function of correcting erroneous teaching, guarding the substance of Christian orthodoxy in a negative sense by protecting it from distortions; and secondly, the positive function of encouraging good theology, guarding the substance of Christian orthodoxy in a positive sense by promoting creative but accurate reflection upon it. It is not an attack on named or even nameable individuals. It is not necessarily presupposed that there is any actual writer whose thought corresponds in every respect to the positions attacked in the document. It aims to elucidate a series of inter-connected theological tendencies, to point up the logical implications of certain theoretical and practical options. It does not imply that any given writer, living or dead, has pressed these opinions to the comprehensive conclusion which is here described.

Secondly, the general tone of the document. Its general tone might be described in the words 'more in sorrow than in anger'. It would not be too much to say that the document is in fundamental sympathy with the project of liberation theology. This fundamental sympathy with the general project is expressed throughout Chapters I to V, and again in Chapter XI. Firstly, the authors recognise that the social evils consequent on economic exploitation demand a response, both theological and practical, from the Church. As they affirm in Chapter XI, 7, 'the Church . . . hears the cry for justice and intends to respond to it with all her might'. They re-iterate the conciliar, papal and synodal statements of the last twenty-five years on the topic of social justice, and commend the so-called 'preferential option for the poor' (Introduction). Secondly, the document regards what it terms the 'aspiration for liberation' on the part of exploited groups as right and praiseworthy. Theologically, it interprets this aspiration as a result of an intuition that man is made in the image of God, an image which is dishonoured when people are forced to live in sub-human conditions. Historically, the authors maintain that the Christian religion was partly responsible for awakening this aspiration by its last two thousand years of history. Thirdly, the authors nowhere cast doubt on the good intentions of the liberation theologians, and those who have popularised their work. Instead, they speak of their 'zeal and compassion' (VI, 2) and identify the origins of liberation theology as a brotherly response to the desire for liberation among the poor (III, 1-2).

The fault, then, lies not with the intention but with the execution. The authors fear that flaws in liberation theology as currently practised will jeopardise the project itself and thus in the end, as the Introduction puts it, 'betray the cause of the poor'. The Instruction has been written not because the theme of liberation is regarded as in itself deviant or dangerous to the Church, but on the contrary, because it is 'full of promise', or (more literally) because it raises for the Church 'great expectations', magnam rerum exspectationem. In particular, the authors reject in advance any interpretation of the document which would see it as a statement of social or political conservatism (with a small 'c'), or as a sign that the Church is proposing to withdraw from offering ethical and religious comment on social issues (Introduction).

My third section deals with the general principals underlying the particular argumentation of the document. There appear to be three such general principles. First of all, there is what may be called a principle of totality. The Church must address itself to the total human being, by bringing to bear the total Christian revelation. The total human being is more than his secular self, and our secular self is more than our political self. Similarly, while the total Christian revelation has social-political aspects and implications, it is because of this principle that the document rejects what it sees as the reductionism of much current liberation theology, a reductionism which reduces the human to the political, and the Christian mystery to its political corollaries.

Secondly, the document appeals to what may be called a principle of catholicity. The biblical theme of liberation cannot simply be juxtaposed with particular human situations in order to generate a Christian theology while at the same time bypassing the theological tradition of the Catholic Church — whether one thinks of that as spread over time, or as spread across geographical space. A specifically Catholic Christian theology cannot be manufactured simply out of the Bible-plus-experience. It requires a reference also to tradition, which for Catholics is a necessary medium in the understanding of scripture. Furthermore, a Catholic theology also needs some reference to that articulation of tradition which is found in the formal teaching of the episcopal and papal magisterium.

The last general principle invoked in the Instruction is that of the autonomy of theology vis-a-vis the concepts and hypotheses of philosophy and the human sciences. Because theology is the intelligent expression of divine revelation, it cannot be subordinated to the deliverance of philosophy or to the findings of the social sciences. Theology needs concepts drawn from other disciplines in order to carry out its own reflection. But these concepts are tools or instruments. If the concepts or hypotheses of philosophy or social science begin to dictate the content of theology then the tool or instrument has taken over the master — as
in the legend of the Sorcerer's Apprentice.

My fourth and final section concerns the actual critique of liberation theology as found in the document, a critique which consists in an application to the particular subject matter of three principles I have mentioned, the principle of totality, the principle of catholicity and the principle of relative theological autonomy.

While accepting that there is no single homogeneous theology of liberation on offer but only a variety of theologies of liberation in plural, all different and some mutually incompatible, the authors see two widespread defects, defects which are preventing a proper theology of liberation from coming to birth. These two defects are, firstly, the uncritical use of marxist concepts, dealt with in Chapters VI to IX, and secondly, rationalism in the interpretation of Christian origins, dealt with in Chapter X.

The document acknowledges that 'marxism' is now an umbrella term covering different schools of social analysis. Without descending into the depths of comparative marxology, it claims that nevertheless certain fundamental tenets are common to all varieties of marxism, in such a way that in their absence the word 'marxism' is emptied of meaning. The authors are sceptical about the possibility or usefulness of isolating an empirical element in marxism, an element which would be a straightforward, objective interpretation of economic history, shorn of any wider philosophical presuppositions. The analytical tools of marxism as a reading of economic history are, they say, already soaked in philosophical preconceptions drawn from the wider content of marxist thought. Furthermore, even if the isolation of these philosophically harmless empirical elements were possible it would scarcely be useful — for a social science based purely on the insights of Marx would be very partial and limited. The urge to locate one single set of social analytical tools derives, according to the document, from an 'impatience and a desire for (quick) results', which are counterproductive. The authors suggest that in Latin America in particular, marxist language has become a rhetoric which acts as an obstacle to a more intellectually rigorous understanding of social and economic reality.

The document notes five principal aspects of marxism which it regards as virtually inseparable from marxist historical analysis. These are: firstly, the class-determination of the concept of the truth; secondly, the definition of history as the process of class-struggle; thirdly, the subordination of the person to the collectivity; fourthly, the rejection of universal ethical norms, valid for all human beings simply because they are human; and finally, atheism which is seen as conceptually implicated in some if not all the other four positions. Two points are worth making here. Firstly the document does not allege that these aspects of marxism are formally embraced by liberation theologians. Clearly, for instance, it would be nonsense to accuse liberation theologians of atheism. It maintains rather that these wider marxist tenets infect even a consciously self-limiting use of marxist terms because the more limited, apparently empirical terms are conceptually affected by these wider hypotheses. Secondly, the document's assertion that marxism could not survive the radical modification of these concepts because it is, a 'global vision of reality' (VII, 6) would require a much lengthier justification than it could be given in a comparatively short ecclesiastical statement.

What happens, then, to the theology of liberation when this nucleus of marxist pre-suppositions is given theological application?

Firstly, liberation theology becomes an exclusive theology. Since truth is only available to those engaged in revolutionary activities on behalf of the oppressed, no other theology than liberation theology can possibly be true. The arguments of other theologians and the teachings of the magisterium (where these differ from liberation theology) may therefore be dismissed in advance. As the document says, they 'do not have to be examined in themselves since they are only reflections of class interests' (X, 1). While all theologies tend to look at Christian revelation in terms of a governing theme or idea liberation theology is completely enclosed in its own hermeneutic, or pattern of interpretation, because of its peculiar definition of truth. The subordination of generally recognised theological standards, orthodoxy, to the practice of social liberation, dubbed 'orthopraxy', means in effect that liberation theology cannot break out of the circle it has itself created.

Each of the other major marxist tenets identified has similarly disastrous effects when transposed into a theological key. Thus the definition of history as class-struggle turns the divine saving history into a revolutionary messianism where the kingdom of God becomes identical with the self-affirmation of the oppressed. Similarly, the subordination of the person to the collectivity obscures the eternal destiny of individual people. Likewise the abandonment of universal ethical norms legitimises the suspension of such principles as love of neighbour, on which that such a principle is meaningless in regard to a class-enemy. Finally, the theological version of marxist atheism is a decision to regard God's relation with mankind as subject to the laws of historical development. In other words, liberation theology as currently practised, or so the document maintains, tends to deny the openness of man to God in all ages, and the free, unlooked-for quality of God's gift of himself to the world, a gift which for Christianity depends on nothing else than God's own loving choice.

The second major defect of liberation theology, after its uncritical use of marxism, is dealt with much more briefly in the Instruction and this is rationalism. The purely sociological nature of the tools used by liberation theology leads it ineluctably towards a rationalist interpretation of the Christian gospel. Since liberation theology has no concepts for man's openness to what lies beyond history, it is obliged to reinterpret the supernatural dimension of Christianity in naturalistic, this-worldly terms. Thus it tends to evacuate the meaning of such fundamental Christian doctrines as the Incarnation, the Church as the work of the Holy Spirit, and the sacraments as divine means of human salvation.

At the very end, the document hints at what will be contained in the successor document on what a true liberation theology should be. It will be in touch with the whole of Church tradition and with the magisterium. It will insist that the struggle for justice be carried out in a way compatible with human dignity. It will not counterpose the changing of the structures of society to the conversion of the individual; it will learn from the tragic results of these
socialistic revolutions which have led to new forms of human enslavement; it will be informed by people who are fully competent as sociologists and political scientists. In its penultimate paragraph, the instruction accepts that, after this document, the defenders of orthodoxy must now show that they can write a better theology of liberation than much of what has been done hitherto. The ball is now, by their own declaration, in their court.

SUMMARY OF THE INSTRUCTION

By 'theology of liberation' is meant a theological and pastoral movement which, starting from Latin America, has now spread to large sections of the Church in every part of the Third World. There are many priests, men and women religious, and pastoral workers who often refer to it but who do not always have the ability to be quite clear about what 'liberation theology' means. There have been from the beginning of this movement some theologians who have popularised a number of ideas which are seriously in error as far as faith is concerned. For that reason a clarification on the part of the magisterium appeared necessary.

With this purpose in mind the document distinguishes between the aspiration of poor people for economic, social, and political conditions which are in keeping with the dignity of the human person and, on the other hand, the theological expression of that yearning. The theological expression of this inspiration is in itself quite a legitimate thing and is one of the characteristics of our times. Among these expressions, however, there are some which are authentic, some which are ambiguous and some which actually seriously endanger the faith and the doctrinal and normal life of Christians. The 'theology of liberation' takes several forms and it is not always possible to distinguish clearly between them. This is because this 'theology' is expressed in all kinds of ways, in books and articles, for example, or in pamphlets and in homilies and newspapers where it is often reduced to simplistic phrases. For this reason, the document itself does not directly cite the principal authors and works in the field of 'liberation theology', such citations would have run the risk of giving the impression that some particular authors were being criticised while those not mentioned were not.

It seemed necessary that the document address the issue in a positive manner. After all, 'liberation' is a Christian theme which has foundations in both the Old and New Testaments. The Christian has a specific kind of liberty (cf Gal 5:1-5). Christ is our liberator. He has freed us from sin and from servitude to the law and the flesh, characteristic from sinful man. Likewise, 'Liberation theology' can be taken in a completely positive way as long as it accents certain aspects of the mystery of salvation, and does not do away with a theology of that mystery.

In recent documents, the magisterium has repeatedly made this clear. The address of the Holy Father at Puebla focused on the three central points of an authentic theology of liberation: the truth about Jesus Christ, the truth about the Church and the truth about mankind. In this perspective, the preferential option for the poor takes on its proper meaning, which is rooted in the Gospel, and becomes fully legitimate.

It is in the name of this option, interpreted in a seriously distorted way, that some theologians have disseminated their erroneous opinions, to which the document wishes to call the attention of the pastors and of the faithful.

At the basis of the errors in question, there is the desire to struggle effectively against the poverty of the people, and the idea, quite right in itself, that any effective struggle first requires a scientific analysis of the causes of poverty.

The error lies precisely in the identification of this scientific analysis with the 'marxist analysis', without critical study. There is not sufficient consciousness of the fact that this analysis essentially depends on ideological presuppositions which are incompatible with the faith. One is then shut up within a certain logic which necessarily ends up in a distortion of Christianity, whether or not the particular authors are aware of it.

The document presents a certain number of ideological presuppositions. The first, which establishes the direction of the whole, is the novel conception of the truth. In marxism, scientific analysis is linked to praxis, which is itself dependent on a conception of history, whose motivating principle is the class struggle. Consequently, the truth consciousness is the partisan consciousness. There is no truth except in and through revolutionary praxis. By means of various adoptions of the language, the radical liberation of theologians adopt a similar conception to the truth, characterised by relativism and the primary importance of action.

The class struggle is presented as the objective, fundamental law of history. The concept of history is one of the key concepts of the new theologies of liberation which are directly influenced by the themes of marxism which have not been able to be critically examined from a theological point of view. Consequently, these theologians are drawn toward an immanentism and an historicism which even affects their understanding of God. Thus, it will be confirmed that there is only one history and the distinction between the history of salvation and profane history is rejected. It will be maintained that God has made himself into history and thus history is divinized. Likewise the struggle is divided which is carried on in his name. In this way everything is reduced to political criteria.

In the light of the above, expressions such as Church of the poor or Church of the people come to mean Church of the class. Thus the unity of the Church which has its source in the grace of Church is denied. Some go so far as to say that it makes no sense for Christians who are separated by the class struggle to share the eucharistic table. It is in terms of the class struggle that the positions taken by the hierarchy are discredited in advance.

The influence of the marxist conception is also felt in the way in which theology is understood and also in how its proper methodology is conceived. The criterion of orthopraxy is substituted for orthodoxy. In other words, the new rule for faith is engagement in the struggle for the liberation of the poor, in the marxist sense.
The method of interpretation, the hermeneutic, conforms to the presuppositions presented. The reading of scripture becomes essentially, and often exclusively, a political reading. Both the Exodus and the Magnificat are interpreted in this way. The radical newness of the New Testament is thus removed.

Still without theological critique, the opposition seen by rationalist exegesis between the 'Jesus of history' and the 'Jesus of faith' is accepted. The death of Christ is given political interpretation as well, so that its universal redemptive value is denied. And even if the creeds are literally preserved, a new and different meaning is attached to them. They are reduced to the level of symbols of the struggle of the poor for their liberation.

The sacraments equally become pure symbols of the struggle of the people for liberation.

In conclusion the document spells out the need for an urgent re-evaluation of a movement which, while professing to help the poor, will inevitably bring them new kinds of poverty, the spiritual poverty of the loss of faith, and lead them into a new kind of servitude.

The major imperative for catechesis is the presentation of the Good News, the source of joy in its totality.

It is equally important to restore the meaning of ethics and the absolute and transcendant value of the distinction between good and evil, as well as the meaning of liberation from sin, the effect of the gift of the Holy Spirit. The totally politicised notion of Christianity to which these theologies lead is the abolition of the mysteries of faith and of Christian moral living.

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A HOSPITALLER CHAPLAIN FROM MEDIEVAL AMPLEFORTH

by GERARD SITWELL O.S.B.

In 1338 a certain John of Ampleforth signed a document in the capacity of a Chaplain to the Knights Hospitallers of St John of Jerusalem. We know nothing about this Amplefordian of so long ago except that he was a member of this religious order, but as we know the origins, and organisation and history of what once was a powerful and influential body, and know the position he occupied in it, we can deduce in general terms the kind of life he must have led, and this is so far removed from anything we could find today that it is worth investigating.

In brief outline the order began soon after the year 1100 as a nursing community for sick pilgrims in Jerusalem and for the sick and wounded of the crusading armies which were fighting in Palestine at the time, but while it never entirely gave up its nursing activities, it very soon developed a purely military side. This combination of the monk and the soldier, which was a feature of the age (there were other such orders), is so curious that it can only be understood by knowing something of the circumstances of the time.

The nations of Western Europe were emerging from a barbarian to a semi-barbarian stage of civilization. They were almost entirely illiterate (most feudal lords could not read or write), but with sufficient wealth and organisation to gather considerable fighting forces, and they could think no other way of expending their abundant energy than in fighting. It is the primitive epic stage of society which all nations go through.

Now there is no doubt that the Moslem peoples, at this time the Saracens (Arabs), constituted a grave danger to Christian Europe, and when they overran Jerusalem and the Holy Places, Christian feeling was outraged and the surprisingly large number of pilgrims who went there were seriously interfered with and often endangered. The Church was not unnaturally anxious about the warlike enemy who had attacked the Holy Places of Christendom and threatened what were now her homelands in the West, and so she launched crusades against the Moslems, and because the feudal lords were ready to fight each other in any case, and often did, she was in a sense glad to divert their energies into what was considered a holy war.

But there was much more to it than this, for while the young nations of early Medieval Europe were still extremely warlike, their more settled state and greater national consciousness was stirring all the latent powers which were later to blossom in the high Middle Ages, and not least the expression of their religion. At this very time men were flocking to Rievaulx to become Cistercians under St Aelred, and it was the strength of these two elements in society, the military and the religious, which led to the formation of the military orders, men who took the vows of religion, poverty, chastity and obedience, and who were at the same time soldiers. It was a strange vocation, and only at this particular stage of cultural development could it have originated. When they were not actually fighting these men lived the monastic life and chanted their office in...
choir, but in battle they were no different from other troops of the time save for their iron discipline.

The first instalment of this article endeavoured to describe the background of the Military Religious Orders of the Middle Ages, without which they appear so fantastic as to be almost incredible. The present article gives some account of how the order of St John of Jerusalem was organised in order to see the sort of life which this John of Ampleforth must have led as a chaplain to it in the fourteenth century.

The order as it soon came to be constituted in the early eleventh century was made up of three distinct groups. There were Military Knights, who were the sons of feudal aristocracy of Europe who led the crusades, Conventual Chaplains, who were already priests when they joined, and Brothers who served in the hospitals and as foot soldiers. There was one convent, as it was called, which was at once the mother house and military headquarters. From the beginning till 1291 this was at Jerusalem, but in that year the Christians were driven out of Palestine and the Knights had to transfer their headquarters to the island of Rhodes in the Eastern Mediterranean. In 1522 after a memorable siege of six months they were driven out of Rhodes by the Turks — now the predominant Moslem power — and after eight years of uncertainty and wandering they settled at Malta, and were henceforward known as the Knights of Malta.

When they were forced to leave the mainland and settle on islands the type of warfare which they waged necessarily changed. They became sea-faring and fought the Moslems on the sea in the manner of the time, using galleys rowed by prisoners of war or criminals, whom they did not hesitate to consider and treat as slaves in the brutal manner of those days. The actual fighting was done hand-to-hand in coming alongside, hence the continued need of soldiers.

Everyone on joining the order had to go for at least five years to the Headquarters house, and spend three years of this on active service in what they called caravans; from Rhodes and Malta that meant at sea on the galleys. There was a chaplain on each galley, but the chaplains probably spent more time looking after the conventional church and the hospital, which they had at both Rhodes and Malta. When they were in Jerusalem they garrisoned strongholds it was all over Palestine, and they always had daughter houses in a number of European cities lying on the pilgrims' way to Palestine. In addition to this they had many estates in Europe known as Commanderies, which they acquired chiefly at endowments from the knights who joined them — at a time when most wealth was held in land — and from which they received the funds to maintain and equip their fighting forces.

It was on commandery at Shingay in Cambridgeshire that John of Ampleforth was living when he signed a report on the state of the commandery sent in to the Grand Prior of England who was in charge of all their English properties. John like the rest must have served at Rhodes and seen something of the adventurous and savage warfare which the knights waged continually for centuries with the Moslem seamen, who were in fact privateers — in effect pirates — from the whole of the Eastern and Southern shores of the Mediterranean. Chance has left us no more about this man who came to join the Knights of St John at Rhodes from Ampleforth in the fourteenth century than his name and the fact that he held a recognised rank in what was still a well-known, rich and influential body. When he signed the document by which alone we know of his existence he was evidently passed the age when he could be expected to take part in the arduous and dangerous warfare against the Mediterranean corsairs, but whether he had only recently returned from it and might expect higher posts, such as the priorship of one of their bigger churches, or whether he was getting towards the end of his life — and few probably reached their seventies in those days — we have no means of telling. If he expected to end his days at Shingay on the quiet upper reaches of the Cam, did his mind, with all the crowded memories he must have had of the Medieval Europe he had traversed and the fortress island in the Mediterranean, ever go back to the Yorkshire village clinging to the hillside? It is unlikely that he ever saw it again.

The Annual General Meeting of the Ampleforth Society will be held at 8.30pm on Saturday 6 April 1985 in the School Library.

Price 70p £1.00 postage inc.
COMMUNITY NOTES

We ask prayers for the following who have died:- Fr Robert Coverdale, Fr Alban Rimmer, Very Rev Fr Aëred Graham, Fr Wulstan Gore.

Obituaries of these, together with that of Fr. Boniface Hunt, whose death was reported in the last issue, will appear in the next Journal.

On September 18 Father Abbot clothed four novices; James Madden (Br Cuthbert), Michael Callaghan (Br James), Pham Xuan Nam (Br Barnabas) and Gerard Poole (Br Germanus).

Fr Benjamin O'Sullivan made his Simple Vows on Saturday 15 September. The ceremony took place before a large representation of many friends from the Westminster area and his family.

Father Abbot made the following appointments during the summer months.

Fr Ambrose Griffiths (Titular Abbot of Westminster) to be parish priest of St Mary’s, Leyland.
Fr Rupert Everest to be parish priest of Lostock Hall.
Fr Justin Caldwell and Fr Jonathan Cotton to join the team at Leyland.
Fr Damian Webb and Fr Peter James to join the Bamber Bridge community.
Fr Lawrence Kilcourse to join the community at St Mary’s, Cardiff.
Both Ho Dinh and Pham Xuan Nam passed the International Baccalaureate from St Mary’s College, Fenham. They were among only a small number of successful candidates and their achievement was a very considerable one. Both men have been living with the Community for the past few years.
Fr Cyril Brooks has been asked by Father Abbot to act as a vocations promoter and to develop and encourage vocations to the monastic life and to the priesthood.

Fr Aëred Burrows has been appointed Novice Master. His place as Housemaster of St Hugh’s has been taken by Fr Christian Shore.

Fr Mark Budin is in Rome, and writes:-

Regarding my work here in Rome. I think I can best describe it as falling into three parts. Firstly I am employed by this faculty, the Pontifical Liturgical Institute, one of the three faculties composing the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant’Anselmo. My job is that of personal assistant to the President of the Institute which involves secretarial and organizational work as well as running a small specialised liturgical library for the students of the Institute who number some 120 and who are of about 35 different nationalities. The purpose of the Institute is to train liturgical specialists who can take responsibility of the liturgical formation in the local churches. The second part of my work is lecturing on spirituality and the liturgy to the monks who come here for the theological renewal course twice a year, and also as a member of a team of lecturers for a residential course for Sisters of different congregations from all over the English-speaking world, and finally giving a few lectures at the Beda.

The third part of my work is as assistant to the spiritual director of the Venerable English College.

Every month on the first Sunday a Day of Renewal for the Middlesbrough dioceses brings individuals and families, young and old, from a fifty mile radius to a day of prayer, ministry and teaching. It begins in the crypt at 11.15 am, when the School leaves the Church, with prayer and praise. At 12.00 smaller groups form to talk and pray until a shared packed lunch is arranged at 1.00. At 2.00 there is a speaker. He is usually a Catholic, often a priest and this has seen Fr J Crawford, Fr Sean Conaty, John Theobalds, Richard and Rosemary Merrin. At 3.00 there is exposition and silent prayer during which time there is the healing ministry including confessions. Mass is at 4.30 and the day finishes at about 5.45. Attendances vary from about eighty to 150. A number of the Community hear confessions. A local group of some twelve laypeople are the effective organisers.

During Easter week, Fr Stephen, Fr Edmund, Fr Julian, Fr Francis Vidal and Fr Ian were at the Priests’ Renewal week at Trinity and All Saints. This acts as an introductory week for priests and a spiritual retreat with emphasis on the Renewal of the charisms and teaching. Fr Christopher O’Donnell, and Fr Tom Forrest were the speakers to about 140 priests from the English and Scottish dioceses.

In May Fr Stephen with Nik Petrovic, Simon Hume and Mark Stoker assisted the parish of Kirbymoorside with their course of seven evenings (seminars) on the Renewal of the Charisms in the Christian life.

In July the Ampleforth Conference for Catholic families now takes place at Ushaw. It began at Ampleforth in 1979 but circumstances made it necessary to seek another site in 1981. Fr Stephen and Fr Cyril were present, the former contributing four talks. Other speakers were Fr Michael Reilly and Fr Pat Lynch. About 200 participants gathered for the conference along with their families so the grounds were colourfully dotted with tents. Dr John Hume (OA) and his wife Pat were among those present.

In August the Ampleforth Student Community gathered as usual. It began as a young people’s conference in 1978 organised by a group in the School. Since then its leadership has changed hands though Fr Stephen is still its spiritual director and background organiser. It meets three times a year, before Christmas, over Easter and in August. Although some members keep returning, others have come once only; some have experience of prayer groups, others have only a tenuous connection with Catholic life. For many, this is their first experience of a Catholic Christian Community living, albeit briefly, in the caring, prayerful and sharing way which was so characteristic of the early apostolic communities. This August Fr Sean Conaty, Mark McGreerey, Fr Abbot and Fr Stephen gave the key talks. Jose Hardcastle with Kathleen and Janet Ainsworth organised the kitchen and catering. John and Gabrielle Cornwell whose son Jonathan is in St Hugh’s, brought over some of their foreign visitors from their camp in St Martin’s for open-air Masses, which added a new dimension. An analysis of the forty or so conference members shows one named couple, three Ushaw Seminarians, one mother and child, two blind and multiple handicapped from York, several University students, two teachers, two nurses.
four ex-offenders, newly converted to Christ, plus a number of sixth formers and unemployed. More came from the North. Any Ampleforth parent who would like to know more about these gatherings should contact Fr Stephen in Junior House.

In late August the Ampleforth Day of Renewal Community ran a weekend course at Byrne Hall, for those involved in prayer groups in the North. Fr Stephen and Fr Ian assisted and spoke.

A FIERY JUBILEE

It is 25 years since Fr Charles Macauley took over command of the Monastery Fire Squad. This fact became clear in an article he was asked to write for the North Yorkshire Fire Brigade magazine.

In that time the squad has progressed through four different fire appliances of increasing sophistication until our present Green Goddess machine that has acquitted itself with credit at fires in the locality and on County Brigade exercises as well as around the campus.

However, much of Fr Charles's time and dedication have been spent on the far less glamorous routine tasks of fire prevention. It was not inappropriate, therefore, that it was during a visit to Ampleforth by the North Yorkshire Fire Prevention Liaison Panel, at a demonstration exercise and rescue by the College Fire Brigade, that his twenty-five years was recognised. To the recorded sound of a fire-alarm, a cake which (with the aid of copious quantities of spirituous liquor) was ablaze was wheeled in followed by a member of the Squad who handed Fr Charles a CO₂ gas extinguisher and told him to put the fire out. The cake was not at all adversely affected and, after tributes from the Headmaster and Divisional Officer Wilkinson of the County Fire Brigade, it was contentedly consumed by all those present.

THE OLD TRAMWAY

The tramway was opened in 1894 for the purpose of carrying coals from Gilling Station to the gasworks at the College. The North Eastern Railway built a standard gauge siding parallel to their line in the valley, which connected the main line at Pilmoor with Malton, to the west side of the Gilling crossing. The had a run-round loop, and the coal wagons sent from a colliery near Normanton were left here. The tramway ran alongside, and had a gauge of three feet. Six cauldron wagons conveyed the coal, which was transferred from the railway wagons by the man who operated the gasworks, a College employee called Bit Preston, and then hauled by two horses in tandem as far as the Red Gate at the top of the cricket fields. There the gradient became too steep for the horses: the trucks were hauled the trucks up the last 150 yards to the gasworks (where the top tennis courts are) two at a time. The track was very roughly laid and there were frequent derailments, which were dealt with single-handed by Bill, who was a very strong man. There was also more than one runaway from the gasworks with disastrous effects on the gate at the foot of the incline. A very primitive passenger vehicle also existed, open at the top, and with tramway seats: all the vehicles were four-wheeled. While bricks were still being produced at the brickworks (where the rubbish tip now is — hence the 'Brickfields') they were also transported by the tramway, and a short branch led to the works from the football fields: but this ceased before 1914.

The contract for the building of the Junior House was signed before the outbreak of war in 1914, and difficulties in conveying materials caused the contractors to add a branch to the site from the gate by the cricket fields. This was operated by a petrol motor and was the only form of power other than horses which was ever used. It was removed on completion of the building in 1916, but its course can still be traced. The rest of the tramway was removed after the changeover to electric light and the closure of the gasworks in 1923.

NOEL APPLEBY

Born over the Bank his father managed at Castleford in 1885, he died in the District Hospital, York, in 1984.

In his youth he was an apprenticed chemist; consequently, in World War I, he began in the RAMC but in 'Mesopot' transferred to a paddle steamer of which he became skipper, as part of a flotilla up the Tigris to relieve Kut. It failed and so he and Lawrence Eyres (who was captured with the rest of the garrison) did not meet till they both found themselves at Ampleforth. From 1923 to 1973 Appleby owned and managed a garage in Ampleforth which his mother bought him for the sum of £100. This business blossomed into a service of electricity, of coal, of transport for the village. He was much in demand by the 'College', a consequence of which was his close association with many boys and monks. The famous char-a-banc was among the acquisitions of 1923. The previous year he had carried the victorious XV to Sedbergh and back in a day.

After his mother died he married Diana Cooper. It was a happy union. She died, first of the two, of cancer. His will revealed he had left his considerable fortune to cancer research. By now he was a lonely man, but still had many interests: philately, history, poetry. He could recite by heart much feeling passages from the Lay of Ancient Rome. Travelling became a delight, long before Diana's death. They would set off in "Maria" or later in more commodious vehicles with a heap of boys from the school and a monk or two, away across the Alps or down to Lourdes. On one occasion Fr Jerome, a late-comer, travelled all the way on the top — exciting enough inside, as Appleby was an excellent conversationalist even with those seated behind.

Appleby was a man of deep loyalties, first to his ideal of what an English gentleman should be, then to the village he served, and to the 'College' and his monk friends. The tower he bought overlooking Coxwold and beyond was a great meeting place.

Many monks were at his funeral in St Hilda's Anglican church. He had been baptized C of E but what with reading publications of the Rationalist Press and other tracts, nor surprisingly he had become agnostic in his youth. The death of Diana made him doubt his doubt. Latterly he began to recite the Our Father. His old friend Fr Basil — by that time Cardinal — sought him out and...
found him at his wife's grave a year before he died. Would he meet her beyond the grave? He began to hope; but the mind, now unsure of itself, was loath to follow the heart. May it please God he meet Him and all his many friends there.

SAINT BENET'S HALL

Several additional monks joined us at the beginning of the year: Fr Geoffrey Scott from Douai and his brethren, Brs Luke Whitfield, Francis Hughes, Dermot Tredget, and John Carter; also Br David Charlesworth (Buckfast), Br Bede Leach (Ampleforth), and Br Michael Fava (Farnborough). During the year at various times we had P. Altfrid Wachtel (Meschede), Fr Anton Kang (Waegwan), P. Benno Maier (Muri Gries), P. Gregor Hanke (Plankstetten) and Br Ottmar Schiller (Säflarn). Several of the brethren attended the ordination of Br David Charlesworth at Buckfast at the end of the year.

The lay membership also remained strong with freshmen Julian Blake (Taunton), Paul Docherty (Pocklington), Robert Giles (Christ's Hospital), Simon Miesegaes (Eton) and Mark Roberts (Radley). In University Finals all passed, seconds being gained by Timothy Wilson (Theology), Jock Encombe and Nigel Barratt (English) and by Paul Docherty in English Mods.

It was another good year for sport. On the river the VIII after a fair Torpids (one bump) had a good Eights with bumps on three successive days. They then went on to win the final of the Oriel Regatta with a mixed St Hugh's/St Benet's boat, gaining the Cup for this event. It can be claimed to have been the strongest and most proficient crew ever produced by the Hall. Robert Giles also rowed for Cherwell B VIII.

In Rugby Andy Bernard and Mark Roberts played for St Edmund Hall 1st XV, and Andy for Blues. Julian Blake played cricket and hockey for Christ Church 1st and hockey for 'Occasional'. Mark Porter threw the javelin for the Varsity competition and Simon Miesegaes won two point-to-point races on his own mount, 'Mighty Runner'.

Events during the year included a series of lectures on Monastic History by some of the brethren at Swindon for Bristol University Extension: a viola and piano recital in the Calefactory by Pierre Henri-Xuarez and Richard Greenwood to raise funds for S. Heart, Headington, and a dinner given for Prof Richard Ellman after his farewell lecture on James Joyce in February.

We had many monastic and other guests during the year, including Fr Abbot, Fr Abbot President Ambrose Waetlet of the Annunciation Congregation, Abbot Gregor of Schäftlarn and the Headmasters of Downside and Portsmouth Priory Schools.

An enjoyable year was rounded off with the usual student summer school from the University of North Carolina for July and with a week of our friends of the 'British Odyssey' in August.
The Feversham Arms Hotel, Helmsley

(0439 70346 or 70766)

Built in 1855 by the Earl of Feversham, this small, comfortable hotel has 15 double bedrooms all with private bath, telephones, radio-alarm clock and colour television. Own hard tennis court. Central heating throughout. Recommended in 1980 Egon Ronay Guide.

Forest and Vale Hotel, Pickering

(Pickering 72722)

A Georgian House, in the centre of Pickering, delightfully converted into a most comfortable, well appointed hotel, is recommended by Egon Ronay and Ashley Courtenay. Ampleforth Parents and Boys especially welcome.

Hawnby Hotel, Hawny

(Bilsdale 202)


The Malt Shovel Inn, Oswaldkirk

(Ampelforth 461)

A former Manor House and Coaching Inn, 'The Malt' is run on traditional lines with traditional fare and traditional ale from the wood. Sheltered gardens for summer and open log fires in winter. Three letting bedrooms.

The Rangers House, Sheriff Hutton

(Sheriff Hutton 397)

Featured on the BBC TV Holiday Programme. A 17th Century house in secluded and peaceful surroundings offering excellent cuisine and accommodation. Personal attention by the owners.

The Ryedale Lodge, Nunnington

(Nunnington (04395) 246)

So long a favourite resting and dining house for Ampleforth Parents and Boys; now entirely refurbished to luxury standards under the new ownership of Jon and Janet Laird.

White Swan Hotel, Ampleforth

(Ampleforth 239)

We are now able to offer accommodation in newly converted and fitted bedrooms as well as our usual bar meals every lunchtime and evening. Dining Room open to non-residents 7-10.

The Blacksmiths Arms, Aislaby, Pickering

(0751 72182)

Comfortable accommodation backed by a restaurant serving home smoked salmon, local produce, game in season, fresh vegetables and home made sweets.

FOR MORE HOTELS SEE PAGE 48
OLD AMPLEFORDIAN NEWS

Prayers are asked for the following who have died: D.E.B. Car in 1981, John Paterson in 1982, Major P.C. Ford (O49) 1983, Dominic Hordon (O74) on 3 March, Sir Hugh Fraser (O39) on 6 March, David Dundas (B79) on 19 March, Clives Raynes (W24) on 9 April, Patrick Broderick (A27) on 14 April, Jeremy Clives Simpson (C80) on 20 May, Father Alban Rimmer (O30) on 22 May, Brigadier J.F. Leese (C19) on 12 June, John Paton (W43) on 4 September, Gerard Freeman (B28) on 13 September, Nicholas Healy (B78) on 29 September.

An obituary of Sir Hugh Fraser will appear in the next issue of The Journal. Appreciations of David Dundas (B79) and Nicholas Healy (B77) successive St Bede’s School Captains of Rugby, both of whom sadly died in 1984 are on pages 68, 69.

ENGAGEMENTS

Jonathan Barnes (J75) to Helen Rosalind Everett
John Schlesinger (E73) to Monica Franklin
James Campbell (B75) to Mary Jane Beale
Andrew Meyrick (E69) to Alison Ford
Major James Greenfield (W67) to Janet Malcolm
Timothy Devas (A67) to Nicola Jane Wood
Christopher Hunter Gordon (C72) to Georgina Varney
Mark Ralysz (O75) to Philippa Prideaux-Brune
Charles Murray Brown (B72) to Jacqueline Aggs
Lord Binning (C60) to Jane Heywood
Stephen Codrington (W75) to Ursula Dawson
Theodore Hubbard (W78) to Penelope Street
Michael Goldschmidt (A63) to Margaret Wilkinson

MARRIAGES

22 October 1983: C.J. Loftus (B67) to Puck-Lun Chew (St Thomas More, Canterbury, Bolton)
25 April 1984: Alexius Fenwick (E76) to Briony Gyngell
3 May: David Craig (H65) to Sara Jane Plummer (Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley St.)
12 May: Harry Ralysz (O77) to Vanessa Adair (The Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks)
26 May: Michael Nolan (T73) to Adeline Oh (The Chapel, Comb Bank)
16 June: John Brenan (W60) to Claire Arkwright (Northampton)
30 June: Nicholas Owen (B71) to Helen McDonald (Toowoomba, Queensland)
30 June: Simon N. Ainscough (C77) to Dorothy Moncrieff (St James’ Church, St Andrews, Fife)

7 July: Jamie Muir (D70) to Katherine Harwood (St Lawrences, Petersfield)
7 July: Peter Cramer (W73) to Sara Alleyn (St Mary’s Church, Bletchingley)
14 July: Stephen Hay (C75) to Dr Charlotte Proky (Church of All Saints, Elton, Peterborough)
4 August: Edward Cumming-Bruce (O75) to Antonia Gaisford-St-Lawrence (Howth Castle, Dublin)
4 August: Nigel Young (T77) to Laurie Sorenson (Trinity College, Dublin)
11 August: Jim Hatfield (O67) to Marta Marin-Usmo (St Thomas’, Sevenoaks)
18 August: Antoine van der Bougaard (H78) to Dalia Sidabras (Farm Street)
1 September: Charles Lochrane (C71) to Frances Diana Robinson (Church SS Peter and Paul, Great Missenden)
1 September: Andrew Allan (A79) to Claire Melnyk (St Mary’s, Long Ditton)
8 September: Jonathan Copping (T78) to Lucy Hamerton (St Benedict’s Church, Ampleforth)
8 September: Andrew Dagnall (T73) to Anna Milito (St Etheldred’s, Ely Place, London)
8 September: Julian Harris (H76) to Fabienne Bouilloud (St Charles de Monteau, Paris)
15 September: Andrew Mafeld (O68) to Ylva Gill-Boija (St Joseph’s Church, Brussels)
29 September: Mark Ainscough (C75) to Amanda Wood (St Peters, Harlsbourne Tarrant)
29 September: Christopher Hunter-Gordon (C75) to Georgina Varney (St Mary’s, Esher)
13 October: Martin Elwes (B66) to Sarah Worsley (Hovingham)

BIRTHS

31 March 1984: To James and Helene Barton Lardinois, a son, Henry Oswald
May 1984: To Bill and Rachel Hatfield (O71), a daughter, Lucy
13 September 1984: To Geoffrey and Anita Hatfield (O60), a son, Alastair Roland

ROYAL CEREMONIAL

Ampleforth is always well represented in English Royal and State ceremonial with the present Duke of Norfolk (O34) as Earl Marshal of England, Sir John Johnston (O41) as Comptroller of the Lord Chamberlain’s Office, Major General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard (B35) as Gold Stick to the Queen, Henry Paston Bedingfield (E61) as Rouge Croix Pursuivant at the College of Arms and many Old Amplefordians serving in the Brigade of Guards and the Household Cavalry.
However, Ampleforth is equally well represented in Scottish ceremonial as it was in July at the Thistle Service in St Giles Cathedral. Sir John Johnston masterminded the arrangements; the Marquess of Lothian (O40) was in command of the detachment of the Queen’s Body Guard for Scotland (The Royal Company of Archers), of which Sir Hew Hamilton-Dalrymple (O44) is the Adjutant, shortly to retire after twenty years of distinguished service; Peter Beauchlack Dewar (E60) served as Falkland Pursuivant Extraordinary and John George (C48) assisted with the seating arrangements.

Moreover the following fifteen Old Amplefordians are currently members of the Queen’s Body Guard for Scotland (The Royal Company of Archers): The Earl of Ancram MP (W62), Capt CPA Bertie (E49), Lord Binning (C60), J. Brown (71), Lt Col Campbell RA, RM (C46), Wing Cdr MH Constable-Maxwell DSO, DFC (B36), Lt Cdr P. de V. Beauchlack RD, JP RNR (E60), Capt D.O. Fairlie of Myres MBE (W41), Col P. Fane-Gladwyn OBE (B32), Major JAH Greenfield (W67), Major Sir Hew Hamilton-Dalrymple Bt, CVO, DL (C62), The Marquess of Lothian KCVO, DL (040), Lt Col RCM Monteith OBE, MC, TD, JP, DL (C62), Lord Ramsay (W66), Capt AJPM Ramsay (C65).

NEWS FROM LETTERS

CHRISTOPHER BARTLE (A69) and his sister Jane, represented England in the Equestrian Olympics (Dressage) in Los Angeles. Before the start Christopher was quoted as saying “Dressage, being what it is, there are unlikely to be any upsets in form.” He then created one of the biggest in the competition by finishing sixth on Wily Trout, equal with West Germany’s Uwe Sayer, the highest British individual placing ever. Christopher, a land agent from Markington, near Harrogate, turned to dressage in 1977 after becoming too heavy for National Hunt Racing, and then having to abandon his second love, three-day eventing, when Wily Trout pulled a tendon just before Burghley in 1976. Inspired by a performance on Reiner Klimke at Goodwood the following year, Christopher decided to try Wily Trout at dressage.

LORD BUTE (W50) is Chairman of the Historic Buildings Council of Scotland: has been appointed Chairman of the Board to advise the Secretary of State for Scotland on the unified structure for the Royal Scottish Museum and the National Museum of Antiquities.

JOHN CIECHANOWSKI (D38), who at the age of 62, rode a winner at Catterick in August. Riders of that age tend to be rare, the last recorded being Forth who was over 60 when he won the 1892 Derby.

T. J. CONNOLLY (T52) has been elected Master of the Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers.

D. J. CONNOLLY (B57) has been elected Renter Warden.
appointed the consultant in charge of the Accident and Emergency Department at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton and, after 6 homes in 8 years of marriage, is now able to put down roots.

BRIGADIER R. T. P. HUME (T52) has been appointed Deputy Fortress Commander, Gibraltar.

CHARLES LOCHRANE (C71) qualified as a member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors in 1977 after working with Strutt and Parker in the Commercial Property Investment Department. He was made an associate Partner in the firm in May.

C. J. LOFTUS (B67) was admitted to Partnership of Neville Hovey and Company Chartered Accountants, Plymouth in May.

ANDREW MAFELD (O68) writes to say that after completing his engineering studies at Imperial College, London, he worked with Proctor and Gamble in Belgium. After a further year’s study at the Business School in Fontainebleau, he returned to Brussels, working for Monsanto Chemical Company. His current position is Product Manager of a glass fibre company in Belgium.

DAVID O'BRIEN (E73) trained the 1984 Derby winner—Secrcto.

DAVID POOLE (A56) is now a Q.C. He took the oath in the House of Lords on 1st May 1984.

JOHN RYAN (040) had an exhibition of his cartoon characters at the Royal Festival Hall in April this year. Captain Pugwash is his best known TV character and, more recently, Sir Prancelot. Captain Pugwash was originally created for the Eagle comic and in Girl, the Eagle’s sister magazine, John Ryan created ‘Lettuce Leaf’. He now does a weekly cartoon for the Catholic Herald which features ‘Cardinal Grotti’, the sinister Vatican bureaucrat constantly outraged by change, who resembles Captain Pugwash in clerical garb and dark glasses—“...his first cousin” confides John Ryan.

WILLIAM SEDGWICK (W75) graduated B.A. from the University of Natal in April 1984.

FR NORMAN TANNER S.J. (H61) has recently published The Church in Late Medieval Norwich, 1370 – 1532 (Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, Toronto 1984; pp.xviii and 279.

GARETH F. VINCENTI (B75) qualified as a doctor in 1981 and joined the Royal Army Medical Corps at present serving in BAOR. He spent four months in Armagh at the end of the last year with the Grenadier Guards and is due to return to the Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital, Woolwich in January next year to begin specialist training in Psychiatry. He married in 1978 and has two children.

As you've already proved yourself successful at your academic work, we'd like to give you the opportunity to be just as successful in your career.

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As you move on, you could take up a position in our Merchant Bank, which plays an important role in the development of both British and International business.

Equally surprising will be the speed of your progress.

Grants can join our Management Development Programme direct from university and our training could set you on course for a senior position within a few years.

So if you really want to get to the top, find out how you can start at the top. Write to: Mrs. A.R. Dowds, Manager, Schools and Education, Barclays Bank PLC, P.O. Box No. 250, Fleetway House, 25 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4LP, for our career book now.
### THE AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

**REVENUE ACCOUNT**

*For the Year Ended 31st March 1984*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>£ 1984</th>
<th>£ 1983</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members' subscriptions for the current year</td>
<td>7,028</td>
<td>6,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from investments — gross</td>
<td>6,424</td>
<td>6,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members' journals</td>
<td>6,757</td>
<td>7,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain's honorarium</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing, stationery and incidentals:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct debiting computer services</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General expenses</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretarial expenses</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postages</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer's expenses</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilling prizes</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</strong></td>
<td>7,127</td>
<td>8,320</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD at 1st April 1983**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,371</td>
<td>5,020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Transfers:**

| Bursary and special reserve fund in accordance with Rule 32 | £ 4,371 | £ 5,020 |
| Address book fund | £ 500 | £ 500 |

**BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD at 31st March 1984**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5,825</td>
<td>4,371</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The notes form part of these accounts.
THE AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET — 31st March 1984

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>1984</th>
<th></th>
<th>1983</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INVESTMENTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income tax recoverable 1983/84</td>
<td>1,674</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank deposit account</td>
<td>2,963</td>
<td></td>
<td>13,319</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank current account</td>
<td>1,029</td>
<td></td>
<td>291</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,666</td>
<td></td>
<td>15,192</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| FUNDS                                      |  |   |   |   |
| General fund                               | 44,054 |  | 38,052 |  |
| Bursary and special reserve fund           | 9,285  |  | 8,429  |  |
| Address book fund                         | 378    |  | 2,600  |  |
| Revenue account                           | 53,717 |  | 49,081 |  |
|                                                           | 5,825  |  | 4,371  |  |
|                                                           | 59,542 |  | 53,452 |  |

R.W.E. O'KELLY  Hon. Treasurer
Approved: 25th August 1984

The notes form part of these accounts.

THE AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS — 31st March 1984

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES
   (a) Basis of accounting
       The accounts of the Society are prepared under the historical cost convention.
   (b) Investments
       Investments are included in the accounts at cost.
   (c) Subscriptions from new life members
       All donations and bequests by testators and commuted payments of life members are treated as capital receipts and invested in accordance with Rule 30 of the Society.
   (d) Other receipts
       All other receipts are treated as ordinary income, in accordance with Rule 32 of the Society and any annual surplus remaining is at the disposal of the committee for scholarships or prizes for the benefit of students at Ampleforth College, or for such other educational or charitable objects as the Committee may decide.

2. GENERAL FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>1984</th>
<th>1983</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1st April 1983</td>
<td>38,052</td>
<td>32,769</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions from new life members</td>
<td>1,850</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus on disposal of investments</td>
<td>4,152</td>
<td>3,983</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 31st March 1984</td>
<td>44,054</td>
<td>38,052</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. BURSARY AND SPECIAL RESERVE FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>1984</th>
<th>1983</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1st April 1983</td>
<td>8,429</td>
<td>7,704</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount transferred from revenue account</td>
<td>4,371</td>
<td>3,020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12,800</td>
<td>10,724</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational</td>
<td>3,015</td>
<td>3,995</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lourdes Pilgrimage</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,515</td>
<td>4,295</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 31st March 1984</td>
<td>19,285</td>
<td>18,429</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. ADDRESS BOOK FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>1984</th>
<th>1983</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1st April 1983</td>
<td>2,600</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer from revenue account</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of address book</td>
<td>(2,722)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 31st March 1984</td>
<td>3,787</td>
<td>2,600</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REPORT OF THE HONORARY AUDITORS 
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE 
AMPLEFORTH SOCIETY

We have audited the accounts set out on pages 2 to 4 in accordance with approved auditing standards.

In our opinion, the accounts which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society at 31st March 1984 and of the surplus for the year ended on that date, and comply with the rules of the Society.

BUZZACOTT & CO.
Chartered Accountants,
Salisbury Square House,
8, Salisbury Square,
London, EC4Y 8HR.

28th August 1984

THE SCHOOL

SCHOOL MONITORS

Head Monitor: MN Meacham.
St Aidan's: D Keenan, CP Crossley, PNJ Blumer.
St Bede's: SJ Hansen, CHJ Dale, CAH Bolton.
St Cuthbert's: JN Perry, RP O'Kelly, DKTE West.
St Dunstan's: JTH Farrell, DCA Green, DV Marmon.
St Edward's: HRDM Mansel-Pleydell, JM Bunting, CLP Kennedy.
St Hugh's: PD Brown, AM Duthie, RW Jackson, NP Torpey.
St John's: PR French, A.G.A Brown, HMJ Hare.
St Oswald's: PMC Vincent, STB Fattorini.
St Thomas's: W Beardmore-Gray, JE Schulte, DF Cheetham, AD Marr.
St Wilfrid's: SJ Evans, RM Hudson, JB Codrington.

The following boys left the School in July 1984:

St Aidan's: PJ Busby, CP Crossley, CWR Hoare, MR Holmes, CA Ingham, PFT Jones, DA King, CRD O'Brien, HMCV O'Sullivan, AC Pennington, JD Swift, SCP Tyrrell, TH Woodhead.
St Bede's: SF Baker, CAH Bolton, THJ Burke-Gaffney, CHJ Dale, JCH Harding, EJ Hart, S Hansen, MN Lilley, AWH Osborne, JD Patmore, DR Pemberton, MH Wardle.
St Cuthbert's: RP Fawcett, BL Galloway, DH Helm, PS Leonard, DCW Lowe, RP O'Kelly, DKTE West.
St Dunstan's: PA Beharrel, RJA England, DCA Green, RF Longy, MA McKibbin, DV Marmon, AE Nyland, TM Parsons.
St Edward's: DPN Abbott, JM Bunting, DPC Chambers, DJ Cunningham, NR Elliot, HRDM Mansel-Pleydell, JC Porter, GR Preston.
St John's: AGA Brown, CP Flynn, HMJ Hare, D Kemp, JPR Lough, NJ Read, MS Rochford, AJ Twemlow, AF Wells.
St Oswald's: MJ Ainscough, TG Coreth, MV Cunningham, STB Fattorini, BJ James, PCJ Lardner, EJFV Melotte, MC Simpson, IG van den Berg, PDC Williams.
St Thomas's: WF Angelo-Sparling, W Beardmore-Gray, DF Cheetham, RJ Connelly, JR Hamill, SJ Hume, MT James, PJ Perry, JP Giles, JE Schulte, TA Weaver, JPH Young.
St Wilfrid's: CP Baily, SHA Corbally, SJ Evans, SJ Gillon, DMC Hickey, JD Macmillan, CHE Moreton, WR Sharpley, Hon. AJCS Shirley.
Junior House: AR Gage, PS Lindsay.
The following boys joined the School in September 1984:

From schools other than J.H. and Gilling:
- DA Baker (B)
- MM Byrne (A)
- HRW Campbell (C)
- SNC Cash (B)
- RSHA Clemencey (A)
- RTT Corbett (J)
- HRW Campbell (C)
- SNC Cash (B)
- RSHA Clemencey (A)
- RTT Corbett (J)
- HRW Campbell (C)
- SNC Cash (B)
- RSHA Clemencey (A)
- RTT Corbett (J)
- HRW Campbell (C)
- SNC Cash (B)
- RSHA Clemencey (A)
- RTT Corbett (J)

From Junior House:
- MT Auty (A)
- ADB Boyle (H)
- PC Brisby (D)
- DM Casado (A)
- JWA de VB Dewar (E)
- WG Easterby (H)
- AG Gannon (O)
- PH Gaskin (W)
- WA Gavin (W)
- WR Gilbert (O)
- GNR Giordano (J)
- CE Guetti (O)
- SE Griffin (D)
- EMH Guest (W)
- PE McLarren (B)
- TDS Holroyd (O)
- PG Kassapian (H)
- DJ Lazzaro (J)
- TCK Rist (E)
- AM Reynolds (J)
- TCF Rendall (E)
- CJ Nobler (H)
- PRW Perceval (B)
- AH Reilly (A)
- JS Ridgeway (D)
- AP Lovett (B)
- HJ Macauley (D)
- PJ Macauley (D)
- RF McGillic (B)
- AK Mandal (H)
- FJD Nevola (J)
- CJ Nobler (H)
- PRW Perceval (B)
- AJD Pike (A)
- AWT Reynolds (J)
- TCK Rist (E)
- ME Sexton (J)
- DR Sinclair (H)
- JP Smallman (B)
- PA Strinati (A)
- RP Sturgis (O)
- W Thompson (B)
- DF Tixby (D)
- AF von Westenholz (E)
- JFC Wayman (E)
- BH Wells (E)
- JF Welsh (D)
- RJ Weldon (D)
- RBL Wollny (E)

Sixth Form Entry:
- CH Eastwood (C)
- WB Hicks (O)
- JM Timms (T)
- JA Welstead (A)
- RE Williamson (J)
- BCWY Wright (T)
- DM Sweeney (A)

From schools other than J.H. and Gilling:
- AEJDH Redmond (B)
- DA Sellers (D)
- MT Stanton (T)
- RE Steel (B)
- FW Stewar (E)
- JD Stones (A)
- PH Thoms (T)
- JH Thompson (D)
- TJ Ticehurst (A)
- BJ Warrack (W)

From Gilling:
- NJ Beale (C)
- PGD Bingham (B)
- MP Burtwell (O)
- EJS Butler (W)
- FA Caley (C)
- JR Cridland (W)
- PR Dixon (O)
- DA Galloway (O)
- DPG Grant (A)
- SR Gillespie (D)
- MP Holgate (T)
- WDG Jackson (C)
- TJ Knight (H)
- HJ Lorrimer (W)
- AG Mayer (J)
- RW Murphy (C)
- JCM Oxley (A)
- JM Parsimon (W)
- MJ Spalding (W)
- RD Thomas (H)
- RM Twomey (H)
- A Uribe (O)
- LA Wales (F)
- GH Watson (A)
- EF Weaver (T)
- J Whittaker (J)

The following scholarships were awarded in May 1984:

**MAJOR SCHOLARSHIPS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E Jennings</td>
<td>St Richard's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRW Perceval</td>
<td>St Bede's, Bakston Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W Thompson</td>
<td>Ascham House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JHP Caddigan</td>
<td>Moor Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MM Byrne</td>
<td>Rokeby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JN Hague</td>
<td>The Ryles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CN D'Netto</td>
<td>St Bede's, Bakston Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE McHargan</td>
<td>Junior House, Ampleforth College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AW Reynolds</td>
<td>Moor Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHORISTER SCHOLARSHIPS**

- R Crossley (A)
- SF Kemp (D)
- P Hargan (B)
- EMH Guest (W)
- PE McHargan (B)

**INSTRUMENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

- ST Edmund Campion School
- Fyling Hall School
- Junior House, Ampleforth College

- Mature Award
- Honours

- St Edmund Campion School
- Fyling Hall School
- Junior House, Ampleforth College
- Moor Park

**COMMON ROOM NOTES**

DAVID LENTON retired in July. He joined the staff in 1968 from Queen Elizabeth's, Wakefield, where he had been head of the Classics department—a post which he also held at Ampleforth shortly before his retirement. As well as teaching Greek and Latin throughout the school, he was much valued as an historian (he read history for the second part of his Tripos at Magdalene College, Cambridge) and on the games field, not least during his partnership with Michael Henry in coaching Junior Colts cricket; but despite his own school days at Oundle before the war, he showed no wish to instruct his pupils in the workings of motor-car engines. For a number of years he was Careers master, and his impressive command of the ever-increasing complications of that post was esteemed alike by boys, parents and colleagues. His pupils will have affectionate memories of a traditional 'Classics beak' of the best kind— scholar, quietly authoritative, endlessly painstaking, and impatient only of slovenly work and behaviour. The Common Room will miss the civilised company and laconic humour of a colleague whose practical wisdom and judicial impartiality have served us in many ways, and who had the distinction— rare among schoolmasters—of never talking nonsense. We wish him a long and contented retirement.

REG PHILLIPS joined the staff in September 1980, as Head of Science, having come from a similar post in Gloucestershire. As a physicist he joined that department and taught throughout the school. In addition to his teaching at Ampleforth he held the post of examinations Secretary for the association for Science Education and was chief examiner in 'A' Level Physics for the London Board. He had extensive knowledge of science curricula throughout the country and up-to-date information on examining boards and thus could keep the school well informed of the latest developments in these fields. For his first term he lived in College and was an entertaining colleague to talk with in the evenings. When his wife, Anne, came north they moved into a house in Sutton and, regrettably, less was seen of them socially. Mrs Phillips taught for one year with us on a part-time basis in the biology department. Reg accepted early retirement from teaching in March 1984, but will continue with his work on examination boards. We wish him and Anne every happiness for the future.

At the end of the summer term we were sorry to bid farewell to IAN LOVAT as Head of the Physics Department. Very rapidly during these five years he developed into a schoolmaster who was held in the highest regard both by his colleagues and friends on the staff and by the boys whom he taught. To every field in which he worked, and these were numerous, he brought the same blend of loyalty, modesty, humour, high ideals and high standards which earned him universal respect and friendship. We wish Ian and his wife, Alison, every success and happiness in the future at Malvern College, where Ian has taken up the post of Head of the Physics Department.
THE AMPLEFORTH JOURNAL

PETER WHITE left Ampleforth at the end of the Spring Term 1984 to take up a very important post as Director of Music at the Guildford Royal Grammar School. He was educated at Kings School, Canterbury and at New College, Oxford, where he was a choral scholar and where he got to know several OA's including Simon Finlow (A73), Charles Hattrell (E77) and Dominic Dowley (A76). After a year at the University of London Institute of Education, he was appointed Assistant Music Master at Ampleforth in 1979 to teach oboe, piano, academic music and of course to sing in the schola. He made a tremendous contribution to Ampleforth music, most obviously as a brilliant tenor soloist and as an oboist and jazz musician and will also be remembered for his lively personality and his tremendous sense of fun.

DAVID LOWE left Ampleforth at the end of the summer term to take up an appointment as Senior English Master at Caterham School. He read English at Cambridge where he was a choral scholar at Gonville and Caius College. After leaving Cambridge he studied at the Mozarteum in Salzburg where he was awarded the performing diploma in singing (Dip Ges). For some years he was Director of Music at Westminster Cathedral Choir School and we were very fortunate to be able to call upon his very expert knowledge as Master in charge of Junior House Music, a post he has held since 1981. He will be missed, not only in Junior House but also particularly in the Schola Cantorum in which he was a very distinguished bass soloist. We remember with affection his superb performances when the choir sang for the 4th Centenary celebrations of St Teresa of Avila. We congratulate David on his promotion and hope his responsibilities will still allow time for him to continue with some of his musical activities. We offer David, Ursula and family very best wishes for their future happiness in Surrey.

KEVIN CROWDY joined the staff of the Junior House in 1979 to teach History both here and in the Upper School. The news that he was leaving at the end of the summer term 1984 came as an unwelcome surprise both to his Junior House and Upper School colleagues. Kevin had a way of enlivening everything with a particular Hibernian flair. This was evident, not only in his History classes where rebel Republican songs must first have been heard by the Ampleforth heirs to British Imperialism, but also on the games field where hurling was demonstrated as well as the finer arts of Rugby. Being a true advocate of the learning of the 'Island of Saints and Scholars', he forged a striking link between History and Art. This could be seen on the walls of Junior House classrooms and naturally included many notable examples of Celtic Art. This artistic talent could also be seen in various backdrops for Junior House plays as well as in the Junior House life mural in the west corridor.

EXHIBITION — 1984

THE HEADMASTER

It is not fashionable these days for institutions to appear confident. We have been bombarded, before and during this year of 1984, with a great deal of political, economic, social and moral question-raising. It seems at times almost a duty to be pessimistic. It is extremely important here to distinguish carefully between complacency and confidence. Complacency means either thinking that there are no major problems or thinking that, if there are problems, they will go away if one stands still. Complacency is always a recipe for inertia. Confidence, on the other hand, implies the ability to identify problems and the courage to tackle them. Now it is perfectly obvious that any institution like Ampleforth is bound these days to face very considerable problems. I would like to touch on a few of them, and to indicate what sort of solutions we have in mind, either from our tradition or from the needs of the moment. I would like to start with a concrete problem, which has been brought to the attention of all of you during these last few years: that of our building programme.

It is well known to you all that we have spent a long time discussing the priorities, the phasing, and the financing of these buildings. The basic problem was that sooner or later we had to replace our central buildings; that has been our target since the first round of buildings in the seventies, and it remains our target now. It was also necessary for us to set about updating our special facilities — by this time next year, with God's blessing, we shall have completed not only this Sports Centre, not only the Sunley Design Centre, but also a new Music Centre in the vicinity of the gymnasium. We will then be in a position to set out on the 'wilderness' years between the destruction of the old building and the completion of its replacement. I say the 'wilderness' years because they are going to be very inconvenient years indeed, and they will be a real test of our confidence in the monastery and in the school.

Now down all these years, when we have had to face a very complex and demanding building programme, we have had tremendous support from you and from those whom you represent, your predecessors and other contributors to our appeals. This current appeal is not our first appeal. Since the 1945 war, Ampleforth has launched three major appeals. You, our clients, supporters and friends, started by giving us our Abbey Church. You have gone on in that spirit, and we are profoundly grateful for the confidence that you have shown in us. It is our duty to match it. In this context I must, both personally and on behalf of the school, pay tribute to the tremendous support given to the school, the building and the Appeal by Abbot Ambrose. Everybody could see the extent of his energy and his dedication; only those who worked closely with him were aware of his unstinted dedication to the welfare of the Community and the school, his relentless eye for detail and his exhaustible capacity for taking pains. He entered fully into the work of the Appeal, and in a great many ways showed me, personally and as Headmaster, very great support and friendship. I am sure that this gathering would wish to echo me in gratitude for what he has done for Ampleforth.
By the same token I have the feeling that our new Fr Abbot may have a thing or two to contribute. I am informed on good authority that he is not unaware of the sort of problems that schools face. It is a great personal honour for me to share this platform with Abbot Patrick, with whom I have worked very closely for many years. It is not only the fact that he is an ex-Headmaster that encourages me, he represents a deeper reality in our monastic and educational tradition. He himself has been a very high quality stonecarver; for a short time he managed the school shop; he was a teacher of classical languages and of theology; he has worked on our parishes; he has studied and taught the theology of modern evangelisation. He represents both the essential diversity of our own special monastic tradition, and the underlying spiritual purpose which gives it, not only its meaning, but its stamina and its dynamism. I am sure that we will all pray most earnestly at tomorrow's Mass that God will richly bless his years as Abbot.

I return now to my theme, which is that of finding the right level of confidence in facing the particular problems which are ours. My next problem is the typical Exhibition problem. It is how to assess the school's development during the last year. Personally I am always hesitant about anything that resembles a review of the year, anything that seems like a list of glowing successes, an attempt to convince the parents that we have at least a good shopfront. It is extremely difficult to assess achievement. Exhibition is not the Day of Judgement, nor is the Brochure a kind of Book of Doom or even a golden Book of Life. It is merely a random cross-section — one year cut out of the very complex and inter-locking pattern of many individual lives, many quiet struggles, many real achievements. Even, for instance, in assessing ‘A’ level results, one D grade may be worth more, may signify more in one case, than three A grades in another, and one should always remember this when looking at lists of successes, or at the comparative records of different schools. There is a great fashion nowadays for publishing and comparing results, and I would like to stress that the results of a good independent school, with a very competitive entry, are bound to look better than those of an urban comprehensive school (which may well be a much better school). However, all that being said, I am bound to say that our ‘A’ level results last year were good. I have spent the last two years making rather dire forecasts about our examinations results. I think all Headmasters are apt to be a bit neurotic on this point: one hears sounds of distant merriment echoing from Sixth Form galleries, and one wonders whether the school is degenerating into a rather second-rate country club; one does await the ‘A’ level results with a good deal of interest. Now over the last two years our results at ‘A’ level have been our best ever. I do congratulate all those boys who, in a mysterious way, behind all the odours of coffee on the sixth Form Gallery, did manage to put in a good deal of work.

In the context of ‘A’ level performance, I would like to mention briefly the whole question of entry to Oxford and Cambridge. I have already informed parents in some detail about the content in the...
intents and purposes, of the accepted, over-riding recognition of the Christian
Utopia, of what used to be called, by Christian tradition, the Four Last Things —
— Death, Judgement, Hell and Heaven. Modern humanism promised, by
abolishing such inconvenient concepts as sin or goodness, to make everybody
free and relaxed and happy, without the old-fashioned constraints of God and
the fear of hell. What have they achieved, except a generalised sense of moral
apathy and anarchy? Is it surprising that the young are sceptical
about what adults have to say, whether those adults be their own parents, or
myself, or anybody? There is not much to suggest that promises made by the
adult world have much to offer, and for this very reason it is extremely
important that an institution of this kind should be based on a philosophy which
is clear, confident and convincing.

Now it is not enough to have good buildings, good facilities, good
standards, good traditions; it is not enough to preach ancient virtues of loyalty
and service and industry (though we shall continue to do so); it is not even
enough to preach simple faith, though simple faith is important. Simple faith,
however, is a pure gift of God, and it cannot be institutionalised any more than
love can. What we have to do is to recognise that the barbarians are at the gate,
and to insist, quietly and always, on certain fundamental attitudes which must
continue to permeate school life and must continue to confront the boys in this
school who will (like the rest of us) be experiencing in their own lives a very
considerable conflict of values, a tide-race of conflicting ideas — on the one hand
the selfishness and cynicism which seem to be (and are often applauded as being)
the best way of exploiting the system, and which lead to so much dishonesty in
professional life (and we know it), and on the other hand the great traditional
imperatives of the Commandments and the Beatitudes.

I would like, quietly and without too much dramatic emphasis, to include
three qualities which seem to me essential. The first is a quality which is acquired
by the practice, the constant daily practice, of honesty, thought, attention; it is
the ability to distinguish between what is true and what is false; between what is
real and what is sham; between what is deep and what is merely trivial. You may
call this, if you wish, prudence (as the theologians used to) or discretion or
discernment. I prefer a word that has a more generalized and more accessible
impact, and it is the simple word —Sanity. I noticed the other day, in the citation
of the award of Columnist of the Year to Hugo Young, who is an old
Ampleforth boy, the following words: "Hugo Young is the political
commentator for all reasonable people, whatever their political leanings. His
chief asset is an open mind, which prevents him from getting carried along when
a political issue goes over the top. By coupling common sense with political
sense, and with the ability to clarify the most confused issues, he is "must"
reading for anyone interested in politics without propaganda". Now that
phrase, "politics without propaganda", indicates the sort of mental attitude of
Sanity, Compassion, Spiritual Courage; I really believe that it is our
duty at home and at school to challenge the young always with these qualities,
and with the atmosphere which such an emphasis will generate.

I once knew a girl who was taken away from her convent school and sent
away to a place (of which I had never heard at that point) called a Finishing
School. Well, two years later I knew what a Finishing School was — it
had finished her off completely; but it certainly hadn't finished her education. I want
to make one thing perfectly clear: that we are not a Finishing School. The
concept of "finishing" is as alien to us as the concept of "cramming". We are
neither a crammer nor a finishing school; whatever else Ampleforth boys turn
out like, they are not crammed (sometimes not crammed enough), and they are
certainly not finished. If anything, Ampleforth aims to be a "starting" school.
The sort of qualities I have been talking about are not ones that you can put on to
the top of an 18-year-old Ampleforth boy as a sort of nice polish. There is
nothing magic about the age of eighteen, and it is certainly far more of a start
than it is of a finish.

I would like to end by referring if I may to a letter I recently got from an Old
Boy of ours who is at university — a long letter about his present religious
position. He was describing to me his memories of Ampleforth and its
connection with his present position — already some distance from

phoney about the rights of the neighbour, whether it is the neighbour at home,
in the house, in the classroom, in the streets, in the third world, or wherever.
Those rights are real. And the living out of that recognition — you can call it
charity, love, whatever you like, but I think a better word (one that is used
maybe too much nowadays) is the word Compassion. Compassion means the
ability to "suffer with". I believe it is already a strong feature of life here, in the
EXHIBITION
Ampleforth, already looking forward to a longer life, not seeing his school career as a closed book. “In my fourth and fifth years at Ampleforth I had a great thirst for ideas, for discussion and argument, attack and defence of religious matters, but I was not sure where I stood and I could argue the case for either side — and I still can. Ampleforth taught me to think and to question, to examine structures before building on them. Ampleforth is responsible for the fact that I do not accept Catholicism unquestioningly, as I did ten years ago, but also for the fact that any religious beliefs I may have will always be thought out and hence able to withstand the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune”. Now those words describe one stage of a journey, similar to the journey upon which all your sons are embarked. The finishing of this young man’s story (this is why in a sense it is true that we do educate for death) is in God’s hands as well as in his own; but I am confident that, in spite of all our limitations, he has made a good start.

The above has been edited for publication by Fr Dominic. Editor.

AID TO POLAND

Thank you to donors — June-July 1984

The Exhibition Appeal for Poland was successful, and over £2,000 has been sent to Lady Ryder for the Home at Konstancin for girls crippled by arthritis. A van load of clothing has been sent to the Sue Ryder shop at Harrogate, to raise money for general Polish relief. Most valuable of all, a substantial donation of approaching 2 million fully packaged standard multivitamin tablets from a Glaxo Group Company, Farley Health Products, has been given to Lady Ryder for distribution in Poland.

Father Leo will always be happy to advise anyone who wishes to take further steps to bring aid to Poland. Medical supplies in particular continue to be in acutely short supply, and the Konstancin Home is still in great need.

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WHY DO WE NEED MUSIC?
by WALTER GOEHR

The question put like that is unanswerable. Faced with the phenomenon ought one to convert or encourage? Or should one rather look at the matter historically? Modernisation begins about 1900: at the time, in contrast to what came before, it was more shocking than it now is to us: we must seek to express what it was like to be an artist at the time. Herbert Read said art was a direct measure of man's vision, and closely bound with religion and the spirit. He spoke of art but it is true of music; 'modern' is what is new or contemporary is of a particular kind, difficult, not fulfilling our expectations: it pleases in inverse ratio to musical understanding. Some contemporaries are 'modern', some are not.

At the end of the nineteenth century modern art evolved in France as anti-bourgeois and an opponent to prevailing social mores (Corbet, Ibsen): the followers were more extreme. Art was not comfortable. The events of 1914 and of 1917 were for the avant-garde a demonstration of what they were attacking: war was the embodiment of the crisis in the Society they had described. Terrified but tender, those who died were but mice. Death was collective and came we knew not whence. Art attempted to put experience together into constructive wholes, in contrast to the collective comfort of the bourgeois. (It was arguable that Beethoven was doing the same thing a hundred years before). Modernisation was the message of the individual against a hostile, boorish and wealthy society having art perhaps but no inner values. The Russian revolution appeared to put theory into practice: They march with sovereign tread unharmed by bullets: up in front is Jesus Christ. It was not sympathy with Bolshevism that moved people but the idea that a spiritual revolution was actually happening. This music is a wild choir, the contrary of those melodies to which we have been accustomed — one thinks of Marinetti and the futurists with their noise-making machines. A better example might be Schoenberg's incomplete oratorio of 1917 Jacob's Ladder. In this Gabriel expresses the individual's mission: Right or left, forward or back, you must go on to perform your task: it is a heavy load — what terrible pains, destruction of will, death, violence, blood and wounds! It is buried and forgotten.

It is not a case of innovation or alternative in the language of music — the notes are the same — but rather a separation of language from its meaning (the music's stance). The question is not an important one, but it requires attentive listening. There is heightened dissonance and greater fragmentation. This can be shown by comparing two pieces, Ravel's Valse noble et sentimentale and a waltz by Schoenberg: they are contemporary, their chords are not dissimilar, but (as is evident to the ear) their 'stance' is quite different. There is a difference of type: to some extent it is a matter of what a composer chooses to avoid. The Ravel is elaborate, refined: it fulfils what we expect of a waltz. It is varied, followable, —
and oppressive. The Romans were more practical, and less interested in pure form: the Gothic emphasised the upward movement of the vertical (like Kings College) but when the renaissance overtook architecture the spirit of innovation ran out, even though architecture was still seen as the experience of man's feelings and reaction towards God.

Can architecture of the last fifty years be seen in relation to these principles? Some would say that the buildings resulting were ghastly: but so might they speak of the period's drama, music or poetry. Buildings stay with us in a way more permanent and obtrusive than the producers of their arts: they cannot be hidden. Architecture is needed as a discipline, especially with the spread of townscape. Space between buildings is all important: we cannot consider architecture in isolated pieces except perhaps in empty parkland. That the Greeks were aware of the human need for contrast and the drama of juxtaposition, the significance of space and the skilful control of relationships is evident at Delphi. In modern towns the long and the straight is dull: there is much more interest in the right juxtapositions of Italian hill villages. Corners have great value for surprise: you cannot see round them.

Modernisation is dead. Various recent cubist structures were only functional and economic: the rules had been written by accountants. They were planned in isolation: there was little regard given to surroundings or detail. On the other hand there is danger in revivalism: the resurrection of historical elements is stimulating but divisive. There has perhaps been influence from the art and craft revival. Modernisation was international (all airports and hotels look the same); in its place is a growing affection for the indigenous, the vernacular, picturesque or regional. The intelligent use of brick has increased, the big Kentish tiled roofs, or the possible romantic stone pitched roof: there is manifested a love for oriels, narrow windows, piers, arches, even buttresses. Some of this is mere revivalism: as such it is a weakness. It raises the question whether the inhabitants matter in a building.

Another way out of modernisation is the 'hi-tech' style — cable-suspended roofs, factory-made components, technical sophistication. A third is the revival of pure classicism, a use of pediments and porticos with much attention to proportion and details. These developments are too close to us, for it is easy to see an overall pattern. But there is more idea of architecture as spiritual celebration, as a source of pleasure.

The Ampleforth buildings are a collection of different items, with the Abbey Church and Study Block strong items. We have the problem of replacing the centre. If what is on site already is poor or neutral then something strong is needed. A new plan should take existing elements and weld them into a design which caters for the needs of today and reflects without copying. And we build for performance. It would be cheaper to build 'modern': but we must avoid imitating without understanding. Vernacular is local. The Old House is a fairly low key and undistinguished example of its period and in poor condition: some parts are second hand. It is right to proceed in its replacement.
CREATIVE ARTS

THEATRE

THE ROYAL HUNT OF THE SUN

Exhibition Play

This play is dauntingly difficult to produce and especially ambitious with a young cast. It concerns the problem of faith: a man must believe in something or become a despairing animal, yet the brighter and more enriching his hope, the sooner hard experience must eclipse it ... and what then? Young Martin 'believes in' Pizarro whom he calls 'my altar, my bright image of salvation', and eventually forsakes his unvulnerable cynicism in the shadow of approaching death and 'believes in' Atahuallpa. The results are catastrophic for both of them.

To be successful, therefore, the play must create two worlds: a grey, cold, pragmatic one and a colourful one of faith, myth, and imagination, and both worlds must be credible. The audience must identify with the Europeans and yet be able for just a few minutes, to say 'Amen' with Pizarro to the Inca's creed.

That this play did, on the whole, succeed is due mainly to the skilful performances of the leading actors, Anthony Tatton's Pizarro was a subtle and mature presentation acted with flexibility and sympathy, Ben Cave's Atahuallpa was majestic, but versatile enough to change gear for the second half of the play when he must appear less remote and more human. Between then, making full use of the humour and poignancy of the second Act they captured the audience, handling the growth of their mutual respect and affection with particular sensitivity.

Old Martin is the narrator who must straddle the divide between the audience and the action, explaining and commenting. James Hervey played this part with a warmth and self-assurance not often found in boy actors. He converted what could have been mere corner-stage monologues into powerful dramatic statements which not only served to project his own character, but, like punctuation, ordered and phrased the rest of the action, giving it pace and meaning.

It is a fact of common experience that fourth formers, on the whole, cannot act their age. Sam Bond is an exception. He brought an innocence, spontaneity and sincerity of feeling to the part of Young Martin which was sheer joy. He communicated his naive enthusiasm and faith to the audience so well that the loss of it, in his disappointment in Pizarro, was able to give the concluding ironies of the play their full impact.

The production was particularly successful in translating themes and tensions of the words and images into visual drama. In the opening scenes our eyes, which had grown accustomed to a blood red disc dominating a sombre stage and brown-grey costumes, were dazzled by the opening of that disc into a blindingly golden sun, with magical music and rainbow vestments on the priests. There was the irresistibly attractive world of Atahuallpa. The audience, like Pizarro, were caught like flies on the rim of a golden honey pot. During the
massacre of the Incas the sun pulsed feverishly like a failing heart and was
eclipsed, leaving us with a stunning silhouette of Atahualpa to end Act I, and,
when the gold cloth was ripped out of the centre of it by the greedy soldiery it
remained a blind, gaping eye dominating an impoverished stage.

There were other remarkable effects. During the description of how the
Spaniards crossed the snowy Andes, ‘musical saws’ sent physical shivers
through us. When Atahualpa was captured, an atmosphere of distress and panic
was created by very loud and jarring music on disturbingly unfamiliar
instruments. At one point, the soldiers performed a choreographed ‘march
ning on the spot’ to show how they crossed the plains like gods, or rather, as Pizarro,
having tied himself to his prisoner, boas of having his God ‘on a string’, but his
attempts to pull him along only result in him running round and round the Inca
at string’s length, like a planet round its sun.

On the negative side, the priests were played without any real conviction.
Angus Fraser’s Dominican chaplain was more of a caricature of a religious
fanatic than a real one, and Hugo Fircks made the disappointing error of
presenting Fray Marcos as the inseparable partner of his co-missionary. This
kept the two characters at the same level of dramatic quality for the audience and
made it difficult for them to distinguish between the Dominican’s hysterical
dogmatism and the Franciscan’s very real criticisms of the Inca Utopia which,
being made at Shaffer’s own level of faith as part of the human condition and
experience, ought to have had much greater force than it did. Ben Hall as the
Royal Overseer was more ridiculous than arrogant, and instead of representing
the prejudices and pretences of Old Europe in the New World, was reduced to
an Iberian equivalent of ‘The Englishman Abroad’. Lastly, there is a long and
important scene in the first Act where Pizarro tries to explain his views on faith,
and the history behind them, to De Soto. I got the distinct impression that even
our talented actors found this virtual monologue a tunnel with no light at the
other end. Dramatic interest ebbed and for a few minutes we were watching a
radio play in costume.

Other minor parts were played well. Damien Byrne-Hill was astonishingly
epicene as the corrupt Inca interpreter; Bernard Akporlaye, as Headman of 1000
families was a very satisfying ‘noble savage’; The Master of Horse (Jonti
Barclay), with his curt lines and bluff natural manner summed up the slightly
soiled humanity of the Spanish soldiers; Matthew Phillips achieved just the right
balance between De Canda’s foppishness and his brutality of feeling, and last
but not least, there was De Soto. This is a difficult part. He must, amidst all the
distressing ambiguities around him, maintain a convincing integrity and project
a sincere confidence in his beliefs he has brought from Spain despite the spiritual
bankruptcy of most of the other characters (especially the priests), Charles
O’Malley played this part with sustained tact and skill.

Br Jeremy
This verse play for radio, first given on the Third Programme in 1953, was a most enterprising choice for the Downstairs Theatre at Exhibition. It has never before been staged in England and although its author, the American poet Archibald Macleish, mourned at the time the philistinism of American radio which forced the play into stage performance only, this production showed it to be well suited for presentation in the theatre.

The play concerns a group of rich Americans idling life away on beauty, gramophone records, and rum in a Caribbean island related to Prospero's. The lazy but jittery atmosphere, in which the rising moon is capable of validating the whole of life for some, while others cope with the terrors of escape from the real world in cynicism or alcohol, was well caught in the elegant set and carefully-paced performance. The 'twenties costumes were appropriate to the play's Jazz Age air of after-the-party-Ange, while the choice of Granados piano piece as the music to 'creep by' these foundered princes hit a perfectly judged point between the nostalgic and the exotic.

The verse, written in a four-stressed line lapsing too often into rather limp iambic pentameters, was on the whole competently delivered. Lucien Lindsay-McDougall and Andrew Lodge, as the estranged couple in whose house a dinner party never quite takes place, and Michael Marret-Crosby as their female house-guest, seemed most at home with the verse. Some of Gerard Wales's sardonic Englishman's lines were hard to hear, though his performance had a fine, languid polish, and Sebastian Chambers and Justin Arbuthnott were excellent as an embarrassingly drunk mid-Western couple (Chambers's accent was not so much Milwaukee as deep Alabama). The rest of the cast of dinner guests, William Carleton Paget, James Sandbach, Patrick Magrane and Alex Downes, were adequately convincing, though Patrick Magrane didn't quite bring off the declaration of love to his hostess which provokes the play's catastrophe. This was more the author's fault than the actor's, since an adopted elopement which fails with the kind of silent emotional explosion that Chekhov does so well has to be more carefully prepared than Macleish gives himself dramatic scope for.

The trouble with the play is that it is about, at once, too much and not enough. There is a good deal of over-explicit musing on the heart, reality and the present moment, but the play's affirmations seem in the end slight, and to confuse happiness with pleasure in the very way that it seems intended to deplore. We are 'Answerable to the loveliness of out lives. To nothing else', says the wife's lover at the play's climax (when the elopement doesn't happen because of a suicide that hasn't happened either), offering as a cure what would appear to do nicely as a diagnosis.

Nevertheless, if one disregards its own claims to philosophical substance, there is plenty in the play to enjoy, certainly enough verbal subtlety, atmosphere and distinction to justify Ian Davie's choice of it, and his successfully realised and very stylish production.

Lucy Warrack
THE AMPLEFORTH JOURNAL

JUNIOR PLAYS

The success of these plays depended largely on how well they suited the expectations peculiar to a Junior play's audience, anxious to laugh at something or someone. Allegorical and only incidentally funny, “The Sandbox” was unco-operative with the evening’s mood and failed, despite the excellently cast Francetti and Pickles. The former’s impressive athleticism and genuinely imperfect English, made him perfect for the part of the exercising film-star/Angel of Death, while the latter gave the impression that he could play nothing but a grouchy, put-upon grandma. Croaking, gesticulating and dying inelegantly, but stylishly, he almost made the play work. Sadly, he was let down by Bond’s rather weak performance. Critical deference to the playwright’s origins was soon replaced by a most un-American accent. Unnatural hand movements and lines said as if read further marred this attempt. Crittenden was only adequate as the bored Danny, looking — annoyingly — at least as old as his mother. Although competently directed, “The Sandbox” had to be excellent to succeed. It wasn’t.

Nor was “The Cinderella Story”, but it did succeed, despite more glaring faults. The play was too long-winded for its one idea; the Directors hadn’t managed to sniff out amateurish nose-to-nose, shuffling dialogues; Alex Valentine was totally unconvincing as the Godmother; Ben Beardmore-Grey could barely act. But superb performances from Dunkerley and Lodge especially swept away minor niggles. Lodge had a hard task, acting a bitch, acting a meek darling, but mastered it exquisitely. With perfect tones and smarmy smiles, he was utterly believable. Dunkerley, equally credible, spoke clearly and with conviction, inspiring real pity at Lavinia’s lot. These were well supported by Pascal Harvey, the matronly Shuttleworth, and Giles Cummings helped by funny lines and hat.

The climactic “15 minute Hamlet” promised badly with Leeper’s Shakespeare delivering his lines uncomprehendingly. It turned out to be a triumph, with Buchan magnificent. Always on cue and always in control, he held the play together with a performance characterised by jerking arms and spinning eyes. Scampering and dying hilariously, Ophelia was similarly successful. A cool Marvellus and a base gravedigger, Falvey was fun and well-directed. The direction was largely dictated by the action, but the directors deserve praise for organising the quick-fire succession of scenes so well in such a short time; the action was punctuated only by longish stage-handling — cheered massively on each occasion. This exuberance had some effect on the actors (Laertes grinned enthusiastically on hearing of his father’s death) but in general they coped well. Swart was rather wooden as Polonius, but Gertrude and Claudius were a convincing pair — the latter’s supercilious smile ideal. But these characters became markedly peripheral with Robert Buchan so outstanding. In the face of keen opposition from Andrew Lodge, he was the star of a very good show.

John McEwan (O)
sections. However, having settled down the best was to follow.

Julian Cunningham was an outstanding soloist in Beethoven’s C Minor Piano Concerto. His presence was giving the audience a sense of security which remained throughout the work. The opening long orchestral tutti under the very professional baton of Simon Wright was secure and impressive and with the introductory scales from Julian we settled down to a very enlightened performance. The beautiful cantabile second subject was finely played and his cadenza was strong and very mature. Julian was very much the soloist at all times and the rapport between the conductor, orchestra and soloist was always good. The second movement was beautifully played with again some excellent cantabile playing, not always easy to sustain in this very powerful movement, which never ceases to cause one to sit up with Beethoven’s dramatic changes of key.

Julian then led us into the final Rondo taken at a very sensible speed. His playing was clear, strong and technically very good throughout, bringing us to the end of this important Concerto. For a student to be playing this work while still at school with such an orchestra, most of whom were of school age, leaves little room for comment on the standard. The orchestra played in a truly professional manner throughout with just a little weakness at times in the strings and, sadly, too few Viola players which seems to be a national problem. I was not aware until after the performance that Julian had injured his hand the previous week!

Finally the evening ended with a selection of Viennese music introduced and conducted with a great sense of humour by Simon Wright. I only hoped the orchestra enjoyed it as much as the audience. A smile or two in response to Simon and the music would have helped. Despite this, the percussion in the Gold and Silver Waltz stood out as intended: the Polka, Blue Danube and Egyptian dance were played well and, at last, smiles in the Pizzicato Polka! The Radetzky March followed and finally with a very enthusiastic audience clamouring for an encore ‘Pepetuo Mobile’ appeared with the trumpeters retrieving their music, the Double Basses stating their case and Simon Wright leaving them to it!

A truly memorable experience when students are able to produce such an evening as this with external examinations in the near future and a very full timetable for everyone.

AMPLEFORTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

(The above programme was played at a public performance two weeks before Exhibition).

Ampleforth Symphony Orchestra has come a long way over the years. Certainly its Viennese programme on Sunday evening at St Alban Hall, Ampleforth College, revealed that it can play to an admirable standard in music both grave and gay.

Most of Beethoven’s career was centred on Vienna and he played the premiere of his own Third Piano Concerto himself there in 1803. A student, Julian Cunningham shouldered that mantle on Sunday with unfailingly intelligent musicianship.

His sense of articulation was particularly lively in the first movement where the orchestra under Simon Wright shared his excitement. The development section was a shade tense, but he steadied himself down, as the cadenza progressed.

After a slow movement that was more of a patch-work quilt than I suspect Beethoven intended, Mr Cunningham regained momentum in a finale that was as emotionally persuasive as it was technically assured. His future ambitions include Oxford and a musical career, but I hope they will not preclude an occasional return to Yorkshire.

The atmosphere was altogether more lighthearted in Strauss family music after the interval, but discipline remained intact — almost. It is true that the percussion came over like Royal Artillery in the Thunder and Lightning Polka and that real corks popped unevenly in the Champagne Polka.

But Mr Wright stylishly delayed his downbeats in the Blue Danube and there was room for the woodwinds to be more in tune with each other, in every sense, but it was a happy evening nonetheless.

Martin Dreyer, Malton Gazette

THE AMPLEFORTH SINGERS

Under the baton of a new conductor, Andrew Greasley, the Ampleforth Singers returned to work on basics, and so had less engagements. In the Spring term the only outside visit was to Knaresborough to sing Mass one Sunday evening (Charles Wood’s Communion Mass with two motets by Wesley). Fr Theodore and the ladies of the parish provided a delicious Lancashire Hotpot afterwards.

Perhaps the most important item was that the Singers won the Dette Music Prize, with a performance of Bruckner’s Locus Iste which the adjudicator said was one of the best he had ever heard.

In the Summer term we also had to prepare for an evening recital as part of the centenary celebrations of the parish church at Crayke. This was a programme of favourite motets, by Bruckner, Vaughan Williams, Wesley and Durufle, each introduced by a powerful prayerful reflection on the motet. Finally we were invited to sing at the Kirbymoorside parish Mass in St Chad’s Church at Lastingham, where we included our newest piece. Like the hart, by H Howells. This was followed by one of Miss Ackroyd’s unforgettable teas. At the end of term Mrs Brisby again invited us for a most enjoyable evening at Oldstead, with good food, an ice-cold swimming pool, and plenty of singing.
SPORT: EASTER TERM

THE 'A' FIFTEEN

YORK UNIVERSITY 7 v AMPLEFORTH 9 (1 February)

Awful conditions greeted the new team's first match, a strong wind blowing spitefully cold ran down the pitch. The boys made the most of their advantage in the first half, building a lead of nine points through a penalty by Channer and a fine try by Oulton. But down to 14 men and facing the elements, they found this lead gradually whittled away and it took heroic defence for them to walk off desperately tired and cold, victors by a slender margin.

POCKLINGTON 14 v AMPLEFORTH 7 (7 February)

Pocklington were a fine side and although the experimental new team, with a number of changes from the previous week, scored first with some delightful mucking, they were soon pinned down by a more experienced and powerful eight. Pocklington with first use of the strong wind levelled the scores when slack marking allowed a try under the posts. But 10-4 was not a winning score in those conditions and the XV were given new heart by a penalty by Channer to close the gap. Thereafter they did not use the conditions to their advantage and weak marking allowed a Pocklington score against the wind.

MIDDLESBROUGH COLTS 12 v AMPLEFORTH 17 (12 February)

The side showed that they had learnt a great deal from their disappointment four days earlier. Newman was a revelation in the line-out and the arrival of Hart in the back row gave solidity, speed and aggression to this unit. The XV won enough ball in their opponents' 22 to be out of sight by the interval but led only 13-6, through a combination of a failure to make the most of their chances and sterling defence by Middlesbrough. With the breeze in their favour, Middlesbrough attacked strongly and gained two penalties to make the score 13-12 with fifteen minutes to go. The pack had to achieve their earlier dominance again and Cox was able to score a simple try to give a fairer reflection of the game.

WEST HARTLEPOOL COLTS 9 v AMPLEFORTH 9 (21 February)

A very strong West Hartlepool did everything but win this game. Their pack was too rugged in the tight phases and so fiercely committed in the loose that the School pack could gain no possession whatsoever, except in the line-out where Newman again played a worthy game, surprising onlookers with his improvement in the loose after a mere three games. Poor Cox had an awful day behind his beaten pack and thus Channer was unable to serve threequarters who in the centre looked able to cause their opponents no end of trouble. Butler indeed kicked a towering penalty in the first three minutes and followed it with another before half time but it was already apparent that the back row unit was in desperate trouble against their speedier and more powerful opponents and it was no surprise when West Hartlepool scored from a penalty. Although Butler re-established the six point lead with another penalty, West Hartlepool scored a goal to prevent a victory which the School would not have deserved.

THE MOUNT SAINT MARY SEVENS

This was a disappointing day in which the new Seven promised a great deal in their first match but fell away finally achieving nothing, not even a modest improvement. It was all very baffling, as in their first game against the host school, the patience, the skill, the ball-winning capability, the tackling, all seemed to be there in good measure. Even the attack had its good moments. Yet a desperate start against Pocklington through sheer unconcerned carelessness rattled the team to such an extent that despite plentiful possession they ceased to play sevens and went down in that game and the following one without a murmur.

Ampleforth 16 v Mount St Mary's 0
Ampleforth 0 v Pocklington 18
Ampleforth 6 v King Edward's, Lytham 16

THE AMPLEFORTH SEVENS

The School team reinforced by Carvill and Oulton were a different side from the one that had looked rather unworthy at Mount St Mary's. The improvement of all the players was obvious and they defeated Newcastle in the first game with consummate ease, Carvill looking a player of the highest class. Leeds caused slightly more trouble particularly when Oulton did not bother to ground the ball behind the line but the Seven showed more enterprise in the second half and ran away with the game. Hymer's had looked a high class Seven from the start and the match against them was a classic, the two scrum halves being noticeably the best two players of the tournament. The School could get little possession and made two mistakes from two kick-offs at the start of each half to lose by two tries to one. While Hymer's went on to win the tournament, the School gained their revenge on Pocklington winning handsomely. In the other group the Amplegefth second team played quite brilliantly to beat Bradford and Ashville and were unfortunate losers in the matches against Mount St Mary's and Welbeck.
SENIOR COMPETITION

Division A
Ampleforth B 4 v Mount St Mary's 10
Bradford 15 v Welbeck 14
Ampleforth B 8 v Welbeck 14
Mount St Mary's 4 v Bradford 10
Ampleforth B 22 v Ashville 6
Mount St Mary's 28 v Bradford 4
Ampleforth B 16 v Welbeck 14
Mount St Mary's 27 v Ashville 4
Ampleforth B 22 v Ashville 6

Division B
Ampleforth A 20 v Newcastle RGS 0
Hymer's 22 v Leeds 6
Ampleforth A 16 v Leeds GS 6
Newcastle RGS 8 v Hymer's 26
Ampleforth A 4 v Hymer's 8
Newcastle RGS 12 v Pocklington 14
Ampleforth A 26 v Pocklington 0

Winners of Division A: Mount St Mary's
Winners of Division B: Hymer's

UNDER 15 COLTS COMPETITION

Division A
Ampleforth A 0 v Leeds GS 22
Hymer's 24 v Ashville 4
Ampleforth A 6 v Hymer's 10
Leeds GS 34 v Ashville 0
Ampleforth A 22 v Leeds GS 0

Division B
Ampleforth B 0 v Mount St Mary's 20
Newcastle RGS 0 v Bradford GS 19
Ampleforth B 0 v Newcastle RGS 26
Mount St Mary's 30 v Newcastle RGS 9
Ampleforth A 26 v Bradford GS 42

Winners of Division A: Leeds
Winners of Division B: Bradford

THE WELBECK SEVENS
(at Welbeck 20 March)

Carvill being unable to play in this tournament, the School elected to play the superb Brown at scrum half as a means of combating Hymer's best player, Hymer's being their first opponents. But that player too was missing. Again the match was close, again the school lost but this time two tries were scored by each side and the majority of the possession went Ampleforth's way even if the luck did not, Oulton tearing his hamstring again in the third minute and having to come off. After that they demolished Leeds again and then put Oakham to the sword. Again the improvement was noticeable to all, Schulte and Thompson being outstanding.

Results:
Ampleforth 8 v Hymer's 12
Ampleforth 26 v Leeds GS 4
Ampleforth 28 v Oakham 6

THE ROSSLYN PARK SEVENS

In one sense only had the Sevens season been disappointing: the side was never settled until this competition. Oulton, with his series of hamstring injuries, did not play in the Mount Sevens, a team which bore little relationship to the one that represented the School in the Ampleforth Sevens in which Crossley was injured. He could not then play in the Welbeck Sevens in the first round of which Oulton was injured again; that injury forced him out of the Rosslyn Park Sevens and it is an exceptional seven that can do without a player of Oulton's calibre. The misfortunes did not stop there. Thompson was injured in the second game at Rosslyn Park and could not play again. With all these comings and goings it was remarkable that the boys achieved so much and no words can express the admiration felt at the skill, intelligence, stamina and fortitude which they displayed for four days in unspeakable conditions at Rosslyn Park. For round after round, they struggled through the rain, mud and water playing 15 games in 4 days and playing on the last two days with such a spirit and such skill that they matched all previous sides at Rosslyn Park and that is very high praise.

Undoubtedly they were an exceptional Seven. S. Duffy came in for P. Thompson at prop after two games at Rosslyn Park. Yo start with, he dropped too many passes but he learnt so quickly that by the end of the Festival, he was controlling the ball better than most threequarters, and was taking opponents on with strength and speed. He was absolutely determined not to let anyone down. C. Crossley was the other prop, he too being inexperienced, having only played five games of sevens because of injury. He took some time to adjust, but when he did he began to run with all the former expertise and ball-handling skill of the threequarter he once was. Again the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won everything in the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won everything in the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won everything in the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won everything in the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won everything in the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won everything in the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won everything in the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won everything in the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won everything in the line-out. The hooker was P. Brown: small, he was very fast, he won...
world, being the best player in both tournaments. He excelled himself; he took a young and inexperienced team to Rosslyn Park, imbued it with his own spirit and confidence, showed it the way and led it to victory. He performed many feats of great skill in indescribable conditions, his play giving great pleasure to all who watched him, not least to his parents. A remarkable young man, gifted more importantly with personality and character of warmth, charm and cheerfulness.

THE OPEN TOURNAMENT

Though the team played better than they had done in the three previous tournaments, there was nothing yet to suggest the great things that were to come. Though they won their four matches in their group, the injury to Thompson in the second game and the mistakes that were being made by some of the inexperienced players in addition to the awful conditions did not give much cause for hope and so it proved. They did not play well on the second morning against London Oratory and though they won more possession, they made three mistakes and were well-beaten by one player!

Group: 5th Round:

Ampleforth 18 v King's Worcester 6
Ampleforth 28 v Chislehurst & Sidcup 9
Ampleforth 16 v Nottingham 6
Ampleforth 26 v Magnus, Newark 0

THE FESTIVAL TOURNAMENT

As though they had now summed up the requirements of sevens, the team were a different side on the morning. Drawn in a very difficult group, in much the harder half of the draw, they opened with a competent victory against Truro and bettered this with a great display against a good Dulwich side in a match in which Schulte and P. Brown excelled. Gresham's and Bedford were no match for the team in this mood and the Seven were through to play Marlborough, a big, direct and strong side the next morning. In this match they dominated possession and the Seven were through to play Bryanston. Poor Bryanston touched the ball only twice in the fourteen minutes, Carvill being easily the man of the match. The semi-final against Durham was a very close affair, Durham led, the School fought back with a try under the posts to take the lead 6-4, and Carvill put Butler in for his second try to seal the game with one of the most remarkable pieces of improvisation and inventive skill ever seen at Rosslyn Park. The School had got too far; they were not going to lose the final. They gave no respite to Rossall in a scintillating display allowing Rossall none of the ball.

Group: 5th Round:

Ampleforth 16 v Marlborough 4
Ampleforth 18 v Dulwich 4
Ampleforth 26 v Bedford 0
Ampleforth 34 v Gresham's 0

Quarter Final:
Ampleforth 22 v Bryanston 0

Semi-Final:
Ampleforth 10 v Durham 4

Final:
Ampleforth 16 v Rossall 4

N.S. McBain who captained the Ampleforth 1st XV in 1982 and who led the Sevens team in 1982 and 1983 has played for Durham University throughout the season. Our congratulations go to him on his selection for the England U 23 squad and on his selection for the UAU against Irish Universities, a match in which he could not play because of injury.

J.W. Baxter has also played with distinction for Durham University this season, earning his place after a long struggle with the incumbent scrum-half.

Congratulations are due to P. Thompson who played for Yorkshire and the North of England, in the Final England trial at Nottingham and was then selected for the England squad against Wales. Congratulations too to C. Crossley and T. Oulton who represented Middlesex and London Counties. The latter was selected for the Final England trial but could not play because of injury. The England selectors then asked formally whether he could play for the Rosslyn Park Colts against the England side in order that they could have a further look at him. Unfortunately he was not fit for this match either.
The death of an old boy affects the total Ampleforth community; the monastery and the school staff lose a man for whom they have worked and with whom they have shared part of his formative years; his friends lose a companion and often a friend and the inter-relationship between boys has a profound effect on making us what we are as adults.

1984 for St Bede's House and for the generation of boys in the decade of 1974 to 1983 will be always a year tinged with sadness. Not one, but two members of the House died. Nicholas and David overlapped; they played for the same school XV; for the same House teams in different sports; they shared the same VIth form gallery. Different in character and personality, they brought out each in the other a sense of fun and innocent non-conformity at an age when reflection and responsibility are things for the future. And they became successive St Bede's School Captains of the first XV. They upheld a long tradition in St Bede's of fierce loyalty and determination on the sportsfield in house matches, and both had that special characteristic of the outstanding sportsman; the ability to encourage the less gifted in a house match, and never to show-off or imagine that strength and individual skill would be a substitute for teamwork. They were, in their separate ways, leaders.

At David's funeral in Ilkley there were some 25 of his contemporaries; at Nicholas's memorial service in London there were some 50 old boys, and several, together with Father Martin who was housemaster until 1977, Father Felix and John Willcox were at both Masses. The presence of so many old boys was a remarkable statement of friendship and devotion; but something deeper too; a gathering of a large representation of the Christian community, expressing their joint Faith in the mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection, meditating on the obscure will of Almighty God, and coming together to pray with and for the Dundas and Healy families.

In thanking all who came for their presence and their prayers, it is worth re-iterating the reality that while life goes on and old boys appear to drift away from each other, the bonds remain and, in Christ, cannot be broken.

St Bede's was represented by Head Monitor's, Simon Jansen (David Dundas), and Jonathan Kennedy (Nicholas Healy).
THE ATHLETIC MEETING

The very successful athletic meeting was completed in good conditions with the relay day again as its rousing finale. The efficient and enthusiastic St Aidan's did extremely well to win the cups for both the senior and junior divisions. But other Houses pressed them close. Unfortunately absenteeism was more marked than ever and many Houses were continually penalised by loss of points for their failure to produce teams and/or individuals. This was a pity for there were some splendid performances. Two records in the Javelin were beaten: Angelo-Sparling hurled his spear a massive 60 metres and C Inman beat the Set 5 record by throwing his 33.5m. Further J. Perry lowered the 1000m Steeplechase record to 3m 7.7 secs. The cup for the best athlete in Set 1 was won by J. Schulte who won both the 100m and the Shot. J. Perry was the only other senior athlete to take two firsts, in the 1500 and the Steeplechase but the cup was awarded to Schulte on the grounds that there was more variety in his events. It was even more difficult to obtain a solution in Set 2B. Akporiaye was first in the Triple Jump and Long Jump, E. Mangis in the 1500m and the Steeplechase and B. Cave in the 100m and 400m: the first-named was awarded the cup since it seemed that more technique was required in his two events and since his challenge for the Set 1 cup was only just beaten off. In Set 3, M. Winn was a clear winner being the only athlete to win all his five events, and this was very nearly repeated in Set 4 where M. Record had four firsts and one third. R. Whitehall gaining two firsts, two seconds and a third while de Palma in gaining three firsts and one second just took the title.

CROSS COUNTRY

After the very successful season in 1983 in which both eights were undefeated, six of the last year's 1st VIII left and so this year we expected an indifferent season with a relatively inexperienced side. In the event after a poor start the side turned out to be a very good one indeed, and the 2nd VIII too had a most successful season. The early matches went badly: we lost to a good old boys side (for the first time ever), and to Worksop, Welbeck and Leeds in quick succession. Perhaps the late start to the term contributed to this, but the opposition was good. Then we heavily defeated Sedbergh in a rather heavy fixture on the 11 February and proceeded to win all the matches afterwards. We finished the season by not only winning the Invitation Meeting but in doing so defeated two of the sides (Worksop and Welbeck) who had previously beaten us.

J.N. Perry who captained the 1st VIII quite excellently showed himself to be an outstanding runner. He established a new school record for the match course in just over 28 mins. Then F. von Habsburg, M.R. Macmillan and E.J.C. McNamara formed a natural grouping: only the last place was a little uncertain. But the whole eight were inside 30 mins for the match course, and that was as good as in any year in the past.

The 2nd VIII too was a very good side and won six of their eight matches, losing only to Welbeck and St Peter's 1st VIII.


The following also ran: E.J.C. McNamara, D. Kemp, C.P. Verdin, M.J. Somerville-Roberts, J.S. Cornwell, M.A. McKibbin, E.J.S. Mangles, H.D. Fireks, J.M. Birkett.

v Old Amplefordians: Lost 43–34

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY</th>
<th>Senior</th>
<th>Junior A</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 St Cuthbert's</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1 St Edward's</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 St John's</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>2 St John's</td>
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<td>3 St Edward's</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>3 St Dunstan's</td>
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<td>J.N. Perry – 24m 9 (equals record)</td>
<td>1 N.J. Ryan</td>
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<td>M.R. Holmes</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2 J.M. Birkett</td>
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<tr>
<td>G.R. Preston</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3 R.A. Hampshire</td>
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Junior B

1 St Edward's 15
2 St Oswald's 42
3 St Thomas's 65
1 T.J. Gibson – 17m 29 (record)
2 D.B. Graham
3 R.A. Beanhill

RESULTS

1st VIII

v Old Amplefordians. Lost 43–34.

Ampleforth placings: 1 Perry, 4 J. Preston, 8 Macmillan, 9 Gibson, 10 Somerville-Roberts, 11 Holmes, 13 McKibbin, 15 Kemp.

Old Amplefordian placings: 2 J. Kerry, 3 R. Petit, 43 R. Rugby, 6 M. Porter, 7 C. Copling, 12 J.B. Rae-Smith, 14 N. Fresson, 16 T. Blasdale, 17 T. Grady.

v Worksop & Denstone. 1st Worksop 26, 2nd Ampleforth 64, 3rd Denstone 100.

Ampleforth placings: 2 Perry, 8 Holmes, 11 Preston, 12 Gibson, 15 Macmillan, 16 Cornwell, 19 Somerville-Roberts.

Ampleforth placings: 2 Perry, 3 Homes, 6 Macmillan, 8 Gibson, 10 Preston, 11 McKibbin, 12 Fircks, 14 von Habsburg.


Ampleforth placings: 1 Perry, 7 Gibson, 11 Homes, 12 von Habsburg, 13 Birkett, 14 Macmillan, 15 McKibbin, 16 Cornwell.


Ampleforth placings: 1 Perry, 5 Holmes, 7 Preston, 8 Gibson, 11 Somerville-Roberts, 12 von Habsburg, 15 McKibbin, 16 Fircks.

Sedbergh. Won 29-53

Ampleforth placings: 1 Perry, 2 Gibson, 3 Preston, 5 Holmes, 8 von Habsburg, 10 Macmillan, 11 McKibbin, 16 Fircks.

University College School. Won 24-61

Ampleforth placings: 1 Perry (27.01 Record), 2 Preston, 3 Holmes, 4 Gibson, 6 von Habsburg, 8 Macmillan, 9 McNamara, 11 Kemp, 15 Verdin (9th man).

Stonyhurst. Won 32-49

Ampleforth placings: 1 Perry, 4 Preston, 5 Gibson, 6 Holmes, 7 McNamara, 9 Macmillan, 11 von Habsburg, 13 Kemp.

Midland Public Schools Meeting at Worksop: Ampleforth placed 5th out of 20 schools:

Ampleforth placings: 3 Perry, 27 Holmes, 40 Preston, 57 Gibson, 67 Macmillan, 68 von Habsburg, 69 Mangles, 96 McNamara.

Ampleforth Invitation Meeting: Ampleforth placed 1st out of 7 teams.

Ampleforth placings: 1 Perry (25.33 equals meeting record), 5 Gibson, 9 Macmillan, 13 Holmes, 14 McNamara, 15 Mangles, 26 Preston, 27 von Habsburg.

2nd VIII

Worksop and Denstone. 1st Ampleforth 35, 2nd Worksop 51, 3rd Denstone 104.

Barnard Castle and Durham. 1st Ampleforth 21, 2nd Barnard Castle 78, 3rd Durham 94.

Welbeck. Lost 56-28

Leeds G.S. Won 21-61

St Peter's 1st VIII. Lost 42½-35½

Stonyhurst. Won 21-69
FIRST ELEVEN - 1984

SPORT: SUMMER TERM

CRICKET FIRST ELEVEN

Play 16: Won 6: Drawn 8: Lost 2.

Six of this side came together in 1982 under the captaincy of Justin Carter, in a side that scored 3,000 runs for only the second time in our cricketing history. In the latter part of 1983 under the coaching of Mr Wilcox and during the most part of 1984, they matured into a side which had a record of played 17, won 8, drawn 9 matches. Why was it then, that they lost two of their last five matches in 1984 and ended up being an above average school side but not the outstanding side of at least the last sixteen years?

Comfortable is the word that most aptly describes this XI: an air of enjoyment, of not particularly wanting any more pressure in sport, an awareness that some succeed, others fail, and some succeed or fail quite often. They played hard, practised with enthusiasm and a smile, were not inclined to over-exertion. Individual success did not swell the head, failure brought no recrimination and was resolved quietly and without fuss. William Beardsmore-Gray epitomised the strengths and character of the XI: quiet, relaxed, determined — but not unduly so, for there is proportion in everything. He wrote at the end of the season: — “happy memories, if not for great success, but for the harmony that was created between the ‘coach’ and the team, and within the team itself”.

If there was not great success, there were moments of excellence as are described in the match reports. But the XI was inconsistent. A potentially match-winning batting side failed the test; it was the bowling and outcricket which was match-winning. Perry and Porter were fast, potentially our best partnership, perhaps, since Robertson and Kenny; but Perry needed too many overs to get going (or was perhaps not allowed enough overs to get into his stride) and Porter too many deliveries to attain accuracy. Read, who in 1982 deceived Peter Parfitt through the air with his left arm spin, and was the most gifted of all the spinners, at last made some effort, could make the ball ‘bite’, and won two matches, but he was horribly inconsistent; Cox picked up wickets, bowled long hours, and turned the ball sharply. He shows promise but must learn the art of flight. Evans’s left arm spin had moments of success but he rather lacked self confidence. He was however, the best of gully fielders and a safe catcher anywhere, and had no lack of confidence giving stuffing to the batting at number ten.

The batting was disappointing. Crossley had technical weaknesses on the back foot and off-stump and failed to build on the success he had achieved with centuries at Gilling — perhaps there was too much pressure for success. He must be one of the best fielders ever to grace the school XI and gave always of his best. Read played like Gatting on a bad day — across the line. After school colours he scored 66 runs in 11 innings. Together these two scored the same amount of runs in 1984 as in 1982. And this XI only needed one batsman to lead all the others and ensure at least another six victories.

Kennedy, Sankey, Cox and Bingham, all from St Bede’s, the only four regulars returning in 1985; their Housemaster must write carefully! Next year is the right time to assess their contribution. If Bingham had the others’ talent, and they had his guts and motivation; and if the other three had Sankey’s wicket-keeping talent in their fielding skills, then this too would have turned draws into victories in 1984.

Jonathan Perry and William Beardsmore-Gray were the best players but both found themselves playing the wrong roles: Perry a natural stroke player, good against fast bowling, weak against spin, was moved from number one to number five and back to number one. His coach should have left him at number one. The captain had to play all too many captains innings instead of plundering an attack already sorted out by others. Like Crossley, Perry’s outcricket was outstanding.

Changing the batting order did not help; batting second was a mistake — all the more so since so many had gained their confidence and success in 1982 batting first, and even more so since it became clear that bowling and outcricket was good enough to dismiss oppositions. These were strategic miscalculations and the coach can take his share of the blame. Nor did cricketing circumstances help: the early season imbalance of overs was pathetically absurd: 74 - 41, 87 - 33, 61 - 48, 82 - 38, 70 - 42 — this was frustrating and added unwanted cumulative pressure.

But when all is said and done: this XI had all the gifts — except a top class slip fielder and he, as it turned out unfortunately, was not needed. The XI was successful and played sometimes to the standard of their collective gifts. It is to their credit that they knew their talent, and that they aspired to excellence; they came to know also their limitations as well as any team, and felt disappointed that they were not sufficiently consistent to become the best all-round XI, certainly in my memory.

POSTSCRIPT

250 matches since I took over the 1st XI in 1969. The aim has always been to educate boys in the art of cricket, a game which is bigger than the sum of its players, is full of surprises, and which is a test of character as well as skill. Winning has been important but the correct balance in any sporting contest over a period of years must surely be to share the spoils of victory and defeat. It is with no little satisfaction that the record 1969 – 1984, coinciding with the four rounds of the Festival reads:

Played 250: Won 78: Lost 77: Drawn 95.

J.F.S.

AMPLEFORTH beat WORKSOP by 5 wickets on 5 May

There is drought in North Yorkshire, the outfield parched, the pitch bone hard, faster bowlers got the ball to bounce; spinners were able to keep it low. The match turned on a run-out — by Crossley — at 3.20 when Worksop had struggled to 143-4. Bowling was early seasonish though promising. Field placing rusty. Perry, Read and Crossley batted with confidence but failed to
consolidate and left the game for others to finish. Beardmore-Gray hesitated, Kennedy seized the initiative with well-timed pulls, and the XI coasted to victory which was left a bit late.

Worksop 164  (Cox 4-54)
Ampleforth 168-5  (Perry 37; Read 36, Crossley 30, Kennedy 29, Beardmore-Gray 20).

STONYHURST lost to AMPLEFORTH by 6 wickets on 9 May

The XI bowled 87 overs before the Stonyhurst innings was cut short by tea-time. Perry was the best of the bowlers (21 overs for 22 runs) and Cox bowled 31 overs of off-spin — the same number the XI needed to defeat this inexperienced Stonyhurst XI. Again the XI inserted the opposition and again had trouble bowling them out. The field placing was excellent, catches by Perry and Crossley at full length, a stumping by Sankey — these were highlights of a dull four hours in cold and occasionally misty weather. Perry with straight drives (until he was brilliantly caught at deep and wide first slip), Kennedy with wristy pulls and square cuts, and Beardmore-Gray pacing the innings nicely in his best batting for two years saw the XI home. No boy has bowled more overs than Cox in a one innings match for Ampleforth and no first innings of a match has lasted 87 overs before — the XI stuck to their task well.

Stonyhurst 157-7 dec  (Perry 21.7.22.2, Cox 31.10.81.5)
Ampleforth 160-4 (Perry 62, Kennedy 30, Beardmore-Gray 30*)

AMPLEFORTH drew with SEDBERGH on 19 May

82 - 38 overs between two sides of reasonably similar standard is not cricket. Conditions were perfect for batting and for cricket of quality. Sedbergh were 88-1 by 12.10; 68-6 by 1.10 and then decided to bat till tea — which they succeeded in doing. The XI’s spinners and Beardmore-Gray bowled tidily, fielding and application was bad; slovenly and laid-back — the current expression. Sedbergh fielded superbly but never thought of anything but saving the match which they could have won against an XI, compliant and casual. The XI dropped 7 catches, missed various chances of run-outs. Cox beat his record of 10 days by bowling 35 overs but he is not yet interested in fielding. The XI struggled against a fast attack for 15 overs, lost wickets, had a thrash for victory — to their credit. Elliot played the innings of the day but it was all academic after the XI forgot that Sedbergh fight their way out of trouble.

Sedbergh 255  (Foggitt 74, Cox 35,11.81.5)
Ampleforth 127-7 (Elliot 36, Crossley 31)

AMPLEFORTH drew with O.A.C.C. on 26 May

For the fifth match in succession there was considerable disparity of overs 67-47, surprisingly in this case against an O.A.C.C. side whose first nine had all batted in the first three while at school. O’Kelly played neatly, Cox and Read bowled tidily. The XI — against a weak attack — had the chance to coast to an easy victory but again the middle order failed to capitalise on an attractive start by Read and a little gem of a knock from Perry. Had the bowling been tighter and the pressure greater, the XI might have concentrated better — such is the paradox of the game. Kennedy dreamily ran out his captain and then casually presented mid-off with a dolly for the second successive innings.

O.A.C.C. 210-9 dec  (O’Kelly 78; Cox 22.4.75.3; Read 16.4.47.3)
Ampleforth 143-7  (Perry 39)

AMPLEFORTH beat M.C.C. by 8 wickets on 30 May

Victory over the M.C.C. for the fourth time since the war (1947, 1957, 1973) was comprehensive. A new opening partnership of Read and Crossley prospered. When these two were out to Geof Cope, Kennedy and Beardmore-Gray built their innings well, played Cope carefully and took 87 off the bowling at the other end while Cope gave away 31. The real achievement was to bowl out a strong batting side for 147. The day was perfect, the pitch true but with a dusty patch for the left-arm spinner at one end. Twice Read found the spot and twice Evans took a good catch at gully. Read won the match with the best and most competitive performance of his career, and Cox continued his advance as an off-spinner. They looked a convincing yet contrasting pair of spinners. Earlier Porter had taken the important wicket of Vallance and Perry,
too, bowled well. The field placing was excellent, the fielding and catching good and Sankey had his best match so far, yielding no byes on a pitch that took spin and in a match when he was mostly up to the stumps.

M.C.C. 147 (Cox 27.9.64.4.) Read 23.11.34.4.)
Ampleforth 149-2 (Beardmore-Gray 45*, Kennedy 42*, Crossley 32, Read 25)

AMPLEFORTH drew with FREE FORESTERS on 2–3 June

The XI played well to claw their way back after the Foresters had seized the initiative. From 70 behind on the first innings with one wicket left, first Evans and Porter in a 10th wicket stand of 43, and then Porter with his best bowling performance (6-51), forced the Foresters on the defensive such as to leave a stiff 4th innings target — in the context of this match. The batting again failed to grasp the chance against accurate medium pace short of a length bowling. Read and Cox had their 'colours' match — 0 and I, and I - 62 just after getting full and half colours; Beardmore-Gray, having relied on spinners for 6 matches, not surprisingly failed to see that recent and heavy overnight rains had slowed the pitch and made it easy for the seamer. A partnership of 94 in 50 minutes against spin in the Foresters 1st innings determined the match. Sankey kept wicket admirably.

Free Foresters 195 - 5 dec. (Macaulay 90, Millbank 50) and 125 - 7 (Porter 18.1.51.6)
Ampleforth 171 (Perry 45) and 86 - 8

POCKLINGTON lost to AMPLEFORTH by 5 wickets on 10 June

On a slow pitch after heavy over-night rain, batting was never fluent. Pocklington won the toss, batted, struggled and suffered for every mistake: two catches by Perry on the boundary one each by Kennedy and Evans, two stumpings off Cox by Sankey — all this was excellent. But the field placing was a bit ragged and there were only 17 maidens in 70 overs — Cox only 5 in 27 overs. Having failed to stop singles, the XI's batsmen failed to take singles when they batted against a limited attack. In truth the chance was on for a 10 or 9 wicket victory but complacency and hitting across the line allowed Pocklington to make inroads. Read, Crossley, Perry and Beardmore-Gray all got going and got out. It was left to Elliot to play some spectacular Sunday-league hoists — together with several half-chances, six 4's and a 6 to take the XI to a comfortable, but unsatisfactory win. Stiffer tests are yet to come, the potential of this balanced side is self-evident, but fulfillment will demand 100% concentration and the occasional individual 100.

Pocklington (Cox 27.5.78.7)
Ampleforth 164-5 (Crossley 41, Elliot 36*, Perry 34, Read 21)

SPORT: SUMMER TERM

AMPLEFORTH drew with ST. PETER'S YORK on 16 June

A match St. Peter's should have won comfortably but there seemed to be a reluctance to do anything that might entail risk. After winning the toss they bowled out the XI who gave a weak batting display. Kennedy and Beardmore-Gray batted attractively and, along with others, got themselves out. Perry persevered to make 50 but got bogged down against slow spin. St Peter's bowled tidily — no more. They were left 170 in three hours. After two hours they were 74-2 (their opening bat Burdess 26 in two hours — although the following Saturday he managed 150 not out quickly enough). The match fizzled out when three overs were lost for rain. For the XI Porter and Perry bowled changed for the first two hours — lively, sometimes hostile, to a containing field. It was as fast and as good bowling as we have seen here in recent years and they prevented St Peter's from making a sustained effort to score 170 runs at 3 runs per over on a perfect batting pitch with a lightning outfield.

Ampleforth 170 (Perry 58, Beardmore-Gray 32, Kennedy 28, Brewster 6-57)
St Peter's York 107-6 (Perry 20.5.43.2; Porter 18.5.35.1)

AMPLEFORTH beat YORKSHIRE GENTLEMEN by 4 wickets on 7 July

It was hot, very hot and by tea-time on Sunday the XI were mentally and physically tired — exams, lack of exercise, the pressure of playing to a high standard against two teams both of whom batted first. The afternoon session against the Saints was a fair disaster in that six catches were put down off Cox and yet the Saints had to struggle for runs against the accurate Perry and an improving Cox and their 185 was at only 3.5 an over. That session apart, the XI's quality over the two days was evident. Read bowled the Y.G.'s out with a superb bowling performance against a strong batting side. Perry and Cox helped him, the fielding was sharp, catches were held, and Beardmore-Gray's tactics were shrewd and varied. Nick Elliot played himself in on both days and straight and off drove powerfully to reveal his considerable talent. He won the match on Saturday impressively after a dicey start for the innings; he failed to win it on Sunday in support of Beardmore-Gray who played his best innings for the XI. Driving well, leaning back and cutting with his short arm jab, as a left hander he gave a model example of how to play good leg-spin bowling from the son of the old Yorkshire leg-spinner Johnny Lawrence.

So this was almost a perfect start after the exams. Kennedy's two batting failures and sluggish movement in the field, and Sankey's lack of 100% concentration were offset by team-work and determination. Two extras: Cox bowled better than ever but was only rewarded with 2-62; and Saturday's umpiring by the visiting umpire was so awful as to be embarrassing — one
player could have walked but did not, one player was generously recalled by Dick O'Kelly and Beardmore-Gray walked quickly before seeing that he was given not out. That was an act of leadership and it prompted also the reflection that the standard of umpiring in our matches is usually quite outstandingly good, and we can never take it for granted.

Yorkshire Gentlemen 117  
Ampleforth 121-6

Saints C.C. 185-5 dec.  
Ampleforth 175-7

AMPLEFORTH lost to NORTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS by 155 runs on 12 July

DULWICH drew with AMPLEFORTH on 14 July

The XI was trounced in all departments of the game against N.Y.S. Bored, lethargic, lacking any sort of collective direction or individual effort, the worst was seen in this most severe defeat for an XI by boys since the St Peter's York match in 1928. Proud stroked his way to an effortless 113, the bowling was stereotyped — except for Evans who gave of his best. The batting was a disgrace and an embarrassment against 16 year old Lerigo (7-27). The XI openly showed their immaturity which has thus far been so successfully overcome.

Against Dulwich it was a bit different. Rain, lack of covers, start-stop cricket, the devil of a pitch (hard underneath, and soft on top). The XI, winning the toss and batting for the first time, lacked the technical skills and the moral fibre to withstand Hearn 7-25. Elliot was an exciting exception. In 45 minutes with five 4s and three 6s he drove and pulled for 50 out of 62. The rest fell away. It was left to Sankey and Evans — watched by a father who claimed to recall wonderful 10th wicket partnerships — to make the XI's score respectable, indeed a winning total of 137. Unaccountably, Beardmore-Gray failed to seize the initiative. Porter and Perry bowled too fast and too long. A late switch to spinners showed the potential for excitement as the ball turned sharply and kicked off a length. But the XI did not know whether to be attacking or defensive, and in any case there was little time. A disappointing game for two sides not surprisingly confused by a wet slow awkward pitch. The XI's approach was summed up in the first over when Kennedy — who has not succeeded in improving his running — comfortably ran himself out thinking (if he was thinking at all) he was playing on the bare fast outfield at Ampleforth under a hot sun. And two for the record: four players were hit in the face, one from a throw-in, Read on the slip catcher, the others painfully on the fingers; and secondly, as the sun shone at 12 noon after a short stop for rain, one umpire had gone off to the local leaving an embarrassed Sri Lankan test umpire somewhat confused and the rest of us hanging around.

N.Y.S. 232-6 dec.  
Ampleforth 77  
Dulwich 88-3

How strange! Yet exhilarating and full of the tensions that make up the game. The first 5 overs determined the match: 21 runs. In bizarre fashion Uppingham's best batsman was run out gardening this normally low bounce but occasionally spiteful, watered and unrolled spinners' paradise, parked by the XI. The XI's introduction to a spinner's pitch. None of the 22 players had the remotest idea how to bat on it. In consequence we had bowling and fielding skills and high drama. And if the XI were upset at their defeat, they could rejoice in an experience gained and a lesson absorbed; and anyway on another ground in another Festival, Rugby, in a two-innings match, having bowled Marlborough out for 93 on the first day and needing 74 to win on the second were bowled out for 62.

Uppingham 87  
Ampleforth 71

AMPLEFORTH drew with OUNDLE

Perry reverted to opening the innings and hit a splendid 50 inside the hour, Beardmore-Gray likewise stroked neatly. But it was Crossley — ably assisted by Bingham — who enabled the XI, often in the rain, to declare at 199-5. If only Crossley had batted this through the year — power, grace, confident,
but . . . alas it was his only class innings. In and out of the rain — with Blundells and Uppingham calling it a day — Townsend for Oundle collected his 1,000 for the year and — astonishingly — then persuaded the umpire that he had had enough. Before the allotted close of play the sun was out for the first time.

While congratulating Townsend on a major personal achievement it was sad that a boy should forget that the team is always greater than the individual. Perhaps it is worthy of note that it is our 10th draw with Oundle in 15 matches; against Blundells and Uppingham, there have been only 5 and 4 drawn in 16 fixtures.

Ampleforth 199-5 dec. (Perry 57, Crossley 49*, Beardmore-Gray 36, Bingham 23*)

Oundle 67-3

BATTING AVERAGES

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BOWLING AVERAGES

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SECOND ELEVEN

Played 9; Won 3; Lost 3; Drawn 3

An unusually dry start to the season allowed the cricket to be played right from the beginning of the term. Plenty of runs were made and Tom Bingham did well enough to be promoted to the 1st XI. The quickest scoring stroke players were Niall Edworthy and Mark Barrett who both played excellent innings. Ed Hart had a few good innings but was a bit disappointing; Richard O’Kelly when promoted to open, played two excellent innings. The captain, Andrew Macdonald and Matthew Meacham made few runs, but there was a couple of powerful hitters lower in the order to surprise sides that thought they had broken through our batting: Tom Vail and Mark Butler (although the latter rarely got an innings). It was a powerful batting side though not always successful.

The bowlers also had success. Mark Butler was quick and, when his direction was right, bowled well. Ed Hart was less reliable but picked up wickets; Nio van den Berg and Niall Edworthy were the most accurate and had some good performances. Malcolm Grey was the second off spinner and did not always have an opportunity but bowled well when he did.

The least satisfactory department was the fielding which was middle aged and shrewdly. The few exceptions were the captain Andrew Macdonald, Ed Hart and Richard O’Kelly who took good slip catches. Jonathan Moreland got a number of wickets stumpin off the slow bowlers; he improved steadily during the season. The general conclusion was that it was an average side, but when things went well it could look good.


v Sir William Turner’s School 1st: 143 (M. Butler 4 for 28, N. Edworthy 4 for 54), Ampleforth 144 for 8 (M. Barrett 58, T. Bingham 38) Won.

v Ripon Grammar School 1st: 147 (M. Butler 4 for 57, N. Edworthy 3 for 35), Ampleforth 90 (M. Barrett 35, E. Hart 29) Lost.


v Sedbergh: Sedbergh 123 (N. Edworthy 4 for 31, M. Butler 3 for 32), Ampleforth 86 (N. Edworthy 39) Lost.

v Pocklington: Ampleforth 72 (T. Bingham 39 n.o.), Pocklington 53 (M. Butler 5 for 14, I. van den Berg 4 for 12) Won.

v OACC: Ampleforth 116 (E. Hart 30), OACC 117 for 9 (M. Butler 3 for 37, I. van den Berg 3 for 40) Lost.

v Bootham: Bootham 113 (N. Edworthy 5 for 40, I. van den Berg 3 for 12), Ampleforth 115 for 3 (M. Barrett 61 n.o., N. Edworthy 33) Won.

v St Peter’s: St Peter’s 164 (N. Edworthy 5 for 60, M. Butler 5 for 31), Ampleforth 122 for 6 (R. O’Kelly 38, T. Vail 27) Drawn.

THIRD ELEVEN

Played 4; Won 1; Lost 2; Drawn 1.

Dry sunny days and plenty of talent, hard wickets and great enthusiasm, the Eleven should have had better results. But it was an enjoyable season, the two lost matches could have gone either way and the draw was in our favour. Steadily captained by S. Tyrell the XI never maintained a constant side. I. van Steady was promoted to the 2nd XI and C.J. Preston, N. Gamble, T. Burke-Gaffney, J. Lewis-Bowen and B.M. Morris all had games for the 2nd.

Indeed four members of the set played for the 'A' XI. They overwhelmed Sir William Turner's 2nd XI by 221 runs and from then on were slightly over-confident lacking the sharpness in the field that makes victories. Important chances were missed in the two lost games that could have turned defeat into victory — a 77 not out batsman, Pocklington should have been run out in the second over. There was a lot of good batting, notably D. Bennet, R. Channer, T. Burke-Gaffney, N. Gamble, C.J. Preston and at times R. Hudson, the fielding was good in parts and the bowling not really consistent enough. There was depth of cricketing throughout the set. Besides those mentioned C. Leydecker, S. Lovegrove, J. Piggins, B. Weiner, J. Bunting, B. Treneman, B. Armstrong all played in one or more matches.

**Sir William Turner's School 2nd:** Ampleforth 259 (Gamble 50, Preston 50, Bennet 35), Sir William Turner's School 38 (Van den Berg 3 for 2) Won.

**Scarborough 2nd:** Ampleforth 182 for 9 (Van den Berg 42, Burke-Gaffney 38), Scarborough 140 for 5 Drawn.

**Pocklington 3rd:** Ampleforth 137 (Bennet 62), Pocklington 138 for 7 Lost.

**Barnard Castle 2nd:** Ampleforth 135 (Preston 42, Burke-Gaffney 28), Barnard Castle 136 for 8 (Treneman 3 for 31)

UNDER FIFTEEN COLTS

Played 8; Won 5; Lost 2; Drawn 1.

This season offered a striking contrast to that of 1983. Hardly a single day's cricket was lost because of the weather. The team had a season of mixed fortunes: five matches were won, two were lost and one was drawn. One might have thought that with the hard wickets runs would be scored; in fact only two batsmen scored a fifty. The batting was fragile, most of the team could play strokes but few could build an innings. By the end of the season B.R. Simonds-Gooding and M.P. Swainston looked the most reliable players, P.D. Hartigan and E.J. Edworthy played good innings but lacked confidence, and the same could be said for J.G.B. Cummings and B. Beardmore-Gray.

If the batting was weak the bowling was decidedly strong; indeed M.P. Swainston the captain had the awkward task of managing five or six recognised bowlers. H.D. Umney and P.D. Hartigan formed a hostile attack. Hartigan bowled steadily without much luck, but made the ball lift awkwardly and was difficult to get away. Umney on the other hand started the season by spraying the ball all over the place, but after a remarkable spell of bowling against Pocklington, when he bowled a good batting side out almost single-handed, he settled down and looked very dangerous. There were three other competent seamers, R.C. Berkeley, T.P.C. Scarborough (both left arm) and E.J. Edworthy, all were good enough to open the bowling but in the event only Berkeley was able to be bowled at all regularly. Finally there were two good spinners, J.G.B. Cummings who bowled off-spinners tidily and B.R. Simonds-Gooding who looked a promising left-arm leg-spinner.

The fielding was keen and it was good to see the slip catches being held. Much of the credit for the quality of the fielding must go to M.P. Swainston whose positive captaincy kept everyone on their toes.

Colours were awarded to M.P. Swainston, J.G.B. Cummings, P.D. Hartigan, B.R. Simonds-Gooding and H.D. Umney.


**Stonyhurst:** Stonyhurst 105 (Hartigan 8 for 34), Ampleforth 106 for 3 (Swainston 50) Won.

**Durham:** Ampleforth 131 (Aspineall 41, Umney 31), Durham 132 for 2 Lost.

**Sedbergh:** Ampleforth 85 (Simonds-Gooding 31 n.o.), Sedbergh 87 for 4 Lost.

**Pocklington:** Pocklington 112 (Umney 8 for 38), Ampleforth 115 for 5 (Swainston 38) Won.

**Bootham:** Ampleforth 133 (Edworthy 34, Berkeley 22), Bootham 83 for 7 (Simonds-Gooding 4 for 26) Draw.

**Hymers:** Ampleforth 151 for 8 dec. (Hartigan 39, Simonds-Gooding 38, Edworthy 23), Hymers 90 (Simonds-Gooding 5 for 11, Cummings 4 for 36) Won.

**St Peter's:** St Peter's 88 (Umney 6 for 28, Simonds-Gooding 2 for 0), Ampleforth 89 for 7 (Simonds-Gooding 45) Won.

**Barnard Castle:** Ampleforth 201 for 5 dec. (Hartigan 88 n.o., Swainston 73), Barnard Castle 89 (Cummings 4 for 29, Umney 3 for 13, Simonds-Gooding 3 for 22) Won.

UNDER FOURTEEN

Played 9; Won 4; Lost 2; Drawn 3.

The Under 14s took advantage of good weather and weak opposition to win their first three matches, then lost their way mid-season when confronted by stronger opponents but came good in their last four matches, winning only one but having the best of the three draws.

In a fairly competent all-round team James Elliot (four scores over 50) and Richard Booth (one century and one 50) stood out as the main run-getters, and it is no coincidence that in the two matches lost, their aggregate runs totalled just
ATHLETICS

The results show that it was an exceptional, possibly unprecendented, season, with an unbroken record of wins in all three teams — except for a dropped baton, which lost us the first school match, to Uppingham; the name of the culprit is engraved on the memories of the team. In the mid-seventies we had a series of three unbroken seasons in the senior team, but never before has this been mirrored by the Junior teams.

There was no Old Boys match this season to start off the year, partly through lack of organisation, partly because the late start of the term would have made the first weekend absurdly early even for such a friendly match. The York Youth Harriers match, however, made it clear that there was a talent in the team. Bernard Akporiaye, a sixth form entrant, was clearly a very useful addition, both in sprinting and in all three jumps, besides lending colour to the team in many ways; in Nigeria he had won the area 400m, but he managed to evade this taxing race, and indeed with Pat Jones and Ben Cave (still an intermediate) clocking most distinguished times, he could well save his energies for other events. It was clear also that William Angelo-Sparling’s javelin-throwing would be worth watching; he began by breaking the school record by a couple of metres, bringing it to 56m, and went on breaking it, till at the North Yorkshire Championships, to the amazement of the whole stadium, he achieved three throws over 62m. The captain also, Paul Brown, who had missed last season by an exchange visit to France, was obviously going to be a useful middle distance runner; to lead a winning team is a rewarding task, but Paul did it with determination and firmness, allowing no one to outdo him in rigour of training, and keeping others up to his own high standard. Finally, the heavy men promised well, and there would not be many matches in which Oulton and Schulze would miss the first two places in shot and discus.

With this exciting start we were determined not to trip at the first school match at Wakefield, where we so often find ourselves unprepared. It was a thrilling neck-and-neck contest against Uppingham, the lead changing over several times, until the final relay found us comfortably ahead — but not comfortably enough to shrug off a disqualification, and that dropped baton continued to haunt us for the rest of the season. James Patmore rejoined the side a little late, but could be relied on for a rush of 1.80 in decent conditions, and won first place in all seven matches. Philip Leonard was beaten only twice in the season, by the narrowest of margins, at the 110m Hurdles. Towards the end of the season he branched out into the 400m Hurdles and even a flat 400m, with great distinction.

For the first time in many years we were able to take part in the preliminary trials for the North Yorkshire Championships, and so to play our part in County Athletics, rather than merely filling any gaps in the York and District team. Consequently we had fifteen competitors at the Championships, of whom Angelo-Sparling, Oulton, Leonard and Cave were selected to represent the county in the All England Competition; it remains a mystery why John Schulze, who brought the shot record to over 13m, was not included.

In the Under Seventeen matches Ben Cave could be relied upon, when fit, to win all three sprint races, and Nick Ryan and Dominic Middleton, ably partnered by Edward Mangles, gave no quarter in middle-distance races. Ryan and Mangles, both did extremly well in the North Yorkshire Championships too, though Middleton, being still Under 16, did not have a chance. Simon McKeown (under various spellings) showed his versatility at discus and horizontal jumps, and Stephen Chittenden seemed ready to fill in many events other than his favourite hurdles and high jump. The climax of the Under Seventeen season came at the end, when they more than doubled the score of such redoubtable opponents as Sedbergh, leaving them no first places and only four seconds. The Under Sixteen team was naturally dominated by Matthew Winn and Dominic Middleton, but ably supported by other promising competitors; it is not often that we win either of the matches at this level, let alone both of them!

Altogether it was a thoroughly rewarding season, with a great spirit of endeavour and ‘having a go’, plenty of volunteers pressing to compete in extra events as non-counters and always a second — or even a third — relay team. Congratulations to all who took part, even if they did not make the teams!

In the All-England County Championships Angelo-Sparling came 2nd, a
very fine achievement, Oulton 8th, and Leonard 5th in his heat, while Schulte made his omission from the county more inexplicable by winning both Shot and Discus (the former with a new school record) at the London Athletics Club Meeting.


York Youth Harriers
v QEGS & Uppingham Won 77-46
v Pocklington & Leeds GS Won 89-51
v RGS Newcastle & Bradford GS Won 115, N96, B06
v Stonyhurst
v Rossall & Denton
v Sedbergh
v Army Apprentices, Harrogate

William Angelo-Sparling and Simon McKeown were selected to compete for Great Britain in the Games of the Federation Internationale Sportive des Ecole Catholiques. William not only won the Javelin event with a record throw for those games (62.24m), but came 2nd in the shot.

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This has been an eventful and successful year. We continued to play indoors as much as time allowed over the winter months. We were hosts to the North Eastern Region coaching groups over three weekends and this proved of value to the 1st VI in particular, who not only got expert coaching but enjoyed the opportunity to be host to some lovely girls! The School courts were used for a regional tennis open day, when we were invaded by enthusiastic and talented children, as well as for the Northern Schools Under-14 and Under-12 championships.

All the School teams have had a successful season, shown the way by an unbeaten 1st VI. Graham Preston, undoubtedly our most talented player for many years proved an excellent captain — leading the team by his ability on the court and his personality and encouragement off it. With James Willcox as his partner they developed into a formidable first pair, losing only once to the Hymers pair (the Northern Champions) and then only after leading 5-1! Dominic Carter and Charles O’Brien played well as second pair with Richard Connelly and Tim Coreth initially, then Alexander Swan-Fitzgerald Lombard, as a strong third pair. It was Willcox and Connelly who individually showed the greatest improvement over the term — the six in general, but particularly the first pair, played some memorable tennis and the most notable victories were those over Hymers College and Leeds G.S. After an unfortunate draw in the 1st round of the Northern Schools Championships, Preston and Willcox went on to win the Plate Competition of the Under-19 Section.

Preston, Willcox, Carter and O’Brien represented the School at the Wimbledon Championships this year. We were drawn against Reigate (the second seeds!) and put up a great performance before being beaten 2/1. Preston and Willcox played magnificently to beat the Reigate first pair (7–5, 4–6, 7–5). Our second pair, perhaps overawed by the occasion were easily beaten 1–6, 1–6, leaving Preston to play, and lose, the deciding singles against a very strong player indeed.

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SWIMMING

The Swimming Club enjoyed a successful year. The outstanding Junior team of 1983 were succeeded by an equally talented group of swimmers, who not only retained the John Parry Medley Relay trophy of the previous year, but also broke the previous records in the process. The 1983 Junior group, now swimming at senior level, made their presence felt and look forward to another two years to achieve their undoubted potential.

It is good that each year the Juniors seem to get stronger, and the presence of the school's most talented swimmer, P. Kirwan (E), was an inspiration. But the group has talent: J. Vitoria (W) and S. Bond (A) fought for the top breastroke position and whitewashed all school opposition; C. Sinclair (A), proved an outstanding all rounder who is likely to break school records in the future; J. Cowell (T) and D. Seagon (A) had successful seasons, and the Junior team was also ably supported by C. Blasdale (B); C. Osborne (B); D. Fagan (B) and J. Vigne (B). P. Kirwan's ability is measured by the fact that, in order to gain competition, he has had to do much of his swimming at Senior level and by the end of the season was already the holder of a number of senior swimming records.

In the senior age group there was the problem of integrating the talented Under 16 team into a hard working and large senior group. Not surprisingly the Under 16s were hard to beat and only lost to a strong Barnard Castle team. The mainstream of the group included: A. Tarleton (B); A. Elliot (E); R. Falvey (A); M. Cowell (T); and M. Franchetti (D). The former three are especially talented and dominated their individual events. Tarleton already holds the school 50m breastroke record and Elliot and Falvey are undoubtedly future record holders in their respective crawl and 'fly events.

The Senior Team was probably the strongest the School has yet produced, thus it was a pity that a number of fixtures were lost through cancellations. P. Kerry (T) was outstanding as Captain as he was a swimmer. He pushed both himself and the team hard in the training pool and the season's success is due to his dedication. He leaves the school with the satisfying knowledge that he holds school records in four events (100m, 50m, Crawl; 100m, 50m 'fly). He together with other strong swimmers in P. Blumer (A); C. Ingham (A); B. McGonigal (W); P. Gilbey (D); and L. Nolan (T) made a formidable team and set an example for next year's team to follow.

The domestic competition was exciting this year. The senior cups were shared between P. Kerry (freestyle, 'fly); P. Blumer (100, 200 Breast, All Rounder) and C. Ingham (100 Back); and the Junior cups were dominated by P. Kirwan (100m Back, 1m, Crawl, 50m 'fly) although Sam Bond did manage to interrupt the former's run by winning the 100m breastroke. The House Competition was won by St. Aidan's (again!), but their victory was not as comprehensive as in past years. Swimming talent is widely spread in the school and their crown is by no means secure.

ACTIVITIES

FILM SOCIETY

This term's selection of films commenced with the masterful 'Apocalypse Now': inspired by Conrad's 'Heart of Darkness'. Francis Ford Coppola's 'Vietnam Odyssey', four years in the making and beset by illness, emerged as a masterpiece, a shattering journey to the interior of the spirit. The BFI's verdict was true and the Society appreciated this definite portrayal of the scope of Vietnam and agreed that it was one of the most powerful of films. Unfortunately, 'National Lampoon's Class Reunion' did not demonstrate the comic brilliance which was evident in its predecessor 'Animal House' and only contained bawdy humour and bad taste. Although David Bowie appeared to be the main attraction in the mystifying and unforgettable 'Merry Xmas Mr. Lawrence', Tom Conti gave the best performance. The spiritual tale, based on Sir Laurens Van Der Post's 'The Seed and the Sower', tells a story from four sides, via two different English climates and two different Japanese characters. As the BFI commented, the Director Oshima seemed to 'let the ability to make a masterpiece slip out of his hands'. Francis was one of the many unsung heroes of recent film releases, this violent and true story was shocking, harrowing and dramatically haunting. All the stars, especially Jessica Lange, gave incredible performances and the story managed to put shivers up the spines of the audience. Dirk Bogarde played the lead role in 'The Damned', a German film which has been described as baroque and Wagnerian. It told the story of a family of German industrials which divides and destroys itself under Nazi influence. It was a slight strain to watch and although well put together one felt that Lucinio Visconti, the quondam master of realism, had composed an opera with a score.

For our last presentation we screened Lindsay Anderson's modern pilgrim prayers 'O Lucky Man' to a select audience. This film completed our trilogy of films from one of our country's best directors, who showed us corruption, injustice, paradoxes of regimes and dictatorships and the contrast between the rich and the poor through the eyes of Mick Travis, the modern 'Everyman', played by Malcolm McDowell. The satire often looked familiar and one realised that the only way to come to terms with life's absurdity is to laugh at it. 'O Lucky Man' seduced our minds with a search for true values and understanding and brought out stupendous performances from such great actors as the late Sir Ralph Richardson and the late Arthur Lowe.

I would like to thank Fr Stephen for his help and advice, Jonathan Perry and Niall Edworthy for their support and the cinema for their projecting skills. Finally our thanks go to Mr Lovat, now leaving us, for his nursing the projectors through so many of our screenings.

M. Simpson

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Natural History Society reappeared this year after an absence of about two years. The retiring president, Fr Julian gave the opening lecture entitled 'Jaws',...
and attracted a large audience. The new president, Dr Aldiss, gave the second lecture of the term on 'Wasps and How They Sting'; he is an expert in this field having done his doctorate on the subject. Our first outside speaker was a lecturer in Fine Arts from Nottingham, Mr David Measures. His lecture entitled 'The Natural History of Farmland' was most informative and illustrated by some of his excellent paintings and drawings on the subject. The first lecture of the spring term was given to us by Dr O Gilbert of Sheffield University entitled 'A Botanist in the Hebrides'. It was an excellent account of three surveys he has carried out on the islands of Flannan, North Rhona and St Hilda in the Hebrides. It was of great interest and dealt with many of the fascinating aspects of life on these windswept and isolated islands. Our next lecture was on a similar topic by Mr Colin Bailey entitled 'A Marine Survey on Foula, Britain's Remotest Island'. His excellent talk with slides dealt with all preparations, and hard work behind such a survey as well as the interesting discoveries that were made. The final lecture of the spring term was given to the society by Dr Theakston. He gave an excellent talk with superb slides, entitled 'A Naturalist with a Camera'.

The first lecture of the summer term was by Dr Jack Rielley, a lecturer on Botany at Nottingham University; he spoke on the 'Arctic and Alpine Vegetation of the British Isles'. It was a very good lecture on this rather unappreciated topic and was of great use to A-Level Biologists. The final lecture of the term and probably the most popular, was on 'Brewing' by Mr Hugh Curley, the Head Brewer for T & R Theakston Ltd. He gave the society an excellent talk with slides, dealing with all the work behind such a survey as well as the interesting discoveries that were made. The final lecture of the spring term was given to the society by Dr Theakston. He gave an excellent talk with superb slides, entitled 'A Naturalist with a Camera'.

The introduction of Octopush, sometimes described as Underwater Hockey, together with enough basic equipment for P.E. classes has stimulated interest but the lack of enough instructors will limit intake to the Sub-Aqua Club for the time being.

Mr. Paul Brennan and Mr. Carl Lawrence spent several days at Holyhead, Anglesey with Fr. Julian after the summer term to get diving experience but were unable to get to the advanced course at Plymouth in August.

The building of a diving school with its deep water tank at Appleton Roebuck, near York may be useful in future for completing some of the diving training. Neither Goremire Lake or Pond Head, Fosse, are very satisfactory for some parts of the training and are much more shallow than is commonly supposed; also the water is not clear at a deeper level and the bottom of both lakes is very muddy and easily stirred up.

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M. Ainscough

SUB-AQUA CLUB

The most important event for the Club for the school year 1983/84 was the arrival and commissioning of a new compressor, a Bristol 8.5, beside St. Alban Centre. Both compressors which had been used in the past were not being used; one was out of action and the other was not made to give the full pressure to the more modern cylinders being used. It is now possible to have enough air to complete the basic training in the pool and the lakes locally. All the old cylinders have been sold off.

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The building of a diving school with its deep water tank at Appleton

The New Year brought with it wintry weather and several days were lost through snow and frost. Clear, but still bitter cold, conditions followed and the season ended with a succession of good days. It was good for the first time to be able to have a holiday week-end meet in Fryup with its spectacular scenery.

As in the last year or two the officials made up a team of four to compete in the annual Harcourt's Chase at Masham. All went well until a steward misdirected the runners and the race was made void. Fortunately the problem of allocating prizes was left to Col. Jeremy Phipps who was in charge of the event. He decided that they should be shared between all the competitors. Thus Thomas Worboys, Francis Von Habsburg-Lothringen, David Hugh Smith and Edward Mangles did not come home empty handed. More cross-country running followed two days later with the Point-to-Point. Francis von Habsburg-Lothringen was the winner from Edward Mangles and David Hugh Smith. James McBrien won the Junior race.

Colonel Leonard Gibson and Mark Savage judged at the Puppy Show early in May. It was good to see such long-standing supporters as Mrs. Teasdale of Beadlam Rigg, Mrs. Wheldon of Wombptown, Mrs. Wilson of Cote Hill Farmdale and Mrs. Cook of Beakhill Chappage among walkers of winning entries. Mrs. Sharpley, mother of the Master, presented the prizes. Meanwhile her daughter, Catherine James, had been busy in all weathers doing a painting of the pack with Jeff Hall and the officials setting out on exercise from the kennels. We are grateful to her and to Mrs. Anne Dewey who commissioned and presented this picture in memory of her son, Christopher.

The Sinnington Fair was at the end of the month, and again this year the Beagles paraded in the main ring. The Shows followed: the Great Yorkshire first where Ruby was reserve champion and one first prize and seven seconds were won. Then, as for many years now, down to the limitless hospitality of Exton, where hounds and all were put up for the Peterborough Show. William Sharpley's year was a most successful one and we returned with a championship, three firsts, three seconds, two thirds and two reserves.

On a sadder note the deaths must be recorded of two very old friends and great supporters of the hunt: Ernest Halton, a farmer first of the Paddocks, Marton, then of Town End Farm, Appleton-le-moors, host at many a meet and a walker for many years; and Richard Hammersley, for many years agent for the Duchy of Lancaster. We are indebted to him for suggesting and arranging several of our best meets up on duchy land near Whitby and Pickering.
COMBINED CADET FORCE

ARMY SECTION

The Easter and Summer Terms were devoted to APC & Inspection training respectively. The first year cadets under UO PD Johnson-Ferguson & UO K Lindermann worked up to the usual Orienteering/Map Reading Exercise on Field Day and then, in the Summer took part in the inter-Section competition culminating in the Circus on Inspection day.

The second year did a repeat of the Christmas term, but changed round so that those who had done Adventure Training did Fieldcraft & Tactics and vice versa. On the Field Day the Fieldcraft & Tactics group were entertained at Catterick by the Queen's Own Huzzars commanded by an old Amplefordian, Lt. Col. Jeremy Phipps. 2nd Lieutenant Nick Thomas, who was recently in St Cuthbert's, was in charge of the cadets. They were given a chance to find out how Tank drivers, gunners and mechanics are trained. There were also shooting, drill, and command tasks in the gymnasium. The weather was very cold which was a pity, but the welcome was warm. The Signals section also visited Catterick where Major Ray Etheridge and Lieutenant Wayne Coupland provided a full programme.

For the inspection in the Summer Term 12 Army Cadets, together with 6 each from the other two Sections, formed the Guard of Honour. It was commanded by UO NP Torpey (RAF) and had CSM EJFV Melotte and Sgt EJ Mangels as right and left markers. Others formed the staff running the Circus Competition of which Sgt M Ruzicka was the chief organiser. On the inspection day all went smoothly, except for the late arrival of Air Commodore RJ Kendall CBE ADC RAF, the Inspecting Officer. This got the Guard of Honour off to a poor start since they had to wait for half an hour in a steady drizzle. Otherwise all went well in spite of the dismal weather.

The Nulli Secundus Competition was judged by Lt Col JJJ Phipps and officers of the Queen’s Own Hussars; it was won by CSM EJFV Melotte and the Armour Memorial Prize was won by Cpl MR Mc Bradley and Lieutenant Wayne Coupland provided a full programme.

ROYAL ARTILLERY

The Royal Artillery Troop, commanded by S/Sgt TE Vail, worked at general gunnery, as well as self reliance training. We were again fortunate to have the help of L/Bdr Osborne of 49 Regiment for a First Aid course. Our third year cadets formed an NCO’s Cadre, which received training from Sgt Carrol of 9 Cadet Training Team as well as from BSM Masson and a team of instructors from 49 Regiment RA. The culmination of this year’s training was in a self reliance and signals exercise planned in conjunction with UO M Stoker of the Signals Section, and in various gunnery and First Aid competitions at the Annual Inspection.

ATTACHMENT CAMP IN GERMANY

1st Bn Irish Guards in Oxford Barracks at Munster were hosts to 31 cadets accompanied by Fr Simon & Fr Edward. Unlike England, Germany was having one of its wettest summers for a long time but this did not impede the programme laid on for the cadets. They were in the expert hands of Lt James Stopford assisted by several excellent NCOs, most notable of whom was Sgt Markham. The training consisted of Drill, PT, Weapon training & live firing, assault course, gas chamber, visits to 2 Field Regiment RA, and Queens Royal Irish Hussars; there was lunch in the Officers’ Mess, and a 24 hrs exercise involving night patrols, a dawn attack and all but 3 lucky (or skillful?) cadets being snatched from a defended patrol base during the night.

It was pleasant to find several Old Amplefordians in the Battalion: Captain Bernard Hornung, Major Sebastian Roberts, 2 Lieutenant Cassian Roberts, and Lieutenant Jeremy Grotrian. We were made extremely welcome and very much enjoyed the attachment.

R.A.F. SECTION

This term saw a continuation of the flying programme at RAF Leeming on Thursday afternoons, with most cadets attending at least twice for an enjoyable hour or so of flying and aerobatics in the RAF Chipmunk. Squadron Leader Dan Hicks is now in charge of the AEF at Leeming and is taking very good care of us.

The section’s training for the term culminated in the annual Inspection by Air Cdre Kemball, the CO at RAF Leeming. Our programme for the day was varied and consisted of both indoor and outdoor work. A lecture of the working of the ejection seat was delivered enthusiastically by J/Cpl. Corbally, and the Air Cdre tried his hand at the flight simulator and almost succeeded in a landing. Our model building crew completed and flew two gliders successfully, despite the strong winds. Unfortunately due to a faulty fuel feed-pipe the radio controlled aircraft was unable to fly that day.

Under the fine leadership of Flt S/Sgt McKown a group of cadets completed successfully a complicated rope bridge mechanism enabling the team to cross the brook with a forty gallon oil drum and remain dry in the process. The Air Cdre and visiting Officers seemed suitably impressed.

Sadly at the end of term we lost Flt Sgt Ken Halligan who has been attached to the section for four years. He has accepted a posting to RAF Valley in Anglesey which will eventually lead to his promotion to Warrant Officer. We thank him for his help and expertise over the years and wish him well for the future.

UO N. Torpey is leaving at the end of term after a successful career in many fields; he has been an invaluable help to me whilst a member of the section. We all wish him further success at University.

Finally, congratulations to Sgt MacCulloch who has been awarded a sixth form scholarship by the RAF. This will involve him in up to thirty hours of flying lessons throughout the next two years.
ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

The Spring Term began with a visit to HMS GALATEA in Hull Docks, as she is the adopted ship of Hull. The tour started with an informative presentation on the role of the Leander-class frigates, followed by a detailed inspection of most of the ship's equipment.

Later we were pleased to receive a visit from Commander A Bolingbroke, the Captain of HMS AMBUSCADE, our affiliated ship, and Lieutenant C. Watson, the ship's Liaison Officer. They brought us up to date on the ship's recent movements and hoped to be able to offer us some sea-time. (Unfortunately the subsequent invitations for two short sea trips along the East coast could not be taken up as the dates coincided with the examination period).

Proficiency training proceeded smoothly and successfully under the guidance of PO A Osborne, assisted by LS H Martin and G Sellers. Field Day was spent orienteering as our usual training scheme done at RAF Leeming was not available because the RN Section there was in the process of transferring to RAF Linton-on-Ouse. The main activity of the Section for the Annual Inspection was the sailing programme at the Lakes. This included a dinghy race and a competent demonstration of capsize drill. Both showed a high level of skill and proved that the Section has a good nucleus of promising helmsmen. We hope they can show their prowess at next year's CCF regatta.

CPO Martin left early in the Summer Term to join HMS YORK, now being fitted out. We wish him well in his new sea-going appointment and welcome CPO Crane as his successor. CPO Ingrcy has continued to give us the high level of service we have had in the past. We are grateful for all their efforts on our behalf. We also thank Andrew Osborne for his sterling work as our senior cadet as he has worked with quiet efficiency and reliability.

EASTER TERM

The main interest concentrated on the “Country Life”, but in the event a good team produced disappointing results, only achieving 25th position, though we were pleased that the official score was 21 points less than we had calculated. Both the Captain, Damian West, and the Landscape leader, Martin Ainscough did an excellent job and cannot be blamed for the poor position. Thomas Maxwell was the best individual shot in the Competition, & the preliminary practices.

SUMMER TERM

The usual Bisley practice took place during the Easter holidays, and was particularly valuable. Stephen O'Malley kindly brought a group of old boys to make a match on the final day. During the term the first North East District Target Rifle competition took place and we won all the trophies: Individual Match (both 1st Team & 2nd Team), and aggregate. The 1st Team was: D West, T Maxwell, F von Habsburg, C Kemp. The 2nd Team was: N Morland, A Pennington, P Hugh Smith, J Eyre.

SHOOTING

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THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH’S AWARD

The Award Scheme has continued to operate a wide range of activities, and much of the training is now led by the participants. Training for them has included a day conference at Ripon and the North of England Expedition Conference at Keswick in May, where our seven participants surveyed for a high level dam and mapped and sounded a small tarn. The groups included people from many walks of life: Mr Aston was chief surveyor in the tarn group, which included a senior policeman and a miner who is a Gold Holder, as well as Award participants.

Residential Projects this year have included various Royal Navy courses, a National Trust Acorn Camp, the Junior House Scout Camp and a privately run Youth Camp. In the Service Section, Award Scheme and CCF Leadership continue to be the most popular, and a large number of boys have also taken part in the North Yorkshire Police Community Involvement Scheme, work in Bransdale for the National Trust, First Aid and Life Saving. Many boys have helped to raise money for the new Resusci Anne Life Saving Training Model.

In the Expedition Section Bronze groups have carried out footpath surveys, a group of Silvers made a bridge study, and the Golds visited the Isle of Jura, Argyll (Easter) and the area North of Hadrian’s Wall (Summer). On Jura, one group, supervised by Mr Collins and Mr Bowen, investigated the Red Deer of Jura, the Paps (the island’s distinctive mountains) and George Orwell, who wrote 1984 while living at Barnhill in the North of the island. The other group, supervised by Mr Dean and Mr Bailey, carried out a project on settlement on the island. Both groups walked the full mileage required for a foot expedition (50 miles) and carried out their Exploration projects in addition, returning well satisfied with their work. Many people assisted with the preparation for these Explorations, including the Royal Engineers, Mr Brooke of the National Parks Department, and Mr Weston. Our links with 1980 expedition included our chaplain, Father Francis and local advisers Messrs Worthington Eyre, Mclnnes and the Reverend Peter Youngson. We are very grateful to our assessor, Mr Wright of the Jura Hotel, and to the Riley-Smith family, who invited us to use Jura House as the base for our expedition and gave us other valuable help. The third group of Golds this year, supervised by Mr Boulton and Mr Dean, carried out a foot expedition in the Hadrian’s Wall and Kielder areas of Northumberland at the end of the summer term. Our thanks to Mr M. Waine, of the Cheviot Panel, who assessed the group.
The Physical Recreation section, in addition to individual programmes taken by some boys, has been much helped by successful Swimming and Physical Achievement courses run by Fr Julian and Mr Bowen respectively. In the activities mentioned above, as well as in the individual Skills programmes, we are indebted to our many adult helpers from the staff, as well as to the CCF and Scouts, and to the North Yorkshire County Council adviser, Mr L.N. Baynes.

The following cadets have reached Award standard: Gold: S.F. Baker (B), P.J. Kerry (T), N.P. Torpey (H), Silver: B.L. Galloway (C), A.J. Fraser (W), S.J. Hume (T), A. Marr (T), J.P.J. Sachs (H), M.R. Stoker (H), Bronze: S.J. Chittenden (H), H.P.B. Martin (J), J.M.B. McBrin (O), T.M. Petit (W), R. Tams (J), A. Doherty (W).

THE JUNIOR HOUSE

OFFICIALS

Head Monitor: M. Auty.

Captain of Rugby: W. Easterby.
Captain of Cross Country: B. Warrack/W. Gilbert
Captain of Cricket: B. Stones.

Sacristans: M. Pink, A. Redmond, R. Steel, A. Gannon, H. Young, A. Gage.

Bookroom: C. Ticehurst, A. McNicholas, D. Sellers, B. Unsworth.


Head Choristers: P. Brisby, P. Hargan.

First the congratulations, then the regrets. We congratulate Mr Tim Aston on his wedding during the Easter holidays to Miss Mary Prattley, our one-time nurse, and Mr Carl Lawrence on his wedding towards the end of the summer term to Miss Jill Turnbull. We wish them every happiness. At the end of the summer term we said farewell to two members of staff, Mr Kevin Crowdy left to do further study; he has been a valued member of staff at the Junior House for six years, teaching history (also in the main school) and willing to undertake all kinds of duties, extra art classes, dramatic productions, coaching the Under Eleven Rugby and aeromodelling. Mr. David Lowe left to take up an English appointment after three years doing great work in charge of Junior House music, in which he introduced a number of valuable initiatives, and also such extra tasks as organising the Creative Activities programme and teaching extra English. We wish them every success.

Our chief difficulty in these two terms has been lack of time to fit in everything we wanted to do — to the extent that one of the boys complained that the summer term was not long enough. Barely a weekend went by without some special function. In the Easter term a great deal of work went into the prize essays; only three boys did not complete them, and everyone was carefully monitored by Form Tutors, as well as by a great deal of back-up work and encouragement from parents, who often seemed as involved in them as their sons. We also took seriously the Church’s wish to involve parents in religious education by inviting to a special day’s conference parents of boys due to be confirmed in the autumn; some thirty parents came, some from considerable distances, and pronounced it a most fruitful experience; there will be another such conference next term.
We had a successful week at Saas Grund, one of the few resorts which has snow over New Year, though most of the advanced skiing was done ten minutes ride away at Saas Fee. The Adventure Skiing concept, operated there by School Abroad was a success, and those who had been skiing before (about half the group of thirty) reached a competent standard.

Holiday weekends are a busy time. In each term those who stayed behind took the opportunity to give a concert (on two hours' rehearsal) to the local Cheshire Home at Alne Hall; it is hard to say whether artistes or audience enjoyed them more, and they were topped by an excellent tea. An outing to Scarborough with Matron is always a success, and other trips were to Billingham Forum for ice-skating (not as good as the climax of the Easter term, the day at Crowtree Leisure Centre), and on Exhibition Monday to Alton Towers.

More serious were the visits by the third year, in two halves, to the Jorvik Centre in York, kindly arranged for us by Mr Gaynor; we are most grateful to him for the special facilities provided.

As the main school had no sponsored walk this year we arranged our own, walking (or running) the twenty-three miles from Mount Grace. Minimum time five hours, maximum nine, and only five boys had to be picked up from Helmsley. We raised £700 for Action Aid, more than is needed for Muleme Tofiri whom we are sponsoring in Uganda. So Mr Terence McCaughan from Action Aid in York came to give us a talk, and we ended by voting to give the surplus to sinking a well for clean water in the Gambia.

The Schola had its own excitements. In February we sang a concert at Denstone, after which Mr and Mrs Burke squeezed twenty trebles and altos into their house for the night. After an excellent breakfast we went off to sing Mass in their Parish church before spending the rest of the morning roller-skating in Derby. The half-Schola trebles also sang in The Messiah in York, and in June all the trebles and altos had the unforgettable experience of joining the Halle Orchestra and Choir for Berlioz's Te Deum in the Minster as part of the York Festival. In addition half-a-dozen boys have taken part in the varied programme of the Ampleforth Singers.

The two features this year were the play and the tea-party. Yes, there was a picnic at the Lakes as usual on the Saturday, which was reasonably warm and most enjoyable as a meeting-place. Yes, there was a prize-giving at which the orchestra gave a concert generally agreed to be the best for some years, and 16 Alpha, 32 Beta One and 26 Beta Two prizes for essays were presented; in fact the headmaster complained that the standard of work was so high that it was becoming too expensive in prizes. Yes, there was a magnificent lunch for 400, served by the Matron and her enterprising staff in the refectory but eaten in sunshine on the top walk. Yes, proceedings were rounded off by a Fathers' Cricket Match in which Christopher Stones and ten other hard-hitting parents trounced our First XI. But the tea-party was the social high-light.

The preliminary to this was a gymnastic display by some thirty boys in the Upper School gymnasium, and then at the beginning of tea another sixteen experts gave a display of vaulting on the lawn. The whole affair gradually turned into a festival, starting with a display of BMX-riding which the boys had insisted upon and organised, and then an assault-course competition. Younger brothers and sisters were encouraged to join in both of these, which produced some feverish activity before the final performance of the play, also in the garden, captivated all present.

The play, Puck's Dream was devised and produced by Lucy Warrack and Andrew Carter, interspersing the play scenes from Midsummer Night's Dream with sequences from Under Milk Wood. Naturally the garden, with skilful use of hedges, was the ideal locale for a fresh and natural production, in which both actors and audience obviously enjoyed every minute. There were unforgettable moments: the carefully-muted roaring of the Lion (Mark Hoare), the glib Welsh glossing of Rohan Massey, the sudden insidious proffering of the poisoned cup, and the tormenting of poor, puzzled Bottom.


The Orchestra was received very well at Exhibition, playing Suite No 1 from Handel's Water Music, A Summer Dance by Charles Woodhouse, Delibes' Pavane and Purcell's Trumpet Tune.

One new event particularly worthy of mention was Music Weekend with Rossall School. A Party from Rossall arrived at the Junior House in time for a barbeque and swim at the Lakes before Friday choral Mass, and next morning we collaborated in a joint concert, at the end of which John Warrack kindly commented on each performance and awarded prizes. It was a happy occasion, which should be repeated. The next day the Orchestra joined that of Queen Mary's School, Duncombe Park, to play at an open-air service in Rievaulx Abbey, an experience both memorable and enjoyable.
Memories which remain include Richard Lamballe’s sparkling performance on the timps, Francis Goto’s surprise on finishing with the other instruments, Kieran Joyce’s concentrated guitar-playing, Paul Kassapasian’s delight at playing a phrase totally correctly, Ben Stones’ impish sense of humour, Nick Giordano’s cool mastery of the flute, Toby Gaffney’s music left behind after a rehearsal, and many others.

At the end of term the Third Year Schola boys gave a performance of their opera, The Hitch-hiker, the music for which they had also composed. The star was undoubtedly Stephen Griffin, whose acting, as well as his singing and playing, was outstanding. There were some good tunes, ably supported by Paul Brisby on the synthesiser and other instrumentalists. It was a spirited conclusion to the year.

CHESS

A Chess team is a new departure at the Junior House; it is entirely boy-run, and the captain provides this report: The Under 13s had a superb first chess season, unbeaten in 6 matches. The Under 11s, though a less strong team, was ably led by Jonathan Cleary, in 4 matches they won 2, drew 1 and lost 1. The Under 13s team was strong right down to board 6. In Justin Malone we could really rely on a good performance, and he had a 100% record. Chris Stanton lost only once, and James Morris and Hugh Young played consistently well. Hugh joined the team only through illness, but by the end of the season had risen to board 5.

The Under 11 team was led by Jonathan Cleary, an ex-Birmingham County player. Alex Jolliffe and Mark Bowring also played well all season and could, with practice, become very able players.

As captain I would like to thank Father Matthew for his encouragement and for arranging two matches against the Upper School First Year team (both of which we won 5-3). I would also like to thank Fr Henry, who helped with transport to other schools.


RUGBY

At the beginning of the Spring term the Under Thirteen settled down to some hard and serious training, but the morale was still pretty low after a disastrous previous term. The trouble lay quite simply in the size and weight of the pack, and after extensive tackling and scrummaging practice on the scrum machine the pack gained confidence and stamina, but not weight. The first game against St Olave’s went well for the first twenty minutes as the pack fought hard and fast to feed the ball to the scrum-half. At half-time we left the field trailing 12 points to 4. In the second half Matthew Auty and David Casada each scored a try to bring us to level terms, but gradually the Olave’s pack became too much for us and our backs could rely only on their own ball-winning skills to gain possession. Sadly we lost 40-12. Two other matches, against Nunthorpe and Terrington, were cancelled, but the fourth match, against Drax, we won 36-14.

In the Sevens competitions our backs at last had a chance to prove what immense talent they had. Out of four competitions they won at Durham, beating Bowe school 8-6 in the final, and at the Gilling Sevens lost to an unbeaten host side by 6-0, after holding them to a 0-0 draw at half-time. At Pocklington we were beaten in the semi-finals of the plate competition by a side which must have averaged some three stone heavier. Finally at Rossall we lost 10-6 to Terra Nova after winning all our previous five matches.

All in all, the results of the season did not really reflect the time, effort and hard work that the side put in, or the great talent or flair possessed by the backs particularly as a most impressive unit. Throughout the season the whole team improved considerably.

In the first two games the Under 12s were badly let down by poor tackling, losing to Pocklington 32-0 and St Olave’s 20-0, but after some hard training the team produced a spirited win against Gilling 16-8, in which Lamballe’s leadership was outstanding and Tapparo was a tower of strength. This was followed by a run-away victory against Drax 60-0, and a final win 10-4 against St Laurence Jackson’s in bitterly cold conditions.

A final note should record that the non-team set produced some fierce and competitive playing too, both in the games against the teams and in matches against Gilling at hockey and soccer. At other times Mr Gamble coached the footballers to such an effect that they beat the Second Year upper school at 5-a-side.

SCOUTS

During the Easter Term the patrols took part in a series of exercises over several weekends. Abseiling was undertaken at Peak Scar, where the boys descended the cliffs at alarming speed yet in complete safety. Another activity was the preparation of Sunday lunch followed by a compass course in the College grounds. Mystery hikes were popular, the patrols being dropped off after a blindfolded journey, having to establish their location and then performing various tasks en route back to the Junior House.

Special events of the term included a second visit to the ICI Discoverers site at Ingleby Greenhow. The planned activities of night games, assault courses and initiative tests being added to the real life dramas of unditching the Land Rover and dealing with a failed generator. A Youth Hostel weekend was held at Westerdale Hall. Two groups took different routes over the moor to the hostel on Saturday. Despite atrocious weather conditions both parties arrived smiling at the hostel. On Saturday the teams joined up for a pleasant if strenuous walk into Farndale.

Several boys took part in a climbing course organised by the County Scout
Council, Julian Pilling and David Sellers gaining their proficiency badges. At the end of term four boys and two members of staff set off on a recce of the summer camp site and its vicinity. The opportunity was taken to tackle Helvellyn in near perfect snow conditions, and High Street in less perfect weather.

In the Summer term scouting included frequent visits to the lake for canoeing, rafting and site development. The Lions patrol under Jonnie Powell and Adrian Gannon built a veritable stockade in which they slept one weekend. At the beginning of term a camp was held at Kirkdale, with abseiling, pioneering, an assault course and wide games. Most patrols had a camp away from the College grounds and each had its tale to tell. Exhibition saw the scouts erecting a rope-bridge and a soup kitchen for the picnic. Fifteen members passed the British Canoe Union Star Test. On the penultimate weekend of term the Third Year scouts were able to spend some time with the Sea Scouts in anticipation of next year, did some sailing and were put through a challenging canoe exercise.

Throughout the two terms a popular patrol competition operated, with a trophy awarded to the winners each month. Progress work, attendance and service projects enabled individuals to gain patrol points, and weekly patrol events such as football and initiative tests encouraged team effort.

Winners were: February: Panthers (A. Gannon); March: Kestrels; May: Wolves (B. Warrack); June: Lions (J. Powell, A. Gannon).

Many individuals and collective projects took place; typical of these was the building of a trek-cart by Charles Ticehurst, Anthony McNicholas and Julian Pilling. The boys put in many evening's work on the construction, being rewarded with a great deal of satisfaction and the acquisition of new skills.

The term ended with a very successful camp on the shore of Ullswater, in ideal conditions. It was a very varied camp: Helvellyn, Blencathra and Scafell Pikes were climbed. Each patrol had an overnight camp on its own which involved canoeing six miles up the lake with full gear and back the next day. Most patrols endured a survival camp (the first started on an island with three unskinned rabbits and a strip of canvas), and there was a splendid succession of wide games and other competitions, ending with an assault course which demanded a twenty foot plunge off a cliff into the lake. The patrol competition was won by Wolves.

CROSS COUNTRY

The cross-country season was dominated by the fact that the captain, Ben Warrack, having provided tremendous enthusiasm and leadership in the build-up and training, sprang an appendix crisis on the morning of the first match, so did not compete at all. He also had the frustration of seeing Glen Gamble, with still a year to go, break his course record, bringing it down to 18m 22. The first year team was led by Gregory Lascelles (when he was not competing for a higher age-group) who is another promising runner. But there was a great deal of hard training, and fierce competition to get into the three teams.

v St Martins: Under 13 Won 36-100, Under 11 Won 64-72
v Barnard Castle: Under 13 Lost 40-58, Under 12 Won 107-116
v Gilling: Under 12 Won 21-69, Under 11 Won 31-51
v Howsham: Under 13 Lost 34-45, Under 11 Lost 34-44
v QEGS, Silcoates, St Olave’s: Under 13 Came second, Under 12 Won

ATHLETICS

The brief athletic season towards the end of the summer term was, as usual, centred on the Northern Preparatory Schools Meeting at Ampleforth. Before it we had two enjoyable evening meetings (ending with hot dogs at 10pm) against Howsham and St Martin’s respectively, which produced some very encouraging performances. After it we had our first full athletics match with thirteen events in each age-group against Catteral Hall, Giggleswick; honours were even, ourselves winning at Under 14 and Catteral Hall at Under 13. At the central meeting itself we had some fine performances, especially at Under 14 and Matthew Auty (Long and Triple Jump), David Casado (High Jump), Rafe Lean (Shot and Discus) and Ben Warrack (1500m) qualified for the All England Preparatory Schools Meeting in London. At Under 13 Richard Lamballe (Triple Jump), and Peter Tapparo (Shot) qualified, and at Under 12 Gregory Lascelles (400m). This is no mean record for any school. Over the course of the term over half the records for each event were broken, which must also indicate an outstanding season.

CRICKET: UNDER THIRTEEN

Played 9: Won 3: Drawn 4: Lost 2.

On the whole this has been a very good season, thanks in part to the glorious weather. As we hoped, the younger boys who played in last year’s First Eleven fulfilled their promise and produced some excellent performances. The side was full of competent batsmen, and in Stones and Casado we had an accurate pair of opening bowlers. Also special mention should be made of Guy Easterby and Alistair Boyle, the opening pair of batsmen, who so often set us on our way to victory, or at least made the game safe.

However, despite some excellent individual performances, the team as a whole lacked in urgency, especially when fielding, and this turned matches which should have been victories into draws.


v Bramcote: Bramcote 96 for 8 dec. (Casado 4 for 20, Thompson 4 for 20), Ampleforth 98 for 3 (Easterby 21, Boyle 19, Casado 20 n.o., Morris 32 n.o.) Won.
Ashville: Ashville 132 all out (Stones 5 for 30, Easterby 4 for 29), Ampleforth 72 for 4 (Casado 34 n.o.) Draw.

Gilling: Gilling 207 for 6, Ampleforth 148 for 6 (Easterby 34, Morris 46, Gaskin 34 n.o.) Draw.

Howsham Hall: Howsham 49 all out (Casado 4 for 19), Ampleforth 50 for 1 (Easterby °23 n.o., Boyle 20) Won.

St Martin’s: St Martin’s 51 all out (Stones 5 for 14, Casada 5 for 20), Ampleforth 55 for 3 (Easterby 23) Won.

Pocklington: Ampleforth 66 all out, Pocklington 68 for 6 Lost

St Mary’s Hall: St Mary’s Hall 147 for 4 (Casado 4 for 48), Ampleforth 47 all out Lost

St Olave’s: St Olave’s 161 for 2, Ampleforth 108 for 8 Draw

Barnard Castle: Ampleforth 159 for 2 (Easterby 24, Boyle 60, Stones 40 n.o., Gamble 24 n.o.), Barnard Castle 118 for 6 Draw.

UNDER TWELVE

Played 3: Won 1: Drawn 2: Lost 0.

The Under Twelves had a very good season under the guidance of Mr Hollins, who generously gave up his time to help. The team relied a good deal on Glen Gamble and Tom Willcox, who together opened not only the batting but the bowling as well. The team’s fielding was first class, and the boys achieved some memorable run-outs. Some of them show real promise, and in Glen Gamble we have a very good batsman indeed; in the Under 12 side he had an innings of 38 not out, 13 and 41 not out.


St Olave’s 149 for 4, Ampleforth 55 for 6 (Gamble 38 n.o.) Draw.


Gilling: Gilling 121 for 4, Ampleforth 78 for 7 (Gamble 41 n.o.) Draw.
but this year the boys enjoyed tea in the Gallery rather than the Gym. We were able to welcome our new Abbot, Father Patrick Barry, to Gilling, and he distributed the prizes. Father Adrian's speech emphasised the importance of personal contact between parents, form tutors and form masters, so that through increased knowledge of all aspects of a boy's life, he could be helped to grow and mature. He then paid tribute to the dedication and work of three members of the Gilling Staff who were unfortunately leaving us. Mr David Callighan, being recalled to the other side of the valley to take up the post of Senior Classics Master, after 4 years at Gilling. Mrs Saas, after 10 years of untiring dedication, especially to the new boys, is retiring and Mrs Lovat, who, in a very short time at Gilling has endeared herself to staff and boys and contributed so much, is moving to Malvern where her husband has taken up a new post. Mr Ginever, who came to fill a gap for two terms is also leaving — and we are told, two great pillars of Gilling, Mr Lorigan and Mr P. Callighan are going — "do a little less"! We'll believe it when we see it! To all who are leaving — our very grateful thanks and our prayers for their futures.

Three other events are worthy of note this term. On the feast of Christ's Body and Blood, we had Mass and a procession of the Blessed Sacrament — followed by an outing. The senior form went to Lightwater Valley, and the Middle and Junior Forms to Sleightholmedale. It was a very pleasant day with warm weather much enjoyed by everyone. Many of the staff came which enhanced the enjoyment.

On the day of the Gryphon's match, and slightly to the surprise of the school, Matron and Nurse organised a picnic supper of barbecued chicken, sausages and spare-ribs, together with salad, and followed by strawberries and cream. This was an enormous success, and we would like to thank Matron, Nurse and all the staff for this inspiration and all the hard work they put in throughout the term. This was not all, for Mr Lorimer arrived with a team of balloonists, who inflated a large hot air balloon advertising a certain brand of whisky! At first this was kept anchored — because of the wind — while Fr Adrian sampled the delights of balloon flight. But later it took off with Mr David Callighan aboard, sailing away beyond the Rookery Wood. Finally Bishop Kevin O'Brien came once again, on the last Saturday of term, to confirm the boys in the Vth Form. We congratulate all those who were confirmed and assure them of our prayers.

MUSIC


CARPENTRY

Here again we have a major activity, which is taught to everyone. But some boys are also keenly involved during activities and in the evenings. The exhibition of carpentry this year was outstanding, with a marked improvement in the scope and quality of things made. The Set of Drawers by Mark Kendall, a box by Eli Butler, a table by Simon Watson and a cupboard by James Oxley. Julian King made a good bench, Edward Weaver a tray and Simon Gillespie a tray with a particularly good finish. Again Mr Richard Ward is to be congratulated on the standards he engenders.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Art forms an important part of the curriculum, but again, some boys pursue it in activity time. The Art Exhibition was impressive with a fine collection of paintings by Liam Wales and Hew Lorimer, some notable pencil drawings by William Jackson, and some good work by A. Macfaul. The Third Form had produced some excellent winter scenes, and a number of other colourful works. The largest exhibit was a Jungle Scene to which many had contributed. The Crafts too were good with some splendid pottery and a variety of soft toys, notable amongst which were monkeys by Roderick Furness and William Hilton, a snake by Andrew Oxley and a crocodile by J. Carr. We will sadly miss Mrs Saas' contribution to this area but would like to thank her, with Mr Bunting, Mrs Elliot and Mrs Pickles for their work.

AEROMODELLING

This activity has continued to thrive thanks to the work of Mr Pickles and the enthusiasm of the boys concerned. A number of models of boats, aircraft and gliders are made, and foremost among them are the works of Francis Caley and Rupert Pattisson. But the exhibition of models also contained promising work by Mark Kendall, Hugh Blake James, Liam Wales, Charles Tyrrell and Brennan Fairbairns.

COMPUTERS

A fine display of computer hard and software was presented at Exhibition thanks to Mr Hodgson and Mr Ginever; the capabilities of the three computers were ably demonstrated, with a number of ingenious programmes written by...
James Cridland. While large numbers are capable of learning the skills necessary to use a computer — it is indeed a rarer skill to write programmes and make the machine do what you want!

These were the only exhibited activities, but it must not be forgotten that photography flourishes with a number of boys developing their own films. There is a chess group, a stamp club and snooker is a fast growing sport. Thanks to the generous gift of a parent, the 3rd Form now have a small snooker table.

**PRIZE LIST — 1984**

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**ART PRIZES**

| 5A | Liam Wales |
| 5B | William Jackson |
| 4B | Alexander MacFaul |
| 3A | Christian Weaver |
| 3B | Dominic Fox |
| 2A | Julian Camm |
| 2B | Richard Fattorini |

**MUSIC PRIZES**

| 5A | St Agnes Cup — James Cridland |
| 5B | Brass — Adrian Mayer |
| 4B | Piano — Rory Fagan |
| 3A | Strings — Hugh Blake James |
| 3B | Woodwind — Justin Knight |

**CARPENTRY PRIZES**

| Best Carpenter — Liam Wales |
| 1 | — Eli Butler |
| 2 | — Hugh Blake James |
| 3 | — Mark Kendall |

**GILLING CASTLE**

**ART PRIZES**

| 5A | Liam Wales |
| 5B | William Jackson |
| 4B | Alexander MacFaul |
| 3A | Christian Weaver |
| 3B | Dominic Fox |
| 2A | Julian Camm |
| 2B | Richard Fattorini |

**MUSIC PRIZES**

| 5A | St Agnes Cup — James Cridland |
| 5B | Brass — Adrian Mayer |
| 4B | Piano — Rory Fagan |
| 3A | Strings — Hugh Blake James |
| 3B | Woodwind — Justin Knight |

**CARPENTRY PRIZES**

| Best Carpenter — Liam Wales |
| 1 | — Eli Butler |
| 2 | — Hugh Blake James |
| 3 | — Mark Kendall |

**FR. WILLIAM PRICE MEMORIAL PRIZE**

| Liam Wales |

**PRIZE THESES**

**ALPHA**

- Hugh Blake James — The Peloponnese
- Robin Elliot — Dinosaurs
- Robin Thomas — 100 Days

**BETA 1**

- Alexander Fraser — Weapons
- Eamon Hamilton — History of Commercial Aircraft
- Matthew Holdgate — Crusades of the Middle Ages
- Damian Galloway — The History of the Lotus Super Seven
- James Cridland — The History of Computers

**COMMITTED**

- James Whittaker — The History of Snooker
- William Jackson — G.R. Jackson

**SPORTS PRIZES**

**Aeromodelling**: Threetrophies for enthusiasm and patience. Francis Caley, Rupert Pattisson and Mark Kendall.

- **Tennis**: Winners of the Doubles Noel Beale, Robin Thomas, Runners Up: Robin Elliot, Benedict Scott.
- **Snooker**: Mark Hornsey.
- **Shooting**: Winner Francis Caley, 2nd Richard Murphy.
- **Swimming**: Front Crawl — M. Burstall, Breaststroke — J. Whittaker, Back Crawl — C. Tyrrell, Dolphin — H. Lorimer.
- **All Round Athlete**: P. Bingham.

**CRICKET PRIZES**

- **Set 4 Best Cricketer — J. Camm**
- **Set 1B Best Batsman — J. Camm**
- **Set 3 Bowler — P. R. Dixon**
- **Set 1 Best Batsman — P. R. Dixon**
- **Best Bowler — P. R. Dixon**

The Cricket Bat for outstanding enthusiasm goes to P. Bingham.
HOCKEY

The Hockey Team was young and rather inexperienced, with the exception of Mark Hornsey, the Captain. They played well, however, and grew in confidence and skill, so that in the final match against Red House, they put on a creditable performance. We lost all our matches this term, but the scores ranged from 14-0 at the start of the season to only 2-0 against a strong Red House side.

The following played for the team: M. Hornsey (Captain), S. Gillespie, F. Caley, D. Gant, E. Weaver, F. Hamilton, H. Blake, J. Bright, A. McFaul, A. Fraser, J. Orrell, C. Tyrrell, D. Wiseman, L. Brennan, J. Vincent, W. Hilton.

RUGBY AND SEVENS

The 1st XV continued its winning sequence this term to become the only 1st XV at Gilling to be unbeaten in both the Winter and Easter terms. The team gained victories over St Olave's 32-0, Bramcote 64-0, Woodleigh 60-0, and Lizvane 68-0. This pushed their final record to a staggering Played 13, Won 13, Points for 638, Points against 26. As a 1st XV there has been no greater team in the history of Gilling Rugby, and my sincere thanks to P. Bingham and all those boys who represented first set rugby in 1983-4.

At Sevens, we also had our most successful season ever. We entered five competitions, and came away with four cups.

The first competition was at Pocklington, and for this we were allowed to play our full strength. In our opening group matches, we beat Pocklington 'B', Barnard Castle, and Woodhouse Grove, enabling us to enter the quarter final stage. Here we beat Silicotes 32-0, going on to beat Bradford Grammar 16-4 in the Semi-final. We beat Pocklington 'A' in the final to take the cup. In all it was a remarkable achievement against generally bigger and heavier Junior School sides, rather than Prep Schools, and in this competition the team produced some of the most skilled Sevens I have witnessed at this level.

In the Gilling competition, we were deprived of Bingham, Dixon and Kilvington, due to the I.A.P.S. laws governing Sevens. Yet we beat St Martin's, Barlborough Hall and Malsis in our group, going on to beat Junior House 6-0 in the final.

A week later, at Redhouse York, we were again short of key players. But the team, playing with confidence and skill, beat Malsis, Lizvane and Redhouse, to reach the semi-final. It was a hard struggle to gain a 6-0 win, and reach the final against our old enemy Howsham Hall. Fortunately we had kept our best until last, and retained the trophy for the second year running with a 26-0 win.

At Mowden Hall in Northumberland, and again under strength, we entered our first sudden-death knock-out competition. Tyndale Barbarians were beaten 24-0, and although losing confidence and rhythm, we managed a 6-0 win against Crawfordton from Scotland, and Bow School from Durham. Again, saving our best until last, we beat Malsis in the final 26-4 to win the Cup at our first attempt.

Finally, at St Mary's, Stonyhurst, with conditions which could not have been worse for Sevens, and with sickness adding to our disadvantages, we lost to the eventual winners 4-10 St Mary's in the first loss in 24 games. It was an excellent season, and the team well deserved their trophies.

CRICKET

The 1st XI this year was a good side who played to their potential when against strong opposition. Like last year's side, however, they suffered from a degree of over-confidence when playing against weaker sides. The team played 10, won 3, lost 3 and drew 4. Of the three teams we defeated, 2 were unbeaten sides while the third had not won a game in 10 matches. Yet we always struggled against sides with whom we should at least have drawn.

The side was captained by G. Watson whose leadership was at times, perhaps, a little lacking in authority. The most successful cricketer was P. Bingham who took 31 wickets at an average of 9.3, and who averaged 26 runs per innings. Against the Junior House the team attained one of its highest ever scores -- 207 for 6 in and hour and a half. Again, Terrington it showed its lack of consistency by being bowled out for a mere 49. M. Hornsey and J. Binny showed much promise for next year, and H. Lorimer improved tremendously as the term progressed. Given the natural talent and ability of the side it was a disappointing season. Despite this it was a very enjoyable one.

GILLING CASTLE 1st XV TEAM

Played 13 Won 13 Points For 638 Points Against 26

Standing from left: J. Whitteker, H. Lorimer, J. Kilvington, J. Oxley, L. Wales, M. Burstall

7's: 4 Trophies: Pocklington, Gilling, Redhouse, Mowden Hall