

STOVER SCHOOL MAGAZINE



DECEMBER, 1952

The Death of King George VI.

February 6th, 1952

The announcement of the death of the King was first heard by members of the Sixth Form, who had turned on the wireless to listen to an educational broadcast. When the truth of the unexpected news was at last understood, we realised that we must pass on the information to the rest of the School. Everywhere it was received by the same awed silence. The bulletin brought sorrow to all gathered together in the Library to hear the official confirmation, and the whole School sincerely joined in a prayer for the new Queen and the Royal Family.



STOVER SCHOOL MAGAZINE

1952

MY DEAR GIRLS AND OLD GIRLS,

Two events make this year a memorable one. The death of King George VI. last February made our hearts go out in sympathy to the Royal Family. We shared the deep sorrow felt by all his peoples throughout the Commonwealth for the loss of one who had been in the truest sense the father of his people. We shall never forget his sincerity and courage, and the example he set us of unflinching attention to duty. It is an inspiration to us all to remember that the source of his strength was his faith in God. May the same faith sustain his daughter, our young Queen.

The second event was the visit of the Queen to the Royal Show, which was held in Stover Park in July. On the great day, in recognition of our services in tidying up the show ground each morning, we were conducted to a privileged position just inside the main entrance, where we lined the route the Royal car would take. The car travelled so slowly that we had a perfect view of Her Majesty, and received a delightful smile as she passed by. From the end of the playing field we had other glimpses during the day, and the chestnut trees were climbed many times in the effort to obtain a better view. We like to know that the Queen has walked all round one of our playing fields which was used for the Royal Show. We feel we have been highly privileged to see her at such close quarters so early in her reign.

Last year I told you that we planned to turn the old bathing hut into a chapel. Now the remodelling is well under way. The partitions are down, the floor levelled, and the walls lined, and we are now planning the lighting and heating. It should be ready in plenty of time for next summer. We shall hope that many old girls will be able to attend one or other of the reunions next year, which is such an important one for the school. The first one is the London reunion on Saturday, January 3rd, and the summer reunion on July 18th, at Stover.

The Duke and Duchess of Somerset have promised, subject to their Coronation year engagements, to come down and help us celebrate our Twenty-First Speech Day on July 24th.

A very happy Christmas and New Year to all of you. May 1953 bring you all happiness and prosperity.

Yours affectionately,

PHYLLIS E. DENCE.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 19. Autumn Term begins
 " 22. Lecture by Mr. T. C. Mansfield, M.A., F.R.A.S.
 Oct. 11. Visit to Paignton for Boyd Neel Orchestral Concert
 " 13. Film: "Dear Mr. Prohack"
 " 27. Film: "Bicycle Thieves," shown by Mr. Keen
 Nov. 3. Visit of Miss Holland, from the Church Pastoral Aid Society
 " 7. Careers Lecture: Miss Hilton, Women's Employment Federation
 " 17. Film: "Chiltern Hundreds"
 " 29. Lecture: Mrs. Buchanan on the Pestalozzi Village and Refugee Camps
 Dec. 1. Film: "Passport to Pimlico"
 " 5. Guitar Recital: Hugh Waters
 " 9. Confirmation Service at St. Mary's, Abbotsbury
 " 15. Christmas Party. Film: "Blithe Spirit"
 " 19. End of Term
 1952
 Jan. 16. Spring Term begins
 " 19. Film: "Whisky Galore"
 " 23. Lecture: P. J. Ashton, Esq., Current Events
 Feb. 2. Film: "Bitter Springs"
 " 3. Visit of Miss J. Brown: Dr. Barnardo's Homes
 " 12 and 13. Girls' Common Entrance examination
 " 13. Lecture: Donald Grant, Esq.
 " 21. Play: "Wherefore This Waste," given by the Deanery Players
 " 23. Film: "Fools Rush In"
 " 27. House Music Competition
 Mar. 4. Visit to Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, for performance of Brahms' "Requiem"
 " 8. Film: "Kind Hearts and Coronets"
 " 15. Concert in aid of the "Save the Children" Fund, given by Mrs. and Miss White

- Mar. 25. French Oral examination
 „ 27. VIth Form Conference at Totnes High School
 „ 29. Film: "It's Not Cricket"
 Apr. 2. End of Term
 „ 30. Summer Term begins
 May 3. Colour film on "Birds," given by Mr. G. H. Fursdon,
 taken during a visit to France
 „ 24. Two-Piano Recital: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wilson
 June 2. General Certificate Examination (Advanced Level)
 begins
 „ 5. Operetta: "The Willow Pattern Plate" and Concert
 „ 6. Combined Speech and Sports Day
 „ 27. Film: "Henry V."
 „ 30. Visit to the Royal Agricultural Show
 July 2. Visit of H.M. the Queen to the Royal Agricultural Show
 „ 4. Visit to the Royal Agricultural Show
 „ 7. General Certificate Examination (Ordinary Level) begins
 „ 19. Old Girls' Weekend, and Swimming Sports
 „ 23. End of Term

VALETE

Christmas, 1951

Jennifer Ashby

April, 1952

Pamela Hatfield

July, 1952

Margaret Allen-Price

Judith Barker

Sheena Blair

Philippa Bickford

Michal Corbould-Warren

Ann Fursdon

Sally Giles

Ann Goodliffe

Angela Gummer

Priscilla Gummer

Elizabeth Guy

Gillian Hutchings

Hilary Milton

Sally Procter

Ursula Pridham

Anne Thorpe

Patricia Walford

Elizabeth Wright

SALVETE

September, 1951

Jessica Barker (II)	Penelope Henley (II)
Felicite Benwell (III)	Jean Jackson (Up. IV)
Helen Barnes (III)	Elizabeth Luscombe (III)
Ana Buss (Up. IV)	E. Jane Northcott (II)
Jillian Chenhall (Lr. V)	Miriam Pitman (III)
Marjorie Davidson (Lr. IV)	Susan Stapleton (Up. IV)
Ann Gaudion (Up. IV)	Carole Troman (III)
Susan Gay (Lr. IV)	Virginia Windle (II)
Celia Hammond (III)	Freda Woolner (III)
Jennifer Hellens (Lr. IV)	Zoe Worden (III)

January, 1952

Margaret Bruce (II)
Ann Cornish-Bowden (III)

May, 1952

Joanna Gould (II)
Elizabeth Guy (V)
Jill Lister (III)
Jean Miller (Lr. IV)
Angela Reid (II)
Elaine Roberts (II)**APPOINTMENTS**

Head Girl, 1951-2: M. HENDERSON

Prefects:

A. THORPE, J. BARKER, A. EVANS, P. HATFIELD, A. HIMELY,
U. PRIDHAM, P. SEAGRIM**GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (ADVANCED LEVEL)
JUNE, 1952**

The following girls were awarded certificates as a result of the above examination:

V. Judith Barker	History: Pass
	Art: Good
Marjorie R. Henderson	History: Pass
	English: Pass (Ordinary level)
Rosemary H. Parnaby	Latin: Pass
E. Anne Thorpe	Latin: Pass
	English: Pass (Ordinary level)

**GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION
(ORDINARY LEVEL), JULY, 1952**

The following girls were awarded certificates as a result of the above examination:

- V. Judith Barker. *Exceptional*—English Language, French (Oral).
Very Good—English Literature, French. *Good*—Latin.
Pass—Biology.
- Sheena D. Blair. *Pass*—English Literature, History.
- Wendy M. Brewer. *Good*—English Literature, History. *Pass*—
Geography, Religious Knowledge, Art.
- E. Anne Fursdon. *Very Good*—English Language. *Pass*—
Art, French (Oral).
- Sally F. Giles. *Pass*—English Literature, History, Art.
- Angela M. Gummer. *Pass*—English Language, English Literature,
History.
- C. Anne Himely. *Exceptional*—Art. *Very Good*—Elementary
Mathematics. *Good*—English Literature, Latin, Biology.
- E. Ann Hughes. *Very Good*—French. *Good*—English Language,
Elementary Mathematics. *Pass*—English Literature, Latin,
French (Oral), History.
- Hilary E. Johns. *Pass*—English Language, English Literature,
History, Religious Knowledge, Elementary Mathematics.
- Barbara E. Kauntze. *Pass*—Elementary Mathematics, Biology.
- F. Gillian D. LaTouche. *Exceptional*—English Literature. *Very
Good*—Latin, French, French (Oral), Geography. *Good*—
English Language, History. *Pass*—Religious Knowledge,
Biology.
- Janet Meadows. *Very Good*—English Language. *Good*—Latin.
Pass—English Literature, History, Religious Knowledge,
Elementary Mathematics, Biology.
- C. Evadne Painter. *Exceptional*—English Language. *Pass*—
English Literature, French, French (Oral), History.
- Rosemary H. Parnaby. *Exceptional*—English Language, English
Literature, French (Oral), Elementary Mathematics. *Very
Good*—History, Religious Knowledge. *Good*—French,
Biology.
- Martha A. Varley. *Very Good*—English Language. *Good*—English
Literature, Latin, French, French (Oral), History, Art,
Biology. *Pass*—Elementary Mathematics.
- Elizabeth M. Wright. *Very Good*—French (Oral). *Good*—English
Language, Elementary Mathematics. *Pass*—English Litera-
ture, French, History.

ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS

- Jennifer Waterhouse : *Pass*—English Language.
 Ann P. Goodliffe : *Pass*—Elementary Mathematics.
 Patricia A. E. Walford : *Pass*—English (Ordinary level)
 Pass—French (Ordinary level)

ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC (ASSOCIATED BOARD)

Elocution.—July, 1952

- | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------------|
| Grade V. | ... | ... | Pauline Bellamy (Pass with merit) |
| | | | Martha Varley (Pass with merit) |
| Grade III. | ... | ... | Philippa Bickford (Pass) |
| | | | Suzanne Chapman (Pass) |
| | | | Priscilla Gummer (Pass with merit) |
| | | | Gillian Hexter (Pass) |
| | | | Rosemary LaTouche (Pass with merit) |
| | | | Mollie Matson (Pass) |

Piano.—Theory, July, 1952

- | | | | |
|----------|-----|-----|-------------------------|
| Grade V. | ... | ... | Anne Evans (Pass) |
| | | | Patricia Walford (Pass) |

Violin.—December, 1951

- | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|------------------------------------|
| Grade III. | ... | ... | Anne Evans (Pass) |
| | | | Joan Kennard (Pass) |
| Grade II. | ... | ... | Rosemary Parnaby (Pass with merit) |
| Grade I. | ... | ... | Jennifer Himely (Pass with merit) |

GIFTS TO THE SCHOOL

The hearty thanks of the School are due to the donors of the following gifts :

For the Chapel Fund :

Mr. and Mrs. Tyrer, £6/6/0 (proceeds from the sale of Rosalind's uniform) ; Mrs. Jackson, £2/2/0 ; Valerie and Sheila Willing, £1 ; Sally Giles, £2 ; Angela Gummer, £1

For the School :

Mrs. Pridham, Mr. B. Pridham and Ursula Pridham : Deccalion Radiogram. Miss D. Griffiths (now Mrs. Evans) : Two sets of Beethoven Sonatas. Gillian Hutchings : Book for the Library, "The Sword and the Stone," by G. H. White. Miss M. Minns : Book for the Library, "National Velvet," by Enid Bagnold.

Miss J. E. Radford: Book for the Library, "Scaramouche," by Rafael Sabatini. Sheena Blair: Pencil sharpeners for the VIth Form and Laboratory. Mr. and Mrs. R. Baxter (Ann Pretty): Books for the Library, "The Birds of the British Isles," by T. A. Coward (2 volumes). Ann Fursdon and Elizabeth Wright: Pair of bellows for the Library.

GAMES REPORT

School Games Captains:

Autumn Term, 1951: J. Ashby.

Spring Term, 1952-Summer Term, 1952: A. Himeley

Vice-Games Captain: J. Barker

Lacrosse Teams

1st XII.		2nd XII.	13 and Under XII.
R. Parnaby	G.K.	A. Fursdon	J. Bawdon
J. Waterhouse	Point	S. Giles (Capt.)	P. Gummer
U. Pridham	C.P.	P. Key	L. Parkinson
J. Barker	Third M.	E. Pleace	S. Hatfield
J. Fielding	L.D.W.	J. Meadows	G. Hutchings
aJ. Ashby (Capt.)	R.D.W.	W. Brewer	H. Leggate
A. Himeley	C.	C. Isaac	C. Isaac
H. Johns	L.A.W.	R. Campbell	L. Himeley
A. Bickford	R.A.W.	M. Matson	J. Greenhough
S. Blair	3rd H.	A. Street	P. Bickford
A. Goodliffe	2nd H.	P. Johnstone	M. Matson
J. Sandercock	1st H.	J. Warren	J. Lovegrove

Spring Term, 1952: Captain of 1st XII.: A. Himeley

Right Defence Wing in 1st XII.: W. Brewer

Also played in the 2nd XII.: P. Seagrim and G. La Touche

aColours

Colours were awarded to U. Pridham and J. Fielding during the season.

NETBALL TEAM (14 AND UNDER)

G.K.:	E. Pleace
D.:	A. Street
C.D.:	P. Johnstone
C.:	S. Procter
C.A.:	J. Himeley
A.:	C. Isaac
G.S.:	R. La Touche
Reserve:	R. Campbell

SCHOOL FIXTURES

LACROSSE: AUTUMN, 1951

School or Club				Result
2nd XII. v. Oxtton House	1st XII.	..	..	Home Won 7-3
1st XII. v. Shute	1st XII.	..	..	Home Won 12-2
2nd XII. v. Oxtton	1st XII.	..	..	Away Lost 10-7
1st XII. v. Harcombe House	1st XII.	..	..	Home Cancelled
1st XII. v. Oxtton	1st XII.	..	..	Home Won 15-2

Spring Term, 1952

2nd XII. v. Oxton 1st XII.	.. .. .	Away	Lost 11—5
1st XII. v. Shute 1st XII.	.. .. .	Away	Cancelled
2nd XII. v. Oxton 1st XII.	.. .. .	Home	Lost 8—5
1st XII. v. S.D.L.L.C. 1st XII.	.. .. .	Home	Won 11—3
1st XII. v. Sherborne 1st XII.	.. .. .	Home	Lost 16—4
1st XII. v. Oxton 1st XII.	.. .. .	Home	Cancelled
13 and Under XII. v. Oxton 14 and Under XII.	.. .. .	Home	Cancelled

NETBALL**Autumn, 1951**

14 and Under VII. v. Shute 14 and Under VII.	..	Home	Won 23—7
14 and Under VII. v. Stokelake 14 and Under VII.	..	Home	Cancelled

Spring Term, 1952

14 and Under VII. v. Shute 14 and Under VII.	..	Away	Cancelled
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TENNIS TEAMS**Summer, 1952**

1st Couple	2nd Couple	3rd Couple
1st VI.: S. Giles (Capt.)	E. Wright	J. Barker
J. Fielding	P. Johnstone	A. Gaudion
Also played: P. Seagrim and A. Bickford		
2nd VI.: P. Seagrim	H. Johns	P. Bellamy
A. Bickford	R. Parnaby (Capt.)	A. Street
Also played: A. Hughes and J. Warren		
14 and under IV.:	1st Couple	2nd Couple
	J. Fielding (Capt.)	J. Warren
	A. Gaudion	J. Bawdon
	2nd Couple	3rd Couple
13 and 1st Couple	V. Markwick	S. Gay
under VI.: L. Himely	G. Hutchings (Capt.)	M. Davidson

Summer Term Fixtures, 1952

School or Club	Result
1st VI. v. Staff 1st VI.	Cancelled
1st VI. v. Sydenham 1st VI.	Won 78—21
Aberdare Cup (First Round) (played at Sherborne):	
1st VI. v. Shute 1st VI.	Won 2—1
1st VI. v. Sherborne 1st VI.	Lost 3—0
<i>Round won by Sherborne</i>	
1st VI. v. Stoodley Knowle 1st VI.	Cancelled
1st VI. v. Bishop Fox's 1st VI.	Lost 52—47
2nd VI. v. Bishop Fox's 2nd VI.	Lost 62—37
2nd VI. v. Stokelake 2nd VI.	Lost 24—23
2nd VI. v. Oxton 2nd VI.	Cancelled
1st VI. v. Marist Convent 1st VI.	Cancelled
13 and Under VI. v. St. Michael's Convent	Lost 46—35
14 and Under IV. v. Stokelake	Won 24—3
2nd IV. v. Stokelake 1st IV.	Won 20—12
1st VI. v. Staff 1st VI.	Won 54—45
1st VI. v. Old Girls	Lost 45—36

INTER-HOUSE MATCHES**Lacrosse**

Autumn, 1951

1st, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth; 2nd, Queen Mary.

Spring, 1952

1st, Queen Mary; 2nd, Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria.

Netball

Autumn, 1951

1st, Queen Elizabeth, 17 goals; 2nd, Queen Victoria, 13 goals; 3rd, Queen Mary, 6 goals

Spring Term, 1952

1st, Queen Victoria, 19 goals; 2nd, Queen Elizabeth, 6 goals; 3rd, Queen Mary, 5 goals

Tennis

Junior: 1st, Queen Mary; 2nd, Queen Victoria; 3rd, Queen Elizabeth.

Senior: 1st, Queen Victoria; 2nd, Queen Elizabeth; 3rd, Queen Mary.

Tennis Tournaments

Senior: Winner, S. Giles; runner-up, J. Fielding.

Junior: Winner, G. Hutchings; Runner-up, M. Crawford.

GYMNASTIC COMPETITION

A gymnastic competition was held at the end of the Spring Term, 1952, the first since 1949. Every Form took part, and the tables were varied according to age. Points were awarded for each exercise, particular attention being given to footwork, control, finish, and the amount of effort put into the work. We are very grateful to Miss E. R. Brogden, of St. Ronan's School, Derby, who came to judge the competition, and who amusingly and helpfully criticized each Form in turn at the end. Results:

1st, Lower V., 81½ points; 2nd, Upper IV., 75 points; 3rd, Lower IV., 71½ points; 4th, Form VI., 71 points; 5th, Upper V., 66½ points; equal 6th, Form III. and Form II., 65½ points.

Gymnastic awards: S. Blair, A. Bickford, J. Fielding, A. Hughes, K. Roberts.

ATHLETIC SPORTS RESULTS, 1952

High Jump.—Open: P. Bellamy (4ft. 3ins.) Intermediate: C. Isaac (4ft. 4ins.)

Junior: J. Walters (4ft.).

100 Yards.—Open: K. Roberts. Intermediate: C. Isaac (12.1secs.)

75 Yards, Junior.—J. Greenhough

Small Visitors.—H. Stewart.

Sack Race.—Senior: A. Bickford. Intermediate: J. Fielding. Junior: P. Bickford

Obstacle Race.—Senior: A. Himely. Intermediate: R. Campbell. Junior: H. Leggate

Mother and Daughter.—Mrs. Wield and Teresa

Fathers' Race.—J. Kennard, Esq.

Three-Legged Race.—Senior: E. Stewart and J. Sandercock. Intermediate: J. Fielding and C. Isaac. Junior: P. Bickford and E. Johnstone

Egg and Spoon Race.—Senior: J. Waterhouse. Intermediate: M. Matson. Junior: E. Luscombe

Slow Bicycle Race.—K. Roberts
 220 Yards, Open.—H. Johns
 Long Jump.—Open : K. Roberts (14ft. 3ins.). Intermediate : C. Isaac
 (14ft. 1in.). Junior : A. Tedd (13ft. 2ins.)
 Throwing the Cricket Ball.—A. Goodliffe
 Junior House Relay.—Queen Mary
 Senior House Relay.—Queen Elizabeth
 Senior Challenge Cup.—K. Roberts
 Intermediate Challenge Cup.—C. Isaac
 Junior Challenge Cup.—P. Bickford
 Harvey Cup.—A. Himely
 Sandhurst Cup.—J. Barker
 Intermediate House Cup.—Queen Elizabeth

ATHLETIC SPORTS RECORDS, 1952

C. Isaac, Intermediate 100 Yards, 12.1secs. (Previous record 13.1secs.)
 A. Tedd, Junior Long Jump, 13ft. 2ins. (Previous record 12ft. 5ins.)

SWIMMING SPORTS, SUMMER, 1952

Breast Stroke.—Senior : J. Barker. Intermediate : H. Milton. Junior :
 A. Cornish-Bowden
 Crawl.—Senior : A. Hughes. Intermediate : J. Himely. Junior : R. Belben
 Back Crawl.—Senior : A. Himely. Intermediate : V. Markwick
 English Back Stroke.—Open : A. Goodliffe
 Diving.—Open : A. Himely. Junior : M. Corbould-Warren. Beginners :
 J. Lovegrove
 Fancy Diving.—Open : A. Hughes
 Three Lengths Free Style.—Senior : A. Hughes
 Two Lengths Free Style.—Intermediate : V. Easterbrook
 One Length Free Style.—Junior : J. Greenhough
 Beginners, Length.—E. Luscombe
 Beginners, Width.—G. Mabin
 Feet First.—Senior : A. Goodliffe. Intermediate : S. Erredge. Junior :
 H. Leggate
 Plunge.—Open : J. Barker (54ft. 4ins.). Junior : H. Leggate
 One Length Breast Stroke.—Senior : A. Himely. Intermediate : V. Easterbrook
 Junior 20 Yards.—J. Walters
 Sculling.—Open : J. Barker
 Life-Saving Race.—J. Barker
 One Length Back Stroke.—Senior : A. Hughes. Intermediate : J. Himely
 Junior 20 Yards.—J. Greenhough
 Underwater Swimming.—Open : J. Himely (1 length)
 Blowing the Table Tennis Ball.—Open : 1st race, S. Giles ; 2nd race, E. Tett
 House Relay.—Junior : Queen Elizabeth. Senior : Queen Elizabeth
 Senior Challenge Cup.—A. Himely, A. Hughes and J. Barker (tied with
 31 points each)
 Intermediate Challenge Cup.—J. Himely
 Junior Challenge Cup.—J. Greenhough
 House Challenge Cup.—Queen Victoria
 Swimming Colours were awarded to K. Roberts

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY, JULY, 1952

Instructor's Certificate: Rosemary H. Parnaby

First Bar to Award of Merit: Ann P. Goodliffe

Award of Merit: Judith Barker, Anne Himely, Ann Hughes, Janet Meadows,
Rosemary Parnaby

Bronze Cross: Kathleen Roberts

First Bar to Bronze Medallion: Elizabeth Pleace

Bronze Medallion: Suzanne Chapman, Susan Erredge, Judith Fielding,
Nanette Goord, Sheila Henderson, Jennifer Himely, Cherry Isaac,
Penelope Key, Christine Lunn, Mollie Matson, Elizabeth Tett, Jennifer
Waterhouse

Intermediate Certificates: Vivien Easterbrook, Jacqueline Greenhough,
Sheila Henderson, Louise Himely, Helen Leggate, Christine Lunn,
Hilary Milton, E. Juliet Warren, Pauline Warren

HOUSE REPORT

Looking at previous numbers of the School Magazine, Mary House seems to have played no part in inter-House competitions. It came as a great surprise, therefore, when the struggle between Victoria House and Elizabeth House last year was overthrown by Mary House's supremacy for two terms. Victoria House, however, determined not to be outdone, reclaimed the cup during the summer term. Since Elizabeth House has been absent from the lead for several terms, it is now showing an alarming determination to claim the cup this term.

The House competitions this year took the form of a music contest. Each House managed to collect a senior and junior choir (and an instrumental assembly), but Victoria House had a great advantage over the other Houses as it was able to form its senior choir almost completely from members of the school choir. It was also fortunate in possessing the entire school orchestra, although it is as yet not very advanced. Queen Victoria House came out best in the competition, winning all three parts of the Senior Choir class and the Ensemble class. In the Junior Choir class, Queen Elizabeth House won two sections and Queen Victoria House the third. There were also soloist classes divided into grades. The winners of each class gain marks in their House, so that the House with the most marks won the competition. This was won by Victoria House, whose standard was acclaimed the highest by all.

In all these events we have been most kindly helped by our House Mistresses who, especially before the Sale of Work, have given their leisure to assisting us. We were very sorry to say goodbye to Miss Rickus, Miss Budgen and Miss Griffiths, and we remember with much gratitude the time they so generously devoted to their Houses. We would also like to welcome warmly their successors, Miss Keens, Miss Radford and Miss Johnston to the exhausting struggle of inter-House rivalry.

SPEECH DAY, FRIDAY, JUNE 6th, 1952

Last year Speech Day was held in the Summer Term for the first time, and was combined with Sports Day. As so much was already arranged for Friday, the performance of "The Willow Pattern Plate" took place the evening before. The parts in this operetta were taken by the-then Upper IV. and Lower IV. We all appreciated this very much, and a pleasant programme of music followed. The School Orchestra played several pieces, and the choir sang. Altogether it was a very enjoyable evening.

Happily, the next day was hot and sunny. In the morning, 'buses took the school to Highweek Church, where the Bishop of Crediton took the service. The church was crowded with parents and girls. The choir sang "How lovely are Thy dwellings fair," from Brahms' "Requiem," as an anthem.

After a delightful service we returned to the school, to change hurriedly into our whites. We marched on to the games field and the sports began. It was extremely hot, but the standard of the sports did not seem to be affected by this. The final and most exciting events were the House relays.

From the games field we went immediately to the portico, where the cups and prizes were awarded. Then parents and girls separated for a much-needed lunch.

The next item was the Sale of Work, set out in the hall and library. This was the result of much hard work on the school's part. There was also an exhibition of needlework and painting. The raffles were very successful, especially a beautiful cushion cover made by Miss Down.

When this was over we went to the gymnasium for prize-giving. Rear-Admiral Sir Lionel Sturdee gave an entertaining address and distributed the prizes. Miss Dence read the report of the school year, in which she said that Stover had come third in the County Life Saving Competition (the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, were first and Devon Police second). This caused much amusement. Afterwards we had tea and then parents and girls left school for half-term.

M. L. PARKINSON, Form V.

STOVER SCHOOL CONCERT, JUNE, 1952

Parents who live near their children's schools perhaps become rather *blasé* about the various school functions to which they are invited, especially if their own children are not among the star performers. But, for those of us who work overseas, it is a very great pleasure when one of our infrequent home leaves coincides with the middle of the Summer Term, season of Sports Days and Fathers' Cricket Matches. We were lucky that this year the Stover Prize Day ceremonies were combined with the sports, so that in two days we were able to see the public expression of most of the school activities.

We were particularly interested in the concert which was given on the evening before Speech Day because we had heard much about the steady development of the musical tradition which Stover has had since its foundation. Music is one of the school activities whose ranking cannot be conveyed in reports and letters. At so many schools so much depends on the individual skills of a few talented performers. The Stover concert proved to us that rumour was right, for once, and that here was a school where all the pupils were given a chance to enjoy music actively.

The witty and altogether delightful operetta, "The Willow Pattern Plate," which opened the programme, was itself an excellent example of the way in which music can colour and point words and actions. It would be wrong to single out individuals for praise where all so obviously enjoyed their parts. The scenery and costumes showed the application of the maximum of taste and ingenuity, to materials of minimum cost, which is as it should be in a school production. The result was charming.

In the second half of the programme the choral songs were outstandingly good and the choir has obviously been very fortunate to have the guidance of a conductor who had inspired them to sing with a zest, accuracy, and timing which would be remarkable in a group of highly-trained professional singers. The vocal solos and instrumental music showed the same keenness and enjoyment, but in instrumental music it is difficult for school-girls to reach a high standard of technical proficiency—this would require so many daily hours of practice that all other subjects would have to be excluded from the timetable!

The whole programme was well balanced and well performed, and the list of composers represented in itself indicates the width and depth of musical appreciation offered to Stover girls. The concert left a lasting impression of happy enjoyment of music by audience and performers.

IRENE TETT,

SPEECH DAY PROGRAMME, 1952

Operetta: "The Willow Pattern Plate"

Characters:

Ting	} Court Officials	}	N. GOORD
Tong			L. HIMELY
Tung			J. JACKSON
Sing Si, a Poor Maiden			K. ROBERTS
Wang, a Grocer			S. CHAPMAN
Mrs. Wang, his Wife			C. BOWSTEAD
Choo, a Disappointed Lady			E. PLEACE
Kwang, Hetman of Cossacks			A. BUSS
Aunt to the Prince of Tartary			P. JOHNSTONE
The Prince of Tartary			R. LATOUCHE
Citizens and Inhabitants of Willow Land			

Programme of Music

Strings and Piano:

March (*Purcell*)

Pizzicato for Two Violins (*W. H. Reed*)—Anne Evans and
Joan Kennard

Minuet from Symphony in G Minor (*Mozart*)

Choral Songs:

The Jolly Miller (*arr. Marcus Dods*)

Round: See where the morning sun (*Mozart*)

O Swallow, Swallow (*Gustav Holst*)

Welcome, sweet pleasure (*T. Weelkes*)

Violin Solo (Joan Kennard):

Gavotte (*Franz Gossec*)

Vocal Solos (Anne Evans):

Be Thou but near (*J. S. Bach*)

The sun whose rays (*A. Sullivan*)

Choral Songs:

Newcastle (*trad. arr. Benjamin Britten*)

Polly Oliver (*trad.*)

The Ploughboy (*W. Shield, arr. B. Britten*)

The Blackbird's Song (*P. C. Buck*)

MUSIC, 1951-52

During the past year music has played its usual prominent part in school activities.

In the Autumn Term, besides our usual Carol Service, we gave a Carol Concert. The choir sang the Benjamin Britten "Ceremony of Carols," Anne Evans sang solos, and there were recitations by Pauline Bellamy and Priscilla Gummer.

In March the choir took part in a performance of Brahms' "Requiem" at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, which we all enjoyed very much indeed. We were very proud that Anne Evans was chosen to be the soprano soloist.

In the Spring Term, House music competitions were held. Each House entered senior and junior choirs, and there were classes for soloists.

Last June the school gave a concert, one performance being on Speech Day and the other to the parish. The choir sang several songs, and there was a short performance by the orchestra, also violin and vocal solos. The Upper and Lower IVth gave a delightful performance of "The Willow Pattern Plate," a very amusing operetta.

The choir gave their annual Gilbert and Sullivan performance at the end of the Summer Term. The cast was as follows :

Colonel Calverley	MARJORIE HENDERSON
Major Murgatroyd	ANNE HIMELY
Lieutenant the Duke of Constable	JANNA WATERHOUSE
Reginald Bunthorne	MARTHA VARLEY
Archibald Grosvenor	PAT WALFORD
Mr. Bunthorne's Solicitor	ANNE FURSDON
Lady Angela	WENDY BREWER
Lady Saphir	ROSEMARY PARNABY
Lady Ella	JUDITH FIELDING
Lady Jane	JUDITH BARKER

Chorus of Dragoons and Maidens: Other members of the Choir and the Lower IVth.

The performance was greatly enjoyed by both performers and audience.

The orchestra has welcomed a flautist and clarinettist this year. In the summer a few cadets came from Dartmouth and we enjoyed a musical afternoon, after which we gave a short informal concert to the school, a trombone solo by one of the cadets being the most popular item. Great amusement was caused by Judith Barker, who learnt the triangle specially for the occasion!

We have had several very enjoyable recitals this year. Mr. Hugh Waters came and sang to us, accompanying himself on a guitar, and everyone seemed to find this recital most entertaining.

Mrs. and Miss White gave a delightful viola and piano recital, in aid of the "Save the Children" Fund, and we had another much appreciated visit from Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wilson, who played on two pianos. They played "Scaramouche" to us again, much to everyone's delight. We very much hope they will come again.

ROSEMARY PARNABY, Lower VI.

" WHEREFORE THIS WASTE "

During the Spring Term, Mr. and Mrs. Hellens kindly arranged that the Deanery Players should give a performance of "Wherefore This Waste" to the school. The object of the play was to emphasize the great need there is for missionaries, and money to support them. It was written by one of "The Deanery Players," who, like the rest, wishes to remain anonymous. The proceeds of the play, and all the other performances which the Players gave, went to the Devon Church Thanksgiving Fund.

The story was centred round the visit of Barnabas Blake, the Bishop of Wigendiland, to England in order to find some men to go out to Africa and help him. His efforts seem hopeless, when at length he hears of a young priest willing to give up his present position to join him. However, it is not realized that the priest to whom the young man is curate is Tony Cumberland, a distant relation of the Bishop, and staying in the same house. Cumberland himself, without knowing that it is the Bishop who wants his curate, is willing to surrender him, but his wife, Lavinia Cumberland, is extremely against it, saying that the need in their industrial parish is greater than the need of the natives in Africa, and the curate is forced to write and tell the Bishop that he is unable to go.

The Bishop is heartbroken at this, and in his despair leaves the letter on the floor, where it is found by Lavinia. When she realizes that it is her husband's curate that the Bishop was hoping to have, she is horrified, and immediately informs her husband, who wastes no time in arranging that the curate may go abroad with the Bishop.

Much humour was provided by the gushing Lalage, who wanted the Africans to be left in their "natural" state, however poor it might be, and even goes to the length of copying their

tribal dance. The courage of Janet Pantelow, a cripple, is extremely touching, and Tim Ralton, her fiancee, shows himself worthy of her when he stoutly denounces Lalage's cynical creed.

The play expressed its message clearly and movingly, and helped, as the Bishop of Exeter said, to bring home the importance, romance and heroism of the Church's missionary work.

The play was greatly enjoyed by everybody, and we are very grateful to The Deanery Players for giving us this excellent performance.

J. WATERHOUSE.

GEOGRAPHICAL FILMS

Spring Term, 1952

January 28th, Midland Journey ; February 4th, Wales, Merseyside ; February 18th, Ulster Story ; February 25th, Tibet, Land of Desolation, Tea Growing in Assam ; March 10th, Karoo : Life on the Veldt ; March 24th, Water for Dry Land (S.W. U.S.A.).

Autumn Term, 1952

October 9th, Australia : The Nomads, The Hunt ; October 23rd, Jamaican Harvest : Bananas. The Bahamas : Sponges ; November 6th, Greece : On Mediterranean Shores ; November 20th, Malaya : Nomads of the Jungle.

During the last year we have had several very interesting geographical films, as can be seen by the list above. From these films we have learnt much about the lives and customs of many races, of the more civilized West, and, in contrast, those of the primitive people. "Wales" seemed the most popular of the films concerning the British Isles, but on the whole, films about other countries were more appreciated, especially those of Jamaica, Greece and Malaya.

On behalf of the school we should like to thank Mr. Guntrip for devoting so much of his valuable time to working the projector.

WENDY BREWER } Form
J. MEADOWS } VI.

J.P.C.

These mysterious letters aroused much interest and speculation when they were first observed on the blackboard in the Lower IVth, but for some time all attempts at discovery were baffled by the impenetrable discretion of the Junior Common Room. We have, however, prevailed upon the J.P.C., at last, to give the following account of itself :

The Junior Pleasure Club was first founded because most of the juniors wished to make their evenings more interesting. We gave several concerts which were, perhaps, more amusing to the performers than to the audience, but then resorted to plays. One of these was adopted by the Dr. Barnardo's Club, in aid of their Jubilee Year. This rather put us off our balance, and we gave no performances for a week or two. We have now resumed our original course, however, and hope to give pleasure to the juniors for several terms. Our performances are on Tuesdays, Saturdays, and sometimes Thursdays.

TWO MEMBERS.

THE S.P.G.

The S.P.G. completed their 250th anniversary last June, and during the year special thought has been given to the work of the Society. Bishop Willis has very kindly consented to come to Stover several times to conduct services, in which we have thought especially of the S.P.G. We continue to support a cot in St. Mary's Mission Hospital, Ovamboland, and we receive regular letters from them telling us of their work.

R. PARNABY, Secretary.

STAFF MEMBERS

Mrs. CHILDS

Miss DONNE, Woodborough, South Road, Taunton

Mrs. EVANS (*nee* Griffiths), 2, Gelly Deg, Ffairfach, Llandilo, Carmarthenshire

Mrs. HAWKEY

Mrs. HUNT (*nee* Hellier), Clynnog, Newton Ferrers

Mrs. HEWITSON (*nee* Potter), 6, High Road, Woodford Green, Essex

Mrs. MILNES, 41, The Greenway, Totteridge, Herts.

Mrs. PARTINGTON (*nee* Lewis), 40, Downage, Hendon, N.W. 4.

Miss PEAPLE, 129, Morrison Street, Swindon

Mrs. STRACHAN (*nee* Foster), Anglo-Ceylon and General Estates, P.O. Box 13, Colombo

Mrs. TREHERNE (*nee* Checkley), 22, Enys Road, Eastbourne

Mrs. THORNHILL (*nee* Russell-Smith), 3, Woodland Drive, Watford, Herts.

Mrs. WIMBUSH (*nee* Klempner), 6, Hillcroft Crescent, Easing, W. 5



A. HIMELY, Form VI.

SCAVENGING FOR THE ROYAL SHOW

**THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND'S SHOW,
1952**

The Royal Show was a great event in the life of everyone at Stover. It was something which we were able to watch daily growing and maturing before our eyes. The construction progressed through the autumn and during the cold, snowy days of winter. One by one the stables and sheds were erected, until at last during the summer we watched the building and completion of the Grand Stand. We began to feel that the show was "our" show!

It is impossible to give more than a very superficial impression of its varied and fascinating interest in a limited space. Although all cloven-hoofed animals were prohibited from the show ground, there seemed an endless amount to be seen, and the only complaint we had to make was that the time went too quickly, and our feet ached after an hour of walking on the hard and dusty ground.

On the day before the opening we were very kindly invited by the Director, Mr. Michael Mason, to have a preview of the whole show. We were delighted by this, and an even greater excitement was provided by the presence of the Princess Royal, who was also paying an early visit. Several of us, with Miss Budgen, had the honour of talking with Her Royal Highness—

and the pleasure, modified by our friends' comments, of seeing ourselves in the papers the next day.

All this kindness to the School could not go unrepaired, so we rallied together to form a Scavenging Team. Arrayed in shorts and Aertex blouses and wearing gym shoes—for the dust was plentiful—we went in relays into the show ground, by way of our private gate, and cleared the place of all rubbish—sweet papers, bottles, ice-cream papers, soft drink cartons, and cigarette ends. We did this job every morning at six and seven o'clock, and were rewarded by seeing the amazing difference our ministrations made.

Our next great excitement—indeed, the greatest—was the visit to the show of Her Majesty the Queen. Mr. Mason (greeting us before the assembly as “St. Trinian's”) arranged us at a splendid vantage point where, when Her Majesty came past slowly, in an open car, we had an excellent view of her. During the day we saw her many times as she entered and re-entered the Grand Stand, and when she paid a surprise visit to the Scout and Guide Tent Miss Dence very kindly opened the gate for us, and we went in again to see once more our beautiful young Queen.

There are many kinds of flower show—village, town, and small local shows—but never before had we seen one of the greatest. When we entered the vast tent the sweet scent of the thousands of flowers seemed to be urging us to come and admire their beauty. The tent was filled with flowers of all kinds and colours, and with vegetables looking almost as attractive, some of which we did not even know were grown in our own country. The time, skill and energy of gardeners from all over the country had been put into the growing of every part of the magnificent display, from miniature rose trees to giant lupins, delicious cherries to outsize marrows. We could have spent hours in the cool freshness of the huge marquee.

Perhaps the events which drew the most varied attendance were those in the main ring. Everyone loved to watch the majestic parades of the horses, the startling colours of the agricultural machinery, the faultless marching of the Marines, and the less predictable manoeuvres of the South Devon Foxhounds. Some of us were very lucky in being able to see a close competition for the Walwyn Cup, while sitting near the Queen in the grand stand. Many international riders were competing for this jumping trophy.

On the last day of the show we were allowed to go at ten o'clock to watch some girls from school competing in the Best Pony classes. We saw heavy cart-horses, children's ponies, and juvenile jumping in the morning, and in the afternoon some of the greatest British riders for the Athlone Cup. A scene which perhaps touched our hearts more than anything was the parade of pit ponies from all over Britain, ranging in size from Royal, a

minute piebald, to large, stocky ponies used in the wider mine-shafts. Unforgettable hackneys paraded before us; sheepdogs showed their cleverness in rounding up sheep; tractors roared round the ring, and long after we returned to school the shattering noise of the show filled our ears.

The whole school enjoyed these days immensely, for there was excitement and enjoyment for all, in spite of a sympathetic thought for those who were to take the General Certificate of Education in a few days' time. To commemorate the greatest show in Britain, Mr. Mason and his wife planted two young trees at the end of the games field, which, when in the future we return to the scene of our schooldays, may remind us that they were the happiest days of our life after all, perhaps, especially when the Royal Show, 1952, was held in Stover Park.

MEMBERS OF UPPER V.

POETS' CORNER

Sunset Over The Sea

There was a roaring in the sea
All day. The waves, enchanted, wild,
Bemoaned in careless chaos piled
Their life of endless mystery.

The noise, the crashing harmony,
As storm and ocean broke the peace,
And bid the charmed silence cease,
Seemed as a power divine to me.

All had not faded. Evening still
Its glorious tapestry displayed,
And on the tossing water played,
As if its timeless wrath to kill.

And all was quiet. All did seem—
The beauty in the sunset sea,
The peace from evening harmony—
To be a fantasy—a dream.

P. WALFORD, Form VI.

Beauties of Nature

Have you thought of all the beauties
Of a sunny, summer's day,
When the flowers are at their brightest
And the breezes are at play?
Have you watched the lovely grasses
Wave and shimmer at each puff,
And the streams burst into song, as if
To gurgle weren't enough?

Have you wondered at the beauties
Of a misty highland morn,
When the heather's all a-glisten
And the overhanging thorn
Drops its pearls with slow reluctance
On the crystal sward beneath,
While threads of silver gossamer
Shine brightly on the heath?

When the thunder roars its loudest
And the lightning flashes bright,
Does the splendour of it thrill you
On a glorious winter night?
Then, in the dewy morning,
When all the storm has died,
Have you smelt the lovely fragrance
Of the rain-washed countryside?

When the clouds have shed their feathers
On the sleeping world below,
Does its delicate perfection
Make you sad to see it go?
So think of Nature's beauties
When you wander, all alone,
And remember, all the lovely things
Are always near to home.

ZOE WORDEN, Form Lt. IV.

The Early Morning Lacrosse Practice

The air is cold, the ground is hard,
The team are frozen stiff,
The whistle blows, the game begins,
The ball is hard to lift.

"All sweaters off!" the captain cries.
The team, in Aertex thin,
Are rushing up and down the field
To warm their icy skin.

The tactics are the worst of all:
You stand and listen hard;
The ball is cunning: What to do?
It's caught you off your guard.

"Draw!" comes the shout from the umpire,
The wings rush for the kill;
They tackle hard; they fight it out;
The score is one to nil.

The pack advance towards the goal;
The goalie breathes a prayer;
The shooter pushes through the crowd;
The ball flies through the air.

The goalie's beat! the time is done;
It is the end—"Hooray!"
Let's pack it up, let's leave the field
Until another day.

S. CHAPMAN, Form Lr. V.

SIX WEEKS IN JAPAN

I spent a very enjoyable summer holiday in Japan, and while I was there I had the good fortune to be taken to flower arrangement, drawing and dancing classes, all of which were extremely interesting. Flower arrangements are often very simple, but always effective. The flowers are never set "square" in a bowl, but to one side, or so that they lean. Japanese art is also simple in style. Dancing lessons are taken once a month, and during one week lessons are taken every day; then there is a space of a few weeks until the next month, when the lessons are taken again for every day of a week. Dances are performed to

music or a song, and there is very little movement other than shuffling short distances and bowing or kneeling; the position of the hands and head is important, and the face is kept devoid of expression.

I was also very lucky in having been taken to Kyoto, which used once to be the capital of Japan. I was taken round the outside of the Imperial Palace and through the Higashi-Honganji Temple; a potteries; a linen, silk and carpet weaving factory; and a lacquer-making factory.

The Imperial Palace and Buddhist Higashi-Honganji Temple are excellent examples of Japanese workmanship. As these are both very important buildings which might be visited by the Emperor, there are special staircases and gates which he alone can go up and through. Both buildings are similar in style and completely made of wood, as are all Japanese houses except the most recently-built.

I was also taken into the country, which is very hilly, with that curiously beautiful rock formation that is shown in Japanese art.

A. HUGHES, Form VI.

A NARROW ESCAPE

It was half-term, and David and Della were going to a little island on the first fine day of the holiday. They were twins, and went to a school that took both boys and girls.

When the great day came they hurried excitedly to the railway station, and when the train arrived they climbed into it, and when, an hour or so later, it stopped they clambered down on to the platform at the place where they kept their little blue and white rowing boat which their father and mother had given them, and were soon running over the golden sands to where Jim, the old fisherman, was waiting to help them into it, with their picnic basket.

"Have a good time," he shouted, as he pushed them off.

The twins were both good rowers, and they reached the little island safely. When they arrived they set off at once for an old ruined castle that stood high up on the cliffs, and there they ate their lovely lunch which their mother had made for them. The seagulls flew quite close to them, asking for food with their queer cries, and the rabbits, which were quite tame, sat and watched in the greatest astonishment. Once upon a time people had lived on the island, but now it was deserted, and David and Della were allowed to go there whenever they liked, provided the sea was calm and the weather was settled.

"Oh, David," exclaimed Della. "Do let's explore the old castle again."

"Righto!" said her brother, and getting up they ran to the ruins. As they made their way through one of the rooms Della suddenly fell over.

"Gracious! What are you doing?" said David. "What could you have fallen over?" he asked as he helped her up.

"I caught my foot on something," replied Della, as she brushed the dust off herself. David soon found what it was.

"Look! It must have been this stone slab," he said. "Why, it's got an old iron ring in it. Let's pull it and see what happens."

Both children pulled with all their might. The stone moved. There was a grating noise, and suddenly and quite easily the slab swung up, showing a flight of stone steps leading down into the darkness.

Della drew back with a little gasp.

"Come on," said her brother, "let's see where this goes to; it might lead to the dungeons!"

"Oh, David!" said Della, taking hold of his hand. She felt dreadfully frightened, but not wishing to spoil the fun for her brother, she didn't draw back as he began to lead her down. Down, down they went, David going first, flashing the light of a torch he always had with him far ahead into the darkness. They had gone quite some way when suddenly they heard footsteps coming towards them. Someone was coming up the steps! Who could it be?

Just at that point there was a narrow recess in the wall; the twins pressed themselves into it and stood holding their breath. Whoever was approaching was carrying a powerful light, and as he came nearer they saw an ugly-looking, tall, thin, bearded man coming up the steps towards them. Alas! the recess was not deep enough, and his light showed them up clearly. For a moment he paused in amazement, but before the children could move he had got David by his collar and, with Della still clutching her brother's hand, was pushing him in front of him down the steps. They had not gone far when they turned off the stairs into a narrow, damp passage, at the end of which was an old iron door, held shut by a great bar that went into the wall at each side, and was held to the door by a great rusty bolt in the middle.

The man pushed the bar down, and without a sound the door swung open, and saying, with a snarl, "This is what happens to people who poke their noses into what doesn't concern them," pushed them in and pulled the door to behind them. They heard the great bar slammed back into position and then the man's

footsteps died away. Della was too frightened to cry; David flashed his torch about, but there was no way out. A small crack high up in the rock let in a faint gleam of light, and from somewhere or other came the echoing noise of the waves in a cavern below.

"Oh, David," said Della, "I'm so frightened!" David put his arm round her and said, "Don't cry, we'll escape somehow. He's sure to come back to give us some food, and if we hide behind the door we can slip out as he comes in—if we're quick."

After what seemed an age they heard the man's footsteps again. The bar clanked, the door swung open; he came in and advanced into the dungeon—for that was what it had been—holding his light before him. Like a flash of lightning the children slipped from behind the door and were off down the passage and up the stone stairs helter-skelter, as fast as their legs would carry them.

They never stopped running until they reached the shore and their boat. They climbed in and pushed off just in the nick of time, for the man, yelling with rage, reached the water's edge as they pulled away. They rowed for all they were worth to the mainland and told Jim, who was there waiting for them, all that had happened.

He listened and said gravely: "You'd best come along o' me to the coastguard and tell him. I reckon you two haven't half had a narrow escape."

GEORGINA E. BROWN.

HOW THE FROG GOT HIS CROAK

(A New "Just-So" Story, with apologies to Kipling)

One fine afternoon, My Best Beloved, it happened that an enormously-conceited frog was sitting on an enormously-big water-lily leaf when the Mayor of all animals arrived with some news. The Mayor was the lion, and very handsome he was too, My Best Beloved.

When the conceited frog saw the Mayor he went blue and pink and green all over, and puffed out his chest even more than you and I have ever blown up our balloons at a Christmas party.

Now the lion called all the animals together. There were the crocodiles and elephants and tigers and frogs and higraphanical zebras and poloniferous bears and all the animals that one could imagine, My Best Beloved.

And when they were all gathered together the lion announced in a deep, gruff voice that he had decided to start a choir.

Now, before I go on any further, I must tell you, My Best Beloved, that at this time the frog had a very beautiful voice.

Well, when the lion had announced this, he continued to say that as he had heard most of the animals sing he would at once choose the choir. He picked out all the birds and the hippos and the higraphanical zebras and the poloniferous bears (and they had the most wonderful voices), and he also chose the frog to sing highest and lead the choir. At this, the frog was more proud and conceited than ever, My Best Beloved.

The next day the lion took the choir for a practice, and he conducted them with his enormously-long tail, and when he was not conducting he was playing on his mane as if it were a violin, so he was kept very busy. After the lesson the lion praised the frog so much that that enormously-conceited animal puffed out his big chest even more than ever.

That night the conceited frog sat on the big water-lily leaf and he made such a noise singing that all the animals got out of their beds to try to stop him. And the crocodiles and elephants and tigers were all wearing night-caps and the higraphanical zebras and the poloniferous bears were wearing bed-socks.

And when they were all gathered together the frog began to tell them what a wonderful voice he had, and how handsome he was, and he became so very conceited that he did not see that the lion was there listening, My Best Beloved.

Then the lion strode up in front of all the animals, and he said to the frog, in his enormously-gruff voice, that because he had been so conceited he would have a terrible croak from then on. And that is why My Best Beloved, the frog has such a terrible croak.

J. SEEX, Form III.

SULA

To ordinary eyes, Sula was an ordinary cat. She was jet black all over; she had green eyes that shone like headlamps in the dark, and lovely whiskers like any other black cat. But her story was not ordinary by any means. When Sula was a kitten she lived with a person called Mrs. Smith, who lived in a dull little house, in a dull little street, in a dull little town. There were hardly any other cats, and Sula was very lonely. But one day Mrs. Smith decided to go abroad and take Sula with her. They travelled on a ship called "Milady."

"Milady" struck a rock near Spain. Everybody was saved and taken ashore, but Mrs. Smith could not find Sula, although she hunted and hunted and called—and no wonder, for Sula was inside the Spanish cabin boy's coat.

When another boat picked up the shipwrecked crew, Mrs. Smith had to go without Sula—Sula, though, was watching a very fast Spanish dance with the now ex-cabin boy, who did not leave for England on the relief ship.

Sula spent two years, in Spain with Pepino, the ex-cabin boy, and all that time she spoke "Spancat," the language of cats in Spain. Pepino, after two years in his native country, now got another job as cabin boy, and went to France.

Sula spent five years altogether in Europe, and had the most extraordinary adventures. But when she got back to England she found that Queen Vorté had died. Sula was a grand-niece of the late Queen Vorté; she was not a direct heir, but because she was the most educated cat in her family she became Queen Sula!

She was crowned with a crown made of golden fish-bones, which looked very lovely. All the cats waved pieces of catmint, pussy-willow and catkins at her coronation. Queen Sula lives at Pussem Palace, Mousam Road, Catham. Pepino is living with her, and is very happy teaching other cats "Spancat" and "Francat."

A. DIXON, Form Lr. IV.

LONELINESS AT SEA IN A ROWING BOAT

It was October. I had set out early in the morning to visit a friend who lived on a neighbouring island amongst the Hebrides. Now I silently made my way back across the water in a rowing boat.

The island receded into the grey mist of the evening. To the west could be seen the last rays of the sun as it sank slowly beneath the horizon. For a few moments it was indescribably beautiful, and then it was gone.

The mist was now thicker and the air was damp, but still. The monotonous sound of the water, lapping against the side of the boat with every touch of the oar on its surface, grew eerie. There was no sign of human existence; just a vast expanse of water which was nothing but miles of undulating sea. A moment of these sombre thoughts and I was terrified—of my own loneliness. I quickened my speed.

As my boat cut through the water even faster, land loomed up in front of me out of the mist which had not so long ago swallowed up the island upon which my friend lived. Darkness had fallen by now, and the land which I had sighted was indeed a welcome sight.

As I neared my home island the cries of the gulls reassured me—indeed, they seemed like a friendly welcome.

Taking a last look back across the water whence I had come, I saw silver streaks. The moon was rising in all her silver glory, but it was as if her rays were of ice. They were not company for anyone, so cold were they. Indeed, I was glad to be home and leave behind me that vast emptiness.

N. GOORD, Form IV.

THE STREET SINGER

At the corner where the Rue de la Paix and the Boulevard Manot met, and where the greatest number of people passed, stood a man, not very young and not very old, singing.

They did not know that he was thinking of the good old days when he was a wiry young lad who could sing to the other sailors, even in a storm, to cheer them up. His eyes were deep blue, and he could look with such startling clearness at you as to make you feel uncomfortable and drop a franc in his hat.

Thus stood M. Chevay, a man warmly though poorly clad, with a wrinkled old face, singing old French songs to the passers-by. He was a man of simple ideals, of simple faith, loved amongst his own family for his gentleness, and among his neighbours for his unflinching kindness, especially when they were ill or in trouble. He loved to give a present to his hard-working wife, or see his children's faces light up as they received an unexpected gift, however small it was. Two days ago he had bought his youngest child a rattle, and now he was trying to earn enough money to buy his wife a pair of warm boots from the money he saved from his daily takings. He could tell a good story, and never hesitated to do so when they had anyone for company. No one despised him for singing in the streets, for he did not listen to the gossip and rumours which spread so quickly through their neighbourhood, and also because he had no pride.

He finished singing an old folk song, and took the money out of his cap, turning towards home. He and his wife would count the takings later in the evening, before the fire, and he would tell her any incident or conversation that he had seen or heard during the day, adding a few witty remarks or drawing his own conclusions.

G. LATOUCHE, Form VI.

THE LONDON REUNION

The Old Girls' Reunion was held in London on January 5th at the Ivanhoe Hotel, which once again proved itself an excellent meeting place. About 35 Old Girls were there, and a number of the old staff. It was particularly nice to see Miss Dence looking so much better after her illness last year.

In essentials, the reunion followed the pattern of previous years. There was the same feeling of trepidation beforehand lest one should be the only representative of a generation; the same difficulty in recognising one's juniors; the old discouragement at being told one "hadn't changed" (Really not? The same indifference to baggy and falling stockings? The same ink-stained fingers? For the minute, how depressing: vanity had hoped for more). But this disappointment was momentary: for though all of us talked of what had happened since we left school, the underlying emphasis was on the past. It was the past which had brought us together. One found oneself saying at every turn: "Do you remember when . . .", as long-forgotten incidents came suddenly to mind; and recapturing more vividly than for many months past the elusive flavour of school life. All this might have happened any year; but the impression as we came away was that this year's reunion had been a particularly pleasant one.

ANNE BAXTER (PRETTY).

OLD GIRLS' DAY AT STOVER, JULY 19th, 1952

One usually sympathizes with those taking part in Swimming Sports, but this summer it was such a glorious day that we envied them. There seemed to be a record number of old girls, all cheering for their respective Houses as lustily as any Third Former. When it was all over we went to the Library to continue gossiping over lunch.

It seems quite extraordinary that so much can happen in a year that one doesn't know what to talk about first. But by the nattering—a most expressive word—over both lunch and tea, I believe most people made up for the letters they had not written or received!

After lunch, those who were to play in the tennis match went to change, the others to find a place where they could bask in the sun and watch us being energetic. As so many old girls volunteered to play, two teams were raised; the old girls first team comprised of ex-school first team, who all seemed to have kept up their standard. They certainly did that afternoon,

anyway ; both teams shocked the school by beating them for the first time in years.

After tea we saw a film show, which included some hilariously funny and interesting ones of past sports days. We could hardly believe that we had once looked like *that* !

It was late before the day came to an end, and, one by one, still gossiping, we left the old school for another year.

On behalf of all old girls, I would like to say how grateful we were for yet another pleasant old girls day there, and for all the trouble the staff went to to make it a success.

E. V. EDWARDS.

ENGAGEMENTS

SHEILA THOMSON to JOHN LUCE (January, 1952)

ANN ROGERS to PETER LIDSTONE (April, 1952)

MARRIAGES

MARY VAUGHAN-PHILPOTT to MICHAEL DAVID POWELL (January 12th, 1952)

JUNE B. PRYNN to Lt. (E) D. L. LACE, R.N. (February 16th, 1952)

MAUREEN FRANCES SHARPE to CHRISTOPHER THURBURN REICHWALD, M.C. (April 3rd, 1952)

ROSEMARY A. CROMIE to Lt.-Comdr. P. SPENCER, R.N. (April 15th, 1952)

DORIS MARY GRIFFITHS to DAVID BRINLEY EVANS (April 15th, 1952)

JOAN WYLLIE to PETER JOHN C. MILLETT (July 24th, 1952)

MARGARET SCOTT to DOUGLAS HAMILTON (New Zealand)

MARIE AULT to ROBERT YOUNG (October 4th, 1952)

ANNE JEFFREE to FRANK R. SERGIADES (August 11th, 1952)

ROSEMARY BATTERHAM to Corporal STEPHEN CAINE, R.A.F. (February 15th, 1952)

JUNE REEVES to JOHN KINGSLEY-JONES

PATRICIA MOULE to PHILIP M. JONES (September 30th, 1952)

BIRTHS

BARBARA WEBSTER (*nee* Windeatt), a son, ADRIAN WILLIAM (January 14th, 1952)

ANN ARNOLD (*nee* Carter), a son, JAMES NELSON (March 4th, 1952)

MARY STEEN-NIELSON (*nee* Langton), a daughter, WENCHE

OLD GIRLS' NEWS

ROSEMARY BATTERHAM, who went out to Rhodesia last year, was married in February to Corporal Caine, of the R.A.F., and is continuing to work as a Radiographer at the Bulawayo Hospital. Her sister MARGARET is working as an Occupational Therapist at University College Hospital.

JENNIFER ASHBY has started nursing at the Middlesex Hospital.

JUDITH BARKER is taking a Domestic Science course at Seer Green House, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

MARGERY BEARE is studying Art at the Chelsea Polytechnic.

ANN BOOKER has her first post as house physician at Bristol. She is a Lance-Corporal in the T.A.

JILL BUTLIN has started nursing at the Middlesex Hospital.

NORMA BRADRIDGE has just taken up a post as Froebel teacher at Bishop Lea School, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

Mrs. COSBY (MONICA HARVEY) still lives at Yealmpton. Her son Timothy is five years old now.

JOSEPHINE DAVIDSON is in Tripoli with her parents, and teaches her small sister, together with a small boy, as they are out of reach of any school.

Mrs. EDWARDS (MARY SHERIDAN PATTERSON), when she wrote last January, was living at Southsea, so as to be within easy reach of her husband, who was in the aircraft-carrier Triumph.

Mrs. EWART-EVANS (JANE MEADE-MILLER) wrote in July, when she and her two little girls, Jennifer aged 8 and Rosemary aged 4, had arrived home from Egypt and were staying with her sister, Diana Politzer. Diana also has a little girl, Clare aged seven months. JANE expects to be at Shrivenham for the next six months or so, so that her husband shall be near the Military College of Science.

SALLY FINLINSON is living with her parents at Truro. She collects, reproduces and colours old prints for sale.

JOY GERARD is still working as chauffeuse to one of the house surgeons at St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

CHRISTINE GUMMER has completed her secretarial training, and intends to take a post in Hove for the present.

ANGELA GUMMER is doing a Domestic Science course preparatory to nursing.

ELIZABETH HANCOCK writes from St. Thomas's Hospital, where she is now working.

MARJORIE HENDERSON is taking a secretarial course at Pitman's College, and living at the Sister Trust Club in Guildford Street.

SHEILA HOLMAN is now in her third year at the Liverpool Physical Training College, and has already started to look for a post for next autumn. She has recently started climbing as a hobby.

JUNE IRVING, having completed her college career, is taking a short secretarial training in Liverpool.

ROSALIE JACKSON is living in Dorking, and does part-time work at the Leatherhead Hospital.

KATHARINE JOHNSONE is at Ashridge College, Berkhamstead, where she is taking a secretarial and citizenship course.

MARIANNE DE KADT is still at the Torbay Hospital. She has won the prize for the best nurse of her year.

Mrs. LACE'S (JUNE PRYNN) wedding took place at rather short notice, in February, when Lt. D. L. Lace returned from Korea unexpectedly. They had six weeks together before he had to return in H.M.S. Ocean. JUNE expected to join her husband in Malta at the end of October.

Mrs. LANE (ELEANOR BEARE) writes that her daughter Gillian, aged 5, starts school this autumn. Her sons, Richard and Anthony, are aged 5 years and 1 year respectively.

Mrs. LANGTON (BETTY MCINTYRE) gives us news of her sister-in-law MARY, who married a Norwegian nearly two years ago, and now has a little girl, Wenche. Betty herself now has three children: Rosemary, aged 3½, Honor, aged 2, and Bobby, 1. She tells us that her younger sister, KATHERINE, is back in England again.

ANN MONRO is very much enjoying her studies at Reading University. She was fortunate in being given a holiday in Italy last summer, as a result of passing one of the internal examinations of the University. Italian is one of the extra subjects she is studying.

ROSEMARY NEVE is taking a secretarial post in Gloucestershire, to be near her home for a while.

IRENE NEVE has a post in the Junior Department of the Lady Eleanor Holles School, Hampton-on-Thames.

GILLIAN PAYNE is working with the International Organization for Standardization as a translator.

Mrs. POWELL (MARY VAUGHAN-PHILPOTT) and her husband are in Kenya, where they intend to settle.

CHRISTINE POWELL-DAVIES has been accepted as a member of the Royal Choral Society.

URSULA PRIDHAM is taking a secretarial course and social studies at the Technical College, Plymouth.

Mrs. REICHWALD (MAUREEN SHARPE) is living at Cranleigh, as her husband is on the staff of the school.

ANN ROGERS plans to get married early next year. She and her family recently moved to Newton Abbot.

CORINA RUSHTON, who is at Birmingham University, won her swimming "Blue" this year, and team colours for lacrosse.

MAYWIN STURGES, now a qualified doctor, has been working as house physician at the Freedom Fields Hospital, Plymouth.

JUDITH STURGES obtained her M.S.R. in June, and was one of two radiographers of her year who were offered posts at the Middlesex, where she has started work. She gained the Radiography Prize for the best student of her year.

ANN THORPE is taking a Domestic Science course, and living at home.

LOVEDAY TOWNEND is working as Assistant Matron at Akeley Wood School, Buckingham.

ROSALIND TYRER writes from Toorak College, Frankston, Australia. Her last letter, dated February 12th, mentioned hot, summer weather, drought and bush fires, at a time when cold and rain were our lot here.

CLAUDIA VARLEY has been studying shorthand and typing, and is now on a visit to America.

Mrs. WEBSTER (BARBARA WINDEATT) writes about her small son, Adrian, whom she brought over to Torquay in August. She and her husband are living in Jersey.

ANN WEBSTER is a staff nurse at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, so she and PAMELA HUMPHRY see each other.

KATHRYN WESTLAKE is a dentist's nurse at present, as since her illness she has not been allowed to do general nursing for a while.

ELIZABETH WRIGHT is studying in Neuchatel—domestic subjects and languages. She is very much enjoying the beautiful surroundings.

Mrs. YOUNG (MARIE AULT) is living at Prestbury, Cheshire. Her husband works with his father's firm of industrial builders in Manchester.

PATRICIA WALFORD is taking a secretarial course in Manchester.

OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

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* Denotes Life Subscription (£5/5/0)

Those Old Girls who have not sent a subscription for the last three years have now been crossed off the list, as it is concluded that they do not wish to belong to the Association.

Will all those who have not yet sent their subscriptions for the year 1952-53 please do so as soon as possible (5/- per year).

OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTS

RECEIPTS		£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.	
Credit Balance from					Postage	..	..	16	0
1951-52	47	3	9	Receipt Book	2	0
Old Girls subs.	28	13	0	Credit balance	..	74	18	9
			<u>£75 16 9</u>					<u>£75 16 9</u>		

N.B.—The above total includes life subscriptions of £5/5/0 each from C. Powell-Davies, J. Tippet, R. Neve, K. Westlake, M. Rodwell, R. Tyrer, M. Henderson and A. Jeffree (Sergiades).

The credit balance will diminish when the magazines are sent out to members (these have recently cost 2/- each).

OLD GIRLS' SUCCESSES

SHIELA BRISCOE (Girton, Cambridge): Science Tripos, Class II., Div. I.

MIRABEL CLAUSEN: L.D.S.

MARY DEMETRIADIS (London University): B.A. (Hons.), Class I.

MARY HUNT: G.R.S.M.

JUNE IRVING (London University): B.A. (Hons.), Class II.

MARY STEELE-PERKINS (Girton, Cambridge): History Tripos, Class II., Div. I.

JUDITH STURGES: Member of the Association of Radiographers, Radiography Prize for 1952, Middlesex Hospital

MAYWIN STURGES, M.B., B.S.

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