

## Colts

A strong age group dictated a policy of varying the team to give match play to as many as practicable. All together seven people played in the matches not including the under-15 team who took over the Colt's fixture with Rugby. Hext and McGregor-Cheers were the most improved players of the group which also contained Burroughs, Thurston, Mobbs, Scrivens and Harbert.

### Results

Beat Merchant Taylor's by 108, Haileybury by 111, Oundle by 93, BMS by 57 and lost to St Paul's by 33.

## Under-15

Harbert, Quarry, Hugh Lloyd-Williams and Prescott formed the team. All had developed considerably since last season, deserving full marks for effort and for thoughtful development of the skills. All four matches were won by large margins.

### Results

Beat BMS (H) by 83, Rugby by 144, Oundle by 81 and BMS (A) by 128.

## Under-14

With the introduction of Hockey the under-14 IV was a bit of a part-time group but nonetheless showed some promise, particularly Hurt and Kirkby (1st IV 1977?). Brown, Webster and Bullock also played. The team lost to BMS away by 33 but made up for this by a 116 point win in the return match at home.

## Senior House Fives

This competition, fought in the Christmas Term, was dominated by Paulo who eventually supplied the whole of the School 1st IV the following term. With the help of Dance, who left, Crescent narrowly beat St Peter's for second place. St Peter's later supplied four players of the 2nd IV Squad.

*Result.* 1 Paulo, 2 Crescent, 3 St Peter's, 4 Ashburnham, 5 St Cuthbert's, 6 Bromham.

## Junior House Fives

The competition soon developed into a keen struggle between Crescent (Harbert and Hurt) and Paulo (Lloyd-Williams and Prescott). Both won all their matches until they met each other in the final round where Crescent came out on top. St Cuthbert's did well to come a close third.

*Result.* 1 Crescent, 2 Paulo, 3 St Cuthbert's, 4 Ashburnham, 5 Bromham, 6 St Peter's.

## Public Schools' Fives Championships

Charles Pattison was seeded No 1 in the Singles Competition and Ian Peck was drawn in the 5th seed position. As a pair they were also seeded in the top four in the Doubles.

Both players must be warmly congratulated in confirming these seeds, Charles winning the singles title and, with Ian, winning the doubles title. Charles recorded the eighth singles title for the School in the last fifteen competitions but the doubles title was the first win for twelve years and only our second win since the competition started. Peck also did well in the singles losing in the quarter-finals to the eventual runner-up. Lloyd-Williams and Kemp both won their first round singles easily but could not overcome strong opponents in round two.

As a pair they also won their first match and were able to take a game off St Paul's I before losing.

### Singles results

Pattison beat Pope (St Dunstan's) 11-4, 11-1; beat Vainer (St Paul's) 11-3, 11-6; beat Macaskie (St Paul's) 11-0, 11-0; beat Greig (Radley) 11-0, 11-4; beat Knight (Sherborne) 12-10, 11-4. (*Final*).

### Doubles results

Bedford I beat Bloxham 11-1, 11-1; beat Sedburgh I 11-8, 11-4; beat Whitgift I 11-2, 11-3; beat St Dunstan's I 11-6, 11-4; beat Oundle I 11-3, 11-0. (*Final*).  
J.I.C.

## Shooting

### Christmas Term, 1973

The new school year saw 127 boys applying to enter the Club, and trials were commensurately drawn out. Thanks however, to the patience and perseverance of Club members who coached novices unremittingly week after week, membership was eventually established and practices for House matches could start. There were two brief interludes though, which in their different ways did much good to the competitive toughness of the Club. Wellingborough sent over their VIII to shoot against a rather complacent 'A' team, and won by 6 points, adding insult to injury by threatening to beat our full VIII in the spring. This was all very salutary. A week later we put out an U16 VIII against Haileybury to notch up a good win by 16 points and to show that the Club will continue to produce good teams in the future.

The House matches for the Doig Cup followed their usual slightly unpredictable course, although the favourites won in the end, with Bromham upsetting the seedings to nudge Paulo-Pontine out of the final, and Jeremy Martin marking his return with the top individual score – twice. It was a real pleasure to see how many boys came to these matches, and it was some reward to the spectators that the final produced level scores with one target left to fire. We all left the range having experienced the tension of high standard competition at its keenest.

### Results:

*Doig Cup Final:* St Peter's 564 – Bromham 561

*Other scores:* Ashburnham 556, Paulo-Pontine 550, Crescent 541, St Cuthbert's 528.

*Individual scores:* J. R. G. Martin 147/150 I. S. Hutchinson 145

*Remove Form Trophy:* 1 D. Smith 197/215, 2 Hatcher 196, 3 Holbrook 195.

*Fourth Form Trophy:* 1 Mounfield 186/215 2 Hamilton 178, 3 Amberg 169.

### Easter Term, 1974

At last we could get down to work and train a team – not just for this year, but for 1975 because five colours will be leaving. The extingencies of the games time-table prevented the formation of a formal squad, which was a pity, and some members found the strain of team-style training which this imposed upon them a bit above their capabilities. I hope this situation will not recur. The term turned out to be another one of consistent success in level matches, with clear wins against all our opponents. The real sign of class was in the number of half-inch groups fired: 52 out of 54. 'If you can't group, you can't shoot', is the oldest maxim in the game. Of the matches,

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Kimbolton was a warm-up, with five boys shooting for full VIII selection. Wellingborough saw a Bedford team in full cry and were overwhelmed in a match which saw the introduction of the elastic grouping gauge. Haileybury and Oundle came and went, tough but, as always, pleasant fixtures, and then the School met the County in the one handicap fixture of the term. In the end, the difference of weapons and the enforced absence of two colours was more than we could cope with and the County ran out comfortable winners. The Modern School, back in action after a year off, were our next victims, and it was with a sense of shock that I realised that we had kept the de Putron Cup for seven successive years. Old age must be creeping up . . . Forty-eight hours later the OBs rolled in. They had all of them shot for the School in the last eight years. The result was the relatively close margin of 18 points.

The innovation of the term was the holding of the individual open championship for the Chapman Cup in March instead of December. Everyone was in full competition practice and it was altogether more satisfactory as a shoot, except for the two Colours who shot  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch groups in the eliminating rounds . . . No one, though, could match the consistency of Jeremy Martin who followed his winning of the Croker Cup (for the top match aggregate score) by a record margin, by pulverising the opposition in the Chapman Cup. The first time the 'double' has been achieved.

In the last days of the term, the Club took what was left of the '303s up to Grafham to zero them for the Surrey Schools meeting in early May, and to introduce new members to full-bore shooting. Then we had a Sunday which was rather thinly attended because of

Chapel commitments; the feature of the day was the punctual reappearance of TJE's personal cloud which drove the weaker-fibred members (I was going to call them 'wet' . . .) into the ignominious shelter of the mini-bus at 500 yards.

*Results:*

'A' VIII v Kimbolton 588-529, 9th Man 66-49; VIII v Wellingborough 586-545; VIII v Haileybury 772-693, 9th Man 71-54; VIII v Oundle 749-722, 9th Man 72-52; 'A' VIII v Bedfordshire CRPA 1335-1371; VIII v BMS 593-513; VIII v OBs 1364-1345, Reserve Pair 324-300.

*Croker Cup:* 1 J. R. G. Martin 645, 2 I. S. Hutchinson 638, 3 M. R. Ebbetts, R. H. K. Gompertz 637.

*Chapman Cup:* 1 J. R. G. Martin 205, 2 I. S. Hutchinson 196, 3 M. R. Ebbetts 194.

*VIII G. Harrison - Captain -*, N. A. Amos, M. R. Ebbetts, J. D. Farmer-Wright, R. H. K. Gompertz, A. J. Hamilton, I. S. Hutchinson, J. R. G. Martin.

*Ninth Man and Landscape Leader,* R. M. Hatcher. Club Colours were awarded to J. D. Farmer-Wright, A. J. Hamilton and R. M. Hatcher.

T.J.E.

## **Hockey**

The Easter Term saw the re-introduction of hockey to Bedford School as a major sport. O.V.B. said it was played here before World War I, and Bedford then produced some internationals.

In 1973 the decision was taken to make hockey the major ball activity of the Winter Term and to start at