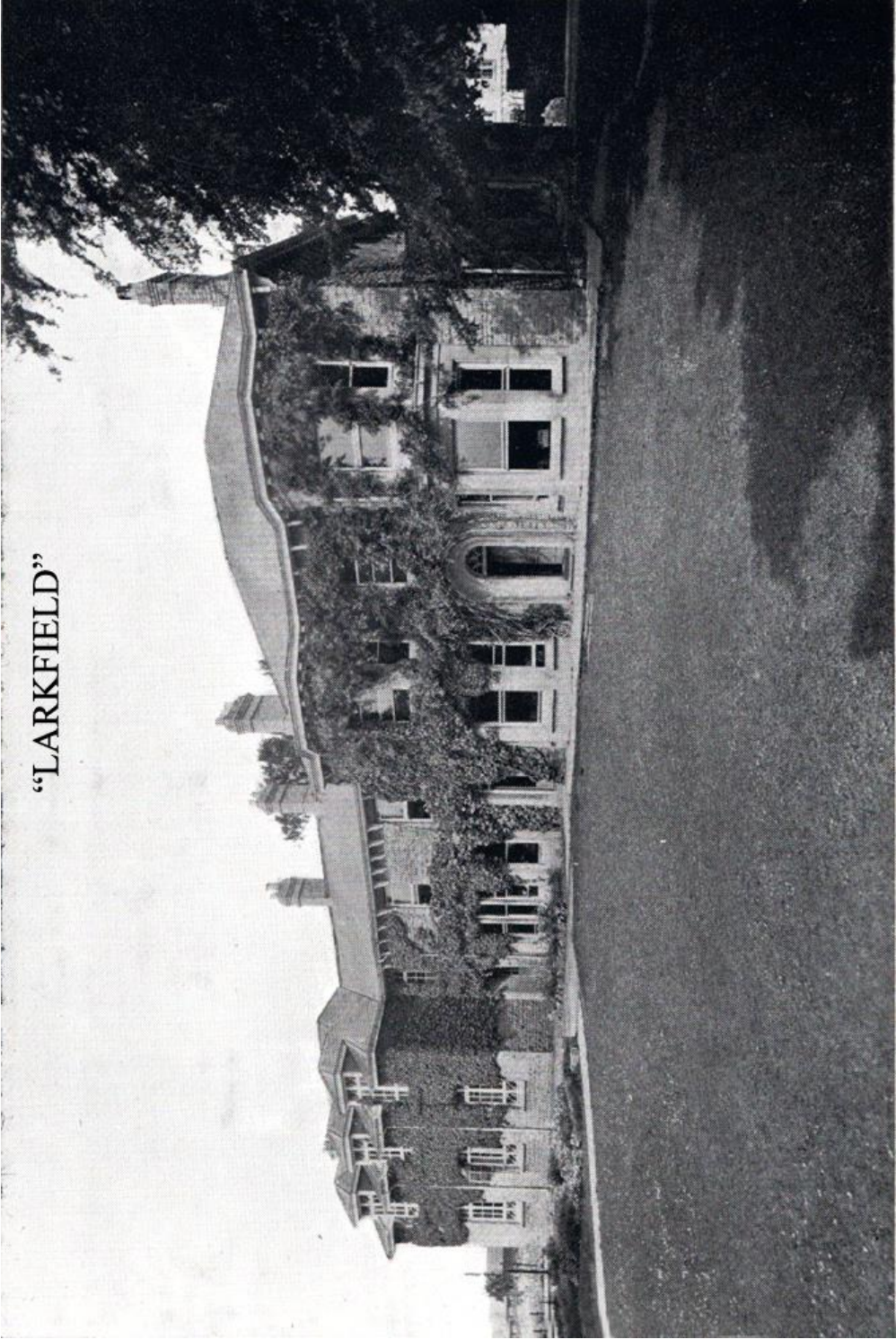


# “Larkfield Times”



1934-5

No. 1



"LARKFIELD"

**Co-Editors :****H. BAKER and L. S. DAVIS.**

Magazine Committee :

D. COX, A. HILLIER and R. VINCENT.

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Dear Readers,

We have great pleasure in introducing the first number of our school magazine.

Despite the fact that the school has now been in existence for just over ten years, the production of a school magazine has hitherto been impracticable owing to the fact that the number of pupils and old pupils has been too small to ensure a reasonably large circulation. The time has come at last, however, and we trust that the magazine will be a success and that in subsequent years its successors will be regarded as an essential feature in the social life of the school.

As regards the actual contents of the magazine, an effort has been made to introduce as much variety as possible. In addition to the usual school news of the past year, there are articles by both present and past members of the school and staff. We hope that all will find its contents interesting and we feel sure that former pupils in particular, will be interested to hear of the activities of the old school.

In conclusion, we wish to take this opportunity of thanking all the contributors to the magazine.

Yours truly,

**L. S. DAVIS and H. BAKER, co-Editors.**

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**A RETROSPECT.**

How well I remember that day in late October, 1924, when we opened Larkfield to the sound of the workmen's hammer on walls and windows ! We were then such a small community that the whole school and staff were able to meet for prayers in the present IIa room. As we had then no piano and no hymn books, but only hymn sheets, the task of starting the hymn, in default of a better performer, fell to me! In this connection I remember a rather humorous incident which occurred on the first or second day. I should explain that at first the workmen seemed rather puzzled as to what we were up to. In reading prayers I stood on a raised platform near the window of IIa, immediately outside which two men were hammering, for I heard one exclaim, " I say, Bill, there's a bloke in there praying." .At any rate the hammering ceased for a while, much to my relief, and, I trust, to their edification. What strikes me now as I look back over nearly eleven years is that the first lot of pupils seemed so tiny. Yet many of them are to-day giants in body if not in mind. Eleven years seem long in retrospect and yet how short. Some four or five hundred pupils have passed through our doors, some have gone far afield, even abroad, and most of them have justified the training they received at Larkfield. I think we may truly say that the torch of learning, sport and good fellowship, set alight over ten years ago still burns brightly and, let us hope, will go on burning brightly for ages to come. I am especially pleased with the part played by our Old Pupils' Association which grows and flourishes with the passing years. I look to them with confidence to maintain in the outside world that tone and atmosphere which they imbibed at the school. The setting up of a school magazine is some indication that we are now not an experiment but an institution, and I hail its coming with pleasurable anticipation, for I feel sure that it will be loyally supported by present and past pupils.

*Stat et stet fortuna domus.***A. H. BIRCH.**

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## **A JOURNEY IN CENTRAL AFRICA.**

"No hot lunch to-day, I am afraid," and I thought of all the conveniences of an English kitchen, and that of Larkfield especially, and sighed as I looked out of the tent on the teeming rain and a camp fire which would not even smoulder, and a joint of meat waiting to be made appetising; we had been living on tinned food for ten days. However, a picnic spirit stove, a smiling native cook, and the three tries of a Welshwoman soon overcame difficulties.

My husband and I were in Karanjwo, the only portion of Uganda which may possibly still merit the term "Darkest Africa," and which forms the angle between the Sudan and Kenya, and has often suffered from the raids of those marauding Abyssinian tribes who still descend on the semi nomadic people called Karamojong. These are cattle herders who move out from their villages (Manyattas) in the dry season in search of water, a search for sites for well boring •was my husband's work in this country.

After motoring 125 miles from the last European settlement through practically desert country, with hardly a blade of grass and boasting only acacia thorn, in scorching sun, it had been a very welcome sight to come upon the Union Jack denoting an Administrative Post consisting of offices, gaol, and three houses, where dwelt the District Commissioner, his assistant, and a Goanese Clerk. In the evening we had sat on the D.C.'s verandah which overlooked a plain stretching out to some hills 50 miles or so away, enjoying the cool and quiet, only disturbed by the howl of a hyena.

Not long were we to enjoy the shelter of a house; in six days the lorry was loaded with equipment and provisions and off it went with the native staff. When my husband and I arrived, our camp was established, the tent was up with its beds and mosquito netting, chairs and table, etc., and a very welcome cup of tea ready. Water and wood had been brought by the natives living near by order of their Chief or Headman who appeared in person with his askari (native police or guard) to pay his respects. These are usually the only people who boast clothing, although the women wear skins and many ornaments in the form of metal and bead necklets and anklets. The men have wonderful headdresses; they mix mud with hair and form it into big buns at the back of their heads into which they fix feathers and tails, etc. The latest fashion in pendants when we left was sparklet bulbs and worn out toothbrushes.

On our way North we rarely spent more than a night or two in each camp, which consists of mud and wattle huts with thatched roofs. The main hut is used for storing supplies, but we usually used the verandahs for meals and slept in the tent. The smaller huts at the back are used for boys' quarters and one for a cookhouse. When no camp was available the boys slept in tents and the big camp fire was used for cooking as well as a means of keeping off wild animals at night. It was, too, a place by which to sit in the cool of the evening thinking and speaking of England and all that it means, forgetting in the peace of the dark all the hardships of the day and remembering only the funny incidents. The fun was lent by such as the bartering between our askari and a passing native of a singlet and a thorn walking stick, the bargaining all being done by gesture, each not understanding the other's language, or my asking the cook who only understands Luganda, "Don't you understand plain English?"

In places where the car could not be used the safari (journey) was made on foot with thirty native porters carrying on their heads equipment and stores, not forgetting the memsahib who objected strongly to being a head load! A chair slung on to two poles and carried on the shoulders of four men made a very comfortable seat after alternate miles of hard walking in long grass in the broiling sun.

At sunset, small fires were lighted some distance away round our tent, at which sat about four men roasting joints of mutton; the sheep had been driven before us and put in thorn bush enclosures to prevent hyena and leopard getting at them.



Teeming herds of big game usually roam this country, but at that dry season most of it had gone South for water. However, we were fortunate in seeing all types of buck, ostrich and wild pig which were much too swift in movement for successful photography. The inquisitive giraffe was much more obliging and once two dozen or more came within 100 yards of the car only to sheer off with their ungainly motion when one of us stepped out.

The rains had begun when we came South and we had great difficulty in crossing rivers; dozens of natives had to help unload, push and pull the lorry, all thinking this extra work very unnecessary. Why could the white men not wait for the river to go down? Time nor money meant nothing to them; cigarettes were much more useful than cents on many occasions.

In eight weeks we left Karamoja now transformed into a green and pleasant land with flowers of the bulb type growing everywhere, the people could plant their millet and the cattle and sheep no longer waited two days before watering.

**E. M. DAVIES.**

(Miss Rowlands, former Domestic Science Mistress).

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**THE IMPRESSIONS OF LEARNING TO DRIVE.**

On reaching the age of seventeen I thought it would be rather fun if I learned to drive the car. Let me say now that I did not think about the matter deeply or perhaps I would have changed my mind. Well, after mentioning the fact to the family I forgot about it. A few days later father told me that I was to go to Hanbury's Garage for my first lesson.

On arriving at the garage my heart fluttered with excitement and my knees felt very insecure. But I recovered again when my instructor took the wheel and drove to a very wide patch of the road. I was told to take the driver's seat. This command sounded to me like a death sentence. With trembling hands and quaking heart I clutched the wheel, pushed and pulled at various levers and the car gave a sick lurch and ceased running. Again I pulled and pushed and again she jerked forward, but now to my amazement we were proceeding on the way. At various intervals we went through this dreadful business of stopping and starting (or at least trying to).

Then suddenly my instructor decided that the Tintern road was an excellent place for a driving lesson. I had never realised before how many corners there were on the road, or how much the Blue and White "bone shaker" buses resembled fiery dragons or man-eating monsters. Having got to a very narrow portion of the road I was instructed to reverse and proceed to Chepstow. Now this may seem quite easy to you, as it did to me till I attempted the deed. The engine stopped at least half-a-dozen times before I eventually completed the task.

To my horror I discovered the homeward journey was uphill all the way, so I had the dreadful ordeal of what is known as changing gear. Once again I pulled and pushed. I have never before heard such a dreadful noise as the one the engine then made. To make things worse, a small child crossed the road just when I was rather flustered. My instructor told me to "shove" my brake on. Of course, I did the opposite and the child escaped violent death by a narrow margin.

As we sailed along the straight I was picturing the hills we had yet to ascend, when to my joy I discovered we were outside our house. I slowed down to turn in the gate, when a now familiar voice said, "I have not finished with you yet." Much to my dismay, I had to drive through Chepstow. On the way I encountered innumerable small vans and cars that appeared to be giants, and buses like monsters, as well as a supernatural horse and cart.

Having arrived safely at the garage, I thought it best to get away quickly, but oh! my knees felt so weak that I lingered to talk a little. It was then I learned that I had not gone so badly. Then I was told that driving a car is one of the easiest, things on earth to learn. I have myself always believed

French is the most dreadful thing to learn, as there are so many things to remember, but learning to drive a car beats all school subjects

**ANNE HILLIER VB.**

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**LATIN.**

Oh Latin, thou language of the dim past  
That bringeth sweet sleep so quick and so fast,  
Thou language of verbs, nouns, conjugations,  
Thou most hated language among all the nations,  
Why did you ever trouble me?

The day will be blest when you fly away,  
There'll be public rejoicing and festivals gay,  
With garlands and streamers all coloured and bright  
And dancing and jigging all day and all night;  
That's what'll happen, you see.

The children will all have a day off from school,  
To lie under the trees where it's shady and cool;  
Not slogging at Latin all the day long,  
And getting their beastly subjunctives all wrong.  
Oh, what a day for you and for me.

**B. NICHOLSON (Form VA.)**

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**“ROYAL TOUR ”, JULY, 1930**

Great excitement! The King and Queen are to open the King George Hospital, Ilford. The old Hospital has been entirely rebuilt, and now it appears in all the glory of modern architecture and up-to-date equipment.

The great day arrives it pours with rain, but no one minds. Inside the Hospital everything has been scrubbed, cleaned, and polished. Preparations are feverish, especially in the Children's Ward, where last minute baths and dressing are the order, no risk of sticky fingers and grubby gowns!

2.30 p.m. Atmosphere now electric. Their Majesties are already at the Dagenham Out-Patient Centre, near the Ford Works.

2.45 p.m. All available Nurses line up at the entrance in gleaming white "starch", practising last minute curtsies.

3 p.m. The King and Queen! After the presentation of Matron, high Officials, and workmen, there is the brief formal opening. Their Majesties then pass through the "guard of honour" of Nurses, who line the hall, and proceed to make a tour of the Wards. First to Dagenham Ward, where they cause much excitement by talking to a patient who is a member of the Nursing Staff. Next to Barking Ward, where the men show even more excitement than the women. Flowers are everywhere. Passing through the Dispensaries, the next call is at the Theatre Suite, and Surgical Wards. They see the latest equipment. The Theatre Tables which can be converted into all shapes and sizes, the shadow less lights; the lighted frame behind which X-Ray Films are placed which the Surgeon can watch as he works, and instrument cupboards which are built in the walls. Half the roof and one wall are of glass, which can be cooled by constant running water in warm weather. Sterilizing, dressing, and anaesthetic rooms are included.

Passing all other Wards, they visit the Children's Ward. Here is a picture of pink and blue, the girls in pink gowns, the boys in blue; blue nursery rhyme cot covers, and bed screens in the same two shades. The flowers are masses of blue and pink sweet peas. This is the second "Royal Visit" for the children, for this morning dignified gentlemen walked in to inspect and was greeted with delighted cries "King, King". However, the children are overawed by the dignified company of the afternoon, and just gaze round-eyed. The King sees a photograph of Princess Elizabeth which a child proudly displays, and is very pleased. The King and Queen take notice of every child.

The Nurses' Home is not inspected as the King does not wish to keep the crowd waiting any longer in the rain.

Their Majesties then see the Out-Patient Dept., X-Ray and Sunlight rooms. In the Ophthalmic room they see a great magnet apparatus which removes finest particles of steel from an eye. Lastly they visit the Kitchen with its latest cooking devices.

The Royal Visitors express great pleasure and satisfaction with all they have seen, especially as the Hospital is the result of a suggestion made by her Majesty several years ago. It still rains, but cheering crowds line the route and wave happily as the King and Queen drive away.

**E. G. PITTMAN (1924-28).**

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**"THE CRICKETER."**

"You'd better get your pads on, you'll be in soon," the Captain told him.

"Right-ho, skip," he grinned, and quickly began to buckle on his pads to hide his nervousness.

He had just fastened the last but one buckle when he heard a groan from his watching colleagues. He looked up. Running towards the pavilion was a player swinging his bat, and grinning. He never could understand why people grinned when they came out, personally, he felt pretty sick. Out on the pitch an umpire was restoring the stumps to their original position.

"O Lord," he thought, "now for it". Sundry bits of advice assailed him from all quarters, and in trying to listen to it all, he assimilated none of it. He stood up, picked up his bat, and walked out. He met the incoming batsman who muttered to him, "Fast leg-break, watch yourself, he's dashed unpleasant."

What encouragement!

He strode on. How much farther was this beastly pitch? Half a mile? It seemed that he'd come that distance already. Anyway, here he was at last. Somebody was clapping. What on earth for, he simply did not know.

"Centre please," he asked automatically. He had to move his bat three times before he found it. He started to make his block.

"You've lost centre," sang out the umpire. "Better have it again.

He took it again. Then he looked up the pitch at the bowler. To think that that fellow was about thirty yards away. He looked more like ten.

"Here it comes. Now then, straight bat, for heaven's sake, and left elbow out."

He played the stroke he had told himself to, and drew in his breath sharply. He had missed the ball completely. He'd seen it coming, he'd played it orthodoxly, and he'd missed it.

He was too dazed to run a bye. He just waved his hand at his partner and said "Stay".

"Let's hope the next one's better anyway. How many did the umpire say? Two to come. That meant that this was the last ball of the over."

Here it is. Fast and coming well to the off. He stuck his bat out half-heartedly and as luck would have it, just touched the ball. A miserable stroke indeed. A measly poke into the slips which resulted in an entirely undeserved two.

"Ver," snapped the umpire and he leaned back on his bat thankfully. Now he had time to think to analyse his feelings, while the other chap faced the bowling.

He studied himself. He felt as empty inside as if he hadn't had a meal for weeks. His knees were none too steady, and if he hadn't gripped his bat jolly tightly, he'd have dropped the thing.

His batting gloves were far too big, and the thumb, of his right glove kept slipping out, and he had to be eternally adjusting it. One or two ends of the straps of his pads were annoying him because they were hanging out, and flapping. The bat itself was all right except that the handle was sticky with the heat of the sun.

He was rudely awakened by "Come on, man, run."

He got home safely, but only because the throw-in was weak. He faced a new bowler. A slow left hander, breaking either way.

He watched it come. He smothered it, going to the point of kneeling on it to prevent it passing his bat. He treated the next one in the same way. The third one was delivered with the same action, but it was a vastly different ball. It came along on the eye level so that it was impossible for him to judge its distance from him. Then it dropped almost vertically, and from that moment it didn't rise a fraction of an inch from the ground. It just trickled under his bat with barely enough force to dislodge the bails.

He walked back wearily, and if it had seemed like half-a-mile coming in, it was like two miles going back.

**E. A. STEPHENS, VA.**

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**QUOTATIONS FROM SHAKESPEARE.**

**JULIUS CAESAR:—**

- (1) "O, name him not; let us not break with him;  
For he will never follow any thing  
That other men begin." [To VINCENT.]
- (2) "What is your name?  
Where do you dwell?  
Whither are you going?  
Are you a married man or a bachelor?" [DR. to BUTLER.]
- (3) "That's as much as to say, they are fools that marry."  
[MB. WILDING.]
- (4) "For shame, you girls! What do you mean?  
Love; and be friends, as two such girls should be."  
[To CLARICE and RUTH.]
- (5) "Hence ! home you idle creatures, get you home!"  
[DR. to OFFENDERS.]
- (6) "I have an hour's talk in store for you;  
Remember that you call on me to-day." [DR. to HARDWICKE.]
- (7) "How hard it is for women to keep counsel!" [To DOROTHY HUNT.]

**D. Cox, VJ.**

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### **THE AGES OF A MOTOR CAR.**

All the world's a-wheel;  
And all the men and women merely drivers;  
Cars have their exits and their entrances,  
And one man in his time sees many cars,  
Each one in turn, the rage is—first, the "baby",  
Jerking and jumping in the owner's grip,  
And then the big four-seater, with its hooter,  
And shining morning paint, creeping like snail  
Unwillingly to work. And then a racer,  
Sighing like a furnace, with a woeful noise  
Made by a punctured tyre. And then a "chara",  
Full of strange squeaks and creaking, broken springs,  
Varied in names, sudden and quick in starting  
Seeking the glaring pump and petrol station,  
E'en on a country road. And then a coupe,  
In fair round shapes and startling colour schemes,  
With "eyes" severe and hood of formal cut,  
Full of nice springs and every modern gadget,  
And so it plays its part. The next car comes,  
A new and gleaming this year's model, sleek,  
With "lights" on roof, and wheel on side,  
Its chromium parts a world too wide  
For narrow roads, and big balloon-tyred wheels  
Turning around at ninety M.P.H., swish past  
And whistle in the wind. Last car of all,  
That ends this strange, eventful history,  
A Brighton crock which still is living on,  
Sans lamps, sans roof, sans tyres, sans everything.

**T. GRIFFITHS, III**

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### **SCHOOL JOTTINGS.**

#### **SPEECH DAY.**

Speech Day was held on December 12th 1934 and was, as usual, very well attended. The speaker, Mr. Price, the Director of Education for Pembrokeshire, delivered a very interesting and edifying speech. Our Headmaster, the Rev. A. H Birch gave his report on the progress of the school during 1933 and 1934. The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Price.

Then followed what was, perhaps, the more enjoyable part of the programme, under the supervision" of Miss Gillatt, Miss Freeman and Mr. Wilding. The girls and boys gave gym displays; and these were immediately followed by a series of delightful songs by the girls, who afterwards took part in a very picturesque operetta which it was acclaimed by everyone present, was a suitable climax to a highly successful evening.

#### **CHRISTMAS PARTIES, 1934.**

The Christmas parties were especially enjoyable this year at the junior party. Miss Davies produced a short version of Cinderella. Miss Gillatt and Mr. Westcott sang topicals about various staff and pupils.

The senior party had neither pantomime nor games, but Miss Gillatt and Mr. Westcott again performed, much to the amusement of all. Doctor and the Sixth Form being the subject of most topical.

Grace Wetson and Doreen Lang won the waltzing competition, and Betty Bartlett and Margery Greenhaigh won the table decorating competition.

Mrs. Birch was presented with a bouquet, for as usual so kindly assisting with making refreshments, and helping to make the party most enjoyable.

CHEPSTOW SINGING FESTIVAL, MAY 26th, 1935.

After much hard work, and more enthusiasm, on the part of both Miss Gillatt and the choir, the great day of the Singing Festival arrived.

The School was granted a general holiday, but in the afternoon the choir assembled at Chepstow Town Hall for a final practice.

The children were greatly excited at the thought of the broadcast, and worked hard under the conductorship of Mr. Bumford Griffiths.

At six o'clock the whole choir was ready, and the Festival began. The broadcast commenced at half-past six, and was a great success, the children's voices being greatly aided by the Three Valleys String Orchestra.

After the festival the children heartily cheered their popular conductor, who thanked them for responding so well.

A VISIT TO CARDIFF.

On May 24th, 1935, Forms IV, V, and VI, under the supervision of several of the staff, went to Cardiff to see "Twelfth Night" at the Prince of Wales' theatre.

The play was excellently produced, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

After the play our party dispersed for tea, before returning home.

" Multas gratias agimus" to our Headmaster and Miss Smith for organising such a successful expedition!

JUBILEE DAY.

Thirty-six of our girls, chosen by Miss Freeman, attired in their new school dresses, headed the Jubilee Procession through Chepstow. Afterwards they assembled in Beaufort Square and sang a Jubilee song.

At the Standard Institute, where tea was provided, they were addressed as "Milkmaids" by the Vicar, who after tea presented each with a new penny and an orange.

In the evening medieval May festivities, greatly assisted by our girls who performed a Morris and Country dance, were held in the Castle Dell. The festivities were interrupted by the King's speech which was relayed to the dell.

The appearance and performance of our girls was very favourably commented upon by many of the very appreciative audience.

SPORTS DAY.

Our tenth annual sports day, which was held on Wednesday, June 5th, was, as usual, a great success. Despite the fact that it rained throughout the morning, we were fortunate in having a fine afternoon and the whole affair went off well.

The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Herbert, of Moynes Court.

The House Shield was won by the Wye House, for the second year in succession.

Victor Ludorum, R. Mathews

Vicirix Ludorum, G. Evans.

BOYS' RACES.

100 yds. senior: 1, Mathews (W); 2, Rowlands (W); 3, Vincent (W).

100 yds. junior: 1, Oakes (U); 2, Griffiths (U); 3, R. Stoddart (W).

- 220 yds. senior: 1, Mathews (W); 2, Vincent (W); 3, H. Stoddart (S).
- 220 yds. junior : 1, Oakes (U); 2, Griffiths (U); 3, R. Stoddart (W).
- 440 yds. open: 1, Mathews (W); 2, Brown (W); 3, Waters (U)
- Half-mile, handicap: 1, M. Hill (S); 2, Waters (U); 3, G. Hill (W).
- Senior hurdles: 1, H. Stoddart (S); 2, Mathews (W); 3, Rowlands (W).
- Junior hurdles : 1, Griffiths (U); 2, Oakes (U); 3, Anthony (W)
- Slow bicycle : 1, W. Bold (S); 2, A. Stevens (U).
- High Jump, senior 1. Vincent (W); 2, Rowlands (W); 3, Mathews (W).
- High Jump junior : 1, Oakes (U); 2, R. Stoddart (W); 3, Thomas (U).
- Long Jump, senior: 1, Vincent (W) (18ft. 3in.); 2, Pritchard (W); 3, Rowlands (W).
- Long Jump, junior: 1, Oakes (U) (15ft. 7!<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>m.).
- House Relay : 1, Wye; 2, Severn; 3, Usk.
- Old Boys' Race : 1, J. Weekes, 2. J. Price; 3, E. Blackaby.

**GIRLS' RACES.**

- 100 yds. senior: 1, G. Evans (W); 2, H. Baker (W); 3, R Dent(W).
- 80 yds. junior : 1, A. Wills (U); 2, D. Hunt (W); 3, V. Saysell(U).
- Obstacle race : 1, A. Hillier (S); 2, J. Martin (W); 3, H. Baker (W).
- Hurdle race : 1, G. Evans(W); 2, A. Hillier (S); 3, D. Madley (W).
- Late for school race: 1, M. Trueman (U); 2, M. Perry (W); 3 A. Hillier (S).
- Skipping race : 1, G. Evans (W); 2, R. Dent (W) 3D. Madley (W).
- Three-legged race: 1, H. Baker and R. Dent (W); 2, G. Evans and D. Madley (W).
- Egg and spoon race : 1, G. Evans (W); 2, M. Shaddick (U); 3, B. Burns (U).
- High jump, senior: 1, G Evans (W); 2, K. Mawhinney (U); 3, M. Greenhaigh (U).
- Consolation Race : 1, W. Anthony (S); 2, J. Evans (W); 3, O. James (U).
- House Relay: 1, Wye; 2, Usk; 3, Severn.
- Old Girls' Race: 1, P. Slee; 2, I. Flowers; 3, D. Hutchings.

**RUGBY NOTES.**

Captain: R. G. VINCENT.

Vice-Captain: W. WOODGATE.

Hon. Secretary: L. S. DAVIS.

The side had another bad season, but there is no need for players to lose heart. It will take some time before we can really get going. If not wholly successful there is no doubt next season will be a better one and if the whole team shares the same interest it is certain that the team will find that "winning streak" as the Soccer team before did.

The side we now have would be quite good in say two seasons' time, but our boys all seem to leave school before the same team can get a footing. Although the team will lose some more players this year there is no need for despair for the greater experience will carry next years' side further.

School Rugby Colours were awarded to R. Vincent, D. Pritchard and G. Hill.

**RUGBY, 1934-35.**

DATE.	SCHOOL.	RESULT.
Sept. 29 <sup>th</sup>	Bassaleg (home)	lost
Oct. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Newport Secondary (away)	lost
Oct. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Howard Gardens (home)	won
Nov. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lydney (home)	lost
Nov. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Newport High (home)	lost
Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Howard Gardens (away)	lost
Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Lydney (away)	lost

Feb. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Beachley (home)	lost
Feb. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Newport High (away)	lost
Mar. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Newport Secondary (home)	lost
Mar. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Bassaleg (away)	lost

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### HOCKEY NOTES.

Captain: H. BAKER.

On the whole we had a good season playing all our matches, in spite of the rain. We had the same team as we had the previous year, so that we were all used to each others' play. During the Autumn term we did not lose a match, but we were unlucky in the Spring term, because two of our good players were unable to play in several matches, but I must say that the reserves filled their places excellently. I hope that next season we shall be able to keep up our reputation although some of our best players will be leaving at the end of this term. I know the team appreciated Miss Hill's help very much, and also the fact that Miss Davies and Mr. Westcott gave up their time to play -with us.

Seven of the team, M. Vaughan, D. Madley, C. Williams, R. Dent, H. Baker, V. Bevan and G. Evans represented Larkfield in the Monmouthshire trials held at Shaftesbury Park, Newport. We were very pleased that our two wings, R. Dent, L.W. and G. Evans, R.W. were chosen for the county team. Three reserves were also chosen, M. Vaughan (goal), H. Baker (centre), and V. Bevan (right inner). We hope that next season we shall have more of our girls in the County team.

The colours were presented by Mrs. Birch at the Old Students' Reunion:

Hockey Colours: C. Williams, V. Bevan, A. Johnson.

### HOCKEY, 1934-35.

DATE.	SCHOOL.	RESULT
Oct. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Coleford (home)	won
Jan. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Coleford (away)	won
Oct. 27 <sup>th</sup>	Bassaleg (home)	won
Mar. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bassaleg (away)	lost
Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Chepstow Ladies	won
Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Chepstow Ladies	won
Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Lydney (home)	won
Mar. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Lydney (away)	lost
Jan. 19 <sup>th</sup>	St. John's (home)	won
Feb. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	St. John's (away)	won
Feb. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Abergavenny (away)	drew
Mar. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Abergavenny (home)	lost
Apr. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Old Students	won

Total: Won 8, Drawn 2, Lost 3.

The Hockey Team for 1934-35 : M. Vaughan, D. Madley, S. Parry K. Mawhmney  
C. Williams, D. Davies, R. Dent, A. Johnson, H.Baker, V. Bevan, G. Evans.  
Reserves, L. Cox, A. Hillier.

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### NETBALL, 1935.

Unfortunately owing to bad weather we were forced to cancel several matches. We played a few good matches, however, although in the majority of cases we were the losers; but it is only fair to say that the opposing teams were chosen from schools attended by a large number of girls.

Netball Captain: R. Edmunds.

Netball Team: M. Greenhaigh, D. Williams, M. Trueman, B. Taylor M Shaddick,

R. Edmunds, G. Wetson

Reserves : P. Lewis, O. James.

DATE	SCHOOL	RESULT.
Oct.13	Maesycwmmmer (away)	lost
Oct. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Hengoed (home)	lost
Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Arlington House, Newport (away)	draw
Jan. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Hengoed (away)	lost

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### TENNIS, 1935.

Tennis Captain: H. Baker.

We have been very unfortunate this year in having three of our matches cancelled owing to the rain. We are glad we have been able to keep up the reputation of our tennis team by winning two matches out of the three that we have been able to play- against Coleford and St. Johns.

Tennis Colours were presented to J. Blackaby, H. Baker.

DATE	SCHOOL.	RESULT.
May 11th	St. John's (home)	lost
June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	St. John's (away)	won
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Coleford (away)	won
June 19 <sup>th</sup>	Old Students	unfinished

Tennis Team for 1935: M. Trueman, B. Bartlett, H. Baker G Evans, K. Mawhinney, D. Madley.'  
Reserve : R. Dent.

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### CRICKET NOTES.

Captain: A. W. Woodgate.

Vice-Captain : W. Bold. Hon. Secretary : L. S. Davis.

So far our cricket season has been fairly good. Despite the fact that four of the five matches played, were lost, the actual play has been much better than this would suggest. In each case the games were only lost by a comparatively small margin.

Since the beginning of the season the cricket team has shown a gradual improvement, and as they now appear to have settled down, we may look forward to the remaining matches with every hope of success.

Cricket Colours were awarded to W. Woodgate, D. Isaac and G. Vincent.

May 11th	Chepstow S.S. v Beachley A.T.S.	
	Chepstow, 63; Beachely, 83 for 7 wickets.	
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Chepstow S.S. v. Newport H.S. " A. "	
	Chepstow, 27; Newport, 35.	
May 25 <sup>th</sup>	Chepstow S.S. v. Lydney G.S.	
	Chepstow, 57; Lydney, 84.	
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Chepstow S.S. v. Newport S.S.	
	Chepstow, 75; Newport, 88.	
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Chepstow S.S. v. Bassaleg.	

#### BATTING.

Chepstow, 74 for 8 wkts.; Bassaleg, 62 for 9 wkts.

Batsmen	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Average
Vincent	5	0	83	39	16.6
Isaacs	5	0	33	17	6.6
Woodgate	5	0	27	14	5.4

Batsmen	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Average
Rowlands	5	0	24	12	4.8
Price	3	0	14	13	4.66
Bold	5	0	20	14	4.0
Stephens	5	0	16	8	3.2
Smith	4	1	9	8	3.0
Manson	4	0	11	10	2.75
Stoddart	3	0	7	4	2.33
Chubb	3	0	3	2	1.0
Mathews	4	3	1	1	1.0

#### BOWLING.

Bowlers	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Averages
Isaacs	24	7	57	11	5.18
Smith	57.4	15	142	19	7.47
Stephens	14	1	39	4	9.75
Mathews	37.3	10	88	7	12.56

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#### HOUSE NOTES.

A recent and very successful development at Larkfield has been the sub-division of the School into three Houses. This took place in 1932 and the Houses are named Wye, Usk and Severn, the colours being blue, green and red respectively. The institution of the House system at Larkfield has proved to be a great success and there is a keen spirit of competition for the Shield, which is won by the House gaining the greatest number of points in each particular year. The winning House holds the Shield for a period of one year. The actual points are awarded for house match results, form positions and the individual places on Sports Day. So far, the Shield has been won for two years by the Usk House (1932 and 1933) and two years by the Wye House (1934-35).

The success of the House system at Larkfield has been in a large measure due to the kindness of Mr. C. H. Clarke, who was the chairman of the Governors in 1932. In that year Mr. Clarke presented the school with a magnificent House Shield and the House that wins it has every reason to be proud of such a splendid trophy. By showing his great interest in the school in this manner, Mr. Clarke has proved himself to be a real sport and has won the gratitude of everyone in Larkfield.

#### WYE HOUSE.

Girls' Captain: H. Baker.

Boys' Captain: R. Vincent.

I am sure all the members of the Wye House are delighted that we have won the Shield for two years in succession. We are also pleased that the Victrix Ludorum, G. Evans, and the Victor Ludorum, K. Mathews are members of the Wye House. We were very fortunate in the winter house matches, winning both rugby and hockey matches. We were unable to show our skill at netball because the weather was too wet for the matches to be played. We have attained the highest position in sport so our one aim is to become top in work. A new year has started for the Houses and I hope we shall be able to keep up the reputation of the Wye House by winning the shield for the third time.

#### SEVERN HOUSE.

Girls' Captain: W. Anthony.

Boys' Captain: A. W. Woodgate.

Luck has not been with Severn House this year. Happily we have retained most of our members. Both our Rugby and Cricket teams have shown excellent form thanks chiefly to the exceedingly good combination of the players.



Wye House, however, proved to be the strongest House, although they were extremely fortunate to beat us. The score of six points to five indicates the closeness of the play. Usk House offered little resistance to our attack and, under miserable weather conditions; we beat them by thirty one points to five.

Up to the time of going to Press the cricket team has played and won one match. This, against Wye House was the first of the season. Bold was very successful and hit 46 runs before being bowled by Mathews. The final scores being Wye 35, Severn 85.

Sports Day was not a really successful day for Severn. Hector Stoddart gave a good performance by winning the hurdles. Owing to the absence of Mathews, the Victor Ludorum, from the Wye Relay Team the race proved to be much more exciting than it would have been otherwise. In the final 220 Raymond Vincent broke the tape only a few yards in front of Stoddart, our man.

Considering the opposition this year Severn's performance has been very satisfactory.

#### USK HOUSE.

Girls' Captain: Doris Cox.

Boys' Captain: A. Stephens.

Although the Usk House has been unfortunate enough to have gained comparatively few marks this year, it is the hope of every member of the House that we shall regain, in the near future, our former prestige, by winning the Shield.

Several useful members of the House left during the year, and thus our sports teams were beaten by appreciable margins. But it was particularly unfortunate that the weather should have prevented the netball matches, for the Usk Team was comprised of most of the School Team. On Sports Day, however, we had a fair measure of success, Oakes of the Lower School, gaining several victories.

But in spite of bad luck, the spirit of the House has not been daunted, and we hope that by the co-operation of both boys and girls, we shall be able to prove our worth in the New Year which confronts us.

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#### OLD STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

On behalf of all Old Students we congratulate the present members of the School on their enterprise in publishing the first official Larkfield magazine, and wish them every success in their venture. We also thank them sincerely for allowing us the use of their columns to insert matters of interest to Old Pupils.

Our Association continues to flourish, and we are extending our social and sporting activities as our numbers increase. During the past winter we organised a series of whist drives and dances, which were thoroughly enjoyed by the many Old Pupils and friends who attended, while the annual Christmas Dance was the most successful yet held. Here we should like to record our sincere thanks to Dr. Birch, Miss Smith and the Staff for their kindness in allowing us the use of the School and tennis courts on many occasions, and for supporting our functions so splendidly.

Our ambition now is to endow a scholarship. This scholarship would be awarded each year to the most deserving Larkfield pupil, and would enable him or her to receive a university education, the chance of which would otherwise be denied them. At present this scheme is only under consideration, but we believe it will meet with the enthusiastic approval of everyone. Whether or not it becomes a reality depends upon the response made by Old Students, and to attain this end a united effort is a prime necessity. We therefore draw attention to a somewhat regrettable fact: although there are over 300 old pupils, the Association is being "carried" by a small minority of these, most of whom live in the district. Those who have obtained positions in other parts of the country very rarely take any

interest in the Association, even to the extent of forwarding their addresses. Not only is their support vitally necessary, but we feel that any successes they may achieve should be made public in this magazine. Therefore, will all our readers who correspond with Old Students who are not members of the society please do their best to induce them to join? Thank you!

If the response is satisfactory, we intend to organize several functions in aid of the Scholarship Fund, commencing in the coming autumn.

"What is worth doing at all is worth doing well."

**IRMA FLOWERS, J.E. PRICE; Joint Secretaries.**

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**L.O.S. NOTES.**

**R. D. Hughes** (1924-29) won a Welsh church Scholarship 1930, took his B.A. (Honours) Cantab. 1932, and is now at Oxford

**H.M. Hughes** (1925-31) won an Entrance Scholarship to Lampeter (1931) where he took his B.A. (Honours) 1934. He, too, is now at Oxford. He played Rugby and Cricket for Lampeter and Rugby for Oxford.

**Edna G. Pitman** (1924-28) has gained her Final State Exam. (King George Hospital Ilford), the C.M.B. Certificate (Chiswick and Ealing Hosp.) and has now taken up duties as a Sister at Pontypool and District Hospital.

**Lucy M. Cummins** (1925-29) has also passed her Final State Exam (Lambeth).

**J. E. Cowle** (1924-29) who has a post with Court's Bank, London has been displaying fine form at Soccer, and played for Woking in the Isthmian League. He had the misfortune to sustain an injury to his nose in a cup-tie near the end of last season

Congratulations to **C J. Watkins** (1924-29) who has been awarded his Colours for Hockey in his first year at Cardiff University.

**Cicely A. Shirley** (1926-28) has become a keen rifle-shot. For two years she has missed the Ladies Championship at Bisley by one point. Recently she gained the Champ. Gold Medal for South Wales and Monmouthshire.

At Leicester University **Mary R. Thomas** (1925-29) gained the Diploma of the Western Joint Committee's Final Exam Domestic Science and the Diploma of the W.J.C. Final Exam for special 3rd year subjects. She is now teaching at Atherstone. We are happy to hear of her engagement to another member of the staff.

**A. L. Hemingsley** (1926-28) gained a Glos. Agric. Scholarship 1930. He entered The Harpur Adams Agric. College, Newport, Salop where he obtained the N.D.A. Diploma 1933. While at H.A.A.C. he secured his Colours for Cricket and won many trophies for athletics. He now holds a post with James Collins, Sons and Brain, Bristol.

Many Old Students have entered Usk Agricultural College and met with success.

**Margery E. R. Matthews** (1929-30) has gained the National Certificate in Poultry Practice, the British Dairy Farmers' Associations' Certificate and the Mon. Agric. Certificate in Dairying and in Poultry Husbandry (with distinction).

**Joan Davis** (1928-32) has gained the Royal Horticultural Society's Junior Certificate in the 1st Class and the County Certificate in Horticulture.

**Leonora M. James** (1929-33) has also gained the R.H.S. Certificate in the 1st Class and obtained the College Certificate with distinction. She is awaiting the result of her last exam.

We are very glad to welcome **Mrs- Menage (nee Kathleen Skyrme)** (1926-27) and her husband and children who have returned to England after 3 years in Mauritius and are now stationed at Beachley.

**H. Ball** (1927-32) is studying at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and intends to take up a career on the stage.

**Marian Rees** (1927-33) has gained the Apothecaries Hall Certificate after a course at The Welsh College of Pharmacy, Cardiff.

**Vera Morgan** (1929-33) and **Georgina Richards** (1929-33) have both had successful hockey seasons. Vera has played for Newport Ladies' 1st XI, Monmouthshire 1st XI and the South Wales Reserves, while Georgina has played for the Newport Athletic 1st XI and the Monmouthshire 1st XI.

**W. D. Woodgate** is in residence at Pembroke College, Oxford, and is reading Honours in English.

**W. H. M. Baker** (1927-34) is in residence at Bristol University. During his first term he played in the University Rugby team.

We deeply regret to record the death of **R. J. Knight** (1924-27) who was tragically killed in a car smash near London last summer.

The Hon Secretaries of the Old Students' Association would be glad to receive any news of interest about old pupils, for the next issue of the School Magazine.

#### **ENGAGEMENTS**

Mary Blandford (1924-28).

Mary Thomas (1924-28).

Irene Fisher (1924-28).

J. Mary Blake (1927-30).

Iris Miles (1924-28).

J. Andrews (1928-32).

Audrey Price (1924-28).

A. R. Beard (1923-28).

#### **MARRIAGES.**

On Kathleen P. T. Skyrme (1926-27) to (Staff-Sergt.) Leslie Menage.

On June 2nd, 1934, B. W. Powell (1924-27) to Elsie Earlick, at St. Anne's, Stoke Newington.

On January 27th, 1934, Ethel A. Harris (1927-31) to William Jones, at Glyn Chapel, Newchurch East.

On July 16th, 1934, at Chepstow Methodist Church, Francis Lilian (Brenda) Sadler (1924-28) to Reginald C. Felling.

On December 26th, 1934, H. C. G. McCarthy (1924-25).

On June 13th, 1935, Georgiana Humphries (1925-28) to Leslie Hughes.

On June 8th, 1935, Lily Elsie Jones to Eric J. Newman (1924-29), at the Parish Church, Portskewett.

On April 14th, 1934, Lilian Wetson (1926-29) to J. Poulton, at the Parish Church, Lydney.

#### **DEATHS.**

**JENKINS.** On October 15th, 1930, at Badminton Villas, Chepstow, E. Barbara Jenkins (1924-27).

**TOMS.** On January 4th, 1932, at Chepstow and District Hospital, Linda E. Toms (1924-30).

**KNIGHT.** In August, 1934, as a result of a motor accident near London, R. J. Knight, St. Arvans (1924-27).

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