

THE WHEEL MAGAZINE 1922



ST. BIRINUS' SCHOOL - DIDCOT - BERKS

EDITORIAL

Despite continual inflation, "The Wheel" has managed, albeit belatedly, to achieve its annual revolution. The pressures which have accounted for the delay in publication are by no means wholly negative, however; implicit in the postponement is the prospect of ambitious new developments in future issues. It is also possible that this switch from the academic to the calendar year will, for reasons of administration, become established practice.

One marginally disruptive element so far as publication is concerned, has been the transfer of the design team to lavish new buildings whose architectural magnificence may not yet induce the compiler of a certain American tourist guide to revise his blunt injunction: "Avoid Didcot", but will offer magazine production facilities second to none.

Of course, the re-housing of the Art and other Departments is merely one aspect of the current wholesale re-organisation along comprehensive lines. The inevitable enhancement of the School's reputation and its new status will no doubt be reflected in the organ of St. Birinus'. It is in this context that we welcome our newest contributor, Mr. G. A. Evans, under whose guidance the School will metamorphose.

A new format has been chosen for this issue - or to put it less euphemistically, we have been obliged to accept a slight reduction in size; consequently some articles have required excisions - no bad thing when one remembers Voltaire's apology, "I am sorry I wrote at such length; I had not the time to put it more briefly."

As ever, thanks are due to all who have made possible so lively a journal; we trust it is not too invidious to single out Mr. Newton and those boys who produced this year's Supplement.

S. G.

SCHOOL VISITS 1971

Jan. 13 C. S. E. Trip to Reading Art Gallery Exhibition. (Mrs. Hardwick, Mr. Guthrie)
 Jan. 18 "Dick Turpin" at the Mermaid Theatre. (Mr. Day, Mr. Hart, Junior Boys)
 Jan. 25 Fifth year music trip to Theale Grammar School. (Mr. Jones)
 Jan. 26 Film "Julius Caesar" at the New Coronet. (Mr. Good and English staff; 4th and 5th years)
 Feb. 11 Thamesfield School Leavers' Conference. (Mr. Williams and 12 boys)
 Feb. 18-28 Ski-ing party to Mont Dore, France. (Mr. Lewis and five boys)
 March 3 Stamp Exhibition, Royal Horticultural Hall. (Mr. Williams and stamp club)
 May 18 Museum & Art Gallery Form Outing. (Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Hart and 13, 15 boys)
 May 28 Visit to Royal Naval Dockyard, Portsmouth. (Mr. Such, Mr. Cox and 28 boys)
 June 3-11 Trip to Austria. (Mr. Caradoc-Evans, Mr. McDowell and 48 boys)
 June 15 Royal Tournament, Earls Court. (Mr. Williams and 12 boys)
 June 18 Sports Final Day.
 June 29 Cheddar Caves & City of Bath Excursion. (Mr. Cox, Mrs. Newman, Mr. Robinson and 50 boys)



school visits continued

Sept. 23 Film: "Oliver Twist"
 Sept. 27 Thamesfield School
 Sept. 28 Staff & School Gover
 Oct. 11 Film: "The Vanishin
 Oct. 15 Geographical visit to
 Nov. 2 C. S. E. English visit
 84 boys)
 Nov. 4 Stamp Exhibition, Se
 Nov. 6-20 Outdoor Pursuits Co
 Nov. 12 Film: "Tora, Tora,
 Nov. 18 Major Stanley's XV v
 Dec. 1 Trip to Turner's Con
 Dec. 8 Wembley: University
 Dec. 13 School Carol Service
 Dec. 17 Christmas Film: "Or

THE NEW ST. BIRIN

Buildings of themselves do not make powerful help in providing an atmosphere of the creative process of education. In the long last, a group of new buildings will work for the future. The architect has to have built, Science, Art and Technology and style will influence the imagination of pupils, who will people the new schools.

The Science block has been in use since the summer. A few weeks later the School will have over this new block and the adjoining Drama wing, by members of the staff and Governors to view the new buildings and only an opportunity to meet the new staff and Governors to meet the new

school visits continued

Sept. 23	Film: "Oliver Twist". (Senior School, C.S.E. English)
Sept. 27	Thamesfield School Leavers' Conference. (Mr. Williams and fifth years)
Sept. 28	Staff & School Governors' Tea; Opening of new extensions to the school.
Oct. 11	Film: "The Vanishing Prairie". (Science Department)
Oct. 15	Geographical visit to White Horse Hill. (Mr. Lewis and Form 12)
Nov. 2	C.S.E. English visit to Oxford Playhouse: "Julius Caesar". (Mr. Good, Mr. Day, Mr. Newton, Mr. Such and 84 boys)
Nov. 4	Stamp Exhibition, Seymour Hall. (Mr. Williams, Mr. Robinson and 40 boys)
Nov. 6-20	Outdoor Pursuits Course, Lakeside. (Mr. McDowell and 16 boys)
Nov. 12	Film: "Tora, Tora, Tora!" New Coronet Cinema. (Mr. Cox, Mr. Such and 60 boys)
Nov. 18	Major Stanley's XV versus British Lions. (Mr. Lewis, six staff and 75 boys)
Dec. 1	Trip to Turner's Court Agricultural Course. (Mr. Kirby, Mr. McDowell & small group of boys)
Dec. 8	Wembley: University Soccer Match, Oxford v. Cambridge. (Mr. Cox, Mr. Jones, Mr. Such and 49 boys)
Dec. 13	School Carol Service (1st, 2nd & 3rd years)
Dec. 17	Christmas Film: "Operation Crossbow".

THE NEW ST. BIRINUS.

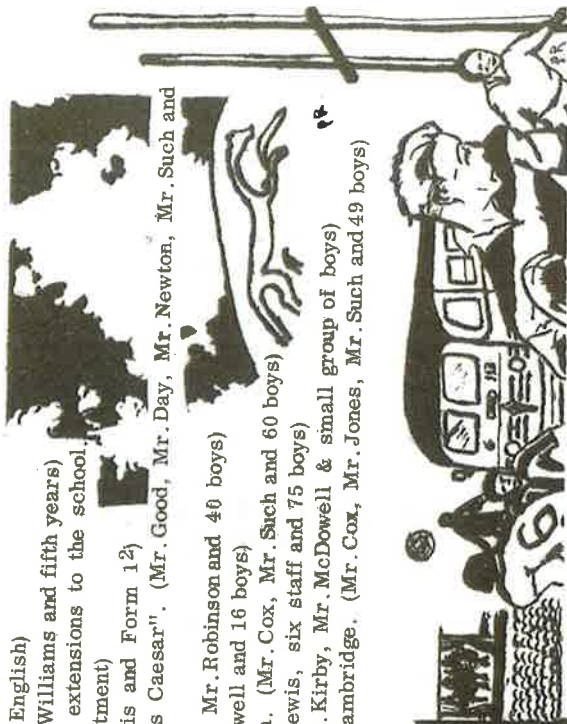
Buildings of themselves do not make a school but they can be a powerful help in providing an atmosphere which will encourage the creative process of education. St. Birinus has been given, at long last, a group of new buildings which provide a fine framework for the future. The architect has designed, and the contractors have built, Science, Art and Technical wings, whose shape and style will influence the imagination of those, both staff and pupils, who will people the new school.

The Science block has been in use since the beginning of September. A few weeks later the School Governors were shown over this new block and the adjoining, but then unfinished, Arts and Drama wing, by members of the school staff. This was not only an opportunity to view the new buildings but also an occasion for Staff and Governors to meet informally and discuss the school.

The school now has modern facilities which will enable it, in time, to provide boys with greater opportunity and choice than has been possible in the past. Among the additions are two lecture theatres which are not normally found outside a university. This is now a modern, adult school in keeping with a town of Didcot's size and potential.

St. Birinus, under the guidance of its new head, Mr. G.A. Evans, will have a profound influence on Didcot for the boys who attend the school will make the town thrive and prosper. The aim of all concerned is to make St. Birinus the best boys' school in Berkshire. Naturally, this will take time but it will be done.

N. Price (Chairman of the Governors)

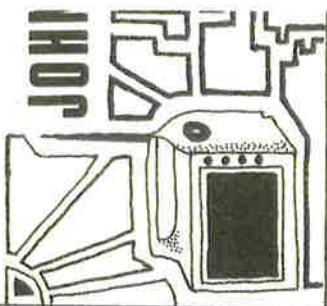


LIST OF STAFF 1972

1	Mr. G.A. Evans, B.A., M. Ed.	Headmaster
2	L. Barclay	Deputy Head
3	J.B. Barnard	
4	Mrs. G.L. Biernacka	
5	Mr. K. Betts	
6	S. Bryant	
7	R. Caradoc-Evans	
8	M.W. Cox	
9	P.G. Davies	
10	R.W. Day	
11	G.W. Dean, B.A.	
12	A.R. East	
13	R.G. Edwards, B.Sc.	
14	S.S. Good	
15	P.G. Grand	
16	Mrs. S.S. Hardwick, B.A.	
17	Mr. J.D. Hart	
18	J.B. Hawes	
19	Mrs. J. Heast	
20	Mr. B.L. Jones	
21	M.F. Kirby	
22	R.L. Lewis	
23	S.G. Litten	
24	R.N. McDowell	
25	Mrs. B.D. Newman	
26	Mr. R.F. Newton	
27	A. Nutt	
28	J. Pickett	
29	W.H.D. Robinson, B.A.	
30	U.J.D. Rose	
31	P. Such	
32	R.G. Turner, B.A.	
33	J.P. Tynan	
34	R. Williams, B.A., B.D.	



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COWLEY, OXFORD



SPORT 1970-71.



Soccer

Once again the U.16 XI reached the final of the North Berks Cup but were defeated 2-0. In the North Berks six-a-side the U.12's 'A' side won the Loser's Plate.

Area and County Representation

C. Baker, S. Beard, M. Burningham, A. Moore and K. Barlow all played for the North Berks U.15 XI in various matches. K. Barlow was selected for the County U.15 XI versus Wiltshire.

Results	P	W	L	D	F	A
U.16	17	11	6	0	48	32
U.15	5	2	2	1	24	17
U.14	16	13	3	0	75	24
U.13	15	6	5	4	61	51
U.12	12	8	3	1	58	30

Home Competition

Junior Winners	- Spartans
Senior Winners	- Spartans
Overall Winners	- Spartans
Staff v School	
2	- 1
1	- 6

During the summer break K. Barlow was chosen to attend, along with 20 or so other boys, the English Schools' soccer training/coaching course at Totnes, Devon.

Rugby

This year our rugby strength lay in the U.14 XV; this age group had proved to be the most successful of the soccer sides. The experiment of having only three rugby sides to allow for greater coaching time we felt to be worthwhile, and will now be permanent.

Results	P	W	L	D	F	A
U.16	8	3	4	1	70	115
U.14	10	8	1	1	309	91
U.13	5	2	3	0	58	66

House Competition

Junior Winners	- Athenians
Senior Winners	- Athenians
Overall Winners	- Athenians
Staff v School	

Basketball

The North Berks League (U.16) side was once again coached by Mr. M. Cox. Although not achieving a great deal of success, their persistence and enthusiasm brought them some reward.

	P	W	L	D	F	A
U.16	12	4	8	0	247	348

Staff v School	
54	29
22	18

House Competition

Junior Winners	- Spartans
Senior Winners	- Athenians
Overall Winners	- Spartans

County Championships

U.15	K. Ben
	K. Bar
	J. Hea

House Competition

Individual winners:

1st year	- J
2nd year	- D
3rd year	- K
4/5th year	- M

House winners:

1st year	- Sp
2nd year	- Sp
3rd year	- C
4/5th year	- T

Overall Winners:

Athletics

The weather was kinder to fitted as a result, with plenty matches and the North Berks number of athletic standards

House competition

Cullen Shield Winners	
House 100's	
House Standards	
A.A.A. Star Award	

North Berks Championships

Organised on an inter-school level, St. Birinus came 5th results were as follows:

Cross Country

North Berks Championships

There was some fine team running from our 3rd years and 5th years. Indeed the 3rd years won their race and our 5th years were 3rd. However, our 1st year team were not so well placed, possibly due to the much longer course they experienced than that at our school.

Best placed individual runners:

1st years	- K. Davies	11th
3rd years	- K. Bennett	3rd
5th years	- D. Stevens	11th

County Championships

U.15 K. Bennett - 20th
K. Barlow - 30th
J. Heapy - 27th (competed as a reserve)

House Competition

Individual winners:
1st year - J. McCabe
2nd year - D. Hutt
3rd year - K. Bennett
4/5th year - M. Burningham

House winners:

1st year - Spartans
2nd year - Spartans
3rd year - Corinthians
4/5th year - Trojans

Overall Winners: Spartans

Athletics

The weather was kinder to us this year and the athletics benefited as a result, with plenty of competition from inter-school matches and the North Berks Championships, and a record number of athletic standards being obtained in the school.

House competition

Cullen Shield Winners - Athenians
House 100's - Athenians
House Standards - Trojans
A.A.A. Star Award - 7 boys obtained awards

North Berks Championships

Organised on an inter-school basis the U.13, U.15 and U.17 level. St. Birinus came 5th overall out of 11 schools. The best results were as follows:

U.13 200m final - B. Glasgow - 1st
U.15 100m - P. Bushnell - 3rd
Triple Jump - J. Hurley - 1st
Discus - S. Hewett - 1st
Relay - St. Birinus - 3rd
U.17 Long Jump - D. Stevens - 3rd
Triple Jump - J. Bradley - 1st
Javelin - B. Chapman - 3rd

County Athletics Championships

J. Hurley represented North Berks. Area in the Triple Jump and came 2nd.

Tennis

This year the competition was run for club members only and 16 boys made up the entry. The boys were encouraged to organise and run the competition themselves.

Result: Runner up G. Hunt 3³
Winner N. Parsons 5th yr.

TUG OF WAR

House Results:

1st year - Spartans
2nd year - Corinthians
3rd year - Spartans
4/5th year - Spartans

Overall winners:

Staff v School
2 - 0

Table Tennis

The Junior and Senior sections of this club met regularly each week, under the guidance of Mr. Guthrie.

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Berkshire School Table Tennis Association

The county play-off for the National Team Championships was held in Reading. Our U.13's and U.15's were beaten in the semi-finals, and the U.19's narrowly defeated in the quarter-finals.

In the U.13's doubles D. Aries and G. Roberts received runners up medals.

St. Birinus	v	John Mason
U.13's	Won	8-1
U.15's	Won	7-2
U.19's	Won	8-1

The willing assistance and enthusiastic coaching for the table tennis club, given by Mr. and Mrs. Burton who visit the school on two evenings a week is very much appreciated, as is the help given by members of staff for all our games.

WATERWITCH CUP

This large cup is awarded to the House winning the greatest number of school competitions.

Winning House - Spartans

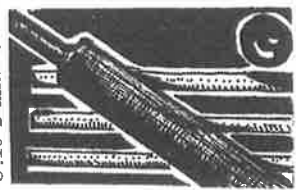
Cricket

Once again Mr. Cox and Mr. Jones coached the U.13's and U.16's respectively.

	P	W	L	D
U.16	5	0	4	1
U.13	5	5	0	0

House Competition

Junior Winners - Spartans
Senior Winners - Corinthians
Overall Winners - Spartans



In the Staff v School match the School managed a win by the odd run or two.

Softball

Although we find it very difficult to find any opposition on an inter-school basis it does not detract from this being one of the most popular and active sports in the school.

House Competition

Junior Winners - Corinthians
Senior Winners - Athenians
Overall Winners - Corinthians
Staff v School
22 + innings - 6pts.

Swimming

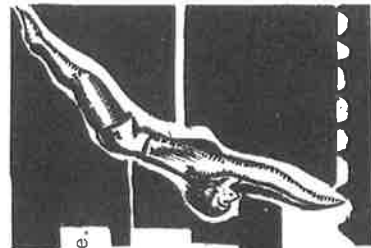
With the finer weather we were able to make fuller use of the Didcot Pool. In the House competition three records were broken, all in the Junior Section.

A. Beard in the front crawl.
S. Hughes in the breast stroke.
Trojan House in the relay.

Junior Winners - Spartans
Senior Winners - Trojans
Overall Winners - Trojans

Swimming Tests

Test 1 = 15 boys passed
Test 2 = 17 " "
Test 3 = 7 " "
Test 4 = 15 " "
54 (60) plus 6 part certificates



ACROSS

A