

# THE GEORGIAN

Amore et Labore

No. 183

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## BARROW HILLS

Four boys entered the school in January: Michael Adams, Hugh Bulford, Anthony Cooper and Rupert Stephens.

There was still a trace of snow when term began and this encouraged the optimists to bring back toboggans. Alas for their hopes! Although the rest of the country had snow in plenty none fell at Barrow Hills and the toboggans returned home at the end of term still unused. The term was not very old when a throat germ made its appearance and bedevilled us until the holidays. Most of the matches had to be cancelled and the outlook for the end-of-term play was none too bright.

The Headmaster's feast day on February 11th was celebrated with great gusto both in the chapel and in the refectory. In the evening we had the film 'A Tale of Two Cities'. The boys took the horrors of the guillotine quite cheerfully, and I was not surprised next day to see model guillotines cutting off the heads of jelly babies, all to the accompaniment of youthful shouts of ghoulish glee. Such is the happy insouciance of the young.

On the evening of February 25th we had an illustrated lecture on the African missions by Fr A. Smith, W.F. This was a special thrill for those boys whose parents are stationed in various parts of Africa and who were familiar with many of the scenes shown on the screen.

A new outdoor craze consists of skating in the little courtyard near the changing room. Apart from bringing pleasure to the skaters it develops the traffic sense of the others as it is imperative to look to right and left when crossing the courtyard during recreations. The indoor craze is the making of models of aeroplanes, ships, cars and historical characters. The results are excellent but one has to remember that most of the models are ready-made in plastic and just need assembling and painting. However, there are still some craftsmen who scorn the plastic kits and make models entirely by their own efforts.

Half term brought a mishap when one of the parents caught one of the gateposts with the side of her car. For us, at least, it was a blessing in disguise as we had often thought of replacing the gates, which were very narrow and far from attractive. Now we had to do something about it. The task fell to our

very capable head gardener, Mr Roshier, who constructed two imposing posts, surmounted by lions, with stone taken from elsewhere in the property.

Some of the sunny days of March inspired amateur gardeners and soon small plots were being dug and seeded in the hope of producing a crop of flowers and vegetables in the summer term.

The end of term was taken up in preparations for the Upper School play, which is reviewed below by a visitor. The production was in the very capable hands of Frs Francis and Aidan, helped by the nimble needles of Miss Newman and Miss Alexander. They must all have felt well rewarded, for their efforts produced a truly splendid result.

When the holidays arrived we were sorry to have to say goodbye to Miss Margaret Alexander, who is leaving us to marry Flight Lieutenant D. Scouler. Miss Alexander has been with us for four years, ever since she left training college, and she has been in charge of Form 1. We shall all miss a most capable and devoted teacher and a charming and helpful colleague. I should like to thank her most sincerely for all that she has done at Barrow Hills and wish her every blessing and happiness. She will be replaced by Miss Ann Bennett, whom we are most happy to welcome to Barrow Hills.

L.B.J.

## UPPER SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT

March 12th and 13th

SCENES FROM '1066 AND ALL THAT'

The Hall of Fame	Beards
Saints	Queen Elizabeth
Alfred the Grate	Police Court
1066	Williamammary
The Crusaders	Napoleonic Wars
King John	The Sailor King
Bruce and the Spider	The Victorian Age
Henry VIII	The Hall of Fame
Compères RICHARD MASCALL, CHRISTOPHER HOPKINS	
Guide .. .. .	PATRICK TAYLOR
Wife .. .. .	CHRISTOPHER BARKER
Boy .. .. .	GAVIN CARROLL
Common Man .. .. .	CHRISTOPHER SIMPSON
Julius Caesar .. .. .	CHRISTOPHER MARTIN
St Patrick .. .. .	MICHAEL STANDING
St Pancras .. .. .	IAN HAMMOND
St Ives .. .. .	CHARLES ILLING
Fairy .. .. .	ANTHONY D'EON
Sister .. .. .	JULIAN HARBORD
Sister .. .. .	DAVID ROSSI

<i>Baron</i> .. ..	BRIAN WOOTTON-WOOLLEY
<i>Baroness</i> .. ..	PETER RAMBRIDGE
<i>Alfred</i> .. ..	DENIS MCKAY
<i>William I</i> .. ..	JOHN PIKE
<i>Matilda</i> .. ..	ANDREW ECKFORD
<i>Baron</i> .. ..	MALCOLM STACY
<i>Crusader's Wife</i> .. ..	MICHAEL CASSIDY
<i>Lady</i> .. ..	ANDREW COLLINS
<i>Lady</i> .. ..	DAVID VASSALLO
<i>Troubadour</i> .. ..	JOHN BEEDHAM
<i>King John</i> .. ..	DAVID PIKE
<i>Bruce</i> .. ..	MICHAEL ADAMS
<i>Henry VIII</i> .. ..	MICHAEL ROWLATT
<i>Catherine of Aragon</i> .. ..	PETER SHIELDS
<i>Anne Boleyn</i> .. ..	VINCENT THOMPSON
<i>Jane Seymour</i> .. ..	MARK BISHOP
<i>Anne of Cleves</i> .. ..	SIMON KOLESAR
<i>Catherine Howard</i> .. ..	PETER OLLIVERE
<i>Catherine Parr</i> .. ..	MARTIN KNOPS
<i>Monks</i> .. ..	MICHAEL STANDING, IAN HAMMOND, CHARLES ILLING
<i>Drake</i> .. ..	RICHARD DOWDEN
<i>Raleigh</i> .. ..	NICHOLAS CRISELL
<i>Essex</i> .. ..	KIERAN MAY
<i>Halberdier</i> .. ..	PATRICK HALL
<i>Barbers</i> .. ..	THOMAS PROULX, GORDON COOPER, ANDREW ECKFORD
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i> .. ..	DAVID RANDALL
<i>Maid</i> .. ..	KEVIN O'SULLIVAN
<i>Sister</i> .. ..	PETER RAMBRIDGE
<i>Girl</i> .. ..	RUPERT STEPHENS
<i>Magistrate</i> .. ..	PETER CURZON
<i>Policeman</i> .. ..	JOHN MATTA
<i>Christopher Columbus</i> .. ..	THOMAS PROULX
<i>Guy Fawkes</i> .. ..	TIMOTHY VISICK
<i>William of Orange</i> .. ..	STEPHEN MEE
<i>Queen Mary</i> .. ..	PETER SCAMMELL
<i>Marlborough</i> .. ..	CHRISTOPHER MARTIN
<i>Napoleon</i> .. ..	PAUL WRIGHT
<i>Wellington</i> .. ..	DAVID RONALD
<i>Nelson</i> .. ..	TERENCE CALNAN
<i>William IV</i> .. ..	KIERAN MAY
<i>Colonel Bygadsby</i> .. ..	GORDON COOPER
<i>Mrs Bygadsby</i> .. ..	CHRISTOPHER O'GRADY
<i>Mr Rafflin</i> .. ..	JOHN BENNETT
<i>Soldier</i> .. ..	TIMOTHY STEADMAN

This jovial entertainment by Forms Three and Four sparkled from start to finish. The note of success was struck at the very beginning by the compères, who strode confidently on in full evening dress—tails, top hats and all. They were not satisfied with being clear and efficient: each had his own style, and the contrast between Hopkins's dignified seriousness and Mascall's breezy manner was a delight in itself.

The first scene, in the Hall of Fame, opened with the sort of tableau which one would normally expect at the end, with all the characters grouped as wax-works. The colourful costumes drew instant applause, though one would like to think that some of this was for the actors themselves, who kept their rigid pose in a way I should have thought next to impossible for small boys. Then the live characters came on. Taylor, as the Guide,

set a standard of clear, leisurely speech which was to be general throughout the evening; he also set the cast the good example of waiting for the audience to finish laughing, and everyone with any experience of training young actors knows what a hard virtue this is to teach. The Common Man (Simpson) now took over, showing from his first words that self possession and mastery of the stage which were to make him the star of the play. How he enjoyed his part! And how we enjoyed listening to him!

Singling out scenes for comment is a stiff task. No sooner have I written that 'The Crusaders' was notably vigorous, thanks largely to Cassidy's energy and verve, than I remember how I was struck in earlier scenes by D'Eon's charm as the Fairy and Pike's whole-hearted acting as William I. The musical chairs in 'Henry VIII' made a most amusing turn, with Thompson (Anne Boleyn) outstanding among the unfortunate wives.

'Beards' was also first-rate. Praise is due to Dowden and Crisell for the way in which they kept the interest in their parts alive though condemned by the script to remain stationary all the time. Cooper, as one of the barbers, had little to say, but his eyes were as eloquent as any words could have been. Then on my programme, against the title 'Police Court', I see a scribbled note: 'Excellent all through, particularly Christopher Columbus (Proulx)'.

Less dramatic, though every bit as enjoyable, was 'Napoleonic Wars', with Wright, Calnan and Ronald, backed up by the inevitable Simpson, as the heroes of the period. It was only doggerel, but what joy there was in its delivery, and what delightful cadence of the voices!

India in the days of the Empire was the setting of the final sketch. As the colonel, Cooper once again used his eyes to good effect, his air of authority contrasting well with the perkiness of Bennett as a green subaltern. O'Grady made a dignified mem-sahib, cool and restrained except when he slapped Bennett's face so fiercely as to raise the suspicion that the producer had told him: 'You must do it gently at rehearsals, of course, but you can really let fly on the night.' A momentary return to the Hall of Fame followed, and the entertainment was over.

And a very good one, too: quite as good as the Lower School performance of 'Pinocchio' three months earlier. In some ways '1066 and All That' was more of a party than a play:

all through you felt that the actors were exchanging jokes of their own which the audience was privileged to share. All who took part, as well as the producers (Frs Francis and Aidan), are to be congratulated and thanked.

As usual, the last word must be about the wardrobe. Parents had been generous in

handing out dresses and material, but it is still true that an enormous amount of dress making had to be done: nearly sixty costumes in fact. Even Fr Francis was roped in for this job, but the bulk of the work fell on Miss Alexander and Miss Newman, who kept up the dazzling standard we have now come to expect from them.



**'KING JOHN'**

M. STACY, D. PIKE, B. WOOTTON-WOOLLEY, C. SIMPSON



**'THE VICTORIAN AGE'**

G. COOPER, C. O'GRADY, J. BENNETT, T. STEADMAN



# BARROW HILLS

*Above : HOBBIES PERIOD*

*Right : MR H. TAYLOR, A.R.C.O.*