

castellum

THE MAGAZINE OF THE DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

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DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

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* Communications for the Secretary/Treasurer which are not private should be sent to him c/o the College Office, University College, Durham Castle, where formal matters receive attention.

THE MASTER'S LETTER

THIS letter may seem somewhat different. It is not from the Master but from the former Master: it is written not during the Long Vacation but in the succeeding term—by someone no longer in daily touch with the College, able to consult records and papers relating to the past year, or fully informed about plans for the future and progress in achieving them. It is the twentieth letter I have written I believe and the last of its kind so far as I am concerned. In bidding welcome to the Master of the College, Dr. D. W. MacDowall, I hail him also as our new Chairman and invite him to take over the writing of subsequent letters as part of his wider responsibilities for running the College.

I think I left the College in good heart and shape although it would be better with a pair of new wings—preferably between Saddler Street and the Keep mound, in other words on Sutton Site. But it will be up to strength and size and its composition is normal. The accounts are well and truly in the red but this too is pretty well normal for University College. The Master's House still stands, but only just, and it needs major overhaul, remodelling and indeed sub-division to make a small separate flat as well as a Master's House appropriate for the present time. This work will take a year or so and in the meantime the Master, Mrs. MacDowall and their two young daughters are living in the ground-floor flat of Cosin's Hall, recently inhabited by Dr. and Mrs. Rhodes. This was the last session as Lowe Librarian of Dr. Peter Rhodes who, for six years, has served College members so well by improving Library facilities despite limitations both of space and spending money. He and his wife Jan decided they must purchase their own house and Peter, characteristically logical, determined that the Librarian's responsibility must therefore vest in someone else who was resident in College and on the spot. I was glad when Duncan Bythell agreed to combine the Lowe Librarianship henceforward with his Tutorship—at any rate for a year or two. Our new Chaplain, the Reverend Alan H. Nugent, was made welcome during the year and Chapel activities evidently continued as fully as ever, likewise the frequency of visitors to his house at the foot of Dun Cow Lane. John Lumsden decided during the session he must move to his own residence outside College although I was very pleased when he agreed not only to continue as Treasurer of the Committee of Captains but to become a College Tutor. The "state of the market" for houses has clearly caused a number of dons to decide they could not afford any longer to postpone purchasing property. Dr. Clive Preece, for example, left College for a house in Shincliffe although not merely continuing his Tutorship but consenting to take on a longer list.

1972-73 was the year of D.S.U.'s "Rent Strike" in which University College declined to join. Opinion in our J.C.R. was not unanimous—who would expect it—but a majority decided that withholding fees from the College was *not* an appropriate method of demonstrating to the Department of Education and Science that student grants had not kept pace with rising costs. Since the Government had admitted as much in a Parliamentary answer this point really did not need making. Junior Common Room evidently was unwilling to deprive the College of the means of providing for them. It was bound to be at the expense of something or someone and they were unwilling that the sufferers should be their successors in College. Governing Body very much approved of the responsible attitude of Junior Common Room in this matter and officially asked Council to bring the attitude to the attention of the Department of Education and Science while stressing the real need for higher grants so that students could afford to pay the higher fees which increased costs demanded, if College accounts were to have any chance of balancing. A distinctive feature of the past year has been the investigation, consideration and reconsideration of this problem of the finances of the Durham Colleges. The question is what ought to be done about the differences between Colleges able to pay their way—more or less—on the modestly increased standard Maintenance Fees and the other Colleges, like University College, charging the same fees but quite unavoidably going further and further into debt and unable to make any provision, by way of a sinking fund, for the renewal of plant, fixtures and premises, inevitably deteriorating. The Committee of College Bursars first stressed the fundamental nature of the difficulty and, in consequence, the problem was specially studied by the same O. & M. team which some years ago studied our College finances with particular reference to Lumley Castle. The same problem was investigated by a Council Committee and reports from all these bodies were referred to the University Council. Eventually—as might be expected—a compromise was reached, measures designed to help Colleges in the weakest position financially, by taking some contributions from those Colleges whose budgets seemed healthier, as well as from the central University budget, this last necessarily within the constraint of rules for subsidies set by the U.G.C. It was remarkable how little the richer Colleges objected to contributing towards the poorer, a tribute to the spirit of accord between Council Colleges. It cannot be pleasant or comfortable for a College Bursar and his staff, striving to increase extra earnings by working harder in term and vacation, to think of some of the benefits being used to help weaker brethren in other Colleges, always with the thought at the back of their minds "I wonder if they are working as hard as we are, to better themselves?". Incentives under such an arrangement are by no means obvious. What is obvious is the need to improve "the plant" and

invest capital to equate the earning capacities of the less viable Colleges with those of other Colleges who are meanwhile contributing to their budgets. So we come round again to the point that building projects such as Sutton Site contribute to the Durham Colleges and University as a whole and not merely to individual College budgets.

But ever-rising costs of building mean that all our plans for the College become ever harder to implement despite some success in obtaining grants for the Sutton Site scheme—£25,400 from the Wolfson Fund and £28,860 from the Department of the Environment. The Appeal Fund too will amount to more than £8,000: surely with a bit of a shove our members can push it over the £10,000 mark?

What else has been planned or achieved in College? Three Music Practice Rooms beneath the front of D. Stairs, Bailey Court, have been much used but cause disturbance to nearby residents and must be better sound-insulated to be satisfactory. All our Baker rifles have now been put on display in the Hall in new and bigger racks and an impressive array they make. The dais in the Hall for High Table, part of the larger platform used annually for Congregation, was retained experimentally for a term and its continued use later agreed. It is certainly not intended to indicate hierarchy but it does improve the appearance of the Hall from both ends in the opinion of most, and it undoubtedly found favour with all organisers of functions and entertainments, whether in vacations or not. A new public address system and amplifiers in the Hall have also improved facilities for all kinds of functions, particularly dinners involving speeches. The project for making Lower Tunstal Gallery a foyer entrance to the foot of the Black Staircase is drawn in detail and approved in principle to a financial limit. Implementation awaits agreement with the Cathedral Chapter that they should pay for the cost of replacing the Buttery doors with those taken from Lower Tunstal. It seems a pity if such a side issue postpones the whole project.

Relations between Junior and Senior Common Rooms continued cordial, a College Dinner with High Table members dispersed throughout the Hall having seemingly become established as a regular feature each term. Joint Consultative Committee meetings continue to be both enjoyable and useful, and the members of Junior Common Room on Governing Body, seemingly entirely confident, contribute increasingly to College governance. Again, I express thanks for the help given to the Master by J.C.R. officers, particularly the Senior Man, Secretary and the Treasurer, whose relationship with College officers generally was effective in its informality.

Mr. Sanderson, very successful as Caterer for three years, left College in the Long Vacation to manage a hotel in Bournemouth.

A brief look at events outside College. Collingwood College was almost finished in time for the start of the new session: its members could be admitted, housed and fed although the Hall and domestic staff quarters were not ready. Trevelyan has a new separate building—a multi-purpose Hall to add to its amenities. There are some additional new buildings for the Departments of Extra-Mural Studies, Education, Mathematics and Physics. The die seems finally cast to build a large unitary University Library near the present Science Library, although the Palace Green Library will continue to hold the rare and old books and the collections of those Departments still in the Palace Green area—Theology, Classics, History, Music, Law and Archaeology. Theology is now established in a re-modelled Abbey House and Cottage. Hatfield has 20 additional places in three houses in Church Street at the end of Kingsgate Bridge. A large new teaching block for Social Sciences and some language Departments is now being built between Elvet Riverside I and Dunelm House which will greatly change the appearance of New Elvet.

There are developments not only in the University but the City too: a multi-storey car park behind Doggarts; a new bridge between Elvet and Baths bridges and a large shopping centre development in Milburngate. So Durham changes, to the dissatisfaction of some but in my opinion the City is being improved for the most part and I am glad to continue to live in it.

My impending retirement was most generously marked by the College. At a farewell dinner for the whole College—apart from speeches too kind in their references to me—I was presented with a magnificent travel valise and also told that there was, in addition, a substantial contribution towards a fund to pay for a portrait of me. At another buffet party for members of S.C.R. and their guests I was informed that there were more contributions for this purpose and after more speeches—the main one from the Public Orator no less!—I was presented with a beautiful mahogany desk with an inscribed commemorative tablet—something else to treasure for the rest of my days. I am very grateful to the Society too for the contribution towards the portrait. The sittings have been completed and I have given to the artist, Mr. Robert Swan, a gilt frame for the portrait which he likes. All I can say is that it looks like me and if you don't like it—you asked for it! He is also making a chalk drawing corresponding with the portrait and for this too I thank all concerned on behalf of my family, the ultimate recipients, who are most appreciative. Seriously, I have appreciated more than I can say the great generosity of members of College, Society and University, shown by the manner and extent of their marking of my retirement.

I left with thankfulness for having been privileged to head this great College and Society for twenty years, counting myself a fortunate man

indeed in this. My wife and I will not be leaving Durham and I shall ask the Editor to print my new address in the magazine in the hope that many readers will keep in touch with us—your welcome is assured. I look forward to seeing many of you at Castlemen's Reunions too. I wish Dr. David MacDowall every success and to him, his wife and family, the same happy satisfaction I, my wife and family have enjoyed for so long in the vicinity of this incomparable site beside Palace Green. To the College and Society, past, present and future members, long may you flourish.

L. SLATER

THE NEW MASTER

(An extract from the *Durham University Gazette*)

Dr. D. W. MacDowall was appointed Master of University College from 1 September, 1973.

Dr. MacDowall is 43 years old and married. He Graduated from Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in 1949 with Second Class Honours in Classical Moderations and Literae Humaniores. After National Service he returned to Oxford to work for the degree of D.Phil., spending part of his time as a research student at the British School at Rome. Dr. MacDowall's career has been in the Civil Service, which he joined in 1955 with a post in the Ministry of Works. A year later he became an Assistant Keeper in the Department of Coins and Medals in the British Museum. In 1960 he transferred to the Ministry of Education, first in the Architects and Buildings Branch and then, for a year, with the Schools Council, concerned with school examinations. Since 1965 Dr. MacDowall has been very much concerned with higher education, first in the U.G.C. Capital Division, then in the D.E.S., where he was concerned with highly qualified manpower and higher education planning. Since 1970 he has been the Assistant Secretary at the U.G.C., concerned in the Capital Division with the planning and programming of university development. In addition, Dr. MacDowall has been concerned with industrialised buildings and school buildings, Civil Service Selection Boards and, more recently, the creation of the British Institute of Afghan Studies in Kabul.

During his career, Dr. MacDowall has developed his research in the field of numismatics. He has been a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society since 1952 and, amongst other learned bodies, he is a member of the Royal Asiatic Society and the Society of Antiquaries. He is at present the Treasurer of the Royal Numismatic Society and the Secretary of the Society for Afghan Studies. He is currently preparing for publication the pre-Islamic coin collections of the museums of Herat, Kandahar and Mazar-i-Sharif and some of the sections of the National Museum, Kabul. Dr. MacDowall has written some thirty papers on his numismatic research.

TUNSTAL CHAPEL KNEELERS

The final batch of 20 kneelers was dedicated at a Special Choral Evensong on 20th June 1973, by the new Bishop of Durham, the Right Reverend John Habgood, and the service was conducted by the Chaplain, The Reverend Alan Nugent. This brought the number of individual kneelers to 69—the target was 65, and I am extremely grateful to all the embroiderers who worked so hard to achieve this, before the retirement of my husband at the end of September 1973.

Invitations to the Service were sent to everyone who had participated in the scheme, to addresses all over the world. Although most of them were unable to attend, the response from several living some distance from Durham was wonderful—Mr. & Mrs. R. D. McKenzie from Derby, Miss Swain (Morecambe) and Mrs. Beckwith (Colne) were among those who travelled the farthest. Mrs. D. Woodward (Doncaster) paid a visit shortly before the Dedication.

The Chapel was quite full—over 80 attending, including the Staff of the College and a mixed choir, who sang beautifully.

Mr. Bill Gray, the College handyman for over 30 years and who made nearly all the wooden oak bases did manage to attend this Service. He was very ill, and I feel that the wonderful work he has done will be commemorated in these kneelers. Wives, mothers, friends and several old Castlemen attended and gave thanks for a completed project, which has added so much to the beauty of the Chapel.

After the Service, sherry was served in the Senate Rooms and the Master and Mrs. Slater met all who had come to the Dedication.

A complete list of names of embroiderers follows, showing the number each has worked. There are now 2 Parkin pews, and 2 Swain & Beckwith (or Darwin) pews. Mrs. Parkin has worked 12 kneelers, Miss Swain 10 and Mrs. Beckwith 2. A coloured photograph was taken by Mr. Harold Alderson, of all the kneelers, Sanctuary Hassocks & Communion kneelers, arranged in front of the Altar, covered with the cloths edged with crochet lace worked by Mrs. Cranston. The pedestal of flowers was arranged by Mrs. Slater, picking out the colours in the kneelers.

A chart was also made of the kneelers with the names of the embroiderers, so that each can pick out their kneeler(s). It is doubtful if this can be duplicated.

A special book, bought with a donation from an embroiderer, with all the names will be inscribed, and will be available to anyone who asks to see it. This will not be completed for some time as the person first asked to

do it only spent a few weeks in Durham, instead of a year. Mrs. Peter Rhodes has now consented to take on the task but will only be able to do it at her leisure as she works full-time in the Library.

Finally my own and the Master's most sincere thanks go to all who have helped. *Nunc Dimittus.*

PAT SLATER

Name of Embroiderer and No. Of Kneelers

Mrs. J. Allen, London (J. E. Allen 1952-59) 1; Mrs. A. R. Andrew, London (R. C. Andrew 1965-68) 1; Mrs. F. D. Barnes, Cleadon (F. D. Barnes 1953-58) 1; Mrs. H. N. Baynes, Hertford (H. N. Baynes 1949-54) 1; Mrs. E. Beckwith, Colne (K. Darwin 1940-42 & 1946-48) 2; Mrs. G. R. Berriman, South Shields (Canon G. R. Berriman 1937-41) and Mrs. F. D. Barnes 1; Mrs. J. T. Brockbank, Durham (J. T. Brockbank, Clerk to the County Council, Durham) 1; Miss E. Church (U.G.C.) London & Mrs. L. Slater 1; Mrs. J. S. Cliffe, Bebington (M. J. Cliffe 1964-67) 2; Mrs. E. Collier, Leeds (T. Collier 1957-60) 1; Dr. W. R. A. Easthope, Hayling Island (W. R. A. Easthope 1922-26) 1; Mrs. B. H. Goodwins, Norwich (Rev. B. M. Goodwins 1920-23) in memory of the Reverend John Hamilton 1920-23, Senior man 1923) 1; Mrs. C. R. Grice, Australia (C. R. Grice 1961-64) 1; Mr. & Mrs. G. T. Halstead, Sunderland (G. T. Halstead 1928-32) 1; Mrs. J. Jarvis, Rotherham (I. B. Jarvis 1965-68) 1; In memory of Mrs. Edgar Jones (Edgar Jones 1948-51) Mrs. B. Todd, Durham 1; Mrs. P. T. Lynas, Durham 1; Mrs. R. D. McKenzie, Derbyshire (R. D. McKenzie 1945-46 & 1948-51) 1; Mr. C. J. Micklethwaite, Bradford (C. J. Micklethwaite 1959-63) 1; Mrs. C. J. Micklethwaite, Bradford (C. J. Micklethwaite 1959-63) 1; Mrs. I. H. Nicholson, Australia (I. H. Nicholson 1950-54) 2; Mrs. D. O'Connor, Delhi & St. Andrews (Rev. D. O'Connor 1951-54) 2; Mrs. B. W. Pace, Quito, Ecuador (B. W. Pace 1949-53) 2; Mrs. T. Parkin, Low Fell (D. T. Parkin 1961-64) 12; Mrs. K. Polley, Wolverhampton (J. M. Mallin 1966-70) 2; Mrs. W. A. Prowse, Brancepeth, Durham (W. A. Prowse 1929-31) 1; Mr. A. P. Puckering (Chief Constable of Durham) 1; Mrs. G. Radcliffe, U.S.A. (M. J. Cliffe 1964-67) 1; Mrs. D. Schapiro, London (J. C. N. Slater) 1; Mrs. L. Slater, Durham (L. Slater, Master 1953-73) 1; Miss A. Swain, Morecambe (K. Darwin 1940-42 & 1946-48) 10; Mrs. J. D. Thackwray, Kent (J. D. Thackwray 1950-53) 1; Mrs. M. Thompson, South Shields (Canon F. S. M. Chase 1934-38) 2; Mrs. B. Todd, Durham 5; Miss A. Wilson, Darlington (Rev. P. G. C. Brett, Chaplain 1966-72) 1; Mrs. D. Woodward, Doncaster (E. D. Woodward 1960-63) 3; —Total 69.

Communion Kneelers Mrs. Barker, Miss Couratin, Miss Henderson, Mrs. Patterson (deceased), Mrs. Slater, Mrs. Wagstaff, Miss Yeoman (T. R. Yeoman 1919-22) and Mr. Vernon Ferens.

Sanctuary Hassocks Mrs. Slater and Miss Patrickson and Mrs. D. Woodward.

Bill Gray

One of the longest serving and devoted members of the College Staff died on 18th December 1973 at the age of 65.

His last illness began only in the latter part of the Long Vacation but after that his deterioration was painfully clear. For unremitting service, often beyond the call of duty, Bill deserved a long and happy retirement, due to begin whenever he chose. Alas it was not to be—a poignant disappointment to anyone who knew and appreciated how well he had served the College and generations of Castlemen as well as Dons and their families if they resided near Palace Green. At all sorts of hours of day and night, weekday and weekend alike, Bill Gray was liable to be appealed to for help. He was always willing to do the best he could: he never declined because he was off duty. No man could have watched the clock or the almanack less to ensure that he got his due time off. The variety of his capabilities and the many capacities in which he had worked for the College and University was enormous: gardens, grounds, boilers, Assembly Rooms caretaking, repairs and maintenance in every conceivable situation, operating the telephone, manning the Lodge, serving at bars or at table—name an activity around Palace Green and Bill Gray at some time or in some emergency or other had played his part and done what he could to help. His hobbies too showed amazing diversity. His colour slides of the Durham he loved, shown to an accompanying musical programme on his tape-recorder, were in great demand in many local clubs and institutes. He was always busy with metalwork or woodwork or maintaining cars.

He will be greatly missed: the College and University is the poorer for his death. It is tragic he has not been permitted to use his versatility in a richly earned retirement. To his widow and family one can only offer sympathy and for this I should like to quote from a moving tribute paid by the College Chaplain, Alan Nugent, to Bill Gray at the funeral service he conducted in St. Oswald's Church on Friday, 21st December:—

“On behalf of this large congregation may I offer to Mrs. Gray and to her family our deep sympathy in her loss;—a loss which did not just happen last Tuesday; but one which has been coming through several

months of painful illness; thus making it all the more tragic and hard to bear. We offer her our sympathy, and the support of our prayers.

This congregation consists of members of the staff of this University: members of the academic staff, the administrative staff and the domestic staff of University College,—all come to show their respect and admiration for one who served this University of Durham and most particularly the Castle for over 25 years.”

Bill Gray was held in respect, in honour and not a little awe by generations of Castlemen. He was a source of help, whenever help was needed. No matter how difficult the job; no matter what time of day or night Bill would do his best to put anything right that was faulty or broken. We respect the memory of a fine man today; a man who did not spare himself in the service of others.”

L. SLATER

ALAN J. FLINT, Secretary of the J.C.R. during 1957-58, died in a boating accident on the River Thames on 6th October, 1973.

DURHAM UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

The Annual Dinner of the Society was held at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington, on Friday, 30 October. Fifty members and their guests, heard short addresses by the two chief guests, Professor Sir Brian Windeyer, formerly Dean of the Middlesex Hospital Medical School and Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, and Mr. Leonard Slater. Sir Brian reminisced on the many valuable connections between the Universities of Durham and London, and Mr. Slater not only informed members of recent changes in Durham, but also entertained them with some memories of his years as Master at The Castle.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday, 15 November at the Senate House, University of London. As the President, Professor Alan Woodruff had indicated that he wished to retire from his post, it was agreed that he should be made President Emeritus of the Society. Sir Kingsley Dunham was elected to succeed him.

REUNION 1973

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AT the 27th Annual General Meeting of the Society held in the Undercroft on 28 April, with the Master presiding, the Secretary-Treasurer reported a better year. The cost of *Castellum* had been held steady, and the increased Reunion charges and members responding to the 50p charge for *Castellum* had improved income. It had proved possible to carry forward a balance of £297, in addition to £161 remaining in the building society. However, the first year of the new arrangements might not be a true reflection of the new position and considerable care was needed still with the finances.

On the recommendation of the Committee it was agreed that the Reunion charge next year should be increased to £3·50 (Dinner only, £2, students in residence £1), but still primarily with the aim of covering expenses only. The usual gratuity for the College staff was agreed.

Reporting on the University College Appeal (Sutton Site) the Bursar said the number of covenants was now 102, which together with donations and interest meant that some £7,600 was raised or committed.

The meeting unanimously agreed to send a telegram from the meeting congratulating Harold Evans (1949-52), Editor of the *Sunday Times*, on his being chosen as "Journalist of the Year".

Steps to give J.C.R. members more information about the Society were discussed. It was reported that the J.C.R. might be changing its policy on deductions from battels (e.g. dance levies) and this could affect the method by which *Castellum* subscriptions were collected.

Election of Officers

Mr. Jack Spedding was re-elected as Secretary-Treasurer and Mr. Derek Holbrook as Editor of *Castellum*. Mr. Keith Orrell was re-elected as the Society's representative on the College Governing Body. Professor P. L. Kirby and Mr. J. D. Thackwray retired from the Committee and were replaced by Mr. Covington and Mr. Wakeling. The date of the next Reunion Dinner was agreed as Saturday, 20 April, 1974.

The Master told the members that the successor as Master of the College would be Dr. W. MacDowall. The Rev. V. R. Hill proposed the thanks of the meeting for the Master's chairmanship. Mr. R. A. Easthope proposed that it be recorded in the minutes that the meeting wished to express its appreciation at all that Len Slater had done for Durham

University and for University College and for the Durham Castlemen's Society during his time in Durham. This proposal was supported with acclamation.

REUNION DINNER

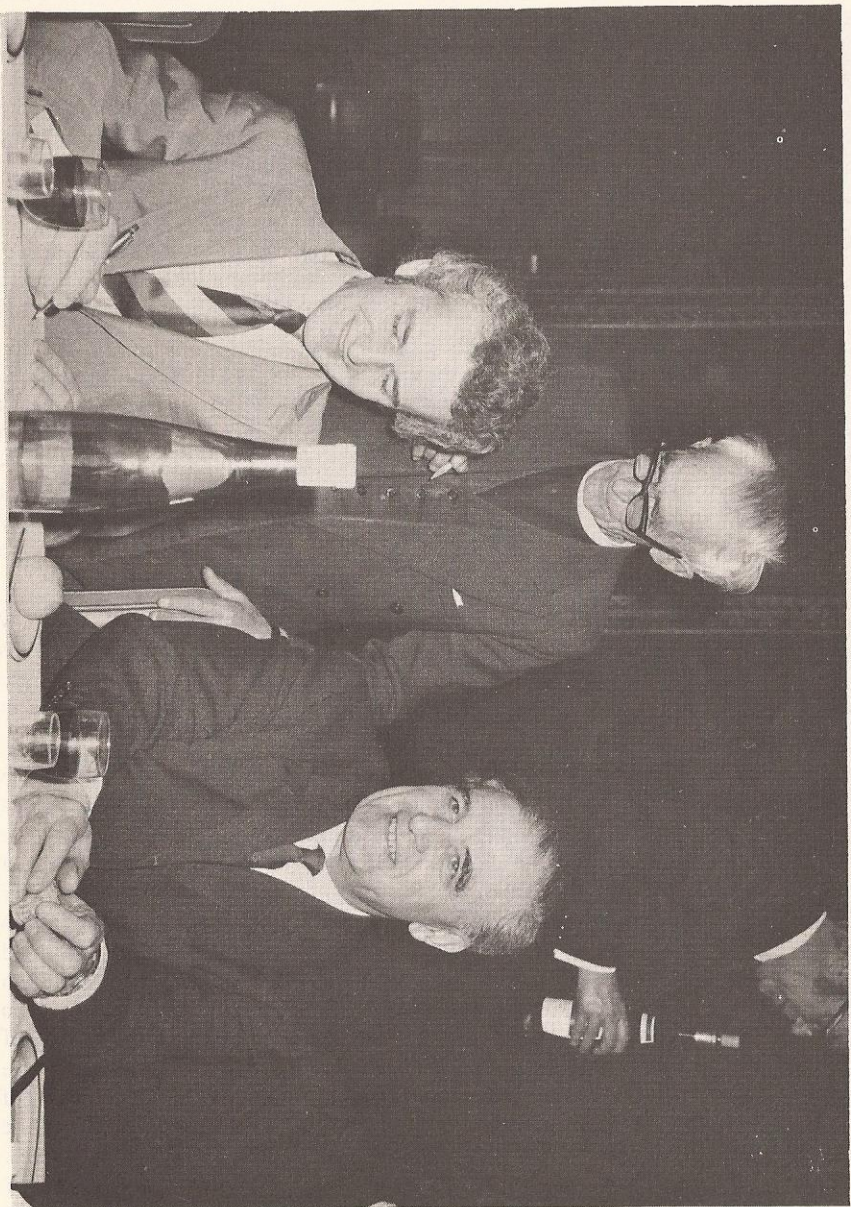
At the Annual Reunion Dinner the Toast to the College was proposed by Derek Holbrook and Len Slater responded. These relatively sober proceedings were interrupted by a consortium led forcefully by Reverend V. R. Hill and including the Reverend S. E. Crouch and the Reverend B. M. Goodwins who took the opportunity to make a presentation to Reg Easthope and generally to display their histrionic talents as an addition to the occasion of Len Slater's last Reunion in the Master's chair. (See picture).

Editor's Note:

(Normally from the Reunion Dinner I report briefly the remarks made in proposing the Toast, made up of such notes as I can make in whatever state that point of the dinner finds me. This time I am able to give a full speech, because I made it myself, and because, not trusting my condition at the time, I prepared it more or less in full, and with an eye to Castellum as well. I would not wish however anyone to think that I give it in full here because I thought it anything special as a speech. Often I have asked speakers to let me have a text, or to write up their speech afterwards, because they have said exactly the things that I would wish to put in the magazine. I put my own in therefore simply to make the maximum use of what I did prepare and say. I will happily receive a text from any future speaker).

It gives me a lot of satisfaction, and a sense of appropriateness, tonight to have this chance to propose the Toast. It is Len Slater's last re-union in his official position. Very nearly, his official connection with University College began almost exactly at the same time as I became an undergraduate. He beat me in fact by a year. I joined as an undergraduate in 1948, when he was already Vice Master of the College and in charge of things at Lumley, having already survived one year under that onerous duty—more onerous as Lumley I would think than as Vice Master.

I frequently wonder about the Master's criteria for his choice of a proposer of a Toast at these Reunion Dinners. In a sense we are an army of old Castlemen marching towards our graves, and the Master has to



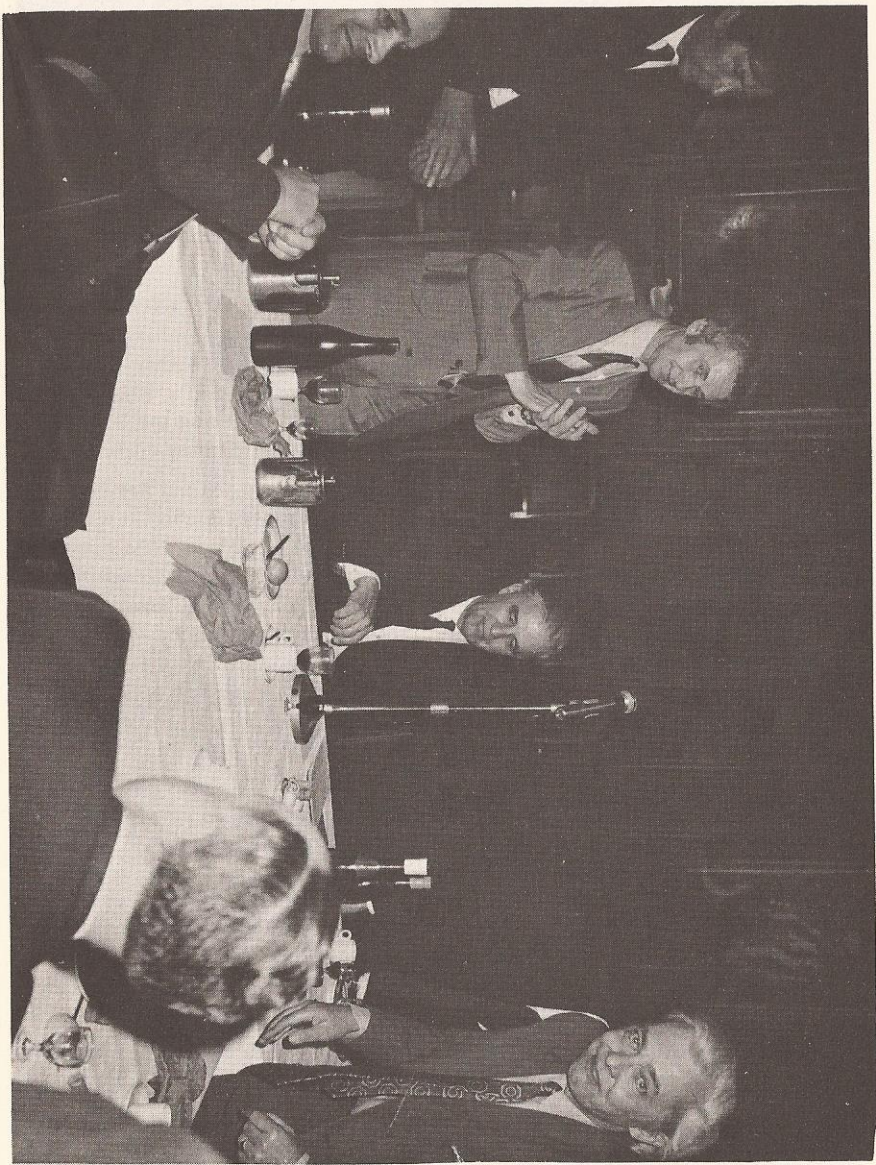
The Reverend Vic Hill gets signatures for his menu at the Reunion Dinner. Len Slater looks on and David Roberts in the background has his own priorities.

decide at what point any one of us might be used for this service. Once used, we are finished, for the best of us I would think has only one speech in his locker. If he uses us early, then our reminiscences are fresh, but they cannot be used again; alternatively he can keep us for later, and our reminiscences may actually ripen and increase, rather than diminish, with time and age. But it is a tricky calculation. Any one of us at any time may fall by the wayside—for example we may go to jail or go away to a monastery, and then he has missed his chance. I wondered if in fact the Master's clinical eye had noticed some sign of deterioration in me, and that he thought, if I was to be used at all, it had to be soon. And then I thought, more comfortingly, as this was his last time with the problem as Master, that he had thought perhaps he could be profligate, and leave his successor to worry for the future.

Thinking of tonight, and the duty before me and the precedents set by my predecessors over the years, I cast my mind back for my most primitive College memories. They are the ones which seem to go down best. Looking in fact at the College today, nearly all of even my reminiscences, relatively recent as they are and not comparable in this respect with many we have heard, seem primitive. Only perhaps the sanitary arrangements in the Keep retain just a mild flavour of what they used to be—in my day the flavour was not mild but strong.

What does put me into the primitive category however is my memory of coal fires, and not only coal fires in the rooms, but here in Hall. That is a feature which everyone of us, with the possible exception of anyone whose job it might happen to have been to keep it fuelled and alight, regret the passing.

I came up for my interview at Castle in 1946. It was then that for the first time I saw the Ferryhill slag-heap, lightly powdered with snow. I was ushered in mid-afternoon to a lonely room on Hall Stairs (there were not many students in those still war-time type days and what there were I suspect were working). I was quickly rescued however by Arthur Coombs a friend from my school who had then been up a couple of years and as a scientist, or mathematician anyway, spared from call-up. I stayed with him in his rooms in the Keep—a study and two bedrooms he had to himself. It seemed to me a luxurious and totally enviable existence, even including the essence of the Keep ablutions, and the presence close by of a remarkable figure whom a few here may remember, called Austin Crannigan. Dinner in the Hall and breakfast the next morning in front of that large glowing fire were deeply memorable, not to mention lunch the next day as well with Arthur in the old Museum Cafe by the river. After all that and the, for me, pure magic of Palace Green, I endured my interviews. Ferocious destructive probing by Claude Abbott, waving my



After a final Floreat Castellum Len Slater is acclaimed. Round about him left to right are: Harold Morley, Jack Spedding, Derek Holtbrook and James Boulton (see News of Old Castlemen).

entrance papers about and commenting on their badly taught inadequacy. Polite but formidable Macfarlane-Grieve, probing constantly, but almost entirely without success to find evidence that I had muscles of a nature which would do anything for me other than carry me between breakfast, lunch, tea, dinner and bed, and possibly the occasional lecture room or tutorial.

I got my place, but not until 1948 because of the great numbers of ex-servicemen needing places in 1946. This meant that I should do my national service first, rather than be deferred as one by then could be, and come up in 1948. This led to a diversion.

It was my ambition at that time, which may surprise a number of you, to become a clergyman. As well as applying to Castle and trying for an Open scholarship, I had also entered for the Horsfall scholarship which was a passport to reading Honours Theology at St. Chad's. I had a letter therefore, from a Canon Brewis I think it was, offering me a place at Chad's and saying that this might be available to me in the current year.

The temptation was great. Already I had a distinct feeling of a preference for Castle, and perhaps a subconscious inkling that it would be better to keep my options open on the course of my later life—like the option to be wicked—but I needed no-one to tell me that I was not cut out for the Armed Forces. Apparently on my first visit to Durham my interest in the theology had been missed, and the prospect of a second visit and an interview at Chad's loomed. However it turned out that they too were going to be allowed to take only ex-servicemen. I stuck to Castle, English literature and sin, as a way of life. For which the Church, I can assure it, has ever since had every reason to be grateful.

It was therefore 1948 before I reached Castle. Now a veteran of Carlisle, Aldershot and the West End of London I again passed the Ferryhill slag-heap and made my first bus journey to Lumley, guided by John Dolphin, in his second year then and also from my old school.

Most of us who were Freshmen then brought with us that strange post-war National Service experience. There was a general atmosphere of old Air Force blue shirts, and even old khaki trousers. There were no bell bottoms, at least not at the lower end of anybody's trousers. No doubt an underwear inspection would have revealed similar nostalgic echoes.

In the third year however were ex-Servicemen of a different ilk—real war veterans, men in their mid or even late twenties with some formed passions about life, and serious about work. It was a very stimulating time to be up. There were also the groups of ex-RAF short-course—strong in friendships and deep in Durham attachments.



Reg Easthope gets more than he bargained for at the Reunion Dinner. Standing with him are S. E. Crouch and B. M. Goodwins and sitting in the right hand corner is Bob Thompson, Tutor in Arts and philosophy don in the nineteen fifties and now at Leicester University.

It was at that time that the Old Castlemen's Association, under the guidance of Mac and others, was formed. One would so like to see more of that generation at Reunions and to know what life has become for them. If they could by some magic all be assembled under the roof now—one is tempted to say—and yet it could not possibly be. Chris Wilson in the Senior Man's Chair, Waldo Shelton aiding and abetting him, Shoga holding forth in his eloquent African way at J.C.R.'s at interminable length. There was Habeeb Jung, our Indian prince from Hyderabad, nephew of the Nizam, and Al Colen, fresh blown in from America; two flowers destined to bloom only for a year, destroyed by one storm of exams, but exotic while they lasted. As well as Habeeb in my tower at Lumley there was Tom McMaster, George Pilling, and some-one who I didn't ever get to know well but to me had all the characteristics of a phenomena—his name was Pekin, and he would smoke and drink and other things to all hours, anywhere, and then, whenever he had to, win any race as a runner. I can't remember how he got on in his exams, but I felt utterly confident about his slice of life, whatever.

However, with advantage, we could have been a closer community than we were. Some of the best stories about my year at Lumley I heard only in later years. I heard these from the next door neighbours, respectively, of Desmond Herd and Ginger Haynes, which I think is perhaps enough said.

Queen Street next year was different, at the heart of things, with a view nearly as useful as Carrick's window. For me Queen Street really belonged to its previous year's occupants—Harry Reilly, John Cleary and other even more remarkable reprobates whose names I cannot now remember. I could not hope to live up to their notoriety, or their capacity to assail passers-by with missiles and abuse. However, Dennis Holden and I did our best, with assistance from John Robson, and, a fairly regular guest because it represented a position of maximum observation with minimum effort, John Perkins, later—having first established his credentials with a police-woman in Durham—to become P.C. Perkins of the Metropolitan Police. The story of the great fire of Queen Street I have narrated already in *Castellum* and will not do so again now.

I enjoyed a third year in the Master's House, which brought with it considerable comfort, a key to the door, and another strategic view. On the rare occasions when I rose early there was the pleasure also of seeing Mac take his runs round the Keep wall. I found a room in the Master's House made a big impression on girls, somewhat counterbalanced by their extra fears of the consequences of interruption. That also I remember as the year of the Wheatsheaf and draught bass, with a dear old lady of some eighty years treading the full depth of a set of steep cellar steps for each

and every pint. I used to think how fortunate it was that she did not drink it as well as serve it. The Wheatsheaf is now demolished.

I was fortunate also in that a close connection with Castle continued beyond my official years of residence. As a reporter in Newcastle I found Durham often called, and frequently I enjoyed the hospitality of the Senior Man's settee—which I had regarded as an especially noble and useful piece of furniture right from Brian Levick's day. First I enjoyed the hospitality of Ridley Coats, or of Duncan Cramb in the secretary's room next door, and the next year, still going strong, that of Brian Scrivener and Keith Nodding.

Occasionally this hospitality was returned as one of them knocked on my Newcastle flat window late at night or, in the case of Bill Burdus, still enduring the marathon of being a dental student, mid-morning.

I used to wonder, without these links, how I could ever have adjusted to a working life, so great was the sense of attachment I felt to Durham and to Castle.

Finally, just when it seemed the sands of Durham time were running out, Mac asked me if I would take over *Castellum* from Bill Chase, who was finding it difficult to fit in with his commitments. That, incredibly was 20 *Castellums* ago. The two priorities I have tried to keep to in *Castellum* have been our own news, and the College record, sustained mainly by Len Slater in his letters.

I do not think I have always been a perfect editor so far as the Master is concerned. Two sorts of letter I have dreaded over the years have been, one, from my bank manager about my overdraft, and the other the Master's letters when *Castellum* has been overdue. Time's winged chariot grows old, but the next *Castellum* goes on for ever. Somehow or other however we always get through in time, with increasing help as the years have gone by from the College Office and Jean Oliver.

I cannot think of proposing the Toast to the College tonight without a special part in the toast for the Master who will retire this summer. The Old Castlemen's Association especially owes him a great debt: as I perhaps, with Jack Spedding, am in a position to know, from *Castellum* and all those years on the Committee. In an entirely helpful but never dominating way he has worked to support the Society and to help it through difficulties. Always also he has tried to build constructive links between the College and its undergraduates and the Society. Without his support and practical help the Society could not exist as it does today. Macfarlane-Grieve uniquely represented the College, so that he and the College were indivisible in the minds of all of us who were up in his time. He was therefore a difficult man to succeed. But Len Slater did so.

working not only to improve the College administratively and physically—but identifying firmly with all our perceptions of the College in the most personal sense and winning all our affections and trust. He has, if you think of it, had to sell us, as old Castlemen, over the years a lot of change, which might have aroused many of our prejudices. But he has always explained and justified the new, at the same time leaving us in no doubt about his devotion to the old. We have had no doubt about his devotion to this Society.

In proposing the toast of the College tonight therefore I am proposing the toast of an institution which today is very much what Len Slater has worked to make it, in times made difficult by Government and student power alike, building and developing on Mac's work before him, and leaving his successor a legacy which he cannot but be proud to accept.

So I propose the toast of the College, which is therefore a toast as well to Len Slater, and a toast to seeing him at many more Reunions. Gentlemen, University College. *Floreat Castellum.*

DATES OF 1975 ANNUAL REUNION

Friday, 18th April to Sunday, 20th April, 1975, the Reunion Dinner being on Saturday, 19th April, 1975.

COLLEGE REPORTS

J.C.R.

I WOULD claim that the tone of this year's JCR has been pre-eminently traditional, which might give cause for considerable surprise among the greying hairs of the more permanent fixtures of the College Community. But before I appear to contradict my first statement by cataloguing all the changes that have taken place, I will pause briefly to justify my opinion that we have been traditional. For by this I mean that we have continually drawn on the spirit and action of the past in a specific framework, and recognising general objects and aims, have hoped to achieve the same broad ends which have motivated previous JCRs and JCR officials. But at the same time we have not been merely conventional, seeking not just to preserve for the sake of preservation, or maintain simply because things have been so. We have sought continually to inspire the conventional with new innovation, to adjust here and trim there, to relate the hallowed ideals of the College Community with the changing circumstances of social life.

Perhaps I ought to elucidate the new relationship between the JCR and the Castlemen's Society, for fear that this be misunderstood. By abolishing the automatic levy on battels, the JCR has placed the burden on the Society to recruit members. This is certainly not a move to destroy the Society, as some have claimed, nor is it to suggest a high degree of apathy towards the objects of the Society. It stemmed from a general policy to abolish the levy system, which ultimately was bound to affect every levy, not just those for Dances and the JCR. Particularly, it seemed unfair to add a sum to Freshers' battels before they even knew the Castlemen's Society existed. The JCR has now appointed a further Society Rep. who with the Senior Man and the existing Rep. will form a JCR committee to aid communication with the Society. This should keep membership full, and events active. It will need a few more initiatives from the Society itself, however. Remember Castlemen remain much the same; it is we, as individuals, who grow older.

Our abolition of levies at the beginning of the year meant a totally revised attitude towards Dances. They have had to be planned on a commercial basis aiming at paying for themselves rather than expecting a floating levy to cover up for unpopularity or inefficiency. Far from spelling the death-knell to College functions, it invigorated them; it meant harder work to avoid any loss, but a consequently greater social product. We catered for smaller numbers, but aimed at a higher quality. Both socially and financially, all three functions made a profit: the informal and

fancy dress Ball made around £20 and the June Ball a profit, not yet accurately calculated but much higher than £20. All this money can be held to cover any future loss. And no longer was any member of the JCR obliged to finance this function if he was not willing to attend; while it remained an official College function.

An unfortunate casualty of the abolition was Castle Day. Increasingly dreary in past years, it had always heavily relied on subsidy. The new full-time social committee decided it could not be risked this year, and instead we held a lavish June Ball with £5 tickets, right at the end of term. We ran out of tickets, and all aspects were thoroughly successful. It also made up for the lack of a full-scale Formal Dance in the Epiphany Term, which instead saw a Fancy Dress Ball—certainly worthy of repetition.

The two traditional College Dinners were also run with enthusiastic support. A third dinner was specially held at the end of the year to mark the Master's retirement, and in order to present a farewell gift. May I take this opportunity to thank all the catering staff, and especially Mr. Sanderson and Dave Watson, for their willing co-operation, and their superb cuisine which has been the making of all our functions.

JCR meetings were fewer and generally swifter than in past years, though usually well attended. Routine business was kept to a minimum, and there were no internal controversies. I hope quietness is indeed the mark of contentment. The only potentially controversial subject was a DSU call for a Rent Strike to follow NUS policy 'pressurising' the government to increase the grant. I was in principle against such manoeuvres, and the JCR thoroughly opposed the move; in the end, literally to the last man (who eventually saw the way the wind was blowing). In any case we found that justifiable grievances received much better attention if addressed through existing channels of communication.

The Bar was run very efficiently, handing over a large profit to the JCR at the end of the year. I would especially like to thank Roger Utley for the dedication he displayed in this onerous task of Bar Chairman. I would also like to record deep gratitude to the Secretary, Alan Farrar, and the Treasurer, John Rootham, both of whom worked really hard throughout the year. We were never cliquey because of our very different personalities, but neither was there ever any bitter or protracted conflict.

My successor, Ed. Mitchell, gives every hope of providing a continuity and excellence next year, and I sincerely wish him all the best. He has already contributed much to College life, as have people such as Edward Leigh and Stan. Lewy, both of whose contributions have been in

University-based activities, though maintaining firmly planted roots in Castle.

Finally I would like particularly to mention how perfect is the system of student administration in Durham. Not only has this left the place quiet and content, but it has enabled so much more to be positively achieved. I can honestly say that at no time in my year of office, did I ever find coldness, patronisation, unfairness or rejection from any section of the administration. I would especially like to commend the methods and successes of the enlightened Registrar, Mr. Ian Graham.

I am sad, though, to feel that I am the last Senior Man who will be able to thank Len Slater for his warmth and interest, as Master. I cannot hope to compete in praise with those who have known him in Durham ten times longer than me—but I will try to thank him as deeply, and wish him the very best in his retirement. I know that I now echo the feelings of all the JCR, as expressed in last term's Farewell Dinner.

PIERS MERCHANT

Senior Man

THE CHAPEL CHOIR

In the last issue of this magazine, John Bettley discussed one of the aspects of our choral life: the pressure of intensive rehearsal. Sometimes the result of this preparation was not only good, but excellent. We all thank John for his efforts and expectations in the last two years.

Another problem that faces the choir, indeed every university activity, is the large turnover of members. This makes it difficult to develop a lasting tone-quality. However, an intake of good freshers brought renewed vigour and ensured the future continuance of the general standard.

Apart from new singers, we have also acquired some new music: Evening Services by Morley, Tomkins, Ayleward and Vaughan-Williams, and John McCabe's canticles for Salisbury composed in 1969. The Chapel music library is now correlated with those of Hatfield, St. John's, St. Oswald's and the Music School cabinet. Interloan facilities have been made available and thus expansion is more economic; a master index is to be placed in the University Library.

Some of the new music sung at our regular Thursday Evensong was borrowed in this way. "The Conversion of St. Paul", by Mendelssohn, shook the College on January 25th, turning a few heads in the Lowe Library. And on May 10th a live trumpet was introduced into the organ loft for Vaughan-Williams "Lord thou hast been our refuge".

The Advent Carol Service again attracted a larger congregation than the Chapel could hold. Other special services included the All Saints' Day Eucharist sung to Victoria's Missa "O Quam Gloriosum" using the 1662 rite. The Ash Wednesday Choral Eucharist was sung to the English adaptation of John Taverner's Missa "Sine Nomine", a Lenten evensong was sung by male voices in plainsong in the Norman Chapel.

The event of the Easter term was the blessing of the final set of kneelers, the making of which was inspired and organised by Mrs. Slater. Despite its similarity to an elusive, moveable feast, in the event this ceremony was quietly impressive. The blessing was administered by the new Lord Bishop of Durham during his visit to the College. His presence, the large congregation, and the simple beauty of Gibbons' 'short' service made a fitting last Evensong of the year.

This has been the first year for the new Chaplain, Rev. Alan Nugent. I am pleased to be able to record the "sound" welcome offered to Alan, and the ease with which he has been able to take up the work so capably handled by Peter Brett (even if he cannot sing Rose responses!). He has continued support and encouragement of the choir in its established place in College worship, and in University life, both at home and away. He was in Durham Cathedral when we sang the three services there on Quinquagesima Sunday, and in York Minster for our Evensong on June 27th.

This summer, after last year's enjoyable visit to Gloucester Cathedral we were to ape the three Choirs Festival and sing at Worcester Cathedral. However, it took all year to find that there was no room for us in the inns of Worcestershire, the itinerant choir finally settling in London to deputise for ten days at Southwark Cathedral. In spite of the trains which rumbled over to South Transept, the choir sang with sensitivity and great beauty bringing the year's work to a well-received and satisfying close.

Lastly, I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to all those without whose support the running (and singing!) of the choir would not have been so smooth; to Stephen Shipley, Michael Tavinor, Nicholas Stuart and other capable accompanists; to Chris Todhunter for his unceasing toil with the funds and the library; to those characters who bring such variety to our way of life; and to all the lovely women who adorn the front row with their beauty, visual and vocal (—apologies to the male altos!).

M. R. JAMES

THORP CLUB

The Thorp Club has survived with only a small active membership, though the year has been an enjoyable one. Officers elected at the Annual General Meeting were Chairman: Derek Paterson, Secretary: Robert Hopkinson, Treasurer: John Jackson, Research Rep.: Martin Litchfield and Education Rep.: John Littlefair. On this occasion, port was imbibed and the year well and truly launched. The main social event of the year was the Annual Dinner, held in the Senate Room in February: this was a highly successful occasion, for which Mr. Sanderson and his staff can take much credit.

Though coffee, sugar etc. were available in the Club room, little use was made of it (due mainly, I suspect, to the shortage of keys). The *Times Educational Supplement* was available for the P.G.C.E. club members, who all found employment, and were successful in their examinations, with the traditional minimum of work. The club's membership was enriched by the presence of Mr. Helge Dyvik, a Norwegian Rotary Scholar.

I should like to thank my fellow officers for their help over the year and also Mr. Bell, College Accountant, for his assistance with financial matters.

R. HOPKINSON
(Secretary)

RUGBY

This season has proved a successful one with only one or two drawbacks marring an otherwise excellent season. During the past few years rugby in Castle had developed slowly and found itself in a rut. Last season started the revival which was carried further this year. To a great extent success and enjoyment depends a great deal on enthusiasm and talent and we were fortunate enough this year to have some keen and in some cases talented first years who filled some of the gaps in our college side.

The season's first game was a disaster due to the fact that we lost to Chads by three points in a sweltering heat, an ominous start indeed. However, apart from a bad tempered match against Grey which was lost we remained undefeated for the rest of the term finishing with an overwhelming victory over Castle Leazes, a strong Newcastle side, who were never quite in the game. By this stage of the term the side was beginning to show signs of fitness and co-ordination that had been sadly lacking in the earlier part of the term. However, apart from club players much of the fitness attained was lost due to the Christmas festivities.

The first game in the Epiphany term was unfortunately for the college our trophy game against a star studded Grey College. Prior to this game we had three matches cancelled due to the weather and player problems which left us very short of match practice. However, until the second half it looked as if we were going to pull off a victory against the much fancied Grey side. At half time the college was 10-9 down but had had by far the better half. In the second half our fitness and remarkable ability to give stupid penalties away in our own half more or less lost the game for us. The game proved one thing—that the side was capable of playing extremely well and that the tackling and rucking was of a high standard. Once again Grey proved our only stumbling block in an otherwise unbeaten term. Although the college had been knocked out of the trophy two more games that term proved beyond doubt that we had improved greatly. The first of these games was the game at Oxford where the college played a combined side from Lincoln and St. John's Colleges who were soundly taught a lesson in how to play rugby. As soon as we realised that by running everything our far superior backs would score as many tries as time would permit, the points began to mount up, we finally defeated them by 69-0.

The game of the season was a centenary game against a Durham City side containing three players from each of the City sides. This was to celebrate City's first game 100 years ago on 20th February, 1873 against a University College side. By arrangement with City, three players from other colleges were invited to play to attempt to even the sides, Kenny Mair (St. Johns), Billy Hamilton (Grey) and Bob Smithies (Hatfield). The game was played under floodlights and the college side rose to the occasion splendidly although the score line of 44-4 might denote an easy game, nothing was further from the truth. The game was played at a furious pace and considering very few of the college side had ever played under floodlights we did remarkably well to settle as quickly as we did. Luck was with us but all our points were well earned, hard continuous graft and team work being the basis of our victory plus great individual efforts. The rest of the term was something of an anti-climax after the City game, but we remained undefeated gaining revenge against Grey in the final game of the season.

In a team whose success was built on teamwork, open play and a great team spirit it would be invidious to mention individuals but some members are surely worthy of mention. The pack as a whole despite its small size has certainly taught lessons to larger packs in the art of rucking and scrummaging. Much of the pack's success is due to the continuous outstanding performance from a somewhat diminutive back row (Nick Schiele, Peter Cobb and Anson Game). One player/comedian the college will miss next year is Rick Mercer whose contribution to the college side

could easily go un-noticed. The threequarters have consistently used the ball well, proved by the point that Andy Cox had more than 50 tries to his credit.

One can only hope that next season will be even more successful, and to those who are leaving, Brian Botcherby, Pete Heskett, Roddy Jones and Rick Mercer I, on behalf of the club, would like to wish them the best of luck and thank them and the rest of the team for the effort that has helped build a great team spirit and a successful college side.

M. J. HAMLIN

(Captain)

CROQUET

The team played 8 inter-collegiate matches in the league this season, which is one more than in previous years. The increase was brought about by the advent of Collingwood College to the Durham croquet scene.

We started the season with a convincing defeat at the mallets of the St. Cuthbert's Society team, who by the combined efforts of good croquet and a well used rule book attained second place in the final positions. We soon restored our confidence by defeating St. Mary's College decisively in a most enjoyable match. This restored confidence may have been to some extent instrumental in our losing the next match to a weakened Collingwood team, whom we ought to have beaten, by the narrowest of margins, viz. 1 hoop.

The next match was against the old rivals, Hatfield, whom we were delighted to beat by a reasonable margin, despite heavy rain and failing light as the match drew on. We subsequently lost by varying margins to St. John's, St. Chad's and Van Mildert Colleges, but finished our league season in fine form by trouncing St. Aidan's in a most ungentlemanly fashion.

Thus we came to the Palace Green Tournament flushed with success but alas! only one of our two pairs even reached the second round, and they went no further, for they met there the Chad's pair who lost a thrilling final to the fancied pair from Van Mildert.

The last match of the season was the S.C.R./J.C.R. challenge match in which the enjoyment derived by all was far more important than the result. Indeed I hope that all the team will agree with me that this was, regardless of the results obtained, a most enjoyable season, and we wish to

take this chance to thank the Master in print for kindly allowing us and the J.C.R. to use his lawn for this pleasant pastime.

S. W. A. BRANDON

(Captain)

CROSS COUNTRY

The College had a moderately successful season in the Durham Intercollegiate League finishing half way up the table. The team was never able to offer any sustained challenge against the two top teams Hatfield and Bede, but when all its runners were available (which was not often) the team could hold its own against all the other colleges.

Next year, with Robin Walker, a very fine track athlete as captain, the College should improve and finish in the top half of the League table.

JOE PATTON

Captain

GOLF CLUB

What a year! Thanks to a mild winter and a very dry spring all the courses have remained in excellent condition and consequently a lot of golf, and good golf, has been played. Although the College contained no university team players several very useful 'middle' handicap golfers emerged during the year. Gordon Keyden, a fresher from Scotland, playing off 12, displayed a lot of his native determination and concentration in his play and shot some very good scores at Brancepeth—a universally renowned difficult course. Similarly, James Richardson refused to be disturbed by the long carries and deep valleys and was at times playing a very long ball.

The two highlights of the season were the experiments with the 'big' ball and the trip to Bamburgh. Most of the players tried using the big ball and the general conclusion was that it really made very little difference except in strong winds and unless used by a very low handicap player. Psychologically it may be better by being noticeably bigger target but this is more than offset by the fact that unless hit straight and well, it is far more difficult to control. The June trip to Bamburgh by Mike Hamlin and James Goss was a success despite the weather. After a couple of 'warm-up' rounds at the rather flat and long seaside course of Foxton, both were very much looking forward to the teasing course of Bamburgh and extremely

disappointed in having to play one of the most picturesque English courses in rain. However, both managed to hold their games together once Mike had mastered a rather dramatic tendency to hook and had the satisfaction of birdying and eagling the par 4 18th.

In all a most enjoyable season.

J. R. W. GOSS

Captain

TABLE TENNIS

This year we were very pleased to see some good progress in our relatively inexperienced players, and also to see that we finished fourth in the inter-collegiate trophy tournament behind Bede, Chad's and Hatfield. Our success was due to Geoff Strangeway at No. 1 and good efforts from John Martindale, Pete Richardson, Kevin Poyntz, Ken Batchelor and Steve Fisher.

Results:

Played 9; Won 5; Drew 2; Lost 2.

K. W. BATCHELOR

(Captain)

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

Again I have to report that this was another rather unsatisfactory year for College soccer, although there were one or two successes. In the league we started well, but by the end of the season we finished in the lower half of the league.

Perhaps our best performance of the season was in the first round of the Trophy. We drew 0-0 with John's and so a replay was necessary. Although losing 0-1 at half time due to a disputed penalty, we came back superbly in the second half to win 7-1, a display which must have pleased our few supporters on the touch-line. In the next round we played Bede and not surprisingly we lost 0-7, especially since we played with only ten men for most of the game.

The highlight of the season was the tour to Cambridge, the first, to my knowledge, undertaken by the College soccer team. Due to injuries and other commitments, we had to travel down with a much depleted side, and it must be admitted that we were all a little pessimistic. Nevertheless we won our first game against King's quite easily by four goals to two despite

the fact that a Cambridge "Blue" was playing for the opposition in midfield. Gatenby, our top goalscorer of the season, scored twice, and a word must be said about our two "debutants" who both played well. Burke was close to scoring with a spectacular overhead kick, and Murphy caused the defence to make an error for our fourth goal. Needless to say, we celebrated this victory in the evening in the local pub.

Our second game on the following day was against Trinity and they proved to be much sterner opposition. Nevertheless, by half time we were holding our own at 0-0, and had been unlucky not to go in front on one or two occasions. But in the second half, partly due to our general lack of fitness, and partly due to our exertions on the previous day, we lost control of the game and were beaten 0-2. It should be observed, however, that our opponents were a very good team who had previously beaten several University teams. Indeed, they were under the misapprehension that we were Durham University rather than University College: A successful tour, then, and in no doubt it will not be the last.

Finally, I think Pete Walsh, our goalkeeper, and Tim Sugden must be commended for their outstanding displays throughout the season. My thanks to Chris Nicholson as secretary and good luck to Tim Sugden who is next year's Captain. With so many people from the team leaving this year we must look to the Freshers of next season to play a major role in the success of the team.

F. M. ROBINSON
(Captain)

DARTS

The darts team had a moderately successful season finishing in mid table with a good run in towards the end. The highlight of the season was the championship in which Mike Tracy and Bill Sylvester reached the semi-final of the doubles and lost to the eventual winners in a very closely fought game.

Over 20 players represented the college over the season, the most consistent being W. Sylvester, M. Tracy, C. Nicholson, C. Roddy, S. Barnard, F. Robinson and R. Mercer.

W. DICKINSON
(Captain)

BADMINTON

After several years of obscurity Castle badminton once again acquires a place in this magazine. The club is lacking in equipment but interest appears to be on the increase. We entered the intercollegiate badminton competition but unfortunately our participation was short lived since we were beaten on points by Chad's in the first round. However, we produced a creditable performance considering that we were given very little time to prepare for the event. I would like to thank Mike Chapman, Andy Stott and Paul Longland for participating. Andy was ranked seventh in the University this year and I hope his presence will provide a foundation for a better and more successful Club next year.

D. SANDERS

(Captain)

ATHLETICS

This year saw a marked improvement in our performance in the intercollegiate meeting. We managed a strong third position, and even featured in denying Hatfield the Trophy, with a very close 4 x 100 m. relay effort.

Athletics is a very individual sport and consequently a college performance is dependent on personal success; as such, Joe Patton gained a brilliant first in the 5000 m. and a second in the 1500 m., Andy Creese won the javelin and several others gained places. We were unfortunate to suffer so many injuries; the college is steeped in talent and if it can all be assembled for next year's meeting, Castle could even challenge the might of Bede.

A. CREESE

(Captain)

RUGBY FIVES CLUB

Since the College had provided three regular and several part-time members of the University team, the Castle Trophy team appeared to stand a good chance of success in the competition. Thus it was rather unfortunate that the team was never put to the test, since we won both our first two rounds with walkovers and the other semi-finalists were scratched after failing to play after two terms.

J. SCHROETER

(Captain)

READ AND WEED CLUB

The Club under the auspices of the President, Alan Miller, was to a large extent reconstructed and enjoyed two term's of Meetings discussing a wide variety of subjects with suitable refreshments. The year culminated in the Club's Dinner in the Senate Rooms when Michael Vallance, Esq., Headmaster of Durham School, kindly came and gave a talk: a lively discussion ensued.

Next academic year it is hoped to increase the membership slightly to include a few more undergraduates.

J. SCHROETER
(Captain)

SWIMMING

Two crowning triumphs ended the College swimming season this summer, and these were victories in the inter-collegiate Water Polo, and the swimming competitions. Neither of these trophies would have been won had it not been for the enthusiasm of the Castlemen who made the effort to take part; such enthusiasm bodes well for the future of college swimming and water polo, the two sports will be in the capable hands of Peter Gibson and Richard Mole next year.

J. YELLOWLEES
(Captain)

FENCING

Due to lack of numbers, no inter-collegiate fencing has taken place this year, but members of Castle have taken part in the University club practices, and the college has provided two members of the University team.

• N. J. WILLCOX
(Captain)

UNDERCROFT BAR

The Undercroft Bar is there, and there is not much else one can say about it, beyond wishing that a few more people would acknowledge the fact. Otherwise, it has continued to thrive in its own quiet way, despite the efforts of Her Majesty's Government to bewilder all concerned in its

administration by introducing Value Added Tax. The use of improved methods of stock control, together with a rigorous 'pruning' of superfluous lines and substitution of more popular items has left the Bar account in credit over the year to the sum of some £800. A significant proportion of the available cash due to be paid over to the J.C.R. by the Bar has already been earmarked for the purposes of bringing the Undercroft furnishings back up to an acceptable level, both in quality and quantity! Indeed, it seems that the potential of the Bar as a substantial contributor of J.C.R. amenities is only just beginning to be recognised, and some thought might profitably be given to the desirability of a policy decision of the J.C.R. laying down guidelines for the use of the relatively large sums of money which the Bar is certainly capable of providing, and which would prevent the present regrettable tendency to fritter away the money on the less important facets of J.C.R. life.

The failure of the Bar to open for Castlemen's Reunion this year was not due, as many people may have been led to think, either to incompetence or to a personal malevolence towards the Society, but on a more mundane level was the result of the inability of the administration to reconcile the problems presented by the manning of the Bar in previous years, coupled with a mistaken belief that the College Office was aware of this inability and had taken account of it in their plans for the Reunion.

Finally, I should, as always, give due praise to those who most deserve it—the barmen. Their loyalty and hard work have been a never ending source of wonder to me, and it is to them alone that the Bar's continued success must be attributed. Equally, the further expansion of the Buttery to undercut even more Durham traders is due to the imagination and ingenuity of Bill Dickinson, who has gone a very long way towards accomplishing what I set out to prove two years ago: namely that there is no reason why the J.C.R. should not be able to provide many of the necessities for its members at wholesale prices without bankrupting itself in the process.

R. UTLEY
(*Bar Chairman*)

HOCKEY

An important innovation on the Hockey scene in the University has been the establishment of an inter-collegiate League in addition to the usual Trophy competition. It is primarily designed to give those who do not play regularly for the University a chance to have a game. This has been made infinitely easier because of the new all-weather pitch at Maiden Castle.

We were knocked out in the first round of the Trophy by St. Chad's by one goal to nil—everything went well until the circle where a packed defence proved impenetrable. In the league, we had an unbeaten record even though the actual competition was never completed. It would be fair to say that we enjoyed playing, particularly in the League, and we rarely failed to omit light refreshments after these games. The following played at one time or another: S. D. G. Williams, N. Haynes, A. J. Good, J. Burton, S. Brandon, A. Farrar, J. Richardson, A. Creese, M. D. Stuart, B. Baldwin, N. Schiele, R. Mercer, N. Dudley.

S. D. G. WILLIAMS
(Captain)

BOAT CLUB

This year has probably been one of our most active of late. The year began with an encouraging number of both experienced and inexperienced freshers.

Additions to those left from last year were: P. Mainds (Leeds University), J. Stagg (Weybridge R.C.), B. O'Riordan (Radley Coll.), R. Carter (King's, Canterbury), N. Stanley and P. Briggs (both of Eton Coll.). We also had intact last year's novice IV stroked by J. Peet.

Before long a Pickard-Cambridge crew was formed for Senate Regatta. Training progressed favourably and the crew were considered to be the dark horses of the event. In the first round they met Bede I and lost, by the closest margin of any crew. Bede went on to win convincingly in the final. In President's Sculls we had entered E. Mitchell, sculling in his first competitive event. In the Senate Sculls, a new event, A. K. Miller was unluckily defeated by a strong gust of wind which blew him into the bank. In the Challenge Pairs the crew lost in the quarter finals to Grey, the eventual winners. In the Invitation VIII's the Castle crew suffered a technical K.O.—a foot through the bottom of the boat.

As the term progressed it soon became clear that we had some talent in the Club, and accordingly, A. K. Miller, M. Proctor and P. Mainds were selected to row for the University. J. W. Stagg also represented the University in the Tees Sculling Head.

At Christmas we lost the first of our "old oars", D. Pearson. We wish him luck and happy pot-hunting at Imperial College, London.

The Epiphany term was occupied to a large extent by the coaching of novice crews. In Graduates Regatta, a four entered for the Macfarlane-Grieve Challenge Cup. After only a fortnight's serious training they beat

Van Mildert in the first round, and in the next round were unlucky to lose to St. Cuthbert's, the eventual winners. A. K. Miller also sculled in the Gabbetts Sculls, losing in the final to his arch-rival from St. Cuths.—Tom Bishop.

Whilst most people were sheltering from the foul windy weather a composite Senior C crew was formed with St. Cuthbert's and St. Chad's. This crew—I. Z. Kruk at three and P. Riddell—cox, went down to the Yorkshire Head where in the restricted boat division they finished sixth out of twelve—the second clinker boat home. J. Stagg also entered the skiffs event in a new restricted boat borrowed from St. Johns. He finished eleventh in the mixed division of fine, restricted and clinker boats.

The end of the Epiphany term also saw us at long last taking delivery of our new fine coxed IV, built by B & H of Cambridge, who built the winning Cambridge VIII this year. The boat has attracted much favourable comment for its workmanship, design and price! The boat was christened on the 9th May by the retiring Master, in whose honour it was named—"Lenny".

At Easter we lost another of our Old Castlemen—G. Armstrong. We hope he enjoys messing about in the "big boats" of the Navy.

During the Easter vacation Castle once again freelanced for the Tideway Head, I. Kruk rowed in the Bede VIII, J. Stagg in a Veteran Weybridge crew, and G. Armstrong in a Durham City VIII. It was also at this time that A. K. Miller once more suffered a back injury which put him out of rowing for a greater part of the season. A slow recovery is being made and, at the time of writing, he may once more be active for the B.U.S.F. championships.

With the Easter term we saw the start of the regatta season. At Wear Regatta J. Stagg sculled hard in the novice event, only to be beaten by a stronger and larger opponent.

At Durham Regatta Castle were out in force. A composite crew with Bede, Collingwood and St. Cuthberts was formed and the new fine IV was used in the Corporation Challenge Cup. In a hard fought race they were beaten by larger and more experienced opposition in the shape of Tyne A.R.C. In the Mayor's Plate we had crews contesting both divisions. The "A" crew rowed well beating Gosforth Comprehensive School, but then lost to R.G.S. Newcastle. The "B" crew, in their first ever competition, did well, but experience told and they were beaten by the losing finalists.

On the second day, a Sunday for the first time ever, thanks to the luck of the draw, the day's racing opened with Castle crews "B" and "C" racing each other in the Lady Herschell Plate. Crew "B" won, but lost in

the next round to the eventual winners—George Watson's College. The "A" crew beat Durham City and then St. Cuthberts, only to lose in the semi-final to Durham School. The composite crew, in the Durham University Challenge Trophy were unlucky to meet once more Tyne A.R.C., but this time in the second round. The previous day's defeat was not avenged. The "freelancing" members of the club were once more active, racing in a Chads, Castle, Cuths and Collingwood VIII, for the Lowe Challenge Bowl. They beat a combined St. Cuths and St. Johns crew, losing in the final to the York City first VIII.

Whilst the College showed keenness, M. Proctor and P. Mains showed strength and, both rowing in the University first VIII, they continued to amass "pots" at every stroke. We wish them luck at Henley.

This year, although we have not been successful in terms of silver, we have had a great deal of keenness and potential ability displayed. It has been basically a year of building, as we will lose only two of our oarsmen next year—A. K. Miller, who during his time here has injected the club with enthusiasm and success, for which a great thank you, and P. Mains, who having finished his P.G.C.Ed. is going on to educate the legal profession in the finer points of rowing.

For the future we hope to hold two fund-raising events to finish paying for the new boat, and to gain capital for the purchase of new equipment to replace our old stock. We hope to have a sponsored-row and some form of dance/disco.

I. Z. KRUK
(Captain)

CREWS

<i>Pickard-Cambridge</i>		<i>Novice Sculler</i>		<i>President's Sculls</i>
J. Stagg	bow	J. Stagg		E. Mitchell
B. O'Riordan				
M. Proctor		<i>Novice "A"</i>		<i>Senate Sculls</i>
P. Mains	Stroke	J. Carr-Ellison	bow	A. K. Miller
R. Ward-Dyer	cox	P. Magee		
A. K. Miller	coach	J. Goss		<i>Gabbetts Sculls</i>
		J. Peet	stroke	A. K. Miller
<i>Macfarlane-Grieve</i>		R. Ward-Dyer	} cox	
S. Trahair	bow	P. Mains		
S. Brandon				
R. Riddell		<i>Challenge Pairs</i>		<i>Composite Crews</i>
B. Baldwin	stroke	J. Stagg		I. Kruk (3+7)
R. Weaver	cox	P. Mains		P. Riddell cox

Novice "B"

E. Mitchell bow
B. Baldwin
R. Carter
B. O'Riordan stroke
P. R. G. Merchant cox

Invitation VIII

E. Mitchell bow
P. Magee
J. Carr-Ellison
P. Briggs
R. Carter
J. Peet
I. Kruk
J. Stagg stroke
R. Ward-Dyer cox

Novice "C"

S. Trahair bow
C. Barker-Wyatt
P. Riddell
S. Brandon stroke
R. Weaver cox

Secretary

J. Stagg
J. Peet (resigned)

Treasurer

P. S. Briggs

Officers for 1973:

Captain
I. Z. Kruk

DURHAM CASTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1973

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
	£		£
April 1st		March 31st By Printing:	
March 31st	175.53	<i>Castellum</i>	208.25
	244.50	Envelopes etc.	<u>9.78</u>
			218.03
		,, Reunion Expenses, 1972	201.25
		,, Postages ...	42.53
		,, Balance carried forward	297.91
			<u>£759.72</u>
			<u>£759.72</u>

The amount invested in the Northern Rock Building Society
at 31st March 1973 is £161.43

Signed on behalf of J. Spedding, Treasurer.
T. E. BELL
26th April, 1973.

* Subject to Audit.

COLLEGE OFFICERS, 1973-74

Master	DR. D. W. MacDOWALL, M.A., D.Phil., F.S.A.
Vice-Master and Senior Tutor.....	MR. S. G. RAMSAY, B.Sc.
Bursar.....	MR. H. C. PRICE
Chaplain.....	THE REV. A. H. NUGENT, B.A.
Lowe Librarian	DR. D. BYTHELL, M.A. D.Phil.
Resident Tutor in charge of Parsons Field House.....	DR. A. I. DOYLE, M.A., Ph.D.

COLLEGE TUTORS, 1973-74

DR. F. ASHTON, B.Sc., Ph.D.
DR. D. BARGRAVE-WEAVER, T.D., M.A., Ph.D.
DR. P. BEAUMONT, B.A., Ph.D.
DR. G. M. BROOKE, B.Sc., D.Phil.
DR. D. BYTHELL, M.A., D.Phil.
DR. P. D. B. COLLINS, B.Sc., Ph.D.
MR. D. E. L. CRANE, M.A., B.Litt.
DR. D. M. KNIGHT, M.A., D.Phil.
MR. J. C. LUMSDEN, B.Sc.(Econ.), A.L.A.
DR. D. J. A. MATTHEW, M.A., D.Phil.
MR. N. F. PALMER, M.A.
DR. C. PREECE, B.Sc., Ph.D.
DR. A. C. PUGH, B.A., Ph.D.
THE REV. J. W. ROGERSON, M.A., B.D.
DR. E. G. P. ROWE, M.Sc., Ph.D.
MR. B. SMYTHE, LL.B.
DR. J. H. STEVENS, B.Sc., Ph.D.