



# OLD MERCERS' CLUB

1969

# OLD MERCERS' CLUB

GRESHAM COLLEGE  
BASINGHALL STREET  
LONDON - E.C.2



G. C. IVES  
President, Old Mercers' Club, 1969-70

## CLUB COMMITTEE 1969-70

PRESIDENT : G. C. IVES

Vice-Presidents : E. S. Wilkins  
R. H. Cousens  
F. J. Robinson  
T. H. Hollings  
N. S. Fosh

Trustees : L. Clifton Crick  
K. M. Scott, FCA  
G. Milne

General Secretary : K. F. Holmes

Treasurer : N. S. Fosh

Honorary Auditor : W. H. Wright

Entertainments' Secretary : H. T. Campbell  
"Cairo"  
Colne Road, N.21  
(01-360 1779)

Records' Secretary : R. Davey,  
120 Moorgate, E.C.2.

Past Presidents : D. G. Searls  
H. M. Eade  
C. D. Archibald  
G. H. Parker  
P. J. S. Squirrel

Ordinary Members of Committee : D. Trigg  
C. D. Fidge  
I. Pearson  
B. D. Percy  
L. T. Allen  
N. Watson

Magazine Editor : R. G. Dawson  
15 Brookmead Avenue  
Bickley, Kent  
(01-467 3108)

## THE YEAR 1969-70

Much to his own regret, the editor this year produces a magazine rather short on original articles and correspondence. He has no dictatorial powers, he can only exhort, cajole, threaten—or write the stuff himself. This latter appeals to him, or perhaps his vanity, but his schoolmasterly life is too full to allow him to indulge himself to any great extent. Thus he has to rely on those O.M.s who can read and write—and this year they have been very reticent; perhaps they will be less so next year. The magazine can only continue if O.M.s are prepared to subscribe to it.

There has in fact been a good deal happening this year as will be seen from the reports on the following pages. It is gratifying that the Old Mercers' Club is so well thought of by so many. Presidential invitations to the Dinners of Collyerians, Bancroftians and Dauntseians and the warmth of the welcome at these functions testify to the esteem in which we are held. It is a tribute to the school that so many thought so highly of it that they are prepared to keep its memory alive on a number of occasions during the year.

The Entertainments' Secretary is keenly interested to know whether members feel that there are enough of these occasions. He hankers after a Dinner/Dance in the new year, to supplement the Dinner in April and the Reception in September; are there still "sausage-and-mashers" who would like comparatively cheap suppers? Support for such functions can only be gauged if sufficient members write to Campbell and give him their views.

This has been a busy and sometimes difficult year for Derek Archibald and the Committee. Members will read the account of the special general meeting on finance which appears in this edition and will see that the Committee now has the authority to draw up to £1,000 from the Trustees in times of crisis. Said like this, in the language of the sensational headline, it might appear that the Club is approaching the rocks at a great rate of knots, when, in fact, as the accounts show, the position is very healthy. The magazine has tried, over the years, to keep members unable to attend meetings informed of the various financial developments; the Treasurer summarised these at the special meeting. We are deeply grateful to the Mercers' Company for the grant which has meant that the price of certain functions and amenities (this magazine for example) have been held down; and this is what the Company intended. At the same time costs are rising in all directions; the Committee felt that it would be wrong to find itself in a difficult financial situation and *then* have to introduce legislation in order to obtain life funds. The Treasurer said he could see no reason for these funds to be touched in the foreseeable future; clearly he cannot be more specific. Members need have no fear that the Committee has deep laid plans for an orgy of spending. Perhaps Jack Dewey's comments at the end of the special general meeting best summarise the position.

The Committee has investigated the possibilities of a History of the School; clearly this work would involve a great deal of research



and, hence, a great deal of time. No offers of help have been received and so the Committee feels, regretfully, that little further progress can be made. However, the editor has been requested to make one last appeal—which he now does. Please write to the Secretary at Gresham College.

Further on in the magazine there are, by special request, short pen portraits of the five vice-presidents. Significantly they are all men who have given twenty odd years' service to the Club and its constituents. That we approach the 1970s with confidence is due to the likes of these gentlemen; a well-respected O.M. wife announced not long ago at a gathering of some fairly illustrious O.M. forty-year-olds, "When you lot pack up the Club will finish". However, thanks to a flourishing Athletic Association that supply of forty-year-olds (including even one or two youngsters in the thirties) shows no signs of drying up. Incredibly perhaps, more O.M.s attended functions this past year than ever before. There is a full page announcement of the events for 1970—make a note of the relevant dates in your diaries now.

One final request; Richard Davey is a hardworking and utterly efficient Records' Secretary. Please make his job easier by letting him know if you change your address.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

The opinions expressed at meetings of the Club Committee are practically as diverse as those of the so-called United Nations; the debate is more often than not concerned with the projected calendar of social events for the year. Opinions range from those who maintain that the O.M.s are already doing far more than many a club derived from past pupils of larger, extant, schools to the advocates of added functions such as "hot-pot" suppers and dinner/dances. Of course, both arguments have merit and probably represent quite accurately the dichotomy of views existing within the Club as a whole—democracy actually working?

However, whether we do more, or less, in the Club year depends entirely on **WHAT YOU WANT AND ARE PREPARED TO SUPPORT**. Your committee, and particularly our very active Entertainments' secretary, Hartley Campbell, will try to organise any activity, but this is quite pointless if only the same old few faces turn out. In other words, it all depends on you. Why not write or telephone Campbell (address at the beginning of the magazine) and give him your ideas, negative or positive?

In the meantime, the Annual Dinner will continue to be the main event; next year's is April 30th—please note it in your diary. After two successful Receptions, in 1968 and 1969, there will be another in 1970, on Wednesday, September 23rd, a week later than before, so that some of the late holiday-takers can be accommodated. The Football Section of the Athletic Association continues manfully; a successful innovation was a dance at Grove Park last

March. The Dramatic Club deserves more support than it receives from O.M.s. There is the Honor Deo Ladies' Festival for the dinner/dance enthusiasts. This is not an insignificant calendar of events, but it can be modified if you let us know what you require.

Finally, no message from the President would be complete these days without an expression of gratitude for the very generous grant from the Mercers' Company. Rarely can a Treasurer have had such a labour of love so ameliorated!

## GRAHAM IVES

Graham Ives joined Mercers' School in January 1937, spent two years at Horsham and left the school in July 1945 when his younger brother joined to continue the Ives presence. After leaving, he ventured as far as Hatton Garden where he and R. H. Cousens both joined the laboratory staff of Johnson Mathey. The price of gold trembled, but withstood the shock of their combined efforts. In his spare time, Graham studied at Sir John Cass College, graduating in chemistry in 1949. About this time he joined the staff of Dr. V. E. Yarsley's consultancy where he has remained and built up a subsidiary company, Yarsley Testing Laboratories Ltd., of which he is managing director.

From the time he became an Old Mercer, Graham has actively supported the Club. He was a prominent member of the football section, playing for the third eleven from 1946-1959; he refereed for many years after this. It is perhaps for his achievements at cricket that he will be best remembered, particularly for those full length dives to avoid being run out. He played continuously from 1946-1967 and was twice captain of the first eleven. In addition to his sporting activities, Graham has served on the O.M. Committee since 1959, and is now in a position to see that the minutes are exactly right. Those who know him well value his loyalty and integrity and the Club could ask for no-one better suited to maintain the best of its traditions while making worthwhile innovations.

## THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

**Eric Wilkins** might be called the "Larry" of the Old Mercers' Club for, with the loyal aid of Brian Percy, he is the main reason why there is still an Old Mercers' Dramatic Club. Some of those longer in the tooth may remember him as a more than useful batsman for the O.M. second eleven just after the war; his ability was never completely disguised by the rustic garb on Old Boys' Days.

**Richard Cousens**, Ph.D., is alleged, by his former chemistry master, to have married a chemist as good as himself. Certainly Sheila is a better cook and a long-suffering O.M. wife in her tolerance of the frequent invasions of Gerrards Cross by the Ives-Woodburn-Morgan ensemble. Richard has played a large part in O.M.A.A. affairs since the war—football, in all four elevens; cricket, wicket-keeper and record breaker between wickets—and his thoughtful, succinct comment is invaluable on a committee not always noted for its vocal brevity.

**Fred Robinson**, financier, golfer, erstwhile bowler and flying right winger, has endeared himself to the hearts of every O.M. fortunate enough to play games with him. He captained a successful second eleven cricket side with a rod of iron (so Henry Rolt says), his batting method was a joy to behold, provided you had no use for elegance and style; he scored many a goal for an O.M. second eleven in the late forties and early fifties—one remembers particularly a hat-trick on a skating rink of a pitch at Private Banks one New Year—and he has given himself wholeheartedly to serving O.M. interests in every way he could for the past 25 years.

No man has served the O.M.F.C. more loyally than **Tommy Hollings**. Until very recently Tom held his place in the first eleven on merit—utterly reliable, uncompromising, giving everything in what, at one time, was a series of lost causes. Not given to great oratory, Tom has reduced many a dressing-room discussion to reality with a few well chosen north country epithets. He was a sound wicket-keeper and had a habit of making 50 on Old Boys' Day.

**Norman Fosh**, another financier, has played various parts in O.M. life over the past twenty years. He acted for the Dramatic Club, balanced their books, played cricket (see the President's comments on his bowling method) and has been willing to serve the Club where and when he could (and this sometimes meant commuting to Canada).

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Five good men then, all devoted to the Club, all having served for at least twenty years. If we are proud of the compliments paid to the Club on its liveliness, it is to men such as these that we owe a great debt of gratitude.

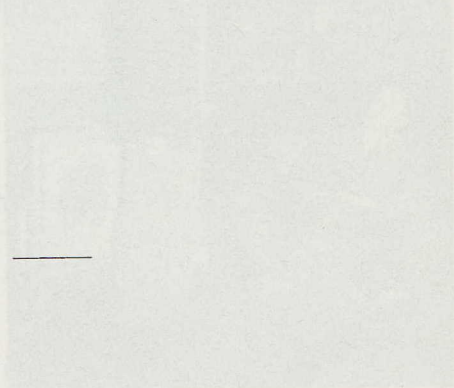
## CLUB TIES

The supply of ties is nearly exhausted; any member requiring a tie should contact the Club Secretary, enclosing thirty bob.



## GUESS WHO?

The President has unearthed three rather interesting photographs which the editor is pleased to publish. One of them is self explanatory—a new Headmaster in conference with his first Head Boy. The other two are not so obvious and the editor wonders whether O.M.s who appear in either photograph would care to write to him naming the various people there shown. This might lead to further memories—and so produce copy for the 1970 magazine.







## CALENDAR FOR 1970

### MARCH

O.M.D.C. PRODUCTION, CHANTICLEER THEATRE.

E. S. Wilkins, 32 Syke Ings, Richings Park, Iver, Bucks.  
(490 then ask for Iver 389).

### FRIDAY, APRIL 24th

F.C. SUPPER, "WESTMINSTER ARMS", PAGE STREET,  
S.W.1.

P. G. Wainwright, 45 Cancell Road, S.W.9.  
01-735 3551.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 30th

ANNUAL DINNER, MERCERS' HALL.

H. T. Campbell, "Cairo", Colne Road, N.21.  
01-360 1779.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 12th

ANNUAL INSTALLATION DINNER, CIVIC GUILD OF  
OLD MERCERS.

A. H. Hall, 23 Uvedale Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 13th

HONOR DEO LODGE LADIES' FESTIVAL.

H. T. Campbell, "Cairo", Colne Road, N.21.  
01-360 1779.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 20th

OLD 'BOYS' DAY, GROVE PARK.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd

RECEPTION AT MERCERS' HALL.

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22nd

COMMEMORATION SERVICE AND ANNUAL  
GENERAL MEETING, MERCERS' HALL.

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DO MAKE A NOTE OF THESE DATES — NOW

Minutes of a  
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the Old Mercers' Club held at Mercers' Hall  
on Wednesday, 29th October, 1969, at 6.40 p.m.

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The Treasurer, Norman Fosh, rose to propose the confirmation of the following resolution, which had been passed by a two-thirds majority at the Annual General Meeting on October 25th, 1968 :

"In accordance with the provisions of the Deed of Declaration of Trust executed on the 1st October 1910 it is hereby resolved at this Annual General Meeting of the Old Mercers' Club (such resolution being passed by a two-thirds majority of members present and being subject to confirmation at a Special General Meeting held not less than three months subsequently and carried by a two-thirds majority of members then present) that the Trustees for the time being of the said Deed shall hold the investments and capital monies in or coming to their hands upon trust to raise thereout such sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate a total of £1,000 as the General Committee of the Old Mercers' Club may from time to time by simple majority resolve and to pay the same to the Treasurer for the time being of the said Club whose receipt alone shall be a good discharge for such payments and, subject thereto, to hold the balance of the said investments and capital monies and the investments for the time being representing the same upon the trusts declared by the said Deed **And** the Trustees shall be satisfied with and shall not be required to enquire as to the validity of any such resolution of the General Committee upon receiving from the General Secretary for the time being of the said Club a copy of extracts from the Minute Book of the said General Committee recording any such resolution such copy being certified as a true copy under the hand of the said General Secretary."

The confirmation was seconded by O.M. J. H. J. Dewey.

At this point O.M. L. Clifton Crick rose to suggest that this meeting should be adjourned so that members might first hear the Treasurer's accounts for 1968-69. Crick was concerned that the Club in general had not been fully informed of the grant from the Mercers' Company, which had been spent largely on functions. Members of the Club should be satisfied that an income of £600 was sufficient to run the Club. If the Resolution was confirmed the Committee would have a further £1,000 at its disposal and he felt that this money would no longer be in the hands of the members as it was when placed with the Trustees.

O.M. K. M. Scott associated himself with Crick's views. He had originally approved the motion but now felt that two questions should be answered: (i) Should some future Committee have the facility of withdrawing £1,000 on some unspecified object? and (ii) Were we to run the Club constitutionally? The Treasurer had stated

that the money would not be required in the foreseeable future; accordingly Scott suggested that the Committee withdraw the motion and re-introduce it when it became necessary.

O.M. G. Milne believed that the Mercers' Company grant had made a great difference to the situation; if the resolution were left on the table it could be confirmed when circumstances demanded. Meantime he agreed with Scott and Crick that Life Funds should remain intact while the Club was in receipt of the Company grant.

O.M. W. L. Ford wanted to know why the Committee felt it necessary for the money to be available at this particular moment in time.

The Treasurer now presented the picture of the circumstances which had led up to the situation. The Committee had indicated four years ago that a situation might arise when it would be necessary for more funds to be available for the general running of the Club. The news of the grant from the Company had been given by Peter Nailor at the A.G.M. of 1967 though he was not able, at that time, to state the exact amount beyond saying that it was substantial. The Company had entirely approved the application of the grant to (a) holding the price of the Dinner steady; (b) offsetting the rates on Gresham College; (c) providing some offset to the cost of the magazine; and (d) supporting any special occasions of significance which might from time to time be arranged. At the same A.G.M., Nailor had also intimated the Committee's intention to ask for an amendment to the Trust Deed at the following A.G.M. in 1968. There had been not a single query concerning the resolution under discussion since its passing at the A.G.M. of 1968 and its publication in the magazine in January of this year. He had made the investment in the Co-operative Building Society with the full approval of the Committee, since it was no longer necessary for Life Funds to be handed over to the Trustees. The Committee had not rushed into this action nor, in his view, had the general Club lacked information as to what was proposed.

O.M. J. H. Roberts suggested an amendment that the matter be deferred until the A.G.M. of 1970—this was seconded by O.M. D. M. Harry but O.M. J. H. J. Dewey said that this could not be put unless the resolution were withdrawn.

Dewey it was who brought a somewhat acrimonious debate to a conclusion. Over many years, he said, Old Mercers had delighted in financial wrangling. Let us leave out acrimony in these matters. He was still of opinion that a delay in confirming this resolution might one day lead to a financial crisis if there were a change in the Club's income. The A.G.M. elected its Committee to do a job of work; members should have faith in that Committee and accept that it would not ask for money unless it were absolutely necessary.

Harold Eade brought a lighter touch when enquiring whether Trustees were really necessary and George Milne echoed Dewey's sentiments about the Committee; however, the Trustees could still see no reason for the resolution at the moment.

L. A. N. Kyle confirmed that a two-third majority was necessary; the resolution was now put to the meeting and passed by 37 votes to six.

The Meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.

Minutes of the  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the Old Mercers' Club held at Mercers' Hall  
on Wednesday, October 29th, 1969, at 7.30 p.m.

In the Chair : C. D. Archibald.

Attendance : 46 members attended.

Apologies for absence were received from S. Sharp, N. C. O'Blath, M. W. Powell, G. H. Parker, L. T. Allen, H. T. Campbell, and P. Nailor.

1. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on October 28th, 1968, were confirmed and signed.

2. **Treasurer's Report.** Copies of the accounts were distributed and Fosh outlined them to the Meeting. Subscription and Investment income were slightly increased and there was a surplus on the year's workings of £17. Estimates of subsidies from the Company grant had been roughly accurate for the Dinner and Reception. On the balance sheet Fosh described the changes in investment which had taken place in the transfer of £1,000 of the 68/69 Funding Stock to British Transport 3% 78/88. The remainder would be invested similarly in the near future.

G. Hargrave-Smith proposed and P. J. Squirrell seconded that the accounts be accepted.

There being no questions, the meeting passed to

3. **General Secretary's Report.** Holmes began by giving the names of the officers of the Mercers' Company for 1969/70 :

Master : John Philip Carrington Palmer, Esq., M.C.

Upper Warden : Brigadier Geoffrey Acworth Rimbault,  
C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

House Warden : Lt.-Col. Henry Redvers Greville Howard

Renter Warden : Struan Manwaring Robertson, Esq.

Total membership was 785, 561 life and 224 annual. This total included 23 missing members, 16 life and 7 annual. Holmes reported the death of

W. J. Bold (1915-17)

Life Member 135

Rev. N. R. Bishop (1929-34)

Life Member 624



The Dinner in April had been a resounding success, 142, including 89 Old Mercers, attending; again some members had been disappointed through the lateness of their applications. The Reception had attracted 179 people and 122 had been to the Honor Deo Ladies' Festival at the Zoo in June. A fine Old Boys' Day had been followed by a Dance, organised by the Old Citizens, which, however, had been poorly attended by Old Mercers. In March an informal Dance at Grove Park had attracted 58 and had been a success. In conclusion, the Secretary thanked the Committee for all their work during the year and announced the date for the Annual Dinner for 1970—April 30th. Holmes had a number of O.M. ties which members could obtain provided that the Treasurer received thirty bob per tie.

**4. Old Mercers' Athletic Association Report.** That prince of raconteurs, R. S. Dean, gave the results for the 1968/69 football season :

1st XI.        Played 24, won 8, drawn 2, lost 14

2nd XI.        Played 23, won 8, drawn 3, lost 12

So far this season the one side which was now being fielded had played seven games of which two had been won and one drawn. There were 20 playing members, who were hoping to fulfil a complete fixture list; there had been numerous injuries and Peter Wainwright, the Secretary, was at present in hospital for another operation on his injured back.

Dean said that the lease at Grove Park fell in in 1970 and negotiations were going ahead for a pitch at Grove Park, possibly to the end of the 1971/72 season. Thus the Christmas Draw remained of the utmost importance and Graham Hargrave-Smith would be around with books of tickets offering bigger, better, if fewer, prizes. In conclusion Dean paid tribute to the Old Citizens with whom such good relations existed at Grove Park. The elderly O.M. cricketers were particularly grateful for another happy year in company with the Old Citizens.

**5. Old Mercers' Dramatic Club Report.** Three plays had been produced since the last A.G.M.: "Noah", "Variations on a Theme" and "Summer of the Seventeenth Doll". None of these shows had been well attended by Old Mercers, the cast selling the majority of the tickets. There was a membership of 50 who paid an annual subscription of £2 2s. 0d. each. Neville Watson had provided rehearsal facilities thanks to his connections with the hotel world. The Dramatic Club were in good heart and looked forward to their next production in March, 1970.

**6.** The Chairman now proposed the election of G. C. Ives as President for 1969/70. This was seconded by H. M. Eade and carried with acclamation. Ives, having taken the chair, asked members to let the Committee know what they wanted from their Club.

Ives now proposed that Norman Fosh, Treasurer, traveller and unique bowler, be elected to fill the vacancy on the Vice-Presidential

## OLD MERCERS' CLUB

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1969

1968	EXPENDITURE	1969	1968	INCOME	1969
£		£	£		£
159	Magazine and Handbook	215		Annual Subscriptions:—	
17	Stationery and Printing	18	93	Current	98
24	Postages	25	7	Arrears	13
83	Rates on Gresham College	93			
16	Sundry Expenses	17	100		111
20	Depreciation	20	209	Investment Income	225
12	Cost of Old Boys' Day Cup	—	3	Deposit Interest	2
103	Contribution towards Dinner	154			
—	Contribution towards Dances	10	212		227
146	Contribution towards Reception	192	87	Less Tax	94
		356			
50	Grant to O.M.D.C.	—	125		133
14	Surplus for Year	17	422	Donations (including £500 from Mercers' Company)	517

£647

£761

£647

£761

# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1969

1968	LIABILITIES	1969		1968		ASSETS		1969
		£	£	£	£			£
102	General Fund 1.10.68	...	116	253	Cash at Bank and in Hand	...	...	73
14	Add Surplus	...	17	15	London Trustee Savings Bank	...	...	15
				200	Co-operative Building Society	...	...	302
116				15	Sundry Debtors and Stock of Ties	...	...	42
	INVESTMENT FUND		133		INVESTMENTS (held by trustees of Old Mercers' Club)			
4171	Life Subscriptions 1.10.64	...	4171	4032	£3342.10.11 4% Consols	...	...	3235
	Capital Accretions, Reinvested Income and Invested Gifts from Life Members	...	583	—	£1075. 3. 7 6¼% Exchequer	71	...	1030
1070		...		939	£1029.13.10 3% Funding	59/69	...	—
				—	£1000 British Transport 3% 78/88	...	...	489
5241			4754	—				—
1876	Less to reduce to M/V	...	1758	5241				4754
				1876	Less to reduce to M/V	...	...	1758
3365			2996	—				—
110	Uninvested Life Funds (Rule 4B)	...	150	3365				2996
25	Subscriptions in Advance	...	20	71	Office Equipment	...	...	51
304	Sundry Creditors	...	181	1	Other Property	...	...	1
				—				—
£3920			£3480	£3920				£3480

NORMAN S. FOSH, *Hon. Treasurer.*

I have examined the above Balance Sheet and the annexed Income and Expenditure Account with the books and vouchers of the Club and certify same to be in accordance therewith.

W. H. WRIGHT,

*Chartered Accountant. Hon. Auditor.*

list. This was seconded by D. Trigg and carried with acclamation. A list of other officers elected may be found at the beginning of the magazine.

7. Ives now proposed a vote of thanks to Derek Archibald for his valuable services as President of the Club in 1968/69. He was a man of great tact—he had nearly, but not quite, won the Cup presented by the Club on Old Boys' Day. This was passed with acclamation.

8. **Any other business.** T. W. Parker felt that the Committee should not make use of the £1,000 now available as a result of the Special General Meeting; the Club should stand on its own feet financially even if this meant raising subscriptions and launching appeals to Life members. Fosh reiterated that the Committee had no intention of using the £1,000—they knew how to “live hard” if the necessity arose.

F. B. Angier wondered whether the Committee could avoid the clash of functions; the Civic Guild Dinner and Honor Deo Lodge Ladies' Festival had been arranged for consecutive days. The President pointed out that neither of these functions were the business of the General Club; however, the Committee would help if possible.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.12 p.m. with votes of thanks to both chairmen, the Mercers' Company for the use of the Hall and Chapel, and to Canon Atkins and the Rev. L. A. N. Kyle for their parts in conducting the Commemoration Service.

## ANNUAL DINNER, 1969

Once again late applicants were turned away from Mercers' Hall on April 24th on the occasion of the 53rd Annual Dinner of the Club. 142 people sat down, after the formal reception, organised impeccably, as ever, by Jack Dewey, and the glass of sherry to set tongues wagging. The food was excellent; pate maison, scallops Parisienne, rolled loin of lamb with redcurrant jelly, savarin of cherries with kirsch sauce and coffee, accompanied by magnificent wines.

The President, Derek Archibald, proposed the toast of the Mercers' Company; the text of his speech appears below. In his reply, the Master, G. C. Walton, T.D., paid tribute to the Clerk to the Company, Geoffrey Logsdon, and outlined the Company's continued educational interests. The Company were most impressed by the activities of the Old Mercers' Club and the Master paid particular tribute to the Reception in September, 1968. The bond between Club and Company was most gratifying.

David Ives, a Conservative force in local affairs (or a force in local Conservative affairs?) proposed the toast of “Our Guests”. He recalled the Collyerian wartime link, cricket with the Old Bancroftians, a link forged by Gordon Allen, and welcomed the Dauntseians and Citizens as old and new friends respectively. Mr. Peter Walker,

the chief guest, had distinguished himself by entering Parliament at the age of 29 and was now a shadow Housing Minister. Ives, after being neatly offensive to the Prime Minister, trusted that the shadow might soon become a reality.

Peter Walker, M.B.E., M.P., replied and gave a highly amusing account of life as a Member, interspersed with a number of clerical stories; he clearly shared Ives's views on the present government and its leader.

After the silent toast of "The Spirit of Mercers' School" honoured at all Old Mercer gatherings, Peter Nailor proposed the toast of the President, the Club and Constituent Clubs. In his usual urbane manner he succeeded in politely insulting the President, had some thoughts on continence and sat down with the air of a man who believed utterly in what he said.

In his reply, the President neatly turned the other cheek to the proposer of the toast and then gave an account of the Club's activities throughout the year; he got in a "plug" for the Dramatic Club whose work well deserved better support. He was most gratified that he had received a telegram of good wishes from the U.S.A. from the "mercerised" American, Bob Gifford, who had replied to the toast of "Our Guests" at last year's Dinner.

But the President was thirsty; he invited the company to join him in the reception room for an informal drink—and a large number accepted the invitation.

## THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF MERCERS

Master, Old Mercers and Guests,

Once again we are very fortunate in being able to hold our annual dinner in this beautiful hall, and I should like first of all to thank the Mercers' Company through you, Master, for allowing us to continue to do so. I can assure you, Sir, that it is a privilege for which we are most grateful.

I suppose to many people livery companies are somewhat mysterious organisations which have existed for many centuries and which, by virtue of their names, are connected with various crafts and trades, and I often wonder how many of those who go to the pantomime at Christmas realise that Dick Whittington was no fictional character, but was in fact, as Sir Richard Whittington, a Lord Mayor of London, and furthermore a member of the Mercers' Company.

In their original form they were the forerunners of our present-day trade unions, although in those early days the separate interests of master and servant had not yet been created. Indeed, when that fundamental division arose, the companies gradually lost their functions in the regulation of industry. In view of this change of emphasis I am not quite sure whether they should be absolved from, or blamed for, all the present-day labour troubles—I mean, of course, labour with a small "l". In this context of trade unionism and the

current attempts in many quarters to apply the "closed shop" principle, it is very interesting that as far back as the 14th Century every craftsman was required to join the company which was appropriate to his trade. In fact, in the time of Edward II there was an ordinance which required every citizen to be a member of some trade or mystery.

Over the years the companies' functions have changed considerably and nowadays their names are synonymous with the government of the City of London as well as the administering of many charities. The Master will, I trust, tell us something more about his Company's current activities in a few moments.

To many of us here tonight, however, the name of the Mercers' Company inevitably brings back memories of the years we spent at the school which used to bear its name, but which, alas, does no more. We must all have many different recollections of our schooldays at Mercers', and my own include such things as Latin tests "round the desk" with the somewhat eccentric Bill Williams, often preceded by some impromptu P.T. in the form room in the colder weather, or by his vigorously opening and shutting the door on hot, stuffy days in an attempt to freshen the air in the room. Another pleasant memory is of several enjoyable holidays at Talland Bay which I revisited two years ago when I was amazed to see how small was the field in which we used to camp. As a youngster it seemed to me to be a vast area, but in fact it can, and does now, hold only about a dozen or so caravans. A slightly less happy memory is of being press-ganged into fatigue parties at our, then new, sports ground at Grove Park to clear the surface of stones—a chore for which we were of course very thankful in later years when playing football.

Whatever different memories we have, they all stem from the fact that many years ago the Mercers' Company took it upon themselves to maintain the existence of a school that was originally founded in the 13th Century, and for this we Old Mercers must all be very thankful. The very existence of the Old Mercers' Club and the way in which it has flourished, particularly since the closure of the School, is proof indeed that our School provided us with a spirit of comradeship that is worthy of being perpetuated as long as is humanly possible.

During the years since the closure, the Company has assisted us in many ways to maintain our activities, and we are delighted to be able to play host this evening to you, Sir, as well as your Renter Warden, Lt.-Col. Howard, and Geoffrey Logsdon, your Clerk, and to be able to make you aware of our deep appreciation of all the help you have given us. There is a saying to the effect that "two's company, three's a crowd", but tonight it's very much a case of "three's company" and, even had all the Wardens been able to attend, it would certainly not have been a crowd.

Gentlemen, I now ask you to rise and join me in drinking a toast to the health and prosperity of the Worshipful Company of Mercers, coupled with the name of their Master, Mr. G. C. Walton.



## O.M.s WHO ATTENDED THE DINNER, 1969

D. J. Moys	1953-58	H. T. Campbell	1937-41
G. C. Ives	1947-45	G. J. Chandler	1931-36
R. G. Dawson	1935-42	C. D. Archibald	1931-36
L. K. Bowman	1920-26	J. F. Gray	1919-24
T. W. Parker	1928-33	G. T. Fox	
G. Milne	1927-34	P. F. Clark	1957-58
L. F. H. Glynn		P. M. Mazinke	1937-44
J. N. Taylor	1928-36	R. Mazinke	1943-51
D. C. Simpson	1932-37	C. F. P. Mazinke	1905-07
D. F. A. Vanhegan	1934-39	C. S. Hutchinson	1899-1904
C. F. Wright	1917-22	P. D. Montague-Smith	
Rev. A. V. Wintersgill			1932-35
	1930-36	P. A. Stevens	1947-57
F. B. Angier	1924-28	B. L. Jacobs	1929-34
P. Nailor	1940-47	H. V. Searls	1923-28
G. E. Pow	1900-04	A. L. Lucock	1917-22
Rev. L. A. N. Kyle	1923-32	H. M. Potter	
G. Hargrave-Smith	1949-53	E. S. Wilkins	1934-38
R. C. Parish	1936-42	C. P. Garrett	1944-52
J. H. J. Dewey	1910-16	L. Clifton Crick	1916-23
P. G. Wainwright	1943-47	J. L. Squirrell	1934-38
R. S. Dean	1945-49	J. B. T. Bird	1936-43
H. G. Andrew		H. F. Cochrane	1927-31
Rev. S. M. Epps	1914-18	H. J. Goldner	1931-37
E. T. How	1928-35	J. R. Hawkins	
R. H. Cousens	1938-45	J. Murrell	1952-58
J. Gladwyn	1921-27	R. J. C. Davey	1952-58
K. E. Jones	1927-31	G. Niblett	1950-54
L. T. Allen	1938-45	H. L. Titford	1900-03
D. T. Trigg	1938-45	S. T. Hine	1909-15
A. S. Parker	1922-28	L. C. Johnson	1943-51
H. W. Moys	1921-24	F. J. Robinson	1941-45
J. L. Cookman	1938-43	T. H. Hollings	1935-40
C. D. Fidge	1948-54	K. M. Scott	1913-18
G. H. Parker	1918-24	W. J. Fairbairn	
F. W. Withall	1932-35	R. W. H. Coles	1950-58
C. P. Ellis	1947-55	G. F. Foat	1955-58
R. G. Williams	1917-20	R. A. S. Ritchie	1929-33
N. M. Williams	1956-59	M. J. Cato	
R. Worthy	1930-38	K. H. Neville	1928-35
L. Boucher	1937-43	J. Morgan	1937-43
S. E. Holmes	1922-27	N. S. Fosh	1940-45
K. F. Holmes	1937-40	D. Ives	1945-55
H. Tavlör	1917-20	W. D. Haden	
P. J. S. Squirrell	1929-36	J. D. Porcas	
N. J. Atkins	1915-18		

## THE RECEPTION

"Of course this is going to be an annual event", said the lady as she left Mercers' Hall last September. Once again nearly two hundred O.M.s, their ladies and friends had enjoyed another convivial evening. It was obvious that the lady recognised the Reception as a new but entirely permanent feature of the Old Mercer year. Since this function was designed very much with the ladies in mind, it would seem that, with the goodwill of the Mercers' Company in allowing us to use the Hall, the Reception must be an annual event. We must not deny the ladies.

## O.M.s WHO ATTENDED THE RECEPTION

Rev. L. A. N. Kyle	1923-32	H. T. Campbell	1937-41
G. E. Pow	1900-04	H. J. Goldner	1931-37
Canon J. A. Burley	1925-30	H. M. Eade	1913-18
D. H. Davis	1917-18	Rev. A. V. Wintersgill	
V. L. Leroux	1913-20		1930-36
W. E. F. Ward	1912-17	D. R. Chandler	1949-57
D. C. R. Jenkin	1911-18	E. S. Wilkins	1934-38
D. F. A. Vanhegan	1934-39	R. G. Corfield	1939-45
P. G. Wainwright	1943-47	N. D. Lemon	1949-53
M. I. Brierley	1936-38	S. E. Holmes	1922-27
C. D. Fidge	1948-54	L. T. Allen	1938-45
K. H. Neville	1928-35	R. W. Walter	1943-48
M. E. Lee	1949-53	A. C. Winn	
L. R. L. Shadbolt	1932-38	S. W. Goodwin	1916-23
C. P. Ellis	1947-55	B. A. Brewer	1922-30
H. F. Cochrane	1927-31	P. J. S. Squirrel	1929-36
L. Clifton Crick	1916-23	K. F. Holmes	1937-40
B. D. Pearcy	1949-51	H. G. Andrew	
A. F. Beggs	1955-58	C. D. Archibald	1931-36
M. R. Diaz	1948-56	D. G. Searls	1910-13
R. Worthy	1930-38	G. H. Parker	1918-24
W. R. Lewis	1912-18	J. N. Shine	1899-1906
P. F. Clark		E. M. Schaverien	1926-30
K. E. Jones	1927-31	P. L. Garrood	1945-50
H. H. Crane	1896-1903	G. C. Copeland	1930-33
R. J. C. Davey	1952-58	F. W. Lyons	1926-32
J. B. Bird	1936-43	D. T. Trigg	1938-45
J. H. J. Dewey	1910-16	I. C. Pearson	1944-48
P. A. Stevens	1947-57	N. J. Atkins	1915-18
R. J. D. Porcas		N. S. Fosh	1940-45
E. T. How	1928-35	G. J. Chandler	1931-36
B. G. Wright	1927-34	D. W. Kent-Jones	1905-09
N. J. Watson	1946-54	G. Niblett	1950-54
T. H. Hollings	1935-40	R. G. Dawson	1935-42
M. D. Jepson	1932-39	G. C. Ives	1937-45
R. H. Cousens	1938-45	A. W. L. Clarke	1913-18
S. D. Bush	1943-52	E. J. Gladwyn	1921-27
F. J. Elliott			

## OLD MERCERS' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL SECTION

Results for the 1968-69 season were as follows :—

1st XI      Played 24, Won 8, Drawn 2, Lost 14.

2nd XI      Played 23, Won 8, Drawn 3, Lost 12.

The results were very similar to those of the previous season and justify the decision to field two sides, both with fairly strong fixture lists. It must be remembered, of course, that the success of the Section in raising two sides each week was due largely to the tremendous amount of work that Team Secretary Peter Crawford put in. At the end of the season Peter retired, suffering from nervous exhaustion, after two very difficult seasons during which he had served the Section most ably.

As usual, the 1st XI took a long time to shake off their summer lethargy but they battled through and finished by registering four

good wins in the last quarter of the season, including two victories, which the team relished, over Old Brentwoods.

It has been suggested that 1st XI Captain, Mickey Cato, demonstrates his authority on the field by remaining the only player in the side **not** to shout at his colleagues. There are those, of course, who remark that, bearing in mind Mickey's work rate, he is the only one who has no energy left to open his mouth! Anyway, the system seems to work very effectively. The 2nd XI have a rather different problem in that their Skipper carries so much facial camouflage that it is impossible to tell if his mouth is open or not—except in the bar, when it is always safe to assume that it will be open for the consumption of beer! Nevertheless, his system also seems to work for the 2nd XI had a successful season with many closely fought and enjoyable games.

In these days of defensive football it is interesting to note that of the 24 games played by the 1st XI no less than 13 produced a total of seven or more goals and of the 2nd XI's 23 games, 10 ended with a similar goal feast. Mr. Don Revie would undoubtedly disapprove but the tiny body of Old Mercer supporters think that the entertainment value is high.

The fluctuating fortunes of the Section with regard to goal-keepers turned full circle from the riches of previous seasons, with Neville Watson suffering first from a broken bone in his leg and then from cartilage trouble which required an operation.

Fortunately Neville has made a good recovery and will be playing regularly in the 1969-70 season. In addition, Mick Manning had to do a great deal of travelling which curtailed his football and Hartley Campbell had a spot of bother after a game of football which curtailed his travelling!

Colin Fidge and David Trigg gallantly came to the rescue and have played some excellent games in goal.

In February, 1969, the Committee of the Football Section, having canvassed all playing members, held a meeting at which it was decided that for the season 1969-70 the Section must reduce the number of sides to one, and the Secretary arranged fixtures on this basis. This decision was taken following a review of the playing strength, which showed that only 18 or 19 players would be available on a regular basis and it is proposed that the one side will be selected from these players on a rota to ensure an equal number of games for all. The Football Committee very much regretted having to take this decision, however inevitable it was, and hope that the one side that now remains will continue for some years.

It is some measure of the regard which opponents seem to have for Old Mercer players that the Secretary, who had the task of "losing" half of the fixture list for the 1969-70 season, faced a barrage of real disappointment from those opponents who could no longer be accommodated. This is no doubt partly due to the fact that the excellent facilities the Section enjoys at Grove Park will be

very much missed by the opposition whom the Secretary has been forced to exclude. Many of our opposing teams did not play on their own grounds for weeks during the severe weather of the 1968-69 season but the only times that games were cancelled at Grove Park were when the ground was considered too dangerous through frost. This is a great tribute to Charlie Parker and underlines how lucky the Section is to play at Grove Park where Charlie and his wife provide so well.

The corps of referees who give up their time to try and control the games on Saturday afternoons performed again with distinction; they were happily reinforced by Len Allen who showed a disconcerting ability to penalize those little "tricks" that he used to get away with only a few years ago.

The Supper, held at the "Westminster Arms" on the 18th April, 1969, was attended by just under fifty Old Mercers and guests and provided the usual enjoyable evening.

At the Annual General Meeting prior to the Supper the following were elected as officers for the Season 1969-70.

Club Captain	M. J. Cato
Vice-Captain	R. S. Dean
Hon. Secretary	P. G. Wainwright
Hon. Team Secretary	R. F. Vanhegan

It only remains to say that the Section, though approaching sporting senility, is still enjoying its football and intends to continue for as long as possible.

P. G. W.

## OLD MERCERS' DRAMATIC CLUB "VARIATIONS ON A THEME"

This is a play about a very decadent lot of people in Southern France. Quite what Mr. Rattigan is doing with all these people remains a mystery, and he certainly fails to write a good play about them; but, as usual, our company attacked the script with vigour, and between producer Lesley Boorman and the hard-working players, enough was put into it to bring forth an entertaining evening.

It all reminded Old Mercer Drama addicts of a moving portrayal, some ten years ago, of a quite different Rattigan heroine, Hester in "The Deep Blue Sea". Here, Margaret Wilkins is faced with a perfectly mundane character in Rose, and taking her by the scruff of the neck, she shakes some dignity into her; of the two parts, Rose is probably the more difficult.

The scenes between Rose and her secretary, played with a remarkable quiet bitterness by Edith Enright, provide the best memory of the evening; but there was a strong study by Ted Slade of the German magnate, plenty of guttural menace crossed the foot-

lights whenever he spoke. One felt certain he would strangle Rose after the curtain fell.

A character study of a spoilt wealthy woman came also from Judy Kingwill—suggesting a possibility of more good comedy to come; and there was a most assured performance from Neville Watson as Tom. But how is anyone ever to play Ron?—the balletic bisexual from Beaune! John Lawrie did what he could with those juvenile lines, but the moment of melodrama, when he breaks his ankle, fooled no-one and a blacker than black mark goes to Mr. Rattigan for contriving such a scene.

Let us stand by Hester but blow, Rose, blow.

F. G.

### “SUMMER OF THE SEVENTEENTH DOLL”

One hesitates to use the words “well-made” and “craftsmanly” in connection with a play one has enjoyed and means to commend. They are unfashionable attributes when playwrights are restructuring—in some cases destructuring—the traditional dramatic framework, and producers are experimenting with stage effects which will retain the interest of audiences made blasé by television documentaries.

Reminiscent of the well sculpted ephemera with which audiences were regaled in the theatrical dog days of the fifties, they carry connotations of obsolescence, of form without content, of steel corsets imperfectly concealing the absence of a body.

And yet “Summer of the Seventeenth Doll” is a well made play. Act one sets the scene—rather longwindedly—and lays down the theme, Act two develops it strongly and Act three brings it to a satisfying, plausible yet not predictable resolution. But within this corset is a vigorous, albeit an ancient, body. The subject matter is the reaction of a number of people to the fact of growing old, its effect upon them and on their relationship with each other. Roo and Barney (John Lawrey and Brian Percy) are sugar cane cutters who spend half the year sweating it out in the cane fields of Northern Australia and the other half living it up on the proceeds in Melbourne in the company of Olive (Edith Enright) and Nancy who, however, has unaccountably gone off and married someone else before the play opens. Pearl (Judy Kingwill) newly arrived as a replacement for Nancy first throws doubt on the image the others have of themselves. A counterpoint to the main theme is provided by the budding affair between Buffa (Rosemary Scholes) the girl next door and Johnnie (Neville Watson) a young cane cutter who has ousted Roo from his position of ganger. Light relief and background information were provided by Olive’s mother (Nina Watson).

Edith Enright has fulfilled the promise she showed when she first played for the Drama Club last spring. The slowly growing self-doubt of a seemingly strongminded, confident woman, her bewilderment and final despair, were wholly convincing. The role of

Olive is central to the play and she achieved an almost perfect portrayal. Brian Percy showed his usual versatility as the weak, womanising sponger, Barney, a willow who would, however, survive when the oaks around him were toppled. His second act drunk scene, a chestnut with a difference in that Barney was acting drunk for his own ends, was both funny and pathetic. John Lawrey achieved the maturity of style necessary for the part of Roo, his performance being marred only by his inability to achieve the necessary maturity of appearance. The other roles were competently filled.

The sense of datedness which affects most amateur productions which, of necessity, are of no longer new plays, was not present here and apart from a moment of melodrama at the final curtain one managed to suspend disbelief throughout. The Australian setting, alien yet familiar, probably helped. None of the actors, however, had much familiarity with Strine, and accents tended to wander between Mitcham and Melbourne, spending an unconscionably large part of their time in Mid-Atlantic.

Eric Wilkins' direction complemented the qualities of the play. It allowed the dialogue to make its points and the action to flow without striving for effects.

All in all the best that the Drama Club has put on for some time.

M. C.

#### HONOR DEO LODGE No. 3562

The fifty-eighth Installation Meeting of Honour Deo Lodge was held on 7th November, 1968, when Bro. P. J. Wolff (1936-41) was installed as Worshipful Master. A new member was welcomed into the Lodge with the initiation of George Niblett (1950-54) on the following 5th December.

On 20th September, 1969, W.Bro. A. J. Cutting (1931-37) was honoured by the Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire with the rank of Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, an honour well deserved in recognition of W.Bro. Cutting's many services to the Craft.

An Emergency Meeting was held on 14th October, last, for the purpose of discussing the future of the Lodge. A motion to the effect that the Lodge should be opened to Old Collyerians was defeated on the casting vote of the Worshipful Master.

The Ladies Festival, a dinner and dance, at which all Old Mercers and their friends are always welcome, was again held at the Zoological Gardens Restaurant, Regents Park. As usual on these occasions, a very happy evening ensued. The next Festival, at the same venue, will be held on Saturday, 13th June, 1970, under the presidency of this year's Worshipful Master, W.Bro. G. H. Parker.

R. G. Williams, Lodge Secretary.



## HONOR DEO CHAPTER No. 3562

The Chapter enjoyed a happy year with E.Comp. A. C. Winn as First Principal, E.Comp. J. F. Gray as Second Principal and E.Comp. K. E. Jones as Third Principal. The following were elected for the year beginning October, 1969 :

E.Comp. J. F. Gray as First Principal.

E.Comp. K. E. Jones as Second Principal.

E.Comp. F. W. Lyons as Third Principal.

Old Mercers who are already freemasons and who would like any information concerning the Chapter should contact E.Comp. F. W. Yardley, Scribe E, at 5 Gloucester Road, Hampton on Thames, Middlesex (01-979 1454).

## CIVIC GUILD OF OLD MERCERS

The Court and Officers of the Guild for 1969-70 are :—

Guild Master	F. B. Angier
Guild Renter Warden	R. E. M. Crane
Guild Junior Warden	J. A. Burley
Guild Assistants	All Past Guild Masters E. M. Schaverien D. F. A. Vanhegan C. R. Tucker
Hon. Clerk	A. H. Hall
Hon. Assistant Clerk	K. H. Neville
Apprentice Warden	M. J. Herniman
Auditors	Past Guild Master G. H. Searle D. M. Williamson

The membership of the Guild now stands at 94 (24 liverymen and 70 freemen), showing an increase over the figure at this time last year of 22. This most satisfactory influx of members is due to a special drive for members amongst Old Mercers and also, to a much smaller extent, by the decision of the Court to open the Guild to Old Collyerians who have an interest in the City and its traditions and are freemen.

The Annual Installation Dinner was held, as usual, at the Tallow Chandlers Hall on Friday, 13th June, 1969, with the new Guild Master, F. B. Angier, in the Chair supported by the two Guild Wardens, R. E. M. Crane and J. A. Burley. The official guests of the Guild were R. W. Peacock, Esq., M.A., the Chief Commoner, and C. R. Whittington, Esq., M.C., Chamberlain of London. The Guild was also happy to entertain the President of the Old Mercers' Club, C. D. Archibald, and a representative of the Old Collyerians Association, Mr. R. Napper, a Past President of that Association.

At the invitation of the Guild Master an informal reception and sherry party for Guildmen and their friends was held at Barber-Surgeons' Hall, by kind permission of the Company, on Friday, 26th September 1969. Past Guild Master John Dewey gave a most interesting and informative talk on the history of the Company, its new Hall and its treasures. The Master, Sir C. N. Morgan, F.R.C.S., who honoured the Guild with his presence, also spoke on the Company's famous picture by Holbein, showing the Company receiving its charter from Henry VIII in 1540. An opportunity was also given to those present to see this fine example of a modern Livery Hall.

The Court extends a very warm welcome to any Old Mercers or their sons (over 21 years of age) who would like to join the Guild, or sons (or grandsons) under 21, the Guild's apprentice scheme. Please apply to the Hon. Clerk, A. H. Hall, 23 Uvedale Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

## CLEARING OUT THE LOFT

A few days ago in our household the cry went up, "It's time we tidied up the loft". Dutifully we began—and there before us were magazines from 1935 onwards. "I'll just glance through these", I thought—and thus was born yet another chapter of reminiscence.

In 1935, W. S. Lloyd Webber was congratulated on his Mus.Bach.; in the school football section H. J. Goldner was "a hard rugged tackler—now beginning to place his passes instead of merely kicking away"—thirteen odd years later he was a member of one of the most successful O.M. second XIs since the war. On Old Boys' Day the Stewards' Badges reappeared; where are they now? The Secretary reported "an increasing tendency on the part of members to delay in making application for Club functions". Times have not changed! Honor Deo Chapter was consecrated on October 8th. W. G. (Bill) Bailey was the President of the Club, having been on the Committee since 1924 and Secretary from 1931-34. Among the stalwarts of the Cricket Section were G. P. Darke, G. Milne and H. V. Searls; "new boys" were T. W. Parker and G. J. P. Webb. The two Normans, O'Blath and Atkins, were appearing for the O.M.D.C. at the Cripplegate. The Football Club went on an Easter tour to Derbyshire; among those present were J. R. (Jim) Willis, George Finch, A. S. (Cuts) Parker and Freddie Withall. Williamsons in Bow Lane became the venue of a Club Room, available to members every Tuesday evening throughout the winter season.

In 1936 in the "Valete" column appeared the names of C. D. Archibald and P. J. S. Squirrell, both powers in the O.M. Club. T. F. J. (Gandhi) Moss was elected captain of school football. The O.M.C.C. had nearly enough members to run two sides; a certain R. W. H. D. Murray took 6-43 in one game.

1937—At school the Under XV had as its backs T. H. Hollings and the Editor—known, 'tis said, as the "Beef Trust"; in the O.M. side which beat the School, appeared G. H. Parker, B. L. Jacobs, A. J. Downes and F. B. Angier, all names well known in the story of the Old Mercers' Club. D. G. (Daisy) Searls was President of the Club; he is still serving on the General Committee today.

A year later the School roll reached 300 for the first time. The magazine congratulated A. J. W. Johns "on his century for Whittington Juniors". A School Dance Band appeared, led by "Mac", F. J. McIntosh, P.E. instructor and Headmaster's Secretary, and boasting one Gardner as vocalist (give us a song, Len?); it was understood that "the double bass was learning to slap". Jack Morgan was alleged to have played in a violin duet in the School Concert. And in August the C.C. visited Leigh for the first time.

In 1939—but the loft must be cleared—if anyone else has a loft and finds his old magazines could he carry on with this reminiscence. And may his wife be as tolerant as mine!

## CORRESPONDENCE

P.O. Box 2, Durban.

15th April, 1969.

Dear O.M. Dawson,

A notice has just been received stating that the Annual Dinner is being held on 24th April; as usual I am too far away to enjoy these functions in person. However I expect the "House Full" notice has gone up, but I shall be with you "in spirit" and probably many spirits will be present who are not there in the flesh.

All this by way of preamble to something I have to tell you about my professional status, namely that I am now a fellow of the London Mechanicals and also of the London Productions. This came to mind when I noticed the address on the envelope containing the above-mentioned invitation to the dinner. Another small matter is that for some time you have been using the initial "F" to my name when in fact it is "E" (for Eric). So now we come to the adjustment of the address plate: the "F" changes to "E" and the two "Ms" change to "F".

Whilst I have pen to paper, Gordon Harper was in Durban three weeks ago leading a trade mission from Rhodesia; I had the pleasure of meeting him over lunch and found that he is now quite a globe trotter but still very active in business in Salisbury.

I also heard recently from another Old Mercer in Africa, William Temple, and as he has changed his address you will be interested to know that he is now living at Avalon Hotel, Parktown, Johannesburg.

With all good wishes,

Yours as ever,

E. McClunan (1908-11)

From P. G. Wainwright.

45 Cancell Road,  
Brixton, London, S.W.9.  
7th December, 1969

Dear Dick,

As you know, I recently had to spend nearly two months in hospital following an operation.

During that time I received countless messages conveying good wishes from friends in the Old Mercers' Club and I should be most grateful if you would allow me to utilise the pages of the Magazine to thank all those "well-wishers" for their kind thoughts.

I had many visits from members of the Athletic Association and there were occasions when there were so many clustered around the bed that it seemed more like an Annual General Meeting.

I suspect that the prospect of making the acquaintance of a pretty nurse was an added incentive to certain members of the Football Section but, to date, my spies have reported no definite progress on this front.

The results of the operation seem to be favourable and I hope that I may be able to play cricket again next season.

Yours sincerely,

Peter.

59 Gardiner Parade,  
Glen Iris,  
Victoria 3146,  
Australia.

Dear Mr. Treasurer,

Please note the above address which is now permanent as I've married and settled down.

I should like to keep in touch with major events of the Club and the news magazine would always be welcome but don't waste postage on matters that 12,000 miles won't allow.

I hope that the club is thriving and that you will all have an excellent year.

Yours sincerely,

M. J. Givans (1956-58)

## OTHER NEWS OF OLD MERCERS

Dr. W. S. Lloyd Webber, director of the London College of Music, has made a contribution to "Tin Pan Alley". His twenty-year-old son composed a pop cantata called "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" and Lloyd Webber played the rhythm backing on Hammond organ.

N. W. Williams (1902-10) wrote to Hartley Campbell from Poole in October recalling how the 17th century front of the old Mercers' Hall now forms the frontage of Swanage Town Hall. It "migrated" to Swanage in 1883. Williams, in his letter, paid tribute to "your younger members who keep the name of Mercers' alive. We of the older school were proud of the school, Dr. Scott, Jimmy Grant, Wheeler, Boulter, Langhorne; wonderful men they were who helped to mould our lives".

N. A. C. (Lex) Bijl (1936-43) wrote from Bulawayo in January, 1969. He is headmaster of a co-ed school of 800 and hopes to visit this country in 1972.

H. Windsley (1941-42) established a lectureship at Guys Hospital Medical School in 1967 on child psychology, psychoanalysis and psychological aspects of child health. The lectureship was established in memory of Windsley's mother, whose father was executed in Buchenwald concentration camp.

On the 10th March, 1969, Major Stanley Wells (1897-1900) represented Mr. Samuel Pickwick at the Dinner of the City Pickwick Club; the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs were there to enjoy a meal which made no concessions to slimming!

M. J. Houghton (1955-58) is now in Somerset. He misses O.M. football but would be glad to see any O.M.s passing near 18, Town Close, Stogursey, Nr. Bridgwater, Somerset.

Peter Nailor (1940-47) is now Professor of Strategic Studies at the University of Lancaster. His comments on life in a new university are amusing and, in due course, he will, no doubt, put his judgements on paper for the magazine. In the first instance Peter has been seconded to the University by the Ministry of Defence for a period of three years; he would be a permanent asset to the world of education.

E. H. L. Sander (1910-14) wrote to Jack Dewey from Worthing. He retired from his dental practice in 1952, due to ill health. A series of operations followed and he is now more or less confined to a wheel chair. However, he would welcome visits from any O.M.s who might remember him. The address: Flat 1, 10 Chaucer Road, Worthing, Sussex.

#### F. GORDON HARPER

Gordon Harper visited London again in September when he arrived bringing with him over 100 Rhodesians for a month's tour of the United Kingdom and Continental Europe. He returned from his European travels in October and spent another week with us before returning to Salisbury, by which time his wife, who had had a serious operation, was sufficiently recovered to accompany him on a month's tour of the Far East, to Japan and return. Evidently Gordon suffers from "itchy feet" and is a born traveller.

St. Barnabas Church,  
P.O. Box 17,  
Chingola.

Dear Mr. Fosh,

I enclose cheque for £1 1s. 0d. and Bankers Order as requested.  
I hope to be in the U.K. at the time of the Annual Dinner in 1971.

Yours sincerely,

John S. Kingsnorth (1906-11)

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Dr. J. C. Rogers, M.B., B.S.(Lond.),  
"Merriellands", Station Road,  
Attleborough, Norfolk.  
1937-41 (626).

M. W. Powell, Esq.,  
13 Beauchamp Avenue,  
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.  
1943-46.

Dr. K. E. Gray,  
21 Wade House, Village Road,  
Enfield, Middlesex.  
1945-55.

M. J. Givans, Esq.,  
59 Gardiner Parade, Glen Iris,  
Victoria 3146, Australia.  
1956-58.

J. L. Roberts, Esq.,  
16 Arundel Lodge, Salisbury Avenue,  
Finchley, London, N.3.  
1923-32 (399).

Col. D. E. Lumb-Street, M.B.E.,  
6 Mountbatten Road, Westbourne,  
Bournemouth, Hants.  
1919-22 (372).

K. M. Scott, Esq., F.C.A.,  
Redgarth, Gravel Path,  
Berkhamsted, Herts.  
1913-18 (305).

F. T. Brown, Esq.,  
117/118 Central Parade,  
Herne Bay, Kent.

\*G. Stebbing-Allen, Esq.,  
44 Woodfield Road,  
Ealing, London, W.5.  
1952-58.

G. T. Tout, Esq.,  
5 Grenada Close, Bexhill-on-Sea,  
Sussex.  
1924-29 (658).

T. G. Harris, Esq.,  
Outward Bag Room (Tokyo), F.C.O.,  
King Charles Street, Whitehall,  
London, S.W.1.  
1956-58.

E. Stables, Esq.,  
"Viola", 11 Cleveland Road,  
Paignton, Devon.  
1905-11 (603).

R. L. Kittle, Esq.,  
24 Little Thorpe,  
Thorpe Bay, Essex.  
1955-58.

C. P. Garrett, Esq.,  
The New Farmhouse,  
1 Stanford Avenue,  
Hassocks, Sussex.  
1944-52.

\*A. W. Berryman, Esq.,  
2 Beacon House, Church Road,  
Hindhead, Surrey.  
1937-43 (902)

M. H. Woods, Esq.,  
79 Jasmin Road,  
West Ewell, Surrey.  
1951-58 903).

J. Elliott, Esq.,  
8 Magnay Road, Drayton, Norwich.  
1942-51.

D. M. Miller, Esq.,  
8 Vineyards Road, Northaw,  
Potters Bar, Herts.  
1944-49 (871).

A. J. G. Glock, Esq.,  
Langton Cottage, Madeira Road,  
Littlestone-on-Sea,  
New Romney, Kent.  
1926-31 (436)



R. G. Knight, Esq.,  
2 Avenue Charles Graux,  
Rhode St. Genese,  
Brabant, Belgium.  
1938-44.

D. J. Robertson, Esq.,  
West End, Church Road,  
Woldingham, Surrey.  
1956-59.

R. W. R. Whiteland, Esq.,  
73 Pierce Lane, Fulbourn,  
Cambridge, CB1 5DS.  
1950-54 (896).

W. R. Lewis, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.,  
"Heathview", 102 South Hill Park,  
Hampstead, London, N.W.3.  
1912-18 (474).

E. A. Davey, Esq.,  
110 Dodson Point, Maplin Road,  
London, E.16.  
1956-58.

C. D. Hughes, Esq.,  
45 Dacres Road, Forest Hill,  
London, S.E.23.  
1945-52 (737).

Rev. T. B. MacDonald,  
10 King's Park Avenue,  
Crawley, Western Australia 6009.  
1923-26 (494).

T. F. Bell, Esq., B.Sc.,  
35 Osborne Close, Hanworth,  
Feltham, Middlesex.  
1953-58.

G. O. Cable, Esq.,  
28 Countisbury Close, Aldwick,  
Bognor Regis, Sussex.  
1950-56 (881).

M. R. Diaz, Esq.,  
c/o New Century Venturers Group  
of Companies, 21 Ironmonger Lane,  
London, E.C.2.  
1948-56.

S. Grant, Esq.,  
152 Albury Drive,  
Pinner, Middlesex.  
1952-58.

R. T. Rees, Esq.,  
19 Humber Road, Blackheath, Kent.  
1955-58.

J. R. Sargent, Esq.,  
4 Hillfield Road, London, N.W.6.  
1948-53 (802).

H. W. Turner, Esq., A.I.C.S.,  
26 Grove Road, Marygate Lane,  
Shepperton, Middlesex.  
1953-58.

N. J. Watson, Esq.,  
Athenaeum Court Hotel,  
Piccadilly, London, W.1.  
1946-54 (765).

P. J. Wolff, Esq.,  
16 Broadfields Avenue,  
London, N.21.  
1936-41.

G. O. Robinson, Esq.,  
"The Street", (Antique Shop),  
Gosfield, Nr. Halstead, Essex.  
1929-32 (404).

B. J. Roberts, Esq.,  
Dip.Arch., A.R.I.B.A.,  
17 Bedster Gardens, Hurst Park,  
E. Molesey, Surrey.  
1944-52 (778).

H. W. Moys, Esq.,  
10 Blenheim Court, Stanmore Road,  
Richmond, Surrey.  
1921-24 (423).

D. J. Moys, Esq.,  
63 Cumberland Road, Bromley,  
Kent.  
1953-58 (854).

Major L. J. Durkin,  
c/o Lloyds Bank Ltd.,  
Cranbrook, Kent.  
1933-35.

W. F. Fidge, Esq.,  
30 Lanthorne Road, Broadstairs,  
Kent.  
1921-29 (394).

Rev. R. G. Cole,  
The Manse, Wood Lane,  
Dagenham, Essex.  
1951-54.

M. W. Powell, Esq.,  
20 Heathcote Road, St. Margarets,  
Middlesex.  
1943-46.

M. A. Learner, Esq., B.Sc., M.I.Biol.,  
9 Grafton Close, Cyncoed,  
Cardiff, CF3 7JA.  
1950-55 (788).

N. A. C. Bijl, Esq.,  
17 Middlesex Road, Hillside,  
Bulawayo, Rhodesia.  
1936-43 (634).

E. G. Wake, Esq.,  
"Little Woodman", Courtaulds,  
Chipperfield, Herts.  
1924-31.

M. F. Sumner, Esq.,  
University of Botswana, Lesotho &  
Swaziland, Roma, Maseru, Lesotho.  
1947-55.

Lt. N. C. H. James, R.N.,  
8 East Close, Gwealower,  
Helston, Cornwall.  
1950-57.

C. D. Robinson, Esq.,  
33 Park Road, East Molesey, Surrey.  
1952-58.

W. G. Bailey, Esq.,  
Scarborough Court, Alexandra Way,  
Cramlington, Nr. Newcastle,  
Northumberland.  
1899-1907 (243).

\*M. J. Cato, Esq.,  
Wood End Cottage, Hedgerley Park,  
Nr. Slough, Bucks.

C. D. Fidge, Esq.,  
"Rossendale", 48 Woodham Waye,  
Woodham, Nr. Woking, Surrey,  
1948-54 (797).

Rev. L. J. Chesterman,  
Wistaria House, High Street,  
Porton, Salisbury, Wilts.  
1927-32.

D. A. Beggs, Esq.,  
c/o/ Price Waterhouse & Co.,  
5 Place Ville Marie, Montreal 2,  
Quebec, Canada.  
1951-56 (891).

\*P. F. Clark, Esq.,  
10 Courtleigh Avenue, Hadley Wood,  
Barnet, Herts.  
1957-58 897).

G. F. Foat, Esq.,  
14 Townfield Walk,  
Great Wakering, Essex.  
1955-58.

E. S. Wilkins, Esq.,  
32 Syke Ings, Iver, Bucks.  
1934-38 (520).

\*J. D. Porcas, Esq.,  
East Ridge, 32 Astons Road,  
Moor Park, Northwood, Middlesex.  
1937-39 (898).

\*R. W. Porcas, Esq.,  
20 Wild Oaks Close, Watford Road,  
Northwood, Middlesex.  
1914-18.

\*J. Mapleson, Esq.,  
Clybourne, Longaford Way, Hutton,  
Brentwood, Essex.  
1936-39.

D. C. Allan, Esq.,  
Fairoak, 55B Smugglers Lane,  
Highcliffe, Christchurch, Hants.  
1905-13 (801).

I. M. Howlett, Esq.,  
4 Grays Croft Road, Streatham,  
London, S.W.16.  
1953-56.

\*S. K. Bennett, Esq.,  
38 Langley Avenue,  
Worcester Park, Surrey.  
1953-57 (901).

\*S. F. Glynn, Esq.,  
Rosemount, Cricket Ground Road,  
Chislehurst, Kent.  
1932-35 (900).

\*J. D. Marchant, Esq.,  
Newbold, Pursers Lane,  
Peaslake, Surrey.  
1943-46.

L. T. Gardner, Esq., F.C.A.,  
"Applewell", 7 Manorbrook,  
Blackheath, London, S.E.3.  
1937-41.

P. G. Lockyer, Esq.,  
29 St. James's Road,  
Hampton Hill, Middlesex.  
1933-38 (559).

R. G. Hoddy, Esq., B.Sc.,  
21 St. Vincents Way,  
Potters Bar, Herts.  
1947-54 (770).

N. R. Dobson, Esq.,  
457 Strathcona, Westmount,  
Quebec, Canada.  
1941-48 (679).

B. G. Hazell, Esq.,  
14 Amberley Drive, Woodham,  
Weybridge, Surrey.  
1949-56.

Rev. L. J. Chesterman,  
Porton Vicarage, Salisbury, Wilts.  
1927-32.

M. J. Houghton, Esq.,  
18 Town Close, Stogursey,  
Nr. Bridgewater, Somerset.  
1955-58 (826).

R. J. Howes, Esq.,  
4 Brackenhill Close,  
Bromley, Kent.  
1946-53.

\* Indicates new member

## MISSING MEMBERS

M. J. Lucock (448)  
 M. J. Skeat  
 J. E. Piggott (277)  
 N. Fraser (666)  
 P. J. Clarke  
 F. J. Ordish (211)  
 F. E. White (237)  
 W. B. Spencer (420)  
 D. J. E. Heard  
 J. P. Norman (599)

W. W. Down (489)  
 F. E. Wells (735)  
 K. L. Cameron (665)  
 C. R. Tucker (575)  
 D. C. Puddy (392)  
 B. D. Lee  
 W. W. Brown (489)  
 D. M. Smith (683)  
 P. R. Cornick (832)  
 A. J. Sayers (363)

The following members have resigned for various reasons:—

R. K. Crane  
 W. C. Sharman

T. R. B. Phillips

The following were removed under Rule 3:—

C. P. W. Baldock  
 S. G. Booth  
 P. J. Clayton

A. Handel Dale  
 R. G. Linger

## OLD BOYS' DAY, 1969

At last the gods were kind and blessed Old Boys' Day with fine weather. Twenty-seven players, including thirteen Old Mercers, competed for the Mercers' Cup. The draw for this double wicket competition produced some interesting pairings, including the two fattest and the two thinnest members on view. By the time the semi-finals arrived, three O.M.s remained, Derek Archibald and Mick Manning as a pair and Robin Whiteland, partnered by an Old Citizen. The O.M. pair were defeated when needing only two runs for victory but Whiteland and partner reached the final only to fail by three runs when four were needed from the last ball.

Derek Archibald, the President of the Old Mercers' Club, presented the cup to the winners and an enjoyable evening followed, though the O.M. attendance was disappointingly small. However, a similar pattern for June 20th, 1970, is proposed; all O.M. cricketers wishing to participate should contact R. S. Dean, 76 Greenway Avenue, E.17.

## CRICKET WITH THE OLD CITIZENS, 1969

The Old Mercer members were spread rather more over the three elevens, though the majority still formed the basis of the third eleven. Reg Vanhegan continued as vice-captain of the side and still found difficulty in collecting and calculating tea money and match fees; his resignation before full decimalisation is anticipated. Graham Hargrave-Smith produced his best performance of

the season *against* the Club when "guesting" for Westminster Bank. The best performances of the O.M. contingent are listed below.

R. Vanhegan, P. G. Wainwright, G. Hargrave-Smith, G. C. Ives and the President, C. D. Archibald, attended the Old Citizen C.C. Dinner in January, 1969, "Archie" as the guest of the cricket club. One or two of the O.M. members are looking forward eagerly to the tour of the Isle of Wight in August when they will, no doubt, revive memories, cricketing and otherwise, of the O.M. tours of 1963 and 1964.

In these winter months, as I wrap another three shillings' worth of adhesive tape round each delicate ankle and listen to the vulgar vocabularies of O.M. footballers, I can hardly wait for the summer when I can squeeze an ever increasingly rotund figure into those ever decreasing white flannels.

R.S.D.

### OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES

G. Hargrave-Smith		P. Wainwright	
2nd XI	6-48 v. Birkbeck Coll.	2nd XI	59 v. Birkbeck Coll.
3rd XI	5-77 v. Leveret	3rd XI	46 n.o. v. N. London
	4-34 v. Bexleyheath		43 v Westminster Bk.

R. Vanhegan  
3rd XI 40 v. North London

R. S. Dean		C. Parker	
1st XI	5-39 v. O. Millhillians	3rd XI	5-23 v. O. Alleynians
2nd XI	6-116 v. Cyphers		5-42 v. Hounslow
3rd XI	7-37 v. Birkbeck Coll.		4-27 v. N. London
	40 v. O. Alleynians		4-48 v. O. Rutlishians

Third Eleven record for the season :

Played 18, won 7, drawn 7, lost 4