

KILBURN GRAMMAR SCHOOL
OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION



SECOND
GRAND BALL

WEMBLEY TOWN HALL
THURSDAY, 4th FEBRUARY, 1954



*A Message
from the
Mayor of Willesden*



*H*AVING had the privilege of a fairly close acquaintanceship with the Kilburn Grammar School over many years it is always a pleasure to me to be associated with any activity springing from its existence and as Mayor I am happy to be Patron of the Ball the Old Boys' Association are to hold on February 4th.

I suppose no one but an Etonian would accept as a literal truth the Duke of Wellington's famous assertion about the location on which the British victory at Waterloo was founded, but there can be no doubt that a great many young men, now firmly established in our highly competitive society, willingly acknowledge that they owe their success in a measure to the sound teaching and high ideals imparted to them at the K.G.S. It is good, therefore, that your Association enables them to meet together on that common ground, although I do not imagine for one moment that the programme of events is always bounded by considerations of education and ideals—that, I feel, would incur the risk of dullness, however commendable it might be in principle. That you do exert yourselves from time to time on behalf of good causes I know from personal experience as a trustee of a local Charity, and I am sure there are other bodies which have equal reason to be grateful.

Let me, then, wish all success to the forthcoming function, not only from the standpoint of a thoroughly enjoyable evening, but as a means of strengthening the Association.

Yours sincerely,

Mayor.

A Message from The Patron of the Association

DURING the First and Second World Wars, Old Boys of the Kilburn Grammar School serving with His Majesty's Forces paid frequent visits to their old school. Their conversation invariably centred on the Old boys they had met in the various theatres of war, and it was more than evident that, whether they were contemporaries or not, the mere fact that they had once attended the same school served to link them together with strong bonds of sympathy and friendship.

All normal people have commendable loyalties; to their homes and families, their schools, colleges and universities, their places of business, their home towns, counties and countries. How our interest is quickened when, far from home, we meet someone hitherto unknown but who hails from the same place!

Was it strange that the realisation of the intense love and loyalty they felt for their old school should have led, immediately after the First World War, to strengthening the Association of Old Creightonians and putting it on a properly organised footing, with officers elected by its members?

Well has the Association served its purpose! It has kept friendship alive, brought sympathy and help to those in need of them, and has been of incalculable value to the School, helping it in its endeavours to raise money for worth-while objects, keeping the best traditions alive, and showing, by the example of its members, what good citizens the pupils of the school can become.

As one so long associated with the school and the Old Creightonians, I commend the Association to all Old Boys and wish it, its officers and members, all success.

W. G. BOWDEN.

A Message from The President of the Association

THE OLD CREIGHTONIANS' ASSOCIATION has flourished for a long time. It exists to foster fellowship and loyalty and, through the manifold ventures, both social and athletic, which it has sponsored since it was launched, has a fine record of success to look back on in the furtherance of these aims.

In the present times, when the identity and separate characteristics of schools are tending everywhere to become merged—or submerged—in comprehensive anonymity, vigorous and thriving Associations of Old Boys have a particularly useful part to play, and the lively continuance of their wide-ranging activities can have none but fruitful effects.

A venture such as the present one, therefore, the purpose of which is to publicise the activities of the Association and to increase and strengthen its membership, deserves support and invites success. I hope that the unselfish toil and keen enthusiasm of many members of the Association—of which this book is evidence—will rekindle a sense of allegiance in many Old Boys who are now "afar and asunder," and that the Old Creightonians, in this sixth decade of the school's existence, will continue to grow in strength and influence.

D. F. WILLIAMS.

A Message from The Chairman of the Association

OBVIOUSLY, as Chairman, my first duty and, indeed, great pleasure, is to express my sincere thanks to all of you, both Association members and others, who are supporting this function, either by your presence, by donations or by the preliminary efforts you have contributed.

Probably the majority of you reading this Brochure and attending the Dance are not Old Boys or in any way connected with the Kilburn Grammar School. To you, then, I would say quite frankly that we are running this Dance to raise money for Association funds, and we realise that our success in this venture, and on any future occasion, will be determined by whether you have enjoyed yourselves and by whether you feel you have received value for your money. We believe our policy in engaging a top-ranking orchestra to be sound, and we hope in that respect you will agree with us. It may be, however, that you feel there are ways in which the Organisation can be improved. If so, then do please tell us. You are our customers and it is our job to see that you are satisfied.

Old Boys reading this will appreciate without any explanation from me the value of their support of this Dance. The Association's running costs have risen almost continuously every year since the War, and subscription income is no longer adequate to ensure regular issues of our "Newsheet," to assist sports sections when necessary, and to meet other incidental expenses. Quite apart from the financial aspect, your Executive Committee consider that the time has come to make the Association's activities more widely known. There must be hundreds of ex-Kilburn Grammar School scholars who are scarcely aware of the existence of the Old Boys' Association. We hope this Brochure will be read by many of them and that it will stimulate their interest.

Sports activities are covered elsewhere in the Brochure, so I will not enlarge on them except to remark that the Old Creightonians' Hockey Club has long held a respected place in London hockey circles, and the Old Creightonians' Rugby Club, after a very few seasons, and many initial difficulties overcome by their enthusiastic individual efforts, has established its reputation among Old Boys' Clubs. The Cricket Club, dormant since 1939, was re-started last season, and we hope and believe it will soon build up a fixture list at least equal to that of pre-war days. The Tennis and Badminton Clubs are still in their infancy, and we wish them every success.

And now a final word to our visitors. We are a social organisation, and our aim is to create opportunities for enjoyable meetings of ourselves and our friends. We hope we may now count you among our friends and that we shall be seeing you on many future occasions.

F. S. DADSWELL.

KILBURN GRAMMAR SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

Patron: W. G. BOWDEN, ESQ., M.A.

President: D. F. WILLIAMS, ESQ., M.A.

Vice-Presidents

C. B. THURSTON, ESQ., B.SC.	H. E. GOULD, ESQ., M.A.
W. H. E. BENTLEY, ESQ., B.SC.	E. W. RHODES, ESQ., B.A.
S. BURTON, ESQ., B.A.	W. H. WILLIAMS, ESQ., B.A.
J. LEMON BURTON, ESQ.	C. SYMES, ESQ.

Officers 1953-54

<i>Chairman</i>	F. S. DADSWELL, ESQ.
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	R. W. HOBBS, ESQ.
<i>Hon. Secretary</i>	P. HOWE, ESQ.
<i>Hon. Treasurer</i>	L. MAPSTONE, ESQ.
<i>Joint Hon. Registrars</i>	C. HARTSTONE, ESQ. J. W. ELVEY, ESQ.
<i>Joint Hon. Entertainment Secretaries</i>	C. HARTSTONE, ESQ. J. W. ELVEY, ESQ.
<i>Joint Hon. News Sheet Editors</i>	L. A. WATTS, ESQ. H. M. BERNEY, ESQ.
<i>Hockey Club Secretary</i>	D. TAYLOR, ESQ.
<i>Rugby Club Secretary</i>	A. B. LYFORD, ESQ.
<i>Tennis Club Secretary</i>	J. WALTER, ESQ.
<i>Badminton Club Secretary</i>	J. NYE, ESQ.
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<i>Hon. Auditors</i>	J. E. KOPP, ESQ. R. G. AMEY, ESQ.
<i>Benevolent Fund Trustees</i>	R. J. REED, ESQ. P. ATKINSON, ESQ. V. R. C. APPLEBY, ESQ.

Executive Committee 1953-54

J. LEMON BURTON, ESQ.	C. W. COX, ESQ.
J. C. MALLEY, ESQ.	F. COLLIS, ESQ.
C. SYMES, ESQ.	



. . . *ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS* . . .



The Chairman and Committee wish to express their sincere and grateful thanks to:

The Advertisers who, through their support, have enabled us to produce this Souvenir Brochure.



The many friends who have sent donations towards our Fund.



Mr. C. Hartstone, one of our Hon. Entertainment Secretaries, for his outstanding efforts in connection with this function.



Mr. L. A. Watts, who undertook the Editorial, for his work in compiling this Brochure.



All those who so willingly contributed to the subject matter of the Brochure.



And to all guests, who by their liberal and generous patronage have made this function socially and financially successful.



THE ASSOCIATION STORY

LET'S FACE IT—to compress the story of the birth and growth of the Association into the confines of one short article is an impossibility.

However, an effort has been made to outline the main events and personalities. It is inevitable that the names of all who have served the Association well and long cannot be included, nor can every function be mentioned. For the innumerable omissions, indulgence is requested. It is hoped that what is written here will interest the younger reader, and bring back pleasant memories to the more senior Old Boys.

There seems little doubt that an Old Boys' Association was started in 1906, and, indeed, Mr. Thurston recounts an event in 1902 when an Old Boys' Team beat the Staff at Tug-of-War by two pulls to one, the occasion being the School Sports Day. It appears, too, that the First Annual Dinner was held in 1906, but apart from one or two further events nothing more is known.

The present organisation dates from 1919. Some of those returning from the War met at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis, Snr., the parents of Leonard Curtis (whose name has been perpetuated in Curtis House). W. Bonavia Hunt, Esq., was elected President, and John Ware and C. B. Thurston were elected Vice-Presidents. George Sexton became the first Chairman, L. Curtis was elected Treasurer and Philip Atkinson took on the office of Secretary. It is interesting to note the interest of the School Staff in the Association, and amongst the other members present at that historic meeting were W. G. Bowden and J. Wesbury, both of whom were to give sterling service to the Association for many years.

One of the first activities of the Old Boys was to arrange for the erection of a Memorial to those who had fallen in the late War, and this was unveiled in the Creighton Hall during the following year by the Bishop of London.

A great deal of hard work was done by the Committee during the first few years, and by 1924 the Association had grown into a thriving and active organisation. Tennis and Cricket Sections were formed as early as 1920, and Football soon followed. Dances and Whist Drives were being held regularly, and the now famous Smoking Concerts had become a regular feature. In 1924, with the help of Johnnie Ware and John Lodge, the Dramatic Society came into being, and this was to thrive for many years. Plays by Ibsen, Shaw,

Pinero and others were performed for enthusiastic audiences, and the standard of performance and production was high. An endeavour was made to ensure that the activities covered as wide a field as possible, and a more serious note was struck in 1923 when the Benevolent Fund was founded. Fortunately there have been almost no calls upon the Fund, but it is nice to think that should the necessity arise it would be possible for the Association to help any deserving case.

More will be said of the Hockey Club in a separate article. Opportunity must be made, however, to mention the activities of the Football Club. It thrived for many years and was reckoned to be a very formidable opponent in the London Secondary Schools Old Boys' League, and although never successful in winning the Cup, the Club reached the final rounds on many occasions. There were few changes of officers during this period. Arthur Sexton was Chairman until 1925, when he was succeeded by V. C. (Pie) Appleby, who retained the Chair until 1932. Leonard Curtis held the purse until 1927 and was followed by W. F. Edwards, who gave the Association the benefit of his professional experience until 1933. Pie Appleby had been Secretary from 1921 to 1925 and handed over to J. E. Kopp. Claude was to remain a stalwart officer of the Association until 1948, and even now carries out the duties of Auditor. In 1924 it was decided to appoint two Entertainment Secretaries, but the arrangement of the Annual Dinner was still left in the capable hands of Temple Cole. Finally, mention should be made of Mr. W. B. Luke, one of the Governors of the School, who was always a welcome guest at Dinners, and who always supported the Association to the full.

In 1925 Bonavia Hunt retired from the School, and Mr. J. McLeish became President and remained so until his untimely death in 1932. During those seven years he was Counsellor and guide to the Association, and gave it his help in every way. It will be recalled that during his Headmastership the School Pavilion was built by money voluntarily raised, and this remains a fitting reminder of his drive and untiring efforts for anything that was for the good of the School.

Nineteen-twenty-nine brought the introduction of Old Boys' Colours, and this must be regarded as a fitting climax to the progress of the Association over the ten years from 1919. The years 1929 and 1930 appear to have been vintage years. By then the mailing list contained over 300 names. Apart from the Tenth Annual Dinner, two successful Whist Drives and two

very enjoyable Dances were held. There was a production of Galsworthy's "Strife" which was acclaimed on all sides. Also came the first Bohemian Concert which proved so popular that similar functions were arranged in following years. Their success was due to the magnificent efforts of A. Sexton and Teddy Brown, who organised them so well. All the existing sports sections were in good shape, including the Badminton Section, which had been formed in 1927 and played in the School Gymnasium. Apart from this, one event occurred in 1930 which in itself makes the year outstanding—The Hockey Club was formed. Its full story will be found elsewhere in these pages and suffice it to say here that it was the beginning of a Club which was to make its name in Hockey.

During the 'thirties the Association thrived under the Chairmanship of E. W. M. (Teddy) Potts and R. J. (Reggie) Reed respectively, and this was a period of consolidation. The main activities and functions of the Association continued, and from time to time innovations were introduced. If the Committee considered there was a demand for some new activity it was introduced with their blessing. One such function was a Dinner Dance which was held in Town and very much enjoyed by those who attended. Ralph Hobbs was a very keen organiser of these. Any mention of Dances immediately brings to mind Cliff Symes. Cliff seems to have first held office in 1932 as Registrar, and in 1935 he seems to have transferred his activities to Dances. His major effort, however, was still to come. Elected Chairman in 1939 he continued in that office until 1949, surely the most difficult years in the Association's History. A rearguard action was fought during the first year of the War to keep the activities going, but gradually the lights went out. However, in the midst of adversity the "Newsheet" came into being as the only means of keeping touch between members. To Cliff and his small band of enthusiastic helpers must go the thanks for keeping the spirit of the Association alive during those difficult years. The "Newsheet" still remains a means of telling members in all parts of England and the world of the doings of the Old Boys and the School.

It is known that at least 500 past members of the School served with the Forces during the War, and 67 of these did not return. One of the first actions after the end of hostilities was the question of how best the names of those who gave their lives could be commemorated. It was decided that the Memorial should

take a practical form, and that a Bookcase inscribed with a Roll of Honour should be presented to the School, together with a number of books of general reference. The Dedication was carried out by Rev. C. H. Hughes in March, 1948. A fitting choice because, as he said, "Bobby" Hughes had known practically every boy whose name appeared on the Roll of Honour.

Gradually the activities of the Association were revived, and great assistance in the "rehabilitation" was given by the Acting Headmaster, Mr. W. G. Bowden, who has been associated with the organisation since its inception. The Hockey Club was re-started, and is now flourishing as never before. Leslie Mapstone, our worthy Treasurer, made a gallant effort to revive the Soccer Club, but as the School had given up the game during the War his hopes were doomed to failure. However, it's an ill wind, etc., and it was soon possible to found an Old Boys' Rugby Club, and this activity has now taken its place in the life of the Association.

One new difficulty has had to be faced during post-war years. That is the problem of National Service. Although the intake of school-leavers has been high, it has been found that it is very difficult to keep in touch during their period of National Service, and when they return, contact is not, in many cases, re-established.

The Social activities of the Association have been resumed, and the Dinner has once again become a highlight in the year. Dances are run at frequent intervals, and in 1952 the first large Dance at Wembley Town Hall was voted a huge success.

Mr. Williams came to the School in 1949 and like all previous Headmasters, has shown a keen interest in the Old Boys. Cliff Symes decided to vacate the Chairmanship in 1949, but the Association were fortunate in Jack Burton, his successor. Jack has been a keen member of the Hockey Club since its inception, and brought a wealth of experience to help him in the task of leading the Old Boys back to the high standard of pre-war achievement.

Fred Dadswell, the present Chairman, requires no introduction. He has been a keen member for many years and was Secretary during most of the post-war years, and there is no doubt that the Association will continue to prosper under his guidance.

Before this story draws to its close, reference must be made with gratitude to all those who have served the Association. To the members of the School Staff at all times, to the Head Boys who have always shown their willingness to help, and to all Old Boys, who by their interest and service have helped to make the Association, must go our thanks. They may be assured that the spirit of the Association, succoured by their efforts through the years, can, and will endure.



Programme



DANCING

7.30 — 8.00 p.m.

THE CHRIS STONE QUINTET

8.00 — 9.30 p.m.

NAT TEMPLE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

9.30 — 10.00 p.m.

THE CHRIS STONE QUINTET

10.00 — 11.30 p.m.

NAT TEMPLE AND HIS ORCHESTRA

PRESENTATION

10.30 p.m.

THE LUCKY BROCHURE PRIZE by
THE MAYORESS OF WILLESDEN

M.C. — Mr. CLIFF SYMES

Official Photographer — HERBERT J. BECK



OLD CREIGHTONIANS' HOCKEY CLUB (1930 —)

THE history of the Old Boys' Hockey Section can be conveniently divided into two parts—before, and after, the war. In recalling those far-off pre-war days we must rely entirely upon the memory of the people concerned, as written records of the period suffered an obscure fate during the War. So, if one or two names are omitted, please bear with us in our attempt to compile what can only be a general picture.

In the year 1925 there flourished a Hockey Club known as Neasden Hockey Club, supported largely by Old Boys of Kilburn Grammar School. When this Club ceased to exist, the Old Boys gathered together, and led by Tommy Townsend, Harry Burns, Jack Burton, Teddy Potts and others, our own Hockey Club was started.

The Club first played at a ground in Kingsbury and fixtures included Royal Sovereign Pencil and Watneys Brewery, a popular fixture this latter, when half-time lemons were replaced by the home side's valuable product.

As the Club gradually grew and established itself, there were many changes of ground. After Kingsbury came a ground near the Great West Road, and then a few weeks at Stanmore, where the first game was abandoned at half-time in order to save "life and limb," such was the state of the pitch. However, from Stanmore, our Club, two teams by then, moved to a R.A.F. pitch at Uxbridge, where they stayed until 1935 when expansion of the R.A.F. caused another move to Uxbridge Cricket Club, and then it was that the Club became a power in the land of men's Hockey.

Having entered into a seven years' agreement, the Cricket Club installed adequate drainage which helped to provide us with one of the finest pitches in the London area, and coupled with a steady flow of good quality recruits and coached by England International Alan Stuart (History Master at K.G.S.), the future looked bright indeed. A second pitch became available, and in the final season before the War, the Club was fielding four Saturday sides, all wearing the Club colours, Gold Shirts faced with Blue, Blue Shorts and Red Stockings.

Some names of the pre-war era have already been mentioned, others such as Geoffrey Freeman, George and Eric Haywood, Cliff Lawrence, Martin Freeman, Joey Joel, Reggie Reed, Peter Breen, Bassett and Don Woodman, are just a few who played their part in this history. Some are still with us, but more of that anon.

Then the War. For the first season one team was fielded, and even until December, 1940, games were played, but then came the inevitable, and the Club closed down. Members were scattered all over the

world. No less than eleven playing members made the supreme sacrifice, including Alan Stuart. He was one of the finest Hockey Internationals ever, and his death was a very sad blow to all who knew this charming man and brilliant Hockey player.

* * * *

October, 1946, saw the revival of the Club with one pitch at Uxbridge, and one team, consisting of some veterans like Burns, Burton, Lawrence, Bowley, and including newcomers Stan Taylor, Gordon Machen, Laury Israel and skippered by Teddy Potts.

The School no longer played Hockey, and with only one team, costs rose alarmingly, so that younger members, even if available, found it an expensive game. Gradually, however, the task of rebuilding what had been lost was pushed forward in face of almost insurmountable difficulties. Pre-war members came back, coaching was arranged, and a new Second Eleven was started. Eventually the School re-started Hockey, and once more younger members came our way. A new style of Hockey was introduced by new members who had learnt to play in India during the War. David Lafrencis, Louis Lonstan and Bob Morley introduced the brilliant stickwork of the Indian type game to our Senior side, and are most nobly and indeed brilliantly filling our need for first-class forwards, and so overcome the dearth caused by a ten-year gap in Hockey tuition at School.

The 1950-51 Season saw the beginning of the third eleven, and in 1952-53 the first fourth eleven, and our membership had now risen to about 55 members, but expenses were crippling. Considerable effort behind the scenes had been going on for some time to find more suitable accommodation nearer London, and by a stroke of fortune contact was established with the Shepherds Bush Cricket Club, whose ground at East Acton has excellent facilities and two small but well surfaced pitches. Although it was rather sad in many ways to leave the scene of our former triumphs, our duty was clear, and on the 3rd October, 1953, we opened at our new ground with a convincing win over Southgate Adelaide H.C. by 6 goals to 2, the third eleven winning by 9 goals to nil. This has been a great uplift to the Club, but it must not be thought that our difficulties are over. We are in most urgent need of new members of any standard.

Before concluding, mention must be made of our annual trips to Worthing for the Easter Hockey Festival. These are the highspots of the Hockey season. The Tournament was discovered by accident by some of our members before the war, when it was quite unknown in our area, and the following year a team from the O.C.'s, together with their ladies, made the first trip to the delightful South Coast resort.

Teams have been sent regularly each year since, and the Festival has become one of the biggest in the country with a long waiting list of Clubs wishing to participate. Our success at the Tournament has varied, but our enjoyment has always increased.

This, then, is the history of the Club. The names, places and events have come and gone. Jack Burton, Cliff Lawrence, Eric Bowley, Eric Haywood are still with us, playing or umpiring, as is Martin Freeman, our President, Teddy Potts still appears at the A.G.M., Paul Huish and Alan George play or umpire with equal

facility. Of the post-war newcomers, Stan Taylor, Alan Lewis, Gordon Machen, Ron Jinks and Ron Jeffries are taking their place in the story of the Club, and joining the older members in their love for the elegant game.

May the writer take this opportunity of wishing the very best of good fortune to any old member or associate of the Hockey Club who might chance to read these few words, and to apologise to any who may not have their names recorded, and to assure them all, and indeed everyone, of a most warm welcome at our new ground in East Acton Lane, London, W.3, at any time.

OLD CREIGHTONIANS' RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB (1948 -)

RUGBY FOOTBALL was unknown to the School or the Old Boys prior to 1939. However, whilst the School was evacuated at Northampton, it made its appearance in the curriculum. Subsequently, when the School was reunited at Salisbury Road, Rugger replaced the traditional Soccer as a School game.

As was the case with the Hockey Club, boys leaving the School and wishing to continue playing the game were forced to join one of the well-known Clubs, such as Harrow or the Wasps. Fred Herbert was one such player, and his playing in the London Counties XV against the Springboks in 1952 may be recalled. (Incidentally, this was the only game that the visitors lost during that victorious tour.)

It was inevitable, then, that sooner or later Old Boys would get together and form an Old Creightonians' Rugby Club, and this was brought about in April, 1948, after a memorable Old Boys v. School game in which two teams were fielded for the first and only time.

The great problem which faced the Club was the question of a home ground. The School Field was at that time still under cultivation as allotments, and out of the question. Not despairing, however, the Club obtained away fixtures for the 1948 Season and this state of affairs was to continue until 1952, when Chris Macey and Des Mitchell successfully negotiated with the "Bees" Club at Ruislip for a pitch.

The Club was skippered by John Holland for the first season. A good start was made, the Club won its first fixture by 20 points to 3, and although this high standard was not always maintained, the position at the end of the Season was: Played 20, Won 10, Lost 7, and Drawn 3. It says much for the leadership of John Holland that he was able to wield the Club together without the advantage of a home ground, and, contrary to what might be expected, the weary globe-trotting of all those who wished to play brought a fine spirit into the Club which, happy to relate, is still there.

The second Season proved to be a consolidation of the first, and opposition strength was about the same.

The results quite rightly reflected the improvement. John Stoppa and Peter Griffiths took over the helm, and Dennis Buckingham had the distinction of scoring over 100 points for the Club during the season.

By 1950 the lack of a second XV was being felt, as although recruits were being received from School, they were not quite up to first XV standard. An "A" XV was accordingly started and even if, owing to bad weather and other difficulties, it was doomed, the need was still there, and it was found possible to re-start it during the next Season.

Meantime, however, the first XV continued to go from strength to strength, and a successful season of play was experienced and, incidentally, the Club's first drop goal was scored by Maurice Applegate.

The 1951/52 season saw the re-start of the "A" XV and this time it came to stay, and became known as the "sociable" Fifteen. Apart from providing the first XV with an excellent breeding ground for good players, it was found that it possessed other talents in addition, and provided typical Rugby entertainment on many social occasions. The first XV had a most successful season under the leadership of Peter Griffiths, and won 16 of its 24 fixtures.

Peter gave up the position of Skipper at the end of the 1951/52 season after three years of valuable service to the side, and Tim Allen took over for the 1952/53 season. At the end of another satisfactory fixture list the Club visited the Lowestoft and Yarmouth Festival at Easter and acquitted themselves very well, where an enjoyable time was had by all. Also, for the first time a team was entered for the Chiltern "Sevens." It is hoped that both these innovations will be repeated in subsequent years.

In conclusion, mention must be made of the officers, past and present, for the excellent way in which they have managed to keep the Club together in difficult circumstances. Now that a home ground has been obtained it is hoped that the Club will settle down to many years of good and successful play.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND

THE Benevolent Fund was started soon after the re-formation of the Old Boys' Association in 1919, with the object of providing a fund from which assistance could be given to any member who had fallen on evil times, either by means of a cash payment or a small annuity.

Unfortunately, the fund has not received the support that was anticipated, and at the present moment stands at a figure completely incompatible with the size and numerical strength of the Association, and completely inadequate to meet any possible claims that may be made upon it.

Donations would be gratefully received and annual subscriptions (by means of Bankers' Order) would be doubly welcome.

The fund is administered by three of the older Old Boys, one of whom investigates claims and cases of necessity that may be brought to their notice.

Naturally the Administrators hope and trust that no claim will ever be made on the Fund, but should a case of necessity arise they would like to be in a position to give adequate assistance.

The funds are invested in the Abbey National Building Society, and bear the current rates of interest.

This is the chance of every member to assist in a really worth-while cause. Remember—"One never knows."

OLD CREIGHTONIANS' CRICKET CLUB

THE Old Creightonians' Cricket Club was formed in the year 1921 and, from that year right up until 1939, one Saturday and one Sunday Eleven was fielded. Most matches were played away, but the Club had the good fortune of being able to make use of the School ground for home matches during the Summer Holidays. The Club also used the School "nets" for practice throughout the Season.

When war broke out, the Club found it impossible to continue, and apart from an occasional match the Old

Creightonians' Cricket Club ceased to function until the 1953 Season when a few members once more re-formed the Club. During the 1953 Season, 29 matches were played, and the Club fared reasonably well, considering that the team was young and inexperienced and that the Club had no "nets" for pre-season or mid-week practice.

It was noticeable that the standard of play improved as the Season progressed and, hence, we look confidently forward to a more successful 1954 Season and many more successful Seasons after that.

