

There was a practise list on the notice-board. My name was first on the list. I thought that the selectors must have thought me very good so I began to tell the other players of my great strength and skill at all ball games.

Trotting majestically out to the field in new, shining black boots, new white shorts and new jersey, I was feeling very confident.

Then a man appeared on the field blowing a whistle. I thought that this man must not be very mature for his age. He was not wearing the right coloured jersey for either sides.

I was later informed that I was playing full back. As I discovered no goalie on the field I retired to the goal-posts despite ear-splitting shrieks from the captain.

With the man still blowing his whistle the game began. The ball was kicked forward and soon afterwards the game stopped. Some of the players started hugging each other and then they bent down. With a shout of "Lost Colours" they all emerged from this ridiculous state. I have never found out who Colours was.

The master was at this time only blowing his whistle at intervals. Once a player lay on the ground screaming and bending his body backwards and forwards. The man with the whistle helped this player to bend his body. Then after a few minutes the boy got up. The teams applauded this unique performance.

Suffering, as I was, from the cold, it was not until after half-time that the ball came near me. I had been told how to stop a player getting a score at half-time. One of my team had demonstrated on me how to do this. I was not pleased at this.

Then my turn came, a player rushed down the field, snorting and grunting with players on either side. I was determined not to be defeated. Rushing forward, I kicked my opponent on the shins. The man gave several rapid blows on his whistle and the boy who I had kicked held up his fists and used words, some of which are usually unheard by the ears of the high-born.

A score by means of a penalty kick resulted from this. The game was over and the other team had won.

What happened later in the changing-rooms I shall refrain from relating to you. But this match was the beginning and the end of my rugby-playing career.

"Hopeless" (IV Year)

RUGBY 1963-64

The S.C.T. had a rather disappointing season this year, in spite of fairly high hopes for them at the beginning of the year. They were beaten by fourteen points in the first match against High

School, but the fact of their starting on a low note meant little in the succeeding matches of that term. From then on right up to the Christmas holidays their fortunes were rather mixed as only one or two of the matches were either lost or won by more than ten points. One of those that were lost was the one against C.B.C., Monkstown. It is rather special because the experimental laws, some of which are now the new laws, were used in it. It was a good, open match with C.B.C. coming out on top by 16 points to 9. In a home match near the end of the term we held Methody 3rd XV to a scoreless draw. Later in a return match in Belfast Methody won by 6 points to nil.

After the Christmas break, however, things were not quite so good. Out of the remaining nine matches, the nearest we came to gaining even a draw was when we were beaten 6-5 by High School in the return match. On the basis of the standard during the first term we were put into the strong section of the Cup Rounds. However, we were knocked out in the first round by Clongowes who beat us by 19 points to 8.

Again the 2nd XV had only a very few matches. In spite of this they won them all—two of them by quite large margins.

The Junior team was not outstanding in any way either. It also had a very poor season, winning only three out of the twelve matches played. In the first match of the season they were beaten 21-0 by High School. Drawn in the weaker section of the Cup Rounds, which was played off before Christmas, they were knocked out by Mountjoy, who beat them by 12 points to 3 in a first round match.

Contrary to what appears to be the popular trend among the other teams the under 14 and under 13 teams show some signs of improvement on the past few years. The under 14 got off to a poor start but soon reached quite a good standard, which they maintained reasonably well for most of the season. The under 13 started off quite well and never really dropped much, winning exactly half of their matches.

Teams:

S.C.T.: H. Wright, S. Levis, J. Davidson, J. Neill, F. Meaney, K. Irwin (Capt.), R. Halligan, R. Sloan, S. Cole, D. Hood, D. McBryde, C. Neill, D. Williamson, D. Orr, R. Coghlan.

2nd XV.: J. Neill, D. White, F. Kidd, H. Wright, S. Levis, G. Henderson, A. McCartney (Capt.), S. Vaughan, P. Billingsley, P. Brown, M. Hickson, M. Taylor, D. Orr, R. Sloan, I. Sutton.

J.C.T.: C. Hampton, R. McConnell, O. Porter, D. Henderson, D. McPeake, G. Henderson (Capt.), J. Neill, T. Keane, T. Hyland, D. Edmondson, J. King, W. Telford, A. Thompson, I. Cromie, G. Snow.

Under 14: C. McClure, R. McConnell, D. McPeake, J. Bowes, D. Prentice, D. Sutton, P. Payne, G. Bratten, I. Howard, H. Lynn, J. Acheson, W. Russell, D. Telford, I. Cromie (Capt.), D. Hilditch.

Under 13: J. Bowes, D. Sutton (Capt.), D. Prentice, N. Taylor, I. Howard, G. Bratten, J. Acheson, L. Gibb, D. Telford, W. Russell, D. Hilditch, D. Francis, I. Clokey, M. Tyrrell, C. Jackson.

Summary of Matches

Matches Played	Home			Away			Points		
	Won	Drawn	Lost	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	
S.C.T.	25	8	1	4	—	—	12	146	227
2nd XV	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	62	9
J.C.T.	12	1	—	4	2	—	5	87	249
Under 14	17	3	1	2	2	—	9	85	142
Under 13	12	2	2	1	4	—	3	86	75

I. F. Sutton

CRICKET 1964

This season the standard of play was disappointingly low for all the teams. The Senior League, instead of the knock-out Cup, was retained from the previous season, but our senior team did not get very far in it only winning one out of the four matches in their section. The Junior did little better in the Cup Rounds. They were knocked out in the second round. The under 14, having lost the first two of their league matches and a third having been put off because of rain, were withdrawn from the league.

In the beginning of the term the senior team looked promising. They got off to a good start, beating Wesley by eight wickets in the first match. After a draw with Sandford Park they beat Mountjoy by seven wickets in the first league match. Unfortunately, however this fine form ended there. In their next league match they were beaten by St. Andrew's by 18 runs. Next they met Belvedere and were beaten by 51 runs. They did not fare quite so badly in the next one, which was against Gonzaga, and it resulted in a draw with Masonic declaring at 124 for 7 and Gonzaga putting up 69 for 2 before close of play. Before meeting Blackrock in their last match of the section they had a friendly one with Coleraine A.I. at home, which they lost by 4 wickets. Then Blackrock beat them by 45 runs. As may be seen this was the end of 1964 Senior League for Masonic. After this they had four more friendly matches all of which they either lost or drew. One of these was that against the Past Pupils on the 22nd of June in which the Present made 57 and 58 for 8 declared, while the Past made 78 and 38 for 5 declared.