

The Club library and the Dark Room have remained in frequent use; our new enlarger has been producing fine results.

Attendances remain at a high level, and we hope that they will continue so in the coming year.

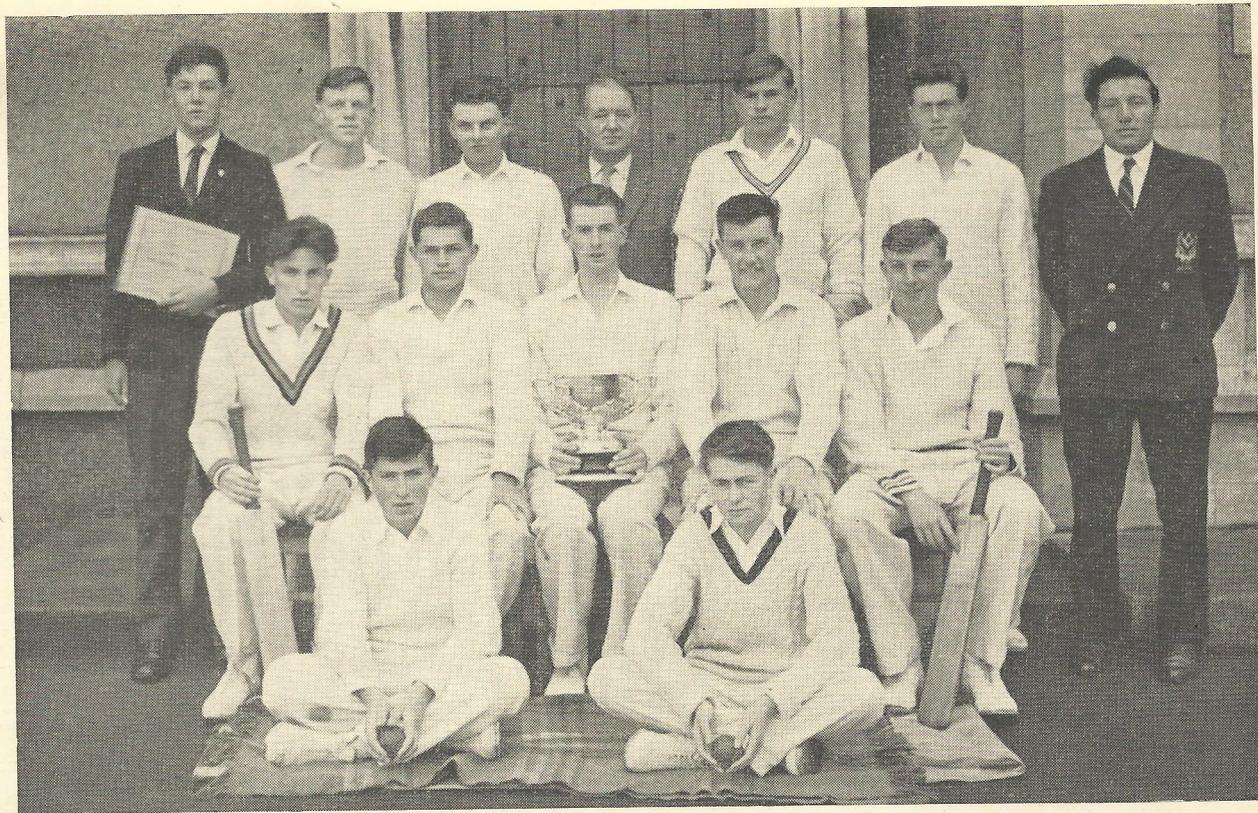
The Committee elected for the 1962/63 session comprised:—C. Payne (Hon. Sec.), N. Houston (Hon. Treas.), P. Brown (Dark Room Sec.), B. Neill and S. Thompson.

CRICKET 1963

The Season 1963 was very reminiscent of recent seasons. The 1st XI had a fairly successful season, but the Junior and Under 14 XIs once again failed to reach the required standard. 1956 is quite some time ago, and it is sad to relate that that was the last occasion on which the Junior Cup returned to Richview. In the intervening years there have been a few occasions when luck did not favour us, but this year we were beaten in the 1st Round of the cup due to a very inept display. It is to be hoped that very soon we will see a revival of that spirit which brought the school so many successes in the past.

To return to the cricket played during the season this report will concentrate on the 1st XI which, although not winning the Senior cup outright, did turn in some fine performances. In the early matches form was rather patchy especially in the opening match against C.U.S. when we were dismissed for an ignominious 27 runs after dismissing them for 55. Out of this total Arbuthnot took 9 wickets for 16 runs. Later in the season this performance was improved upon in the return when we made 113 for 7 dec. and they were 81 for 4 at close of play.

Looking back on the season pride of place must surely go to the league match—those of our readers who remember the old Senior League will be interested to know that the League Competition was revived this year—our first, played against Sandford Park at Richview. We were put in to bat and struggled to 36 for 6 of which Billingsley got 18. We were then saved by stands between McCartney, Irwin and Lilley, being all out for 85. Sandford were thus left 100 minutes to get the runs. They scored very quickly, and, with their score at 75 for 1 with about 25 minutes to go, it seemed nothing could save us. Then within 2 minutes of each other both their run-getters were back in the pavilion—76 for 3. Next 82 for 5 and Scott, with very accurate bowling, took 3 wickets in one over to make it 83 for 8. Time enough for approximately two more overs. The boys, and staff, who had watched and heard of this rising tension while at tea were now out and congregated over by the “New Wing” to add just that little bit of atmosphere. Jeffers started his last over, Sandford needing 3 to win, and we 2 wickets: off the first ball 2 runs—the scores level. With his second ball Jeffers clean bowled no. 4 and the last man arrived with the scores level. Jeffers bowled his next four balls amid mounting tension—certainly encouragement and excitement not unlike that witnessed at some of the Test Matches in England later in the season—and the final over came with the scores still level. Scott



JOINT HOLDERS LEINSTER SCHOOLS SENIOR CUP, 1963

Back row: C. Payne, P. Boreland, A. Martin, H. R. Quinlan Esq., M.A., R. McCoy, K. Irwin, J. McC. Moore Esq., B.A. **Middle row:** R. Jeffers, I. McCartney, R. Scott (Captain), R. Arbuthnot, H. Wright. **Front row:** P. Billingsley, E. Lilley.

bowled again, and although the batsmen made a few darts for that all-important run, the last ball came to be bowled; 1 run for Sandford to win—the batsman made a despairing swipe at the ball, it glanced off his pad; they ran, a quick return and No. 10 was run out. The match unbelievably was tied and saved. In this great fight-back no praise could be too high for the spirited bowling of Jeffers and Scott when all seemed lost. The fielding became really good and indeed looking back on the season in their fielding in the final 40 minutes of this match, and in the replay later, this team came closest to being a traditional Masonic fielding team.

Strangely enough two other matches were to be decided in the final over. In the match against the Leprechauns we declared at 111 for 8 mainly due to Lilley, Wright and extras and Jimmy Gill, captaining Leprechauns, who decided he had a very strong batting side, and wanted some runs to bat against. At any rate they had something less than a run a minute to get the 112 required to win. Their opening batsmen gave them a great start by putting on 43 runs for 1st wicket in 30 minutes. The score continued to mount fairly steadily though wickets also fell until the final over was reached with Leprechauns requiring 7 to win with 2 wickets to fall. Jeffers bowled the final over and off his first 3 balls they took 5 runs: then with his next two balls he clean bowled the last two and we were through by 1 run—Leprechauns being beaten for the third successive year. In the next match against Coleraine we batted first and managed only 43 of which McCoy got 19 and Billingsley 16. Coleraine were soon in trouble particularly against the spin of Scott and Arbuthnot and were all out for 24. The next two league matches against Gonzaga and St. Mary's were both won very easily, and the team then left on a tour of the North playing Coleraine in Coleraine and Methodist College in Belfast.

The match against Coleraine was won although again a low-scoring affair. The result against Methodist was a draw, but this was another game which was not decided till the final over. We made 88 of which Scott contributed a very fine 50. In their innings when Jeffers came to bowl the final over they needed 5 runs for victory. As it turned out they got 4 runs and we 1 wicket to leave the scores level at "Stumps" but they had still 2 wickets in hand. Our next big match was against Foyle College who arrived with a reputation of having annihilated most of the top-ranking schools in the North. We batted first and with the new sight screens in operation for the first time, and scored 117 of which Irwin (24), Scott (40) and Jeffers (25 n.o.) were the top scorers. Due to fine bowling by Scott (4 for 13) and Jeffers (3 for 21) Foyle were 67 for 8 when stumps were drawn and we had good reason to feel pleased.

And so to the concluding weeks of the season. The Past Pupils' match was played on Thursday 13th June—two days after the infamous thunderstorm of Tuesday 11th. The wicket was very sodden and parts

of the outfield were still under water. The 1st XI batted first and made 91 of which Lilley contributed a valuable 41. Due to fine knocks by R. Leslie, L. Bloomer and A. Meldrum, the past won by 5 wickets. The next match against a Leinster C.C. XI had to be abandoned. Thence to the semi-final against Belvedere played at Cabra.

On a rather misty morning we won the toss and batted first. At times, for those of us who have sat uneasily during many cup matches when our batting has been rather unpredictable, and we have watched rear-guard actions much worse than that described in the Sandford league match, it was difficult to believe it was a cup match since the runs came so fast and wickets were not falling. The first wicket fell at 63 scored in 75 minutes, McCoy scoring 45 which included two sixes! At lunch the score was 87 for 1, a score, which on occasions we would have been pleased to total all out. After lunch Billingsley was dismissed 2nd ball, but Lilley (35), Irwin (23), Scott (33), and Jeffers (22n.o.) scored rapidly and we were all out for 186. At the close of play Belvedere were 44 for 4 and it took a little over an hour to claim the final six wickets on the next afternoon, Arbuthnot taking 6 for 17.

The final was due to start on Monday 24th June and although the team's performances had been erratic we had reasonable grounds for optimism. When we arrived at Rathmines on Monday the Umpires did not take long to decide the ground was unplayable that day. On Tuesday morning Blackrock won the toss and batted. After 30 minutes of play we were back in the pavilion due to rain—this was to be the dominant feature of the match for the rest of the week, rain and cold more reminiscent of November than mid-summer. After lunch play resumed and a new wicket and Blackrock totalled 136 after being 89 for 6. That they reached this total was due to poor fielding generally, but particularly to two missed catches which in the event cost about 50 runs. Our batting, after the glories of the previous week against Belvedere, had little character, being spoiled by 3 run outs especially of Lilley and Billingsley Nos. 1 and 3 respectively, and it was left to Jeffers (20n.o.), who yet again played another fighting innings, to bring the score from 48 for 6 to 89 all out. Blackrock began their 2nd innings very cautiously, considering they had a lead of 47 runs, and after Billingsley and Jeffers had each bowled 12 overs their score stood at 19 for 2 wickets. At this stage we appeared to be coming back with the game, and even with the Blackrock score at 43 for 5 we still appeared to be on top as at no time had the batsmen been easy against good bowling and aggressive fielding. Unfortunately the effort was not sustained, and due mainly to a succession of dropped catches Blackrock eventually totalled 114. One veteran press reporter remarked, as the fielding was so bad it was difficult to believe a Masonic team was on the field, but in fairness it should be mentioned that that particular afternoon the match was played in absolutely miserable conditions, and but for the fact that the available time was running out the umpires would surely have stopped play.

McCoy and Lilley opened our 2nd innings requiring 162 to win, at the close we were 12 for 0 and there the match ended. On Friday morning when play was to be continued the ground and wicket were flooded and so the match was abandoned, the cup being shared.

This report has been rather different to those of preceding years. but we thought that our readers, particularly those past pupils who read our notes, and who are not in close contact with Richview, may have a more vivid impression of how the game is still played here, 1963, particularly in respect of the 1st XI, had a disappointing ending, but this must not hide the fact that there were some fine performances—Scott, Arbuthnot and Jeffers, shared the bowling mainly; Scott, McCoy, Lilley and Billingsley all played some very attractive innings and Jeffers, though not possessing many strokes, proved a real fighter at 6 or 7 in the batting order and played five or six very useful innings when most needed. It must be admitted, however, that the standard of fielding of this team was low—they had their moments, but only their moments. If we are to retain our prestige as a school renowned for cricket the one feature of our play which must improve is the fielding. In the past we have had teams whose batting and bowling have been only average but whose fielding was so good that they were able to win many matches which otherwise would have been lost.

It remains to congratulate Scott and Arbuthnot on their selection on the Schools of Ireland XI to play the Leprechauns, Scott, Arbuthnot and McCoy who were selected, and Jeffers who played as a substitute against Ulster, to represent the Leinster Schools XI against Ulster and Munster.

J.M.

SENIOR LEAGUE

1. Masonic 85 (K. Irwin 20, P. Billingsley 18).
Sandford 85 (R. Scott 5 wkts. for 25 runs. R. Jeffers 3 wkts. for 23 runs).
2. Masonic 78 for 1 dec. (R. McCoy 53 not out, P. Billingsley 20 not out).
Gonzaga 19 (R. Arbuthnot 3 wkts. for 2 runs, R. Scott 4 wkts. for 6 runs).
3. Masonic 114 (R. Scott 21, I. McCartney 20).
St. Mary's 26 (P. Billingsley 5 wkts. for 10 runs, R. Jeffers 3 wkts. for 16 runs).
- Play-Off
Masonic 96 (R. Jeffers 24, R. Scott 18).
Sandford 79 (R. Jeffers 6 wkts. for 29 runs, R. Scott 3 wkts. for 21 runs).

Semi-Final

Masonic 186 (R. McCoy 45, E. Lilley 35, R. Scott 33).
 Belvedere 76 (R. Arbuthnot 6 wkts. for 17 runs).

Final.**1st Innings.**

Blackrock 136 (R. Jeffers 3 wkts. for 28 runs).
 Masonic 89 (R. Jeffers 20, not out, R. McCoy 18).

2nd Innings.

Blackrock 114 (R. Scott 5 wkts. for 23 runs).
 Masonic 12 for 0. Match abandoned.

1st Round of Junior Cup.

St. Paul's 65 (P. Billingsley 4 wkts. for 15 runs, D. Williamson 5 wkts. for 31 runs).
 Masonic 41 (G. Henderson 9, S. Levis & J. Neill 8).

Teams:

S.C.T.—R. Scott (capt.), I. McCartney, E. Lilley, A. McCoy, P. Billingsley, K. Irwin, R. Jeffers, A. Martin, R. Arbuthnot, P. Boreland, H. Wright.

Second XI—R. Sloan (capt.), D. Orr, S. Cole, A. McCartney, F. Meaney, R. Halligan, R. Coghlan, C. Neill, D. McBryde, J. Davidson, P. Boreland.

J.C.T.—P. Billingsley (capt.), B. McConnell, G. Henderson, W. Williamson, J. Neill, J. Patton, B. Moore, D. Edmundson, A. Thompson, S. Levis, G. Snow.

Under 14—G. Henderson (capt.), P. Payne, J. Snow, I. Cromie, D. Halliday, D. McPeake, C. McClure, T. Coghlan, J. Campbell, B. Taylor, R. McConnell.

Under 13—P. Payne (capt.), G. Bratten, D. Halliday, D. Sutton, A. Acheson, D. Telford, G. Cathcart, R. Halliday, D. Prentice, G. Hill, D. Hilditch.

LEADING BOWLING AVERAGES**S.C.T.**

		Overs	Wkts.	Runs	Average
R. Arbuthnot	...	155½	52	316	6.07
R. Scott	...	163½	30	243	8.1

2nd XI

P. Boreland	...	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	17	2.12
R. Sloan	...	29 $\frac{1}{3}$	14	57	4.07
J.C.T.					
P. Billingsley	...	60	15	61	4.06
D. Williamson	...	74 $\frac{1}{6}$	25	174	6.97
Under 14					
G. Henderson	...	74 $\frac{1}{3}$	27	93	3.4
D. Halliday	...	16	7	43	6.1
Under 13					
D. Halliday	...	21 $\frac{1}{3}$	12	22	1.83
G. Bratten	...	23 $\frac{5}{6}$	12	29	2.4

LEADING BATTING AVERAGES

S.C.T.

	No. of Innings	Times not out	Runs	Average	
R. Scott	...	16	2	265	18.92
R. McCoy	...	19	3	295	18.43
2nd XI					
C. Neill	...	2	—	40	20.00
F. Meaney	...	3	—	34	11.33
J.C.T.					
P. Billingsley	...	4	1	65	21.6
J. Neill	...	8	—	64	8.0
Under 14					
G. Henderson	...	7	1	59	9.8
D. Halliday	...	9	1	59	7.3
Under 13					
D. Halliday	...	4	—	26	6.5
D. Sutton	...	4	2	13	6.5

SUMMARY OF MATCHES

		Matches			
		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
S.C.T.	...	18	7	8	2
2nd XI	...	4	3	—	1
J.C.T.	...	8	1	2	5
Under 14	...	10	2	3	5
Under 13	...	4	2	—	2

J. F. Sutton