

JULY 55

APRIL 58

LLYFR COCH BRYNTAIL

CAMP LOG, SUMMER 1955
TO EASTER 1958.

SUMMER 1955

Thursday EAF, Broadbent, Salisbury on 8.32 to open camp.
21 July The paddling-aring was interrupted by a light ~~shower~~ shower, but otherwise weather was good.

[3]

Friday

22 July JM and 30 on 832, a busy train on this day before the holiday for the labouring masses. Few incidents. Near Abernule, Barnes attacked a tin of fruit with tin-opener and spoon, and was victorious. At Moat Lane, Beards and Ariss left raincoats in the train; Ariss went on to Machynlleth.

FINE &
HOT; COOL
AT NIGHT

No taxis today (by order) so all boys walked up, or ran up, to camp 'neath the burning rays of the Cambrian sun.

After tea, a walk - beating the bounds, orientating, and Putting New Campers in the Picture. Down Glyn fields; past lower mills; Gelli to swimming-pool and S-bends, up wallside to Bogn y Tail top. Midgley attacked barbed wire with forehead and retired for medical attention. Clegs, or Lesser Horse-Flies attacked walkers, particularly Barnes.

[34]

At Bryntail Farm: talk of John, in hospital for an operation of recent visitors including Broscombs & H. Richmond & party, also of a Jowitz 'Javelin', towed up Long Path by the Fordson.

BASE - BALL

P	Newby	0	1		P	Revill	1	1		P	Revill			
C	Barratt	1	0		C	Whittock	1	0		C	Whittock	C		
1	Eades	1	0		1	Ariss	1	0		1	Ariss	C	0	
2	Shein	1			2	Archer	1	0		2	Archer	C	0	
3	Salisbury	1	0		3	Edwards	0	0		3	Edwards	C	0	
SR	Smith			9	SR	Monaghan	1			SR	Monaghan			
SL	McIntyre				SL	Hunt	0	0		SL	Hunt			0
LR	Mogford				LR	Woods	1		0	LR	Woods			0
LL	Clarke	C			LL	Maddison	1		1	LL	Maddison			0
B	Vankagan		1		B	Birch	1		0	B	Birch			0
		4	2	0			9	0	2			0	0	0
		4	6	6			9	9	11			0	0	0

P	Barnes	1	1		P	Newby	1	1		P	Barnes	0		
C	Collins	0			C	Barratt		1		C	Collins	0		C
1	Hopkins		0		1	Eades	C	1		1	Hopkins	C		
2	Manton			0	2	Shein		1	1	2	Manton		1	
3	Trevis			0	3	Salisbury		0	1	3	Trevis		1	
S.R.	Wilkinson	C		C	SR	Smith		1	0	SR	Wilkinson		0	
F.L.	Myers		1		SL	McIntyre		0	1	SL	Myers			
L.R.	Midgley		1		LR	Mogford				LR	Midgley		0	
L	Beardes		0		LL	Clarke		1	0	LL	Beardes		0	
B	Spicer		1		B	Vankagan			1 C	B	Spicer			1
B	Buffery		0				1	3	7	B	Buffery			1
		1	4	0			1	4	11			0	2	2
		1	4	5			1	4	11			0	2	4

Summary	Revill	Barnes	Newby	Home Runs	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
Revill	/	0	11	11	0	1	1	1
Barnes	4	/	5	9	1	0	1	2
Newby	11	6	/	17	1	1	0	3

Saturday 29 bathed; water tolerable.

23 July After dinner, baseball in the last field by the road — and now, we can add, ^{under} the telephone poles, one wooden one and the others of ? aluminium alloy, and made by AGAIN a firm (aptly named "Poles") in Tyburn Road Birmingham. SUNNY & HOT. ALMOST WINDLESS. Three sides played each other at baseball, and perfect conditions gave pleasure, pure and unalloyed, to all: to the playing sides, to the waiting side, and to the umpire.

After tea JM and 31 to Crowlum Farm, past the 'TV' aerial and along back road to Crowlum Fort; to Hair Brush and "Coppicelwyd" and iron bridge and B. y G.

The Miners' Bridge is now plagued with rotting cross-timbers, and inspires less confidence than ever, but we walk most delicately and serially, *quisque solus*.

Arrival: Taylor 5M by car with parents, from holidays near Tenby.

[35]

Sunday 24 July A Pall of Cloud hung over us all day, beginning to break up only in the evening.

FINE, WARM, About 30. bathed.

UNDER A After dinner EAF, JM, and 30+1 walked. via Deildre Chap, PALL OF Ystradhygod, Foel and Groes, to Eblid, L. y Madym and CLOUD. B y G. As we passed B y G we were lucky enough to be seen, hailed, and spoken with by Davies Bulchygla. We learnt many things. We learnt something of the history of the telephone line and kiosk, including the fact

Team 1

Team 2

Team 3

P. Revill
C. Whittock

P. Newby
C. Collins

P. Barnes
C. Barrett

	Revill	Newby	Barnes	Home Runs	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
Revill	/	0	10	10	1	-	1	2
Newby	10	/	6	16	2	-	-	4
Barnes	5	1	/	6	-	-	2	0

that several days ago a number of labouring men came to Bwdeh y Gŵ, spent the day there, and left in the afternoon, having dug a small square hole and deposited near it the component parts of a kiosk. The hole was in the wrong place and the kiosk was the wrong type.

After tea a short - too short - gate-hunt; bars of chocolate won by 1. Smith + Salisbury, 2. Mogford, 3. Future Objectives (or Quarries) should slip away before the Gate-Hunt is mentioned and, normally, get half a mile away: this will keep 'em all out of camp for a reasonable time.

[35]

Monday After 10.30, hot and sunny with light Oriental aits.

25 July. 32 bathed.

DULL
EARLY,
THEN
SUNNY
and
HOT.
LIGHT
E. WIND.

After dinner, baseball, again with three teams, which included three additional players, to wit John Walker Llwybr-y-madyn, Vic Watson and Alan Jackson. Again the games, which were reported to have been won on mistakes in the field, were umpired with manifest impartiality and scrupulous fairness by the O.C.

After tea a walk to help new campers to understand the Dispatch Run. To Penclun, Mawledd, Ty' Llyn and B. y G.

Arrivals: at dinner time, by car, V. Watson and A. Jackson (a Gentile and Old Dixonian).

Medical news: the medical staff dealt dutifully with nasal hemorrhages (Broadbent) arm swollen by fly-bite (D Hunt) blisters grazes and splinters. Regurgitation forceps are now

available. John Evans returned from his brief spell in hospital.

[37]

Tuesday

26 July. Another fine day, brilliant and baking, the heat a little tempered by a vaguely East wind.

HOT & BAKING. About 30 bathed in almost tepid water that was beginning to stink. The smell and taste were suggestive of stagnant water.

After dinner a walk; Llawr y Glyn by a new route. 33 boys with V Watson, A Jackson, JM walked to B.y.G., then breasted the long and scorching slope of Waun y Gadair, halting at the finger-post. Then along ^{the} road towards Y Fan for some 350 paces, through a gate and along a track, ill-defined at first, to Faerdne Fach, and on to a small farm, Pentwyn (timber frame, lath and plaster). From here a picturesque footpath down through steep woods leads to a precarious log-bridge, and an equally ramshackle stile. [In following the path, ignore first well marked right hairpin, but take the second]. Turn right along the brook (Nant Cwm Cae y Dda) past the neat, picture-book cottage called Cwm, or is it Ty-lsaf, cross brook again by a well made white-painted footbridge and so through the woods & fields to the church (Christ Church, 1880) at Llawr y Glyn.

There we made a halt while some entered the church by a window and explored the dark and dusty interior. Then along the lane, up through the woods and turnip fields to the hill top, 500 feet up, 500 yards forward. The field of bog-

Team 1 Team 2 Team 3
 P Revill P Newby P Barnes
 c Whittock c Collins c Barnett.

	Revill	Newby	Barnes	Home Runs	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
Revill	/	0	5	5	-	-	2	0
Newby	4	/	12	16	2	-	-	4
Barnes	8	2	/	10	1	-	1	2

cotton was, for once, almost dry, but rough and unpleasant to walk over.
Back home via Bulch y Gle.

Spontaneous singing and merry making after supper.

[37]

Wednesday

27 July. A south-east wind kept conditions just tolerable for the afternoon's activity.

MIST
EARLY
THEN
VERY
HOT

About 30 bathed. V. Watson and others to town, twice, doing small shopping and in search of cement and a ton of river sand. The second trip was successful.

After dinner, a dispatch run - the first performance for a good many. Fifteen catchers played fifteen runners, of whom 4 got in by fair means, and in time, the score thus being $+4 - 11 = -7$.

After tea baseball in the last field.

VISITORS: TR, Mrs Reader, and Tim.

[37]

Thursday

28 July. About 30 bathed.

HOT
ALL
DAY.

After dinner (3 pm) more bathing, with a water-polo match between V. Watson's team and A. Jackson's team.

After tea, a walk with an object. Since last year we had been mystified and a little worried by a marking on the 6 inch and 2½ inch maps (Sheet ^{SN} 88, 873873 on 2½"). This is a point where a cart-track appears to turn aside so as to go through a small pond on a hilltop, and is marked as a "Ford" - the whole thing appears senseless on the map.

He is a Hamer living at Drain byrion and has
Gwestyn as a sheep farm.

It appeared almost equally pointless on the ground, when we got there.

We went via Deildre Chap., Mr Vaughan's F.P. to Penybanc, up the green road to end of the trees, then W by S over Gendrum; over a little hill by the corner of the Forestry, then across a trackless waste for 600 paces. Casting round from there, it was not long ere we were led to our objective by a cry from Monaghan; he had found a pond, some 20 yards by 12, in the middle of boggy ground. A rough, very faint cart-track led towards one end of the pond, so that we felt no doubt that this was the place we were seeking. The pond appeared to be a Depot for Dragonflies in Mid-Wales - a large four-winged type that darts over the water, or rested on grass and rushes, or soared in nuptial flight, propagating their kind.

We returned over a mainly dry bog, grooved here and there by Forestry ~~grooves~~ ^{furrows}, to Peny Gric and Gwestyn ("the Westyn", Dick calls it). At Gwestyn, now uninhabited, we spoke with a broad-faced shepherd on a broad-beamed pony. Mr Jarman, we believe he is called, but he is certainly a Plynlimon Man, and he conversed with us in loud tones as though he thought we were fifty yards away. He spoke of thistles and how they flourish in the sheepdung on newly-broken pasture; of what Eden said on the wineless; of how wonderfully Thomas Jones had prospered, no doubt on account of his deeply religious outlook.

We returned to camp via the "Precipice Walk".

ARRIVALS: N.C. and P. Noden on foot (with kit), having come

<u>Catchers</u>	<u>Dispatch</u>	<u>Run.</u>	<u>Runners</u>	(White).
Barrett			Barner	In 4.37
Salisbury			Edward	Caught
Spicer			Revill	In 4.5
Shein			Travis	Caught
Taylor			Van Hagen	Caught
Woods			Eaden	Caught
Mogford			Buffery	In 4.5
Birch			Hunt	Caught
Myers			Midgley	late
Wilkinson			Monaghan	Caught
Manton			Archer	Caught
Ariss			McIntyre	Caught
Maddison			Beards	Caught
Clarke.				

3	Home	+3
10	Caught	-10
	Score	-7.

as far as Moat Lane on the "Cambrian Coast Express" (Leave Snow Hill, 1214; arrive Llani, 302)

BIRTH : to Gwyneth (Mrs Iwan Pugh), a daughter.

[39]

Friday

29 July Wind round towards West or South-West : a fair amount of cloud alternated with the sun.

WEATHER About 28 baths.

Return Dispatch Run ; the score was again -7.

After tea, a game of Rugby Touch on the last field.

IM to town twice by bicycle, arranging about tomorrow's party ticket to Rhayader, recovering Ariss's raincoat, talking to H. Guerra at the Boys' Club. (He died on Monday 8th August)

Those old horse-flies is still pinchin'.

JOB: the path, concrete, to Ty'r Gwynnt was finished - two mornings' work done mainly by V. Watson and Alan Jackson.

[39]

Saturday

30 July. Up early, breakfast 730, left for town about 845.

SOME CLOUD, A.M.

VERY HOT LATER

40 on the 1015 train to Rhayader. A motley, and already thirty, crowd took the Elan Valley road, in frequent danger of being mown down by motor traffic. After a mile, at a place called Aberceithin, we split into two parties; EAF with 12 small or crippled walkers crossed into Breconshire and reached the Caban Coch bridge via Elan Village; NC and IM with 25 boys and Old Boys stayed in Radnorshire, climbing up a narrow lane and so to the top of Cefn Rhydodlog and down a little way to picnic on a

natural grandstand overlooking the top end of Gareg-ddu and bottom end of Pen-y-gareg Reservoirs (~~923674~~ on 1"). We went down by various routes to the Penygareg dam, which two nameless members of the party crossed, under about $\frac{1}{4}$ " of water, thence by road and old railway track to the bridge between Gareg-ddu and Caban coth to join the other party who were on the beach 908640. After tea, and now very thirsty, the whole expedition (less Old Boys) staggered to a slowly trickling tap (a 1914-18 memorial), queued for a drink, and went on via Elan Village and the Brecon side of the river. We arrived in Rhayader at 6.30 - just nice time to invade the shops and emerge in triumph with large 8" bottles of pop, thirst allayed at last.

The 6.50 (the "Mail") was late, but no-one cared and it was a gay and noisy party, a little footsore and sun-scorched, that waited on the platform there and entertained the more tolerant of our fellow-passengers. All boys walked back to camp, some of them full of fish and chips. Supper and bed.

Arrivals: - Kytz, 6.30 am, by bicycle; P. Weston, 8.30 pm., by train; D. Abbey, D. Parry, pm., by car.

[43]

SUNDAY,

31 July.

FINE &

HGT.

CLOUDY

EVENING

A rather late breakfast but rather early dinner, after the usual bathing parade (about 30). A short free afternoon, then tea - jelly and blancmange - and at 5 pm the camp set off for Deildon Chapel to attend the English service. J.A. went ahead to discuss hymns with the preacher (Mr Williams, on holiday at Llandinam). When this important question had been settled, the preacher asked whether it was customary for campers

to take an active part in the service, such as reading the lessons; if so he would be glad if it could be arranged. J.M. said that this had ~~not~~ never been done but he felt it could be; & in fact, (subject to the deacons' approval) we should be delighted to take part. "Ay, ay", said the deacons, so JM returned to the sky-line gate and informed EAF and Broadbent that they were reading. So history was made. EAF read a psalm and Broadbent the great words about Charity, and most worthily they both performed. "Indeed, the boy read very well - no mistakes he made." The rest made their usual contribution, singing lustily, perfuming the circumambient air, listening in exemplary stillness and with minimal shuffling. The great heat has dried the harmonium and it responded, without even a creak, to the touch of Mrs Rowlands Crowlorn.

After the service new campers were initiated into the highly specialised sport of sliding down Crowlorn.

VISITORS: B.G. Marston (of the chopped knee) am; Shein family and Monaghan family p.m.

DEPARTED: V. Watson and A. Jackson (old dixonian) after dinner

ARRIVED: L.E. Clark (1925-29) after tea.

[42]

Monday,

1st August.

AGAIN

HOT &

FINE.

Again history was made.

Bathing as usual. After dinner a walk: along high sheep track to B.y G and gently to the peaks of Van, whence the view was admired by most of the large sealing party - all the boys, with P.W., N.C., J.M. We came down, partly by slipping on the

Rugby Touch.

<u>Myers</u>	<u>Shein.</u>	<u>Clarke</u>	<u>Maddison</u>
Whittock	Hopkins	Barnes	Collins
Birch	Barrett	Salisbury	Wilkinson
Trevis	Eades	Managhan	Manton
Edwards	Rerill	Woods	Archer
Buffery	Van Kagen	McIntyre	Middleley
Ariss	Spicer	Beards	Hunt.
Taylor	P. J. Smith		

	Myers	Shein	Maddison	Clarke.	Total Score	Won	Drawn	lost	Points
Myers	/	2	3	4	9	2	-	1	4
Shein	1	/	2	5	8	1	-	2	2
Maddison	4	3	/	2	9	3	-	-	6
Clarke	1	1	0	/	2	-	-	3	0

1st Team	2nd Team	3rd Team
P. Hopkins	P. Wilkinson	P. Whittock
R. Collins	C. Salisbury	C. Rerill

	Hopkins	Wilkinson	Whittock	Home Runs	Won	Drawn	lost	Points
Hopkins	/	10	3	13	1	-	1	2
Wilkinson	6	/	6	12	1	-	1	2
Whittock	10	2	/	12	1	-	1	2

sun-scorched, polished grass, partly by crashing down steeply and roughly through the various vegetational zones; over dam and back via Pen Clun farm.

After tea, Rugby Touch.

At 10.30 pm 22 walked past Brynail Farm (via the top stile and clothes-drying field) without rousing the dogs! Then on, under the nearly-full moon to Cukes, 100 yards up the road, to top of Penclun, down to the road and to far corner of Baseball Field, then to the top of Bryn y Tail. Heard on Penclun: "That very dim light above Van Pool is in that caravan; look, you can just see the outline of it." Tribal conflicts and atavistic howls on the palaeolithic sites. [The first recorded moonlight walk

Departures: D. Abbey and P. Noden am.

[40]

Tuesday

2 August. Bathing as usual.

HOT. After dinner, baseball (three teams).

A LITTLE MORE CLOUD. After tea, a walk to lower "floor", Jones's Bridge, towards Crowlwm, up Jeep Lane to Red Road; turn right, down to ~~the~~ Cwm Deildre, and back through fields to Miners Br.

DRIZZLE
11-12 pm.

Departed am. - Kyte. Visitors - Barnett family.

Arrived p.m. W. Rees.

[40]

MINERS' BRIDGE.

The present structure dates from 1903. Ironwork by John Mills, Foundry. To-day the County Council sent three

Trefeglwys, good tradesmen both (like their father before them, cabinet-maker and now a carver of bardic chairs) had brought their workman and a boy, and set about their work with calm deliberation. By Thursday evening the job was finished, four new cross-baulks having been fitted to the uprights — "Australian gum", durable as oak, they say.

Wednesday

3 August.

About 30 bathed.

FINE,

After dinner, Post Office and bathing.

VERY

After tea, a walk to Bwlch y Gle, up road to Dinas, over and down Dinas, plank bridge, up sloping path to Deildae Chapel.

HOT.

L.E. Clark took J.M. to visit Willie Walker at the "Crown", Llwyn Dafydd. — coast of Cardigan Bay

VISITORS: Manton family, Barnett family, Harold Liggins and family.

[40].

Thursday

4 August

Bathing am, also at 7.30 pm when the water was warm but the air, on emerging, distinctly ~~the~~ discouraging.

FINE,

HOT,

BREEZY.

After dinner, Rugby Touch in last field, between four teams, chosen with varying degrees of skill by the smaller members of the tent.

A belated ARRIVAL was Mr Roberts Geographer (J.R.) who took part in Rugby Touch; half-sprained an ankle; went down Short Path to inspect the

bathing; was taken over the Miners' Bridge by NC and P W "to inspect the Crowlum TV aerial"; was still able to walk and drive his car next morning. What a formidable Bryantail walker he will make ~~if~~ when his ankle is not sprained!

?[41]

FRIDAY

5 AUG. Delay in the ~~the~~ Cooks' Room prevented an early start for the station, but all went smoothly, otherwise, and EAF with NC got boys safely to Snow Hill, aboard the Osler Street Special.

FINE,
HOT.

THE JOBS.

Concrete path to Ty'r Gwynt by V. Watson, Alan Jackson, (foremen) P Noden, boys.

Back door and camp-beds repaired by P.W.

Woodshed roof strengthened by D. Parry and B. Kyte.

New gate-post by Miners' Cottage by W.R. and N.C. and ^{D.}Parry.

plaster board replaces broken plaster by dining room door.

VISITORS included three generations of Whitehouses —

Pa (F.C.) circa 1898, Bryn ("Wouse") 1925-32, and

Bryn's younger son. (Not entered elsewhere).

NOTEWORTHY.

No rain at all during camp (or for 3 weeks before) but tap still runs.

No long walks except to Elan valley.

Lessons at Deildre Chapel read by campers

& N M W MONTGOMERYSHIRE
EXPRESS

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1955

The Guerra brothers: an appreciation

SEVENTEEN years ago these two energetic Frenchmen entered Llanidloes for the last time. I say last time, as previously they came to stay a few weeks on a camping holiday and then said au revoir in the following year; but this time they came to stay. Their home-situated outside Llanidloes, was a material reminder of their homeland, and this only by the name and not by name, because the house made them feel that they were very proud to call Llanidloes as their home. "Llanidloes", what a beautiful name to give to a home, and here they determined that the "Eye Valley" would not remain a quiet place. They would be watchful and energetic.

This thought materialised very quickly in the form of a derelict building transformed into a busy and active boys' club. It was a hard task at the beginning, but the astuteness of these two possessed soon made it clear to the Idloesians that nothing would prevent them making the club a success. At the beginning, equipment was limited, but with the perseverance of the twins, equipment came into the building, billiard tables, table tennis tables and gymnasium equipment, and they were permanent, and by 1939 the club had made a name for itself by producing concerts and open-air gymnastic displays.

They were not satisfied by leaving the club as it was, hidden behind the back streets; they felt the youth of Llanidloes were entitled to something better and that their premises should be in sight of everyone. In 1940, the present premises were opened. This satisfied the twins, and they decided the smooth running of the Club could be left to one man. Then the club saw only one familiar face entering its doors nightly, and the boys thought that Rene had decided to live a quiet life within the precincts of his home. But no, the 1939-45 war saw to it that Rene should not be idle, and he, like

his brother, became again interested in youth, only this time he went further afield.

He became interested in the welfare of the 'Evacuees' and was the only voluntary Evacuation Officer in the whole of Wales. This meant increased activity for both, and the club became their central office. The evacuees, like the local children, made the club their entertainment, also the troops were allowed the use of the premises.

After the war, one thought that Rene had again slipped back into retirement but again he found that, of all the buildings that were in Llanidloes, the most neglected was the old black and white building centred in the town. He became curator of the Museum, which through the years saw many additions.

But the years took their toll. The Club life seemed to keep the 'old man' young with the varied activities—concerts, plays, dances and the annual suppers; the museum seemed to make Rene feel a child when he used to discuss the age of the buildings and its contents, but then, it seemed that they had achieved their objective, having made their friendship with the townsfolk, and leaving imprinted on the minds of the young folk, who have left the vicinity, the thoughts of what two Frenchmen did to make their youthful days worthwhile.

W. G. JAMES
Port Talbot.

DEATH OF MR. HENRI GUERRA

THE death of a well known personality, Mr Henri Guerra, Llygad-y-Dyffryn, Llanidloes, occurred on Monday. He was 78, and a native of Paris. Mr Guerra, who was educated at Yale University, America, taught at the West Mon. School, Pontypool, and at Ludlow. In 1910, he was appointed French master of the Central Grammar School, Birmingham, a position he held until his retirement in 1928.

He was the founder, in 1915, of Bryntail Camp, Llanidloes, which has been visited annually for many years by parties of schoolboys and their masters from Birmingham.

In retirement, Mr Guerra, with his twin brother, the late Mr Rene Guerra, took up residence at Llanidloes. He was the founder and leader of the well known 'Llanidloes Boys' Club, now affiliated to the N.A.B.C.

He devoted the greater part of his life in the locality to the club and it is understood he paid his daily visit there on the evening before his death.

Mr Guerra also had held office with Llanidloes Army Cadets, and he succeeded his brother (who died six weeks ago) as Curator for the Llanidloes Museum.

The funeral was on Thursday morning and among those who attended were: Dr. and Mrs Cobb, Birmingham; Mr and Mrs Arthur Davies, Messrs. Loveridge, Faulkner, May and H. Walker, Birmingham (representing the Central Grammar School, Birmingham and the Old Boys' Association of the School); Mr G. G. Evans (representing the Further Education Youth Committee), past and present members of the Boys' Club and officials and members of the committee.

Present and former members of the household staff of Llygad-y-Dyffryn, personal friends and the general public. The interment at Dolhafren Cemetery was preceded by a service at The Friary, Penygreen Rd., Father K Gillespie officiated.

The entrance to the Cemetery was lined by members of the Boys' Club, in charge of Mr Glyn Vaughan (Deputy Leader). The bearers were B. H. Slawson, A. Powell, G. Jones (Boy's Club members) and Mr Fred Meredith (a member of the committee). They were assisted by Mr H. N. Meredith, who carried out the arrangements.

Floral tributes were received from: Llanidloes Boys' Club; Staff and Old Boys, Central Grammar School, Birmingham; Dilys Tilsley and Enid Williams; Ted and Margaret; T. I. Francis; Sir George and Lady Hamer; Mr and Mrs Arthur Davies; Marie and family; Mr and Mrs Monty Morgan, Max and Graham; Mr and Mrs G. Edwards, Torquay; Maggie and Ken Poole; Mr and Mrs R. E. Jones, Stag Inn; Michael and Beverley.

Campers

Officers:- W. Cunningham, G.W. Phillips, R. J. Jones,
E. A. Faulkner and J. D. Payne.

Cooks:- V. E. Broadbent and C. J. Whitlock.

Squads:-

D. MONAGHAN	VI	A. J. WRIGHT	VI	R. O. SALISBURY	VI
J. S. Revill	VM	G. J. Trevis	4P	R. P. Manton	4L
R. J. Fox	VF	A. G. Pittaway	4L	G. Ramsey	VM
D. A. Hunt	4L	I. M. McMahon	2F	D. W. Rose	YS
R. Porter	2F	N. R. Hollingshead	2S	D. Melville	2M.

Old Boys:-

Mr. (Black) Barrett, Doug Glover, Vic Watson, Micky Porter.

Easter 1956

Words penned by a most inexperienced hand: those who are more expert in the fine arts being in foreign parts.

Wednesday

28th March

Bright with a fair easterly breeze.

E. A. B., Broadbent and Salisbury came by road to open up the camp.

It was a fine day for airing; the palliasses on the hedge doing quite nicely, thank you.

Barnett also arrived by road; five lifts from Birmingham to Flouds.

(24 in camp).

Thursday

29th March.

Sunny in the evening, otherwise a little cloudy and misty.

M. C. with John Payne arrived with fifteen boys by the 8.32.

After bedmaking and a very early tea M. C. & J. P. took the boys to the river, Crowlun, Pen y Gae'r Fawr, Pen y Gae'r Fach, Coppice Wood and Bulch y Gle.

Most boys wrote home.

(21 in camp).

Friday

30th March

Intense sunshine and bright periods.

Bathing parade; the following went in Mantor, Porter, McMahon, Hollingshead and Melville. After a few minutes on the bank they were able to assure the on-lookers that it was a little cold.

Rugby Touch

Munaghan	Wright	Salisbury
Barnett	Broadbent	Revill
Manston	Whitlock	Drevis
Fox	Rose	Ramsay
Hunt	Pittaway	Porter
Melville	Mc Mahon	Hollingshead.

	Munaghan	Wright	Salisbury	W.	D.	L.
Munaghan	—	1	0			2
Wright	4	—	2	1	1	
Salisbury	3	2	—	1	1	

Prisoners' Release

Salisbury	Barnett
Wright	Broadbent
Whitlock	Revill
Munaghan	Fox
Hunt	Ramsay
Pittaway	Porter
Melville	Drevis
Mc Mahon	Hollingshead.
Rose	

3 caught
1, out of bounds.

4 caught.

Friday
(continued).

In the afternoon the cottage was locked up and all went up Van and back via Dyrflryn and Pen Clun.

Three teams played Rugby Touch in the evening, Salisbury's team being winners by a narrow percentage of tries scored.

(21)

Saturday
31st March
Sunshine
all day;
light breeze.

Bathing parade; Wright, Monaghan, Barnett swam. Prisoners' release in the afternoon. Salisbury's team caught H, Barnett's 3 and Whitlock was out of bounds but as he was out of the dining room when the bounds were explained it was given as a victory to Salisbury's team. After the second innings Monaghan could not be found, he was in hiding but there were various suggestions that he had gone to sleep or had gone round the bend (of the high sheep track).

short walk after tea; Crowlun, Glyn foot bridge and up the fields.

M. C. left by the 8.55 for the game at Stratford. Glover, Watson & Porter arrived by car at 3.40.

Jimmy James and Ginger Watley at 8.10 by car, Gordon Griffiths, Mickey Chambers & "Pete" by car 11.2

(28)

Despatch Run.

Runners.

- Salisbury
- G. S. Griffiths
- Revill
- Rose
- Munaghan
- Manton
- Hollingshead
- Porter
- John Walker

Came
in

Caught.

Catchers.

- Wright
- Mr. Chambers
- zac
- Hunt
- Davis
- Pittaway
- McC Mahon
- Ramsay
- Melville.

Seven In 2 Caught
7 - 2 = +5

Return Despatch Run

Runners.

- Wright
- zac
- Hunt
- Davis
- Pittaway
- McC Mahon
- Ramsay
- Melville

Came
In

Caught

In

Caught

Catchers.

- Salisbury
- Revill
- Rose
- Munaghan
- Manton
- Hollingshead
- Porter
- John Walker.

Six In 2 Caught
6 - 2 = +4

Result:- Win for Salisbury's team.

Sunday
1st April.
Sunny all day
but still a
fresh E. breeze.

None bathed.

In the afternoon over Miners' Bridge, along S bend
to Coffee Thwyd, by lane to ystrad Llynod
bridge and through the gorge to Ebbid.
Up to the road and down Waln y Gader
to Bulch y lle. Three hours.

A free evening with much writing and
card playing leading to the expected
chatter and noise after "lights out".

(28)

Monday
2nd April.
Sunny all day.

at bathing parade many went in, the boys,
John Payne, Gordon Griffiths, Wicky Chambers and
John Walker.

Speaking of the cold, frosty winter Mrs Jones,
the Glyn described it as "Judas Cold",
treacherous, traitorous.

In the afternoon there was a Dispatch Run
and a number of visitors.

a stroll in the evening took us to
Crowtown, the Cwm and Aber Deunant.

(28)

Tuesday
3rd April.
Wind change
to N.W. some
cloud & a shower.

None bathed.

Return Dispatch Run.

Evening walk to Bulch y lle, Chapel and back.

Complete clearout of Old Boys.

G. W. P. & R. F. J. arrived also "Isid" Taylor.

(21)

Rugby Touch.

REVILL	SALISBURY	MONAGHAN.
Broadbent	Whitlock	Manton
Trevis	Taylor	Rose
Porter	Pittaway	Hunt
Melville	Ramsey.	Fosc
John Walker.	McMahon.	Hollingshead.

	Revill	Salisbury	Monaghan	Wm.	host.	For.	aget.
Revill	—	3	7	1	1	10	10
Salisbury	5	—	3	1	1	8	7
Monaghan	5	4	—	1	1	9	10

Winner on goal average 1. Salisbury 2. Revill 3. Monaghan.
 Winner on goals scored 1. Revill 2. Monaghan 3. Salisbury.

"Two mile" Relay

1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.
Revill	Salisbury	Broadbent	Monaghan
Fosc	R. F. J.	Porter	Ramsey
Hunt.	Melville	Rose	McMahon
Hollingshead.	Manton	Pittaway	Trevis.

Wednesday.
4th April
Occasional
clouds but
much sun.

We left at 10.25 with three sandwiches each leaving G.W.P. to start on the "long room", with the assistance of Taylor, Wright and Davis.
A slow but steady day's walk with what is perhaps a new variation. Bwlch y Glyn then following the left bank past Ebbid as far as Staylittle. Over the Dywedog bridge, past Bwlch y Glyn through the yard of Nant-y-hafod continuing on the road to a point about 1/2 mile before the path to Nant-y-gwode. Here we turned left down a fine break, over two valleys & keeping left of a plantation on Bant-y-gwode to within 200 yds of Coed Uchaf then over between the Dole & Pen y Banc to ystrad Hynod. Arrived home 5.25.

(21)

Thursday.
5th April.
Rain in the
night & until
about 10.0.

R.F.J. took bathing parade; he & Manton swam Rugby Touch in the afternoon and a 3ms mile Relay after tea. This is a complete break with tradition having it after tea.

Windy & cloudy
afterwards
with bright
intervals.

E.A.F. loosened a base note in the Capel Deildre harmonium. It had been sounding continuously previously.

G.W.P. with various assistants has made a good start with decoration of the long room.

Kyle arrived by bicycle at 11.0 am having left B'ham at mid-night.

(22)

Friday R.F.G. took boys for a walk; Glyn Jones, Cringrod,
6th April. Cwm and Crowlum.

Rugby Touch in the evening.

E.A.F. went to town for a preacher; after consulting
Mrs Rowlands, Mr Ben Watkins, the Mayor, was
approached and he agreed to take the service.
E.A.F. then to Peny Banc to confirm this
arrangement with Mr Vaughan, the Big Seat.

Saturday She whole camp to Rhayader.

7th April. Walking party with R.F.G. walked all the way
from Bryntail to Rhayader and returned by taxi.

Campers.

Officers:- J. May, T. Reader, R. F. Jones, E. F. Faulkner.

Cooks:- V. E. Broadbent, C. J. Whittock.

Squads:-

D. Monaghan	VIL	A.J. Wright	VIL	R.O. Salisbury	VIL
J.S. Revill	VM	C.D. Beck	VIL	M.J. Arkinstall	VII
D.G. Williams	II.F.	P.J. Smith	VII	G.E. Archer	VM
C.J. Bell	NP	D.A. Hunt	IVL	S.D.N. Belcher	NP.
G.D. Buffery	III.L	K.G. Friss	V.M	J.F. Clarke	III.P.
J. McIntyre	III.L	D.N. Green	III.L	M.J. Kall	III.P
R. Porter	II.F	M.E. Maddison	II.M	D. Melville	II.M
L. Edge	III.L	R.S. Newcombe	NR.	G. Hammond	II.M
I. McMahon	II.F	B.R. Harris	II.M	A. Manton	IVL
G.D. Spencer	III.L	P.J. Brunson	VIL	P. Smith	II.S.

Old Boys:-

D. Parry, R. Wilkinson, A.L. Croft, F.S. Field,
V.E. (Nobby) Clark, S.L. Smith.

SUMMER 1956

Thursday
26 July

EAF, Broadbent and Whittock came by road. Very hot: a good promise for weather.

A. Croft, on leave from the army (embarkation leave: he is for Cyprus) came on the B. 32

Friday 27 July

Main party - J.M., T.R., D. Parry, R. Wilkinson and 30 boys left Snow Hill on the B. 32. An easy journey and the weather still very hot, so that a walk down to the river, with everyone bathing was a pleasant way of spending the afternoon. After tea there was a short walk for all - along the slope of Bryn to the baseball field & the road "The Two Mile Course" with the addition of a walk to the top of Pen Clyn & then down to the farm. From the top we admired a lovely evening sky & conjectured on cloud formations. There was an interlude while J.M. chased a hobbled sheep round a cultivated field: we'll say it ended in a draw. We ^{stayed} to gossip at the farm, & learned that Dick the Shepherd's dog has had to be destroyed (15 yrs old) & where can we get

mother so well trained?

Casualty Report: Part II Orders: P. O. R.s: or what you will: -

MacMahon: hath the belly ache, whereby he dodgeth the walk. He brought it with him, with his doctor's permission & his parents' blessing.

Melville is so popular with his colleagues of the Tent that he comes hobnobbing with a damaged thumb - trodden on, he says. (Query thumb screw and after what provocation?) It is swollen but we diagnose only sprain, & his distress is eased by a removal to the Long Room. To disturb Tent, CO's Room & Long Room in one evening is good even for Melville.

Rumbles of thunder (disbelieved at first) by supper developed during the night to a thunder storm of violence, with heavy rain.

Saturday 28 July Raining, and everywhere very wet after last night's storm; colder, and the river less tempting to the swimmers than yesterday. pm. A long walk, JM TR and the company, when the rain had died out in a drizzle & the morning, half way round Wales by way of the mountains - Bwlch y gle, Penybanc, Aberdywan, deserted

Rugby Touch :

TEAMS.

P.J. SMITH

ARKINSTALL

SALISBURY

MONAGHAM

Croft A.

Parry D.

Broadbent

Mawton

Wright

Beck

Bell

Reville

Barnsdon

Wilkinson R.

Belcher

Hunt

Williams

Archer

Ariss

Newcombe

Spencer

Buttens

Porter

Maddison

Edge

Hammond

Clarke

McIntyre

Green

Harris

Smith

Hall

RESULTS

1. Salisbury 0 : Monaghan 0

2. Smith 2 : Arkinstall 2

Smith

3. Salisbury 1 : Arkinstall 0

Ark'stl

4. Salisbury 0 : Smith 1

Salisbury

5. Monaghan 0 : Arkinstall 2

Mon'han

6. Smith 6 : Monaghan 0

Sm	Ark	Sal	Mon	W	D	L	Goals		Pts
							For	Agst	
	2	1	6	2	1	-	9	2	5
2		0	2	1	1	1	4	3	3
0	1		0	1	1	1	1	1	3
0	0	0		-	1	2	0	8	1

farms, Crows & Crows, with fods & splashes
 & scrambles & weary willies lagging & being
 used in, & back to camp to give an tea
 what for.

EAF to town on a different mission, indeed -
 to the funeral of Megan's brother (Megan east
 of Bryntail farm, now Mrs Megan*). Solemn
 it was & dignified, & they had the order of
 things printed, with the hymns (4 & 6: I cannot
 remember) but all in Welsh. And they had
 a service in church and a service in the
 graveyard. And one man couldn't sing
 (perhaps they had taken his teeth out, poor man)
 but he beat the time with two fingers, first
 in the air, then on his bowler hat, and
 marked the time also with raising & lowering
 his eye brows. And they fed fine in relays &
 in order of precedence.

light rain again in the evening, keeping
 off or very light for a Rugby Touch
 competition - four teams.

And in the evening by lamplight edifying
 conversation, educational from D. Pany,
 literary & that from the rest, with JM & TR
 misprobing to each other and EAF elaborating
 the story of the Bryntail Bowler, hinted at
 in an earlier volume. This was the one, we

* Mrs John Watkins,
 Deildre's daughter.

maintained, appeared only on Sunday evenings, being communal, & started by the broker detailed or due by rota to attend Chapel. But there is more in its history. It belonged (first?) to the father of the Evans Bros, who wore it to Deilds Chapel regularly, and on Sunday nights on his return took off the hat and placed it carefully on the screw-handle-thing on top of the Big Mangle in the Farm, where it stayed till the next Sunday. On his death he bequeathed the hat, not to the five brothers collectively, but to Soly because his head was the same shape (if not the same size) as his father's. And the bowler goes on; & when worn elsewhere than to Chapel or by other than Soly, it is by courtesy, not by right. Why are these things hid?

A quotation by JH which he touches for (context matters not) :- "You should render every possible assistance, short of actual help"

Sunday 29 July Rain again (or still). There was a moderate period, during which TR joined JH who had the swimmers, to go on to Crowhorn to arrange the hymns for this evening's service. But the rain came again, & they got

wet. Exceeding wet. The rain filled the valley & there was no escape. And there was no shelter at Crowhorn - the house deserted, a place of mystery, & the rain pouring over it all. We climbed high up Crowhorn coming back, to avoid wet braked road on knees. But up higher the braked grew higher too, & the rain as we pushed through poured from the ponds down our necks. Even Jol's. We came back cold wet & beblown, to light a big 'fire' (July fiasco!) in the OC's room to dry us, our shirts, our stockings, our shoes.

pm. Little but the drying of clothes and kitchen & OC's fire. But Chapel after tea: still raining but much lighter, drying away altogether as we went down the bog path. But very rough & cold! We were all covered & caped to struggle with the wind which came suddenly & hit in hard gusts - hard enough to knock one over. And the river valley was dark, grim and bleak.

Behaviour in Deildra was exemplary, & the harmonium worked. Centurals filled the Church & led the singing, though wavering a little on the prolonged high notes - and except for such times, or when they came in quickly to start the

next line ahead of schedule, I did not hear the locals. It was still very rough, but not raining, when we came away: we walked the first part of the way with the music maker & the children, but one falling in distress, the parties went their different ways. Ours was shared by Dick the Shepherd, who overtook us on the long path, as did a sudden squall of rain, harder & sharper than any hail. Vicious.

We had not been too impressed by the sermon. The text had been used before, & being a self-evident proposition needed little expanding. But it was very refreshing to hear the smaller fry (at the tenters' table, 2nd forms & such) arguing minor theological points with the solemnity of Scotsmen, instead of screaming their customary drill abuse at one another. The subtleties of the dispute were beyond our inexpert knowledge of the Big Book but we appreciated their plea in mitigation of a halting sermon - that obviously it was written in Welsh, & the person fumbled now & then because he was translating as he went along.

I missed some faces at Church. Where was the Deacon, and Him-with-the-Ears? And who had revoked his turn for the Farm Bowler?

Dick the Shepherd came into the kitchen after supper, & talked long with EAF - farm talk

maybe, but E.A. knows his oats.

Monday
30 July

A windy day - showery but with bright intervals increasing in length, till the afternoon became one of occasional showers, and late at night the sky was full of stars - more stars than cloud. But there was no babbling on the river walk this am., & more in keeping with this weather Jol's wood party went out, & came back with a good supply.

A long walk was arranged for afternoon-evening, with packed sandwiches & oranges: J.H. EAF and all the boys except MacLahan. Walk to Abudyquant, Brythelin, Glynkefran, Craig y llo, 'Old Hall', straight up & over & across the bog and home by the Cwm & Crowdon.

R F Jones arrived after dinner. MacLahan retired to his tent, not to sulk but to sleep, though the afternoon grew brighter & brighter & warmer & more & more knifing. But he slept till 2.30: till 3.30: till roused for tea at 4.30. He came for tea & grinned & asked for more, & grinned & went back to the tent. He was asleep at 5 & slept till the rest came home. There was one like him before, named Joe who was kept by Mr Wardle. There would be others like him, if

Rugby Touch, Tuesday. TEAMS.

Monaghan	Salisbury	Arkinistall	P. J. Smith
Parry D	R.F. Jones	Broadbent	Wright
Manton	Beck	Belcher	Bramsdon
Reville	Anchor	Bell	Williams
Aniss	Porter	Wilkinson R.	Hunt
Buffery	Clarke	McIntyne	Spencer
Hammond	Edge	MacMahon	Green
Maddison	Smith	Hall	Newcombe.
		Melville	

Mon. 1 : Sal. 1

Ark 0 : P.J. 3

P.J. 1 : Mon 0

Mon. 3 : Ark 0

Ark 1 : Sal 4

Sal 0 : P.J. 2

the infection which his doctor said he had & could bring to camp is allowed to spread. Hammond, his partner, began to lay on the wall. He developed MacMahon's symptoms - a pain in the chest under the arm - on the right side & in the middle. But he had started on the wall before he found out. But a third man in the tent - Smith? also announces symptoms of the disease: perhaps he cares not to walk to-morrow.

Tuesday
31 July Better & brighter, but much wind still, & quite cold except (or even!) in the sun. A good supply of wood was collected & chopped this morning: to-morrow will be hot! River prade while EAF went to town for sundry & various purchases - but in chief, the sausage. Visitors: Mr & Mrs Payne (father & mother of John Payne, once a cook) who are staying in Hmidloes, & left us Swiss Rolls.

pm. Ascent of Van by J.M.'s party (all except the cooks; MacMahon & Hammond whose health might not stand heights) & Harris, put to bed in the tent with a temperature.

Evening: Rugby Touch, 4 teams.
A. Croft left to-day, returning to his regiment.
Cold enough this evening for a fire in CO's room.
About 8 bathed. [38]

I have heard that "sem" is short for Emu;
the likeness being apparent to the eyes of
the young.

E. A. G.

Wasn't Mrs Harris erstwhile a member of the English
Team in an Inter National Athletics Contest?
And a Champion High jumper in her youth?
But young Harris takes after his father.

Wednesday
1st August.

RAIN ALL
MORNING;
PATCHY
AFTERNOON;
AN HOUR
FINE
AFTER
TEA.

STORMY.

Bad weather continued; heavy drizzle turned into rain in the morning and soaked the wood gatherers and even prevented a bathing parade — or rather, it encouraged the substitution of a paper-tearing parade.

Paper-chase: ^{haves} hounds were Wright, Revill, and Brunson known as "Eem" — a New England sort of name, along o' Zeke, Ike, Eph, and other monosyllables. They ran to Bulch y Gle, Iron Bridge, and Deildre Chapel, and arrived home 18 minutes ahead of first hounds. The hounds thus did well, for they gave haves 7 minutes start, and were delayed another 8 by false trails in and near the farmyard. All were wet and windswept but warm.

The Headmaster arrived after tea, said Howdo, left a box of oranges, and took TR and Joe to keep him company at the Lion and see the sights of Blaiddes, including the old Market Hall, the Gro, and the "English Presbyterian Church of Wales".

For campers a walk, beating the bounds, led by EAE and RFI: they went to Cukes, Quarry Hill, Glyn, Jones's Bridge and Crowlwn, getting a drenching on the last lap — the Long Path.

VISITORS: HM (see above). HARRIS family, in morning, soon after their local representative had been put to bed in the Cooks' Room.

A stormy old day it have been. [38 in camp].

DESPATCH RUNS

.250-4.50

Runners on ~~Thursday~~ ^{Friday} 3 Aug [3-12pm]

Wright } Seen by a catcher lurking in
Barnsdon } bounds, and CAUGHT

Wilkinson R. LATE

Beck IN 4.04

Monaghan LATE

Hunt IN 4.25

Aris IN 4.29

Newcombe IN 4.25

Spencer CAUGHT

Buffery CAUGHT

Green IN 4.07

Hall IN 4.07

Edge IN 4.07

McMahon CAUGHT

Score +7-7 = 0

Runners on ~~Friday~~ ^{Thursday} 2 Aug [3.10-5.10]

Revill IN 3.55

Arkinistall IN 3.55

Salisbury LATE

Archer CAUGHT

Belcher CAUGHT

Bell CAUGHT

Williams CAUGHT

Manton LATE

Maddison IN 4.13

McIntyre CAUGHT

Porter LATE

Clarke CAUGHT

Smith IN 4.50

Melville IN 4.13

+5-9 = -4

WHIST.

Gents

Ladies

1st Arkinistall 90

Williams 92

2nd Barnsdon 84

Porter 85

Booby Wilkinson R. 71

Archer 64

SUMMER 1956. 27

THURSDAY
2 AUGUST.

5:10

Dry am,
Showery
later. Cold
strong
winds.

Six bathed in the turbulent and turbid waters of Clywedog, the festivities being witnessed by the Head, who spent most of the morning with us. He then took TR to Birmingham and Smith P.J. to Llandloes for the motor-omnibus to the sea, mainly in order to fetch the cook a stick of Aberystwith rock.

TR left word en passant with Doctor Graham, who shot up to see the patients (Harris and Hammond) in the Cooks' Room, because the thermometer said they were still hot. Learned discussion with our resident Doctor, and technical mutterings concerning Bornholm's Disease, and Epidemic Myalgia.

A Dispatch Run after dinner. Revill's team ran, and Wright's team caught. Result is given opposite; it will be seen that young and small campers did quite well, for after Revill and Tokinstall had arrived together after 45 minutes, it was the turn of Maddison and Melville (just over an hour) and finally Smith (1hr 40min).

Everyone was wet and muddy on arrival, and the weather continued drizzly, so a whist-drive was held after tea.

[37 in camp]

Friday
3 Aug.

NO RAIN, BUT
NO SUN.
COLD
WIND.

Two bathed (Manton and the old gentleman) in the ^{*}turbulent but no longer turbid Clywedog, while the rest went in for small-scale ~~in~~ naovying, building a dam with pick, shovel, and bare hands.

* Writer is informed spelling should be "TAIRBULENT."

After dinner the return Dispatch Run. The runners did well, and would have recorded a + score, had not Wright and Brunsdon, after running many miles (via Severn valley so they say), been observed crossing by the Mermaid and caught by lurking sentinels. The result is set out on the preceding page.

After tea, we started late on a walk to inspect the new Dam (it leaks) and the back way to the Cleft and the top of Crowhorn. Down, then up again to the start of the "hairbrush" thinking to continue down the ridge to 'Coppice Lloyd'. But the sun was about to set behind Plynlunio ~~Cwm~~ Cwm Biga, and we stayed to witness the entire ceremony, which was reflected in quieter and, may we suggest, less vulgar tones by the clouds and also by the hills beneath them, away in the East.

We cut short our walk, going straight down the left-hand side of the fence to the river, across a stile and home via Miners' Bridge. Reluctant walkers, as well as willing ones, agreeably surprised.

MEDICAL: Doctor Graham at 345 pronounces patients much better and says they can have as much as they like to eat.

VISITORS: Mr Manton and son bringing 4 doz Rock Buns, and 4 doz pkts Crisps.

DEPARTURES: Manton after dinner; EAF (temporarily) before dinner.

[35]

Saturday
4 August.
COOL BUT
SUNNY.

3 bathed (Beck, Bell, JM) while the civil engineering works

A				B				C							
P	BECK	1	C	0	1	WRIGHT	111	10	0	1	R.F.J.	1	1	C	
C	SALISB'Y	1			1	BRUNSDON	11	1	0	1	REVILL	1	0		
1	ARCHER	1		0	1	PARRY D.	110	1	0	1	ARISS	1	C		
2	BELL				0	ARKINST'L	11	1		0	BUFFERY	1			
3	PORTER	0			0	WILLIAMS	11	1		1	BELCHER				
SR	MADDISON	C			1	HUNT	11	0		1	NEWCOMBE	0			
SL	CLARKE			1	0	WILKINSON R	11	1			EDGE	0			
LR	MCINTYRE			1		HALL	0	1		0	SPENCER	0			
LL	P.J. SMITH					McMAHON	0	1		C	MELVILLE			C	
B	MONAH'N			0		GREEN	1	0			SMITH				
TOTALS		3/3	0/3	2/2	4/6	TOT.	16/76	8/24	0/0	5/5	TOT.	4/4	1/5	0/0	0/0

Rugby Touch, Sat. 4th August.

Monaghan	Salisbury	Arkininstall	Smith P. J.
Parry	Beck	Broadbent	Wright
Revill	Archer	Belcher	Brunsdon
Ariss	Porter	Bell	Williams
Buffery	Clarke	Wilkinson	Hunt
Maddison	Edge	McIntyre	Spencer
Melville	Smith P.	McMahon	Green
		Hall	Newcombe

1st: Monaghan's, 2; Salisbury's, 1 | 3rd: Salisbury's, 3; Smith's, 0.

2nd: Arkininstall's 0; Smith's, 2 | 4th: Monaghan's, 0; Arkininstall's, 1

continued with the aid of the wheelbarrow and a thick but feeble rope. Much mud and sweat but little result.

Baseball after dinner; three teams played each other with slowly increasing skill after a beginning marked by deplorable fielding and erratic pitching. At the end there were signs of improvement all round.

While this was going on the cook, one Broadbent, in a frenzy of cleanliness, and with the connivance of his understrapper Whittock, cleaned the chimney with gorse bush in sack (from above) and broom (from below).

After tea, four teams played Rugby Touch: 1st game Monaghan v Salisbury; 2nd game Arkinstall v P.J. Smith; 3rd game, winner of 1st v winner of 2nd; 4th game, the two losers. Unfortunately this excellent scheme was rather mucked up by the referee who wrote down Monaghan's 2 goals against Salisbury's name, and Salisbury's 1 goal ... need I go on? ... thus making the loser into the winner. Still, four good games were played, with vigour and at times with a little acrimony; R.F.J. and Parry popping up all the time in unexpected places (and even in unexpected teams) and scoring millions of goals. We finished in the gloaming and got down to camp just in time to avoid a sudden heavy shower.

ARRIVED: L.E. Clark (25-29) and F. Field (-32), both before tea. EAF returned at Char-time.

5 August

LORD'S DAY.

SHOWERY;
SUNNY p.m.;
SHOWER
6 o'clock.

12: bathed, dodging showers which fell straight down through the windless air. The wind then changed and blew fresh from the East.

This gave us good conditions as 31 walked to LLYN EBYR, via Van Terrace, Cwm Sturdy and ? Bulch y llyn farm. As we sat on the green sward by the patent sheep dip a heavy shower came over us and stayed for some 20 minutes, but the sun shone again as we returned briskly along the now non-existent "lines of railway" to Van Post Office. Half an hour from Bulch y Llyn to Van P.O., which shows that dawdling can be cured. The cure continued with a return to camp, not via Pen Clun, but up the tarmac to Bulch y Fan (a long hard pull under the evening sun) and then down to Gwern y Fan with its roadside spring of never-failing water, past Llwyn y Drain, which might be called Blaen Cerist, and Bulch y Gle. After our sandwich tea at Llyn Ebyr, the supper was welcome, looking as well as tasting good [jelly & blancmange, cheese & biscuits, coffee].

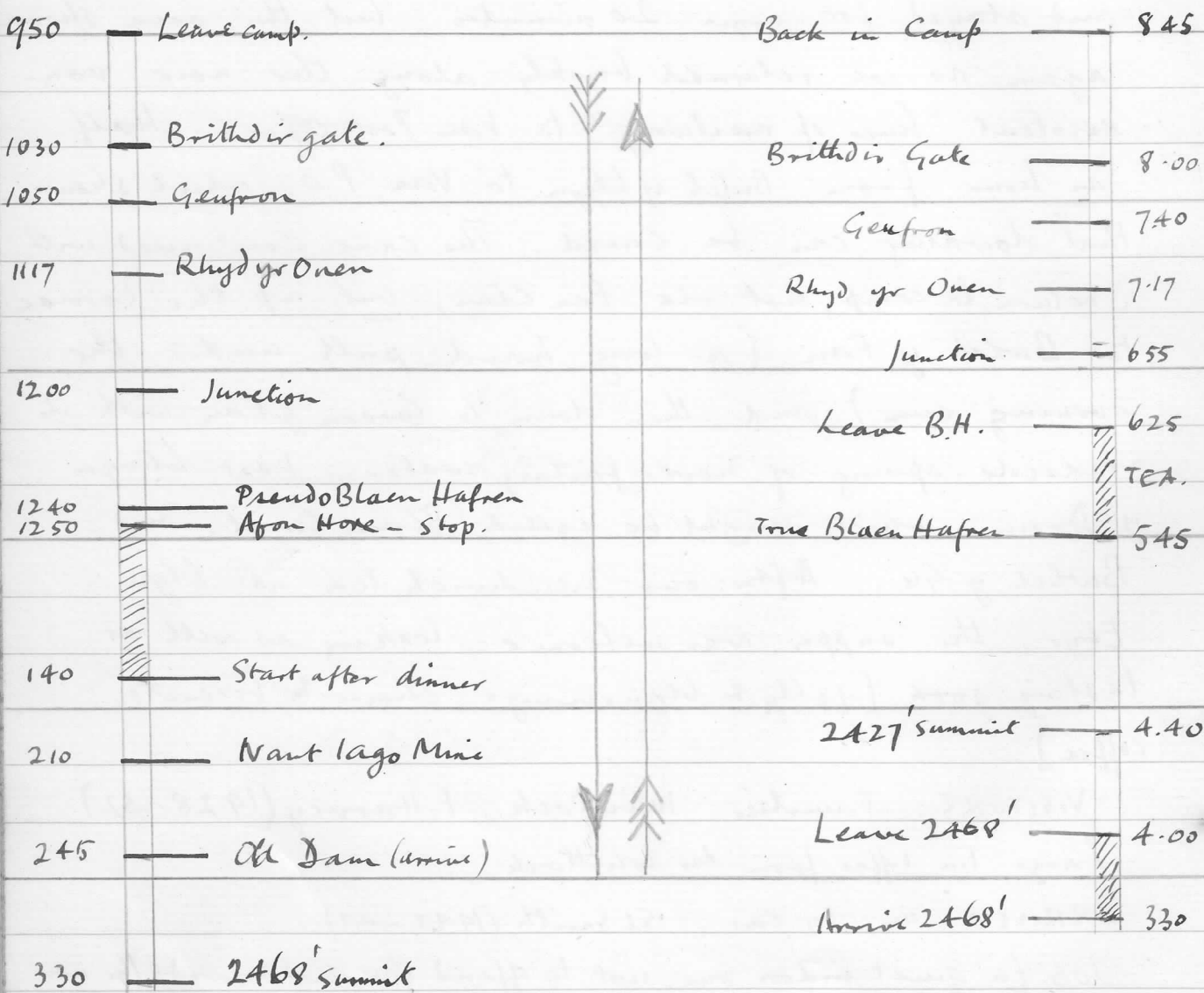
VISITORS: Families Whitlock, F Harvey (1928-32).

Large tin coffee from Mr Whitlock.

ARRIVED am. by car, SL Smith (1942-47).

JOB (a quiet indoor one, not to offend the neighbours): the new window-sash fitted in Long Room window and painted (D. Parry).

[39]
in
camp



Form VI: Arkinstall
Beck
Broadbent
Brunson
Salisbury

Monaghan
wright

Form V: Archer
Avis
Revill
Williams
Whitlock

Left: Wilkinson
Parry
R.F. Jones
J. May

16 to PUMLUMON FAWR.

6 August

BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAYFINE till late
afternoon. ThenTHUNDER-
STORM &
RAIN.

At camp 18 bathed. After dinner a walk to B.y G., wain
y Gadair, Eblid, sleeper bridge, Coffeychlynyd, right bank
After tea, up to last field for Rugby Touch, but rain
prevented it.

VISITORS: Families Edge (home made cake), Porter (fruit
cake) and Mc Mahon.

ARRIVED: T.S.C. Harris, M. Chambers, G.S. Griffiths

DEPARTED: Frank Field, Stan Smith.

[40]

THE WALK TO PUMLUMON FAWR.

The CHART on the opposite page will inform the student of
such matters how long it takes a middle-aged party to
get to Pumlumon (which is how the new O.S. maps
spell Plynlimon) and back, and how and where
to go. A good standard route outwards, rather
comfortless on descent to Blaen Hafren.

Good walking weather at first, a little troubled by
flies. We ate on the banks of Afon Hone above the
footbridge which is marked on the 2½ inch but seem
to be non-existent. While R.F.J. was casting about for it, and
a likely track through the arm of Forestry that cut us off
from Nant Iago, Wright (Curly) had crossed the obvious
stile and "This is a good track" he did cry. Dubious
we followed, and in about 25 yards found ourselves
embraced by the prickly arms of Christmas trees,
and a little further on it was so thick that
some found it more prudent to turn and go through
it Rearwards Forwards. In a little clearing we

restored our failing strength with ~~fat~~ fat and juicy bilberries, then plunged in even denser twiggage, enmeshed, prickly and quite strong, for the trees in this part are a good twelve feet high. At last we reached the last and most formidable barrier — one of the Forestry Commission's most sheep-proof fences. No one who has been asked can remember how this was crossed but some think we burrowed under the bottom wire.

Plain sailing after here to Nant Iago mine, the old mill race (or leat) the broken dam, and Pumlumon Top.

Haze prevented our seeing far, though some claimed they could just make out the water of Cardigan Bay; nevertheless the scene was no less impressive — perhaps a little more so for being wrapt in mystery.

On to the Montgomery summit with a sharp 15 minute shower on the top, and ominous rumblings in the North. Van was sinister on our horizon, with a dirty grey cloud piling itself up at the back. Broadbent now decided that, rather than ~~to~~ take a splinter-group to Glaslyn now (5 pm.) he would join the rest in their attempt to descend to the True Blaen Hafren. [So called because for some camps careless map-readers had taken the farm in the Hore valley to be Blaen Hafren. We don't know its name, so call it pseudo-Blaenhafren. Map-ref. 833871.]

The whole party walked on therefore to about 821885, then straight down to the Severn — We followed it down, now on one bank, now on the other, and quite soon reached the Forestry fence. This we crossed by a stile on Right bank and then

continued over rough going and amid wet bracken and small fir-trees. At odd moments only, was it safe to take one's eye off the anfractuositities of the track to spare a hurried glance at the falls, water-chutes, and wild rock-scenery of the Severn — or up at the menacing sky where thunder-clouds now rushed up until soon the air could support them no more, and with about 20 seconds warning we were in a real mountain storm. Hail and great raindrops poured down and all we could do was to hurry on through it to the accompaniment of lightning and thunder. After some 10 to 15 minutes we came in sight of shelter — the three walls and a roof which were all the Forestry Commission had left of Blaen Hafren. They had also left an unholy mess of churned mud, the steel framework of a bridge, and a concrete-mixer and it was not far from this — and at distances varying from 15 to 50 yards of the walkers and shelterers — that the famous, the ~~ger~~ legendary, forked lightning struck, accompanied rather than followed by a terrifying thunder clap. Long will this tale be remembered with advantages by all who were there, particularly by the one who was holding the fence at the moment it was struck but was saved by the fact that both his feet happened to be off the ground at that ~~was~~ time.

We took breath in the pitiful remnant of Blaen Hafren, ate our sandwiches and set off on the last stage of our walk, reaching camp in 2 hours 20 minutes (the first arrivals in about 2 hours).

A most enjoyable and interesting round trip. A happy

1. Ark ... 2	v.	PJSmith ... 3							
2. PJS ... 1		Mon.. 1	Salisbury's	2	1	0	5	3	5
3. Mon ... 1		Sal.. 1	Monaghan's	1	2	0	5	4	4
4. Sal ... 2		PJS ... 1	P.J.Smith's	1	1	1	5	5	3
5. Ark ... 2		Mon ... 3	Arkinstall's	0	0	3	5	8	0
6. Ark ... 1		Sal ... 2							

impression — the picnic luncheon; as always, someone was reading out bits of his sandwich paper. "Twice as many Frenchmen as Englishmen die at the age of twenty" he told us. The reply was not long coming. "That's because they live abroad — and a sad impression: the clumsy, mauling hand of the Forestry Commission in dealing with the farms, the plain stone-built, decent houses that have been home to so many generations of decent farming and shepherding folk. Rhydybennoch, Blaen Hafren and the rest had to be evacuated of course, but need they have been so savagely bulldozed? They might even ^{have} proved useful and are certainly more comely than the whitewashed boxes with which the F.C. scars the landscape at Rlwyn y Gog and elsewhere.

Tuesday 7 August A perfect Bryntail day, with an Easterly breeze to temper the sun's heat. 21 bathed.

WARM &
FINE.
BREEZE

Free afternoon.

Rugby Forest Touch after tea, six games ruffed alternately by JM and EAF, while the other kept time. Details opposite.

JOBS: Stile and Rock-garden, in fence by the top mine shaft (on Bryn-y-Tail) by D. Parry, T. Harris, and Nobby Clark, with J.M. as gaffer. It has been examined and approved by some of 'These' at the farms.

New window pane by EAF.

VISITOR: G.W. Innes (1916-20), an early camper, who brought a stack of excellent books, in good order,

DESPATCH RUNS (NEW COURSE)

RUNNERS on Wed. 8 Aug. 3.05pm

Bronsdon : IN 4.36
 Salisbury : late
 Williams : IN 4.36
 Belcher : caught
 Ariss : caught
 Monaghan : late
 Newcombe : caught
 Bell : caught
 McIntyre : caught
 Maddison : late
 Melville : late
 Hall : late
 Hammond : caught
 MacMahon : caught
 Parry D. : caught.

RUNNERS on Thur 9 Aug. 4.00 pm.

[Wright] Tom Harris : IN 5.15
 Revill : caught
 Arkinstall : caught (see next page)
 Beck : caught (" " "
 Archer : caught
 Hunt : IN 4.46
 P.J.-Smith : IN 4.58
 Buffery : caught
 [Porter] Clarke : IN 4.45
 Spencer : (? late)
 Green : caught
 Smith : caught
 Edge : caught
 Harris : IN 4.45
 R.F.T. : IN 5.15

Scores: $-13 + 2 = -11$

Score: $-9 + 6 = -3$

RUGBY TOUCH, Wed 8 Aug.

"W"	"R"	"A"
Wright capt.	Revill capt.	Ariss capt.
Parry D.	Harris T.	Broadbent
Wilkinson R	Bell	Buffery
Spencer	Archer	Newcombe
Porter	McIntyre	Hunt
Smith	Harris	Maddison
Hall	Melville	Hammond
Clarke	MacMahon	

GAMES

A 2 : R 2
 R 1 : W 2
 W 0 : A 3
 A 3 : R 2
 R 4 : W 2
 W 2 : A 3

TABLE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts
ARISS	4	3	1	0	11	6	7
REVILL	4	1	1	2	9	9	3
WRIGHT	4	1	0	3	6	11	2

of a sort acceptable to literate young campers.

DEPARTURES: G.S. Griffiths and M. Chambers, with an enormous pile of gear (clothes, bedding etc), to canoe down Severn.

ARRIVALS: 11 pm. G.S. Griffiths and M. Chambers, with an enormous pile of wet gear, from Dolven.

[40]

Wednesday

8 August.

FINE. QUITE

WARM.

SCOTCH

MIST.

Another day of element weather. More than 20 bathed.

After dinner, Time-honoured Custom was broken: not only was a third Despatch-run held, but it was run over an ENTIRELY NEW COURSE: the runners start running as soon as the first man enters the "baseball field" (Cae Llyn). A watcher on Bryn y Tail signals to the catchers, assembled at the New Stile and they give chase incontinent, while the runners race down to touch the telephone kiosk (Ciose Newydd) at B. y G. and get back to the cottage garden, if they can. The Bounds are the usual ones.

The verdict of ~~most~~ those qualified, by experience and Faculty, to judge was "Not bad, for a change, but too much open country". The result - 2 home and 13 caught ^{or late} - appears to support this view, though the return run, held next day, suggests that a little experience helps the running side very considerably.

After tea, 23 played Rugby Touch, while 9 walked with EAF to Glyn Bridge, Coed y Brain, Crowlwm.

JOBS: included two the effects of which are, alas,

far from permanent; they were Spring-cleaning and Roof-codging.

VISITORS: a ~~sort~~ selection of the Clarke family, not "L.E." (Nobby) but Clacker.

[40].

Thursday

9 August.

DULL

&

WARMISH.

This being the last opportunity to practise total and deliberate immersion, 26 bathes. Many with soap.

After dinner the return Despatch Run was held, again, of course, over the same route. The percipient learnt from their own ^{experience} ~~experiments~~ (as well as proffiting by the other Phellow's) and 6 got in, not to mention Arkinstell and Beck whose claim was overruled by a neutral Umpire. The new course, incidentally, makes hedge-cracking and corn-trampling less likely than the old.

After tea a walk to find the beginnings and ends of our two mill-races, interest stimulated by prizes offered for the best questions, solutions, and remarks.

These prizes, as well as those for the Ping-pong tourney were presented at supper.

DEPARTURES: in (or near) their canoes - Griffiths and Chambers, for the second time; ~~Wright~~ on the rear seat of his father's tandem - Wright.

[37].

Friday

10 August

A FINE

MORNING.

The last day. The usual rush (for some) of cleaning up and clearing away. It is reported that a few

weary souls took the precaution of hiring M. Morgan with one of his motors, rather than face a walk down of $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile. A curiously unsatisfactory way of leaving Bryntail — an incongruous end to a fortnight among the hills (at any rate on a fine morning!)

EAF stayed behind with Salisbury and Monaghan; they did some tidying up — about as much as the rest of the campers together — and left next day, S. and M. to collect a canoe at Newtown, intending to reach Salop or beyond. [They reached Ironbridge]

Jobs were small-scale but nonetheless important. Future campers will be glad of the improvements to the Long Room window and floor, and of the New Stile (which is that one level with the covered mine-shaft and crossing into the Newfield).

In some of the fields (e.g. Top Gelli) they have been killing weeds with poison: mortality among the Hot Nettles was high.

Weather: a prelude to the infamous August of 1956, though for Mid-Wales it was really quite good: 7 fine days, 3 mainly fine, 4 mainly wet and 1 very wet. But except on the first two days it was never hot; we were chilled either by thick cloud or by strong wind, or by both.

EASTER 1957.

Thursday
11 April.

School having finished, this term, on a Wednesday, the advance party was able to make slightly more leisurely preparations, perhaps. They arrived in good time on a sunny cold day and as usual worked hard to make camp habitable once more.

[3 in camp: EAF, Manton (cook) & Salisbury]

Friday
12 April.

Cold. Some sun, & light showers of rain & snow. JM, JR, and 29 on 8-32; a calm journey. All the boys walked up (as it ever was, & should be) led from far behind by the Geologist and his Apprentice.

After tea, a walk to Bathing Place, Mill Races, By G, Ystrad Hynod, Deildre Chapel, Miners' Bridge. J.P. arrived on motor-bike, making a total of
[35 in camp].

Saturday
13 April

The bitter North wind abated and the weather was less cold. Fine except for a few light showers in the afternoon. G bathed: "cold", they said.

The afternoon was spent playing Rugby Touch in top field (Cae Llyn), while after tea EAF led all boys on a bounds-beating walk to ~~help~~^{help}

Put them in the Picture regarding the Despatch Run. They went to Pen Clun, Van Pool, & Bidffald.

JOBS included tent-repairing, with new clips; roof codging; puttying windows, including the one that appeared to have been got at by the birds; gnaptalite hunting (fruitless).

JR returned on afternoon train leaving
34 in camp.

LORD'S DAY. A sunny fine day, warm until in late afternoon a
14th April. strong wind sprang up, now from the West.
13 bathed.

After an early dinner (1230) JM & JP with 30 walked to Blyg and climbed Van. The view from the top was satisfactory though some of the features were obscured by haze. We took compass ~~star~~ bearings on various landmarks. Then we followed the fence down the Western face of Van, across Mr Davies's fields, and to the summit of Waun y Gadair. Down to the road above Llywbrymadyn, across the road and down to the iron bridge, and so to Coppice-llwyd (on the 1830 O.S. map "Cwm-pwell-llwyd") and along the river home

[34]

HARES have been seen in the Glyn riverside fields (where a red squirrel appeared also), on the Llywbrymadyn hill, and elsewhere

POWELL, an Energumen.

FIRST DESPATCH. RUN. START : 3.0 p.m.

Runners

Catchers.

Monaghan	caught	Wright
Parry D.	caught	Abbey D.
P.J. "Bach"	caught	Southall
Archer	caught	Salisbury
Porter	caught	Birch
Belcher	caught	P.J. "Hir"
Harwood	IN	Ariso
Manton	IN	Shein
Wade	IN	Hall
Hammond	caught	Williams
Silk	caught	Pollock
Smith	IN	Hart
Elphce	caught	Neale
Taylor	caught	Owens
Denton	IN	Skinner
Hollingshead	caught	

11 caught, 5 in : $-11 + 5 =$

-6

Monday
15 April

Little or no sun; a few light showers; the wind still cold, & increasingly strong. NONE bathed.

A DESPATCH RUN was held in the afternoon. There is little cover on the hills and even the hedges are still rather thinly furnished in these parts; it is not surprising that of the Runners only 5 came home while 11 were caught. Powell, Perry Bone, ran true to form: Salisbury, with another catcher, was passing that way & asked, ^{with} the most exemplary politeness "Will it be all right if we come through the farm yard?", to which Powell returned the rude as well as irrelevant answer: "Take that blxxy smile off your face, or I'll move it with this, see". "This" was a heavy spanner that he was using at the time. He went on to explain, in equally courteous terms, that there was no track or right of way, etc, etc. He really seems to be a Case.

After tea NC went up with the College Boys and volunteers to Coe Llyn, there^{to} play Rugby touch. The College Boys are of course D Parry, D Abbey, & P.J. Smith Back of Leicester. While these were enthusiastically engaged in a vigorous & prolonged game up there, EAF led the remainder boys to Aber Daunant & the ~~Corn~~ Corn.

COME-&-GO: JP left for Rhayader & the South by motor bike;

NC & P.J. Smith Hir arrived by train. All at dinner time

JOBS: More clips fitted to tent by JP & Williams. Concrete path at low side of front door begun by Abbey, P.J. Smith Back, with Wright & Birch.

Tuesday
16 April. Cloudy am, sunny pm; a stiff breeze, cool-to-cold, all day.
NONE bathed. Some wood was picked up in Gelli and brought up to camp.

After dinner, a walk with a sandwich. 32 to ByG, The Hill —N.B.: take field on East side of fence when you reach the top of the field above the barn "Esgair fraith"; it is now firm going and takes you to the top of the steep wood down which one can choose an infinite number of slightly varied ways to descend on LLAWR Y COLYN-Christchurch, and along banks of Trannon etc to our tea-time place. There we sat on a dry hill-side, and ate sandwiches. On to a footbridge, a road, and the neat cottage at the end of that road, which the map calls ~~the~~ "Cwm". From here it is a matter of scrambling sometimes above, sometimes in, the tiny brook that comes down from Derw-llwydion. Below this farm we took the left fork (i.e. the right-bank tributary) and arrived on the Staylittle road at the iron gate which is a quarter-mile past the Van finger-post. From the road, parties split off (splinter-groups is still, I think, a fashionable term) and reached camp in their own way.

JOBS. Concrete path finished. Clips on tent painted.

Wednesday
17 April. Petrol rationing continues. A stiff breeze and drizzle from 11.30 until 7 pm. The evening fine and rather muggy. BATHING: Hall & Shein

immersed themselves totally for 6 seconds.

GLASLYN.

Fifteen walked to Glaslyn, setting off at 1130 and returning at about 615 onwards. The drizzle above mentioned began soon after the party left Camp, and persisted, often in the form of horizontal rain, until they returned.

The party:

NC	Salisbury	Manton
D. Parry	Wright	Wade
D. Abbey	Monaghan (v)	Belcher (v)
"Peej" Smith (Back)	Aris	Harwood
	Archer	Birch ..
	Southall	

Route:

By G., road to Eblid, riverside to Staylittle (shop), road to Fford Fawr, Dylife, Glaslyn. Rough walking to Reservoir (reported to be non-existent) and Clywedog gorge and Staylittle. Back thence by road. All returned in good shape but very damp.

..... meanwhile, back in camp, the morning activities were diversified by the collection of a little more wood from the Gelli, by an expedition carried out by EAF to collect A. Croft and kit, by the sudden appearance of a young geologist who changed, lightly clad, about the slopes of Bryntail. In one hand he held a roll of rather moist six-inch maps, in the other a pencil with which he did endyte in mysticall Characters upon the saide Mapps. D. Eastoff of Manchester University

The "Two-Mile" Handicap Team Race

Porter's Team

Shein's Team

TIME OFF	ACTUAL TIME			ACTUAL TIME		
		Min. Sec.			Min. Sec.	
30.45	Porter	16 th	12.30	Shein	7 th	10.30
30.00	Pollock	11 th	11.50	Smith	10 th	11.45
29.15	Silk	6 th	11.45	Hammond	13 th	13.5
28.30	Williams	3 rd	11.25	Elphée	9 th	13.10
27.45	Neale	4 th	12.45	Hart	5 th	13.5
27.00	Denton	14 th	15.35	Hall	15 th	15.50
26.15	Taylor	1 st	13.15	Hollingshead	2 nd	13.20
	Skinner	8 th	15.20	Owens	12 th	15.50
			<u>63</u>			<u>73</u>

Porter's team wins, by 63 points to 73.

In the afternoon there was held a

"Two Mile" Handicap Team Race.

This was run left-handed round Two-Mile Relay course. Teams were picked in the diningroom as usual, and those who were picked last set off first, the rest following, in pairs, at 45-second intervals. The result of this race is set out in mathematical detail opposite; it will be seen that the handicapping worked quite well — in fact, too well, for it brought in all the runners within a few minutes of each other and imposed a great strain on the hot water supply.

After tea, a walk for JM and Ib in rapidly improving weather. The route: Miners' Br., Sarn Capel, Crowdon top, cart road to Crowdon farm, Jones's Br. (now very insecure in its downhill half) and to camp via the Incline. After supper, certain campers to Llani for Drinking, Social & Geological.

[36]

Thursday 18 April Weather again disappointing — drizzle first part of morning and most of afternoon. A cloudy but rainless evening.

River perhaps less cold, but only Shein went in. He went in thrice

After dinner, the return Despatch Run. This time the Runners were more successful than before; otherwise the Run followed its normal course, even to the traditional altercation with Powell Penbane. But this time the argument developed; in addition to

SECOND DESPATCH RUN

Start 3 10

Catchers	Runners		
Murphyham	Assistant-cook Taylor	IN	?
A. Croft	Wright	IN	455
Archer	Southall	caught	
Porter	Salisbury	IN	507
Belcher	Birch	caught	
Hammond	Ariss	IN	455
Manton	Shein	caught	
Wade	Hall	IN	431
Harwood	Williams	?	
Silk	Pollock	caught	
Smith	Hart	IN	5.0
Elphes	Neale	IN	5.0
Taylor	Owens	caught	
Denton	Skinner	caught	
Hollingshead			

Score +7 - 7 = 0

∴ Wright's side wins.

Thurs. 18 Apr Cont^d

EASTER 1967

44

the customary veiled threats - not content with playful show of violence - Mr Powell, goaded to desperation, jumps into his van and drives to Bryntail, arriving at the cottage breathing fire & slaughter, or at any rate something stronger than a mere mixture of CO₂ and N. The EAT technique soon reduced breathing to normal, and the matter was quite amicably thrashed out. Mr Powell had a mug of hot, sweet Bryntail tea, and then drove off, back to Penbane, there to show EAT just what ~~was~~ was what and where was where. Campers will henceforth be instructed in how to navigate this tricky passage, and Prudence might well suggest that, on future Despatch Runs, the Powell estates be put strictly out of bounds. On his brief visit to the cottage Mr P, to demonstrate how reasonable a man he really is, mentioned the frequent "borrowing" (by campers, he alleged) of a bicycle that he always at the end of his "Muddy Lane". This machine, it seems, would disappear night after night, but was ^{always} there next morning. "I didn't mind at all", he said. [Came from Glo'ster, near Chestow, in 1947 soon after the Great Snows. Has a grievance against the (? County) Council, for they will neither repair his muddy lane ~~and~~ nor allow him to claim it for himself, & then have it put in order with the help of a generous Government subsidy. This seems to make him generally disgruntled particularly about the lane and the use of it by all & sundry].

After tea and Post Office, a walk to M.B, the

Chapel track, the "Hairbush", Iron Bridge, By G, Camp.

Departures : NC, D Abbey, Peej Smith (Back) to Birmingham
on 11.15

Arrival : Shepherd by bike from Salop
[34]

GOOD FRIDAY A grand day. The wind was round in the NW or
19 April. N, and gave us a fine, sunny day - even warm
in sheltered places. 27 bathed.

NEW WALK.

J.M. and 30, after dinner on a walk with a sandwich.
The route was simple enough: to By G, then on Staylittle
road to the corner beyond Eblid gate. The track is well
marked most of the way to Lluest y Fedw - a small,
brick-built farm, looking Late Nineteenth Century in
date but already abandoned and falling into ruin.
It contains bits of farm gear, owls, and from time
to time other animals. From here the track to Lluest
Dduallt is not easy to pick up; however, by keeping
fairly well up to the right you come to a well made
Five-barred Gate whence an ~~well~~ obvious track takes
you to Lluest Dduallt, another small farm of the
type generally thought of as a small holding - a
cottage and a few outbuildings, two fields and enough
hill grazing for four or five dozen sheep. The man
was pottering in one of his fields and appeared intimidated
by the sudden irruption of 30 noisy, filthy, outlandishly
dressed ruffians. But with soothing gestures and emollient

(Good Friday, cont^d)

words JM was able to assuage his understandable alarm, and he spoke to us. A part-time farmer he is, but mainly a forestry worker, to-day enjoying part of his Easter holiday. Bryntail he knew well, having worked for Ike Jones in the Brightass Mine. He shewed us the way across his little place, and towards the next farm (Braich yf Edw?)

But we didnt want to go that way, as it was going to land us too near to Staylittle, so the dawdling caravan halted while A. Croft struck off over the hill crest to reconnoitre the ^{direct} route ~~to~~ to the Clywedog, JM not too keen to have thirty clumsy pairs of feet smashing down any awkward hedge. But all was well; the route was reported to be good, so we set off, cheerfully breaking from a crawl into a walk. We crossed a high barbed-wire fence at a stout corner-post, plunged down a steep bank partly on scree and partly on turf, and sank down on or near the banks of the river and HAD TEA. The spot was familiar to some as a convenient emergency swimming place often used when returning from Staylittle on scorching August afternoons.

The homeward route was partly over new ground. Downstream to the Gronwen footbridge and Gronwen farm (natives friendly), over the fields to the Groes Isaf (no-one at home, but we left the farmhouse on our left-hand side and became involved in a boggy, messy ~~to~~ crossing). Then to the Foch, Ystrad Hynod, Deildre Chapel, and home.

A slow walk, and slow walkers - perhaps

it isn't really far enough for a sandwich walk. But
 • good going, most of the way, and interesting enough to be
 worth doing again.

[34]

SATURDAY
 20 April.

Another grand day, warm & sunny all day.
 ALL bathed — compulsory, with only a few token grumbles.

Six Walkers to Pumlumon Fawr: A. Croft,
 B.A. Taylor, Salisbury, Wright, Manton, Wade. This walk
 was continued down to the Aberystwith road to see
 Captain Whatsisnamed's farm at the Manod. Croft had
 a head of the modern methods of farming used here,
 including the scattering of fertilisers over the
 mountain pastures by aeroplane. He was anxious
 to see something of the work and arrangements on
 this farm, but found that there was 'nothing
 doing' — strangers discouraged, By Order.

At camp Prisoners' Release was played
 ("Pook! a kids' game" — "Not the way we
 play it"), and later there was a short walk:
 Pen Cwm — Reservoir — By G — S-Bends.

JOBS: Surveying the unmapped "new" fields.
 Putting stakes and wire round the Top Mine-
 shaft — the one directly above the cottage. The
 iron sheets and rollers that have covered this
 deep hole for so many years are now fast
 rotting away and are obviously dangerous.
 These at Above have been intending to fence the

shaft for 20 years or more, but never got round to it.

ARRIVED B J Nicholson, D. Weedon, EA Hately, and A. Turfrey. There seems to have been an error in navigation on the Shrewsbury bypass, and they went to Clunifloos by way of Bridgnorth. [38]

EASTER
SUNDAY
21 April.

Dull all day, with intermittent drizzle.

Four bathed

After an early dinner and a faze afternoon, we had tea at four o'clock — some, it must be freely admitted, with little appetite or enthusiasm, not because of any lack of religious fervour (or at the least, of interest in the forthcoming Service) but merely because they were Full already, bulging or bursting at weak places through a Surfeit of dinner, sweets, biscuits, Tuck in general including perhaps (who knows?) Lampreys.

We arrived at Deildre Chapel dry and warm, and heard Southall & Salisbury read the lessons, after which the Reverend Mr Evans (Oakley Park) of Mantled Chapel, Van, preached^{to} us. All went well; the singing was good, the behaviour exemplary; the sermon followed a simple plan and was fully understood by all the campers but one. In fact, it was not until the return to camp that things went badly — very badly.

As usual the younger campers took the quick way down
 • Crowdown, sliding the last ~~couple~~ hundred feet or so.
 It had drizzled much of the day, so that the course was
 distinctly faster than usual (a fact which had indeed
 formed the subject of a warning by EAF), but all reached
 the bottom safely — except one. Porter of the 3rd
 form hit a half-submerged rock, hurt himself badly,
 & finished the descent out of control. His mate, sym-
 pathetic but misguided, picked him up and took him over
 the Miners' Bridge where he waited in a state of collapse. Stein
 rushed to camp, J. Parry rushed back with the stretcher, and,
 swiftly but gently, Porter was carried back to the camp and
 made as comfortable as possible in the cottage.

After this, EAF to town & Dr Graham Davies up to
 camp (about 15 minutes covered the round trip). Much waiting by
 the doctor, and promise of an ambulance. It was quite dark
 by the time this arrived, and the scene, as the stretcher was
 carried up the front steps and to the ambulance waiting
 near the stile, was not without its dramatic ~~touch~~ aspect
 for all was done so quietly in the light of hurricane
 lamps and electric torches held by willing but awe-
 struck helpers.

At the Llanidloes Hospital Porter was examined again,
 then carried back to the ambulance, and the little convoy
 set off for Aberystwith. First came the ambulance, with
 its ~~two~~ volunteer crew of two, and ~~inside~~ behind them
 the patient, carefully watched by a nurse and by

E. A. Hateley; then in the second vehicle, EAF. This was
 • 11.30 pm.

Meanwhile all was quiet at camp, the hut-dwellers no less than the tent-dwellers having gone off to their beds in a noticeably subdued frame of mind. At midnight D. Parry arrived back from the Glamorgan hospital with the latest news and a healthy appetite, having eaten nothing since the aforementioned light tea at 4 o'clock.

About 3 am. EAF and E Hateley got back from Aberystwith, even more tired and hungry. The case had by this time been pretty definitely diagnosed as one of ruptured spleen, the great local specialist, Mr Isaac, had given Porter another examination, his parents had been informed through the Birmingham police — for the time being, nothing was to be done except get some sleep.

Other events of the day were that three Old Boys walked gently over to Craig y Llo, and that we ~~have~~ had some VISITORS:

the Shein family;
 — Morton, an old Central (1922-27) and old camper (~~that~~ ^{at} camp in 1924).

[38]

EASTER
 MONDAY
 22 April

After a cloudy night, the morning began misty, and turned sunny and warm about 11.30, then mizzly and warm from 4.30 on.

Bathing compulsory.

Rugby Touch.

	1st Game	2nd Game	3rd Game	Total.
Wright	9	0	0	9
Southall	0	9	6	15.

Mr ISAAC: the surgeon who put 18 stitches into
Higgs Tynnyfron; thus he is known locally.

Bathing compulsory - and about time too.

- The boys were accorded a Free Afternoon; some went primrose hunting, 3 to Craig y Llo, a fair number to the river, others on missions that were just as mysterious to themselves as to others.

Late tea, then 19 went up to Cae Llyn for Rugby Touch, and 7 with JM on a fairly quick walk to Crowlwm, Jeep Lane, Red Road to end of fence, down to Cwm for short Pridovian chat, Crowlwm, camp.

VISITORS: Mr & Mrs and Mick Porter - about 430 from Aber'. They had paid two long visits to hospital, and seen Mr Isaac, learning that Roger was to stay there about three weeks. The operation, for ? repair of the ruptured spleen was not to be done before then, unless it became urgently necessary. Everyone felt a little better at this report - it might have been so much worse...

JOBS: The whitewashing of the cottage was completed, by D Parry, A. Croft, PJSmith (certain elements from well known knockabout-farce-situations seem to have crept in). Numerous old boys put the final touches to the ring-fence round the top mine-shaft, which had been begun on Saturday.

Departures: after dinner, D. Weedon, A. Turfrey, B. Nicholson.

[34 in camp.]

Tuesday

23 April.

As far as the writer can remember, we had a

fine morning for cleaning up. All, except officials, walked down; as for the officials, they half-rattled half-flow, for Billy Vaughan was late with the trucks (second time in about 6 years). But everything was done and we caught the usual train. . . .

Well, not quite the usual one: this was a Relief which, instead of shunting itself round (at Moat Lane) on to the Aberystwith line, went on to Newtown with Jim, Perry & other Old Boys, but without their kit and without the rest of the campers.

However the next train into Newtown station reunited both parties as well as the kits, which Monaghan had had enough intelligence to spot on Moat Lane platform and deal with. All were eventually decanted — depressing anticlimax — on to Snow Hill platform.

Campers.

Officers:- N. Cunningham, P. Weston, E. A. Faulkner.

N. C. O. :- Dave Parry.

Cooks:- Reanton, Whittock (Old Boy).

Squads:-

Collins	Monaghan	Wright
Ariss	Harwood	Brunsdon
Archer	Birch	Hunt
Green	Newcombe	Hall
Shein	Torkington	Spencer
Engleston	Pollock	Midgley
Gill	Fulford	Findon
McIntyre	Green	Hayes
Griffiths.	Clarke	Bury
	Wade	

Old Boys:-

D. Parry, C. J. Whittock, R. O. Salisbury, Wilkinson,
S. Revill, P. J. Smith, L. E. Clarke, D. R. Hopkins,
P. Noden, Crisp, J. Abbey, M. Chambers.

Two mile Relay.

Gill	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins	Bury	11	Ariss	11
Griffiths	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	Shein	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	Findon	12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Green	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	Spencer	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Fulford	12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Torkington	12	McIntyre	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	Brunsdon	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hayes	12	Wright	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Birch	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Archer	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Wilkie	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Clarke	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Green (H)	13	Hunt	11	Monaghan	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Harwood	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	Newcombe (26)		Pollock	11
Collins	9 $\frac{1}{4}$ <u>107 mins</u>	Wade	11. <u>114 mins</u>	Midgley	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ <u>103 $\frac{3}{4}$</u>

SUMMER 1957

- Thursday
25th July E.A.F., Manton and Whitlock (Old Boy) by car.
Opened up, made the tea, lit fires, put away stores and aired palliasses.
- 3 in camp. Weather fair to mod., rain late evening + wind.
- Friday
26th July N.C., 28 boys and Wilkinson on the 8.32.
Slight congestion from Shrewsbury to Landinam because of the Girl Guides. N.C. maintained the social intercourse at a high level.
- 3 in camp. Walk up from town and after tea to the Glyn, Biddfold, muddy lane, Mr Powell's, Van Pool and Penclun.
Young Hobby Clark arrived all unannounced.
Cloudy, windy, rain after the evening walk.
- Saturday
27th July Bathing parade without bathing; the river was high and brown.
Two mile relay with guides at strategic points.
Newcombe went straight past the Cucumbers "as far as Flaviddles".
After tea to Crowlum, top of Peny Gaer, across to gof in wall below top gate to explain how to find the beginning of the path down the face of Crowlum.
Windy, rain driving and showers all day.
Saw Revill by push bike.
- 35 in camp
- ???. is 9' 11" for Collins and Birch a record. ???

Peepatch Run

2.25 - 4.25.

Catchers.

Runners

Brunsdon	Collins	late	-1
Wright	Harwood	late	-1
Birch	Archer	late	-1
Revil	Wilkie	Caught 3.30	-1
Ariss	Watte	late	-1
Newcombe	Torkington	Caught 3.40	-1
Monaghan	Shein	IN 3.45	+1
Spencer	Gill	Caught	-1
Hunt	Hall	Caught 4.05	-1
Griffiths	Findon	late	-1
McEntyre	Midgley	IN 3.45	+1
Hayes	Green (L)	Caught 4.05	-1
Pollock	Engleston	Caught 4.10	-1
Clarke	Fulford	Caught	-1
Bury			

Score:- -10.

Rugby Touch.

	Monaghan	Collins	Brunsdon	Wright	Total Goals	Won	Draw	lost	Points.
Monaghan		3	2	1	6	2	1	0	5
Collins	0		0	0	0	0	1	2	1
Brunsdon	2	2		1	5	2	1	0	5
Wright.	0	3	0		3.	1	0	2	1

Sunday
28th July. Again no bathing as the river was still high and muddy. On the afternoon to the top of Van leaving "Young Nobby" to tend the fires. From Y Fan to Pen y Castell where there is an old quarry. What the stone was used for would be a little obscure as it appears too soft for road making. Up through Pen Clun. a late tea, a post office and then supper. a dry day with some spells of sunshine.

Monday
29th July. Diftan bathed in the lower end of the pool, the water being lower and much more clear. A Despatch Run was held in the afternoon; it was notable for its very low score. In the evening four teams played a Rugby Touch league.

38 in camp. Pete Noden and Dave Parry arrived off at 8.32. Crisp came by road in his home made, hotbed-up Austin 7 sports model. A warmer day with some bright sunshine and only a few minutes drizzle. a beautiful still evening.

Tuesday
30th July. Bathing Parade:- "all in." a walk to Craig y Llo taking a couple of sandwiches for tea. a hot day; close at times. N.C. left.

38 in camp.

Base Ball.

	Collins	Wright	Brunsdon	Home Runs	Points
Collins	 	2	0	2	0
Wright	6	 	5	11	2
Brunsdon	8	5	 	13	2

Despatch Run.

In. Revill. McIntyre. Brunsdon. Birch. Wright.

Caught. Ariss. Hunt. Griffiths. Hayes. Clarke. Bury. Pollock.

Out. Newcombe. Monaghan. Spencer.

Score -5

Result of Two Despatch Runs:-

Brunsdon's Team, -5, beat Collin's Team, -10.

Rugby Touch.

Wright's Team:- 24 tries.

Brunsdon's Team :- 9 points.

- Wednesday Bathing Parade: - again "all in".
 31st July. A short free afternoon with voluntary
 bathing; twenty went in.
 a walk taken by Dave Parry; Hair Brush,
 Coffice Thoyd, Ystrad Idyrd Bridge, Ilybr y Waddyn.
 39
~~40~~ in
 Camp. Another hot day.
 P. J. Smith of the 8.32 and Salisbury by cycle.
- Thursday Thirty bathed in the morning. It is notable
 at August. this time for half a dozen pairs of goggles, two
 or three pairs of flippers and Harwood complete
 with snorkel breathing tube.
- 40 in camp Three teams played base ball in the afternoon
 A stroll in the evening over Jones' Bridge for
 a bathing parade at 8.0 pm. Twenty-nine went in.
 D. R. Hopkins after tea; arrived after a cross-
 country journey from down South.
- Friday All in at Bathing Parade.
 2nd August. The return Despatch Run was held, Brunsdon
 team, the runners, turning out winners.
 Some played Rugby Touch in the evening; some
 went along the Bryntail Ridge and back
 39 in camp. along the "S" bend.
 at 8.15 about 25 bathed.
 Another hot day.
 Wade + Donington left + Pete Weston arrived.

Saturday "all in".

3rd August. A walk in the afternoon to Llyn Ebyr going via Vau Derael, Cwm-study, Hiriaeth, Croesllwyn, Melin Iden Sarr and onto the N. bank by the sheep dip. The return was via Bwlch-y-llyn, Hain Camp. Cerist Bridge, Cerist, Glan Fudra, Dolgurden, Bwlchyfan and Bwlchyfle.

Jack Abbey and Mick Chambers arrived by car at 2.45 p.m. R.O. Salisbury left by cycle at 7.30 a.m.

Another hot day.

Sunday Bathing in the morning by all and a short
4th August. "free afternoon" during which there was some shoe cleaning and hair brushing.

To Chapel in the evening, the English sermon being preached by Mr Owens, Manager of the Flauiddes Farmers' Co-operative, more of a talk it was that the boys should understand, and understand it they did, it being a description of a pencil and likening its characteristics to features of the Christian life.

There were twenty inhabitants and thirty campers there.

It was fine until the return from Chapel when there was some light rain.

Monday

The Day of the Great Storm.

5th August. The like of which it was difficult to find in the memories of the oldest inhabitants.

After a great spreading of sandwiches 25 went with P.W. to Staylittle and to see Fred Fawc, arriving home in the early evening before the storm broke.

Nine went to Glaslyn and part of the way to Pumlumon but the weather conditions being ominous and the mist being thick they returned to Glaslyn and to the "Star" at Dyliffe.

"Wilkie" had a very sore foot and the others 38 in camp insisted on him accepting an offered lift. Anis, Archer, Whittock and Manton got a lift from the bottom of Staylittle. Collins, Wright, Brunson and Hoden were picked up by the O.C. a mile this side Staylittle.

Thunder started at mid-day, lightning was added by tea time, the heavy rain started at 7.30 and lasted over two hours. Lightning continued on until about 1.30 am. Smithfield Street in Haridles had three or four feet of water from the brook by the blacksmith's shop; one house had water up to the piano keys. The water from a culvert pushed up the road by Dr Graham's. Mick Chambers & Jack Abbey left.

Rugby Touch.

	Wright	Harwood	Monaghan	Brunsdon	Goals scored	Points.
Wright	0	12	6	6	24	5
Harwood	0	0	3	6	9	1
Monaghan	3	3	0	3	9	2
Brunsdon	6	12	3	0	21	4

Base Ball.

	Archer	Whittock	Wright	Home Runs	Points.
Archer	0	9	9	12	4
Whittock	2	0	7	9	2
Wright	6	3	0	9	0

Tuesday The river had been very high during the night
6th August. but although still brown had gone down to 9"
below the top of the "Mermaid". Six hardy ones
swam at the bottom end of the pool but could only
just swim upstream.

In the afternoon with E.A.F. to Daidre, Ystrad
36 in camp. Hydod, the Fael, the Froed, Eblid and back on the
left bank.

Rugby Touch in the evening refereed by J.M. & Parry.
P.W., Noden & Hopkins left at mid-day & J.M. arrived
in the afternoon from Pontypool.

The day was warm and a little misty.

Wednesday. Twenty four bathed.

7th August. Efforts had been made to arrange a cricket match
for today but as Monday's downpour had made
this impossible we played base-ball instead.

In the evening to the Glyn, Glyn Cottages, Coedy
36 in camp. Brain, Crowlwa.

17 bathed at 20.55 p.m.

23 went on a "mid-night" walk.

24 was close, misty and warm.

Thursday 20 bathed.

8th August. Rugby Touch was asked for but heavy shower and
descent of weather thermometer caused change to a walk

EASTER 1958

(on account of we don't want no piles of wet pumps and shirts in kitchen - but as it turned out we came back with more than our boots and socks wet). WATK. 30

Crowlum, Aberdeunant, inspection of Roger's Hydroelectric, 36 in Brithdir gate, Road over Deildre Hill (Cader visible) to camp. Penybanc, Ystrad Hynod, B.y.g. and home. Slight rain after crossing Nant Dde, torrential rain from iron bridge to B.y.g., hence aforesaid drying of more than boots and socks.

Unorganised gambling and cacophonous singing in dining room after tea. Chess, draughts and dominoes were also attempted.

Dull mostly - a little sun p.m. - heavy with distant thunder. Drizzle and rain at dinner time, at 6 p.m. and most of night after that.

Friday The day of departure

9th August. A wet day! One of the very few wet days that we have had for striking camp since the war. J.M. took most of the boys on the 1.4.3; fortunately they had it dry for most of the way to town.

Cunly Wright with Father Wright on their tandem towards Llanbrynmair.

After clearing up Manton and Whitlock with E.B.F. at 4.30 arriving late into a very wet Birmingham.

General Opinion:- a very good camp indeed.

EASTER 1958

Wednesday EAF, Manton, Porter & much baggage, by Morris Minor.

2 April. They aired paillasses in a warm sun and did the many other small jobs attendant on opening camp after an eight-month interval. Monaghan arrived on his scooter.
[4 in camp]

Thursday

3 April. 22 Centrals; 2 Loxton Street, with D. Parry; GJP & JM, all caught the 8.32 without very much difficulty. Arrived at Slanidloes without noteworthy incident. All the party walked up to camp. Paillasses (straw from Scotch Barn), beds, bank tea. Walk to show the Mine Shaft, the Gelli, planted in January with 6000 Sitka Spruce & 3400 Japanese Larch, and lastly, the Miners' Bridge. The dangers and difficulties of walking near, through and over these three localities having been explain'd and demonstrated, we went straight up Crowlun side via old levels to the Cleft, the Fort, and across to the Hair Bush. Here Franklin got the ~~to~~ worse of it in a mix-up with barbed wire & return'd with JM, what time the rest went on down the ridge to "Coppice - Lloyd" & B. H. G.

[29 in camp]

Friday

4 April. None bathed. Some wood collected.

A walk after dinner to reconnoitre the Despatch

SUNNY. Run course etc. Up over the stile, Cae Llyn, Cukes (thus seeing the 2-mile Relay route. On to muddy lane & Pen y Banc and Van Mines. [The bales of tin-foil-coated paper are brought at regular intervals by a lorry which takes ~~back~~ back the foil produced by burning the paper off. This is done by one or two men who, it seems, are regularly employed on this job. On windy days the burnt paper blows about, much of it into the fields; cows, they say, do eat some tho' it is not very nourishing and certainly the burning — in fact, the whole enterprise — creates a filthy mess, to the annoyance of the natives].

On to Mawledd Farm and Penllun, and a late tea. Between this and an early supper was sandwiched a little Rugby touch, in the twilight.

JOB. A good start by D. Perry to the new shelter over the tap & boiler.

INFIRMARY. Matthews, of Laxton Street, from tent to Long Room, with symptoms..

29 in Camp.

Saturday

5 April None bathed. Walk by GJP, JM, & 22 to By G, Stay little Road, on to Dinas and along to end of ridge — a cold strong wind from East with high coefficient of penetration. Coming down we aimed at Eblid but came a quarter-mile to left. Downstream GJP and eight crossed at big ~~stepping~~ stones, rest followed river to

WIND
ROUND TO
WEST AT
LAST, BUT
STILL
COLD.

WIND
EAST
AGAIN.

COLD!

waterfall, then by usual track, to meet Rine Droite at the Iron Bridge. Back via the Urpin Bend, the Moribund Wood, and high-level track to Powder Magazine.

Too late for any Rugged Touch after tea.

ARRIVALS. K Bromage, also G Griffiths and Mrs (Barbara) staying night at "Golly-good". They did the Denis walk but finished it off by climbing to Deildae Chapel.

J. James arrived about 11 pm by car.

JOB: D. Parry assisted by Matthews & Atkinson and others e.g. Spicer continued the Shelter.

31 in camp.

EASTER SUNDAY

6 April

EAST
WIND.

GREY.

COLD.

D. Parry & Rees bathed. 1230 dinner, 4 o'clock tea, with short walk between: Penclun, the Dam, By G. Left soon after 5 o'clock for Deildae Chapel. Service 6 o'clock, by Rev Mr Phillips the ^{old Hall} & Deildae minister. He read out a printed sermon with much fervour but remained unconvincing. It seems he always reads his sermon whether in Welsh or English. How much better would have been a simple address, if spontaneous. Behaviour again V. G. + After service EAF & Turner to 'phone from By G; JM & K Bromage to supper at Crowlun.

EASTER

MONDAY

7 April

NORTH WIND

COLD - BUT SOME SUN

Bathing "compulsory" today. All but 4 were in, including D Parry & Atkinson; much Merit was

Despatch Run.

2.40 - 4.40

Catchers

Monaghan

Bruceston

Hunt

Smith

Rees

Clarke

Neale

Bolt

Franklin

Clatworthy.

Runners.

Elphée 3.45.

Kayes 3.45

Pollock 3.45.

Denton 3.50

Turton 3.50.

Archer 4.0

Wright 4.0

Spicer 4.0

Owens 4.0

Turner 4.0

Fountain 4.0.

Score:- + 11.

acquired in this way, and Guilt was purged. Great logs were carried up the Shoot to camp, thus collecting further merit of an inferior kind.

After dinner walked to Byg and Van top. After the new camps had been shown the Despatch Run from yet another angle, all descended to the rock outcrop half-way down to Tyrklyn, and several walkers became climbers for half an hour or less. Back to camp via Panchin.

After tea a whist drive; prizes to:—

Ladies. 1st Turner; 2nd Monaghan; Last

Gentmn. 1st ; 2nd ; Last

VISITORS: Fountain family

ARRIVED: Brunson (O.C.) & Wright (O.C.) by bicycle.

LEFT: J. James (O.C.) D Parry (O.C.) Atkinson & Matthews, by car

INFIRM: Powell & Fulford, both with sore throats,

as well as temperatures 2° F above (or below) 98.4°

JOB: very nearly finished - result of sterling work over most of 4 days by D. Parry & his helpers.

TUESDAY

8 April. None bathed.

SOME ~~RAIN~~ ^{RAIN}

11 a.m.

OTHERWISE

FINE,

SUNNY,

AND

COLD

(North wind)

After dinner a Despatch Run in which for the first time since records were kept, all the runners were in - not only were none of them caught but, it appears, none were even seen. The catchers simply did not go to the right places.

As the last of the runners came in at 4 o'clock

it was possible to get tea rather earlier than usual, and so have a somewhat longer game of Rugby Touch (or more correctly, so we are informed, Touch Rugby) than usual.

Visitors: Ray (Dizzy) Jelf, wife, & party.

Departed: Ken Bromage by the afternoon train.

Job: Jm to National Library of Wales to ~~the~~ consult the Tithe Survey maps (1840 & 1846) and corresponding Apportionments, also a thesis, for Magister Artium, on the history of lead-mining in Cardiganshire by one Oswald Beynon, BA (a Praune), 1938.

28 in Camp.

Wednesday

9th April.

3/4 Hour RAIN
1130 am,
OTHERWISE
FINE. GOLD
BUT WIND
BACKED TO
WEST IN
EVENING.

No bathing-parade nonsense. A caravan of porters took all necessary things to erect a new stile from Cae Llyn to the road. GJP and 4 assistants were left to complete this and the rest took poles on top of Bryn, made shallow holes for the sharp points of these poles, piled rocks around for support and thus marked out, on various high points on Bryn y Tai, the bounds for Prisoners' Release.

After dinner a walk to Crowlum, Crom, via N. Gwestyn to Brithdi gate, Penybane, Ystradynod, Deildre. Mrs Pridoux was sturdily muck spreading in their 5-acre meadow (Cae'r bodu), and Roger busy ploughing up the heather and bracken ~~at~~ on top of the old Sheepwalk, opposite Aberdeunant. We noticed evidence of

Despatch Run.

3.8 - 5.8.

Catchers

Runners

Archer

Maghan

H.35.

Wright

Hunt

H.40.

Spicer

Neale

H.40.

Kayes

Smith

H.40.

Pollock

Rees

H.40.

Elphée

Wade

H.35.

Denton

Clarke

Caught.

~~Turner~~

Bott

Caught.

Owens

Clatworthy

Caught.

Turner

Turner

Caught.

Fountain.

Score :- + 2.

Archer's Team Won :- 11 - 2.

his enterprise in other places: the new cattle shed, of hollow blocks opposite the old stables, the saw bench, the railway van and huge "sledge" by the bottom of his cart-road on to the hill. At Penybarn too they were using the hollow concrete blocks to build a large place - some sort of barn perhaps. Long live the Hill Farming Act!

PUM LUMON FAWR. Archer, Manton, Hunt, F. Spicer and Lushy tonight left about 9.30 am, walked to Hone, Nantlago Mine, and broken dam to 2468. Hereabouts it snowed for a few minutes, there was not much of a view, and mist seemed to be settling on the lower parts of the mountain. So they went down to 'Steddfa Gjurig, where they spent 2/- apiece on tea and set off towards Llangujurig. A couple of miles down the road they were picked up by a lorry and deposited at Llani.

ARRIVED: GWP (with family) by car: dinner time
Wade, by light motor-cycle: tea time.
[30 in camp.]

Thursday

10 April Bott and Turton bathed, and found it still pretty cold.

Cold with SE wind, little sun, some cold drizzling showers. After dinner the return Despatch Run. The previous catches, now runners, were without Bronsdon & Franklin but had Wade and Turton (lent) and ~~the~~ did quite well with 6 "in", 4 caught.

After seeing the catches (white tops) away from the farmyard the technical, non-observing Umpires - J.M. and Franklin - inspected machinery in the engine-house.

Despatch Run.

3.8 - 5.8.

Catchers

Runners

Archer

Monaghan

4.35.

Wright

Hunt

4.40.

Spicer

Neale

4.40.

Kayes

Smith

4.40.

Pollock

Rees

4.40.

Elphée

Wade

4.35.

Denton

Clarke

Caught.

~~Turner~~

Bott

Caught.

Owens

Clatworthy

Caught.

Turner

Turner

Caught.

Fountain.

Score :- + 2.

Archer's Team Won :- 11 - 2.

Monday 7 Apr

29 in camp Gent. 1

Winst lady LHS.
Bromage
2 Porter

Departures ~~Home~~

Tuesday 8 Apr. In to Mytzege C.C. None bathed.

Fine & cold Despatch Run. Rugged touch.

N. wind. Visitors. Ray (Dism) Jelt & party.

Chris & Han. Departed K. Bromage.
28 in camp.

Wed 9 Apr. No bathing parade but stile & marker-posts.

3/4 hour Walk Crawshaw Cur (Mrs P in meadow, R on top)

rain (field) Brittain Gate, Ystrad Hymod, Deildre Camp.

Am. take tea & supper.

Fine Arrived: GWP (with family) by car (denim time)

ostentive Wade by ~~motorcycle~~ light motorcycle (tea time).

Cold, then wind backed to West.

~~31 in camp~~ 30

Five to Pumlumon Fawr via Hore & Nantlago. Back via Eisteddfodwig (& lorry to Llani).

Thur 10 Apr.

Turton & Bott went in. Lister 1411 GHP.

A cold day with drizzling Return Despatch Run.

Showers. Rugged Touch, 3 teams. Monaghan arrived late

SE wind. NOT 2 in gloaming (porridge mixing).

Little sun Dep. GJP. by car (with CAP) to Tredegar; EAP then to B'ham. P. Smith by train (Arrived)

Jobs. [28].

John Evans was grinding a sack of oats into oatmeal for stock-feed, and when he had stopped the little mill, showed us the engine, a '6 horse' Lister, bought in 1911 to the accompaniment of much headwagging from neighbours - Not more than two or three years will it be before it is worn out!

It ran on paraffin till the carburetter burnt out and the only replacements available by that time were for petrol, so now it runs on petrol. Cooled by water from a huge (? 100 gallon) tank which gets pretty hot after a day's work.

It works a chaffer also, and once worked a small threshing machine and circular saw. An enterprising farmer, Mr E Evans, it would seem, back in 1911.

Rugby Touch: After tea Archer's team played Hunt's for what seemed hours. At last Monaghan's team arrived, weary from porridge-stirring, and the darkness was insupportable so that the appropriate watchword was "Never mind the ball, let's get on with the game". The score was 2-0.

Departures: GJP & EAF by car for Birmingham via Tredegar.

Arrived: P.J. Smith by train. Infirm: Fulford } Still abed, but Powells } better.

Job: GWP continued construction of shelter.
[29 in camp.]

Friday,

11 April. EAF returned from B'ham at eleven o'clock.

Sharp frost last night. Waded in river.

Sunny but cool.

After dinner a game of 'Prisoner Release' con brid

Prisoner's Release.

1st Game

Catchers

Runners

Archer

Hunt

Wade

Manton

Spicer

Monaghan

Pollock

Hayes

Rees

Porter

Neale

Elpee

Smith

Clarke

Denton

Bott

Turton

Turner

Fountain

Franklin

Clatworthy.

Owens.

Hunt's Team Won :- 9-8.

To repeat ~~an~~ a saying reported earlier in this volume: "A kids' game" — "Not the way we play it". The score stood at 8 catches each side, with players scurrying ceaselessly from top to bottom of Bryn (and of course the other way). Especially Spicer. Wade, a bold & successful prison raider, had redressed an adverse balance by "releasing" four or five prisoners, and was then chased down the hill and brought to bay by four young players — he standing knee-deep in the dammed-up pool near bathing place. They would not venture in to top-and-tail him but were happy enough trying to drive him out by splashing the muddy water over him with large and well-aimed stones.

Meanwhile, up by the powdermag the timekeeper was looking hard at his watch, while Manton urged his pusillanimous crew to the attack. At ~~last~~ last, unable to bear it longer, plunged down the sheering hillside, and top-and-tailed the insulated fugitive himself. With only seconds to spare the game was won — 9-8!

Departures: Curly & Eem (i.e. Knight & Brunson) by bicycle about 1130 am. Infirm: Powell up this morning, and Fulford this evening.

Jobs: the shelter continued by GWP assisted by PJ Smith & F Spicer. JM to National Library, 1-5 pm. and back by bus (Pontnewydd) car (Achy Bryn) and van (Coker).

After tea, a WALK ~~to~~ over Bryn y Tail to survey the scene of tomorrow's furniture safari.

[28 in camp]

Prisoners

Release

Ariss

Southall.

Monaghan

P.J.

Porter.

Silk.

Hammond.

Alphée

Neale

Smith.

Taylor.

Skinner.

Archer.

Shepherd.

Birch.

Hanwood

Belcher

Shain

Pollock.

Williams.

Hall

Hart

Denton.

Owens.

Hollingshead.

catch. White

7 Caught.

colour.

9 Caught.

Saturday 12 April.

Fine & Sunny all day but cool. Very cold later in the thin N.E. wind.

Up early, & veg. squad finished before breakfast. After breakfast one squad to Slwybr-y-madyn, EAF & JM in car with 22 sacks, a dozen cartons, rope, string, and a sack of tools. ~~These~~ This squad set about gutting the house and carrying the furniture piecemeal down 400 yards of cart-track, dumping it by the gate. Here, at intervals throughout the morning, a "Dormobile" would arrive ^{and} take away as much as it could hold. A few minutes later it delivered its contents at Penclun where a smaller squad under the direction of G.W.P. was waiting to unload and carry into the house.

This went on until half past one, with an interval (at Ll. y madyn) for drinkings. When we knocked off there was nothing left except minimum bedding and feeding necessities, and the boys had walked anything from 2 to 3½ miles (about half a mile for the double journey). It was work, but unusual work in unusual surroundings therefore Fun - up to a point.

After late dinner a short Fine Afternoon (walks down to river; messing about with light motor cycles & scooters; rock-~~cl~~ climbing on the Brynatait Boulders) followed by a reasonably early tea & Rugby Touch in Cae Llyn - a bleak spot when the wind is light-north-east-and-intensely cold.

The games were energetic, fast, lacking in cunning.

Infirm: Powell & Fulford on their feet again, much better.

Job: GWP completed the shelter (the projection by the lilac tree) assisted by P.J. Smith. Some roof codging at end, over cooker room.

28 in camp.

LORD'S DAY

13 April.

Fine & sunny all day but still cold away from few places.

The last full day of the holiday, therefore a bit different in some ways. "Bathing" was compulsory.

No-one stayed in long, but some lingered long, while the first few urged them on explaining how Good it was for a Boy's Character to jump into sub-zero water.

Tidying went on most of the day: the wood sawn up and sacked, or trimmed and heaved up into the Coach-house loft, or minced into kindling. Dixies & pans, where poss., were given their final scrape, clean, and polish. A preliminary assault was made on the Miners' Cottage.

After dinner, while JM spent 2½ hours at the farm trying to learn something of past history by poring over the Deeds etc relating to Bryntait (1782 is the earliest) which the new owner had very kindly brought for from the Bank, EAF led a small party of short-distance walkers on a short-distance walk - a walk, nevertheless, where a determined but perverse personality could get wet feet as the least of tribulations. The course was Byg, Iron Bridge, Copsythwyd,

and back via right bank & Miners' Bridge which is
a single plank $59' \times 13\frac{1}{2}" \times 4" = 22 \text{ cu. ft. say } 7 \text{ cut.}$

Monday The last day. All went much as usual, and as
14 April usual the walk down to town was accomplished
1958 in the day, for which Praise Be. JAL accompanied
train party to Snow Hill Station; the motoring
party stayed to perform the real work of the day.

"New Inn", Staylittle (closed these many years, despite the Bartholomew's map) was known as Pen Ffridd, also "Jack i Maund's"? and is now, 1955, a Dissenting minister's summer residence. [dzak i maundz]

Migration of Evans family from Bronheulwen about 1905, to Bryntail formerly occupied by uncle (Davies) & before that by Mrs Evans's grandfather.

Pen-y-clun farm was owned by Sir W.W. Wynne; sold to Mr Davies (uncle for present Bryntail family); inherited ¹⁹¹² by Mr Soley Thomas ^{nephew of} who retired, eventually, to Ael-y-Bryn; he sold it to Evanws Bryntail ⁽¹⁹¹⁹⁾, who sold it to Holden (a Lancashire (?) industrialist), who after about 12 years sold it back to them; in 1957 they sold it to another Evans from Trefeglwys way. Seven changes in perhaps 70 years. Farmed from ca 1872 to 1919 by Soley Thomas.