

BADMINTON CLUB

This year only four freshmen joined the club; their standard, however, made up for the lack in quantity.

For the first team in division 1, D. Rasanon (captain) and G. R. Bone at first pair played well throughout the season, winning five out of seven matches. M. Latham and D. J. Bone, although a strong side on paper, lost matches that were all but won through bad finishing. A third pair, formed by D. Joscelyne and either T. K. Jenkinson or R. P. Reeve won only one match, though all three improved towards the end of the season.

The second team have done well in division 4, and narrowly missed promotion. M. Freeman and D. L. Helyar have both greatly improved, and deserved their unbeaten partnership. The remainder must be mentioned for their unflinching enthusiasm and amazing variety of styles!

During the season we had a combined match with St Catharine's against R.A.F. College, Cranwell, and also two social matches against Hockerill Training College. Full colours were awarded to M. Latham, G. R. Bone and D. J. Bone, and half colours to D. Joscelyne, T. K. Jenkinson and R. P. Reeve. M. LATHAM (Secretary)

BOAT CLUB

After their very successful Lent term in 1962 the Boat Club have endeavoured to keep the name of Fitzwilliam House prominent in college rowing during the last year. Immediately after the end of that term two eights went to Reading; here, the first boat won the Coronation Cup for the clinker division once again, and then went down to the Tideway. As a new entry in the Tideway head, they started very low down in the order of boats, and in consequence finished fiftieth out of three hundred, owing to loss of tide and the congestion of inferior boats.

In the summer term five eights—four 'professional' and one 'rigger' boat—took to the water. The 1st VIII had its sights set high in the Mays, and were also aiming at another goal—Henley. Training continued steadily and was rewarded by an early bump on each night. The 4th VIII, which contained a number of the members of the legendary third Lent boat, also won their oars.

The bow four of the first boat rowed in a four at Putney, and lost their maiden status; the 1st VIII then went on to row at Marlow and Henley, where their potential was good enough to keep them out of the eliminating rounds, which is unusual for a new entry. They were unfortunate to meet one of the finalists—First and Third Trinity—in the first round, to whom they lost by one and a half lengths after a hard race. The 2nd VIII rowed in the Maiden eights at Putney, and also at Chester and Hereford, but unfortunately without any success.

At the beginning of the new academic year we were faced with the usual problem of forming eights. Finally the 1st VIII was chosen, and promptly split up into two fours, which started training for the clinker fours races. The 'B' IV vanished from the scene after the first round, but the more fortunate 'A' IV beat St Catharine's 'B' and Emmanuel very convincingly before they lost a very close and exciting race to First and Third by three seconds, after they had led as far as Ditton. The two fours then came together and trained as an eight for the Fairbairns, under the supervision of Dr G. M. Blackburn. The result was that they rose ten places, to fourth, the highest a Fitzwilliam boat has ever been on the Cam in any event. The 2nd VIII rose to twenty-sixth and the 3rd VIII dropped to forty-sixth. Two eights entered the Clare novice races and

met each other in the semi-final. In the final the 'A' boat lost to a strong Christ's crew.

In the Lent term we encountered the grave problem of ice. We tried an outing in an eight and holed it, fortunately not far from the boathouse, and got into the bank before it finally submerged. We next tried Earith as a possible boating place, but Arctic conditions and enormous waves finally drove us to St Neots, where we found other Cambridge VIIIs, and we became quite fond of the Ouse during the four weeks we were there. The Cam finally cleared, however, and training for the Head races started in earnest. The 2nd and 3rd VIIIs also began to train for the Lent dabbles, which were being held instead of the Bumps, and in which the 2nd VIII was knocked out in the semi-final of the junior division. The 1st VIII beat L.M.B.C. II and Downing, and lost to First and Third by a length and to Pembroke by half a length, finishing fourth overall. Unfortunately the Bedford Head has been cancelled this year because of ice, but the 1st and 2nd VIIIs will go to Reading, and the 1st VIII will go on to the Tideway.

As the 1st VIII has climbed steadily up the river in past years the need for a shell VIII has become more and more apparent, and finally essential. Since the House do not possess such a boat the 1st VIII have got together and bought an ex-C.U.B.C. shell for themselves to enable them to race seriously on the Tideway and at Henley. We are now training for these events, and they are eagerly awaited.

1st May VIII, 1962

J. V. Adams
R. E. Grubb
J. R. Cooper
R. Wood
D. A. Knowles
R. Blackburn
L. H. Thomas
E. M. Bates

Cox: D. Matthiae

1st Fairbairn VIII, 1962

R. Blackburn
M. J. Bucher
R. G. H. Crofts
J. R. Lear
D. A. Knowles
R. Wood
P. A. Little
E. M. Bates

Cox: D. Matthiae

1st Lent VIII, 1963

R. W. Ward
M. J. Bucher
C. A. Fordyce
J. R. Lear
P. A. Little
D. A. Knowles
R. G. H. Crofts
E. M. Bates

Cox: D. Matthiae

R. G. H. CROFTS (Secretary)

CHESS CLUB

Once again two teams were entered for the University coppers competition this year, but neither progressed beyond the preliminary round played during the Michaelmas term. On top board S. D. Boreham always played a fine dashing game, but lack of class on the lower boards was badly exposed by the big guns of St John's, Clare, and Trinity II, though a win was gained against the rather weaker Selwyn team. The second team was never a settled unit, but despite this several wins were gained—unfortunately too few to repeat their success of last year and reach the final round.

During the Lent term a number of informal meetings were held, during which an internal five-minute competition was played.

J. R. BILLING (Secretary)