

Below are details of the Boys' 1st XI Cricket 1938 to 1969. Complete teams' names are available from 1949 onwards.

Information regarding early photographs in this section is somewhat sketchy.

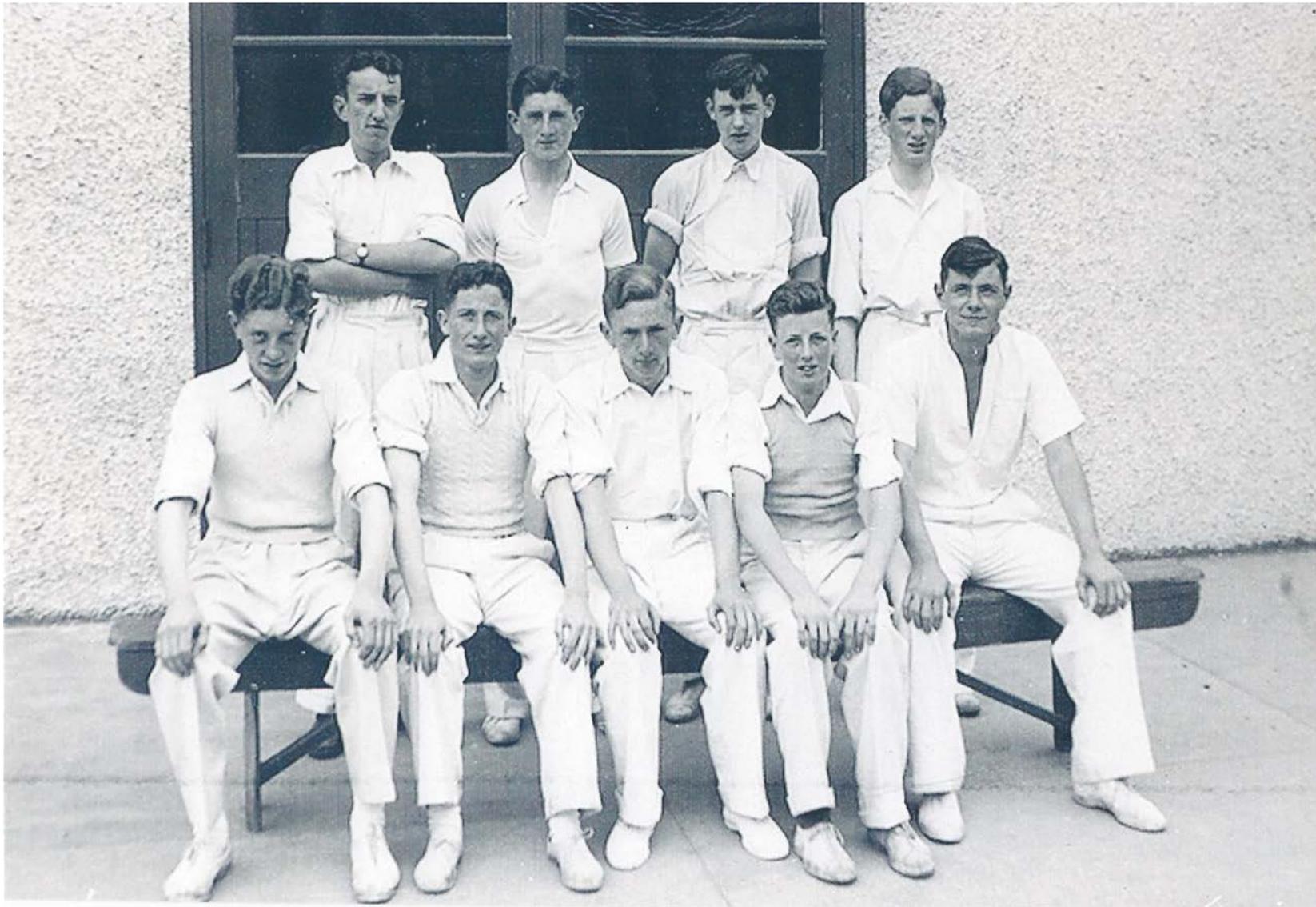
As with the other sports featured in this archive, the number preceding the pupil name is the school registration number of that particular pupil. If the number does not appear then that is either because there is no surviving school report in school detailing that pupil's activities or the activity is not recorded on their report. The only other information we have therefore is from the school magazine, Roesian.

Words in italics are drawn directly from Roesian.

**Boys
1st XI**

Cricket

(the first four photographs are by kind permission of Mr Nelson McGonagle)



Boys' Cricket 1st XI

**Ernest Crockett Jack Adams Jack Austin Tony Murphy
Billy McCully Victor Ryan John McCunn Ken Semple William Alcorn**



Boys' Cricket 1st XI

**Ernest Crockett Jack Adams Jack Austin William Alcorn Tony Murphy
Jack Semple Billy McCully Victor Ryan John McCunn Ken Semple**

1938 S P McGushin (Captain)

'Since the Cricket season was longer than usual we were able to have a larger number of practices before the matches began. We had a team composed mostly of hard hitters with a few cautious batsmen to steady them in a crisis. The matches were, therefore, all the more exciting and there were few drawn games. While the younger members of the team were inclined to be rather venturesome, their enthusiasm augurs well for our success in the coming season.'

'The Old Boys' played the School 1st XI at cricket on 23rd June 1938. The Old Boys' won a keen game by three wickets.'

1939 G Brown (Captain)



Boys' Cricket 1st XI

We believe this photograph to belong to the period 1940 or 1941 – simply because Billy McCully is not centrally placed as captain (1942 and 1943) nor Harvey Earl (captain, 1945)

**Ken Semple Mr Clayden Tony Murphy Victor Ryan Mr Gough Willie Alcorn
Harvey Earl Jack Austin Glenn Caskie Billy McCully Ernie Caskie**



Boys' Cricket 1st XI

We believe this photograph was taken on the same day as that above with one addition (T Maxwell) and minus

Mr Clayden

**Ken Semple, Tony Murphy Mr H Gough Victor Ryan T Maxwell Willie Alcorn
Harvey Earl, Jack Austin, Glenn Caskie Billy McCully Ernie Caskie**

1940

1941

1942 W McCully (Captain)

'The cricket pitch which Mr Hunter so generously lent us in past years has been ploughed up, so we were able to play cricket this year only through the kindness of Mr Lowden. He allowed us the use of a field on the Coleraine Road, forming part of Drenagh Estate. This has now been mowed and rolled. We thank Mr Lowden for the use of the field and roller, and all those who kindly offered the use of their mowers.'

1943 W McCully (Captain)

'Again we are indebted to Mr Lowden for the use of a field on the Drenagh Estate as a cricket pitch. We thank him for the use of the field.'

1944 Jack Austin (Captain)

'Our chief difficulty since the outbreak of war has been lack of a pitch on which to play matches with other schools, and once again we are indebted to Drummond Cricket Club for permission to use their ground. We enjoyed a good season in spite of poor results, Our batting was very patchy yet we usually found one or two people who brought our scores to a respectable level. Unfortunately we had also a scarcity of good bowlers so that our opponents, despite our keen fielding, had little difficulty in passing our totals.'

1945 Harvey Earl (Captain)

'Last season's weather was well above average and this, coupled with the fact that we were again able to play on the Demesne ground, made for a keener interest in the game. We have to thank the Limavady Cricket Club for their kindness in allowing us to use their ground.'

The bowling was generally improved while the batting was patchy, the honours going to a few, who batted consistently well.'

1946 William Biggerstaff (Captain)

'A big increase in the number of boys at school brought an added interest to our practices and led to keen competition for places in the school team. We had a number of most enjoyable matches during the season; games were made all the more exciting because of the uncertain quality of our batsmen. Fortunately some member of the side usually seemed to have a day out and helped to bring the score up to a respectable total. Our bowlers did good work in keeping down the scores of our opponents, being well supported in this by the keen fielding of each member of the team. We were again indebted to the Limavady Cricket Club for their kindness in allowing us the use of their ground and pavilion for our practices and home matches.'

1947 Gerald Hutchinson (Captain)

'Last season the Cricket Club returned to a normal pre-war list of fixtures, and this led to a much keener interest in the game. The batting was once again very disappointing, although some members of the team always seemed to have a day out to be on form and enabled us to produce reasonable scores. The bowling was our strongest feature, whilst the fielding was not so good. Once again we thank the Limavady Cricket Club for their kindness in allowing us to use their grounds both for practices and for matches.'

1948 Edgar Nicoll (Captain)
John Gilbert Conn – information in Valete, Roesian
1950/51

'Our First XI had one of their most successful seasons, losing only one match, and that by a very few runs. The most encouraging feature was the bowling, which at times reached a high standard. Fielding was reasonably good but the players must learn to cover the throw-ins from the outfield. Batting was the weakest point and slackness was shown in running between wickets. We are indebted to the Limavady Cricket Club for allowing us the use of their ground for practices and matches.'

1949 (photograph Roesian 1950, page 41)
578 Thomas C H Allen
539 Forgrave Cochrane
527 John Gilbert Conn (Captain)
582 William Henry Craig
541 Fred Cromie
I Cromie (If this is Thomas John Ivan Cromie, his report doesn't record his cricket history)
Kenneth Forsythe (present in photograph but his report states he played for the 1st XI cricket teams, 1950 and 1951)
528 Richard Craig Foster
590 James McClelland (absent from photograph)
530 George Rheins McElwee
559 William George Rodden
384 George A W Trotter

'Playing on our new pitch, made from part of the rugby field by our own labour we had a most successful season in 1949. Our team, which included several of the previous year's players proved too strong for the opposition which we met. Batting was confident and steady and the batsmen displayed a good sense of judgment in defence and attack. Bowling was satisfactory, fielding was alert and accurate and backing up at the wicket was much better than in previous years.'



CRICKET, 1st XI — 1949

[Photo by Tempest]

W. Rodden, F. Cromie, Mr. R. O'Kane, I. Cromie, F. Cochrane,
R. Foster, G. McElwee, G. Conn (Capt.), T. Allen, W. Craig,
K. Forsythe. W. Trotter.

1950

- 578 Thomas C H Allen
James Blair Austin - Roesian records Blair Austin as being on the Cricket Club Committee and therefore playing however his report gives no information on his cricket endeavours. He is also mentioned in Roesian's Valete of 1950/51
- 539 Forgrave Cochrane
John Gilbert Conn (although not stated in his report, Roesian records Gilbert as Captain, 1950)
- 582 William Henry Craig
- 541 Fred Cromie
Ivan Cromie - Roesian records Ivan Cromie as being on the Cricket Club Committee and therefore playing however his report gives no information on his cricket history. Thomas J I Cromie is also mentioned in Roesian's Valete 1951/52
- 585 Kenneth Forsythe
- 528 Richard Craig Foster
- 590 James McClelland
- 530 George Rheins McElwee
- 682 John Nicholl
William G Rodden – Valete, Roesian, 1950/51
- 384 George A W Trotter

'As a result of strenuous work we were again able to make a pitch from part of the rugby field. We were fortunate in that we had several of last year's players in the team and with the benefit of their experience we did very well.

The 1st XI have quite a good record but there is room for criticism. How many times have we seen a fielder standing, hands on hips, or watching the ball roll over the boundary? Some of the fielders must learn to anticipate the batsman's stroke and to move quickly when chasing a ball. The batting was somewhat erratic, especially by the "tail" but fortunately three or four of our players were usually in good form and we ran up some quite good scores during the season. Running between wickets was fairly good but thoughtless mistakes in this during the season lost us valuable runs. Some of the players were over eager for runs and from these came most of the mistakes. On the other hand, some were loth to run even when it was obvious to everybody that a run was possible.

If we can strike a happy medium this season our cricket will greatly improve.

The bowling was the most satisfactory feature of the play throughout the season and if our batting failed our bowling was always sure to save the day. Few of the batsmen from other schools seemed to be able to play a fast ball on the leg and our bowlers, notably Conn and Austin, exploited this to the full. The change bowlers were Allen and Trotter and they bowled skilfully and accurately when they were called on to bowl which, to the credit of our opening attack and fielding, was not often. All the bowlers were most skilful in setting their field and our opponents usually found it hard to find a gap in the field.

The First XI played five matches in all, winning three and losing two. The most notable success of the season was against Rainey at Limavady. The home side scored 103 and dismissed the visitors for 18 runs. Previous to this in Magherafelt we defeated them by 76 runs to 19. We had two matches against Foyle 1st XI and although defeated in both we were not disgraced and might easily have won the second fixture. The strong Foyle team only finished 7 runs ahead.'

1951

Thomas C H Allen (although not stated on his report as playing, Roesian records Thomas as Captain, 1951)
William Henry Craig – information in Roesian's Valete, 1951/52

Thomas J I Cromie – information in Roesian's Valete, 1951/52

654	Raymond Dallas
585	Kenneth Forsythe
662	Robert John T Graham
716	Robert A Hunter
622	Samuel Morrell Lyons
590	James McClelland
676	Robert Gault McKay
682	John Nicholl
609	John Cathcart Quinn
690	James Edward Simpson
384	George A W Trotter
695	James Reginald Watson

'This year we again played on our own pitch made from part of the rugby field, and although we spent much time and labour on it the results were not satisfying. We commenced the season hopefully and showed considerable promise in our first two matches. It was soon evident however, that we were depending too much on the same three or four experienced players to make the scores, bowl out the opposition, and save runs in the field, with the result that our record was not very impressive. One match was won, two drawn and two lost.'

1952

654	Raymond Dallas
662	Robert John T Graham
716	Robert A Hunter
622	Samuel Morrell Lyons
676	Robert Gault McKay
725	George Gordon McLaughlin
724	John Darragh McLaughlin
682	John Nicholl
710	James Conn Sherrard
690	James Edward Simpson
384	George A W Trotter (Captain)
695	James Reginald Watson

'This year we were indebted to the Limavady Cricket Club for the use of their pitch for matches. We spent much time preparing a practice pitch on our rugby field but the results were not satisfactory.'

'We started the 1952 season well but it soon appeared that we relied too much on one batsman to score in every match. On the whole our bowling was fairly effective, and towards the end of the season it was encouraging to note that one or two new bowlers were emerging and doing well. Fielding was just about tolerable, but players must learn to concentrate, to cover-up and to throw in quickly and accurately.'

1953

654	Raymond Dallas
662	Robert John T Graham
779	James A Hunter
622	Samuel Morrell Lyons
36	William D Millar
703	William James S McCunn
676	Robert Gault McKay
725	George Gordon McLaughlin
724	John Darragh McLaughlin
682	John Nicholl (Vice Captain)
690	James Edward Simpson
695	James Reginald Watson (Captain)
754	Richard Victor Whyte

'This year, after much work, a pitch was prepared at Greystone Park which proved satisfactory. We started the season very well having several good batsmen and one or two good bowlers. The fielding showed improvement from previous years but deteriorated towards the end of the season.'

1954

654	Raymond Dallas
779	James A Hunter
36	William D Millar (Roesian's Valette of 1955/56 states William was captain of cricket this year, 1954.)
703	William James S McCunn
676	Robert Gault McKay
744	William John McKay
725	George Gordon McLaughlin
724	John Darragh McLaughlin
682	John Nicholl (Captain)
750	Nigel Semple
690	James Edward Simpson
754	Richard Victor Whyte

'The 1954 season will be remembered for its most unfavourable cricketing weather which curtailed practices and only permitted the playing of three games each by the 1st XI and "Under 15" XI.

The 1st XI appeared on paper to be a strong team and when we dismissed Foyle College for 45 runs in the first game, Simpson taking five wickets for 11 runs, our prospects looked bright. This hope, however, soon faded when the Foyle bowlers dismissed us for 11 runs. In the return at Limavady we were again defeated, Foyle scoring 97 runs against our 48. Simpson took eight wickets for 25 and scored 24 runs. The Foyle team was probably the best they have ever had: they defeated the three top Belfast school elevens. At the end of term we won an exciting game against a strong town team.

These games showed that we had a number of strong attacking bowlers who were usually well supported by good fielding. Some excellent catches were taken but the opposition too often gained runs from slack ground fielding and poor returns to the wicket.'

1955

130	John G Barber
775	John L Campbell
739	William Jack Heaney
779	James A Hunter (Captain)
702	John Leslie Kyle
36	William D Millar
703	William James S McCunn (Vice Captain)
783	Samuel N McGonagle
744	William John McKay
750	Nigel Semple
	C Tierney (If this is James Clive Cameron Tierney he is mentioned by Roesian as playing but there is no record of it on his report)
752	Thomas John Walker
754	Richard Victor Whyte

'The weather was much kinder this season than during 1954 with the result that only one game had to be cancelled. Our wicket, however, did not give us much encouragement, and the time and labour spent on it were hardly justified by the results. The first eleven won two games and lost four, one of which was against a strong town eleven. Our strength was mainly in the bowling, which, though it was without guile, kept a steady length and seldom gave runs away needlessly. The fielders gave good support; they were always on the alert for a catch or a quick run out. The batsmen, however, were over-cautious and lacking in aggression, and while this may have enabled some of them to stay at the wicket for lengthy periods without, it may be emphasised, adding much to the score, it led in the case of others to a nervous waving about of the bat with the inevitable result.'

Roesian gives the results of the season's match play.

1956

130	John G Barber
775	John L Campbell
13	Ronald Clements
131	Kenneth Dallas
779	James A Hunter
38	John N Mullin
703	William James S McCunn (Captain)
43	Joseph D McCurry
783	Samuel N McGonagle
744	William John McKay
52	William F Rainey
750	Nigel Semple
752	Thomas John Walker
754	Richard Victor Whyte

'The 1956 season provided us with reasonably good cricketing weather which permitted all our fixtures to be fulfilled and did not curtail practices.

The first eleven had an enjoyable and quite successful season, all of the players being keen cricketers who also played for local clubs.

As in previous seasons our main strength lay with the bowlers and while we had no outstanding individual performers, we had three or four first rate change bowlers. We normally opened the bowling with Campbell who was very fast and when on form could be devastating. Unfortunately he was not always accurate, a circumstance which may well have been due to his attempts to overcome a tendency towards pitching the ball short of a length. McCunn, Semple, Whyte, Mullin and Hunter bowled accurately and well, though a better control of length, that most valuable of all assets for a bowler, would have produced more wickets.

The fielding was keen but not always as effective as it should have been. Fielding practice is generally frowned upon by our younger players, as being not worth the trouble, but those who have taken such practice seriously have found that it reaped great rewards.

Our batting continues to be a major weakness. This can be improved by constant practice, having first, of course, learnt the proper techniques, and then we will probably overcome that initial nervousness more quickly, when facing the first over or two.

Practice will breed confidence, and if we have confidence in our own ability to make scores, then score we shall. Too few cricketers and fewer spectators seem to realise that cricket is a

strenuous game, requiring fitness both of body and of mind, and, above all, concentration, not only when batting, but also at all times when fielding.'

Roesian details the results of the season's matches.

1957

130	John G Barber
13	Ronald Clements (Vice Captain)
131	Kenneth Dallas
83	James D Harper
235	John H Head (Baird)
363	Gordon S Jones
376	Brian D Mears
38	John N Mullin (Captain)
43	Joseph D McCurry
44	Martin C McCurry
369	John G Orr
48	Robert J Pollock
52	William F Rainey

'Very little rain fell during the months of May and June and the latter month especially will be remembered for its 'bone-hard' wickets on which the roller had little effect. A new wicket was laid for us which stood up to the dry weather conditions exceptionally well. It was, indeed, a credit to our grounds man. We intend to extend it and use it as a permanent 1st wicket, and, we hope that the proximity of a large window in room G will not be offered as an excuse for lack of aggressiveness on the part of our batsmen! Plans are also being made for a permanent 'Under 15' XI wicket and the fact that we have now moved into our new school overlooking the playing fields should enable us not only to give more attention to our wickets, but also to benefit from more frequent practice.

This season we made use of our newly acquired nets, and, while a glance at the score sheets does not indicate any real general improvement in our batting and bowling successes against the strong school elevens, we feel that increased confidence and ability with bat and ball must surely follow, in time. The necessity of serious practice was stressed in last season's report and it was pleasing to see the net practices well attended with everyone eagerly looking forward to the Saturday matches.

The first eleven won three games, lost three and drew one, while the junior eleven must be congratulated on winning all their games. Both teams had a very enjoyable season and as our new school, with its changing rooms and canteen adjacent to the pitches, will be in use next season, we look forward with every increasing pleasure to the future.'

Roesian has detailed results of First XI match play.

1958

761	Ian Brewster
13	Ronald Clements (Captain)
131	Kenneth Dallas
144	William G Deddis
364	John A L Dobson
83	James D Harper
84	David Heaney
208	Ian H D Heaslett
363	Gordon S Jones
460	Hugh A I Jones
362	Maurice A Jones
376	Brian D Mears
369	John G Orr (Vice Captain)
295	Barry J Rhodes
58	Thomas R Thompson

'The 1958 season did not compare with that of 1957 in the excellence of its weather. Both games with Foyle College had to be cancelled as also had the return matches with RNAS and the RAF. The 1st XI lost three games, drew two and won three. The bowling of our two openers was of a high order but the change bowlers rather disappointed as they lacked the skill and intelligent approach of Orr and Harper. The opening batsmen, down to number six or seven, proved more aggressive than any we have had on previous years. It is to be hoped that this trend will continue with future teams. As has always been the case, fielding was not better than average. It is hard to convince young players that practice is necessary in this department of the game, and that many more matches could be won if all catches and possible catches were taken, returns to the wicket were fast and accurate, and every fielder was mentally and physically alert throughout the game.

In August a new wicket was prepared by Mr Wakefield and our grounds man. We were very grateful indeed for the assistance given by William MacLurg, who at considerable inconvenience to himself, transported fifteen hundred sods from Ballykelly, driving the tractor kindly loaned by his parents. These sods were laid with great patience and skill by Mr Kennedy who was assisted daily by his two nephews Raymond and Wilson Kennedy. The members of our school elevens for many years to come will, I am sure, have reason to thank these fine people for providing us, with what has every appearance of being the best wicket in the district. It is hoped next season to lay another similar wicket between the senior hockey and senior rugby pitches.'

Roesian gives detailed results on match play for the season.

1959

- Bartlett (If this is Graham W M Bartlett, he played for the Under 15 XI side 1957 and 1958.)
Conn (If this is Charles G Conn, he played for the Under 15 XI team 1956, 1957 and 1958. He left school in June 1960.)
Deddis (If this is William G Deddis, he played for the 1st XI in 1958 and left school in June 1960.)
364 John A L Dobson
Graham (If this is David O D Graham, he played for the Under 15 side 1955 and 1956. He left school in June 1960.)
Harper (If this is Samuel E H Harper, he played on the Under 15 XI teams 1956, 1957 and 1958. He left school in June 1960.)
Heaney (If this is David Heaney, he played for the 1st XI in 1958.)
208 Ian H D Heaslett
460 Hugh A I Jones
362 Maurice A Jones
Mears (If this is Brian D Mears, he played for the 1st XI 1957 and 1958. He left school in June 1959.)
Orr (Captain) (If this is John G Orr, he played for the 1st XI in 1957 and was its Vice Captain in 1958.)
Rhodes (If this is Barry J Rhodes, he played for the 1st XI in 1958 and left school in June 1959.)
Stewart
Walker (If this is Robert I S Walker, he played for the Under 15 XI side 1956 and 1957. He left school in June 1960.)
Williams

Played 9 matches; Won 3, Drawn 1, Lost 5.

Rather surprisingly there is no report in Roesian on this season's cricket and in addition, information sought from school reports gives few clues as to those who played.

1960

- 364 John A L Dobson (Captain)
- 208 Ian H D Heaslett
Harper (see 1959 team above)
- 276 John H McCaughey
- 345 Royston J S Peace
Walker (see 1959 team above)

Again there is no report in Roesian on this season's cricket however 6 matches were played, of these 3 matches were lost, 1 was abandoned and 2 were won.

1961

- G Bartlett (If this is Graham W M Bartlett, he played for the Under 15 XI 1957 and 1958)
- B Bloomfield (If this is Robert B Bloomfield, his rugby and tennis endeavours are recorded on his school report)
- F Burley (If this is George F Burley, his report gives only details of his rugby efforts)
- S Callaghan
- R Glenn
- J Harrison
- 208 Ian H D Heaslett (Captain) (Roesian states him as Vice-Captain)
- J Higgins
- R Kennedy (If this is Raymond K Kennedy, his report gives only details of his rugby efforts)
- W Kennedy (If this is Thomas Wilson Kennedy, his report gives only details of his rugby efforts)
- 394 Samuel J Lockhead
- 276 John H McCaughey (Roesian states him as Captain.)
- A McQuillan (If this is Joseph D A McQuillan, his report gives only details of his rugby efforts)
- 345 Royston J S Peace

'We cannot say that the First XI had a successful season – but they did win three of the seven games they played. Unfortunately several early fixtures had to be cancelled because of rain, and the resulting lack of practice meant that the team was slow in settling down to playing good cricket. However, this did not lead to despondency indeed there was a most pleasant atmosphere about our practising and playing, and enthusiasm increased as the season advanced.

Looking back on the season we can learn two lessons: firstly, practice, especially at the nets should begin early, preferably before Easter; secondly, many of the players will have to discipline themselves and resist the temptation to make an indiscriminate swing at every ball bowled to them.

We wish to thank Mr Pollock for preparing our new pitch which we used for the first time last year. Since then it has been extended and another pitch, which will, we hope, become the First XI's, has been laid out.

I am grateful to W Kennedy for his assistance as Secretary – he kept his records most conscientiously.'

1962

- F Burley
- S Callaghan
- R Glenn
- J Harrison
- 208 Ian H D Heaslett (Captain)
- J Higgins
- R Kennedy (see 1961 team above)
- W Kennedy (see 1961 team above)
- 394 Samuel J Lockhead
- 276 John H McCaughey (Captain). (John's report states him as Captain however Roesian states I Heaslett as being so)
- A McQuillan
- T Peace (If this is Trevor J H Peace, his sporting efforts are numerous but this particular one isn't noted on his report.)
- V Pollock
- 434 Ronald J Simpson
- J Warke

Again there is no report on the season's play. Limavady Grammar School 1st XI played 8 matches of which 3 were lost, 1 was abandoned, 1 being a draw and 3 were won.

1963

	F Burley (Captain)
	S Callaghan
611	Michael F Head
	W Kennedy (see 1961 team above)
	R Kennedy (see 1961 team above)
394	Samuel J Lockhead
	A McQuillan
510	Trevor J H Peace
	R Peace (If this is Royston J S Peace, he played for the 1 st XI in 1960 and 1961. He left school in June 1963.)
531	Joseph A D Sherrard
	D Simpson (If this is Derek Simpson, he played for the Under 15 XI team in 1961)
434	Ronald J Simpson
691	William K D Wallace
	J Warke

Played 6 matches. Won 3, Lost 2 and LGS were 108 for 7 declared against Strabane Grammar. Further details of the matches can be found in Roesian.

1964

E S Callaghan
T Green
M Head
S J M Lockhead
D H MacLurg
T Nutt
510 Trevor J H Peace (Captain)
A Sherrard
R J Simpson
K Wallace
N Williams

L Cromie, P Hunter, J McLean and F Anderson also played.

'The 1964 season was a most enjoyable one though success, with results in mind, once again proved elusive to our First XI, captained by Trevor Peace. The opening batsmen S Callaghan and R Simpson played true to form and K Wallace, T Nutt and T Green displayed that extra practice after school and with rural teams gives batting confidence and improves fielding. T Peace and K Wallace have had good bowling averages, 3.6 and 6.4 respectively and V Lockhead's support to the team was invaluable. Unfortunately, three of the arranged away matches were cancelled due to unsatisfactory weather conditions.

Our thanks must go to R Simpson (secretary) who, with the assistance of D MacLurg, sacrificed much of his time to the preparation and reparation of equipment, and to Miss M Kells and the senior girls for their tea arrangements on those Wednesday afternoons when opposing teams visited us.'

RGI

1965

657	Francis Anderson
678	Alan Bloomfield
	A Crawford
470	Leslie R Cromie
1114	Michael Andrew Fleckney
476	William A I Green
646	John P Hunter
	J Lee
	J McClean
1117	Ian Philip McGowran
425	Desmond H MacLurg
	T Nutt
531	Joseph Alymer Douglas Sherrard
691	William K D Wallace (Captain)
888	Neil Alan Williams
784	Robert J Wilson

'Unlike the Under 15 XI which can truly claim to have kept the local cricket flag flying, the 1st XI have had a rather disappointing season. Nevertheless, there was some good consistent play and a great deal of enjoyable cricket was had by all.

Captained by K Wallace, who batted well against very strong opposition and who had also a creditable bowling average, the 1st XI were fortunate to have B Wilson, T Green and T Nutt, all of whom played a fine game. The secretary of the team, N Williams, assisted by M Fleckney and D MacLurg deserves credit for conscientious work. Enthusiasm was evident in the play of I McGowran, J Lee and A Sherrard, the two latter veterans having a distinct facility for fast and accurate returns and a remarkable and memorable catch by McGowran seldom see in school cricket, would have delighted any cricket enthusiast. Fielding generally was quite keen though more attention might be given in the future to premeditated placing of the field to suit individual bowling styles. Indeed, the importance of the bowler's having an intelligent, deliberate and purposeful aim behind each ball and each over, and thinking in close liaison with his fielders, cannot be overemphasised. Good batting ability requires daily practice during the short season by all batsmen, not only by a few enthusiasts.

It is with much pleasure that we look forward to the new season. A number of last season's 1st XI have returned to school for continued study and these amongst other promising players from the Under 15 XI suggest potential and should form, with practice, a strong team. A new rubberoid, all-weather pitch, which has been constructed in the rear field should be most useful in adverse weather conditions and a new grass pitch, though not quite so green as the old turf, will take the play a little further away from the school façade. Also we welcome Mr D W Todd who will be coaching our 1st XI. A keen and experienced cricketer, Mr Todd has captained Brigade Cricket Club for the past four years and has played for Trinity College and the North West.

Finally, I would like to thank those members of the Staff, who umpired and took practices. Particularly Mr D Johnston, Mr T Bennett and Mr J Dobson and on behalf of the teams to thank Miss M Kells and Ann Houston, Pat Harper, Ruby Ussher and Margaret Wright for their willingness to provide meals for mid-week games.'

RSL

1966 (photograph Roesian, page 53)

- 1129 Neil Broom
- 741 Thomas Brian Campbell
- 1114 Michael Andres Fleckney
- 768 James A George
- 646 John Preston Hunter
- 876 Dermot Paul Mackie
- 686 Andrew A Meenagh
- 667 James Mullan
- 754 Royston C McClenaghan
- 1117 Ian Philip McGowran (Captain)
- Trevor Nutt
- 183 Norman W Pickett
- 905 Malcolm Price
- 690 William J Robinson
- 870 Christopher David T Walker
- 784 Robert J Wilson



CRICKET 1st XI, 1966

Mr. D. W. Todd, A. Meenagh, M. Fleckney, P. Hunter, N. Broom, D. Mackie,
D. McCurry, (scorer).

M. Price, J. George, R. Wilson, I. McGowran (Captain), T. Nutt, B. Campbell.

'While the 1966 season may be judged to have been a successful one in comparison to 1965, and while the entire side, with the exception of the Captain, McGowran, will be available in 1967, there is certainly no room for complacency in looking ahead in the month of March to the coming season. The fact that there was not one half-century scored and that on no occasion did the entire team's score top the hundred mark, is evidence of a lack of the ruthlessness that is necessary to build decent totals.

There were individuals who had a varied enough range of strokes to allow them to score fifties, but the taste of success in arriving in the twenties usually went to their heads and they got themselves out stupidly. And as any cricketer knows, there are enough ways in which the opposition may get you out without your joining forces with it. McGowran, Nutt, Meenagh, Mullan and Wilson all had the ability to score runs attractively, and did on occasions demonstrate this while George, with his agility and quick eye, might, with even a minimum of discipline in his batting, have taken greater advantage of fielding sides disorganised by his direct approach. Campbell, Pickett and Walker gained valuable experience mostly in defence and will need to concentrate on developing attacking shots and quickness in the field; Price and Hunter were useful lower order batsmen, capable of scoring quick runs, and Price had a pair of very safe hands in slips.

The bowling was stronger than the batting though without much variety. Opening bowlers, George and Mullan, bowled with enthusiasm at a medium pace. Meenagh developed as a bowler of a similar type late in the season; Wilson and McGowran took wickets on the few hard pitches that they played on with their slow-through-the-air, fast-off-the-wicket deliveries; while Mackie, slow, left-arm, and Fleckney never really found a consistent length.

The fielding was keen throughout the season and attendance at nets and fielding practice was regular. An excellent example was set by the captain, McGowran, who handled his resources intelligently and obtained from every man on the team the maximum contribution of which he was capable.

The new hard-wicket proved to be a tremendous boon to practice especially and a few games were played on it. It is excellent for developing technique both in attack and defence, as the ball comes off fast and true, though one has to exercise care to avoid playing too soon when the match wickets are soft.

We can, I believe, look forward to a good season's cricket in 1967. All the players mentioned will be a year older; they should be able to bring a more mature approach to their game and they will, of course, be challenged by some of last year's Colts. The desire to win, I know, is strong in Limavady cricket, as it should be in all games; it is also important, if one cannot win, not to be beaten, but it is winning cricket that we hope to play. This can only be achieved by a dedicated approach to the improving of personal techniques by individual players, whether batsmen or bowlers.

We would like to register our thanks to the kitchen staff for providing teas and lunches throughout the season, and to Mr Pollock for his help in preparing wickets; to the scorers, David McCurry in particular, to the hon. secretary, Trevor Nutt, for the hard work he put into all the administration attached to each game; to all those who cleaned and oiled bats; and finally to all members of staff who umpired a total of 34 games throughout the season.'

RGI DWT

1967	(photograph Roesian, page 60)
741	Thomas Brian Campbell
1248	John Gordon Coltart B Crown
768	James A George
646	John Preston Hunter
876	Dermot Paul Mackie Sean Mackie
686	Andrew A Meenagh (Captain)
667	James Mullan
754	Royston C McClenaghan J MacFarland
183	Norman W Pickett
905	Malcolm Price S Smith
870	Christopher David T Walker
784	Robert J Wilson

'It is the one ambition of every school boy in Barbados to become a test cricketer – and many of them do. Garfield Sobers, now captain of the West Indies team, delighted, and I would venture to add, fulfilled many a school boy's dream when he met and talked with the boys of the First and Under-15 teams in the School Library in May, 1967. Sobers and Rohan Kanhai were both guests of the Limavady Cricket Club when a Selected Team played a friendly match against an Irish Selected Team at the Demesne Grounds during the Limavady Festival Week. This match was a memorable and sensational occasion, unfortunately marred somewhat by heavy rain showers. The local team put up an accountable score against some restraining and consistent bowling and the versatility and humour of the two renowned test players as they batted, bowled and even kept wickets were certainly appreciated by the hundreds of spectators. During the Irish innings it was interesting to watch Mr Todd put up a respectable score of forty odd runs in what appeared to be a remarkably short period of time until rain finally stopped play.

Our 1st XI team, though scarcely up to expectations and particularly so if one removes one or two of the better individual scores from the totals, had a fairly successful 1967 season. Some erratic bowling left a great deal to be desired and over-zealous claims were apt to become infectious. Apart from these perhaps

unfair criticisms I should like to pay a tribute to the captain, Meenagh, and to the whole team for the enthusiasm and excellent attendance at nets and fielding practice on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. This was justifiably rewarded by the alert fielding performance in matches and confirmed by four good catches and as many run-outs in a match against Strabane Grammar School.

Meenagh played a good conscientious game with some strong hitting and a fair bowling average of 8.6 while George in his usual unorthodox style "saved the day" in quite a few matches. Wilson also bowled consistently with an average of 6.5 yet he always gave the impression that he was a potentially good bowler had he put in that little extra effort. Hunter, Campbell, Mackie, Smith, Pickett and Walker all gave enthusiastically of themselves with variable scores and McClenaghan, Price and Crown made some quick runs and were indispensable as slip fields.

An examination of the results will reveal five draws. Whether from time-limit arrangements or weather conditions a draw is an unsatisfactory conclusion to a match, even for the team coming off worse. Inevitably the occasion does arise when the draw may be the only alternative but in school cricket this number is excessive.

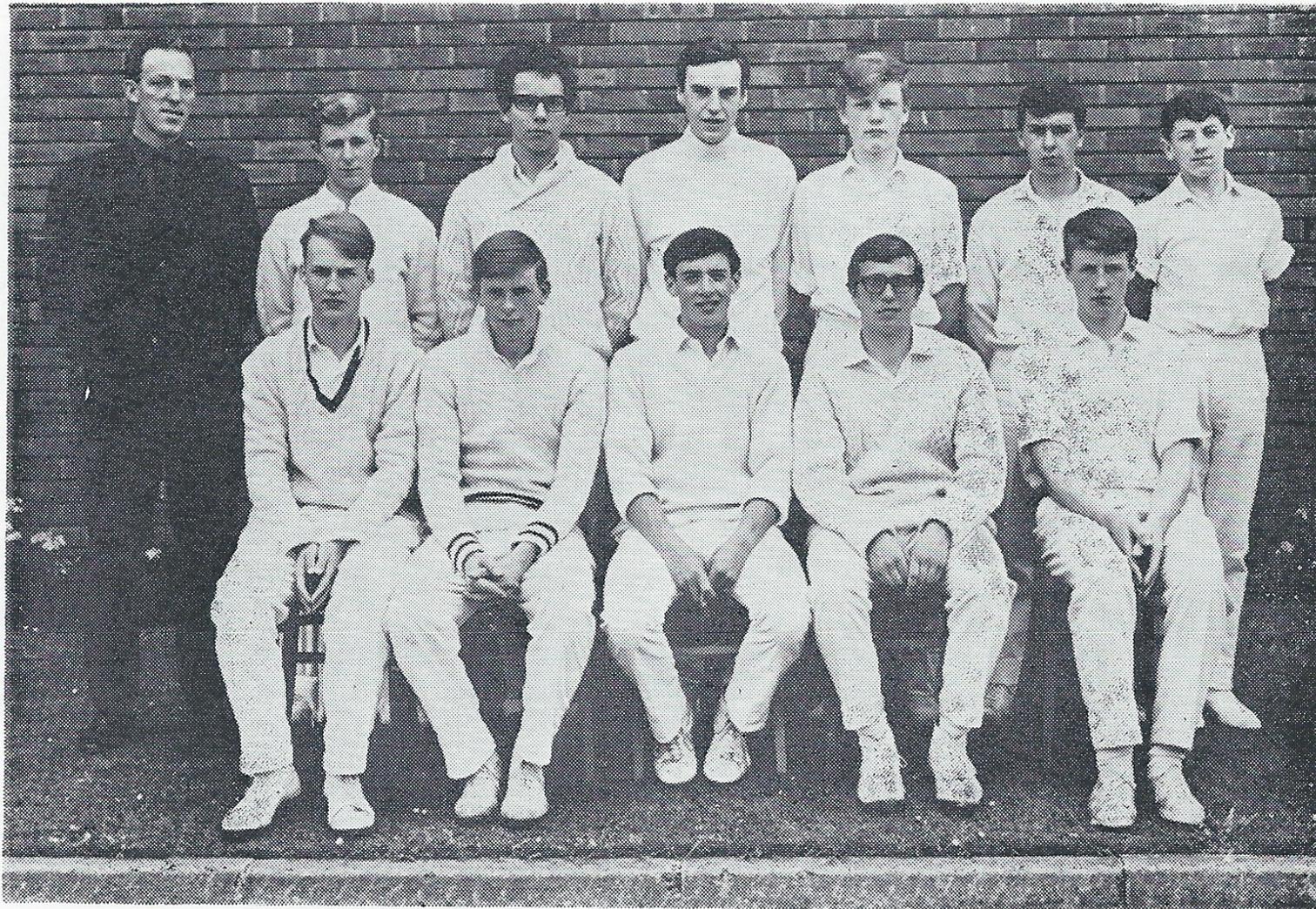
Experience of play against a superior team such as Coleraine Inst. is worth contemplation by those players who may still be on the team in the coming season. Obvious handicaps need not be an excuse on which to rest content, nor a discouraging rebuff, but rather a challenge to intelligently premeditated tactics, always flexible of course and bolstered by continuous practice. A determined attacking attitude of mind is required.

We are all looking forward to our new season and it is hoped that Mackie will develop his bowling. With the exodus of senior boys from the school, new blood to the Firsts, if worthy, will find opportunities perhaps too easily. To succumb to the temptation – it is a sobering thought!

At the close of the season a match was arranged against the Sandford Park 1st XI who were on a tour of Coleraine, Limavady and Londonderry. This was a very enjoyable and tense game for Limavady, the highlight of the afternoon being 84 runs made by George in a desperate effort to make a decent total after the two opening batsmen, Walker and Mackie, were dismissed for no runs. Unfortunately, light stopped play when neither batsmen nor umpires could see the ball against the trees. On behalf of the School, I wish to take this opportunity to thank the parents of those boys who gave the visiting team hospitality overnight.

I wish to thank all those who oiled bats, cleaned pads, and made practice boxes, R McClenaghan for his efficient secretarial duties, the scorer, H McClelland, the canteen staff for supplying the teams with Saturday and mid-week meals and Mr Pollock for his unfailing co-operation and maintenance of the cricket pitches. Thanks also go to those members of staff who gave extra time to practices and umpired a total of 29 matches.'

CRICKET 1st XI, 1967



Mr. D. W. Todd, A. Smith, C. Walker, J. McFarland, S. Mackie, R. McClenahan, B. Crown.
M. Price, J. George, A. Meenagh (Captain), B. Campbell, D. Mackie.

1968	(photograph Roesian, page 53)
1252	Charles Henry Barton
741	Thomas Brian Campbell (Captain)
	Billy Crown
1220	Geoffrey Maxwell Dobson
1083	Albert Gurney
1379	Samuel Jamison
1089	Charles Edward Rankin Johnston
	Sean Mackie
754	Royston C McClenaghan
	John McFall
	J McFarland
	Noel McMichael
183	Norman W Pickett
757	Joseph A A Smith
870	Christopher David T Walker

'There has been an appreciable addition during the past few years to the number of boys in the school taking up cricket as their main sport and recently this addition has been encouraged as once again the teams had the opportunity of watching good cricket at the John Hunter Memorial Grounds, Limavady, when the West Indies players visited the district. No doubt encouragement has come also from Mr Todd, now on a one-year Education course at Oxford, through his enthusiasm for the game. Boys in the middle forms, though, who often have no particular interest in any one sport could make more profitable use of their sports periods in the summer term by acquiring an interest in cricket; there have been late starters on the 1st XI.

During the season some good bowling averages were noted. Charles Johnston took 21 wickets for 121 runs, an average of 5.761; Sean Mackie took 30 wickets for 173 runs, an average of 5.766 and Noel MacMichael took 12 wickets for 83 runs, an average of 6.9.

At the end of the season caps were awarded to three members of the 1st XI, Brian Campbell (Captain), Allan Smith and Sean Mackie. These were presented by Mr Clayden at a special meeting in the school foyer.

Over the year efficient secretarial work was done by Billy Crown, and John McFall and Royston McClenaghan gave many hours of their time to the oiling of bats and the maintenance of equipment.

Thanks and appreciation go to Mr R Pollock for the preparation of wickets; to the canteen staff for providing hot meals at awkward hours and to those members of Staff for co-operation in practices and the umpiring of 36 matches within an unusually short term.'

RGL

'The 1st XI, in spite of what appeared on paper at the opening of the season to be a mediocre sprinkling of cricketing ability, turned in an impressive record. They were beaten twice at home and that narrowly, by Foyle and Coleraine; were fortunate to hold out for a draw in the return game at Coleraine; lost to Sandford Park in Dublin, and won all their other games comfortably.

Brian Campbell continued the good tradition of captaincy and handled his team intelligently as well as setting an example in the field and with the bat. Two members of the 1967 Under-15 XI made the grade successfully, Noel MacMichael mainly as a batsman and Charles Johnston as a bowler. Allan Smith was prepared to hit the ball hard and usually scored his runs fast, whilst Sean Mackie, who has good batting potential, shone mainly as a bowler. Chris Walker and Billy Crown, as openers, gave the side a few good starts, but the former must develop a ruthless concentration: too often he was going well and got himself out. Crown will have to realise that the offside exists. Royston McClenaghan bowled, on the whole, short of a length, but good catching obtained him several wickets.

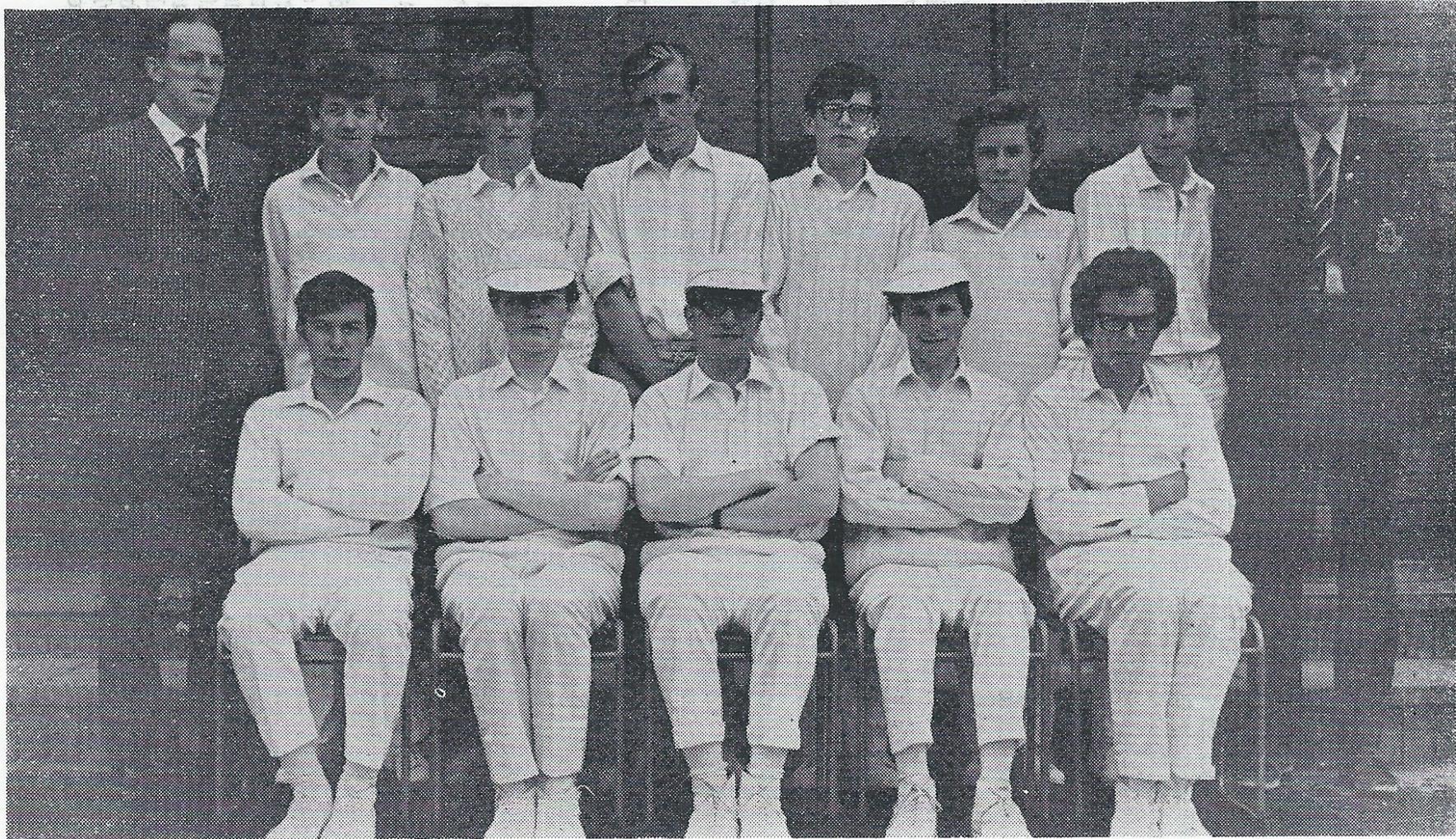
Several others filled the remaining places without ever shining, but there was a good team spirit, a will to win, or next best, not to be beaten, and splendid co-operation with the captain for net practices, pitch preparation, bag packing and all the fringe duties.

The highlight of the season was the first-ever trip to Dublin by an LGS 1st XI. This was to play Sandford Park School, who had been entertained at Limavady last year, and although we lost by 30 odd runs, the type of cricket we played should ensure that we are invited back. The party travelled in a mini-bus the evening before the game and had a morning to visit some notable places of interest in Dublin, including Trinity College and the National Museum.

Special credit must go to Neil Broom for his dedication to scoring and to Billy Crown for his press publicity.'

DWT

1st XI CRICKET TEAM—1968



From left: Mr. D. Todd, B. Crown, J. M'Fall, C. Jhnston, S. Jamison, N. MacMichael, C. B arton, N. Broom (Scorer), R. M'Clenaghan, S.M ackie, B. Campbell (Captain), A. Smith, C. Walker

1969

	R Barclay
1252	Charles Henry Barton
	Ken Bloomfield
	Billy Crown
	Billy Dickson
1087	Andrew Lawrence Hodge
	B Hunter
1379	Samuel Jamison
1089	Charles Edward Rankin Johnston
	Sean Mackie (Captain)
	J Montgomery
	Ken McCaughey
	Noel McMichael
	K O'Hara
	Brian Love
870	Christopher David T Walker

'Mainly because rain prevented three of their games from being played, the 1st XI, with no practice, had a poor start and lost both their matches with Coleraine A1 1st XI. They did have a good game, however, with Foyle College 1st XI, which ended in a draw and they won their four remaining games against Bushmills Grammar, Rainey Endowed and Strabane Grammar, home and away.

Sean Mackie captained his team effectively in the field and fulfilled last year's prediction by maintaining a good standard in batting and bowling. Chris Walker also settled down to steady and stylish batting with high scores in nearly all games and Ken McCaughey proved to be a useful opening batsman and competent bowler who kept a vigilant control over his fielders. With more confidence he should do well next season. Charles Johnston bowled well on a dry wicket and was often responsible for raising the tempo, while Andrew Hodge kept wicket efficiently. Billy Crown took some quick catches though his batting is still too uneventful; he must open out and become much more aggressive. Ken Bloomfield has a good eye and he, Brian Love and Billy Dickson should do some serious batting practice. Noel McMichael will have to realise that his first loyalty is the school team. Samuel Davison and John Montgomery played well with few batting opportunities at the end of games. They may find themselves on the new 1970 team as will a number of last year's U-15 XI.

At the trials of the Jeyes Cup competition, the School was well represented by six players from the 1st XI. They were N McMichael, S Mackie, C Walker, K McCaughey, A Hodge and Billy Crown. N McMichael and C Walker were selected for the final North-West eleven but, unfortunately, Walker was relegated to twelfth man during the actual competition, which the North-West team won.

Early in the year the 1st XI and the U-15 XI attended a coaching session in the Agricultural Hall under the tuition of Derrick Murray, the West Indies player. This was sponsored by the Limavady Cricket Club.

After-school practice was continuous and enthusiastic with excellent attendances and was often as enjoyable as the game itself. Mr R Clements gave of his time and expertise and our good wishes go to him in his new principalship. Next season we hope to have a grass practice net in use as well as the all-weather pitch.

Near the end of the season, at an informal meeting, Mr Clayden presented caps to Ken McCaughey, Chris Walker and Charles Johnston.

For the second season competent secretarial work was done by Billy Crown. Glenn Reilly and Alec Long kept accurate and legible score books and Brian Love, Jackie Whyte and Lexie Anderson oiled bats and whitened pads.

Our thanks go to Mr R Pollock for the preparation of wickets; to the canteen staff and to members of staff for co-operation in practices and in the umpiring of the season's games.

RGL