

Walton Lodge - January 1912-December 1917

With Walton Lodge January 1912 - December 1917. as I do not know

what happened to most of the boys afterwards. Ones I can remember are :-

Mr. C.M. Parkes had a school in Redland Park, Bristol called Brighton House, where there were about 70 boys.

In the Xmas holidays 1911 he married a Miss Vaughan and changed his name to Vaughan-Parkes. At this time also he took over Walton Lodge. He started there in January 1912 and some 30 boys from Brighton House went with him.

During the years 1912 - 1917 the number of boys never exceeded 30 and went down as low as 12. Possibly the war and transport difficulties were the cause of the low numbers.

The first assistant master was Mr. R.M. Gibbons, who had been at Brighton House and was studying for the Church. He was later ordained and his first post was chaplain at the Nautical School, Portishead. Later he became a missionary. He left Walton Lodge in 1914.

Mr. Gibbons was succeeded by Mr. Holland, who also went into the Church at a later date. He was succeeded by Mr. Stanley, then by the Rev. Gibbs, one of the Tyntesfield Gibbs.

Mrs. Parkes, who was a tremendous favourite with the boys, died in 1917 (I believe). There was one child - Norman.

Mr. Parkes had a classical degree, so Greek and Latin were favourite subjects; Scripture also was a favourite and he had written and published a book called 'Bible and Church Links' which was much used. He was a strict disciplinarian and had recourse to the cane on many occasions, but he was frequently foiled as Mrs. Parkes hid it. He had a list of 10 Reminders which had a prominent place on the wall of the classroom; the first was 'Clean hands, clean nails and clean teeth are the mark of a gentleman'.

Team games were a difficulty at times owing to the low numbers but next door (towards the sea) there were, for a time, some private students who used to join in and numbers were often made up by local residents. A further trouble was that we lost the use of the ground facing the school for some of the time owing to the war, but we did use a ground on the corner of the road opposite the entrance of the drive to the golf club. We played cricket, soccer and hockey; our main rivals were Etonhurst, Weston-super-Mare.

We also used the lawn in front of the house for tennis and croquet. Owing to the low number of boys, we were able to get very regular games. We bathed in Lady Bay and went for runs along the coast path. We frequently went for walks to Cadbury Camp, Walton Down, Redcliffe Bay etc. Other pastimes were:-

- (a) Climbing the rocks in Lady Bay.
- (b) Catching crabs with limpets on bits of string in the pools along the coast.
- (c) Birds nesting.
- (d) Cycling. As far afield as Portishead (out-of-bounds), Brockley Combe and Yatton.

We normally went to Church twice on Sundays. Generally to St. Mary's, but often to All Saints, to the little church in Walton and to the very old one on the lower road to Portishead (? Walton-in-Gordano).

With regard to the boys, they are really only names as I do not know what happened to most of them afterwards. Ones I can remember are :-

Bonas - 2 brothers from Swansea. *in Radford Park, Bristol called Brighton*

Chris, Bruce, Pat and Don Burt from Swanage.

Roe - 2 brothers. *married a Miss Vaughan and changed his*

G. Williams - I met him in London a few times in the late twenties.

H.G. Chevalier - went to Clifton getting a XV and shooting VIII. Got an M.C. in 1939 war. Latest address Villa Doreen, Mustapha Pasha, Ramleh, Egypt (particulars from 1947 Clifton College Register).

Lathbury - Day boy. Son of a Bristol furniture manufacturer.

Hyde - Son of a Clevedon Bank Manager.

Holt - Stepson of Mr. Waring of Waring and Gillow.

House

Hapgood

Lee

Curtis

Cooper. (aged 17).

*Johns
12/10/58*

*Robert Hugh O'Neill Roe,
57, Longridge Rd.
S.W. 5.*

*Tuesday.
Shy of hall
Puk Lee & John.*

- (a) Climbing the rocks in Lady Bay.
- (b) Catching crabs with lizards or bits of string in the pools along the coast.
- (c) Birds nesting.