

GB 2431 Ranby

Ranby House Preparatory School

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RANBY HOUSE SCHOOL ARCHIVECONTENTS

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NOTES

Ranby House School was founded in 1948, but it was not the only preparatory school for Worksop College at that time. Since 1912, or even some years earlier, Worksop had had its own preparatory department, and this did not close until 1953. Immediately after 1948 we see regular reports on both Ranby and the Worksop prep. in the Worksopian. This unusual overlap makes it clear that Ranby was never a College prep. school re-housed, but a separate entity from the first.

With the issue of the first 'Ranbian' in 1955 the events of Ranby life are well chronicled, and although other records are patchy it should be possible to extend them by seeking the reminiscences of Old Ranbians. In any case, sections D and E of this list provide a useful foundation on which to build. Reports of Her Majesty's Inspectors and the descriptive papers to which their visits give rise are always important to a school archive, and E 2, 7 & 8 bear this out. Those who wish to know what Ranbians thought and felt will be no less interested in the unofficial magazines and boys' essays under E 4. It was the boys then and the boys and girls now who provide the true reflection of a lively school.

A list of items of archive importance at Ranby House School, Retford, Notts.,
in September 1986.

A History i Ranby House, its neighbourhood and its owners.

| Serial | Date | | Location |
|--------|--------------|---|--------------------|
| A i 1 | 1810 | MS note of a suicide near Babworth Church. | Historical |
| A i 2 | 1783 to 1836 | Scribbled notes on the history of the house and an early owner, John Rogers | Survey Folder " |
| A i 3 | 1832 to 1945 | MS notes of the names of owners of Ranby House as shown in directories. | " |
| A i 4 | 1854 | MS notes by Mr. Jessup of items from the East Retford Advertiser of 1854 referring to the House. | " |
| A i 5 | 1854 | Newspaper cutting refers to cattle sale at Ranby Ho. | " |
| A i 6 | 1850's | Typed extract from the work of a local historian tells of the purchase of the house by John Rogers and of the manner in which it passed to the Champion family. | " |
| A i 7 | 1857 | MS page. apparently a copy of part of the auctioneer's description of Ranby Ho. Estate. | " |
| A i 8 | 1857 | Typed account of the sale of Ranby House. 3 pages. | " |
| A i 9 | 1883 | MS letter from John Champion to his son Charlie. 4 pages | " |
| A i 10 | 1895 | Newspaper cutting of Ranby Ho. tennis tournament | " |
| A i 11 | 1915 | " " of YMCA work in local army camps. | " |
| A i 12 | 1915 | Obituary notices, funeral notices and photographs of Sir John Bingham. | " |
| A i 13 | 1919 to 1932 | Photographs of Sir Albert Bingham and a cutting about the family firm. | " |
| A i 14 | 1919 to 1936 | Cuttings relating to Lady Bingham. | " |
| A i 15 | 1936 | Notice of Retford Baptist Church Bazaar | " |
| A i 16 | 1945 | Order of service for the funeral of Col. Sir Albert Edward Bingham Bt. OBE, VD, TD. | " |

A History i (cont.)

| Serial | Date | | Location |
|--------|--------|---|--------------------------|
| A i 17 | 1948 | A number of letters from the Worksop Borough Librarian to Mr. Atton suggest that much information about Ranby Ho. was placed in the Library's Local Collection. | Historical Survey Folder |
| A i 18 | 1950's | Letters about the house and its owners, one from Miss Wilkinson to Kathleen Cartwright, one from K. Cartwright to Mr. Jessup. | " |

A History ii. Ranby House School.

| | | | |
|--------|----------------|---|--------------------------|
| A ii 1 | 1948 | Newspaper cuttings and photographs show the opening by Earl Manvers of Ranby House School. | Historical Survey Folder |
| A ii 2 | 1955 to 1968 | Nos. 1 to 14 of the school magazine, The Ranbian. No. 15 is missing. | Hm. |
| A ii 3 | 1970 to 1978 | Nos. 16 to 24 of The Ranbian. Note that there is no edition numbered 16, but two numbered 17. Of these the first, dated Jan. 1970, should be no. 16 | " |
| A ii 4 | 1978/9 to date | Seven numbers of The Ranbian For the move to Ranby and School Council minutes see D 1 to D 3 of this list. | " |

For Ranby House events between 1948 and 1954 see the Worksopian at Worksop College.

B. Buildings and Lands

| Serial | Date | | Location |
|--------|-------------|--|------------------------------|
| B 1 | | A plan of Ranby House and Elkesley Estate. | Historical Survey Folder. |
| B 2 | 1969 | Report by Messrs Colcutt and Hamp on the Structure and Condition of the buildings. 1 brochure | Hm. |
| B 3 | 1971 | Architects' report on maintenance and future development. 1 bundle | " |
| B 4 | 1971 & 1976 | Maintenance work schedules and hot and cold water services. | 1 bundle " |
| B 5 | 1974 | Fire Precautions report | 1 brochure " |
| B 6 | 1981 | Organ drawings | 1 bundle " |
| B 7 | 1982 | New Chapel plans | 1 bundle " |
| B 8 | 1984 | Sketch plans for new classrooms | 1 bundle " |
| B 9 | 1984 | Various building plans | 1 box file " |

C. Accounts and Appeals.

| | | | | |
|-----|------|---------------------------------------|----------|-----|
| C 1 | 1981 | Appeal report and some correspondence | 1 folder | Hm. |
|-----|------|---------------------------------------|----------|-----|

For Ranby accounts see the office of the Bursar at
Worksop College.

D. Administration.

| Serial | Date | | | Location |
|--------|--------------|---|----------|----------|
| D 1 | 1948 to 1950 | Minutes of ten meetings of the School Council, then called the School Committee, include the special meeting of May 1948 which recommends the purchase of Ranby House at a price not exceeding £ 22,500. The papers include a copy of the auctioneers' description of the property. Not all minutes of all meetings are complete. | 1 bundle | Hm. |
| D 2 | 1979 to 1985 | School Council minute file includes related papers: Standard format for strategy documents and a letter from Standing Committee on school strategy reviews. Bursar's statements and annual accounts. Reports from Heads Health and Safety at work papers Papers on development of buildings Appeals correspondence Provost's paper on co;education in the Midland Div. " " " religion in Woodard schools " " " school curriculum 'Teaching at Ranby', a paper on the aims of the curriculum in each subject at all levels at Ranby. Report of Mr. Roberts and Mr. Theobald on their recruiting visit to the Middle East. | 1 file | Hm. |
| D 3 | 1985 to date | A similar Council minutes file | 1 file | " |
| D 4 | 1986 | Headmaster's strategy review | 1 folder | " |
| D 5 | 1961 to 1979 | Termly events sheets | 1 file | Mr. Page |
| D 6 | 1979 to date | Termly calendars of events | 1 file | " |
| D 7 | 1948 to date | Captains of School named on Honour boards in the main Hall | | |
| D 8 | 1959 to date | Lists of school officials for each year include Captain, prefects, group captains, monitors, games captains. | | Mr. Page |

D. Administration (cont.)

| Serial | Date | | Location |
|--------|--------------|---|------------------|
| D 9 | | Notes of areas of responsibility to be covered by school officials. | Mr. Page |
| D 10 | 1970's | Prospectus from the time of Mr. Winterbottom | Hm |
| D 11 | 1980's | 2 versions of Prospectus - Mr. Evers | " |
| D 12 | 1950's | Brochure of photographs of Ranby | " |
| D 13 | 1982 to 1984 | Files of Hm . circular letters to parents, notes on various subjects, notes for staff meetings, assemblies, etc. and programmes for speech Days and other events. | 2 files Hm |
| D 14 | 1986 | Organisation of Open Morning | 1 bundle Mr Page |
| D 15 | 1986 | School route for parents to follow on Open Morning gives items on view on the circuit | " |
| D 16 | 1986 | Daily routine for winter and summer | " |

For further administrative detail see under E 8 of this list.

E. Curriculum, results, activities, unofficial magazines, etc.

| Serial | Date | | Location |
|--------|--------------|--|----------|
| E 1 | 1953 to date | Names of winners of academic awards on honour boards in main Hall and Library. | |
| E 2 | 1974 | Report of HM Inspectors | Mr. Page |
| E 3 | 1970 to 1978 | Ranby House Record includes number of boys, fees, extras, scholarships, CE results, games results, music, drama, Chapel, construction and maintenance, functions, visits, lectures. 1 exercise bk. | Hm |
| E 4 | 1969 | Typed copies of I.M. Rolison's essay on Comic Poetry, and G.D. Shuttleworth's on the Historical Novel. Also an anonymous essay on the Arthurian Legend. 1 folder | Hm |
| E 5 | 1979 to 1984 | Four copies of 'Words', a magazine of 'prose, poems, stories, quizzes and puzzles'. | Hm. |
| E 6 | | One copy of Eh Up Sir, a cyclostyled magazine | Hm |
| E 7 | 1985 | Report of HM Inspectors | Hm |
| E 8 | 1984 | Papers submitted to the Inspectors:- Time analysis shows distribution of periods per form by subjects. Bursar's summary of accounts for the preceding year Improvements to buildings Salary scales School events A paper on the management tasks confronting a prep. school Head. History of changes at Ranby since 1974 PE equipment Analysis of curriculum with details of forms, assessments, reports, tests in use, scholarship exams, CE results. Clothing lists Health Education Staff list and staff timetables | |

E. Curriculum, etc. (cont).

| Serial | Date | | Location |
|--------|--------------|---|-----------|
| E 8 | | Staff duties A description of the group system, pastoral/ competitive/ disciplinary. Dormitory regulations Information sent to new parents Extra curricular activities - games, music, art, holiday trips, photography, needlework, carpentry, computers, chess, judo, hobbies. Games timetable School timetable Chapel and the chaplaincy Boarding facilities, with daily routine and weekend and holiday activities. Destinations of leavers | |
| E 9 | | Photographs of recent events on display boards | Main.Hall |
| E 10 | 1959 to date | Games tinetables for most years | Mr Page |
| E 11 | 1984 | For a paper 'Teaching at Ranby' on the aims of the curriculum see under D 2 of this list. | |

F. Records of Pupils and Staff

| | | | |
|-----|--------------|---|--------|
| F 1 | 1979 to date | All those who were in attendance in 1979 and all who have since been members of the school are recorded on cards. | Sec. |
| | 1979 to date | Files for all those who have left. Current staff files | " " |

G. Chapel

| Serial | Date | | Location |
|--------|--------------|--|----------|
| G913 | 1948 | Order of Service for the dedication of Ranby House Chapel. | Chaplain |
| G 2 | 1958 to date | Service register | " |
| | 1964 to date | Register of Confirmations | " |
| | 1982 | Order of Service for the dedication of the new Chapel of St. Augustine at Ranby. | " |