



# Vines & Friends

## Pontoon on the school pond

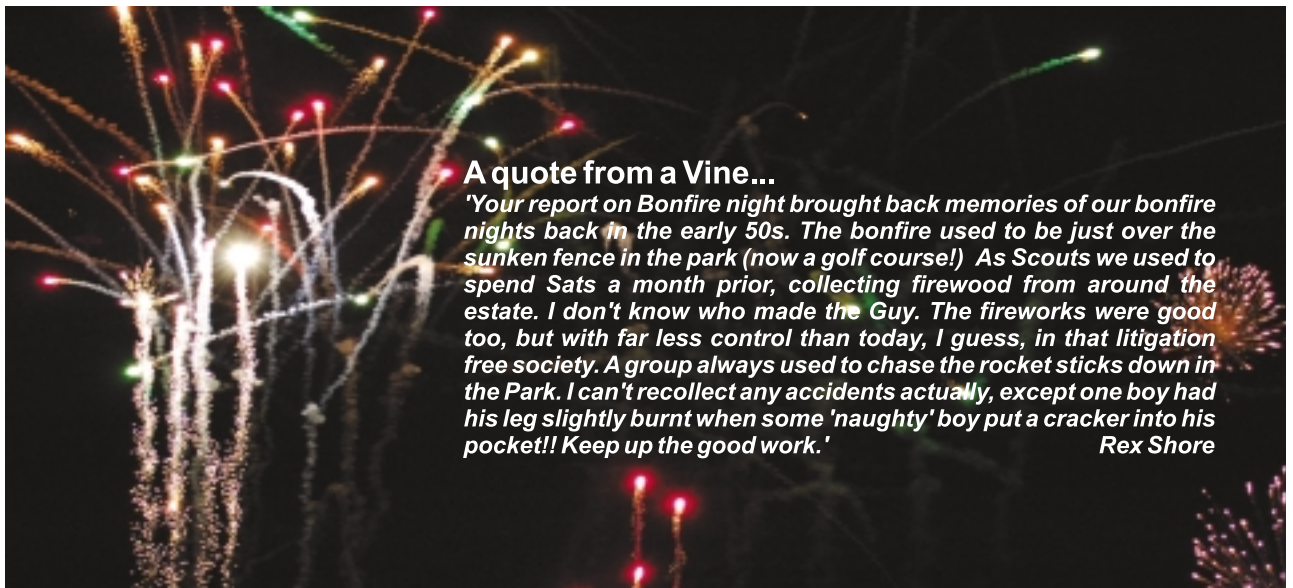
This year the Friends of Vinehall generously funded a pontoon for the school pond. It was delivered at the beginning of the summer term after the groundsmen had cleared some trees so that the lorry had access. It was craned across the pond with Mr Ingram aboard and secured to the bank with chains and anchored from the corners.

It gives a wide and stable platform for pond dipping and boating. The science department has already made use of it on a few occasions and a couple of sailing club sessions have found it makes getting in and out of boats much safer. The Friends attended an opening evening with drinks over the water and the sight of the Head being taken for a row! Many thanks to all those who raised funds. *JJ*



**Mrs Melanie Todd's Friends Committee** has been active and successful. Mrs Prendergast organised the Bonfire and Fireworks Night in November and Mrs Todd and Mrs Canetty-Clarke organised another hard-fought Quiz Night in the Lent term. The tireless Mrs Linda Thompson organised this year's sell-out Christmas cards. Mrs Birrell organised the Pre-Prep tea towels - and is doing the same for the Juniors to sell at Christmas - the Easter cake sale and visit of the Easter bunny as well as the pancake race. Mrs Willis-Fleming and Mrs Bevacqua ran the second Dog and Pet Show in the summer term and Mrs Fraser ran the Summer Picnic.

As well as the new pontoon on the school pond, FoV funds paid for equipment for the cookery club as well as new gym leotards and a generous donation to the Rosas following their dreadful accident. On top of all this, the Friends donated over £3,000 to The Lawrence Barham Memorial Trust, Rwanda Mission.



## A quote from a Vine...

*"Your report on Bonfire night brought back memories of our bonfire nights back in the early 50s. The bonfire used to be just over the sunken fence in the park (now a golf course!) As Scouts we used to spend Sats a month prior, collecting firewood from around the estate. I don't know who made the Guy. The fireworks were good too, but with far less control than today, I guess, in that litigation free society. A group always used to chase the rocket sticks down in the Park. I can't recollect any accidents actually, except one boy had his leg slightly burnt when some 'naughty' boy put a cracker into his pocket!! Keep up the good work."*

*Rex Shore*