



This interesting and rare photograph is new to the Garton Archive collection, and was sent in by Brian Day, who was a pupil at Lincoln School from 1943 to 1950. He remembers Charles Garton as a member of the School population who was a few years his senior. He saw his name on a list of rugby players in the 'Item of Interest' No 30 from the Garton Archive, *Rugby at Lincoln School*, and was interested to know how the game had progressed at the School, and how it had grown in size since his days there.

Brian wrote that the photograph shows the Lincoln Schoolboys XV from 1950. The team was representing the city, and included players from both Lincoln School and the other boys' grammar school in Lincoln, the City School, located at the time on Monks Road. The team played under the direction of Mr Porter-Smith, who trained the team on the Lindum playing field every Wednesday afternoon. There are three Lincoln School players in the photo; Shaun Brady, in the hooped jersey (back row, centre), Geoff Boyfield (front row, second from the right), and Brian himself (back row, extreme left). Brian describes those three pioneering players as forerunners of the game of rugby at Lincoln School.

Brian recalls that the team played against other grammar schools, including those in Spalding, Grantham, Southwell, Market Rasen and Skegness. Newark Magnus School sticks in his memory, as he got a mention in the Lincolnshire Echo for kicking four conversions in the team's victory in December 1950 just before he left Lincoln School. Apparently it was a wretched day, and Brian bemoaned the fact that in those days a team-mate had to lie in the mud to hold the ball before it was dropped into the

'trench' which the kicker had hacked out of the ground. He recalled that a lot of mud accompanied the ball in its flight, and that goal kickers have it too easy these days! As a former soccer goalkeeper I can also identify with those sentiments!

Brian also played for the Lindum Rugby Football Club during vacations, where he no doubt teamed up with the legendary geography master Jack 'Jim' Shirley, who was also a keen rugby player. He may be interested to know that the Club has recently left the Lindum for new premises in Nettleham.

Brian left Lincoln in 1950 to begin his National Service. After demobilisation he went up to Pembroke College, Oxford, where he read Modern History. He then embarked on a career in advertising and market management, mainly with American multinational companies, and finished up as Director of Marketing for an international transportation group. He took early retirement in 1990, and has been living in Spain (latterly in Javea on the Mediterranean coast) for the past 26 years. He has kept active until recently by working as an examiner for professional organisations, and External Examiner in Business Studies for a number of UK and Spanish universities.

Brian is pictured below at a training session on the Lindum in October 1954, wearing his Pembroke kit during his undergraduate days. His grandmother and great aunt lived in one of the houses on St Giles Avenue overlooking the ground, and he and his mother used to watch the Rugby from an upstairs vantage position.



Brian has occasionally visited Lincoln, particularly when he still had family in the city, and has threatened to visit the Garton Archive when he is next in town! I am indebted to him for sending in the photo, and for providing such an interesting commentary on it. He was too modest to mention the fact that he was Captain of Lincoln School in 1950. Further researches into *The Lincolnian* magazines reveal that he was a stalwart member of the Gramophone Club, the Literary, Historical and Debating Society and the Chess Club, which he captained. He was also Librarian and Sixth Form Librarian.

Clearly Brian enjoyed a distinguished career both at Lincoln School, and at Oxford where apparently History provided a 'useful mental exercise for him', and where he 'thrived on sport', and 'watched the *Oxford Magazine* struggle without him'! (see Note 1 below). In view of these achievements and his subsequent successful career in market management, Charles Garton, if he were to update his record of renowned Old Lincolnians; *Lincoln School: a Summary Honours Board*, would surely have found space for Brian Benedict Day.

Note One

Extracted from 'Oxford Letters', published in *The Lincolnian* magazine, February 1954 and '55

Note Two

The names of all the players on the team picture are as follows:

Back Row: Day Hall Brady Crowson Bentley

Middle Row: Bradford Atkinson Hodson Porter Boaden

Front Row: Du Rose Vaughan Ellingford Boyfield Coggle

Peter Harrod

Assistant Archivist at LCHS for the pre-1974 archives

