Iolo Dyfnan Davies (1920-2009) came up to Jesus in 1938 to read Literae Humaniores. At the end of Trinity Term 1940 he went down to serve in the armed forces, but returned to Oxford in October 1945, completing his degree in 1947. He then taught classes at Cowbridge Grammar School, eventually becoming headmaster there. In 19567 Davies wrote “A Certaine Schoole”: A History of Cowbridge Grammar School.

After Cowbridge became a comprehensive school, Davies moved on, and became a classics master at Dean Close in Cheltenham. More on Davies’s life may be found in his obituary in the Jesus College Record 2009, pp. 109-12.

It is not known when Davies wrote these reminiscences, but it must have been before 1971, when J. N. L. Baker was still alive (it is possible that Davies wrote them to help Baker with his College history). It is also not known when they reached the College’s archives.

Catalogued in December 2018.

Notebook containing reminiscences of Jesus College from 1938-47 by Iolo Davies. There are a few annotations in the hand of J. N. L. Baker (F. 1939-61). Among the people remembered by Davies are L. B. Cross (F. and Chaplain 1927-47), John Griffith (F. 1938-80), Alfred Hazel (P. 1925-44), Percy Seymour (F. 1924-43), and College servants. Davies also discusses such subjects as roll calls, Chapel (including the choir), seating arrangements at Hall, meetings of the JCR, the traditions of the Elizabethan Society, rugger, and rowing. He also described Oxford life during and after the Second World War.