

Old Rendcombian Society

NEWSLETTER



QUO LUX DUCIT

MAY 1983

9th ISSUE

Editor
W.J.D. WHITE

Contents

Chairman's Report	...	...	...	...	2
Society Officers	...	...	...	...	2
O.R. Reunions	...	...	...	...	2
Dates of Future Reunions	...	...	...	...	3
Girl's Anniversary Lunch	...	...	...	...	3
Sport	...	...	...	...	3
O.R. Address List	...	...	...	...	4
Obituary	...	...	...	...	4
Marriages	...	...	...	...	5
At Rendcomb	...	...	...	...	5
Congratulations	...	...	...	...	5
For Sale	...	...	...	...	5
David Sells	...	...	...	...	6
Staff News	...	...	...	...	7
College News	...	...	...	...	7
School Sport	...	...	...	...	8
O.R. News	...	...	...	...	9
News of Recent Leavers	...	...	...	...	14

Chairman's Report

In the past, the newsletter has been produced by a small group of willing O.R.s. As our membership rapidly approaches 1000 it seems the right time to try a more professional method of printing. It is hoped that the smaller format will prove more convenient for handling and storage and I would welcome any comments, good or bad, regarding this change. I must emphasise that this in no way eases the task of the editor and as always we are most grateful for the time, effort and willingness of W.J.D.W. to be the focal point of O.R. communication.

Now that so many O.R.s visit Rendcomb for the cricket match and/or the buffet supper may I take this opportunity to encourage O.R.s of all ages and both sexes to support the A.G.M. and bring along fresh ideas on how the society can help the school and, perhaps, expand its own social function.

When the committee met in March to discuss the printing of this newsletter, it was felt that the girls should be represented on the committee, other than for games, and it is hoped that this motion will be passed at the A.G.M.

C.J.W.

Society Officers 1982-83

President:	J.B. Fell (staff 1934 - 73)
Chairman:	C.J. Wood (1965 - 71 staff 1976 -)
Vice chairman:	M.C. Jones (1956 - 62)
Secretary:	F.R. Glennie (1959 - 67) Upcott Cottage, Latton, Swindon, Wilts.
Treasurer:	G.F. Smith (1960 - 67) Church End House, Longney, Glos.
Rugby secretary:	David Beanland (1974 - 79) 27 Burford Road, Witney, Oxon.
Hockey secretary:	John Sinclair (1972 - 78) 320 Albert Drive, Glasgow G41 5DZ
Cricket secretary:	Roger Page (1973 - 78) Firing Close Farm, Wickwar, Glos.
Girls' sports secretaries:	Jane Gunner (née Watson) (1975 - 77) 36 Martin Close, Cirencester, Glos. Victoria Powell (1977 - 79) Pendydre Cottage, Crickhowell, Powys. Lisa Manners (1979 - 81) The Moor Farm, Minety, Malmesbury, Wilts.
School representative and newsletter editor:	W.J.D. White (staff 1961 -) 9 Rendcomb, Cirencester, Glos.

O.R. Reunions 1982 - 83

The cricket match against the school in July attracted a large number of O.R.s. This was as usual followed by the A.G.M. and a buffet supper, attended by 84 O.R.s and guests, in the Dulverton Hall. Mrs Mezo and her staff once again provided an excellent meal, which was greatly appreciated by all those present.

Those who attended the buffet were:

F.C. Raggatt and guests	C.C. Burden	N.A. Perkins and guest	R.P.S. Harrison	M. Webb
R.G. Betterton and guests	Mr. and Mrs. J. Reed	J. Falconer	C. Cannon	R. Webb
Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Fell	N. Green and guest	R.J. Smith	C. Coles	A. Wilson
A.E. Brain and guest	Fiona Wilson and guest	J.K. Comrie and guests	C.G.V. Taylor	R. Butler
Mr. and Mrs. C.J. Wood	Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Williams	F.R. Glennie	M.C. Jones and guest	A. Pitt
W.J.D. White	Mr. and Mrs. D. Essenhigh	Tessa Wolferstan	J. Campbell	R. Barrett
I. Read and guest	P.G. Auden	S. Hicks	Lisa Manners	V.D. Page
Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Dennis	D. Beanland	T. Nicholas	Susan Sherwood	J.A. Richards
P.R.P. Walton	Victoria Powell	E. Webster	Jane Watson	T. Roberts
Rebecca Norman	Joanna Brain and guest	D. Dakin and guest	D. de G. Sells	
D. Ferguson Cooper	K. Barracough	J.M. Webb and guest	T. Patrick	
Mr. and Mrs. J. Eyles	Mr. and Mrs. R. Medill	F. Nevel and guests	D.R. Brown and guest	

Dates of Future Reunions

Cricket: 9th July 1983
Rugby: 10th December 1983
Hockey: 24th March 1984

The A.G.M. will take place after the cricket match and there will be a bar open from 6.30 p.m.
In future we intend to encourage O.R.s of specified years to attend the summer reunion and buffet. This does not mean that O.R.s of other generations should not come. It is simply an attempt to reunite a reasonable number of contemporaries.

O.R.s who were at Rendcomb from 1955 onwards are especially invited to attend the 1983 buffet.

Girls' Tenth Anniversary Lunch

The following attended an excellent buffet lunch on Sunday 27th June at the college:

Sally Blyth	Sarah Oughton	Amanda Larcombe (née Jones)
Ann Pilgrim (née Rickards)	Alice Parshall	Diane Crew
Jane Watson	Charlotte Bonardi	Bridget Cross
Deborah Harrison	Elizabeth Adams	Victoria Powell
Sarah Culverwell	Sarah Ratcliffe	Kitty Roberts
Jennifer Watson	Mary Alexander	Rebecca Norman
Fiona Jane Wilson	Isobel Nicholas	Joanna Brain
Elizabeth Foy	Francesca Hughes	Lisa Manners
Rachel Medill	Mr.& Mrs.R.M.A.Medill	Mr.& Mrs.C.A.Holdaway
Mr.& Mrs.D.S.J.Price	Mr.& Mrs.C.J.Wood	W.J.D.White
Nicola Agius	Sian Alexander	Joanna Soutter
Olivia Hanscombe	Jane Franklin	Alicia Teodorowicz

Henrietta Hooper and Suzanne Marston joined the gathering in the afternoon.

September 1981 saw the tenth intake of girls to Rendcomb. This was celebrated last June with a buffet luncheon at the college. Thanks to the efforts of the organising committee - Denis Price, Ruth Beckett, Victoria Powell and Lisa Manners, turnout was good; though the last five years of girls were better represented than the first – a circumstance only to be expected as many of the earlier girls were abroad at the time.

Before the lunch, flowers were laid on the grave of Alison White; the beauty of those flowers expressed poignantly the way we felt being there.

The kitchen staff, as usual, deserve our warmest gratitude for the splendid spread they laid before us; special thanks to Mrs Mezo. With so much good will and hard work, the day could not fail to be a success and to cries of "in ten years time" the gathering dispersed giving the old girls a chance to see the many changes to the school which have taken place in the last few years.

Finally on a general note, a new structure for choosing the girls' O.R. representatives has been adopted. In future, every two years, the leaving 6A will choose their representative. This girl will become a member of a team of three where the other two are from two and four years earlier. As only the more recent leavers seem keen to play in the matches, this has proved to be the most effective way of gathering teams for the netball, hockey and tennis. If anyone from the earlier years wishes to play, please contact the first listed of the team representatives - the name and address of whom will be supplied. This year I shall be handing over completely to Victoria Powell, who will be ably assisted by Lisa Manners. (The third rep. has yet to be chosen by the present 6A). Thanks to everyone who has played in the teams in the last five years.

Jane Gunner (née Watson)

Sport

Cricket:

The match was played on 10th July.

O.R. Team: B. Smith, M. Webb, P. Harrison, N. Miles, R. Page (captain), J. Webb, M. James, R. Pitt, F.

Glennie, S. Wormleighton, N. Green.

The college batted first and were soon in trouble against the O.R.s opening attack of S. Wormleighton and R. Page. They collapsed to 21 for 4 wickets, but then G. Brealy produced a fine innings of 103 not out, and, with some fine support from the middle order, the college were able to declare at 170 for 7 wickets. The old boys really set about the college bowling early on with B. Smith hitting the ball with great power. However, G. Healey produced his best figures for the season with 5 for 26 runs and the old boys finished at 100 all out.

D. Essenhigh

Rugby:

The match was on 11th December.

O.R. Team: D. Beanland (captain), G. Moore, R. Smith, F. Wilcox, D. Shield, S. Smith, C. Cannon, T. Daniels, J. Ratcliffe, B. Hatchwell, J. Allen, J. Sinclair, I. Forrest, T. Horton, M. Twinning.

Result: The school won 11 - 0

Unfortunately there was not quite enough response to field a 2nd XV, but it is hoped that this will be possible in future.

Netball:

The match was on 11th December.

O.R. Team: C. Killin, E. Adams, J. Gunner, V. Powell, J. Franklin, F. Comrie, I. Nicholas

Result: O.R.s won 8 - 5

Hockey:

The matches were played on March 26th

1st XI team: S. Bushell, T. Daniels, R. Powell, D. Beanland, F. Glennie, N. Taylor, M. Twinning, J. Sinclair (captain), A. Jenkins, R. Evans, P. Harris

Result: Draw 0 - 0

2nd XI team: J. Quick, M. Webb, S. Hewitt, B. Hatchwell, D. Lee, T. Horton, C. Schreiber, T. Evans, J. Allen + 2 school players.

Result: O.R.s lost 1 - 4

Mixed XI team: J. Falconer, D. White, P. Cam, J. Gunner, M. Alexander, T. Parfit, J. Gotley, J. Watson, S. Hoare, R. Norman, S. Pritchard

Result: O.R.s lost 1 - 2

The 1st XI match was a fast, skilful game with the O.R.s passing the ball quickly and playing well as a team from the first 'pass back'. The school goalkeeper, Stephen Hazell, had an excellent game and saved many hard shots in the first half. Fraser Glennie dominated the centre of the field in the first half and distributed the ball well through the game. The O.R.s did not tire as much as the school had hoped and the school were not given many chances to penetrate the O.R. defence in the second half.

O.R. Address List

The society is most grateful to Mr. Hawkswell for producing a computerised address list.

The addresses of the following O.R.s are out of date and the editor would be glad to know of their current addresses:

Barbour D.E.	Gough H.A.	Menzies J.D.	Fidler A.C.
Russell B.	Baynham S.C.D.	Prime W.I.	Hance N.E.
Bartlett M.J.	Lindsay R.T.	Stillwell C.B.	Monroe W.S.
White R.D.	Dendy C.	Bartlett G.S.	Rowley T.W.
Dawson M.J.	Paine J.R.R.	Bircher M.R.	Tarrant M.J.
Barclay J.A.	Griffiths D.G.R.		

Obituary

Keith Thorne

O.R.s will learn with great sorrow of the sudden death, on 15th December 1982, of Keith Thorne, who had run the art department at Rendcomb since 1970. Keith's dedication to his subject and inspiration to his pupils in the

art room, his enthusiasm for the judo club and his great love for the countryside all combined to make him much respected by all who knew him. His death came as a great shock and Rendcomb has lost a fine schoolmaster and warm friend. Several O.R.s were in the large congregation at the funeral and Mrs. Thorne has asked for the following note to be included in the newsletter:

"To all old Rendcombiens: Thank you so very much to all who made what must have been a very special effort to attend Keith's funeral. It was so good of you. He will be missed by us all."

Mrs. Paish has written to report the sad death of her son **Barry** (1951 - 57) in February 1981 aged 41. He had had several nervous breakdowns and spent his last month in hospital in Gloucester. For two years before that he was helping at a privately run home, under the Rudolf Steiner scheme, for the mentally disabled between the ages of 16 and 22, work that he enjoyed. He never recovered from losing his job there. Mrs. Paish says that he had a sad life after leaving Rendcomb, although he enjoyed military service in Hong Kong and also the Birmingham Art School. He was a fine artist but could not cope with the disciplinary problems of the Liverpool school where he started teaching. He and his wife were divorced in 1974, but he was happy that his wife had a kind husband and stepfather to his three children whom he met most weekends. She says that she knows he was happy at Rendcomb under Mr. Lee-Browne.

We also regret to announce the death of **Dennis Boulding** (1926 - 35) on July 9th 1982 and of **Bill Bardrick** (1921 - 26) on October 19th 1981.

Marriages

Michael James (1968 - 75) to Julie Dennett June 1982

Timothy Johnson to **Philippa Young** (1977 - 79) June 1982

Richard Gunner to **Jane Watson** (1975 - 77) July 1982

Philip Smith (1968 - 74) to Anne Clark October 1982

Flt. Lieut. **Stephen Hicks** (1969 - 76) to **Tessa Wolferstan** (1974 - 76) August 1982

Timothy Price (son of Mr. and Mrs. D.S.J. Price) to Sheila Hendry October 1982

Colin Burden (Staff 1963 -) to Dorothy Rickards April 1983

Christopher Pulford (1972-77) to Jill Foster-Taylor September 1982

At Rendcomb

The following O.R.s or members of the society have sons or daughters at the college:

A.O.H. Quick	A.K. Bowley	S.R. Merrett
I. Airey	J.M. Astill	R.M.A. Medill
K.J. Knapp	G.H. Richards	

O.R.s interested in sending their sons or daughters to Rendcomb are asked to contact the headmaster or his secretary (Mrs S. Taylor).

Congratulations to:

Joanna Brain: Domus scholarship in biochemistry, St. Peter's College, Oxford.

Josephine Taylor: J.L. Field exhibition, Christ Church, Oxford.

David Barling: Ph.D. Political science, Keele University.

Simon Wormleighton: 1st Class honours B.Ed (English and Education) Southampton University.

For Sale:

Old Rendcombian Ties

O.R. ties, in Oxford blue or maroon, can be obtained from C.J. Wood, Churn House, Rendcomb, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 7HD. The price is £3.95 including postage. Cheques should be made payable to the Old Rendcombian Society.

Rendcomb College History

Copies of the college history (1920 - 1970) can be obtained from Mrs. K.L. James at The Garden House, Rendcomb. The price is £3 or £3.50 including postage.

'Birds of Gloucestershire' by C.M. Swaine (staff 1952 - 79), published by Alan Sutton, can be obtained from booksellers, price £7.95. This is the only book to be devoted solely to the bird life of Gloucestershire since the publication in 1902 of W.L. Mellersh's 'A Treatise on the Birds of Gloucestershire'.

David Sells

This summer sees the retirement of David Sells, who has been on the staff since January 1955. During this long period of service he has made an incalculable contribution to Rendcomb in a wide variety of ways - as head of modern languages, producer of school plays, senior resident master, librarian, local secretary for the Cambridge examinations, master in charge of hockey, to name but a few. The following tributes from some of his former pupils provide an idea of the respect and affection in which he is held by all who have known him, staff and pupils alike.

Robert Cockrell (1952-60) writes:-

"I can recall, with pride, that when David Sells began his long, distinguished and rewarding association with Rendcomb, I was there! An affable, generous and kind man with a rather bouncing gait, David excelled in repartee, which, although often poignant, was invariably good-natured. He commanded respect from the outset, and discipline was no problem for 'the captain', who was admired by every pupil, whatever their subject. Shortly after his arrival, he founded the Lusty Society (or was it the Literary Society?) which initially met in the convivial atmosphere of his study on the top floor of the main building, and later transferred with him to the old rectory. This gathering together of sixth form humanists and scientists exchanging their original compositions was revolutionary in those days and a notable success. David himself, was an accomplished librettist, and was responsible for many songs being skilfully set to Sullivan's music and which entertained us at our annual Christmas parties. In addition one will never forget the many fine plays he produced, and I have particularly fond personal memories of 'The Boy with a Cart' - all budding thespians much appreciated his guidance and encouragement. On the games field both rugby and hockey featured in his busy curriculum, but it was hockey which he dominated and, despite the fact that there were only 90 boys in the college at that time, it was one major sport at which we achieved success due to his enthusiasm, and many county sides have included his proteges in subsequent years. This reminiscence would not be complete without mentioning David's raison d'être at Rendcomb, namely the teaching of modern languages. At first only French was available to the keen linguist, but David had introduced German before 1960 and many scholars have benefited from his expert teaching. However, David Sells was more than just a teacher, he was and still remains a friend, and all his friends from the fifties will surely agree that he has richly earned 'une bonne retraite'."

Nicholas Dakin (1962-68) writes:

"It is difficult to believe that David Sells is retiring. To me, and I am sure to many other Rendcomb boys, he was one of those ageless and evergreen father figures quite outside the process of time. We children of the 'swinging sixties' thought him as young as we thought ourselves. And oh how much wiser! In addition to his many and varied academic and intellectual qualities, he had, I think, that rare gift in a schoolmaster of perceiving the essential nature of youth and fostering its development in the broadest sense. He had tremendous faith in our youth. Adolescent fads and follies came and went, but each new wave of idiocy was greeted with the same firm wisdom, amused tolerance and authority. Whining sermons and blandishments were never part of D. de G.S.'s style. He merely took it for granted that we could do something - and in most cases we did it!

The honour of writing this tribute has caused me to reconsider how very much I, and others like me, owe to him. It is indeed a great deal. Quite a few Rendcombiens may remember D. de G.S.'s winding up of Literary Society meetings: "Gentlemen, far be it from me in any way to hasten your departure" (or was it 'hinder'? - it seems so long ago). With his own departure now upon us, it is fitting that we reflect on his rare qualities as a schoolmaster and civilised man of the world. As a schoolmaster myself, though alas without his genius, I salute him, the friend of our youth, and wish him well in his retirement. 'Non troppo!'"

Jane Lyons and Ann Pilgrim (nee Rickards) (1974 - 1976):

"How do we remember David Sells, now that we have left Rendcomb behind us? Essentially a private person, he presented a dignified, even retiring, face to the world. But his sharp wit enlivened many a lesson and many a conversation; and his wide learning, which he freely shared, was respected by all. If he gave one the impression of being in a slight state of permanent shock at the entry of girls into the cloisters of college, we did

our best to persuade him of our academic ability alongside the boys! In the classroom he taught in a calm, ordered way, encouraging us always to think for ourselves, and refusing to provide 'spoon-feeding' for the coming exams. It was, however, in the extra-curricular teaching that his especial contribution to our education was to be found. He widened our horizons beyond the confines of the school and background. We learnt not just about the French language but about language in general. Its uses and abuses; not just about French literature, but about the philosophies behind and beyond it. No-one who was taught by David Sells could fail to gain at least some appreciation of the ways in which different cultures explain their particular realities, and the differing values which result from these explanations. It would be all too easy to leave somewhere like Rendcomb with an unshaken belief in one unquestioning view of the world and our place in it. David Sells helped to ensure that this did not have to happen. As his past pupils, we have reason to be grateful to him for his invaluable contribution to college life. However he chooses to spend his retirement, I hope he will remember us as he will surely be remembered."

Nicholas Miles (1974-1980)

"An expert in his chosen spheres of academic pursuit, a person of vast general knowledge and a master of the spoken word: David Sells was a formidable opponent in the classroom. We did not really have a hope whenever we attempted to out-think and out-argue him: he would give us a false glimpse of 'la Victoire' and then cut us down with a comment of reasoned brilliance to which there was no answer. But, more importantly, we kept coming back for more intellectual humiliation because he made it such fun and there was never any malice behind those gems of wit. He knew our weak points, the reasons behind them, and more often than not how to overcome them. To some his methods of marking may have seemed harsh, but at least he always told you bluntly if the submitted effort was below standard and he did not give you any misleading hopes of quality where, frankly, there were none. He will always be remembered as a man of great intellectual expertise and yet also one of natural warmth and humour - a rare combination. On behalf of all recent pupils who had the pleasure of being one of his chosen few, may I wish him every success and happiness in his retirement."

Staff Common Room News

In April 1983 **Christopher Terrill** left to be an anthropologist research fellow with the International Disaster Institute. During his five years at Rendcomb, he developed geography into an 'A' level course, building on Colin Burden's work which had taken the subject to 'O' level. He produced a number of school plays and directed the sketches at the Christmas party. He also took some very successful parties abroad - to Iceland, Russia, Greece, Italy and Holland. His wide-ranging interests have been valued by Rendcombians and everyone will wish him success in his new career.

At the same time, **Andrew Potts**, head of biology, left to take up a similar post at the British School in Paris. He has not only continued the high level of success in the biology department, but has played a major part in coaching rugby and hockey. In addition, he has sung solo parts in a number of concerts and played the trombone in the orchestra. A gifted schoolmaster, he has made a distinctive contribution to Rendcomb in the three years he has been here.

For the summer term of 1983, **Christopher Swaine** is returning to take over the biology department and **D. Barlow** will run the geography department. In September 1982, we welcomed **Rev. Trevor Oldroyd** as our chaplain and priest in charge of the parish of Rendcomb. **G.R. Ball** joined the modern languages staff and will take over as head of French in September. **P. Sykes** is the new assistant mathematician and **C. Buchanan-Dunlop** has taught subsidiary mathematics to the sixth form. **T.J. Lane** took over as director of music, a post that John Willson felt he could no longer hold in conjunction with that of housemaster of the senior house. He continues as assistant in the music department, which he has developed so successfully over the last fifteen years. **Mrs. Carol Kenworthy** has been the matron for the past year.

College News Bulletin

In spring 1982, the conversion of the old conservatory (gymnasium) was completed and officially opened on May 10th by the Prince and Princess Michael of Kent. After touring the school, the Prince and Princess were entertained to lunch by the governors in the library. The building is known as the Dulverton Hall in memory of the first Lord Dulverton, a great friend and benefactor of the school. During the summer, work advanced on the extension to the third form boarding house to provide full accommodation for forty boys. Major P.D. Birchall, former chairman of the governors, performed the opening ceremony in November. The house is

named after Colonel John Godman, chairman of the governors from 1943 to 1978. Further alterations to the stable block have taken place, providing three new classrooms and a small flat to the right of the archway. 'Big school', or the assembly hall, depending on one's vintage, has been redecorated and is now a reading room. Winter gales caused some damage to trees round the college, including the loss of a large cedar at the lower end of the churchyard. This has opened up the view of the college from the village road, but has left an unsightly gap in the wooded area round the church.

Apart from a large number of expeditions for various forms during the course of the year, Mr. and Mrs. Newby took a skiing party to the Italian Alps, Mr. Terrill took the geographers to a field study centre on the Isle of Arran, and the biologists went with Mr. Potts to Nethercombe Court field centre in the Quantocks. A small number of pupils also took part in the Cheltenham exchange with Annecy.

School Sport:

Rugby: David Woof (captain 1982) writes:

"Despite pre-season pessimism, this was the best 1st XV team that the college has produced for many years - Rendcomb rugby spirit was at its height. In spite of the strengthened fixture list, we still managed to win 14 matches, draw one and lose only two in what was a memorable season, highlighted by victories over Kingswood, Dean Close and the old Rendcombiens. A measure of our success was that David Woof and Matthew Archer both went for representative trials, only to be displaced eventually by England squad members. Old Rendcombian rugby can only benefit from an influx of such players!"

1st XV results:

v. Marlborough 2nd XV (A)	lost 10 - 17
v. Dean Close 1st XV (A)	won 23 - 6
v. King Edward's, Bath 1st XV (H)	won 21 - 15
v. Kingswood, Bath 1st XV (A)	won 12 - 10
v. Wycliffe College 2nd XV (A)	won 22 - 4
v. Rednock 1st XV (H)	draw 12 - 12
v. Deer Park School 1st XV (A)	won 51 - 0
v. Bloxham School 1st XV (A)	lost 6 - 14
v. Burford School 1st XV (H)	won 30 - 3
v. Monkton Combe 1st XV (A)	won 6 - 0
v. Old Sullmans Colts XV (A)	won 38 - 3
v. Chosen Hill School 1st XV (H)	won 14 - 4
v. King's, Gloucester 1st XV (A)	won 13 - 4
v. Prior Park 1st XV (H)	won 13 - 10
v. Sir Thomas Rich's 1st XV (A)	won 11 - 3
v. Dauntsey's 1st XV (H)	won 18 - 7
v. Old Rendcombiens XV (H)	won 12 - 0

Points for: 312 Points against: 109

Cricket:

Simon Knapp (1982 captain) writes:

"After the 1981 season, which had been the 1st XI's most successful for many years, and had included four county under 19 players, we had looked forward to the 1982 season with some apprehension since three of them had left, but with two new county players coming through our fears proved unfounded. Although we did not match the 1981 unbeaten record, we lost only one of our thirteen matches, to Marling, and that probably due to our bowling with a wet ball. Of the other twelve matches we won eight and drew four. For the first time for many years, two centuries were scored, a 105 not out by S. Knapp against the Gloucestershire Diocesan XI and a 103 by G. Brealy against the old Rendcombiens, which helped the school to win the match by 70 runs. A. Hedderwick also scored two fifties during the season. Both he and G. Brealy will be playing for the county under 19 team this year. Our main bowler, I. Bishop who took 42 wickets, might well have played for England Schools had he not suffered a severe back injury. We hope he will be fit again this year. With only two members of the team having left, the 1st XI, under the wise instruction of D. Essenhight can look forward to another successful season in 1983."

Hockey:

With only a handful of boys opting out of hockey, sixteen to be precise, the pitches and staff were considerably stretched this season. The coaching which took place in the rugby season certainly helped the boys and girls to make the most of the initial period of play on grass pitches. Players attended county trials at all levels, and the school was represented in the following teams: under 19 boys; under 19 girls and under 14 boys. The 1st XI had a successful and enjoyable season, which included several matches of high standard. Although many schools now have access to an all weather pitch, we were rarely at a great disadvantage due to the adaptability and natural ball sense of many members of the team. In addition, their clean style of play and quiet acceptance of decisions added much to their game and proved to be an example to many of our opponents:

v. Gloucester College of Arts and Technology	D 1 - 1
v. Cheltenham College 2nd XI	W 2 - 1
v. Prince Henry's, Evesham	W 4 - 3
v. Marlborough College 3rd XI	W 1 - 0
v. Colston's School, Bristol	W 2 - 1
v. Cheltenham Grammar School	W 6 - 0
v. King's School, Gloucester	L 1 - 3
v. Dean Close School 2nd XI	W 6 - 0
v. Bloxham School	D 0 - 0
v. King Edward's School, Bath	L 0 - 2
v. Cheltenham Wednesday H.C.	L 3 - 4
v. Old Rendcombian Society	D 0 - 0
v. Marling, Prior Park, Cirencester H.C. and Crypt	cancelled

Analysis of school results: Played 47; won 22. lost 19, drawn 6

Goals for 121, Against 76.

A new pitch has been created at the far end of the top field and, as in the past, there were the associated post-lunch stone picking parties! This should be in use for hockey in 1984 and the estate garden would then be used for team practices only. You may be interested to hear that a cross-country course in and around Rendcomb aroused a great deal of interest in the school, and well over a hundred boys and girls ran on a particular day in March. It seems likely that this will become a regular event.

C.J.W.

Squash:

Charles Hutton-Potts writes:

"The excellent standard of squash played at Rendcomb became evident this year. As usual we competed in the Gloucestershire under 19 league. Simon Knapp produced a string of unbeaten games in the Christmas term to help provide a sound basis for the second term's competition. Malcolm Dalrymple-Hay replaced Simon Knapp as top seed and made up for a poor start by later winning some fine matches. With Ben Knapp showing a renewed interest in the game, we had a strong number two, winning all his league matches. Mark Smith played with his unpredictable style which led to varied results. Charles Hutton-Potts played with considerable determination, which proved fruitful in terms of results. Giles Brealy, with his unusual approach to match play, provided a solid number five. During the second term, we won all our matches either 5 - 0 or 4 - 1, thus winning the Gloucestershire under 19 league. Finally, I must congratulate Simon Knapp for winning the Gloucestershire under 19 championship."

Girls' Sport

Sarah Sherwood writes:

"The girls have had quite a successful year in sport. As usual the Easter term has been plagued by rain and several matches had to be cancelled. Despite this the hockey has improved since last year, when apart from two draws, all matches were lost. This year however, we have won three, lost three and drawn the rest.

Although we lost two members from 6U this term, the 1st netball team was only defeated in four matches this year and the 2nd team in not many more. The squash team was defeated in only two matches - one, a new fixture, against King Edward's, Bath."

Old Rendcombian News

Roger Ingles (1966 - 73) visited Rendcomb recently. He is an accountant, based in Bermuda.

Michael Cox (1963 - 67) has renewed his contact with Rendcomb after a self-confessed lapse of fifteen years. He writes: "After leaving Rendcomb for South Africa in 1967 I gained admission to the University of Witwatersrand to study engineering. My undergraduate career however came to an abrupt end after only one year. The only subject I managed to pass (ironically at first class) was chemistry, which I had failed at 'O' level. Nevertheless I later gained a diploma in electronics from the Pretoria College for Advanced Technical Education. I then spent a couple of years working for the South Africa Post Office. Few of the employees being English-speaking, in 1974 I joined I.B.M. in Pretoria as a software engineer. Software was a subject I knew nothing of then but thankfully I.B.M. was generous with its own in-house training. My career was interrupted in 1975 for twelve months of national service. It was the most boring and frustrating year of my life. When I returned to I.B.M., I immersed myself entirely in the data processing business. I met my wife, Linda, at I.B.M. in Johannesburg, where I had been transferred in 1978. We were married in November 1980. Just over a year ago, Linda and I arrived back in England. I joined National Advanced Systems as a systems support engineer, based in Altrincham..."

Philip Smith (1968 - 74), whose marriage is announced elsewhere, is now aged 25 and a member of the Royal College of Physicians. For the past 18 months he has been at Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool, where he is senior house officer. His wife, Ann, was a doctor on the staff of another Liverpool hospital.

Neil Blencowe (1974 - 81) joined the Government Communications Headquarters in Cheltenham in July 1982 after passing the civil service examination and very stringent positive vetting clearance. He is an executive officer.

Jonathan Ratcliffe (1973 - 78) is with General Foods of Cardiff.

Stuart Smith (1971 - 76) spent a year working in a market garden in Staffordshire after leaving Rendcomb. He then spent the following year orange growing in Florida: this was a real eye-opener because of the huge scale on which everything was done. The neighbouring grove-owner had 10,000 acres of orange groves. He then spent three years at Pershore College of Horticulture, finishing with a distinction in an ordinary national diploma in commercial horticulture. He is now back with his family firm in Chipping Campden, where he manages the nursery and new garden centre.

Peter Binks (1935 - 41) is still running sheltered workshops for the disabled in Doncaster, Australia. He supplied the news about the death of Bill Bardrick who was living in the same district.

Alasdair Wallace (1949 - 55) will be visiting this country from Canada in July and August. He and his family will be staying at Northmoor Farm Bungalow, Rendcomb.

Stephen Hawkins (1971 - 78) graduated in English at Reading University last year. He is now doing a P.G.C.E. course at Southampton University.

R.M. Lewis (1939 - 46) has been in touch recently. On leaving Rendcomb he joined Lloyds Bank. He obtained the Diploma of the Institute of Bankers in 1952, after national service in the Royal Corps of Signals, and an external LL.B at London in 1957. He is married with three children, a boy of 22, and girls of 17 and 15.

Robert Brown (1963 - 70) came with his wife to the O.R. buffet last July. He is teaching chemistry at the College of the Virgin Islands, where he will probably stay for a further two years. Before that, he spent two years teaching at Illinois State University. He married his wife, Dawn, in 1980 and they were expecting their first child last September. His brother **Martin** (1966 - 72) is with Sir William Halcrow and Partners of Swindon as a civil engineer. He is in Guyana working on an irrigation project. He also says that **Adrian Patrick** (1963 - 70) who is with B.P. has recently been posted to Calgary, Canada, after several years in Aberdeen. He has no recent news of **David Simmons** (1963 - 70); but he did marry his wife Rachel in 1978, and was then working for a car firm: he graduated in agriculture at Nottingham University, after various other forms of employment.

David Strong (1974 - 79) is playing the saxophone in a band in London and is about to get a record contract.

J.G.A. Dainty (1951 - 55) writes: "Commonly known as Geoff and in latter years as Ollie, he has now bought a little cottage in Clevedon, Avon, in March 1981. In December of the same year, when he had just settled in, he was flooded to a depth of 3 feet, due to adverse weather conditions and inadequate local drainage facilities, and subsequently spent a large part of early 1982 sorting out insurance claims, mopping up and getting

straight. The decision to buy a place of his own was taken after many years of living in all sorts of rented accommodation in places as far afield and diverse as Birmingham, Cambridge and Bath. He also lived at home for quite a considerable time, in between living in the aforementioned places, but in latter years, with the ageing of his parents, found this too much of a strain and very difficult. He now enjoys the freedom of his own place and wishes that he had moved years ago. He's still single but always hopeful. He has now been working with Thomas Cook Limited, Travel Agents, for over twelve years, having started in Cambridge and latterly moving to the Bath office. For the last five years he has been doing work as a relief travel salesman/consultant in the western region area which stretches from Hereford in the north to Plymouth in the south west and across to Swindon, and often spends many long stints or weeks away living a rather peripatetic existence in hotels. Prior to the long career with Thomas Cook, he was in the book trade for about eight years, and also spent eighteen months as a deputy warden in a local probation hostel, but found that this sort of social work wasn't his forte. He rather regrets not taking full advantage of his time at Rendcomb, as without full academic qualifications he found job-hunting somewhat difficult. There were also quite a few quizzical looks when enquiring about schooling and Rendcomb was mentioned in interviews. He eventually managed to get three 'O' levels at evening classes, and wishes that in his time there had been a bit more emphasis on languages, rather than struggling with somewhat dead subjects such as biology and physics, which were his bête noires. He did, however, visit Rendcomb when the girls' block was a mere shell, as his father was the consultant design engineer involved in the building, and actually met Frank Nash, lately deceased, doing his rounds and who actually remembered him. He also has strong memories of most of the local countryside, as he often opted for alternate games. This involved walking at least five miles and he often walked further. This has given him a keen interest in walking, although not over terrific distances. He also remembers the local smithy, which he often visited in his free time. Due to the fact of being at present a non-driver, he is unable to visit Rendcomb at regular intervals or whenever an O.R. reunion is held. He would, however, be prepared to go halves on petrol costs, if any O.R. from the Bristol area would be prepared to offer him a lift. He did meet **Michael Lancashire** in Oxford in 1977, when attending local meetings of the Lions Club, as he is an active member of the Clevedon Club. At Badminton, March 1982, he was greatly intrigued to see the Rendcomb prospectus displayed on the ISIS stand, and now feels that Rendcomb has changed beyond all concept. He hopes that D.W.L.B.'s qualities are still existent."

Mark Raven (1974 - 79) is buying and selling for a reproduction furniture firm in Cirencester. With **Mark Webb** (1972 - 79) and **David Marshall** (1972 - 79) he takes a keen interest in the local young conservatives club and also in the Young Farmers Club.

Simon Wormleighton (1968 - 75) graduated in 1982 with 1st class honours in English and education at Southampton University. He has been awarded a major state studentship in the arts, which has provided him with three years' research. He has started work on an M.A. thesis, at Keele University, entitled 'The tension of opposites in the poetry of Wilfrid Owen'. His brother, **Tim**, is painting in Devon.

J.C. Beck (1939 - 43) left for Ottawa in August 1982 for three years on the staff of the British High Commission.

Caroline Brett (1972 - 74) has been working as a writer and programme maker for Survival Anglia T.V. Wildlife programmes for two years and loving every minute of it. She has just had a children's book published, 'Animals and People'. She sees quite a lot of **Ruth Beckett** (1972 - 74) who has a new job with a firm called 3M, working with various new chemicals and doing clinical trials. She writes regularly to **Christine Marsack** (1972 - 74), now back in Australia, having spent a year in Blackpool passing additional nursing exams in intensive care and heart units. She is now working in the outback, flying patients (not as a pilot) to the nearest hospital.

Charles H. Nawton (1924 - 30) has retired after 31 years with E.J. Arnold & Son of Leeds - educational publishers and school suppliers. Finally becoming southern contracts general manager. He is a widower, living with his daughter Jennifer. He lists his interests as golf, reading and real ale! He served in the R.A.F. 1941 - 45.

John H. Quick (1937 - 41) retired a little early from the position of engineering services and administration manager for W.D. and H.O. Wills in Bristol. He says that, after working there for 33 years it seems strange not to be fighting the traffic every morning!

Peter Callaghan (1956 - 61) took over as managing director of Alfred Stradling on the retirement of his father. The company has enlarged but is still trading in the Market Place, Cirencester. He is married with two

daughters and one son.

G. Richards (1947 - 56) writes: "Despite living at Rendcomb for seventeen of my first nineteen years (my father taught physics and maths) and enjoying most of it greatly, I regret not having been an active O.R. I return occasionally to see Jack Fell and Kathleen James, by both of whom I was privileged to have been taught, and also last year to compete in Cirencester Park in a national 'Ride and Tie' Marathon! My current (and first) job is teaching physics at Sussex University, where I also run a group researching into some properties of helium at low temperature. I developed at Rendcomb a love of several sports, of woodwork and music, and happily I retain an active interest in all of these. I recently helped found New Sussex Opera whose annual productions now attract favourable reviews in most national newspapers. Several years ago Roger Alder gathered together most of those who came to Rendcomb in 1947 and stayed till around 1956. It was for me an emotive occasion to meet again those ten or so people who were almost the only contemporaries who mattered to me throughout my teenage years. Most of us agreed that only in the absence of girls did we have regrets about our education in that period. I still play competitive squash and would return to Rendcomb to play for the O.R.'s against the school!"

Nigel Hall (1972 - 79) graduated in Latin last summer at Royal Holloway College, London University. He has become a trainee manager with British Home Stores.

(The editor would be interested to know if any other O.R.s graduated in Latin or Classics.)

Ian Forrest (1972 - 77) and **Sarah Oughton** (1973 - 75) left London in February on their motorcycle bound for South Africa. Their trans-African safari is a sponsored ride on behalf of the Young People's Trust for Endangered Species. They will pass through Egypt, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, visiting game parks and reserves in those countries. They expect the journey to take six months. They were interviewed on television and radio just before they left.

Nigel Burgess (1974-77) has been made manager of Pakeman's Outfitters, in Chippenham.

Rebecca Rosengard (1978 - 80) recently had a leading part in the Oxford Playhouse production of the 'Marriage of Figaro'.

Austin Caverhill (1936 - 40) sent the following reminiscences about his time at Rendcomb:

Inspired partly by John Middleton Murry's books touching on his experiences at Rendcomb and partly by the wealth of information that has come to me about the school and O.R.s in the excellent newsletter, I feel I must set down something of the still vivid impressions I carry with me of the time I was at the school even though my stay was suddenly cut short by my parents' decision in the second year of the war to send me across the Atlantic Ocean to relatives in Montreal. It all began for me, as for John MM, at Paddington Station in September 1936. Far from being the confident and rather brash small boy as imagined by John, I was someone acutely aware of not only a lack of inches but also a lack of personal organisation that had already landed me in trouble and would continue to do so in the future. Excitement, however, was the dominant feeling that afternoon that was not diminished by a comparatively lengthy train journey involving having to change at both Swindon and Kemble Junction. After arrival at school, while hauling our trunks up the narrow staircase leading to the top-landing dormitories, I heard a voice say, "'Ave you ever eaten turnips with the daart on?" and that was my introduction to the Rendcomb experiment. From then on though, every day was for me a battle for survival, and yet I could hardly wait for each holiday to finish so that I could return and enter the fray yet again. Certainly I could never forget Lee-Browne. I can still feel that frisson of fear in large quantities, and hope in minuscule ones, while waiting for those piercing blue eyes to signal their message of disapproval or approval during the headmaster's period on Saturday mornings while he perused the weekly reports. Nobody I've met before or since ever had that ability to penetrate with a single, flashing glance to the depths of one's conscious being. I had the pleasure sometime in the early sixties of meeting Hatherall again, in Montreal. We both shared the awareness of how much free time was put at our disposal as boys at Rendcomb, to make the most of - or to waste completely, it didn't seem to matter: time to cycle to Cirencester, time to play bicycle hockey, time to build canoes, time to make puppets and spend joyous hours rehearsing Molyneux's puppet play productions - but also time to spend seemingly endless hours trying to flick a hockey-ball six lockers high in the boot room, time to take our time coming down from the games field pursuing some impossible record of only x number of kicks from the field to the yard and, of course, time for long walks cultivating the tobacco habit, now by me, thankfully discarded. In the four years I was there, though I was told many things arising from my complete inability ever to keep track of whatever garments had to be handed in to matron on Saturday nights as well as losing pens, books and clean shoes for Sunday, I can never remember being told to hurry up and for that I am grateful. I cannot pretend, however, that my four years at Rendcomb were academically

satisfying. I seemed unable to bring into the classroom any of the intense awareness of success or failure that was uppermost my mind for much of the day outside it. Nor did my confidence blossom as a result of finding that the great majority of boys in my first class who had started the year without any knowledge of Latin or French had, in a year, not only caught me up, but now had a firmer grip on vocabulary and grammar than I, who had been content to waste the year basking in a completely false idea of my superiority. But in moulding the child that was to become the father of the man, Rendcomb's influence was enormous, particularly as a result of the constant whetting of one's appetite for responsibility - whether it was an election for the position of captain of the lowest game of football, or deciding who should run the tuck-shop, bank, or have the responsibility of organising the evening entertainment, there seemed to be an endless succession of goals to be striven for, and success and standing outside the classroom seemed to me at the time to be the be-all and end-all of school life. Let me finish with an anecdote that John MM did not include in either of his two books that I have read. I remember so clearly this one Commemoration Day. Perhaps this event is celebrated in a different fashion now but in my time, under the benevolent eye of a master, we went off in groups for an extended hike, the highlight of which was the cooking by us in a frying pan of sausages, eggs, bacon, etc. But this particular Commemoration Day was going to be different for me because, of all the boys in the school, I had been told I would have to stay behind and write out a thousand lines! It is typical that though subsequent events are indelibly etched on my memory, I haven't the faintest idea what I had done wrong to deserve such a punishment. At 4 a.m. John and I somehow woke ourselves up, crept down to big school, and, thanks to our combined efforts and his ingenuity in managing to fix two nibs to each of our pens, I was able in front of the form to walk up to the master who had set the imposition and present him with a thousand lines before the hikes started. "This is a very different kettle of fish!" was his retort, and my enjoyment of that Commemoration Day was, if possible, more intense than ever!

(Biographical note: Austin left Rendcomb in 1940 and attended Lower Canada College, Montreal, 1940 - 44. After a brief spell as an aircrew trainee in the R.C.A.F. he was discharged with many others who could not be trained before the expected end of the war. He returned to England and served with the British Army for three years, being commissioned into the Dorset Regiment after training in Bangalore, India. He then returned to Montreal in order to attend McGill University where he later gained a B.A. After teaching for three years in England, he went once again to Montreal and took his teacher's certificate and eventually a masters degree in education. Since 1963 he has been senior master at Sandroyd School, Tollard Royal, nr. Salisbury. He is married with three children and would be delighted to hear from any O.R.s)

Roy Elliott (staff 1959 - 63) was appointed head of Sandwich School, Kent in September 1982.

Calum Watson (1975 - 82) is spending part of the year in India before going to Kent University in October. After teaching in a school for a time, he has moved to another area more concerned with rural development. In his spare time he is able to read on both socialist and Gandhian approaches to development. He writes vividly about the streets in Calcutta with beggars spending the whole day (and their whole lives, he presumes) squatting on the pavement with their open hands stretched in front of them.

Steve Hicks (1969 - 76) whose marriage to **Tessa Wolferstan** (1974 - 76) is reported elsewhere, is a fighter pilot at present flying air cadets at Cambridge and soon to join his first squadron at R.A.F. Lossiemouth flying Jaguar fighter aircraft. The best man at their wedding was **Tim Nicholas** (1969 - 76) who is in the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm. He joined his first squadron last autumn and is based at Prestwick, where he is flying Sea King helicopters. Tessa graduated in veterinary science at Cambridge last summer - and now wants to make a career in life assurance! A number of their contemporary O.R.s together with Mr. and Mrs. Price and Mr. White were invited to the wedding and spent a most enjoyable day at Tamworth, and the headmaster gave an excellent speech on behalf of the bride and groom.

David Barling (1966 - 73) is lecturing at the Gloucestershire College of Arts and Technology. He unluckily broke his leg in November and so has had to miss most of the rugby season.

Sebastian Greenlaw (1957 - 63) is teaching economics at Uppingham. He is married and has a small daughter. His brother, **Hugh**, is a nurse in a psychiatric hospital.

J.D. Painter (1943 - 52) is a lecturer in law at Bournemouth Polytechnic.

Douglas Dakin (1920 - 26) has retired after finishing his work at the Foreign Office.

Nicholas Wapshott (1965 - 70) continues to contribute a considerable number of articles to The Times.

Richard Allen (1972 -77) has qualified in dentistry at King's College Hospital and is in practice in Tooting. It would be interesting to know how many other O.R.s are practising dentists.

Nick Miles (1974 - 80) writes:-

"As part of my four year course in business administration with French at Loughborough University, I am currently working out in industry. Since last August I have been employed by Christian Salvesen Ltd., the food storage, distribution and transportation conglomerate. Until November I was based at the Droitwich site which has developed into a site dedicated to distributing frozen, chilled, non-perishable and produce goods for Sainsbury's throughout S.W. England and the Midlands. My role was that of preparing and carrying out a training induction programme for 60 new staff. As a result I became involved in the training of staff on a new computerised stock control system. I spent December at Southall, another company site, as night-shift supervisor, in charge of controlling stock movements of goods distributed round London. Since January I have been based at Elstree as a member of a team of three responsible for the implementation of computerised stock systems."

David Brown (1950 - 58) recently raised over £1,500 for the new St. Mary's Church Centre at Rickmansworth by a 25 hour piano-playing marathon. Among his sponsors were Sir Geoffrey Howe, Sir Michael Foot, Lord Carr and Mr. Albert Booth, former superiors of David who is an assistant secretary in the Department of Employment. He writes that he still enjoys life in the civil service, which even now is reasonably civilised.

Among those who visited Rendcomb in the summer and were impressed by the new buildings and general extensions of the college were:

Ian Campbell (1953 - 58) from Auckland, N.Z. He is touring the world to investigate health services on a year's assignment from the World Health Organisation. He is married and has three children.

Michael Butler (1941 - 47) who visited the college with some friends from the Victorian Society.

Michael Morgan (1941 - 49) who renewed his enjoyment of cycling in the area.

David Vaughan (1927 - 34) and his wife who were enjoying a Cotswold holiday.

Roland Wood (1939 - 46) who is now an educational psychologist for Surrey County Council.

Hugh Greenhalf (1947 - 53) who is working for a B.Ed. at St. Pauls, Cheltenham. He has written a thesis on Rendcomb College and its origins.

News of Recent Leavers

Timothy Barrow	Birmingham University, Physics (1983)
Caroline Briffet	Witney Technical College
Philip Chivers	Trinity College, Oxford, Law (1983)
Fiona Comrie	Leeds University, Mathematics & management
Timothy Daniels	Nene College of Further Education, P.E. & English
Rebecca Davison	Royal Holloway College, History & economics (1983)
David Denby	University College, London, Philosophy (1983)
Richard Evans	London School of Economics, Economics
Joseph Everatt	St. George's Hospital, Medicine
Marc Fewings	Hull Polytechnic, Business studies
Jane Franklin	King's College, London, English
Karen Fulford	Bedford College, London, German
Mark George	Salford University, Electro-acoustics
Olivia Hanscombe	Brasenose College, Oxford, Chemistry (1983)
Beverley Hassall	Birmingham University, History (1983)
Steven Hawkswell	Bedford College of Further Education, Sports studies
Christopher Hodkinson	Plymouth Polytechnic, Business studies
Sean Hughes	Churchill College, Cambridge, Natural sciences
Susan Ingleton-Bear	Liverpool University, Geography & anthropology
Charlotte Kenyon	Manchester University, Geography
Carolyn Kuhn	Salford University, Chemical engineering
Catherine King	St Hilda's College, Oxford, Modern languages (1983)
Simon Knapp	London School of Economics, Economics (1983)
Serena Latham	Birmingham University, Law (1983)
David Lee	Reading University, Estate management (1983)
Guy Marsh	Portsmouth Polytechnic, Electrical engineering

Justin Martyn-Smith	Estate agent
Richard Needham	Harper Adams Agricultural College
Isobel Nicholas	King's College, London, Human sciences
Lucy Norman	University College, London, French (1983)
Jonathan Pedley	Pembroke College, Oxford, Chemistry (1983)
Simon Perkins	Manchester University, Mathematics and computing
Nigel Pitt	King's College, London, Mathematics (1983)
David Rollo	Bath University, Business studies (1983)
Charles Schrieber	Royal Veterinary College (1983)
Rhodri Scourfield-Lewis	Loughborough University, Engineering
Richard Stibbard	Exeter University, German (1983)
Christopher Stratton	Royal Agricultural College (1983)
Peter Stroud	University College, London, German
Jeremy Trigger	Manchester University, Electrical engineering
David Twyman	Wye College, London, Agriculture
Calum Watson	Kent University, Sociology (1983)
Adrian Wilcox	Reading University, Agriculture
Timothy Wild	Middlesex Polytechnic, Law
Anna Wilkinson	Birmingham University, German
Philip Crowther	Evesham Technical College
Clive Fletcher	Marling School
Adam Phelps	Commerce
Simon Redman	Marling School
Simon Westcott	A levels in Norwich
Andrew Woof	Shiplake College