

# **Old Rendcombian Society**

## **NEWSLETTER**



**QUO LUX DUCIT**

**MAY 1984**

**10th ISSUE**

Editor  
W.J.D. WHITE

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## **Society Officers 1983-84**

President:	J. B. Fell (staff 1934 - 73)
Chairman:	C.J. Wood (1965 - 71 staff 1976 -)
Vice-chairman:	M. C. Jones (1956 - 62)
Secretary:	Mrs. J. Gunner (1975 - 77) 36 Martin Close, Cirencester, Glos.
Treasurer:	J.D. Williams (1966 - 71) 50 Purfield Drive, Wargrave-on-Thames, Berks.
Rugby secretary:	David Woof (1978 - 83) Weston Farm, Buscot Wick, Faringdon, 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 (1975 - 77) Victoria Powell (1977 - 79) Pendycre Cottage, Crickhowell, Powys.
School representative and newsletter editor:	W.J.D. White (staff 1960 -) 9 Rendcomb, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 7HB

## **Chairman's Report**

The new format of the newsletter was well received and much of the credit must go to John Green, who has two boys in the school at present. Although some of the newsletter's contents originate from Rendcomb, the editor still relies on you to provide him with details of significant events, reminiscences, suitable anecdotes and, of course, news of other O.R.s anywhere in the world.

Recently, the mood of the society has been one of closer co-operation with the school and the committee was asked to investigate the possibility of bursaries and scholarships. Present and projected income would allow small bursaries for, say travel, but worthwhile awards for eleven year olds would require a large fund-raising exercise. At this point, there seemed to be a possible clash of interests between the society and the Friends of Rendcomb, which was about to launch such a scheme. After discussions between members of the committee, the chairman of the governors and the headmaster, the sensible route seemed to be to join with the Friends of Rendcomb in raising capital, but, in order to preserve the society's wish for active involvement, O.R.'s donations will be accounted separately and a nominee of the committee will represent the society's interests as a trustee of the fund. Happily, the vice-chairman, Martin Jones, has agreed to act as our representative. Those of you who left before 1977 will find details of the Friends of Rendcomb enclosed, and younger O.R.s will be approached in due course. This is a very effective way of supporting the school and perhaps there will be a bursary for sons/daughters of O.R.s if the response is good enough.

Other enclosures include forms to be sent to the sports secretaries if you wish to participate in O.R. fixtures. In order to make their work a little easier, please reply in good time and try to honour your commitment: greater reliability could lead to more O.R. fixtures.

Anthony Hillier, Richard Law and David Beanland are keen to establish London gatherings of O.R.s and, now that the membership is growing at about fifty per year, this must be a worthwhile exercise. A letter and reply slip concerning a meeting in June are enclosed.

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to the buffet supper on 7th July, and to thank those who attended last summer's reunion at which a presentation was made to David Sells on the occasion of his retirement.

In September I received the following letter from David: "I am writing to thank the old Rendcombian society for the truly magnificent present they gave me at the end of last term. When I suggested a chair I had no idea that I was to be presented with furniture which marks me in Rendcomb as both plutocrat and sybarite. In fact it has turned out to be not so much a chair, more a way of life, and it is perhaps as well for my garden that the temperature is now dropping. The table I find superb, but it really needs a butler hovering behind it. I am looking forward to the tree-planting in October. Even more heart-warming on that evening was the appearance of so many faces from the past, making it an occasion I shall not forget. My most grateful thanks to all of you." In March a P.S. arrived: "I am glad to report that the golden weeping willow has wintered well. Although the name recalls the Psalm: 'By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept . . . Upon the willows in the midst thereof we hanged our harps', the trees by the Tigris and Euphrates were in fact poplars, so no ill omen accompanies it. I am credibly informed that it may grow to 65 feet, a landmark upon which all O.R.s may orient themselves."

C.J.W.

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

The a.g.m. of the O.R. society will be held at the college at 7.15 p.m. on Saturday, 7th July 1984. Matters for discussion under 'any other business' should reach the secretary in writing before 30th June 1984.

### AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To receive minutes of a.g.m. held at the college on 9th July 1983.
3. To deal with matters arising out of the minutes.
4. To receive hon. secretary's report.
5. To receive hon. treasurer's report.
6. Report from London old Rendcombians.
7. Any other business.
8. Vote of thanks to college and adjournment to buffet.

Jane Gunner, hon. secretary.

## O.R. Reunions 1983 - 84

The main reunion in July was well attended with many generations of O.R.s represented. The majority arrived early and spent the afternoon on 'top', watching the cricket match against the school and renewing acquaintances.

The A.G.M. in the evening attracted better support and it is hoped that more O.R.s will show an interest in the workings of the society. This was followed by an excellent buffet supper, again provided by Mrs. Mezo and her staff and greatly appreciated by all present.

The occasion also marked the retirement of David Sells (staff 1955 - 83). Robert Cockrell (1952 - 60) presented him with items of garden furniture and a weeping willow tree on behalf of the society. O.R.s were pleased to see the chairman of the governors, Vice-Admiral Sir Louis Le Bailly at the buffet. Among those present were:-

1920 - 1940

Mr. & Mrs. F. C. Raggatt	E. Webster	C.E. Coles and guests	Mr. & Mrs. J.B. Fell *
Mr. & Mrs. R. Butler	Mr. & Mrs. D. Dakin & guest	C.G.V. Taylor	Mr. & Mrs. A.E.A. Brain
D. Fergusson-Cooper	R.G. Betterton and guest		

1940 - 1960

M. Van den Driessche	D. de G. Sells *	Mr. & Mrs. S. Merrett	Mr. & Mrs. J.R. Dennis *
Mr. & Mrs. F. R. Glennie	Mr. & Mrs. P. Griffiths	P.G. Auden	Mr. & Mrs. R. Goodchild
G. Benson	Mr. & Mrs. M. Whittering	Dr. D. G. Griffiths	Mr. & Mrs. A. Wallace

1960 - 1970

J.C. Smith	W.J.D. White *	R. Barrett	N. Green and guest
Mr. & Mrs. B.L.M. Smith	Dr. & Mrs. D.J.A. Rose	N. Powell and guest	A.R. Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. C.C. Burden *	Mr. & Mrs. M. James	Mr. & Mrs. C.J. Wood *	Mr. & Mrs. J.D. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. D. Essenhigh	K. Barracough	R.A. Law	C.H. Moore

1970 -

Mrs. J. Gunner	Mr. & Mrs. R. M. A. Medill *	S.A. Hawkins	C.T. Brealy
Fiona Wilson and guest	A.H.M. Simmins	C. Hitchcock	D. Marshall and guests
Alison Hockin	D. Knox	R.J. Smith	M. Webb
C. Cannon	Mr. & Mrs. D. A. Hawkswell *	S. Pavis	J. Watson
A.R. Pitt	Mr. & Mrs. R. Scourfield Lewis	N.T. Smith and guest	Rebecca Norman and guest
N.J. Pitt			

\* Staff and former staff

## Dates of Future Reunions

Cricket:	7th July 1984
Rugby:	15th December 1984
Hockey:	23rd March 1985
Cricket:	6th July 1985

The a.g.m. will take place after the cricket match and there will be a bar open from 6.30 p.m. O.R.s who were at Rendcomb between 1940 and 1960 are especially invited to attend the 1984 buffet.

There were plenty of O.R. supporters at the rugby and hockey matches against the school last year and these were as usual followed by the opportunity for a chat with staff and contemporaries over a glass of beer or cider, before the more informal gathering at the Bathurst!

## **Sport**

**CRICKET:** Saturday, 9th July

College: 162 for 7 declared (G. Healey 58), Old Rendcombiens: 50 for 9 (G. Brealy 4 wickets for 12)

The college won the toss and batted first on a good wicket with G. Healey opening the batting in his last game for the college. Runs flowed all afternoon, after steady opening bowling from the O.R.s. The O.R.s were always in trouble, chasing such a big score, and they never really got on with the job in hand, playing some weak shots to finish at 50 for 9. Giles Brealy, with his gentle off spin bowling collected 4 wickets for 12. This year it is hoped to start play at 11.30 a.m.

O.R. Team: M. James, R. Page (captain), R. Tudor, R. Pitt, S. Wormleighton, N. Miles, F. Glennie, M. Webb, N. Green, J. Gotley, A. Woof.

D. Essenhagh.

**RUGBY:** Saturday, 10th December

O.R. Team: A. Martyn-Smith, T. Clark, D. Beanland (captain), F. Wilcox, R. Palmer, S. Galtress, B. Freeman, T. Daniels, D. Woof, M. Archer, D. Ind, M. Twinning, B. Hatchwell, J. Allen, J. Sinclair.

Result: O.R.s won 24 - 0.

**HOCKEY:** Saturday, 24th March

O.R. 1st XI Team: J. Quick, T. Daniels, D. Beanland, J. Sinclair, T. Evans, R. Deacon, R. Smith, K. Stuckey, A. Jenkins, M. Archer, P. Harris.

Result: school won 2 - 1.

2nd XI: S. Hazell, A. Martyn-Smith, D. White, J. Ratcliffe, G. Brealy, A. Phelps, J. Allen, J. Gotley, D. Lee, A. Mackonochie, A. Hedderwick, B. Hatchwell, R. Cockrell.

Result: O.R.s won 2 - 0.

Mixed XI: L. Lake, T. Powell, C. Franklin, J. Franklin, J. Soutter, K. Prynne, I. Bishop, G. Healey, L. Adams, K. Knight, M. Curtis-Hayward.

Result: school won 5 - 1.

## **Congratulations**

**Philip Evans** (1972 - 79): Domus scholarship, Pembroke College, Oxford.

**Guy Healey** (1978 - 83): Stapeldon exhibition for history, Exeter College, Oxford.

**Katharine Prynne** (1981 - 83): Instrumental award ('cello) St. Hugh's College, Oxford.

**Simon Knapp** (1975 - 82): First year award, London School of Economics.

**Alastair Hedderwick** (1978 - 83): Dr. David Thomas scholarship in international politics and strategic studies, Aberystwyth University.

**Alan Bennett** (1969 - 76): Ph.D. in molecular genetics, Leicester University.

## **Births**

To Julie and **Michael James** (1968 - 75), a daughter, Victoria, December 1983.

To **Jacqui** (1974 - 76) and **Peter Sayers** (1968 - 75), a son, Jonathan, July 1983.

To Anne and **Philip Smith** (1968 - 74), a son, Andrew, October 1983.

## Marriages

**Jonathan Steed** (1974 - 79) to Ewa Lewak, August 1983.  
**Christopher Terrill** (staff 1978 - 83) to **Isobel Weeks** (1977 - 79), May 1983.  
Hugh Carter to **Ondine Glanville** (1977 - 79), June 1983.  
Tom Eaton to **Mary Harvey** (1974 - 76), January 1982.  
**Kim Stuckey** (1967 - 73) to Helen Cruickshank, September 1983.  
**Neil Johnson** (1964 - 70) to Dorothy Reed, November 1982.  
Nelson West to **Lucy Cullen** (1975 - 77), 1981.

## Obituary

O.R.s of earlier generations will learn with great sorrow of the sudden death on 24th September 1983 of **Charles Taylor** (1925 - 32). After graduating from Oxford, he taught for a time at Wycliffe College before moving in 1944 to Thetford Grammar School where he stayed until his retirement five years ago. He had always been a regular supporter of O.R. functions and was one of the Simpson Memorial Trustees. An accomplished musician, he was organist at Southrop Parish Church for which he did a great deal of work including fund raising for the new organ. He was also an authority on rail and coach timetables. He suffered a slight heart attack three years ago but had made a good recovery. When he failed to arrive to play at a morning service at Southrop, a neighbour called at his house and found he had died peacefully in his sleep. We are indebted to Mr. A. T. Smith, a former pupil at Wycliffe, for this information. Mr. J. B. Fell attended the funeral on behalf of the O.R. society.

## 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 £5, including postage. Cheques should be made payable to the Old Rendcombian Society.

'Champagne Days. A Boy at Rendcomb College 1924 - 31', by Dick Field. Copies may be obtained from the author (to whom cheques should be made payable), 77 Vicarage Road, Marsworth, Tring, Herts. HP23 4LU, or from C. J. Wood, (cheques payable to the Old Rendcombian Society), Churn House, Rendcomb, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 7HD. The cost is £3.50 by post or £3.00 at the College.

## At Rendcomb

The following members of the society have sons or daughters at the school:

A.O.H. Quick	A.K. Bowley	R.C. Hannaford
S.R. Merrett	I. Airey	G.H. Richards
J.M. Astill	K.J. Knapp	M.J. Miles
J.R. Alder	D.A. Hawkswell	

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

## Addresses Wanted

The addresses of the following members of the society are not known and the editor would be grateful for any information:-

D.E. Barbour 1948 - 53	M.J. Dawson 1960 - 67	N.E. Hance 1966 - 73	W.I. Prime 1947 - 53
J.A. Barclay 1941 - 47	C. Dendy 1969 - 76	R.T. Lindsay 1940 - 44	T.W. Rowley 1948 - 56
G.S. Bartlett 1955 - 62	A.C. Fidler 1974 - 78	J.D. Menzies 1940 - 46	C.B. Stillwell 1956 - 63
M.J. Bartlett 1957 - 63	H.A. Gough 1949 - 57	W.S. Monroe 1940 - 46	M.J. Tarrant 1938 - 41
S.C.D. Baynham 1971 - 76	D.G.R. Griffiths 1953 - 58	J.D.R. Paine 1952 - 57	R.D. White 1950 - 57
M.R. Bircher 1970 - 72			

## **David Sells**

The editor regrets that the following tribute from John Webb (1954 - 1963) was omitted from the last edition of the newsletter:-

"In 1955, French master 'Bos' Austen, that 6' 7" of leaning Pisa, was replaced by the contrasting figure of the chalk-throwing D. de G. The St. Lawrence and Light Blue education shone through the organised discipline of the military major. He knew how to teach, how to motivate, and to reward effort as well as skill. Apart from French, David taught us German and hockey, directed plays, ran the Christmas party, and actively encouraged our appreciation of music, art and literature. During the interregnum after Lee-Browne's death, he commanded the college as senior housemaster. He gave us a responsibility before our time; when we failed him, the ash on his cigarette hardly flickered. A non-driving, private, and single man, David admirably executed that role 'in loco parentis'. Like them, he did far more than was (presumably) required. Like them, he received few thanks. Yet underneath, we wanted to do well for him. Rendcomb's first 'blue' certainly belongs to David Sells."

## **Recollections of Rendcomb**

**Rupert Thackray** (staff 1945 - 50) has sent the following account of Rendcomb in the post-war years:  
"I look back on my five years at Rendcomb as one of the happiest periods of my life. For the first three of these years I was resident, living at the 'House' (the Old Rectory) in 'Molly's' time; the last two years were at Kennel Bottom cottage - a blissfully secluded spot (with a complete absence of plumbing).

The joy of living in such a beautiful part of the country never waned. From that time dates the beginning of my lifelong interest in natural history, with many helpful experts to guide me. I saw my first badgers with Ernest Neal and some of my first dippers and kingfishers on the stream near the lake. I was introduced to many Cotswold flora by sixth-form biologists and the wonderful variety of trees was a constant source of pleasure, particularly the beeches, larches and magnificent sequoias, not to mention the gingko in the Wilderness, which I hope is still there. It was the time of the felling of the coves on the slopes below Conigre Wood - it was sad to see them go, despite the wealth of welcome firewood they provided in those early post-war years. In one of the very long and severe winters - 1947 I think - when Rendcomb was completely snowbound for a time, I remember taking a morning off while the whole school were doing examinations and skiing from 'on top' all the way down to the lake in perfect alpine conditions.

Some other isolated visions of those years stand out in my memory: P.T. sessions each day in the hour before lunch; many hours spent fruitlessly with groups of boys trying to make a cinder running track - I doubt whether it was ever finished; carving the joints for my table at Sunday lunch - a somewhat daunting task for one then so inexperienced in the art; those few minutes before Sunday lunch, when the staff were already in the dining-room sharpening their carving knives, were the one occasion when 'Molly' habitually burst into song - always the 'Rose of Tralee'; some disturbing table rapping sessions in one of the prefects' rooms - my first encounter with the occult; D.W.L.B.'s green Bentley driving majestically up to the front door; John James's frustrating attempts to get me to learn the names of the Gloucestershire cricket team (cricket never was my game); 'Molly's' puppet plays in the 'House'; playing tennis on summer evenings in the 'House' gardens; cycling (or rather pushing my bike) up the hill from Kennel Bottom past J.B. Fell's immaculate and prolific vegetable garden; driving the cows out of our garden at Kennel Bottom after somebody had left the gate open; going off to Cirencester on the back of Gill Graty's motorbike to play in an amateur orchestra, and later, when I acquired an old Ford 8, going into Cirencester with Elsa Young to sing in Brahms' Requiem; cycling over to Chedworth to see the Roman villa; driving to Malmesbury once a week one winter to take a W.E.A. class; bell-ringing on Sunday mornings; reading the lesson in church, and later during the Rev. Inge's sermon, waiting for the welcome phrase 'Finally, one last word' which seldom failed to appear; succeeding after some difficulty in getting hold of some secondhand copies of the Clarendon Latin Course Parts I and II (because I wasn't keen on 'Latin for Today' which the school possessed); Saturday night dances in Big School and the shortage of female partners; a performance of Shaw's 'A Village Wooing' by 'Molly' and Mrs. Lee-Browne; the rather formal staff meals at weekends. (On one of these occasions I had an embarrassing guest - subsequently he became quite an eminent scholar and university lecturer, but at that time he was somewhat lacking in the social graces - whose opening conversational gambit was 'I've been troubled with warts recently'.)

Although I had nothing officially to do with music in the school: I look back upon those years as playing a valuable part in what was later to become my main career. Mabel Carnell and John Tooze both helped me without perhaps realising it, and Tony Austin too was a knowledgeable musician. I spent many hours in the practice rooms in the house and shared my musical interests with those boys who took their music seriously

like **John Sumsion**, **David Knight**, **Gerard Chagrin** and **Keith Statham**.

It might be of some interest to mention the very few contacts I have had with Rendcomb since I left in 1950. The first was an occasion in the 1960s when I was teaching at a college of education. We had a visit from the 'Barrow Poets'. I had no idea that **Gerard Chagrin** belonged to this group, but I soon recognised him when he appeared. A little later, in the middle of the performance, he caught sight of me in the audience and, interrupting the item, gasped dramatically, 'I know you'.

The second contact was when I went to Reading University in 1970. I was delighted to find on the staff there two old Rendcombians whom I had known at school more than 20 years before: **Trevor Morris** in the department of agriculture (now Professor), and **Chris ('Topher') Lane** in fine arts. I sang in the Reading Bach Choir with Trevor in Bach's B minor Mass.

Finally, since coming to Western Australia in 1974, I have had contact with three people in the musical world (one of them my next door neighbour) who knows **Keith Statham**. From them I learn that Keith is now in Hong Kong involved with the music festival there. To coin a phrase - it's a small world.

A brief visit to Rendcomb last year, when I was delighted to see Kathleen James and 'Jackie' Fell again, brought home to me nostalgically how much those years I spent at Rendcomb meant to me. If any O.R.s or staff should visit me in Perth, Western Australia, they will get a very warm welcome."

### School Sport 1983 - 84

#### CRICKET

Rendcomb's cricketers enjoyed an excellent season in 1983. Few teams enjoyed victory against the school at any level and the 1st and under 15 XIs remained undefeated. Seven boys represented the county at various levels including Ian Bishop and Giles Brealy who both attended west of England trials and played for Gloucestershire 2nd XI. Ian took over 50 wickets for the school (including all ten against Marling) and also played for the South of England. For the 1st XI seven hundreds were scored, four by Giles Brealy and three by David Webb, who is next season's captain.

When we add to this catalogue of success the appointment of David Essenhight as a national cricket coach and the great successes enjoyed at junior levels, it can be seen that the game was played with relish throughout the school in 1983.

1st XI Results:- Played 16; Won 10; Drawn 6; Lost 0.

v. King's, Gloucester	Rendcomb 174 - 2 dec. (D. Webb 101 n.o., G. Brealy 45).
Match drawn.	King's, Gloucester 22 - 9.
v. Crypt	Rendcomb 185 - 6 dec. (G. Brealy 112, D. Webb 31).
Rendcomb won by 118 runs.	Crypt 67 all out (Healey 4 - 19).
v. Cokethorpe	Rendcomb 147 - 6 dec. (G. Brealy 65 n.o.).
Match drawn.	Cokethorpe 59 - 6 (I. Bishop 4 - 30).
v. Westwood's	Rendcomb 183 - 4 dec. (G. Brealy 48 n.o., Bailey 39, Payne 35).
Rendcomb won by 92 runs.	Westwood's 91 all out.
v. Rednock	Rendcomb 161 - 3 dec. (G. Brealy 61 n.o., D. Webb 37).
Match drawn.	Rednock 85 - 6 (Bishop 5 - 22).
v. Swindon Wednesday	Rendcomb 134 - 9 dec.
Rendcomb won by 83 runs.	Swindon Wednesday 51 all out (Bishop 6 - 12).
v. Prior Park	Prior Park 45 all out (Bishop 7 - 9).
Rendcomb won by 7 wickets.	Rendcomb 46 - 3.
v. Diocesan XI	Rendcomb 272 - 4 dec. (G. Brealy 146 n.o., R. Newman 54 no.).
Rendcomb won by 133 runs.	Diocesan XI 139 all out (N. Webb 4 - 30).
v. Sir Thomas Rich's	Rendcomb 137 - 8 dec. (D. Woof 37 no.).
Rendcomb won by 106 runs.	Sir Thomas Rich's 31 all out (Hedderwick 4 - 8, Barthakur 4 - 2).
v. Kingham Hill	Kingham Hill 17 all out (Bishop 6 - 8, Healey 4 - 7).
Rendcomb won by 10 wkts.	Rendcomb 19-0.
v. North Cerney	Rendcomb 183 - 5 dec. (G. Brealy 102, I. Bishop 40).
Match drawn.	North Cerney 101 - 6 (I. Bishop 3 - 21).
v. Forty Club	Rendcomb 289 - 5 dec. (D. Webb 141, G. Brealy 112).
Rendcomb won by 119 runs.	Forty Club 170 all out (0. Healey 3 - 33, G. Brealy 3-47).
v. Kelvinside Academy	Rendcomb 215 - 1 dec. (D. Webb 118 n.o., G. Brealy 56 n.o.).
Match drawn.	Kelvinside 12 - 1.

v. Marling School	Rendcomb 173 - 6 dec. (D. Webb 60).
Rendcomb won by 156 runs.	Marling 17 all out (Bishop 10 - 5).
v. King Edward's, Bath	Rendcomb 140 - 5 dec. (Hedderwick 34).
Rendcomb won by 90 runs.	King Edward's 50 all out (Bishop 4 - 6, Newman 3-2).
v. Old Rendcombiants	Rendcomb 162 - 7 dec. (G. Healey 58).
Match drawn.	Old Rendcombiants 50-9 (G. Brealy 4 - 12).

The following played for the 1st XI: A. Bailey, G. Barthakur, M. Binder, I. Bishop, G. Brealy, R. Deacon, G. Healey, J. Healey, A. Hedderwick, B. Knapp, C. Mansfield, A. Maton, R. Newman, A. Payne, N. Paterson-Fox, D. Webb, N. Webb, D. Woof.

P.M.E.

### RUGBY

A disappointing season; hit by injuries throughout the term, the team could not develop any stability. A lack of depth in the senior squads meant that few of the 2nd XV players were up to playing at 1st XV standard. These problems were evident in the King Edward's, Monkton Combe and Prior Park matches; in the former ones the XV played with 14 and 13 players respectively for most of the game, and in the latter one the pack comprised of 7 2nd XV players. The team never disgraced themselves, always playing with great commitment and tenacity, especially Uglow, Brealy and Paterson-Fox in the forwards and Payne and Healey in the backs. The most enjoyable matches were the Kingswood, Rednock and old Rendcombian games.

### 1st XV Results:-

Marlborough College 2nd XV (H)	lost 0 - 32
Dean Close School (H)	lost 0 - 12
King Edward's School, Bath (A)	lost 42 - 4
Rednock School, Dursley (A)	lost 12 - 0
Kingswood School, Bath (H)	lost 16 - 0
Wycliffe College 2nd XV (H)	won 11 - 9
Bloxham School (H)	lost 21 - 3
Dauntsey's School (A)	lost 24 - 4
Burford School (A)	lost 6 - 0
Monkton Combe School (H)	lost 7 - 34
Chosen Hill School	cancelled
King's School, Glos. (A)	lost 10 - 4
Prior Park School, Bath (A)	lost 32 - 0
Sir Thomas Rich's School (H)	won 12 - 6
Old Rendcombiants (H)	lost 0 - 24

M.J.N.

### HOCKEY

The hockey season is always so dependent on the weather but this year the lack of heavy snow falls and the presence of winds to dry the pitches allowed the boys and girls to play on 'top' on all except six games afternoons. The extension to the playing field has provided an extra full-size pitch plus a seven-a-side pitch and the excellent drainage characteristics resulted in greater flexibility in borderline weather conditions although there is still some stone-picking to be carried out!

The enthusiasm shown by the boys and staff has allowed us to field four strong senior XIs once again and there is a great deal of talent lower down in the school with the under-15 and under-13 XIs being unbeaten. The girls' team was very strong in defence but lacked the necessary qualities to penetrate the opposition and secure goals. The 1st XI started off as a squad of determined although not particularly skilful players who demoralised their opponents with their quick passing. As the term progressed several players developed their style successfully and the XI's weaknesses were only highlighted when matches were played on all-weather surfaces. Perhaps one of the most enjoyable games of the season was against Cheltenham Wednesday when John Webb demonstrated his almost magical skills.

### 1st XI Results:-

Gloucestershire College of Art and Technology	won 2 - 3
Marlborough College 3rd XI	won 2 - 0
King's School, Gloucester	won 3 - 1
Marling School	won 2 - 5
Colston's School	won 0 - 1
Dean Close School	lost 3 - 0
Bloxham School	lost 0 - 1

Crypt	won 0 - 1
King Edward's School, Bath	lost 5 - 0
Cheltenham Wednesday	lost 6 - 4
Old Rendcombians	won 2 - 1

Analysis of school results: played 51, won 33, drawn 7, lost 21, goals for 150, goals against 86.

C.J.W.

#### GIRLS' SPORT

This year has seen some spirited and enthusiastic sport from the girls. Although Mrs. Holdaway remained as interested as ever in the girls' netball, it was Miss Dennis who took over the coaching. With frequent practices the first netball team succeeded in winning five of their eight matches (suffering a defeat against the Old Rendcombians), with the second team achieving three wins and three defeats. A challenge from the staff common room to the first netball team resulted in a victory to the staff, proving that 'brawn is superior to brain' after all! Yet a triumphant victory over Marlborough College ended the season on a high note. For once the hockey season was not disrupted by bad weather. Although the match results (with three losses, three draws - one with staff) were not particularly encouraging, the team was enthusiastic throughout, with everyone enjoying the 'extended season'. The girls' squash team has had to play more matches than previous years, with new fixtures against Dauntsey's School and Kingswood, Bath (both with strong teams). The results included five wins, five losses and two draws, one of which was against Cheltenham Ladies' College. Girls have also been closely involved with badminton and archery.

C. Grieves.

#### College News Bulletin

It may be of interest to O.R.s to know of some of the college activities and expeditions during the past year:- Last Spring holiday Mr. Johnson took a party to Rome while 6A Biologists were at the Leonard Wills Field Centre near Taunton. In the Summer Term, there was the annual Michael Wills Memorial Lecture given by Professor R. V. Jones, who spoke on 'Some Common Principles in Engineering and Life'. At the end of the summer term, Mr. Kelsey arranged for all the fifth form to have one week of work experience with various firms in Cirencester. In the summer holidays three boys attended the annual Sussex Association of Youth Clubs PHAB holiday, and Mr. Willson took a group of climbers to Switzerland, where they climbed three 4,000m peaks, including the Matterhorn. There have been visits to Stratford to see 'King Lear' and 'The Tempest', as well as to theatres in Cheltenham and Bristol. The senior play at Rendcomb last December was 'Dr. Faustus'. The juniors were later involved in a production of 'A Whole Lotta Grief', a dramatised documentary about Al Capone, and 'The Blue Carbuncle', all under the direction of Mr. Johnson.

There have been regular choral and orchestral concerts in the Dulverton Hall and the church. A concert in March consisted of Handel's 'Zadok the Priest', Haydn's Symphony No. 100 in G major, 'I was Glad' (Parry), 'Hear My Prayer' and 'O for the Wings of a Dove' (Mendelssohn). The concert, which was conducted by Mr. Lane and Mr. Willson, began with a fanfare by the brass group under Mr. Bob Roberts.

The course of the annual school run, held in March, is some three miles. It goes down to the Cirencester bridge via the slippery path and river, back up over 'the banks', down to Kennel Bottom, past the sports hall to the Wilderness and Park Gate; thence to the lake and up to the college. Ben Knapp won this in 19 mins. 23 secs. In October, boys from 6A took part in a 24-hour sponsored five-a-side football match, raising £600 for research into multiple sclerosis.

The main building project of the past year was the ingenious construction of eleven study-bedrooms and a new guest changing-room on the roof of the existing changing rooms. The village too has an altered appearance - two private houses have been built at the turning circle and a large house is under construction on Landage below the site of the old walnut tree.

Finally, the 'Chronicle' or 'Magazine' has undergone a metamorphosis and has emerged in bold format as 'Rendcombian'.

#### Staff Common Room News

In September three new members of staff joined us at Rendcomb: **C.P.M. King** as head of geography, **R.C. Hannaford** as head of biology, and **Miss B. Dennis**, a modern linguist.

In April **Colin** (1963 - ) and Dorothy **Burden** were married at Thornbury. In May **Christopher Terrill** (1978 - 83) married **Isabel Weeks** at Purton; **Paul Edwards** (1981 - ) was best man and a large number of Rendcombians, past and present, together with some of the staff, were among the guests.

We were delighted to welcome back **Christopher Swaine** for the summer term as head of biology, and were also most fortunate to have the services of **David Barlow**, who took over the geography department. Both worked tirelessly to cope with the difficult problems of taking over a department at a crucial time of the academic year and quickly won the gratitude and respect of their pupils.

**Denis Price** will be giving up the housemastership of Park House in July. The success of Rendcomb's first coeducational boarding house can hardly be due to the devotion and understanding with which Denis has carried out his responsibilities and few O.R.s who have lived in Park House will owe him any debt of gratitude for help and guidance while at Rendcomb, or for his continuing interest in their future careers. **Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Hannaford** will take over Park House and Mr. and Mrs. Price will move to the Mill House in July.

### Old Rendcombian News

**Guy Healey** (1978 - 83) is currently teaching junior classes in the preparatory department of Wells Cathedral School, before going up to Oxford in October.

**Gregory Dorey** (1967 - 73) will be returning to England after his spell with the U.K. delegation to N.A.T.O. in Brussels. He writes: "At the moment most of my spare time is spent rehearsing for an all-singing, all-dancing performance of 'Toad of Toad Hall' for the Brussels English Comedy Club. I am playing Water Rat, which is a somewhat easier part to play than the Dame in 'Ali Baba' last year. Shortly we leave for Oberammergau, which will be the fifth time I've managed to get down there in the last two years, which, together with trips to Denmark and northern Germany, have meant I've done considerably better than my predecessor in the job!"

**Bruce Pritchett** (1968 - 75) is with Deloittes in Gloucester. After obtaining a degree in business studies at Manchester University he qualified as an accountant and is now engaged and living in Cheltenham.

**Danielle Shrimpton** (1976 - 78) has been working in England after graduating at Warwick University and intends to return to Portugal shortly.

**Sheila Greenfield** (1976 - 78) is going to read zoology in California next year. At present she is training horses for bullfighting in Portugal!

**Tamsin Morgan** (1981 - 83) has been spending some months in a kibbutz.

**Louis Webb** (1957 - 66) is in general veterinary practice in Carmarthen.

**Brian Smith** (1965 - 72) writes: "After leaving Rendcomb, I worked for a short period with Bruton Knowles in Gloucester prior to attending the Royal Agricultural College. After completing a three-year diploma course in rural estate management, I then did the one-year course in advanced farm management. After leaving college I joined Bidwells - a large firm of land agents based in Cambridge, and qualified as a chartered surveyor. In 1980 I married and returned to Gloucestershire, having obtained a position in the farm management department of Rylands, and am now an associate of the firm. My brother, **Philip** (1968 - 74), is still practising medicine in Liverpool, having married last year. His wife Anne has just had a baby boy, Andrew."

**Christopher Morshead** (1974 - 77) has spent most of his time since leaving Rendcomb in training with the Royal Navy. He completed a four-year apprenticeship in aircraft radio engineering at H.M.S. Daedalus, Lee-on-Solent. This course included a period down at R.N.A.S. Culdrose, Cornwall, and it was during this time that he sat and passed the Admiralty Interviewing Board. Nine months were spent studying for a maths 'A' level at H.M.S. Collingwood, Fareham, and, after a brief spell back at Daedalus working in the naval air trials installation unit, he joined B.R.N.C. Dartmouth in January 1983. In September he moved to Plymouth to embark on a degree course at the Royal Naval Engineering College.

**Peter Evans** (1963 - 67) joined Lloyds Bank on leaving Rendcomb, and until 1979 worked in a number of

south London branches. He has now been transferred to the country and is working in Sevenoaks. He was married in 1975 and has two daughters named Sian and Rhiannon - unusual names in Biggin Hill, as he points out!

**Lucy West** (nee Cullen) (1975 - 77) writes: "After three years at Bath University, I worked in Denver, Colorado, for one year where I met my future husband. We were married in Devon in 1981. We returned to the U.S.A. and have since lived in New Mexico. My husband, Nelson, having managed a restaurant for two years, has returned to New Mexico State University where he will study recreation with administration. I have recently started my own landscape design business which is flourishing well. It is certainly very rewarding work here in the desert - and lucrative! But one can't help yearning for those rainy English days."

**Mary Eaton** (née Harvey) (1974 - 76) was married in January 1982. Her husband, Tom, is at the bar in Liverpool. Mary qualified as a solicitor in October 1982 but "has given up the pursuit of riches for domestic bliss".

**Ruth Beckett** (1972 - 74) is working for 3M (UK) PLC in the Health Care Division, advising on sales and marketing in clinical, technical and registrational matters relevant to company and competitor products.

**David Little** (1957 - 65) is district personnel officer with the Winchester Health Authority.

**Ronald Daubeny** (1931 - 35) writing about the last issue of the newsletter says: "I was very interested to see the names of the schools Rendcomb still plays, although, in my time, we did not have hockey matches. Our only hockey consisted of playing in the quadrangle on the Church side of the main house with sticks cut from the wilderness above the college!"

**Colin Hitchcock** (1971 - 78) joined Miles 33, a small progressive firm in Bracknell selling computers to printers and solicitor groups, after graduating at Reading. His work has taken him frequently to Europe, including an exhibition in Paris.

**John Gooding** (1951 - 58) lectures in history at Edinburgh University where **Peter Tuft** (1932 - 40) is a colleague. He recently taught **Jane Lyons** (1974 - 76) as one of his students and enjoys renewing his contacts with Rendcomb when interviewing would-be entrants. He mentions that **Nicholas Walter** (1945 - 52) called on him en route for a debate in the union.

**Jonathan Ratcliffe** (1973 - 78) writes: "After finishing my H.C.I.M.A. in hotel management last June, I joined the very large corporation, General Foods of Banbury, which sells Maxwell House coffee, Birds custard and other desserts. I am the catering sales representative for south Wales, but have spent some time working on the south coast and even had a business trip to the Channel Islands. Recently I bought a cottage in Chepstow."

**Robert Weston** (1968 - 75) is with Avon Direct Mail Services in Bristol. He engineered the publication in Motor Cycle Weekly of the first part of **Ian Forrest's** (1972 - 77) and **Sarah Oughton's** (1973 - 75) recent expedition from Cairo to Cape Town, and has had some articles of his own published in advertising and marketing trade journals. He has also recently received his "first challenging and enjoyable commission" which he admits was not entirely due to his widespread reputation as a man of letters! **Catherine Ledger** (1973 - 75) who has become editor of Virgin Books Ltd., has offered him some work for a forthcoming edition, writing under a feminine nom-de-plume! He has recently been visited by **Ian Forrest** and **Sarah Oughton**, who returned at Christmas, **Michael Denley**, **Cameron Findlay**, **Nick** and **Elaine Roberts** (on leave from Africa at Christmas), **Ian Taylor** and **Michael Findlay** and his wife.

**Michael Miles** (1943 - 50) writes: "I am still soldiering on in Singapore as general manager for the far east of the 'Commercial Union'. My region encompasses the ASEAN Group of countries plus Japan, Hongkong, Taiwan, People's Republic of China and Sri Lanka which gives me a lot of travelling. In Hongkong fairly recently I had a drink with **Keith Statham** (approx. 1944 - 52) who is currently director of the Hongkong Arts Festival, living on the Island of Lantau. I have also seen **Julian Gray** (1965 - 71) who is a solicitor with Clyde & Co. in Hongkong and does some work for us on the maritime side. **Willie (Tom) Walters** (approx. 1940 - 48) contacted me in Singapore earlier this year and came round to my home for dinner together with a colleague. He is with British Aerospace and was commanding a mission involving sales to the Singapore Government. It is always pleasant to talk to O.R.s and any passing through Singapore are very welcome to make contact. My last bit of news is that my youngest son, Anthony, is coming to Rendcomb in September this year, which I am sure he will enjoy as much as Nicholas and indeed myself, although it was a very different

school in the 1940s."

**James Rawlings** (1957 - 64) planned to visit Rendcomb last summer, his first visit to England since he emigrated to Canada in 1968. He says in his letter that he has many happy memories of his time at Rendcomb, and was privileged to be taught by (among others) David Sells, Jack Fell, John Tooze, Lewis Hull and John James and his wife, realising, over the years, just how much he learned from them all, not in an academic sense, but rather in a human one. He has worked for the last twelve years in the computer industry for Honeywell Information Systems. He is at present teaching advanced computer communications and database management for Honeywell, both to customers and to students at the Honeywell Institute in Toronto. His customer teaching takes him to all parts of Canada from Vancouver in the west to Montreal in the east.

**Michael James** (1968 - 75) is with Johnson & Johnson as national accounts manager and is working at the head office in Slough. He has found commuting to Cirencester is impossible and, regrettably, will have to leave Cirencester (and the Hockey Club) to be nearer his firm's headquarters.

**Kim Stuckey** (1967 - 73) whose marriage is reported elsewhere, is an information accounts marketing systems engineer with I.B.M. He and his wife were both undergraduates at Oxford; they now live near Malmesbury.

**Nick Price** (1973 - 80) is living in Hammersmith and working for Strauss Turnbull as a eurobond dealer. He is often in contact with **Paul Curtis-Hayward** (1970 - 77), who deals in eurobonds for the stockbrokers James Capel, where **Ian Forrest** (1972 - 77) has just joined him in the eurobond department.

**Andrew Carter** (1972 - 79) is with Barclays Merchant Bank in the city.

**Josie Taylor** (1978 - 80) is at the Courtauld Institute studying for a post-graduate degree in Art History.

**Sally Blyth** (1973-75) is a TV presenter in Hongkong, where she meets **Taryn Nixon** (1975 - 77) who is doing archaeological research, and also **Sarah Robinson** (1975 - 77) who is in commerce.

**Allan Bennett** (1969 - 76) is employed as a scientist with Celltech Ltd., Slough.

**Dr. John Gosden** (1947 - 54) and his wife, also a doctor, are involved in work using genetic engineering to detect serious hereditary defects in eight-week-old foetuses. They are employed at the Medical Research Council's clinical and population cytogenetics unit in Edinburgh.

**Martin Boase** (1948 - 51) is chairman of Boase, Massimi, Pollitt, the advertising agency, chosen as 'agency of the year' by Campaign Magazine.

**Dr. David Mabberley** (1959 - 66) and his wife Helen were featured in a photograph in the Wilts and Glos Standard recently. They had returned to Tetbury to visit Mrs. Miles, widow of Eddie Miles, headmaster of Tetbury Infants School who inspired David with his interest in science. They presented her with a copy of David's latest book, 'Tropical Rain Forest Ecology', dedicated to Mr. Miles.

**Nicholas Wapshot** (1963 - 70) has recently finished a biography of Mrs. Thatcher, written in conjunction with George Brock and published by MacMillan. In a letter to Mrs. James he says: "I should tell you, perhaps, what I do at The Times. I am deputy features editor - one of a team of five commissioning editors who look after all the non-news items in the paper. We think up ideas for pieces, which should always have some topical base, then find a suitable author. I have mentioned the Thatcher biography; I have also written a biography of the actor Peter O'Toole. I often think of Rendcomb and those of you who remain there. It was the most formative experience of my life, excepting the strong influence of my family, and it encouraged in me an independence of spirit and a confidence for which I am most grateful..."

**Neil Johnson** (1964 - 70) is a Major in the R.A.M.C. Having qualified as F.R.C.P., he is at present taking the first examinations for his F.R.C.S. He was married in November 1982.

**David Vaisey** (1945 - 54) hopes to finish shortly an edition of the diary of a mid-eighteenth century Sussex grocer. He says that diaries of such people are rare, and this one (the manuscript of which is at Yale) is known only by a badly selected and edited series of extracts made in the mid-nineteenth century. He has also run two half marathons and hopes to get into the London marathon!

**Richard Dunwoody** (1975 - 81) frequently appears in the racing columns of the national press, riding as an amateur jockey.

**Joanna Pettitt** (1980 - 82) wrote to the headmaster from Durham University in March this year: "I have recently been asked to join an expedition to Zanskar, a region in Kashmir in North India, as their resident anthropologist. The expedition is multidisciplinary, including two geographers, two ornithologists, an English student and myself. The projects to be undertaken are varied in nature. I have been awarded a grant of £400 from the Horniman Museum in London to collect specimens of material culture for them. They are at present collecting data for a new and permanent exhibition of the 'Himalayan Peoples'. The area of Zanskar in Ladatch, a very isolated and remote part of India on the Tibetan border, only opened to foreign visitors in the last few years. We hope to spend 10 to 12 weeks in the field from the beginning of July. We will, of course, be required to submit a full report of our findings to our sponsors on our return, including the Royal Geographical Society."

**M.H. Combe Martin** (1926 - 33) has sent a list of his publications for inclusion in any future volume of O.R. writings. He has also sent copies to be deposited in the college archives. He points out that **W.Y. Willets** (1929 - 37) has a very handsome tome on 'Chinese Handwriting', published by O.U.P. in 1982 and that Willets is still at Singapore University.

**K. Shephard** (1944 - 47) is now occupied in teaching B.B.C. trainees to make documentaries, and finds teaching very demanding. His 'Chronicle' programme, 'Venice Preserved', was shown again recently on B.B.C. 2. Part of this feature was also used to support the Exhibition of Venetian Art at the Academy.

**Nigel Meakin's** (1956 - 63) beautiful photographs have illustrated several of Geoffrey Smith's 'World of Flowers' programmes on B.B.C. 2.

### News of Recent Leavers

Nichola Agius	Exeter University, Economics (1984)
Sian Alexander	Bournemouth Polytechnic, Business studies
Matthew Archer	Loughborough University, Engineering science
Simon Beales	Essex University, American studies (1984)
Ian Bishop	Birmingham University, Dentistry
Eric Blencowe	Manchester University, European studies
Giles Brealy	Farming, Royal Agricultural College (1984)
Russell Copley	Birmingham University, Chemistry
Malcolm Dalrymple-Hay	Middlesex Hospital, Medicine
Richard Deacon	Jewellery business
Calum Dewar	Edinburgh University, Political & modern history
Charles Ekin	At present teaching at a prep. school in South Africa
Angela Eldridge	Chippenham College, Secretarial-linguist course
Guy Healey	Exeter college, Oxford, History(1984)
Stephanie Heath	Worcester College of Further Education, Geography and anthropology
Alastair Hedderwick	Aberystwyth University, Politics & strategic studies
Charles Hutton-Potts	Birmingham University, Business studies
Lisa Lake	St. Thomas' Hospital, Physiotherapy
Heather McColl	Exeter University, English and philosophy
Tamsin Morgan	University College, London, Law (1984)
Claire Newth	Wellington School of Equitation, B.H.S.A. Course
Simon Powell	Manchester University, American studies
Katharine Prynne	St. Hugh's College, Oxford, Physics (1984)
Edward Roberts	Robinson College, Cambridge, Engineering (1984)
Elizabeth Scarlett	University College, London, Pharmacology
Sarah Sherwood	Bath University, Pharmacy
Mark Smith	Exeter University, Business studies & statistics (1984)
Richard Smith	Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, Natural sciences (1984)
Joanna Souter	Aston University, Ophthalmic studies
Adrian Stephenson	University College, London, Chemical engineering
Benedicta Syrett	Birmingham University, History (1984)

Kennedy Taylor	Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, Human sciences (1984)
Nicola Tinto	Liverpool University, Geography
Georgina Walker	Birmingham University, Civil engineering (1984)
Edward Wilcox	Reading University, Business studies (1984)
Samantha Winter	Westfield College, London University, French & German
David Woof	Farming
Jonathan Baker	Farming
Gavin Boyce	Witney Technical College
Jonathan Goode	King Charles School, Kidderminster
Gouthom Barthakur	Swindon Technical College
Spencer Hannam	Apprenticed to a firm of photographers
David Harber	King's School, Worcester