

# **Old Rendcombian Society**

## **NEWSLETTER**



QUO LUX DUCIT

## **MAY 1985**

**11th ISSUE**

Editor  
W.J.D. WHITE

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## **Society Officers 1984-85**

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) 9 Shepherd's Way, 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:	Mark Webb (1972 - 79) 26 Edgeworth, Yate, Bristol.
Girls' sports secretary & ladies representative:	Victoria Powell (1977 - 79) 18 Carrcroft Court, Parish Ghyll Road, Ilkley, W. Yorks
School representative and newsletter editor:	W.J. D. White (Staff 1961 -) 9 Rendcomb, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 7HB.

## **Chairman's Report**

This year has seen the successful start of a London branch of the society and David Beanland and Anthony Hillier must be congratulated for their enthusiasm and for organising, in January, a dinner which was enjoyed by all of those who attended. I am sure that the formation of this branch will prove most useful to the college and to recent leavers embarking on courses or careers in and around London.

As the society continues to grow, O.R.s will encounter more and more unfamiliar faces at reunions. Consequently, the committee has suggested that, as an experiment, O.R.s should wear labels on July 13th stating their names and years at Rendcomb. Labels will be available at the pavilion during the day and at the bar in the evening.

Following the theme of greater contact with the college, O.R.s are invited to write to the headmaster's secretary, enclosing a sae, for a calendar of events (or telephone North Cerney 213) and a limited number of tickets will be available for concerts, the carol service and founder's day.

In the past, O.R. fixtures with the school have been on the last Saturday of term. This may not be so in the future, so please note the dates given later in this newsletter and, once again, O.R.s are asked to offer their services to teams by contacting the relevant secretary.

The first O.R. travel bursaries were awarded to sixth formers for use during this summer:-

Matthew Cordeux	£100	France by bicycle
James Kinch's group	£100	North Africa
Nicholas Badcott's group	£50	Geological and historical points of interest on the Cornwall coastal path.

## **Notice of the 52nd Annual General Meeting**

The 52nd AGM of the O.R. society will be held at the college at 7.00 p.m. on Saturday 13th July, 1985. Matters for discussion under item 10 should reach the secretary, in writing, before 6th July, 1985. Nominations should be supported by two names and should reach the secretary by the same date.

### **AGENDA**

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To receive minutes of AGM held at college on 7th July, 1984.
3. To deal with matters arising from the minutes.
4. To receive the hon. secretary's report.
5. To receive the hon. treasurer's report.
6. To set the amount of the travel bursary fund for 1986.
7. Election of officers:

- a. President
  - b. Chairman
  - c. Vice-chairman
  - d. Hockey secretary
8. To review level of life subscription.
  9. Report from the London branch.
  10. Any other business.
  11. Vote of thanks to the college and adjournment to the buffet.

### **The Friends of Rendcomb**

It is now a year since the Friends came formally into being. Today we have a little over £20,000 in the bank, shortly to be invested for income and capital growth, and a further £30,000 promised. This has allowed us to award a Friends of Rendcomb place to James Grafton of Minchinhampton Parochial School, who will enter the college next September. You may recall that it was agreed last year between the committee of the O.R. society and the Friends' trustees that O.R. contributions should be accounted separately within the Friends' trust fund and that a number of places in proportion to these contributions should be named O.R. society places. Twenty-four members of the O.R. society have become Friends, contributing £2,000 in the bank and a further £13,883 (including tax refund) promised by covenant, something under a third of the total achieved so far.

We are very fortunate that Sir Louis Le Bailly, who founded the Friends and who retired as chairman of the governors last Christmas, has agreed to remain for the present as chairman of our trustees. Our infant trust fund owes, and will continue to owe, a great deal to his skill and experience.

Having created one place for a boy who would not be able to come to Rendcomb but for the efforts of the Friends, we look to the future. Our aim is to establish at least six such places. I would most earnestly ask old Rendcombians who have not so far become Friends to think seriously about helping in this way to preserve Rendcomb's unique character. If you can covenant we can reclaim tax, and forward planning is made easier. Contributions may be large or small, they all help.

David Sells,  
Trustee.

### **O.R. Reunions 1984-1985**

The reunion in July attracted a large number of O.R.'s, many of whom watched the cricket match on 'top' in fine summer weather. The AGM, which followed the cricket, was reasonably supported. Mrs. Mezo and her staff provided an excellent buffet supper, attended by 96 O.R.'s and guests.

Among those present were:-

1920 - 1930

Mr. & Mrs. R. Bolton-King	Mr. & Mrs. R.C. Betterton & Mrs. Drake	Mr. & Mrs. R. Butler
Mr. & Mrs. N.A. Perkins	Mr. & Mrs. F.C. Raggart & guest	Mr. & Mrs. D. Dakin
C.E. Coles and guest	Mr. & Mrs. F. Batten	Mr. & Mrs. J.H. Dixon & Guest
Mr. & Mrs. J. Eyles	Mr. & Mrs. A. Wilcox	D. McG.A. Fergusson-Cooper
Mr. & Mrs. N. Slade		

1930 - 1940

R. Wood	Mr. & Mrs. J.B. Fell *	Mrs. K.L. James *
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1940 - 1950

Mr. & Mrs. R.H. Jones	Mr. & Mrs. P. Griffiths	Mr. & Mrs. J.K. Comrie
R.M. Sumsion	Mr. & Mrs. D.J. Payne	D. Vaisey
R.W. Alder	Mr. & Mrs. J. Reed & guests	

1950 - 1960

Mr. & Mrs. F.R. Glennie	D. de G. Sells *	Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Dennis *
Mr. & Mrs. P.J. Callaghan	Mr. & Mrs. G.E. Page	R. Cockrell
Mr. & Mrs. M. Whittering		

1960 - 1970

Mr. & Mrs. C.J. Wood *	W.J.D. White *	Mr. & Mrs. J.D. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. B.L.M. Smith	A.E. Hillier	N.J. Green & guest
Dr. & Mrs. D.J.A. Rose	Mr. & Mrs. O.G. Rhys	Dr. & Mrs. P. Smith

1970 -

A.H.M. Simmins	Miss S. Culverwell	R. Smith & Guest
D.C. Beanland	Mr. & Mrs. D.A. Hawkswell *	C.D. Cannon & Guest
Mrs. J. Gunner	Sir Louis Le Bailly (chairman of the governors)	N. Smith & Guest
Mr. & Mrs. D. Essenhigh *	Mr. & Mrs. R. M. A. Medill *	

\* Staff and former staff

### Dates of Future Reunions

Cricket: 13th July 1985  
Rugby: 14th December 1985  
Hockey: 22nd March 1986  
Cricket: 12th July 1986

The cricket match will begin at 11.30 a.m. (O.R.'s are invited to bring picnic lunches if they wish to have a day out). The AGM will take place after the cricket match and a bar will be open from 6.30 p.m. A buffet for about 100 will take place after the AGM and O.R.s who were at Rendcomb after 1960 are particularly invited to attend this year.

### Report from the London Branch

On 31st January this year the society held its first London dinner for some twenty years. This took place at The Brewery, Chiswell Street, which provided an excellent meal in perfect surroundings. The evening commenced with drinks at 7.30 p.m., members sitting down to dinner at 8.30 p.m. after which the bar remained open until the early hours. It was a great pleasure to have such a splendid turnout on this first occasion and it is now hoped that this will become an annual event. It was particularly satisfying to have members spanning the whole history of the school present.

The society was pleased to welcome the headmaster who was invited to say a few words on behalf of the school. In a lively and amusing speech Mr. Medill expressed great enthusiasm for the increased activity of the society and was most encouraging about proposed improved links between the society and the college; sentiments much applauded by all those present.

The organisers appreciate that January is not the most suitable time of year, so the last Thursday in October has been chosen as the annual date for future dinners (prime your diaries). Details for this October are given on a separate sheet.

In addition to the dinner Old Rendcombians in London have gathered together informally on a number of occasions for which thanks must be given to Anthony Hillier for the use of his offices. These meetings have led to successful business links and both new and renewed friendships. As a continuation of these informal evenings, one proposal for the future is that members be invited to foregather at a nominated pub on a regular basis of, say, every two months.

Lastly I would like to thank all those who have helped, and offered to help, in the organisation of these events and I would stress that new ideas and suggestions for the future are always welcome.

David Beanland

Those in attendance at the London dinner, January 1985:-

C.J. Wood (chairman)	D. Maberley	R. Sumsion	P. Curtis-Hayward
D. Williams (treasurer)	D. Vaughan	H. Hooper	A. Perkins
R. Medill (headmaster)	D. de Grave Sells	J. Marshall	J. Allen
G. Ball (careers master)	J. Tyler	J. Fonseca	A. Hillier
D. Beanland	N. Powell	R. Allen	S. Culverwell
R. Law	D. Ind	J. Lyons	J. Sinclair
R. Barrett	M. Twinning	A. Parshall	S. Tyler
A. Larcombe (née Jones)	N. Price	O. Carter (née Glanville)	

Apologies for absence:-

D. Vaisey	M. Webb	S. Ratcliffe	R. Betterton
M. Boase	F.C. Raggatt	N. Hillier	C. Hartland
N. Meakin	N. Dakin	N. Wapshott	W. White
J. Gunner (née Watson)	O. Rhys	M. Uglow	
P. Callaghan	N. Hall		

### **O.R. Sport**

CRICKET: July 7th

This year the match turned out to be very even and ended in a very exciting draw. The new hours of play (12 noon to 6 p.m.) with lunch in the pavilion proved successful. The O.R.s batted first, but soon lost two quick wickets, with B. Smith and N. Miles both caught by A. Bailey. Wickets continued to fall, with the O.R.s in trouble at 63 for 6 wks; but then A. Hillier joined F. Glennie and they both played so well that they put on 60 runs before being caught, having each scored 43 runs. R. Page was able to close the innings at 158 for 9 wks. The college also lost two quick wickets, with G. Healey trapping his brother lbw and Page bowling A. Payne. Then D. Webb and A. Bailey made a good stand of 50. When the college appeared to have the game in hand, Page and Healey came back to bowl so that the college lost wickets trying to force the pace. It was left to N. Webb and K. Elderfield to play out time, scoring 145 for 9 wks.

O.R.'s 158 for 9 declared.

F. Glennie 43; A. Hillier 43; R. Page 16 n.o.; R. Pitt 13; M. Webb 14.

Remainder of team: B. Smith, N. Miles, G. Brealy, M. James, G. Healey, A. Pitt.

D. Essenhigh.

RUGBY

Team: D. Woof, M. Archer, D. Beanland, T. Brealy, B. Freeman, R. Copley, S. Hazell, J. Hutton-Potts, G. Brealy, C. Ekin, A. Payne, R. Palmer, A. Woof, C. Hutton-Potts, E. Wilcox.

Result: O.R.'s Won 18 - 4.

HOCKEY

1st XI: R. Bown, D. Beanland, M. James, J. Sinclair (capt.), M. Archer, A. Paton, D. Mackonochie, A. Payne, A. Jenkins, K. Stuckey, A. Hedderwick.

Result: draw 2 - 2.

2nd XI: S. Hawkswell, C. Hutton-Potts, R. Hayward, G. Brealy, A. Phelps, T. Evans (capt.), A. Mackonochie, R. Evans, D. Lee, A. Waddell, J. Allen.

Result: college won 7 - 2.

The rugby and hockey matches against the school were well attended. At the suggestion of the society, the college will in future provide some snacks with the beer and cider after these matches and the reading room will be available as an O.R. base.

TENNIS

There has been poor support for the tennis matches against the school on the last two occasions.

O.R.s interested in playing are asked to get in touch with John Sinclair or with the girls' secretary, Victoria Powell, well before the day so that a team can be arranged.

### **Congratulations to**

**Martin Butlin** (1940 - 47): D. Litt. London University.

**Philip Evans** (1972 - 79): 1st class hon. chemistry, Oxford University.

**Maria Bitner** (1979 - 81): 1st class hon. medical sciences, London University.

**Robert Prynne** (6A): Exhibition, metallurgy, Trinity College, Oxford.

**Ian Bishop** (1978 - 83): Pre-clinical scholarship in dental sciences, Birmingham University.

## Births

To Anne and **Fraser Glennie** (1959 - 67) a daughter, Rebecca Louise, August 1984.  
To Ruth and **Robert Edy** (1959 - 68) a daughter, Charlotte, February 1985.  
To Jennifer and **David Shield** (1966 - 73) a son, Edward Anthony, June 1984.  
To Dorothy and **Colin Burden** (staff 1963 - ) a daughter, Frances, May 1984.  
To **Jane** (née **Watson**) (1975 - 77) and Richard Gunner, a son, Samuel Desmond, February 1985.  
To Hilary and **Tim Lane** (staff 1982 - ) a son, Philip Anthony Benjamin, March 1985.  
To **Elizabeth** and **Christopher King** (staff 1983 - ) a son, James William Peter, March 1985.

## Marriages

**David Shield** (1966 - 73) to Jennifer Taylor, May 1983.  
Edward Green to **Penelope Hooley** (1977 - 79), September 1984.  
Andrew Barr to **Fiona Jane Wilson** (1979 - 81), July 1984.  
**Ian Read** (1969 - 76) to Julie Marigold, June 1983.  
Captain David Martin to **Diane Crew** (1975 - 77), September 1984.  
**James Duncumb** (1973 - 78) to Nicola Parsons, March 1985.

## Obituary

It is with much sadness that we report news of the deaths of the following:-

**Miss E. Bather** Sometime matron at the college, August 1984.

**Arthur Browning** (1924 - 31) Mrs. Browning wrote in November to tell us that her husband had died on 22nd May 1984, after a gradual decline due to cardiac problems.

**James Miller** (1926 - 31) M.C. We recently learnt that James Miller had died in 1978.

**Robert Gready** (1943 - 51) died on 17th November 1984, after two years of ill health. The funeral service was held in Rendcomb church, with several OR representatives in the large congregation.

Flight Lieutenant **Edric Radford** (1973 - 78) We learnt with great sorrow of Edric's death in a flying accident on 5th January 1985. He had been in touch with the school only a few months before and was full of enthusiasm for his life in the RAF. He did his 'A' level studies at Cirencester School and then took up an RAF cadetship to be a pilot. He then spent three years at the University of Salford reading for an honours degree in aeronautical engineering, and followed this with a period at Cranwell. He was selected as one of six officers to complete flying training in the United States with the USAF. It was while he was training in a Talon jet that the crash occurred near Wichita Falls, Texas.

**Admiral Sir Richard Clayton**, who was chairman-elect of the college governors died in a motor-cycle accident on 15th September 1984. He retired as Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command in 1981 and became a college governor shortly after this. The funeral service was held at Batsford and the college choir led the singing. Admiral Clayton's death was a great loss to all who knew him. In a short time he had become well-known at the college and had shown a great interest in Rendcomb. He was godfather to **Charles Ekin** (1979 - 83).

**Kenneth Shephard** (1944 - 47) died suddenly on 12th March 1985. He was a senior film instructor for the BBC. Mrs. K.L. James writes:-

"On leaving Oxford, Ken had entered the BBC by the highly competitive graduate entry scheme and eventually became producer of 'Chronicle' programmes for BBC2. Probably the best known of these was 'Venice in Peril', which he produced in conjunction with John Julius, Lord Norwich. Although circumstances made his stay at Rendcomb a brief one, he always maintained that he owed his love of history and of the English countryside to his time here."

## School Sport

### CRICKET

1984 was another good season for the 1st XI. Although the side missed the outstanding players who left last summer, this gave the opportunity to boys in the fifth form to establish themselves in the team. They took their chance well, and success in future seasons will depend on the quick bowling of N. Paterson-Fox and N. Webb, the spin bowling of K. Elderfield and the batting of J. Healey. The senior members of the side again acquitted themselves with distinction. David Webb was a most able and thoughtful captain and also had a good season with the bat. The side can be pleased with most of their performances in 1984 and can look forward to next season with confidence.

Played 14; Won 4; Drew 7; Lost 3.

The 2nd XI played extremely sound cricket throughout the season, and their success was well deserved. Teamwork remained an essential ingredient for success, and each member of the side contributed to the summer's victories.

Played 8; Won 6; Drew 1; Lost 1.

At under 15 level there were only 13 boys who opted for cricket and a good team spirit developed, coaching being made easier. Only one game was lost and in the drawn matches, Rendcomb usually had the upper hand. Played 9; Won 3; Drew 5; Lost 1.

A large number of third formers played for the Under 14 team this year, and indeed the best results were achieved when the side was bolstered by some second formers. Julian Fellows captained the side with increasing authority and confidence, and his top score of 56, together with a brave 32 in his final game, gave much cause for optimism for the future.

Played 12; Won 6; Lost 6.

The under 13 side had an excellent season, losing only one of the seven matches played and producing some outstanding performances. The all-round ability of W. Sherwood, C. Bannister and J. Carter was capably backed up by the opening batsmen G. Hewston and G. Hughes, and indeed throughout the season almost all the team contributed in some way. As captain, William Sherwood not only played an outstanding part for the college side but was also chosen to captain the Gloucestershire Under 13 team. In his first match for the county he scored an undefeated 77.

### RUGBY

The fine weather and pitches that were perfect underfoot allowed us to complete a full programme of fixtures at all levels. The best records were achieved by the under 12s and under 14 B's who were unbeaten, and the under 13s who showed considerable talent. 'On paper' the 1st XV were not strong but their character and attitude as a team helped them achieve a pleasing record with such a strong fixture list. Some notable performances and victories were against Dauntsey's, King's, Glos. and Rednock, whilst Bloxham's big pack and large, fast backs beat us convincingly. The XV just lost to King Edward's, Bath who had "their best team for many years" and had thrashed several 'big sides'. The successes were based on teamwork rather than talented individuals, their strengths being in rucking, despite a small pack, and the short line-out which together helped gain considerable 1st and 2nd phase possession. The short line-out unfortunately could not be used in the O.R. match as our two jumpers, the Jenkins brothers, had to fly home early!

Mark L. Binder was captain of rugby this season with Blaise Jenkins as vice-captain, whilst Christopher Carpenter led the 2nd XV.

One significant event of the season was a rugby club dinner for all the senior players. This was held in the perfect setting of the Dulverton Hall, during the last week of term. The guests for the evening included the headmaster, Denis Price (i/c Rendcomb rucker for a few years), David Essenhigh (groundsman) and all rugby team coaches, while the guest speaker was Charles Hannaford, ex-England international no. 8 and now head of Park House. The excellent meal and atmosphere made the occasion most enjoyable and certainly a great success.



1st XV: Played 15; Won 6; Lost 9; Points for 122; Points against 176.

v. Dean Close School (A)	Lost 3-8
v. Rednock School (H)	Won 14-8
v. Kingswood School (A)	Lost 3-20
v. Prince Henry's School. Evesham (A)	Lost 13-20
v. Wycliffe College 2nd XV (A)	Won 9-3
v. King's School, Glos. (H)	Won 16-8
v. Dauntsey's School (H)	Won 17-4
v. Bloxham School (A)	Lost 0-32
v. Monkton Combe School (A)	Lost 13-22
v. Burford School (H)	Lost 4-9
v. Chosen Hill School (H)	cancelled
v. Kingham Hill School (A)	Won 6-3
v. Sir Thomas Rich's School (A)	Lost 0-13
v. King Edward's School, Bath (H)	Lost 6-8
v. Old Rendcombians (H)	Lost 4-18
'A' XV v. Cokethorpe School 1st XV (H)	Won 14-0

Team from:

Front row: M. Holland, D. Edwin, N. Badcott, D. Green, B. Hatcher

Locks: B. Jenkins, R. McIntyre, S. McIntyre

Back row: S. Jenkins, M. Newman, A. Trowern, A. Hall, J. Kinch, S. Kingscote, R. Moss

Scrum half: N. Webb, C. Carpenter

Fly-half: J. Healey

Three quarters: J. Awdry, D. Aylott, B. Branston, D. Brown, J. Butling, K. Elderfield, D. Wilson

Fullback: M. Binder

Rugby Staff:

1st XV:	M. J. Newby
2nd XV:	S. H. Johnson
3rd & 4th XV:	D. A. Hawkswell
U15 XV:	R. C. Hannaford
U14 'A' XV:	C.P.M. King / P. Sykes (the former was injured during season)
U14 'B' XV:	M. S. Griffiths
U13 XV:	C.C. Burden
U12 XV:	R. Kelsey

M.J. Newby

## HOCKEY

The first time out on grass for many of the teams was a match against Cheltenham College and this lack of practice was repeated throughout the season, the 1st XI losing only three matches through cancellation.

Everyone was so thankful that we had a sports hall when snow and ice covered the tennis courts and asphalt for day after day, and it was just as well that the first year had received coaching throughout the Christmas term. Despite the weather, the boys and girls enjoyed their hockey and when we were able to use 'top', the elements were not cruel except when we played Dean Close in a terrible hail storm causing the game to be abandoned five minutes before the end.

Once again we were fortunate to obtain the services of Trevor Clarke, deputy director of coaching, for a day. Much useful work was done, especially with goalkeepers.

The 1st XI did not develop as a team until later in the season and, with a tendency not to use the wings, the XI was outplayed in the second half of several matches. However, the backs were very steady and several players demonstrated considerable skill. The future looks very promising with five members staying on and the 2nd and 3rd XI's doing so well this season.

Overall: Played 59, Won 24, Lost 25, Drawn 10, Goals for 157, Against 117.

## 1st XV Results

v. Cheltenham College 2nd	Lost 0-2
v. King Edward's Bath	Lost 1-2
v. Marlborough 2nd	Lost 0-2
v. Cheltenham Wednesday	Lost 1-5
v. Colston's	Lost 0-2
v. Marling	Won 6-1
v. Dean Close	Drawn 0-0
v. Bloxham	Lost 0-2
v. Crypt	Won 3-0
v. O.R. society	Drawn 2-2
v. Kings Gloucester	Drawn 3-3

## GIRL'S SPORT SUMMARY

In the Christmas term, a very strong 1st VII netball team won seven matches out of eleven, and drew one with Cirencester Ladies, showing the high standard of play. The 2nd VII also did well, winning four out of six matches.

Many hockey matches in the Lent term were cancelled because of snow, although much enthusiastic at-home practice took place. With a team equally balanced between 6A and 6B, five matches were played - two wins, two losses, and one draw.

Squash continued very successfully through both terms. The team of five proved very strong, winning nine matches and losing only one to Marlborough College.

As we look forward to tennis in the summer term, the girls' sport this year will have been very busy, and notably successful.

Karen Alder.

## College Governors

Vice-Admiral Sir Louis Le Bailly retired in December 1984 after four years as chairman. At the same time Major Peter Birchall retired. He joined the governors in 1947 and was chairman for three years after the death of Col. J. Godman in 1978. Both have been made honorary members of the society. The new chairman is Mr. T.P.A. Norman.

The other governors are:-

K.D. Anderson	M.A. Fisher	J.F. McGill	Major M.T.N.H. Wills
C.C. Douglas-Home	P.N.H. Gibbs	A.R.R. Tenty (O.R.)	M.D.H. Wills
Prof. the Rev. G.R. Dunstan	Mrs. M. Hughes-Hallett	Lt. Col. Lord Wigram	Miss C. Wills
H.W.G. Elwes	M.D.C. Jenks	Sir David Wills	Rev. Canon R. Grey

## At Rendcomb

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

A.O.H. Quick	R.C. Hannaford	J.M. Astill
R. Ellis	S.R. Merrett	A.K. Bowley
D.A. Hawkswell	J.R. Alder	M.J. Miles

O.R.s who are interested in sending their sons or daughters to Rendcomb are asked to contact the headmaster's secretary.

## College News Bulletin

Landage (the area below the stable block) is being prepared as an area for athletics and junior sports. The Estate Garden, currently used for first form rugby and cricket is a relatively poor surface and will be available as a general recreation area.

Work has commenced on the new computer laboratory, which will be sited over the geography rooms in the stable block. This laboratory will enable computer studies to be taught more effectively and other disciplines will be able to take advantage of computer assisted learning programs.

The address on founder's day was given by Dame Diana Reader Harris DBE, B.A., F.C.P.

Concerts have included Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 5, Faure's Requiem. Schumann's Rhenish Symphony and Beethoven's 1st Piano Concerto (soloist: John Willson).

Simon Johnson directed a lively and entertaining production of 'Twelfth Night' in the Christmas term and, in March, a junior play entitled 'When Adam Delved', concerning the peasants' revolt of 1381.

The Michael Wills Memorial Lecture was given by G.E. Penny, MBE, F.Inst.P. who talked about 'Listening to Satellites'.

The Arts Society welcomed David Vaisey who spoke about 'Saving the Heritage: some treasures of the Bodleian library'.

This year's school expedition visits Leningrad and Moscow under the supervision of Simon Johnson and Charles Hannaford, while geography and biology field courses have become annual events.

### **Staff Common Room News**

Bob Roberts retired in December 1984 after teaching brass and woodwind instruments at Rendcomb for thirty-three years. Paul Edwards (1981 - ) will be leaving in July 1985 to take up a post at Harrow School. More recent O.R.s have appreciated his expertise at teaching history and also as a cricket coach, and will want to wish him every success in his new appointment.

In July Kaye Knapp will be giving up the housemastership of the junior house which he has run for the past nineteen years. Of the developments in the sixties, probably the most important was the creation of the junior house at the old rectory for the eleven and twelve year olds, allowing them to settle in at Rendcomb away from the rather daunting atmosphere of the main building. The success of this venture has been due to Kaye Knapp's remarkable skill at dealing with this age group, to his understanding of the problems of the early days at a boarding school and to his special blend of firm discipline and tolerance. O.R.s will recall with gratitude the help given to them in their early years by Kaye and Margaret Knapp who will be moving to Conigre House in July, when Mr. and Mrs. C.J. Wood take over the junior house.

### **Old Rendcombian News**

**David Shield** (1966 - 73) spent two years trying to make a living as a professional musician and then joined BBC television as a sound engineer in 1979. He is based mainly at the White City Studios but has had occasional spells of outside broadcasts and has spent some time at the Engineering Training Centre near Evesham. During his time working at Shepherd's Bush he has seen a number of London-based O.R.s. He married Jenny Taylor, sister of **Ian, Duncan** and **Kennedy** at Aldsworth on 7th May 1983. **Michael Findlay** was his best man and Jenny's brothers were ushers. He is still playing rugby and also keeps in practice with the guitar and piano. He has recently enrolled in an Open University course.

**Christopher Hart** (1970 - 77) joined Knight, Frank and Rutley at their office in Stratford-upon-Avon in July 1984 after qualifying at the Royal Agricultural College.

**W.S. Morgan** (1921 - 27) visited the college last summer with some Canadian friends. He has been in Colonial Service, finally as chairman of the Public Service Commission in Mauritius, and has been awarded the C.M.G.

**Rev. W.K.A. Hussey** (Chaplain 1974 - 78) is now vicar of Gorran, on the south Cornish coast near Mevagissey.

**Martin Ashe-Jones** (1957 - 64) wrote as follows in October 1984: "I have lived an extraordinary and in many ways fascinating life. After Oxford I got a job in Finland, and then a university post there. I returned to Oxford to do a B. Litt. thesis. Then I went to Saudia Arabia for a year, teaching at the civil service college. Following this, I went to the Australian National University, Canberra, worked briefly in Spain at a British Council office and then decided to settle down in England. I took up librarianship, starting in Surrey University and took a diploma at Aberystwyth, followed by a post as audio-visual librarian at King's Lynn. A year and a half later I became college librarian at Bilston, Wolverhampton." He is now involved in adult literacy work.

**Peter Little** (1960 - 67) is still working at the commercial office at Harwell and has recently been promoted to principal scientific officer. He and his wife Helen have two daughters aged two and a half years and one year. He has also qualified as an antenatal teacher for the National Childbirth Trust - being only the second man to do so in the UK! He explains that his post is in administrative business management in the marketing and sales

department. He left biology behind some years ago, not without thoughts of eventually returning to it. His responsibilities cover mainly engineering sciences and energy conservation technology - "a far cry from dog-fish dissections in the Stable Block on Friday afternoons under Chris Swaine's excellent tuition!"

**Mark Webb** (1972 - 79) joined a firm of agricultural auctioneers and valuers on leaving Rendcomb and then did a course in rural estate management at the Royal Agricultural College before joining the agricultural development and advisory service of the Ministry of Agriculture in 1983 as a graduate surveyor.

**Henry Peterson** (1963 - 68) made a surprise visit to the college in April 1984. He is a chief executive with the Hammersmith and Putney Borough District Council.

**David Barlow** (staff 1983 -) has joined the staff of Forest School, Epping.

**Nigel Powell** (1967 -74) regretted that he was unable to attend last year's reunion. He says: "The truth about computers is that they never know when to behave themselves. Software support has become my occupation, firstly with I.C.L., and over the last two years with Tandem. I am finding that the grounding in woodwork that Mr. Burden was largely responsible for is coming in useful now as I have acquired a lathe. Time permitting, I hope that wood-turning will provide a welcome relief from the pressures of the computer world."

**Derek Tanner** (1978 - 81) has completed A levels in French and economics and has an HND travel and tourism course for 1984. During the summer he had a job in Switzerland as a barman before going to Bournemouth in September for higher education.

**John Gough** (1949 - 55) is still doing research in the paper industry for Wiggins, 26 years after leaving Downing College, Cambridge.

**Duncan White** (1976 - 81) is working in sales for Ashcroft Electronics and is now the system manager for the Ashcroft Group.

**Mary Alexander** (1979 - 81) has left Cambridge and is at King's College, London, studying anatomy and biochemistry before going on to clinical medicine.

**Nigel Taylor** (1971 - 78) has been appointed to a permanent RAF commission in the GD/Pilot branch.

**Philip Evans** (1972 - 79) gained 1st class honours in chemistry at Oxford and has now returned to begin work for a D. Phil. He spent some of the summer touring Greece, including Athens and Olympia, and was continuing his 'classical tour' by visiting Rome when he unfortunately had to curtail his holiday after having his wallet and camera taken.

**Ian Read** (1969 - 76) joined Rendel, Palmer and Tritton, consulting civil engineers as a trainee in their London office after graduating from Durham. He spent two years in the design office working on several large projects including a major Libyan oil harbour. For the second part of his training he moved to a construction site, and worked on the Thames Barrier Project. He became a chartered civil engineer in 1983, being the second youngest to do so in that session. He returned to the London office to take over a small flood relief scheme from **Trevor Liddle** (1962 - 69) who was about to return to Manila for a water supply project - he has since left the firm, been married and is living in the Philippines. Ian married a medical researcher at Hammersmith Hospital in June 1983. **Peter Walton** was best man. His wife Julia's second cousin is **James Cairns Terry** (1972 - 77) who is now working for a building society in Gloucester. Ian is now on a one year master of business administration degree in finance at the City University.

**Richard Dunwoody** (1975 - 81) has appeared in various sports programmes on television and radio during the year. He was the subject of a recent article in the Sunday Express supplement which said: "He is intelligent - unusually for a jockey, he collected 10 O-levels before leaving his Gloucestershire school - and it is this, with his determination, horsemanship and what his current boss, trainer Tim Forster, calls 'the necessary devilment', that has brought him so many admirers." Former champion jump jockey Terry Biddlecombe commented: "Richard's got brains, good hands and horses run and jump for him. He also rides with a nice length of leg. A possible champion in the making." (With due acknowledgements to the Sunday Express) He was joint favourite for the Grand National, and was going well until Beecher's Brook thwarted his horse on the second time round.

**Richard Bandy** (1979 - 84) is working as a trainee manager for Sainsbury's in their Putney and Fulham branches.

**Rebecca Rosengard** (1978 - 80) wrote recently: "I have just joined the Big Wheel Theatre Company. We are a new company, based in Oxford, and we combine racy new adaptations of Dickens and Zola with projects aimed specifically at schools. The theatre workshops that we have done so far have been on Shakespeare. Last week we presented 'Government in Shakespeare', based mainly on 'Julius Ceasar'. We take certain scenes from the play and 'rehearse' them or perform them to stimulate discussion, combining this with readings of source material or relevant Renaissance texts. Since leaving Brasenose last summer, I have been to India - spending three months sitting on the hard benches of trains as we crawled round that huge country. It was quite an experience to see so many centuries jumbled together in the cities, and to see real poverty in the rural areas. We were in Calcutta when Mrs. Gandhi was assassinated but luckily were not caught up in any riots."

**David Marshall** (1972 - 79) is with Stroud District Council as a senior housing assistant.

**Mark Raven** (1974 - 79) is working for his father's haulage company at Kempsford and will take over the company next year when his father retires.

**Patrick Lorenzen** (1973 - 80) was one of four finalists in the 'Tractor Operator 84' competition. Selected from 1,700 entrants, the four finalists had to demonstrate their skill on an unfamiliar tractor with implements which none of them were used to using. After a three-year degree course at the National College of Agricultural Engineering, he has worked on a farm near Cirencester, and is now with Ford.

**Simon Howell** (1972 - 79) writes: "It is some five years since I graduated from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University, with a degree in African history. After graduating, I needed a further qualification before I could apply for voluntary work in the third world. So I did a P.G.C.E. at Bath University and am now a qualified history teacher and able to try my hand at art, humanities, sociology and even RE. I am now teaching English in a Sudanese secondary school. After teaching practice in a British comprehensive, it was a strange experience to be pitched into a classroom with 70 students. It takes some time to adjust to the mud floor, the fact that there are never enough books to go half way round, and that the boys have to share chairs and desks. Dongola is a dusty little town on the banks of the Nile. There's not much to commend it to the casual visitor, except the ruins of a Napatan temple, some way off in the desert. The stretch of the Nile is really very fascinating with pre-historic rock paintings, Napatan and Meroitic Pyramids and temples, Roman forts, remnants of the Christian era and the all-pervading Islamic culture. My only contact with the outside world is the weekly visit by the old colonial steamer, which brings the mail and news from Khartoum. I occasionally hear Chris Terrill's voice on the BBC news broadcasts to Africa. I guess that the civil war in the south has prevented him from making his planned ethnographic films on Sudan, but I was fortunate enough to catch the documentary he produced on the flight of the Eritrean refugees in Kassala Province. I'm keeping myself busy in my free time doing a little independent research towards an M.Phil. on labour migration in the Sudan."

**Ian Bishop** (1978 - 83) is in his second year at Birmingham University where he is reading dentistry. He passed his first BDS with honours and also won the pre-clinical scholarship in dental sciences (biochemistry, anatomy, physiology and oral pathology). He has now started clinical training, working a 9 - 5 day in the city dental hospital. He hopes to have his first patient in March, after a course involving work on 'phantoms' - artificial heads with real and plastic teeth. He has also managed to play plenty of sport, including hockey for the university 3rd XI and cricket for the 1st XI.

**Fiona Jane Wilson** (1979 - 81) was married to Andrew Barr on 7th July 1984, in St. Peter's Church, Rendcomb, **Callum Dick** was best man.

**P.A. Cutts** (1934 - 42) is vice-chairman of Cotswold District Council.

**David Brennan** (1972 - 77) is on the staff of Eastbourne College teaching physics.

**Tim Lausch** (1970 - 77) is an area sales manager for Rank Xerox in Avon.

**Christine Marsack** (1972 - 74) wrote in March from Australia:-  
"The Royal Flying Doctor Service is my present employer, and provides me with an extremely interesting, varied and very hot and dusty job. I did my general nursing and midwifery in England, then wandered

Australia getting plenty of diverse experience both in cities and in the outback. Last year I completed a year's critical care course (intensive care, coronary care and the like) and I now have no problem getting employment with the RFDS - an aim of mine for several years. So here I am, in Port Hedland, Western Australia, 2,000 km north of Perth. The RFDS serves the whole of the Australian outback, each state running its own section. The Western Australia section consists of five bases; ours covers the vast northern areas of the state - you can fly for hours without even seeing any sign of civilization in some parts. I'm one of three nurses working for Port Hedland's RFDS. Our job consists of transferring patients from small towns or stations in the bush hundreds of miles away back to Port Hedland, or taking more serious cases from Port Hedland to Perth (a 4 1/2 hour trip one way). A doctor accompanies us only if the patient is critically ill; so most of the trips are done on our own. Luckily we're well endowed with the latest medical equipment and we carry all sorts of life-support and monitoring machines - like a mini ICU at times. One day we might carry a 1 1/2 lb premature baby on a respirator; the next it might be a car accident victim with severe head injuries and multiple fractures. There is a lot of mundane routine work too! The RFDS radio base receives all the emergency calls, hospital calls and coordinates and monitors all our flights (all in a small twin-engine aircraft - Piper Navajos and Cessna 421's). Stations (vast sheep farms) are extremely isolated and their only means of communication is the radio. Even their children are educated at home to secondary level by the 'School of the Air' - lessons being broadcast over the Flying Doctor Service radio. Illnesses and accidents on stations (and a few small towns without a doctor) are treated by advice over the radio for minor problems and ariel evacuation for more serious ones. Each station has a RFDS medical chest containing drugs, pills and potions. The doctor in Port Hedland can advise the station people which is the most appropriate drug for their problem - all over the radio, of course, which means no privacy as everyone else is tuned in too! Apart from the horrific heat (up to 115 degrees F. in the shade) and humidity in summer, I'm loving the job and the life here."

**Martin Butlin** (1940 - 47) who is Keeper of British Watercolours in the Tate Gallery, has been made a Fellow of the British Academy. Also he has been awarded a D.Litt. by London University, as the result of an assessment of his 'William Blake Catalogue'.

**David Vaisey** (1945 - 54) has been in N. America, S. Africa and Los Angeles since the summer of 1984. His recently published 'Diary of Thomas Turner, an 18th Century Tradesman', has had many complimentary reviews.

**Robert Edy** (1959 - 68) has been acting as deputy head of Witney Comprehensive school. His wife has just had a second daughter, Charlotte.

**Hugh Greenhalf** (1947 - 53) has successfully completed his B.Ed. course at St. Paul's Cheltenham and has been employed as a part-time teacher at Gloucester prison, where he found the work very interesting. He records the death at 91 of Miss Ethel Bather who was matron in college in the early post-war years, and who has been held in affectionate remembrance by all that knew her.

**Dick Field** (1924 - 31) has recently published an account of his childhood in Bibury, called 'Up and Down'.

**Nicholas Wapshott** (1963 - 70) is working for The Observer. He has had an interview with Peggy Ashcroft recorded recently, on the front page of that paper.

**John Sumsion** (1942 - 47) has become Registrar of Public Lending Rights. A survey printed in The Times, for which he was responsible, shows that romantic fiction is the choice of most readers from public libraries.

### **For Sale**

Old Rendcombian ties: O.R. ties, in Oxford blue and 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) at 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.

## News of Recent Leavers

Charles Acocks	Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester 1986
John Adams	Leicester Polytechnic, law
Gaye Adamson	Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester 1986
Michael Airey	Sussex University, physics & micro-computing
Daniel Appleton	
Simon Badcott	Swindon Technical College
Anthony Bailey	St. Andrew's University, modern languages
Simon Barrow	
Richard Bendy	Management trainee, J. Sainsbury
Toby Brealy	In Australia
Susannah Brown	Smith University, Massachusetts
Charles Carroll	Leicester Polytechnic, engineering
Clare Draper	Newcastle Polytechnic, bilingual secretarial degree
Jocelyn Goldie	
Doré Green	Pembroke College, Oxford, chemistry 1985
Nicholas Green	Imperial College, London, mechanical engineering
Jacquelyn Greenwood	Chelsea College, pharmacy 1985
Caroline Grieves	Bristol University, history 1985
Matthew Hadley	
Richard Hayward	
James Hutton-Potts	Newcastle Polytechnic, social administration
David John	
Benjamin Knapp	King's College, London, history 1985
Adrian Lewers	Southampton University, naval architecture
Matthew Lynton	
Christopher Mansfield	Leeds University, economics 1985
Anthony Maslin	
Anthony Maton	Exeter College, Oxford, history 1985
Jane Merrett	Exeter College, Oxford, history 1985
Andrew Mills	Technical research, Castrol, B. Tech.
Richard Newman	Trainee manager, Gardiner's, Cirencester
Clare Parfitt	Durham University, geography 1985
Philip Paterson-Fox	In Australia
Alexander Paton	Farming
Andrew Payne	Interior decorating in London
Jessica Richards	Royal Holloway College, French and German
Andrew Rontree	Leeds University, German and music 1985
Juliet Rutherford	Witwatersrand University, geology
Stephen Simkin	St. Andrew's University, English and philosophy
Alison Smith	Trinity College, Oxford, law
Lyndall Squire	Brasenose College, Oxford, biochemistry
Gareth Thomas	Royal Free Hospital, medicine 1985
Alison Twyman	University of the West Indies, accountancy
Michael Uglow	St. George's Hospital, medicine
Angus Waddell	City University, electrical engineering
Robert Wakeham	Working for an insurance firm in Swindon
Christopher Walton	Newcastle Polytechnic, business studies and languages
Kerstin Waterloh	
David Webb	Pembroke College, Oxford, English
Anthea White	
Alison Young	Leeds University, international history
Jonathan Suffolk	
Kristian Benning	Wootton Bassett Comprehensive
Richard Brown	Farming
Paul Grainger	Cheltenham Technical College
Richard Palmer	Continuing A level studies
Richard Pitt	Horse training
John Taylor	Cheltenham Technical College