

THE RENDCOMB MAGAZINE

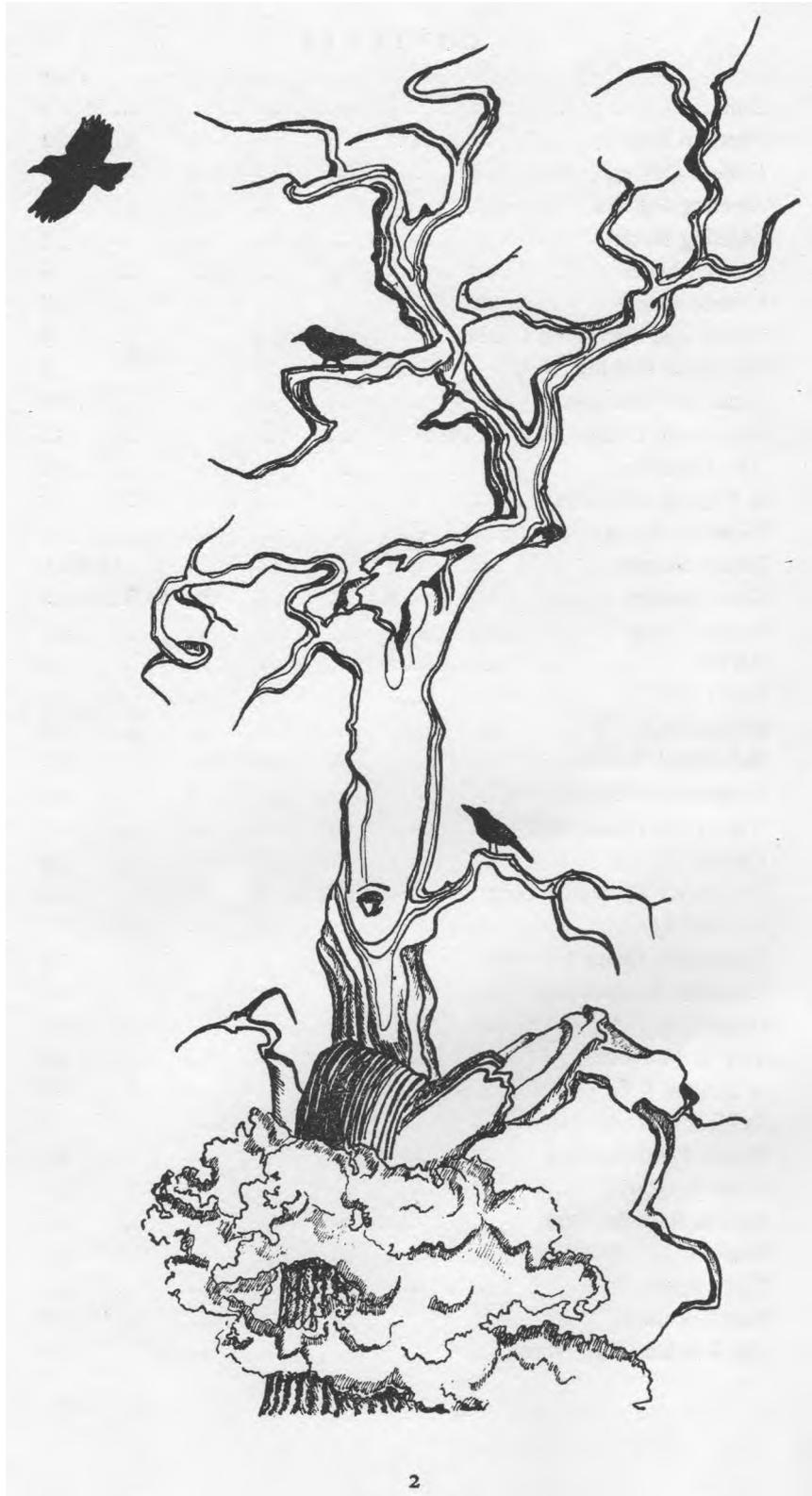


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EDITORIAL

THE animals in the jungle fell into distinct groupings, each with their own specific demands of the mother.

The smaller creatures were the noisiest, busying through lives of constant tension, caught up in a vicious circle of survival which was the only thing to give life a meaning. Everything was insular and nothing existed beyond the clear-cut needs of the community. The ants were holding a general election, embittered at the failure of a recent foray into termite country. Phrases such as “democracy, ” “the balance of powers” and “British Constitution” flew in the air but the ants had no idea what they meant and were merely paying lip service to the humming-birds who were sponsoring them whole banana leaves in an attempt to bring peace. Meanwhile the soldier ants were planning how to disguise their next coup d’etat. A military society was necessary to resist the ever-present armadillos—the ants were natural.

The rabbits, however, were anything but natural—they shouldn’t have been in the jungle at all. Two rabbits, now defied by their progeny, had been forced to evacuate their homeland by a combination of hostile neighbours and myxomatosis. Their miraculous survival formed the basis of the rabbits’ strict religion. However, such religion was often used by them as an excuse to remember their own great deeds. Only recently they had launched a brilliantly-conceived attack on neighbouring uplands occupied by a group of jackals. The leader of this successful engagement, Golan, had the Heights named after him in his honour.

Honour was a decoration to the shallow lives of small animals: a noble, imposing plant usually ground in dry earth with weak, twisted roots. Honour soon died, and many animals like the chimpanzees, bound to the increasing demands of a family, had no time for its cultivation. Only the larger animals could afford to spend time away from the ratrace: a

panther lay on a branch sun-bathing, watching the chimpanzees with a jaundiced eye. “Marching through contentment towards salvation, ” he was saying to himself, sick with envy, lost in the morass of true self-pity which only comes to those who have nothing to fear: no mortgages, predators or wives. His pre-eminence denied the consolation of religion and he was drawn from morbid apathy only by the need to seduce or kill.

Noah saw all this as he walked through the jungle, and he despaired. He was looking for true happiness divorced from jealousy and brilliance (which were the same thing). He had stumbled through the tangle of honour, hate and animal responsibility, which littered the jungle floor, until he came upon a sloth hanging perfectly still from the branch of a tree. Noah was intrigued at this creature away from the jungle floor, gazing at the sky. “What are you doing?” he said.

“Waiting for heaven, ” replied the sloth, still looking up.

“You seem pretty sure you’re going to get there. ”

“Sure, ” said the sloth, “take a look on your right. ”

Noah looked and saw a pile of skulls, with the skin drying on them. One of them mouthed, “Heaven is a place where nothing, nothing ever happens. ”

“It’s a miracle, ” gasped Noah.

“Merely Talking Heads, ” said the sloth complacently, “Similar to Ezekiel’s dry bones in the Old Testament. I’ve read the Bible a lot and I find I’ve got religion on my side; it’s a nice feeling, really. ”

“No, you’re wrong, ” said Noah, having recovered from his shock, “by escaping sin you’ve escaped everything. You are nothing. The only difference you make to the jungle is by killing a few insects; Eden went out with nudity. ”

“You yourself have seen all the animals’ attempts to change the jungle and they have

disgusted you; that is the only reason why who are here. But you are too clever to accept ignorance; go back, it's too late to do anything but harm. You'll be needing a psychiatrist soon."

And so Noah was walking through the jungle and everything he saw confirmed the sloth's view, against which he still rebelled. "I cannot praise a fugitive and cloistered virtue", he kept on saying to himself—but why should a search for personal salvation be regarded as cowardly? There was nothing left to fight for, civil rights for sloths had been achieved ten years ago. Why should the sloth be condemned because he wasn't nailed to his tree? But Noah had waded through the tangle of honour, hate and human responsibility and they had left their mark on him—he went to see his psychiatrist.

Night had fallen on the jungle and a soft, menacing noise rose with the sporadic night breezes—the ants were saying their prayers before battle.



SOME NEWS IN BRIEF

MANY visits have been made over these two terms to different theatres. Many thanks are due to those members of staff who have arranged these as they have been both enjoyable and useful.

Othello was seen by most of the Sixth Form at Stratford as there were two parties taken to it. Although reactions were mixed it was generally agreed to be a very worthwhile experience to see one of the great tragedies not being studied for A level.

The Fifth Form and some of 6A visited a production of Julius Caesar and great enthusiasm was expressed for this, especially by many of the Fifth Form for whom this was the first visit to Stratford.

The R. A. T. S visited a powerful and enjoyable production of Cymbeline which they had read a few days before.

The final visit to Stratford was to a version of the Tempest by the Ballet Rambert. It was given the wholehearted approval of the whole party, and agreed to shed a useful light on one of the A level texts of both 6A and 6B.

King Lear was seen by a large Sixth Form party in a short provincial run at the Oxford Playhouse.

La Fille Mai Gardee was seen at Covent Garden at the end of the Lent term by most of the Sixth Form. This was given everybody's thorough approval, and many thanks are due to Mrs. Holdaway for arranging the visit.

There have been several extremely interesting recitals given over the last two terms and, although the audiences were not always as large as one would have hoped, those who did attend were most enthusiastic.

In the Christmas term Rebecca Rosengard, Rebecca Norman and Jeremy French gave a recital of piano solos and duets culminating in a well conceived performance of Beethoven's "Moonlight" Sonata by Jeremy French.

During the Lent term, three recitals were given. Mr. P. J. H. Steam sang songs by

Purcell, Schubert and Flanders and Swann, all of which were well received. Mr. Steam found his trip to Rendcomb a very busy one, also giving a recital to Mr. Rhodes' Nineteenth Century Studies group on the previous day, singing a completely different programme.

An enjoyable evening was also spent by those people who attended the concert given by the *New Decade Wind Ensemble*, led by Rendcomb's brass teacher, Mr. I. Head. The programme included pieces from the renaissance period to the present day.

On Sunday 2nd March, Mr. J. W. R. Willson gave a piano recital comprising works by Mozart, Schumann, Debussy and Brahms. Mr. Willson presented a most atmospheric performance of Debussy's *La Cathédrale Engloutie* and handled the technical problems of the Brahms' first Rhapsody with considerable control. It was gratifying to see this recital so well attended.

Over these two terms there have been several varied talks and lectures by outside speakers and members of staff. The Right Reverend Oliver Allison, formerly Bishop of the Sudan gave an interesting, though controversial talk on "Thirty-five years in the Sudan." Mr.

C. F. F. Terrill gave an informal Sixth Form talk on "Why go to University". His advice seemed to be that one should not be persuaded either way, and not be pushed into a hurried decision. Early in the Lent term Dr. D. E. Packham, lecturer in Material Sciences at the University of Bath, gave an informative talk, with practical demonstrations, on "The Versatility of Plastics." Later in the term there was a talk by Mr. David Vaizey (ex-head boy of Rendcomb), Keeper of the Western Manuscripts at the Bodleian library. He explained briefly the history of the library and his work in it. A hint that an outing to see the library might be possible was greeted with enthusiasm.

We are most grateful to Mr. W. J. D. White, for the very generous gift to the library of the complete "New Cambridge Modern History" and "Oxford History of England."

This year we welcome Mr. A. Potts as Head of Biology in the place of Mr. C. M. Swaine who retired at the end of last Summer Term.

Our congratulations to The Rev. and Mrs. Heales on the birth of their baby, Claire; Mr. and Mrs. Wood on the birth of Phillipa, and to Mr. and Mrs. Newby on the birth of Sarah.

COLLEGE OFFICERS

Winter Term, 1979

Senior Prefect: R. I. C. Tudor

Prefects: E. C. Comrie; J. E. Ingleton-Beer; J. E. Allen; A. M. Grainger; B. J. Hatchwell; R. C. Pitt; M. A. Twinning; J. M. Twyman.

Public Workman: S. K. J. Trezise

Church Ushers: J. H. W. Quick; J. M. Twyman; K. J. Hobbs; S. E. Home; M. F. Lewers.

Librarians: N. D. Miles; W. J. Peplow; E. P. Mackintosh; J. M. Taylor; G. M. Ashe; A. C. C. Tong; A. C. Schreiber; J. P. Trigger.

Magazine Editors: M. J. Curtis-Hayward; J. M. Taylor.

Rugby Captain: B. J. Hatchwell

Rugby Secretary: T. H. Horton

Spring Term, 1980

Senior Perfect: R. I. C. Tudor

Prefects: E. C. Comrie; J. E. Ingleton-Beer; J. E. Allen; A. M. Grainger; B. J. Hatchwell; R. C. Pitt;
M. A. Twinning; J. M. Twyman; J. H. W. Quick; E. P. Mackintosh.

Public Workman: S. K. J. Trezise.

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A. C. Schreiber; J. P. Trigger.

Magazine Editors: M. J. Curtis-Hayward; J. M. Taylor; E. A. W. Foy.

Hockey Captain: M. A. Twinning.

Hockey Secretary: J. H. W. Quick.

MEETING OFFICERS

Chairman: Mark Wilcox

Secretary: Charles Schreiber

Meeting Banker: P. Lorenzen

Boys' Banker: R. Hazell

Council: D. Ind; K. Nunan; M. Wilcox

M.A.C.: D. Ind; B. Hatchwell; M. Twyman; C. Cannon

P.L.O.: K. Nunan; J. Bull; R. Pitt; D. Gassor; J. Henniker-Gotley

Entertainments Committee: J. Quick; M. Twinning; R. Tudor; D. Webb; P. Stroud; A. Martyn-
Smith; J. Bowerman

Food Committee: S. Horne; M. Twyman; W. Wilkinson; D. Rollo; J. George; S. Badcott

Paperman: C. Hutton-Potts

Assistant Boys' Banker: O. Medill

Broom Warden: P. Needham

Breakages Man: C. Stratton

Nominations Committee: D. Ind; K. Nunan; J. Quick; S. Horne; M. Wilcox

Dance Committee: D. Ind; M. Roberts; L. Lomax; M. Wilcox

Snooker Committee: C. Brealy; R. Smith; N. Blencowe

Film Committee: J. Henniker-Gotley; T. Paton

MEETING NOTES

Winter Term, 1979

MEMBERS of 6U decided at the beginning of the term that since it was no longer compulsory for them to attend meetings, they would not do so for the remainder of the term.

Easy chairs have been installed in the Amp room and despite the loss of 3 singles from here and the Sixth Form Common Room, the Meeting decided to continue buying one record per week for each.

The persistent problem of breakage have again been a burden on the Meeting's financial resources. An excessive quantity of crockery and cutlery has been unaccountably lost this term and although a certain amount was returned, very little of this term's surplus will remain once the bill is paid, despite the levy of 1 op a head to be made at the beginning of next term.

After a certain amount of confusion over Sunday papers, the supplier has been changed and, hopefully, the full complement of papers will arrive on time every week in future.

6U suggested to the Meeting that they make a collection for Charity from the school; this was proposed by a Meeting member and passed unanimously. The collection was taken in the last week of term and £10 was raised, with which toys were bought from Oxfam and taken to the Salvation Army in Oxford.

This term has been very quiet as far as the Meeting is concerned. A revitalization is needed, this can only be achieved by more people taking part in discussions, particularly lower sixth members.

B. H.

Spring Term, 1979

LAST term's unreported dining hall losses were valued at the unacceptable total of £119 of which the Meeting is to pay one third. It was decided that a 10p levy should be collected from the school to help pay for this.

It was decided that the Sixth Form Common Room should have the Financial Times, the Guardian and the Listener in addition to the existing papers.

The Socialist Worker Party newspaper has been stopped as it was not satisfactory, but a new left wing newspaper "Socialist Challenge" has been ordered in its place.

The Dance Committee Allowance was raised to £30 in an attempt to keep ticket prices in line with inflation.

Both snooker tables are badly in need of re-clothing, hopefully, this will be done next term with school money raised from the sale of a painting, with a generous fraction being paid by the Meeting from the surplus.

It has been a quiet term due to the rather apathetic attitude towards the Meeting held by many of the Sixth Form.

F. M. W.



CHURCH NOTES

THE rising cost of heating oil was one of the factors which persuaded us that it might be a good idea to transfer the Junior Service from its evening time to the morning, after the Senior Service, during the winter months. The new arrangement came into existence after the half term break last autumn. This was very much an experiment, not knowing what affects the changed time might have on the routine of the junior forms. After some initial apprehension, therefore, the advantages of the new time were quickly realised, especially on cold, wet days! It is likely, therefore, that this arrangement will become a permanent feature of our Sunday worship from November through to the end of the Lent Term.

The first guest preacher of the Christmas Term, who came for our Harvest Thanksgiving Service, was the Rt Rev. Oliver Allison, a former bishop of the Sudan. His intimate knowledge of that part of the world and its people made him a very welcome speaker in a number of periods on the Saturday morning, having decided to stay with us over the week-end. An old friend of the College, Canon R. Hill, preached at our Remembrance Sunday Services. As usual the Autumn Term was brought to an appropriate close with the Carol Service in Cirencester Parish Church. The impressive singing of the choir and the well read Lessons, provided by Christopher Walton; Russell Copley; Rebecca Rosengard; Richard Tudor; Jon Portch and the Headmaster, made a fitting finale to the term.

On Saturday, 8th March the annual Confirmation Service took place. Although this year things were rather different because the number of candidates, (thirty in all), and the number of guests who wanted to come along, proved too many to be accommodated at one service. So it was decided to hold two services that morning, an arrangement which the Bishop of Gloucester, the Rt Rev. John Yates, very kindly agreed to. Those Confirmed were:

D. Scarlett; P. Spackman; J. Goode; A. Bailey; T. Brealy; N. Green; A. Maslin; R. Newman; A. Payne; S. Simkin; D. Webb; S. Westcott; M. Archer; I. Bishop; J. Bowerman; C. Dewar; N. Stewart; D. Stewart; K. Taylor; E. Wilcox; R. Bray; J. Brain; A. Hockin; A. Jennings; J. Pettitt; F. Wilson and M. Twyman.

J. H.

CHURCH MUSIC

Autumn 1979

16th September		
Lead Me Lord.....		<i>Wesley</i>
23rd September		
Ascribe Unto The Lord..		<i>Travers</i>
30th September		
Now Thank We All Our God..		<i>Bach</i>
14th October		
O How Amiable		<i>Vaughan Williams</i>
21st October		
Lord For Thy Tender Mercies' Sake		
..		<i>Farrant</i>
nth November		
O Pray For The Peace of Jerusalem		<i>Blow</i>
18th November		
How Dear Are Thy Counsels		<i>Crotch</i>
2nd December		
People Look East..		<i>Advent Carol</i>
9th December		
In God's Word..	<i>Purcell</i>
16th December (Carol Service)		
Sussex Carol	arr.	<i>Vaughan Williams</i>
Gabriel's Message..	arr.	<i>Willcocks</i>
A Virgin Most Pure..	arr.	<i>Wood</i>
A Great And Mighty Wonder		
		arr. <i>Praetorius</i>
In Dulci Jubilo	arr.	<i>Gesius and Bach</i>

Spring 1980

20th January	Landate Nomen Domini	..	<i>Tye</i>
3rd February	The Heavens Are Telling	..	<i>Haydn</i>
10th February	O For The Wings Of A Dove	<i>Mendelssohn</i>
20th February (Ash Wednesday)	Ave Verum Corpus..		<i>Mozart</i>
2nd March	Sicut Cervus Desiderat..		<i>Palestrina</i>
16th March	Turn Thy Face From My Sins	<i>Attwood</i>
23rd March	O Vos Omnes		<i>Palestrina</i>
	O Man Thy Grievous Sin Bemoan		<i>Bach</i>

CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

Sunday, 18th November, 1979

Symphony No. 8 in B minor	<i>Franz Schubert</i>
Three Spiritual Songs	<i>John Willson</i>
The Hundredth Psalm	<i>Ralph Vaughan Williams</i>

At the Autumn Music were brought together both the College Choral Society in numbers and over forty instrumentalists of the College Orchestra, and to these latter was given the task of opening with the poignant "Unfinished" Symphony of Schubert, a work fully rehearsed and delicately rendered. The cellos were aware of their important line and the violins took their entries like a touch of Spring. If at times the double basses were out of pitch, the winds repaid with careful, gentle entries and smooth diminuendos. The rolls of the tymps were good but the sticks could have been softer.

In all, however, the mood of the Symphony was amply able to carry over and prepare for

the next work, Three Spiritual Songs by John Willson, settings of poems by Spenser and Herbert, which we had enjoyed so much some seven years earlier in a complete performance of The Cantata of The Resurrection. In this central work one felt that Andrew Potts, the soloist, would have been happier with less power from the brass, but even so the quality of the performance was sufficient to reveal to us that feeling of an English countryside that surely must have come through to the composer as he wrote this work which showed so much in common with Vaughan Williams in its idiom.

It was in Vaughan Williams' Hundredth Psalm that the large choir is to be commended both in their sharp attack and in their change of dynamics to bring the evening to a glowing close.

E. S.

CHRISTMAS PUDDING, '79

FOLLOWING the success of last year's *Christmas Past and Present*, a large group of sixth-formers, augmented by Jonathan Morris and Anthony Bailey and directed by Mr. Terrill and Mr. Rhodes, staged Christmas Pudding '79. As with last year's entertainment, festive spirit was the keynote, this being raised greatly by the presence of hot punch and mince pies. Guests seated around candle-lit tables completed the attractive scene.

In addition to Christmas Carols, this year to the accompaniment of a small brass ensemble, the choir, to the great amusement of the audience, also performed a 'Christmas Pudding Recipe—Psalm', after which the singers were beseeched for copies of the recipe! A highlight of the evening was the Victorian Melodrama featuring a very stylish performance by Jonathan Morris.

The organisers must by now feel that this popular Christmas entertainment has established itself as a regular event amongst the Rendcomb Christmas celebrations.

M. J. N.

ACADEMIC SUCCESSES

THE following passes were gained by members of the College at G. C. E. Advanced level in 1979:

E. M. Adams—English
 J. C. Archer—Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry
 D. C. Beanland—Mathematics; Physics*; Chemistry*
 S. M. Brennan—Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry
 M. J. Cannon—Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry
 A. S. Carter—English (M); History*; German*
 S. M. Culverwell—Biology
 R. A. Edwards—Mathematics; Physics*; Chemistry*
 S. C. M. Elliott—Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry
 P. L. Evans—Mathematics*; Physics*(M); Chemistry (D)
 C. A. Franklin—English*; History; Economics and Public Affairs
 o. G. Glanville—English; History
 N. I. M. Hall—English; History; French
 P. A. Hooley—English; History; Economics and Public Affairs
 S. J. Howell—History*(M); Economics and Public Affairs; Art
 A. S. E. Hummel—English; French
 S. E. Hussey—English; History
 K. L. Knight—History; French (D); German
 D. R. J. Marshall—History (M); Economics and Public Affairs (M)
 J. D. Marson—Biology
 H. M. Packwood—Physics
 J. S. Portch—English*(M); Economics and Public Affairs; Mathematics
 V. L. Powell—English; History; Economics and Public Affairs
 S. J. Ratcliffe—English; History
 M. H. Raven—French; German
 K. E. Roberts—History
 I. T. Smalley—Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry
 J. R. Steed—History; French; German
 D. Taylor—English*; History; Economics and Public Affairs
 M. A. R. Webb—Economics and Public Affairs; German
 V. I. Weeks—English
 H. J. A. Wilson—French (D)
 K. P. Winmill—English; History
 P. J. Young—English; French; Biology

KEY

* = A grade

(M) = Merit in Special Paper

(D) = Distinction in Special Paper

Ordinary Level Passes

G. M. Ashe—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; French; German; Mathematics; Chemistry; Geography
 N. M. Blencowe—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; Physics; French; German; Mathematics; Chemistry

C. T. Brealy—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 S. J. Briffett—Classics in Translation; British Government
 M. T. Burchell—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 T. J. Burkham—English Lang.; English Lit.; German; French; Geography; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry
 C. D. Cannon—English Lang.; English Lit.; Mathematics; History; Physics
 T. D. S. Clarke—Geography
 R. Collins—English Lang.; English Lit.; Geography; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 E. C. Comrie—Classics in Translation
 M. J. Curtis-Hayward—Classics in Translation; British Government
 M. J. Dibble—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 C. A. J. Dick—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Geography; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology; French
 T. Evans—English Lang.; English Lit.; German; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 J. C. French—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 R. A. Funnell—Classics in Translation
 D. J. M. Gassor—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 A. C. Graham-Munro—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 A. M. Grainger—Classics in Translation
 A. J. Harris—English Lit.; History; Geography; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 B. J. Hatchwell—Classics in Translation
 R. G. Hazell—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 J. D. Henniker-Gotley—English Lang.; English Lit.; Latin; French; Mathematics; Chemistry; History
 K. J. Hobbs—Classics in Translation; British Government
 T. H. Horton—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Geography; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 D. P. A. Ind—Classics in Translation
 J. E. Ingleton-Ber—Classics in Translation
 A. R. Jacques—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Geography; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
 A. D. Jennings—English Lang.; Geography; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology; History

A. P. Johnston—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Geography; French; Mathematics; Chemistry; Biology

A. Johnston — English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology

S. P. W. Lorenzen—Classics in Translation

I. M. W. McCulloch—English Lang.; History; Geography; French; Mathematics; Physics; Biology; English Lit.

E. P. Mackintosh—Mathematics; British Government

A. D. Martyn-Smith—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; Mathematics; French

N. D. Mites—Classics in Translation

G. C. Morgan—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Geography; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology

K. N. G. Nunon—Classics in Translation

S. T. Paris—English Lit.; Latin; Mathematics

T. M. Paton—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Geography; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology

A. R. Pitt—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Geography; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology

R. C. Pitt—Classics in Translation

J. H. W. Quick—Classics in Translation; British Government; Mathematics

M. I. Roberts—Classics in Translation

R. E. Rosengard—Classics in Translation

R. I. Shacklock—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics

A. H. M. Simmins—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Geography; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology

R. J. Smith—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; German; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry

I. H. P. Stewart—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; French; Mathematics

J. M. Taylor—Classics in Translation; Art

R. I. C. Tudor—Classics in Translation

J. M. Tywman—Classics in Translation

P. M. Uglow—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology

H. C. K. Waddell—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology

J. L. Watson—French

R. E. M. Webb—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; French; German; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Latin

A. S. White—English Lang.; Geography; French; German; Mathematics; Physics

D. R. White—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; German; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry

S. C. Whittard—Classics in Translation

F. M. Wilcox—Classics in Translation

S. W. Wilkinson—English Lang.; History; Geography

J. D. Wilson—English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Geography; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology

W. R. Woof—English Lang.; History; Geography; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology; French

THE following passed O level Woodwork:

J. C. Bull—Woodwork
 T. F. Etherington—Woodwork
 B. J. Hatchwell—Woodwork
 D. P. A. Ind—Woodwork
 M. F. Lewers—Woodwork
 S. P. W. Lorenzen—Woodwork
 K. N. G. Nunon—Woodwork
 N. S. J. Price—Woodwork
 M. A. Twinning—Woodwork
 S. C. Whittard—Woodwork
 F. M. Wilcox—Woodwork
 J. W. Lewis—Music

OXFORD and CAMBRIDGE successes, 1979

Cambridge

Andrew Carter—Downing

Oxford

Roy Edwards—Exeter
 Phillip Evans—Pembroke
 Duncan Taylor—Balliol
 Josie Taylor—Christ Church

RENDCOMB COLLEGE AWARDS, 1980

Noel Wills Scholarship

Mark Walters—Offa's Mead School

Gloucestershire Foundation Scholarships

Thomas Burns—Rosary School
 Robert Draper—St. Lawrence's C. E. Primary School
 Matthew Houseman—Coates C. E. School
 Philip Moore—Nailsworth C. E. Primary School
 Matthew Reid—Bishops Cleeve County Junior School

Rendcomb Foundationers

Dominic Clarke—Tewkesbury C. E. Primary School
 Christopher Moody—Stratton C. E. Primary School

Girls' Scholarship

Catherine King—Bath High School

THE CRUCIBLE

ARTHUR MILLER'S sombre, profound drama was written at a time when he himself was being accused of Communism by the hysterical policy of victimisation instigated by Senator MacCarthy in the 1950s. It reflects on the fundamental weaknesses of American society where fear or frustration can magnify a ridiculous issue into terrifying proportions. Once a witchhunt has started logic and reason seem disregarded and even the girls who started making accusations in order to hide their own minor misdemeanours from the puritanical, bigoted community, can no longer halt the consequences of their own pretence. As Danforth says to Mary Warren when she confesses her previous dissemblance: "You cannot lightly say you lied, Mary," the grip of theocracy is too strong.

Reverend Parris typifies the community, its petty jealousies and repressed bad nature. He is a weak man hiding behind the cover of respectability and when this is shattered he is exposed as a pathetic, uncertain creature in comparison with the real heartfelt agony of John Procter. It is hard to act through delicate changes of attitude when the character precludes the general sympathy or interest of the audience but Mike Curtis-Hayward managed well with a difficult part.

John Procter is the central character of the drama, a man of considerable integrity, tarnished by a brief love affair with Abigail Williams, Parris's niece, who becomes the leader in the girls' denunciations, hoping to achieve the death of Elizabeth, Procter's wife. Abigail possesses an awesome reserve of hatred and evil and seems comparable only with Iago as a calculating villain; she acts as the tinder to Salem's brooding discontent and her deceit and menace were brought to life by Jo Hobb's performance. The other girls (Sue Sherwood, Fiona Wilson and Patricia Cam) followed her through a complex scene of controlled hysteria which was well maintained by all the actors especially Mercy Warren (Sally Horne) against

whom the girls' venom is directed. She was alive with nervous energy, torn between fear and a sense of justice, attacked by the cold probings of the judges and her final collapse was totally convincing.

Reverend Hale is another person in whom circumstances force a change; but unlike Parris he has no selfish considerations and is the mistaken "do-gooder" from outside who eventually sees through the society's artifice. Tim Burkham gave a passionate performance and must be given special credit for learning his part at such short notice after Rich Pitt had been forced to drop out through illness. He made an interesting contrast with the two judges who preside over the final two acts: Judge Hathorne (Tim Daniels) is a narrow minded, embittered lawyer and was aggressively portrayed. Deputy-Governor Danforth (Chris Brealy), however, is a much more sympathetic character, caught in a legal predicament which he goes to great lengths to explain. He gained some of the audience's sympathy and respect by his impressive bearing, but ultimately he lacks true courage or perception.

All the character's of Miller's drama have their own idiosyncrasies or flaws and these were very naturally portrayed. Elizabeth's stiff primness was illustrated in the second act by Fiona Jane Wilson; Rebecca Nurse's (Claire Comrie) fussy superiority came across well; and the humour and obstinacy of Francis Nurse (Adam Martyn-Smith) and Giles Corey (Charles Schreiber) did much to lighten the oppressive beginning. However, these initial details become lost by their characters' noble stand against oppression and hypocrisy which is most closely followed in Procter's personal conflict. Andrew Grainger's performance was initially brusque and assertive but as his wife becomes threatened his true qualities are revealed and he achieved a tragic proportions. His agonised questioning of human problems engrossed the whole audience and surely no line has carried more dramatic power than his "What is John Proctor?"

The other inhabitants of Salem's small community were convincingly played. Thomas Putnam (Nick Miles) was the avaricious leading farmer who seems to have lost all humanity with the death of all his sons. His wife lives in fear of him, and Jane Ingleton-Beer was very good as the nervous, frightened woman. Ezekiel Cheever (Richard Needham) was a character of comic stupidity but the humour turns black when, astonished at his new-found importance as clerk of the court, he begins denouncing all and sundry. Tituba (Louise Lomax), Parris's slave provides bizarre humour in the first act when she desperately defends herself from Hale's and Parris's accusations of witchcraft. With rolling eyes and outstretched hands she manages to produce the only confession that will save her by following the ministers' unconscious prompting. She is similarly extravagant with Sarah Good (played amusingly by Michaela Roberts), calling on the devil as if to give weight to their confessions which have saved their skins.

The set was very small but constructed well, the interior of Procter's house with several realistic props was especially convincing. Lighting details such as the changing sunlight reflected through the side window was excellently handled and the costumes grounded the play firmly in 17th century New England. The make-up department worked inventively and to good effect.

Mr. Dyke said that he had pressed the cast harder than in any previous production, but the person he pressed most was himself, over the play's general direction and smaller details such as coping with the small stage, ensuring the actors did not mask each other etc. He was rewarded by his most effective production to date. Some people could have been disturbed by the continued climaxes of the play bordering on hysteria but to most it was the most successful play seen at Rendcomb for a long time.

R. R.

A FESTIVAL OF DRAMA

The Junior Plays for 1980

MOST of the members of the first four years participated in a programme devised, for the most part, by the director and the participants: sources ranged from Michael Green's "The Art of Coarse Acting" to Shakespeare who managed to get his name mentioned as an influence for three of the plays—lucky fellow!

The First Form acted out a creation mime to the music of the Moody Blues, illustrating how strange it would be if Dr. Erich Daniken's theory of evolution was actually right. G. Veale showed impressive authority as God (always a hard part to play!) and everybody executed their intricate movements with considerable enthusiasm; they were especially good at being apes.

The Second Form play was called "Not-anativity, Moreamortality, " (the second word presumably being open to two interpretations), but despite this it proved to be a coherent, provocative updating of the nativity play. The question whether Meg's baby had "come from heaven" as her mother states ironically or from the school disco is left curiously open. The effect of this doubt is to enlarge the play's scope to cover the social problems faced by the young, impoverished mother and her fiance, Jo, who accepts Meg's apparent infidelity out of his love for her, unaided by divine help. The two central characters were sensitively portrayed by J. Suffolk and B. Almond. The rest of the cast represented the reaction of the various levels of society to the young couple, from Meg's querulous but kindly mother to the rich councillors proving the old "camel-through-the-eye-of-a-needle" theory. If we were in danger of missing the point, J. Morris as a choric tramp vigorously directed our consciences in the right direction. It was a thoughtful production, brightened by some comic character parts which were very well done.

The next play was a straight melodrama updating "The Merchant of Venice" into the

world of debs and the heavy bodyguard who was very amusingly played by T. Brealy. Shylock was exuberantly portrayed by D. Appleton and seemed a far pleasanter character than the haughty Venetians. Any play which seeks to condense Shakespeare into about quarter of an hour is going to be a slightly rushed affair but the actors' enjoyment was conveyed to the audience. Mention must be made of Jessica who was sporting a gorgeous purple wig—were they really that trendy in the 1920's?

"Better the Devil you know" was a grim satire on the self-destructing power intrigues of many of the Latin American countries. It was seen as a cycle, beginning with a new dictator accepting office and, after several conspiracies and bloody murders, ending with a different man becoming dictator and advancing the same oppressive policies as the first. As a result, personalities tended to be submerged by the greed for power. Thus, after a group of generals have murdered a group of "reds," the need for money forces them to adopt the same policies as their predecessors. It was a very difficult play to perform but the actors conveyed the issues very convincingly and details, such as the exploitation of radio and television by the propagandists, were faithfully recorded.

The last play afforded great scope for a wide variety of comic acting, contrasting the activities of the pretentious semi-professional actors with those of the coarse "actors." A meeting of the "shamateurs" was dominated by an almost incomprehensible discussion between the director, looking pretty controversial in tight red trousers, and the leading actor about Henry V's sexual repression governing his actions. Sexual repression was the least of Henry's worries in the coarse actors' production as he struggled manfully to deliver a soliloquy against the deafening noise of a chaotic battle which was being fought behind him—Morecambe and Wise couldn't have done better.

It has been impossible to mention all the people who made the production a success,

thanks are due to Mr. Burden, Mr. Thorne and Mr. Wood and their customary assistants in preparing the stage. But it was essentially communal performance and the continued singling-out of certain people would be irrelevant. Sufficient to say that the plays revealed a great deal of potential exploited by Mr. Dyke who received so much applause at the end that any addition on my part would be merely bad taste.

M. C. H.

DEBATING SOCIETY

DURING the past two terms, a wide range of subjects have been discussed, and noticeably in the Lent term it seemed that the standard of Rendcomb Debating began to rise. Although the Christmas term saw two "mass appeal" debates, both of which were lively and well-attended, it was decided in the Lent term to tackle more serious topics.

Duncan Taylor figured prominently in the first term's debates. Whilst Charles Waddell and Julian Wilson tried to convince us that smoking is good for our health—corze i'iz! — Duncan Taylor swayed the house to defeat the motion with an independent appeal against smoking. In the next debate, despite Mr. Taylor's energetic farewell to the Rendcomb Debating floor, his proposal that "Today's Youth Needs More Discipline," was defeated. Dom Ind, slouching in 'illegal' garb opposed the motion, and Mike Curtis-Hayward sharply replied, stressing the need for the self-discipline which would prevent anyone rashly forming a Dom Ind Society, merely to upset the old order. However, after these 'displays', Jeremy Trigger won everyone's admiration with his short, lucid argument.

One of the most memorable debates in the Lent term proposed that "Britain Should Send a Team to the Moscow Olympics." Mr. Hawkswell proposed the motion saying that a boycott was merely a "pathetic political bleat." His opponent, Mr. Terrill, saw the Games as

the best way of bloodlessly showing our disapproval of Russian policy and the plight of the Afghans. In response to this, Andy Fisher took up the plight of the athletes, whom he felt might have to sacrifice a life's work for politics which did not concern them. The final speaker against the motion, was Josie Taylor, who warned strongly against the Russian desire to advertise communism world-wide. Members from all forms then participated in the debate from the floor, and Mr. Rhodes seemed particularly anxious about Mr. Terrills suggestion of putting the Games in "cold storage".... The motion was defeated.

The subject of abortion was also discussed. Mr. Potts, proposing the motion that "Abortion is an Evil Thing, " opened with a desperate attempt to gain male support by posing as "the bastion of logical, coherent reasoning. " He seemed to forget however, that he thus classed his seconder, Fiona J. Wilson as an "unprincipled female arguer! " The Matron and Deborah Lee opposed the motion, the first making a strong case for the mother, whom Mr. Potts seemed to ignore. Mr. Dyke then advised the audience to abstain, and as both sides had argued so persuasively, it was no surprise that, although the motion was defeated, abstentions prevailed.

The Debating Society would like to thank all speakers including Julian Bull and Darren Peace who talked at the informal discussion on "Ghosts and the Supernatural. "

J. M. T.

JUNIOR DEBATES

THE motion for the year's first Junior Debate, held on nth November, was *This House believes that Examinations are a waste of time and ought to be abolished.*

PROPOSITION:

Philip Crowther
Ben Uglow

OPPOSITION:

Doré Green
Jonathan Morris

Philip Crowther opened the speeches with some good reasons for abolishing examinations.

He said that many people get nervous, and therefore don't do well in the exam room. He also said that Summer is the wrong time, because (a) it is too hot and (b) everyone is concentrating on England's cricketing welfare. He also said that there will soon be no skilled labour, and computers will do all the work.

Doré Green continued the debate with a speech for the opposition. He started by saying that examinations were not a waste of time, as "nothing was a waste of time. " He said that an exam system was a way of judging someone's skill and abilities, so that the masters knew what things the boy was good at, and what he was weaker at. He said that exams were also needed to judge someone for a particular job and they also make people revise and learn the work. He finished by saying that if examinations were a waste of time, they would have been abolished years ago.

Ben Uglow, in seconding the motion, emphasized some of Philip Crowther's points, and also added that if someone becomes nervous over examinations, and because of this does not do well in them, their whole careers could be ruined for them.

Jonathan Morris seconded the opposition, and pointed out that if there were no examinations, there would be nothing to work for, and therefore people would not bother to learn their work. He also mentioned the fact that dustmen require two 'O' levels!

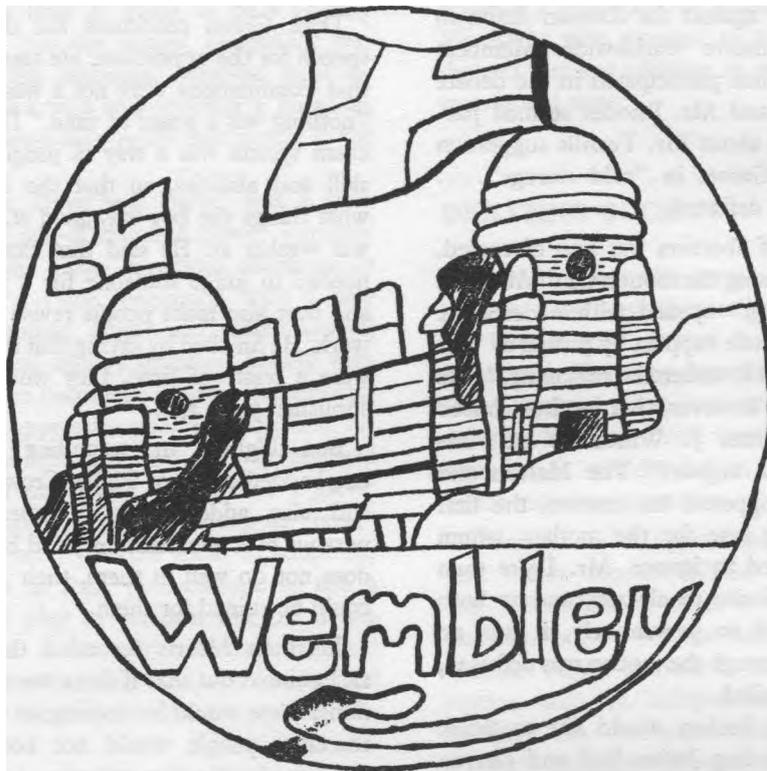
Those who spoke from the floor were: Simon Badcott, Christopher Mansfield, Gareth Thomas, David John, Nicholas Green, Simon Barrow, Andrew Rontree, Clive Fletcher, David Harber, Anthony Maton, Andrew Payne, Robert Prynne, Robert Wakeham and Darren Denby.

Votes were taken after the summarising speeches as follows:

FOR: 6 AGAINST: 29 ABSTENTIONS: 4

S. J. S.

Continued on page 21



Contributions

HOSPITAL VISITS

Richard Evans (Form V)

THE first of my many visits involved with the hospital during that fateful week last December was at four p. m. on the Monday afternoon. I had just broken my nose and Matron drove me to the hospital where I proceeded to wait for the next twenty minutes before being summoned to a poky little office occupied by a burly-looking head sister.

"Name, date of birth, religion, allergies, fill in on this form please!"

After doing this I was told that I could not be classed as an emergency case and, therefore, would not be admitted immediately. However, if I could return at nine o'clock the following morning they would get a second opinion.

I was amazed; I hadn't been in there for more than a minute before I was dismissed as a "minor patient."

My second visit, on the Tuesday morning, was in stark contrast; before I had a chance to explain my situation I was rushed into one small office after another, filling in the date of birth and religion information as I went, and finally allotted a bed in the children's ward ready for an operation that afternoon!

It was, by that time, nine-thirty and I was expected back at Rendcomb on the ten o'clock bus in time for third period! I managed to sort out this slight break in communications with one of the ward nurses before settling back to survey my new surroundings.

There were only five other patients. Three of these left within an hour of my arrival, the other two patients were a small boy with an ear-infection and a small girl aged about six about to go through the ordeal of having her tonsils removed. I grew to dread the visits of their parents as each departure was accompanied by two to three hours of continual sobbing and screaming!

My only visitors were an incessant stream of doctors, each with their very own special title,

and each of whom did nothing except stick a thermometer in my mouth and record my pulse rate.

My first 'escape' from my bed was in the form of a visit to the X-ray theatre, though if I had been told that it was a guided tour of Cirencester, I would not have argued. I was bundled into a wheelchair (for a broken nose!), wrapped up in a mass of blankets, wheeled out of the main hospital and across the car park, halted at the main road until the little green man showed on the other side, wheeled across the road amid much angry horn-blowing from impatient motorists, and finally wheeled up a short incline into the X-ray theatre. Three minutes and two X-rays later the same process began again but this time in reverse...!

After the operation I had expected to get a long night's sleep followed by a leisurely breakfast in bed. Instead I was woken up every half an hour during the night so that my temperature and pulse could be carefully monitored and in the morning was ordered to have a bath and get dressed immediately.

The most comical visit of the whole episode occurred at about six a. m. on the morning after the operation. Apparently each patient must see that he can still urinate properly after any operation and so, after my twentieth or so temperature check, I was told by the nurse to go to the lavatory at the far end of the corridor. I was still somewhat dozy from the anaesthetic but, despite all odds, managed to stagger my way along the corridor and enter the lavatory. As it was still early in the morning I looked for the light switch and, seeing a cord hanging down beside the door, automatically pulled upon it. Instead of turning on the light I had set off the alarm system and it was not long before hordes of nurses came sprinting down the corridor to see what crisis had befallen me!

LIFE ON EARTH

James Quick

LIONEL had just choked over his last tea-leaf and was settling down to the “Beano” when an unwanted frown stole round the door.

“Darling, there’s a gorilla in the airing cupboard.”

“Gosh, how nice, I’ve always had a soft spot for our great forefathers,” said Lionel historically.

“Dari...”

“I never realised you knew, dear, how very sweet of you.”

“Please remove it, Lionel, it’s sitting on my bra and your underpants, and...”

“Well, John the Baptist managed in the wilderness in camel hair, so I don’t really see that a bit of the old monkey hair’s going to do us any harm.”

“I do, and besides it smells and it’s got a horrible pink bottom. Please get rid of it, dear, or I think I might die.”

“Oh righteo,” crackled Lionel, “go and drink your tea, try not to die, and I’ll go and ask the old fellow to remove himself.”

Lionel tiptoed to the door, buzzed over to the airing cupboard and opened the door.

“Gosh,” he blinked.

“Grunt,” said the Gorilla.

It was sitting on Martha’s bra and Lionel’s underpants, it did smell (but so did Martha) and its bottom was awfully pink.

“Hello, old chap,” forwarded Lionel.

“Grunt,” groaned the gorilla. Lionel tried again.

“Look, old fellow, I know it’s a bit off but...”

“Grunt, grunt,” smiled the gorilla and ate Martha’s suspenders.

“But it’s the wife. She doesn’t like you sitting on her bra and I hate to think what she’s say to about her suspenders.”

“Grunt,” complained the gorilla and was sick.

Lionel rang the zoo-keeper.

“There’s a gorilla in my linen cupboard, and he’s been sick.”

“Oh, great, I’ll zap round and get him,” rejoiced the zoo keeper.

“The zoo-keeper’s coming,” observed Lionel to the gorilla.

“Grunt?” questioned the gorilla and grabbed a stocking.

The zoo-keeper arrived and hauled the gorilla out of the front door.

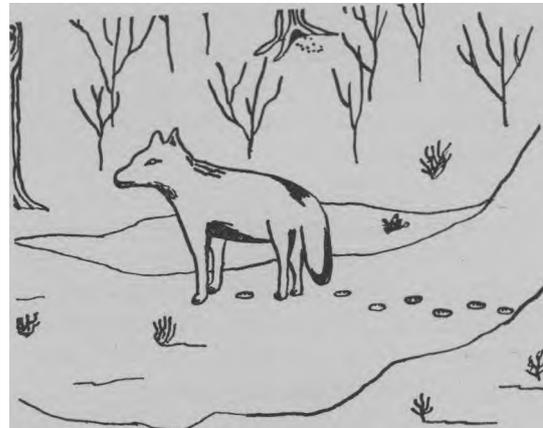
“Goodbye,” said Lionel.

“Grunt,” wished the gorilla.

“Martha, the gorilla’s gone.”

“Grunt,” said Martha, alive.

Lionel folded into the chair and wondered if Denis the Menace had had a gorilla in his airing-cupboard.



ANGER

Michaela Roberts

I CAN feel it creeping in and upwards from my toes—I don’t want it but still it comes—piteously taking control of my hands, my heart, my mind. Hands that want to kill, heart that wants to hate, mind that’s mindless and which shatters into a million fragments like leaves hurled in a whirlwind. Yet I cannot escape.

Only when I look at a soft sunset or watch the swallows swirling in the wind do I subside. And I have not killed, I have not hated. I feel only the dull ache of a mind that’s torn by anger, and a heart that’s pained with passion.

THE STORY OF JONATHAN MOLEHILL

David Denby (Form V)

JONATHAN MOLEHILL was a small retiring sort of fellow: he had a large nose which stopped his silver-rimmed glasses from slipping off, and short, dark brown hair of the type that everyone else seems to have. He worked as a junior business assistant at the Wellerton Imperial Bootlace Factory, and was twenty-five years of age.

Jonathan had just moved into a small semi-detached house in Springmere Terrace on the new "Newer Mansions" housing estate. He bought "The Times" everyday and frequently watched "B. B. C. 2," he had a small saloon car and three nice suits, a radio, a broly, and a problem.

All his life Jonathan had lived with his mother at 21A Station Road, Wellerton, but she had tragically passed on just before "Songs of Praise." Jonathan, being a particularly efficient fellow, rushed her to the hospital in his small red saloon car where she was pronounced dead on arrival. Jonathan was absolutely shattered—it seemed as though his whole life had gone from under him, and that week the In-tray at the office was considerably fuller than the Out-tray; he was even late once, which had never happened before. There had not been many at Mrs. Molehill's funeral—only Jonathan and Mrs. Sandford, the next-door neighbour. Jonathan had eventually decided to sell the house and buy the comfortable little residence he now owned, and, according to his diary, it wasn't until the 15th April that Jonathan really realised his true feelings. It was about midday and he had completed the decoration, then it struck him, as Tommy Lea had done at school (very hard), that he was all alone, alone in the world; absolutely and totally alone. The only people he knew were Mrs. Sandford, who now lived with a truck driver from Norwich, and the people at the office (whom he did not particularly like).

He decided, then, to go for a walk, and is now very glad that he did so. He sat musing to himself on the park bench and feeling pretty awful—he seemed so lost—engulfed in his own solitude, and loneliness can be an absolutely devastating feeling. In fact he was so engrossed in his own miseries that he did not notice Fiona Coddle, from the typing pool, for at least five minutes, and even when he did he was too shy to talk to her. Eventually she leaned across the bench and said, "Hello, you're from Bootlaces as well, aren't you?" in a giggly voice that was barely audible.

"Yes," replied Jonathan peevishly, turning a deep crimson and nearly slipping off the bench with amazement (no-one had ever spoken to him first before, and, as he hardly ever spoke anyway, he was not a master of the art of conversation and consequently, this length of conversation surprised him).

Fiona, a desperately shy girl herself, in search of a new line to buck up the conversation a bit, extended her full bag of Walkers Cheese and Onion crisps towards him, and, eager to accept this token of friendship from his new found friend, Jonathan stretched out to take one.

Just at that moment Billy Westlake (aged nine and-a-half) scored Liverpool's seventeenth goal that afternoon in the epic two-and-a-half hour marathon with Derby County (Sammy, Billy's brother, aged six). The ball sailed towards Jonathan, catching him on the elbow. It was enough to send crisps flying everywhere. Frantic to save an endangered friendship, Jonathan jumped off the bench and began feverishly to pick up the spilled crisps, apologising as he did so. When he looked up, Fiona, who had been trying to stop herself, burst into laughter. Jonathan was taken back at first, but laughter, being contagious in the extreme, even managed to get a grip on the solemn Jonathan. The ice broken, Jonathan and Fiona managed, better than either had ever done in their lives before, to have a reasonably fluent conversation. They met every day after work and Jonathan

began to realise that Fiona had been as lonely as him prior to their meeting. Now they were alone together which was much more enjoyable.

Eighteen months later, in the little Church of the Sacred Hearts, Jonathan Godfrey Molehill married Fiona Mary Coddle in a small but pleasant service. Jonathan is now managing director of "Bootlaces" and, although still not renowned for his loquacious nature, is considerably more open than before. They still live in that small suburban semi-detached house Jonathan owned on the corner of Springmere Terrace opposite the street lamp. And they are still troubled by the second generation of stray cats at night that used to worry Jonathan and his mother back at Station Road; and finally, I must report that their family has been augmented by the arrival of Eric Henry Molehill, a son to Fiona and Jonathan.

ONE SUNDAY

Richard Tudor

It was the sort of day when nothing would go right. The sort of day I put a large line through in my diary. Having suffered the slings and arrows of outrageous contemporaries during the morning, I was in no fit state to eat lunch, let alone play squash afterwards. I remember expressing extreme irritation at one of my team-mates, who insisted:

"Still, you've got to laugh, haven't you?"

Then, suddenly, I was there, on the squash court, playing as nimbly as a baby elephant with an ingrowing toenail. And then it suddenly became obvious how futile it was. Shutting myself in a large, white-painted room with a small, hot, deceptively hard piece of black rubber and a lean, fit, agile, nauseating opponent, who seemed sickeningly keen, and ruthlessly adept at hitting the ball into obscure parts of the court.

After the first game (which seemed to have lasted seconds rather than minutes), I fell out of the court, my energy totally spent. The large

black marks all around the frame of my racket were the proof of my incompetence.

Thirty minutes later it was all over, and I was free to go and scowl at the scaldingly white tiles under the shower. Not only did I have the depressing presentiment that I had lost the match for us, but also the grim knowledge that we would not get back to school in time to watch the rugby on television. Why did I not hang myself there and then on the shower head, I asked myself. Was it the enticing prospect of three hours of German essays which deterred me? The exquisite mental image of the tea I was going back to? Or was it just the frightening picture of what would appear in the school magazine? "R. Tudor (deceased) played a poor game. He did take the right decision afterwards, however, and took the gentleman's way out."

Whatever the reason, I was put off the final solution, and lived to fight another day.

KENYAN INCANDESCENCE

Joan Hecktermann

Olive green acacia punctuate
The starched tufts of remaining grass.
A brilliant red line
Cracked with crevasses caked dry,
Winds lazily behind a hill
And then disappears.
Little irregular blue triangles
Studded with similarly red sandstone rocks,
Or boulders balanced precariously on the lips,
Rise slowly from the arid landscape.
There is no movement,
Only the shimmering haze
Made by the dazzling heat.
No animals venture out.
Standing in the cool blue shadow
The only movement's the occasional swipe of
a tail
At a heat-inebriated fly.

In a Junior Balloon Debate, held on 2nd December, William the Conqueror, alias Simon Badcott, was the first to speak. He illustrated his invasion of England with football—either to produce a humorous effect, and so gain more votes, or to soften the blow of recounting the grim story of overrunning our country. He ended by concluding that he had invented the first Yellow Pages (the Doomsday Book) and bringing civilised football into England.

Magnus Pyke, depicted by Andrew Mills, explained his habit of flailing his arms like a windmill as memories of his younger days when he was a policeman directing traffic at spaghetti junction. He said that William was a squashed frog, that Hitler should be shot, and that Citizen Smith should be placed in a lunatic asylum. What he would do with Charles Babbage, I hate to think.

Andrew Rontree followed, expressing his views as Adolf Hitler. He began by recounting his wonderful rise to power, and went on to show how much he had done for Germany. It differed in the way that it was a more serious speech than the previous funny ones, and this is probably why it didn't do as well as it should have done in the voting at the end.

Next came Charles Babbage, alias Michael Uglow, who explained what his invention, the computer, had done for everyone, explaining that it was useful for all ages, and could be utilised in many different ways. He told us that it was available as a plaything on which children could have games, that it was used in businesses, in weather forecasting, and recording, etc. He commented on Hitler and William in a very aggressive manner; he said that they only wanted to gain more land and more power for themselves.

Citizen Smith, of television fame, was the last in line. David Webb depicted this character, and launched into an account of how he would change the world, and make everyone equal (although he added that he and his friends would be more equal than everyone else). His speech gave the overall impression of a power-crazed communist.

When the speakers had finished, the case was thrown open to the House, and these are among the people who spoke from the floor:

Nicholas Green, Anthony Maton, Benedict Uglow, Charles Carroll, Gareth Thomas, Christopher Walton, Simon Westcott, Christopher Mansfield, David John, Clive Fletcher, Anthony Bailey, Jonathan Morris, Philip Paterson-Fox, Robert Prynne, and Doré Green.

When the speakers had summed up their cases, a vote was taken, and these were the results (It must be noted that there was some controversy over the counting of votes in the cases of Citizen Smith and William the Conqueror):

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR:	15
CITIZEN SMITH:	14
CHARLES BABBAGE:	6
ADOLF HITLER:	5
MAGNUS PYKE:	3

S. J. S

The Junior Debate in the Spring Term was on the motion that "This House believes that Britain should participate in the Moscow Olympics." The debate was poorly attended, due to rehearsals for the concert and the Junior Play. Despite this, however, it was a most enjoyable event, and the standard of the speeches was, as usual, very high.

The debate was opened by Simon Badcott, who stated that Britain would greatly reduce the risk of war if she were to send teams to Russia, as a diplomatic measure, as well as for its advantage as a sporting event. David Webb provided him with a powerful opposition, and argued that an Olympic boycott would serve as a warning to Russian authorities, who were infamous for "bully-boy" politics against both the Russians and other nations. Afghanistan was strongly implied.

Andrew Payne spoke next, observing that a great tradition might be irreparably damaged if Britain were to refrain from attending the Moscow Olympics this summer. The main

speeches were then rounded off by Alex Paton, who convincingly backed up the argument set forward by David Webb.

The debate was then thrown open to the floor, who were rather sheepish about speaking out to the House. However, Michael Airey, Simon Barrow and Clive Fletcher all made valuable contributions to the proceedings. After the summing-up, the vote was taken and the motion passed by 10 votes to 5, with 5 abstentions.

I would like to thank Mr. Holt, for organising and chairing these debates, and all others who help to make them such a success.

A. C. R.

POETRY GROUP

THE Poetry Group is an offshoot of the Literary Society but instead of discussing dead poets it has become customary to read one's own poems, often explaining the reasons and emotions behind their composition. We have also experimented with "automatic writing," though whether Yeats would have approved of the results is dubious. This sounds like a terrifying ordeal but, on the contrary, has proved relaxing and informative, producing both amusement and serious discussion. Most of the credit must go to Mr. Dyke for his continued hospitality, enthusiasm, and habit of boosting everyone's confidence by reading one of his poems first!

M. C. -H.

R. A. Ts.

THE Rendcombian Armchair Thespians have now increased in numbers, after auditions at the beginning of the year. However, not all members may be cast in a play as some of the performances are far too humble for the more illustrious Rats!

George Bernard Shaw's "You Never Can Tell" was followed by Shakespeare's "Cym-

beline," which was complemented by an outing to Stratford in which Judi Dench portrayed an ageing though vivacious Imogen.

Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" was read as a successful means of relaxation and recuperation after the mock 'A' levels. The play's atmosphere was stamped even more firmly on the evening by the kind provision of cucumber sandwiches and tea from the expert chef Mr. Terrill, to whom all the Rats are indebted for his unflinching energy and enthusiasm.

E. C. C.

FOLK CLUB

THE last two terms have seen almost everyone in the sixth form take coinage in both hands and perform something at the Folk Club; both veterans of last year and the newcomers of this demonstrating their ability in originality. A special mention is due to Louise Lomax, who for our amusement, kept a straight face and suffered water, flour, mud and leaves to be poured over her by some obviously gleeful girl members of 6A. However, this was an exception to the usual programme, which has been characterised by music of a wide variety. Our thanks to Mr. Dyke for his encouragement and providing us with some musical entertainment at each meeting.

E. P. M.

BRIDGE CLUB

There has been a continuing interest in Bridge this year and the Sunday meetings of the Club have been generally well supported by an enthusiastic group of players.

A match against Westonbirt School was unfortunately cancelled at the last moment, but it is hoped that it may be possible to arrange some competitive Bridge next season.

W. J. D. W.

BELLRINGING NOTES

THE ringing this term has gone very well and is now forging into previously untrod ground as far as the difficulty of the methods is concerned. I am pleased to say that we now have four full members of the Cirencester branch of the Association among our ranks, and because of this outside experience is being gained at branch meetings. Once again we must extend our warmest thanks to Miss Bliss and Edgar, without whose help we could never have progressed this far.

Duncan Taylor left the group at the end of the Christmas Term after being Tower Captain from the time he entered the Fifth Form. This length of Service is indicative of his great enthusiasm, and hard work, for bellringing. The success of bellringing at the College in recent years has been due in no small measure to Duncan, and for this we are sincerely grateful. We wish him every success in the future.

M. B.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

THE C. S. team have been continuing their visits to Paternoster House, Paternoster school and the Querns hospital, with the usual mutual enjoyment experienced by visitors and visited which it involves. Many members of the school have also been regularly to the Star Centre at Wellwood to take part in competitive matches of wheelchair basketball (among other sports), a game in which Rendcomb is always abysmally defeated due to the skill of the disabled players' team! The visits were returned when members of the Star Centre came to Rendcomb to see a performance of "The Crucible" and to chat with the actors afterwards.

Two parties have been held for the old people of Paternoster House and the Querns Hospital in which Victorian melodramas were acted out

with the help of audience participation! Another party was given for the mentally disabled children of Paternoster School; special mention should be given to Adam Martyn-Smith who did a marvellous job in organising the proceedings which were a great success, enjoyed by everyone present.

Once again, our grateful thanks to Mr. Dyke for organising all these activities and extending his support and enthusiasm at all times.

V. H.

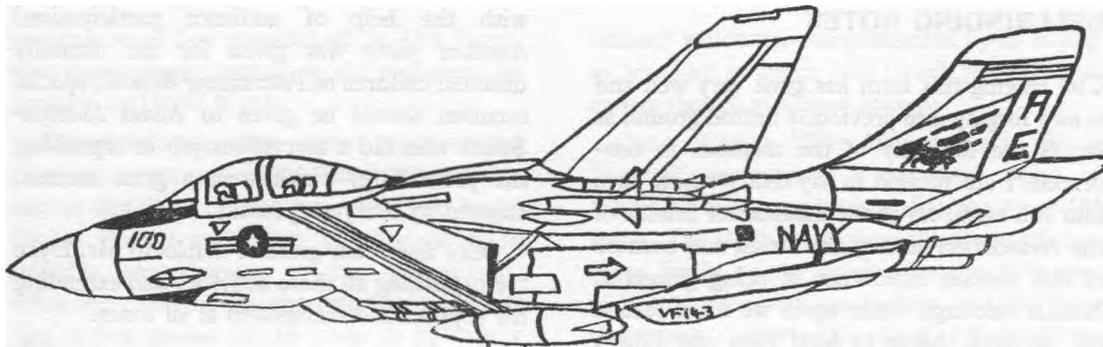
TOP OF THE FORM 1980

On March 19th Rendcomb sent a team of four to compete against three other local schools in Radio Atlanta's "Top of the Form" contest. The team comprised: Russell Copley (Capt), Donald Stewart, David Webb and Andrew Rontree. The questions were divided into four areas: General Knowledge, Music & the Arts, Local Environment and Mental Agility.

In the Semi-Final (1st round) Rendcomb was drawn against Deer Park (the home team) —Rendcomb won 38—25. In the other Semi-Final Farmor's, Fairford beat Kingshill 23—20. So the final was between Rendcomb College and Farmor's. After a very close contest in which the lead changed three times, Rendcomb won 19—17 and took home record vouchers and a magnificent shield.

A very enjoyable, although tense, evening was spent by all who participated and watched.

R. J. C.



CAREERS

THERE has been the usual wide range of activities during the year with the most novel being a visit to Radley College for the Joint Services Open Day, a Royal Navy helicopter display on the games field and a Royal Armoured Corps demonstration, which included an armoured car.

In addition to the Business Game, we also gained first-hand insight into the workers of The Stock Exchange by our participation in the national game 'Stockpiler.'

The A-level option in Chemical Engineering has enabled a large number of sixth-formers to learn something of the work and activities of engineers. This is particularly relevant at a time when there is a national shortage of engineers and The Finniston Report recommends a more informed presentation of Engineering to school pupils.

R. K.

THE ROYAL ARMOURED CORPS

UP until 1915 the Royal Armoured Corps had cavalry, not tanks and armoured cars; but during 1915 the first tank was made, and "The Tank Regiment" was formed. Just before the Second World War tanks completely replaced the cavalry and then a few years later the Royal Armoured Corps was founded.

The display team that came to the college on 6th March were from the 17th/21st Lancers. The Lancers were once two different regiments, the 17th (Duke of Cambridge's own) and the 21st Lancers (the Empress of India's), then the two regiments were amalgamated into one.

The display itself was both entertaining and informative. It was attended by several members of the school, but mainly from the lower forms. We were divided into two groups: to watch a film, and to be lectured on the functions of the R. A. C. and to learn about its base. This lasted for an hour. Once outside again we were divided into three groups to look at a caravan with shells and a battle scene, (at one end there was a simulated Chieftain gunner's position, and everyone "shot down" several helicopters on a film); a Fox Armoured Car, and we pulled to pieces and put back together a Light Machine Gun.

C. S.

COMPUTING

THE Computing Room is now equipped with 3 PET microcomputers, a KIM development system and a printer, which is not only capable of printing the full range of the PET graphics, but can also be programmed to produce its own format and symbols. There is also a growing library of books and magazines.

After the initial enthusiasm for computer games, it is interesting to note that more individual programming is being done and some very original work has been produced as well as the assignment work of the examination candidates.

Already there have been attempts at writing teaching programs and as more people become proficient in programming, we hope to produce a library of programs for Computer Assisted Learning in several subjects.

D. A. H.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

ON March 14th a party of VIth Form chemistry students went to B. P. 's crude oil refinery and petro-chemical plant in South Wales. We started the day very early in order to arrive at Llandarcy oil refinery in time to see two films on oil extraction in the North Sea and in Alaska, and to have a conducted tour round the plant before lunch. B. P. very generously supplied a three course lunch as well as tea later on in the afternoon at the Baglan Bay petro-chemical plant. There, we were shown another film about the importance of petrochemicals and afterwards we were able to look round the plant and ask the B. P. employees questions. Altogether, it was a very enjoyable and informative day out and we would like to thank B. P., Mr. Wood and Mr. Kelsey, who went to such trouble arranging the trip for us.

F. H.

NINETEENTH CENTURY STUDIES

SEVERAL outside speakers have assisted Mr. Rhodes in his sixth-form option course over the last two terms.

In the Christmas term, Mr. R. B. Boyd left his research into the novels of Charlotte Bronte, which he is presently undertaking at Jesus College, Cambridge, to talk to the group about the Gothic novel. Despite a seemingly dry title, his natural wit and great enthusiasm for his subject really bought these novels to life.

During the Lent term, Mr. P. J. H. Steam gave a lecture-recital on the Nineteenth Century song, including examples from the works of Schubert, Schumann, Gounod, Holst and others, which created considerable interest in the art form.

Finally, on Thursday 6th March, Mr. P. Gorge gave an illustrated talk on the enigmatic King, Ludwig II of Bavaria. This introduced the group to one of the most extraordinary and fascinating men who has ever lived.

P. L. R.

GEOGRAPHY

THE Geography Department has been particularly active this term with several outings and field trips. As it is the 150th Anniversary of the Royal Geographical Society, of which we are a corporate member, some excellent lectures, by experts in their fields, were organised at the London headquarters. Rendcomb was represented at the following:

“Our Habitable Planet, ” given by Professor Kenneth Hare; “Fossil Hominids in East Africa, ” given by Richard Leakey; “Tropical Ecosystems, ” a Sixth Form Symposium.

6A spent half term in Snowdonia—looking for and eventually finding a “plate lake! ” The Sixth Form also attended a meeting of the Cheltenham Geography Society at which the problem of “inner city decay” was discussed.

The Fourth Form spent a very enjoyable and most informative afternoon at the headquarters of the Thames Water Board, which was organised by Mr. Burden.

C. F. F. T.

TRIP TO FLORENCE

IN the new year a party of fifteen Sixth Formers, headed by Mr. Terrill, spent four days in Florence—the centre of the Renaissance movement. Despite the initial delay at Luton, we managed to pack the most incredible variety of activities into the time available. We gained initial information about the town, its history and famous inhabitants over the centuries—including Galileo, Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo from a well conducted tour on the first afternoon.

With some idea of the city we then divided into smaller groups visiting the places which most interested us. After four days we had experienced everything from the arts and architecture to markets and music to Italian food and Italian driving!

We all thoroughly enjoyed the Florence experience and would jump at any possibility of returning.

C. C. and J. I. -B.

A LONDON VISIT

ON 22nd February the entire Sixth Form went on a trip to London to see the Post-Impressionism Exhibition at the Royal Academy. In the morning the party divided into three groups for different exhibitions: the geographers went to the Geographical Museum; Mr. Price took a party to the British Museum for the Viking Exhibition, but unfortunately the queue meant a longer wait than was practical, so the party visited the very fine Egyptian collection there; the third group went to the Science Museum.

In the afternoon everyone went to the Royal Academy, where there was a wide selection of post-impressionism masterpieces. The rooms were arranged more or less chronologically by either country or school, and the four lessons in his period of art which Mr. Thome had given his art groups proved most valuable. Movements including Expressionism, Fauvism and pointillism were amply represented, bringing together examples clearly showing aspects of each movement. Not only was there the experience of seeing art book, mass produced works such as Matisse's 'Young Sailor' and several of Cezanne's early still lifes'.. but many people found it a memorable occasion for discovering the works, for example, of Vuillard or the Italian Morbelli.

Many thanks to all the staff involved in organising this outing, particularly to Mr. Thorne.



MR PRICE timed his history trip for 6A very well this year as it took place just after mocks on Tuesday, 12th February. A very spacious coach took us to look at the Norman churches at Deerhurst, Tewkesbury Abbey, Brimpsfield and Miserden.

The most striking feature of Deerhurst was its huge tower which dominates the whole plain. The church is one of the largest Anglo Saxon churches in the country, and parts of it date back to 804. It came under attack from the Danes and, incredible though it may seem, the scorch marks can still be seen. There was a cold antiquity about the interior which was rather austere, having no window above the altar and the features of Anglo Saxon "lights," i. e. crude windows made of single slabs of stone. Above the porch there was a beautifully simple carving of an angel which looked almost modern and two stone beakheads as stops to the doorway arch. We also had a look at Odda's chapel, about two hundred yards from the church, which was discovered in 1885 when the outbuildings of the farm were being repaired. This chapel is unique as a pre-conquest building which can be precisely dated; it was dedicated to Earl Odda on 12th April, 1056.

We went on to Tewkesbury Abbey which also has an impressive Norman tower, seen from miles around. This was built at the end of the 11th century by Robert Fitzhamon, a considerable Gloucestershire tenant-in-chief who was one of the few loyal followers of William Rufus II. The inside is high and majestic with massive columns and lierne vaulting of the 14th century which still main-

tains traces of the blue, red, and gold paint which at one time would have emblazoned the whole interior. One unusual feature was a sinister and rather macabre tomb, the so-called "Wakeman Cenotaph" which had a decaying corpse depicted on top, crawling all over with vermin.

After having lunch at Tewkesbury, we travelled southwest to Brimpsfield, a beautiful little Norman church which is such a good example of the way Norman churches have been altered and adapted through the ages. Originally it was built by Osbern Gifford in the 1080's and the stone altar was put in by Bishop Wulfstan. This altar was taken out by the protestants at the Reformation and left in the church yard till it was discovered only forty-three years ago in 1937, and is now the mensa. The 15th century font is placed in the centre of the church and this, plus the fact that there is no rood screen to cut off the congregation from the altar, gives the church an air of friendliness.

Our last visit was to see the Motte and Bailey Castle at Miserden, owned by Mrs. Huntley Sinclair, widow of the founder, (who had, at one time, seriously considered building Rendcomb there). Though the once open hillside is now covered with pine trees, evidence of the castle is unmistakable, with its vast ditch. The extent of the bailey can be defined clearly, though an artificial lake covers it in part.

Many thanks to Mr. Price for organising such an enjoyable excursion which tied in so well with our study of Norman England.

SPORT

Rugby Football, 1979

IT was evident in the first few minutes of the Marlborough match that this was to be an outstanding season for the 1st XV.

Their excellent victories in the first five matches were a just reward for the hard work and "torture" of the pre-season training sessions; with this preparation significantly improving the overall fitness, unity and attitude of the team. Despite a "lean" mid-season period caused mainly by injury, the team regained their high standard of play and concluded the term the best possible way, with a victory over the Old Boy's.

Several qualities were more noticeable this season; in particular, the determination to win and the hundred percent commitment of individuals to the success of the team, while the improved tackling and defensive cover were key factors in many of the victories.

The forward department proved outstanding, helped by the power of Fred Wilcox and Kev Nunan in the set scrum, the lineout dominance of Rich Tudor, the aggression of Dave Beanland, Julian Bull and Phil Evans in the loose and the open support play of Ian McCulloch and Rich Smith. The provision of quality possession enabled the backs to freely use the ball and work their set moves with considerable success.

In the back division, the experience of Ben Hatchwell, Jal Allen, Tim Horton and Jon Portch came through, while Rich Needham gained confidence with each match, helped by tidy delivery from Tom Paton at scrum half, and praise must of course go to Mike Twinning whose reliability and exceptional kicking talent saved the team on many occasions.

Ben Hatchwell must be complimented for his admirable work on and off the field, in having led the 1st XV through such a successful season. While Tim Horton deserves a special mention for his outstanding work and efficiency as team secretary. Thanks must also

go to Mr. Essenhigh for the upkeep of the "hallowed ground."

Next season the 1st XV could very well maintain its record of 1979; with the great depth of talent present in the 2nd & 3rd XV's and the incoming "young blood" of the successful under 15 team. Roll on September!

M. J. N.

1st XV

v. MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE 3rd XV, 15th September (Home). Won 32—0

A very promising and encouraging start to the season. Marlborough were under pressure from the start and except for a brief lapse towards half-time our line was never in danger. The forwards worked hard and efficiently, giving the backs good possession resulting in tries for Jal Allen, Tim Horton and Charles Waddell (two). The pack's speed and support also brought tries for Ian McCulloch and Phil Evans.

The benefit of our pre-season training was apparent in our superior fitness and teamwork.

v. DEAN CLOSE 1st XV, 18th September (Home). Won 19—0

We made a good start which, unfortunately, we failed to capitalise on until mid-way through the first half when Ben Hatchwell scored. Our continuous pressure told in the second half when the forwards and backs dominated their opponents, resulting in two well-deserved tries for Mike Twinning and another for Jal Allen from a well-rehearsed and perfectly executed move. A rare win against Dean Close.

v. KING EDWARD'S, BATH 1st XV, 22nd September (Away). Won 7—6

We started slowly, allowing King Edward's to score a try before we'd warmed up. Mike Twinning put us back in touch with a penalty goal before half-time. We always felt that it

Continued on page 33

IN PASSING

Elizabeth Foy

IN passing, in Oxford. In a restaurant with the smoky atmosphere of an attempted Good Time. It is the evening of an atheist Sunday, and Bryan Ferry battles with the clatter and charisma of fashionable people.

“... wild strawberries only seven francs a kilo and still my heart has wings.... ”

Everyone ignores him. He tries too hard.

“Miss!”—a shrill individual voice rises above the anonymous noise of People with Images.

“MISS!” An arrogant, seemingly pre-pubic undergraduate demands some cream for his coffee. A flicker of revolt passes across the waitress’s face. She is tired and faintly ridiculous in her improbable costume, which fits Bryan’s image and the tall pot plants. The impulse passes; she finds some cream. She must need the job badly. I feel for her; she looks as if she would happily wring Mr. Ferry’s chic neck if he walked in. Waitressing seems to impart a deep distaste for humanity.

“Miss!” The cream, it appears, is not fresh. Her distaste deepens further. She is so sorry, she will do something about it immediately. She removes it, replaces the jug and returns, still profusely sorry. He bestows a smile upon her. She, smiling also, quietly curses him. Her hair is coming undone, her feet hurt, her patience is gathering under the strain of the nth self-satisfied student of the day. As she passes another table a beer-gutted oarsman slaps her bottom. She does not react.

Meanwhile, the perceptive undergraduate has finished his coffee with cream, and has risen to pay the girl peering through the rubber-plants on the till. Bryan battles on, despite the animosity he arouses. The waitress is clearing the deserted table; he has not left a tip. He smiles benevolently through the plants and misses the step. Within a second, a thump, a strangled shriek, and he has casually risen and left, definitely not limping.

The waitress has not looked round. She is smiling happily down at the table.

“... airline tickets to romantic places and still my heart has wings... ”

Good old Bryan.

DRESS REHEARSAL DAY

Adrian Stephenson (Form IV)

ONLY eleven more hours to go, my heart beat wildly, I try to practise my speed, but I forget my words. I suppose I ought to practise my accent:

“la ama Orlando Tattocinia”... Someone has entered and is laughing...

“Call that Italian? More like a Welsh Chinaman!! ” I blush, I know it is no good, the accent is too difficult, I haven’t got the skill, the patience, the expertise.

“I’d give it up, Ade, ” says my form-mate, as he leaves.

I try to relax, go downstairs to play table tennis; someone already has the table. After half an hour, I am twice as tense, and when my game comes up I lose it 21: 8. I feel discouraged, unwanted, unloved. I silently go over my words, as one of my friends comes in.

“Do you realise, ” I say, “by the end of this week I am going to be the laughing stock of the school?” The answer shocks me:

“Oh, most of the people know about your accent anyway, all the Sixth Form on our table do. ”

I gasp. By the end of the week, the school is going to be full of Welsh-speaking Chinese Englishmen, all imitating me like demented demons.

By the evening, my nerves are tingling like electric pylons, “but I won’t forget my words, ” I say, “I’ve never forgotten my words. ” I touch wood.

“Be a clown, ” someone says, “everybody loves a clown. ” All the world loves a clown... perhaps I shall yet be saved.

**GOD ENJOYS OUR FUTILE
STRUGGLES**

Jonathan Pedley (Form V)

He lifted the gun and shot the intruder.
How dare he be so rude?
He spat with disgust at the dead man
As he plunged into the depths of the pit.
How often must he emphasise the necessity of
privacy?
He had reminded them time and time again
Of the danger of their curiosity.
The monkey dodged round the pit.
Towards the rainbow.
The man laughed at his incessant,
Useless struggle to reach it.
He scribbled feverishly on his pad,
Noting all the monkey's darting movements.
His work finished,
He closed the cover to the pit,
Carefully slid the pot of gold into the safe
For the night,
Turned off the light
And left.

DAFFODIL

Jane Ingleton-Beer

Isolated, with glaucous arms hanging by her
sides,
She waits, vulnerable, recalcitrant.
A melancholy smile upon her face.
Heaven is not too distant.
Spoilt; dirty fingers; cut knees, screams;
running through the grass,
The wind blows softly and the daffodil waves a
hand.
Scuffed, playground boots kick her to the
ground.
Will we ever understand?

CUTTY SARK

Dom Ind

Pride of London slipping through the shadows,
Cutting quietly with its flowing lines.
A single-handed sailor of the dark,
Escaping society in the lazy, wailing winds
Fluorescence laps in its wake,
Hope penetrating the unknown.
Still the salty black mirror slips by
Reflecting the proud rigging harnessed in the
sky,
Sailing away in the night,
The Pride of London.

LOGIC

Peter Stroud (Form V)

I think therefore I am.
Thinking is close to concentration.
I don't concentrate enough.
Therefore I don't exist enough.

SIMON, A RETARDED CHILD

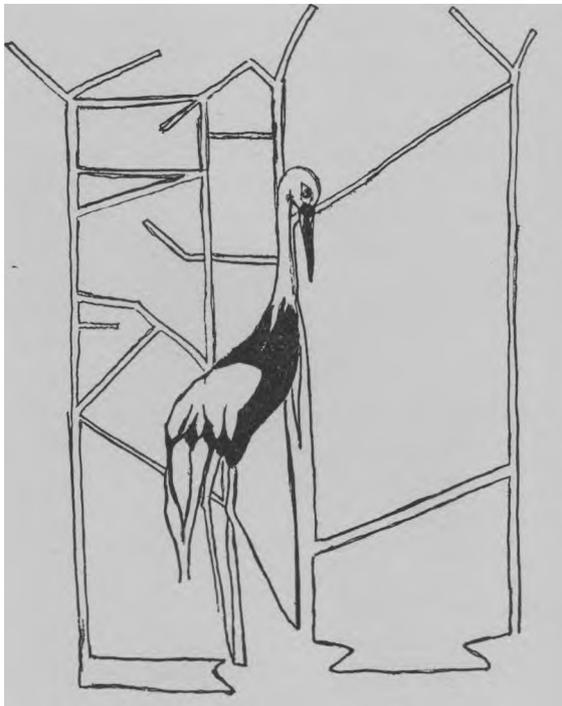
Tim Etherington

Anxiety and wonder blend,
Creating an abstract expression of pure pleasure,
Interpreted by only the simplest of minds.
A revolving record fascinates and amazes,
A bursting balloon frightens and annoys,
A jelly is just a plaything, to throw.
Our world is not his, for him life is fun;
He learns slowly, but why learn any faster?
People are transformed by his affection.
He smiles, he cries, he laughs, he sulks,
He is dependent, defenceless and useless,
But for those who know him, magic.

EVENING PROSPECT

Frank Peplow

I heard the heron come,
His call rent the scene of quiet.
The winter air is gloomy now.
The sky thick and grey.
Bracken browns with fronds shivering in the
chill winter air.
Sentinel skeletons stand pointing blindly
skywards
Where once green copses stood!
Now and then the silence seems to stop.
Standing still, waiting, the eternal wait for
myriads.
The seasons one by one roll on.
The skirts of darkness gather closer now.
The day oozes away, drained of all power,
A misty blanket wraps tightly about the fields.
The very way home is watery, a rutted track.
And the heron wings his way back,
Restless roaming in eternal gloom.



“I DON’T SEE THE SUN ANY MORE”

Richard Stibbard (Form V)

Nice white walls,
They taste of milk,
Nice white milk, and cheese—
Lots of nice blue cheese.
“The cheese in the fleas
Blows up my sleeves. ”
They know that I’m a loony,
But I know that I am not.
Not what? I don’t know.
But I don’t care,
It’s nice in here,
With lots of keys and cheese
And fleas and peas.

The door opens,
I double up, convulse,
Under the window.
What window?
There is no window.
The worms come
Squirming towards me,
the volatile gas smashes
The non-existent window.
I fly, screaming
Into the trench that I have dug,
Under my bed.
They will kill me; I know they will.
At least, I think I know they will.



LOST OPPORTUNITIES

Michael Curtis-Hayward

I was not cast on love's elusive shore
To feel warm pebbles clench my shaky feet;
I always heard the ocean's endless roar
Warn of time beyond, blurred, smarting, and steeped
In silence not science—playing in Elsinore,
My castle, past pride, sand slipping through
Fingers stiff with lost regret.

There is no haven on that stark, starched beach
To screen this world from swollen waves of fierce height.
Look up! and hook the sky for heavens beyond reach,
For freedom etched by a gull's wheeling flight
Alone, sublime against the sun, wings streaked
In heat, driven high by blind conceit
To an unseen, perfect death.
She stalls and falls, light, on the weeping sea,
Streaked with tracks of salt—the world-wearied embrace.
But there is no respect for such brief beauty,
And all close friends left the service in distaste:
Science not silence. I could be with her
Beyond those cold retreats! but the sand has slipped past
My eyes which were too weak to see.

should be our game and Tim Horton scored an excellent try after a long, jinking run to give us the narrow lead. Because of hard tackling by the whole team we managed to resist late Bath pressure.

A very satisfying win in the absence of several first choice players, and following the disappointing results of the past few matches against Bath.

v. WYCLIFFE COLLEGE 2nd XV, 4th October (Home). Won 19—12

Injury again proved a problem in choosing the team; however, the new members well justified their promotion. An early penalty by Mike Twinning followed by a try from an interception by the Wycliffe backs took the score to 4—3. The departure of Jal Allen after only ten minutes with a cut head was a severe loss, his “direct” approach and strong running was badly missed. However, we gained a psychological advantage by following his departure with two tries for Phil Evans and Jon Portch. The half-time score of 13—4 was whittled away to 13—12 in the second half as the effects of our reduced side were felt. Shortly before the end Chris Cannon gave us a comfortable 7-point victory by scoring a try following a good forward drive down the line.

v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 2nd XV, 16th October (Home). Won 15—14

A closely fought game although, perhaps, the margin should have been more. Injury, again, proved a problem as we found ourselves with only fourteen men after about twenty minutes when Dave Beanland had to go off with a twisted shoulder, his encouragement and example were badly missed. Trailing 14—9 soon after half-time, the spirit and determination of the side never flagged. This persistence was rewarded with a try by Mike Twinning which he converted from the touch line to give us the game.

The game started rather scrappily but eventually developed into a fine contest of which the whole team could feel proud.

v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL 1st XV, 7th November (Home). Lost 15—0

Our first defeat of the season and a disappointing result. Playing with the advantage of a strong wind at our backs in the first-half we failed to make proper use of it, although much of the half was spent attacking. We were therefore left with the difficult task of defending and running against a strong wind in the second half. Loose marking and leniency on the part of the referee allowed Bloxham to score two tries soon after half-time, to which they added a penalty goal. The spirit of the team showed as we attacked continuously for the last quarter; the necessity to run rather than kick showed up Bloxham’s defensive weaknesses, we were perhaps unlucky not to have taken a consolation try.

The pressure on a successful team grows with every win and following the long half-term and the long injury list, there was no real surprise at the result, although the disappointment of losing our first game by such a large margin was acute.

v. CHOSEN HILL 1st XV, 10th November (Away). Lost 16—3

The team’s spirits were perhaps rather low and the absence of Mike Twinning restricted our touch and goal kicking. There was no real excuse for the missed tackles and general lack of will and purpose in the team. No-one played to his best ability and having lost creditably to Bloxham, we deserved no more than we got.

This was the low point of the season, the only consolation being the return of Jal Allen after missing the previous 3 matches through injury.

v. BURFORD SCHOOL 1st XV, 14th November (Away). Drew 12—12

The perennial Rendcomb problem of starting slowly returned and little of any value was achieved in the first-half. The second-half saw an improvement, the match ending with four penalties apiece thanks to Mike Twinning’s continued success with his kicking.

v. COKETHORPE 1st XV, 28th November (Away).
Won 26—0

A well needed tonic to restore confidence in the team, following two successive defeats and a draw. This was a greatly improved performance. Again, we were slow starting with only one try by Phil Evans towards the end of the first-half. After the break, the forwards speeded up their game and tidied well to give our backs abundant possession. This was reflected in some good fluid rugby with plenty of support always at hand; a rush of tries resulted. A try by Phil Evans following a back row move, a well-taken try by Rich Tudor from the back of a scrum and one each for Dom Ind and Jon Portch completed the scoring. The improved confidence was especially apparent in Fred Wilcox and Rich Tudor, both of whom worked hard both in the set pieces and in the loose play. The growing composure and skill of Rich Needham at stand-off augurs well for next year's 1st XV.

v. KING'S SCHOOL GLOUCESTER, 1st December (Away). Lost 4—3

An unenjoyable and frustrating game. They had a strong pack and relatively weak backs and so played a Gloucester-style of rugby, relying solely on their large pack. This led to a dreary war of attrition. A penalty goal by Mike Twinning was answered with a try towards the end of the first-half, set up by their forwards.

Our forwards deserve great credit for holding such a heavy pack, using unfamiliar tactics. We were unable to use our speed or fitness to any advantage due to the lack of possession; if it hadn't been for Phil Evans and Julian Bull tackling so efficiently round the sides of the scrum, the margin would have been much greater.

1st/2nd XV v. KINGHAM HILL 1st XV, 8th December (Home). Won 38—3

We fielded an experimental side and one which is likely to be the 1st XV next season. This system of "bleeding" new players towards the end of the season was tried last year very successfully, and likewise this season.

Tries by Ben Hatchwell and Pete Stroud in the opening minutes had Kingham back on their heels and from then on it was merely a question of how much we were going to win by. Further tries were scored by Pete Uglow, Rich Smith, Ian McCulloch, Tim Horton and Dave Beanland, the last two from well executed penalty moves.

v. DEER PARK (CIRENCESTER) 13th December (Away). Won 25—0

We, again, fielded a somewhat weakened side, however, an early try by Ben Hatchwell put us on the right road. We should have taken more advantage of Deer Park's defensive weaknesses in the first-half, but a strong wind and the wet pitch caused difficulties. In the second-half there were further tries by Rich Tudor, Mark Dibble and Chris Cannon. Rich Needham kicked a penalty goal and three conversions. Midway through the second-half John Gotley left the field with a pulled muscle, Pete Uglow replaced him. It was a sad way for John Gotley to end a term of rugby during which his confidence and reliability improved with every game.

v. OLD RENDCOMBIANS, 16th December (Home).
Won 12—10

A game played under very difficult conditions, and considering the strength of the wind, both sides did themselves credit. The old Rendcombiants took the field without their original team but were still a strong side with experience in all divisions.

Having elected to play with the wind in the first-half we exerted strong pressure on the Old Boy's line. The wind made place-kicking extremely difficult, Rich Needham hitting the post twice. Dave Beanland scored two tries in the first-half, both from short penalties—a fitting culmination to an excellent season. Both tries were converted by Rich Needham. Our lead of 12–0 at half-time was a precarious position in the conditions and although we conceded two tries, hard tackling and quick covering enabled us to hold on to our lead of 12–10.

This was a very pleasing result with which to climax the season, it was well-deserved and I feel the quality of rugby in the College promises another close match at the next encounter.

Summary

A most successful and enjoyable season; the problems envisaged at the beginning of term never materialised, and had it not been for the large number of injuries, results could have been even better. There hasn't been such depth in Rendcomb rugby for many years; this showed in the keen competition to get a 1st XV place.

A big advantage which, perhaps, enabled us to win more matches than usual, was having the same set of forwards who finished last season. They met their match on only one or two occasions and always produced maximum effort. Special mention must be made of Dave Beanland and Phil Evans who have both been regular members of the 1st XV for the past four seasons, their experience and all-round footballing abilities have been invaluable. Rich Tudor, Fred Wilcox and Kev Nunan frequently won more than our fair share of lineout ball and rarely gave ground in the set scrummages. The support and speed of Ian McCulloch, Rich Smith and Julian Bull gave us good opportunities for second phase play when breakdowns occurred.

In the back row, Tom Paton always gave reliable and quick passes and as his confidence increased he made telling forays round the edge of the scrum. Rich Needham, at stand-off, will be an invaluable member of the 1st XV next season, his strategic and place kicking and growing running skills will be much needed to replace Mike Twinning whose adventurous running and rock-like tackling have played an important part in many of our wins, likewise with his kicking. Wings, Tim Horton and Jon Portch, made the most of the chances given them, as did Dom Ind in the centre. John Gotley's calmness under the high ball was impressive and saved us on several occasions. One of the saddest events of the season was that Jal Allen, whose direct, fast running would have brought him many more tries, could play only three matches due to repeated injury; the occasional times that he did play only served to underline our loss.

Finally, thanks to everyone who played; to A. Hedderwick our touch judge, and to Mr. Newby for everything! I hope everyone enjoys next season as much as we did this one.

Won 9; Drawn 1; Lost 3 Points for 211
Against 92

The following represented the school 1st XV during the 1979 season: *Forwards*: D. Beanland (V-Captain), I. McCulloch, P. Evans, R. Smith, F. Wilcox, K. Nunan, J. Bull, R. Tudor, A. Martyn-Smith, C. Cannon, P. Uglow, R. Woof, M. Dibble.

Three-quarters: M. Twinning, B. Hatchwell (Captain), J. Allen, T. Portch, D. Ind, T. Paton, J. Henniker-Gotley, T. Horton, C. Waddell, R. Needham, P. Stroud, T. Burkham.

B. H.

2nd XV

Won 7; Drawn 0; Lost 4 Points for 245;
Against 67

<i>v.</i> Marlborough	Won	7-6
<i>v.</i> Dean Close (A)	Lost	3-8
<i>v.</i> King Edward's School, Bath	Lost	0-24
<i>v.</i> Wycliffe	Won	21-9
<i>v.</i> Cheltenham College 3rd XV	Lost	0-10
<i>v.</i> Bredon (A)	Won	51-0
<i>v.</i> Bloxham (A)	Lost	4-10
<i>v.</i> Chosen Hill (A)	Won	38-0
<i>v.</i> Burford (A)	Won	32-0
<i>v.</i> King's School, Gloucester	Won	35-0
<i>v.</i> Kingham Hill School	Won	54-0

The facts speak for themselves in revealing that this has been a highly successful season. To score 245 points (44 tries) shows what attractive and effective rugby was played. Only once did the side suffer any severe setbacks and it occurred when 1st XV calls severely weakened the side. The wholesale commitment and collective spirit of the side was evident throughout.

Forward dominance, especially in the latter stages, was quickly established, and this enabled the backs time and space in which to express their individual talents. At no stage were we ever out-scrummaged and parity or better was always achieved in the line-out. In the loose the forwards, notably Woof, Uglow, Cannon and White, always drove the opposition backwards providing plenty of good second phase possession. At scrum-half Burkham provided a quick and long service for his fly-halves. As the season developed his probing runs round the base of the scrum became a potent attacking weapon. The backs, well marshalled by the captain, J. Quick, defended stoutly. In Needham and Evans we were well served at outside half, and the others ran and supported well, creating openings for the many tries scored.

The following played for the 2nd XV: J. Quick, D. White, M. Dibble, T. Burkham, P. Uglow, R. Needham, A. Pitt, A. Martyn-Smith, C. Cannon, P. Stroud, R. Woof, C. Stratton, T.

Daniels, S. Hawkswell, R. Dunwoody, C. Dick, R. Evans, C. Waddell, C. Brearly, R. Pitt, M. Lewers, A. Jennings, S. Paris, T. Paton, D. Ind.

3rd XV

Results:

<i>v.</i> Dean Close	Won	7-4
<i>v.</i> King Edward's School, Bath	Lost	15-34
<i>v.</i> Wycliffe College 4th XV	Lost	3-14
<i>v.</i> Cheltenham College 4th XV	Lost	0-18
<i>v.</i> Bloxham School	Lost	0-34
<i>v.</i> Chosen Hill School	Won	12-10

Two wins in six matches do not really give a clear indication of the success of the 3rd XV. Only in the Bloxham match were they out-played because the forwards failed to find their usual form.

The most obvious failing of the team was inability to turn possession into points. This was clearly shown in the two victories by narrow margins when many more points should have been scored.

28 boys played in the 6 matches; only Collins, Gassor and Graham-Munro, the captain, played in every match. Unfortunately, the season effectively finished early in November with the Chosen Hill match. This was due to the inability of much larger schools to raise a 3rd or 2nd team to play against us.

My personal thanks go to Alastair Graham-Munro for his determined leadership of the team; to all those who played in unfamiliar positions for the good of the team and to those who made hundred percent effort on all games days. In particular the attitude of Etherington, Lewers and Lorenzen was an example to all the others.

In matches a great deal depended on the kicking ability of Richard Evans and the collective skills of the pack of forwards. In spite of some good individual performances in the backs, there was never sufficient cohesion to put pressure on the opposition.

High points of the season were the last minute penalty which beat Dean Close, an inspired

opening spell against K. E. Bath which produced 15 points and two important conversions by Paris which clinched the last match of the term.

The following played for the 3rd XV: A. Graham-Munro, C. Breal, T. Burkham, R. Collins, C. Dick, R. Dunwoody, T. Etherington, R. Evans, M. Fewings, D. Gassor, S. Hawkswell, S. Hughes, D. Ind, A. Jennings, D. Lee, M. Lewers, P. Lorengen, S. Paris, A. Pitt, R. Pitt, C. Schreiber, R. Scourfield-Lewis, T. Steed, C. Stratton, C. Twinning, A. Wilcox, T. Wild and R. Woof.

D. A. H.

U15 XV

The season began with an encouraging display against Dean Close. At Bath we lost heavily against King Edward's. They moved the ball quickly to the wings who made full use of the wide pitch. Stroud R. F. C. team consisting of players from a number of local schools were far too powerful. At Wycliffe, a few days later, we were always in the game and dominated the second half but could not find a gap in their defence. At Cheltenham College we led 4-0 at half-time but through lack of cover conceded three tries late in the game.

The Bredon match allowed us to field some reserves but we were far too strong winning by 49 points to nil. This seemed to be the turning point and the team never looked back. Good wins were registered against Bloxham, Burford and King's Gloucester where we played by far the most attractive and constructive rugby of the term. Victory at Kingham was our seventh consecutive win, probably a record for any Rendcomb XV.

The pack had the upper hand in most matches and back row moves proved to be very successful. After half-term the threequarters gained in confidence and linked well to score some exciting tries. There is no need to mention individuals as this was a team performance. Two U15B matches were arranged for the first time and were very much enjoyed by all those who participated.

Results

Played 12; Won 8; Lost 4.

Points For: 237; Against 108.

v. Dean Close (H)	Won	36-0
v. King Edward's (A)	Lost	4-32
v. Wycliffe College (A)	Lost	0-6
v. Cheltenham College (A)	Lost	4-14
v. Stroud R. F. C. (A)	Lost	8-28
v. Bredon (A)	Won	49-0
v. Bloxham (H)	Won	24-8
v. Chosen Hill (H)	Won	22-10
v. Burford (A)	Won	13-10
v. Cokethorpe (A)	Won	27-0
v. King's School (A)	Won	28-0
v. Kingham Hill (A)	Won	22-0

Those who played: R. Copley, S. Hazel, R. Palmer, C. Hutton-Potts, S. Oliver, K. Taylor, B. Freeman, R. Akers, P. Needham, I. Bishop, D. Woof, R. Perrett, M. Archer, G. Breal, S. Powell, C. Ekin, A. Aves, G. Healey, C. Dewar, N. Stewart, A. Phelps, A. Watts, R. Smith.

C. C. B.

U14 XV

v. King Edward's, Bath (H)	Won	13-10
v. Wycliffe (H)	Lost	4-8
v. Cheltenham College (A)	Lost	0-32
v. Bloxham (H)	Won	10-0
v. Chosen Hill (H)	Lost	4-12
v. King's School, Glos. (H)	Won	12-0
v. Kingham Hill (A)	Lost	6-12

The team played well, generally, and worked hard to obtain some very good victories. Most of the matches were very close and could have gone either way. The exception was the match against Cheltenham College where we had no chance against an older and much heavier side.

The strength of the team lay in the backs. It was only on occasions that the forwards realised their full potential and this resulted in sound wins.

R. K.

Junior Rugby

Form 2 and those members of the third form who played in the under 13 game showed a great deal of enthusiasm throughout the season. The packs, which were often too slow, improved with each practice however the backs made little progress except in their defensive role. It was only in the last match against Kingham that the backs began to work as a unit and this was after they had seen at Cheltenham how efficient backs can make so much ground.

The 'A' team match against Oakley Hall was a well fought contest by third formers only but their weakness lay in the rucks and mauls which were not well formed. Prynne's size dominated the 'B' team match although he was proved to be "human" by other sides who were prepared to tackle. Jenkins and Hatcher proved to be very useful forwards and Uglow was a reliable and effective captain.

The following played (U13½ 'A'): Brealy, Barrow, M. Uglow, Wakeham, Walton, Simkin, Redman, Crowther, Westcott, Wilcox (Capt.), Paton, Woof, Thomas, Bailey, Acocks.

(U13½ 'B' and U13): B. Uglow (Capt.), N. Green, Jenkins, Wakeham, Almond, N. Kinch, J. Kinch, Hatcher, Goode, Butling, Hannam, Prynne, Hoare, Westcott, Suffolk, Appleton, Newman, Harris, Harber, R. McIntyre, Ad-shead.

Results:

U13½ 'A' XV

v. Oakley Hall 1st XV (A) Lost 10—14

U13½ 'B' XV

v. Oakley Hall 2nd XV (H) Won 36—0

v. Cheltenham Junior School
2nd XV (A) Lost 0—18

U13 XV

v. Chosen Hill U13 XV (H) Lost 0—18

v. King's School, Gloucester
U13 XV (H) Lost 0-52

v. Kingham Hill School U13
XV (H) Won 12—0

HOCKEY

For the first time in three (or was it four?) seasons the weather has allowed us to achieve a reasonable continuity and the benefits have been great. Considering that many boys as high in the school as the Fourth and Fifth Forms have played relatively little hockey during their years at the college, the standards and successes of all teams were remarkable, testifying to the enthusiasm of everyone concerned.

Certainly this progress was evident in the 1st XI and the season was an enjoyable and profitable one; in fact, with more consistency, notably in taking goal-scoring chances, it could have been the best season for a long time. As it was we became accustomed in the middle of the term to putting pressure, with constructive hockey, on opponents for long periods but with little or nothing to show for it—when losing to King's, Gloucester, for example, we probably had seventy per-cent of the match territorially, and we dominated the second half at Colston's in similar fashion with a similar result. Inevitably this bred frustration but positional and other changes were made and these, linked with more experience, brought patent improvement in the last few matches, against Bloxham (2—2) and Cirencester H. C. (4—1). Some of the goals in these two matches were among the best I have seen from recent Rendcomb teams. Unfortunately, however, the Jekyll and Hyde streak in the side emerged disastrously in the concluding match against the Old Boys and, in muddy conditions and with two regulars in Iceland, we were dead by half-time.

James Quick was again a reliable, aggressive goalkeeper and watched a kaleidoscopic succession of full-back combinations come and go in front of him. The eventual choices were Julian Bull, with his inimitable scything flick, and Richard Woof, who came up from the 3rd XI, proving to all that such dizzy elevation is possible to those with character and ability. Among the halves, Richard Tudor was a

powerful tackler and ball-winner in mid-field, Duncan White improved his tactical sense and stopping considerably, despite some lack of fluency and polish as yet, while Dom Ind mingled impressive moments with exasperating periods of thoughtlessness and statuesque dreaming. Tim Horton, at right wing, worked tirelessly in all matches and added more stickwork and experience to his flying feet; Mike Twinning (inside right) worried many defences with his speed and close control, several times turning half-chances into goals and generally galvanising his fellow-predators into opportunism; Tom Paton (centre forward) did well in an unfamiliar position after moving up from the halves and has the stickwork to prosper further next year if he can get rid of the ball more quickly; Chris Cannon (inside left) developed his ball control and constructive ability considerably and willingly covered acres of ground; finally Richard Evans (left wing) learned to add more aggression and involvement to his useful stickwork and was playing more confidently in a new position by the season's end. Six of these players should be back next year to form a promising nucleus and to these one can add Adam Martyn-Smith, Tim Daniels, and David Lee, all of whom played several games for the team, as well as several members of the 2nd XI.

Thanks are due to all the hockey staff for their efforts and zeal, even in the cold winds and rain encountered on the fickle Rendcomb heights; to David Essenhigh, for the fine pitches and the advance in recent seasons of the 3rd XI game into a serious, viable unit; and to Mike Twinning, whose example and sportsmanship on the field and thorough administration off it placed him among the very best hockey captains of the past decade.

1ST XI: J. H. W. Quick; J. C. Bull; W. R. Woof; R. I. C. Tudor; D. R. White; D. P. A. Ind; T. H. Horton; M. A. Twinning (capt); T. M. Paton; C. D. Cannon; R. Evans. Also played: A. D. Martyn-Smith; T. N. M. Daniels; D. Lee; B. J. Hatchwell; A. S. White; P. Stroud.

J. N. H.

* * *

Looking back at the last three years' hockey in school magazines seems more like a condemnation of the English climate rather than accounts of a full term's hockey. However, this year our luck changed and we played a full complement of 13 matches, although needless to say some were played in atrocious conditions.

Facilities for hockey over the past year have improved dramatically; following the completion of the Sports Hall last year was the building of three hard-surface tennis courts, doubling in the Lent Term for a large hockey practice area. These recent improvements have proved invaluable in matches, especially against teams who have had the benefit of similar facilities for some years, such as Marling, Cheltenham College and Dean Close.

The season started positively against Cheltenham Technical College and our first defeat did not come until two days before half-term, against a strong yet not unbeatable King's Gloucester side.

The next few games were ones of mixed fortune, and our main problem was to take full advantage of often long periods of sustained pressure on our opponents. This was solved finally by placing T. Paton to the centre-forward position from centre-half. This problem was highlighted in the Colston's game when we dominated the second half and yet lost 4-2.

A couple of good results nearing the end of the season against a very strong Bloxham team and also the newly formed Cirencester Hockey Club proved that we could score goals. This improvement was due to increased aggression by the forwards, especially in the opponents' circle.

Again we have a young team and prospects for the future are good.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Holt for his coaching and on implementing the more tactical side of our play and also Mr. Essenhigh for producing a superb pitch whether it be during rain or snow.

MATCH RESULTS:

1ST XI *v.* NORTH GLOS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY (Home). Won 7—1

Playing in atrocious conditions, we began the season well. After scoring two goals in the opening minutes there was no doubt about the result—just a matter of how many!

It was very much an experimental side based on theory from last year but everybody gave a sound performance, especially Ben Hatchwell who scored four goals, two being in each half. Other scorers were Mike Twinning (2) and Dom Ind from a penalty flick, after an obstruction from one of the numerous goalmouth scrambles.

This was the first fixture ever against Cheltenham Tech and gave us valuable experience on the grass for the tougher opposition later in the season.

1ST XI *v.* PRINCE HENRY'S G. S., EVESHAM (Home). Drawn 2—2

Again bad conditions prevailed and good hockey was difficult. The match started scrappily but after they scored the first goal the competitive edge was maintained. Goals were scored by Mike Twinning and Richard Evans, whose well hit shot gave us the lead. Unfortunately a careless mistake in the last few minutes allowed Prince Henry's a draw which they must have been very pleased to obtain.

1ST XI *v.* MARLING SCHOOL (Away). Drawn 2—2

Playing on Stratford Park's all-weather pitch the game was quick and enjoyable to play in. Marling were definitely an "all-weather pitch" side but although having vast amounts of possession in the first half, could only muster a single goal.

However, a spirited recovery by Rendcomb resulted in some persistent running down the right by Tim Horton and some good crosses allowed two goals to be scored. The fighting

spirit in the Rendcomb side offset the home advantage Marling had and a draw seemed a fair result.

1ST XI *v.* KING'S, GLOUCESTER (Home). Lost 1—3

Although enjoying much of the play we were unable to take advantage of our many chances which included numerous short comers in the first half. Dom Ind scored from a penalty flick and with ten minutes to go it was still 1—1. Two quick individual breakaway goals, catching the defence square, resulted in our first defeat.

1ST XI *v.* CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 2ND XI (Home). Lost 2—5

Played in good conditions. Cheltenham deserved their win but the scoreline quite flattered them; despite the score line it was a close match. Both Dom Ind, whose strong left to right passes proved very effective, and Chris Cannon, who worked doggedly in attack and defence, had good games.

1ST XI *v.* MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE 3RD XI (Home). Won 2—1

Both teams started rather sluggishly but as the match progressed our halves began to dominate in midfield. We again had numerous chances but two goals by Mike Twinning, one in each half, was enough. Marlborough gained a consolation goal in the last few minutes but there was never any doubt about the winners.

1ST XI *v.* CRYPT SCHOOL (Away). Won 2—1

On a pitch which left something to be desired, good hockey was impossible and hence control difficult. Numerous bumps and hollows made it a slow and physical game, but our positional play was superior to our opponents and two good goals, the first from a short corner scored by Tim Daniels and the other from a good individual run by Tom Paton, were enough to gain victory.

1ST XI v. COLSTON'S SCHOOL (Away). Lost 2-4

A quick goal in the first few minutes capitalized on a mistake in their defence and the score looked promising. However, the "Redcomb Disease" struck and within two minutes the scores were level. In a disastrous fifteen minutes before half-time their quick forwards scored three goals which put the score to 4-x. A strong and determined approach by Rendcomb in the second half produced some very good hockey and continuous Rendcomb attacks on the right ensued. Unfortunately only one goal resulted, scored by Mike Twinning, but the hitting and running for the ball was courageous and although we lost we finished as the better team.

1ST XI v. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL (Home). Won 3-1

This match was played in pouring rain on a slippery pitch. Due to Mike Twinning being unavailable, Tom Paton moved up to inside-right and proved himself an effective forward. Cheltenham had the edge in the first half, scoring their only goal from a short corner. However, in the second half Rendcomb exerted continuous pressure which resulted in three goals; David Lee scored after a good passing movement between Tom Paton and Dom Ind, Tom Paton scored the second himself, and Tim Horton the third with a magnificent shot from the edge of the circle.

1ST XI v. DEAN CLOSE 2ND XI (Away). Lost 1-4

Perhaps our worst performance of the season. On a good pitch Dean Close were always sharp and despite a few patches of Rendcomb pressure were generally in control of the game. They took their chances well and were leading 2-0 at half-time. Richard Evans, who constantly improved through the season, had a good game and on more than one occasion left a couple of defenders standing. A goal after five minutes' constant pressure lifted us but the

Dean Close forwards finally sealed the match by scoring two more individual goals.

1ST XI v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL (Away). Drawn 2-2

In complete contrast to our last game this was one of our best all-round performances of the season. We played with authority, and continuous off the ball running, especially by Chris Cannon, enabled numerous attacks to worry the Bloxham defence. Tom Paton, playing centre forward, created both goals by his quick passing inside the circle, the first of which was the best goal of the season when a strong of four rapid passes opened their defence. Both backs played well in containing the Bloxham forwards, Julian Bull's good pushes being especially effective. To finish off an excellent performance James Quick made a spectacular save off a penalty flick.

Bloxham were one of the better teams we played and already having 5 draws during the season perhaps the result was rather foreseeable. However, we were leading 2-1 with only two minutes of the match remaining, so their late equaliser was a frustrating experience.

1ST XI v. CIRENCESTER HOCKEY CLUB (Home). Won 4-1

Rendcomb started slowly and Cirencester settled down quickly. They scored first with a well taken short corner but from then on fortunes changed. Eventually the older members of the Cirencester Club began to tire and we began to dominate. Dom Ind equalised just before half-time with a fierce shot and goals followed from Tom Paton (2) and Mike Twinning. Richard Tudor playing at right half had a particularly industrious match and obtained much possession for the forwards.

Cirencester Club was only formed this season and it was notable that five old-boys were playing for them. Perhaps some members of the College will join after leaving, just as the Lansdown Club in Cheltenham provides for ex-Dean Close pupils.

1ST XI v. OLD RENDCOMBIANS (Home). Lost 0—4

The match was lost in the first half. Hopes were high after the recent good performances but feeble defensive play and lack of midfield industry gave the Old Boys far too much control of affairs. The heavy pitch and the absence of two regular forwards seemed to destroy our normal rhythm but could not fully excuse the poor stopping and lack of determination in our half of the field. We were 0—3 down by the interval and, despite tighter marking and the continuing probing of our forwards, the damage had been done. A disappointing finale.

M. A. T.

2nd XI

Won 5; Drew 1; Lost 3

Goals for 22 Against 13

Prince Henry's	Won	6—0
Marling (A)	Won	3—1
King's Gos.	Won	4—1
Cheltenham College	Lost	3—5
Marlborough	Lost	0—1
Colston's (A)	Lost	0—2
Dean Close (A)	Won	3—1
Bloxham	Draw	2—2
Old Rendcombians	Won	1—0

A pleasing season in which only one match was cancelled. As a result, with the players having continuous hockey, the standard of play improved markedly as the season progressed.

The side was captained by J. Bull, until the 1st XI required his services, and a large part of the side's spirited performances rests in his calm yet determined captaincy. The standard that he set was quickly followed by the rest. A. G. Munro in goal, except for two lapses in concentration, was an outstanding contributor, and many of his fine saves tipped the balance in our favour. Gotley at centre-half showed that had he been fully fit he would have been a regular in the 1st XI side. The fact that he played throughout the season hampered by a

leg injury reflects most creditably his determination and enthusiasm.

Lee at centre-forward was our main goal scorer (7 goals) and our three losses occurred whilst he was playing for the 1st XI. In those matches, despite constructive build-ups, we rarely threatened the opposition goal and his loss reflects this. A little more sharpness would see him as a regular in the 1st XI. Dunwoody was the only member to play in all the 2nd XI matches, and his tactical awareness, competitive nature, and high work rate enabled us often to quickly close down the opposition, not allowing them to settle and play the game at their pace.

Of the other forwards A. White improved with every game, and Hatchwell gave his usual whole hearted commitment to the side. Daniels and Stroud defended soundly, but need to improve their tactical awareness, concentration and work rate. Dick and Schreiber worked with great enthusiasm and there is potential here for higher things.

A. C. P.

3rd XI

After the disappointment of the cancelled Cheltenham College game, we were delighted to start with a convincing 8—2 away victory over King's, Gloucester. The team combined remarkably well for its first outing and a forceful performance from Ian McCulloch brought him four goals. The next match, against Marlborough College, was a much closer contest and brought us a good 1—0 win, the solitary goal coming from a hard shot from Robin Webb just after half-time. Our journey to Colston's School, Bristol, produced a 1—1 draw—this was disappointing because we should have sealed the result in the first half when we had at least half a dozen good chances, and then Mark Lewer's goal was equalised by Colston's three minutes from time. In our final match we drew 3—3 at Bloxham after leading three times in an exciting, enjoyable game in which the team played with great determination.

We thus ended our four matches as the only unbeaten side in the school. I extend thanks to David Essenhigh, on behalf of all in our game, for his unceasing enthusiasm for the sport and successful coaching.

The following represented the 3rd XI: C. Brealy, C. Dick, R. Funnell (Vice-Capt.), D. Gassor, A. Harris, M. Lewers, I. McCulloch, N. Miles (Capt.), S. Paris, F. Peplow, D. Rollo, C. Schreiber, R. Smith, N. Townend, P. Uglow (goalkeeper) and R. Webb.

N. D. M.

Under 15 XI

Early in the season the Sports Hall was used for practising basic skills and this certainly contributed to the good control and accurate passing in the match at Bath on an all-weather pitch. As the term progressed we were able to use the grass pitches more than in previous years and the team adjusted their game quickly to suit the often heavy conditions. At this stage the forwards had not developed any "running off the ball" and their "finishing" in the circle was generally wild. The latter proved to be a handicap in the Colston's and Dean Close matches.

It was unfortunate that Powell had an accident just as Woof was declared fit because the team never really had five reliable forwards in any one match. For this reason and because of the defence's vulnerability in the opening stages of matches a 4-3-2-1-1 formation was adopted instead of the conventional 5-3-2-1 pattern. In this formation the centre half doubled as a centre forward in attack situations.

It must be said that the defence played very well, often depending on Archer's mobility at the back and Brealy's command of the centre, however several goals were scored against them due to poor marking at long comers and fast attacks from the right. The forwards learned to work hard in attack and probably the Smiths applied the most pressure on opposing goalkeepers. Little use was made of Penalty Corners and in retrospect we should have

practised these more often at the beginning of the season.

Finally, I would like to thank Brealy for captaining the various sides and everyone involved for trying hard to play good hockey.

Results:

v. King Edward's School, Bath (A)	Lost	1-2
v. King's School Gloucester (A)	Won	3-2
v. Cheltenham College "B" (H)	Won	1-0
v. Marlborough College "A/B" (A)	Lost	0-4
v. Colston's School (H)	Lost	0-1
v. Dean Close School (H)	Lost	0-1
v. Bloxham School (A)	Won	3-0

Cancelled:

v. Marling School
v. Bredon School

The following played: G. Brealy (Capt.), Archer, Deacon, Hazell (goalkeeper), Hedde-
wick, Hutton-Potts, Oliver, Palmer, Powell,
M. Smith, R. Smith, D. Stewart, Wilcox
(goalkeeper), D. Woof, Bishop.

C. J. W.

Under 14 XI

Once again the contribution of rain and frost has curtailed our activities, resulting in three of the nine matches being cancelled. When able to play, the team has performed rather better than in recent years. Their best performance was against King Edward's School, Bath. The first match of the season having been cancelled and as our grounds were unfit, the game was changed to an away fixture at Bath on their all-weather pitch. This gave the home team an obvious advantage and we did very well to hold them to a draw.

Results:

v. King Edward's, Bath (A)	Drew	2-2
v. Cheltenham College Junior School (H)	Lost	3-5
v. Marlborough College (A)	Won	1-0
v. Colston's School (H)	Lost	2-4
v. Dean Close (H)	Lost	0-4
v. Bloxham School (H)	Won	4-2

Team: M. Uglow (goalkeeper), Maslin, Wakeham, D. Webb (Capt.), Hayward, A. Woof, T. Breal, J. Hutton-Potts, Paterson-Fox, Phelps, A. Waddell.

The following also played for the team: A. Paton, Acocks, Carroll.

K. G. T.

Under 13 XI

The weather has fortunately allowed this age-group to play a respectable amount of hockey this term. They have played enthusiastically and improved their skills considerably. R. Prynne has captained the team well and played an intelligent game at centre-half. S. Hannam, at inside forward, has scored some fine goals and promises to be a really good hockey player.

Results:

v. Cheltenham College Junior School (H)	Lost 2-4
v. Cheltenham College Junior School (H)	Lost 3-4
v. King's School, Gloucester (A)	Won 4-1

The following played in the teams: D. Adshead, B. Almond, J. Butling, S. Hannam, C. Harris, B. Hatcher, M. Hicks, N. Hoare, B. Jenkins, J. Kinch, N. Kinch, J. Morris, R. Prynne (Capt.), B. Uglow.

W. J. D. W.

SQUASH RACKETS

1st V. Results in Gloucestershire Under 19 League, Division One:

v. Cheltenham College 1st V (A)	Won 3-2
v. Cirencester 'A' (H)	Won 5-0
v. Cheltenham College 2nd V (A)	Won 4-1
v. Stroud 'A' (H)	Lost 2-3
v. Cirencester 'A' (A)	Won 4-1
v. Gloucester 'A' (A)	Lost 0-5
v. Cheltenham College 2nd V (H)	Won 5-0
v. Cheltenham College 1st V (H)	Won 4-1

Team in playing order: R. Tudor (3 wins), S. Knapp (6), J. Henniker-Gotley (4), M. Burchell (4), M. Twinning (5), D. Rollo (1).

2nd V Results in Gloucestershire Under 19 League, Division Three

v. Dean Close (H)	Won 5-0
v. Cotswold Leisure Centre (A)	Won 4-1
v. East Gloucester (A)	Won 5-0
v. Tewkesbury Park (H)	Won 5-0
v. Stroud 'B' (A)	Won 4-1

2nd V Results in Gloucestershire Under 19 League, Division Two

v. Gloucester 'B' (H)	Lost 2-3
v. Cirencester 'B' (A)	Won 4-1
v. Cheltenham College 'C' (A)	Lost 2-3
v. Cheltenham S. R. C. (A)	Won 3-2

Team in playing order: M. Curtis-Hayward (2 wins), D. Rollo (6), M. Smith (8), D. Hammond (6), T. Pratt (7), R. Pitt (2), R. Palmer (1).

K. K.

GOLF

DURING the Christmas Term, 14 boys had regular coaching from Rod Wiseman, the Cirencester Club professional, who commented on the great enthusiasm shown.

Many of these boys and others were able to play on the Ullenwood Star Centre course on Friday afternoons while another group played at the Cirencester Golf Club. After Christmas, there was much less golf played due to the very wet weather and the difficulty of finding a time suitable for all the players.

On March 26th a team played in the AER Lingus Schools Team Championship at Chipping Sodbury Golf Club, but in dreadful conditions finished well behind a very strong Millfield team.

Unfortunately, due to a clash of dates, the College will not be represented in the Gloucestershire Schools' Golf Championship this year, but David Rollo returned the best score in the first trial for the County Schools' Team and should have a good chance of gaining his place in the team.

D. A. H.

GIRLS' SPORT

NETBALL

A VERY successful season, overcoming tough opposition with a determined spirit. Great enthusiasm has helped us to produce a triumphant second team, whilst the accuracy of the first team shooters and speed of their support have produced creditable victories.

Much of our success is due to Mrs. Holdaway who has always been ready with encouragement and unflinching confidence in our ability, which we were, fortunately, able to justify.

S. E. H.

1st TEAM: Jane Stephenson, Jenny Watson, Michaela Roberts, Sally Horne, Joan Heckermann, Jane Ingleton-Ber, Joanna Pettitt.

2nd TEAM: Maria Bitner, Patricia Cam, Rachel Medill, Annabel Williams, Fiona Wilson, Lisa Manners, Alison Hockin.

Also played: Deborah Lee, Fiona Jane Wilson, Joanna Hobbs, Francesca Hughes.

1st Team Results:

	WINTER TERM	LENT TERM
v. Dean Close	Lost 8—24	Lost 10—11
v. Haltherop Castle	Won 16—5	Won 19—17
v. St. Clotilde's Convent	Lost 7—14	Won 14—12
v. Cirencester School	Won 19—2	
v. Wycliffe	Won 20—7	Won 20—13
v. Haltherop Castle	Won 20—9	
v. St. Clotilde's Convent	Won 14—7	
v. Wycliffe	Won 16—5	
v. Dean Close	Won 12—7	
v. Old Rendcomb- ians	Won 14—5	

2nd Team Results:

<i>v.</i> Dean Close	Won 11—6	Lost 10—17
<i>v.</i> Hatherop Castle	Won 9—4	
<i>v.</i> St. Clotilde's Convent	Lost 7—8	Won 16—8
<i>v.</i> Cirencester School	Won 25—8	
<i>v.</i> Westwood's School	Won 28—5	
<i>v.</i> Wycliffe	Won 18—8	Won 16—8
<i>v.</i> Haltherop Castle	Won 23—5	
<i>v.</i> Wycliffe	Won 24—8	
<i>v.</i> Dean Close	Won 25—6	

HOCKEY 1st XI

THE girls' hockey at Rendcomb has never been a strong point but this term's hockey has been something of a shocking success! Although only two matches were won the results do not reflect the opposition the team put up. Thus, I would like to thank them for the zeal with which they played, and Mrs. Holdaway for the support and the time she made to take us to the matches. I would also like to thank Mr. Wood for the invaluable coaching he gave, and Mr. Dennis to thank for umpiring.

J. A. H.

Results:

Westwood's Grammar School (A)	Lost 0—2
Marlborough College (A)	Lost 0—1
Wycliffe College (A)	Lost 0—2
Dean Close School 'B' team (H)	Won 6—0
St. Clothilde's Convent (A)	Drew 1—1
Hatherop Castle (A)	Won 5—0

1st TEAM: Mary Alexander, Maria Bitner, Annabel Williams, Sally Horne, Joanna Pettitt, Jenny Watson, Rebecca Norman, Lisa Manners, Patricia Cam, Francesca Hughes, Joan Hecktermann.

Also played: Louise Lomax, Rachel Medill, Fiona Jane Wilson, Alison Hockin.

SQUASH

THE squash team has had a very good season with ever improving standards of play. The enthusiasm of players and supporters has led to an enjoyable and successful term.

Many thanks to Mrs. Holdaway for her endless encouragement, and to John Henniker-Gotley and Mark Burchell for umpiring home matches.

TEAM: Jenny Watson, Annabel Williams, Mary Alexander, Patricia Cam, Joanna Pettitt and Joanna Brain.

Results:

Christmas Term

<i>v.</i> Marlborough College	Lost	0—5
<i>v.</i> Charlton Park Convent	Won	5—0
<i>v.</i> Cheltenham Ladies' College	Lost	1—4
<i>v.</i> St. Clotilde's Convent	Won	4—1
<i>v.</i> Charlton Park Convent	Lost	1—3
<i>v.</i> Westwood's Grammar School	Won	5—0

Lent Term

<i>v.</i> Charlton Park Convent	Won	3—2
<i>v.</i> St. Clotilde's Convent	Won	4—1
<i>v.</i> Marlborough College	Won	4—1
<i>v.</i> Cheltenham Ladies' College	Draw	2—2

The standard of play in all the teams has been high this season and congratulations are due to the captains of Netball 1st team—Sally Horne; 2nd team—Patricia Cam. Squash—Jenny Watson. Hockey—Joan Hecktermann. Much of the success has been the direct result of their enthusiasm and their determination to win—often against schools much bigger than ourselves. I should like to thank all the captains for their help and particularly Jane Ingleton-Beer for her hard work as the games secretary.

C. A. H.

NEW ENTRANTS

VIB Girls—September, 1979

Helen M. Alexander
Maria A. K. Bitner-Glindzicz
Lesley *Joanna* Brain
Patricia A. Cam
Elizabeth A. W. Foy
Alison J. Hockin
Francesca Hughes
Deborah C. Lee
Louisa J. Manners
Rachel M. Medill
Catherine A. R. Milner
Rebecca C. Norman
Joanna V. Pettitt
Susan J. Sherwood
Annabel R. Williams
Fiona Wilson
Fiona Jane Wilson

Third Year Boys—September, 1979

Charles C. Acocks
John E. Adams
Michael S. Airey
Anthony M. G. Bailey
Richard Bendy
Matthew J. Hadley
Matthew J. Lynton
Anthony J. Maton
Philip A. Paterson-Fox
Andrew D. Payne
Adam B. Phelps
Stephen J. Simkin
Gareth D. Thomas
Robert J. Wakeham
Christopher R. Walton
Andrew J. Woof

First Year Boys—September, 1979

Nicholas D. Badcott
Richard A. Bown
Alistair W. Brain
Peter A. Cranswick
Darren C. Denby

Alan M. Doyle
David T. Edwin
Paul A. Grainger
Mark Hammond
James A. L. Irwin
Simon L. K. Jenkins
Reza Khosrowshahi
Adam Pallant
Timothy P. Robinson
John J. D. Scarlett
Paul K. Spackman
Martin W. H. Stitt
Mark A. R. Thompson
Graeme R. Veale

LEAVERS—1979

JULY

Elizabeth M. Adams
Jeremy C. Archer
Shaun M. Brennan
Michael J. Cannon
Timothy D. S. Clarke
Sarah M. Culverwell
Simon C. M. Elliott
Timothy Evans
Ondine G. Glanville
Nigel I. M. Hall
Penelope A. Hooley
Simon J. Howell
Anna S. E. Hummel
Salley E. Hussey
Anthony R. Jaques
Adrian P. Johnston
Alistair Johnston
Kim L. Knight
John D. Marson
Mark Middlemist
Graham C. Morgan
Helen M. Packwood
Victoria L. Powell
Sarah J. Ratcliffe
Mark Raven
Kitty E. Roberts
Douglas Sayers
Robert I. Shacklock

Ian Smalley
Jonathan Steed
Iain H. P. Stewart
David Strong
Mark A. R. Webb
V. Isabel Weeks
Keith P. Winmill
Phillipa J. Young

DECEMBER
David Beanland
Andrew S. Carter
Roy A. Edwards
Phillip L. Evans
Carol A. Franklin
David R. J. Marshall
Jonathan S. Portch
Duncan Taylor

OLD RENDCOMBIAN NOTES

News of recent leavers includes the following:

ELIZABETH ADAMS: Physiotherapy (1980)
JEREMY ARCHER: Leicester University—
Mechanical Engineering (1980)
DAVID BEANLAND: Imperial College, London—
Physics (1980)
MICHAEL CANNON: B. P. apprentice—engineer-
ing officer
ANDREW CARTER: Downing College, Cambridge
—Law (1980)
ROY EDWARDS: Exeter College, Oxford—
Chemistry (1980)
PHILLIP EVANS: Pembroke College, Oxford—
Chemistry (1980)
ONDINE GLANVILLE: Queen's Secretarial College
NIGEL HALL: Royal Holloway College—
Classics
PENELOPE HOOLEY: Liverpool University—
Political Theory
SIMON HOWELL: School of Oriental and
African Studies—Politics
ANNA HUMMEL: Architectural Studies at
Canterbury College of Art (1981)
KIM KNIGHT: Reading University—Modern
Languages (1980)

JONATHAN PORTCH: Royal Holloway College—
Law (1980)
MARK RAVEN: Royal Agricultural College
IAN SMALLEY: Salford University—Civil
Engineering
JONATHAN STEED: With Bowring's of London—
Aviation Reinsurance
DUNCAN TAYLOR: Balliol College, Oxford—
P. P. E. (1980)
MARK WEBB: Royal Agricultural College (1980)
PHILLIPPA YOUNG: Applying for a post in the
Diplomatic Service
ADRIAN and ALISTAIR JOHNSTON: Strathallan
School, Perth
TIMOTHY EVANS: Technical College, Hunting-
don
ROBERT JACQUES: Farming
ROBERT SHACKLOCK: Lord William's School,
Thame
JOHN MARSON: Architectural Studies at Can-
terbury College of Art (1981)

The annual Newsletter will be sent out in
May.

The next reunion for O. R. 's is on July 13th.

W. J. D. W.