

Rendcombian

The magazine of Rendcomb College and Junior School

2002

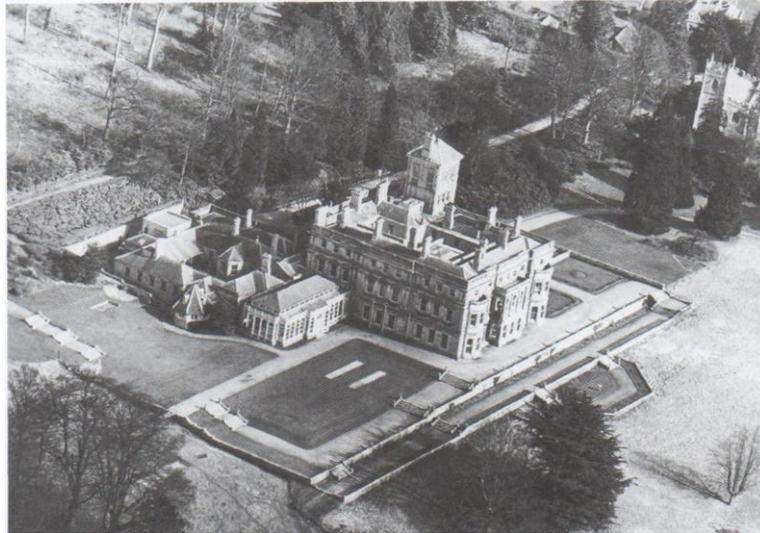


*Bugsy Malone was performed in the Summer Term
by members of the Lower and Junior Schools*

Rendcombian

No. 20

October 2002



The school in 1960

Front Cover

Meg Barne, Cindy Cheung, Sarah Rudderham and Alice Hughes were all selected to take part in BSES expeditions, thereby giving the school Star status

Inside Front

The production of Bugsy Malone involved pupils from both Senior and Junior schools

Inside Back

The Junior School

Back Cover

Jade Finn and Sarah Colson with Jade's GCSE piece

Staff Editorial Team

Penrose Shackel, Chris Wood, Gerry Holden, Adrian Palmer, Julie Palmer

Pupil Editorial Team

Alice Barefoot, Laura Burley, Tom Mixture



Rendcomb College, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 7HA England

Telephone: +44 (0)1285 831213 Facsimile: 01285 831331

e-mail: info@rendcombcollege.org.uk

www.rendcombcollege.org.uk

(Contact details updated March 2017)

© Old Rendcombian Society, Rendcomb College

oldrendcombian.org.uk March 2017 NSP

secretary@oldrendcombian.org.uk

Reset in Bookman Old Style / Calibri typefaces

STAFF LEAVERS

Debbie Botham	3
Mike Debenham	3
Ian Patterson.....	4
Penrose Shackel	4
Claire Anderson	4
David Whitehead.....	5
Liz Ramsey	5
Sarah Cuthbert	5

NEW STAFF

Corrine Hockley.....	6
Di Hamlyn	6
Rachel Morrison	6
New teaching staff and internal staff appointments.....	6

BIRTHS and MARRIAGES

REPORTS

Founder's Day	8
• The Headmaster's Report	8
• Head of College's Speech.....	10
Special Achievements.....	11
• Honours Board	11
• Competitions	11
• BSES	12
• Sport	13
Church Notes	14
Bursar's Notes	15
Parents' Association	16
• Bonfire Night	17
• Quiz Night	17
The Library.....	18
House Reports.....	19

SOCIAL EVENTS

70's Party.....	22
Moulin Rouge	22
Summer Disco	23

PERFORMING AND CREATIVE ARTS

Drama

• One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest	24
• Bugsy Malone.....	29
• Shakespeare's Birthday	30
• Visiting Drama	30
• Theatre Club.....	31
• Theatre Trips	31

Music

• Recitals	32
• Concerts.....	32
• The Choir.....	33
• Rock Concert	33
• Stars from the Fast.....	35
• Coda	35

Art

• Gallery 2002	36
----------------------	----

ESSAYS

A view of Japanese History	41
England - the Home of Sport	41
Form 1A newspaper	41

50 YEARS AGO

ACTIVITIES

Key Skills Day	43
Photography	43
Cross Country.....	43
Clay Shooting.....	44
Riding.....	44
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme	45

FUNDRAISING

Bingo Night	46
A View of Venice.....	46
Clay Shoot	47
Gala Day	47

EVENTS

World Book Day	48
Sixth Form Management Challenge	48

ACADEMIC OUTINGS

Germany.....	48
English	50
Art	51
Science	51
History.....	52
Geography	53
Biology.....	54

THE RECORD

The Old Rendcombian Society

• Gap Challenge in Peru.....	54
College Officers	55
Valet and Salvete.....	55

The Old Rendcombian Society

• Richard Dunwoody	56
• Field and Trek Adventure.....	56
• Handel's Messiah (Part I).....	57
• Power of the Internet	57

News of Leavers 2001	57
----------------------------	----

ACADEMIC

Scholarships	58
GCE A level Examinations.	58
GCSE Examinations.....	59

SPORT

Rugby Football	60
Girls' Hockey.....	64
Boys' Hockey.....	67
Netball	70
Cricket	72
Boys' Tennis.....	76
Mixed Tennis	76
Girls' Tennis	76
Rounders	77

HEADMASTER'S REPORT

78

STAFF LEAVERS

80

NEW STAFF

80

OPENING OF THE OTTERS

81

CREATIVE WORK

82

REPORTS

91

SPORT

97

FAREWELL TO JUNIOR 6.....

99

IAN PATTERSON

In 1991, just after a new network of 10 Research Machines 286 computers had replaced the ageing BBC computers, Ian Patterson joined the school from Ramsay Abbey in Cambridgeshire to teach science and ICT. He then became Head of ICT when David Hawkswell retired and had to manage the expansion of ICT; replacing the PCs, adding the Multimedia Centre and tailoring courses to the needs of our students, which he did by introducing the short course GCSE for the lower forms.

He brought with him his enormous enthusiasm for everything he does and this has not dwindled. He has always involved himself fully in extracurricular activities and this marathon runner has inspired many Rendcombians. I quote from the 1998 magazine: "I have this strange ambition, and that is to run as many marathons as possible around the world. To see a place for the first time I must run its streets and meet as many people as possible with smiles, hand shakes and high fives." He was talking about his fourth marathon, which was in Dublin. He also travelled to Canada and America in his prime.

In his first term he coached the U13B rugby team, which

included characters such as Chris Scarth, Ashley Taylor, Tim Hill and James Graham. These lads went on to do great things and I am sure they have Ian to thank for their introduction to rugby.

He has also helped in other areas such as sailing; Mrs Fielding's trips abroad and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. In all of these, his tremendous patience, good humour and sense of fun have been real assets.

He has never been shy joining in things. Consequently he has been involved in more than his fair share of Christmas sketches, rock concerts and Parents' Association events.

Also we must not forget his huge contribution in the Old Rectory, where he has been assistant housemaster. When I was housemaster, he was a great support and popular with the boys. But one of the things we will miss the most in Mr Patterson, is his ability to cheer up those around him, even during difficult times. His cheery smile is often what is required to blow away the blues. He is now moving on to Louth in Lincolnshire and he takes our best wishes with him.

Chris Wood

PENROSE SHACKEL

Dr Penrose Shackel joined Rendcomb College in 1997, having

been appointed by my predecessor John Tolputt. The College had recently been inspected by HMC and marketing issues were very much at the top of the "to do" list. Given her pedigree background: a PhD in Marketing from the University of Aston and several years in high-profile marketing positions with British Airways and the Kingfisher group, Penrose adapted quickly to the very different promotional needs of a small rural, independent school. Immediately she set about "rebranding" the school: the traditional school prospectus was

rewritten and with support from Paul Kilvington, she defined the now familiar phrase "educating the whole". Subsequently, one of our most enjoyable tasks was when we worked closely together in the further rewriting and redesigning of what is our current prospectus.

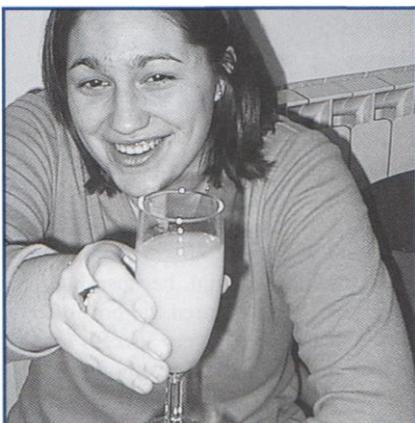
During her five years with us, Penrose was also instrumental in increasing the numbers of prospective parental enquiries to Rendcomb, introducing the popular Hands On Days and the School Newsletter. Initially sceptical of the wisdom of setting up a Junior School during my first year at Rendcomb, she then became a great fan of the project and subsequently played a vital part in its birth, prior to the arrival of Adrian Palmer.

Penrose contributed greatly to the

marketing success of Rendcomb making us all aware of the need to "blow our own trumpet". Those of us who know her well are continually amazed at the speed of her work and the high standards she demands of herself and others. Consequently it was with some reluctance that the discrete position of Marketing Director was made redundant. However, it is to Penrose's professional credit that she has co-edited this current edition of The Rendcombian with great skill and accuracy. We wish her well as she embarks upon the next stage of her career and thank her most warmly for the work carried out at Rendcomb over the past five years.

Gerry Holden

Claire showed herself to be an extremely capable and confident gap tutor from her first day at Rendcomb. She arrived with glowing reports from the South Island, New Zealand, where she had been Deputy



Head Girl at school. She approached the formidable task of introducing herself to the whole school on the first day of term assembly with clarity and humour. We soon discovered that Claire had the presence of a member of staff as well as the ability to be a confidante to the pupils.

As well as playing a vital role living in Godman House and performing many duties there, Claire was particularly gifted in the Performing Arts. In her first term she was directing the school's acclaimed production of The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole and by her third term was assisting in, and eventually teaching, English and Drama lessons. It is measure of Claire's maturity that she tackled all these challenges with ability and enthusiasm.

The girls were sad to see Claire leave and there were many tears on both sides. It shows how well she understood them that one of her leaving presents to them, a book 'Chicken Soup for the teenage soul' has been much read by the Godman girls and given them helpful advice in the difficult transition to adolescence. Claire was also devastated to leave and decided to return to the UK permanently. She is now living in the UK, taking an Open University Degree in English and intends to teach in England in the future.

Diane Dodd

CLAIRE ANDERSON

DEBBIE BOTHAM

Debbie Botham came to Rendcomb in August 1995 shortly after getting married to her architect husband, John. Debbie had previously studied at St Catherine's College, Cambridge. After graduating she had intended to study for her PGCE at Cambridge too. However, she couldn't bear to be separated from John and therefore followed him to Sheffield and subsequently taught in the state sector and completed her PGCE. John's first appointment to the architect's firm 'Dyers Associates' in Cheltenham was fortuitous for us since Debbie was appointed as a teacher of Chemistry and Physics at Rendcomb.

Debbie and John returned from their honeymoon to Rendcomb, initially moving into the Stable flat (now occupied by the Maths Department). It really was living over the shop! They subsequently moved into the newly refurbished no. 17 in the October half-term. Their new home was the pride of Rendcomb with stone floors, architect designed IKEA kitchen and freshly painted off-white walls. They had a sense of style and their minimalist home was very smart. Moving into No. 17 also meant inheriting perhaps the most

Chemistry. She set exceptionally high standards of preparation and teaching, expecting the same back from her pupils. Anyone who knows Debbie cannot fail to have been impressed by her organisation. A quick glance at her mark book is impressive in its attention to detail and her rate of marking and rapid return of all work would put many of us to shame. Her pupils have respected her for her hard work and consistent approach. She has inspired them in Physics and I know that she has filled them with confidence in a difficult subject. This is because of her meticulous planning and wise revision programmes. Her able approach in the classroom and natural ability to explain everything clearly and calmly is a skill we all aspire to.

She also had high standards of discipline in her classroom. Those of you who think of her as quiet would be severely mistaken. Her shout is frightening and she has been known to make me jump on occasions! She quickly co-ordinated the lower school science courses, setting the foundation for the excellent course our 1st & 2nd year students now follow. I remember her working on this one summer, checking

officer. In this role she has seen through big changes in EDI for entries and the changes to AS & A2 modularisation.

Debbie has also played a key role pastorally at Rendcomb. After cutting her teeth in Godman (a useful training ground subsequently for the mother of 2 daughters) she played a pivotal role in the foundation of the co-educational day house. There could not have been a more effective role model for the young women there: a female scientist, hard-working, calm and stylish too! I know that Debbie relished her role here and was sad to lose this responsibility. She has also run some of the lesser known activities at Rendcomb, from bridge, to board games, supervising the music block and even electronics and cookery. She has also coached Netball and Rounders teams with her customary ability and enthusiasm. These activities show what a talented woman she is and I think that her sense of humility may have led us at times to under-utilise her talents.

However, we cannot forget that Debbie has also combined this with being a working mother. With her two daughters Kira (aged 3) and Lydia (aged 1) she has combined her hectic work schedule with looking after her family and home and even bought, completely refurbished and sold a house in Cheltenham in the last year. Debbie doesn't live to work but rather works to live.

Debbie now moves on to Sheffield High School for Girls. From August she will support her family whilst John builds up both his own architectural practice and their dream home in a converted barn on the family farm.

We are so sorry to see Debbie, John, Kira and Lydia leave. In her seven years here in the haven of Rendcomb, Debbie has achieved much professionally and personally. We look forward to visiting them in the Peak District and will follow the new twists and turns in their lives with interest.

Nicola Gill

She quickly co-ordinated the lower school science courses

beautiful garden in Rendcomb. David Sells (the previous resident and member of staff at Rendcomb since 1955) had invested much time into the garden and it was not wasted on Debbie & John. They developed it further into a sanctuary with its orchard view and wisteria clad pergola. The flower beds were always immaculate and I will never forget the sunny Jubilee weekend day this summer in their beautiful garden celebrating Lydia's first birthday.

out numerous videos and word processing detailed and informative schemes of work. She then took over the Physics Department and exam officer role from Graham Smith in 1999, rushing back to do the job having had her daughter, Kira just 3 months previously.

MIKE DEBENHAM

Mike Debenham came to Rendcomb in 1999 to teach Physics and ICT. He had recently qualified as a teacher, following a few years of research and this contributed to him being an enthusiastic and well-informed teacher. He contributed widely to games and extra-curricular activities, with hockey and cricket being his real passions. Also it was not long before his singing talents were revealed at a rock evening. Recently he married Donna and, because her field of research was likely to take her to Cambridgeshire, he secured the post of Head of Physics at Wisbech Grammar School. We wish Michael every success in his new school and hope that he and Donna will be happy in their new home.

Chris Wood

DAVID WHITEHEAD

David arrived at Rendcomb in the Autumn of 1999, fresh from a distinguished career at Pangbourne College. We quickly discovered his distinction as a musician of the highest standards and credentials. We welcomed his masterly playing of the organ in church and were impressed immediately by his impeccable accompanying of pupils in concerts and for examinations. He clearly had a sense of humour and we enjoyed his boisterous laugh and sense of the ridiculous.

Caring and conscientious

He was multi-talented. Not only did his musicianship spread sideways from his keyboard skills to brass playing but very usefully to bagpipe-playing as well, where he was in strong demand for special occasions all over the place. Burns Nights were not a problem. He was catholic in his tastes, being equally at home with Bach, electronic sounds and

techniques as well as rock music. The Rock Concerts acquired a new professionalism with him and he was even able to take the stage in dark glasses and lead the throngs in song and mirth. But he was a bell ringer too, and he was very keen to establish bell-ringing as an activity in the College. All musicians are performers but David's talents spread even further to acting and directing. He even masterminded the lighting board in the Dulverton Hall and was a key player in upgrading the facilities there. The trouble was he was as good in front of the lights as behind them. His role as Rev. Paris in *The Crucible* was as brilliantly professional as his equally all-embracing masterminding of the musical *Annie* (as the Headmaster has good reason to remember).

He came to Rendcomb highly recommended from his last school as a caring, conscientious and involved tutor and he more than played his part, first in School House and then much more fully in The Old Rectory as Assistant House-

master. In this role he was perceptive, observant and thorough. He was much appreciated as a helpmate on the German trips and because he was a fine sportsman was able to relate extremely well with all the people with whom he came in contact.

Above all, we will remember him as a good-humoured, jolly energetic chap whose musicianship was of the highest order. He commanded our respect and affection and he will be sorely missed.

David White



Liz Ramsey joined the teaching staff in 1997 and introduced GCSE Food and Nutrition to the College, with her inimitable mix of enthusiasm and skill. She could be seen climbing the two flights of stairs to her kitchen/laboratory, with Waitrose bags full of the raw materials with which she would show her young students how to practice the alchemy of sealing and exchanging flavours. Some time later, one would see those students coming down those same stairs, carrying their tin-foil containers of culinary delights. We must not forget that one of these students reached the final of BBC's "Young Masterchef" and is now a full-

time professional Chef.

It was a mark of Liz's warmth and generosity that, at the end of her last GCSE class, her colleagues, were invited to a buffet, provided by her very last students. It was a delightful, yet sad occasion at which Liz's students' appreciation of and affection for her were so clear.

Liz and her husband Ian have also been supporters of Rendcomb's busy social scene, always excellent company and very much a part of what makes the College so special, even when we are off-duty. Liz can leave Rendcomb safe in the knowledge that the pupils to whom she has given both skill and

LIZ RAMSEY

enthusiasm will thank her every day of their lives. She will be greatly missed at Rendcomb. We wish her every happiness and hope that she will regularly return to see us and bring back into our midst her very special brand of "joie de vivre".

Lindsey North

SARAH CUTHBERT

Sarah Cuthbert joined Rendcomb two years ago in the Special Needs department. Sarah, with her customary air and enthusiasm, built up the department, encompassing both Junior

and Senior School pupils. One of the many aspects which particularly impressed me was the close and professional relationship Sarah developed with her pupils over the two short years and her dedication in ensuring the best possible guidance in their individual development.

Sarah remained almost totally unflappable except perhaps on the one occasion when a snake was found loose in her classroom, which turned out to be

a pet slow-worm escaped from a boy's pencil case!

Sarah's hard work has been much appreciated and we wish her and her husband Barry and son Laurie, the best of success in South Carolina, where she joins an elementary school as Special Needs Co-ordinator.

Jane Stutchbury

CORRINE HOCKLEY

Corrine joined the Art department at the end of the last summer holiday and after a quick introduction rose to the challenge of teaching 1st, 2nd and 3rd Form Art and Design. Corrine impressed everybody with her determination, resolution and good humour, her depth of knowledge giving her great credibility with students of all ages. As an ex-student of St Martin's, her input into the DT teaching programme has become increasingly valued and as a successful artist and craftswoman in her life away from College, she brings the vital ingredient of real experience to the department. Corrine has a workshop in the Brewery Arts complex in Cirencester and exhibits widely. Her work is usually textiles-based but she uses a diverse range of materials and takes her inspiration from many different sources, often from fragments collected on her travels abroad.

Martin Griffiths

Di Hamlyn joined us initially in a temporary capacity in November as Bursar's secretary. Having spent several years working for eccentric and idiosyncratic professors in South African universities, it was obvious to all of us within minutes of meeting her that we had a person with quite exceptional people skills. She was quickly "elevated" [not promoted - all staff at Rendcomb have parity of esteem and are valued equally] to Headmaster's secretary: a post which she has carried out with great skill over the past seven months. She is outstandingly efficient and has quickly become respected by pupils, parents, staff and governors. She is a regular attendee at school functions and Chapel and we hope that her stay at Rendcomb will be a long and fruitful one. We also hope that her family will settle down quickly in Gloucestershire. South Africa's loss has certainly been Rendcomb's gain.

Gerry Holden

RACHEL MORRISON

Rachel Morrison comes from the North Island of New Zealand and arrived on a cold damp January day from the New Zealand summer. Rachel has thrown herself into everything Rendcomb has to offer. She is very much the big sister in Godman House and has proved especially gifted in her relationship with the Junior School boarders. She has run a Saturday morning entertainment programme for them and been patient in dealing with their

problems. Elsewhere in the school she has played an active part in the Games Programme, been a valued member of the Duke of Edinburgh Expedition team and successfully passed her life-saving qualification. Rachel is also valued in her work in helping the Junior School and is always prepared to help any member of staff with any job, however grotty!

Rachel has also made excellent use of her holiday time exploring distant reaches

of both the UK and further afield into Europe with family and friends. Ever cheerful and accommodating, Rachel has adapted well to all the changes in Godman House this year. We look forward to her continued support in the Michaelmas term.

Nicola Gill

NEW TEACHING STAFF AND INTERNAL STAFF APPOINTMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2002

Against a national backdrop of a shortage of teachers, we are delighted to announce that the following quality appointments have been made at Rendcomb.

Mr Malcolm Ford, currently Head of ICT at The Grange School in Cheshire will join us as Head of Physics. He has held a similar post in other independent schools, has spent some time in industry and his wife teaches at Ferndale School. As a Welshman, he will, of course, be teaching rugby.

Miss Nicky Houghton rejoins us as ICT teacher. She will be known to many of us, having led the Learning Support Department before her departure into the commercial world.

Miss Barbara Shiells joins us our Head of Girls' Games. She is currently teaching at Cheltenham Ladies' College, after a brief term at Cheltenham College. She will strengthen the position of Girls' games at Rendcomb and will also teach some ICT and carry out House duties in Lawn.

Mrs Cath Forshaw, who has been very active on our parents' association, will join the Maths Department on a part-time basis. She has considerable experience of Maths teaching and has also served as a Chairman of Governors in a state primary school. She will already be known to many members of the Rendcomb community.

Miss Naomi Gibbons rejoins Rendcomb College [she was here as a pupil for two years in the late nineties]. She takes up the position of Assistant Director of Music, temporary Assistant in Godman House under the guidance of her former-housemistress, Mrs Gill and will also teach some Drama and PSME. She comes straight from the maintained system having been teaching in an inner-city school in Birmingham.

Mrs Sandy Westhead takes over the role of Learning Support co-ordinator from Mrs Sarah Cuthbert. Initially, she will combine this post with the teaching of Geography.

Mrs Bethan Mang and Mrs Sarah White will join us for two terms on a temporary basis to cover Mrs Fielding's maternity leave.

Mrs Vicki Hayward, who has covered very successfully as Housemistress of Godman during Mrs Gill's maternity leave, will take up the position of Housemistress of Lawn from September 2002.

I am sure that all the staff who are joining us, or who are taking on additional responsibilities, will receive a warm Rendcomb welcome and under our new Assistant Head, Mrs Dodd's tutorship as Staff Induction Officer, settle quickly into the Rendcomb family.

Gerry Holden

BIRTHS and MARRIAGES

Births

- Nicky and Elliot Gill, a daughter Madeleine Lucie on 14th May, 2002
- Rachel and Simon Fielding, a daughter Miriam on 3rd August, 2002

Marriages

- Jemima Pratt to Richard Collishaw on 30th March, 2002



New teaching staff for September 2002

Two naughty boys from one of our local feeder prep schools had recently stretched the patience of their headmaster to the limit. It seemed that every time something went wrong, these two boys were at the centre of it. Now at his wits end, the headmaster had decided to enlist the help of his chaplain. The chaplain called the first boy into his study; he wanted to make the boy aware that whatever he did, God was watching him.

“Where is God?” asked the Chaplain. The boy did not answer.

“Where is God?” asked the chaplain for a second time and again the boy did not answer.

The chaplain asked the question for a third time, this time more forcefully.

At this, the boy jumped up and ran out of the study. As he passed his friend who was waiting outside the door, he said “Now we’re really in trouble; God’s gone missing and they think we did it.”!

If there is a moral to this story, and there does not need to be, surely it is for



to the philosophy of our founder Noel Wills. As a distinguished soldier of that most horrendous of twentieth century encounters, the Great War, Noel Wills like so many of his generation, showed equal courage and insight in creating a very different type of schooling in the spirit of

traditional public schools have copied the Rendcomb model and the Rendcomb philosophy. But in this new century, schools such as Rendcomb cannot stand still. Indeed in standing still, we are in fact going backwards. Such conservatism would be a violation of our founder’s

The Headmaster's Report

us teachers to be very clear about the questions we ask and the answers we expect.

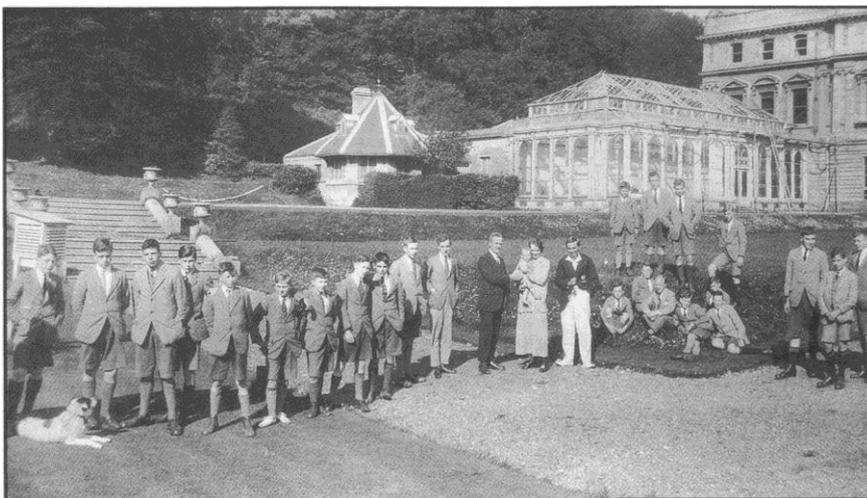
I recently asked my first year class the rhetorical question what is the purpose of Founder’s Day and why should we hold such a day every year. Founder’s Day gives us, as a College, a wonderful opportunity to look back and simultaneously to look forward. This dualistic role, of reflection and visionary insight was I believe, central

idealism which encapsulated so many young men who had survived the trenches of Northern France. Rendcomb College was very much his dream and therefore very much a pioneering school: an educational establishment which acted as a counterweight to the traditional late nineteenth century public schools which had been founded at Rugby and Clifton, for example. Now over eighty years on, it is interesting to note how many

wishes as a visionary pioneer. Rendcomb has, and will always have, a tradition of looking forward.

Our performance in last summer’s public examinations matched the excellent results of the previous year, with a pass rate of 99% at A level and 50% of the grades awarded A or B. The great thing about a 99% pass-rate is that it is not quite perfect and to paraphrase Oscar Wilde, therefore, leaves room for improvement. Similarly, our GCSE results were 87% A*-C. Were we not such a small school, these results would secure us an excellent position in national league tables but it is important for all of us to realise that league tables are rather blunt instruments, showing only in the crudest of forms the pass rates of all candidates. They ignore the performance of individual candidates. At Rendcomb, we feel that it is equally important to rejoice in the academic achievement of all pupils, as we place equal value on the candidate who was predicted three Ds and secures three Cs, as we do on the candidate who secures 4 As, and was always going to secure 4 As.’

The Headmaster then reviewed the



School photograph, 1924

many sporting, cultural, artistic and musical highlights of the last year. These events are written about elsewhere in this magazine and so will not be repeated here.

Mr Holden did, however, make particular reference to those colleagues who took school trips, which this year included Venice, Malta and Germany. He said:

"School trips provide pupils with the opportunity to extend their educational horizons and I know that parents are very grateful to my colleagues who give up so much of their time away from school on sporting tours, on day trips to museums and on language exchanges such as the Annecy exchange. Consequently, it was particularly gratifying to receive a letter from a first form pupil after the Germany trip.

"Dear Headmaster, I would just like to thank Mr Whitehead, Mrs Fielding and yourself for organising the trip to Germany. All of us who attended, enjoyed ourselves and we were very pleased to find that teachers such as yourself could be quite normal when not at school... P. S. I enclose a photograph of you impersonating a monkey."

As I say, trips give us all the opportunity to extend our educational horizons!

We are also grateful to our Parents' Association who play a very supportive role and see themselves as genuine partners in the education of their children. They have played a hugely supportive role in developing improvements in the College, especially most recently in the redesigning of our new website and have been very active in fundraising activities throughout the year. I am reliably

informed by the Chairman that you will not be able to leave the hall until you have collected a poster for Gala Day. Those of you who know Mr Goffe's stature would probably be best advised to comply with his gentle request!

On the theme of partnership with parents, I am grateful to those parents who replied to our recent questionnaire. We were particularly pleased with your vote of confidence in us and even where



Planting of yew trees to mark the Queen's Jubilee

criticism was voiced, we are grateful to you for your helpful and constructive comments, including the respondent who answered the question, 'Do your children like school?' with the riposte: Does any child like school?

We are also particularly pleased with the developments in our Junior School under the expert leadership of Adrian Palmer. In September 2001, we extended the Rendcomb family and launched The Otters, taking pupils from the age of four.

As many of you will know, the Junior School is quickly becoming a centre of excellence in its own right and has also given senior school pupils the opportunity to extend and support the workings of Mr Palmer and his staff. Our Sixth Formers have helped with the coaching of Junior School cricket, with providing support with reading to Juniors and two of our German students, Vanessa and Jenny, recently led assemblies on life in a German School.

This year it has been a genuine pleasure to be present at some outstanding Junior School productions with the impressive Otters' production of *The Grumpy Sheep* and spectacular concerts at the end of the Christmas and Easter terms, where every member of the Junior School has been involved.

Cricket tours to the Isle of Wight, Dads' v Lads' Soccer matches, Mums' v Dads' hockey matches, whole school visits to pantomimes and the school gaining recognition in the final of The Association for Science Education and our posters being displayed in the entrance hall at QCA Headquarters in London: it is all too easy to forget that the Junior school is only two years old, and that the phenomenal growth in the Junior School's numbers is a testament to the outstanding reputation of Adrian Palmer, ably supported by his wife Julie. It is also pleasing to note that the vast majority of Junior School pupils are continuing with their education through to the Senior School and are bringing with them skills, which can be harnessed to produce the future citizens of the twenty-first century, which we are just about to hear about from our guest speaker Dr Bernard Trafford.

Mr Holden then said a fond farewell to some of the staff who were leaving Rendcomb this Summer. Their achievements are reported fully in the first section of the magazine. He also thanked many of the staff, including those mentioned in the Bursar's Notes. The Headmaster ended with a special thank you:

To my supportive Governors and Trustees, it is particularly pleasing that Major Tom Wills can be with us this morning and I am sure that with the continued philanthropic support of the Trustees, often referred to as Rendcomb's royal family, the College will continue to produce young men and women for the twenty-first century. Young people of whom you, as parents, should be enormously proud, as they confirm so comprehensively in the words of our Founder" that the only aristocracy is the aristocracy of brains and character".

Thank you. '



Sir Michael Angus, Chairman of Governors

*O*n my very first Founder's Day, I was given two options; to sit quietly through the speeches or to go on a walk with my father. Being only four years old, I obviously chose the latter. We went on a long rambling walk around the grounds. Looking back, everything was so idyllic; beautiful countryside, rivers, trees and amazing, yet imposing, buildings. It was on that day, I think, that I made up my mind, that one day I would follow in my brother's footsteps, and attend Rendcomb College. There would have been one problem. At that time, Rendcomb only accepted girls in the Sixth Form. Fortunately, due to changes over the years, Rendcomb has now become completely co-educational.

In my seven years at Rendcomb I have noticed many more changes, most notably the creation of the Junior School and more recently the introduction of a co-educational Sixth Form house.



Founder's Day 2002

Head of College's Speech

All these changes have been extremely positive and well timed. I feel that the founder, Noel Wills, would be pleased that the school has changed to follow the fashions of modern times.

However, it is not just Rendcomb that has been subjected to change. We are striving to keep up with an ever-evolving world. We face a future in which anything is possible. Technologies that people only dreamed of in the past, are now accepted as part of life: mobile phones, the internet, genetic engineering. These are all things that were impossible twenty years ago. Rendcomb too has had to change with the times as we now have access to a great wealth of information. Internet facilities are a reality, our multi-media centre would make the old language lab look extremely dated and the astroturf has enabled us to play hockey, even in the most inclement conditions.

Twenty years from now, how many of today's impossibilities will be within reach and what part will we play in these achievements? Not only does Rendcomb create distinguished individuals, but it encourages people to excel in many directions

whether on the sports field, the stage, or academically, without the need to award prizes.

An aspect of Rendcomb life that has not changed during my time here, is the dedication of the teachers. At Rendcomb, the teachers instil in us a desire for knowledge. They know when to challenge us, when to encourage us, and even when to laugh with us. According to a Chinese proverb "learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere." I believe that learning is a key to achievement, a key to progress and a key to success.

Despite all the changes that have occurred over the years, I feel that the essence of Rendcomb life still exists. It is about self-confidence, knowledge, and friendship. It is about fun, laughter, understanding and most importantly, tradition. These strengths give Rendcombians the power to succeed in any walk of life. Many of us here today began Rendcomb in one century and have finished in another.

As we head on to new challenges, I feel that the words of Mother Teresa may apply:

- *Life is an opportunity - benefit from it*
- *Life is beauty - admire it.*
- *Life is bliss - taste it.*
- *Life is a dream - realise it.*
- *Life is a challenge - meet it.*
- *Life is a duty - complete it.*
- *Life is a game - play it.*
- *Life is costly - care for it.*
- *Life is wealth - keep it.*
- *Life is love - enjoy it.*
- *Life is a mystery - know it.*
- *Life is a promise - fulfil it.*

My philosophy for the future would be:

Approach tomorrow with bravery.

Allow your goals to guide you.

Aspire for each and every dream.

It is up to us to define this new century and the changes that come with it.

Vicky Mackinnon

Honours Board 2001

James Smith received a 1st Class Honours in Mathematics at Warwick University. He is now studying for a PhD at Imperial College, London.



Competitions

Cirencester Science and Technology Society

Frances Burden won second prize of £50 in the Cirencester Science and Technology Society Competition with her essay entitled "How scientific advances are helping medicine". Her winning essay was on recombinant DNA technology, gene therapy in cystic fibrosis, the application of ultrasound in diagnosis and the ethical problems in science and medicine.

On Tuesday 30th April 2002, eighteen First and Second Form pupils were invited to take part in the UK Junior Mathematical Challenge. This was the first time that the College had entered pupils in this competition. The results were very encouraging. Twelve pupils received a Bronze, Silver or Gold Certificate. Well done to all who took part in the new venture.

UK Junior Mathematical Challenge

Gold

J Bladon
A Staines
P Taylor

Silver

R Collins
L Lu
R Soanes

Bronze

M Hook
J Macted
R Watson
A Schofield
A Turner
S Arkle

John Williams

Special Achievements

BRITISH SCHOOLS' EXPLORING SOCIETY



Cindy's recital



Four pupils have been selected to take part in two expeditions. Alice Hughes and Sarah Rudderham will be exploring the wonders of the Amazonian Tropical Rainforest in Brazil; whilst Cindy Cheung and Meg Barne will be experiencing the remote ice caps and mountain areas of Arctic Norway.

The expeditions are being run by BSES Expeditions (formerly the British Schools Exploring Society) which aims to help the personal and social development of young people through the challenge of living and working in remote and demanding areas of the world.

The girls were chosen from schools all over the country to join fellow young explorers on their 5-6 week expeditions during the summer holidays. Three of the four girls have explorer's blood in their genes already: Alice has forefathers who founded Freemantle in Australia as well as Arctic and Antarctic explorers in her family tree. Sarah's grandfather was a member of the first BSES expedition to Finland in 1936, when he was only 15 and Meg's great uncle accompanied Robert Scott on the first exploration to Antarctica. Cindy, whose family live in Hong Kong, has no such

history but is hugely looking forward to experiencing such an alien environment as Arctic Norway.

For Alice and Sarah, base camp will be on an island in the upper Amazon, near Manaus and the expedition area will include rainforest locations on the mainland. They will live and work in the heart of the Amazon rainforest, exploring the most diverse terrestrial ecosystem on Earth, working alongside local people and learning first-hand the problems and potential of the Amazon.

As for Cindy and Meg, they will be spending their summer some 500km north of the Arctic Circle. They will be able to experience the wonderful snow and ice vistas with clear air and 24 hours daylight (which will be a challenge in itself.) They will be exploring the main icecap on the Loppa peninsular and also venture further west to carry out studies on some of the smaller icecaps and remote mountain areas that bound the Norwegian Sea.

They have all been working very hard to raise the £2,400 to £2,900 required. The Old Rendcombian Society has kindly given



them some money from the Travel Bursary, for which they are most grateful. Cindy Cheung gave an amazing piano and violin recital in March. Meg has been making and selling jewellery as well as organizing a Scottish Reels Evening in April. Sarah has been making and selling fudge, along with other entrepreneurial ideas and Alice undertook a sponsored walk to help her fund-raising.

The girls helped entertain at the College's Venetian Evening and benefited from the money raised from the raffle. They also shared the profits made from a Murder Mystery Evening as well as the Moulin Rouge Ball at the end of the Spring Term.

They are certainly all espousing Rendcomb's school motto, "Quo Lux Ducit" (where the light leads) as they are all about to follow their long-held dreams. They are about to experience the adventure of a lifetime and I would like to wish them all the best.

Amanda Brealy

(BSES Expedition to the Himalayas, 1988)



Murder Mystery Evening



*Pictured from left to right: The Victorious U13 Cricket Team
 Back row: Philip Ellis, Ben Crane, Richard Mason
 Front row: Edward Jefferson, Alex Holden, Ben Symcox (capt),
 Paul Taylor, Luke Palmer*

Six-a-side Cricket Tournament

The U13 Cricket Team at Rendcomb College, took part in a six-a-side tournament held at King's School, Gloucester on Monday 9th June and were victorious in the final played against Downs School. Rendcomb won all their matches against stiff opposition from other Gloucestershire schools and the boys were delighted with the success of their team, ably captained by Ben Symcox and coached by David Essenhigh. Paul Taylor was player of the tournament, scoring 60 runs in total. Excellent performances were also given by Alex Holden with some on target, fast bowling, Edward Jefferson keeping wicket and letting very little pass by him, Ben Crane, Phil Ellis, Richard Mason and Luke Palmer. This was an excellent team effort with all players giving their best.

David Essenhigh



London Marathon

Congratulations to Mr Morgan and Mr Stutchbury on completing the London Marathon. Mr Morgan is a veteran of this event but it was Mr Stutchbury's first marathon.

Cross-Country

David Roper competed in a National Biathlon event in Cirencester Park in the Michaelmas term. For this he had to run two miles, then mountain bike through thick mud for 10 miles, before finishing with a further two mile cross-country run. After finishing in one and three quarter hours he came 21st out of 250 competitors (the leaders being British Internationals) and first of the under 18 field. Such grit and determination certainly holds true of the Rendcomb spirit!

A lex Brealy



James Stutchbury finishing the London Marathon

I see my role in the College as a witness to the reality and relevance of the Christian faith. One called to present that faith as attractively and intelligibly as possible in the classroom, in the chapel and even out on the games field. Indeed, it is often the more relaxed informal occasions that provide an opportunity for relationships to develop and serious questions to be asked. That is why, each term in chapel, there is a particular theme and emphasis in the talks, both in the assemblies and on Sundays.

This year, topics have included "Sketches from the Parables" and "Saints and Sinners" alongside special services including Harvest; a memorable Remembrance Sunday service with the North Cerney and Duntisbourne branch of the Royal British Legion; Advent Sunday and the Carol Service in Cirencester Parish Church. Midweek assemblies have included "Topical Issues in the News" (as they relate to our life in College), "Know What You Believe" (raising questions about the Christian faith) and "shared values" (valuing each other and society). We have also welcomed a number of visiting speakers including Mrs. Alison Adams from the Bloxham Project, Stephen Short, our Cirencester Deanery Youth Officer, Georgina Hunter Smart (Old Rendcombian) speaking about how her faith has guided her choices in life, Paul Braithwaite from Christian Aid, challenging us all to contribute to fairer trade in the world and a lively question and answer session with the Right Rev. David Bently (Bishop of Gloucester).

The College has supported a number of local, national and international charities including Whizz Kids (the movement for non-mobile children), Cotswold Care Hospice, The National Star Centre College (for students who have a physical disability or acquired brain injury), Sergeant Care for Children with Cancer, Cirencester Housing for Young People, James Hopkins Trust for Special Children, Helen House (hospice for children), The Bible Lands Society and Christian Aid.



The Junior School pupils have a special assembly every Monday, during which we explore some of life's big questions and

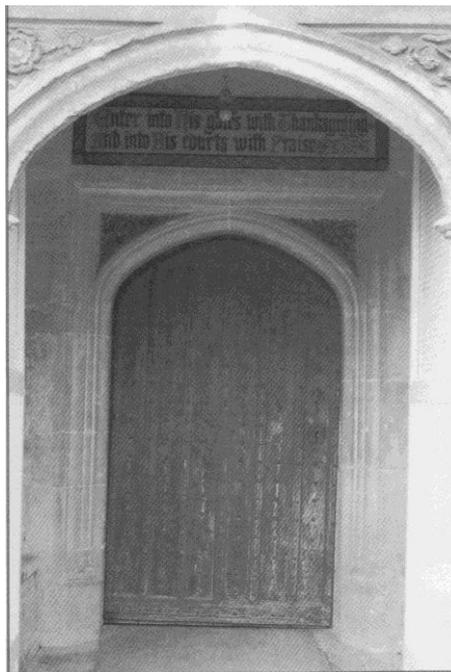
examine some Christian traditions. We have particularly enjoyed interactive Bible stories and looked at the generosity of God seen in creation.

All of this could not happen without the support of so many others. I am particularly grateful to those students who have contributed to music in church under the guidance of Mr. David White and Mr. David Whitehead.

One's own hope and prayer is that St. Peter's Church will provide an opportunity for reflection for both staff and students in a busy day, and that the Christian faith will be increasingly seen as credible, intelligible and worthy of serious consideration. For as the critic, novelist and poet G. K. Chesterton once wrote, "The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult and left untried." The

challenge, therefore, for any Chaplain is to encourage students to 'try it' or in the words of the 34th Psalm - "Taste and see that the Lord is good! Happy is the person who trusts in Him!"

Reverend Charles Jefferson



Carol service in Cirencester Parish Church

Church Notes

The aim of the Non-Teaching staff is to provide a service to allow the teaching and pastoral care at Rendcomb to prosper. These notes are a tribute to the Non-Teaching staff who day in and day out, College holidays included, give of their best to allow Rendcomb to flourish.

Buildings and Grounds Staff

Our team now consists of Manager, Paul Cairns and Peter Cairns his Assistant Manager, Raymond Berry, Harry Evans, and Matt Hodgson. Dan White, who is the son of David White, Housemaster of the Old Rectory, has departed, after 2% years with us to work at Kemble Aerodrome. His skills included dry stone walling, grass cutting and helping to build the workshop. We wish him well in his new endeavours. Constructing new classrooms, dealing with the maintenance of a village, major school buildings and a 200 acre site

for Hygiene and Food Quality again this year and Mark Robbins, the Head Chef, and his staff are to be congratulated. Upgrading of the Dining Room has included providing framed prints of the original architect's drawings of the Main Building, putting tablecloths on all the dining room tables, and upgrading the coffee and soft drinks machines.

Cleaning

This is a large site, and keeping all our buildings looking good, is a constant battle. Karen Savoury has been appointed as the Supervisor and despite illness

I plaguing the Cleaning Department this year, the standards remain high; a tribute to the Cleaning Ladies' professional approach.

Laundry

The increasing amount of home clothing brought to the Senior School has proved a challenge to our Laundry Ladies. We are looking at the options, but are very grateful to our ladies with the "Dazzling smiles", who keep our senior pupils clean and fresh!

Accounts Department

Kay Collins, the Accounts Manager and her Assistant, Sue Thomson, now look after 10 new Junior School Teaching Staff and 110 new families. Although the workload has increased, they cope with the extra demands placed on them with amazing grace and fortitude. Well done ladies.

Secretarial Support

Sue Downie, previously my secretary, left during the year to help her husband's

is no small achievement and the team constantly strives to provide the highest standards.

The Medical Centre

Our two Registered General Nurses, Julie Pritchard and Judy Hunt, have agreed to provide cover 24 hours-a-day-seven-days-a-week in term time. We all welcome their care and expertise being available to Staff and Pupils, not only during the week but at weekends as well. They do so much to make the lives of our pupils happier ones, and we thank them for their caring ways and dedicated professionalism.

Catering

Mark Naylor, the Commercial Operations Manager, and his 3 Departments have met the demands of a growing Junior School. Adjusting to small customers (aged 4) has proved a challenge but it is a huge tribute to the Catering Department that they have satisfied customers, who come back for more! Our kitchens won the Gold Award



Sue Downie

business. The Team now consists of: Di Hamlyn, the Headmaster's Secretary, Carol Endersby, the Bursar's Secretary, Jemima Collishaw, the Admissions Registrar and Marsha Holt and Diana Whyatt, who job share the Receptionist's role. Stability in this Department has brought the chance to consolidate skills and everyone has risen to the challenges that have occurred in a very positive manner. We welcome Di Hamlyn and her family, who have immigrated to England from South Africa and congratulate Jemima Collishaw on her marriage. All the signs are that we have started well in the new look Administration Department.

Laboratory Technicians

Joan Essenhigh retires from the Department at the end of the Michaelmas Term 2002. She started at Rendcomb in the Summer Term 1973 and has contributed hugely to the College over the years. Margaret and Derek Coombes work as the Physics and Chemistry lab technicians and always have a professional and caring attitude towards their job. In addition to his main role, Derek looks after the stationery for the College, the Duke of Edinburgh stores and the photocopiers. We owe them all our grateful thanks.

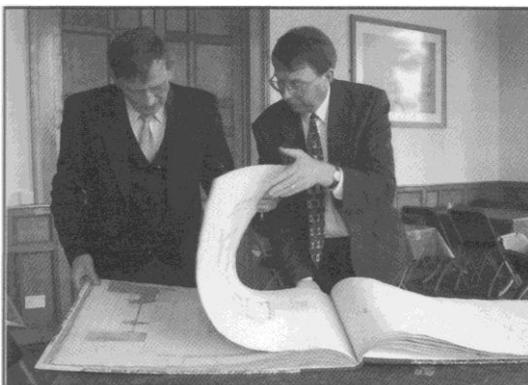
Information, Communication and Technology Support

We are delighted to announce that Darrell

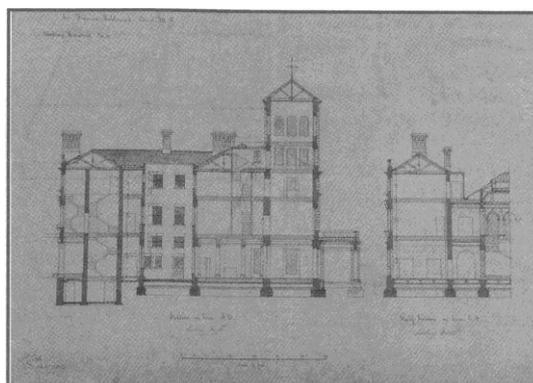
Hayward, the husband of Vicky Hayward, the Housemistress of Lawn House from the Michaelmas Term 2002, is taking over the new job of ICT Technician from the 15th July 2002.

Thank you all for your help and professional support during a very busy and demanding year.

Jeremy Grey



Mark Naylor and Martin Graham with the book of the original plans of the Main Building



An example of the plans now exhibited in the Dining Hall

www.RendcombCollege.co.uk

Rendcomb College

Parents' Association

The Parents' Association have had a very busy year organising or supporting a number of College events. In the Michaelmas term these included Bonfire Night, a Quiz Night and refreshments for *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. In the Lent term, the Venetian Theme Night and *Instant Wit* performance were particular successes and in the Summer term we supported the Cricket Club Dinner, *Bugsy Malone* and organised the Summer Gala. Monies raised from the Gala are being split between the Opportunity Group special needs playgroup and the Association.

At the AGM, we said farewell to out-going chairman Paul Stanfield, and thanked him for his many years of involvement and support he has given to the College.

I would like to thank everyone who attended and helped at the various College events. We have now revised and improved the allocation of RCPA funds to all pupils, with every house Committee getting £150 to spend each year. So far, these funds have been used to provide a video recorder, a DVD, a table tennis table and a basketball net. On the whole school front, we purchased tiered staging for the Dulverton Hall in time for its inaugural use during *Instant Wit* on 1st February 2002.

Recently, our Secretary, Brian Fothergill, has been involved with setting up the website. Do look at www.Rendcombcollege.co.uk for more information. If you have any views or any general concern, please contact your RCPA year



Promotional poster for Gala Day

representative or myself. The RCPA aims to have representatives from every school year on the Committee and we still need some years to be represented. We usually meet twice a term and meetings are open to all parents. We would also like more help at the College events: any volunteers? Please do contact me if you want to know more about helping your Association.

Paul Goffe, Chairman of the Parents' Association

The fireworks were enthralling and it was obvious that a lot of time had been spent on making this display a success. The fireworks lasted for about 15 minutes and there were all sorts of colours, patterns and explosions. Expertly, there were no breaks between each part of the display, a credit to the organisation by the Maintenance Team. The display attracted 700 guests, which is the largest number that we have ever had and Junior School and Senior School parents mixed happily at this whole College event.

During the evening, pizza and hot dogs were served and jazz and blues, ranging from Miles Davis to Albert Collins, was played by Emma Sykes on double bass, Richard Demczak on the ivories, Mat Ewing on drums and Mr Day on saxophone. Mr and Mrs Day also played a jazz duet.

Tom Mixture

Bonfire NIGHT



QUIZ Night

In November the Parents' Association held a very successful Quiz Night with seven teams grappling with some quick fired questioning from Chair Paul Goffe. The cerebral activity was punctuated by a very tasty ploughman's supper and the competition was settled only during the last round. The presence of a bonus question in each round produced high scores out of 110 and the results were as follows:

Here are just four of the harder questions to tempt more of you to participate next year. (Answers alongside)

Q1. Identify the Nationwide League Football team whose name is not derived from a geographical location.

Q2. In how many ways can 4 different books be arranged side by side and the correct way up on a shelf?

Q3. At which home did the Earnshaw family live in the novel "Wuthering Heights"?

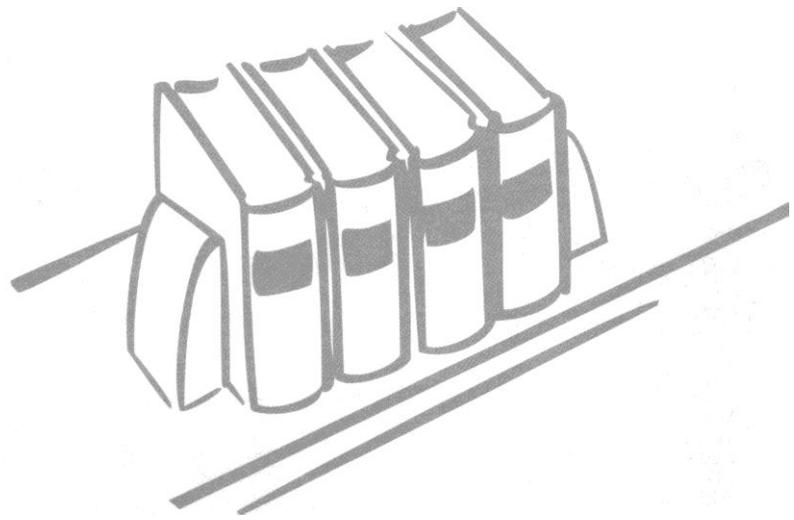
Q4. Name a flower using common words and which fits the clue: "Triumphant beginning to the day"

Woody and Co.	98
Brainy Barkes	95
Old Wrecks	93.5
ERG	92.5
Friday Island Flyers	90.5
Godman Girls	86
The Defenders	84.5

Answers
 A1. Port Vale
 A2. 24 (4x3x2x1)
 A3. Thrushcross Grange
 A4. Morning Glory

Alice Barefoot

The Library

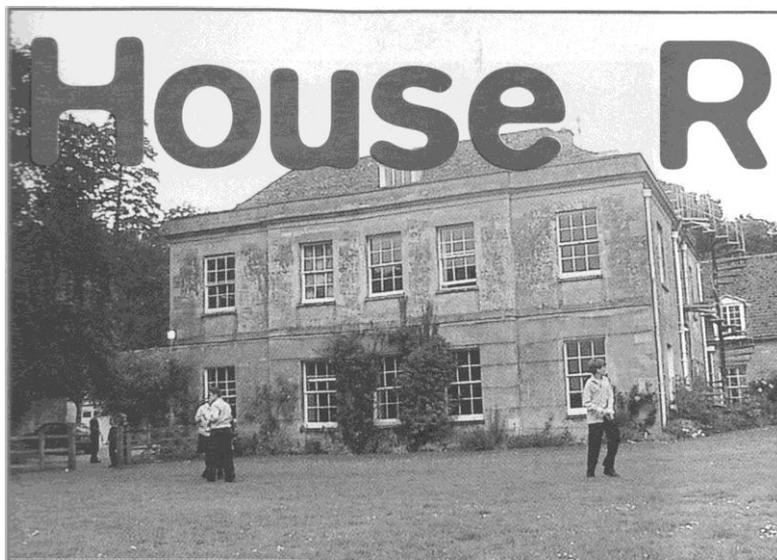


As in previous years, the Library has had new books added over the last twelve months, old ones stored, and a few more sections of the catalogue reclassified. This year it has been the turn of the Philosophy, Religious Studies and Geography sections to be updated and brought into line with modern thinking in those disciplines. The fiction stock has also been overhauled, not least to provide more space for the books being constantly added in this area. It remains the most heavily used section of the Library.

Finally, the Library has once again benefited from a number of donations this year, and I would like to

place on record my thanks to Sister Julie Pritchard, Aileen Graham, Martin Griffiths and Chris Wood for the gift of books on various subjects. Particular thanks are due to Brian Fothergill for the donation of a considerable number of books on business studies, marketing and financial management; they have enlarged the Library's holdings in this ever-developing area and will provide an extremely useful resource for Business Studies' students in the years to come.

Martin Graham



House Reports

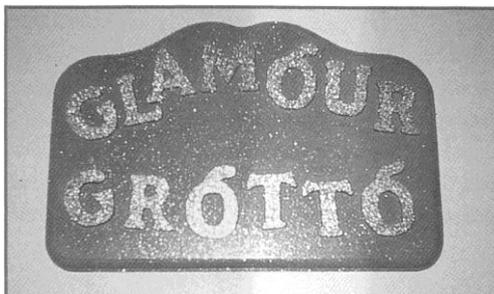
Old Rectory

Godman House

This has been a year of tremendous change for Godman House. Within an academic year the house has fallen in line with the Old Rectory; just being for 1st and 2nd year girls (and a few junior school boarders) as well as seeing two new Housemistresses!

In September the changes to boarding throughout Rendcomb saw the third year girls go up 'early' to the all new girls' Lawn House, together with their Housemistress Mrs Dodd. The 'new' Godman House saw the Gills take the helm. We enjoyed a more family feel to the house with the relatively small number of boarders and had a busy and fun packed schedule of hard academic work as well as just a few parties and weekend outings. These have been extremely diverse and included exploring Avebury, shopping, bowling, breakfasts at McDonalds and even a weekend away with the boys! It was whilst we were away on the weekend in the Wye Valley for the 1st years that Mrs Fielding performed 'Changing Rooms' on the hair and makeup area. With her able decorating team she transformed a rather dull room into our now fuchsia pink 'glamour grotto.' House leisure facilities were also improved this year with the donation of a table tennis table from the Chester-Master family. The elected House Committee have worked hard and have made many sensible suggestions as to how the house could be improved in small ways - such as more chocolate spread!

We enjoy running a friendly and caring community where both day girls and boarders can play a part in the smooth day to day running of the house. We are also grateful for the role our supporting staff plays, notably Mrs Fielding who has been the Assistant Housemistress, Miss Bell and of course our New Zealand Gap tutors. We have been very lucky to have such mature and capable tutors over the last year. The girls were very sad and tearful when



There is an anonymous poem, which has hung in the corridor outside the Housemaster's study, ever since we took over as Houseparents in The Old Rectory, in 1995.

*Do not underestimate
The power of praise.
It carries in its soothing stream
A priceless balm,
Cements the fragile self esteem of youth.
Harsh words for frail attempts
Will pierce the heart
And leave it leaking courage all life long.
If you would raise him strong and unafraid,
Would teach him to himself be true,
Then give him the gift of praise
When such a gift is due.*

Although we are no longer callow and idealistic, it still encapsulates the spirit of Rendcomb, which we keep alive.

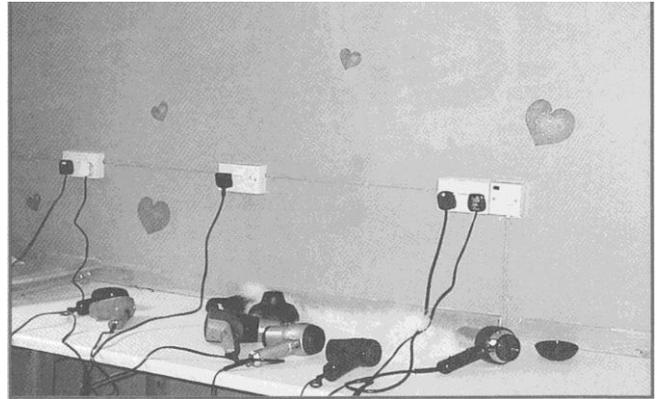
We feel that a positive attitude, and seeing the pupils as individuals, is paramount. At age eleven and twelve, the boys are very young. Life here is very different from life in a Junior School; the boys must begin to take responsibility for themselves, but we try to provide a nurturing atmosphere, to lay a solid foundation and equip them for life higher up in the College.

'Miss Andy' departed for home at Christmas but the ever patient and thoughtful 'Miss Morri' has proved a worthy successor. Our 6th Form prefects this year, Penny Foster and Frances Burden, have also played an important role and done well in balancing the difficult task of being big sisters to the girls as well as carrying out their responsibilities to the house staff

reliably and with humour. Godman also has a fantastic domestic team and we run smoothly and calmly thanks to the hard work and observations of our team of Jenny, Jennifer and Joy. I have also enjoyed the support and friendship of our parents. I enjoy our daily discussions at the front door and trust that the parents will continue to be so forthcoming with their ideas and support for Godman House.

In the Summer term we were grateful for the work of Mrs Vicky Hayward when I was absent on maternity leave. Mrs Hayward proved herself to be a capable and understanding Housemistress and we wish her every success in her new role as Housemistress of Lawn House from September. I know that there will be excellent continuity of care for our 2nd year moving up to the senior girls' house.

The year ended with an excellent children's party in Godman House. Here the girls celebrated their achievements of the year, said goodbye to the leavers, gave special thanks to Mr and Mrs Hayward and also bade 'au revoir' to Mrs Fielding as she departed



for her own maternity leave. Godman House really is a special place. The girls are fun and caring and make looking after them a real pleasure. We hope for a more settled time ahead and Elliot, William, Madeleine and I look forward to the challenges.

Nicola Gill

Lawn House

Lawn House for Ladies? Surely not!

This new idea soon became a reality when 69 girls entered the normally masculine portals of Lawn House in September. We very quickly adjusted to the delights of table football, Third Form bunk beds and the newly established co-ed Fifth Form Common Room. Lawn House rapidly became a popular meeting place for Lawnites and other pupils at break and lunchtime.

Over the year we had several highly successful social events. We christened both Lawn and Stable's rebirth with a joint party in September, our trip to "The Lion King" in December was magical and the Fifth Form sang their socks off during the karaoke at the Moulin Rouge evening.

The House Committee, with two reps from each year group, met every Friday lunch-time under the guidance of the Heads of House, Sarah Padmore and Nellie Gilson. The functions of the committee were to make suggestions for the spending of the house budget and to put forward ideas for social events and house procedures. Their input was a key feature in the evolution of the house during its first year.

We were also fortunate with our housestaff. Mrs Hayward was with us for two terms before moving across to Godman. She will be a worthy successor to Mrs Dodd when she returns to us in September. Mrs Westhead quickly established herself as a new house tutor

with her cheerful but firm approach and Miss Bell was always a source of good advice on romantic matters!

Our first year in Lawn has flown by and ended with a farewell party for Mr and Mrs Dodd. We enjoyed all cramming into their house and eating pizza and ice-cream! This was followed by games in the Common Room where many forfeits were called for. Mr Dodd's monkey act was a particular favourite!

It has been an exciting time being part of something new. Next term we look forward to building on our successes and adding to the positive aspects of our lives together.

Lawnites

STABLE & LAWN PARTY

On Wednesday 12th December Lawn and Stable House joined together to celebrate Christmas with a fancy dress party in the Village Hall. The disco, run by DJ's James Tarleton and Joss Acock put everyone in a jolly Christmas spirit. There were lots of nice nibbles and drink throughout the evening and two competitions for the best dancers and the best fancy dress. The best male went to Ed Warrington (5) and the best female dancer

to Sara Quinn (4). Well done! First prize for the fancy dress competition went to Hana Lawrence (3) who was dressed as Mrs Claus. Well done, Hana!

Our thanks to the Fifth Formers who organised such a great event, the staff that came along to support us and the DJ's for the great music that we had.

Laura Evans & Sophie Boyd (3)

House Reports

PARK HOUSE

the new Sixth Form House

Entry into the Sixth Form represents an important and challenging watershed in a student's education and we see the new Sixth Form House as pivotal in enabling students to make the transition from GCSE pupils to young adults within a supportive environment - not one governed by rules in the oppressive sense but rooted in the reasonable expectations that one might have of young adults. There is no doubt that the advice and guidance offered at Rendcomb in respect of application to HE is of the highest quality. This, together with our out-

cooking, basic D1Y and personal financial management skills, some of which are applied during the week that each member of 6A spends in the Sixth Form flat, living with 3 other students on a limited budget, shopping, cooking and, hopefully, washing up, or discovering just how unpopular you become if you don't do your fair share!

Secondly, through our enrichment programme, including a management day focusing on skills such as leadership and team work, communication and presentation, problem-solving and decision-making. There is also a visit to a local business to be put through a rigorous job application, CV building, interview and selection process, trips



Rendcombian, sharing his experiences of Japan and its people based on his time in the Far East with Commercial Union and Andrea Gear, also an Old Rendcombian, talking about her GAP year. There are also important roles for students on the various Sixth Form committees, offering genuine opportunities to show initiative and take control of their own lives.

Ultimately, Rendcombians must be ready and able to take their place in a world where they will be expected to take responsibility for every aspect of their lives as well as academic responsibility. It is our firm intention that experiencing the Sixth Form at Rendcomb College will give our students significant advantages over their contemporaries in this respect.

Michael Stark



Life Skills: cookery

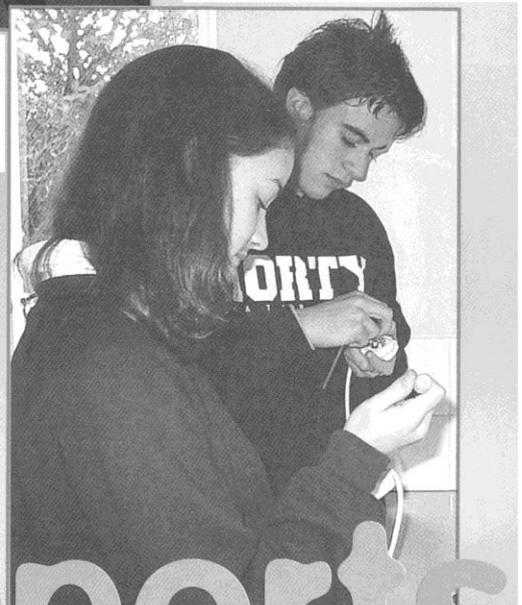
standing A level results (99% pass rate and 50% A or B grade), means that Rendcomb students invariably secure a place at the university of their first choice and stay the course. But this is not enough. In order to maximize the benefits that such an opportunity offers, young people must have developed the appropriate personal skills and we are addressing these needs in a variety of ways.

Firstly, through our life skills programme. This includes car maintenance,



Life Skills: car maintenance

to the theatre on Friday evenings, Sixth Form debates and visiting speakers. The latter included Michael Miles, an Old



Life Skills: home electrics



House Reports

On Saturday 13th October Forms 1, 2 and 3 re-lived, or should I say experienced, the 1970's. Many of the staff came in what must have been original '70's gear and the fancy dress competition, won by Henry Pullen in Form I, was difficult to judge. There was a seventies' trivia quiz, a game of 'pin the sideburns on Elvis' and Mr Gill, dressed in some stylish pink flares, a shirt and a kipper tie, took lots of photographs.

During the evening we also had phenomenal performances from two top 70's bands: Queen (by Ben Forshaw, Tom Ruddy, Ed Hutchison and Seb Goffe) and the incredible ABBA (by Holly Taylor, Laura Evans, Joss Acock and Will Drewett.) The audience was very appreciative and reports of the quality of the bands soon reached the ears of senior pupils many of whom came to crash the party. A big thank you to Mrs Fielding and Miss Anderson for making it happen, for organising it on my birthday and for letting me win the quiz! We all eagerly await the next performance of Abba and Queen.

70's Party

Sophie Boyd

social

Moulin Rouge Theme Night

When Liese first mentioned that she was thinking of organising a theme night for the Fourth and Fifth form on the penultimate evening of the Lent Term, I thought that madness had reached new heights in the Holden household.

"Why?" I asked.

"Because you're always going on about how the middle school miss out on social events and I thought that I would do something about it". She replied.

Thus it was that the idea of the middle school themed evening was born.

A committee consisting of Rebecca Demczak, Lauren Lees, Alice Barefoot, Nick Evans, Jon Williams, Laura Burley, Mrs Hayward and Simon Whitby-Brown quickly set about planning the event. With advice from Mark Naylor a menu was agreed upon, costings were worked



a husband's view

out, invitations designed and a Karaoke guru was booked.

Penultimate evenings of Lent Terms are never easy for me. I had just finished my 243 reports, the draft calendar for the summer term and the end of term letter but I was very conscious that I was going off to Germany at seven o'clock the next morning on our lower school trip and I was still to pack.

"Gerry, will you get your act together?," my wife greeted me [I don't think that this was really a question; more of an instruction] when I came home on the evening at seven o'clock with the Moulin Rouge Ball due to start at seven thirty.

"Can't I just stay at home and watch the football on the television?"

Mrs Holden's reply must remain unpublished.

However, when we arrived at the Dulverton Hall at 7.29, I knew that I had made the correct decision. The hall had been superbly decorated by Amanda Brealy, Sophie Blackwell and Sara Arkle, aided by the Committee and the tables looked wonderful. What followed was an excellent occasion with our middle school ladies looking elegant in their evening attire and our gents matching them for flair and style. After a first class meal, the Karaoke proper started: the highlights of the evening include Amanda and Alex Brealy's outstanding jitterbugging; the fourth .

.. (Cont'd page 23)

SUMMER DISCO

This year's summer disco run by Martin Griffiths and David Whitehead had a hippy fancy dress theme and the students brilliantly decorated the Dulverton Hall. Hat Maylott pictured here seems a little lost on his way to San Francisco.

Martin Griffiths

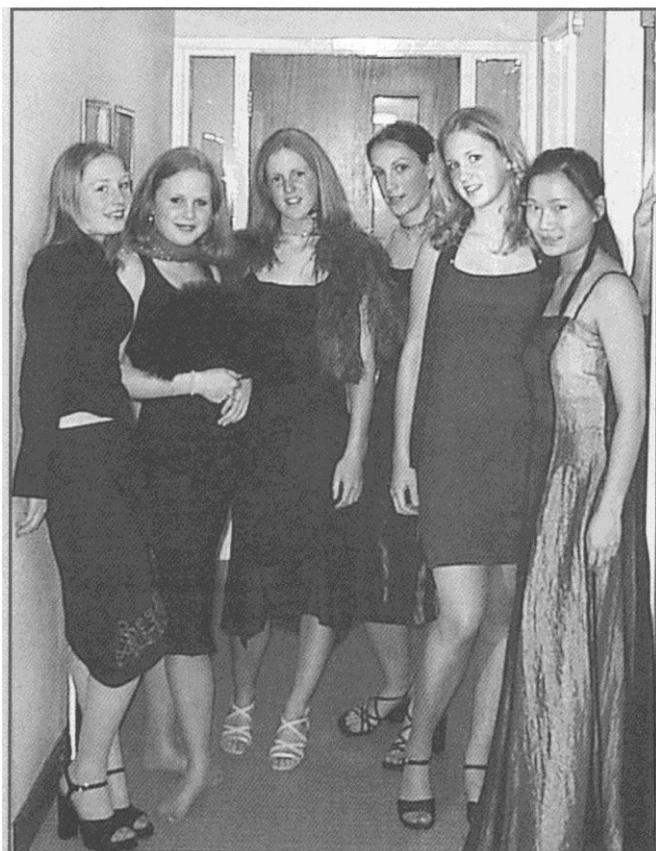
events

. . . form lads signing of YMCA, Mr Morgan's, Mrs Dodd's, Mrs Hayward's Mr North's and my own attempt at the unforgettable Abba number *Take A Chance On Me* [thankfully we did and only one microphone was working]. Alice Hughes ran a very successful "bar" as part of her fund-raising BSES activities and the Committee had the whole of the Dulverton tidied up in under half an hour. Pupil participation from nearly everyone in the fifth form, including Mohammed and Juan, who were [allegedly] seen "boogying on down" with Mrs North in a fashion that did credit to the pre-selected theme. In the immortal words of a housemaster, "... a good time was had by all and our pupils' behaviour was impeccable.... many schools would not have the courage to stage such an event at that particular time of term with pupils of this age group"

As I left for Germany early the next morning, I woke Liese up and said "What a great night. Weren't the kids great fun to be with! It was even more enjoyable than watching Manchester United lose".

"Ah, that's just given me another idea", Liese mused from behind the duvet.

... *To be continued...*

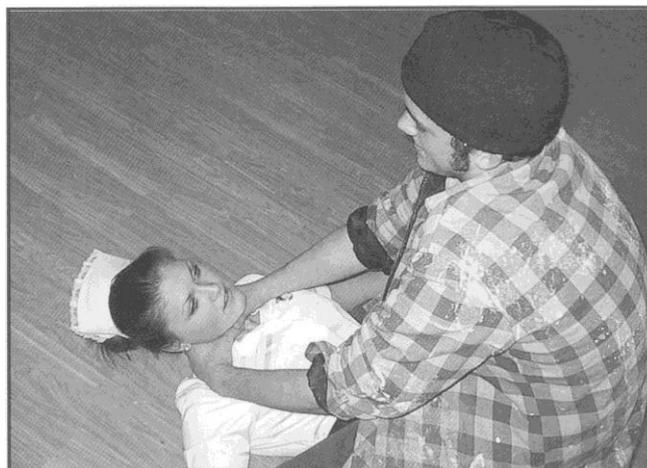


drama

On Friday 30th November and Saturday 1st December, we were treated to the College production of Dale Wasserman's "One flew over the Cuckoo's Nest", a play based on the novel by Ken Kesey. We were not to be disappointed. It is a doubly daunting task, not merely to present this harrowingly, hilariously, intense play, which has such economy and imposes inescapable demands upon the cast, but also to succeed in delivering one's own production of a play made famous to most of us by Milos

Foreman's Oscar winning film version, with the inimitable Jack Nicholson. Mrs Diana Dodd has never been one to succumb to such pressures, on the contrary, her vision of what she wanted and her expertise in guiding her cast and production team made Rendcomb College's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" her very own.

The set, with audience on two sides and with netting creating the impression of prison-yard fencing gave the enclosed, glaring atmosphere of this hospital for the mentally unbalanced. Before the play began, the set was lit and was guarded by nurses, the music was suitably eerie and deranged and Chief Bromden, like



Sarah Padmore gave a quite exquisite performance, conveying all the horror and calculated intent of the character who, above all, represents the need to suppress, dominate and control others.

If this play is to transcend its surface significance and to open doors towards allegory and a broader, higher existential meaning, then Chief Bromden, Randle McMurphy and Nurse Ratchet must be totally convincing. This, they were, and thus carried the audience's imagination.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

the Greek chorus, began his regular monologues upon existence. Barney Vick gave a moving and beautifully measured performance as The Chief. It is he who sets the play in context, who poetically tells of times when his people were free and who, in the end, symbolically give the water back to the native world from whence it came.

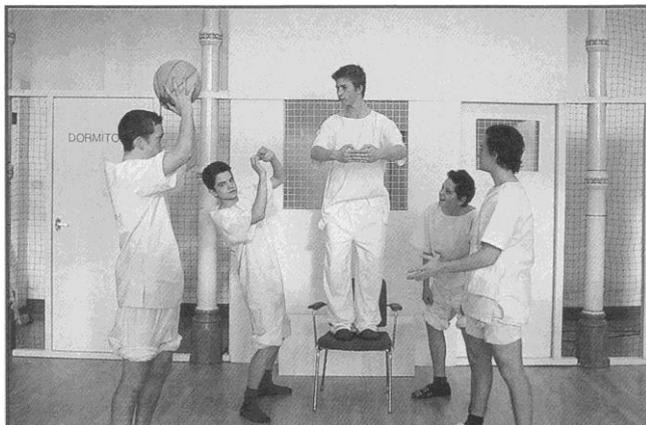
Chris Quinn was splendid as Dale Harding, talking, discussing, debating, but in the final analysis, lacking the courage to do anything. Charlie Fothergill convincingly assumed the mask of the all-American innocent kid, Billy Babbit, John Raby was a shaven headed Cheswick, Jon Williams was wonderfully sad and funny as Martini and Nat Maylott was his own very special self as Scanlon.

The central conflict in the play is between the newly arrived inmate, Randle McMurphy and the all-powerful Nurse Ratchet. McMurphy, a rebel, a challenge to established order and ready to raise the flag of freedom and revolt, was given a powerful injection of energy by Tom bait, always larger than life, but intelligently aware of the nature of the character, and thus, perfectly judged.

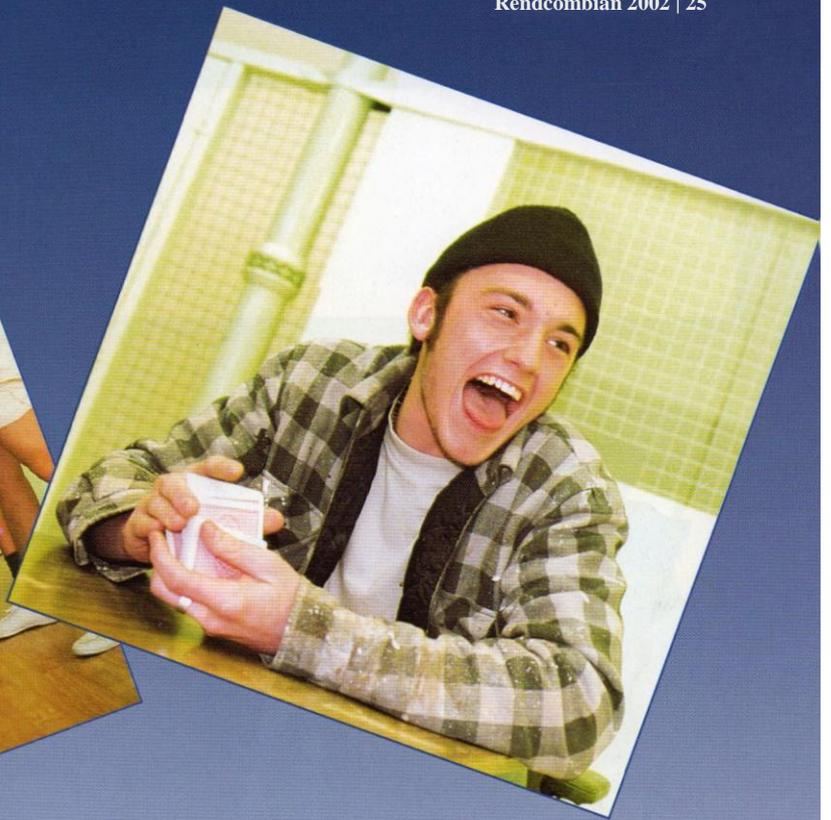
Minor roles, too, were most competently filled, Ed McHenry as Dr. Spivey, and Olivia Evans and Nellie Gilson as the groupie girls, smuggled in for the party.

So often, in school drama, a partisan audience willingly suspends disbelief at the sight of children playing adults, but Mrs Dodd's production of "One flew over the Cuckoo's Nest" required no such indulgence. Congratulations go to everyone involved in not merely a school play, but a true night at the theatre. I left the auditorium, both elated and drained by nothing less than catharsis.

Lindsey North



performing
and
creative
arts



One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest



BUGSY



Mallone





Bugsy Malone

drama

The origins of Alan Parker's film *Bugsy Malone* stems from an idea he pinched from his eldest son in 1973 and subsequently developed with his four children on long car drives to Derbyshire. Some ten years later, sitting nervously in the outer offices of the film producers in Hollywood, clutching his script, book of drawings and test photographs, he mused "... Well it's a gangster film... er.. a musical... a sort of pastiche on all the old Warner Brothers movies, it's a world of would-be gangsters, showgirls and dreamers, except there's no adults in the cast, only children, average age about 12". What a wonderful and most apposite choice for our first joint musical production with the top year of the Junior School and the lower years of the Senior College and how visionary of Diana Dodd to see such gangster-like qualities behind the masks of youthful innocent faces, who grace us with their presence daily in the classroom!

Joss Acock in the title role was superb

This was certainly a production of *Bugsy Malone* to remember. Joss Acock in the title role was superb, combining wit and humour with a presence on stage that belied the fact that this was his

first major lead role. Fellow Third Former Tom Ruddy, who interpreted the role of the brown, pinstriped suited Fat Sam with great authority and self-mockery, ably supported him. Rebecca Hutchison, in her first major school production, sang elegantly and beautifully, whilst delivering some hard-hitting one liners. Tanya Wells, new to Rendcomb College this year, also played the role of the stunning Tallulah with great grace and sensuality, teasing the adult males in the audience [including some very senior members of staff!] with her walkabout performance. I am sure this is a name to watch out for as she progresses through the College.

And then there were two impressive performances by James Brierley as gangster Dandy Dan [the resemblance to a young Marlon Brando was quite uncanny] who is certainly not the type of chap you would want to meet in a dark alley in New York. Last but not least, there was Alex Holden, whose excellent interpretation of Fizzy's song "*Tomorrow never comes*" combined sensitivity with pathos and showed us what a well trained voice he has [thank you Julia Morris]. Quite clearly, Diana's Dodd's and Paul Jennings' casting showed how well they know the dramatic and musical strengths of their young charges.

But there was more to this production than outstanding individual performances and as our pupils have heard me say on many occasions, Drama has now become "the new team sport", where mutual support and collective responsibility are the essential ingredients of a polished final production.

Fat Sam's Gang included some excellent cameo role performances from Stephen Lockhart's piercing eyes and laconic gurgling voice to Mitch Barltrop as the ever-smiling Snake Eyes. Dandy Dan's gang was equally impressive, especially Ryan Watson who played two roles, one as the gangster, Doodle and also as a Baseball guard; he managed to get himself "splurged" not just once but twice! Then there were the Bugsy Malone singers: all girls from year six in our Junior School, who held their own with the more experienced Senior College Speakeasy dancers and singers. And finally mention must be made of young Edward Brierley, who follows a long line of a tradition at Rendcomb that it is perfectly acceptable to use staff children [and animals!] to enhance the quality of a school production. He was superb as the ventriloquist's dummy: a role, which could be the first in a very promising career.

With some sixty-five pupils in the cast, the production had to be slick and quick. There were twenty three "down and outs" to get on and off stage in one scene and I thought our Stage Managers, Sophie Barltrop and Sally Geake, who incidentally were assessed externally as part of their GCSE Drama exam, showed great maturity in organising the cast. They are, of course, not the type of young ladies anyone would wish to disagree with but their assertiveness and efficiency were appreciated by all.

The Band, ably led by David Whitehead, in his final Rendcomb production, included polished performances by Emma Sykes on bass, Seb Goffe on Drums and George Lawson, in his second term at Rendcomb, on electric bass.

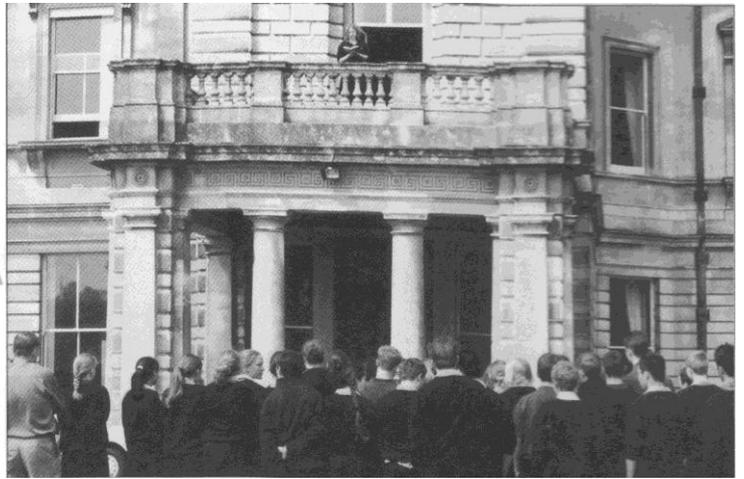
They enhanced the production with some excellent music in front of a very effective set, designed and produced by Julie Palmer of the Junior School.

This was young Rendcomb drama at its fun-packed best. Bodies strewn all over the stage, having been "splurged" by members of the rival gangs; quality dancing, with excellent choreography by Laura Holmes, Lauren Lees and Caroline Wells; careful lighting by Hana Lawrence and Jessica Cowper with sound from that delightful old luvvie of Stable House, JW [John Williams]. I sat in the audience on two consecutive evenings enormously proud of our pupils, whose versatile acting, singing and dancing knew no bounds. My only regret was that the Director had not invited me to take part... Ah well, I suppose I'll have to wait until she gives us *Guys and Dolls!*

Gerry Holden

Polished performances all round

Celebrating Shakespeare's Birthday



On the 23rd of April 2002, several year groups participated in celebrations to commemorate Shakespeare's (and Mr Dodd's!), birthday. Some of the Third Form acted out famous scenes from the plays on the terrace and the highlight was a public reading, by two of the Fourth Form, of the balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet*. Juliet was played by Verity Symcox and Romeo by Sophie Barltrop. Juliet very appropriately stationed herself on the

balcony above the main entrance to the College and Romeo contended with the noise of traffic to deliver her passionate seduction of Juliet. Well done to the girls who were brave enough to have a go and maybe next year two boys will re-enact the murder of Caesar?!

Paul Jennings



On Friday 1st February 2002, the GCSE drama and A-level groups had an improvisation Master Class with two

members of the theatre company Instant Wit. We had to do a series of exercises on improvisation. The first was a pointing exercise and then Chinese Whispers with a difference. We then spaced ourselves out, walking around the room until a number was called and then had to get into groups of that number. The final exercise was to perform a 5-6-clip slide show in groups of five. The two members of Instant Wit were very helpful and encouraging, exceedingly funny and brilliant to work with.

In the evening another two members of Instant Wit came. They put on a show for us using mime, improvisation and songs.

Instant Wit!

visiting
drama

They involved the audience by asking them to call things out, which they then had to make into a story using mime. The people that called out the best suggestions were given some Instant Whip and other prizes.

Overall, the Master Class was great and we learnt a lot from the experience. The show was also excellent and exceedingly funny. We all hope to see the four members of Instant Wit again very soon.



Shakespeareed not Stirred!

In May, a touring company performed their play *Shakespeareed not Stirred* to the third and fourth form in the Dulverton Hall. It was a brave attempt to incorporate six of Shakespeare's best-known works into one show. There were sword fight, speeches, dancing, rap(!), puppetry and mime.

The performance was good fun and introduced the students to some of Shakespeare's most famous plays.

Paul Jennings



Theatre Club

This year, the clear favourites for Theatre Clubbers were musicals but Shakespeare and other more traditional productions were still well subscribed.

In September, we saw "Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat" in Bristol. This was an audience participation show and Rendcomb certainly sang along to all the well-known songs. Joseph's chest also got a few screams from the Fourth Form girls. In October, we were back at Bristol for "Chicago", a very modern and raunchy performance. Mr Dodd and the boys especially enjoyed this evening after our screams for Joseph!

November meant we had to get our thinking caps on as we travelled to Bath for Gogol's satire of government corruption

"The Government Inspector". The Theatre Studies students told us the plot but it was a struggle to follow at times.

The New Year took us to The Royal Shakespeare Company for a magical "Alice in Wonderland". Tom bait was particularly transfixed by the rapid scene changes and beautiful costumes.

"Beauty and the Beast" in February was a firm favourite with the romantics amongst us and March saw us back at Stratford for a very surreal production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Black, shaking fairies were just the start of this challenging evening.

For the summer term we watched "Antony and Cleopatra" in Stratford, again, which showed us the hot passion between the two principal characters. Then it was back to Bristol for "Fame - the Musical". This showed us the best of British modern dancing and ensemble performance. The last 10 minutes saw all Rendcomb Theatre Clubbers dancing in the aisles. A fitting climax to a great year.

Diana Dodd

One pupil's review

The Theatre Club started the term with a trip to Bristol to see a high-impact production of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat*. After being made to sit through the entire soundtrack on the bus before the production, everyone, especially the Third Form girls were anticipating what was to come!

The performance itself was very well choreographed with impressive dancing and singing from the entire cast. The set was dramatic and with colour as the main theme, the stage was always vibrant and full of life.

It was a very enjoyable evening and the theatre club is very much looking forward to the trip to see Chicago.

Georgina Webb-Dickin

Theatre Trips

The Lion King

On Tuesday the 11th of December 90 students and 10 excited adults set off for a fun-filled evening to see *The Lion King*.

Despite having half an hour to shop before the performance started, I got my ticket, sat down and waited. The show began. I was so shocked to see all the characters looking exactly like the animals they were playing. After three hours of amazement, I decided that my favourite character was Rafiki; this was because the acting was amazing by the lady who played him and the costume was excellent. After a brilliant evening every thing had to come to an end and finally we left London on the coach, exhausted after singing our little hearts out. Thank you to Mrs Dodd who arranged the whole trip and to all the teachers and adults who came too.

Hannah Kay

Othello

On the 13th March, the 6B English set went to see a production of *Othello* at the Tewksbury Rose Theatre. What was particularly memorable about this performance was that it was preceded by a chance to talk to the director about what he was trying to achieve with this particular interpretation. Clearly the cast were interested in using the play to address contemporary issues of race, class and gender and the performance did not let us down: it was tight, well focused and crisply delivered.

PJ

King Lear

In October a Sixth Form group went to London to see a production of *King Lear* at the Globe Theatre. The authentically reproduced theatre was an experience in itself. The "wooden O" was decorated with garland and fairy lights. The main stage usually with bright red pillars had been clad in faded old timber. This stark effect suited the mood of the play and provided good acoustics for the fight scenes. The play was very moving with Julian Glover playing the alternately frail and old king. The character of Edmund was highly likeable, despite deceiving and cheating his way through the play. It was a memorable experience that really brought "King Lear" alive for our "A" level studies.

Aimée Smith



Backstage visit to Les Misérables

What does it take to be a music scholar at Rendcomb College? For a start, nerves of steel! To present a recital either all by yourself or just with one other performer requires courage and dedication as well as a big enough repertoire under your belt to fill at least three quarters of an hour of music all by yourself. This year we saw four such impressive undertakings.

Cindy Cheung presented a programme that not only demonstrated her accomplishments as a solo pianist, but also included performances of some of her own compositions. "Autumn" was a beautifully impressionistic piece making full use of the effects available from imaginative use of the piano - washes of sound, glissandos, sweeping arpeggios and hints and whispers of tunes blown about in autumnal gusts of notes. She gave strong performances of sonatas by Scarlatti and Beethoven and partnered an increasing number of players at the keyboard: first a duet, then a trio, then unbelievably and amusingly a quartet with Mr Whitehead, Mrs Day and Mr White all squeezing around the piano together. This raised a smile from the audience which packed the Reading Room giving full support to the other aim of the evening - to raise funds for Cindy's Arctic Norway Expedition.

James Bladon is merely a member of the First Year, but he has maturity and expertise well beyond his tender years. Others have even spoken jealously that one so young can do so much at such a high standard. Like Cindy he has more than one string to his bow, and his programme - part of the ambitious June Rendcomb Summer Music Festival - demonstrated mastery of both piano and trumpet. The trumpet playing was staggering in his ability not only to cope with the slow movement of Haydn's trumpet concerto but the virtuosic first movement as well. After giving his lip a rest by playing the first movement of an early Beethoven Sonata in C minor he went on to play the trumpet part of the great Handel aria "The trumpet shall sound" which has a well known and very demanding trumpet obbligato part. The range of what he presented was enormous, from a cool Handel Gigue to a jazzy Norton prelude and the witty Debussy "Golli's Cakewalk", a piece that combines serious romantic styles (even a quotation from Wagner) with Joplin-like rag. If James can do this in his first year what, we ask, will he be doing when he gets into the sixth form?

Fifth Year end of season concert

One of the very positive outcomes of the changes in examination requirements over the past few years has been the need for students to perform. Putting all these necessary performances together into a concert format makes a virtue out of necessity. The range of performances is enormous. Taking the Fifth year performers as an example, their programme encompassed drum kit solos from Charlie Crisp, a brave bassoon solo from Simon Whitby-Brown, diploma level virtuosity from Anna Marlowe in her performance of Colin Hand's "Sonata concisa", and a strong forthright guitar playing from Ed Warrington which caused many a mouth to drop open. Becky Demczak and Meg Barne both performed with their customary professionalism and all came together in an ensemble performances both noisy (the lads) or subtle (the lasses).

Peter Liang suffered from serious over-exposure, taking part in two hugely demanding composite recitals within the space of barely less than three weeks. The first was another event in the Summer Music Festival where he joined Rupert Uzzell in a dizzying collection of partnerships. He showed he was no mean pianist as well as His well-known reputation as a fiddle player, not only by playing by himself in a neatly turned performance of a Haydn sonata but also by accompanying Rupert's rendition of Handel's "Silent Worship". The tables were neatly turned when it was Rupert's turn to play piano for Peter's violin in a Beethoven violin sonata. This was no mere 'accompanying', for the piano part is hugely demanding in its own right, quite apart from the skill needed to match the violin. Rupert gave two quite contrasting piano solos by Scarlatti and Bartok while Mrs Gill Day was drafted in to accompany Peter in his flamboyant and breathtaking performance of Copland's "Hoe Down". The recital was a worthy and wholly appropriate showcase for the brilliant duo, coming as it did on the morning of Founder's Day.

Peter's second concert was as part of a composite recital that was the brainchild of Richard Demczak who was determined not to leave Rendcomb without making his solo mark on the musical landscape. Richard plays the piano with a remarkable sensitivity and warmth, no better seen than in his performance of a Gershwin Prelude - a performance he movingly recreated for the Leavers' Service. Touch and go in the stages of preparation saw Richard playing violin with Peter in the Bach Double Violin Concerto. Against all the odds it came off brilliantly. Peter's major contribution to the recital was a magisterial performance of the whole of Grieg's Violin Sonata with Mrs Day well in tow in the hugely demanding piano part. Richard rounded the whole evening off with his beloved Rachmaninoff C sharp minor Prelude.

Fourth Year end of season concert

When it was the turn of the Fourth year, we were spoilt for choice and once again the range of what was presented was enormous - from "Guns 'n Roses" through to Handel's "Art thou troubled" sung by Sophie Bartrop. As with many an event such as this, one always comes up against surprises - Tom Mixture came out of the shadows to give a very nicely turned Guitar Study. Tom Soanes more than confirmed that his violin playing is thoroughly assured and confident - his Stanley pieces really went with a swing. Emily Stanley broke her Rendcomb duck by demonstrating she was no mean performer both on flute and piano. Lauren Lees demonstrated a golden quality of voice and we long to hear more of her in the future. Laura Holmes played her clarinet as if her life depended on it and gave a performance of part of Brahms' F flat sonata which showed just how far she has progressed here. Heather Roper, Verity Symcox, John Williams, Charlotte Cumberpatch, Faith Roberts and Graham Hulbert all testified to the rich seam of musical talent we have in this year, possibly the most outstanding of any year in living memory.

Concerts

This was a good year for the Choir. As usual, they covered themselves with glory at the main services of the year and kept up the wonderful Rendcomb tradition of the candle-lit Advent Carol Service. Darkness and light, sound and silence, quietness and resounding glory - particularly in the Handelian "And the glory of the Lord" - all came together to create a very special pre-Christmas magic. As if by further magic, the choir turned around in the space of ten days to produce another stunning programme for the end of term carol service with its traditional mix of congregational carols and choir items of varied styles and periods.

By the time we had reached these services, the Tuesday Singers - Mrs Julia Morris's special group that meets on Tuesdays (what a surprise!) - had already put together Pergolesi's "Stabat Mater." On the surface this is a rather gloomy piece and appropriate for Remembrance Sunday but it is nevertheless couched in the lightest of mid-Eighteenth Century classical style which provided plenty of opportunities for the singers to show off, both in ensemble and in solos and duets. And not only the singers, because the orchestral support was well within the means of the (mainly) male string players of the College, ably led by Peter Liang. The soloists were Rebecca-Claire Demezack, Laura Holmes, Meg Barne and Sophie Barltrop, all producing work of the first order.

Having dipped their musical toes into the Messiah water with "And the Glory" at Christmas, a performance of Part One of Messiah was kicked off the ground by a trial sing-through of various choruses "for fun" in the spare time left by rehearsal time just before Christmas. (Spare time? Goodness me!) So the complete performance became modelled around the enjoyment of coping with the big-time choruses and spreading the solos amongst the singing stars. Very specially of note were the tenors and basses, by name Richard Demczak, Nicholas Clements, Rupert Uzzell and Charlie Fothergill. One or two of the lads led the

conductor a merry dance, but they made it in the end. Any doubts there might have been that a fourteen-year-old could manage the hugely demanding tenor arias that opened the work were completely dispelled by Rupert who sang with such aplomb that extra rehearsal time was given just to convince ourselves that it really was true that he could manage as well as he did. Where virtuosity was concerned, there was little to touch Meg Barne's thrilling account of "But who may abide" while Sophie Barltrop gave a lovely performance of "O thou that tellest good tidings". Tucked in among all this vocal virtuosity was James Bladon who tackled the death-defying trumpet solos as if they were five (well, three) fingered exercises. The day was made even more special by the joining in of hosts of Old Rendcombians, climbing on the back of the Old Rendcombian get-together on the games field. It was grand to meet with friends going back years and years - Paul Sumsion, Rebecca Taplin and all her friends, Thom Gilbert, as well as some parents. The whole evening ended with a resounding Hallelujah chorus, with orchestra led by Mrs Dearnley - Peter Liang for once, singing and not playing - a new skill for him - and we all went home with a buzz and a song in our hearts.

David White

Rendcomb Rock Concert

Rendcomb College was really rocking in March as all the power and talent of the Music Department hit the Dulverton Hall. The evening opened with an awesome display of guitar virtuosity by guitar teachers Mr Paul Cordell and Mr Phil Dunn. Phil is better known as the teacher of classical guitar but in this concert he made the bass guitar really talk and with Paul making the lead guitar sing, we were served up a real treat for all those who enjoy great Rock music. The lead singer for this medley of Pink Floyd classics was Mr Mike Debenham and he used his powerful voice and strong stage presence to great

effect. The band included old Rendcombian Matt Ewing on drums, and the powerful consistent rhythms he gave to the performance enabled the band to drive along at a surging pace. Following the staff band came a variety of student bands, who played a mixture of classic Rock and some impressive pieces written by themselves.

The talented and remarkably youthful band of Joss Acock, Seb Goffe and Ed Hutchinson made a great impression on the audience with several great songs they had written and they also performed them with considerable confidence and gusto. Gusto is a pretty fair

description of Tommy bait's contribution to the evening, his guitar playing and performance with the microphone was from the neo-punk revival and he made a considerable impression as he belted out some dynamic numbers. Another performance, which was belted out, was Mr Ian Patterson's African-inspired Rock drumming, Ian mingled with the audience with a huge drum under his arm and alarmed and thrilled everyone with his pounding rhythms. This was followed by a quieter and more introspective lament as Mr Martin Griffiths played a gentle tribute piece by his favourite composer. "She used to wear her hair like you,

except when she was sleeping and then she'd wear it on a loom of smoke and breath and breathing". The Rock in the final part of the evening returned to its loud and raunchy best and there was one stunning number performed by Luke Baghdadi, Tom Soanes, and the bizarrely dressed Hulbert brothers. Geoff looked stunning in his combination of kilt and cowboy boots and ripped into a great performance with the mike. Charlie Crisp performed several numbers and displayed an extraordinary diversity of talent on a wide range of instruments and he was joined by a succession of talented friends on stage. Mark Ward, Ed Warrington, James Pearce and Simon Whitby-Brown all played some great guitar pieces and Richard Demczak proved his exceptional versatility by concluding the show with some superb guitar solos.

The whole show was a triumph for all the students and the staff who were involved, but especially Mr David Whitehead who had yet again worked so hard (even with a broken toe) to bring the whole thing together. Besides his own musical skills David had brought together a range of talents and with a little help from his friends had put on a show of great breadth and diversity. The sound quality and stage lighting was yet again of an extraordinarily high standard and the raucous applause and cheering at the climax of the show was a fitting tribute to all he has achieved in putting the Rock into Rendcomb.

David White





It is fast becoming something of a tradition that the students from Japan present their own concert at the end of their time in the College. This is not necessarily for any neatness of purpose, but much more because they make such hugely impressive musical progress throughout the year that a public demonstration simply has to be given. This year was no exception, and the standard was breathtaking. The students are quite modest and it took a little persuading to encourage Fuki Matsunami to open the concert with a drum kit flourish. She did so splendidly and the evening - part of the Rendcomb Summer Festival - was off to a good start. Piano playing of the very first order was provided by Fuki again with some lovely Debussy. Mio Tanaka came to Rendcomb already an accomplished pianist and we were made fully aware of her distinction in her performance of the Chopin Scherzo in B flat minor. This is a very advanced level of performing requiring formidable technique, and a strength of physique quite at odds with her slender appearance. The Scherzo, played from memory, came off in breathtaking manner. Much quieter but just as enjoyable was Yoshiro's playing of Telemann's Viola Concerto, but for the writer the highlight of the evening was Masamori Kokatsu's intense and deeply felt guitar solos. We all had to listen

most carefully. Fie folded himself around the instrument and played almost to himself, and we as audience were privileged to eavesdrop. It is a veritable triumph that Japanese students cope with singing lessons at

Rendcomb. Singing was an important ingredient of the concert, and it was fitting that all the performers came together at the end and presented a Japanese song, suitably accompanied by Masamori on guitar. This item was planned by the students themselves and brought the concert to a delightful end. The lasses all came in their colourful traditional kimonos - though the lads decided against dressing as if for sumo wrestling and came in their suits. The evening was rounded off by nice food and drinks and a good time was had by all.

David White

Stars from
the East

We held a Japanese concert in May, which was called 'Stars from the East'. It was just a concert for our Japanese students. There were many people who came to see our concert in the reading room. I invited my host family to this concert and they came to see us play.

I played the piano and sang. I was very nervous about playing the piano because I was second to perform in the concert. I made a few mistakes in tone, but I played well finally. In addition I sang a traditional Japanese song with Mio which is called The Moon. I thought it went well. At the end of the concert, we sang a Japanese song called 'tsuka' which means 'Some Day'. This song is a love song and you sing it for a girlfriend. It says, "If you feel lonely, I will be there, what ever I am doing or wherever I am". Mio and Fuki were sopranos, and Momo, Yoshi, Masa and I were

basses. There was a great deal of clapping after the concert. I really enjoyed it. We wore our Japanese traditional dress called a 'Kimono' which are clothes that people wore many years ago.

We offered Japanese food alongside English food. The Japanese food is called 'chirashizushi' which is a kind of 'sushi' bit with no fish. It was very delicious. Also we ate Japanese sweets and drank green tea. I had a wonderful evening. Thank you to every-one who came.

We practised it for a long time and my piano playing had improved a lot too for this concert.

Yuko Suzuki

Coda

Musical activities were not confined to the events outlined in the special reports above. Musicians were prominent in helping at the Viennese evening,

A group of performers provided entertainment for the village

Harvest Supper

services. The Music Teacher/Parents' Consultation evening saw for

the choir was invited to sing at a service at Kemble in November as well as providing other music for some of the College Sunday

the first time four concerts on one evening, three of them timed simultaneously. Music Examinations saw an unprecedented growth of distinction achievements at every grade and the Senior School was involved co-operatively in a number of ventures with the Junior School. There was an informal concert last November at which soloists from throughout the College were given an opportunity to shine and there was special music for Founder's Day.

David White

This is just a small fragment of the work, which was carried out within the Art and Design Technology departments during the previous twelve months

1 "Beware! Artist at work".

This photo captures Sarah Colston hard at work on her final G.C.S.E. examination piece. Sarah was one of several students who tackled large-scale oil paintings for their final piece and this painting was full of wonderful texture and colour as Sarah painted with a wide variety of implements, which included brush and fingers.

2 "Slinky Silk".

An example of how the relatively simple process of block printing can be used to create a really beautiful and stunning garment. Amanda Lomax designed and printed this wonderfully sensuous sarong as her final G. C. S. E. assignment.

3 "Spread the word T-shirt design project". As a part of the Design Technology course years 7, 8 and 9 were asked to design a slogan and image to help promote a specific cause. These were then individually printed onto T-shirts. Here Emma Couch, Hannah Kay and Tanya Wells model their own creations.



4 "Churches of the mind".

There were a series of painting and drawing assignments which used the Church at Rendcomb as its source material this summer and the term ended with the students being asked to create an imaginary picture which included a Church in an imaginary setting. These were just a few of the results!

5 "Newspaper Head".

A G.C.S.E. project, which looked at the self-portrait, produced some great results including this piece by Chloe Clarke. It uses a self-portrait by the Dutch painter Rembrandt as its starting point and uses newspaper print collage as a tonal drawing material.

6 "Reclining Nude"

Life drawing and working from the figure proves to be a great stimulus to the "A" level students and Georgina Webb-Dickin has developed one of her life studies into an imaginative oil painting which sees the figure surrounded by a mysterious and dream-like setting. The painting was a part of the new AS examination and is almost life size.

7 "Green Man"

Nat Maylott responded to this ancient image of renewal as the major theme for his "A" level examination. The treatment of the image gives it a burning ferocity and alludes not only to the human head both sprouting forth and swallowing branches but also suggests a heart which is regurgitating veins and vomiting arteries. Nat has used a wide range of different materials and is one of several students who are going on to Art College.

8 "Exotic Elowers".

This beautifully worked watercolour study was an individual development of a piece of AS coursework. Zuki Turner was to develop the theme even further and produced some scintillating printed textiles based upon this painting.

9 "Fans and Parasols"

Winnie Cheung produced this fabulously sophisticated and subtle watercolour painting as her final "A" level examination piece. The still life from which the painting is worked was a complex



collection of objects, which Winnie had brought back from Hong Kong.

10 "Tulips from Amsterdam".

This Silk screen print was produced by Sam Gunner as part of his AS coursework and was developed from some paintings which he had originally produced in the painting studios. This inter-relationship between the disciplines is a two way process and helps create this typical type of energised work.

11 "Stairway to heaven?"

Edward McHenry became fascinated by the almost theatrical nature of his surroundings and was to utilize his painterly interest in contained space in his ideas about stage design. This deliberately cold, empty stairwell was one of several pieces which explored the theme and also reflects Edward's

interest in cinema graphic image and mood. He will also be pursuing this particular discipline next year at Art College.

12 "Thin Green Candle".

Olivia was in part influenced by a fragment of a Leonard Cohen song, which was playing in the Sixth Form studios. "I lit a thin green candle to make you jealous of me but the room just filled up with mosquitoes, they heard that my body was free". In Olivia's oil painting the candle has been snuffed out but the mood remains highly enigmatic as we are presented with a picture of a world, which is quietly poetic and yet also disquieting.

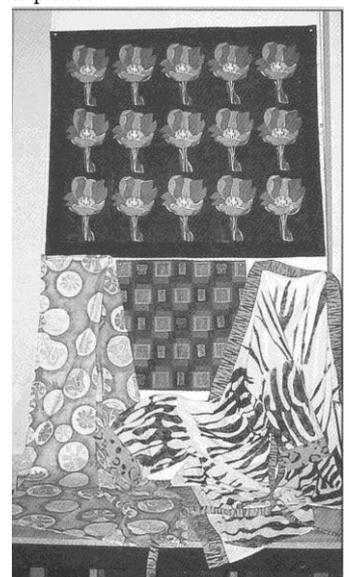
13 "Tree of Death".

Trees are usually used to represent life and fruitfulness but here Nathaniel Maylott has deliberately reversed this to emphasise the emotional bleakness and fiery despair of this vision. The picture resonates with qualities we may associate with the Norwegian painter Edward Munch but Nat's inspiration is fundamentally more Celtic, primeval and early Christian in origin. Golgotha does mean place of the skulls, Druids used sacred groves as places of sacrifice and of course Munch did write about feeling "a great infinite scream pass through nature".

14 "Playing with Printing".

Sally Geake and friends were able to explore dyeing and printing as part of their introduction to G.C.S.E. Art and Design and apparently it's some- times really important to just let the creative juices flow unhindered and let the process be fun!

Martin Griffiths





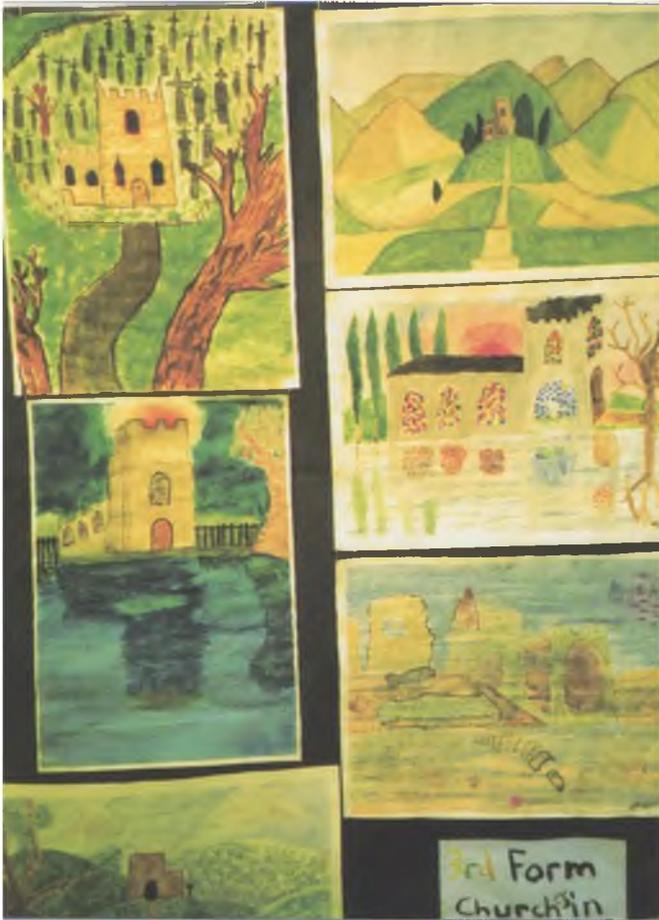
1



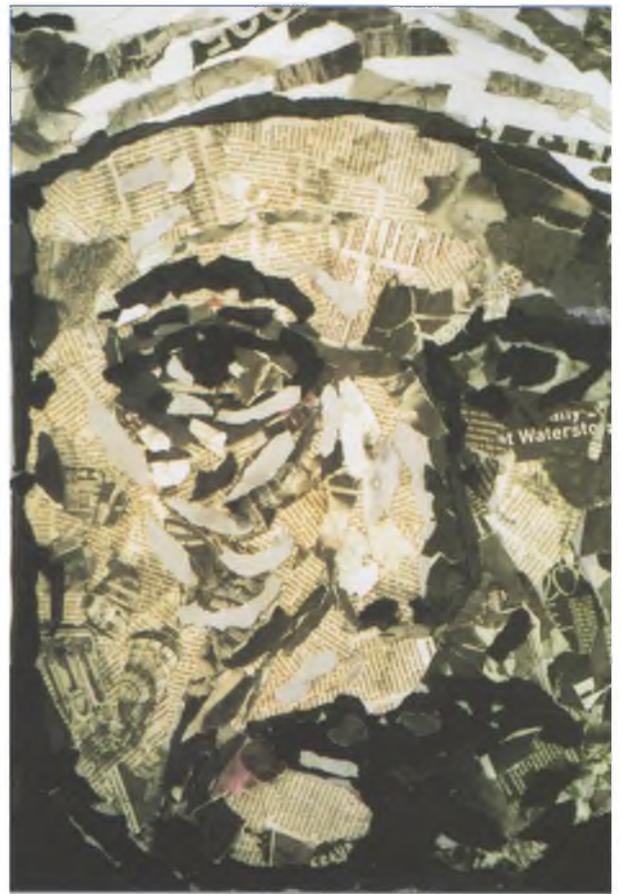
2

3



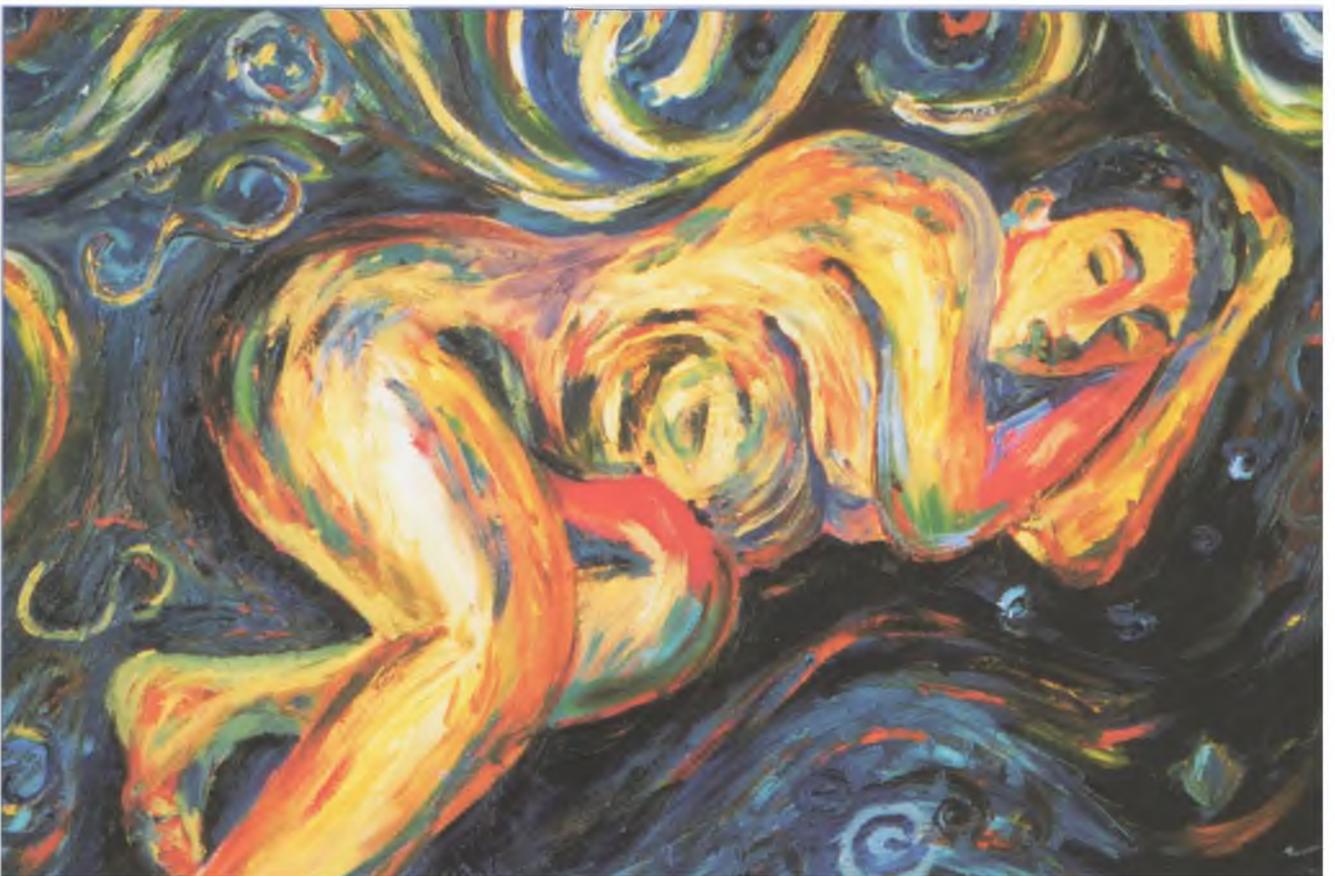


4



5

6





7



8



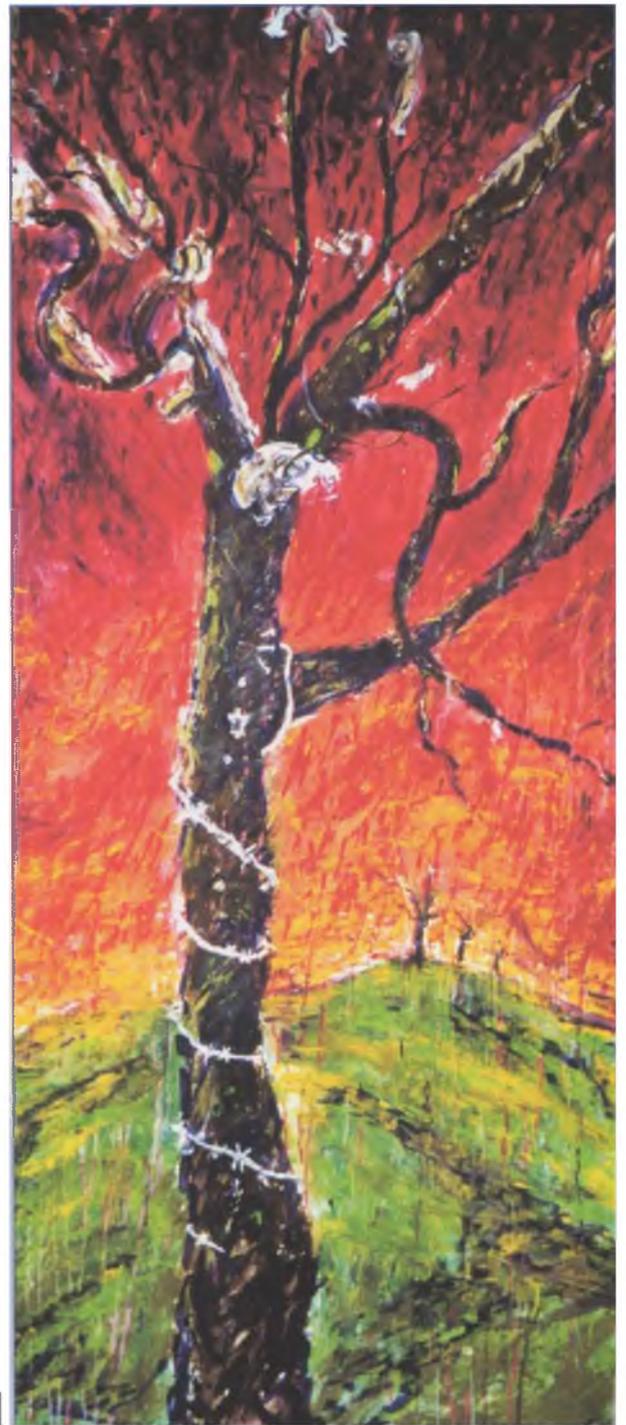
9



10



11



13



12



14

A view of Japanese History

In 1794 the capital of Japan was Kyoto. It had been the capital for about 400 years. The original Japanese culture was created from the Chinese culture of this period, as shown in Japanese letters (Katakana, Hiragana Kanji), novels and Japanese (short) poems. Many novels were written by female writers and the culture was mainly created by noble people.

The period from 1130 - 1168, was the period of the Samurai. The ordinary people who had power in the regions started to govern the country instead of noble people. The Samurai class (bushi) ruled over the farmers, merchants and craftsmen class. The Samurai culture created novels about war and history and the spirit of

Nok. In the late Samurai period from 1603 - 1868, Japan closed the country. Many original Japanese cultures developed in this period such as Vkiyo-e, Kabuki-play and Haiku poems. Also, the food developed such as sushi, soba and tempura. Japan opened the country in 1868 and started a constitutional monarchy system having a national assembly. They changed their lifestyle to a European style with western food, hair styles, clothes, buildings and transportation (communication).

Japan declared war on China and Russia, participating in World War I and fighting in World War II. In Japan World War II ended in 1945 with the Japanese

surrender after the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. After World War II, Japan was governed by GHQ (General Headquarters) for 7 years and they ordered a new constitution, reforming the ownership of farmland to bring people's equality of rights and revive the economy.

Momo Murahashi



Yosuke and Masamori

have never seen such a thing before in Japan and as I didn't know about these sports before I came, it has all been very surprising. I have really enjoyed my English sports in my one year of English life.

Masa Kokatsu

England - the Home of Sport

England has many kinds of sports and I had never played some of England's sports before I came to England, for example, rugby and cricket. Cricket is the most difficult sport for me. Most English people like cricket, but some people hate it I think because cricket takes a very long time to play just one game. However, it is a great game.

Rugby is the most interesting sport, at

Rendcomb because Rugby is so exciting and cool. You have to run at the opponents, which can result in a tackle. It is so amazing to play and pass a rolling ball or scrummage when you strike shoulders with each other. When we beat the opponents in a rugby game, everyone looks sharp and the winners are very happy. Everyone is covered with mud at the end of the game so I can see every player has made a real effort. I

Form 1A Newspaper

In the summer term, Form 1A had to produce a newspaper in their English lessons. Each pupil acted as a reporter and Harriet Melvin-Bath took photographs with the school's digital camera. The result was an 18 page issue including interviews with staff, sports reports, gossip, weather, holidays, puzzles, fashion and play reviews. Mr Dodd was heard to say that it was one of the best newspapers he had read! Two pages are reproduced to give the reader a flavour.

Chris Wood

Tuesday March 11th, 1952

The Lodges Race

50 years ago

This was run under almost perfect conditions with a good entry of 9 people. David de Peyer at

his third attempt to beat R. C. V. Waters' 13 minutes 10 seconds record, which has stood since 1933, ran a magnificent race and finished nearly a minute ahead of the rest of the field, all of whom finished strongly. Dutton was not more than 49 seconds outside the record and A. G. B. Wallace and R. A. Powell are also greatly to be congratulated (as under age 16 runners) on finishing in only about a minute over the record.

Unfortunately, a discrepancy appeared among the watches used for timing the event. A most careful enquiry into the available evidence was carried out by the Headmaster, the two judges and an independent person who happened to be present. The watches were subsequently tested against Greenwich Time by the judges, in the presence of the Physics Master. It then became apparent that while it was impossible owing to the variable error of the stopwatch to determine the time to a second, there was no doubt that de Peyer broke the record. It was therefore decided to assess his time as 13 minutes 7 seconds, and this therefore stands as the present record.

Senior

de Peyer	13 mins 7 secs
Dutton	13 mins 56 secs
Powell	14 mins 4 secs
Wallace	14 mins 4 secs

Juniors

Thomason	14 mins 45 secs
Gough, H.	15 mins 2 secs
Payne	15 mins 22 secs

(Editor's note: The Lodges Race consisted of running to the Cirencester Lodge down the track, then to the Cheltenham Lodge along the main road and back to school up the Cheltenham Drive. The route along the main road was discontinued in the early sixties due to the danger from traffic. This run, using the drives, is still used today on occasions but I do not know the record time. Perhaps someone would like to establish one for the next Rendcombian!)

The Activity Programme had a successful Michaelmas term. In the evening period between 4.30pm and 5.30pm Monday to Friday 41 activities were on offer with 576 individual choices. Many pupils chose more than their minimum number and comments from their personal assessments suggest activities remain very popular. Amongst the new activities offered were badminton run by Mrs Gibson, netball by Miss Bell and aerobics by Miss Anderson. For next term, electronics and jewellery making, will be offered for the first time and we hope to resurrect the Latin club, debating and ballroom dancing. Several of the participants in Junior Drama performed their own plays in the last week of term, but the most popular activity still remains soccer. The scheme ran equally successfully in the Lent and Summer terms alongside the school plays.

Paul Dodd

Activities



Carra Williams



Miss Anderson's drama group



Jewellery produced in Mrs Blackwell's activity

The most recent purchase of a Hewlett Packard 950 Printer/Scanner/Copier has allowed us to download and print photographs from the digital camera or to scan, alter and print conventionally produced prints. The software used for editing

images is Adobe
P h o t o s h o p
Elements. When

Photography

taking photographs with pupils, the emphasis is on composition and the operation of digital and SLR cameras. The visit to Chedworth Woods in May to photograph the bluebells was very successful and the results can be seen in this magazine. The group also photographed other activities and has made a significant contribution to the *Rendcombian* magazine. It is hoped that a new multi-megapixel digital camera, that will allow greater creativity and picture quality, will be available for use next year.

Chris Wood



On Wednesday the 26th June, all the pupils in Forms 1, 2 and 3 gathered in the Reading Room to take part in the Key Skills Day. We were sorted into twelve groups, made up of a mixture of people from the three year-groups, each with a facilitator, who was from a local business or industry.

When we were all settled we started on the first task given to us by our group leader. It was a desert survival challenge: each member of our group was given a list of fifteen objects, which were all we had to help us to survive. First we had to put these objects in order of importance for our survival; we then compared our own list with the experts' list to see how close or not we had come to getting it right. It was very interesting to find out how you could signal with a cosmetic mirror across miles of desert, and use a parachute for shelter - the items that really were the most important were some of the unlikeliest.

There were also less intellectual and more active activities, such as having to build a tent made of newspaper big enough to hold a person - so I, being the smallest of our group, had to crouch down and be covered with lots of newspaper and half a roll of Sellotape whilst being screamed at to keep still! Our final activity was to do a presentation advertising a new chocolate bar. Our group designed posters and models of our chocolate bar and then "launched" the product to the rest of the groups.

All of the activities and games used communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and many other key skills that are useful for life in general, no matter what you are doing. And there was an activity for everybody, whatever their strengths and weaknesses were. Throughout the day, A/landy Soule, the leader, taught us about the art of teamwork and how to include everybody to get the task completed more quickly and efficiently.

Overall the day was a great success - we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and learned a great deal. We would like to thank everyone who organised it: Heather Lee the business co-ordinator, Mandy Soule the facilitator and chair, and Mrs Hayward our Head of Careers.

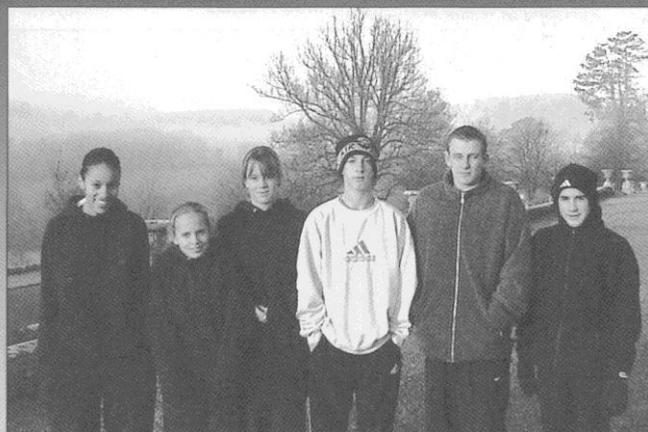
Jim Bladon

Key Skills Day for Forms 1-3

Cross-Country

The cross-country events at Rendcomb continue to flourish. Twenty-eight students competed in the District races and twelve were selected to race at the County Championships at the end of the Michaelmas term. Six pupils had other commitments on the day but of those that ran, three gained automatic selection to represent Gloucestershire in January. They were Clare Dobson, Penny Foster and David Roper. Rendcomb also gave a good account of itself at the local Northleach cross-country at the beginning of year with Laura Burley, Jamie Burley and Charles Crisp coming first in their respective races.

Alex Brealy



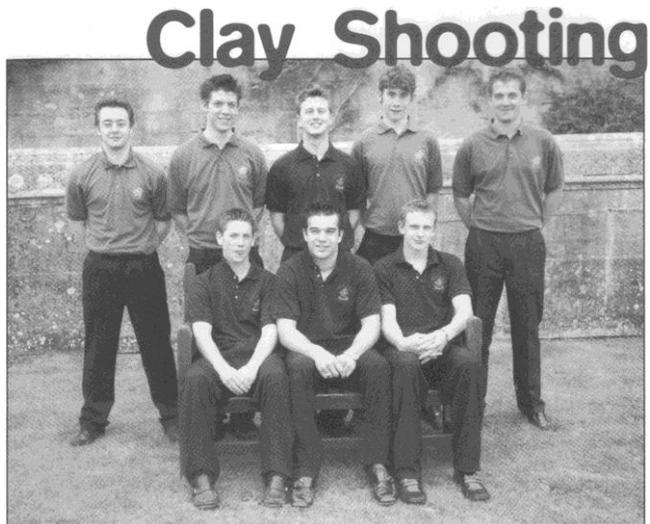
Certainly the shooting this year has moved up a gear or two. With the introduction of the super-fast automatic trap, we have been able to set up a much wider variety of sporting stands in the Park. The driven stand is now very challenging.

Again I have been impressed by the sticking power of the senior pupils. To be so heartily involved in this (or any sport) for all three terms takes a rare combination of loyalty and dedication to this most special sport.

The first of the two main events of the shooting calendar were the Charity shooting in March in aid of 'Children with Leukaemia'. The support was quite wonderful and a grand total of £650 was raised as part of my London Marathon fundraising. The teamwork involved in putting on this type of venture is epitomised by the sterling efforts of Mr Clive Denham and Mr Edward Drewett both coaching and moving stands all day.

The second key event was the British Schools National Championship in Cambridgeshire. Rendcomb again posted a fine score on the 'A' course, securing 8th place overall with William Drewett (Year 3) scoring High Gun for the second year. For the eighth year running Rendcomb College is the top shooting school in the country.

The end of season inevitably sees the departure of some of our 'main men', in particular Captain Edward McHenry and Vice Captain Philip Gordon-Jones, I thank them wholeheartedly for their huge contribution to the development of the club, including



junior coaching. Tassilo Linger leaves us to return to Germany but there will always be a place for him in the OR's team.

Finally, I always feel better looking forward and I am delighted to appoint David Roper as Captain for 2002-2003. He will be well supported by Matthew Hutchins as Vice Captain.

James Stutchbury

Riding



Willemijn Wüthrich, Hana Lawrence, Christine Jude, Emily Stanley, Kirki Matthews, and Alice Hughes

On the afternoon of Monday 24th June, the Rendcomb 'Riders' set off to Talland School of Equitation for a tournament. It consisted of a dressage test, a jumping competition and paired riding to music. We also did some stable management, which was all about plaiting the manes of the horses, and seeing who could produce the silliest result. The dressage test was quite scary, but also quite fun. The best bit was when one of the horses decided to gallop off into the field in the middle of the dressage test. Luckily, there were no injuries and everybody had a laugh. The paired riding was also very exciting, however we did not pick the music, so our riding instructor, Alyson, played some of her mother's favourite music. The result of the competition was very close with two pupils sharing equal points in first place. They were Kirki Matthews and Willemijn Wüthrich.

In between everything, we had a nice long break, which allowed us to feast on crisps and sweets, but mainly, of course, lots of chocolate.

We would like to thank the parents who came to support us and put up with the heat. We would also like to thank our riding instructors, Alyson and Katie, and Mr Holden for giving out the rosettes to add to our somewhat limited collection, which we hope to enlarge over the coming years of riding at Rendcomb. Above all, we would like to thank Mrs Holden, on behalf of all the riders, for taking us to Talland all year round and of course, bringing the chocolate.

Riding is a growing activity at Rendcomb and we hope to enter a team for the inter-schools One Day Event at Stonar School in September.

Willemijn Wüthrich and Hana Lawrence



Bronze

Following the disruption caused by the foot and mouth outbreak, the expeditions resumed in



March with a Bronze Assessment in the Cotswolds. Over 30 fifth formers enjoyed two days of good walking weather and an extremely cold night under canvas. The current fourth year have successfully completed their Bronze practice expedition, also in the



Nine sixth formers experienced a range of conditions from dry and sunny to wet and cold. Many layers were required for survival at night. David Roper's walking stick, Twigatha, endured another fifty miles in the Brecon Beacons on the second practice, albeit by now six inches shorter. David was so attached to Twigatha that on one occasion, when he left her at a campsite, he walked an extra three kilometres to retrieve her. Both groups found the terrain challenging and tiring, but most candidates

Cotswolds, and they are looking forward to their assessment, which will take place in the Forest of Dean in September. The

Service section was completed particularly well by a group of fourth year girls, who took part in the 'Fivers Challenge'. This was a fundraising scheme to raise money for the Cotswold Care Hospice. Each person received £5 and had to use their initiative and enterprise to increase this amount by as much as possible. Their first event was a Bingo evening held in the village hall for the people of Rendcomb and reported elsewhere. The girls then organised a Christmas party for the youngest pupils in the Junior School, complete with Santa (Faith Roberts) and his grotto. Overall the girls raised over £200 through their efforts.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme



Gold

This is Group 2's (Fourth Year) DoE song to be sung to the tune of Sophie Ellis Bexter's *Take Me Home*.

Leaving Home,
Leaving Home.
The excitement's taking me.
Have you brought sweets for me?
What about underwear?
How long 'til we get there?
Leaving home.

Take me home,
Take me home!
That is where I want to be,
Not here on D of E.
My feet are killing me.
Field upon field I see.
Take me home!

Take me home,
Take me home!
I really need a pee.
My rucksack's rubbing me.
I'm falling to my knees.
Come on and help me please.
Take me home!

For their Service, some Gold candidates undertook pool lifeguard training. This involved many hours of water work and theory, covering rescue techniques, first aid and legislation. All the candidates eventually gained the qualification, including this year's GAP student Rachel Morrison, and have subsequently helped with Junior and Senior School swimming.

The final word on this year's expeditions comes from Grouse who, when interviewed, replied "Ruff!"

Carlo Vuolo

P. S. A cryptic clue for our intrepid walkers
'Supporter, York's first, large mountain in Wales (3, 1, 3)



I am home,
I am home!
Pour me a cup of tea.
Soak in a long hot bath.
Thank God I'm home at last.
This trip has been a blast.
I am home!

As part of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award a group of Fourth Form girls participated in the 'Fivers Challenge', to raise money for the Cotswold Care Hospice at Minchinhampton. They were 'given' £5 each and had to use their enterprise and initiative to increase this by as much as possible.

The first event they organised was a November Bingo Night, in Rendcomb Village Hall, for the villagers. 'We were very surprised by the number of people who turned up and we think it was nice for the people of the village to have a community event' said Heather Roper, one of the organising committee. The evening was a great success and, thanks to the generosity of people who donated prizes, the girls raised over £100 for the Hospice. The Reverend Charles Jefferson also kindly donated the collection from the following Sunday's service in the Parish Church to the overall total.



Bingo Night

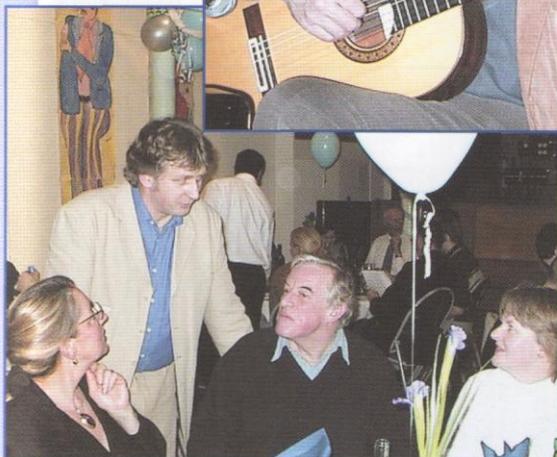
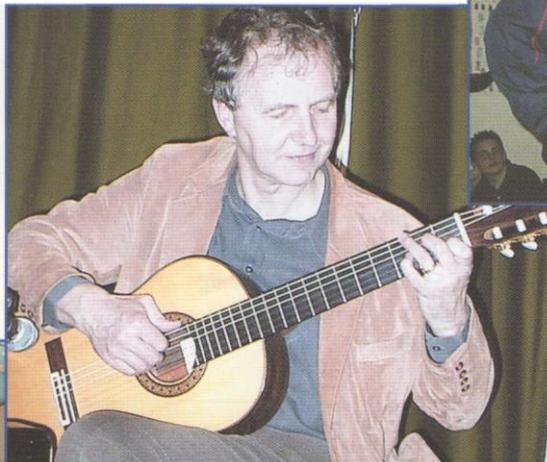
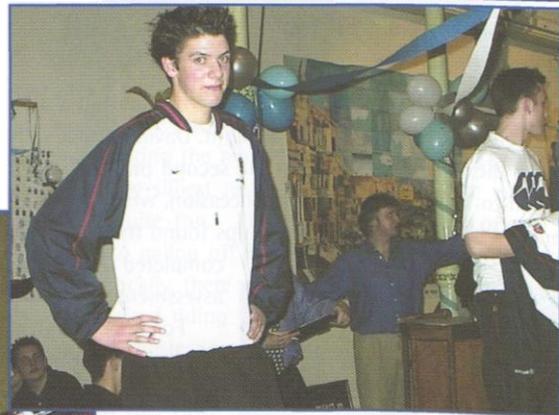
The girls are now busy planning their next fundraising event, which will be a Christmas party for the younger children at Rendcomb Junior School.

Penrose Shackel

A View of Venice

With a rugby tour to Venice planned for the senior squad, it was felt that extra funds would be beneficial. Needless to say, Martin Griffiths came up with the idea of a Venetian theme night, which would involve the players, the Art Department, the parents and many other members of the school. It turned out to be a hugely successful evening, during which items of rugby clothing, kindly donated by a relation of Sophie Blackwell, were auctioned. This was also tied in with the fundraising for the BSES expeditions and the four girls provided some of the music for the evening and ran a champagne raffle.

Chris Wood



Gala Day

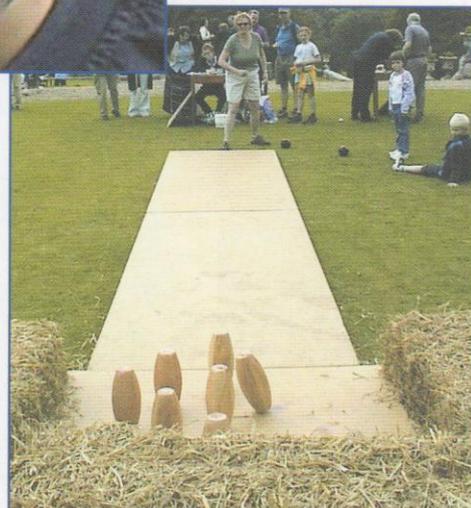
This charity day, organised by the Parents' Association, took place near the end of the summer term, it was an afternoon of high jinks, frolics and silly games, cream teas, Pimms tent and music with good fun being had by all.

The games ranged from the timed water run (a cunning game devised by Mr Pidgeon) to remote control car racing and a bouncy castle. The pupils both organised and manned the games, displaying an excellent degree of ingenuity and organisational ability. The stalls included a "Wine Lotto" and "Find the Treasure" organised by the Junior School.

Undoubtedly the highlight of the pupils' day was the wet sponging of the "Brace of Headmasters". Both Headmasters' good humour throughout demonstrated what good sports they are, as hordes of pupils descended the terraces, wet sponges in hands.

The afternoon was rounded off with a barbecue and of the £1,300 raised, 50% went to support the charity, Cirencester Youth Opportunity Group.

Jane Stutchbury



Fundraising

Charity Clay Shoot

Over £130 was raised for the BBC Children in Need appeal by the Rendcomb College Shooting Club. The shoot, held on 8th December, involved 10 teams and 4 stands and was clearly enjoyed by all those involved. A Senior School mufti day raised an additional £200 for Children in Need.

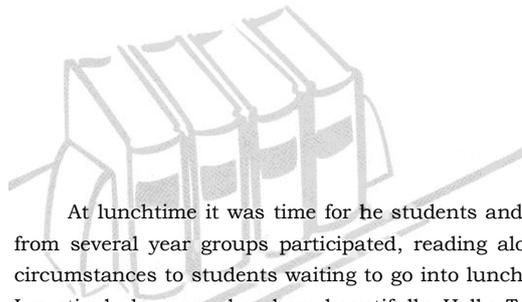
Penrose Shackel

World Book Day

This year we embraced World Book Day which is a national event where students are encouraged to read books aloud or to their friends and to talk about what they like reading. Each child in the country receives a pound book token to be redeemed before the end of March.

At the College we had two chapel services dedicated to the celebration of books and several public readings in a variety of rather unusual situations!

Students were subjected to appropriate poetry readings as they ate their cornflakes and bacon and at break-time that quartet of poetic coolness, (Mr Griffiths, Mr Patterson, Mr Brealy and Mr Debenham) read extracts from Spike Milligan, Roger McGough and Monty Python to a (frankly) bemused audience of students in Clock Hall.



At lunchtime it was time for the students and more than 20 from several year groups participated, reading aloud in difficult circumstances to students waiting to go into lunch in Clock Hall. I particularly remember how beautifully Holly Taylor read her extract. We were also joined by members of the Junior School who listened, amongst other things, to some old Winnie the Pooh classics.

Well done to all those who participated and I'm looking forward to getting more people involved next year, so... get reading!

Paul Jennings

Sixth Form Management Challenge

Making Sense of Management

As part of the Sixth Form's life skills programme, Making Sense of Management was run in conjunction with the Cheltenham and Cotswolds Education Business Partnership. Teams of sixth formers working with facilitators/advisors from local business, superbly chaired by Mandy Soule, focused on aspects of management such as decision making, communication, problem solving and



teamwork through a series of structured exercises. This culminated in a series of very impressive presentations on the aspects of management that were the focus for the day. Overall this was a very worthwhile and rewarding day for all concerned.

Michael Stark

Academic Outings

German Trip 2002



Rachel Fielding

In March 30 pupils from Forms 1 and 2 went to Germany for a week. It was a great success and each day is reported faithfully below exactly as it happened!

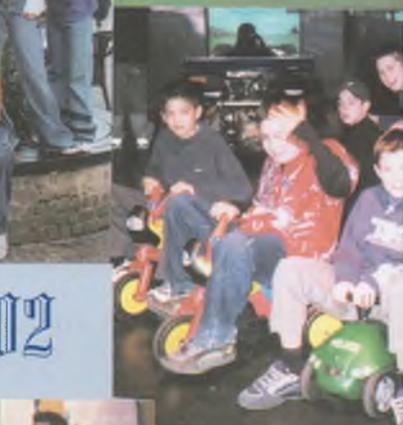
Rachel Fielding

On Friday, our first day in Germany, we went to a school called CJD, in Konigswinter. Here we were split into Groups and were taken into different classes. I went to an English lesson and then a History lesson, which was hard to understand! The teachers there were very kind and after the lessons they took us on a tour of the school. There were a lot of pupils at the school (about 1200, which is a lot compared to Rendcomb!). After lunch we went on a train ride, and at one stop got off and had an ice cream. Then we went back to the youth hostel for tea and in the evening we had a quiz and played Pictionary. Our dorm won twice, but we gave our prize to the runners up the second time. Then we went to bed and talked for a while. A very good first day.

Tara Richards

Saturday we went to the toboggan run. We got into twos (one to steer and one to lean), sat on the toboggan and were pulled up the hill by a machine. When we got to the top we were let go to slide down the track. Each ride lasted up to a minute, depending on how much you put the accelerator down. We found that if you put the accelerator down as much as you can when you go round the corners, you get a little knock, so we had competitions to see how many knocks you could get each time around. The most bumps we got were nine. On the last bend, an added danger was a killer goose that tried to peck everyone as they went down! In the afternoon we went to Bonn to see the Town Hall, Beethoven's house and the cathedral. We were also allowed to go shopping and most people bought jewellery from the street merchants and then went to McDonalds as we had all already eaten our packed teas. We had a ball fight with some German children in the play area and even Mr Holden joined in! Later, we then had a brief trip to a fairground and after that went to the circus. The circus was very good.

Sean Edwards



Germany 2002



German Trip 2002

We got up a bit later than normal as it was Sunday, tidied our room for dorm inspection and went down to breakfast. In the morning we went to Bonn and visited a German history museum, which had lots of displays of what life was like in Germany between the Second World War and today. We were given a quiz (which was quite hard!) and my sister's group won it. Typical! In the afternoon we went to a big leisure complex in Cologne, where there were lots of interlocking swimming pools with slides, waterfalls, rapids and so on. It was quite dangerous but good fun and we stayed there all afternoon. Quite a few people had bruises at the end of the day! In the evening we played charades and had some time to socialise with boys from a German football academy that had just arrived!

Clare Dobson

On Monday morning we went into Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler and spent some time doing a 'town treasure trail'. We had to find various objects such as a postcard of a beach - but considering we were nowhere near the sea this proved quite difficult! Other things included a German one Mark coin (no longer the currency in Germany) and a receipt for less than 5 cents (about 3p). In the afternoon we went to a Formula One Theme park, where there were two simulators, which made most people, feel sick! The go-karting also proved to be very entertaining with Charlotte breaking the slowest land speed record and Maya having to pay a fine of 20 Euros for breaking her cart. Monday was also Dill's birthday and to celebrate we had three 'interesting' cakes made by the resident 'cooks' at the youth hostel (Mrs Fielding and Mr Holden). At the end of the day we went bowling and although the bowling alley wasn't very nice, it was good fun.

Ed Jefferson

On Tuesday we went to Cologne and everybody climbed to the top of the cathedral tower, except Mrs Fielding and I, who went to a cafe to have a drink instead! Far more sensible! After that we went to the chocolate factory, which was very yummy and we all spent a fortune in the shop as it was really cheap. Unfortunately, when I got home I realised that all my chocolate was dark, but I still ate it! We had lunch by the river and then walked to the shopping centre. My group had a look around the clothes shops and then went and bought some chips. Later on in the afternoon we went on a boat trip down the Rhine, ate ice creams and admired the view (well, some of us did!). On the way back to the bus Mr Holden and Mr Whitehead went a little bit mad, doing impressions of us, and we were all rather worried about their sanity! That evening we had a talent contest and the results of all the competitions over the week. We did a shampoo advert, which was clearly the best (!), but the boys doing Ali G won. Lovely costume Alex - we all loved your 'posh' girlie outfit!

Amanda Graham

The youth hostel was in a town called Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler, near Bonn. During the day we weren't usually there, but we came back for tea, most nights. The dorms were very comfortable and we all had our own bathrooms. There was a playground at the back of the youth hostel with swings, basketball hoops and a see-saw, although there was also a sign saying that it was illegal to play football! The hostel was very spacious and there were two floors with sofas where you could sit and talk. There were also drinks and sweet machines, which went down very well! There weren't many young people at the youth hostel, apart from a group of German boys on a football camp, but there was a 'grannies' choir staying at the same time as us. I'm not too sure how they managed to book in! The people who worked at the hostel were very helpful and we had a really good stay.

Overall the German trip was a huge success and all the people on the trip would like to thank Paul our coach driver and Mr Holden, Mr Whitehead and Mrs Fielding for organising the whole trip.

Dylan Kennaway

On the 6th March this year the English department took the Third Form for a day trip to Stratford upon Avon. The trip was a chance for the students to see for themselves some of the famous sites that played a part in Shakespeare's life. It is also, perhaps, an opportunity for them to absorb just how bankable the Shakespeare name still is and it might make them wonder why this balding chap from long ago manages to exert such a powerful influence over modern western culture. We visited all the main sites and Mrs Dodd acted as guide and Shakespeare raconteur. At all the houses a member of staff gave us a talk and in Hall's Croft we enjoyed a brilliant analysis of the politics of Elizabethan painting.

When we returned to College, we used the day to inspire our KS3 work by creating some excellent magazines about Shakespeare and fliers for an imaginary Shakespeare theme park. It was an excellent day and it is firmly placed in the English department's calendar. My thanks go to Mr and Mrs Dodd for running the trip so effectively.

Paul Jennings



Third Form to Stratford

English Trips

Second Form to the Everyman Theatre

On February 21st, the Second Form went on a trip to The Everyman Theatre to see *Book of the Banshee*, originally a book by Anne Fine but now turned into a play. It is a play about teenage girls, boys and family problems. We were treated to a hilarious, up-beat play, starring young adults and teenagers as members of a normal middle-class family having problems with their rebellious 13 year old daughter. The story is told by her older brother who feels neglected and who worries for his baby sister, while the family focus all their energies on Estelle, the sister from hell! Estelle insists on going to late night-parties and is constantly told 'You're not going out looking like THAT, my girl!' Estelle is rude, stropic and ignorant. Partly set in a school and partly in the family home, it was an excellent production, thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Thanks to Mr Jennings and Mr Dodd for taking us.

Maya Chester-Master



Art Trips

This year a large number of Art trips which have been undertaken as part of the G. C. S. E. and "A" level Art courses. London is always a popular and effective venture and of course contains a series of outstanding museums and galleries. At different times we have taken groups to the National Gallery, Tate Modern and Tate Britain, the

V & A, the National Portrait Gallery and the Courtauld Gallery. There have also been Sunday trips with the Sixth Form to the Pitt Rivers and Ashmolean Gallery in Oxford and to the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff and quick visits to Cheltenham and Cirencester. Seeing work first-hand rather than in books is not only a

vital part of examination work but is a thrilling and life enhancing experience. The resources we have within this country are exceptional and the trips this year have proved a huge inspiration to our students. It is this first-hand experience which is vital to the learning of visual skills and our students have been exceptionally responsive and appreciative of the experience.

Art trips are not just about looking at pictures. In this photograph, the A level art set are enjoying an evening meal in Chinatown after having spent the day in London's major galleries.

Martin Griffiths

English Trips

A-level Biologists' visit to Bristol Zoo

On the 23rd of April the 6B Biologists left at the early hour of nine a.m. for a trip to far away Bristol Zoo. The subject of the visit was the adaptation of organisms to a rainforest environment. We arrived at the zoo and had an hour to look around before our lecture. In that time we saw lots of bugs, birds, snakes, Wendy the Elephant and the main attraction, a lion cub. Matt Hutchins fell in love with this cub and wanted to take it back to school. We tried to explain that he couldn't keep it but he wouldn't listen and kept flirting. After that we went to the zoo's education centre and got introduced to

Lynn who was to give the lecture. We learned about the adaptation of gorillas, scorpions that glowed green under ultra violet light, vanilla plants, rainforest trees with buttress roots and bromeliads. We were even allowed to touch a

rainbow boa and some African ground beetle larvae, which walked backwards to confuse predators.

After the talk we had another couple of hours to look around the zoo, which Matt spent next to his new love, the lion cub! The rest of the group sat down on the lawn and enjoyed their packed lunches on a gorgeous sunny day. After a while we looked round and saw the penguins and seals from below the water. Dave Roper and I even dared to go on the children's playground, which we found very challenging.

When it was time to return to Rendcomb it was hard to separate Matt and the lion cub, and he even shed a tear as he left! On the way back we reflected on the great day we had spent at Bristol Zoo, and so we would like to thank Mr. Vuolo for taking us and for bringing the subject closer to us.

Johannes von Rotenhan

Science Trips

National Science Week

First Year to @t Bristol

The theme for the day was the Human Body and after a session in the excellent Hands On area, the pupils were treated to an impressive film in the i-Max cinema. This supported the work carried out during the year on the Spotlight science course, which has now been adopted for the first and second years.

Chris Wood



Pupils thoughts about the Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum was really interesting. The most memorable part was the Dinosaur exhibit, where you learnt the actual scale of how big they were and how to pronounce their real names. Also the Human Biology section where you saw how big the brain is when you flattened it out!

The part of the museum that left the biggest impression on me was when I first walked into the museum and witnessed the giant Brontosaurus bearing down on me. I had seen it many times before on TV but I had never seen it in real life. It is definitely the section of the museum that I remember most vividly.

The section of the museum that impressed me the most was walking inside the leaf; it made a visual impression of something that, before, seemed very complex.

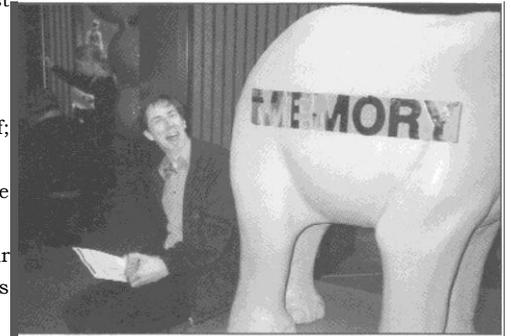
The entrance hall with the Diplodocus skeleton was really cool because of the architecture and it was really impressive and grand.

The part of the museum that left the biggest impression on me was the dinosaur section as you could see all the various parts, as if it had its skin, with all the sections very clear.

The best part of the Natural History Museum was the section on the Natural Earth. We weren't actually supposed to go to that section but a couple of us got lost and missed out on the Marine Biology bit. I found it really interesting being in a room that simulates an earthquake, as I've never actually been in a real earthquake. There were also some really cool raptors and some toy dinosaurs, which I used to have when I was really young. In fact, maybe I didn't lose them; the Natural History Museum stole them from me!

The part of the museum that left the biggest impression on me was the Dinosaur section with the big T-Rex and I also really thought the Dodo was amazing because it is grey and ugly.

The thing that amazed me the most at the Natural History Museum was the entrance hall. There was a skeleton of a dinosaur. It was vast!



Head of Science remembers!

Pupils of the Fourth Year

Third Year to Cheltenham Science Festival

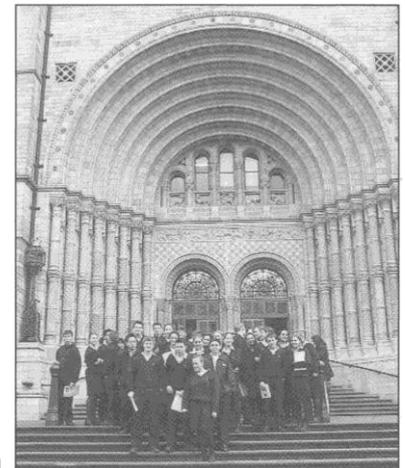
This was a new venture for Cheltenham Borough Council and it was held in the Town Hall during the summer term. After a lecture on the Chemistry of Food there was plenty of time to experience the many hands on exhibits. Some were more cerebral like the code breaking on the GCHQ stand whilst others were physical. For example the head to head cycling was particularly demanding.

Chris Wood

Second Year to the Science Museum, London

At the end of a very busy Summer Term we, the Second Year, went on a school trip to the Science Museum, London. We soon were split into groups and took off to explore. There were a wide range of exhibitions including a brilliant Grossology "The (Impolite) Science of the Human Body" exhibition. There you could smell the different body odours from the armpits, lower intestines, mouth and feet. We also had our pictures taken in a disgusting bathroom full of colonies of microbes! Later we visited a very interesting Flight Lab with a superb simulator. In this exhibition, we learnt how air affects aeroplanes and also launched water-powered rockets. On the whole, the day went excellently and if there hadn't been a fire alert, leading to a massive evacuation of the whole museum, we might have looked at even more exhibitions. Everyone enjoyed the day and thought it so much better than another day of lessons!

Max Webb-Dickin, Stephen Lockhart, Rebekah Soanes and Joy Gibson

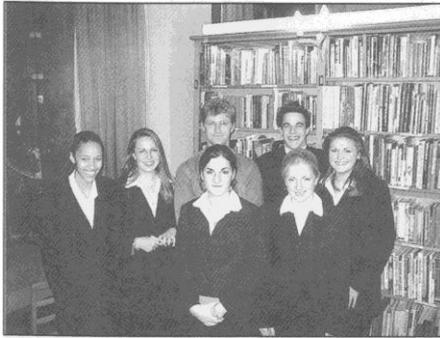


THIRD FORM VISIT TO THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

On Wednesday 29th May, the whole of the Third Form made the annual pilgrimage to this wonderful museum. The party was accompanied by DHM, MHG, PD, PJ and Miss Morrison. After the long coach journey, eased by the usual action-packed video, the students got stuck in straightaway with the large exhibits, particularly the guns and tanks associated with their term-long study of the Western Front during the First World War. This year they were able to go on to a special Trench Exhibition mounted by the museum in conjunction with the BBC2 series on daily life in a First World War trench. This was a fascinating glimpse of the realities of trench existence with plenty of hands-on experience for our students.

This particular group was outstanding in their conduct around the museum and their concentration on the task in hand, which was to fill in the lengthy worksheet questions compiled by myself. They kept going right through to a late lunch before being able to relax in the museum's cinema for an afternoon showing of a short film on the role of women during the war. There was just enough time for a visit to the museum shop before boarding the coach for the return journey. A stop at the Reading Services seemed to revive those who were beginning to flag at the end of a long and successful day.

Bobby Morgan



This year has seen Geography students of all years fulfilling this sentiment in many ways, ranging from debates in the Reading Room through to fieldwork in the best classroom of all - the great outdoors.

The first term saw the 6A students hold a very informative and stimulating debate on the motion: "This House believes that Globalisation is a Panacea". Their arguments were well illustrated by the use of Powerpoint software and the motion was defeated by 33 votes to 4. The whole experience was particularly useful for their studies and the 6B students on the 'floor of the House' were given some insight into the A2 Geography course.

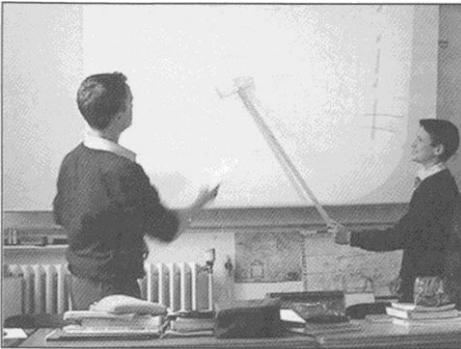
Debating is not the sole domain of the Sixth Form. The Third Form debated the issue of wind farms under the supervision of the ever-enthusiastic Mrs Westhead and together with elements of investigation in the College's grounds, there has been a surge of practical Geography inspired by her.

The AS Geographers, with Mrs Gill and Mr Brealy, returned to the excellent fieldwork area of Pembrokeshire and to the dedicated staff of Orielton Field Studies Centre. At times, the students had to put up with long hours of data collection (in testing Welsh conditions) as well as number crunching to the extent that they would have taken solace in the words of Aristotle: "We cannot learn without pain". But they would all agree that it was a very constructive week towards writing up their AS 'Investigation' (40% of the examination mark).

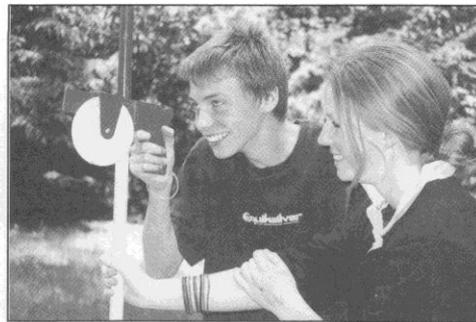
The GCSE classes have also been busy collecting data for their coursework pieces on the River Churn, Cirencester's CBD or Swindon's CBD. These have been coupled with farm visits to get to grips with conventional and organic agriculture as well as aspects of diversification and the Common Agricultural Policy. In terms of 'settlement studies', Mr Brealy undertook his perennial tour of Cheltenham spa, unlocking its many features.

All the year groups have excelled in applying themselves to the practical elements of their work. It is hoped that that they will continue to be so dedicated.

Alex Brealy



Third form debate



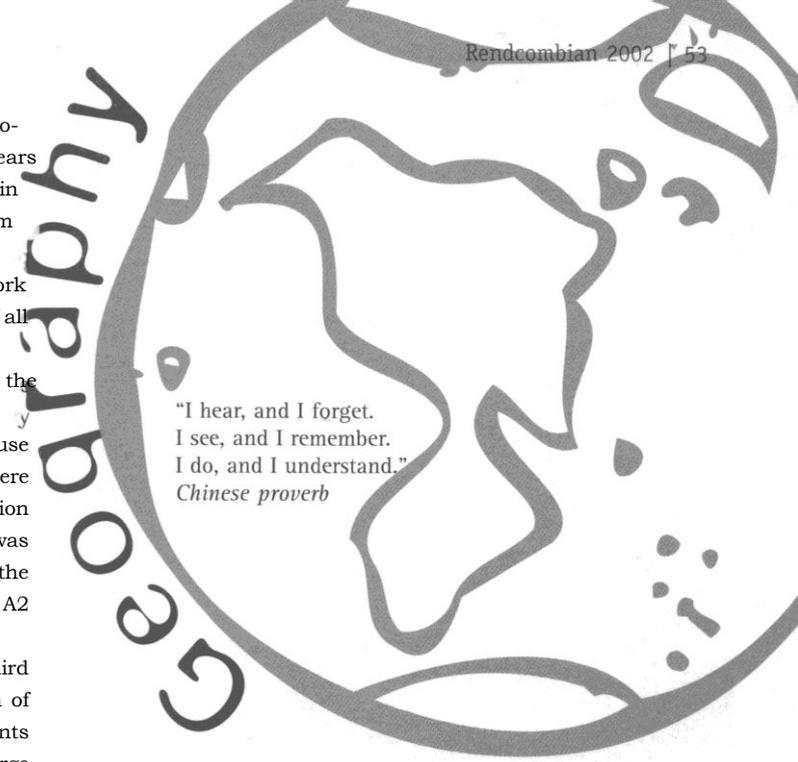
Fourth Form Geography fieldwork



Geographers in Bourton-on-the-Water



Fifth Form Geography fieldwork group



"I hear, and I forget.
I see, and I remember.
I do, and I understand."
Chinese proverb

Biology



6A Fieldwork Snowdonia National Park

Based at Betws-y-Coed in the National Park, the 6A Biologists spent the last part of a week in February getting wet in rivers, blown off sand dunes and running around an 'Ancient Woodland' as part of their coursework and the Individual Study for the A2 part of the A Level.

There is little doubt that these five students really became involved in the basics of fieldwork - getting wet, cold yet always staying in good humour. For three days Frances Burden did not emerge out of her all enveloping waterproofs. I actually forgot



6B Field Day

what she looked like. Thomas Matsukawa kept his blood sugar up by the constant consumption of 'Waggon Wheels' but he appeared to burn off all this energy.

We put together four excellent projects based on the statistical analysis of lichen, moss, epiphyte distribution in woodland and the variation in microclimates and different habitats. Jay Chaiwatanasirikul, cheerful as ever, kept the pace of the work ticking along with a charm and style that I shall miss. Penny Foster, on the ball as ever, appeared to get used to the daily soaking and much to her credit she looks so happy in the fieldwork photographs.

I thank them all for being a delight to be 'Lost in Wales' with. During our stay, Betws-y-Coed was three times recorded as the wettest place in the UK. Ideal for Biology fieldwork!

James Stutchbury

My Gap Challenge in Peru

Last year the Old Rendcombian Society supported Lawrence Barton who sent the following fascinating account.

Fishing for dinner at a lagoon with my colleague, Mario, and our host, Raimundo, is just one of the many occasions where I could suddenly be astonished at my luck to

'Hold on, I'm fishing for piranhas!'

up here - but this time I realised 'Hold on, I'm fishing for piranhas!' In Britain, I can't imagine even considering spend-lorry in cramped conditions, exposed to the elements and dust from the road, in order to travel 400km. But so I did to reach my new workplace, the jungle town of Puerto Maldonado, along what is widely regarded as the worst road in Peru, but worth it just for the awesome scenery. Descending from the old Inca capital of Cuzco, high in the Andes, winding down through the mountain passes, and then suddenly seeing the jungle spread beneath us as far as the eye could see. An unforgettable sight, but a routine journey for the locals. The overwhelming majority of Peruvians would never be able to afford to take the half-hour aeroplane route instead.

South America is a marvellously varied and fascinating continent and Peru, its third largest nation, is a perfect microcosm of this. It starts just south of the equator with mangrove swamps then pursues serene desert along most of its Pacific coast while just inland it showcases the truly breathtaking Andes, not to mention that more than half the country makes up part of the unfathomably vast Amazon basin.

A group of 20 of us went out with Gap Challenge to work in Peru in January 2001. Eighteen largely stuck together, living and

teaching English near the capital, Lima, on the coast. A friend and I, meanwhile, worked for a Peruvian conservation NGO called Pro Naturaleza in the northern town of Tumbes, about half the size of Cheltenham and where the average summer temperature is about 40 degrees Celsius.

The Department of Tumbes, the smallest of Peru's 24 administrative states, includes most of a network of National Parks called the Northwest Biosphere Reserve (part of UNESCO's MAB scheme). Here it was that we were to work, as Pro Nat needed research done into the state of degradation of the forests there. This mostly involved the two of us hiking miles in the hot sun, taking notes and measurements, but even after two months the novelty of the beautiful surroundings was far from wearing off, especially with the variations. We would trek around between coast, swamp, 'dry' woods, plush forests, and even sometimes, unfortunately, areas where there was not a tree in sight, despite what the law may hope for.

After 3 months and a new visa, I set off on my own to my next placement, accompanying an agricultural expert advising farmers on different methods. The way of life there may not suit everyone but to see caimans, capybara, and anacondas just lazing around on the riverbanks, with peccaries and agoutis running through the forests, and condors flying over-head, was for me a complete dream lived out to the full.

Another 90 days was almost up, meaning leaving the country again. As I was in the south, it was a weekend in the Bolivian city of La Paz. This time, however, getting back was not so straightforward, as a nation-wide

dispute between the coca growers' union and the government turned nasty, leading to many important roads needing military presence and the threat putting off most coach companies from running at the time I wanted to return to Peru.

The disputes centre around the USA's insistence on the eradication of coca plantations throughout Bolivia and Peru (the only two countries where it is legal) before aid will be granted. While developed' countries and Colombia carry on with the massive cocaine trade, the peoples of these two desperately

poor countries are now being stripped of a crop that is more than just their way of life. To compare coca consumption to as common a custom as tea drinking in

Britain is not only to underestimate it, but also to ignore its deep religious significance through the centuries to millions of people. US intervention has also led to a general dislike of Americans in this area. Explaining that I am in fact British always led to much more hospitable behaviour and smiles replacing scowls, as tourists are normally assumed to be American.

Eventually I got through and went to the shore of the stunning Lake Titicaca. I took a tour of the islands on the lake, including those mind-boggling, floating ones constructed entirely from reeds and spent a night on the splendid island of Taquile. Titicaca may not be as high as other navigable lakes (despite . . .

Explaining that I am in fact British always led to much more hospitable behaviour

(Cont'd on page 55)

Prefects

Head of College:	Victoria Mackinnon
Deputy Heads of College:	Olivia Evans, John Raby
Old Rectory:	John Raby, Richard Demczak
Godman House:	Frances Burden, Penelope Foster
Stable House:	Christopher Quinn, Christopher Thomas, Stephen Ward
Lawn House:	Nellie Gilson, Sarah Padmore

Church Ushers

James Spackman, John Raby, Nellie Gilson, Yeun Kwan Law,
Richard Demczak, Sarah Padmore.

Valete

We say good-bye to the following and wish them every success
and happiness in the future:

Upper Sixth Year: Frances Burden, Korn-Anong
Chaiwatanasirikul, Winnie Cheung, Richard Demczak, Olivia Evans,
Penelope Foster, Nellie Gilson, Philip Gordon-Jones, Yeun Kwan
Law, Hau Ling Leung, Victoria MacKinnon, Thomas Matsukawa,
Nathaniel Maylott, Edward McHenry, Stanislav Odintsov, Sarah
Padmore, Jonathan Pratt, Christopher Quinn, John Raby, James
Spackman, Aimée Smith, Christopher Thomas, Nicolas Trost, Laurie
Wallis, Stephen Ward, Friedrich Ysenburg.

Salvete

We welcome the following in September 2002:

Form 6B: Sunny Meng, James Chang, Marit Stenzel, James
Groombridge. John Adler, Christopher Barefoot, Henry Chan,
Edward Kiggins, Ka Ching Wong.

Fourth Year: Rachel Blesovsky, Stephen Li, Ming Yui Pang, Lotta
Von Rotenhan.

Third Year: Jade Harrison, Ivan Ho, Ryo Jinno, Yoko Kanemaru,
Keiko Nagano, Eisalu Nakamura, Rie Okumura, Sam Slater, William
Smith, Richard Whittles, Freddy Wüthrich.

Second Year: Laura Brown, Josefine Lindenwall.

... popular perception, even in Peru there is a least one higher),
but its sheer size, its cultural and religious significance to the
local people and its beauty justify its legendary prominence.

Then, with a major earthquake rendering Arequipa and the
south-west near unable to accept visitors there was only one
main area left to visit. So back to Cuzco, with all its many
remains and ruins from the Inca people and the pre-Inca
cultures. Whilst there, I stayed with a friend, Alfredo, an
anthropologist whom I met also working for Pro Nat, and, being a
true Cuzqueno, he could tell me a lot more about the area than
was in the guidebooks. Its crowning glory is of course the
majestic site known as Machu Picchu "discovered" only in 1911.
The 4-day "Inca Trail" has become justifiably well-known now,
and suffice it to say the scenery was at times stunning, and after
usually travelling solo it was good to meet up with a group to
compare notes, as it were, even if I again didn't like the touristy
treatment.

So that was my trip to South America, glimpsing the
language and culture of the Peruvian people, and learning a bit
about the conservation and flora and fauna of the region. Now
past mid-July, I returned back to Lima to finish off my business
with Pro Nat and found that the office had been the victim of an
arson attack. One of the biggest problems they find in their work
is the opposition of rich, powerful companies - in this case, a
logging corporation upset with Pro Nat-inspired legislation.
Conservation is at times a tough war to fight, but I am glad to
feel I did my bit.

Laurence Barton (1993-2000)

First Year: Mitchell Baltrop, Jasmine Barks, Jack Barton, James
Beck, Sinaed Brennan, Amy Bridget-Page, Edward Brierley,
Ava Carpenter, Sian Clift, Charles Daly, Alexandra Dawkins,
April Edwards, Max Ellis, Henry Evans, Andrew Forshaw, Louis
Greenaway, Harry Homan-Green, Alexander Humphrey-Gaskin,
William Jefferson, Charles Kiggins, Michael Lockhart, Sarah
Lockyer, Thomas North, Emma Parker, Harley Phelps, Thomas
Restorick, Michael Richards, Mark Richardson, Jeremy Skelton,
Dominic Stevens, Charlotte Tapsell, Rhys Thomas, Hannah
Timmins, Fiona Trumper, Victoria Turner, Eleanor Whittles,
Christopher Yeoward.

The Old Rendcombian Society

At the Annual General Meeting in June 2002, the following
officers were elected: -

President:	Julian Comrie (1946-54)
Chairman:	Neil Lumby (1968-73)
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs Sally Morris (1978-80)
Secretary:	Mrs Jane Gunner (1975-77)
	Whiteway Farmhouse, The Whiteway, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 7BA

Treasurer/School rep: Chris Wood (1965-71; Staff: 1976-)

Committee Members: Michael Miles (1943-50)
Richard Tudor (1973-80)
Alex Brealy (1980-87; Staff 1994-)
Charlotte Jeffery 99(1988-90)

Hon Auditor: David Williams (1966-71)

Newsletter Editor: Bill White (Staff 1961-97)



*There had been successful sports fixtures in December and
March, however unfortunately the summer reunion was less
well attended because it competed with the World Cup Final.*

*The Chairman announced that the long awaited
paperback reprint of the History of Rendcomb College Volume I
was due in the autumn. Also the Society intends to launch a
new scheme, supporting pupils in terms of their careers.*

*The collection of subscriptions on a termly basis is
working well and should secure the financial future of the
Society. It will also allow the Travel Bursary to be increased to
£800. This year the Society was able to support Joanne
Hindley, who left last year, and the four girls selected for the
British Schools Exploring Society's expeditions.*

Chris Wood

Richard Dunwoody

GAP 37

At the age of 37 Richard Dunwoody decided it was time to go on his gap year, following his retirement from horse racing.

He started his venture off in Hong Kong where he visited the famous racecourse in Happy Valley and then it was off to Australia. He started off in Melbourne where he was a guest of Eddie Jordan at the Australian Grand Prix. There he met Ross Kemp (Grant Mitchell from Eastenders). Richard then continued his travels down Ocean Road where he stayed on a sheep farm for a few days before At the Australian Grand Prix going to Sydney for St Patrick's Day. Here he tried his hand at a few leisurely activities! He described skydiving as "a great buzz." After spending an active week in Sydney he went to Brisbane where he stayed with Peter Terry, a sports psychologist.

Next was Eraser Island, which he thought a lovely place. However the feeling was saddened because Dingoes had recently killed a young boy. He travelled onto Cairns where he tried bungee jumping!

Richard visited Alice Springs and climbed Ayer's rock, which he enjoyed immensely. After this he moved on round to Adelaide where he stayed a few nights, then finally back to Sydney where he was reunited with old friends.

The next country was New Zealand before going on to South America, starting in Buenos Aires. Richard thought this was not as good as he expected because of all the signs of unrest and graffiti. Also he was unable to watch a football match as the players were on strike! He was moved by the grave of Evita, which was covered in flowers for her birthday. She died in 1952 but was not buried until 1972.

Outside the city he struggled to get by with his rudimentary Spanish and a phrase book and dictionary were essential. If he ever goes back he would like to do a Spanish course whilst living with a family.

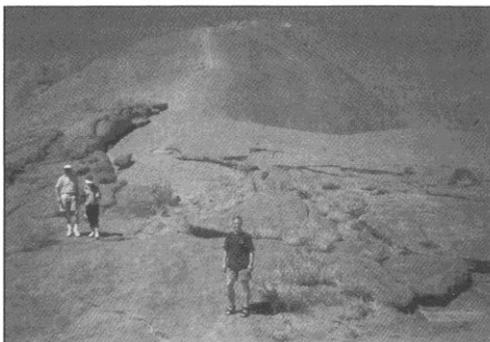
They have excellent "sleeping buses" but you have to be very careful about theft even if your bag is at your feet. There was power rationing in Rio, so once again football and horse racing were affected. However the view from Sugar Loaf Mountain was fantastic.

In Peru he went on a four-day trek, during which porters carried the tents but you had to carry your own gear. He kept fit by running, however this became very hard at high altitude. Prom Lima he flew north to Vancouver and enjoyed whale watching and the Rockies. After Calgary and New York it was time to come home.

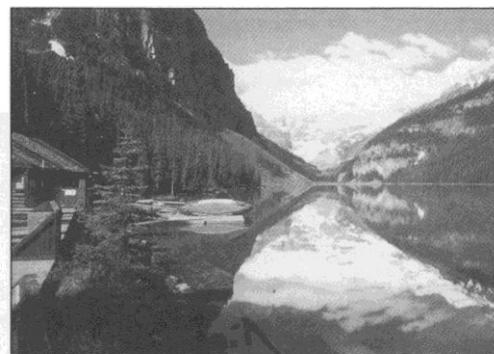
The pupil editors



Sydney Opera House



Ayer's Rock



Lake Louise

Q. Favourite places?

A. Peru, the Rockies, Jasper and Banff

Q. Favourite City?

A. Sydney

Q. What next?

A. Richard was busy with his testimonial year. His patron is Sir Alex Ferguson and his Chairman is Ian McAllister. He was hoping to arrange a Gala Dinner for 700, shooting days, racing days and a golf day. The aim was to cover expenses and donate 50% to charities such as SPARKS and the Anthony Nolan Trust. He was also considering joining David Hempleton-Adams on a 150 mile unsupported trek to Baffin Island in Canada, then maybe back to work!



Old Rendcombian, Alex Breal, and Iain Whittaker, were two of a three man team who took part in the Field and Trek Adventure Race at Sandhurst Military Academy in the Michaelmas term. Their team, 'Jetlinx', came second out of 33 teams from all over the UK and Ireland, covering 17 miles of cycling on forest trails, 45 minutes of Canadian canoeing on one of the Academy's lakes and finishing off with a 10 mile run.

Alex Breal

Handel's Messiah (Part 1)

In true David White style, a magnificent production of Handel's Messiah (Part 1) was staged in the Dulverton Hall on the evening of the hockey reunion, on 17th March 2002. A disparate collection of pupils, teachers, O.R.'s. Governors and invited guests gathered at 4:00 p.m. on a very wet Sunday afternoon to begin rehearsals. When the performance opened, to a packed auditorium three and a half

hours later, David had woven his spell and a consummate performance ensued.

Solos were given by pupils and staff of the College and included one by Rupert Uzzell, son of the late Denis Uzzell (1926-34). The O.R.'s were represented by: Philip Webb (92-99), Rebekah Taplin (97-99), Ian Forster (94-99). Gemma Leathart (93-99), Paul Sumsion (85-92), Marian Preen (91-93), Thom Gilbert

(92-99), Claire Germaine (90-93), Louise Bongiovanni (97-99), with John Kitto (44-51) on the cello.

Guests were treated to a marvellous evening of wonderful music and it is hoped that the performers enjoyed it as much as the audience did.

Jane Gunner

Power of the Internet

Paul Kampe was Clerk of Works at the College and now lives in the village. He was reunited with his sister thanks to the Old Rendcombian Society and the power of the internet. This is his story:

The Russians invaded Latvia in June 1939 and Stalin deported 100,000 Latvians, mostly farmers, to Siberia. Paul was nine at the time and he remembered the cattle trucks passing his father's farm. In 1941, the Germans arrived and were regarded as "liberators". The Kampe family had been on the list for being deporting by the Russians. They tried to get to Sweden but went instead to Danzig in Germany to live with a farmer. Their family consisted of Paul's mother and father, his sister Ida, Paul and a nephew. The Russians overran the area, but fortunately the family spoke Russian and pretended that they were returning to Latvia. Sadly the nephew died at this point from diphtheria.

When the war ended, they went back

to the German farm but as this was now in the Russian zone they had to escape to the British zone. This took them about a week, but they succeeded by bribing a border guard with a silver pocket watch. They found their brother-in-law and his family.

In 1947, Paul had a chance to come to England as a voluntary worker on the land. He came to Gloucestershire and worked on a farm: June was then looking after a few boarders at a prep school at Daglingworth. They kept in touch with the rest of the family until 1952, when they went to America and wanted Paul to go with them. His Sister went to Chicago to work in a hospital. They then lost touch with each other and Paul resolved to remember them as they were.

In May 2001 Paul had a telephone call. The caller asked: "Are you Paul Kampe?" It was from his niece who had traced him

through the Internet - first by a page from the Old Rendcombian Newsletter of 1988 where it mentioned that Paul was taking over as Clerk of Works from Tony Partridge.

She told Paul that his sister and brother-in-law were still alive and also a younger niece and nephew. They were living on a farm in middle Wisconsin. Paul writes: "After several 'phone calls we agreed to fly over to see them. We flew to Chicago - 300 miles from their farm. My brother-in-law, who is 84, drove to the airport to pick us up and then drove straight back! I was able to meet most of the family, including my niece and her husband who drove from Toronto. A nephew flew in from Las Vegas and I found I had two cousins living in Toronto, one of whom flew down to see me." It was an amazing and very emotional reunion.

Chris Wood

6A Leavers	University Destination	Subject
Paul R S Bongiovanni	Portsmouth University	Leisure Resource Management
Matthew S S Carrington	Nottingham University	American Studies
Thomas Z B Drew	Chester C H E	Art & Business
Olivia B du Monceau	Gloucestershire University	Art Foundation
Michael A Elsworthy	Derby University	Zoology
Rosalind J Frazer-Holland	Birmingham University	Humanities
Christopher J Henson	Manchester University	Geography University
Joanna L Bindley	Edinburgh University	English
Freddie J Fait	Oxford University	Mathematics
Candice A McDonald	Canada	
Leila F Nelson	Stroud School of Art	Art Foundation
Alice J Osborne	Surrey University, Roehampton	Drama & Theatre Studies
Adam C Padmore	Manchester Metropolitan University	Geography & Sport
Helen C Pearce	Cardiff University	Accounting & Management
Amy L Roberts	Gloucestershire University	Art Foundation
Natsuko Sasaki	Japan	
Nicola M Scarth	Birmingham University	Nursing
Christina J Schotten		Art Foundation
Benjamin C Stanfield	Birmingham College of Food	Professional Culinary Arts
Paul Szybiak	Birmingham University	Adventure Tourism
Matthew S Thatcher	Durham University	Theology
Rebecca J Whatman	Swansea University	Environmental Biology
Kate V Wilson	Gloucestershire University	Art Foundation

ACADEMIC

Third Year Entry

Jade Harrison	Ethelberg	Open
Sam Slater	Deer Park	Open
Richard Whittles	Cheltenham College Junior	Open

Scholarship Awards for Entry in September 2002

First Year Entry

Jack Barton	Querns	Sport
Charles Daly	Ireland	Dulverton
Alexandra Dawkins	Oakridge	Noel Wills
Henry Evans	Querns	Art
Hannah Timmins	Rendcomb Junior	Art
Victoria Turner	Northleach	Open
Christopher Yeoward	Rendcomb Junior	Open



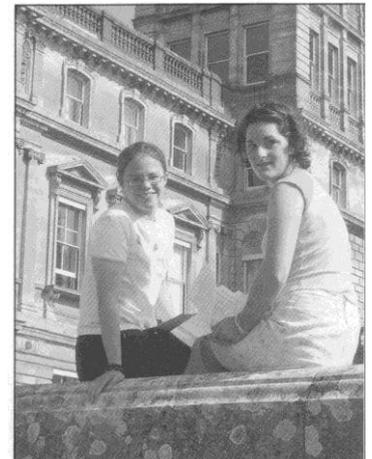
Fourth Form Freshwater Ecology

GCE Examinations

A level

Burden, Frances	Biology*, Chemistry*, French, Physics
Chaiwatanasirikul, Korn-Anong	Biology, Chemistry*, Mathematics, German (AS)
Cheung, Winnie	Art*, Chinese, Mathematics
Demczak, Richard	Business Studies, Music, Music Technology, English Literature (AS)
Evans, Olivia	Art*, English Literature, Geography, French
Foster, Penelope	Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Sport and PE (AS)
Gilson, Nellie	Art*, English Literature, Geography
Gordon-Jones, Philip	Business Studies, Mathematics, Music Technology (AS), Sport, PE (AS)
Law, Yeun Kwan	Business Studies, Chinese*, Mathematics, Sport and PE (AS)
Leung, Hau Ling	Art, Chinese, Mathematics
McHenry, Edward	Drama and Theatre Studies*, Fine Art*, History, Geography (AS)
MacKinnon, Victoria	Chemistry*, Mathematics, Physics, French (AS)
Matsukawa, Thomas	Chemistry, Japanese*, Mathematics, Biology (AS)
Maylott, Nathaniel	Art, English Literature, Business Studies (AS), Drama and Theatre Studies (AS)
Odintsov, Stanislav	Business Studies*, History, Mathematics, Biology (AS)
Padmore, Sarah	Art, English Literature, Geography
Pratt, Jonathan	English Literature, Geography, Sport and PE (AS)
Quinn, Christopher	English Literature, French, History, Geography* (AS)
Raby, John	Business Studies (AS), Drama and Theatre Studies (AS)
Spackman, James	Art, English Literature, Geography,
Smith, Aimée	Business Studies, Mathematics, Sport and PE (AS)
Thomas, Christopher	Business Studies*, History, French (AS), Mathematics (AS)
Trost, Nicolas	German*, History, Mathematics, Physics
Wallis, Laurie	Art, Business Studies, English Literature
Ward, Stephen	Business Studies, German, Mathematics, Sport and PE (AS)
Ysenburg, Friedrich	Business Studies, German*, Mathematics, Physics (AS)

Frances Burden and Olivia Evans



GCSE Examinations

Sixth Form Entry

6a Trost, Nicolas	E
6b Unger, Tassilo	E

Fifth Form Entry

Al Rumaihi, Mohammed	A, e, el, ict, M, SS
Al Thani, Joaan	a, e, el, ict, m, ss
Andersson, Alexandra	A*, E, EL*, F*, G*, H** M, SD
Arkle, Michael	A, e, EL, f, G, M, SD
Armbrecht, Sabine	A, E, EL, F, G, ict, M, SD
Aspin, Ralph	E, EL, f, G, H, ict, M, SD
Barefoot, Alice	A*, E, EL, F, G, ICT, M, SD
Barne, Meg	A**, B*, C*, E*, EL*, F**, H*, M*, Mu*, P*
Burden, Richard	B**, C**, E*, EL*, F**, G**, GM**, H**, M*, P**
Burley, Laura	B, C, E*, EL, F* G*, H**, ICT, M, P
Cheung, Cindy	A*, B*, C*, E, EL, ICT, M*, MU*, P
Clarke, Chloe	A*, B, C, E, EL, F, G* ICT, M, P
Clements, Nicholas	A*, B*, C, E, EL*, G**, H**, M, P*
Colson, Sarah	A**, B, C, E, EL, F, G, ICT, M, P
Crisp, Charles	a, B, C, E, EL, G, M, MU*, P
Davies, Thomas	B*, C*, E, EL, f, G*, H*, ICT, M, P
Demczak, Rebecca-Claire	A*, B, C, E, EL, F, G*, M, MU**, P
Ellis, Charlotte	A*, B, C, E, EL, F, G, ict, M, P
Evans, Nicholas	fn, E, EL, F, H, M, sd
Evans, Romilly	A**, B, C, E*, EL, F**, G*, GM*, M, P
Finn, Jade	A**, B*, C*, E*, EL*, F*, G**, H**, M, P**
Good, Christian	B, C, e, el, G, GM, H, M, P
Hopley, Adam	a, e, el, G, M, sd
Kingsford, Harriet	A*, B, C, E, EL, F, G, GM, M, P
Lay, Caroline	FN, E, EL, F, G, ict, M, SD
Le Feuvre, Richard	B, C, E, EL, F, G, GM, ICT, M, P
Lomax, Amanda	A*, B*, C, E, EL, F*, G*, GM*, M, P
Marlowe, Anna	C, E*, EL, F*, G*, M, MU*, SD
Mason, Peter	B*, C*, E, EL, F, G*, H*, ICT, M*, P
Pearce, James	A*, B, C, e, EL, H, ICT, M, P
Postlethwaite, Rachel	A*, FN, E, EL, g, ICT, m, SD
Powell, Harry	a, fn, e, el, g, ss
Rudderham, Sarah	A**, B*, C, E**, EL*, F*, G*, H*, M, P
Sandover, Louise	A, B, C, E*, EL, G*, GM, ict, M
Vick, Barney	B, C, E, EL, F, G, H*, M, P
Ward, Mark	A, B, C, E, EL, GM, H*, ICT, M, P
Warrington, Edward	A, E, EL, F, H, M, MU*, SD
Whitby-Brown, Holly	B, C, E, EL, G, GM* H*, ICT, M, P
Whitby-Brown, Simon	B, C, E*, EL*, GM*, H*, ICT, M, MU, P
Yu, Jimmy	A, CH*, FN, E, EL, M, SD

Fourth Form Entry

Lee, Wong Fung	CH**
Wüthrich, Willemijn	DU**

Key: Capital letters show grades A - C, lower case letters grades d - g, ** grade A*, * grade A

Subject key: A-Art, B-Biology, C-Chemistry, CH-Chinese, DU-Dutch, E-English Language, EL-English Literature, FN-Food & Nutrition, F-French, G-Geography, GM-German, H-History, ICT-Information Technology M-Mathematics, MU-Music, P-Physics, SD-Science (Double) SS-Science (Single).

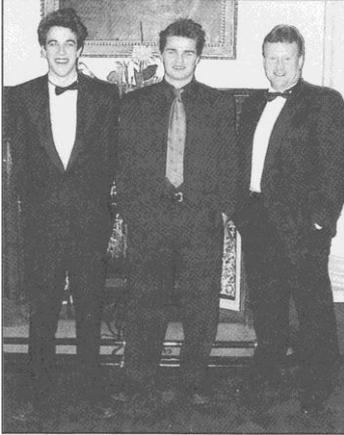
Sport

Rugby Football

Once again, the College fielded five teams on a regular basis and has seen a significant and highly encouraging degree of success at all levels. The overall statistics read as follows:

Played 47, Won 29, Drew 3, Lost 15, PF 943 PA 542

This represents a success rate of around 66%, with four teams enjoying winning seasons and the U13 XV having broken even with four wins in eight matches. This is truly an outstanding achievement since most fixtures have been played against schools that have more, sometimes many more, boys than Rendcomb. It is extremely pleasing to see that Rendcomb rugby is flourishing at every level. The playing record of the U14 XV is magnificent and the progress made by the U13 XV and U15 XVs this season has been enormously encouraging.



The season was celebrated at the annual club dinner which, once again, proved to be a memorable and enjoyable occasion, and we are very grateful to our guest speaker Matthew Carrington of Bristol and New Zealand.

In conclusion, my usual but sincere thanks to all those involved in rugby this season. To the club officers and to all the players. To the groundstaff and the caterers, the medical staff and the faithful parents on the touchline. Above all, to my coaching colleagues who continue to make my task of running rugby at Rendcomb so much easier by their outstanding professionalism and support. It has been a great pleasure for me this season to see the enormous satisfaction that they have derived from the success of their teams. Rugby at Rendcomb is indeed flourishing and they deserve much of the credit for this.

Mike Slark

Officers of the Club
 Club Captain: J. Pratt
 2nd XV Captain: C. Thomas

The 1st XV carry, as ever, the greatest burden of expectation, in pursuit of an eighth successive winning season which was finally secured on the first Saturday in December. Their journey has been both long and interesting this season.

1st XV

From rugby of great quality on the first Saturday of the season in the sunshine against Abingdon, to rugby of great resolution and determination against Cokethorpe & Cirencester RFC, through a period of self doubt mid season with games lost or drawn that might have been - should have been - won to the key moment of season, the Devon tour.

On the Saturday showing outstanding commitment and courage in defeating one of the most abrasive school teams that I have seen for some years, playing for each other with not a backward step taken anywhere on the field. On the Sunday, doing it all over again and taking a team of great quality to their very limit, only to lose in desperately disappointing circumstances to the last kick of the game. Nevertheless, I have rarely been more proud of a Rendcomb 1st XV, and in the moment of defeat, the resolution not to lose another game. This was so nearly achieved with two wins, one draw and only one more defeat, coming on the last Saturday of the season, but they have no reason to reproach themselves, edged out only by the sheer physical advantage of the much larger opposition.

Their final performance was magnificent, giving everything they had in the finest traditions of their predecessors, and this is particularly encouraging for a team that is relatively young. Only about one third of those who represented the XV this season are members of 6A. Most will return for at least one more season and outstanding amongst this group have been Matt Hutchins, Johannes von Rotenham and, above all, Tommy Lait - and I am pleased to confirm that Tommy will follow in his brother's footsteps as captain of rugby next season.

However, the final word should be for the core of 6A players around whom a 1st XV is built and for whom it is their most important season. Stanislav

Odintsov, Phil Gordon-Jones, John Raby (how fitting that he scored the last try in the last minute of the season), James Spackman, Steve Ward and Chris Thomas - all stalwarts of College rugby over the years - and I thank them for their great contribution to the success of the XV this season.

Finally the captain, Jonathan Pratt, presented with the hugely challenging task of emulating the examples of some outstanding figures of the recent past. Different leaders adopt different leadership styles and he chose to lead by example - playing every minute of every game and making decisive personal contributions throughout the season. A last minute drop goal to win at Cokethorpe, a solo try of real vision to finally unlock the Cirencester RFC defence with a conversion added to secure a well deserved draw, and kicking the pressure penalties that ultimately made the difference in several victories. In the final analysis, it mattered to John and he showed it - and never more so than in the pain of losing to Kelly College in the last minute of the game - and because it mattered to him it mattered to all of his team. He has led the eighth successive winning 1st XV, and he should be proud of what he has achieved this season and he should be proud of his team.



Mike Slark

Mike Slark and Paul Dodd in Italy



After running rugby at Rendcomb very successfully and efficiently for the last eight years, Mike Slark is now handing over the role of Head of Rugby to Paul Dodd. During this period, he has always enabled the pupils to achieve maximum progress by organising realistic fixtures and they have responded accordingly by being proud of their results.

This has been another successful season for the 1st XV who have secured an eighth successive winning season, but this is no surprise considering the group of players we have had in the team this term. The squad members have been all of similar skill with no main weakness throughout the team and have all shown the passion and commitment to play in the 1st XV.

The front row of Christian Good, Stanislav Odintsov and John Raby may not be the biggest but they certainly do not lack passion and commitment, and were always reliable winning vital ball against bigger and stronger opposition. Staz in his last season of rugby showed that Russians can play rugby even if



there may be more important matters that need their full attention. In the second row and in the front row at times there is Phil G-Jones who has been vital through

out the season, providing much needed strength in the second row. Matt Harbottle and Dave Roper have competed throughout the season and made competition for places very fierce. Tom Lockyer has won many important balls for us and tackled hard showing what is needed to play in the forwards. The smallest member of the pack, Pete Mason, proved that size does not matter and was one of the best tacklers in the

Team from: J Pratt (capt), P Gordon-Jones, S Odintsov, J Raby, J Spackman, C Thomas, S Ward, T Bates, M Harbottle, S Hicks, M Hutchins, C Jeffreys, T Lait, T Lockyer, D Roper, J von Rotenhan, R Aspin, C Good, P Mason.

1st XV playing record

Played 15, Won 7, Drew 3, Lost 5, PF 247 PA 169

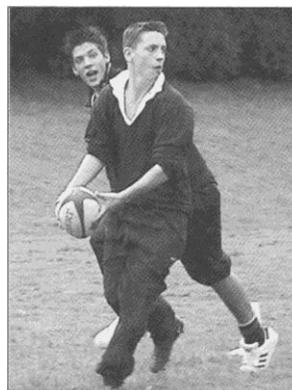
v Abingdon (H):	W36-0
v Cokethorpe Sch (A):	W17-15
v Cirencester RFC (A):	D7-7
v Rednock Sch (A):	L5-23
v Bredon Sch (H):	W43-3
v St Edward's Sch (H):	L15-20
v St John's Coll (A):	D3-3
v Rougement Sch (H):	L8-10
v Monkton Combe (A):	W23-7
v Plymouth College (A):	W16-10
v Kelly College (A):	L14-15
v Sir Thomas Rich's (H):	W30-17
v Bristol Cathedral (H):	W14-7
v Kingham Hill Sch (A):	D6-6
v King's Sch Gloucs (H):	L10-26

team, cementing his place for the season.

The two most vital players for next year in the forwards will be Johannes von Rotenhan and Tommy Lait who between them never had a bad game and put 100 % into every match, and saved us in many a game scoring many tries between them.

And now for the backs. Matt Hutchins has been excellent all season with his huge variety of passing and tough tackling making up for his size. Steve Ward and James Spackman have shown that physically they are very different but both fight hard and they will be missed next year. But Ralph Aspin will still be able to maintain his solid defence and good kicking which relieved much pressure. The wingers of Tim Bates and Sam Hicks always looked a threat when going forward when making some blistering runs down the touchline to score some valuable tries.

Many thanks must go to Mr Slark for his time, effort and



Rugby marathon

patience with all of us, which has been most appreciated by all the players, and to Mr Dodd for travelling with us to Italy. I wish the XV all the best for next season and hope it maintains our record with a winning season.

J. Pratt

Tour to Italy

On the Wednesday of the February half term, a squad of 21 players and 2 staff travelled to Italy to play 3 matches. Twelve hours travelling left us very tired. In the morning, we had our first proper practice for some time, so we were all a bit rusty and some were more fit and enthusiastic than others.

Our first match was that evening under floodlights against Montebelluna RFC. We aimed to arrive in good time, some 2 hours early allowing plenty of opportunity to shake off the effects of the journey and get used to the conditions. Playing under floodlights was a new experience for most of us. However, we had not reckoned with Pietro, our genial host. So nearly 2 hours later,



having seen a First World War battlefield and paid our respects at the cemetery of the British war dead, we found ourselves at a salami tasting in a garage that belonged to a friend of Pietro. By this time some of the party were twitchy about the impending kick off but it was pointed out that in Italy the pace of life was somewhat different and that a 7.30 kick off was a very flexible concept - not an approach to life that presented any problems of adjustment for Wardy and Hicksy - and no matter how bizarre the build up to the match, it did not affect our ultimate performance. In fact, salami might just be on the menu every Wednesday and Saturday next year.

The weather was the worst it could have been, a strong wind and driving rain, and the pitch was a bog. We soon had an answer to Matt Hutchins' question, 'how big are Italian rugby players?' 'Much bigger than us, as ever, and with an inside centre who played for Italy at this age level'. For the first few minutes we were under extreme pressure but slowly we got into the game and went on to dominate the period before and after half time, scoring 2 penalties and a converted James Spackman try to establish a 13-5 lead. However, despite great pressure in the second half, we failed to score any more points and were hit by a breakaway try to leave us holding a slender 3 point advantage going into the closing minutes. Fortunately, we took the game straight back to the opposition and Ralph Aspin finished off an excellent team try to seal victory by 18 points to 10. A great start to the tour.

There was no real respite with another training session the next morning, and even bigger opponents in the shape of Montselice RFC the next evening.

If anything, the playing conditions were even worse. The match was very tight and dominated by a strong wind, which neither side really exploited. Playing against the wind in the first half, we defended superbly with some big tackles most notably by Tassilo Unger, having an outstanding debut, and managed to break out for James Spackman to score his second try of the tour and establish a 7-0 half time lead. However, we failed to capitalise in the second half and conceded a try under

the posts. Final score 7-7, a hard fought and fair result against what proved to be the strongest team we encountered on tour.

The weekend saw a break from rugby, with Saturday spent in Venice and Sunday in Verona. The party took the opportunity to add a little culture to their lives, and, while in Verona,

some Italian culture of a different kind, sampling the uniquely intense experience of Italian football Verona v Inter Milan - and afterwards the remarkable sight of the Italian riot police dealing with the away supporters. As our coach was parked in the



same area as the official Inter Milan supporters coaches, we enjoyed our very first police escort to the motorway - all in all, a very interesting experience.

For our final day, it was back to the business of the tour, another training session, strapping up the walking wounded, and off into the mountains for our final match against an invitation XV drawn from the best players from two rugby clubs and played at Feltre RFC. Once again, the opposition was large and the pitch apparently not suited to expansive rugby. However, the pitch played much better than we had feared, and with another very good referee and against the backdrop of the snow capped Dolomites, the 1st XV signed off with rugby of very high quality, scoring some outstanding tries and recording a 33-0 win, with everyone in the squad playing his part. Fittingly, the try scorers included John Raby, Phil Gordon-Jones and even a certain Steve Nard, or Wardy as we know him. The Italian crowd were highly appreciative of the entertainment provided and rose to cheer as the captain converted from the touchline with the final kick of the final match of an eighteen match season. Modesty prevents me from reminding you who the captain is. In this final match, the 1st XV played at the very top of its game; a great way to end the tour and the season.

A big thank you to all who helped to make the tour possible, especially to Mrs Blackwell for getting hold of the items that were auctioned so successfully at the fund raising dinner. Thank you Mr Dodd and Mr Slark for organising the tour and coaching us. It was hugely enjoyable and rewarding and memories of our experiences will stay with us for a long time.

J Pratt

2nd XV

The 2nd XV won five of their seven fixtures, captained by Chris Thomas when not required by the 1st XV, with crucial tries from Harry Powell and driven on by the determination and the boot of Chris Jeffreys. However, I am sure that they would all agree that this was above all a sterling team effort which was*

epitomised by the 9-0 victory in the mud at Kingham Hill on the last Wednesday of the season. To finish the season with three wins in the last eight days is a tribute to the collective will and determination of Mr Griffiths' team. Congratulations to him and them.

M S

Powerful contributions were made in the front row by Mark Ward, Barney Vick, Chris Good and Richard Burden. A second row of frightening ferocity included such striking characters as Laurie Wallis and Edward Warrington while the back row and number eight position were occupied by a variety of performers which included

Jimmy Yu, James Pearce, Tom Lockyer, Nick Evans and our official Christopher Thomas. Of these Nick was to be our major jumper and ball winner at lineouts and Chris, despite often being called upon to play with the 1st XV, was always inspirational. He stuck with playing Senior Rugby some years ago and he really

deserved all the success he gained this year. Various half-back combinations had to be used during the season but both Peter Mason and Harry Powell proved to be competitive scrum-halves. At fly-half, Chris Jeffreys proved to be not only inspirational in

2nd XV

attack but also an exemplar tackler and cool kicker of penalty goals and conversions from anywhere on the field. He often stood in as Captain and was absolutely vital to the team's success. The backs this year were remarkable for being not only interested in gaining a piece of personal glory but for their terrifically strong defence. They were utterly committed to not letting the opposition through and it took something extraordinary for them to be beaten. Much bigger teams simply could not break the gain line as they were hit back by a series of crunching tackles. It became a point of honour that the opposition would not break through and even players who in the past have not apparently enjoyed this aspect of the game were hooked and took up the cause of dumping the opposition

into the dirt. Tom Davies and Chris Quinn were consistently awesome in this area and when he wasn't playing elsewhere, Harry Powell proved he could not only score scintillating tries out of nothing but that he was also prepared to take on the largest and the fastest the opposition had. It wasn't always technically perfect but it was a symbol of commitment. We lost games when the injuries and illnesses disrupted our systems but even then we were able to call on the goodwill of characters who didn't even do Rugby every week. Come in Richard Demzack and Friedrich Ysenburg we need you! They did and we won another tight game without conceding a point. All this talk of defence misses out on the brilliant tries we scored. Harry Powell used his pace and excellent sidestep to great effect on the

wing and Tassilo Unger scored from within his own twenty two on his debut. Other tries came through excellent rucking and recycling by the forwards and flash movement down the backs. Chris Jefferies would then step up and slip over the conversion with his usual efficiency.

I am pleased with the boys' achievements this year and I am sure that such success is vital in building for the 1st XV in the future. A happy positive relationship between 1st and 2nd teams is vital in schools like Rendcomb and the success we have enjoyed for many years does credit to generations of Rendcombians and, of course, the excellent coaching and commitment of the 1st team coach, Mike Slark.

Martin Griffiths

A greater maturity amongst this squad of boys, saw a successful season with six out of the nine games won. After an unsteady start at Abingdon, the side went on to win their next five matches in an impressive run. Magdalen College School was defeated in Oxford, Bredon on a scorching afternoon, Rougemont in an amazing hailstorm, Monkton Combe before an ever growing group of supporters and perhaps the major challenge, Cheltenham College (at 'B' level for the first time) in a momentous game at home. The unbeaten run was broken against an aggressive Bristol Cathedral School. Kingham were defeated in a close encounter where the team showed their ability to come from behind and, although the

final match of the season was lost at King's, Gloucester, the injury-hit team showed great courage and fortitude.

The achievements outlined above were even more impressive as the side lost two key players to injury early on. To select a side from 21 available boys was difficult, from 19 was even more so! Geoffrey Hulbert led the side with great maturity, his runs from full-back set up

many a try and he was an excellent defensive player too. Luke Baghdadi was the most accomplished scrum-half on the circuit; he nearly always chose the right option making several darting runs and tackling furiously throughout. The ever-present front row of Tom Soanes, Garrett Wilson

and Peter Liang forced their opponents into submission. Tom won a phenomenal number of strikes against the head and the two props made several forceful runs. Mathew Denham came of age as an impressive lock, winning vital lineout ball and he looks an excellent prospect for the future. Adam Finn became a rugby player, solid in defence and increasingly impressive going forward. Tom Mixture kept going bravely throughout the season, Ben Staines was an accomplished lineout thrower and the other forwards such as Tom Chester-Master and Michael Arkle all made useful contributions.

In the back-line a variety of formations were tried. Ryosuke Murahashi showed great strength going forward and his tackling improved as the season progressed. Our 'foreign legion' of Yoshiro Iragaki, Douglas Chu, Dennis Kwok and Daniel Seo all learnt quickly and by the end of the

season they all looked accomplished players. I hope they enjoyed their experience. The experience and maturity of Tom Davies was crucial in several matches.

Overall this was a tremendous season, training and fitness were taken seriously and the level of rugby education improved considerably. Rugby is a physical game and requires courage and determination throughout; the team certainly showed this. Each player learnt to take a personal responsibility for their role and the element of support and co-operation grew. I would like to thank Mr Jefferson for his support on the coaching side and finally the boys for their efforts over the term. This was the term that this age group "came of age" and this should stand them in for good stead for senior rugby. They were a credit to the College and the jerseys they wore. Well Done!

Paul Dodd

Played 9, Won 6, Drew 3, Lost 0, PF 258 PA 105

Team from: G.E.Hulbert (captain), L. Baghdadi, T. Chester-Master, D. Chu, M. Denham, A. Finn, P. Liang, R. Murahashi, B. Staines, G. Wilson, D. Kwok, T. Mixture, D. Peach, G.S. Hulbert, T. Soanes, D. Willis, D. Seo, Y. Inagaki, M. Arkle.

U15 XV

Rugby: the U14 squad certainly had an impressive season and the statistics below speak volumes about the commitment of the team. After a couple of relatively easy fixtures the team had to put together

some impressive performances. The most pleasing element of the term has been the progress made by the individuals, in particular the maturity with which they were able to not only perform on the

pitch but also in their focusing prior to the first whistle. Commitment, self-belief, and skill have all developed over the season not only in the

U14 XV

Played 8, Won 7, Lost 1
PF 238 PA 105

rewarding for a coach than to see the squad develop a collective confidence and sense of purpose in what it wants to achieve, underpinned by the individuals' mutual commitment to realise its full potential. They have all played their part but it has to be said that James Tarleton, their captain, steered them through

realm of the individual but also in terms of the collective team 'entity'. There is nothing more

with great leadership and drive and; to be honest, it was no small coincidence that the team's one defeat occurred while he was injured!

I thank them all for their commitment to the cause and for making the season a very memorable one - they just need to go one better next year!

Alex Brealy

The Under 13 rugby team have had their best season for eight years. Our ambition at the start of the season was to win as many matches as we lost.

Our first match, against Tockington Manor, was a hard match which we only just lost 5-19. Then victory

Watson had a Harry Potter sleeping bag! Nice one Ryan! The next day we travelled to Kelly College to suffer our worst defeat of the season, 0-36. I shall say no more about that, it is still a touchy

subject.

We had two weeks rest before playing Bristol Cathedral School. We started the match well, but then we started to get sloppy and Bristol scored two tries. We lost the game 8-12.

At this point we had won 2 and lost 4 matches. Achieving our ambition looked uncertain. The first match of the two was against Kingham Hill, which we won quite comfortably in the end, 22-0.

Then probably the hardest match of the season was the last one, against King's Gloucester. We put up a good fight and in the first half the score was 0-0. Then Ryan Watson barged over the try line and Ben Crane scored later on, taking the final score to 12-0 to Rendcomb. We ended the

season, as we wanted to, by winning 4 and losing 4.

U13 XV



Beach training

against Bredon School, 10-0 and defeat to Rougemont 5-15.

We then went on tour to Devon winning our first match against Exeter Cathedral School, 42-12.

That evening we slept in Exeter's Sports Hall and, after watching "The Others" at the cinema, we arrived back to find Ryan



Played 8, Won 4, Lost 4,
PF 105, PA 80



The tour squad

There is a lot of good talent and skills in the first form for next year, like Richard Collins and Luke Lester-Powell. Hopefully they will have a good season again next year.



David Essenhigh

Team from: J. Hill, D. Kennaway, R. Watson, H. Pullen, G. Tatham-Losh, B. Morris, R. Collins, R. Mason, A. Holden, B. Crane, P. Ellis, B. Symcox, E. Jefferson, L. Lester-Powell, P. Taylor, C. Stutchbury, J. Barker, J. Scott, J. Bladon, M. Rushton.

Girls' Hockey

This has been an excellent season for the six girls' hockey teams, with some teams having a greater degree of success than others. Overall 36 matches were played, with 18 won, 6 drawn and just 12 lost. Two teams have performed especially well this season. The 1st XI, who lost just four of their fourteen matches and the U15 XI who lost just the one match by a single goal of the nine they played. Perhaps what makes the results even more creditable

against the first teams of their opponents. We often play teams with year groups far greater than ourselves but excellent teamwork and coaching have resulted in some fine results.

This season has seen a diversification in the girls' hockey, with a small group of girls playing with local hockey clubs, a first appearance at the Under 16 Hockey Tournament in January and two girls selected for the County teams.

Sandy Westhead

Girls' Hockey

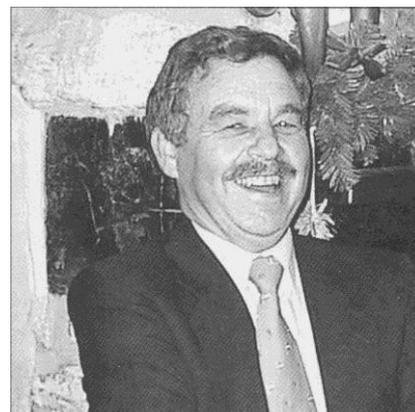
This was a young side with eight fifth-formers playing regularly for the team. However, they produced eight wins - the best total by a girls' 1st XI in my time at the school. They played with skill but were also extremely competitive, which helped in tough encounters against Colston's School, Wycliffe College and Bloxham



Hockey club dinner

School. They fought back well to secure a draw against St. Edward's in an extraordinary match and ended the season by winning against King's School, thus obtaining revenge for the defeat earlier in

the term. Holly Whitby-Brown kept goal usually very competently, struggling only on the few occasions when her confidence deserted her. The defence in front of her coped extremely well and its strength was built on a series of outstanding, tenacious performances from Aimée Smith. The coolly assured positional play of Jay Chaiwatanasirikul and Jade Finn and the sheer determination of Laura Burley assisted her. Their tackling was excellent, their distribution somewhat more modest! In midfield there were numerous options. Rebecca-Claire Demczak and Charlotte Ellis provided the class and their skill on the ball was too much for some opponents; they both got through an enormous amount of work and scored their goals. A/leg Barne supplied the midfield defensive duties very effectively while Harriet Kingsford competed for everything when she was given the chance in the tougher matches. Olivia Evans was unlucky not to play in more of the



Mr Morgan enjoys the Girls' hockey club dinner

matches but she came on as substitute and when on form she showed some delightfully skilful touches. Up front we were well served by Victoria Mackinnon on the left and Alice Barefoot on the right. They both could beat their markers and put in the crosses. At centre forward Sarah Padmore was outstanding; she covered a vast amount of ground and scored most of the goals through her powerful hitting.

Sarah Padmore, who showed great maturity and encouraged everyone to give their best, captained the side. My thanks are due to Miss Bell for all her support with senior girls' hockey. The standard of play of both the First and Second Elevens has risen to new heights and we hope this can be maintained next season.

Bobby Morgan

v Colston's School, Bristol (A)	W3-2
v The King's School, Gloucester (H)	L1-2
v St. Mary's School, Calne (H)	W3-0
v Pate's Grammar School (H)	L0-3
v Westonbirt School (H)	W 5-0
v Kingham Hill School (A)	W8-0
v Cheltenham College (H)	W3-1
v St. Edward's School, Cheltenham (A)	D4-4
v St. Peter's School, Gloucester	W3-0
v Wycliffe College (A)	D0-0
v Christ's College, Brecon	L0-2
v Bloxham School	L0-1
v The King's School, Gloucester (A)	W1-0
v The Old Rendcombian Society (H)	W2-1

1ST XI

Played 14, Won 8, Drew 2, Lost 4, GF 33, GA 16

Team from: S. Padmore (capt.), A. Barefoot, M. Barne, L. Burley, K. Chaiwatanasirikul, R-C. Demczak, C. Ellis, O. Evans, J. Finn, H. Kingsford, V. MacKinnon, A. Smith, H. Whitby-Brown.

2nd XI

Our skills were better suited to astroturf and so when we played on grass we had to fight much harder. The schools we played against had bigger year groups to pick from and we were often up against much larger and tougher players. Nellie our goalkeeper did an excellent job saving many goals and encouraging the defence to fight harder. The fifth form element of the team boosted our morale and as the season progressed their defensive skills greatly increased. The team was in good spirits at the start of the season as we won our first match, which was at home against King's Gloucester, the final score being 3-0, thanks to Chloe and Jenny the goal scorers.

The last match was against Bloxham, a school that we had not heard of. We arrived ready to attack and defend hard, the job made more difficult by the fact that we were playing on grass. The team was full of determination and for several of us it was the last opportunity we had to represent the school at hockey.

The season was quite successful, but I hope that next season the attack will have benefited from more training so that they will no longer be content with a draw. Thanks must go to all who played and to Miss Bell, Mr Morgan and Mr Essenhigh for coaching us.

Frances Burden

Team from: N. Gilson, P. Foster, H-L. Leung, F. Burden (Capt.), E. Sykes, J. Wulkop, V. Pietras, S. Rudderham, S. Colston, A. Lomax, R. Evans, C. Clarke, S. Armbrrecht, A. Anderson

Played 6, Won 1, Drew 3, Lost 2

U15 XI

The U15s Girls Hockey XI must be congratulated on a quite magnificent season. They came so close to remaining unbeaten in their nine matches. Captained by Jessie Weston, the season was epitomised by outstanding wins over Cheltenham College and St Edward's; both sides clearly expecting to trample Rendcomb underfoot. A member of the defeated St Edward's team described Rendcomb as "a great team who were so determined and hungry to win, they deserved to beat us".

Captain's Report

We started our season with a good draw against Colston's and a win against King's, Gloucester with our forwards Laura Holmes, Verity Symcox and Charlotte Cumberpatch playing well. We then, unfortunately, lost against Stroud High.

However, we had some very convincing wins against Cotswold School, Christ College and Deer Park, scoring 17 goals and conceding none. Our 'mids', Hannah Bishop, Sophie Baltrop, Charlotte Philips and Carra Williams played strongly, attacking hard.

Our best matches within the season were against Cheltenham College, Wycliffe and St Edward's. Last year, Cheltenham College beat us 3-0 but with strong defence from Heather Roper, Claire McAllister and Faith Roberts and a strong attack, we managed to win 2-1 this season. Against Wycliffe and St Edward's we had

The results of this season's matches did not do the team justice. There were a few newcomers to the team and everyone quickly adjusted to working with one another.

Five games were played on a mixture of surfaces. The most successful fixture was the 4-0 win against Cokethorpe. Thanks are due to our coaches, Mr Wood and Miss Anderson, and to Carra Williams who played above her age group.

Alexandra Collins and Sophie Boyd

U14 XI



Team from: S. Boyd (capt), A. Collins (capt), C. Slater, H. Kay, L. Evans, H. Taylor, E. Couch, C. Williams, E. Matsunami, H. Lawrence, S. Malik, P. Rudderham, J. Cowper, E. Medus (GK) R. Macted, N. Wells

The U15s have evolved into a cohesive, winning side in which each player now has real self-belief. I offer my congratulations to all of them and I am delighted to have been a part of it. (This is the Beautiful Game!)

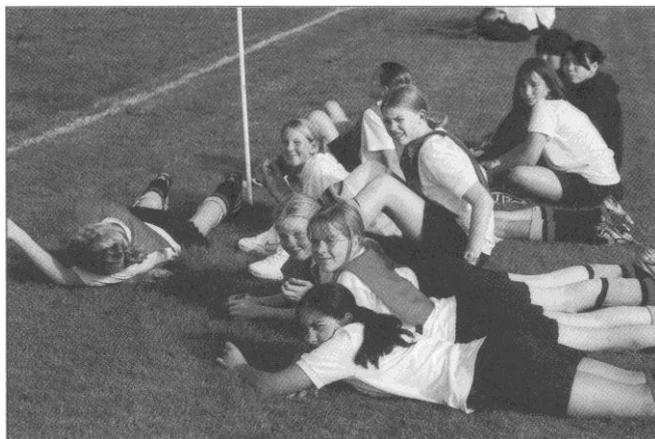
James Stutchbury



excellent wins too. Edwina Wickham scored a great winning goal against St. Edward's (1-0).

We were so close to having a winning season and being undefeated. Everyone has helped contribute to the side including Mr Stutchbury, our coach.

Team from: J Weston (captain), V. Symcox, E. Roberts, L. Holmes, S. Baltrop, C. Cumberpatch, N. King, E. Wickham, H. Stutchbury, H. Bishop, Charlotte Philips, Carra Williams, Heather Roper and Claire McAllister.



This year group was not overflowing with natural athletes but these cheerful girls compensated well with their enthusiasm and effort. Fortunately, the goal keeping was in the competent care of Emma Medus, who often had the onerous task of maintaining a respectable score line.

In the first match against Stroud, which was very close, the girls soon realised the need for close marking at the back and Jessica Cowper, Polly Rudderham, Hana Lawrence and Samya Malik eventually provided this. The mid-field was always dynamic with Holly Taylor, Emma Couch and Alex Collins linking sensibly with our regularly guest from the under 13s, Carra Williams. Carra demonstrated considerable stick skills and often stood out in matches. Chloe Slater improved rapidly as centre forward and became quite effective and aggressive by the end of the season. Sophie Boyd lacked pace but was able to use her stick work to good effect on the wing, as did Laura Evans and Hannah Kay. I am grateful to Sophie Boyd and Alex Collins for acting as captains during what was a demanding season.

Chris Wood

U13/U12 XIs

The season started with a September fixture against Pinewood School. Two seven-a-side teams from each school played across the Astroturf in training matches, giving several girls their first taste of competitive hockey. Honours were even at the end of the afternoon with Rendcomb winning the 'A' match 3-2 and Pinewood the 'B' match 1-0. More

important than the results was the fact that many girls from both schools had the opportunity to play in a fixture with the teachers coaching as well as umpiring, making it an enjoyable and worthwhile experience.

Unfortunately, during the middle of the season several fixtures were cancelled by the opposition, and the match against Rosehill School became a seven-a-side game. Rendcomb did not play well and did not adapt to working as a smaller team or the sloping grass pitch and lost the match 8-0. However, the season

finished on a high note with an enjoyable fixture against Prior Park School. This was a full eleven-a-side match with a final score of 1-1, which was a fair result as both teams were very evenly matched.

The team has been ably captained by Carra Williams, who has worked tirelessly in matches with many individual runs and some stunning goals. Despite being in the Under 13 age group, Carra's talent was spotted at Under 14 trials and she was selected to represent Gloucestershire.

Sandy Westhead

Team from: S. Arkle, N. Boyd, M. Chester-Master, T. Couch, C. Cox, A. Dobson, C. Dobson, A. Graham, H. Kay, L. Lu, J. Maxted, M. Odintsova, T. Richards, A. Schofield, R. Soanes, C. Williams (capt.)

Boys'

The nine College sides played a total of 70 matches, winning 30, drawing 13 and losing 27 (GF158, GA117).

It has been a very intensive season with the 1st XI playing nine matches in the second half of term. Despite this, the squad achieved such a good record (winning 7 out of its 11 confrontations) which is all the more impressive in the light of this fact.

The 2nd XI got off to a very mediocre start but after reaching its nadir against Bristol Grammar School it did not lose. Part of the reason for this were the 'finds' of the season: Mr. Ysenburg and Mr. Harbottle who brought greater tenacity to the midfield and especially in front of goal. At the other end, Mr. Evans has been very impressive and the team owes a great deal to him. With a record of: played 12, won 6, drew 4 and lost only 2, I am very pleased for those members of the squad who are departing: Mr 'Motivator' Maylott, Mr 'Willow the Wisp' Ward, and Mr 'Quintessential' Quinn. One other senior player of note who is departing is the 3rd XI captain Mr Philip Gordon-Jones, possibly

*"Once more unto the breach,
dear friends, once more..."*

(William Shakespeare)

the most unorthodox player to grace any astroturf. His one-handed style brought a departure from the coaching manual but it also frustrated the opposition.

The middle school, having had such impressive rugby seasons,

clearly found the transition to hockey an awkward one but they will have learnt a great deal about the game and will no doubt be that much more prepared next season.

The U13s and U12s played a total of 25 matches, made possible by the growing numbers in the lower years: winning 12, drawing 4 and losing only 9 (GE 66 GA 40). These are very impressive results considering the size of schools they have taken on.

The structure, skills and commitment of all the teams have all been very good and I must thank the coaches of all the teams for their enthusiastic efforts. Sadly, there are two that are departing from the Junior coaching staff: Mr Debenham and Mr Whitehead - it will certainly be a difficult task to replace them.

1st XI

The First Eleven have had a good season, winning seven of their eleven matches in a strong fixture list. Their victories included a double over King's School and convincing results against RGS Worcester and Colston's Collegiate, both much larger schools than ourselves with strong teams. The best performance, however, was in defeat in a magnificent match against an extremely talented Kingswood side, a

contest which showed Rendcomb at its most tenacious. Our defence was heroic and the attack lethal in swift counter attacks, albeit from limited possession. We came from behind three times to level the scores before finally losing a thriller by 4-3. Only against Bristol Grammar School did we lose badly, in very harsh conditions and to a well-organised and extremely efficient opposition.

It took a while to sort out the best

arrangement for the defence and further changes had to be made because of illness and injury. James Daborn and John Raby were quite outstanding throughout while Johannes von Rotenhan and Tom Lockyer



Match v. Cheltenham Wednesday

grew into their roles as they gained in confidence. Behind them Chris Jeffreys was consistently first-rate and showed just why he has reached county standard as a goalkeeper. His performance against Kingswood was, according to their coach, the best he had ever seen. In midfield we also had to rearrange the formation from time to time but at its heart we could

v Cheltenham Wednesday H.C. (H)	Drew 4-4
v The King's School, Gloucester (H)	Won 5-0
v Bristol Grammar School (H)	Lost 1-4
v The King's School, Gloucester (A)	Won 4-1
v Royal Grammar School, Worcester (A)	Won 5-0
v Cheltenham Bournside School (H)	Won 2-1
v St. Edward's School, Cheltenham (A)	Won 6-0
v Kingswood School, Bath (A)	Lost 3-4
v Hereford Cathedral School (A)	Lost 0-1
v Colston's Collegiate School, Bristol (H)	Won 4-1
v The Old Rendcombian Society (H)	Won 4-1

usually depend on the captain, Jon Pratt, for a class performance. Tommy bait was only occasionally at his very best - but at such times he was devastating! Ralph Aspin improved rapidly and could look very good, David Roper provided endless energy and no little skill and Tim Bates supplied the defensive role when we needed it. Richard Demczak had to cope with unfamiliar positional requirements but on the ball showed what he can do. Up front Matthew Hutchins and Sam Hicks continued their successful partnership and despite the occasional, very obvious frustration when open goals were missed they usually did the required job through pace, skill and speed of shot.

My thanks are due to Jon Pratt for captaining

the team increasingly effectively. Over three seasons in the eleven he has contributed a great deal to Rendcomb's hockey, has been one of its finest players yet has also learnt how to get the best out

Team from:

J. Pratt (capt.), R. Aspin, T. Bates, J. Daborn, R. Demczak, S. Hicks, M. Hutchins, C. Jeffreys, T. bait, T. Lockyer, J. Raby, D. Roper, J. von Rotenhan. Also played: J. Spackman, S. Ward.

of those around him by encouragement. My thanks are also due to Mr Brealy for his help with the coaching and his immense efforts in organising hockey for the whole school. His task is certainly a harder one than mine while I have such a talented pool of players with whom to work. It has been an enjoyable season.

Bobby Morgan

**Played 11, Won 7, Drew 1,
Lost 3, GF 38, GA 17**

This was certainly a team of late developers' as the season got off to a very unconvincing start with a real lack of commitment and flair that had graced the field of play so much in previous seasons. Was it something in the drinks bottles that finally enabled them to see the strategies that we had been working on in practices or the need for the quick deliveries and movement off the ball? Who knows, but whatever it was I'll wish for some more of what they had next season. Never before have I known a season to be transformed so dramatically! After two straight defeats and the 'nadir' of the match against Bristol Grammar, the side went on to be undefeated for the rest of the season.

Some changes in personnel can certainly be seen to be a major factor, most notably in the form of a certain Mr Ysenburg who brought a tenacity and commitment in the midfield that seemed to rub off on usually more sedate 'on-lookers'. Self-belief and a sense of pride in their achievements poured forth - even Nat Maylott chomped at the bit to get in

on the action (was this a desire to have a last season at Rendcomb worth reminiscing about?!). It most probably took the 'ignited' example of the more mature members of the team (most notably in this respect Steve Ward) to prompt the passion of what had been slightly passive commitment from the more than able fifth formers. Once inflamed, the likes of Peter Mason, Mark Ward and Tom Davies never looked back. Matt Harbottle flourished in the right wing position as he wasn't afraid to take the defence on whilst also tackling back - his partnership with Tom Davies served the team very well.

And what of the defence? Richard Burden, Duncan Bond, Christian Good and Michael Arkle were resolute in their commitment and they certainly played a major role in the changing fortunes of the season. Last, but by no means least there is the small matter of a goal keeper par excellence for this level in the form of Nick Evans - only kept out of the 1st XI

by a very worthy county goalie! His agility and anticipation were the difference on more than a few occasions and I look

2nd XI

forward to his development over the next couple of seasons at Rendcomb and indeed beyond at club level!

Thank you to all the squad for turning the season around so emphatically. My thanks must also go to Mr Essenhigh for stepping in to umpire in the second half of the season so that it released me to voice my thoughts on the team's performance whilst pacing the sideline.

All in all, the Rendcomb spirit shone through brightly!

Alex Brealy

**Played 12, Won 6, Drew 4,
Lost 2, GF 24, GA 13**

Team from: P. Mason (captain), S. Ward (vice-captain), N. Maylott, M. Harbottle, H. Powell, D. Roper, R. Demczak, F. Ysenburg, T. Davies, M. Ward, C. Good, R. Burden, D. Bond, M. Arkle, N. Evans

The 3rd XI enjoyed their hockey but found matches hard work, as we were never able to play our full side due to calls from the 1st XI and 2nd XIs.

I would like to thank Paul Jennings for all the hard work he put in with the side.

David Essenhigh

Played 4, Won 1, Lost 3

Team from:

D. Bond, C. Fothergill, S. Gunner, M. Harbottle, T. Unger, U. Wilson, P. Gordon-Jones, D. Law, T. Matsukawa, C. Thomas, N. Trost, L. Wallis, P. Ysenburg, N. Clements, A. Hopley, E. Warrington, S. Whitby-Brown

This certainly became a season of two halves. Our first win took a while to emerge and finally against King's School, Gloucester, the team put the work from the training sessions to good effect and we showed the opposition we can play 'sexy' hockey.

Our goalkeeper, Graham Hulbert was out of the frame for the first half of term due to injury and Ryosuke Murahashi played with flair and determination in this most difficult of positions. The defence line of David Peach, Jon Williams, Daniel Willis and Adam Finn learnt so much during the

season, the quality of open face tackles and distribution of the ball really did improve and was just about right as the season drew to a close. In mid-field the pillar of the team Matthew Denham - big in stature, big on hitting the ball (if it can stay below the stratosphere) helped us all push into the oppositions' half and sometimes looked very dangerous. Ben Staines, Garrett Wilson and Tom Soanes worked with Matthew to feed the ball, usually on the right quarter to the probing forward line of Luke Baghdadi, Geoff Hulbert and Tom Chester-Master. The

work rate of these forwards was impressive, especially as Mr Griffiths and myself were playing against them. I would like to congratulate the U15 players this season, I think we all learnt much during the term.

Thank you also to Mr Griffiths for his sterling efforts in coaching the squad and finally to Mrs Hulbert and family for the ever-loyal support - in all weathers and at all times of the day - well done indeed.

James Stutchbury

Team from: G. S. Hulbert, T. Soanes, D. Peach, J. Williams, D. Willis, L. Baghdadi, T. Chester-Master, M. Denham (Capt), A. Finn, G. E. Hulbert, R. Murahashi, B. Staines, G. Wilson

U15 XI

Played 10, Won 4, Drew 2, Lost 4

U14 XI

The first match against Cheltenham College was very much an experimental side, but many of the team played with great determination and provided the spectators with an exciting game. The result was a fair 1-1 draw and Jamie Burley (Captain) scored Rendcomb's impressive goal before Cheltenham equalised.

Then followed narrow defeats against Kingswood (despite outstanding play from Simon Wong), Dean Close and King's, Gloucester before the tide turned.

A change to four mid-field players was achieved by moving the determined James Tarleton to support Jamie Burley and the two Wills (Drewett and Thwaites) proved to be the strongest pair of forwards, despite limited mobility. A thrilling draw against Bristol Grammar was followed by a win against Bristol Cathedral, during which the team realised the benefits of rapid passing. Jamie Burley's penalty stroke secured a draw against St. Edward's and Will Drewett scored the only goal in the return match with King's.

This was a season in which these players realised the discipline and fitness required to play this game at a high standard. They improved enormously in what was a short term and they will reap the benefits of this next year as Under 15s.

Chris Wood

Team from: J. Burley (capt), J. Acock (GK), C. Scott, G. Tatham-Losh, S. Wong, R. Hooper, M. Kokatsu, W. Drewett, B. Forshaw, W. Thwaites, J. Tarleton, J. Pidgeon, T. Snow, J. Brierley, D. Ho, T. Williams.

Played 9, Won 2, Drew 3, Lost 4, GF 12, GA 15

Boys' Hockey

U13 XI

The season started well with a mini-3-a-side tournament against King's School, Gloucester and Rosehill. In the first game, Rendcomb won 11-0 with 5 goals from Ben Symcox, followed by a 3-0 win against Rosehill. Rendcomb therefore won the tournament.

Played 11, Won 6, Drew 1, Lost 4

This excellent start to the season was followed by wins against Greendown, King's School, Gloucester, Bristol Grammar and Kingham Hill. We played

against our biggest rivals, Dean Close. In the first game we played competitively, however we lost heavily and suffered the effects. We also played a second game against them for the last game of the season. The team played some of their best hockey, battling on until the end; sadly we lost the game 2-1.

Throughout the season, great skills were demonstrated by the forwards, Paul Taylor, Ben Symcox and Ben Crane. Excellent goals from Ben Symcox gave the team the chances to win games and the midfield, Alex Purvis, Alex Holden and Ed Jefferson, played solidly providing goal scoring opportunities for the forwards. The defence had a shaky

start but then got going and pulled off some great tackling to save goals. Lucas Bliss in goal was, at times, quite extraordinary making saves and holding

Team from: L. Bliss, J. Tapsell, G. Finlay, H. Frost, M. Webb-Dicken, R. Watson, A. Purvis, C. Davis, A. Holden (vice-capt), E. Jefferson, B. Crane, B. Symcox (capt), P. Taylor

the side together. Overall it was a good season. We would just wish to record our thanks to Mr Debenham and wish him all the best in his new post.

Alex Holden

This was a very successful season for the new intake of hockey players, many new to the game. There were many memorable performances by both the team and individuals. Captain Richard Collins led by example at the back and, together with Joseph Scott, made many strong tackles and brought the ball forward to set up attacks. Charlie Stutchbury and Richard Mason worked tirelessly in midfield and the forward line of Jonathan Barkes,

Phillip Ellis and Luke Palmer created and scored some fine goals. This squad has the potential to become one of the great Rendcomb teams and I look forward to coaching them to further glory next year. My apologies to other players I have not mentioned by name, your contributions were invaluable.

Carlo Vuolo

**Played 6, Won 3, Drew 1,
Lost 2, GF 18, GA 8**

Netball

Has this season been successful?

Success should not be how much we will win or lose, but how much we enjoyed ourselves. Enjoying sport is important to me and I've enjoyed every game. If everyone in this team can think of a few times when they've enjoyed the game then I think we have had a very successful season.

Well done everyone who has played and thank you for being such a great team to captain.

Hau Ling Leung

1st VII

This has not been a successful season if you measure success by the number of matches won and lost but it has been a success that so many girls have had the opportunity of playing netball for the College. We have played 'A' and 'B' teams in the Third and Fourth Forms. One busy Wednesday afternoon we managed to turn out a 3rd Senior VII with help from some of the non-major games' girls. Congratulations to the Linder 15 VII who improved on their last year's results.

The teams have been ably lead by the Captain of Netball, Hau Ling Leung with Penny Foster as her deputy; and individual captains - Amanda Lomax, Sara Quinn, Holly Taylor, Amanda Graham and Amy Schofield.

Sandy Westhead

U15 VII

This term we have had quite a successful season with our fair share of wins and losses. We felt we should have won our first match of the season against Deer Park School, but they had been playing during the previous term and a lack of team-work let us down. This soon improved and we played our best netball to beat The King's School, Gloucester, 27-9. The whole team throughout the term has worked very well and during the term we improved our skills and mobility dramatically. We have listened and attempted to put into practice the advice of our coach, Mrs Westhead; something that has played a big part in our gradual improvement. I would like to say well done to the team and thank you for all their effort throughout the season.

Sara Quinn (captain)

This has been a good season for the Under 15 team with a significant improvement in their team play. Except for the match against Westonbirt School, all the matches have been very close and the match against Kingshill School was lost by the single goal. This is reflected in the match analysis; with four matches lost and two won but a relatively small difference between goals for and against.

Many of the Fourth Form girls have had the opportunity to play for College as we had several girls out due to illness and injuries at different times through the season. We were also able to field two teams with reserves against Westonbirt School.

Team from: H. Bishop, C. Cumberpatch, S. Geake, C. Jude, N. King, C. McAllister, S. Quinn (captain), F. Roberts, H. Roper, V. Symcox, J. Weston, E. Wickham.

Certainly the team played its best netball in the two matches it won.

Against the King's School, Gloucester

they had an excellent first quarter to be 7 - 0 up, this was mainly due to some very accurate shooting from Nicola King although it was a team performance, with better passing down the court. For the first three matches of the season we were forced to play Edwina Wickham as goalkeeper due to Verity Symcox and Faith Roberts being 'off games', but for the match against Wycliffe College we were able to move Edwina to Wing Defence and Verity came in as the goalkeeper. With Jessica Weston playing another superb game at Goal Defence, the Wycliffe attack had very little chance of getting the ball past these three girls and into their

shooting circle. The score line of 13-10 to Rendcomb suggests a much closer match than it really was. Several girls were substituted to make it a more even match, with Christine Jude having her first game as Goal Shooter. Hannah Bishop and Heather Roper have worked tirelessly as Centre and Wing Attack, with Sara Quinn as Goal Attack. It was agreed at the beginning of the season to use two goal shooters each match and Sally Geake and Nicola King have both played half a match, and both have been excellent support to the team when on the sideline. Much of the team's improvement has been due to the way the players have supported each other either on the court or from the sideline, and due to the keen support given by many of the Fourth Form girls.

Sandy Westhead

Played 6, Won 2, Lost 4, GF 77, GA 88

U14 VII

U14 Netball went very well: although we didn't win all our matches, the team definitely improved. The team was playing much larger schools and no match was made easy by the opposition. We did have an outstanding match against Cokethorpe. The whole team played superbly and should all be very proud. Well done Polly Rudderham, Sophie Boyd, Alex Collins, Nicki Wells, Emma Couch, Samya Malik, Holly Taylor and Laura Evans. They all played excellently and thank you Miss Bell for coaching us.

Holly Taylor

My Favourite Match

My favourite visit was to watch a netball match between England and Australia in Birmingham. We got to eat as much food as we wanted but we had to pay for our own. The game was great even though England did lose.

I must thank Miss Bell. My friends and me had a great time. We ate loads and watched a great game. I had ice cream, coke, chips, more ice cream, more chips and sweets. Then we went home very happy but very tired.

Heidi Hannam

U13 & U12 VIIs

This was a disappointing season because too many of the matches were cancelled due to typically British bad weather. However this did not dampen morale and many of the squad battled with the elements to practise their skills. When we did play matches, we showed real determination, talent and good teamwork.

Sarah Bell

England v Australia

On the 12th March 2002 years 3 and 4 and also part of the 6th form went to watch England v Australia and Barbados v Wales at Netball. Both matches were held at the NIA in Birmingham.

When we arrived the Barbados v Wales match was still going on, so we watched them, waiting until the other match started. The Australia v England match began with both teams playing well and Australia managed to take the lead as the whistle blew for the end of the first quarter. The score was now 15-11 to Australia. During each interval music was played with all the viewers dancing and singing. The second quarter began with Australia scoring continuously with the end of the quarter being 33-24 to Australia. The third and fourth were just the same, with the score being 67-35 to Australia. Many thanks must go to Miss Bell for organising the trip and the rest of the staff who also came with us.

Nicola King

Netball

Cricket

All three junior years, U13, U14 and U15 have performed keenly, with considerable success. Particular highlights are the U13 victory in the 6 a-side tournament at Kings, Gloucester and the U14/U13 victory over Victoria College. We have some outstanding young players who have been prepared to lead by example and they have been most competently supported by the rest of their side. Above all, there is a most heartening feeling of togetherness and splendid team spirit.

The 1st XI has set the highest of standards for us all. They have shown

great character and in all three areas, batting bowling and fielding, they have

excelled. John Raby must have a special mention for his captaincy, showing shrewd tactical awareness and an ability to rally his troops.

It has been said that somewhere on a cricket field there lies the truth of life, we shall probably never find it, but it remains such a joy to keep looking.

Lindsey North



Following two terms of early morning nets the 1st XI were looking forward to the start of the season, not only to see if all that hard work would pay off, but also to enjoy playing on our superb ground. We returned to College a day early for final preparations and played our first fixture three days later. It turned out to be an ideal start to the season. Playing against a Swindon Wednesday eleven, we performed well in the field restricting the visitors to 200, and knocked the runs off in the final over for the loss of just six wickets.

This match laid the foundation for the term. Although we played poorly against Bristol Cathedral school and lost a game we could and should have won - our only defeat in the whole season - we bounced back strongly and our cricket went from strength to strength. Draws against Gloucestershire Gypsies, Sir Thomas Rich's and King's Gloucester were followed by victory against a strong Worcestershire Gents' side, where again we reached our target in the final over. An exciting and thoroughly enjoyable match against Lord Vestey's eleven at Stowell Park again went to the final over but this time we couldn't quite reach the total - needing five off that over, a certain Mr Essenhigh restricted us to three.

However, with nearly 400 runs scored, an honourable draw was a fitting end to

the day - and what a tea we were given! I certainly hope the school maintains the fixture in years to come. A further draw against Pate's Grammar ensured a thoroughly deserved and enjoyable winning season.

Individuals have excelled in all disciplines of the game, but perhaps the most pleasing aspect of the season has been the way that the players have combined as a team and the spirit that they have built up. With the new ball, Jeffreys and flicks have been outstanding and certainly the best opening pair on our circuit. They

really deserve the success they have achieved. The spin of Hutchins and myself has more than supported the pace attack, and together with some excellent fielding all season, we have looked a formidable team in the field. The top of the batting order has shown more strength this season, and all have contributed in their way. Burden, Jones and Baghdadi have all scored runs and have invariably given us a solid start. Hicks and Spackman, with three half centuries between

them, have both played match-winning innings. The middle order of Ward, Hutchins, Raby and Jeffreys have

performed above expectations, and the contributions of fait, Wilson and Daborn have ensured that the whole team has been capable of chasing whatever score has been set. We have been fortunate to have two excellent wicket keepers - Baghdadi and bait - and they have shared the responsibility between them.

Only two of the team will be leaving this year, and for a number of the players next season will be their third year in the 1st XI. If they can work hard again in the winter nets, I suspect that they can be successful indeed and I wish next year's skipper, Matt Hutchins and all the boys all the best, and hope that they enjoy their cricket as much as I have done this year. Finally I would like to thank Mr Sykes for the hours of work, the fun and the encouragement that have been given. Ably supported by Mr Essenhigh, this pair

have, undoubtedly helped the team achieve its potential.

John Raby

1st XI

Played 8, Won 2, Drawn 5, Lost 1

Squad: J.Raby (Capt) S. Ward, J. Spackman, M. Hutchins, S. Hicks C. Jeffreys, T. Lait, G. Jones, R. Burden, H. Wilson, J. Daborn, L. Baghdadi, M. Ward.



Lord Vestey speaking at the Cricket Dinner

Funds were raised for the tour at a very successful dinner and auction of promises. Lord Vestey gave an amusing and informative speech and said how much he was looking forward to the match between his XI and the 1st XI at Stowell Park.



Martin Griffiths acted as auctioneer

1st XI Tour

What a glorious week! On arrival in Malta we did not know which was going to be the most difficult to deal with - the opposition or the high temperatures. We

The next day was also against a Marsa XI, perhaps even stronger than the previous day. This time Rendcomb won the toss and elected to bat. Contributions from all the team, especially Baghdadi (59) and Raby (41), enabled the side to reach 210 for 7. An impressive bowling performance with Hicks (4-17) and Hutchins (2-19) in excellent form,



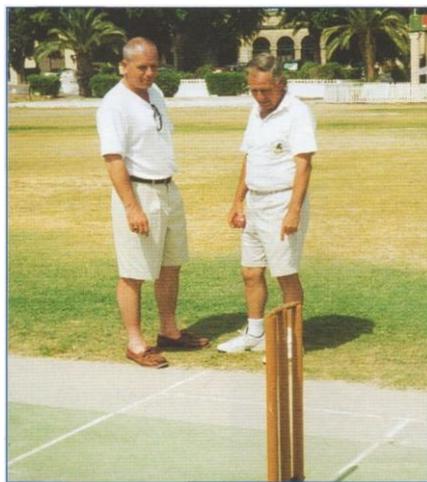
First day - Marsa C.C.



Match against Stockport

didn't have long to wait to realise that both of these would be a great challenge.

On our first day we played against Marsa Cricket Club; we lost the toss and found ourselves fielding for three hours in hot (35 degrees) humid conditions. The



Inspecting the wicket

artificial wicket that we played on was conducive to good batting, and although Chris Jeffreys struck early and wickets fell at regular intervals, the opposition still amassed a daunting 250 for 8. However in reply Baghdadi (69), Ward (76) and Hutchins (46) helped the college to 236 for 8 and Marsa were rather surprised that we came so close to their total. This gave our team enormous confidence for the remaining fixtures.

dismissed Marsa for 158.

Our third day was a rest day and we enjoyed a morning in Valetta, the islands capital, followed by an afternoon in the picturesque bay of Golden Sands. The transport we used was the local buses and the journeys themselves were a real experience. All had a relaxing day and our batteries were recharged for the next two games.

The third match highlighted the friendly relationship that had been immediately struck up between Marsa and Rendcomb. An invitation XI that included some Rendcomb players was selected to play against a Rendcomb XI that included some Marsa players. The match was played under less pressure yet everyone involved was keen to perform. Notable efforts from the Rendcomb squad were a half century by Lait (60), Burley (29), Jones (23) and Ward (25) with the bat, and Jeffreys (2-18), Hulbert (2-24) and Hutchins (3-35) with the ball. The invitation XI scored 180-6 and the Rendcomb XI 184-7.

Our final fixture the following day was potentially our most difficult, against another touring team - Stockport Grammar School. Rendcomb rose to the challenge magnificently and produced perhaps their best performance of the year. Outstanding bowling by Hutchins (3-20) and Raby (4-25) supported by some excellent fielding and catching restricted Stockport to 170-9. In reply,

major contributions from Hicks (63), Raby (25), and Jones (18) enabled Rendcomb to reach the total with three wickets to spare. This was an impressive effort to round off a most successful tour and indeed season.

The final day of the tour was spent on a boat touring around the island, visiting the Blue Lagoon and another bay where everyone was jumping off the boat into the inviting water below.



Score against Stockport

This was our first visit to Malta, and we didn't know what to expect. We couldn't have hoped for more. The weather and hospitality was fabulous, and



Relaxing afloat



Encouraging the locals!

the cricket surpassed all our expectations. The spirit in the squad was fantastic, and we can't wait for next season. What a glorious week!

J Raby.

Cricket

2nd XI

The famous cricketer W. B Grace once said: 'Cricket is a game for gentlemen'. As 2nd XI captain, I couldn't agree more and this was indisputably shown in the 2nd XI playing. Our bowlers, led by Pete Mason and Ralph Aspin, picked up some good wickets and often raised morale, as well as pulling us out of some deep holes.

Another worthy mention goes to Nick Evans who bowled well at times and will mature like a fine wine in the future. Johannes von Rotenhan, looks certain to develop into a vital component of next year's 2nd XI and possibly be a contender to captain the side. Special mention must go to the fourth year bowlers, Geoffrey Hulbert and Ben Staines, who, when called upon produced some vital wickets. Batting this year was better than I expected. Creditable scores of 74 not out

and 56 go to Pete Mason and the virtuosi batting of Ralph Aspin helped us to draw and win some hard matches.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank Mr Slark, our manager, coach, team therapist and umpire, for the support he has given the whole team throughout the season. I wish the 2nd XI good luck next season and thank you to all the team for their commitment and cricketing skill over the past season.

Richard Demczak

Played 9, Won 1, Drawn 5, Lost 2

The scores this season speak for themselves. We have played well in patches but did not have the firepower to take control of matches. We need to learn how to apply real pressure throughout a game and then how to make quick runs. The result against Beaufort School epitomises our key problem this year. In the field we have been tight and there

have been some very important catches held. Ground fielding has also improved though running between the wickets

U15 XI

needs a lot of work. We played our best cricket against a strong Cheltenham side and Mr Jefferson assures me that the last

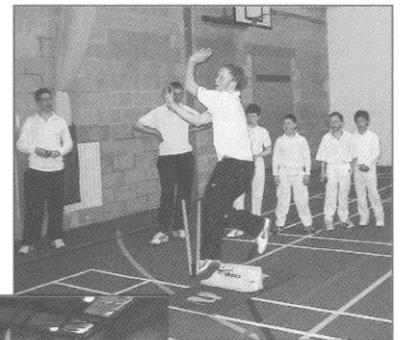
match was a winning draw!

Overall this has been a slightly frustrating season where draws could have been converted into possible victories but we were unable to seize opportunities. As a team I think that we have come a long way but, as the boys know, they need to work on their teamwork. I would like to extend my thanks to Mr Jefferson for his assistance this term.

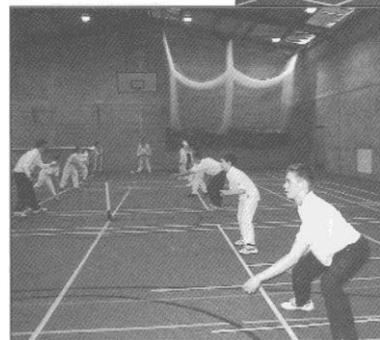
Paul Jennings

Bristol Cathedral School	130 all out (<i>Geoff Hulbert, 4 for 44; Staines, 4 for 46; Graham Hulbert, 2 for 10</i>)
Rendcomb College	47 all out (<i>Staines, 27</i>)
Cheltenham College	160 for 4 declared (<i>Geoff Hulbert, 3 for 39</i>)
Rendcomb College	136 for 8 (<i>Baghdadi, 61</i>)
Rendcomb College	147 for 4 (<i>Baghdadi, 79</i>)
Sir Thomas Rich's	79 all out (<i>Staines, 5 for 13</i>)
Cokethorpe	219 for 4 declared
Rendcomb College	172 for 8 (<i>Baghdadi, 76</i>)
Pate's Grammar	195 for 3 declared.
Rendcomb College	99 for 4 (<i>Murahashi, 21; Geoff Hulbert 32</i>)
Beaufort School	117 for 8 declared (<i>Nicholls, 4 for 30</i>)
Rendcomb College	28 for 4
Hereford Cathedral	151 for 4 declared
Rendcomb College	78 all out (<i>Geoff Hulbert, 34 not out</i>)
Rendcomb College	109 all out (<i>Burley, 26; Willis 31</i>)
Kingham Hill	78 for 5

Seniors help with indoor coaching



Seniors help with indoor coaching



After a disappointing defeat by Bristol Cathedral School, where we were unable to score the 98 runs needed to win, the team showed their potential in a creditable draw against Cheltenham. After the opposition amassed 192-5, we put up a strong rearguard action, with James Burley and James Tarleton showing their class, finishing on 123-2. In the following match against Sir Thomas Rich's, the batting showed its fragility and we were defeated by seven wickets. Then, on the plastic pitch at Pate's, we once again achieved a credible draw and this may have been the turning point.

The performance against Cokethorpe saw our first of three wins in a row. The opposition were bowled out for a mere 52 with

a series of excellent catches, run-outs and the fielding reached its highest point of the season. The most outstanding overall performance came against Victoria College, Jersey (never beaten)

where our 170-2 was a formidable and daunting total. James Tarleton scored 76 not

out and the opposition submitted meekly being bowled out for a mere 29. Several of our 'guests' took wickets and it showed the enormous potential of those in the younger years. The final match was against Kingham Hill and we once again amassed a huge total, scoring 163 for 8, with Burley's 48 and Tarleton's 67 once

U14 XI

Cricket

again showing their worth. With only 22 overs to bowl the opposition out, we won with nine balls to spare, Rupert Hooper taking his fourth wicket and Andrew Thomas taking three others in a thrilling finale.

The team were ably led by James Burley, a left-handed batsman of enormous potential. He scored over two hundred runs in the season, averaging over fifty.

He took several useful wickets and was a real livewire in the field. He thoroughly deserved his elevation to the 1st XI tour to Malta. James Tarleton convinced himself that he could play cricket. He was a fearsome retriever of the ball and he scored over two hundred runs, including a 68. Along with James Burley, these two

enthusiastically throughout and both James Brierley and Andrew Thomas scored useful runs. Chris Scott learnt a great deal this season and along with Will Drewitt, another batsman of potential, saved the game against Pate's. George Lawson took some stunning catches and made useful runs, Ben Forshaw and Joss Acock were loyal members of the squad along with Jeremy Pidgeon. Of the rest, Tomas Williams, Will Thwaites and Simon Wong all have potential and I hope they stay with the game as they move up the school.

We enjoyed our cricket, had great fun and there was a sense of growing purpose and maturity.

Paul Dodd

The U13's played some very good cricket this season. On our day we can beat any side. Our bowlers, Ben Symcox, Paul Taylor, Alex Holden, Luke Palmer and Richard Mason, have really performed very well, which looks good for the future. Every player in the side has performed very well, at times, during the season. The most memorable moments were:

- Paul Taylor bowling 5 wickets for 8 runs and Alex Holden's innings of 39, against Bristol Cathedral School
- Ben Symcox and Luke Palmer's bowling and Ben Crane's batting (28) against Kings, Gloucester
- Luke Palmer bowling 5 wickets for 8 runs and Ben Symcox and Paul Taylor's batting in the game with Sir Thomas Rich's School
- Ben Symcox's batting, against the odds, in the game against Pates
- Edward Jefferson's batting against Kingham Hill

Played 7, Won 3, Lost 3, Drew 0, Abandoned 1

I must also mention Philip Ellis's all round play, including his fielding and Richard Collins who did not drop a catch all season as wicket keeper. Charlie Stutchbuty, Johnathan Barkes and Alex Purvis also had their moments. Well done to you all.

Ben Symcox was a very good captain who expected the best from his side and lead by example. But the best day of the whole season was Monday 10th June when we played in a six-a-side Tournament at King's School, Gloucester. The players involved were Symcox, Taylor,

Crane, Jefferson, Ellis, Palmer, Mason and Holden. They all played so well that we won our group and the Semi-Final and met the Down's School in the final, which we won with Paul Taylor being the 'Player of the Tournament'. He won a new bat and Symcox carried off the shield.

The schools in the Tournament were:

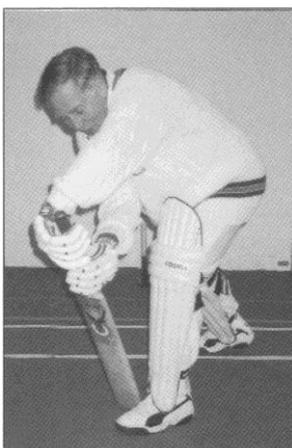
- The Cathedral School, Llandaff
- The King's School
- Prior Park
- The Downs School
- The King's School B

I would like to thank all the parents who have supported us and all the staff who helped in some way, especially to John Williams, without whom I could not have coped. I really enjoyed working with the U13's this year.

Dads' & Mums' v Lads Cricket

The end of the U13 cricket season was marked by an enjoyable Dads' & Mums' v Lads match where not even the miserable July weather could dampen the spirit of those taking part. A fiercely contested match ended in a tied result followed by an excellent tea!

David Essenhigh



David Essenhigh

U13 B

It was good to be able to field an U13 B Cricket XI this year. The Team played two matches, one away at Kings School and one at home to Hatherop Castle School. The Team was ably captained by Alex Staines and both matches were close.

vs. Kings School (30 overs match)
Rendcomb - 103 all out in 28 overs
Kings - 90 for 8 off 30 overs

vs. Hatherop Castle (25 overs match)
Hatherop - 100 for 9 off 24 overs
Rendcomb - 78 all out off 24 overs

Team from:

A. Staines, A. Purvis, C. Davis, L. Bliss,
N. Parker, R. Pakeman, M. Rushton,
M. Webb-Dicken, J. Hill, H. Pullen, B. Morris,
R. Watson, D. Kennaway

Played 2, Won 1, Lost 1

Boys' Tennis

At the start of the term the biggest challenge facing the 1st VI squad was to find a team. The press gang went round and recruited Tassilo Unger (German must be good) and David Roper (who plays squash so should be able to transfer his skills to tennis). They joined first pair Charlie Crisp and James Spackman and the season's most improved player, Fritz Ysenburg, to form the nucleus of the squad. Guest appearances by three cricketers, Tom Lait, Joe von Rotenhan and Matt Harbottle, enabled us to field

teams for three matches against Dean Close School, Cheltenham College and Wycliffe College.

In the first match against Cheltenham... College we played a Barclay's Bank format, with a team of four playing both singles and doubles matches. This was undoubtedly the best tie of the season and the result was a very satisfying draw.

The remaining two fixtures involved teams of six players and were both lost by six sets to three. Highlights of the term

were the solid and, at times, inspired play of Charlie Crisp and James Spackman, who only dropped one set all season, and the excellent victory by David Roper and Tom Lait, who beat their Wycliffe counterparts in an exciting tie.

Not the greatest season in Rendcomb's Tennis history, in terms of results, but definitely a memorable one, with a high standard of tennis played.

Carlo Vuolo

1st VI

Played 3, Won 0, Drew 1, Lost 2

Girls' Tennis



This has been an amazingly successful season for us. Seven matches have been played in total, with six matches being won and only one lost, to Cheltenham College.

Thank you Miss Bell for the coaching and for taking part in the most successful season ever.

Penny Foster

U15 VI

The U15 tennis team have had a successful season, winning three out of four matches. The team has come on tremendously since our first match against

Cheltenham College, with Faith Roberts and Nicola King playing as an excellent third couple, along with Charlotte Cumberpatch and Lauren Lees. The coaching from Miss Bell has been a great help and led us to the highlight of the season, a win over Wycliffe College. Well done to everyone who contributed this term.

Jessica Weston

1st Couple	Heather Roper and Jessica Weston
2nd Couple	Sophie Bartrop and Edwina Wickham
3rd Couple	Nicola King and Faith Roberts Charlotte Cumberpatch and Lauren Lees

Mixed Tennis

This was another very successful unbeaten season for the Mixed Doubles team, which saw comfortable victories over The King's School (twice), Cokethorpe and St. Edward's School. The team particularly enjoyed their first experience of playing indoors at the Gloucester Tennis centre.

Carlo Vuolo

Played 4, Won 4,
Drew 0, Lost 0

The pairs were:

- Hau Ling and Sabina** worthy opponents in all of their matches,
- Harriet and Becca** the most determined pair, who constantly practised and improved throughout the season,
- Charlotte and Penny** currently unrivalled, without losing a single set the whole season.

U14 VI

The under 14's tennis season has been successful. We had three couples: couple A were Holly Taylor and Laura Evans, couple B were Samya Malik and Emma Couch and couple C were Carra Williams and Maya Chester-Master. All three couples have played excellently and should be proud to have such great tennis skills. We played a variety of different schools with the A's winning 2 out of 5 matches and the B's, unfortunately, winning 0 out of 4 matches and the C's winning 1 out of 4 matches. A special mention must go to Miss Bell for being our coach. Well done to all three couples.

Laura Evans

Fourth Form trip to Wimbledon 2002

On the 28th June ten top Rendcomb tennis players (plus Mr and Mrs Essenhigh) had a brilliant day out. The first match that we watched was Keifer versus Phillipousis. All the girls and Denham observed Phillipousis' lovely legs as he won the match!

After being very British by eating too much strawberries and cream, we watched a thrilling match in which Serena Williams narrowly beat Els Callens in two tie breaks. After even more strawberries, we watched the wonderful Ruchus and Clement followed by a doubles match involving Kournikova and Bjorkman. Unfortunately, we could not watch the whole of this as we had to get back to Rendcomb but we did have a Burger King supper!

Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Essenhigh for taking us.

Rounders

It was originally planned not to run an U15 Rounders team as many schools do not play the game at this age group. However, three schools requested fixtures, so it was decided to continue with the Rounders for one more season.

The fourth year team has always been a talented one and this year they were able to achieve some excellent results in their matches. The first match of the season was their closest, with a narrow victory by half a rounder to King's School, Gloucester. Colstons Collegiate School, Bristol were their next opponents and this proved a very one sided match with Rendcomb declaring once they had scored twenty rounders and winning comfortably. This allowed time for a 'twenty good balls' match, which Rendcomb also won easily. In this fixture there was some excellent fielding by all

the team, but a special mention should be made of Jessica

Weston, who made some outstanding catches and stumpings at third post and then went on to hit the estate garden wall with one of her hits when batting.

The final fixture was a triangular against Westonbirt School and Cheltenham Ladies College. The first match was against Westonbirt and it was won once again by very good fielding from this team. Against

Cheltenham Ladies College the team fielded very well to keep them down to five rounders, but unfortunately our batting let us down and Rendcomb could only manage four rounders in reply, so we lost by the one rounder.

U15 XI

Played 4, Won 3, Lost 1

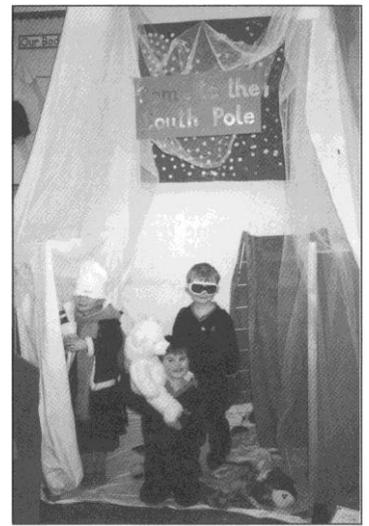
Team from:

S. Bartrop, H. Bishop, C. Jude, N. King, C. McAllister, F. Roberts, H. Roper, H. Stutchbury, V. Symcox, E. Wells, J. Weston, E. Wickham(captain).

The Junior School

Michælmas Term

Our second year opened amid great excitement as we welcomed four to seven year olds for the first time. The school was nearly double the size it had been during the first year. As well as the opening of our 'Otters Department' (as the Reception, Junior 1 and Junior 2 classes are known). We welcomed a number of new staff. Miss Katie Hunter joined us as teacher of the Reception Class, Mrs Jacqui O'Sullivan came to us from Berkhamstead School in Cheltenham. These two were to form a formidable partnership in making the Otters such an instant success. Mrs Anne Haas joined us to be a Junior 5 tutor and to teach a variety of subjects across Key Stage Two. Her caring, professional attitude quickly endeared her to parents, staff and, most importantly, to pupils. Miss Louise Turner also joined us as my secretary, classroom assistant to the Otters and to run the Otters' after school care club. Louise's many talents and wonderful, friendly attitude have already marked her out as an asset to

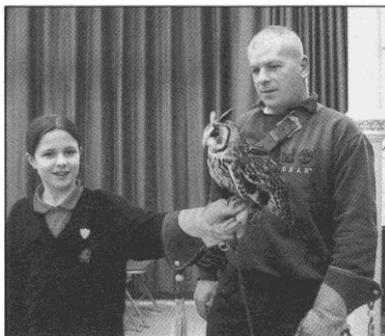


The climax to the term was extremely exciting. The Otters performed their Nativity entitled 'The Grumpy Sheep', a show that was greatly enjoyed by all, especially the east. Two days later all pupils in Junior 3 to 6 took part in a Christmas Production of 'Hosanna Rock', a highly active and enjoyable performance.

Early in the term many of us enjoyed an outing to see 'Joseph' at the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham, it was especially good to see two of our pupils, Cassie Staines and Sarah Tarleton performing. Later in the term, Junior 5, as part of their art studies, visited the theatre to learn about costumes and props. This was followed soon afterwards by outings to watch the pantomime, Cinderella.

Pupils and parents alike enjoyed the magnificent fireworks display laid on by Paul Cairns and his team. A large number of filled shoe boxes were collected for the Samaritans' Christmas appeal. Parents were invited to a Wine and Cheese party and a series of coffee mornings helped everyone to keep up to date with our activities.

Lent Term

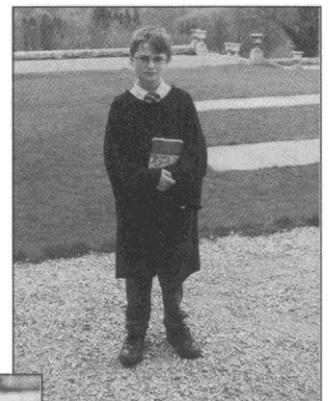


A second busy term opened in January. In preparation for our upcoming inspection, I took on two inspections, one in Peterborough and one in London. Julie, my wife, was also busy judging

the handwriting and creative writing section at an agricultural show in Somerset.

Mr Sykes, Director of Studies in the College, brought his birds of prey into assembly.

Just before half term we had our concert, where over fifty children entertained us on a variety of instruments and with songs. Our contribution to World Book Day was by the children coming to school dressed as their favourite character from a book they had read.

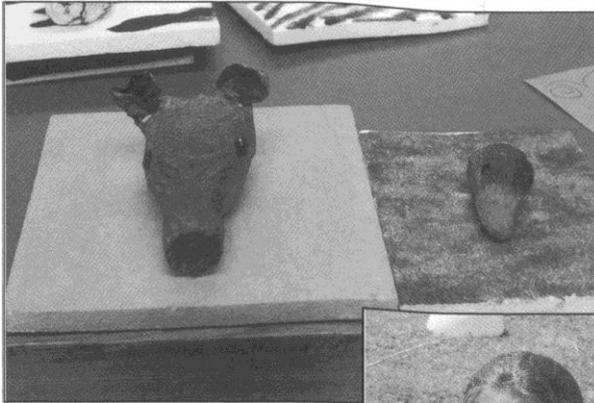


The football team enjoyed their tour to the Isle of Wight playing in some extremely wet and cold conditions. The girls, on the other hand, went to Birmingham to watch the English Netball team lose to Australia.

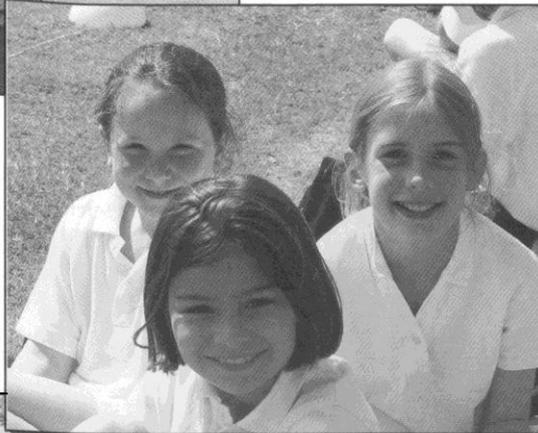
On the final day of term all pupils took part in an Easter Egg Hunt and were allowed to eat chocolate in school! In the afternoon we held the Easter Bonnet Parade and we were treated to a magnificent collection of bonnets.



Finally we said a tearful 'Goodbye' to Mrs Kate Carden who had secured a promotion to a Senior Position in a Primary School.



On the sports field we had cricket and rounders matches, a cricket tour and a hugely enjoyable swimming gala. Pupils representing the school and then the area in athletics and a first for us, a Golf Match which we won against Ferndale.



At the beginning of the term we welcomed Miss Jemma Payne as the new Junior 3 teacher, she had formerly been employed at Cheltenham College Junior School. Mrs Jacqui Mitchell also joined us to teach Music.

Junior 5 and 6 enjoyed a warm sunny day at the Cotswold Wildlife Park sketching wild animals before later in the term, in the case of Junior 5, painting them using cutlery instead of paint brushes. Junior 6 pupils went on to make some fabulous three-dimensional heads of wild animals.

The quality of the art work in the school is extremely high, and continually improving.



The children in Junior 5 had an exciting time winning through to the final of a National Science Competition with their project on 'Investigating Jelly'. They trekked off to Bristol for a very enjoyable day and they represented the school extremely well.

Outings during the term were plentiful with Junior 3 and 4 visiting the Rain Forest at Newbury, Junior 4 visiting Slimbridge and the Junior 6 girls spending an exhausting week-end on the Isle of Wight, enjoying such things as ten pin bowling, ice skating, and Go-Karting [judging by their skills beware when they are old enough to drive].

Visitors to assembly included:

- Belinda the Otter, it was an amazing sight for us to see an otter close up and be entertained by such an informative talk.
- Mrs Haas talked to us about primary education in S. Africa.
- Two of the 6th Form Students told us about the German education system.
- Both talks allowed us to compare our system to theirs.
- The Explorer Dome, from Bristol, joined us and each year group enjoyed a fascinating session bringing science to life.
- Mrs Palmer talked about healthy eating and table manners.

The pupils in Junior 6 have had a particularly busy term

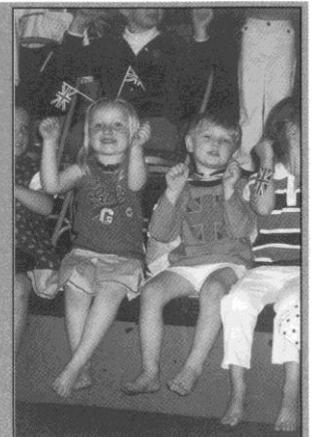
'enjoying' Key Stage Two tests and their results were wonderful. I would like to congratulate each and every one of them on their performance. A number of the pupils in the year helped to make Buggy Malone (a joint



Junior/Senior Production) the great success it was. In DT they undertook a term-long production during which they designed items, in small groups, to sell in shops. They had to cost, make and eventually sell their goods. Goodness me, there are some business brains in this year group. The whole project was overseen and organised by Mrs Haas.

On the final evening of the term they enjoyed a farewell cocktail party. A great year group and we will miss them.

During June all the pupils from Reception, to Junior 5 took part in the 'Golden Jubilee Garden Party'. This was a great afternoon of entertainment with the Otters skilfully guiding us through fifty years; Junior 3 doing some country dancing, Junior 4 reciting poetry and Junior 5 entertaining us with two historical plays. A credit to the school and to the national jubilee celebrations.



Prizes Awarded at Final Assembly

Congratulations to the following children who were presented with trophies in recognition of their contribution to the school during the last year.

Reeves Cup for Improved Reading	Tiffany Cairns
Carden Music Cup	Jasmine Barkes
Chess Cup	Joshua Hutton-Potts
Dufosee Art Cup	Hannah Timmins
Osborne Cup for Girls' Sport	Cassie Staines
Palmer Cup for Boys' Sport	James Beck
Arkle Cup for All Round Improvement	Mark Richardson
Tatham-Losh Shield for Progress	Victoria Norton
Shackel Cup for Distinctions	Mitchell Bartrop
Trim Happy Cup	Alexander Bullock
Potter Cup for Overall Contribution	Cassie Staines

farewell

Kate Carden

Kate Carden was one of our founder members of staff. We were very sorry, but at the same time delighted for her, when she secured a promotion to a Senior Post back in the state sector. As well as a wonderful teacher she will be remembered as the producer of 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' and 'Hosanna Rock'.

Kathrine Hume

Mrs Hume leaves us after two years to return to a primary school as a science coordinator. As well as teaching a variety of subjects her most memorable contribution will be establishing the Library. During her time here we have gone from zero books to nearly one thousand, every one hand catalogued. We wish Kathrine every success in her new school.

Belinda Mayoh

Mrs Mayoh has taught a number of subjects during her time with us and was responsible for girls' games. We wish her every success in her next school.



farewell

Katie Hunter

In September we welcomed Miss Katie Hunter to the Junior School. This, her first appointment, was especially exciting as she was to teach the first ever Reception Class for four year olds. Her caring, warm and professional manner, have already earmarked her as an asset to the profession in general and to the Junior school in particular.

Jacqui O'Sullivan

Mrs Jacqui O'Sullivan joined us in September to teach the new combined Junior 1 /Junior 2 class. Jacqui has taught in a number of schools and her most recent post was at Berkhamstead School in Cheltenham. She has quickly become a highly valued member of our team with her warm and gentle attitude endearing her to pupils and colleagues alike.

Louise Turner

Louise joined us in September 2001 to have three roles: - classroom assistant to help with the Otters, to run the 'after school care club' and to be my secretary. All three of

roles she has very quickly settled into. The pupils love her and she is an efficient, reliable secretary. Being the first point of contact for many parents, her telephone manner is exceptional. She is a valuable and reliable member of the team. Not only this, with her degree in drama, she was able to help us with our drama lessons.

Jemma Payne

Miss Payne joined us in April as the Junior 3 teacher, initially on a one term contract. Within weeks she was offered a full time contract!! She joined us from Cheltenham College Junior School and has very quickly set the high standards she expects in her classroom.

Jacqui Mitchell

Jacqui joined us in April as part time music teacher, to teach Junior 3 to Junior 6. In her first term both her choirs performed in lie informal May concert.

welcome

welcome

Reception class



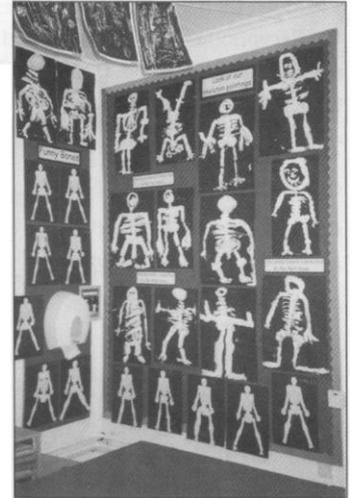
In September 2001 I was very excited about beginning my first teaching post and also setting up the first Reception class in the Otters. It has been a wonderful year.



We have had some special visitors to our assemblies and Mr Cairns' visit was a particular highlight. He brought along his sheep and also his horse which he shod as we watched.



Sister Pritchard came to talk to us about 'teeth and bones'. She brought a human skull, bones and X-rays for the children to see. Using a giant set of teeth and a giant toothbrush, Sister showed us the best way to clean our teeth. The children then practised using their own toothbrushes.



As part of the topic 'Ourselves' in the Autumn Term, the Reception class learnt about how their bodies work. The class were fortunate to have two visits from Sister Pritchard. The whole class dressed up in medical outfits made by Sister Pritchard who described the role of doctors and nurses.



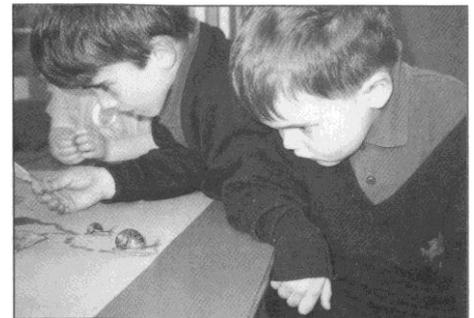
In May the Otters visited the Cotswold Farm Park in Guiting Power. There are many things to see and do. Some of us were fortunate to see lambs being born and everyone enjoyed handling the animals in the Touch Barn. The tractor ride was fun and the children had a wonderful time.

She demonstrated how to use medical equipment and she even set Edward Brealy's arm in plaster. The children then took on the role of doctors and nurses themselves, enjoying bandaging each other and Mrs Palmer!

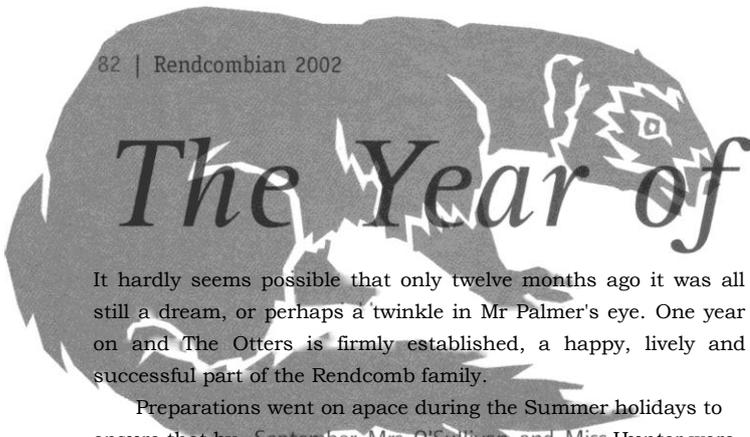


The first Otters Christmas Nativity Play was 'The Grumpy Sheep'. The children loved dressing up and showed their many singing and acting talents. Everyone enjoyed the show.

During the Summer Term the Reception class enjoyed their Minibeasts topic. We set up a wormery, observed snails with magnifying glasses and watched at first hand the lifecycle of the butterfly from five small caterpillars through to the emergence five weeks



later of beautiful Painted Ladies. We also learnt about bees from Mr Haresign, who brought along his beekeeping equipment.



The Year of the Otter

It hardly seems possible that only twelve months ago it was all still a dream, or perhaps a 'twinkle in Mr Palmer's eye. One year on and The Otters is firmly established, a happy, lively and successful part of the Rendcomb family.

Preparations went on apace during the Summer holidays to ensure that by September Mrs O'Sullivan and Miss Hunter were ready to open the doors to the very first Rendcomb Otters; since that first day a combination of hard work and lots of fun has taken it from strength to strength.

Much of the curriculum centres around project work, and for the Reception class Sister Pritchard provided all the expertise they needed for their topic 'Ourselves'. The class had great fun with a giant set of teeth and a giant toothbrush, and one pupil even had his arm set in plaster.

The children then took on the role of doctors and nurses themselves, enjoying bandaging each other and Mrs Palmer.

Another wonderful resource the children enjoy is the fabulous grounds of the school, and one very rainy day in December all the Otters set out on a 'Welly Boot Adventure'. Despite the weather everyone had a great time. About this time we also held a Book Fair, thanks to the help of many kind mums, it gave the opportunity for the children to buy books and at the same time to raise funds for 'The Otters' library. Of the many special assemblies we had, Mr Cairns visit was a particular highlight, bringing along his horse which he shoed for the children.

As Christmas approached rehearsals began for The Otter first Nativity Play. This was called 'The Grumpy Sheep' with excellent costumes and set coupled with very confident singing and activity, the children really 'did themselves proud', and the occasion was clearly enjoyed by all the parents who came to watch.

Then there was our outing to see Cinderella at the Everyman, once again with lots of parents joining us for a really super show. Just before Christmas the senior school pupils put on a seasonal party for the Otters, with traditional games, delicious food and a disco.

In the Easter term we participated in World Book Day by everyone dressing up as a character from a book. Some of the costumes were fantastic and the most popular themes were Harry Potter, no surprises there, and various characters from Roald Dahl stories.

During this term we have had two really enjoyable visits, first to the Cotswold Farm Park, where we saw lambs being born, were able to handle the animals in

the Touch Barn and could have a ride on the tractor. Our second visit was to Bristol Zoo which was also great fun. As part of Junior 1 /2 project on the Community we had visits from a Police Officer (Chief Inspector David Peake) and from a fire brigade crew with their fire engine. The children loved dressing up as fire fighters and working the hose.

To celebrate the Queen's 'Golden Jubilee', the school put on a special show and the Otters told the story of the past five decades in songs and news items. This proved to be informative and amusing for the audience. One of our last events was Sports Day, where once again the emphasis was on having fun, so everyone was a winner just by taking part.

Well as you can probably tell, it's been a very full year for the Otters, and here we have only mentioned some of the highlights.

Over the past twelve months our first set of Otters have been fantastic and we hope they treasure the memory of this year all through their time at Rendcomb. Perhaps most important of all has been the way everyone has worked together for the success of this new venture. We would like to thank all the parents, without whose efforts, so many things would not have been possible.

That twinkle in Mr Palmer's eye certainly did turn into something special.

Jackie O'Sullivan & Katie Hunter.

Examples of creative work

Recipe for a rapid bike ride

Take a 200cc motorbike.

Place it on a stand.

Mix up a beefy helmet and gloves for your hands.

Pick up some boots as strong as steel.

Collect your jacket and go go go!

Harry Maisey | (Junior 5)



A recipe of British History

Take thousands of years of history.

Add a pinch of centuries.

Put in a handful of kings and queens.

Add Roman invaders building walls and roads,

Followed by Normans writing the Domesday book.

Pour in the Middle Ages with knights in shining armour.

Mix with plague and black death.

Stir in the Tudors with Henry VIII.

Blend the Armada and Civil War.

Writing a recipe poem

Add great inventors and discoveries.

Mix with the Industrial Revolution and workshops of the

world. Whisk in railways, canals, explorers and Queen Victoria.

Simmer for 4 years whilst fighting in the First World War.

Repeat again in 1939.

Mix evacuation, Churchill and rationing.

Bring up to the boil with computers and satellites

And leave to cook for another thousand years.

Kerriane Shackel | (Junior 5)

Examples of creative work

A Recipe for a School Trip

Take a shiny bus and bouncy children.
 Drop in an angry teacher, a relived headmaster.
 Sprinkle with lunchboxes and smiley faces.
 Don't forget the sick bucket.
 Calm everyone by mashing in a song.

Kerriane Shackel | (Junior 5)

A Recipe For a Happy Christmas

Take a loving family,
 Mix with love, a Christmas tree,
 A few guests, cards and some special friends.
 Pour in hats, crackers and candles.
 Beat together with people singing carols in church.
 Add a big feast with figgy pudding,
 Bake with joy and happiness,
 Serve with a big smile.

Ottie Henniker-Gotley I (Junior 5)



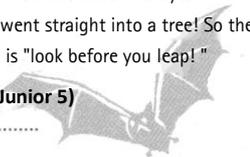
Writing in the style of Aesop

The Bat and the Spider

Once in the Brazilian rainforest there was a bat who challenged a tarantula to a race.

Tarantula agreed. Bat whizzed off with Tarantula crawling behind. Bat told Tarantula that he could go with his eyes closed. So Bat closed his eyes and.... Wham! Bat went straight into a tree! So the moral of this fable is "look before you leap!"

Joseph Hines | (Junior 5)



Letter from a survivor of the Titanic disaster

Pizza Hotel
 New York
 1329

15th April 1912

Dear Mum

It was totally shocking and horrifying. I'm lucky to be alive! Everyone was screaming and jumping off the edge and committing suicide!

So I got on the Titanic then I bet one hundred pounds on a card game and won so I went and had a really nice dinner followed by a fancy Ball. There were glimmering glass chandeliers with waiters in their best suits, oh it was lovely. That went on for two hours I was tired by then, so I went back to my cabin. I heard creak !!!, Judder !!!,

Then slip!!!, then bang!!! I hit the floor; that was painful. I jumped up SSHH!!! AAAH!!! Water was gushing down the hall. I ran for my life, then I found the top of the boat and jumped over the railings into the sea. I waited for an hour until the boat picked me up and out of the sea and took me to America where I'm feeling better.

David Baldwin | (Junior 5)

Writing in the style of Rudyard Kipling

How The Meercat Got His Black Eye Rings

Once upon a time, when meercats did not have those black eye rings you see on them when in a zoo, there was a meercat who really wanted to see an owl, but there was one problem, Oh Best beloved, he did not know when to see one. So he went to the copper-coloured tribesman who was well known in the 'sensively sunny jungle. When the meercat arrived at the house of the copper-coloured tribesman, he said, "Oh great copper-coloured tribesman who is well known for his wisdom in all of the 'sensively sunny jungle, can you help me see an owl? "

The copper-coloured tribesman smiled and said, "You, my small meercat friend, must go to the 'sensively dark African plain and listen for a hoot, follow it and you will find the owl, now go or I will spank you till night-fall. "

When night arrived the meercat went to the 'sensively dark African plain. And sat listening for any signs of an owl. When he eventually saw an owl, Oh Best Beloved, he was so tired he fell straight to sleep.

When the meercat woke up he found black rings around his eyes because he was so tired. And from that day to this all meercats have black eye rings.

William Parker | (Junior 5)

Poem – A Rap

The Most Important Rap
 I am a Headmaster
 I look after a school
 I teach the sport
 And we swim in the pool
 The students all obey me
 There is no pupil I fear
 Because I am the most important person here

Rosie Barks | (Junior 5)



Examples of creative work



Vampire bats are blood-eating mammals which live in South America.

Bats eat an unusual variety of foods. Some bats eat fruit and pollen and others eat smaller animals, like frogs, rats, mice, birds, lizards and fish. When a bat wants something to eat it will have to catch its food. When catching a frog, the bat will glide along the water, putting its feet in the water until it catches something, the bat will grab hold of the frog's body and bite its head till it's dead.

Bats roost in colonies in tree holes, house roofs, barns and under bridges. They sleep in the day and wake up at dusk.

Bats don't look for their prey, because they are blind; they use a high pitched tracking device which is in their ear which tracks any movement. Some bats live in a very hot environment so they need to keep cool so, they hang upside down on a twig and fan themselves with their wings.

Oliver Tapsell | (Junior 5)

Earwigs

Earwigs are so named because people thought that they would crawl into human ears.

The earwig will live almost anywhere in Britain. Behind your bookcase, even down the side of your dustbin! Earwigs will live in any place that is dark and damp.

The earwig mainly eats decaying materials such as soggy cardboard and mossy wood.

They will also eat squishy old oranges that they find in bags. Be careful next time you open your bin. You might just find some earwigs gnawing on the old fruit!

Earwigs are very fierce looking. They have a dark, hard shell to protect themselves against shrews, their main predator. The common earwig is 16mm long including the sharp pincers they have on their back. The male has strongly curved pincers with a broad flat base, often very long.

The female has a straight pincer. Some males will even fight with their pincers thinking it's a predator.

The earwigs have wings curved into their back which they don't use very often even though they can. So watch out for this next time you try to stand on one!

.....
Naomi Soanes | (Junior 5)

A Caribbean Tale (a reworking of the original)

Anansi

For a long time Anansi has tried to catch me. We were friends no longer. Anansi set traps and hid them in the grass near the berries on which I love to feed.

Anansi made the withes from the woods into long, slippery nooses and hid them where I like to walk. It was no use. I was too clever. I saw all the traps and avoided them. Sometimes I hid in the top of a tree and without a sound, I watched Anansi set a trap. Then, when it was all done, I would suddenly cry out, "Why?" and fly away.

One day I went to the great market and bought peas and rice and codfish and plantain and sweet potatoes. While I was buying the sweet potatoes I heard a bell ringing so I asked some people what it was. "Ah", said a stout market woman, "The great King Tiger is dead". "What! You mean that Tiger, the great Tiger is dead". I screeched. "Yes", said the people standing around. "Yes, what she says is true. The great King Tiger is dead".

Non-chronological factual reports

Poison Arrow Frogs

The poison arrow frog is as small as a human fingertip. It is highly poisonous and one small drop of its poison could kill a large bird.

The habitat of the frog is normally on the floor of a rain forest in between or under the leaf litter. The frogs will also live on a tree trunk in the rainforest in water, in the middle of a plant called a bromeliad with other animals such as butterflies, mosquitoes and predators like snakes and spiders.

These miniscule frogs eat insects and small animals that they find on the floor in the leaf litter. The mother feeds the tadpoles on a special batch of infertile eggs which the tadpoles eat immediately.



The poisonous frog mates on the floor of the forest. Then the female will find a shrub and lay about 6 eggs. The parents will then wait for the eggs to hatch. Then either one or both parents will ferry the tadpoles on their backs to a bromeliad. The female will feed them immediately with a batch of special infertile eggs and the tadpoles will eat like they haven't eaten for days.

The Poison Arrow frog was given its name because Indians used to catch the frog and put it over a hot fire. The poison would ooze out and the Indians would catch the poison then they would cover arrows and spears and go game hunting. The poison works when it enters the blood stream or digestive system. So the frogs are safe to pick up so long as you have no cuts or wounds on your hands. However, Poison Arrow frogs are extraordinarily nimble, and they can disappear into a leaf litter in the blinking of an eye.

Oliver Tapsell | (Junior 5)

"And when did he die?" I asked.

"Yesterday, just before twelve o'clock."

"Then", I cried, "I must hurry away to put on my second best coat and go to the funeral". I rushed home and put on my second best two-tailed coat, and my shoes that are so new that when I walked in them they went "Quee quee". When I finished dressing, I went to Tiger's house. When I got there I found a great crowd of people outside. I shook my head and said "So, the great King Tiger is dead!"

"Yes", they replied. "The great King Tiger is dead."

"When did he die?"

"Yesterday, just before twelve", they replied.

"What killed him? Was it fever? Was it an accident? How did he die?"

"The heat of the weather killed him", they said.

"And has he laughed at all since he died?" I asked.

"No. "

"Then he isn't dead at all", I said. "Don't you know that a man is not dead until he laughs a big last laugh?"

Tiger broke out into a great laugh that shook the house, and I said, "Ha-ha, I never yet heard a dead man laugh!" and I flew away.

Alex Hook | (Junior 5)



Guy Potter J5



J6 looked closely at each other and, in pastels, drew a partner. Do you recognise the models?

Mark Richardson's portrait of Michael



Tom North drew Will



Louis Greenaway captured Chris



Sarah Lockyer characterised April



Hannah recreated Charlotte



Fiona and Charlotte pairing up to create a playground scene



Ava Carpenter's
papier-mâché



Michael R



Mark

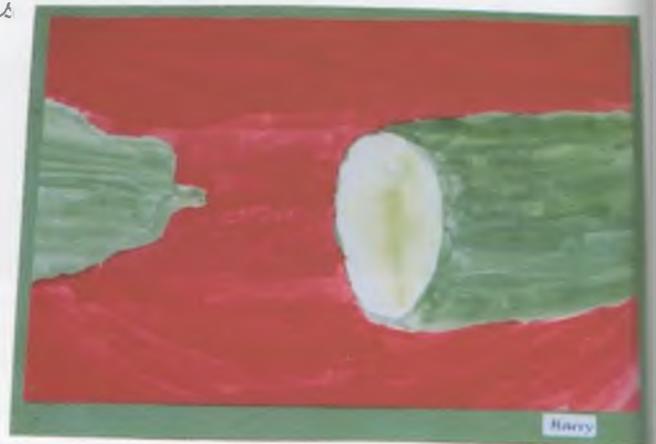


Chris

Observational studies



Junior School children
of all ages helped with
this scene of Venice



Harry



Hannah Timmins'

snow leopard



Design and make a bus shelter...



moving toys



Design an eye-catching box for jelly ...



making items for sale



testing the bus shelter



and even making biscuits



William Jefferson



Michael Lockhart



Heidi Hannam



Jasmine Barks



J5- Naomi Soanes



Rendcomb Playground
with a Lowry influence

Sarah and Heidi
pairing up to paint
a playground scene



Being at Rendcomb

I only came to Rendcomb at the beginning of half term and so far I love it. It was quite hard going to a mixed school so it took a bit of getting used to but I do not regret anything. The lessons are great fun and the teachers are really kind. The headmaster is very different compared to my old one (which is mostly good). I have got lots of friends. This is the best school ever.

Ava Carpenter | (Junior 6)

At Rendcomb I have improved in all my work, especially in handwriting. At Rendcomb I have enjoyed sport except I get a little cold when it rains for hockey. At my old school the teachers just taught you and that was that, but at Rendcomb the teachers make sure you understand the work for a better education in the future. As well as work we have been taken on trips to theatres, zoos and other educational trips.

I'm glad I started Rendcomb because I get recognised more.

Sian Clift | (Junior 6)

POEMS

Rain

Rain is
Like falling pearls,
Like bullets on the roof,
Like shiny gloss,
Like lots of tears,
Like a never stopping war,
And
Like a stream on the window
All pouring down from heaven.

Lucinda Norton | (Junior 4)

Spring Days

The stream is like a trickling path starting and ending in nowhere,
The rain is like soft falling jewels, spinning down through the air,
The daffodils are like nodding and bobbing balls of soft yellow velvet,
The daisies are like quiet swinging snowflakes swirling and whirling through the air,
The scent of the spring mists is like the smell of warm newly cut grass.

Rachael Jennings | (Junior 4)

Spring, Spring

Such a wonderful thing Because
of the.....

Daffodils like golden trumpets,
Swaying in the wind.
Tulips like flowers dyed in blood.
Fallen eggs like oval, white pebble stones.
Blossom like little, white snowdrops.
Grass sprouting up like green spears.
Daisies like stars made of snow.
Bare trees like brown stick skeletons with
Green fingernails sprouting all over them.

Imogen Meborn-Hubbard

Junk

Smelly, dusty old JUNK.
Stinky, smelly old JUNK.
Dustbin lorries and vans,
Come to collect the JUNK.
Rusty old cars,
Smelly old JUNK.
Smelly dusty old JUNK.
Sweet wrappers, old paper toys,
Into the bin they go.
That's why we need the dump
To put in all the JUNK

The Dump

The Dump is dirty,
The dump is smelly,
And full of flies.
Trucks ploughing up cans
Worms and maggots,
Scoffing up rotting food.
There was something shining at the bottom.
It was a treasure throve.

George Ardley, Matthew Beck and Harvey Rich | (Junior 4)



Litter

Lies the litter, deep in the bin!
Icky and Ucky!
Tickets are rustling!
Tar, from the beach,
sticking
things together.
Eaten by the bugs and

Emily Palmer and
Emily Taylor | (Junior 4)

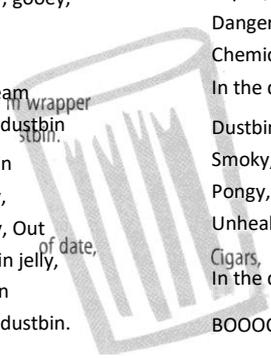
In the Dustbin

Dustbin-
Smelly, gooey,
Icky,
Sticky,
Ice cream
In the dustbin
Dustbin
Gooey,
Smelly, Out
Lamb in jelly,
Cat can
In the dustbin.

Dustbin-

Highly flammable,
Liquid,
Dangerous,
Chemicals,
In the dustbin.
Dustbin-
Smoky,
Pongy,
Unhealthy,
Cigars,
In the dustbin.
BOOOOOOOM!

Harry Plunkett | (Junior 4)



Happiness Poems

Happiness is starting at Rendcomb.
 Happiness is feeding lambs at the farm.
 Happiness is going to Grandma's.
 Happiness is smiling.
 Happiness is taking the dogs for a walk.

By Tori | (Junior 2)

Happiness is being with friends.
 Happiness is going on holiday.
 Happiness is my dog licking me.
 Happiness is my birthday.
 Happiness is doing maths.

By Charlotte | (Junior 2)

Happiness is chocolate and sweets.
 Happiness is people playing jokes.
 Happiness is going swimming.
 Happiness is playing with my friends.

Happiness is Mum hugging me.

By Russell | (Junior 2)

Junior 6 Rendcombian Work

Why balls should not be banned from the playground

This is a report on why balls should not be banned at playtimes. As a pupil who likes to play football, I have thought of these reasons.

Firstly, ball games are very exciting. I look forward to it during the lessons and it is what keeps you going on a bad day. Another reason not to ban balls is because it gives you a chance to be competitive, which I think is very important and good for you.

A few further points are that it gives you, anyone who likes to play, great enjoyment. It also keeps you fit.

You must run around to burn off the fat from your crisps or break, and it gives you a good reason to do that.

My last, and one of my most important points is that it gives you something to do. If it was banned, you might end up fighting because there is nothing else to do.

Consequently, I feel it should not be banned. However, I am not forcing anyone who does not like it to like it or to play it.

James Beck | (Junior 6)

There was a crash on Tuesday 23rd July at 10: 30 in the morning. This is what on one of the witnesses said, "I was just taking a stroll around the market when suddenly I heard an awful BANG! It was coming from where the old stall was (or where it used to be). I ran over and I saw that a red motor bike had just crashed straight into the stall and two men were having an argument about something or other. I did not get a chance to hear what they were saying. "

"From what I saw, I think it was a red motorbike which had a light brown leather seat and a yellow number plate with a registration number of 123WGJ. The man was wearing a sleeveless white coat with a black T-shirt underneath, and a pair of jeans which had a rip in them (from where I think he had crashed). "

The motorbike was found underneath a pile of rubble with quite a few scratches on it and a big dent on the bonnet. There was also a flat tyre which had been punctured by what we think was a cucumber. The stall has now been recently repaired just as it used to look.

I think that the man must have been driving recklessly because why else did he crash? Also I think that he should have paid for all the damage he made and to have made an apology.

William Jefferson | (Junior 6)

Crash on Brookdale!

Haiku

Stoats change to Ermine
 Beaujolais day brings new

The fire hits the night.

December

Snowflakes start falling,
 Family and friends together

Tonight is the night.

January

The Chinese Year comes,
 With Tigers, Dragons,
 And so many more.

February

Snowflakes stop once more,
 And snowdrops take their place,
 Spring's reappearing.

March

Hares come out in March,
 And the white lambs come to play,
 The fox cubs are born.

April

The chick cracks the egg,
 The children brake chocolate,
 The rabbits come play.

May

Working hard for SATS,
 Studying, crazily hard,
 Then May Day comes soon.

June

Golden Jubilee,
 The ceremony takes place,
 The queen is crowned.

July

England takes thrashing,
 Because Wales wins again,
 The Welsh get the cup,

August

Finally the sun comes out.

September

Battle of Britain.

The fifteenth is when it was.

We fought and we won!

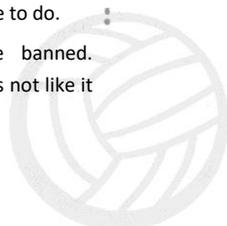
October

Halloweens pumpkins.

Oooow! Scary, very funny.

Ghosts come out tonight.

Hannah Timmins | (Junior 6)



Report on the Explorer Dome

by Imogen Meborn-Hubbard

On the 12th June, Reception to Junior 6 visited the Explorer Dome - or rather, the Explorer Dome had come to visit Rendcomb Junior School.

I think the Explorer Dome is called the Explorer Dome because it looks like the Millennium Dome and because you explore the facts about the universe - and beyond.

The journey starts by crawling on your hands and knees through a dark and intriguing tunnel because a dim light is glowing around the bend. As we crawled eerie music filled the tunnel.

We entered the main tent which felt as though we were entering a mini-cathedral. Glowing fairy lights were arranged around the side of the tent.

We sat in a circle. In J4 we talked about the nature of sound and how it travels. We learnt that sound is waves of vibration and that it can travel at 740mph! That's why we see the lightning before we hear the thunder.

As we went out of the dome a piece of music was played with the same beat as animals marching.

The Explorer Dome by Joshua Hutton-Potts

The Explorer Dome is like a portable, inflatable classroom where you can learn about scientific subjects in a 'hands on' way.

The learning adventure begins by crawling along a dark tunnel into a dimly lit dome. Once inside we learnt about sound - how it moves, and a bit about light.

I learned some new facts about sound;

Concorde can only break the sound barrier over the sea.

A sonic boom can deafen a dog and break windows

Dolphins can hear high frequency sounds that the human ear can't I think I will remember more about sound because I was able to experience some facts, not just read them.

Slimbridge World Wildfowl Trust visit

by Scott Cairns and Finnebarre Brennan

On Tuesday 11th June, Junior 4 visited Slimbridge WWT so that we could learn more about habitats. It was raining when we had a talk about the habitat of a pond. We had an activity about who eats what in a pond. If you were dragonfly larvae you could eat anything, apart from fishes and plants. The plants were eaten by fishes and the ducks.

After the talk we went outside to do some pond dipping - it had stopped raining so we were lucky! We all caught lots of daphnia and blood worms. Some people caught Ramshorn snails and even small fish!

Bugsy Malone

Dear Diary

Yesterday we had our first real performance. My Pop Becker part went fine but Laura didn't come to get me for my Shady part and by the time I got down I had missed it. As usual I was worn out after the boxing song because I was doing sit-ups for most of the scene, the match was really good. In the final scene I had a pie and Henry Pullen was shooting me with a gun then he walked off and I tapped him on the back and when he turned around I got him in the face with a pie. The splurge guns are really cool.

Living Rainforest Visit

by Sarah Tarleton and Rachael Jennings

On the 28th May, Junior 4 went to the Living Rainforest near Newbury for the day, for their science topic 'habitats'.

These are some of the animals they saw; tortoises, toucans, a crocodile and spiders and lots of butterflies.

The turtles were swimming in water and the smallest was no bigger than a two pound coin.

The toucans were very noisy, so noisy in fact that they gave the visitors earache. Out of the pair of toucans, the female was the noisiest.

There were butterflies flitting from branch to branch. They came in lots of tropical colours and seemed much larger than normal.

The laziest animal in the rainforest was the West African dwarf crocodile! It was hard to tell the difference between the croc and the rock it lay next to, because it lay motionless and just stared straight ahead.

The spider was a big hit with the visitors. The children were allowed to feel the shed skin of this hairy creature and most of them shivered at the creepy feeling it gave them.

At the end of the day, everyone went home tired but happy after a wonderful trip.

At Slimbridge there are lots of different species of ducks and geese. There were some ducks like dalmations because they were white with black spots. Some of the geese sounded like types of dinosaurs because they made a hooting whistly sound. When we were walking around we threw bird food for them - it stopped them trying to eat us! We all enjoyed our day and would love to go again because there were lots of things we didn't have time to do.



The Assembly on Otters

by Fiona Trumper

My most memorable time at Rendcomb is when we had an assembly on otters. When we walked into the reading room, a pen was at one end of it with a lady standing in it, and standing on a box was a sleek brown otter balanced on its back legs, her paws curled on her chest, the otters name was Belinda, (she had been on Blue Peter with her brother Bertie) she was so sweet. Once Belinda went up the lady's skirt and gave her a kiss. At the end Belinda gave Mr Palmer a kiss on his hand.

It was the best assembly ever.

Tuesday 25th April

"Waterproofs? " "Check" "Clipboards? " "Check"" Pencils? "" check" Then let's get on the coach!!

Mrs Palmer double-checked her double-checking of everything and everyone, and we set off to the Cotswold Wildlife Park at Burford on our Art Trip.

We were given worksheets but not the usual 'writing the answers'sort. There were 'draw a zebra's tail or a camel's foot,' 'find a monkey and draw it' draw the patterns on the tortoises' shells'and 'what does a penguins beak look like?' (As we watched the penguins being fed, which was funny, we looked closely at them.)

J5 went to a talk about 'camouflage' and when we had looked at some slides of camouflaged animals, we were allowed to touch a snake and an owl - only some of us did not want to.

J6 had a talk on 'habitat' and that is what they were doing in science.

We ate our lunch under the shade of a big wooden picnic area and it was good to be out of the sunshine for a while - it was really hot and sunny. After lunch we had an hour to look at other things and finish our drawings. Then we had to go back to the coach and back to school. Thank you to all the teachers who took us.

It was really grrreat to see the animals close up.

Our visit to the "Science Challenge Funday"

by James Popper – SPONSORED BY BNFL

The whole of year 5 was entered into a science competition called "The Science Challenge" by Mrs Mayoh and Mrs Haas. We carried out an investigation into jelly and produced a drama. This was videoed and a checklist was completed by Mr Palmer. The judges thought our drama and investigation was one of the best in the area. So we were asked to represent our area at the semi-final of the science challenge ^Bristol. This we did.

At this science funday we were split into three teams, the quiz team (that was me Oattie and Kerrienne), drama and investigation teams. We were then given a green badge to show our team colour. The drama team had to go off for a practice run at this point, and the rest of us were allowed to go and explore! We had to meet back at the entrance at 11.30. I investigated the part called "The brain and your senses". 11.30 came along very quickly! The drama team came back and the investigation team went off. We were allowed to explore further until 12.00. Then it was lunch time.

We were given packed lunches provided by school. We were going to eat them in the @Bristol cafe, but the staff wouldn't let us, because we weren't buying anything. We ate them outside near the fountain. I broke off two pieces of crisp to test where the water path flowed! It was now time for the Funday afternoon to begin.

The presentation began with the drama teams. A cameraman appeared! We were going to be on T. V. It was then time for the quiz. Up to this moment we

A Rainy Tennis Trip

by Mitchell Barltrop

On Monday 10th June Junior 6 came back to school after a week's rest at half term and went to church as normal. Then at ten to nine we got on the coach and travelled for an hour and ten minutes to Edgebaston Priory Tennis Club in Birmingham.

We arrived at the Tennis Club about ten o'clock and it was raining. Miss Bell gave out our tickets and we had the chance to look round the stalls, tents and grass courts. There were three food trailers and a tennis gift shop with lots of freebies!

Everyone went berserk over this and we were in danger of taking more than we were allowed. There was also a Sanex tent with a wheel that gave us a chance to spin and win some of their products, like deodorants and creams (just right for Mum). At eleven o'clock the court were inspected but they were unsuitable for play because of the rain. This meant we had more free time to look around for they were inspecting again in an hour's time. Off to the adventure playground that everyone enjoyed.

Unfortunately the courts failed the second inspection and there was no tennis to watch. Thankfully Miss Bell saved the day and we were able to play mini tennis, which was great fun and everybody in Junior 6 had a good time.

An hour later it was time to leave. On the journey back it seemed a lot longer to get back to school, maybe we were all a little tired. We arrived back at five past five in time for our parents to pick us up at half past five.

Despite the rain, Junior 6 went home happy.



had been trailing by quite a few points. The first round was made up of multiple choice questions. There were four questions, we got three correct answers. The one we got wrong was about sunlight. It was something like "At what time of the day would the shadow be shortest?" We got the most right in this round.

The next round was the "matching products" round. In this part we had to match the resources to the final product (i. e. corn/cornflakes, wheat/flour).

There were also some extra ones to muddle us up. In this round we got the most right answers.

The next round was the sound round. This was where we had several materials and had to find out which would be the best two insulators. We had to place them over a buzzing sound machine. The best two insulators were an egg box sheet and polystyrene. We drew in first place for this round.

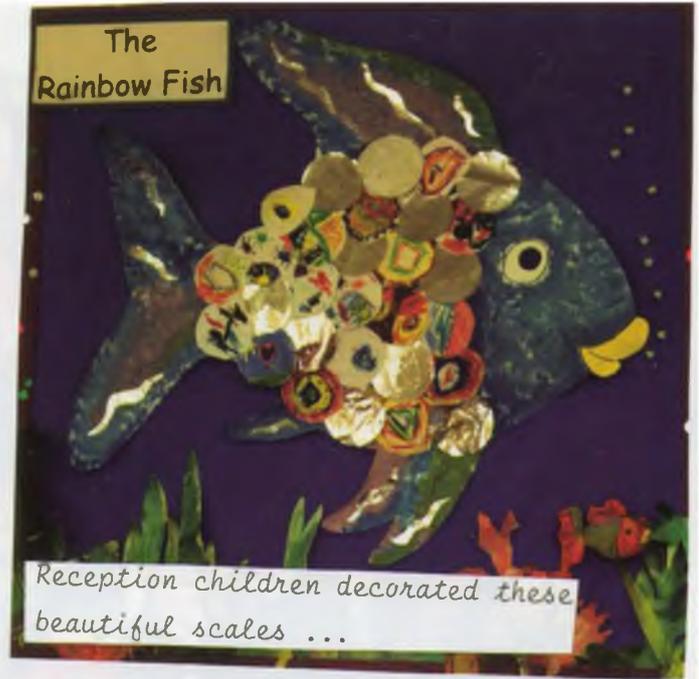
The next round was the ball round, this was my favourite round. You had to get a ball down a channel into a hole. The answer was to let the ball go just before the quarter mark. The judges disallowed one of our shots, but we still drew in first place.

The next round was the net round. In this section we had to match the net to the cube. We got the colour net wrong. We still tied in first place.

The last round was the buzzer round. This was my least favourite part. In this round we did the worst. We only got one question correct. This round made us lose the competition. I was devastated but tried not to show it. I comforted Kerrienne, who was also keen to win. I think we should practise using a buzzer before next year. I hope we get the opportunity again... next time we will win!



David Baldwin J5



Reception children decorated these beautiful scales ...



Alex Symcox J3



Louis Becque Reception



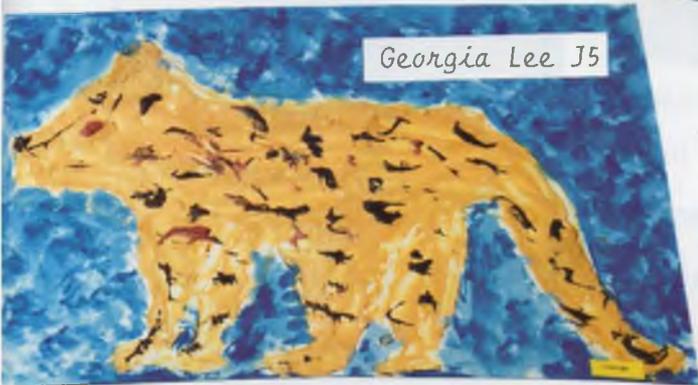
J1 and J2 Frog and Tadpoles



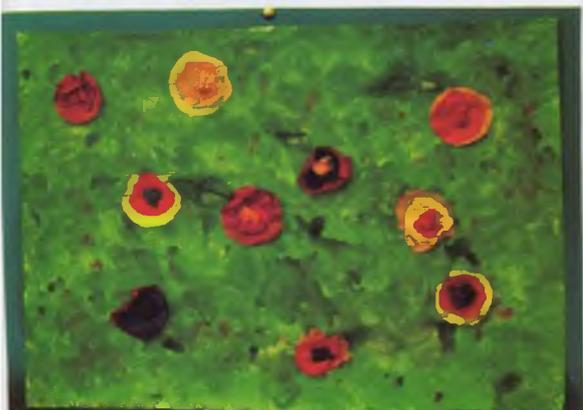
Charlotte Barry Reception
'Matisse style' snail



Laura Graham's little monkey



Georgia Lee J5



Alana Carpenter J2 - 'Monet style' waterlilies



Oliver Greenaway J3 - stained glass effect



J5 Freddie Ardley



J6 designed and fabric painted their own ties



Victoria Norton's zebra



William's abstract leaf pattern



Matthew Beck

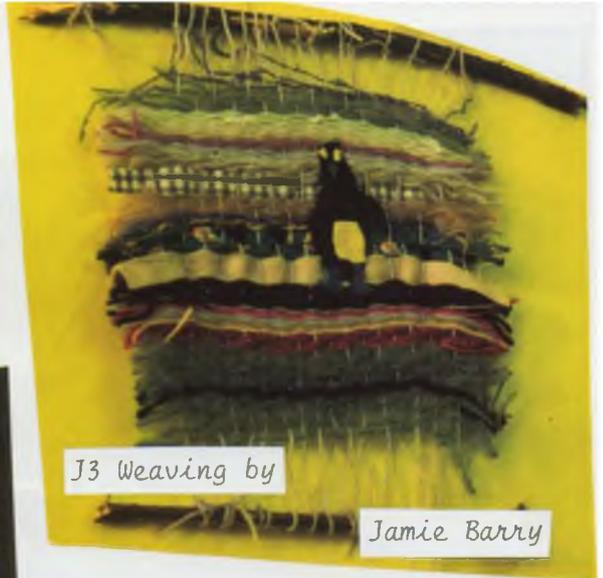
Kerrienne, Rosie and Jemima being 'real' artists





Imogen Meborn-Hubbard

← George Ardley



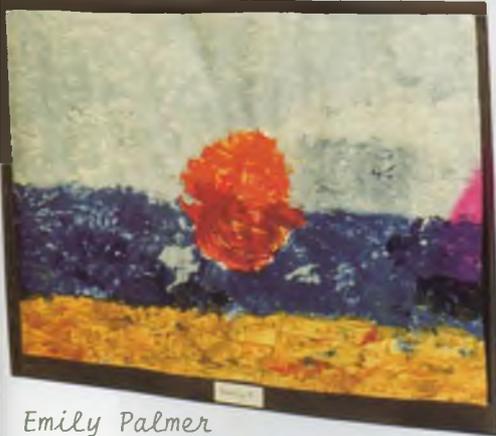
J3 Weaving by

Jamie Barry

J4 Van Gogh studies



Ciara Mulholland-Fenton J3



Emily Palmer



Mitchell's papier-mâché goat's head



and

Conrad Beynon



Russell Taylor J2



Art Club flowerpots

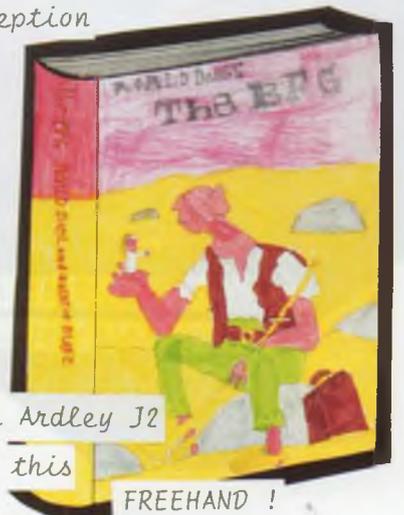
decorated by Sinead and Hannah



Edward Hill's snail collage Reception



J1 and J2 made these giants



Catherine Ardley J2

copied this

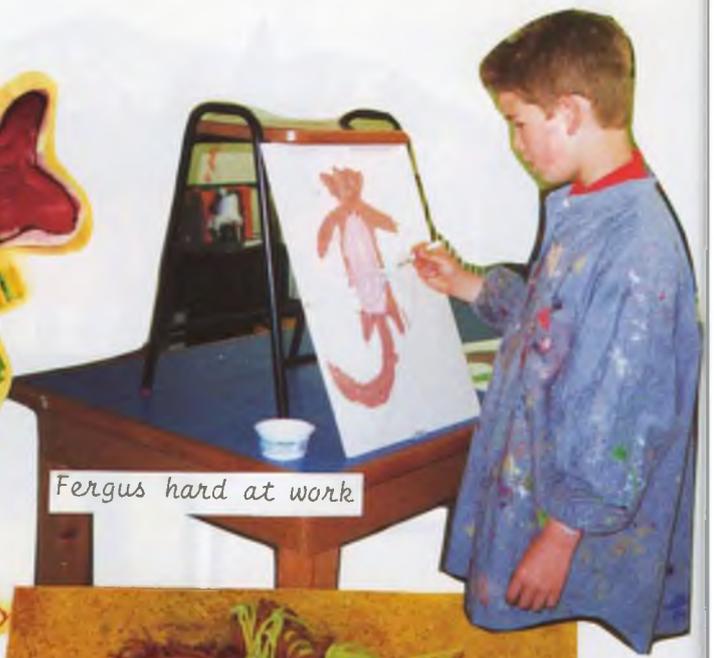
FREEHAND !



J6 potato printing



J5 - Joe and Johan



Fergus hard at work

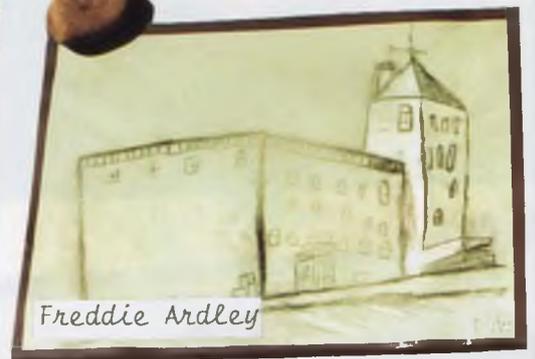
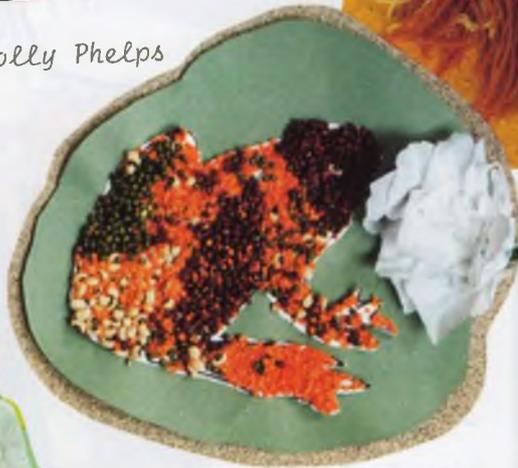


Holly Phelps

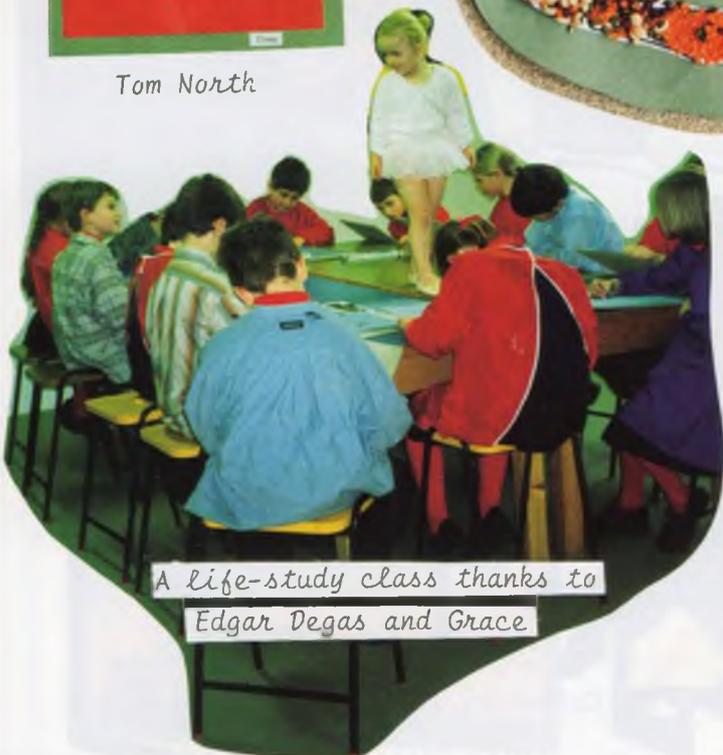
Cassie Staines



Tom North



Freddie Ardley



A life-study class thanks to Edgar Degas and Grace



Louis' perspective study

Sport

Under 11 Rugby

Unfortunately Rendcomb got off to a bad start by losing to Tockington Manor, although they are a very experienced side and this was Rendcomb's first game of the season.

The highlight of the game was when Tom North intercepted the ball and ran a quarter



of the pitch and scored a stunning diving try. Considering it was our first match we lost five tries to one, which was good.

Rendcomb's second match was against Berkhamstead and we also lost, but by five tries to three, all of them scored by Tom North. Although we lost we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and in my opinion, I think it was the best 'learning' match and Rendcomb made a lot of progress and learned more about the game and what to do in a match situation. Our third game was a tournament at St. Francis with St Francis, Warminster, Appleford and Prior Park. We beat Prior park one try to nil and drew nil-nil to Warminster. We lost seven tries to nil against Appleford and we didn't play St Francis because they were knocked out too soon in their group games. Mr Palmer was inspecting so Mr Essenhigh kindly took us to Pewsey. That was the last match of the season. Overall, everybody enjoyed the game, although we lost the majority of our matches, we all learned a lot about the game of rugby.

The Isle of Wight Soccer Tour

We got in the mini bus and set off for Southampton. Our ferry was called 'Red Eagle'. After fifty minutes we arrived at Cowes and drove to our Bed and Breakfast in Ryde. We dropped off our kit bags, changed into footie kit and played our first match which we drew 3-3 with James Beck, Tom North and Will Jefferson scoring. We returned to our base to get changed; the lady who owned the B&B was extremely kind. Later on we had KFC and went ten pin bowling and we all bought bouncy balls. Mr Palmer won the bowling but I came third.

Next morning we got up early and had a lovely fried breakfast which got us ready for our next match, which was against the best team on the island. Having been 3-2 up, we eventually lost 3-6 with James Beck scoring two of our goals. In the afternoon we did more ten-pin bowling, played on the beach, had KFC for supper, having enjoyed a McDonald's lunch and in the evening we went ice-skating.

On the third day we played a triangular tournament and were so tired we lost both our matches. After that we came home having had a fabulous time. Thank you to Mr Palmer and Mr Jerrold for making the trip such fun.

Louis Greenaway (Junior 6)

Under 11 Soccer



Team from: Mark Richardson, Ed Brierley, Mitchell Barttrop, George Ardley, Rhys Thomas, Chris Yeoward, Michael Richards, Harry Homan-Green, Tom North, Michael Lockhart, Kye Rimell, Will Jefferson, James

We had a good start to the season by winning a triangular tournament featuring Ferndale, Rendcomb and Airthrie. We won our first match 3-1 with Kye Rimell scoring one and James Beck scoring two. We lost our next match 0-2, but it was enough to secure us the tournament. In our next match, however, we lost 5-3 to Pinewood. We had taken a 2-1 lead, with Will Jefferson scoring two, including a fantastic free kick. Unfortunately, we let the lead slip. From then on, our season had ups and downs, with our two best matches being a 7-0 win against St Andrew's, with James Beck scoring all seven and an 8-0 win over Great Rissington with Harry Homan-Green scoring five and James Beck scoring three.

By James Beck (Junior 6)

Under 11 Netball Team

I've been at the school for two years and the under 11 netball team (regardless of what Mr Palmer says) has improved a lot. Jasmine Barkes and I shared the role of team captain alongside April Edwards.

Our main goal shooter, Sarah Lockyer, led us to victory in a number of matches including 13-5 against Ferndale in February. Heidi Hannam, who saved us from losing a vast majority of games, played well as goal-keeper. Sinead Brennan who played as centre but mainly wing defence, has a strong will and is always bounding with energy. As the tallest in the school, goal defence was the perfect place for Charlotte Tapsell. In every game we played, Charlotte was always ready to win the ball and she contributed greatly to the team.

April Edwards had never played a game of netball before she came to Rendcomb in September, yet her skilful tactics (and good sense of humour) got us through the year as wing attack. Our speedy goal attack, Jasmine Barkes, scored goals in almost every match we played, helping us win numerous matches. Not only that but she never gives up and is determined to fight no matter how much we're losing or winning by. We might have played well as a team but a team needs first of all substitutes such as Ottie Henniker-Gotley, Imogen Meborn-Hubbard (who is only in Year 4), Kerriane Shackel and Sian Clift but secondly we couldn't have done it without our fabulous coach Mrs Mayoh.

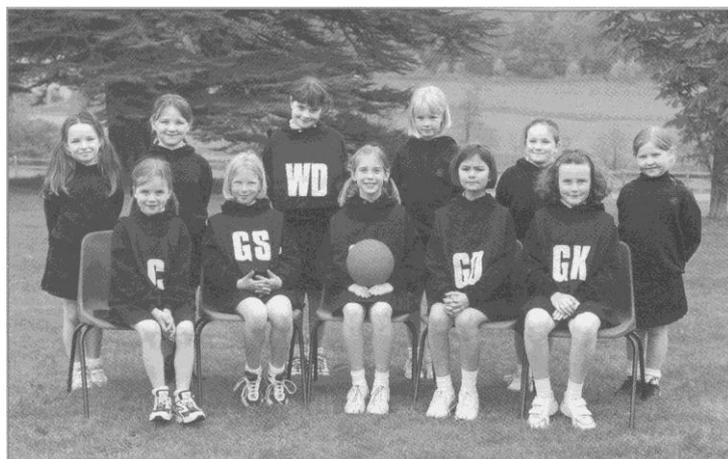
Finally, I think Rendcomb is a wonderful school with great surroundings, fabulous teachers but most of all nobody can beat Mr and Mrs Palmer.

Cassie Staines (Junior 6)

Under 9 Netball

We were all very excited when we set off to St Edwards in Cheltenham, for the under 9 netball tournament. For most of us it was our first school match so we were also very nervous. We were runners-up in our group, having played three matches but, unfortunately, this did not get us through to the final. Many of our mums came to support us and we thank them for that.

Imogen Meborn-Hubbard (Junior 4)



Under 11 Hockey Team

This hockey season we only had one match. We played Richard Pates on their astro turf. Although we lost 11-0 we played a very good game. The players were, Sarah Lockyer, Heidi Hannam, Sian

Clift, Emma Parker, Laura Graham, Rosie Barkes, Jasmine Barkes (captain), April Edwards (goalie) and Cassie Staines.

Jasmine Barkes (Junior 6)

Under 11 Cricket

The cricket season this year was plagued by poor weather with five matches being cancelled, including three scheduled for the Isle of Wight tour.

The team, despite results, have improved greatly as the season has progressed. Of the team, nine have bowled in at least one match and all players have had experience of batting in a match situation.

During the first match against St. Francis we fielded first and Will Jefferson took two quick wickets to have the opposition at 6 for 2. Our philosophy being 'give as many people as possible a chance to bowl', we rather let St Francis off, eventually bowling them out for 64 with Alex Hook taking the last wicket for figures of 1 for 0!

When we batted, we made 58 for 6 with Will Jefferson hitting a solid 21 and Chris Yeoward a quick fire 16 not out.

Our second match was at home against Tockington Manor. We batted first and Mitchell Barltrop played a terrific open innings of 20, batting carefully and picking off the bad balls (his best innings of the season). A rapid 29 not out from Will Jefferson took our total to 78 for 5 declared. We then bowled Tockington out for 51 with six different bowlers taking wickets.

Our only surviving match of this tour was against Node Hill. We batted first and largely due to Tom North scoring 19 not out and 24 extras we scored 72 for 6. Node Hill won by 6 wickets but we bowled 27 extras, Mr Palmer was not happy!

In our last match we were well beaten but we had the opposition 13 for 3 when we gave other bowlers a chance. The opposition only used 3 bowlers, we used eight! On score we lost, but in so many ways that afternoon we won.

Adrian Palmer



v St Francis
St Francis 64 for 10
Rendcomb 58 for 6 (T North 21, C Yeoward 16 N.O.)
Match Drawn
v Tockington Manor
Rendcomb 78 for 5 (W Jefferson 29, M Barltrop 20)
Tockington Manor 51 all out (T North 2 for 7)
Won by 27 runs
v Node Hill
Rendcomb 72 for 6 (T North 19 N.O.)
Node Hill 73 for 4
Lost by 6 wickets
v Pinewood
Pinewood 77 for 7 (J Beck 4 for 18)
Rendcomb 8 all out
Lost by 69 runs

Team: William Jefferson (captain), Mitchell Barltrop (wicket keeper), Tom North, James Beck, Edward Brierley, Harry Homan-Green, Christopher Yeoward, Mark Richardson, Rhys Thomas, James Brittain, Alex Hook, Michael Richards, Alex Bullock.

The Swimming Gala

This term we had a swimming gala which was great fun. Everyone gave their best and tried really hard and the behaviour was excellent. Many people won their races but in the end the South (yellow) team won, but it was a great afternoon and the support from all the parents was brilliant. Next year I'm sure it will be just as good and fun with everyone giving their very best of swimming.

Mark Richardson (Junior 6)



Farewell to Junior 6



Junior 6P

William Phillips

Captain of Under 11B soccer team. Performed well in Buggy Malone. Great horseman and equine fanatic! We wish him every success at Bredon School.

Sarah Lockyer

A talented rider. Under 11 netball, hockey and rounders. A girl who sings beautifully and who has brought us all to tears on several occasions. Her performance in Joseph was exceptional. Member of Buggy Malone cast.

Hannah Timmins

Under 11 netball, hockey and rounders. Wolf and wild animal expert. Winner of Dufosse Art Cup due to her exceptional ability in this area.

Heidi Hannam

Under 11 netball, hockey and rounders and a successful skier!

Kye Rimell

Under 11 soccer, rugby, hockey and recently emerged as a dog trainer!

We wish him well at Marling Grammar School.

Louis Greenaway

Under 11 soccer, rugby and hockey. Prefect. A passion for Grand Prix Racing.

Charlotte Tapsell

Head Girl - Summer Term. Under 11 netball, hockey and rounders. (Fish expert?!)

Alex Bullock

Head Boy - Summer Term. Under 11 soccer, rugby and cricket. Winner of Trim Happy Cup for always being cheerful. We wish him well at Cotswold School.

Fiona Trumper

Prefect. Member of Buggy Malone cast. Cat lover.

Emma Parker

A quiet girl who joined in with Buggy Malone

Sian Clift

Prefect. Under 11 Hockey. Athletics. Member of Buggy Malone cast. (Staunch supporter of Wales and madly in love with Will Young!).

Rhys Thomas

Prefect. Under 11 rugby, soccer and cricket. Skateboarder extraordinaire!! (not really - but loves it).

Edward Brierley

Under 11 soccer, rugby, cricket. County tennis squad.

Farewell to Junior 6

Junior 6M

Ava Carpenter

With us for one term only. Who will ever forget her elephant head. Member of Buggy Malone cast.

Harry Homan-Green

Under 11 soccer, rugby, hockey and cricket. Laugh a minute on tour.

William Jefferson

Under 11 soccer, hockey and rugby. Captain Under 11 cricket team. Artist.

Tom North

Under 11 soccer, hockey, rugby and cricket.
Great actor and "I can't draw"... NOT.

Christopher Yeoward

Head Boy - Michaelmas Term. Under 11 soccer, rugby, hockey and cricket. Cast of Buggy Malone. A cup for gymnastics.

Michael Lockhart

Under 11 soccer and rugby. Cast of Buggy Malone.
Wonderful solo voice of Joseph at Christmas.

Jasmine Barkes

Head Girl - Easter Term. Under 11 netball, hockey, rounders. Winner Carden Music Cup - plays flute and piano. Cast of Buggy Malone and Christmas Production.

Sinead Brennan

Prefect. Under 11 netball, hockey and rounders. Member of cast of Buggy Malone. Heart rendering Mary.

Cassie Staines

Head Girl - Michaelmas Term. Under 11 netball, hockey, rounders. Winner Girl's Sports Cup and Potter Cup for All Round Contribution. Great sense of humour. We wish her every success at Pates Grammar School.



Michael Richards

Only boy boarder. Under 11 soccer, rugby and cricket.

Mitchell Bartrop

Under 11 soccer, rugby, hockey and cricket.
Winner History Project and Shackel Cup for Distinctions.
Enormous effort. Artist.

Mark Richardson

Head Boy - Summer Term. Under 11 soccer, rugby, hockey and cricket. Winner Arkle Cup for all round Improvement.
Artist.

April Edwards

Under 11 netball, hockey, rounders.

James Beck

Prefect. Captain Under 11 soccer team. Under 11 rugby, hockey, cricket. Winner Boys' Sports Cup





FLOWERS

THE FIRM