

# RENDCOMBIAN



*The magazine of Rendcomb College and Junior School*  
**2005**



# RENDCOMBIAN

No. 23

September 2005

## FRONT COVER

Les Misérables

Senior School Musical, Christmas 2004

## INSIDE FRONT COVER

Get a head!

## INSIDE BACK COVER

Junior School Events

## BACK COVER

The Otters



QUO · LUX · DUCIT

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# RENDCOMBIAN

## Table of Contents

### EDITORIAL & REPORTS

Editorial .....	3
Founder's Day .....	4
Chapel Reflections .....	7
Margaret Coombes.....	8
School Council .....	8
Bursar's Report .....	9

### HOUSE NEWS

Old Rec .....	12
Godman .....	13
Stable .....	14
Lawn .....	15

### SOCIAL EVENTS

Junior Ball.....	16
An Evening in India .....	17
Bonfire Night .....	17
World Book Day .....	17
Chinese New Year .....	17

### DRAMA

Drama Tour March 2005 .....	18
Theatre Club .....	19
Les Misérables.....	19 to 21
Daisy Pulls It Off.....	22 & 23
4th Form Luvvies Strike Again! .....	23
McClymont does Theatre Sports.....	24
Saturday Night Fever .....	24

### MUSIC

The Four Seasons.....	25
Music Teacher / Parent Evening .....	25
Rendcomb Rock Concerts .....	26
Stitch .....	26
A Level / GCSE Concert .....	26
Transition: Rocking Rendcomb! .....	27

### ART

Transformation Art Department .....	28
News from the Art Department .....	28, 29, 32 to 34
Art Gallery .....	30 & 31

### ACADEMIC TRIPS & SOCIETIES

6B Biology Trip to Oxford .....	35
6B Geography Field Trip .....	35
The 1st Form Adventure Weekend .....	36
A Teacher's Perspective .....	36
Psychology Report .....	37
3rd Form Stratford Trip .....	37
3rd Form Visit to the Imperial War Museum .....	37
6B English Trip to "The Tempest" .....	38
Saul's Society.....	38
Public Speaking Competition .....	38

### BEYOND THE COLLEGE

Fly Fishing .....	39
Lucy's Visit to Rendcomb College .....	39
John Webb: '50 Not Out' .....	40
85 Years On .....	41
Village Shop .....	41
Mind the Gap .....	41
Charity Fundraising.....	43

### ACTIVITIES

Photographic Competition .....	45
Duke of Edinburgh .....	46 & 47

Ski Trip 2005 .....	48
Riding .....	49
Clay Pigeon Shooting .....	50

### SPORTS

Rugby .....	51
Girls' Hockey.....	53
Boys' Hockey .....	55
Lacrosse .....	57
Netball .....	60
Cricket.....	60
Tennis .....	62
Rounders .....	63
Athletics .....	63
Athletics Day 2005 .....	64
Individual Sporting Achievements .....	66

### THE SIXTH FORM

Walking the Mile Together .....	67
Leavers' Weekend .....	68
Sixth Form Venetian Masquerade Ball.....	69 to 71
'It doesn't matter if you're black or white' .....	69
The Sixth Form Barbecue .....	69
Sixth Form Suppers in Park House .....	69
6B Life Skills .....	72
Critical Drinking .....	72
Sixth Form Enrichment .....	72
Oxbridge Success .....	73
'Right to Fight?' .....	73
The Book Group .....	73
Richard III .....	74
The Great Skittles Night .....	74
Eat More Garlic! .....	75

### ACADEMIC RECORD

New Staff.....	76
Staff Leavers .....	76
GCSE Examination Results .....	77
A Level Examination Results.....	77
Prefects 2005 .....	78

### JUNIOR SCHOOL

Headmaster's Report .....	79
Staff News .....	79
Prizes .....	79
Nursery Class .....	80 & 81
Reception through the year .....	82 & 83
J1 .....	84 & 85
J2 .....	86 & 87
Jest .....	88
Charity Work.....	89
Sport .....	90 a92
J3 & J4 Art .....	93
J3 .....	94 & 95
J4 .....	96 & 97
J5W .....	98
J5H .....	99
J5W & J5H Group Work .....	100
J6 Leavers .....	101
J6 .....	102 & 103
J5 & J6 Art .....	104
Music .....	105
The Wind in the Willows .....	106 & 107
Drama .....	108



Headmaster, Charlie, Ed and Bramble going for a run

## Editorial & Reports

*Reflections and Foreword from the Headmaster on a glorious summer's morning at Rendcomb*

Liese and I recently had lunch with Peter Raggatt's family, who had returned to Rendcomb for a small private family ceremony to spread the ashes of his late father, Colin who was amongst our first set of pupils who joined the College when it was founded in 1920. Colin had died at the age of ninety-seven after a very successful career in teaching and eventually headmastering. He was, I believe, "the last of our first old boys", a regular supporter at Rendcomb events and the Rendcomb experience provided him with underlying principles and values which shaped his later life. His final visit to Rendcomb was in 1995, where he spoke very eloquently at our seventy-fifth anniversary ball. Colin's decision for Rendcomb to be his final "resting place" is a genuine honour for the College and an oak tree, donated by his family, will be planted in his memory later in the autumn. With Colin's death, our last living link with 1920 is broken but rest assured that the spirit of those pioneering days is very much alive and well, as you will see from this excellent edition of *The Rendcombian* which has been edited and collated by Paul Jennings, Liese Holden, Anne Haas and many others.

I have also taken a more active role in editing this edition, partially because Liese has ordered me to and partially because insomniac Headmasters find themselves at a loose end particularly in the early hours of summer mornings!

The academic year 2004-5 must surely be one of the busiest and one of the most successful in the history of Rendcomb: from our outstanding achievements in the Performing and Creative Arts to the opening of our new nursery class; from our record-breaking exam results to the excellent success of our junior school artists at the Persil Design awards; from the spectacular success of our Founder's Day celebrations to the moving visits of Godfrey and Lucy from our sister school, Lords Meade Vocational College in Uganda, Rendcomb College grows from strength to strength.

It has been an *annus mirabilis*: a truly great year and I thank everybody associated with the College for their support; to my fantastic colleagues, teaching and non-teaching; to my governors, who give endlessly of their time free of charge behind the scenes; to the trustees for their encouragement and benevolence to this wonderful place; to our parents, whose support and confidence is much appreciated and finally, and always most importantly to our pupils, whose achievements, successes and

unbridled sense of fun leap out of every page of this magazine.

I started this foreword by mentioning a distinguished Old Rendcombian, I wish to conclude by paraphrasing without attributing, a card I received from one of our more recent leavers, whom I predict, one day, will also be very distinguished.

"Dear Mr Holden,

...To put into words what Rendcomb has meant to me over these seven years is impossible. However, when we visited the Founder's grave, the day before Founder's Day, I fully realised what Rendcomb's unique quality was. James Simpson [Rendcomb's Founder Headmaster] noted that pupils were "not a type, nor a product" and at Rendcomb you are allowed to be yourself; you are not moulded into what you should be. I thank you for continuing such values at Rendcomb and forever may they be at the forefront of Rendcomb's future..."

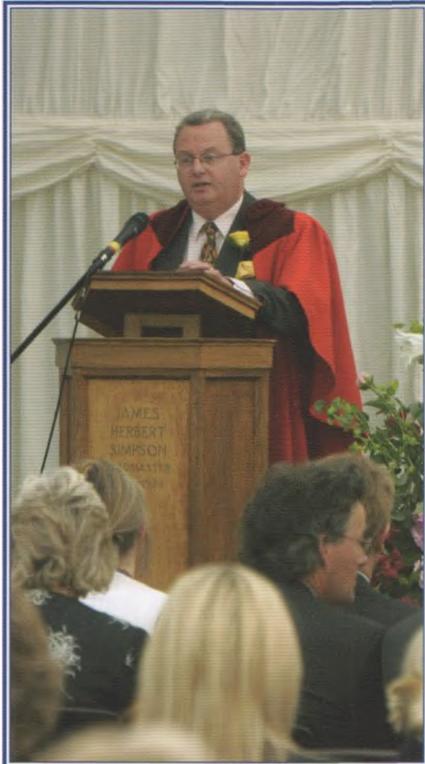
Eighty-five years on, I think that this magazine still reflects the essence of that Rendcomb spirit which Colin Raggatt would have found when he first here arrived in 1920.

With warm best wishes for delightful reading.

*Gerry Holden*

## Founder's Day - 85 Years On

The Headmaster started his review:



*The Headmaster speaking on Founder's Day*

A couple of weeks ago, I dashed out of my study on my way to my History lesson when I accidentally bumped into one of our Head Girls.

"Late again, Heather," I said.

"Yes, I think you are Headmaster", she replied, "but I am sure that your first form class will forgive you!"

This little scenario of Rendcomb life illustrates rather well the quality of our pupils' wit, their confidence, their sense of timing and their excellent company. So much so that my review this morning has been deliberately parcelled out amongst my friends [don't look so shocked - yes Headmasters do have friends]. When we appointed our two head boys and two heads girls in the senior school last year within seconds of them taking up their post, I felt that my Headmaster's review this year should become *their* review.

*The following are some highlights from our Founder's Day speeches which often refer to events which are covered elsewhere in the magazine.*

At A level, we secured a pass -rate of

98% with several pupils securing top A grades in their subjects. At GCSE, for the first time in the history of the College, 100% of our pupils attained more than 5A\*-C GCSEs; 40% of our pupils secured A\* or As. By the standards of any school, small or large, these results are spectacular and as many of you know, I am not a fan of league tables, unless of course you just happen to come out at the top of them from amongst Gloucestershire schools'.

Our academic performance goes from strength to strength and I would wish to pay particular tribute to my teaching colleagues, led by the Director of Studies, Mr Dodd, for their outstanding work in the classroom. But as you well know education is a partnership and we are deliberately involving our pupils' more and more in the learning game: sixth form pupils now have an opportunity to assess teachers in the classroom; a small working party under Mr Dodd's direction has already met to discuss what makes a good teacher and the same group is also about to finesse our guidelines on what makes for a good pupil. This deliberate attempt at inclusivity is wholly consistent with the views of our Founder, Noel Wills, when he set up Rendcomb as a pioneering school in 1920. Eighty five years on, we want Rendcomb to rejoice in its independence, we want Rendcomb to dare to be different, and we want Rendcomb to continue to lead the way and be at the cutting edge of educational development.

*HEATHER ROPER then took up her review of girls' sport.*



*Heather Roper*

"As Heyward Born once noted "sport does not build character, it reveals it" and in many ways that is what

girls' games at Rendcomb is about because the girls this year, in all age groups, have revealed not only great commitment but fantastic team and individual skills: attributes which are not new to them but which have helped them to achieve so much this year.

In Girls' hockey the fact that we are a small school is sometimes used as justification for defeats against much larger schools: however, this year that justification only makes the incredible 1st XI girls' hockey season even more of an achievement. Although this year has only seen the second season of Lacrosse at Rendcomb, a great improvement has been made and much promise for the future has been displayed. The under 12s showed outstanding skills and prospects with their unbeaten season and although other teams' determination in matches was not always reflected in the score, Rendcomb girls continued to put in their utmost effort and were a great asset to the school.

In other areas of sport, to see girls progress at school is a success on its own, but to see girls progressing beyond that is such an achievement for both themselves and for Rendcomb. Katy Ruddy, Aimée Schofield, Sophie Humphries and Carra Williams all have reserved places for the County squad in hockey. Rachel Watson and Katy Schofield have both been selected for the England squad for their age groups at Rounders.

It is also promising to see Rendcomb girls branching out from just the 3 termly sports we play. Laura Brown has achieved county level swimming and has commendably attained great results in her recent competitions and in the equestrian field, Sinead Brennan, Emily Turner and Victoria Cannon have regularly represented the College. Lucy Heyman rows for Gloucester and came 2nd at the recent Ball Regatta at Eton. All these girls have done fantastically to achieve such things and with so many of them in the younger years of the school, it certainly shows great promise for their future sporting careers.

*GEOFFREY HULBERT'S continued with a review of boys' sport.*



Geoffrey Hulbert

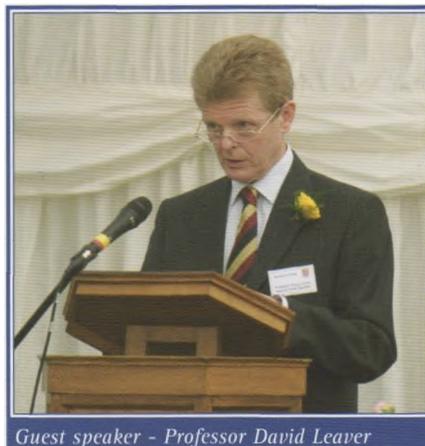
It has been a year of mixed fortunes for boys' sport at Rendcomb. As always our teams have played against schools with many more boys to choose from, however Rendcomb continues to surprise others with the depth of talent found from such small numbers.

The year started with rugby, the 1st XV set out to try and obtain the 11th consecutive winning season. This year's squad was made up primarily of members of the lower 6th and the fifth form, with only three players from the upper sixth. The goal of a winning season seemed a formidable task, and though some did not see this as a realistic one the squad remained optimistic. Did we realize this aim? Not quite! However it is my belief that if at first you don't succeed, redefine success. Was this team successful? Absolutely: the group of players gelled together, and played as a team, every player was totally committed. This commitment is a quintessential aspect of sport at Rendcomb found across all age groups.

The Lent term saw the start of a new hockey season. For the under 15's under the guidance of Mr Stutchbury, this would prove to be the start of a historic season, winning 10 of their 11 games, and scoring 36 goals. This was not the only team to have a great season, the 3rd XI men's hockey team built momentum as the season progressed, and were able to secure their first winning season in living memory. However one of the highlights of their season must have been Mr. Slark's acceptance of a manly handshake accompanied by a man sized tissue in Headmaster's assembly.

He concluded: "The hours of commitment given by *all* the coaches at Rendcomb, of both boys' and girls' sport provides pupils with a unique opportunity to play sport. The size of Rendcomb allows even the less talented sports men to take part, developing both their ability and confidence. The chance given to pupils at Rendcomb to play sport is a quality not found in bigger schools, and it has been my experience that this is a major reason for the commitment shown by so many".

*Our guest speaker Professor David Leaver, Principal of The Royal Agricultural College gave his address.*



Guest speaker - Professor David Leaver

As an educationist I was most interested in the quotation in your literature and on your web site from your founder Noel Wills. It says 'The only aristocracy is the aristocracy of brains and character'. This comment about the importance of education resonated with me because I noted the similarity of sentiment to that of Charles Dickens which he made when visiting the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester in 1868. He was commenting on the importance of the education provided by the College to the agricultural industry and he wrote 'the part of the holding of the farmer or landowner which pays the best (meaning the part that gives the greatest return) is the small estate within the ring fence of his skull'. Clearly he was also a man who knew the value of a good education.

*Professor Leaver gave a brief history of the RAC's contribution to the developments of agriculture in Britain over the last 160 years.*

He continued: "Some would say that the changes in agriculture have been a change for the worse. However

without research and education we would have neither the amount nor the quality of food available to us. Nevertheless, we must be concerned about the impact of technology on this beautiful environment in which many of us are fortunate to live. We must also be concerned about food safety and the welfare of our farm animals. Above all we must be concerned with the people who live and work in the countryside."

*Looking to the future, he offered the following pertinent advice:*

"We now live in a global market of food, and we must not forget the impact that our excesses in the developed world have on developing countries. I am sure you have derived great benefit and understanding from your link with Uganda. The issues of sustainable development are complex and will of course not be solved by science alone. But, I believe it is not beyond the wit of man, backed up by quality research and education to solve these problems. So the need for education and managing change never stops. At RAC we see this as being a very exciting time with opportunities to play a role in bringing about future changes for the better. It is my view that the purpose of life is about learning, of which formalised learning is only part. I hope you get the same buzz and satisfaction from learning as I have, and that you do this not just now but also have it as an objective throughout your lives.

*JESS WESTON proposed a vote of thanks to Professor Leaver and then reflected amusingly on her seven years at Rendcomb.*



Jess Weston

When I came to Rendcomb 7 years ago as a small and nervous 11 year old, I thought that the 6th form were just about the coolest thing to have ever entered my life. They seemed so huge, so mature and just radiated coolness. Now, as I enter the last few weeks of my time as a 6th former, I wonder were it all went wrong.

One of the greatest challenges in 6th form is surprisingly not the work but the 6th form flat which we have the pleasure of living in for 2 weeks. Not an easy task when one starts considering the limited budget, the huge potential for food poisoning and the fact that you have to not only cook for, but *socialise* with, the teachers! A challenge it may have been but definitely an enjoyable one.

The academic side of the 6th form is diverse and obviously hugely important. Public examinations are currently at the forefront of everyone's thoughts but the knowledge of subjects are often aided by special evenings where pupils delve into a particular subject to enlighten those who know little about them and culturally we are enriched by events such as 'A taste of India' and looking at 6th form art. Although clearly the academic side of 6th form life is crucial for our development many find equal nurturing in the social side. Having a 6th form Bar is great but many of my friends were devastated to learn this year that the upper 6th had to pay cash for their drinks and weren't allowed to just whack them down on the bill. However, there are means and ways and I apologise if any of the lower 6th have slightly higher bills than normal. My personal favourite part of social events is having any chance to dress up and even when there hasn't been a specific themed evening, I'll use any excuse to stick miscellaneous paraphernalia to my face and look as silly as possible.

Obviously the social highlight of this year was the 'Venetian Masquerade' 6th form ball which saw pupils, parents and staff polished and gleaming in dazzling dresses and dapper suits. The evening was organised by a successful 6th form committee under the able leadership of Hannah Bishop. It was just such a wonderful night and it will stay in my memories of Rendcomb for a very long time.

To go back to my original statement, 'Where did it all go wrong?' To be honest I don't think it has. I think that over 7 years I have grown and developed and realised that maturity is something that I will never be able to master. Oscar Wilde once said that, "Education is an admirable thing, but it should be remembered from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught," and I think this is perhaps how I would summarise Rendcomb. We, as people, are taught and educated in the sense of the school system but the true learning starts outside the classroom as we experience and try to master life as it goes by. As I look forward to years of student loans and debts I realise that the true worth of Rendcomb can never really be measured.

*ANDREA HAAS, also the Head Girl in the Junior School reflected on her experiences.*



Andrea Haas

"No-one would have believed 4 years ago that I would be standing here today. When I came to my entrance interview in July 2001 I was so shy that I wouldn't say anything and couldn't write a word and look at me now I am talking to at least 500 people. I remember my first day very well. Our classroom was in what is now Miss Freegard's office and we had 8 children: 3 girls and 5 boys. Our teacher was Mrs Cardin and she always wore beautiful shoes. My favourite pair were fake snake skin ones...

We have been lucky enough to work with the Senior School for some of the shows and I enjoy being able to say 'hello' to many of the sixth formers when we pass them on our way to our playground.

I have loved playing all the sports offered at Rendcomb and our group

of J6 pupils have had many chances to represent the school in matches. We also played in the finals for the Junior National Pop-Lacrosse as well as doing well in the County Mini-Hockey Finals. Some of us have also represented Rendcomb at the County Area Athletics each year.

On the music front, my classmates and I have sung in Amahl and the Night Visitors, played instruments in a variety of music concerts, sung in our carol service and on the Christmas Stage in Cirencester.

Our class is very artistic too! A group of us had a clay model on display in Cirencester for the Smile week and this year we won the Persil National Art Award for children aged 10 to 13.

After hearing about all these extra activities that we do you must wonder if we ever do any class work! Well, yes, we do! We have all passed our entry exams for the Senior Schools that we are going to and for me it will be wonderful to be moving on to Rendcomb College Senior School with so many of my classmates.

On behalf of my fellow classmates, I would like to say a big thank you to all the staff of the Junior School for the many hours of extra work you've done, the kind words and support that you've shared and the wonderful education that you have given us. We are now ready to spread our wings and fly on to a bigger world with new challenges and exciting adventures.

*Martin Watson, Headmaster of The Junior School continued.*



Martin Watson

It is with great pride that I stand before you today representing the Junior School. The level of pride is even greater following Andrea's speech - thank you - it is quite

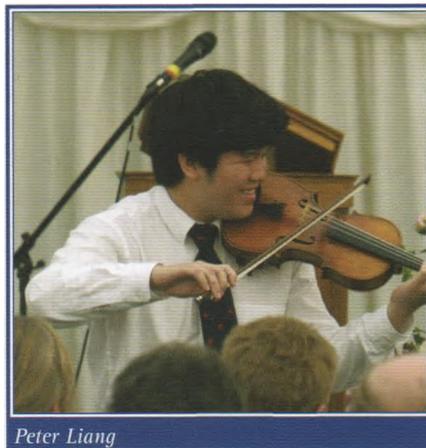
daunting facing such a large and illustrious gathering and I thought you were superb. Well done!

At Rendcomb we see ourselves as an extended family and the Junior School is the child in our unit. As parents you are investing in your son and daughter's education and future and the same is happening in our family. Our facilities continue to be enhanced and this year has seen the development of a superb art and DT classroom as well as improved play areas. However our most significant news has been the birth of our baby - in January we opened our Nursery class for 3-4 year olds. Housed in the old art room area, the Nursery has been transformed into a stunning suite of rooms, offering 1st class education and care.

By the time our J6 pupils move on we hope that they have developed into confident, well rounded people ready to face and grasp the challenges of Senior School. The 1st Junior School pupils have now reached Form 4 in the Senior School and Sophie Arkle, who is here today, was in fact our 1st Head Girl. I'm sure it won't be long before a Senior Head Boy or Girl is an ex Junior School pupil. In fact the Head Boy or Girl of 2020 could well be in the Nursery class today! The relationship between Senior & Junior School is very important to us as we are one school, one community and increasingly there are links between us. Junior pupils thoroughly enjoyed performing alongside Senior School pupils in Oliver last summer and in Les Misérables before Xmas and also

our musicians in last term's Spring Concert. Only this week, six Form 4 students have ably assisted in our production of 'Wind in the Willows' while later this term some Seniors will help at a Junior School Music Workshop and we are looking forward to Hana Lawrence (6B) joining us for work experience in June.

I began by stating how proud I am to be representing the Junior School today. In 1999 Gerry Holden had the vision of opening a Junior School and today he deserves to be proud of what has been achieved. As the Junior School approaches its 5th birthday this summer, I am delighted to report that it is healthy, strong and set to flourish.



Peter Liang

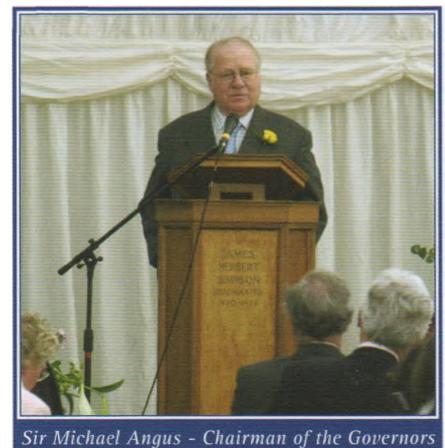
*Peter Liang's review of music and drama is amplified elsewhere in the magazine but he concluded his excellent speech by saying;*

"I have outlined today how strong the music and performing arts are at Rendcomb and as a musician myself I strongly encourage everybody with an

interest in music to become involved in this exciting new era for music at Rendcomb. I can say without doubt that you will be hard pressed to find other schools that offer such great musical and dramatic opportunities as Rendcomb does." He then treated us to an outstanding performance on the violin of 'Czardas', which is a Gypsy violin piece by Vittorio Monti and arranged by Mr Gunning and himself.

*The Headmaster then concluded the proceedings:*

After an octave of speeches, I am reminded of the words of St Augustine "I learned most not from those who taught me but from those who talked with me." We started this review on the theme of lateness, we conclude it on the theme of punctuality. At 11.59am I declare that half term has started."



Sir Michael Angus - Chairman of the Governors

## CHAPEL REFLECTIONS

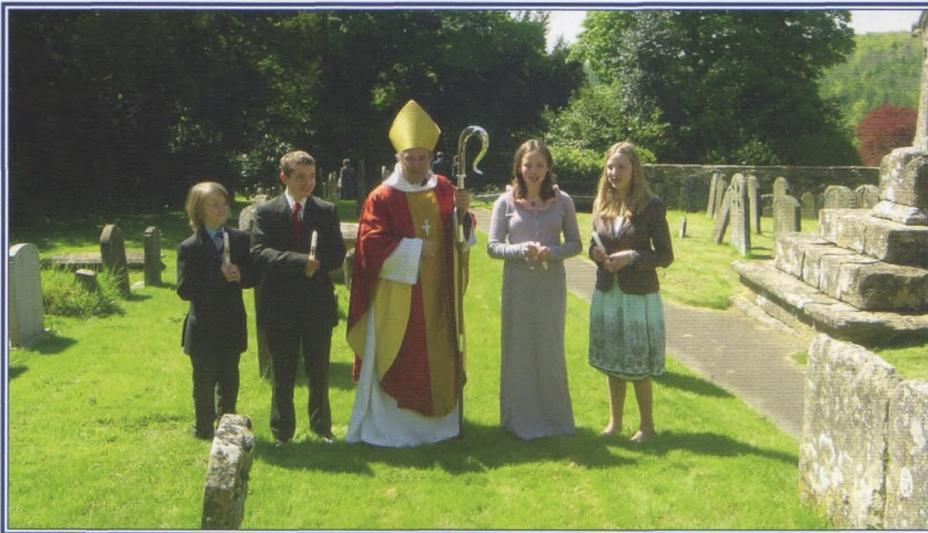
It was the celebrated Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral who also taught at Eton - William Ralph Inge (1860-1954) - who once said, 'the aim of education is the knowledge not of facts, but of values' - values which he believed were inspired by the Christian faith.

This academic year in our Chapel Assemblies in the Senior School we have considered the following themes - creation, suffering, Advent and contemporary issues. Senior prefects and members of staff have contributed and we also welcomed a visit from the Gideons.

In the Junior School the infants have enjoyed learning about the Bible, people Jesus helped, The Christmas Tree's Tale and stories about Peter from the video 'Seaside Rock'. The



The audience enthusiastically respond to the speeches



Finbar & Sinead Brennan, Fiona Trumper & Tristram Ireland with the Bishop of Gloucester on their Confirmation day

Juniors have actively participated in a series of assemblies in which we have looked at David the shepherd boy who became King, The Jesse Tree, key events from the life of Jesus and special people in the New Testament. Their enthusiastic participation is always a great pleasure to see.

At the service for boarders on Sundays we have welcomed the Reverend Katie McClure (from St. John Baptist, Cirencester), Lindsay Holly (from The Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund), the Very Reverend Stephen Smalley (former Dean of Chester Cathedral), the Right Reverend John Went (Bishop of Tewkesbury), the Venerable Hedley Ringrose (Archdeacon of Cheltenham), Mr. Steve Short (Cirencester Deanery Youth Officer) and the Right Reverend Michael Perham (Bishop of Gloucester) for a memorable Confirmation Service at which four pupils were confirmed. There have also been special services for Remembrance Sunday, the Advent Carol Service and the end of term Carol Service at St. John Baptist, Cirencester. My thanks to the choir and Mr. Andrew Gunning, the Director of Music, for their contribution throughout the year which has been greatly appreciated - and also to those who have decorated the church so beautifully throughout the year.

During the year we have supported the following charities - the British Legion, Cirencester Housing for Young People, the Asian Tsunami Appeal, and the Cotswold Care Hospice.

In conclusion, in a society which sometimes appears to devalue or ignore a spiritual dimension, why should religious education and

worship in church be an indispensable part of every child's education? Perhaps Dr. Fatma Amer (senior lecturer at the Markfield Institute of Higher Education) provides an answer - "Meeting and catering for the spiritual and religious needs of all students should be at the heart of any educational policy. For it is only when one feels truly and sincerely 'whole' - spiritually, mentally and physically - that they can contribute in any genuine or meaningful way to the world about them."

*Charles Jefferson*

### MARGARET COOMBES

Sadly Margaret Coombes, Chemistry technician and wife of Derek, died in September 2004 after a relatively short illness during the preceding summer holiday.

Margaret had worked in the Chemistry department since 1990 and she was well respected by staff and pupils alike. She took her work very seriously and took great pride in setting out practicals. In fact her piece de resistance was always the preparation of the complicated A level practical exams. Nothing was too much trouble for her and she often had to juggle practicals between the Junior and Senior labs. She was a very caring and conscientious person and she is sorely missed.

Her funeral in Watermoor Church, Cirencester was attended by a large number of the Rendcomb community, including the Headmaster, the Bursar, current and former teaching staff.

*Chris Wood*

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

Rendcomb College's School Council has had another very interesting year in its development. Unlike councils in some schools, it has become not only a focus for pupil suggestions but also a group which can give well earned praise and thanks to those who work in our college community.

We meet monthly and each meeting is chaired by a different Head Prefect which makes for some very interesting differences in meetings! Discussion topics have been very wide ranging this year from What makes a Good Student? to Prefect Power. What has been positive this year has been the growth in confidence of the younger members from Godman and Old Rectory such as Edward Slark and Katya Edwards who always have something unusual to suggest to keep us thinking!

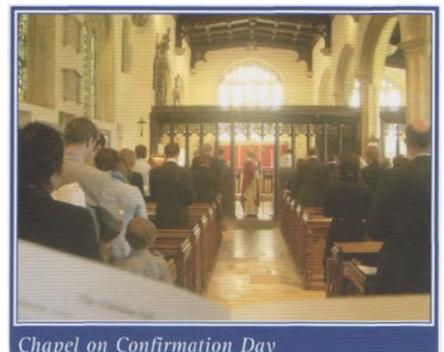
So, what have we achieved this year?

- Themed Mufti day
- Fireworks Night pricing policy
- Growth in social events
- Drinking fountains
- Basketball hoop for Stable erected
- Wilderness path improvement
- Computer problems information sharing
- Water availability in games
- House Committee updates
- Recycling ideas
- Conservation Week in Michaelmas Term, 2005
- Evening meal improvements
- Tsunami fundraising
- Discussions on possible cadet force
- Role of GAP tutors

All in all a useful and profitable year's deliberations.

Many thanks to this year's councillors, to the Head prefects and to the Headmaster for supplying the biscuits!

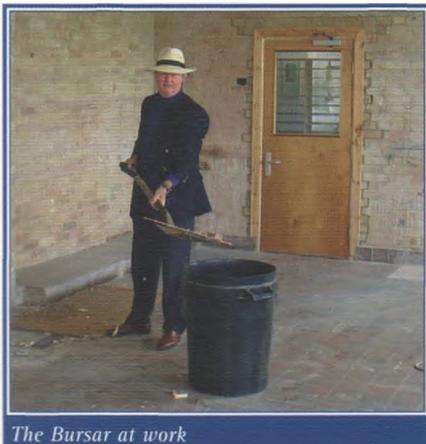
*Diana Dodd*



Chapel on Confirmation Day

## Bursar's Report

Welcome to the Bursar's Report for 2005



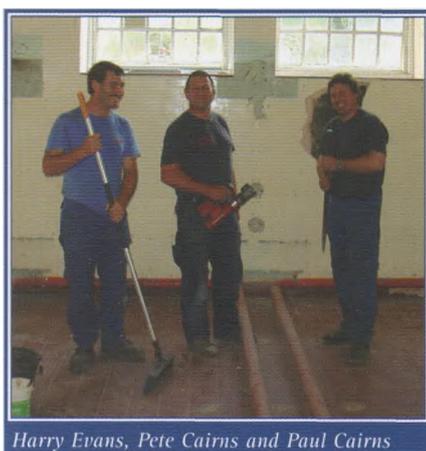
The Bursar at work

### MEDICAL CENTRE

Of course, the Medical Centre, and our two RGNs, Sister Julie Pritchard and Judy Hunt, provide much more for the College than just an area to recover from illness. Support to all the pupils in the Senior and Junior Schools comes in many forms; tea and sympathy to broken hearts, administering to the sick, supporting the faint hearted, advising the uncertain, assisting the House Staff, child care in all its forms, and supporting the many productions put on by the Performing Arts luvvies. What a contribution you make ladies, and you are held in deep affection by staff and pupils alike.

### BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

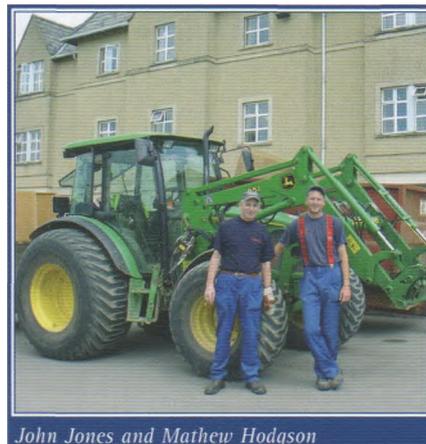
#### STAFF



Harry Evans, Pete Cairns and Paul Cairns

I was asked the other day, "What do the Buildings and Grounds Staff do?" Easy to ask, but much harder to answer. We are blessed here with some of the loveliest countryside and

buildings in the UK. Our Foundation provided 200 acres of land, and a large slice of the village of Rendcomb for the College, and all of this must be kept up to the highest standards.

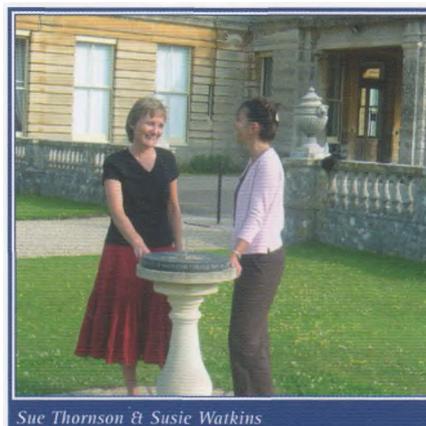


John Jones and Mathew Hodgson

Our Buildings and Grounds Team consists of Paul Cairns, as Manager, assisted by his brother Pete, Harry Evans who looks after the gardens and provides a huge range of talent to support other areas of maintenance and building projects, Mathew Hodgson, the Head Groundsman, and his assistant John Jones who has joined us from Cheltenham Ladies' College. Between them they provide the maintenance and project support to the College, and provide a standard that is the envy of many other bursars who have visited Rendcomb. The team has been boosted this Summer by Jamie Rowen, and Michael Savoury, who have fitted in extremely well and worked very hard.

We recently hosted the Independent Schools Bursars' West Midlands Group Meeting, and their letters all pay testament to the quality of our building maintenance, and the condition of the grounds. Well done, gentlemen.

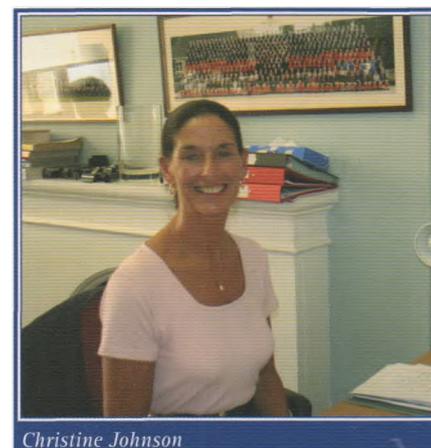
### ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT



Sue Thomson & Susie Watkins

A Family School depends on its staff to maintain high standards of professionalism, and at the same time do it with a smile. Susie Watkins and Sue Thomson are the epitome of people whose standards are always the highest. They are a great team and complement each other, so that the level of support to parents, staff and pupils always sets the highest standards. Sitting in their eyrie on the top floor of the Main Building, it is easy for us to take for granted the immense amount of work they do for us all. It is entirely appropriate that we pause at this time of year and give them a resounding round of applause for their huge contribution to the success of Rendcomb College.

### SECRETARIAL AND ADMISSIONS SUPPORT



Christine Johnson

Behind all hard working successful managers are even harder working secretarial support staff. We are blessed with a Team that is dedicated to the Rendcomb College motto of "Quo Lux Ducit" - Where the Light Leads, and provide excellent support to all at Rendcomb.

In the Headmaster's outer office there is Christine Johnson, the Headmaster's PA, and Ann Slark the Admissions Registrar. Both have worked tirelessly to attract new pupils to Rendcomb, and our healthy numbers for September 2005 reflect this hard work.

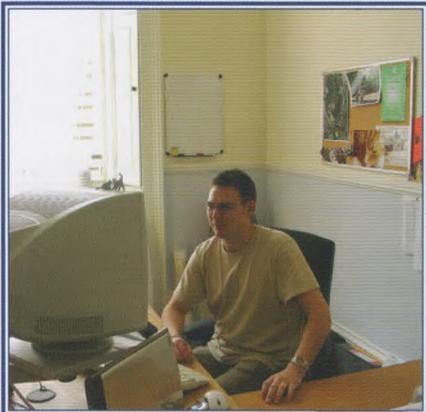
Carol Endersby, the Bursar's Secretary continues to support the Reception area and all bursarial matters in an exemplary manner, and the complicated and time consuming task of pupils travel is handled with consummate skill. Diana Baker and Maureen Dancer provide the support to the Reception area, and are on

hand to answer myriad questions and resolve issues that are required to be dealt with in our College. Many thanks ladies. Dawn Freegard, right hand person to Martin Watson Headmaster of the Junior School, has established a reputation for hard work and excellent public relations with parents, and ably supports the Reception Area when required.



Diana holds the fort

**INFORMATION,  
COMMUNICATION, AND  
TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT**



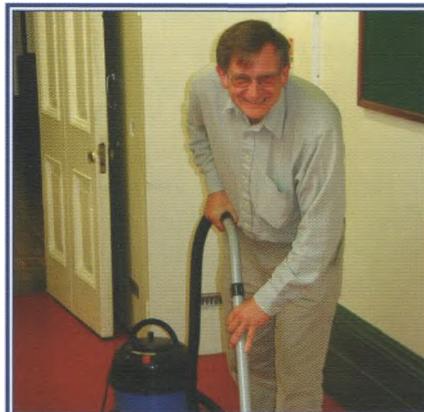
Darrell Hayward

The complexities of running a Network, protecting it from virus and worm attack, and providing 24/7 network availability, is professionally carried out by our Network Manager, Darrell Hayward. He is married to Vicki Hayward, the Housemistress of Lawn House, and provides her with support in the Boarding House behind the scenes. He also is the Sound and Lighting Engineer for all our College productions, as well as being a skilled DJ when the need arises. Shani Hawkins has established a reputation for technical service with a smile with the staff and pupils, and is the front line technical support in the ICT area - a demanding role.

**LABORATORY TECHNICIANS**

We are fortunate to have Lab Technicians who are conscientious and able, so that the support to the science staff is professional. Bill Ballinger and Katrina Ellor work for James Stutchbury in the Biology Department, Rachel Hall for Chris Wood is the Chemistry Lab Technician, and Derek Coombes for Malcolm Ford in the Physics Labs. He also is the D of E Store Manager, supervises the photocopier in the Stable Block, and orders and distributes all the stationery in the College. Thank you all for your untiring support and good humour.

**SOAP SUDS, DISH CLOTHS  
AND MOP HEADS. (WRITTEN  
BY THE LITTLE BLUE HOOVER)**



Mark Naylor gets busy

I would like to be able to say I am writing this whilst sitting in the sun or being a "Clay Monster" at Glastonbury, as the academic year draws to a close but no, I am locked away in the Broom Cupboard as the domestics have all gone home; I have the afternoon to rest and recuperate from being zoomed around College.

There have been a lot of friends who have left this year. They have all treated me well, and kept my nozzle above water. First there was Jan Berry the Queen of the Laundry in Park House for 25 years. Jan told my friend Mr Miele the "Washing Machine," that every year his loads got smaller as the girls' undergarments have shrunk in size year by year, but Mr Miele replied that the loads are bigger as the students change clothes three times a day. Whoever is right, we will all miss Queen Jan.

Then there was Pam Hoskins from

Stable Block, she kept me dusted and polished for 22 years and made me work hard filling my dust bag at every opportunity, but she always let me rest at break time as Pam tucked into the posh biscuits she brought to share with whoever dropped by for a cuppa in the boiler house. Have a great retirement and do all those things you have always wanted to do; your memory will live long with us. The other half of the dynamic duo Audrey Woolley, herself a veteran of Stable Block and 25 years' service, also rode off into the sunset at Easter and my friend Gregory the Grey Cat was sad at her departure. Who would give him his eleven o'clock snack now? Would he have to go home to Rev Jefferson and would Cath's cat food bill increase?

What am I to do with all these people leaving who always treated me so well? Will the new ones know how to be gentle with me? Finally as the Summer Term comes to an end we say goodbye to Pam Hill after 26 years. I am sure that someone must have said "Send Pam to the Tower," but she only made it as far as the Medical Centre, often acting as an assistant to Sister when things got hectic and looking after the T.E.F.L and Accounts teams.



Pam Hill with Judy Hunt and Julie Pritchard

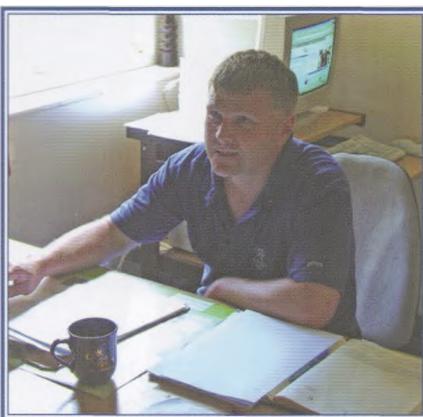
The loss of 98 years service in just four members of staff within the same year, has produced, and would in any establishment, a huge hole. We have welcomed Jo Bond, Ben Drew, Julie Luce and Liz Heavens as there successors and wish them all well but the family loss is felt throughout the team. We all wish each and every one of the departees a long and happy retirement and there will always be a very warm welcome for them should they choose to pop in for a cuppa -

"Pam, don't forget the biscuits."



Pearl Hardy at the jellies

My friend DC 04 Dyson, who works in the Catering Rest Room, has been telling me some tales; "he hears it all sat in the corner". Richard Allen the Chef departed in January to take up a new job as Sous Chef at The Royal Agricultural College after coming straight from school and staying 17 years at Rendcomb. His wife Nina gave birth to their first child Tom in November and is on extended maternity leave until October. For Richard and Nina it has been a very eventful year. DC04 tells me he has seen a lot of the staff as many of them have been working six days a week for 8 months to cover the shortages, particularly with Richard and Nina gone, and they all are looking forward to welcoming Jamie Rogers who is due to join them soon to replace Richard.



Mark Robbins

My friend tells me it has not been quiet in the holidays as the Caterers have been busy supporting the Cancer Cobalt Unit, raising £13,500 at the October Fair. This will be held again in 2005 and the money will go towards a new Breast Cancer screening machine for Cheltenham Hospital. We hosted the Cirencester Hockey Club Ball, Wedding Receptions, Dinners

and Charity Concerts, the Music @ Rendcomb Course came back again this year with a record number of participants ranging in age from 19 to 85. They held a course in the Main Building and it resounded to the sounds of music and singing.



Shipton Quilters

Then there was the Shipton Quilters, who brought with them the most beautiful quilts and displayed them in exquisite style. Over the weekend we had 900 visitors who came to see the exhibition. It was hard work at the end of the holidays getting the College ready for term. The Dulverton Hall was transformed by the Shipton Ladies back 120 years to the Garden Room it would once have been.

The College kept me busy with lots more events and dinners this year, more than we have ever held. My motor will soon need replacing, but perhaps things will be a little less hectic in the Summer Holidays as we have an International Summer School for two weeks and then four weeks of Scripture Union Holidays, when we will have some students here that come from Inner Cities. A learning holiday for them in the country should be great fun, and I might just be able to spend a little more time in the cupboard and not getting overheated.



Lesley Gardner, Mary Telling, Dawn Curtis & Yvonne Millin

Signed Henry the Little Blue Hoover

(Mark Naylor's able assistant) July 2005

If you have read this far, you have done well.

*It never ceases to amaze me that our support staff are so dedicated to Rendcomb. I echo Henry the Blue Hoover's sentiments about the departure of Jan Berry, Pam Hoskins, Audrey Woolley and Pam Hill and their record combined service of 94 years. They will be sorely missed, and I wish them the best of good fortune in their long and happy retirement.*



Janice Watton



Sally Price in the main building

*To all the other members of the Non-Teaching staff, many, many thanks for your support and dedication, but above all for your good humoured service to the College in these challenging times.*

Jeremy Grey



Harry Evans



**Charity Cycle Ride - Sat 11th Sept**  
We used all our gears on the Charity Cycle Ride to Northleach and back (22 miles!)



**1st Form as pirates**  
Mufti Mayhem for charity. We just love to dress up!



**Rabbit & Fairy**  
Our wonderful prefects, Claire and Caroline joining in the fun.



**Boys, bubbles dancing at Xmas party** Saturday 27th Nov  
Impressing the ladies at the Christmas party.



**Henry Brittain & Claire Taylor at the Xmas party**  
Henry won "most creative dancer!" A rubber chicken is his prize!



**Saturday Night Fever** Monday 6th December  
Our Christmas treat was to see "Saturday Night Fever" in the West End. We all grooved in the aisle, including the staff!



**Bring'n'Buy Sale for the Tsunami Appeal** Saturday 15th January  
Everyone joined in bringing and buying at the Godrec Bring 'n' Buy Sale in aid of the Asian Tsunami Disaster.



**Friday Night Challenge Pantomime** Friday 14th January  
Our first Friday Night Challenge of performing a Pantomime involved, you've guessed it, dressing up and make-up!



**Line dancing** Friday Night Challenge Friday 28th January  
Line-dancing, not something you often see in an Old Rec room!



**Line dancing** Friday Night Challenge Friday 28th January  
Line-dancing, not something you often see in an Old Rec prep room!



**Chris Cooke** Friday night Challenge  
Chris leap-frogging; but will it impress the judges

Diary of an Old Rec Boy aged 11-13



**Bold & Beautiful Valentine's party** Saturday 5th February  
We were both "Bold and Beautiful" this year's Valentine's party. Just at those mores!



**Pancake day** Tuesday 11th March  
Plenty of pancakes were tossed and consumed today, with only a few landing on the floor!



**Red Nose day** Meet the Brealys Friday 11th March  
Our Houseparents took "Big Hair Day" a bit too literally!



**Red Nose Day Old Rec boys in the house** ...Mind you, we all had great fun on Red Nose Day



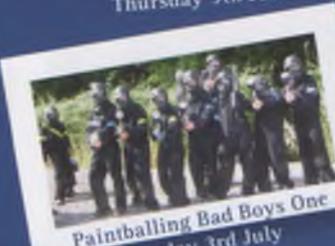
**Old Rec Soccer Shield 2205** Churn Team won Thursday 9th June

"Churn" was year's winning team of the Rec Soccer Shield 2005. It was a closely contested contest.



**Saturday 18th June**

Sports Day was great fun, if a little exhausting. Some of us managed to break some school records.



**Paintballing Bad Boys One** Sunday 3rd July

We finished year off in when most of the house some Dads Paintballing Bristol.



**Charity Ball 2005 1st Form** Friday 17th June  
We all scrubbed up well for the Hollywood Charity Ball.



**Charity Ball 2005. Shaun, Rory, Will T, Jack**  
Were they at the Charity Ball or auditioning for the next James Bond?!



The bike ramps kept the thrill-seekers happy. And yes, before you ask Rory is wearing a helmet!



**Paintballing Bad Boys One**

## Godman House



This year Godman has undergone a series of modernizations. The common room has been brightly painted and we've had new carpets, disco lights, curtains, throws, mirrors and a partition wall. We were glad to sort the 'sooo last year' cream walls and flowery curtains



One break time Godman was bursting with more boys and girls than ever. Everyone was on hand as groovy Godman held a bring and buy sale in aid of Tsunami relief, which raised over £500.



Always delighted to get dolled up, we also made over £1,700 at the charity ball in aid of Uganda. Mystic Maria and a yummy meal helped to make the evening a great success, and we also raised money in house for our sponsored child in Brazil and our guide dog, Amber.



We've had some great nights out and in. At the end of the Christmas term the 1st and 2nd form went to 'Saturday Night Fever'. It was really exciting to go to a London show. At the end of the year we had a teddy bears' picnic in the common room because it rained!



On Friday nights we always got together with the Old Rec for a Friday Night Challenge, a film, a swim or a party. There have been loads of outings on Saturdays and Sundays too. One of the best was to Gifford's Circus.



This year we have hosted two dinner parties and both times girls have prepared, cooked and served the meals.

On the menu were toasted goat's cheese, stuffed peppers, beef and lamb casseroles, chocolate cherry trifle and pavlova. The dinner parties were very good and there are bound to be more!



The J6 boarders hosted a girlie gathering in the glamour grotto to get ready for their cocktail party. We hope next year's new Godman girls have a great year! toonnnnew boa



*Snippets by Emily Taylor, Georgia Lee, Laura Graham, Becky Cooke, Tallulah Dyer, Hannah Richards & Rachel Fielding*

## Stable House Report

Stable House is the largest day and boarding community, and although slightly cramped for space, the boys have still managed to have a productive year. The boys' ages range from 13 to 16 (which is the 3rd to 5th form) with a positive prefect team and an enthusiastic Head of House (Max Webb-Dickin), both academic and sporting achievements have flourished this year, with pupils taking part in many events, both in and out of school.



Ryan Watson & Alex Holden in Theatre Sports

Charity events such as the annual charity ball for the third form, the charity walk in aid of the tsunami victims and the charity walk in aid of the "world wildlife fund" have been hugely successful with several thousand pounds being raised for different charities.



Ed Cumberpatch, James Hill & Callum Johnson



4th Form BBQ at the Headmaster's House

In sport the U15's have had a particularly outstanding hockey season! Guided by the expertise of Mr. Stutchbury, the U15's saw a winning season losing only one match out of thirteen. The U14's have also had a good sporting year all round, many of the fifth form have played for both the 1st and 2nd teams of different sports and also some lucky fifth formers were asked to play for 3rd XI men's hockey team, which for, the first time, had a winning season.

Other house events include the death of the old fuzzy television, which prompted the arrival of the new thirty two inch shiny silver Ferguson television. This also came with a new DVD player for the main common room. Another Stable House tradition this year has been the pizza nights which have been a great success with the boarding population, and the boarders hope that this will continue into the next term. Another great success with the boys is the fifth form privilege of visiting the Lawn House girls after the stressful,

but educating session of prep. Yet another welcome arrival this term which has again stretched the house fund, is the installation of the small, but extremely useful computer room in the fifth form annexe.

One of the great qualities of Stable House is the complete integration of the boarding and day pupils. There is no separation at all between them: perhaps this comes from us being such a tightly-knit house and we will all endeavour to maintain and strengthen this sense of community.

*Alex Jordan*

### FIFTH FORM SOCIAL EVENING

The fifth form boys in Stable House entertained the girls from Lawn House with a special meal they cooked themselves (with help from Mr North) and they even cleared up afterwards!



Stable House



Lawn House

## Lawn House Report

Well, as I sit here outside Lawn House on a glorious summer-term day, looking up at the clear blue sky and listening to the swallows and the finches and the linnets and the skylark and all the other birds, it strikes me that we residents of Lawn have it pretty good.

It's the little things that make the difference: have you ever noticed the house-martins that construct nests up under the eaves at the front of the building, and spend the summer days zooming in and out tending their babies; or the fantastic flowerbeds and borders around the house that Harry provides from the depths of winter to the heights of summer and back again; or how verdant the grass is, even on the big lawn where everyone runs around and plays football; or the resident green woodpecker who sometimes hops around on the grass; or the owls that can be heard on still evenings, screeching, squawking or even uttering the odd, genuine too-whit too-whoop when the mood takes them; or the moon, so often to be seen rising over the estate garden as Jupiter, Venus and then the stars come out, all so much clearer than in streetlamp-lit towns; or the fluttering array of butterflies and moths (has anyone else spotted a humming-bird hawk-moth yet?); or a robin singing his heart out in the January dawn; or the copper sycamore at the side of the big lawn - often, I'm sure, more appreciated for its climbing possibilities than for its beauty!; or the tiny true-blue-flowered scyllas under the lime trees in April; or even the rather interesting and repetitive noise a squirrel can make when

cornered up a tree by one of the local cats...? If you live in Lawn then I'm sure you have noticed.

In contrast to all of this is the bustling, busy building that is Lawn House - girls coming and going with house-martins skimming the tops of their heads, music drifting from bedrooms and common-rooms to mingle with the birdsong, people chatting and sunbathing on the grass outside the house on a warm Sunday afternoon. Not far from where I am sitting the residents of Lawn House are going about their daily business, and I hear the odd murmur of voices or squeal of laughter - but none of it ever seems obtrusive: I think we rub shoulders with nature, and nature tolerates us, quite happily on our countryside campus. This is what living in Lawn is all about: daily life goes on, but this wealth of the countryside is always available for our appreciation whenever we get a spare moment to stop and take it in. Who knows what we'll spot next.

*Mrs Vicki Hayward*



5th form dinner

## LAWN HOUSE SPONSORED SILENCE

Early January:

*"Right then, House committee, what are we going to do to raise money for the Tsunami Disaster Appeal?"*

*"How about a sponsored silence for everyone in Lawn House?"*

*"What, you mean get 52 teenage girls to be silent for a whole day? Oh yes, ha ha, good one!"*

It did indeed sound like an impossible challenge, but they were adamant that they could do it. Sponsorship forms were drawn up, friends and family were approached and on Thursday 27th January, armed with the willpower a large amount of money can summon, all the girls in Lawn House stopped talking at 8.15am, and stayed silent for as long as they possibly could; their aim was to keep going until bedtime.

The staff couldn't believe their luck - here were all the girls in forms 3, 4 and 5, present in class and under strict instructions to work as hard as normal and to participate fully, but totally silent and receptive; that has to be pretty special!

Some were more successful than others; breaktime was extremely quiet in Lawn, lunchtime less so as more and more gave up. But come the end of the school day a resolute group of girls was still going. They had managed to avoid the pitfalls of automatically answering a random question asked by someone who had forgotten the sponsored silence, overcome the frustration of being unable to have a good gossip for a whole several hours, and survive the madness of having to express oneself non-verbally the whole time.

All in all the day was a great success; and the biggest success of all was that in total Lawn managed to raise just over £1,500 for the tsunami victims. Well done to all the girls for being so positive and such good sports, and also to my House committee for such an extraordinarily workable idea.

*Vicky Hayward*

# Junior Charity Ball



## Social Events

### AN EVENING IN INDIA

For most of the afternoon of the 21st October, the geographers of 6B prepared exciting and compelling talks about India. Despite the failure of the school network to work, all of the different groups managed to complete the challenging task! At 8 o'clock, the 8 eager students were joined in the Reading Room by a large number of fellow 6B'ers and teachers, (word had obviously got out about the free Tiger Beer). The evening was introduced by an excited Mrs Gill, who was then followed by the glorious speeches, which included an amusing talk on curry (CK, Hooper and Wong), a controversial discussion about Bollywood and the religion of India (Hana), and an inspiring speech on 'the images of India' (A).

The food and drink kindly supplied by the school kitchens was thoroughly enjoyed, particularly by the hungry boys, who are always happy to eat a good curry. Mrs Blackwell then took to the floor to show us some beautiful artefacts from India, which included amazingly colourful cloths, saris and other stunning pieces of material. A frenzy of dressing-up then ensued; the Headmaster found great pleasure in putting on various items. He seemed confused about his gender wearing both a sari and a turban! He then rather too eagerly posed for a photograph with a fluorescent pink Jamie Burley and an 'A' orange Collins. To round the evening off, everyone split into teams to complete a challenging quiz; the jubilant winners being Mrs Brealy and her team!

Thanks must go to Mrs Gill for arranging the evening, and to Mrs Blackwell for entertaining us with her amazing stories. Thanks also to our supporters, who got out of prep an hour early to come; we really appreciate the sacrifice.

*Rebecca Maxted*

### BONFIRE NIGHT

Went off with a bang again this year with a record number of 800 tickets sold, a tremendous evening of fun, food, dancing and fireworks!

Well done to The Cairns and their expert team for making it another memorable evening.



Winning design by Sian Clift

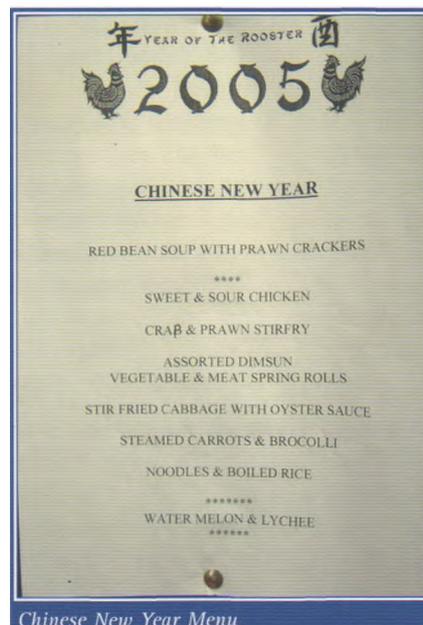


Bonfire Night

### WORLD BOOK DAY

In March we celebrated World Book Day. We discussed the power books have to persuade and affect us: weapons of mass influence. We also ran a competition to discover the final lines of 20 famous novels. The winners were Laurie Wilcox and James Bladon. Mrs Brealy won the prize for the staff entry. Well done and keep reading!

### CHINESE NEW YEAR



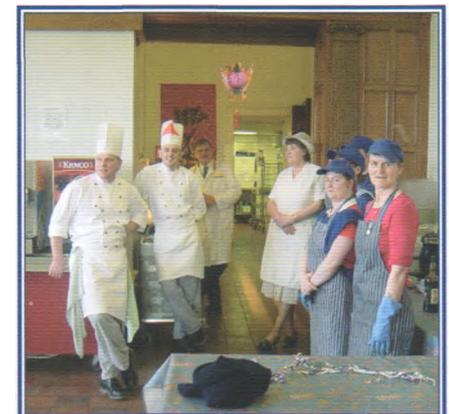
Chinese New Year Menu



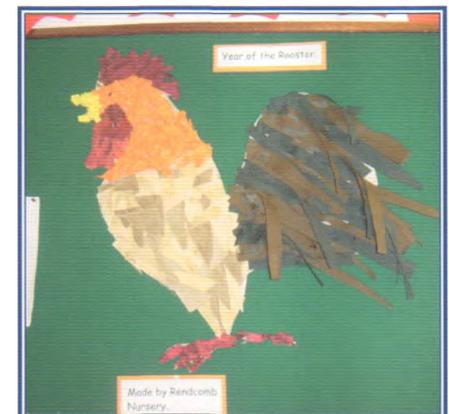
Chinese New Year and Old Rec Boys



Chinese New Year, Mr Mann & Mr Gunning



Thanks to all the Catering Staff



The Year of the Rooster



Drama Tour Luvvies

## Drama

### DRAMA TOUR MARCH 2005

Or...Luvvies once again let loose in London.

The general public see us arrive at the coach station in Cirencester and a collective groan goes round: 'Oh no...24 teenagers getting on this coach...Groan.' However, these people would have been delighted with the impeccable way in which the Rendcomb crew behaved.

"it's just like an aeroplane, but it's not an aeroplane" Alex Holden says about the bus!

And so to London and our first fun filled day of the drama tour.

Hustle and bustle to the hotel: rooms, rooms and more rooms and then off to a matinee of "The Lion King". Mrs Dodd was bopping away next to me as the fantastic puppets and models appeared on the stage. A beautifully designed, choreographed and danced show. It was a spectacular success and very uplifting.

Onto supper at 'Planet Hollywood', a quiet, popular and charming bistro much enjoyed by the older members of the party. (NOT!!) The luvvies seemed to enjoy shouting at each other at point blank range.

Day two: The big day

Fiendish 'theatre-hunt': 'Don't Run!!' Won by Lauren's group in about two gruelling hours.

Covent Garden, Shopping and onto the...

Dance workshop with a cast member from 'Chicago' who weighed three stone. Lots of complicated manoeuvres and routines and some awesome performances from Lucas Bliss, Tom Ruddy, Stephen Lockhart and Alex Holden to name just a few. Mr. Jennings felt it was very important that he remain detached from these activities in order to continue with his seeringly cutting edge documentary making.

And a moment of epiphany for Harry Frost who was heard to say to Mrs Dodd in a voice of pure wonderment:

"Mrs Dodd: I AM a dancer!"

A superb guided tour round the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane followed, complete with ghosts and guides who presented the tour 'in role'

Then, for some, (mostly male), the highlight: the performance of 'Chicago'. This was a very powerful production and the dance class the students had enjoyed earlier gave it an added dimension. Afterwards Jill Halfpenny and Michael French, two of the stars of the show, had the honour of meeting Caroline Wells at the stage door and Caroline allowed them to have their pictures taken with her!

Bed and no fire alarms!

After breakfast and a surreal bit of filming by Tom, Jamie and J of Tom's fried egg (don't ask me, I've no idea what was going on!). The final day began with a very interesting tour around Shakespeare's London including taking in an (external) visit to the pub where Christopher Marlowe,

Shakespeare's great rival, was stabbed to death in a knife fight over a bar bill. We ended up at the rebuilt Globe theatre which as you all know was the theatre, where most of Shakespeare's plays were put on. A lengthy wander back along the Thames and after a quick visit to the Theatre museum and, gnawing our nails nervously, we tentatively took our seats in The Fortune Theatre for our matinee of the terrifyingly screamacious, "Woman in Black". For all you doubters out there who can't imagine live theatre can be as frightening as a film, go and see the "Woman in Black"!! Tom saw this play as an opportunity to offer his services as comforting 'hand-holder' to Lauren and Rachel; they, wisely perhaps, declined his offer.

With palpitating hearts and sweaty palms we raced back across London to Victoria coach station, boarded a National Express coach piloted by a driver so utterly rude and miserable it made you proud to be British and tumbled out two and a half hours later back in the leafy Cotswolds.



Becky & Hannah Bullock

Excellent trip, excellently organised and run by Mrs ('you don't want to see me get angry boys') Dodd and excellent students who were game for anything!

Paul Jennings



Covent Garden Street Theatre

## THEATRE CLUB

Theatre Club continues to grow from strength to strength each year and it is always good to note that the trips often have non-Drama students on them. Trips are often full before they are widely publicised, so if you like the look of a trip in the Calendar next year then sign up with Mrs Dodd early to avoid disappointment!

*The Michaelmas Term started with the exciting, glamorous occasion of the opening night of "Mary Poppins" at the Bristol Hippodrome. Review by Hannah Harbottle:*

The excitement of the evening began even before we had left the Rendcomb grounds when Mrs Dodd, who neglected to follow her own advice of wearing a seat-belt, flew out of her seat as we were going down the drive and broke two of her fingers!!

Having spent the first-half in a medical room, Mrs Dodd rejoined us at the interval, cheerful from her encounter with Cameron Macintosh and pleased by a kind offer from him that she return on another night so she could see the whole production!

The second half of the show didn't run as smoothly as the first for cast and crew alike, with Mary herself getting stuck in mid-flight as her wire jammed. As it was the opening night, glitches and blips were only to be expected. As the production drew to a close, we saw a fabulous choreographed version of Supercalor-fragile-istick-windows XP-A1-edoshus (or something like that!!), which Cameron Macintosh did admit to Mrs Dodd, was the first time the cast had got it right!

October saw us at Monmouth School testing Mr Dodd's theory about Shakespeare's "Richard the Third". It was a physical and unusual staging which the modernists amongst us liked. Then, in direct contrast, November saw us at the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham for the outrageous "Complete Works of William Shakespeare". Three crazy American actors took us at breakneck speed through all of Shakespeare's plays in summary form. Our favourite had to be the section on "Hamlet" as we the audience acted as Ophelia's thoughts and yelled" Cut the crap,

Hamlet, my biological clock is ticking and I want babies now". It made sense at the time!

In the Lent Term, we started with the emotional indulgence which is "Miss Saigon". Sadly, on that night the helicopter was not working but the fourth form still got enough material for their assignment. Sophie Arkle particularly enjoyed the actor playing Chris who had clearly been buffing up in the gym! Then in February we returned to the Everyman to see some fine character acting in "The Dresser". This was the story of a fading actor and his dependency on his rather camp dresser, all set in his dressing room. War rages outside but the show must go on. Nicholas Lyndhurst, known to most of us from "Only Fools and Horses", showed that he was a fine stage actor in this production.

The Summer Term started with Stephen Daldry's magnificent and very wet staging of "The Inspector Calls". So many of us know this play from English and it was interesting to see the collapsing house and the use of rain on stage. For our last visit of the year in July we journeyed back to the Bristol Hippodrome to see "Jesus Christ Superstar" to get us all warmed up for next term's school production. An interesting show, poorly choreographed but beautifully sung. The death of Jesus was powerfully staged with many of us not able to look during the crucifixion sequence.

Do join us next term for the very scary "The Woman in Black" [watch Jamie scream like a girlie!], "Blue Remembered Hills" and "Grease".

*Diana Dodd*

## LES MISERABLES

In the Michaelmas Term the Drama Department devoted itself to the rehearsal and performance of our most ambitious project to date, a full length, sung-through opera "Les Miserables", which has now been released for school performances.

Our new Music Director, Mr Gunning, without really knowing what depth of talent we had, convinced me that this piece would appeal to musicians and non-musicians. So we set sail on this rather frightening adventure.

An organized rehearsal schedule was

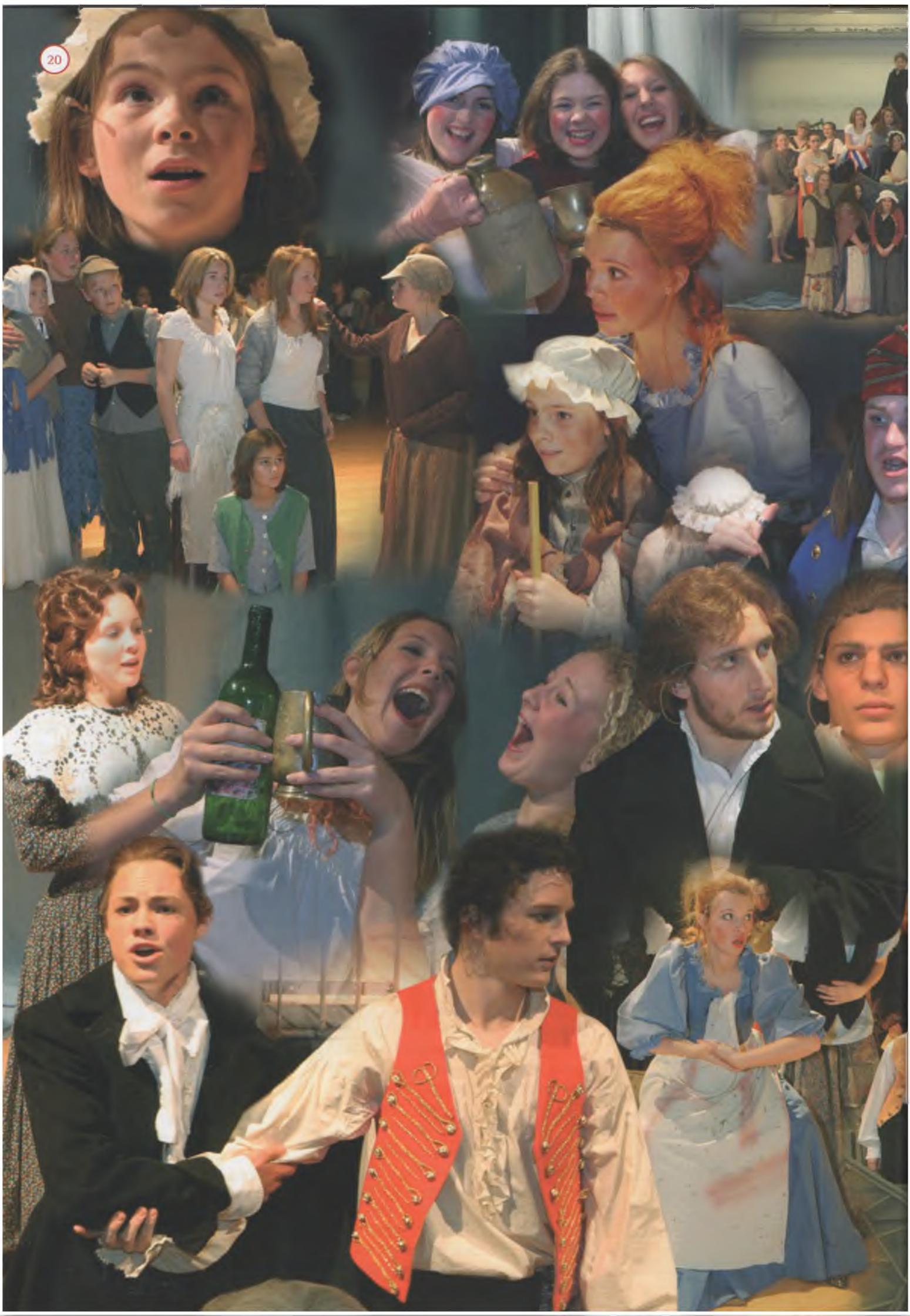
the key so we resolved that we would need to rehearse twice a day for the entire term with different groups of performers each time.

Casting was also important. Voices, the right appearance and acting ability were required for each key character. The Maintenance Team and the Art Department joined forces to produce a stylized barricade for our students to sing and die on! Sister Pritchard tackled Dauntsey's School, The Royal Shakespeare Company and the London home of the show to secure a huge range of costumes appropriate to the period. The Box Office experienced its first run on tickets, with the Saturday performance selling out in 24 hours - a record for Rendcomb.

So we rehearsed and rehearsed. We learnt how to do the Viennese Waltz, how to fire muskets without deafening ourselves, how to die realistically and how to get blood running in the right places [Alex Holden's hands had one or two difficulties, as did Jamie Burley's nose and eyes!].

Tom Ruddy and Caroline Wells worked hard on the only comic characters in the show - somehow I can see them in thirty years' time just like the Thenardiers arguing away! Lauren Lees and Nicki Wells revelled in the high drama and fine singing required for their two characters who reappear as ghostly apparitions on the barricade, perhaps the most touching moment of all. Jamie Burley discovered that he could sing and enjoyed his portrayal of Enjolras, the student leader, despite a slightly dodgy wig and the best line in the show - "Marius-rest"! Alex Holden and Laura Holmes played the two young lovers Marius and Cosette with great sensitivity. Although why Cosette should fall in love with a boy who can't figure out that he can just open the gate rather than climb over it I'll never know! Alex Elsen brought a brooding intensity to his role of Javert, the inflexible policeman who trails Valjean through the opera.

In Matthew Nichols we found the right combination of fine singer, maturity and intelligence. Matthew's performances displayed a sensitivity which allowed us to believe that an unshaven 17 year old could age from 40 to 60 and be the tortured soul who finally finds redemption on his deathbed.





# Les Misérables



The Staff

# Rendcomb College Lower School Presents 'DAISY PULLS IT OFF'

By Denise Deegan



Thurs 30th June and Friday 1st July  
7.30pm

Directed by  
Miss P. Clements  
Mrs D. Dodd & Miss V. Golman  
By Arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.



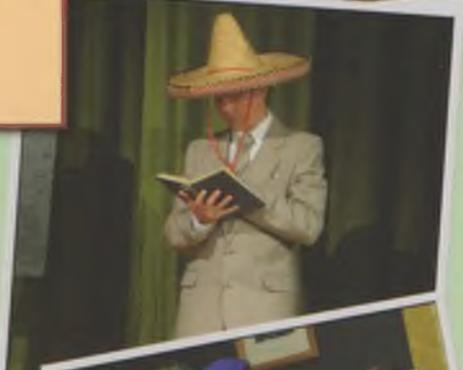
Jazz Barkes as Claire



Sinead Brennan as The Headmistress



Ava Carpenter as Daisy



The Boy Scouts



Amy Bladon as Mademoiselle



Katya Edwards as Trixie



School Lessons



April Edwards & Lucy Heyman  
as Monica & Sybil

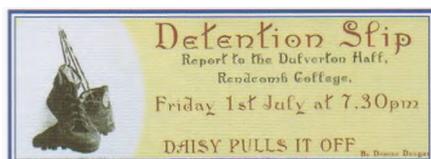
Mr Gunning's band, with three members of the London production playing, raised our performances substantially. Peter Liang and James Bladon are to be congratulated for being skilled enough to play the fiendishly difficult accompaniment written for professional players. Miss McClymont's stage crew battled with rapid scene changes, difficult gates and mass chorus exits but eventually got the show running smoothly. Well done to them. Mrs Brealy and the "Powder Puff Girls" blackened teeth and made us all look thoroughly filthy, apart from Tom Ruddy's beautiful face in the Wedding Scene! Mr Hayward and Mrs Holden got all ambitious with the programme and produced a stunning one worthy of many professional theatres. He also worked hard with his team on lighting, sound effects and tickets.

Mr Gunning, new to our college, enthused, rallied and cajoled us despite also having to run a busy Music Department. He convinced many who were non-singers that they could sing in "Les Miserables". Thank you for your enthusiasm.

The key factor in this year's production was the teamwork of a large number of people both on and off stage. Everyone working together towards a common goal from the youngest member of our cast at 9 years old to our staff members, already busy with end of term reports and events. We set ourselves high standards, always asking how could we try to emulate professional standards. Well done to everyone who was a part of this mammoth project. The standing ovation, led by the Governors of the college on Saturday night was the icing on the cake for us.

*Diana Dodd*

#### DAISY PULLS IT OFF



Set in 1920s upper-class England, Rendcomb College's Lower School production of "Daisy Pulls It Off" was a wonderful play full of girls' public school clichés. Young poor

scholarship girl, Daisy Meredith, played with great skill by Ava Carpenter, wins a place at a spiffing boarding school, Grangewood School for Girls - "possibly the jolliest school in England". Enduring "inter-dormy" bottle fights, school sneaks and near expulsion, she meets her great chum, the doughnut-chomping Trixie Meredith (Katya Edwards), runs up against the school rotters Sybil Burlington (April Edwards) and Monica Smithers (Lucy Heyman), solves a mystery, wins a hockey match, finds her long-lost father, (Tom North) and becomes adored by all. "Jubilate!" as one character would say.



This was Lower School drama at its best: side-splittingly funny, superbly acted with some wonderful cameo roles including ten boys scouts, whose presence still remained a wonderful enigma to the audience. We were sent off on our summer hols, having had our ribs tickled. This was Penny Clements, Assistant Director of Music, debut directorship of a Rendcomb play. "Jolly topping" as one of the cast unwittingly observed at the end of the evening.

*Gerry Holden*

#### 4TH FORM LUVVIES STRIKE AGAIN!

Sitting in a dark room with eerie piano music and the sound of ominous church bells isn't the most pleasant of experiences at the best of times. It stirs up a cold chill within you, and quite involuntarily makes you shudder in the same way you did as a small child, lying in your bed, hoping the monster beneath you wasn't hungry. But one thing it doesn't make you think of is jovial little American children. The music

stopped and all of a sudden a chorus of "Oranges and Lemons" burst from the back of the Dulverton Hall as the 4th form drama class skipped through the audience, swinging teddy-bears and laughing uncontrollably.

As their director I have to admit, this is something of an amazing sight! By day I worked with mature, well-spoken and often quintessentially English 4th form drama students, but here tonight skipped and skidded childish American kids, one of whom was a complete psychopath!

This exuberant beginning was in fact the start of the first play of the evening: "Memory of Lizzie", an author's interpretation of the childhood of Lizzie Borden- suspected murderer of her father and step-mother, which also included real statements made in court from people who knew her. Our axe-wielding murderer: Miss Maddie Harrison, looking positively petrifying with sunken, black eyes and a ghostly white face; even more so as she walks slowly through the crowd of playing children, staring fixedly beyond the audience, singing about a cat. I fear you might have laughed reading that line, after all, what's so creepy about a cat? Nothing, except that moments before, one of Lizzie's class mates (Callum Johnson) had given a report that Lizzie Borden, sick of her step-mother's cat, had put it on the chopping block and chopped its head off.

Oddly prophetic since both Lizzie Borden's father and step-mother were murdered by axe blows to the head.

Maddie did a spectacular job portraying the disturbed young child who would often fly off the handle at her class mates, bullying and yelling at them, or seek their attention by telling macabre stories about her mortician father and encouraging them to play the game "funerals" with her. The most interesting relationship in the play was brought off beautifully by both Maddie and Sophie Arkle, who played the defenceless Rachael Braydon. Rachael was Lizzie's favourite to pick on; in a horrific moment we see Rachael's doll has been torn to pieces by the malicious Lizzie, as a reminder of who's boss.

Without a doubt Maddie's shining moment was the final few seconds of the play when she turned to the audience, covered in blood and shaking manically. We only got a split second to look at her while the sound of an axe meeting flesh rung through the hall.

And now for something completely different!

Shine those two-tone shoes, fix on those sequinned head bands and welcome to the roaring 20's!

"Heya Sugar Daddy!" squealed several girls in flapper dresses as they moved through the audience, while the gangster boys merely grunted "what choo lookin' at?!" threateningly. Shuffling behind them, trying to pick up spare change was our main man for this play- Matt Reeves, playing Spats Valetta in the hysterical gangster-comedy "The Godmother". Matt took the stage and set the scene, perfect American accent readying us for the story of his demise, starting back in the day when he was a theatrical agent.

Matt left the stage leaving us with the high pitched, whiney voice of Rebecca Hutchinson- another of our mains, playing Velma- Spats' secretary and clearly the brains of the operation. Rebecca played this role with flair, never dropping her difficult accent once, and making it clear this was one broad you shouldn't mess with- even when being faced with a gangster's top hit man- Nick the Stoat, played most comically by Callum Johnson who received laughs on almost every line he said.

But what was the point of the visit from Nick, said hit man? Why he was there to remind Spats that he owed money to Boss Lugano, Chicago's mafia king. At this news Matt exercises his pathetic whimpering skills.

This play held back on nothing! We had cheesy theatre jazz dances, cross dressing chorus girls with a dream to become hit men, a token Dutch girl played by Aimée Schofield who also received a laugh on every line, a frightening Mafia King, played with perfect comedy by James Hill, and even some romance (that would be the moment when Sophie Arkle crossed her long legs over our leading

man's lap and he drooled.) And at the end of it all, when the transvestite lady-killers had shot all of Boss Lugano's men we even had James and Callum decide that if you can't beat 'em you join 'em, and so entered the curtain call in dresses. Brilliant! Once again the 4th form prove they are a talented and fearless group with a mature understanding of diverse scripts... basically that was a lot of words to say: their performances were flawless and I am deeply proud of them. May they continue to shake rattle and roll in their wonderful drama careers!

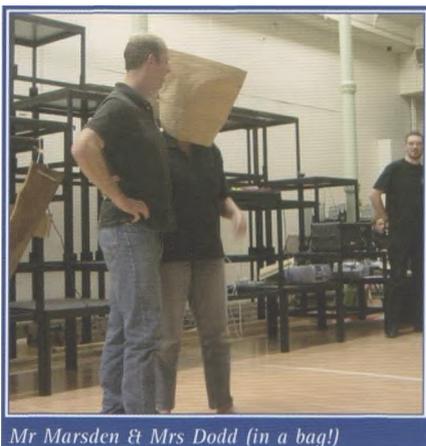
Victoria Cotman

### MCCLYMONT DOES THEATRE SPORTS!!



Staff team in dramatic mode

Teams of pupils, staff and parents enjoyed an evening of improvisation and drama, aided and abetted by the audience, who came up with ever more ridiculous scenarios for the performers to use in their acts. The staff team struggled to develop a scene in a telephone box with spaghetti leaking through the roof and the parent team had to arrange themselves into pieces of furniture for one of their scenes.



Mr Marsden & Mrs Dodd (in a bag!)

The result was an evening of hilarity and laughter where everybody had the opportunity to participate.

Well done to the winning fifth form team, "Bo Selecta" who performed consistently well throughout the evening and thank-you to the judges Gerry Springer (The Headmaster), Sharon Osborne (Headgirl) and Simon Cowell (Director of Studies)!!!!

Liese Holden

### SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER



Saturday Night Fever

GodRec's Christmas trip was a jaunt down to London to see "Saturday Night Fever." We'd been excited about it for ages and finally we were off to London to the theatre! The girls spent hours getting ready and then off to the coaches and away!!

After what seemed like years of driving, we finally arrived in London outside the theatre. There were loads of excited people but eventually we got settled in our seats. The lights dimmed and the show started with a BANG!! All the cast were amazing and the acting and dancing were outstanding. The music was brilliant and the plot was fast and up-beat.

In the interval we discussed which parts we enjoyed most and then the second half began and it was just as brilliant as the first. The part I liked best was when all the students had their dance class.

After the show we got on our coaches and fell asleep. When we woke we were at Rendcomb and it was the middle of the night! We had a great time and a big thanks must go to Mr and Mrs Brealy and all the other staff for such an amazing trip!

Tallulah Dyer

## Music

**THE FOUR SEASONS  
REFLECTIONS FROM THE  
MUSIC DEPARTMENT**  
WRITTEN BY ANDREW  
GUNNING, PENNY  
CLEMENS, LAURA HOLMES  
AND REBECCA HUTCHISON

**AUTUMN AND WINTER**



GCSE students at Gamelan Workshop

The Michaelmas term was certainly one of the busiest yet for the Music Department. The School Choir has at least doubled in size since Mr Gunning carefully recruited anyone who could breathe in time and it has performed at a number of events! The first was Lucy's final assembly closely followed by our Remembrance Sunday Service where some wonderful music was heard. Special mention should go to those individuals who either sang solos or played a freezing cold trumpet with no chance to warm-up or accompanied the choir! In addition of course, this term would not be complete without the carol service in Cirencester's Parish Church. This was undoubtedly one of the music department's highlights of the term.



Dominic Mulcahy playing Bagpipes at the Advent Market

The service opened with "Once in royal David's city" with Laura Holmes (6A) singing the first verse. The Chamber Choir then sang Elizabeth Poston's 'Jesus Christ the apple tree' Traditional carols sung by all were interspersed with traditional readings and a number of choir items. The final choir piece was John Tavener's 'God is with us' and for this Martin Graham sang an extremely powerful solo from the other end of the church, from underneath the bell tower!



Choir on Remembrance Sunday

Our newly formed Chamber Choir have out-done all expectations so far. They sang at the annual Cirencester Advent Market at the turning on of the Christmas lights, and although finding it a little embarrassing, enjoyed wearing Santa Hats! The Chamber Choir also travelled to Hatherop Castle School which was "a blast from the past" for myself, Charlie & Ed Cumberpatch [writes Laura Holmes]. We sang an arrangement of "Deep River" and provided two outstanding solos given by Peter Liang and James Bladon. But it is the Advent Carol Service that took place on the 28th November which deserves an extra special mention. Even though we were all very tired from the 4 hour "Les Mis" rehearsal that afternoon, and a further 30 minute choir rehearsal before the service, the Chamber Choir managed to sing beautifully to a packed candlelit church.

The informal concert held in the Reading Room was an excellent showcase and preparation for the students preparing for exams throughout the college and junior school. Pupils aged 8-18 played and sang and a number gave stunning performances. The Guitar ensemble made a welcome appearance as did

our new and able Wind Band led by Miss Hansford.

### SPRING

#### MUSIC TEACHER AND PARENT EVENING

Eleven of our music Staff were in attendance. We had not one but five consecutive concerts on that night, each one designed to start thirty minutes after the previous one had started! About 60 performances were given that evening. Parents and staff and pupils had much to listen to and discuss.

Choral Concert - Cirencester Parish Church, Friday 18th March in Cirencester Parish Church

**Rutter: Requiem**  
Handel: Zadok the Priest  
Parry: I Was Glad  
plus many more favourites!

**Cirencester Parish Church**  
Rendcomb College Choir & Rendcomb Singers  
Directed by Andrew Gunning

**7.30pm Friday March 18<sup>th</sup> 2005**

All Profits to UNICEF  
Tickets £6 (concessions £4)

Email: [music@rendcomb.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:music@rendcomb.gloucs.sch.uk) or Tel: 01285 832341

Choral Concert Poster

The first half of the concert kicked off with the incredible 'Zadok the Priest' and was followed by 'The King Shall Rejoice', another Coronation Anthem by Handel. Next was Mendelssohn's 'Hear My Prayer' with soloist Laura Holmes (6A), then Ireland's 'Greater Love Hath No Man', then Wesley's 'Blessed be the God and Father' with Charlotte Cumberpatch (6A) and myself as soloists and finally Parry's 'I Was Glad'.

The second half of the concert consisted of Rutter's Requiem (soloist Laura Holmes), a set of seven movements with the text mostly in Latin!

For this particular concert we were lucky enough to be accompanied by professional musicians in addition to our very own Pete Liang (6A)

on Timpani, Simon Wong (6B) on Glockenspiel and James Bladon (4) on 2nd Trumpet.

### RENDCOMB ROCK CONCERT



Caroline Wells with music staff, Philip Dunn & Paul Cordell



Ed Hutchison & Jamie Burley

Another highlight of this term is the popular annual rock concert, which sees everyone reaching for guitars, drum sticks and microphones. Excellent solo performances from Rosie Barkes and Caroline Wells, with backing musicians Paul Cordell, and Philip Dunn. Several rock bands took the stage starting with Hailer (Alex Holden, Alex Purvis and Ed Jefferson) performing their own songs, a remarkable performance from Will Smith on guitar, Jamie Burley and Tom Ruddy also entertained with their lead vocals, both enjoying the opportunity to strut their stuff wearing a variety of head gear, and finally another excellent performance from Stitch

### NATIONWIDE SCHOOLS BANDS COMPETITION SUCCESS FOR STITCH

Following their success in the Battle of the Bands Competition, local band Stitch were finalists in the Nationwide Schools Bands Competition held at Cornbury Festival over the weekend of 9th July. They played on the same stage as Elvis Costello, Joe Cocker and others, and to be “hobnobbing” with them backstage was a dream come true. This is the biggest competition they have ever tried for, and to come in the top three is an acknowledgement of their hard work, dedication and talent.



Stitch Speed Sticks

### A LEVEL / GCSE CONCERT

Tuesday 1st March 2005

Almost all of our A Level and GCSE Musicians contributed to this event. About twenty four performances were heard in all starting off in St. Peter's Church and then moving to the Reading Room.

Over the course of this year, a certain amount of refurbishment has been seen in the Music Department. A new computer suite was created as part generously funded by The Martin Wills Trust. The GCSE and A Level Musicians were able to take advantage of this facility immediately and using 'Sibelius 3', a notation software package, began to realise their compositions very quickly. Composition forms a substantial percentage of the A Level and GCSE courses and so it was important to include a selection of these in the concert as well as hearing our musicians perform live. Below is the first line of an A2 composition written by Rupert Uzzell (6A) using

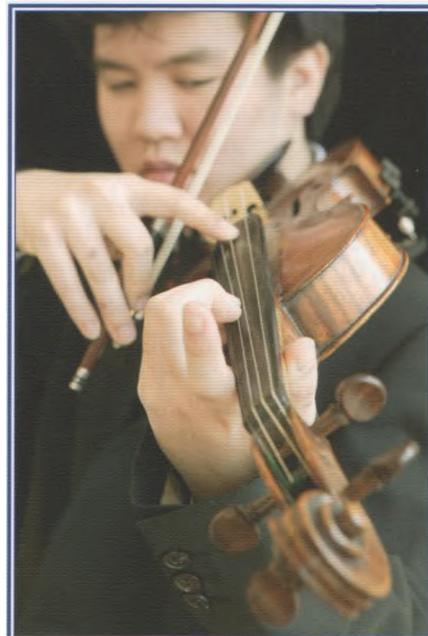
Sibelius 3.

On the 'live side' in the church, we heard some super performances including Will Smith's (5A) 'Blinding Light', Max Webb-Dickin (5A) playing some Metallica and Rupert Uzzell performing Bach's Prelude & Fugue in A Minor.



In the Reading Room we heard Stephen Lockhart sing a very entertaining rendition of Cole Porter's 'Where is the life that late I led?', Amanda Graham (5A) performing an assured version of Elgar's 'Salut d'Amour' and Peter Liang (6A) rattling off a storming performance of Vivaldi's 'Winter' from the Four Seasons. A fine and diverse concert and a tribute to our 5th and 6th Formers.

### SUMMER



Peter Liang playing the violin

For a relatively short term full of exams and study leave, a lot of music-making has taken place. The Music Department's first performance saw the Chamber Choir performing at our Confirmation Service back in May. They then competed against other school choirs in this year's Cheltenham Festival including a piece in their programme written by

Laura Holmes. Peter Liang came out with two "firsts" in the same Festival, the 2nd one being fiercely competed for and a substantial cash prize was awarded! The adjudicators remarked that it was Peter's 'communication' with the audience that set him apart from the other players.

This term also saw the creation of a String Group, which although in its infancy shows great promise, particularly in the hands of Amanda Graham, Ed Cumberpatch and Laurie Wilcox.

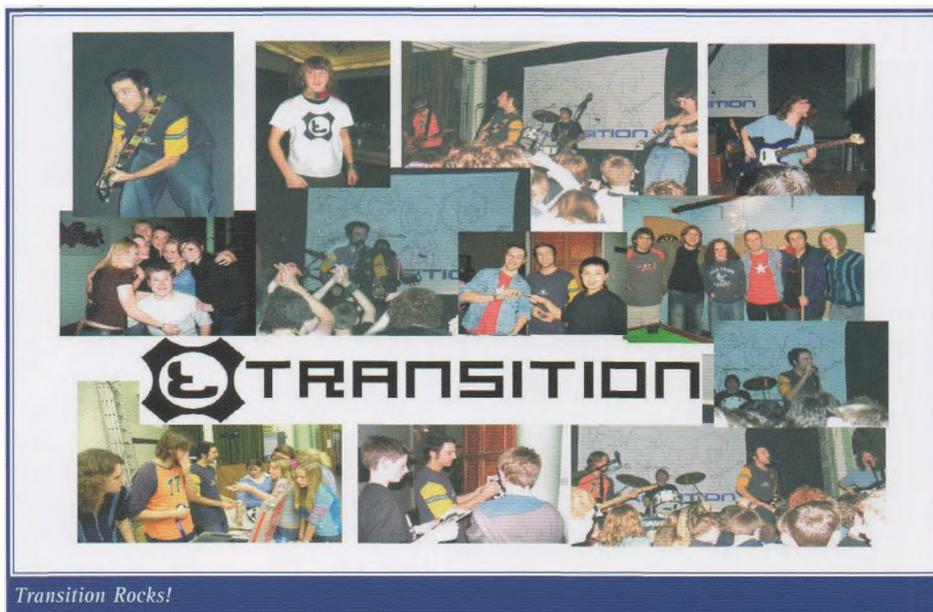
Our Jazz Band had its first outing performing in the gardens of Mill Dene in June, led by Miss Clements, Alex Holden, James Bladon, Charlie Daly.



Jazz Band entertaining visitors at Mill Dene Gardens, Blockley

Our Founder's Day Concert was a highlight of the term and perhaps one of the most exciting of the year. In the 1st half we saw a number of our 6th form leavers entertain us and demonstrate just how far they had come as young musicians during their time here. A level musicians, Laura, Peter and Rupert played and sang, but also Luke Gunner played his guitar, Graham Hulbert played jazz piano and Caroline Wells and Charlotte Cumberpatch sang. The 2nd half saw the Chamber Choir in action performing a demanding and entertaining programme of 7 spirituals arranged by John Rutter including 'Deep River' and 'Oh When the Saints'. On Founder's Day itself we saw a number of super individual performances including an energetic rendition of 'I got Rhythm' played as a piano duet by April Edwards and Mrs Day and some extremely promising trumpet and piano playing from the Junior School.

Of course to produce any sort of



quality music in a short term and particularly in the latter part of the Summer Term is a real challenge when exams and study leave take over and the upper years depart. At this point, the Music Department would like to publicly extend its thanks to our 5th form and also our 6th form leavers, even in their absence, for continuing to come into school and support musical events right to the end of term. In particular, I refer to 3 events that have taken place over this final weekend of term. The 1st in Poole Keynes, just the other side of Cirencester, in which our Chamber Choir performed to a packed and very appreciative audience in their village church., raising a record £1,500 for the village church.

The 2nd was on the same evening for the Old Rendcombians's Dinner. Laura, Peter, Rupert and Graham entertained.

And the 3rd - slightly different. Peter Liang and James Bladon have been taking part in a project called 'Between The Notes' as part of the Cheltenham Music Festival 'Education & Outreach Programme'. As 2 of 20 musicians selected in Gloucestershire (who had to have at least a Grade 8 Distinction in their 1st instrument), they spent 4 days last week working with top-flight musicians preparing a collaborative composition. They performed in the Bacon Theatre at Dean Close on Sunday and now take their work, joining other young players from around the country and the BBC Symphony Orchestra at the Proms later this month!

A big thank you to all who have contributed this term and throughout the year and, another big thank you to those members of staff who have either sung, transported or supported our music-making.

### TRANSITION: ROCKING RENDCOMB!

On Friday 4th February Rendcomb College got 'Transition' Fever! The big event took off at 7.00pm in the Dulverton Hall to a crowd which grew 150+ strong. After clearing the barrage of screaming girls and boys the mighty 'Transition' took to the stage. Jesse (lead singer & guitar), Josh (drummer), Niall (backing vocals and guitar) and Steve (bass guitar) rocked us ably assisted by their sound engineer Banks with a 50 minute set of tracks from their Tectonic Friction album. At half time the band were circled by ecstatic fans offering bought albums, singles, phones, and her arms, legs and even a shoe for signing! In the second half Transition played a medley of tunes including some of those they were just off to record. A most excellent time was had by all. The Band then made their way to the bar where they danced, played pool and table football with the 6th form before packing up and returning exhausted and exhilarated to Bristol.

Ralph Mann

# Art

## TRANSFORMATION ART DEPARTMENT

Tired and worn out Design Room, Old office and 6th Form Studio - Refurbished

Renovated 6B studio turned into a splendid new and striking entrance space,

A fresh atmosphere of respect, freedom, mutual appreciation and learning.

New furniture: wooden stools, quality tables, sinks, display boards,

Sixth Form studio: a light, spacious and clean space,

Fantastic results at A-level and GCSE with considerable growth of numbers.

Office created from old wood store with storage space and photocopy room,

Refurbished department brings Art at Rendcomb into the Twenty First Century

Management: Mrs. S. Blackwell (Head of department) and Mr. R. Mann (full time)

Artist in residence: Mr. T. Denny, stained glass expert (former Rendcomb Art teacher)

Textiles input from Miss. C. Hockley who has a studio at Brewery Arts Centre.

Information technology progress: departmental digital camera and scanner, internet.

Outstanding achievements all round, new ideas, vision and curriculum and space...

Newly transformed Main Art Studio, 6B studio, Library with computers from Sept 2005!

*Mr. R. Mann*

## NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

IMAGINE.....to use that word immortalised by my great hero other than Sir Bob ..... that you've been working away in your very nice teaching job, involving a BRILLIANT subject and surrounded by friendly, keen and interested students, pretty good really. But sometimes you

think.....well..... the studios have become a little faded, jaded, in fact, in need of a bit of TLC. Then... suddenly, as if by fairy magic, actually the Cairns brothers, half of it is transformed into glistening, white, light spaces, blank canvases within which the artists and designers of the school can make their very own individual mark.....how fabulous that would be.....

Well....that exact transformation is what happened over the summer holidays 2004, 1/2 of it anyway, and how good the Design half now not only looks but is to work in too, both for the staff and the students. And since that time we have certainly made the very most of it.

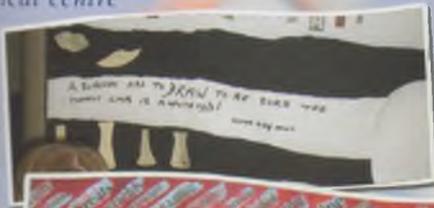
Here's a reminder of some of the people, events and amazing works of art that have been achieved during the year.

*Tom Denny - our Artist in Residence taking a life drawing class.*



*The Big Draw involving everyone, Junior School, Senior School and many staff.*

Good advice from Judy & Julie in our medical centre



Miss McClymont at Clotheshow Live



Claire



Jess



Ben Crane & John Thistlethwaite Self Portrait



6A Presentation of Work



Jessi

Ryosuke



Sarah



"Party to Arty Party



Dan



Big outing to Clotheshow Live.



Lotta



# THE ART GALLERY



Will Smith 5th Form



Sarah Zheng 6A



Lotta von Rotenhan 6A



Richard Whittles 5th Form



Rysouke Murahashi 6A



Dan Seo 6A



Claire Taylor 6A



Jessi Wells 6A



Emma Medus 6B



Ryosuke Murahashi 6A



Jess Weston 6A



Spiral Structures and Celestial bodies

5th GCSE students hard at work on their exam pieces



Ting Tong



Party Planner



Spirals



Kirki



Venetian Decoration



Celestial bodies



Will



Saul's slipped mask



Juniors at work



Shaun Ellis planning a structure



3 Golden Adonis



AS & A2 Power Breakfast

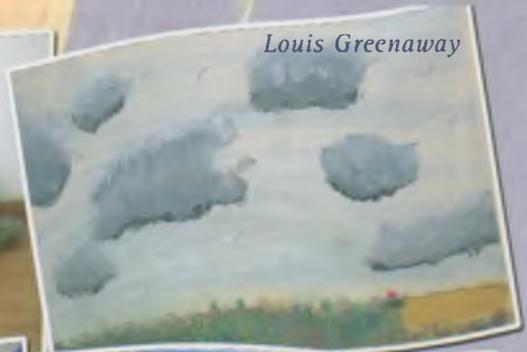
The Artists did lots for the Venetian Ball



Dan Painting



Ms. Hockley



Louis Greenaway



Fly Fishing



Shanise Conlon



Jess Painting



Ed Slark



Ben Hodder

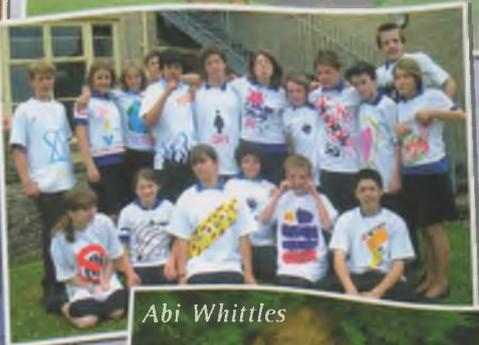


Lotta smiling



George Tatham-Losh

4th, 3rd & 1st form 'Landscape Paintings and t-shirts



The t-shirt models

Abi Whittles



Ryosuke illustrating



Rebecca Hutchison



Imagine... the main art studio, 6B studio and our well used art library also all glistening, white, light, blank canvases ready for all next years' production, creativity and IMAGINATION...

Sophie Blackwell - 11th hour - 6th July 2005

## Academic trips and Societies

### 6B BIOLOGY TRIP TO OXFORD

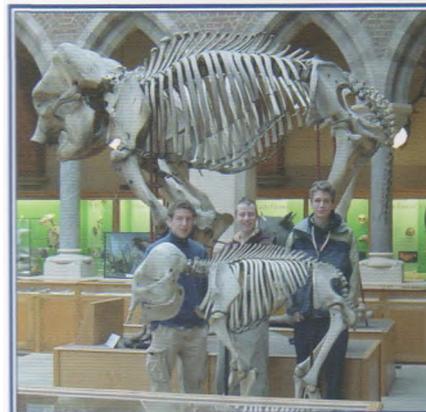
Teaching is the greatest act of optimism.'

This applies especially to Biology teachers.



Graham, Jess & Hannah admiring the botanical gardens

A bus full of enthusiastic biologists set off from Rendcomb excitedly anticipating a day full of biological learning, and that's what we got... mostly. 6B started the day with a photoshoot outside the Oxford botanical gardens before proceeding to a greenhouse which contained citrus fruit trees where most of the class prematurely ate their packed lunches while Simon Wong spoke to the lemons. We enjoyed a tour of the gardens and had a chance to see many exotic plants which produce products which we use every day without realising where they come from.



Geoff, Graham & Joe

Our next stop was Oxford's natural history museum and the Pitts River

Museum. Here we saw the gruesome shrunken heads and were given a tour by a nice lady who was planning a party. We had a chance to hold some live cockroaches; this was a mostly successful exercise with only a few girly squeals and only one person dropping theirs on the floor. Mr Stutchbury became very attached to his cockroach and we were worried at one point that he would try to steal it until we pointed out Lily would most probably eat it. It was a marvellous day enjoyed by all with a surprising amount of biology learnt. Thank you for Mr Stutchbury and Mr Vuolo for planning the trip.

### 6B GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP



Geographers on the beach in Pembrokeshire

In early February 8 brave geographers and an excitable Mrs Gill set off for the depths of Pembrokeshire. The journey was an event in itself!! Mrs Gill reminded us that she was only little as she fought with the minibus, Sam stole a burger king crown and Chris checked we had all remembered to bring our school uniform!!



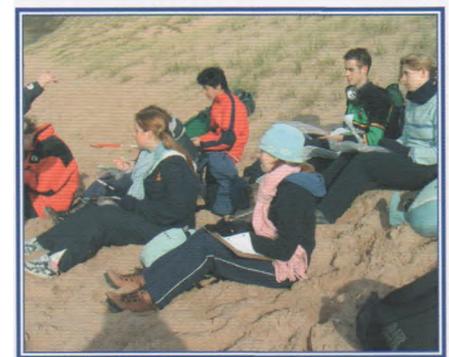
Rebecca Marted

We arrived at the magnificent Orierton field centre and quickly chose which beds were going to be our home for the next week. The next day was the start of our

data collection process. We took to Broomhill Burrows to collect sand dune data with our very enthusiastic tutor, Jo. With the help of Chris, Rupert, and Simon the girls managed to collect all the data they required for their projects. The following day it was the boys turn in the salt marsh systems. The day started when Simon got stuck in the mud and from then on the day got muddier and muddier with A falling flat on her face in the mud and no-one managing to stay clean. We also travelled to one of the most famous welsh landmarks, "the green bridge of Wales". The views were breath taking and it gave us an excellent representation of the impact wave erosion can have. The following day we learnt all about the sewage systems and then possibly worst of all, the animals that live in it! A then abandoned us to go skiing and the 8 merry geographers went down to seven cheerful geographers! The last day was a coastal walk, which had the benefit of a lunch which didn't have to be packed that morning! The walk was lovely and a brilliant end to a wonderful week.



Sam Daly studying the saltmarshes

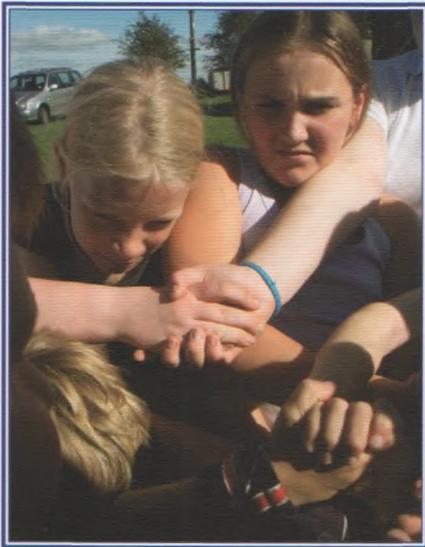


Learning about Dune transection

Thank you very much to Mrs Gill for taking us. It was fantastic fun and we always bring back very happy memories.

Alexandra Collins

# The First Form Adventure Weekend



Team work - Victoria Cannon & Blaise Dyer

It was a long bus journey to the Forest of Dean. When we arrived, we picked a bunk-bed and got changed for canoeing and rafting. Canoeing was VERY wet but it was fun, although at the end of it we were all looking forward to lunch. After lunch we did raft building! Our team's raft wasn't very good because it fell apart before it even got to the water; so we had to go on the other team's raft which was quite a squeeze, and of course I got very wet trying to get on.



Mr. Mann on his hands and knees

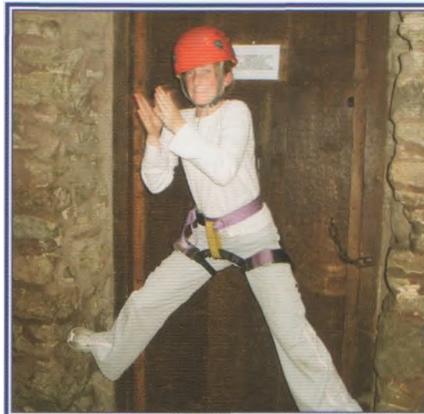


Ready to Rock and Roll

When we got back to the barn we got dry and had pizza for tea. After tea, we got into our teams to do a

show. We had to do an impression of a teacher (not one who was there of course, because we would have been looking at months in detention!), a really bad joke and a song; but of course Beth and I did our own song called the BETHONY & YASMONY songs. We sang a few including: "Fat Black Slug", "Pufferfish" and our number 1 hit: "OCTEEEPUS"!

Day 2 we did rock climbing, abseiling, zip wire and high ropes. First, we did abseiling and it was a bit scary climbing up a swinging bendy wire ladder up into a small hole. Rock climbing was fun though because the person holding onto the rope flew up when the other person came down! After we had lunch we did high ropes and the ropes were really bouncy. The last activity was the zip-wire which was great because it was really high up.



Dilly Dallying

Afterwards, we packed and set off back to Rendcomb!!!!

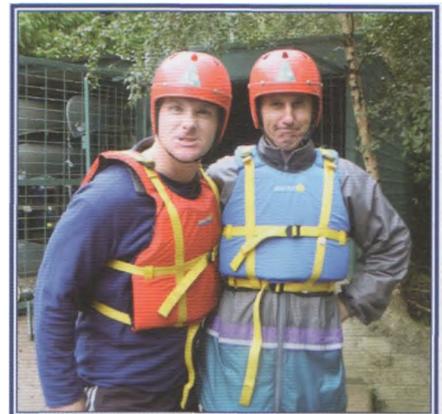
A Big thank you to all the staff who made this trip happen!

*Yasmin Lester-Powell*

## A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE

New first form pupils accompanied by Houseparents and staff spent a bonding weekend at Symonds Yat.

Amid the spectacular scenery of the Wye Valley, the party engaged in many outdoor pursuits including canoeing (where they got very wet), abseiling, climbing, swingy bendy ladders and raft building. Having built the raft they all squeezed onto it, where upon it sank and they got very wet again. They also made their own evening entertainment, enjoyed pizzas before bedtime and solved rope puzzles which they had devised.



Scary Assistant Staff



The 1st form Adventurers

An unexpected bonus was watching one of the famous Symonds Yat peregrine falcons on her nest, through a telescope.

The weekend was voted to have been excellent fun with opportunities for new experiences and team work, bonding everyone together at the start of their first year.

*Ralph Mann*

## PSYCHOLOGY REPORT - VISITING GLOUCESTER CROWN COURT

6A psychology class set off on 5 October 2004, to Courtroom 2 at Gloucester Crown Court, to observe a case taking place. This was to back up our research on the work of juries and the many challenging decisions they have to make.

Directly opposite the Judge was the defendant - a white man in his early forties, medium build, wearing a yellow sports jacket and gold jewellery, with his glasses tucked into the front of his T-shirt. He was accused of burglary and common assault.

As we sat down, a witness was testifying that he saw the defendant stealing some of the goods. We did not know the details but he was confident in his testimony. The next witness was the policeman in charge of the case - an 'expert witness' due to his job. He then proceeded to re-enact, with one of the barristers, all of the interviews with the defendant - all 23 pages of them - for the Jury's benefit.

The defendant was accused of stealing:

- a forklift truck
- £2,000-£3,000 worth of sports kit
- £6,000 of gold jewellery
- 6 bicycles
- 44 train sets.

At first, I believed this man not to be guilty. I had not heard all of the evidence but it all seemed a little extreme for this man who seemed quite placid, sitting at the back of the court twiddling his thumbs. Yet, as the case progressed, I discovered that he had 5 houses (presumably he was not short of money), yet lived in a mobile home. He had had a heroin addiction and was currently having his anti-depressant medication monitored.

How important it is not to have any

preconceptions when in a courtroom. Especially as the defendant, also accused of assaulting an under-cover policeman, then emerged from the Court for us to see that he had 'Gloucestershire Amateur Boxing Club' emblazoned on his jacket.

The decisions that jurors have to make are hugely challenging and they have to think about the consequences of their final decision. The reality of witnessing a case being debated in Court was very different to any of the cases that are portrayed on television or in films. These are just entertainment, whereas in the real world things are a little more eye opening.

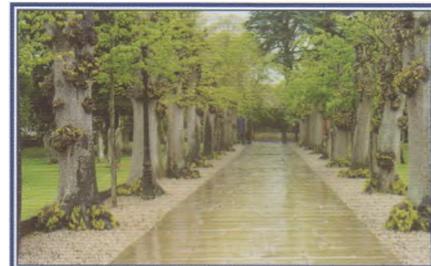
*Hannah Bishop*

## 3RD FORM STRATFORD TRIP

On a bright day in April, the intrepid third form ventured into that jewel in the crown of Warwickshire, Stratford upon glorious Avon (actually it rained a lot!) First stop, the birthplace, and Shakespeare's second-best bed (ask a third former to explain.) This was quickly followed by the sweetie and giftie shoppee. New Place was next on the cultural agenda, and then we visited the sweetie and giftie shoppee. Lunch: a sophisticated affair in various fast food establishments, and that was just the staff!! In the afternoon off to Hall's Croft where the students heard stories about ghosts and fiendish medical practices and were able to marvel at the barbarity of some of Doctor Hall's medical appliances!! There was just enough time for the students to make a quick sojourn to the sweetie and giftie shoppee. Finally we went to Anne Hathaway's cottage and were fascinated by the trenchers and the settle where Shakespeare (allegedly) went a-wooing. We were impressed

by the number of Anne's letters that were on display, but then again, as we all know, Anne hath-a-way with words, (apologies to R. Maxted.)

*Paul Jennings & Rebecca Maxted*



*3rd Form Stratford Trip*

## 3RD FORM VISIT TO THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

On Wednesday, 25th May a record total of forty-nine pupils and five members of staff crammed into the coach for the long journey to London to visit the Imperial War Museum. The traffic was not too bad, even when we passed by the Chelsea Flower Show in full swing just off the Embankment, before crossing Lambeth Bridge and finally making it to the museum. The huge artillery pieces and the tanks were popular exhibits while the highlight for many was the First World War display, including the very smelly recreation of a front-line trench.

After lunch we visited the museum's cinema to see a film on the Home Front during the First World War and then had time for the two special exhibitions running at present - one on the Children's War and the other on Great Escapes, the former with all kinds of information about life in a Britain under threat from air-raids and the latter the reality behind the films of POW escapes.

We stopped to refuel at the Burger King at Reading Services before



*3rd Form Stratford Trip*

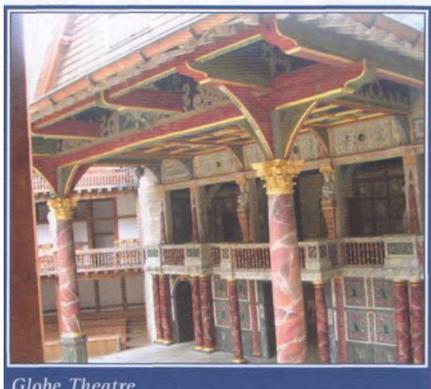
finally making it back to Rendcomb. All seemed to have had a splendid day and as in previous years the group are to be congratulated on their impeccable behaviour throughout, especially in full gaze of the general public at the museum. They were a pleasure to take on such a trip.

*Bobby Morgan*

**6B ENGLISH TRIP TO  
"THE TEMPEST"**



*Cushions 'At the Ready'*



*Globe Theatre*

On Tuesday, 10th May, 14 intrepid English students set off for London to see Shakespeare's "The Tempest" at the Globe Theatre. The 2½ hour journey consisted of much eating, singing and Naomi attempting to eat a Penguin biscuit but failing miserably and getting it all over herself. After this somewhat suspect remark, we gladly set off around the city, visiting a selection of exclusive eateries, notably Starbucks and McDonalds, whilst Mr Jennings and Mr Dodd enjoyed a romantic meal for two in a noodle restaurant. Having suitably stuffed ourselves, we arrived at the Globe Theatre armed with our cushions - Mr Dodd chose to carry his up his jumper. Our arrival at the theatre prompted an excitable Mr Jennings to take a great number of photographs, and after this fiasco we happily took to our seats. The play itself was amazing; we were all very impressed with the skills of

the actors, as there was only three of them and they each played around three characters. Undoubtedly the highlight of the play was the fact that the actor who was playing 'Caliban' - the 'savage' of the play and "a thing most brutish" - was in fact "a thing divine." We left the theatre feeling that we had truly had a Shakespearean experience; minus the cushions that is.



*"The Tempest" Trip*

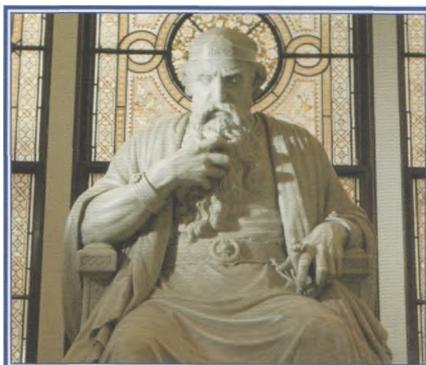
We would like to thank both Mr Dodd (he of the suspicious remarks) and Mr Jennings (a budding David Bailey) for taking us on the trip; it truly was "a multi-sensory theatrical experience."

**SAUL'S SOCIETY**

With much wine to squander,  
And many debates to ponder  
Saul's society has grown stronger  
The meetings are getting worryingly longer.

Illegal music and tolerance  
And Ed having a 'song and dance'  
We've had it all in this short glance  
When Alex speaks we are entranced  
We hope the society continues on  
With new sixth formers to impose  
our views up on  
The group has been graced even  
with Tom  
So have a nice summer and next  
term come along.

*Samantha Daly*



*Saul*

**PUBLIC SPEAKING  
COMPETITION**

This year Rendcomb entered a team into the junior ESU competition. Ellie Whittles delivered a speech arguing against the re-introduction of capital punishment whilst Jasmine Barks chaired the speech and offered the vote of thanks. We were up against ten other local schools including representatives from Pate's, The Ladies' college, Bournside school and St Edwards. We do not have a real history of public speaking at Rendcomb but Ellie was outstanding and we came out as winners! Ellie won the individual award for the best speech on the evening and together Ellie and Jaz were absolutely brilliant. In the regional final at Sir Thomas Rich's school, the girls again performed well, squeezing in their speeches just before going on stage in 'Daisy'! We did not win the overall competition but were again rewarded for individual excellence: this time it was Jasmine's turn to triumph and she came away as 'best chairperson'.

Well done to the girls and a big thank you to Miss Gallon who did all the coaching.

*Paul Jennings*



*Public Speaking success for Jasmine Barks and Eleanor Whittles*

## Beyond the College

### FLY FISHING

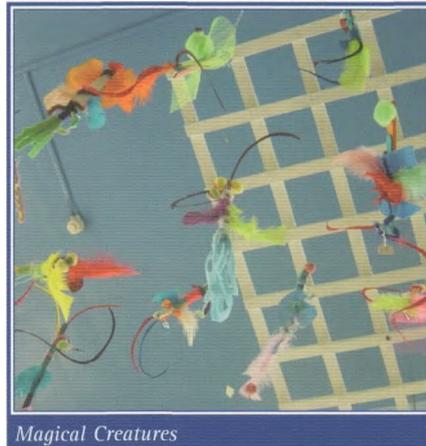
At the end of May the Art Department hosted a one day workshop as part of the Performing & Creative Arts Day, which also involved a Dance Workshop led by Victoria Cotman and a drumming and percussion workshop under the leadership of the amazing Drumcrazy. It was great fun and the children even seemed to enjoy it too!



*Drum Crazy*

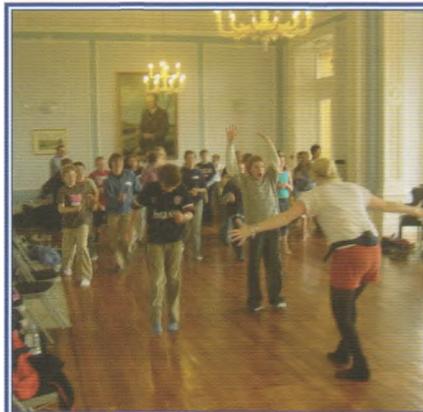
The theme was based loosely on 'Fishing Flies' and in preparation the works department had very kindly suspended a trellis from the ceiling of the main art room, from which we hung lengths of fishing line with paper clip hooks on the end. The previous day had also seen me in my workshop packaging up the necessary elements for the creation of well over a hundred magical winged creatures (i.e. tissue paper, lolly sticks, netting, feathers, pompoms pipe-cleaners and fairy dust etc...). It struck me as you can see from the photos, that the little piles of 'stuff' were rather interesting in themselves - much like an emerging spot painting. The day began with the arrival of children from various schools including Ferndale, Berkhamstead, Rosehill, Pinewood, North Cerney and Rendcomb Junior School. They all came through in mixed groups for a one hour BONANZA. A 'Lucky Dip' basket was passed around and everyone delved deep, emerging with their own packet of multi-coloured goodies. Then, fully equipped with the magical ingredients, bundles of energy and a sprinkling of inspiration,

they all worked brilliantly to produce a stunning display of highly original winged wonders, which, hovering on their hooks, fluttered and filled the art room.

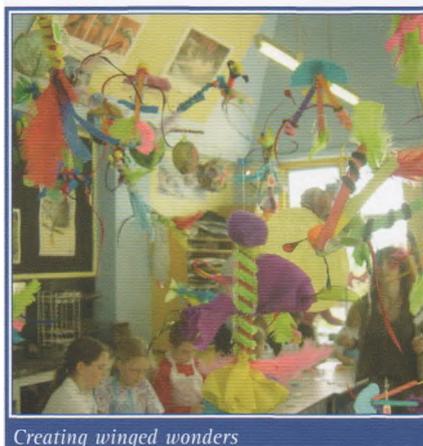


*Magical Creatures*

A big THANKYOU goes to the Junior school for their huge support, not only for supplying extra equipment, but extra hands too - including those of the Junior Head! Special thanks to Lynne Watson who was extremely helpful and who did a great job presiding over the fantasy film for the manufacture of gossamer wings.



*Victoria Cotman leading a dance workshop*



*Creating winged wonders*

I found myself in awe at the variety of 'Beauties and Beasties' which were created and very impressed by the good behaviour shown by

the children throughout the four sessions, particularly as we had an A-level art exam being held in the same building. The result was a dazzling display of diversity and we were very grateful to the participating children, for leaving them behind so that the whole installation could be enjoyed for the rest of term: The only problem is that now I will have to spend my summer holidays delivering winged creatures back to their owners. I wonder, if I said the right magic words, whether the whole menagerie would take flight and make their own way home. Now that would be an amazing sight!

*Corinne Hockley*

### LUCY'S VISIT TO RENDCOMB COLLEGE



*The Headmaster presenting a cheque to Lucy*

Just occasionally one meets a person who you know you will not forget. This is just the case for so many Rendcombians concerning the visit of Lucy Kibirige, the Deputy Head of Lords Meade Vocational College in Uganda.

Lucy has a rare combination of human sensitivity and dignity that is most refreshing in our rather hectic lifestyle; she certainly touched the hearts and minds of so many individuals, from pupils to staff and parents and she took with her back to Uganda a whole spectrum of memories and good wishes to share with the pupils at our "linked" school and with her family.

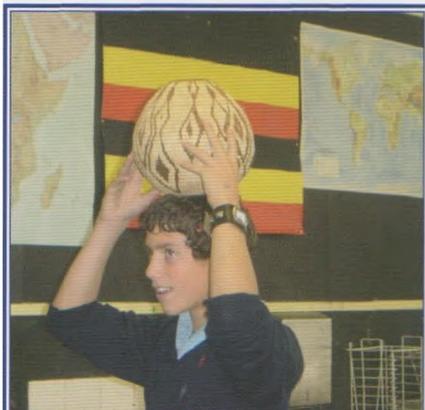
During her stay Lucy visited four schools all involved in one way with the link and she was able to meet again many friends who have been part of the Gap Year programme and the fundraising for the various projects to establish Lords Meade,

following its launch in 2001.

The "Rendcomb Fundraising Project" is to finance a scheme to enable a bore hole to be sunk, a holding tank and treatment facility to be built and finally for the water to be piped to the school's buildings. This project will be in 3 phases with work already underway during Lucy's visit. Lucy was presented with a cheque for £1,480 whilst she was here and a bring-and-buy sale on Bonfire night raised another £400.



Lucy demonstrates her skills...



...Luke Lester-Powell has less success!

On behalf of all the people here in the UK and particularly those here at Rendcomb College, Lucy opened our eyes to a new perspective on life and its many facets and we would like to thank her for this.

We have so much to learn from each other and the symbiotic relationship between Rendcomb College and Lords Meade Vocational College has been launched on a most positive and productive note.

*James Stutchbury*

The Rendcombian editorial team interviewed Lucy during her visit:

Some of The Rendcombian crew interviewed Lucy about her life in Uganda. We first asked her about

her routine. She rises at 4:30 in the morning and lessons begin at 5:30am. This came as something of a shock to The Rendcombian crew! Assembly is at 7:30am and then lessons until after lunch. Lucy works six days a week. School day ends at 4:30pm and then there is sport and in the evening homework. Lucy also told us that all the students spend a substantial amount of their time cleaning their dorms.

Lucy then told us about that the school's aim is to give a chance to disadvantaged children who often have been orphaned either because of war or because of aids. In fact three quarters of the students are orphans and Lords Meade Vocational College has become their home.

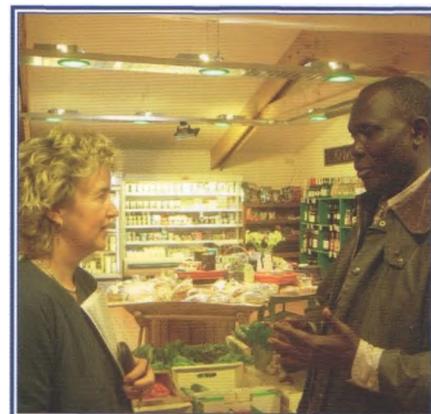
Lucy went on to explain how there is no corporal punishment at the school, instead, any punishments are educative punishments. There are 80 pupils in a class and they are all desperate to learn. Lucy mentioned that there can sometimes be tribal problems but these are reduced by insisting that students only speak English to each other. Lucy spoke passionately about the need for education so that there is hope for the future in Uganda. There are 25 million people in Uganda and half of these she told us, are children. Lucy had a beautiful phrase to sum up the attitude she is trying to instill in her students; she encourages them to: "work hard to transform their country".

We also asked Lucy about her impressions of England and in particular her impressions of Rendcomb. She felt that we lived in a "placid" country and that we were very fortunate because of where we lived. She was very complimentary about how welcoming everybody has been and she thought that the meals were outstanding. [No more whinging!] Lucy hopes that over the next five years more gap students will find their way to and from Uganda. Lucy completed the interview by wishing all us "muzungus" (white folk) good fortune with our studies and our futures.

*Kirki Matthew and Paul Jennings*

Godfrey Kiganga, Headmaster of Lords Meade College also visited the school in March. As part of his

visit, Godfrey spent a day with Will and Hilary Chester-Master looking around their organic farm and shop.



Godfrey chats with Hilary Chester-Master at the Organic Farm Shop

### JOHN WEBB: '50 NOT OUT'

John Webb, now living in Northleach, arrived at Rendcomb College aged 9 in September 1954, one of 91 boarding boys. In January 1955 John played his first game of hockey for the school and his association with the College has continued to the present day. Having played throughout his school and university career, obtaining county and national honours on the way, he has continued to be a regular attendee at Old Rendcombian hockey events.



Geoffrey Hulbert & John Webb



Russel-Jones, R. Sewell, S. Grenslaw, J Marshall, ?? Tucker, T. Pettigrew, J. Webb, D. Tovey, C. Richardson, B. Ferguson

'Old Team'

To mark 50 years of association with the College, on a blustery January afternoon, John returned once more as a member of the Cheltenham Wednesday XI to play a match against the College 1st XI. It was an exciting match with the Rendcomb boys taking an early 2-0 lead. However, John's team settled into their game and the final result was a 6-2 victory to the visitors.

This victory was followed by a champagne reception and a traditional match tea of sausage, chips and beans, which was very welcome! John was presented with the match ball by the Captain of the College 1st XI, Geoff Hulbert.

John spoke of his time at Rendcomb as "small delights, happy memories and much gratitude"

*Liese Holden*

**85 YEARS ON**

On Saturday 2nd July, the College hosted a dinner organised by the Old Rendcombian Society to celebrate the 85th Anniversary of the College. Guests included the family of former Headmaster, Dennis Lee-Browne, officers from the OR Society, and previous members of staff. Jane Gunner, Secretary of the OR Society baked and iced a wonderful cake as a replica of the main school building. Everybody enjoyed the opportunity to meet old friends and have a look around the school.

The Headmaster welcomed the guests with a special grace:

FATHER SON AND LORD DIVINE,  
 WE THANK YOU FOR GOOD FOOD  
 AND WINE,  
 TO OUR OLD RENDCOMBIANS WHO  
 RETURN TODAY,  
 WE ASK YOU LORD TO ESPECIALLY  
 PRAY,  
 AND FOR FORMER TEACHERS  
 HERE TONIGHT,  
 INCLUDING OUR EX-SENIOR  
 MASTER THE LEGENDARY BILL  
 WHITE  
 AND AS WE COMMEMORATE  
 DAVEY'S ALLEGED DEPARTURE  
 FROM THE WICKET,  
 WE GIVE SPECIAL THANKS FOR  
 HIS SERVICES TO RENDCOMB  
 CRICKET.  
 AMEN.



*OR 85th anniversary dinner*

**VILLAGE SHOP**

John and Jenny Lewis ..... John recently celebrated his 80th birthday and reflects on their move to Rendcomb to run the shop and post office in the village.....



*John and Jenny Lewis*

When Jenny and I retired from busy lives we little thought how much we would enjoy having an extended family. We now see and, in many cases, get to know several hundred delightful young people and all in the best of moods.

We see them progress from children to confident young adults and we have fun imagining their futures. We have for example noted one young lady and one young man we are sure will be Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

There must be many who would envy us. Living in one of the most beautiful areas in the country and having gentle jobs that give such pleasure.

*John Lewis*

**MIND THE GAP**

For those of you who have heard the repetitive voice of "Mind-the-gap" in the overheated London tubes, you may have thought that the world is becoming too protective and concerned about liabilities. We are perpetually blasted with warning bells, sirens, neon lights and alarms everywhere we turn. No one is willing to accept responsibility for someone ripping over a 2-inch gap between a train and a platform. However, as I continued another leg of my journey around Europe (and the London underground!), the maternal, electronic voice, "Mind-the-gap", struck another chord.



*Cake made by Jane Gunner*

During my travels in the English summer I encountered hundreds of nineteen-year-olds like myself, strapped to their backpacks and saved pocket money, clinging to their passports as they ventured out into the world, to see what it had to offer. It should be more like "Mind the Gap students"; they are taking Europe by storm! They too are letting go of the normal responsibilities of daily life and are embracing the Gap Year;- the gap between school and the gruesome HSC, and university education, the gap that can be filled with universal delights, experiences, history, cultural tastings, independence and most importantly, Freedom. You create your own existence. For once there is the possibility to see yourself how you want to be without the influences of friends, family and everything else that once affected your choices and actions, I found it a very daunting yet significant moment when I realized I was over ten thousand air miles away from home. I was alone and could be anything I wanted. A very electrifying sensation.

So far, after eight months of working at a school, Rendcomb College situated in the Cotswolds, England, I have visited eighteen countries during the school holidays. I have drunk sangria, strained my neck up at the Sistine Chapel, kissed the Blarney Stone, cruised around the Greek Islands, walked around the Park Guëll, slept on the Daily Telegraph Newspaper, clapped wildly at the world premiere of "Mary Poppins" on stage, danced the night away at the annual music festival in Lyon, felt the stabbing chill walking up the fatal steps at the Mauthusen concentration camp, saw the glaciers on top of Jungfrau, waited all day for the Loch Ness Monster to appear, crept up the narrow staircase of Anne Frank's annex, gaped at the very impressive views from the London Eye, strolled across the Charles Bridge, went white water rafting in the Austrian Tyroll... the list goes on.

Basing myself at Rendcomb College has given time to regenerate finds after each dose of travelling. The school has provided accommodation and food for twelve months in exchange for odd jobs around the campus. These jobs have not only been learning experiences of my

own capabilities but I have also found myself absorbing the English culture and, much to the horror of friends back home, I have gained a mouth full of marbles; the English accent. I have found myself teaching French, Softball, Drama, and IT, within a space of four hours. And quite surprisingly, I discovered that I was comfortable in each lesson and felt that I was able to give something new to the kids. Not that I'm now considering teaching (cringe). It is just that I find it so fascinating to have been a 'student' for thirteen years and to suddenly change to the opposite side within weeks of finishing school. It has distorted my perspective somewhat. I'm not sure that a lot of people, including other gap students, would be given such a unique swap of positions while your own schooling experience is so fresh. To all the teachers at Kinross, to whom I caused great grief to, I'm so sorry! And to all the teachers at Rendcomb, thanks for teaching me. Not only have they excused my straight forward approach and tendency to speak without thinking, they have adopted me as one of their own. I have found my very own Bridget Jones best friend, who generously took me to Spain for my birthday; a getaway-coffee-buddy from the English Department; a crazy drama teacher and mentor who has taught me the true meaning of being a 'Luvvie'; a Head Master who has kept my Aussie patriotism alive with his wicked sense of humour; a jazzy co-host for the Talent Quest who has always involved me in staff sport no matter how competitive they are (I blame him for my broken ankle!); and a loving family who always fed me and kept my wine glass full while drooling over gossip and re-enacting scenes out of Dirty Dancing. These beautiful relationships have made my year by far.

And Rendcomb College has most certainly kept me on my Dirty-dancing-toes. I went to my first ever Talent Quest at the school as a host and organizer. While listening to the very nervous opening act, I shamelessly decided to spice things up by doing kickboxing antics from behind the curtain in my strappy, black heels. I'm embarrassingly sure that the fatal rip that appeared in the crotch of my jeans by one of

my energetic kicks definitely spiced up the one thousand cameras in the audience. Please, mind that gap! Ever tried walking around, up and down stairs with your thighs and knees tightly pressed together for two hours? But I carried on as the bubbly Aussie who found enough courage to belt out the tune of John Williamson's "True Blue" in a pause produced by technical problems with music. I'm sure I would have been crucified attempting a "True Blue" stunt in my home country but what the Poms don't know doesn't hurt them.

Over-doing the pun, I experienced a rather large gap in my front tooth, during travels to the Czech Republic, (I still remain silent as to how it got there, so don't ask!) that cooked up the ironic nickname as 'The Gappie at Rendcomb.' I hope this is not where 'The Gap Student' title originally appeared on some unfortunate antipodean's smile previous to me. But the 'accident' had its benefit. I learnt a lot about Great Britain's Dental Health system, where medical care and travel insurance comes in and how to stand up to a very scary dentist and demand that he do his job properly after his first filling fell out within days. I'm saying that I would smash my tooth again in order to experience the ordeal for a second time but it was a tooth opener.

Smashing my tooth has led me to believe that I insulted my parents by being the over-eager-teenager who desperately wanted to ditch her lifelong home town. Orange, Australia, for bigger and better things. "Orange is such a bloody hole", I recall being my daily phrase. Eight months later, and older, I can., look back on my enthusiasm to leave everything that I have ever known and loved, to cross the division of hemispheres and see how much I really did need to get away so that I could fully appreciate what I left behind. The grass is always greener on the other side (though this may not be the case when comparing the lush green grass of England to the drought affected paddocks of Australia!) Having such huge disparity between Orange and Rendcomb has installed within me an overwhelming sense of appreciation, love and pride for my family and friends, Australia and its culture, Kinross Wolaroi School

(my prison for the last six years of sport, studies, drama and cadets) and of course Vegemite and BBQ shapes. I have found that you only know what you have got until you have lost it. And to get over that sickly pain in the stomach called homesickness, I have thrown myself at Rendcomb, and the rest of Europe, to make sure that when the time comes to depart from the monstrous Heathrow airport, I will have that same feeling of loss. I want to have eaten and digested every possible opportunity because the Gap Year is a once in a lifetime sweet (not the Australia lolly, the English sweet.) So, after ignoring all the garbage I have just written, I pledge to all confused senior school students to consider the Gap Year as a way to explore what you would like to start aiming for in the early stages of your adult life. Though I have to admit, I am no closer to knowing what I would like to do with my life than I was eight months ago. However, I still retain that the Gap Year is a perfect way to endure the difference between teenager and becoming an adult, to go on a journey of self-learning, dependence and basically to have the time of your life.

Don't Mind the Gap - I hope you fall into it!

Alice McClymont

**CHARITY FUNDRAISING**

Great efforts have been made by pupils at Rendcomb College this term to raise money for the Tsunami Appeal and Comic Relief. Moved by events in Indonesia over Christmas, pupils came up with several fund raising ideas including a Sponsored Silence in Lawn House, a Bring and Buy sale organised by Godman House and the Old Rectory, a guided sponsored walk led by the boys from Stable House, Wacky Hair Day and challenging quizzes for the staff. In total, £6,150 was raised by the efforts of pupils.



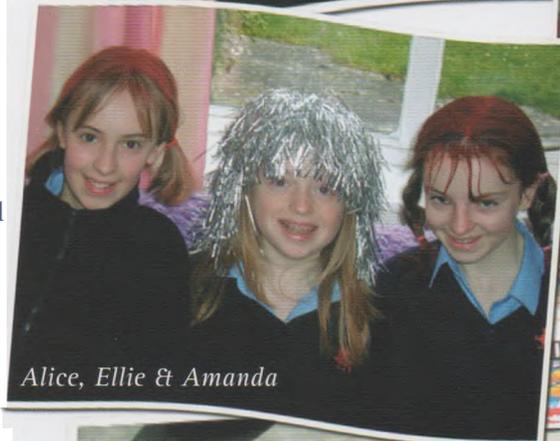
Old Rec Boys



Red Nose Day



Bring & Buy sale for Tsunami Appeal



Alice, Ellie & Amanda



Charity Cycle Ride

### Portrait Section



Louis Mernagh (J4) - 'Memorial and Child'



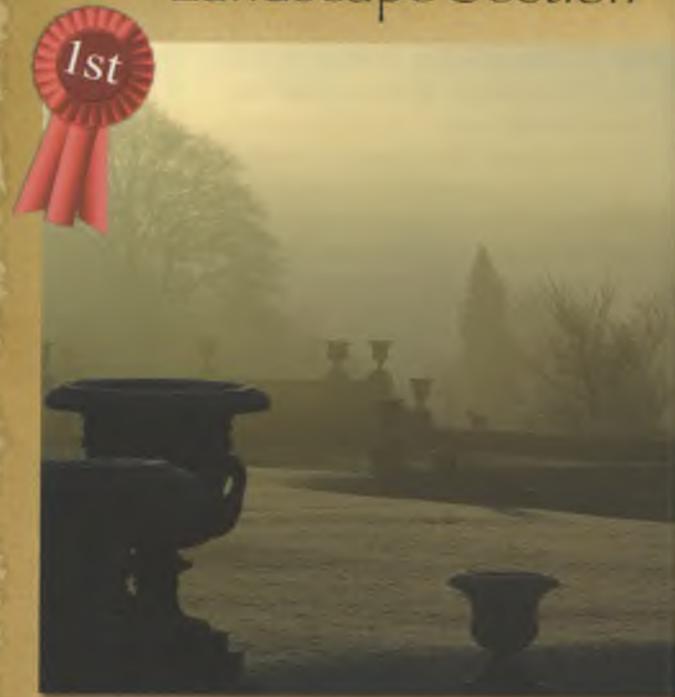
Mr Mark Naylor (Staff) - 'Elephant'



Michell Kendall-Smith (J2) - 'Daddy & Indy'

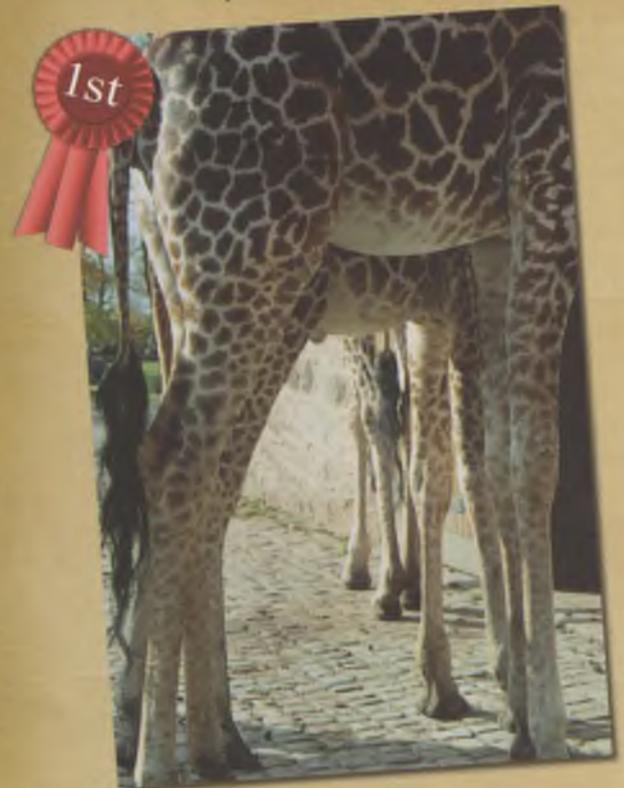
# Photographic

### Landscape Section



Mr Darrell Hayward (Staff) - 'Misty Urns'

### Open Section



Rachael Jennings (IA)  
'Mmm and toes, knees and toes'

# Competition Results



Mrs Julia Lee-Browne (Staff) - 'Beach Huts'



Mr Mark Naylor (Staff) - 'Tree'

Thank you to all who took the trouble to enter photos



James Preston (J6) - 'Red Arrows'



Mr Darrell Hayward (Staff)  
'Frosty Leaves'

# Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

Sarah Zheng, Christine Dai, Daniel Seo, Luke Gunner, Heather Roper, Matt Nicholls, Caroline Wells, Jess Weston.

Carlo Vuolo



Sarah, Christine, Daniel & Luke



Jess, Matt, Caroline & Heather

Earlier in the Michaelmas term, eight Sixth Form students successfully completed the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Assessment Expedition. Despite appalling weather for the first three days, including an exceptionally windy night on an exposed slope for one group, they came through with flying colours to maintain Rendcomb's fine tradition of producing strong and competent hill walkers.



Setting up camp



Mr Vuolo & Mr Wood



Best foot forward!



Planning the route



Are these my trousers?



You can't see the (Mr) Wood for the trees!



Nearly home

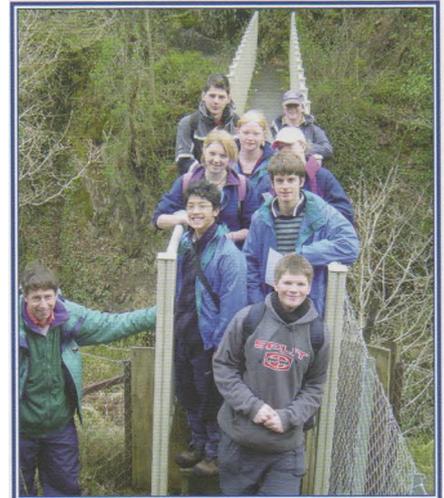
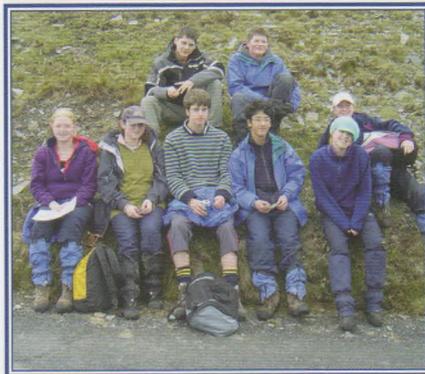


A welcome drink at the end of a tiring day

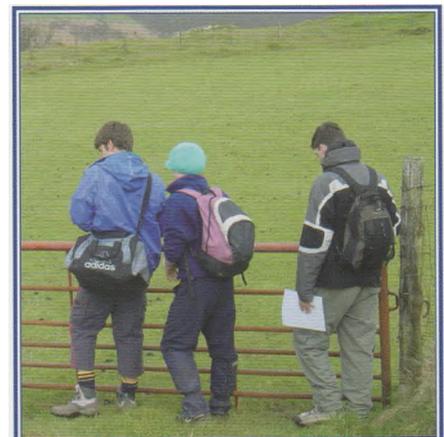


Dan Seo

## 6B Duke of Edinburgh Award



Any crumbs left for me?





The Resort

## Ski Trip 2005

### ZWEISIMMEN - SWITZERLAND



Ski Trip

On Friday the 11th February, 33 keen skiers, if that's what you could call some of us, set off (in a very nice bus!) for Switzerland. After watching 7 long films and a painful wait at the Euro tunnel we finally arrived in a snowy Switzerland. The first day we took to the slopes, only to soon come back off taking the train to the next resort due to poor conditions.



Alex & Naomi

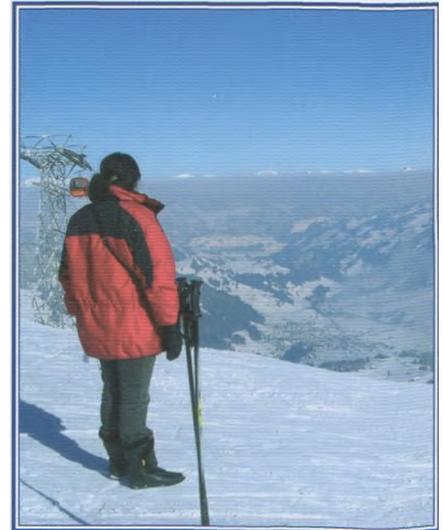
The next day and the rest of the week were much more productive. The snow fell all week however this was along with most of the Rendcomb students and teachers except Mr Stutchbury who, apparently, didn't take a tumble all week. The skiing was excellent all week with some people who had never skied before improving massively and Ashley Groombridge wore her 'L' plates with pride.



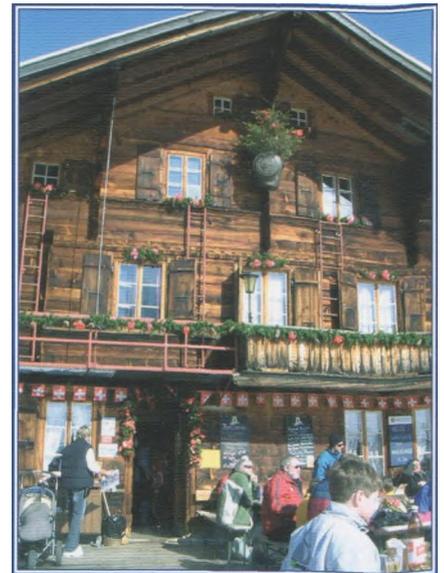
Other than skiing, activities were organised for us every evening which were 'sehr gut'! Ice-skating, pizza, bum-boarding (where the 6th form girls left everyone else standing!), a not quite so successful bowling trip, and our fondue evening. This also consists of a brave, or possibly suicidal, ski down the mountain in the dark, neatly leading on to the bar for some of us!

Overall everyone had a fantastic time, and there are definitely some fond memories of the trip. Thanks must go to Miss Bell and Mr Holden for their help in making the trip run so smoothly and of course the odd sarcastic comment now and then! Finally the trip would not have gone at all without the organisation of Mr and Mrs Stutchbury who also looked after us. We are all very grateful.

Alex Collins, Ashley Groombridge, 6B



Mrs Stutchbury in reflective mode



The hotel



Lunch break

## Riding

### RIDING SUCCESS!



Richard Mason and Gander

Rendcomb College entered a team for the Inter Schools' One Day Event (Intermediate) Team Championships on Saturday 18th September. At the Stonar School the team comprised of Richard Mason on Gander, Ed Cumberpatch on Molly and Sinead Brennan on Ipiko. All performed well but special congratulations must go to Richard Mason and Gander who came second in their section. This was achieved thanks to an excellent dressage test which the judges described as a "pleasure to watch" and a clear round on a demanding cross country course.



Sinead Brennan, Richard Mason and Ed Cumberpatch

In the Summer Term, the Rendcomb College Team took part in another one day event at Lackham College on Sunday 12th June and came away as the winning team. The team comprised of Richard Mason on Gander, Sinead Brennan on Ipiko and Edward Cumberpatch on Molly and won their age category and were the only team where all members successfully completed all three disciplines. Richard was placed first

in his section with an excellent dressage score and Sinead and Edward came 2nd and 3rd in their sections, respectively. They were delighted with their achievement which is their first as a team, particularly against stiff opposition from Millfield, Stonar and Dauntseys. All three team members compete regularly in local events and are great ambassadors for riding at the College. Emily Turner on her pony Rosetta, and Victoria Cannon on Ollie, showed great promise for the future, competing in the Junior event.

Well done to our equestrian stars!



Emily Turner and Rosetta

### RIDING ACTIVITY

Elbe Whittles has been given an incredibly hard pony to ride almost every week. Her ability to 'stick' has earned her many difficult and memorable rides not to mention earning her a place in the accident report book. She enjoys her crazy death defying stunts and continues to seem absolutely fearless to the utter disbelief of the rest of the group.

Jazz Barkes it seems can do no wrong. She continues to improve her riding technique, especially on Bosun her favourite horse. Few can compete with her ability to giggle and perform dressage at the same time.

April Edwards has mastered the art of 'shoulders back chest forward' and has been an excellent sport all year putting up with constant teasing about her feelings towards a certain 5th former.....

Sophie Griffiths has kept us in fits of laughter all year with her antics and helps to remind us that riding is at the end of the day just a bit of fun as she is asked at least twice a lesson to please shut up.

Lucy Heyman has become very attached to Snuggles and shows no fear when riding the biggest of horses. She has shown some very promising jumping and has moved up a riding group accordingly.

Katya Edwards surprisingly is one of the quieter riders and has learnt a lot this year. She has shown great enthusiasm when jumping and has managed to keep the whole minibus in hysterics when travelling back and forth to Talland.

Miz Barkes has had a hard year continually being asked to ride the smaller ponies, especially an infamous Honeybee! She has managed to keep her cool with these more difficult rides and has even managed to get some rides on 'proper horses'.

Charlotte Jones has shown real guts improving her jumping on Ben and has continually shown real dedication and perseverance in improving her riding.

Rosie Barkes has ridden a variety of horses and has always put 100% effort into each ride. She keeps the rest of the group in check and is improving at a rapid rate.

Becky Rowan has continued to improve and finally Sam Dally has been a role model to the rest of the riders and referees the "who is going to ride which horse" discussions each week.

Mrs Holden has been fantastic not only in organising the riding activity but also trips to horse events such as Spirit of the Horse and ISODE. The year was finished on a high with an extended lesson and a trip to McDonalds. Thank you for all your time and patience.

*Sam Daly*



Victoria Cannon and Ollie

## Clay Pigeon Shooting

THE NATIONAL CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2005



Ben Crane, Max Webb-Dickin & George Finlay

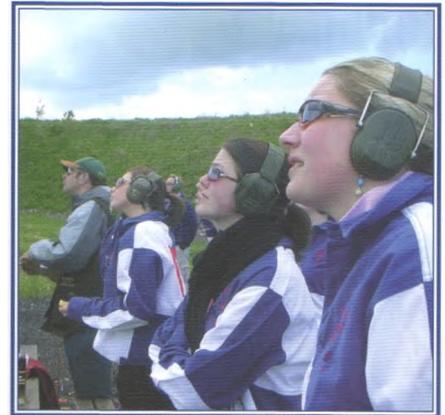
Another successful year for the College's shooting teams at the National Championships held in May. Once again, James and Charlie Stutchbury won the parent and pupil section with an impressive score of 68 out of 100. The "B" team (Richard Pass, Luke Lester-Powell, Henry Pullen, Richard Collins) came 5th in their section with excellent high gun scores from Charlie Stutchbury (Capt) and Richard. The "A" team (Graham Hulbert, Alex Elsen, Lewis Leung, Matthew Hook and George Finlay) under the leadership of Max Webb-Dickin came 11th in their section with high gun scores from Max, George and Mathew. The Ladies' Team also took part for the third consecutive year captained by Lotta Von Rotenham, (Heather Roper, Hannah Bishop, Jessica Wells and Ashleigh Groombridge). Thanks must also be extended the parents who also took part, Messrs Pullen, Pass, Elsen, Hook.



Charlie Stutchbury in action



Shooting



Jess and the Girls' team



Hannah Bishop



The 'B' Team who came 5th out of 16 teams



James & Charlie Stutchbury with their trophies



Max Webb-Dickin



2005 Shooting squad

## SPORTS - Rugby

### 1ST XV RUGBY

The 2004 1st XV have a playing record of six wins and one draw in thirteen games. There have been few easy games this season, most were hard fought and took the team to its limits. One thinks of tries scored in the last minute to secure a one point win over Bredon and to secure a draw against Cheltenham College, and of desperately clinging on to narrow leads in the victories over Rougemont and Kingham Hill. The outstanding team performance of the season was undoubtedly the one point victory over Leighton Park.

The 2004 XV was made up of four elements. Firstly, a group of fifth formers. Alex Holden, Ryan Watson and Max Webb-Dickin, on a steep learning curve, out of necessity breaking into the XV in greater numbers than might usually be the case. It is a challenging transition from U15 to 1st XV, one that takes real character and courage, and they made it remarkably well.

A second element consisted of a group of 6B players establishing themselves as the core of senior players for next year, outstanding amongst them were Jamie Burley and James Tarleton and I know that Geoff Hulbert would want to acknowledge the great support that they gave him throughout the season.

Both went forward for county trials and, although Jamie was unfortunate in that injury prevented his progress, James has secured a place in the county side. This is richly deserved as James is a player of real quality and I am pleased to confirm that he will be captain of rugby next season.

The most improved player was undoubtedly Ed Hutchison, and the reaction of his teammates to Ed's try against King's was a clear indication of the respect they have for him. The majority of the XV will return for at least one more season so the future looks to be promising and if they play with the passion and commitment that they showed in the last quarter of the game against King's, they can look forward to a very successful season indeed.



1st XV rugby

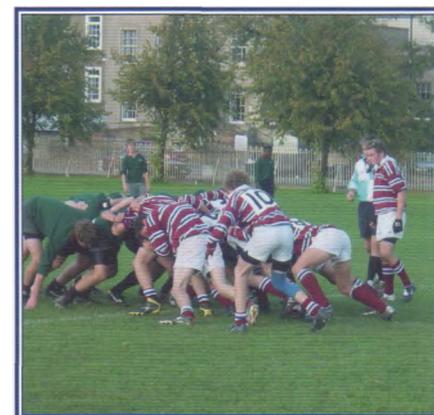
The third element consisted of the core of 6A players around whom a 1st XV is built and for whom it is their most important season. Ryosuke Murahashi, Dan Seo and Joe Drysdale all stepped up and played their part during the season. Graham Hulbert's season has once again been seriously disrupted by injury and this has been a cruel blow for him and a considerable loss to the team.

Peter Liang might have been forgiven for opting for minor games when he entered the sixth form, instead he committed himself to the 1st XV and for two seasons he has brought to his rugby the passion that drives his music. The team clearly was not the same without him in the last few games of the season but his was still the loudest voice of encouragement on the touchline. For such a gifted musician to have continued to play rugby at this level is remarkable indeed and is a testament to his outstanding character and to his sense of community and I thank him for his great efforts on behalf of Rendcomb rugby over the years.

Finally, there is a fourth component and that is the captain, Geoff Hulbert. He has now played three seasons in the 1st XV, around forty games in total, and I estimate that in some 70% of these matches, Geoff has been on the winning side. He might think that this season has been his least successful, but I do not believe this. Based upon the criteria that really matter, it has been his best. It is easy to lead a side when success is coming easily but much harder when you

have to play to your limits in every match. There were no easy victories this season but week in week out, win or lose, the captain provided outstanding leadership, leading by example with absolute commitment to the cause, and we have long lost count of the number of try saving tackles that he made. If anyone was wondering what qualities it takes to successfully play 1st XV rugby, they only needed to come up to top-pitch to watch Geoff play. He is a true giant of Rendcomb rugby and the respect that his team have for him was abundantly clear at the rugby dinner, and I thank him for his outstanding efforts as captain of rugby.

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 Hugh Marsden.



1st XV rugby scrum

In conclusion, my 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 the task of running rugby at Rendcomb so much easier by their outstanding dedication and enthusiasm. Returning to run rugby at Rendcomb after a two year sabbatical has been made so much easier for me by the continued professionalism and support of the rugby staff.

*Mike Slark*

## 2ND XV RUGBY

This season's statistics:

Matches 3

Wins 0

Draws 0

Losses 3

Tries for 2

Tries against: more than 2

This has been a difficult season for the 2nd XV with 3 defeats and 2 opponents crying off as a result of the 2nd XV's fearsome reputation. It is particularly disappointing when, having suffered defeats at the hands of larger opponents, schools of a similar size to Rendcomb are unable to field a 2nd XV, thus denying us the chance of a truly competitive fixture.

Despite these disappointments, a lot of effort has been put in by captain Ben Crane and the boys this season, and when the moment came for 2nd XV players to step into the 1st XV, they never let us down.

Mr Slark added the following observation:

I would also like to thank Mr Marsden for his contribution to senior rugby this term and also for his willingness to help out with refereeing at all levels.

*Hugh Marsden & Mike Slark*

## U15 XV RUGBY

Without four key players from the unbeaten 2003 U14 season the 2004 season was always going to be a lot more difficult. The team won 3, drew 2 and lost 5 of the 10 matches played but with a little luck it would have been won 5.

Richard Collins at no 8 led the team by example and along with Henry

Pullen was always involved in defence and attack. Jonny Barks and Philip Ellis were a very enterprising half-back pairing, who were not afraid to take the big 'hits' or tackle the 'giants', which most opposing teams seemed to have. At centre, Richard Mason and Luke Lester-Powell tackled well and imposed themselves on the opposition with their strong running. Luke in particular had a lot of success in attack and was the top try scorer by a long way.

Ed Cumberpatch was the most improved player this season, small in stature but big in heart. He typified the spirit of the team when at full strength. Senior rugby beckons next year and this is a challenge most of the team should relish.

Playing record:

Abingdon (A)	Drew 10-10
King's Worcester (H)	Lost 17-7
Leighton Park (A)	Lost 39-0
Cheltenham College (H)	Won 12-7
Farmors (A)	Lost 55-7
Sidford (H)	Won 30-7
Marlborough College (H)	Won 29-19
St. Edward's Cheltenham (H)	Drew 15-15
Kingham Hill (A)	Lost 55-5
King's Gloucester (A)	Lost 48-7

Squad: R.Collins (captain), H.Pullen, G.Tatham-Losh, O.Richards, S.Finneron, J.Roach, S.Edwards, J.Hill, J.Barkes, P.Ellis, E.Cumberpatch, L.Lester-Powell, R.Mason, C.Stutchbury, J.Bladon, J.Scott, R.Pass, J.Newton, C.Johnson, D.Ku, A.Jordan

*John Williams*

## U14 RUGBY

This has been a competitive season for the U14s. Many of the matches have been closely contested and the team has impressed with its commitment and enthusiasm.

We started with a hard fought win against Sibford 7-0 followed by another close match away against Leighton Park where we went down narrowly 24-19. These were followed by what were undoubtedly our two hardest matches of the season against Cheltenham College and Abingdon

School and we were heavily defeated in both, not managing to trouble the scorer in either game! Another much closer defeat against Farmors school followed but we were able to finish the season in fine style with three excellent games in a row.

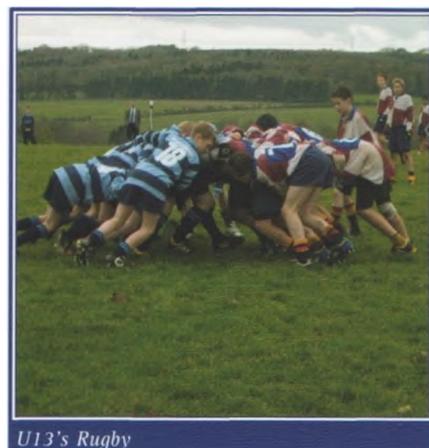
We beat a strong Marlborough College side 19-12 in a thrilling game scoring the winning try with the final move of the game and followed this with a comprehensive win 22-0 away against Kingham Hill.

The whole squad played with enthusiasm and courage. The main strength of the team lay in the dynamic back row of Mark Richardson, Henry Evans and Harley Phelps who ably led the side. Andy Forshaw was the lynch pin at scrum half and the strong running of Richard Ashton was the outstanding feature of the backs' play.

Overall, a thoroughly enjoyable season and Mr Ford would like to thank everybody who contributed.

*Malcolm Ford*

## U12/U13 RUGBY



*U13's Rugby*

There have been few seasons when a team has put in so much hard graft, yet reaped so little for such efforts in terms of results, although to a certain extent the U13s have been the architects of their own downfall. Lacking real determination in their commitment to tackling and the capacity to exert sustained pressure in attack, the team's progress was hampered by injuries and ill fortune and two or three games that were narrowly lost could so easily have been Rendcomb victories.

Overall, not bad for a young side but there are several members of

the squad who will be missed next season as they move to the U14s. William Trim who captained the side with growing confidence, William Parker who worked so hard in the loose, William Rathie who brought periods of real power to the forwards and Sam Rahman who had far too few opportunities to show his speed on the wing but was a resilient defender. There is, however, some real talent coming through from the First Form: Harvey Rich at hooker, Michael Crickmore at Fly Half, James Brogden and Tom Dally.



U13 Rugby with Mr Marsden as referee

Not a vintage season by any means but there are many 'positives' to take forward into next season.

*Alex Brealy*

## Girls' Hockey

### 1ST XI GIRLS' HOCKEY

The team have enjoyed a very successful season both in terms of the results and the spirit in which they played. They went through a tough fixture list losing only twice while achieving some excellent wins, most notably against Colston's, Wycliffe and a double over St Edward's. There was revenge for the previous season's reverse in a spirited match against Christ's College and two hard-fought draws against a strong King's side. The girls played a lot of good hockey in which the key to success was effective defending followed by swift counter-attacks.

The team was relatively settled but we did occasionally call upon the services of two promising fourth formers, Aimée Schofield and Kate Ruddy. In goal Emma Medus improved with every game to maintain the

very high standards of goalkeeping which Rendcomb has enjoyed over the years, both in boys' and girls' hockey. Heather Roper was outstanding at the back of the defence, adding some classy stickwork to her sound all-round game. Alexandra Collins was at first a reluctant performer as the central defender but she should have no doubts now that it is her position after some superb, gutsy performances. Naomi Giles was very effective at right back and her hitting was a welcome addition to our defensive qualities. Lotta von Rotenhan over on the left rather struggled in that particular position but she more than compensated with some astute positional play and sound tackling. In midfield an immense amount of work was put in by Carra Williams and Hannah Bishop. Carra's wild tackling sometimes made the coach wince but her driving play and ferocious hitting made her a constant nuisance to all the teams we played. Hannah had easily her best season for the 1st XI and was vital to the success of the team both in defence and attack. Amanda Graham played in a variety of midfield positions and showed much promise with her determination and improving skills. Kirki Matthew was at times the best player on the pitch but she still needs a lot more consistency in her effort. Up front Charlotte Cumberpatch showed attacking flair in the games she did play on the right wing while Laura Holmes displayed some neat skills on the left. Our main attacking thrust, however, came through Ashley Groombridge, usually on the right, or Jessica Weston, in the centre or on the left. Ashley put in some determined running, even if her crosses were a little wayward, while Jess scored the majority of the goals through good positioning and the ability to beat the last defender. Her shooting was a major factor in the team's success and Jess can be congratulated on her own personal performance as well as captaining the side with considerable aplomb.

The team has been a delight to coach because of their willingness to practice and their sense of humour. The dinner at the end of term showed how much they had enjoyed themselves and gave a further showcase to the captain's public-speaking prowess

which has been in such evidence in the delivery of match reports in assemblies. My thanks are due to all of the team, especially the long-serving captain, Jessica Weston, and her sturdy lieutenants, Heather Roper and Hannah Bishop, and to Miss Bell for her organisation of the fixtures and her constant support.



Girls' 1st XV, November 2004

Played 12, Won 8, Drew 2, Lost 2, GF 36, GA 14

v Westonbirt School (H)	W 9-0
v The King's School, Gloucester (H)	D 1-1
v St. Edward's School, Cheltenham (H)	W 4-0
v Christ's College, Brecon (H)	W 5-3
v Bloxham School (A)	L 0-3
v St Peter's School, Gloucester (A)	L 1-2
v Wycliffe College (H)	W 5-2
v Bournside School (H)	W 2-1
v Colston's School, Bristol (H)	W 3-0
v Farmor's School (H)	W 4-1
v St Edward's School, Cheltenham (A)	W 2-1
v The King's School, Gloucester (A)	D 0-0

Team from: J. Weston (capt.), H. Bishop, A. Collins, C. Cumberpatch, A. Giles, A. Graham, A. Groombridge, L. Holmes, K. Matthew, E. Medus, H. Roper, L. von Rotenhan, C. Williams. Also played: E. Couch, K. Ruddy, B. Sampson, A. Schofield.

*Bobby Morgan*

### 2ND XI GIRLS' HOCKEY

This year has been a great season for the seconds. However this was only achieved due to the sheer

determination of every single player who contributed to the team.

The defence consisting of Jo Maxted, Jade Harrison, Sam Daly, and Beth Sampson worked like clockwork working on the ball nicely and strong 16's were taken from the top of the D. Throughout the season, the midfield, consisting of Emma Couch, Charlie Cox, Monika Frazen and Sam Kolb, practised on short sharp passing and smoothly dribbling the ball around opposing teams.

The attack consisting of Nicki Wells, Lena Elsperrmann and Hannah Harbottle stayed strong, forcing the ball in most matches to stay in the opponents' D and make the opposing defence work hard to prevent goals being scored.

Last but by no means least our number one goalie Maya Chester-Master. With lots of long training sessions Maya's skills improved enormously and she showed courage in all matches saving extremely impressive shots at goal. This season could not have been possible without the following people. Emma Couch and Nicki Wells for being a reliable captain and vice-captain, (ready before each match with team tactics!!) and to Miss Bell for coaching the seconds and keeping the team spirits up.

But most importantly to the enthusiasm of the team and all their effort in every match played!

*Beth Sampson*

### U15 GIRLS' HOCKEY

The U15's have improved a great deal this season and everyone has played to their full potential. We did not get off to the best of starts, losing our first 2 matches.

However, as the season progressed we started playing better as a team, improving on our passing and individual skills.

We have had a winning season, our statistics were:

Lost 4 Drew 2 Won 5

Well done to everyone, especially those who have played for us from the younger years.

*Aimée Schofield and Katie Ruddy*

### U14 GIRLS' HOCKEY

This has been a most enjoyable season despite the fact that we were not as successful as we might have been. Certainly we were not helped by having to play a significant number of matches on grass: this surface does not suit our style of play. Generally we were strong in defence and creative in midfield but we often lacked the ability and luck to put away our chances. I would like to thank those who represented the team for their commitment and spirit. We always approached each match in a positive manner and accepted winning and losing in the correct way. Mr Wood deserves our thanks for his coaching and excellent encouragement.

*Rachel Watson*

This group of girls was a pleasure to coach this season. Every player was keen to do her best and contributed to a healthy competitiveness which was a feature of many matches. This was much in evidence in the match against a skilful Bloxham side. Due to excellent defending, particularly of Sophie Humphries, Ava Carpenter, Rosie Freeth and Amy Bridgen-Page, the opposition rarely entered our circle and the dynamic midfield, especially Rachel Watson, April Edwards and Jasmine Barkses, ensured that Rendcomb spent an equal amount of time in Bloxham's half. The final 0-0 score tells little about an exciting game, enjoyed by our faithful parental support.

There were many successful practice matches with the under 15 group so it was fitting that there was a joint U14/U15 match against Wycliffe which was won 2-0.

The team was not at its best after half-term and did not respond appropriately to an intense run of difficult fixtures. The match against Cotswold on an awful pitch was the first defeat and this represented the first goals let in by Ellie Whittles which is testament to her bravery and determination. Despite this there were many successes such as Sarah Lockyer having a superb game in front of a home crowd, Amy Bridgen-Page being discovered as a fast moving midfield player and Charlotte Tapsell as a sweeper. Rachel Watson played

well out of position to take control of the midfield and I would like to thank her for her solid captaincy of the side throughout what proved to be a polarised season.

P 10, W 3, D 2, L 5, GF 11, GA 20

Team from: R. Watson (capt), J. Barkses, A. Edwards, A. Bridgen-Page, J. Melia, S. Lockyer, R. Freeth, E. Whittles (GK), S. Humphries, A. Dawkins, A. Carpenter, C. Tapsell, S. Brennan, S. Clift, M. Dally, I. da Conceicao Carvalhosa.

*Chris Wood*

### U13 GIRLS' HOCKEY

This term the U13 hockey team played twelve games. Our statistics were:

Played 12 Lost 7 Won 3 Drew 2

As this was our first full team of playing together we feel that we have improved a lot and have started to work more as a team. Also we were very happy to have a new player join the squad. We are all looking forward to next year's hockey season and we hope we will play just as well or maybe even better!

*Lucy Heyman*

### U12 GIRLS' HOCKEY

This season the team was very keen and played well, achieving many wins and only losing one match as the under 12 side.

Some of the newer players are really showing their skills, making the defense very strong. Many goals were scored by the forwards as they have developed some great team moves which are proving successful. And of course, the scary chant of "Ready, ready, ready..." during short corners upset the opposition just at the right moment! (The U12s Rendcomb parent supporters have also got very noisy during these exciting matches).

This is a solid side who play well as a team and have fun and who definitely deserved their end of season sweets!

*Kate Dally*

### HOCKEY DINNER

To end the brilliant hockey season, the first and second XI hockey teams

ventured to 'The Bathurst Arms' for their annual hockey dinner.

This was an emotional dinner for the 6A members of the team because it was their last hockey season at Rendcomb College.

The evening was enjoyed by all especially the first XI who were issued with crazy Christmas gifts from our captain and Vice-Captain, Jess Weston and Heather Roper.

A big thank-you must go to Miss Bell and Mr Morgan for a brilliant season and for organising the event.

*Amanda Graham*

### 1ST XI HOST TOURING TEAM FROM ARGENTINA

After a fantastic hockey season the 1st XI Hockey Team retired for what they thought was a year off, but in the Lent term the phenomenal team regrouped to play the touring team from St Matthews' College, Buenos Aires. The touring team were extremely fit, as by the time they reached us, they had been touring parts of the UK for over a month. The team brought a whole new light to Hockey, with a very different style of play; they were fast and very agile. With outstanding play from Rendcomb College, the final score was 1-1, after a strong fight from both teams.

Both teams then headed for the dining room where a typical English match tea was provided of sausage, beans and chips, where we all had the opportunity to mingle with one another off the pitch.

This fantastically organised tour, has encouraged us to tour Barbados where the senior girls will be playing Hockey and the boys will be playing Cricket in June 2006.

*Sarah Bell*

## Boys' Hockey

### OVERVIEW

So, what's it all about?

Alex Breal, Head of Boys' Hockey addresses the school at the end of term assembly:

You, no, not you as an individual but

you as the collective units in a team - that's what it's all about: team work. I hope and strongly suspect that the 10 teams that have taken to the field of play has enabled every boy, 3rd XI man and Tom Ruddy to represent the College and in so doing to experience being a cog in the working's of a greater collective force.

How successful have we been? - facts don't tell the whole story - their real meaning needs to be seen in the context of the bonds and camaraderie that have been generated by a collection of you people putting on your colours and pitting yourselves against others. Some, like the 15s have tasted success regularly but all of you will have hopefully won the greater conflict that there is - against yourself - but at the same time having others around you to bring the best out of you - to be all that you can be, to push yourself to the limits.

The dry facts, that only portray a fraction of the human story of your toil and sweat are:

P69 W29 D6 L34 GF124 GA139

### HOCKEY CLUB SEASON 2005

#### Captain of Hockey:

Geoffry Hulbert

#### Vice-Captain:

Jamie Burley

#### 1ST XI FIXTURES:

Pre-Season Warm-up:

Cheltenham			
Wednesday H.C.	Home	Lost	2-7
Season:			
King's, Gloucester	Away	Lost	1-5
Kingswood, Bath	Home	Lost	1-5
Marling Grammar, Stroud	Away	Won	9-3
Half Term:			
Leighton Park, Reading	Home	Won	9-1
Cheltenham College	Home	Won	5-0
Bouraside, Cheltenham	Away	Lost	1-2
Hereford Cathedral School	Away	Won	5-1
King's Gloucester	Home	Lost	2-9

### 1ST XI HOCKEY



*Half time team talk*

This has not only been an interesting season but also a very extreme one as all but one of the 8 matches were decided by at least a difference of 4 goals. To our favour we comfortably saw off Marling Grammar School, Leighton Park, Cheltenham College and Hereford Cathedral; scoring 28 goals and conceding only 5 in the process. I would like to dwell on these favourable results for a moment - it is easy to lay passes off when a player is given time and this we certainly did to our advantage; linking passes were fluid and the three-dimensional play was more in ascendancy. Not only that, but chances were put away.



*Ben Crane*

This was a young squad with only the captain from 6A and half of the 13-strong squad coming from the 5th form. This fact was to play no small part in the early season defeats to King's Gloucester and Kingswood as there was a very steep learning curve in several aspects of play:

Firstly - being stronger in competing for the ball, including being lower in the tackle position. Secondly - once dispossessed, the need not for equity-

card performances with eyes raised to the sky and then deciding to be a spectator but instead to tackle back as quickly as possible and helping in the defensive role through jab-tackling or channelling the player thirdly - increasing ball speed and foot work (SAQ training is much needed!)

Overall, the painful truth that fancy stickwork is all well and good but there is so much more to the game than taking the ball forward.

So, onto the 2 most disappointing games - firstly Bournside where we lost 2-1 after creating so many opportunities but which we could not put away - that said, their keeper had a blinder! The other being the heavy defeat to King's Gloucester in the final Fixture of the term - up against several very talented players we needed our defensive technique to be at its most robust but we did not really rise to the challenge - c'est la vie!

With 9 of the squad here for next season, coupled with more thorough pre-season training - I look forward to it immensely. That said there will be one hugely influential member of the squad missing - the one and only, the Master of Disaster himself - Geoffrey Hulbert. He has led by example, putting in 100% effort all the time and he has tried extremely hard to gel this relatively inexperienced squad into being all that it can be. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to him for all his input both on and off the pitch. It is with great sadness that we see you departing but we know you'll be back to show us how it's done at a not-too-distant Old Rendcombian's Reunion.

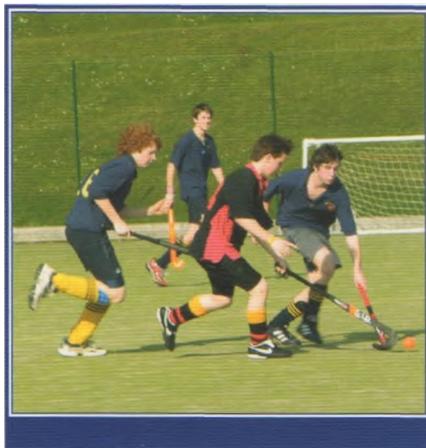
No season would be possible without the sterling effort of the coaches - with the youngsters: Messers Gunning, Jennings, Morgan, Mann, Marsden, Clark and Stutchbury; whilst with the seniors: Mr Essenhigh and Mr Vuolo and making his comeback from being Examinations Officer: Mr Wood with the U14s (he just couldn't keep away!)

There is also the small matter of the 'behind the scenes' work of the groundsman, Mr Hodgson - our grass pitches are the envy of many and to whose quality was possibly matched by the 3rd XI - he must have spent quite some time repairing them after

they'd been let loose on them!

There are also the kitchen staff for the match teas and there is also the Godman House laundry lady for getting your shirts ready for the next battle.

*Alex Brealy*



## U15 HOCKEY

This season was a very successful one for the U15 side. They showed great potential from the very first match against Bristol Cathedral School winning 7-1. This match included 5 goal scorers, one of whom was Jonathan Barkes who later proved to be a prolific goal scorer averaging 1.5 goals a game. The U15's went from strength to strength beating much bigger schools, most notably Kingswood away, where a well-deserved 3-1 victory ended a great month. This continued until an away fixture to King's Gloucester with a much depleted side resulted in a 1-0 deficit. From there on in, the U15's continued to drive and came out with only that one defeat by the end of the season. This included a 3-1 victory against King's Gloucester at home, much to the team's delight. The team worked well in some hard fought fixtures. Luke Lester-Powell, goalkeeper and captain, proved to be a vital asset to the team, making vital saves across the season. In defence, Richard Collins, George Tatham-Losh, Sean Edwards, Joe Scott and James Hill provided a solid barrier, which no team was able to put more the one goal past, conceding only a total of 8 goals in 12 games. In the midfield, Jonathan Barkes, Randal Pakeman, Richard Mason, Charlie Stutchbury and Richard Pass were able to support both attack and defence throughout the season.

In attack Philip Ellis, Henry Pullen and Ed Cumberpatch provided a consistent goal threat and scored or set up all 34 goals. This was a memorable season and credit must to Mr Stutchbury for his enthusiasm and energy the provided to the team in every match

*Richard Collins*

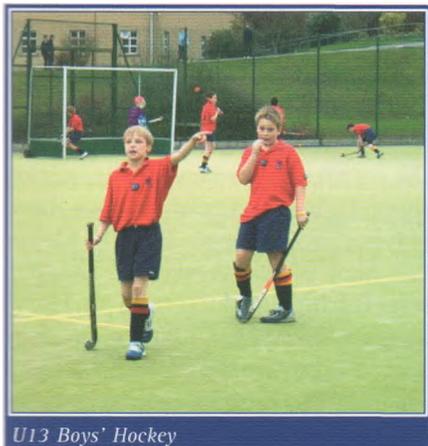
Mr Stutchbury adds to this report:

I would very much like to add one point, that Richard's report misses out, this being the wonderful body of supporters that so loyally turned up for every match (even the Tong hauls' to Bristol and beyond). Mrs Collins was even there when Richard was on the injured list - wonderful commitment, thank you. The Pullen's again, so willing to cheer us on and at the Kingswood victory it really helped. Mr Mason, thank you also for the fine support you offered all of us. In conclusion, the Hockey Dinner in Cirencester really was a most fitting way to conclude the fine season, again thank you for all the parental support for the dinner and to the first class team of players. I really have enjoyed their company and thank for again for the superb bottle of finest malt. I raise my glass to the victorious U15 XI of 2005!

## U14A HOCKEY

The squad of 13 players have had a good season; the statistics speak for themselves. Those who were lucky enough to watch them play would have been impressed with the level of skill and hunger for the ball. The team was sparking on all cylinders. In defeat against such schools as Bloxham the team played some first rate hockey and came off the field in high spirits having played their hearts out. The skills of Will Jefferson and Andy Forshaw were first rate with the continuous running of Mark Richardson giving the team a good base from which to work. Up front the finishing skill of Tom North proved too much for most keepers. Dominic Stevens in goal did an excellent job keeping a clean sheet in 4 of the 10 games, but was ably assisted by Harley Phelps and Henry Evans. New players to the game have learnt much from the good example of their peers. Well done to all the team.

*Chris Wood*

**U13A XI HOCKEY**

U13 Boys' Hockey

Played 11 Won 2 Drawn 1 Lost 8

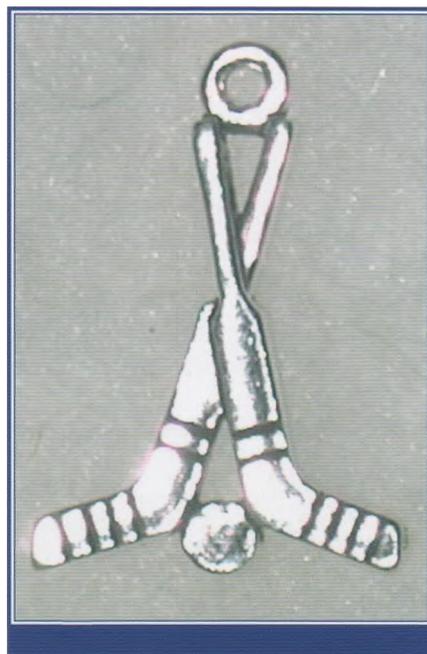
A young team drawn mainly from the First Form has had a tough season up against much bigger and stronger opposition but they have learnt a lot of lessons for the future. There is much potential here because the skill level is already quite high; now we need to develop competitiveness, pace and positional sense (and to grow a bit!). The team did manage some good performances, most notably in achieving a surprising win away against Bloxham School and playing well in the Rose Hill tournament. It was led by Will Trim, who gave some assured displays at the heart of the defence, and he was well-supported by Michael Crickmore, who worked hard in midfield and created most of the openings we fashioned. Up front despite the talents of Tom Dally we found it extremely difficult to score goals; far too much time was required by anyone faced with a shooting opportunity. However at the back we were extremely well-served by James Bell, who kept goal most effectively and made some outstanding saves. Expectations will be high next season.

*Bobby Morgan*



U13 Boys' Hockey

Team: W Trim (capt.), J Brittain, R Clark, A Hook, S Rahman, M Beck, J Bell, T Dally, H Rich, H Brittain, M Crickmore, T Margesson.

**U13B HOCKEY**

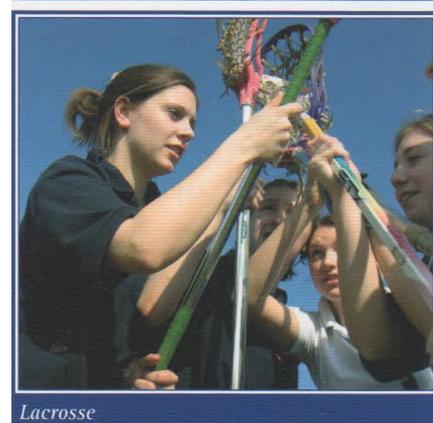
The mighty B team had an eventful season. Although we struggled to get positive results, the team worked hard at improving their hockey and there were some notable performances. Chris Cooke was always reliable in goal and often our best player (perhaps because he was getting so much practice!), whilst Will Parker was certainly a determined and at times terrifying defender! James Brogden developed very well and Tom Pearson was a steady performer at the back. Our midfield wasn't quite as mobile as I would have liked but Khalid's stick work had certainly improved by the end of the season and he had learnt an awful lot about positional play. Jack Medus leant a decidedly manic air to our midfield: he will develop into quite a good player if he learns to stay in position! Will Humphrey-Gaskin did very well on either flank of the midfield. Finally up front Declan was always a nippy threat on the few occasions we got the ball to him. I think that Will Parker was our player of the season and Khalid Behzad our most improved.

The boys were a delight to coach and they always tried to do the right thing.

Squad: Brogden, Molloy, Pearson,

Ireland, Mulhall, Behzad, Cooke, Humphrey-Gaskin, Maisey, Parker, Wong, Tapsell, Rathie, Claxton, Ellis, Medus, Potter, Brennan, Dally

*Paul Jennings*

**Lacrosse**

Lacrosse

**1ST XII LACROSSE**

The 1st XII-lacrosse team has had a varied season. Way back in January a squad of 17 players took to top pitch, with some expertise between them. The season began well, with only 5 players remaining from the first team last season many had to learn the basic skills of lacrosse in the first two weeks of term, let alone the rules which weren't even remembered by those from last year. However there were some new additions to the team from the lower years, which proved to be very beneficial to the team. Carra Williams, Amanda Graham, Jade Harrison and Kirki Matthew have all played for the first team.

Kirki has represented the first team on a number of occasions, after she had to beg, steal and borrow to obtain the correct kit to wear. However when Kirki did manage to arrive on time; she was a key player for the team. With some excellent play, in defence and attack, Kirki did a fantastic job.

Jade Harrison has also played for the firsts. A little afraid to get stuck in at the beginning of the season, Jade soon discovered how good she really was and with confident checks in the midfield, Jade proved that she was worthy of the firsts.

Amanda Graham has been a key player. When she gets the ball, her lightning sprints up the wing have resulted in goals that have been vital to various matches.

Carra Williams. What can be said? Carra has been a great asset to the team. With her fast pace and her excellent lacrosse skills, Carra has been solely responsible for the majority of our goals. One goal in particular stands out. With 20 seconds to go in the match against Tudor Hall, Carra had the ball from the centre draw, and proceeded to take the ball all the way, just before the final whistle went, demonstrating how capable she really is.

The season has seen Rendcomb play many matches, not always fairly matched teams, but teams nevertheless. Rendcomb has played some very accomplished teams including Marlborough College firsts, and Howells, The team has also played people who play for county, for region and for country. Rendcomb have travelled far and wide, playing in Berkhamsted, Cardiff and Ascot, playing in tournaments and matches. Some matches in particular stand out.

When Rendcomb took part in the National Schools' Lacrosse Draw in Berkhamstead, just before half term, we were late to arrive and got sent to the wrong pitch. This resulted in our first match beginning without us, and the team we were playing against- Queen Anns having scored 2 goals by the time we had got there. However, Rendcomb managed to keep their cool, and this meant that we had one of the lowest score margins against Queen Anns, who later went on to win the National Tournament. The day got better as Rendcomb were able to decrease the score margins by more and more as the day progressed. Going from 9-1 to us only having a 1-goal gap, against Moreton Hall. This match was played superbly by all who took part. With the halves only being 8 minutes long, Rendcomb played frantically, with one goal from each team at half time, it was tense. With the opposition scoring in the second half, the score was 2-1. Rendcomb witnessed some excellent play at the tournament, and upped our game from then on in the matches that followed.

Players who have played from the lower 6th, have been very beneficial to the team. Ashley Groombridge with her ambidextrous play, that confused many of our opponents,

Naomi Giles with her play being a cross between hockey and lacrosse, and proven to be a very valuable player. Emma Couch with her runs behind the goal, and backwards shooting that unfortunately didn't always pay off and A. Collins who has been a key player in the midfield with many passes into the fan, that have helped Rendcomb score. Monika Franzen has also played for the first team. Never having played lacrosse ever before, Monika has put in a tremendous amount of work and has always played with 110% effort, the first team will be sorry not to see her playing next season.



Lacrosse - April & Jazz

Last season was Rendcomb's first lacrosse season, and the main aim of the season was to score a goal. A small aim, but this season, Rendcomb was out to win a match. With 2 matches arranged on the same day, many were tired by the end of the first match against Downe House. After a break Rendcomb was an entirely different team. Willled on by players and coaches from the 3rd Men's hockey, Rendcomb played like demons. With goals coming from many, Rendcomb won their first match, against Tudor Hall with the end result being 9-1 to us. We had achieved our goal.



Lacrosse - Tournament at Malvern College

Where would a lacrosse team be without a goalie? Where would a team be without both their goalies? Emma Medus and Samantha Daly have both played in goal this term. Sam has been courage personified. Having never played lacrosse before, she stepped up to play goalie, saving shots from players who have been playing for years. Emma Medus has shown her versatility in goal, transferring her skills from hockey to lacrosse. Emma has taken many hits, during the season, and saved many a crucial goal. Playing in tournaments and matches, she has really improved her game and shown a huge amount of bravery especially when continuing to play when injured.



Lacrosse - Tournament at Malvern College

Players from the upper 6th completed the first team, Laura Holmes and Charlie Cumberpatch demonstrating their skills from past experience. Laura with her dainty play and her ability to settle the ball for Rendcomb has allowed us to score from her set-ups. Charlie Cumberpatch has proven herself this season, with her exceptional stick work and play in defence, although her commitment could be questioned at times.

Heather Roper has proven that football boots are not necessary for lacrosse. With her pink smooth soled trainers, or her 'studs' as they were known, Heather has demonstrated that she is more than capable of playing lacrosse with no grip and even then Heather, you are great.

Caz Wells, her encouragement has helped the team through many hard times. Even when playing in snow and hail, Caz's voice could be heard shouting 'come on Rendcomb' 3 minutes from half time and with us being 17-1 down. Caz's skills as a defender have improved beyond words since last season, with teamwork between her and the goalie, Caroline has led the defence through thick and thin.

Jess Weston in her second season in the firsts has proved that skills from any sport can be incorporated into a game of lacrosse, even tennis. With her tennis like shots at goal from a 30m pass from Carra, did she really expect to score? Well, Jess you have scored many a goal, but I'm still not convinced that 10 years of tennis experience has really paid off in lacrosse.

Well, the team has played in some harrowing weather conditions, hail, rain, sleet, snow and wind, all in the same match, but another season has come to an end. Thanks must go to Miss Royer for being very patient and always having faith in us. 6A, I hope you have enjoyed it, it has been a lot of fun and very memorable and we have come a very long way since our netball days. 6B and the 5th form, I hope you have also had fun and good luck next season, I'm proud of you all.

*Hannah Bishop*

### U15 LACROSSE



U15 Squad training

This term the U15's have pulled together and formed a strong team lead by Sophie Arkle. We have battled through many matches, but most importantly we have secured some great victories, including our last match which we won 15-6. We had a great team this year with some key players such as Katy Ruddy with her all important goals, Hazel Kay for playing so well in spite of having her appendix out, Maria Odintsova for her vicious defending, and of course Tessa Couch for her amazing goalie skills. Thanks must go to Miss Hughes for organising all of our fixtures and Miss Royer for her great coaching and positive feedback. We look forward to next season.

*Sophie Arkle*

### U14 LACROSSE



Jazz Barkes

This season has been a very mixed one for the U14's. This is reflected in the scores of some of our 8 games. We have had some outstanding victories against very talented teams, and also the odd defeat! Overall we won 3 of our 8 games with some fantastic play from everybody in the team, special mention must go to Elbe Whittles in goal. Our statistics for this season are played-8, won-3, lost-5, drew-0. Well done for a great season and thank you to Miss Hughes, Miss Bell and Miss Royer for being excellent coaches.

*Jazz Barkes*

### U13 LACROSSE



U13 Girls' Lacrosse

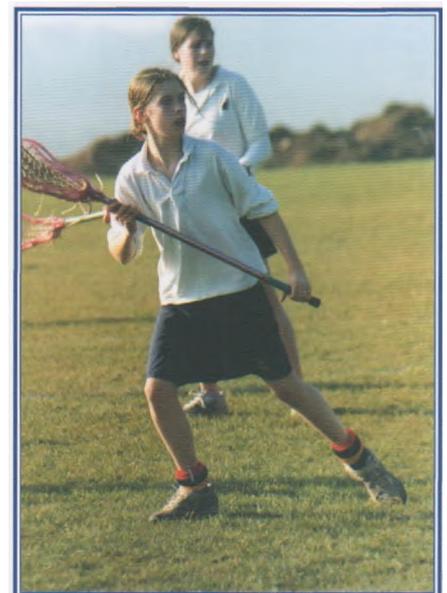


U13 Girls' Lacrosse

This term the Under 13 lacrosse team have done very well. Most of our team only started playing lacrosse this term. Throughout the term we have gone from strength to strength and every player has improved dramatically. Our statistics are; played: 5 lost: 5 won: 0 drew: 0. Although this is a rather disappointing result, it doesn't matter because we all feel that we improved and did well. We are all looking forward to the next season.

*Rosie Barkes*

### U12 LACROSSE



U12 Girls' Lacrosse

The U12 lacrosse season has gone exceptionally well, winning all their matches. The highlight of the term was probably coming 2nd in the tournament in Wales. Thank you to Miss Bell, Miss Royer, Miss Hughes and Miss Foster for arranging all the matches and coaching us.

*Imogen Meborn-Hubbard*



U12 Girls' Lacrosse

## Netball



With Lacrosse being the major game of the Lent Term, Netball has been run as a club activity.

The teams had a mixed season, winning some key games but losing out on occasions to some strong opposition.

Rendcomb College hosted an U13

Tournament where the girls worked hard throughout the afternoon, showing good individual skills, determination and commitment in their matches. Congratulations to Prior Park who were the overall winners.



I have been impressed by their enthusiasm to learn more about the game and put new strategies together as a squad. All the girls have shown some great potential to develop in the future. Well done girls.

*Sarah Bell*

## Cricket



1st XI Cricket

### 2005 CRICKET SEASON

Beset by the vagaries of the English weather and the ever increasing demands of the public examination system the 1st XI only managed to complete 6 matches, losing a further 7 to the rain.

The team put together some very good performances against their most challenging opponents but were unable to sustain their best level against weaker opposition and thus failed to secure the victories that they deserved.

They were led by Geoff Hulbert who as ever put everything into his role as skipper - he has been captain of all three major sports this year and I commend him and thank him for all of his magnificent efforts on behalf of College sport this year and over his time at Rendcomb.

Ryosuke Murahashi has once again been a stalwart of 1st XI cricket and I thank him too for his outstanding efforts over the years.

Rupert Hooper and Jamie Burley have made important contributions to the team and the outstanding newcomers have been Paul Taylor and Alex Holden.

It is encouraging to note that all but 2 of the team will be available next season, and this augurs well for the future especially in light of the fact that next season will culminate in the tour to Barbados.

At the risk of stating the obvious, cricket can be rather more time consuming than say rugby or hockey, so I would particularly like to thank all the boys who have played for their

commitment this season.

My thanks also to the kitchens for the endless cricket teas - and to the groundsman for the wickets - playing cricket at Rendcomb on a lovely summer's day, one could not help being reminded that we are privileged to play this game in one of the most glorious settings in the country.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my coaching colleagues - their commitment to cricket is a commitment indeed - it is much more than going the extra mile, it is the extra 3 or 4 hours. Their dedication, hard work and enthusiasm is exemplary.

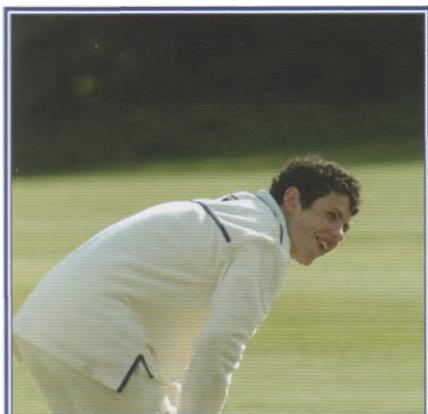
*Mike Stark*

## U15 CRICKET



*U15 XI cricket*

This was an interesting season for a group of boys who are not natural cricketers; I hope many of them stay with the game as it can be played into the twilight of one's life.



*Richard Collins*

At times they played cricket of great quality, but the problem was always scoring enough runs to allow the bowlers something to bowl at. Against high class opposition they found the pace of the game too much, but they never gave up and showed the spirit that has become a trademark of this year group. They were highlights

such as the crushing of Kingham Hill at the first attempt, the tied match against St Edward's and the impressive defeat of Cokethorpe.

The team was well led by Jonathan Barkes, an avid and dedicated sportsman who bowled with real fire and scored useful runs. He needs to work on his technique but he will certainly make a contribution in his senior years. Richard Mason has real potential and he scored runs regularly especially at Bristol Cathedral where he set up a grand finale, he bowls with real venom although at times greater control is needed. Philip Ellis kept wicket tidily and this is his future while Callum Johnson bowled with real enthusiasm and when he grows and matures he will surely become a force to reckon with.

Sean Finneron hit the ball hard and could become a real asset if he learnt the one to hit, while potentially the most promising bowler is Randal Pakeman who must stay with his slow bowling, he has the advantage of both height and bounce and in this day of the dying art of slow bowlers he has great potential. Of the rest, Ed Cumberpatch is a tidy cricketer, Sean Edwards has natural ability and James Hill provided many a comic moment. Richard Collins is a careful batsman, while both Jo Scott and Richard Pass made enormous strides. Thanks to Laurie Wilcox and Alex Jordan who took on the onerous tasks of scoring.

We had fun and after the dreadful weather of May and the painful moment in the first practice the term developed well to the sweltering heat of July. There were moments of frustration, moments of high drama and moments of humour amongst the coaches and players. Well done to all those who played and took part in the archetypal game of the English summer.

Record: P: 9; W: 3; L: 5; D:1

*Paul Dodd*

## U14 CRICKET

What a fantastic season! We have managed four victories and this set of boys have been an absolute delight to coach. They have come on in leaps and bounds particularly in the bowling and fielding departments.

Batting still needs a lot of work but batting is always the most difficult of skills to teach: bowl a bad ball and you've got five more chances to bowl a good one; play a bad shot and you're out! Without a doubt our best result of the season was the victory against Rougemont. James Beck's bowling was outstanding as he bamboozled batsman after batsman! His 6 wickets was just reward for his excellent bowling throughout the season. In the final match of the season a unique event: we beat Bristol Cathedral School, not once but twice! First bowling them out for 18 and getting the runs for no wicket off 3 overs. Then, in a 10 over thrash they scored 49 and we got the runs with two overs to spare. A rare sight on this day: naked aggression from a Rendcomb team! Well done guys, a terrific afternoon!

Tom North was the captain this year and he grew in maturity as he gradually realised how you apply pressure on the opposition. He also bowled well. He will get runs in the future though this season was a bit of a struggle with the bat. Other key players were Andy Forshaw who bowled and batted ever so well, Edward Brierley and Will Jefferson.

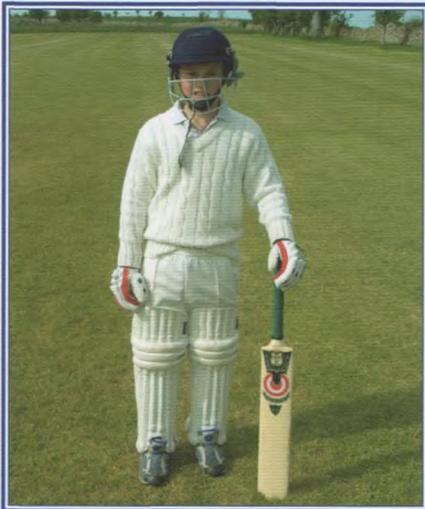
Most improved player of the season was without a doubt, Harley Phelps. He batted with great determination, particularly against Rougemont and he showed great commitment in the field. We were very lucky this year to have a supporting cast who worked hard, listened to advice and accepted our very own 'rotation system'! So well done and thank you to: Mark Richardson, Charlie Kiggins, Ross Sampson, Jack Allen, Richard Ashton and Harry Homan-Green.

This has been the most successful sports team I have been associated with since coming to Rendcomb. Sure we have been outclassed in some matches but we have held our own in many of them as well and been the best team on a number of occasions.

Record: P: 11; W: 4; D: 2; L: 5

*Paul Jennings*

### U13A CRICKET



U13 Cricket Henry Brittain

Over the course of the season the team have played ten matches and taken part in one six aside cricket festival. This is a young side with the majority being eligible to play in this age group again next year. The six aside festival was enjoyed by all in glorious sunshine. After a rocky start, the team adapted to the nature of the game. At the end of the festival Rendcomb came seventh out of ten teams which I hope will be greatly improved upon next year. The loss of one match on the last ball cost us two places in the ranking's.

Thomas Dally has captained the side; not the easiest of tasks with boys a year above. He must be congratulated for his selection in the Gloucestershire side as well. The mainstays of the batting were Matthew Beck, Tom Dally, Michael

Crickmore and Harvey Rich .The bowling was varied with nine players having bowled over the course of the season. Three players have been wicket keeper, Tom Pearson being the last to play in that position.



U13 Cricket Team

Over the course of the season the batting has improved. Batsmen are now driving the ball with a straight bat. The bowling has been sound throughout but the biggest area that needs to be improved is our fielding. There have been some notable catches, Rory Clarke's being the one that springs to mind as a great achievement, but sadly there were many opportunities not taken. This season was one of learning: next season I hope for better results.

*Hugh Marsden*

### U13B AND U13C CRICKET

Three 'B' matches and one 'C' match were played this term, unfortunately all were lost but there were some notable individual performances

which augurs well for the future.

In a twenty overs match at King's Gloucester, James Brittain took three wickets for ten runs in four overs.

In a time match at Cheltenham College Junior School, Jack Medus took three wickets for fifteen runs in four overs and James Brittain scored twenty-one runs including one six.

In the home game against Kingham Hill, James Brittain was fifteen not out, Thomas Hopes scored twelve and Khalid Behzad scored eleven.

In the only 'C' match Rendcomb scored over a hundred runs but were up against a very strong side.

All twenty-four members in the squad played at least once in the season so well done to all.

*John Williams*

## Girls' Tennis



### 1ST VI TENNIS

The 1st girls' Tennis team had a mixed season this year. Only having played two matches due to the appalling weather prior, to half term we were unable to get much match practice. The Schools we played, Bloxham and Tudor Hall maintained extremely high levels of play both at the net and the baseline. Although we tried our best we were unable to defeat them. Having said this excellent tennis was played.

Well done to all those who played,



Mr Marsden advising the U13 cricket team

although it wasn't a winning season the standard of Tennis looks very promising for next year.

*Naomi Giles*

## U15 TENNIS

Unfortunately the U15's were not successful this term despite their efforts.

The season began with a match against Tudor Hall. They play at club level all year round and with it being our first match no matter what range of tactics we served up they still beat us with their experience of match situations.

With practice on our doubles tactics we entered the next match with renewed enthusiasm. Despite victory going to the opposition there was only one rubber that separated us.

The final match of the season saw a close call once again with rules of the game being tested at all times.

With match practice and refined technique we look forward to season 2006.

*Katie Ruddy*

## Girls' Rounders

### 1ST ROUNDERS

After long delays due to bad weather conditions the 1st Rounders team eventually set out to play St. Edwards at the beginning of June - Yes the weather was that bad. After a fantastic match resulting in an outstanding win for Rendcomb led by captain Jess Weston, with some brilliant play from both Carra Williams and Kirki Matthew the Rendcomb 1st IX concluded the season unbeaten.

*Ashley Groombridge*

### U15 ROUNDERS

Once again the U15's have had a very successful season with Rounders.

This year's team was very strong with tight deep fielding from R Hutchison, T Couch and A Sinclair and great accurate catching and stumping from H Lockett, M Odintsova and S Arkle. Also many Rounders were scored and opposition caught out by the triangular team work of H Kay, A Schofield and K Ruddy.

With a lot of other activities this year the team needed great support which we got from E Apps and S Hamilton-Rushforth.

Well done to everyone and congratulations on the wins over King's, Bloxham and Colston's.

*By Aimée Schofield*

### U13 ROUNDERS

This Summer Term the under 13 Rounders Team has gone from strength to strength, playing much stronger Schools than ourselves.

At the beginning of the season things weren't looking great as we were losing by a fair bit but, now, the end of term we win our first match by one rounder.

We really feel we've improved lots and our fielding is now accurate. We also have some good hitters in our team.

By the end of term we were proud to be part of such a determined team.

Well done everyone.

*By Tallulah Dyer and Rosie Barks*

### U12 ROUNDERS

This season each member of the under 12 team has had their moment to shine. There have been some excellent catches and fantastic batting skills from everyone. We all played as a team and had a brilliant time.

During the term we have come up against tough opposition such as St. Edward's, Malvern Girls' College and Colston's School but still managed to achieve a winning season.

I have enjoyed this term's Rounders and look forward to playing it next year.

PLAYED - 6 WON - 3 DREW - 2  
LOST - 1

*Sarah Jones*

## Athletics

### U12 AND U13 PREP SCHOOL ATHLETICS MEET

On Thursday 16th June, thirty members of the first and second form went up to top pitch to compete against Prior Park, Pinewood, Rose

Hill and St John's on the Hill.

The weather was overcast which was ideal for running in but not for spectating. The Schools started to arrive in numbers, with county runners and spikes. Soon enough everyone was warming up for their big races and events.

Rendcomb gave a valiant effort but unfortunately couldn't hold off tough opposition in every race. Well done to Michael Crickmore for winning two of his events and Khalid Bezhad winning his with a county distance of 9:53 metres.

Well done to everyone who helped Rendcomb secure third place in both categories.

*Michael Crickmore*

### ATHLETICS DAY 2005

2005 was definitely the best Athletics Day so far at Rendcomb. The main reasons for this was the gorgeous weather, the amazing organisation by Miss Bell and the fact that Redgrave won - my team.



*The Headmaster in staff relay race!*

The day was a complete success with other activities going on such as amazing Indian stall set up by Miss Woods and the Pimms Bar was greatly enjoyed by the parents, though this would have been better if it were open to all ages - maybe next year!!!

Everybody ran, jumped and threw extremely well and a lot of school records were broken. But the best race for me was the U15 Girls' Relay. There was one point between the top two teams and the overall winner all depended on this Race. Redgrave was given a great lead by Katie Ruddy which was kept by Amy Sinclair. I then had the easier job of keeping



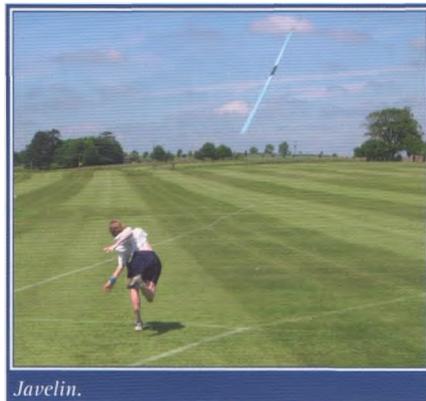
The winning team - Redgrave

that lead.

As the totals were being added up, the tension was rising between Bannister and Redgrave but fantastically Redgrave were the winners.

A massive thank you and well done must go to everyone for participating and to Miss Bell and all the staff for organizing such an awesome day.

*Aimée Schofield - Redgrave Team Member*



Javelin.



Mr Marsden in staff relay team

Well Done to the following pupils who broke school records.

NAME	EVENT	RECORD
I MEBORN-HUBBARD	U12 GIRLS' LONG JUMP	3M 87
R BARKES	U13 GIRLS' LONG JUMP	3M 85
I MEBORN-HUBBARD	U12 GIRLS' HIGH JUMP	1M 13



Athletics Day 2005 - Opening Parade



Keeping score on Senior Athletics Day, Mrs Dodd, Mr Morgan & Mr North

J MEDUS	U13 BOYS' HIGH JUMP	1M 25
J BELL	U12 BOYS' JAVELIN	19M 65
R PAKEMAN	U15 BOYS' JAVELIN	31M 52
K BEHZHAD	U12 BOYS' SHOT PUTT	7M 70
S GRIFFITHS	U13 GIRLS' SHOT PUTT	6M 40
S BRENNAN	U14 GIRLS' SHOT PUTT	7M 75
J BARKES	U15 GIRLS' SHOT PUTT	6M 90
H PULLEN	U15 BOYS' SHOT PUTT	11M 30
E SLARK	U12 BOYS' DISCUS	16M 05
R ASHTON	U14 BOYS' DISCUS	20M 18
R BARKES	U13 GIRLS' 300M	56 : 29 secs
M CRICKMORE	U12 BOYS' 200M	29:91 secs
S RAHMAN	U13 BOYS' 200M	29:88 secs
M RICHARDSON	U14 BOYS' 200M	28:52 secs
A BRIDGEN-PAGE	U14 GIRLS' 200M	30:63 secs
M CRICKMORE	U12 BOYS' 800M	2M 59
Y SADAHARA	U14 BOYS' 800M	2M 48

R MASON	U15 BOYS' 800M	2M 30
A BISHOP	U12 BOYS' 100M	14:12 secs
S RAHMAN	U13 BOYS' 100M	12:73 secs
R BARKES	U13 GIRLS' 100M	14:48 secs
R ASHTON	U14 BOYS' 100M	12:01 secs
M DALLY	U14 GIRLS' 100M	14:19 secs
H PULLEN	U15 BOYS' 100M	12:13 secs
H LOCKETT	U15 GIRLS' 100M	14:43 secs



High jump



Pimms organised by Parents' Association



Athletics Day 2005 - Winners' lap of honour

## Individual Sporting Achievements

### COUNTY RUGBY HONOURS



Henry Pullen & Richard Collins

Richard Collins and Henry Pullen, have been selected to the U15 Stroud and Cirencester District Rugby squad this year. Richard has been playing since the age of seven with Cirencester Rugby Club and has been captain of his rugby team for all his three years at Rendcomb and has also captained the local club. Henry Pullen has also had a very successful Rugby career at Rendcomb playing on a weekly basis alongside Richard.



James Tarleton

### JAMES TARLETON

James Tarlton joined Rendcomb College 4 years ago and is currently about to start his second year of Sixth Form studies. During this time, he has been successfully selected to play for the county and has also been a member of the Bath Youth Academy, for whom he has played regularly, most recently being in the successful under 17 team that won the County Cup.

James has now had the accolade of being selected to join the Bath Rugby Club U19 team squad with 5 other boys from the Bath Academy. This opportunity will give him exposure to the professional game, its coaches, its methods as well as an opportunity to advance as a route into the professional ranks. He will join for a maximum of 2 years, training on a Tuesday and Thursday evening, with matches on a Saturday when not conflicting with school commitments. Bath Rugby Club runs 3 contract levels, U19, U21 and full professional and each of these teams play against the equivalent teams from the other Premier League clubs.

James is naturally excited by the opportunities that this brings, and is delighted by this recognition as a reward for his consistent application. As 1st XV team captain of Rugby at Rendcomb College next year, this new contract will benefit the school as James further develops his rugby skills and career.

### ENGLAND ROUNDER'S SQUAD

Congratulations to Rachel Watson and Katie Schofield on their huge achievements on the Rounders field. Rachel has been selected to represent the under 14 England Rounders A squad following her excellent year with the U13 squad and Katy has been selected for the U13 squad.



Rachel Watson & Katy Schofield

### COUNTY HOCKEY HONOURS



Sophie Humphries & Katie Ruddy

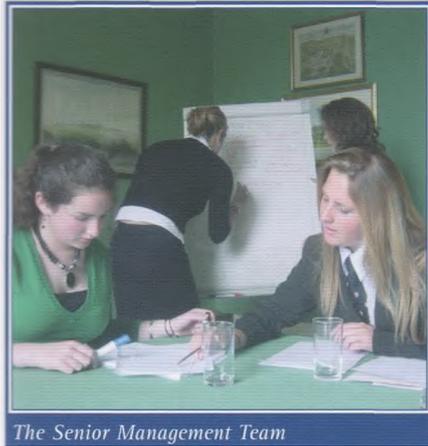
After a number of trials and vigorous training sessions, Aimée Schofield, Sophie Humphries, Katie Ruddy and Carra Williams have reserved places in the U15 and U17 County Hockey squads.



Aimée Schofield & Carra Williams

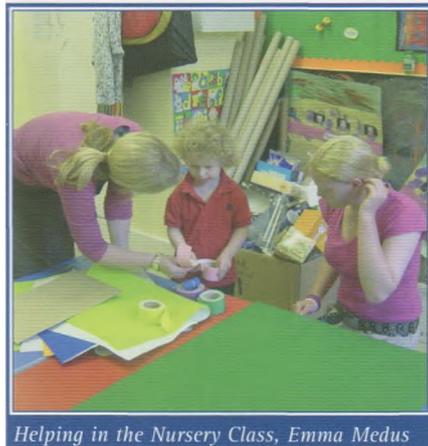
## The Sixth Form

### 'WALKING THE MILE TOGETHER'



The Senior Management Team

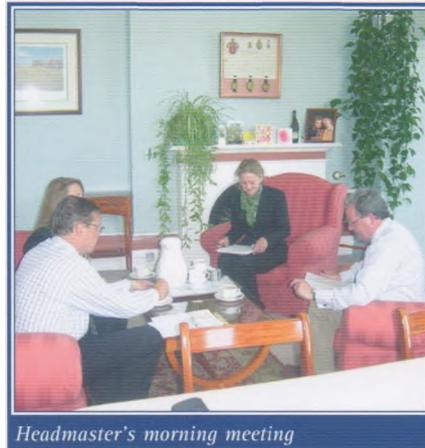
This June saw the second annual 'Walking The Mile Together' day, on which thirty ignorant 6B students became the 'shadows' of members of staff. After weeks of assiduous study, the lower sixth presumed that a day in the life of a teacher would be something of a holiday - no more than drinking cups of coffee, chatting in the staff room and pretending to look busy! How wrong they were!



Helping in the Nursery Class, Emma Medus

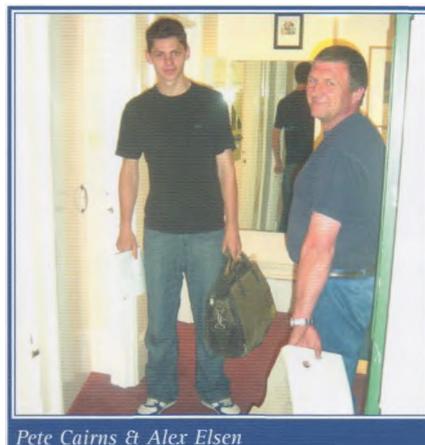
After overcoming the first shock of the outrageously early start, 6.30am in some cases, the students were hastily prepared for a morning of meetings, classes, administration, and even cookery. Blissful ignorance was soon replaced by intrepidity as the students rose to every challenge, be it physical or mental, determined to outsmart their mentors. The morning culminated in the break announcements, in which Simon Wong, the shadow of Mrs Gill, became so overcome with excitement that he forgot the Geography Department's only notice. Emma Couch, on the

other hand, excelled in her role as Headmaster. We believe the governors will soon be meeting to discuss Mr Holden's imminent usurpation. Such was the extreme diligence that many of the students missed lunch, or perhaps this was because Steffen Schofer (aka Mark Robbin's shadow) had cooked the food!



Headmaster's morning meeting

As the day progressed, weariness gradually took over, and the students found themselves unwittingly slowing down. Enter the cups of coffee. With caffeine racing through their systems, 6B gallantly carried on. The shadows of the senior management even endured a two hour SEG meeting, in which the aim was to set the world (and possibly Rendcomb), to rights within a strict time period of three years. Numerous ideas, including employing Steffen full-time (as the Chef's hat really suited him) were discussed, until the team came to the conclusion that with 6B in charge of the school, it was now practically faultless.



Pete Cairns & Alex Elsen

The afternoon grew into evening and the students, although enlightened, found themselves longing for the end of the day. This sentiment was particularly felt by Tim Snow who, after deciding to shadow Miss Cotman,

found the task of smiling and looking pretty particularly demanding.

By 10pm, 6B had finally finished their day. It was, without doubt, time well spent, for having partaken in a number of tiring but rewarding activities, the students had discovered a new found respect for their teachers. They had also learnt a number of important lessons, the most significant being: if you are not busy, at least look it'.

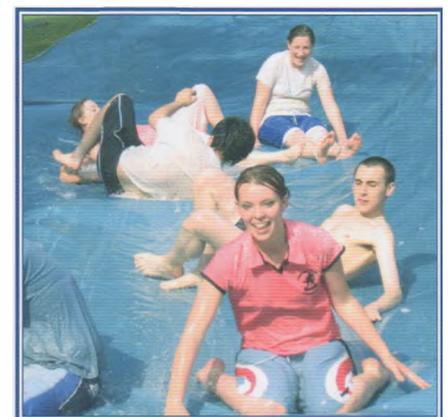
Fiona Hicks

### LEAVERS' WEEKEND 2005



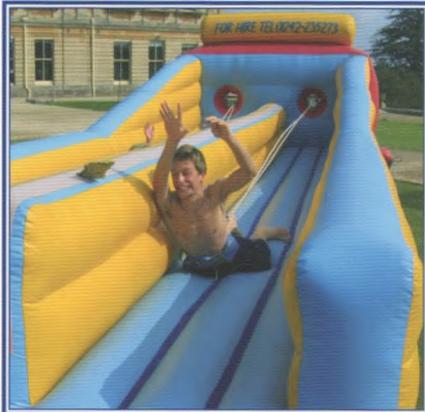
Staff at 6th form Leavers' Dinner

The games and high jinx got off to a swift and slippery start with the improvised water slide. All students thoroughly enjoyed it with the Headmaster also being tempted to join in. Pete Cairns - with the persuasive powers of Charlotte Cumberpatch and Lotta Von Rotenham - was also seen, be it briefly, to be on the slide. Meanwhile on the horizontal bungee jump, Joe Drysdale was showing everyone how it was done (height has its advantages).



In the pool Miss Royer refereed a game of water-polo Rendcomb style! After the initial carousel, experts began to emerge. Geoff Hulbert was

able to slide the full length of the water slide on his feet: those who copied him sometimes ended up with a headache!



Joe Drysdale dives for victory

The superb evening meal later that night was eclipsed only by the quality of the speeches. Heather Roper, Jess Weston and Charlotte Cumberpatch made speeches and read verses that will be remembered for many years to come.



Hannah & Lotta

The themed bar saw a distinguished and diverse variety of hats, caps and helmets. The evening finally ended and bed beckoned only after all the bacon, sausages and rolls that were cooked by Mr Marsden had been eaten. Saturday morning saw a good turnout to watch the Lions match and go to the survivors' breakfast. The Leavers' church service on Saturday played to the musical strengths of the year group. Singing from Laura, Caroline and Charlotte was accompanied by a moving sermon by Mrs Dodd. When the emotion of the occasion was becoming too much Rupert came to the rescue with a wonderfully humorous organ piece. Over the weekend 6A certainly proved why they are a year group who will be very much missed.

*Hugh Marsden*



6th form year group, survivors



6th form leavers, Lauren



Leavers' Dinner



Leavers' Dinner



Farewell to the very pink Class of 2005



*Dr Wells and his daughter, Caroline*

## VENETIAN MASQUERADE

This year's Sixth Form Ball at Rendcomb College, took the theme of a Venetian Masquerade and the guests were certainly transported to the canals of Venice for the evening. On arrival, the guests were treated to a spectacular tableau of statues (in human form) in the Italianate style adorning the columns, the marble statue of Saul was surrounded by candles and Clock Hall was festooned with swags and banners. Over a welcoming cocktail, guests were serenaded by a chamber quartet and photos of guests decked out in amazing masques and costumes were taken against a sumptuous backdrop in the Reading Room. The dining room was skilfully decorated in reds, bronzes and gold hues and after a wonderful meal, guests could dance the night away, take their chance on a bucking bronco or release their energy on a bouncy castle! This was yet another great social event, organised by the Sixth Form Social Committee under the expert Chairmanship of Hannah Bishop.

## THE SIXTH FORM BARBECUE

The Sixth Form Barbecue, held in early September, demonstrated all that is best about the British 'can-do' attitude to outdoor events. Despite a wet, wild night nobody allowed the weather to dampen their spirits and the 'Black and White' dress theme was enthusiastically adopted by all, many of whom had gone to considerable

creative lengths to dress to impress. The evening was memorable for much good spirit, energetic dancing and pleasing social mixing between 6A and B, new students and old hands alike all mucking in to help and be actively involved in the proceedings. The Head adopted a caving headlamp to ensure that food arrived on cue despite barbecuing in the dark and increasingly enveloped by clouds of smoke as one side of the barbecue failed us. No-one went down with food-poisoning as a result and slight carbonisation was overlooked in the gathering gloom and countered by delicious gateaux on offer for dessert - as generously provided by the kitchens. Everyone appreciated the fantastic efforts of 6A in brightening, lightening and stylishly repainting the Green Room at the end of last Summer Term to produce a very convivial venue into which to retreat

when the rain and the night really set in with a vengeance.

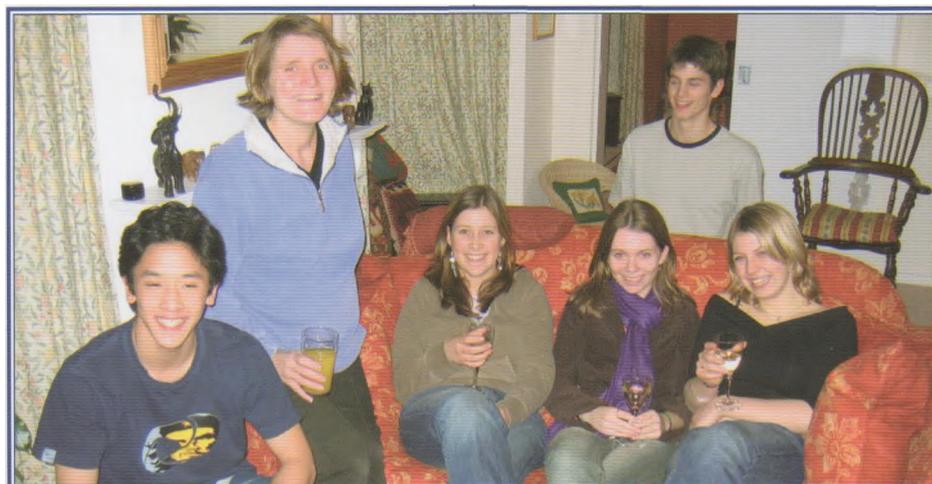
Park's new Houseparents, Mr and Dr Marsden, appreciated all the support they received in running the event and enjoyed the chance to meet in more informal surroundings their Sixth Form, the Headmaster and one of the School governors, Richard Wills. Congratulations to all the hearty folk involved in the evening.

*Naomi Giles*

## SIXTH FORM SUPPERS IN PARK HOUSE

Having 57 students for supper may sound like a daunting prospect but that was what new Houseparents Mr and Dr Marsden decided to do in Park House as a way of welcoming and getting to know their new Sixth Formers. Luckily for the logistics, suppers were hosted weekly over a twelve week period allowing for small groups of four to five pupils to come for a roast dinner and conversation at a more relaxed pace in the Houseparents' accommodation. These occasions proved to be very enjoyable for all, although the jury is still out on whether Mr Marsden's wine or Dr Marsden's food is the better appreciated!

Mr and Dr Marsden have appreciated the banter and jovial company of the House so much that they hope to repeat the format next year for the arrival of their new 6B. As Mr Marsden says; at least this way he is guaranteed one non-ready meal supper a week in the busy Michaelmas Term!! Many thanks



*6B joining Hugh and Ros Marsden for supper*

*Sixth Form Venetian  
Masquerade Ball*

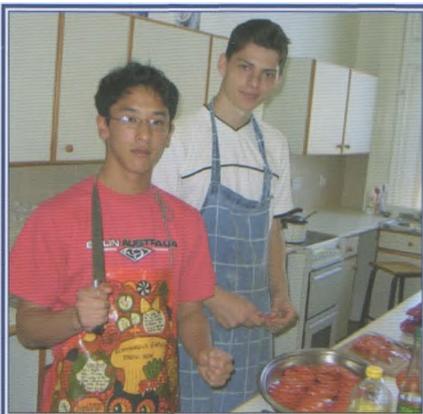






Anne & Yui

### 6B LIFE SKILLS



Simon and Alex

Next was cookery with Mrs Gill and Miss Royer. The quote of the day was, 'Do I need washing up liquid to clean the tomatoes?'. The meal was a great success with the pudding disappearing without trace. The plum flapjacks also proved a winner. Best Chef went to Ed Hutchison who obviously had been in a kitchen before, whereas Simon Wong, quoted above, obviously hadn't! Stefan was saving his culinary skills for the 'Walking the Mile' day when he shadowed Mark Robbins the Head Chef.

The presentation workshop by Dawn Roberts was fun and informative, with pupils obviously enjoying the active and imaginative delivery. By the end voices and facial muscles had been given a good workout.

*Hugh Marsden*

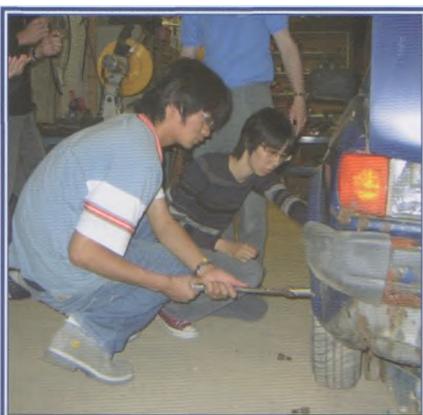
### CRITICAL DRINKING (THINKING)

One evening a group of rather intellectual students (or so they liked to think!!) joined Mrs Harford and Mr Dodd for what promised to be a somewhat interesting evening!! With the aid of some wine we decided anything was possible!! Mr Dodd and Mrs Harford staged an unusual spoof argument about a projector. Mr Dodd, as usual, insisted on winning!! We spent a lot of the evening discussing the finer details of life, for example the varying importance of shampoo and computers! This thorny issue is still being debated by some, (Luddite Lawrence). On a more serious note we all had to select newspaper articles from the day and discuss the 'political' issues raised in the articles. Mr Mann made his point about fox hunting very forcefully!! It was a really great evening which most of us will remember...or actually, maybe not as the critical thinking became ever more substituted by the critical drinking!!!

*Alexandra Collins & Hana Lawrence*

### SIXTH FORM ENRICHMENT

The Cultural Enrichment Programme has been a great success in its inaugural year with a diverse range of extra-curricular evenings to stretch pupils academically and socially. An evening of 'Critical Thinking' early in the year set just the right tone, encouraging pupils to think laterally with brain-teasers designs



Tiger & Momo

The programme produced for 6B has been wide and varied. Car maintenance with Mr Wood and Mr. Cairns saw some strenuous activity with Sam Daly standing on the wheel brace to take a wheel nut off. Hopefully everyone now knows it is 'lefty loosy and righty tighty' for car nuts and studs.



Anyone for car maintenance?



*Dr. Tom Jenkins with Carlo Vuolo*

to get well beyond any curricular boundaries. Maintaining the concept of broadening pupils horizons there were two highly stimulating lectures from external experts - 'Training for Elite Performance' by Dr. Tom Jenkins and 'Life in the Deep Ocean' by Dr. Jon Copley. Students proved to be equally engaging presenters as they delivered talks on geography for 'An Evening in India' and their own A Level artwork during a very enjoyable evening of presentations over cheese and wine in the Art Studio. Some of 6B proved Rendcomb Sixth Formers strengths across a wide range of disciplines by presenting topics in French to their peers in the Summer Term.

The multi-cultural nature of the Rendcomb community was celebrated with two events: a spectacular whole school Chinese New Year Celebration complete with lunchtime banquet and fabulous hand-painted banners to decorate the Dining Hall and a German Bierfest with toasts in German and a chance for our international students to bring the atmosphere of Munich to the Green Room! Getting everyone in the Sixth Form involved, not just as an audience but as active participants has also been the name of the game with evenings to encourage skills in drama during the Theatre Sports Competition, in English for an Ex-Libris Evening and a Maths Puzzles and Challenges Night. The Sixth Form have clearly enjoyed these new evenings, demonstrating through their enthusiastic attendance

and organisation of events that this programme is sure to flourish. Watch the calendar for news of next year's many events.

*Hugh & Ros Marsden*

### **OXBRIDGE SUCCESS**

Christine Dai has been offered a place to study Chemistry at St Johns College!???) Oxford this September. Christine was so impressive at interview that her interviewers placed her in the top three candidates they had interviewed for Chemistry at Oxford that year. Her success stems from the fact that not only has she been predicted excellent 'A' level results and possessed an in-depth general knowledge of the subject and had read widely; but she also had participated in the Gold D.O.E award scheme, was musical and artistic to name but a few of her talents! Congratulations Christine- a bright future awaits you!

*Jane Stutchbury*

### **'RIGHT TO FIGHT?': GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL ANNUAL SIXTH FORM CONFERENCE**

6A students had the chance to debate this weighty and highly topical question in October when they met at Gloucester Cathedral with sixth form students from eleven other schools. There was a high-powered panel of speakers to get the debate off to a stimulating start which included the

Chaplain in Chief to the RAF, Air Vice Marshall Ron Hesketh and the Chief Constable of Gloucestershire, Dr Tim Brain (OR). The pacifist position was eloquently put by a Quaker, Ms Diana Francis who also happened to be the former president of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation who had worked in Gaza and Northern Ireland among other trouble spots. Students were asked to consider the concept of 'just wars', as well as related issues such as the 'right' to defend property, ideas and individuals. It was clear from the ensuing debate that many of the students present were concerned about the level of violence in the world today and the ways and means by which violence could be controlled and alternative solutions found. The ongoing situation in Iraq certainly brought home the timely relevance of such philosophical and moral issues.

The Cathedral provided a suitably historic and atmospheric environment in which to host the event, with the added bonus that many Rendcomb students were able to see Tom Denny's spectacular stained glass windows for the first time, having admired his painted designs for them which are on permanent display in Clock Hall. A knowledgeable cathedral guide helped point out many of the extra details within the triptych design that a casual observer might very well miss. It proved to be a highly engaging and instructive day all round.

*Ros Marsden*

### **THE BOOK GROUP**

A small, dedicated band of enthusiastic Sixth Form readers has been meeting every half term to discuss a wider range of authors and texts including Mark Haddon's *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, Alexander McCall Smith's *The Number One Ladies Detective Agency* and Henry James' *The Turn of the Screw* - a comparison of the opera and the novella on which it is based. The most contentious book discussed was Dan Brown *The Da Vinci Code*, proving that heated debate and diverse opinions make for a great book club evening. Ranging beyond these obscurely mystery/detective linked stories other texts moved us into the realm of allegory and autobiography with two short

post-exam books chosen for the later half of the Summer Term. These were Paul Coelho's soul-searching *The Alchemist* and Jean-Dominique Bauby's incredible *The Diving-Bell and the Butterfly*, 'written' by a man so paralysed that he dictated it with the blink of an eye-lid! Books for next term include Isabel Allende's *Portrait in Sepia* and *The Time-Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger. Do let Dr Marsden know if you would like to join the group.

*Ros Marsden*

### RICHARD III

In October the Theatre Club made a raid over the Welsh border into Plantagenet country to see the "murderous mayhem" of Shakespeare's *Richard III* at Monmouth's newly opened Blake Theatre. With four cast members, Kaos Theatre Company had its work cut out to carry all the major roles whilst changing from gaolers to King's, from royal weeping widows to henchmen. The male members of the cast were particularly impressive, especially the malevolent yet marvellous monster of Richard himself. The female half of the cast seemed disappointingly weak in comparison but it was only after the show that we learnt the reason for this: an injury to one of the original cast line-up had left an understudy with only two weeks to rehearse and memorise her different roles. The other thing that seemed strangely lacking was the physicality normally so characteristic of Kaos productions. This departure was partially made up for by the psychological intensity of the piece but one couldn't help wondering if the cast had decided to simplify their performance due to the late minute cast changes. A few pupils were left slightly bemused by the fast and furious pace of the drama, made more complex to follow by the actors playing so many different roles but all seemed to enjoy the evening out and the chance to have prime seats in such a new theatre.

*Paul Dodd*

### THE GREAT SKITTLES NIGHT!

On the 27th January 6A travelled to the renowned 'Seven Tuns' pub, on the headmaster's invitation, for what



*Matt Nicholls ponders the best line*

was to be a fiercely contested skittles night. This night was to celebrate the near ending of our January modular examinations (not MOCKS as many liked to call them!) Joining us were a whole array of staff and gap tutors and the evening started with a delicious meal. The skittles itself started seriously with everyone getting 3 bowls to get as many pins down as possible. Some people, namely Caroline Wells and Claire Taylor, weren't really concentrating, instead making inappropriate origami out of napkins. Geoff Hulbert turned up late in a suit and a tie which was not really appropriate skittles attire ('apparently' he had just come from a university interview - any excuse to dress up!) After everyone had had a go, Jessi Wells took the reins and

showed everyone how to play skittles 'Jessi style'. She added a compulsory 'hop, skip and a jump' before you bowled which surprisingly improved people's games. She also added a very popular 'freestyle' round which saw much silly behaviour, most notably Mr. Holden and Mrs. Dodd's 'Cheeky Girl' rendition - truly inspirational stuff! All in all, this was a very successful evening with a little skittles but with much laughter and fun well deserved after a hard few weeks of exams. A big thank you to Mr. Holden for inviting us to this memorable evening and for also showing us what a groover he really is....!!!

*Jess Weston*



*Graham can't understand Lotta's skittle technique*

## EAT MORE GARLIC!

Diana Dodd gave the following address at the Leavers' "Church service":

Eat more garlic! Yes, that's right - eat more garlic!

It was with these three words that my school chaplain bid farewell to me when I left school 30 years ago. I have certainly tried very hard with the first two words but I'm not sure about the garlic bit.

I also remember him telling us that all advice to the young was useless and that we would just have to get out there into the real world and find out who we were. He was right!

So, you'll be glad to know that I am going to try to resist giving you any advice.

Some people say that your school days are the "happiest days of your life". What a depressing thought!! If this is as good as it gets then you are not going to do much in the next 70 years or indeed be very happy.

What about all those future moments of happiness? Finishing your degree, buying your first home, your first marriage, your first promotion and your first child. Some or all of these lie ahead for you.

I hope that at the moment you are feeling a bit like you are in an airport departure lounge, all waiting to board different flights. You are keen to depart, a bit nervous about the flight and not finding it too easy to say goodbye to those who aren't flying with you on your particular journey.

I wonder what your memories of your time at Rendcomb are? I hope many of them are happy ones that you will carry with you and occasionally smile over as the years pass.

I remember some of you as young Form ones.

Jessica Weston, strong and hearty, good at games and clever, a classic Head Girl. Yet, I hope she will take away memories of The Curtain Dance. One of the many endless dance routines which Godman girls would cajole staff into watching!

Luke Gunner, now the king of the

Afro hairstyle, but once the king of self-containment, who barely said a word in class but who revealed such hidden depths when he did speak.

Jessica Wells sported funny little ponytails in Form 1 and I can still remember her wicked grin as Sister pulled a large needle out of her sister's toe.

Rupert Uzzell specialized in the art of the exploding folder and the dishevelled appearance. Please can I have my file dividers back, Rupert, because I know you never used them!

I can still hear Claire Taylor knocking gently on my door and asking for a paracetamol for the pain as her braces straightened her teeth into the beautiful set she has now as a grown woman.

A vision pirouettes into view - it's Heather Roper, Head Girl, but once a 12 year old girl. Chubbily resplendent in pink tutu, fairy wand and wings greeting startled guests as they arrived for the Godrec Christmas Concert. Heather also delighted in reminding me when it was 5.30 pm and that it was time to have a gin and tonic while she skipped happily off to school supper.

Peter Liang, Head Boy and master of the violin who has delighted us with so many wonderful performances, culminating in a top prize at the Cheltenham Festival this year.

Then you all stretched a bit and others who were also interesting joined us.

The Hulbert Twins arrived in a flurry of vintage cars. Geoffrey, captain of all three sports and Head Boy, so different from his brother Graham the maestro of piano improvisation. On so many early evenings the sound of him playing drifted up the main staircase to our offices. We will miss that.

Charlotte Cumberpatch was another musician who sang and played for us but who also had a strange attachment to Bob The Builder!

Matthew "Pickles" Nichols arrived and adopted the title of "school intellectual". A fanatical Chelsea supporter who also delighted many of us with his strong and mature portrayal of Jean Valjean in last

year's "Les Miserables".

Laura Holmes also played a key role in this production and in her other role as Music Prefect.

Ryosuke Murahashi, artist, rugby player and possibly the fastest thrower from the outfield in Japanese cricket.

Then the luvvie of them all appeared - Lauren Lees; devoted to all matters theatrical, able to cry on cue and did so beautifully in several shows. She can now enjoy a Gap year and then off to Drama School for, as Mr Morgan likes to put it, more training in weeping and hugging!

Caroline Wells, strong-willed, no nonsense, Old Rectory prefect also enjoyed Drama but found her niche tutoring Mr Dodd [not the other way round!]

And, of course, Dan, the man, Seo. Wild Korean artist, he made an artist's palette of his own hair colour over the years and even inspired Mrs Blackwell to splash out!

Hannah Bishop arrived in Lawn and showed her intellect and sporting prowess.

And then, as if by magic, you all looked like grown men and women in Park and more new faces joined us.

Rachel Hardy joined the acting fraternity, playing everything from an electrical torture expert to a prostitute in "Les Miz"

Joe Drysdale walked calmly about the school with his wry smile and proved to be a sensitive listener for those needing advice.

Lotta von Rotenham, followed her brother here and had two shots at Rendcomb life which is rather appropriate as she is the captain of girls' shooting.

Sarah Zheng, a purposeful and definite person and Christine Dai, our successful Oxbridge candidate, all helped develop our international perspective.

What an effective year group you have been! You have a wide variety of personalities and backgrounds and have given such a lot to this school.

You should be proud of your achievements but we hope that you will also try to forgive us for the

times when you may have felt we have let you down.

I know I speak for all of the staff, when I wish you God-speed on your journey and happy travelling.

I think your flights are just about to be called. It is almost time to gather all your personal belongings and exit the departure lounge.

Just one small piece of advice for the flight - if all else fails - eat more garlic!

*Diana Dodd, June 2005*



Luke Gunner

**NEW STAFF**

Charles Brierley-Howes joins us as Head of Academic ICT. His distinguished career has included posts in both the UK and New Zealand, including Wanganui Collegiate School, Felsted, Berkhamsted and Christ's Hospital. Charles is joined by his wife Siobhan.



Charles and Siobhan Brierley-Howes

**STAFF LEAVERS**

Julia Morris leaves Rendcomb after a twenty year association

both as distinguished singing and 'cello teacher and as parent. Julia's contribution has been immense and a generation of Rendcombians have a great deal to thank Julia for. We hope that this will not be goodbye but more a case of au revoir.



Julia Morris

Richard Lester leaves the College after many years. Richard, who was formerly, Director of Music at Oakley Hall, will be fondly remembered by many pupils at Rendcomb.



Sixth form leavers

## Academic Record

### A LEVEL EXAMINATION RESULTS

H BISHOP

B, Py\*, Pe, P (AS)

C CUMBERPATCH

Bs, Ee, F, Mu (AS)

C DAI

C\*, Cns, M\*, Mf\*, P

J DRYSDALE

B, Ee, G

L GUNNER

C, M\*, P, A (AS), Mf (AS)

R HARDY

Bs\*, D, Ee\*, F (AS)

L HOLMES

Bs, Ee, Mu\*, F (AS)

G E HULBERT

B, C, H, A (AS)

G S HULBERT

B, C\*, P, M (AS)

L LEES

Bs, D\*, Ee, MuTech (AS)

P LIANG

H\*, M, Mu\*, Ee (AS)

R MURAHASHI

A, C, B (AS)

M NICHOLS

Ee\*, F\*, H\*, M\*

H ROPER

Ee\*, H\*, M, F (AS)

D SEO

A\*, M\*, Mf, Bs (AS)

C TAYLOR

A, Bs\*, Ee, M (AS),

R UZZELL

Ee\*, H\*, Mu\*, D\* (AS),

L VON ROTENHAN

A, Ee, F, Gm\*

C WELLS

D\*, Ee\*, H\*, F (AS),

J WELLS

A, Bs, D, Py (AS),

J WESTON

A\*, B\*. Ee\*, G\*,

S ZHENG

A\*, M\*, Mf, P, Cns\* (AS)

### GCSE EXAMINATION RESULTS

M CHESTER-MASTER

D\* E\*\* EI\*\* F G Ict M ScDA

c COX

B\* C E EI F G\* M Mu\* Pe\* P

B CRANE

A\* B\* C\* E EI G\* Gm M Pe\* P\*

A ELSEN

A\* D\* E\* EI\*\* F\*\* H\*\* M ScDA

G FINLAY

B\* C\*\* E EI F G\* H\*\* Ict\* M\*\* P\*

H FROST

B\* C\* D\*\* E\*\* EI\*\* F\*\* Gm\*\* H\*\* M P\*

A GRAHAM

B c D\* E EI F G M Mu\* P

H HARBOTTLE

A B C D\* E EI F\* M P

M HARDY

E EI G Ict M ScDA

J HARRISON

B\*\* C\*\* E\* EI\* F\*\* G\*\* H\* M\*\* Mu\* P\*\*

I HO

A EI M ScDA



Rupert Uzzell, Heather Roper, Peter Liang & Jess Weston celebrate A Level success

A HOLDEN

D\*\* E\* EI F H\*\* M\* Mu\* ScDA\*

M HOOK

B\*\* C\*\* E\*\* EI\* F\*\* G\*\* Gm\*\* H\*\* M\*\* P\*\*

E JEFFERSON

A\*\* E\* EI\* G\* Gm M ScDA

P KU

A M\* ScDA

L LEUNG

B C E EI G H\* Ict M\*\* P

S MARSHALL

E EI F G M Mu ScDA

K MATTHEW

A E EI F H\*\* M Mu ScDA

J MAXTED

B\*\* C\*\* E\* EI F\* G\*\* H\*\* M\* Mu\* P\*\*

B MORRIS

AE G M

C NG

A Ch\*\* E EI Ict\* M\*\* ScDA\*\*

A PURVIS

E EI H\* Ict M Pe ScDA

B SAMPSON

A E EI F G M

W SMITH

A\*\* E EI F G M ScDA

A STAINES

B\*\* C\*\* E\*\* EI\* F\*\* G\*\* Gm\*\* H\*\* M\*\* P\*\*

J TAPSELL

A\* E EI F Gm Ict M\* ScDA

P TAYLOR

B C\* E EI Gm\*\* H\*\* Ict M\*\* Pe\* P

J THISTLETHWAITE

A\*\* D\* E EI Gm Ict M ScDA

R WATSON

B C D E EI Gm H\*\* M\* P\*

M WEBB-DICKIN

A\*\* B\* C\* E\* EI\* F H\* M Mu\* P

R WHITTLES

A\* B\*\* C\*\* E\* EI\*\* F\* G\* M\*\* Mu P\*\*

C WILLIAMS

B\* C\* D\*\* E\* EI\* F\* G\*\* M\* Pe\*\* P\*

C XU

A\*\* Ch\*\* E EI M\*\* ScDA

**4TH FORM:**

J BLADON

Mu\*\*

M GUNNER

Mu\*

D KU

Ch\*\*

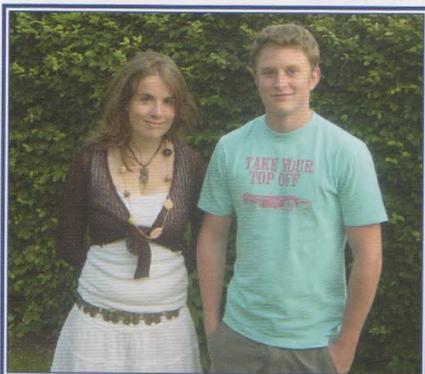
M ODINTSOVA

R\*\*

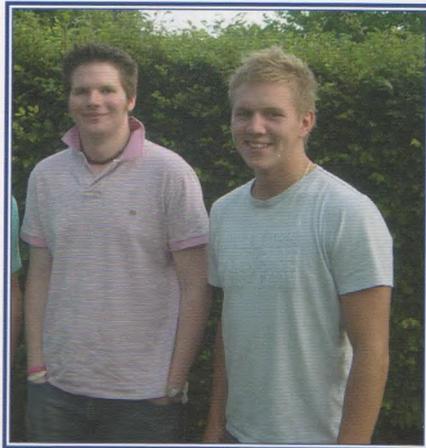
Key: Grades A\* - C, \*\* = grade A\*,  
\* = grade A

Subject key: A-Art, B-Biology, C-Chemistry, Ch-Chinese, D-Drama, E-English Language, EI-English Literature, F-French, G-Geography, Gm-German, H-History, Ict-Information Communication Technology, M-Mathematics, Mu-Music, P-Physics, Pe-Physical Education, R-Russian, ScDA-Science (Double Award)

**PREFECTS 2005-06**



Fiona Hicks and Jamie Burley



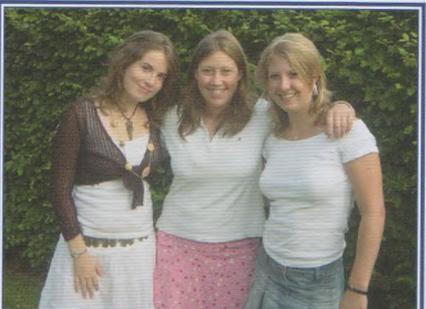
Ed Hutchison & James Tarleton



Old Rectory Prefects



Godman House Prefects



Lawn House Prefects



International Prefects

# JUNIOR SCHOOL

## HEADMASTER'S REPORT

There have been some significant developments during the year. The formation of the RCJPA, the creation of the new Art/DT area and, of course, the opening of the Nursery. Sophie Langstaff and Fiona Auster have created a beautiful and stimulating learning and care environment.

My thanks go to the parents of our Nursery children for having the faith in us to entrust their son or daughter in the Nursery's formative stage.

At the end of the Summer Term we have the opportunity to review the past year and reflect on our successes and achievements. Academic progress and attainment are at the forefront of our goals and the pupils can be very proud of themselves. All J6 who took the entrance exam to the College passed, some receiving awards, while throughout the school at all levels, high standards have regularly been reached.

Events outside the classroom have been so numerous that we only have time to mention and relive a few. We have witnessed some tremendous developments on the music front, culminating in the super "Summer Extravaganza". The performance of the choir, recorder and guitar groups, orchestra as well as the individual artists all bear testimony to the love and joy of music growing in the school.

Drama, continues to flourish. Before Christmas the Otters' performed a lovely Nativity Play and then a number of Juniors were lucky enough to perform in Les Miserables, a truly outstanding and memorable production. Concluding the drama season this term was the challenging but delightful "Wind in the Willows". The pupils in J3-J6 worked very hard and two 1st class performances were given. The 4 main characters Rat, Mole, Badger and Toad had huge numbers of lines to learn and they delivered superbly.

The introduction of Artist of the Month has raised the profile of Art and many visitors remark on the high quality of pupil work on display and Mrs Watson has just won "Junior Education's" Display of The Month for July! After school activities such as paper mache, silk painting, paper folding and fun with fabrics provide further diverse opportunities for the children to explore and express their artistic talents,

The highlight of the Art & DT year was J6's success in winning the Persil 10-12 age category award for their design and construction of futuristic greenhouses. Well done J6 and Mrs Haas - to win a National Competition is a great achievement and to be the first ever winners of a

## STAFF NEWS

### WELCOME

#### Nicola Welfare

Nicky joined us from The Downs School, Bristol, where she was head of Early Years. We were delighted to appoint someone of her excellence and experience as Head of Otters and J2 Form teacher. J2 have enjoyed a wonderful year and in her quiet, caring and purposeful manner she has already provided invaluable direction and support to the department.

#### Melanie Pavia

Melanie's previous experience was in the maintained sector but she has adapted to the differences of Independent Education with ease. Possessing a wonderful smile Mel's presence welcomes and reassures both children and parents. J1 is always a hive of activity and Melanie has quickly established herself as a valued and well respected member of our team.

#### Sophie Lanastaff

Initially Sophie joined us in September 2004 as a classroom assistant covering maternity leave. However, this was a dual role for during the Michaelmas term she helped to mastermind the development of The Nursery. Norland trained, she has created a wonderful learning environment for our 3-4 year olds and we look forward to its continued growth and success.

#### Fiona Auster

An experienced teacher, most recently at Hatherop Castle and Paternoster schools, Fiona joined our team in January 2005 to assist Sophie Langstaff in establishing and running The Nursery. We are delighted to welcome her to Rendcomb and value the care and professionalism that she exudes.



new award makes it even more special!

Somehow there has even been time for sport! Pride of place must go to the U9 boys who only suffered 2 defeats all year, and to the Girls' Pop Lacrosse team who won the Downe House Tournament for a 2nd year. The mixed lacrosse team did well to reach the National Finals and there were notable performances at The Area Athletic Finals. Importantly everyone who has represented the School in whatever team or age group, throughout the year, played with the right attitude and spirit. Internally we have enjoyed some super events - Cross Country, Duathlon, Sports' Day, Swimming Galas and all the events saw children competing, participating and having fun.

While it is natural to look back over the past year it is also a time to look forward. For members of J6 this is a time of mixed emotions. Excited to be moving to the new challenges of Senior School, and feeling rightly proud of their contribution to the Junior School and their own personal achievements, there is also more than a twinge of sadness that this stage of their school life is nearly over. For those present at Founder's Day I am sure you were impressed by Andrea Haas' speech - it made me very proud of her and J6 as a whole. We have thoroughly enjoyed this J6 group - they have been fun, largely responsible and great ambassadors of Rendcomb College Junior School, often receiving compliments from visitors to the school or from the public when they are out of School. J6 we thank you for your massive contribution to our special community.

I am often asked what makes Rendcomb College Junior School special - I feel we have a unique atmosphere. One that is hard to quantify but one that arises from the close relationship that we have with our parents. The RCJPA and JEST, under the respective leadership of Miles Carpenter and Sue Fawcett, play an invaluable role and I thank them and all of you for your support of me and the School, it is much appreciated. Together we can look forward to the challenges of 2005-06 with great optimism!



## PRIZES

The following prizes were awarded in Final Assembly:-

Girls' Cross Country Cup	- Andrea Haas
Boys' Cross Country Cup	- Lance Baynham
The Meborn-Hubbard Girls' Victor Ludorum	- Andrea Haas
The Henniker-Gotley Boys' Victor Ludorum	- Billy Fitzgerald-Lowry
Reeves Cup for Improved Reading	- Alexander Hewer
Phelps Effort Cup	- Joshua Cropper
Carden Cup for Music	- Miriam Barks
Dufosse Art Cup	- Elliott Finn
Shackel Cup for Drama	- Holly Phelps
Osborne Cup for Girls' Sport	- Andrea Haas / Holly Phelps
Palmer Cup for Boys' Sport	- Oscar Doyle / Alex Symcox
Arkle Cup for All Round Improvement	- Elliott Finn
Trim Happy Cup	- Emily (Milly) Williams
Potter Cup for Overall Contribution	- Charlotte Stedman

### Catriona Gilmour

Cat has worked with us for two terms, since January 2005, as maternity cover for Amanda Houghton-Brown. Acting as Form Tutor for J4 she has also taught French throughout the school. We thank her for her support and friendship and wish her every future success in her new post at Clifton College, Bristol.

### FAREWELL

#### Penny Kelly

Penny has worked as a classroom assistant for two years helping in all areas of the school from Nursery to J6. Adored by the children, respected by the parents and highly valued by her friends and colleagues we will miss her very much. Our sincere thanks and best wishes go with her for all her tremendous work and support as she embarks on a more administrative role at Prior Park Preparatory School.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Many congratulations to Amanda Houghton-Brown and Nicki Tait on the birth of their respective babies, Lauren and Finn. We are thrilled for them and are very pleased that both ladies have returned to the team in part-time capacities.



Plane role play



Ahoy



Doppy even went underwater!



Andrew at the Computer



# NURSERIES

## Fun in Our New Nursery Class!

Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported us in setting up our super Nursery. While only open for two months much has already been achieved. The children have made lots of new friends and have enjoyed many new and exciting activities. What fun!



Listening Games

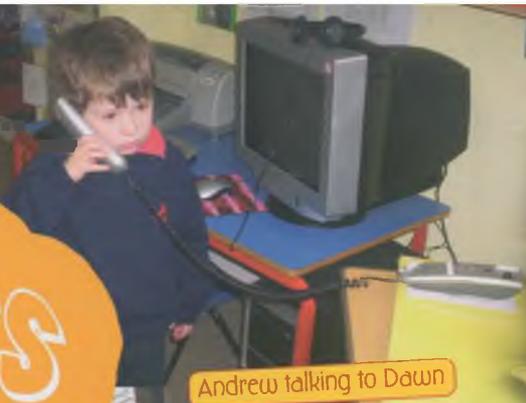


Lunch/Snacktime



Olie

# CLASS



Andrew talking to Dawn



Lily & Czeska Adventure Playground



Circle/News time



Harry with the smelling jars



Sports day



Cooking



Thomas and Ollie spray painting



Marcus had great fun on the farm trip

Zoolab

# Reception through the year...

Reception have learnt about the world around them by observing the changes in the seasons



Percy's hut role play



Our Autumn trip to Westonbirt

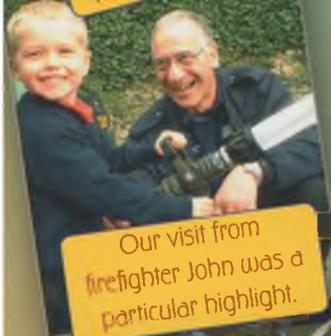


Horseshoes

# Autumn



Mr. Peake visited us in his police car.



Our visit from firefighter John was a particular highlight.



Lauren and skull!



Megan and skeleton!



"This won't hurt a bit Annabelle".



Celebrating Christmas in our Nativity



Chinese New Year



Kung hey fat choi!



We grew our own



We had fun disguising ourselves!

# Winter



Jessica's fairy Godmother



Aran painted a Ninja Turtle



Castle



Posting a letter to the Three Bears at Rendcombres Post Office



We designed stamps, wrote postcards, weighed parcels and delivered letters to our own Post Office



Our Spring Walk



We used magnifying glasses to look closely at snails.



Lauren's snail collage



# Spring



Harvey's spider



Investigating torches and coloured filters



Watching the life cycle of our painted lady butterflies



Alan made a wormery



Bous swim-



The Otters had a Teddy Bear's Picnic



Annabelle and Timmy

# Summer



We loved the Maize maze!



We went to see the new foal



Megan's painting of friends on the coach



The tractor ride at Roves farm.



J1



I feel happy when I am at home.  
 I feel happy when I read to miss Kelly.  
 I feel happy when I am with miss Pavia. I feel happy when I play on daddys game.



J1 have had a brilliant and very busy year. I cannot believe I have been at Rendcomb for a whole academic year. It has flown by. Our topics have ranged from 'Ourselves' to 'Homes' and 'Seasides'. We have enjoyed both visitors and trips out. Our day at Sevington School was a great success and the children were completely engrossed in all the activities. The sun came out for our trip to Rove's Farm, and you can see from the pictures what a lovely day we had. Here are just a few highlights from the year...

Our senses at the seaside  
 I can see, a lighthouse  
 I can touch, some seaweed  
 I can smell the salty sea  
 I can taste the salty sea



Sparklers  
 Red rockets go bang  
 Sparklers are shiny  
 Gold silver and red  
 Fiery flowers  
 Swirling fire.

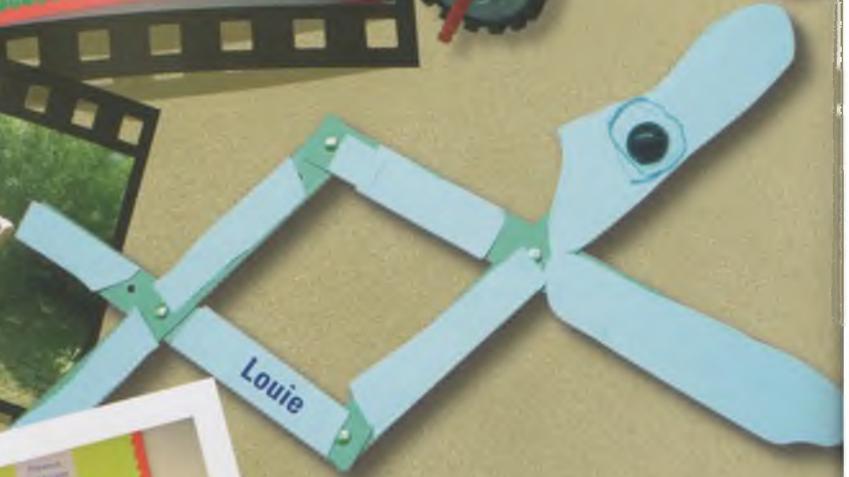
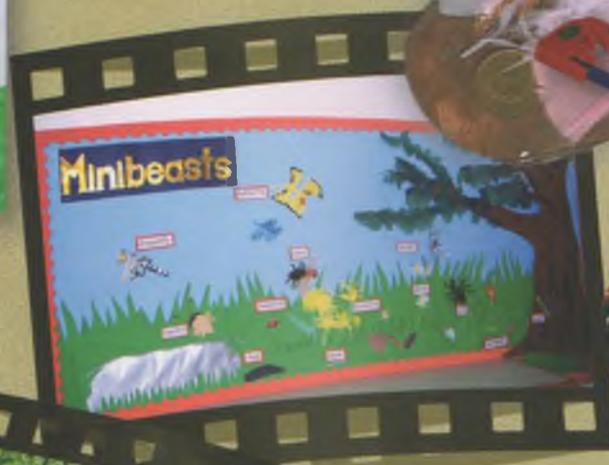


on the beach  
 There's a fish over there  
 And he's blowing some bubbles  
 A little boy said  
 your in trouble.





J2 have been tremendously enthusiastic. They have worked hard, played hard, co-operated and looked after each other. We have had lots of fun and it has been a very enjoyable year.



### I was late for school because

On my way to school, I chased a dragon.  
It was fat.  
It was a fiery, fat dragon.  
It was a scary, fiery, fat, dragon.  
It was a mean, scary, fiery, fat dragon.  
It was a red, mean, scary, fiery, fat dragon  
and it fell over me and that's why  
I am late for school!

By Lucas Hair

# Sevington School Dinner

I heard the school bell. We went into the boys' side. We had to stand straight. Miss Squires took us into the classroom and the monitors gave everyone a pencil. We had to sit up straight.

Miss Squires showed us a portrait of Queen Victoria. I was very scared because I forgot to take my cap off. She almost put the Dunce's hat on me.

Then we made wax candles. Then we had lunch and we had play. I played on the hobbyhorse. For lunch I had a biscuit, a carrot, an apple and some cheese.

Then we did some three times tables. Then we did some hand writing and some reading. Finally we said a prayer and gave Miss Squires a friendly handshake and walked home quietly.

I was very tired after my first day at school.

*By Mitchell Kendall-Smith*



## Samuel Pepys' Diary

My maid Jane woke me up. She told me there was a fire outside, so I hurried to the window and I realised there was a little house burning in the distance, so I just went back to bed.

When I woke up the next morning, I saw a raging fire so I went to see the King, the King told me to see the Mayor. The Mayor was very afraid because no one would listen to him. So I went to see the King. The King went to see his sailors and I went to bury my wine and cheese and important papers.

It was very hard to get to my house because the pavements were hot and they could burn my feet. The gutters were melting. People were screaming and it smelt horrible and the fire made my eyes hurt.

I went to see the King, he said he was going to blow up some houses to make a firebreak. Bang they made a firebreak. The wind stopped. The fire stopped just before my house. I am so glad my house survived. I went into my house to have a feast.

*By Henry Jones*



# JEST



Now that's Entertainment

This has been a year of firsts for the Junior School Social Events Team. Despite a wet afternoon, we held our first fete, which to quote one member of the Junior School, "Was the best fete I've ever been to." It seems that getting wet was an added bonus for some! Anyway, what more encouragement do we need to make this the first of many summer fetes?

We were also thrilled when the Spring Fling turned out to be a sell-out. It was the first time that we had arranged for a band to provide live music and a packed dance floor proved that Rendcombian Parents have still got what it takes to party!

Talking of parties, the end of 2004 saw two very different Christmas parties. To the delight of the Otters, Santa Claus dropped in to spread some festive cheer, while J3 to J6 parted with tradition and celebrated Christmas cowboy style - probably the first and last time that any of us will see tinsel clad cacti!

We enjoyed all of these events and more besides. The Social Team thank all the children, parents and staff who supported us. As well as having lots of fun we raised much needed money for both the Ugandan School Appeal and for the Tsunami Appeal. Well done team and well done to everyone for bringing smiles to lots of faces.



# Charitywork



Rendcomb College Junior School has a policy to remember those less fortunate than ourselves. We have carried out many activities to raise both awareness and money, nearly £2,000, for a variety of charities around the world. These have included:

- Jeans for Genes Day,
- the Harvest Festival in which we provided food for Cirencester Housing for Young People (CHYP),
- the Bring and Buy organised by Mrs Phelps along with other fund-raising activities for Lord Meade's School in Uganda after the visit from their Deputy Head, Lucy Kibirige,
- Christmas present boxes for orphans in Europe,
- Mad Hair Day for Red Nose Day,
- The Tsunami appeal included kind donations, a cake sale organised by Holly Phelps, Tershie Hayward and Miriam Barks, another Bring and Buy manned by J6 pupils and a mini-fete run by Oscar and Archie Doyle,
- And dressing in eye-catching wear for Sightsavers International.





## Otters' Sports Day

We had a wonderful Otters' Sports Day and we were lucky with the warm weather. All the children took part and tried their very best.

The children enjoyed all of the races, particularly the team races. The water race caused a lot of excitement and the children created fantastic faces in the 'Paint a Face Race'. Well done Otters'!



## Otters' Swimming Sports

In spite of the rain, the Otters enjoyed their swimming sports. They impressed their parents with their water confidence and skills. The jumping in was very exciting with lots of spray, and the swimming races competitive. The team games were fast and busy, with lots of brightly coloured balls being thrown enthusiastically into goals. Everyone deserved their competitors' certificates.

## Junior Sports day

A fantastic afternoon was had by all at the Junior Sports Day on Friday 10th June. The weather was kind to us and the children were eager to put the term's athletics training into practise. There were some really close fought races and the competitive environment made the afternoon very exciting. The children really worked hard and as one of the parents remarked, "It had the atmosphere of a proper athletics meet." Congratulations to all who took part.



## Junior Swimming Gala

J3-J6 had a fantastic afternoon in the pool on Wednesday 29 June. The weather was a pleasant surprise and the rain that was forecast held off. All the children had the opportunity to swim many races showcasing their developing swimming skills to the enthusiastic parent audience. All the swimmers performed very well to loud cheers and applause and all enjoyed themselves.



## UNDER 9 SPORTS



## U9 Rugby

The U9 rugby team had an excellent season this year and were undefeated. This was partly due to the fact that some of the boys regularly play

club rugby and have more of an exposure to the full contact game. However it was also down to some good ball handling skills and the ability to run with the ball as well as dogged determination. To say that we had good penetrative power whilst running would be an understatement. Once on the run we penetrated most of our oppositions defence and regularly scored tries. This was the second year that some of the boys had played together and it showed. Well done, a good season.

## U9 Girls' Hockey

Despite this being their first experience of Hockey the girls picked up the techniques involved quickly and soon developed the tactical understanding required. We went to Hatherop Castle to play our first ever match. The excitement was rife and soon the whistle blew to start the game. Each and every girl defended well and attacked the goal with a they had. Although we lost narrowly the girls enjoyed the match and tea and were soon back on the Rendcomb College AstroTurf developing their skills further. Well done everyone.

## U9 Football

Generally we had a good season and played well against other schools. We had a good front triangle who, when working well together, would set the ball up and score. All of the boys in Junior Three and Four represented the school at football and I congratulate them on their efforts for the team. Well done.



## U9 Netball

The J3 and J4 girls tried hard in every match and practice this term. Once their basic skills developed they began to work together as a team creating some good set pieces down the court. Matches were played against Hatherop Castle, Ingleside and Richard Pates where the girls enjoyed the chance to play the sport in competitive situations.

## U9 Cricket

Again this year we have been up against the weather. The boys have been working hard on honing their cricket skills and tactics with much appreciated input from David Essenhigh. We have had a number of successes against other schools and have worked hard in match situations. Well done to all the boys who have represented Rendcomb.

## U9 Rounders

Despite the bad weather the U9's have vastly improved in every aspect of the game.

The only match that wasn't cancelled due to the typical British weather was against Hatherop Castle. Although the girls suffered defeat, their was only by two Rounders. Everyone threw accurately, caught bravely and hit the ball with all their force.

Well done to all the girls and I look forward to this potential developing further next year.

# UNDER 11 SPORTS

## U11 Rugby

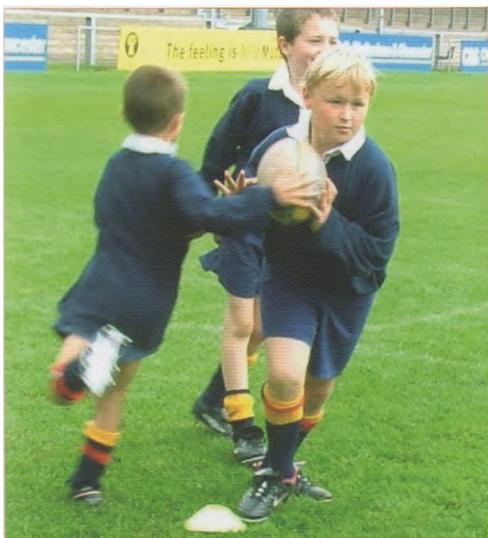
**Played 4 Won 0 Drew 0 Lost 4**

It was clear from the outset that with a very young side we were going to struggle up front. Technically we competed well in set play but in the loose we were often second best. As a result possession, particularly second phase, was very limited and the back line was often on the back foot with defensive duties.

Oscar Doyle, the captain, and Alex Symcox led by example and increasingly more of the team responded and committed themselves more physically. Most of the side were playing a year ahead of themselves and the experience gained will be invaluable for next season.

My thanks go to all who played, tried so hard and enjoyed the game.

Colours were awarded to Oscar Doyle & Alex Symcox



## U11A Girls' Hockey

**Played 6 Won 2 Drew 2 Lost 2**

This was a busy season for a young and relatively inexperienced side in which Holly Phelps the captain and Andrea Haas in midfield were the only remaining players from the previous year's A team squad. They both led by example on the pitch and their experience and individual skill were invaluable to the team. Delia Rich, Katie McCourt and Imogen Hutton-Potts although in J5, showed considerable early season skill and soon assured their places in the side, as did Miriam Barks in J6. They all worked very hard and rose to the challenge of playing at this new level. Tershie Hayward happily donned the goal keeping pads for the first time and quickly learnt her new position, making many a crucial save during matches. Finally, new recruit Megan Mulhall (J6) also proved herself to be a powerful force down the wing.

The girls had two good early season wins over Rosehill and Ingleside followed by frantic end-to-end matches against both Richard Pates and Hatherop which resulted in no score draws. These coupled with narrow defeats against St. Edward's and Berkhamstead ended another successful season for girls' hockey.

Well done to all who played!

Colours were awarded to: Holly Phelps and Andrea Haas



## U11 Boys' Hockey

**Played 2 Won 0 Drew 0 Lost 2**

As usual our experience of hockey came from Monday Hockey Club. In only our second season of playing there was a significant rise in skill level and understanding of the game. Though both matches were lost the gap between the sides was slight and really the only difference was in the finishing. In fact we dominated most of the game against Rose Hill and in the 1st half against Richard Pate School.

The boys played with tremendous enthusiasm and determination and we look forward to further development and enjoyment next year.

## U11B Girls' Hockey

All of the girls had a chance to represent Rendcomb in two "B" fixtures. The first match against St Edward's proved to be a hard fought contest with some of the younger players of the team showing promising skills. Tori Collishaw as goal keeper managed to stop quite a few shots by St Edward's but Rendcomb shots found the goal and a well-deserved win was the final result.

The second fixture was against Richard Pates on a bitterly cold day when temperatures dipped below zero. Late in the afternoon the "B" team took to the pitch and fought hard to win every ball. However, the more experienced opposition managed to score two quick goals and although Rendcomb defended well, their shots would not go in the net.

Well done to all those girls who represented the school.



## U11 Football

**Played 3 Won 0 Drew 0 Lost 3**

As usual our season started at the St Francis School Tournament. In windy conditions we looked competitive and strong in most departments. Eventually we lost narrowly in the semi-final to the eventual winners. The team displayed good skill levels in all matches and we were particularly creative in midfield. Regular chances were forthcoming but too few were converted

into goals; sometimes due to poor finishing but at times due to a lack of luck. Against Ingleside alone the woodwork was hit 6 times!

Despite the failure to secure victories there were many plus points from the season. Certainly our passing game improved and in Oliver Pullen and Billy Fitzgerald-Lowry we have two key players in place for next year's campaign.

Well tried everyone.

## U11A Girls' Netball

**Played 5 Won 2 Drew 0 Lost 3**

Again the winter term lived up to its reputation and a number of fixtures were cancelled due to the weather. I will never however forget the girls' match against Rosehill. It began in bright sunshine, by half time there was a howling gale blowing and in the final quarter the girls played through a blizzard! Sadly they failed to score enough goals early on and it was not the conditions to make a heroic comeback! Convincing wins were nonetheless achieved against Ingleside and King's Gloucester.

This year's A team squad was ably captained by Andrea Haas who was an athletic and versatile centre supported by Tershie Hayward and Miriam Barks on the two wings. Holly Phelps, Imogen Hutton Potts and Victoria Clark shared the shooting honours and became more consistent as the season progressed. Paige Watson used her height to good effect as GK and was complemented well by Megan Mulhall as a suitably aggressive GD.

The team worked hard all season and developed their skills through the course of the term. Their spatial awareness improved greatly as did the pace at which they played. I hope they will continue to build on these skills in the future. Well done!

## U11B Netball

Due to some cold and wintry weather conditions only two "B" team fixtures survived, firstly against King's Gloucester and then what was really an Under 10 match versus Hatherop Castle School. Against King's all of the skills practised during games lessons were put to good use and a great team performance was evident. The girls moved the ball quickly and accurately and some super shooting resulted in an excellent victory. The Under 10's started very slowly and gave too many goals away as a head start. During the latter stages of the match we were on top but couldn't make up for the first quarter. Overall an encouraging, if short, season.

## U11 Cricket

**Played 3 Won 0 Drew 0 Lost 3**

Cold, damp, windy and unsettled weather once again heralded another summer season of cricket! Again we were faced with fielding a very young and inexperienced side and they found it difficult to adapt to the variety of formats played. Kwik, pairs and full cricket were experienced and the boys worked hard to improve their individual skills, team work and overall understanding of the game. The most significant progress was in the bowling and field departments where we became much more focused and competitive. The performances of Alexander



Kentfield and Max McLelian, with the ball, and Lance Baynham, behind the stumps, deserve particular mention. Batting posed our biggest problem and most struggled to get the ball off the square, generally due to a lack of composure and confidence.

I was delighted by the boys' attitude, enthusiasm and progress and with 9 of the side in J5 valuable experience will be taken into next season.

## U11A Girls' Rounders

**Played 3 Won 1 Drew 0 Lost 2**

The summer term is notoriously busy and this year was no exception. A typically 'English' summer saw our Ingleside fixture cancelled due to rain which left just the three fixtures for the A team squad. The first match which saw defeat against Hatherop, caught the girls off guard early in the season and they quickly realised there was work to be done! Next followed a much-improved performance but sadly still a narrow defeat, by just one rounder, at the hands of St. Francis. This was not helped by a game in which an unusually short number of balls were played and Rendcomb found their form a little too late. Satisfaction came however in the final match against Rosehill where Rendcomb played a terrific all round game, batting strongly as well as giving a tight and tactically alert fielding performance. The match ended 12-9 with captain Megan Mulhall scoring an impressive four rounders. Fast accurate bowling from Holly Phelps also kept us in contention as did the quick hands of our younger year five team members.

Well done to all who played this season.

With six year fives in the squad however, it remains an encouraging prospect for the future.

**Colours were awarded to:** Megan Mulhall

## U11B Rounders

All of the girls in years 5 and 6 played against other schools and enjoyed the experience. They first played against Hatherop and this match was very much a learning experience about the many rules. Rendcomb batted well and scored many half rounders but weaker fielding affected the overall result.

The second fixture against Rose Hill was played on an extremely hot day which made the match difficult. Some good batting was seen by Alana Carpenter and Charlotte Stedman but again Rendcomb's fielding was not quite as good and Rose Hill were the victors.

The girls showed good improvements during the term and they certainly seemed to enjoy playing. Well done.

## Pop Lacrosse



Pop lacrosse continues to thrive and be enjoyed by more and more pupils. We were delighted and fortunate to recruit Miss Sarah Royer, an American coach, and through her Tuesday and Thursday clubs greater skills, reading and understanding of the game has resulted for pupils from J3to J6.

The Under 11 Girls' team were victorious at The Downe House Tournament. We played 6 matches winning them all to secure the trophy for a second consecutive year, a fantastic achievement for a school of our size.

The mixed team travelled to Bath University for the Regional Finals and though the standard was incredibly high we played well and qualified for the National Finals. Held at The University of Hertfordshire, 20 teams fought for the title. With a young side we were outgunned but only missed making the Plate Finals by 1 goal! The experience gained at such tournaments is invaluable for our development and hopefully we can return next year even stronger. Well done everyone.

## Duathlon

This was the second time that the event has been run and there were more than double the amount of entries compared to last year.

From a personal point of view it was brilliant to see so many different children taking part in something that they had actually chosen to do. The standard of competition was excellent considering that some had not even attempted this type of event before. I felt privileged and humbled by all of the effort and determination that was displayed by the children competing.

In the year 3 & 4 race Sam Wood won in a time of 6 minutes and 12 seconds and Georgina Cannon was the first girl. In the year 5 & 6 race Lance Baynham won in a time of 16 minutes and 31 seconds; Miriam Barks was the first girl.

Again thanks to the parents and staff who came to support and help out.



## Cross Country

On the whole we have had a rather pleasing year in cross country. The Hatherop relays were hard yet good fun and we put in a real effort and gained some good results. The weather was very unkind to us and several of the younger juniors really felt the cold. The course was particularly demanding and uneven underfoot but our children took this in their stride and all came home smiling.

The Cokethorpe relays were attended by many schools and were a more casual affair. The circuits consisted of a number of laps around a field or a combination of those laps. Each race was led out by a senior pupil so course finding was not a problem. Again all of the children involved tried really hard and some good results were achieved.

## Inter Junior Cross Country

This was the first time that the Junior School has run an inter-junior cross country event. All of the junior children took part. It made for interesting watching to see all of the children competing against each other on a level playing field. Well done to Patrick Tarleton who won the 3 & 4 race and Georgie Cannon who was the first girl in and to Lance Baynham who won the 5 & 6 race and Andrea Haas who was the first girl in.

## Winter Warmer

For once it wasn't rainy but it was very cold. A small group of children who had signed up for this difficult race stood waiting in anticipation. Those in cross country club knew what awaited them, and those who were not in the club were in for a surprise. The pace at the start for want of a better word was brisk but the hill slowed most down. Well done to all those who took part, some real grit, determination and steel was shown by all those who took part. Well done to Lance Baynham who won the race. Again thanks must go to the parents and staff who turned up to help out and support the event.



# J3 & J4 ART



# 3

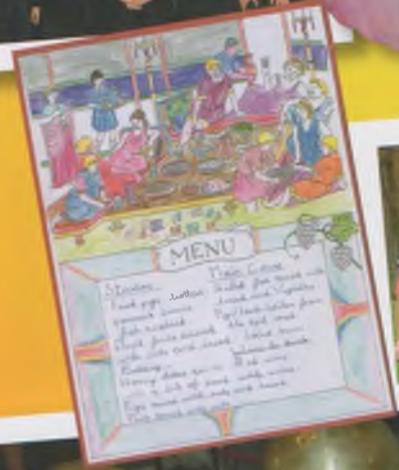
## CHRISTMAS POEMS

Children singing a Christmas song.  
 'Holly falling off the trees.  
 'Rudolph eating our carrots.  
 'Ice skating halls open.  
 Stockings filled with presents.  
 Turkey cooked and ready on the table.  
 'Mittens going on children's hands.  
 A Christmas tree brightly lit.  
 Snow falling off the branches.  
 .....That's **CHRISTMAS**.

By Rosalind Baynham

Christmas comes.  
 'Holly grows.  
 'Reindeer run across the roof.  
 'I can't wait to get my presents.  
 Stockings hang.  
 Tinsel hangs.  
 'Mince pies cooking in the oven.  
 A Winter's night.  
 Snowball fight.  
 .....That's **CHRISTMAS**.

By Oliver Kendall-Smith



### AUTUMN TREES

- Children playing
- Iced drinks
- Cows grazing
- Farmers harvest
- SUMMER SUN
- Crops growing
- Farmers busy
- Bouncing lambs
- New heifers
- Trees grow bald
- Animals hibernating
- Squirrels collecting
- Brown leaves
- WINTER COLD
- Wild winds
- Winter rain
- Big storms
- Santa comes

### SPRING BLOSSOM

By Stuart Gallop

### AUTUMN COLOURS

- People harvesting
- Apples Falling
- Holiday time
- SUMMER SHOWERS
- Sunflowers arrive
- Leaves sprouting
- Birds nesting
- Back to school
- My birthday
- Leaves falling
- WINTER COLD
- Santa comes
- Snow falls
- Jack Frost about

### SPRING LIFE

By Edward Davies

### AUTUMN LEAVES

- Green grass
- Rivers flow
- Strawberries growing
- Summer fun
- HOT SUN
- Warm days
- Lambs born
- Green leaves
- Flowers grow
- Grass dying
- Back to school
- Leaves fall
- Hibernating animals
- WINTER SNOW
- Cloudy sky
- Cold nights
- Snow falls
- Hot fires

### SPRING BULBS

By Sam Wood

# Poetry inspired by Brian Moses

## If I left my School

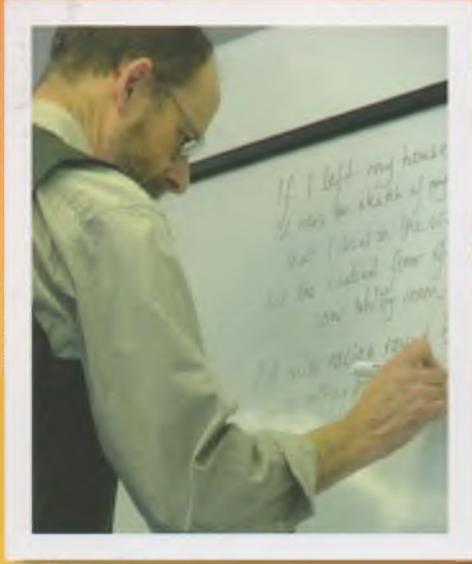
If I left my school I'd miss the wobbly step at the top of the stairs  
And the chip on the wall by the cupboard.  
I would miss the leak in the ceiling by the library  
And the pole that I swing around by the ICT Room.  
If I left my school I would miss the hot water pipe that I hurt myself on  
And sliding round the curvy wall by the kitchen.  
If I left my school I would remember all the fire drills  
And I would remember bonfire night.

By Freddie Baker

## If I moved House

If I moved house I would miss the scribble on the wall that I made with the car keys  
And the nail varnish stain on the floor.  
I would miss the creaking stair  
And the mouse hole in my room.  
If I moved house I would miss the big spider under the sofa  
And the door that's hard to open.  
If I moved house I would remember racing around the house  
And the night when I played Pop Idol with my friends in the garden.

By Katie O'Brien



## If I moved House

If I moved house I would miss the big hill that I sledge down  
And the woods where I chase my sister.  
I would miss the chickens in the next door neighbour's house  
And my mum's door that you can't open.  
I would miss my door that doesn't close properly  
And the leaks through the window when it rains heavily.  
I would miss the drops that drop down our backs from the trees  
And the view down the driveway.  
If I moved house I would remember when Jack and Joe had a water fight on my sister's birthday.  
By Emmeline Meborn-Hubbard

## Hot

When I am hot I feel like sticky honey.  
Hot is anger,  
It is like a bomb that just went bang.  
When I am hot I feel excitement taking over.  
Hot is fear,  
It is like fire burning.  
When I am hot I feel like jumping into a swimming pool.  
Hot is revenge,  
It is like an explosion.

By Daniel Haas

## Hot

When I am hot I feel like fire.  
Hot is anger,  
It is like being on stage.  
When I am hot I feel like the sun.  
Hot is excitement,  
It is like scoring the winning goal in the World Cup final.  
When I am hot I feel angry.  
Hot is red,  
It is like an exploding bomb.  
When I am hot I feel like melting plastic.  
Hot is embarrassment,  
It is like forgetting your lines on stage.

By James Tait

## Hot

When I am hot I feel like jumping in a freezing cold swimming pool.  
Hot is anger,  
It is like getting into trouble.  
When I am hot I feel like a volcano which has just erupted.  
Hot is red,  
It is like a red, juicy strawberry.  
When I am hot I feel like I am on fire.  
Hot is pain,  
It is like having a nose bleed.

By Nicola Clift





### CARS...

Roaring like fire does.  
Wheels turning around quickly.  
Comfy as a log.  
Megan Chadwick



## IF I LEFT SCHOOL

If I left school I'd miss the dead bird  
On the grass and the bin that would always  
overflow.

I'd miss the gate that would always creak  
And the big hill we'd always run down.

I'd miss the wall that everyone climbed  
And the big tree we'd use as a den.

I'd miss the uniform, red and blue  
And our griffin sign.

I'd miss the ink stain on the ceiling  
And the bell in the corridor by the cubby holes.

I'd miss the boards that once had my work on  
And the whiteboard that was always scribbled on.

I'd miss the creaky doors  
And the sort of bendy chairs.

I'd miss the statue of Saul  
And the big clock in clock hall.

I'd remember when I dropped Charlotte  
And when somebody scribbled on the board.

Katrina Ellis.



### WINTER

Christmas, white and snow.  
Snowmen on icy water.  
Icicles frozen.

Joshua Cropper

MAKE POVERTY HISTORY

Rendcomb College Junior School,  
Cirencester,  
Gloucestershire GL7 7HA

Thursday 30th June 2005

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to ask if you can stop poverty  
and make it history with the G8 summit.  
There are several reasons why I think  
poverty should be made history.

The first is that 115 million children can't go  
to school because they are too poor.

Another reason is that we do not do fair trade  
with Africa.

I'm sure you will agree that if you do not take  
these issues seriously then poverty will not  
stop.

Yours Sincerely,

Alexander Taylor.



### ME!

The writer of this poem:

Is as nice as his friends.

As strong as a shark calling its prey.

As gentle as a dog when it's calm.

As fast as a peregrine falcon at its top speed.

As slow as a puppy on its first day.

As happy as a Labrador when it sees its Mum.

As silly as a new born cheetah on its first day.

As big as a 417 in the air.

As hungry as a dog at dinner time.

As nice as my dog when I come home.

As smart as a calculator working out a sum.

Louis Mernagh



## A Poem about Me

Who is as crazy as could be.  
As strong as Blackpool Tower with 1000 people  
on top.  
As gentle as a sponge on a baby's body.  
As fast as a snail pulling a weight in the 100  
metres  
As slow as a dead slug on the M4.  
As happy as an Olympic winner wearing a gold  
medal.  
As silly as a comedian telling a silly joke.  
As large as an elephant full of grub.  
As clever as a sheep doing A Levels.  
As wooden as a robot serving drinks.  
As nice as the world's nicest person.

James Mudge



## IF I LEFT MY HOUSE

If I

left my house I would miss  
the birds hopping

And the squirrel nicking the nuts from the bird feeders.

I would miss the conservatory with all the flies getting stuck  
And the big playroom on top of the garage with a nice view.

I would miss the woodpecker that started pecking every morning  
And the lovely smell of flowers while I had my dinner.

I would miss the pheasants that knocked over the birdbath  
And my den that I played soldiers in.

I would miss the banister that I always swung on  
And I would miss the time when a pheasant flew right  
through the window.

Sam Parker



## IF I WERE A MOTORBIKE...

If I were a motorbike  
A Kawazaki I would be.  
A madly driven motorbike speeding through the town.  
I would be in all the dirt bike tournaments.  
I would be in stunt tournaments too.

If I were a motorbike  
A 007 stunt bike I would be.  
I would shoot with my missiles on the side.  
My bike would be voice powered  
with 007 driving me.

If I were a motorbike  
A Honda I would be.  
One of the fastest bikes in the  
world.

I would be a red and silver  
coloured bike  
More powerful than a Ferrari.

If I were a motorbike  
A K.T.M I would be.  
The very fastest bike in the world.  
Reaching speeds of 210mph  
With Chris Mckeown riding me.

Harry Priestner

## THE WRITER

Is as sporty as a rugby player.  
As strong as a steel boss.  
As gentle as a snail creeping across  
the leaf.

As fast as a lion catching its prey.  
As slow as a sloth when it's tired.  
As happy as a chick crossing the  
yard.  
As silly as a chicken running  
around.

As curly as a sheep.  
As kind as a Shetland.  
As fierce as a jaguar.  
As muscular as a rugby player.

Archie Doyle





**The Tiger and the Lady**  
**Quickly**  
 At 7 o'clock  
 Came a tiger with sharp teeth  
**Relentlessly**  
 He stalked his prey  
 The lady had no chance  
**Suddenly**  
 She jumped and turned away  
 The tiger began again.  
 Delia Rich



**I sense...**  
 Look at the golden trees swaying,  
 Taste the delicious food.  
 Touch the smooth pebbles.  
 Hear the sea crashing against the rocks.  
 Smell the lovely new mown grass.  
 Joshua Thomas

**The Match!**

One for the Hockey ball hit across the pitch  
 Two for the small goals either side  
 Three for the mums supporting the team  
 Shouting and cheering them on  
 Four for the defenders standing still  
 Five for the sticks on the ground  
 Six for the goals we have scored so far  
 Seven for the socks that have fallen down  
 Eight for the laces all undone  
 Time to get running again  
 Nine for the entire team including the reserves  
 Ten for another goal  
 Eleven for the team and mums cheering about the goal  
 Twelve for the time the match has stopped  
 A victory  
 The score.....  
 7-4  
 Imogen Hutton-Potts



**Spider**  
 Hurriedly run  
 Hide quickly  
 Spinning webs  
 Flies hanging  
 Creepy spider  
 Deadly bite  
 Fast spinning  
 Crawling rapidly  
 Timothy Foley



## Cindy Jefferies' Visit

Today Cindy Jefferies came to talk to us about her new series of books: Fame School.

She told us how to be a writer and gave us the "Ten Top Tips" on how to do it.

She was also selling her books and signing them or signing a bookmark. I got a signed bookmark and because I sent her a letter she gave me a cover for one of her books. There weren't any pages in it but no-one else had one so it was extra special.

She read us a few little bits from her books to encourage us to read them. Her books are really exciting and I recommend them.



The war of the wild

**Angrily**

The lion's defeated  
The buffalo herd just fell  
and bleated

**Proudly**

They roared in manner  
There they were, running  
through the Savannah

**Amazingly**

Their ghosts still prowl  
Through that world they  
roar and growl

Lance Baynham

Snake  
Hissssss, slide, slithery serpent

around, slide snake, hissssssss!

Oliver Pullen

## Death on the water

Traacherously

He walked on water  
Trying to catch his prey.

Suddenly

Up something came  
A piranha red and gold.

Greedily

The piranha struck  
The poor basilisk so small.

By Oscar Ellis



## JSW and JSH Group Work



## Somewhere in our school today-

- ...the rugby players bravely make their attack as the opposition forms their pack." Lance Baynham
- ...competitive swimmers are racing and splashing their way to the finish line under the watchful eyes of parents and all their cheers." Joljon Dunn
- ...a confused team of netball players are wearily doing their division sums." Jessica Tall
- ...the trees in the woods are swooning whilst animals are scurrying across the floor." Imogen Hutton-Dotts
- ...there are happy children playing Kwik Cricket in the sunny playground." Alex Kentfield
- ...white horses are jumping up into the air as wet children dive under the warm water." Tori Collshaw
- ...there are cheerful children kicking the ball and running up and down the sports pitch." Victoria Clark
- ...flying paintbrushes are splattering paint everywhere around the once clean art room." Abigail Fawcett
- ...The Otters are on the blue bell walk collecting interesting treasures as they walk through the wilderness." Alana Carpenter
- ...children are gorging their tasty lunch happily with laughter." Charlotte Jones
- ...footballers are scoring goals in the noisy playground with people cheering them on." Timothy Foley
- ...there are people munching on sweets at the end the Easter egg hunt." Russell Taylor
- ...our overworked teachers are writing reports while being drowsily lulled to sleep by the soft voice of the gentle choir." Oscar Ellis
- ...on the rounders' field, white balls are flying high and the batting team are cheering for their team mates to get round to fourth base to score." Sophie Popper and Kateri McCourt
- ...ten boys are playing cricket loudly in the cricket nets, in the wet gurgling water." Ollie Bullen
- ...down in the river fish are swimming happily, in the wet gurgling water." Hannah Clift
- ...happy pens shriek in multiple maths as children shake their hard, tiring hands." Billy Fitzgerald Lowry
- ...children are happily writing somewhere in our school today poems." Doida Rich

## J5 History Talk by Mr Harry Selby

On Monday 20th June, Joljon's grandfather, Mr Harry Selby visited Year 5 and gave us an historical talk on life at Rendcomb College in the past. It was very different then as it was an all boys' school. It was also very sporty. His first Headmaster was Mr Simpson in 1931 but he left a year after Mr Selby joined. He was followed by Mr Lee-Brown who Mr Selby thought was a lovely man. By Sophie Popper

He told us that at lunch time they had rabbit stew because there were lots of rabbits. The teachers gave the pupils a type of sling shot so that they could hit grey squirrels. If they hit one they would get a shilling but no one ever did! By Tim Foley

Mr Selby told us that he got up early in the morning and made their beds and instead of going straight to breakfast they had to run all the way to the lake and back. It was about half a mile run. After that they had to skip with a rope for 10 minutes then they had breakfast. Harry Selby remembers running in three inches of snow! By Katie McCourt

He remembered it snowing really hard and the whole school went onto the frozen lake down in the valley and the boys lined up from smallest to biggest. The Headmaster would put a boy on the lake and make him jump up and down. Then the next biggest would go on. This continued right up the school and if the ice did not break it was safe to play on and skate.

They also used to kayak on the lake but it was only a metre deep!

By Billy Fitzgerald -Lowry





### Oliver Greenaway

My Rendcomb Days were filled with excitement and joy. I have also been in the sports teams like rugby, cricket and football! I came in J3 and will leave in J6. Through the years I have been prepared for life in the Senior School. I would like to say a big thank you to all the teachers that have taught me.

### James Preston

My favourite day at Rendcomb was my first day; it was incredibly nice to move from my old school straight into a friendly environment. I was nervous at first but the smiley students and friendly teachers quickly dispatched that thought from my head. I've had a great time at Rendcomb and in this case you could judge a book by its cover.

### Megan Mulhall

I have only been at Rendcomb for a year, although it feels like a lifetime. When I came everyone made me feel welcome. Thankfully I was in all the sports teams and I was captain of rounders and lacrosse. In my time at Rendcomb, I have found some friends for life.

### Milly Williams

I started last year and all I saw were smiling faces. I was a bit afraid of repeating a year but it was a great idea. I was given the job of monitor for the Otters and I love them all. I have been in every B Team match. I will miss you.

### Katie Fuller

My favourite time at Rendcomb was at the Christmas lunch in the Dulverton. There were chocolates on the table and crackers to pull. But best of all were the ice-creams, there were aliens and penguin shapes which were chocolate and strawberry. Most of J6 were full up so we put all our ice-creams in a bowl. Mr Arnold though had other plans and he got the big bowl and started eating it.

### Charlotte Stedman

My Rendcomb memories are of being Little Cosette in Les Miserables and Badger in The Wind in the Willows, which I will remember for a lifetime. On my first day in J6 I was so excited because I was Head Girl for the first term which was a big privilege. After that I was a prefect for the rest of the year. I am sad to leave, yet happy at the same time.

### Paige Watson

I only joined Rendcomb at the start of this year along with Ella Roach and Megan Mulhall. Considering the short time that we have been here for we fitted in rather quickly. I'll have loads of amazing memories like Les Miserables, Kilve Court and most recently The Wind in the Willows in which I performed as Sgt Fred.

### Alex Symcox

All of my Rendcomb days were happy days because what was there to be sad about? My favourite trips would have to be to Kilve Court and to Warwick Castle. My favourite activity was abseiling but the next day I was ill. At the end of year five I was appointed Head Boy and I have enjoyed all my time at Rendcomb College.

### Andrea Haas

I have had many opportunities from winning art competitions, performing in The Wind in the Willows, hosting the Summer Extravaganza to being netball captain and I have enjoyed every moment of them. I was honoured to be chosen as Head Girl this last term and I had to say a speech in front of at least 500 people. Thank you to all the parents and teachers for their care and support.

### Elliott Finn

My favourite memories were when we went to Kilve Court because I liked the things that we did there. I loved Christmas lunch when the girls put all their ice-cream in a bowl for Mr Arnold. Oscar and Oliver ended up eating it. It was great when Oliver and I first met in a treasure hunt on our shadow day.

### Miriam Barkes

J6 has been a fantastic year, there has been so much going on. We went to Kilve Court in Somerset and did lots of fun activities. Also, I remember The Wind in the Willows in which I got a main part. I was Mole. I will always remember the laugh of the audience when I fell off the stage. Don't worry, I wasn't hurt.

### Ella Roach

I have had a very happy time in Rendcomb, even though it has been so short! I have been in two plays, Les Miserables (where I was a beggar) and The Wind in the Willows where I went under the name of Stoot Cyril. My favourite memories were when J6 went to Kilve Court; we did lots of sports, night walks and Archery. I would like to say a big thank you to all the teachers who have taught me during this year.

### Holly Phelps

From being one of the first pupils in year 3, it means that I have got to know Rendcomb College Junior School really well. I have had the responsibilities of being Hockey Captain, Head Girl, prefect and I have been in all the sports teams. However, one of my favourite days was when the snow came tumbling down and we spent the whole day outside in the snow.

### Jake McKeown

I've enjoyed Rendcomb and had lots of fun. I was fond of Kilve Court and enjoyed being prompt in The Wind in the Willows and wearing the big glasses. I came in J5 and it has been getting better all the time. I was a school librarian and I kept the library clean and tidy.

### Oscar Doyle

My favourite Rendcomb days were at Kilve because I enjoy doing outside activities like rock-climbing, abseiling and archery. My achievements are being head boy which was really hard but I enjoyed it, prefect which was also hard but a little bit easier and rugby captain, which was a challenge and I enjoyed it so much. My other memories were of being Weasel Norman in The Wind in the Willows; it was so much fun.

### Tershie Hayward

I remember The Wind in the Willows in which I played Rat or Ratty, which I enjoyed every last minute of. I also took part in the chorus of Les Miserables. I loved going to Kilve Court and doing the many walks, abseiling, archery and rock climbing. Altogether, I have really enjoyed my time at Rendcomb with many funny different moments which I shall remember for a lifetime.



# J6

## What if?

*What if books could read out loud?  
I could just relax. Oliver Greenaway*

*What if J lost my pen?  
Then J couldn't write this poem. Elliott Finn*

*What if pigs could fly?  
Then J would be rich and my parents would be poor.*

*Tershie Hayward*

*What if the alphabet was backwards?  
Then we would read right to left.*

*Charlotte Stedman*

*What if the teachers were us?  
Then that would be heaven! Ella Roach*

*What if there were money trees?  
Then we would fulfil all our dreams.*

*Andrea Haas*

*What if the cat fell asleep on my bed?  
I would sleep on my floor.....come pussy.*

*Holly Phelps*

*What if all animals were wild?  
Then J would have no pets. Katie Fuller*

*What if we only used solar panels rather than fuel?*

*Then our air would not be so polluted.*

*Milly Williams*

*What if swords never existed?  
St. George would beat the dragon with a shotgun.*

*James Preston*

*What if J was a jockey?  
Then J would race really fast and win.*

*Miriam Barks*

*What if there wasn't a single tree?  
Life might be different for me. Jake McKeown*

*Supposing that nothing was 3D?  
Then we would all be flat. Paige Watson*

*What if there was no gravity?  
Then we would all have fun floating about.*

*Oscar Doyle*

*What if the world was square?  
Then some people would live on corners.*

*Megan Mulhall*

*What if time stopped?  
Then J wouldn't be able to finish this sen.....*

*Alex Symcox*

*Solicitor's letter on behalf of client currently residing in the garden shed.*

Wetwinner & Son  
56 Dirty Alley  
Tacoshire  
WET 1 4U

Mr and Mrs White  
17, Providence Street,  
Wetwang  
WET 1 HSE  
1st April 2005

Dear Mr and Mrs White

I write to you on behalf of my client Miss K.White of 17 1/2 Exterior Annexe.

It has been brought to my attention that recently there has been a verbal dispute, resulting in your daughter leaving.

She will only return if she is allowed a turn on the computer. It is also a ridiculous notion that a 61/2 year old with no regular income should pay rent.

If she is not adequately clothed and fed, you will be reported to the Social Services for neglect. Please act speedily.

Yours sincerely

Mr J.Wetwinner (aka James Preston)  
On behalf of Miss Kezie White



## Marble

Lurking on a shelf,  
I saw him.

Waiting, waiting,  
Waiting for some friends.

Beautiful and fine.

His gorgeous translucent body,  
Protected, shielded.

Waiting, waiting for some friends.

In a paper bag he lay,  
Lonely, waiting for a friend to play.  
Neglected by his owner;  
Sadly waiting for a friend.

By Alex Symcox J6

## Homophone Ode to a Teacher

I have a lot of teachers  
To help me weed and right  
They bee strict  
And make me wheelee cross  
If I get on the wrong  
Side of them I will shore Lee  
Have made a Miss Steak  
So when face in teachers  
Make shore your good  
I hope you've learn't your less on  
Because teachers can bee trouble.

Jake McKeown J6

And this is after you sing the spell chequer on his  
pea sea. Ed!

## The King of Words

I met the King of Words,  
Cloaked in crimson red,  
His black eyes staring at me,  
As I crept through the door.

His council waiting there,  
Some were big;  
Some were small.  
Each one different but all the same.

I met the King of Words,  
Cloaked in crimson red,  
His black eyes staring at me,  
As I crept through the door.

By Oliver Greenaway J6

## My Luscious Meal

As soon as the time clicked twelve thirty, I ran downstairs and sat down. I could taste the food before I had anything on my plate. Then as soon as everyone had a party hat on and their food, I started to eat my meal. We had tender turkey, which was lovely, and the sprouts which were mouth-watering. The delicious sausages were wrapped in apperising Bacon rashers. There was also a savoury sauce which made it all palatable. We had stuffing which was lovely and moist.

To end my luscious meal, I had a big slice of delectable Christmas pudding joined with a tasty spoonful of vanilla ice-cream. I can't wait until Christmas dinner this year!

Oscar Doyle J6





## Kilve Court - A Teacher's Perspective

Beep beep roll over press the snooze button. Sudden rush of adrenaline, it's Kilve Court today. Look out the window I don't believe it, it's snowed!

Arrive at school to be faced with presents for Paige and having to hide them as Paige bounds down the corridor shouting, "It's My Birthday on Kilve Court!"

Registration, minibus checks, baggage packing and then we're off. Several hours later we arrive at Kilve Court. Straight inside to meet Maggie one of the centre's staff. A quick briefing and then off to unpack our luggage, get changed for the first activity and familiarise ourselves with the centre and probably most importantly lunch!

Our first activity was archery. We were told how to hold, shoot and aim the bows. My group seemed to enjoy the activity and there was great rivalry between the children in the final shoot off. The second activity was abseiling, not many of the group had abseiled before and it was great to see them working against their fears and overcoming the rush of vertigo. Then it was time for a quick snack and unpacking. The boys had this down to a fine art but some of the girls took a little longer. Is this a sign of things to come? After some interesting diary entries we had our evening meal which went down well with our children. Luckily the weather was holding and it was our turn to go on a night walk so out onto the hill at about 7pm. We took a basic climb up onto the Quantocks and once on the top we turned out all of the torches, some of our children hadn't done this before. The walk took about an hour and a half and was a real eye opener for some of ours. J6 really enjoyed this and most walked along arm in arm singing.

I can't believe that it's 11 pm and they are all asleep. Crash, bang! There's a commotion in the corridor I had better go and sort it out. Once in the corridor I notice Paige in a very excited state sitting in the middle of it. "Mr Arnold it's my birthday!" She has all the other children surrounding her. I race back to my room and retrieve the present bag I've hidden in my cupboard. "Happy birthday Paige," I say as I hand her the bag. There is a general roar of approval and she begins to open her presents in the corridor and is now



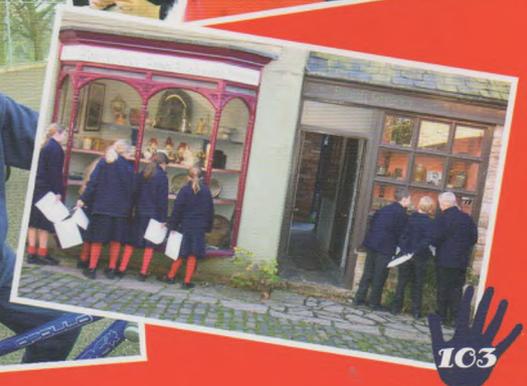
surrounded by all of J6!

After breakfast the first activity was the low ropes course and spider web. It was quite incredible to watch how they negotiated the spiders' web, generally through a mixture of cheating and barracking the instructor until he changed the rules. Still this showed lateral thinking. On successful completion of the low ropes course we swapped activities and went rock climbing. This sounds a little scary but the wall was a purpose built outdoor climbing wall and the safety systems were second to none. Some of our children obviously spend their time out of school as spiders or monkeys as their climbing was excellent.

On arrival at the beach we looked for fossils and looked for sea creatures in the rock pools. It was great to see these twenty first century children enjoying this activity so much.

Back to Kilve, after snacks the children had time to update their diaries and start packing for departure next day. After tea we organised our own quiz evening and threw in some silly questions just to make the quiz a little more interesting. At a very reasonable hour the children went to bed and amazingly went off to sleep very quickly.

The next morning there was some frantic last minute packing done by Miss Riddick and the buses were loaded up and made ready to go. We then attended the briefing before our Quantock walk. We departed from the centre and walked in a circular loop through fields, woods and over the first part of the hills. On the way we observed some deer and various other forms of wild life. At the centre we had a welcome lunch and a quick check about for any mislaid property. The journey back was uneventful and we arrived back fairly close to our planned time. All the children enjoyed the trip immensely and a great amount of fun was had by all. I'm sure that they will treasure all their memories of this trip for a longtime to come. Mr A.





# MUSIC

## CAROL SERVICE

The candle lit Junior Carol Service took place one chilly afternoon in St Peter's Church. Each form performed their own carol from Little Donkey to the originally titled Zither Carol. The Choir supported beautifully in what was their infancy term, and showed their true potential of what was yet to come. Mulled wine and mince pies served to defrost the congregation from the inside out, in what was a beautiful end to a very long term.

## DRUM CRAZY

A return visit from Drum Crazy proved just as successful as last year. The children performed on boom whackers and sound shapes, and many other world percussion instruments. The entire session was directed through action rather than speech, so the concentration needed from the children was immense. At the end of the afternoon they gave an incredible performance attended by many parents who were astonished at the high quality reached in one day.

## RAF CENTRAL BAND

Eyes Right! The RAF central Band visited Rendcomb in the Easter term. The pupils were treated to a program including Starwars, Superman, The Simpsons and a Bugler who thought he was funny. The quality of the performance was unquestionable. The humour of the Bugler debatable! However, we soon had pupils dancing the Conga round the Dulverton in a manner unrivaled by Strictly Dance Fever. What a performance!

## MUSIC MORNING

The Music Morning was a huge success. Visiting instrumental staff and senior pupils hosted a concert and workshop for the Brass, Woodwind and String instruments. The concert was inspired with performances from old Junior School pupils from Jazz Barks and Rachel Watson, to 6A leavers on their way to the Music Conservatoires of London. It was a noisy morning thoroughly enjoyed by many pupils who have now decided to take up a new musical hobby. Look out Orchestra!

## SUMMER EXTRAVAGANZA

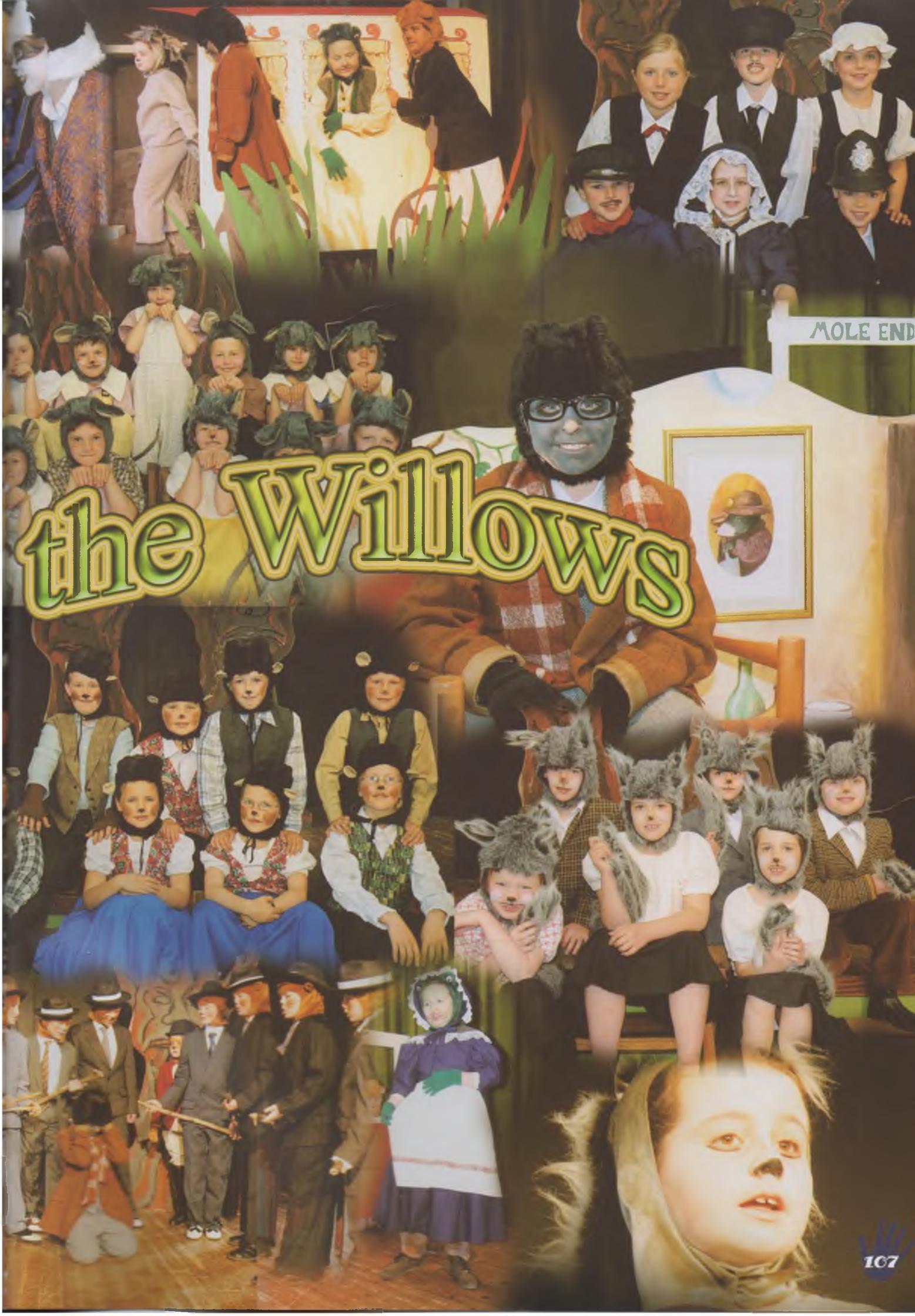
The Junior School Summer Concert took place at the end of June. A showcase for the huge amount of instrumental teaching throughout the year, it was an opportunity to show how hard the pupils and instrumental staff work behind the scenes. Although the Dulverton was as hot as an oven the performers stoically gave of their best, including Orchestra, Guitar group and Junior Choir. There were many soloists from J3 to J6 which showed the impressive range of talents shared by many pupils. Hosted by the Head Boys and Girls of the evening was magical for many of the staff and pupils involved.





# The Wind in





MOLE END

# the Willows

# Drama

## Wind in the Willows

Auditions took place during the Lent term for *Wind in the Willows*, an adaptation by Alan Bennett. There was a real "buzz" in the air when the parts were announced. Whether it was a main part or a member of the chorus, every single child from the J3-J6 classes had been given a part in the Junior School play.

Scripts were issued and lines began to be learnt. It was a very long play and was an enormous undertaking for the students, especially those with lead roles. A lot was resting on some very small shoulders!

All students were able to rehearse during lesson time both in the Music & Drama Room and on the stage in the Dulverton Hall. As it got closer to the day of reckoning, rehearsals also started after school.

Sister Pritchard created masterpieces when it came to costumes (along with some parental help.) All the animals and humans looked absolutely gorgeous. It is amazing how once the children had their costumes and make-up on they immediately got into and stayed in role.

Paul Cairns, Pete Cairns and Harry Evans produced their own works of art when it came to the scenery. We had Toad's car, a caravan, a rowing boat and a train. What is more they all moved! It was then left to staff and students to paint it. How did it all fit in the wings along with the other props? (Speak to Mrs Haas about that!)

What fun we all had at the two performances on May 24th and 26th. Adrenalin was pumping all around, and that was just the staff! Children were in their starting places and the curtain rose. There was a strange feeling of helplessness on my part when the show began, all those rehearsals and directions that I had given. Now it was down to the students alone to do their best, remember their lines and to "shine."

They excelled all my expectations and I was immensely proud of the show and their individual achievements. Holly Phelps as "Toad", Tershie Hayward as "Rat", Miriam Barkes as "Mole" and Charlotte Stedman as "Badger" all delivered fantastic performances. They put so much effort in and were rewarded by tumultuous applause ringing in their ears. It was also lovely to see the up and coming talent developing lower down the school- this bodes well for future productions.



Les Mistrables



Jumping Around



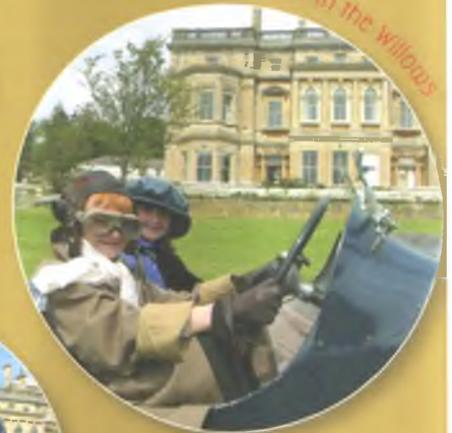
Christmas Nativity



Count you Chickens



Wind in the Willows







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