

# RENDCOMB COLLEGE MAGAZINE

Vol. 8 No. 8

March, 1947

**THIS NUMBER IS DEDICATED  
TO THOSE MEMBERS OF THE  
COLLEGE WHO FELL IN THE  
WAR 1939-45.**

**“ IN MEMORIAM. ”**

A. A. CALEY

A. R. CURTIS

J. R. GURDON

J. R. HARMER

R. M. INGLETON

G. K. NOBLE

D. A. J. K. RICHARDS

J. F. SPENCER

D. W. STONE

R. C. V. WATERS

T. D. WRIGHT

W. A. WYON

J. G. YOUNG (Staff)

# Rendcomb College Magazine

Vol. 8, No. 8.

March, 1947.

## SCHOOL NOTES.

### Michaelmas Term, 1946.

Term began on Wednesday, September 18th, new boys arriving on the previous day.

\* \* \* \*

We returned to a building which had once again been very efficiently cleaned by a group who spent a week of their holidays in College. This is a most valuable job and one that merits the grateful thanks of all those who live and work in the School.

The Harvest Festival was celebrated in Rendcomb Church on Sunday, October 6th.

\* \* \* \*

On Saturday evening, October 12th, Mr. Parry accompanied a party of about thirty to hear a concert given in Cirencester Parish Church.

\* \* \* \*

This year we decided to revert to the pre-war practice of taking a long week-end at Half Term, from lunch time on Friday, November 1st, until the following Monday evening. It is proposed to do the same next year and then review the matter in the light of the experience gained.

\* \* \* \*

On Saturday, November 23rd, the Fairy and Mechanicals' scenes from "A Midsummer Night's Dream," were presented in Big School by members of the Middle and Lower School.

\* \* \* \*

On Saturday, December 7th, we saw a production of Sheridan's "The Rivals." A performance for parents and friends was also given on the previous afternoon.

\* \* \* \*

The Carol Service was held in Rendcomb Church on Sunday, December 15th.

\* \* \* \*

The College Party took place on Monday, December 16th.

\* \* \* \*

Term ended on Wednesday, December 18th.

We extend our welcome to three new members of the Staff.

Mr. P. J. R. Bambury has come to take charge of Biology. A graduate of Cambridge and a former regular officer in the Indian Army, Mr. Bambury is married and has three children.

Mr. D. P. Tidy has joined the staff while waiting to be called to his Training College. He served in the R. A. F. throughout the war, is married and has a baby son.

Miss E. J. Bather has come to us as Health Matron. During the war she was in charge of a large military hospital in India.

We welcome the following boys who entered College at the beginning of Term: P. D. de Longh, A. J. Paish, R. J. Bird, J.

K. Comrie, J. M. Harrison, R. A. Powell, M. D. Richards.

The following boys left College at Christmas: R. W. T. Buckingham, J. M. Faulks, M. C. Harries, J. E. Carus-Wilson. J. M. Henshaw was called to the Navy in November. They take with them our good wishes.

\* \* \* \*

We acknowledge the following with grateful thanks: —

From Mrs. Huntly Sinclair the generous gift of two fine 'cellos. These indeed make a grand start to our collection of string and wind instruments and we hope it may not be long before several boys are taking advantage of this opportunity to learn.

From Mr. E. G. Neal a copy of his book "Exploring Nature with a Camera," for the Library.

From Mr. and Mrs. B. F. W. Levett an excellent students' microscope for the Laboratory.

From Mr. and Mrs. E. Carus-Wilson a valuable electric gramophone as an aid to the teaching of music.

Mr. E. G. Neal has asked us to record that his address is now: 2, Bishop's Mead, Kingston Road, Taunton.

#### HONOURS.

J. W. Sumsion—Major History Scholarship, Clare College, Cambridge.

D. G. Knight—Stapleton Scholarship in History, Exeter College, Oxford.

J. M. Faulks—Natural Science Exhibition, St. John's College, Cambridge.

M. C. Harries—Natural Science Exhibition, Queen's College, Cambridge.

## THE GENERAL MEETING.

### Officers, Lent Term, 1947.

- Chairman**—D. G. Knight.  
**Council**—S. H. Groves, D. G. Knight, J. W. Sumsion, M. R. F. Butlin, M. Butler, E. A. Jones, D. J. Payne.  
**Meeting Selection Committee**—S. H. Groves, D. G. Knight, J. W. Sumsion, M. R. F. Butlin, E. A. Jones.  
**House Committee**—R. J. Kendal, D. R. Page, L. V. Crawford, E. Davis, D. G. Milligan, F. D. Humphris.  
**Games Committee**—J. W. Sumsion, C. B. Lane, G. H. Bye, T. P. Denehy, T. T. Walters.  
**Secretary**—T. P. Denehy.  
**Senior Shopman**—D. Henshaw.  
**Shopmen**—M. W. Brain, K. M. Shepheard.  
**Banker**—D. J. Harris.  
**Apprentice Banker**—D. G. Milligan.  
**Breakages Man**—R. Margetts.  
**Auditors**—P. D. Quick, D. G. Milligan.  
**Apprentice Auditors**—J. A. Johnson, P. J. Ryman.  
**Finance Committee**—P. J. Ryman, P. W. Dutton, J. W. J. Reed.  
**Entertainments Committee**—P. W. Sumsion, C. J. Brisley, H. A. G. Hartley, E. A. Jones, J. W. J. Reed.  
**Cycle Men**—P. H. S. Harris, M. J. Morgan, P. G. Cockell.  
**Meeting Almoner**—R. K. G. Bick.  
**Paperman**—R. W. Smith.  
**Amplifier Technicians**—G. H. Bye, J. C. Waterton.  
**Apprentice Amplifier Technician**—M. G. Petter.  
**Record Committee**—M. R. F. Butlin, G. H. Bye, C. B. Lane, K. M. Shepheard, G. J. Chagrin.  
**Drying Room Committee**—C. M. Carus-Wilson, J. A. Johnson, P. J. Ryman.  
**Magazine Committee**—M. B. Shepheard, K. M. Shepheard, I. S. Menzies.  
**Salvage Committee**—B. Plenderleith, R. Gready.  
**Public Work Man**—M. Butler.  
**Meeting Trapper**—F. D. Humphris.  
**Games Secretaries**—Football, R. J. Kendal; Hockey, J. A. Barclay; Cricket, E. F. P. Topps.  
**Games Wardens**—Football, R. Gready; Hockey, L. V. Crawford, J. H. Shield; Cricket, J. Gilchrist; Indoor, S. P. Steed, F. S. G. Richards.  
**Groundsmen**—Hockey, P. H. S. Harris; Cricket, D. J. Payne; Tennis, F. D. Humphris, P. W. Dutton; Golf, R. H. Jones; Junior Hockey, E. Davis.

## COLLEGE OFFICERS.

Lent Term, 1947.

Senior Prefect—S. H. Groves.

Duty Group Leaders—S. H. Groves, T. W. Sumsion, D. G. Knight.

Other Prefect—M. R. F. Butlin.

Work Man—C. W. Carus-Wilson.

Music Warden—M. R. F. Butlin.

Librarians—J. W. Sumsion, G. H. Bye, R. J. Kendal, K. M. Shephard.

Manual Foremen—C. B. Lane, R. Margetts, J. H. Shield, E.

Davis, E. F. P. Topps, R. Gready.

Picture Man—M. B. Shephard.

Stagemen—T. T. Walters, C. B. Lane, P. H. S. Harris, P. G.

Cockell, P. J. Ryman, B. Plenderleith, H. A. G. Hartley.

Deck Chairs—D. R. Page.

Lamp Men—J. C. Waterton, R. J. Kendal.

## OLD BOYS' NOTES.

### Roll of Honour.

We regret to have to record that Anthony F. Harrison was killed in Jerusalem on January 8th, 1947. We have no further particulars at present. He was at Rendcomb from 1940 to 1943, and, after taking the School Certificate Examination, went into farming until he was called up to the Army.

\*\*\*\*

Distinction. Captain E. J. (James) Miller has been awarded the Military Cross.

F. R. Dobbs has returned from the Army to his post as assistant agent for Messrs. Bosworth and Wakeford, Ltd., Public Contractors.

J. Eyles has decided to leave industry and is waiting to be called to an Emergency Teachers' Training Course.

A. E. Godsell is still working, with his uncle on the latter's farm near Gloucester.

J. G. Lambert is running a market garden venture near Frome.

V. D. Page returned to his post with the English Electric Co., Ltd.

R. A. T. J. Skelton is teaching under the Somerset L. E. A.

We offer our congratulations to W. Y. Willetts, who has been awarded an M. A. Degree in (Chinese Archeology at London University.

We congratulate F. T. Luffman on his marriage to Miss Barbara M. Hilliar. He and his wife are now living at [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.

Mr. J. H. Simpson's address is now [REDACTED], London, S. W. 7.

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

We were pleased to welcome the following Old Boys who visited College during the Term: M. F. Lane (and wife), N. M. Wood, D. H. Hill, G. J. Ash, J. D. M. Smith, K. E. Banks, M. H. F. Fisher, M. C. Thompson, R. Brain, R. S. D. Balter, A. P. Browning (and wife), H. S. Palmer, R. E. Hayward, E. J. M. Jefferies, C. C. Richardson, W. P. Thomas, B. H. Harben, R. A. T. J. Skelton, W. S. Monroe, D. Montgomery, J. F. Alder.

**OLD RENDCOMBIAN SOCIETY.**

The O. R. Dinner in London was held in an hotel in Fleet Street on Saturday, October 12th. It was the first really representative gathering since the war and it was a great pleasure to meet so many old boys of all generations, including three of the original twelve. It was pleasure, too, to see Mr. Simpson and Mr. Osborne and a disappointment to many present that at the last moment Mr. Bolton-King was prevented from coming. The dinner was served in a delightful room. After "The King" and a short silence in memory of those who fell in the war, the toast of the College was proposed by Peter Field in a sincere and thoughtful speech. The Headmaster replied with an account of the College during the war. Mr. Simpson proposed the Club, and D. Dakin, the President, responded. Thereafter there was a business meeting at which a number of matters were dealt with, including a preliminary discussion of a Memorial to the twelve O. R.'s and one member of the staff, who lost their lives between 1939 and 1945. The company broke up shortly after 10 p. m. after an evening that will remain long in the memory of those who were present.

The following were present: —C. D. M. Barnett, B. J. Brooks, A. P. Browning, S. J. Curry, D. Dakin, J. D. Draper, P. A. G. Draper, J. Eyles, D. Field, P. L. Field, D. M. Grant, G. W. Ivens, P. S. Jackson, F. W. Jones, D. W. Lee-Browne, M. A. C. Levett, P. D. B. Levett, J. C. Maslin, J. E. Miller, F. Nevel, C. H. C. Osborne, N. A. Perkins, H. J. Phillips, B. W. Plenderleith, J. F. Roper, J. L. Russell, J. H. Simpson, J. D. Smith, D. C. Terrett, P. H. Tuft, C. W. Wells, T. R. Wheeler.



The West of England Dinner was held in Gloucester on November 9th. This too was a most enjoyable evening which included a number of O. R. 's who had been unable to get to London. It was the first time that the West of England Dinner had been held in Gloucester and there seems to be something to be said for this venue, owing to its central position. As always, time was too short to talk with everyone and the evening went all too quickly. There was a short business meeting at the close of the dinner, during which D. Dakin, the President, the Headmaster and Mr. Simpson contributed speeches. The following were present: —J. E. Allen, R. C. J. Brain, Roger Brain, D. Dakin, F. R. Dobbs, F. H. Dutton, J. Eyles, D. Field, A. E. Godsell, R. E. Hayward, P. S. Jackson, J. G. Lambert, D. W. Lee-Browne, V. D. Page, V. W. Pullin, J. H. Simpson, R. A. T. J. Skelton, W. Smallwood, L. F. Stradling.

Those who organised these functions are very greatly to be congratulated. The amount of work involved was far greater than it would be in normal times and the success of both evenings reflects great credit on the people concerned.

### ACTING.

Scenes from "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Produced on November 23rd.

### CAST.

Theseus, Duke of Athens...	...	...	...	J. Gilchrist.
Philostrate	...	...	...	M. J. Miles.
Quince	...	...	...	P. J. Ryman.
Snug...	...	...	...	R. Gready.
Bottom...	...	...	...	P. G. Cockell.
Flute...	...	...	...	J. A. Johnson.
Snout	...	...	...	M. W. Brain.
Starveling...	...	...	...	J. R. S. Powell.
Hippolyta .....	...	...	...	R. J. van den Driessche.
Oberon	...	...	...	E. F. P. Topps.
Titania	...	...	...	J. D. Painter.
Puck...	...	...	...	B. G. H. Levers.
Fairies...	...	...	...	D. G. Vaisey, F. S. G. Richards, J. K. Comrie, M. J. Miles.

The hauntingly beautiful woodland scenes, and the fay galaxy of characters, were presented once again to an admiring audience.

Despite the raw, winter evening, one was involuntarily transported to Titania's bower, and knew, with Oberon,

... 'the bank whereon the wild thyme blows,  
Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows  
Quite over-canopied with luscious woodbine,  
With sweet musk-roses, and with eglantine.'

The costumes were admirable, and despite the trials of weather and lack of clothing, the fairy song was delightfully rendered. The slow, almost ethereal, heightening of the voices in the distant woods of the dawn, gave an authenticity to the setting that surely touched even critical ears.

The acting was competent, and the production showed many touches of hard work and ingenuity, as also did the properties and scenery.

It says much for the production and the players, that the humorous scenes were played with a nicety of feeling and appreciation, restrained and witty, never deteriorating into mere slapstick.

A charming, balanced production, enjoyable from the first, and likely to remain as a gentle, pleasant memory in the minds of the beholders—a fairy gossamer in a summer night.

### The Rivals.

Produced on December 7th.

#### CAST.

Sir Anthony Absolute...	...	...	...	...	G. H. Bye.
Captain Absolute...	...	...	...	...	T. P. Denehy.
Faulkland...	...	...	...	...	C. B. Lane.
Acres	...	...	...	...	P. W. Sumsion.
Sir Lucius O'Trigger...	...	...	...	...	E. A. Jones.
Fag...	...	...	...	...	G. J. Chagrin.
David...	...	...	...	...	J. A. Barclay.
Thomas...	...	...	...	...	D. R. Page.
Mrs. Malaprop...	...	...	...	...	P. D. Quirk.
Lydia Languish	...	...	...	...	R. K. G. Bick.
Julia...	...	...	...	...	K. M. Shepheard.
Lucy	...	...	...	...	L. V. Crawford.
Servant 1					
Boy	.....				C. J. Brisley.

R. B. Sheridan's belles and beaux of Bath were recalled to the stage in all their satirical accuracy with this presentation.

The witty, grammatically abstruse dialogue, was handled with confidence and a fair measure of success, and the whole-hearted appreciation of the audience was a just reward.

The scenes of 18th century "society" intrigue, gossip, and bravado, gently touched here and there with true emotion from Julia, slashed with Sheridan's rapier wit, were played with feeling. A rather understandable lack of depth and "earthiness" in one or two of the players, was counterbalanced by their clarity of diction and obvious feeling for the parts, notwithstanding their difficulty. The effectiveness of the costumes, and the handling of the action bespoke much hard work, as did the deportment of the players of the female characters.

Other enjoyable features were the sword-play (which had none of the artificiality that is sometimes experienced with stage duelling) and the playing of the smaller parts with insight and appreciation comparable with the performance of the major characters.

A difficult dialogue, which in many cases would no doubt have passed over the heads of contemporary playhouse "bucks," was nevertheless enjoyed to the full by an attentive and appreciative audience, and as Mrs. Malaprop might have concluded—"a very admiral prediction," was enjoyed to the full.

### THE CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Despite the "power cut" which necessitated the commencement of the party by candlelight, the proceedings were a great success. In fact it might be said that the sight of certain revered (?) members of the staff perched on wooden lockers in the halls, playing "Crazy Whist" before a candle stuck into a bottle, really sent the party off on a convivial note.

The lights came on in time for supper and the fortunate revellers were greeted with a festive board truly reminiscent of banquets of a more liberal age. The quality and quantity of the fare was excellent, and the setting likewise—can it be wondered that the pudding flamed to the customary cheers that made the panels ring?

The King and the Old Boys were toasted and the evening proceeded with dancing in the gaily decorated halls, where the serene figure of Santa "Saul" surveyed the scene with stony gaze. A little further along the hall, the manual exhibition attracted many admirers, and a darts competition, table tennis and an ingenious picture quiz continued throughout the evening in the library.

Sketches were given by the End of Term Entertainments Committee and the audience retired for refreshments at the conclusion of them.

Afterwards the dancing and games continued, and the arrival of a fantastic burglar, hotly pursued by an even stranger policeman added to the fun, especially when the "swag" was found to be the prizes for the various competitions (What IS the French for "booby" prize?).

For all those who worked so hard, and so well, to make the party a success, Miss Babbington and the End of Term Entertainments Committee leading a host of others—nameless but honoured —may we say thank you?

A few more dances, a few more cheers and streamers, and it was time for Auld Lang Syne around the flaming bonfire... and so to bed.

### **FOOTBALL REPORT—WINTER TERM, 1946.**

This was a most successful season, and we are much indebted to Mr. Parry, Mr. Thackray and Mr. Tidy, for the help which they gave and the keenness that they helped to promote throughout the School. All our teams were unbeaten throughout the season.

The composition of the 1st XI varied, but in P. W. Sumsion we had a player who was a reliable goalkeeper and who had developed a stronger kick. As right back I. S. Menzies was one of the soundest players in the team. He combined very well with the left back, P. H. S. Harris, whose kicking, at first erratic, improved towards the end of the season. J. A. Barclay, as right half, was sure with the ball, but should watch his tendency to lie too far up the field when the opposing team is attacking.

S. H. Groves, at centre half, was a constructive, hard working player, whose keen tackling and intelligent passing laid the foundation for the success of the team. His heading was consistently good and his captaincy was coolly efficient throughout the season.

T. P. Denehy's speed on the left wing to a considerable extent made up for his understandable lack of ball control, and he always gave the forward line a good start. At inside left G. H. Bye dribbled very well and if he would part with the ball a little sooner, and shoot more accurately, he would be even better.

C. B. Lane was a good centre forward and improved greatly at the end of the season. E. A. Jones, inside right, helped to make a great many of our goals, but not until the last match did he himself score.

On the right wing, J. W. Sumsion should try to start moving more quickly after receiving the ball. He played well in the last two matches. J. M. Henshaw usually played left half, and his constructive passes were a great help to the forward line. When he left T. R. Davis took his place and showed promise.

The Junior XI had a good season and played well as a team, making it hard to single out anyone for comment, a fact that augurs well for future teams.

## RESULTS.

### First XI.

Oct. 19th. —v. Cotswold School. Away. Drawn 1—1.

Oct. 26th. —v. Kingham Hill School. Home. Won 7—0.

Nov. 16th. —v. Cirencester Grammar School. Away. Won 3—2.

Nov. 23rd. —v. Kingham Hill School. Away. Won 7—3.

Dec. 7th. —v. Cotswold School. Home. Won 11—0.

### Junior XI.

Oct. 26th. —v. Kingham Hill School. Away. Won 2—0.

Nov. 9th. —v. Cirencester Grammar School. Home. Won 6—0.

Nov. 23rd. —v. Kingham Hill School. Home. Won 9—0.

### B XI.

Oct. 5th. —v. Cirencester and District Schools. Home. Won 8—0.

### Average 13 XI.

Nov. 16th. —v. Dean Close. Home. Won 5—1.

Dec. 14th. —v. Dean Close. Away. Drawn 1—1.

## NOTE.

Reports and critiques of Concerts, Lectures, Acting, Games and the like, are normally written by a member of the school or staff. When written by anyone else they carry the author's initials. Such reports are written by invitation and do not necessarily represent the views of the majority of the audience present—nor is it intended that they should. On occasion, the judgments of experts, of persons "in statu pupillari," of adults or of enthusiasts, differ widely from each other.