THE RENDCOMB MAGAZINE



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EDITORIAL

THE recent return to power of a Labour administration may cause the hearts of independent school headmasters, masters and parents to beat a trifle faster but there are encouraging signs: as we go to press there has been no further reference either to the possible abolition of the charitable status of independent schools (though the financial implications of this may be surprisingly small in practice) or to their total destruction; the strong, and apparently increasing, demand for independent education shows the schools are viable; Mr. Hattersley, producer of various predatory articles and speeches in 1973, is in 1974 not the madarin who matters. Perhaps the exceptionally delicate economic and political circumstances in which the nation now finds itself will breed a sufficient spirit of compromise and prevent rash tampering with many schools of proven quality.

If Left Wing agitation does force through some kind of legislation against direct grant or independent schools or both, the door will be opened even more widely to the massive and varied state control and materialistic barbarism which have grown in our time and which persistently erode individual responsibility and the most fruitful experiences human life offers. The cluttering of individuals (and frequent swamping of traditional Western culture) in vast 1500/2000-strong comprehensive schools seldom brings, it is increasingly recognised, the desired social and intellectual panacea; nor, surely, is it ethical to dragoon those parents who prefer to spend their money on their children's education rather than on bigger and better cars and holidays. To choose is to live.

Meanwhile, among all the detailed marshalling of arguments, conflicting statistics, the general uncertainty about the future, and the sporadic fanaticism, independent schools can best serve their interests by providing as effective an alternative service as possible. It is hard to say whether Rendcomb, with its long and rewarding link with the Gloucestershire authority, would be more or less vulnerable than most independent schools in the event of legislation, but clearly the college must make every effort to maintain and even exceed previous standards — its very survival might depend one day on one political committee's appraisal of the school's record in recent years.

In view of this it was somewhat alarming to some to note the amount of time spent during the Spring Term on extra-mural activities of one kind or another and the consequent heavy loss of time for academic study. The correct balance between academic (including G.C.E. work) and other aspects of school life is always difficult to gauge and achieve but the trend and danger seem to be that in the interests of a wide range of activities, each educationally desirable, academic time and energy are dissipated, jeopardising the well-established intellectual standards and reputation of the college. The school has grown in numbers recently but is still small by modern yardsticks and cannot expect to do *everything* which a school nine or even three times its size might attempt; otherwise dilution and dilettantism are the likely outcome. The problem is one which Rendcomb needs to solve sooner rather than later.

MISCELLANEA

WINTER TERM, 1973

SADLY two people prominent in the history of the college have died since our last issue. Apprecia tions of Mrs. F. R. Lee-Browne and Mr. J. C. James appear later.

We have welcomed three new members of staff this term: Mr. Derek Bell, to teach English and History; Mr. David Hawkswell, to teach Physics; and Mr. Brian Hembry, to teach Physical Education and Biology. We hope all will enjoy their time at Rendcomb.

* * * *

There was a Form II parents and teachers meeting on 30th October and a similar meeting for Forms III and IIIa parents and teachers on 18th November.

* * * *

The school play this term was Oscar Wilde's comedy, *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Performances took place on 29th and 30th November and 1st December, and a review of this elegant masterpiece appears elsewhere.

* * * *

A new prospectus for the college has appeared since our last issue and has received much favourable comment. The previous prospectus had done duty for some years and had become outdated through numerous recent changes in the school. The question of whether pupils (and staff) photographed were chosen arbitrarily or for their handsome appearance remains controversial.

* * * *

Half-term was from Thursday, 25th October, to Tuesday, 30th October, an extra day being added for the royal wedding.

Leavers at the end of the Summer Term, 1973, were: David Barling, Brian Fisher, Philip Graham, Nicholas Hance, Christopher Higgins, Roger Ingles, Christopher Jones, Stephen Robbins, Keith Underdown, Chansil Yuvaboon, William Buckingham, Neil Lumby, Andrew Otter, Mark Wapshott, Simon Jackson. We wish them, and those who left at the end of the Winter Term, 1973, every success in the future.

* * *

On 30th September a number of people from the college went on a sponsored walk in Cirencester Park. The walk was organised by the Lions Club of Cirencester and helped to raise a large sum for covering a swimming pool for handicapped children.

* * * *

Films shown this term have been: It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World; One Million Years B.C.; San Ferry Anne; Puppet on a Chain (the debut of the double 'A' feature at Rendcomb); and How to Steal a Diamond in Four Uneasy Lessons. Unfortunately, since we have changed our suppliers Anne of the Thousand Days; Airport; The Plank; and Where Eight Bells Toll failed to arrive.

* * * *

Preachers this term included Mr. L. C. Bowser, from Cambridge, on 30th September, and The Revd. S. I. Pulford, from Coberley, on 14th October.

* * * *

The recently revived Debating Society continued to flourish this term — intimate details are elsewhere in this issue.

Lectures this term have been: *The Natural History of Gloucestershire*, by Mr. C. M. Swaine; *Civilisation*, by Mr. D. L. Hurford; *jet Engines*, by the Head of the Science Dept. of Lanchester Polytechnic; *Communications*, by the Design Head of Lanchester Polytechnic; and *Descent of the Yukon River*, by Tony Smythe — a varied and interesting collection.

On 23rd September a Sixth Form party visited Longleat House for the day, and on 25th September Biology specialists visited the Veterinary Science Laboratories at Bristol University. On 13th October the Sixth Form girls went to *Swan Lake* at Covent Garden and, on 10th November, to Bath for a shopping spree.

The Bridge Club has been quite active again this term and a number of enthusiastic VIb intellectuals have come to join the regular VIa stalwarts. The first tournament was won by Gregory Dorey, the second by Donald Pearce and Andrew Jenkins.

The Books for Students Exhibition again visited the college this year and set up its wares in the Assembly Hall. The visiting organiser commented, as last year, on the degree of discrimination shown by most purchasers!

On the musical front, an orchestral concert was given in the Gym on 21st October, when David Shield was the soloist in a Mozart piano concerto. On 11th November the college choir performed Brahms's *A German Requiem* in Christchurch, Cheltenham. Further details appear elsewhere.

On 4th November a showing of mountain holiday slides took place for the benefit of those who prefer to scale their peaks from the vicarious safety of easy chairs.

On 9th November all Form V and the VIb English specialists went to the Little Theatre, Bristol, for the Bristol Old Vic production of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. A VI Form party visited the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford, on 19th November to see *Richard II*, and a V Form group saw *The Taming of the Shrew* on 4th December.

The Advent Carol Service took place in St. Peter's Church, Rendcomb, on 2nd December, and the Christmas Carol Service on 9th December (the last day of term) in Cirencester Parish Church; a congregation of several hundred attended the latter.

Speaking of advents, this term witnessed the arrival on the asphalt of netball posts and players. Despite murmurings of sacrilegious intrusion on an area of familiar hockey and soccer activity, the experiment has been not only decorative but profitable, indicated by the netball team's unbeaten record over the term.

The annual Christmas Party took place on Friday, 7th December, and was a particularly good one. A fuller account appears elsewhere.

On 20th October a party took place in Park House and the Sixth Form Dance was held on 24th November. Although the disco ("Barbed Wire") was not entirely successful, the evening was enjoyable, the group played well, and refreshment was plentiful.

SPRING TERM, 1974

We were sad to see the departure in February of Sydney Lambert, Rector of Rendcomb for over six years, and his family. He was officially installed in his new parish of St. Peter's, Cheltenham, on 23rd February and a number of people from Rendcomb were in Cheltenham for the occasion. His contribution to both school and village life has been considerable and he will be much missed; however, we wish him, Isabelle, and the family every success in the future.

* * * *

Sixth Form Economists attended the Commonwealth Institute Conference at Westonbirt School on 22nd January.

Films shown this term were: Airport; Anne of the Thousand Days; The Man who Haunted Himself; Dad's Army; Lady Caroline Lamb; Baxter; The Assassination of Trotsky.

The Junior House visited the Theatre Royal, Bristol, on 24th January to see a stage version of *Gulliver's Travels*. Form V went to Stratford on 19th March for a performance of Shakespeare's *King John*.

Members of the Sixth Form visited the Chinese Exhibition at the Royal Academy, London, on Sunday, loth January.

Parties from the school went to the Severn Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge on 3rd February and 24th February.

The Literary Society outing this term was to the Wyvern Theatre, Swindon, for a performance, on 25th January, by the Prospect Theatre Company of *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*, by Peter Shaffer.

Two members of the National Portraiture Association visited the college on 9th and loth February and several pupils had portraits done, with varying degrees of success.

Forms IV and IVa visited the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, on 8th February for a performance of Francis Durbridge's play, *Suddenly at Home*.

A Junior House ramble took place in beautiful weather on 24th February, largely in the Seven Springs and Leckhampton Hill area.

* * * *

Leavers at the end of the Winter Term, 1973, were: Gregory Dorey, Christopher Horton, Graham Jordan, John Millard, David Shield, Jonathan Smith, Kim Stuckey, Colin Beck, and Timothy Wapshott. We are especially grateful to Gregory Dorey, who has put in much effort on behalf of this magazine.

The Careers Convention for the Fifth and Sixth Forms was held on Thursday, 7th March, and a varied selection of outside speakers came for the occasion.

Parent-teacher meetings were held this term as follows: for Forms IV and IVa on 27th January; for V and Va on 18th February; for VIb on 10th March.

* * * *

Members of the Hockey XI took part in the Millfield Six-a-Side Schools' Tournament on Sunday, 3rd March.

* * * *

Lectures this term: three History lectures, by Mr. D. S. J. Price, under the heading *Agriculture and Society in Gloucestershire*, c. 450-1660, given on 16th January, 30th January, and loth February; Dr. N. S. Isaacs, from the University of Reading, gave a scientific lecture on 18th January on the subject of *Stretching*, *Rocking*, *and Twisting*; on 28th January a scientific lecture for Fifth and Sixth Forms was given by Professor G. W. A. Fowler, again from Reading University, under the title *Chemistry of Everyday Life*; on 3rd February Mr. M. A. Galtress lectured to the VI Form on *Documentary Film-Making*; Mr. C. M. Swaine gave an illustrated lecture entitled *A Visit to Ghana* on 10th February.

This term's school play was a modernised version of Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*. It was done in theatre in the round style in the Gym, and the limited seating available meant that there were four performances from 14th-17th March. The production was enthusiastically received and is reviewed elsewhere in this issue.

* * * *

The School Dance was held on Friday, 22nd March, and was apparently a great success. For the younger or non-dancing elements in the college a whist drive was organised by Mr. White and about fifty people attended this event.

* * * *

Founder's Day next term is on Saturday, 22nd June. On the following Saturday (29th June), a fete is to be held at Rendcomb in aid of the Rendcomb Church bells, which are in urgent need of rehanging, an expensive process. General support for this event is earnestly requested.

* * * *

The Rt. Revd. the Bishop of Tewkesbury conducted a confirmation service, for members of the school and others, at St. Peter's Church, Rendcomb, on Saturday, 9th March.

* * * *

For the second year running the school's embryonic tycoons reached the second round of the I.C.L. Business Game, but were narrowly beaten by Taunton School at that stage.

On the hockey field, in the annual Chapman Trophy game on 22nd March, the Humanists were convincing 4-o winners, goals coming from Whiteside (3) and Lamphee. To add to the insult, an anonymous Scientist was sent off in the closing minutes.

* * * * *

In April three Sixth Form girls are going on an educational course to France and Germany through the Educational Interchange Council; congratulations to Victoria Penney, who was awarded a scholarship by the German government for this visit.

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Next summer holidays 12 boys and i girl are taking part in an exchange visit to Annecy, in Eastern France, under a scheme organised by the Cheltenham Education Authority for schools in the Cheltenham area.

* * * *

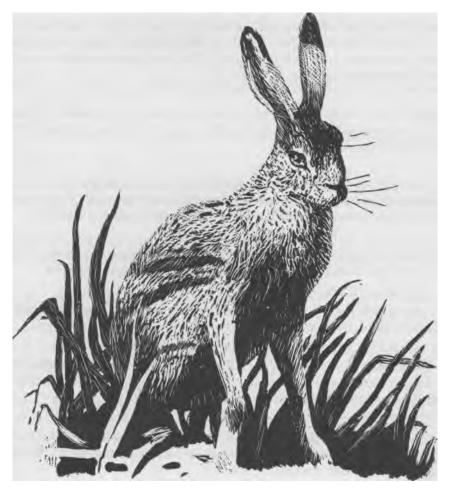
We acknowledge receipt of the following contemporaries and apologise for any omissions: The Bloxhamist; The Wycliffe Star; The Burfordian; The Gresham Magazine; The Decanian.

* * *

Preachers this term have included: Dr. Martin Sullivan, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Photographs for this issue were taken by Peter Lace, Gregory Dorey and Angus Robertson. Drawings, etc., are by Timothy Ingles, Stuart Smith, Caroline Brett, Jonathan Dixon, Philip Faulks, and Susan Stanhope. The Editors are Michael Findlay and Phillip Lamphee. Many thanks to all of them.

Finally we welcome everyone to another number of The Rendcomb Magazine.



COLLEGE OFFICERS

Winter Term, 1973

Senior Prefect-G. Jordan

Prefects-D. Wiggall, J. Millard, J. Whiteside, J. Smith, G. Dorey, K. Stuckey, D. Shield, S. Hennessy, R. Beckett

Librarians—C. Partridge, G. Dorey, P. Lamphee, M. Findlay, C. Horton, N. Roberts, C. Mathias *Church Ushers—J.* Whiteside, N. Roberts, S. Hennessy, C. Mathias, D. Wiggall

Music Librarians-C. Dendy, A. Wilson

Bell Ringers—J. Smith (Tower Captain), C. Horton, D. Pearce, J. Holloway, P. Curtis-Hayward, K. Harmon, C. Bourne, C. Hart

Senior Stagemen—R. Weston, M. Denley

Stagemen—S. Bushell, N. Crowe, W. Hall, I. Taylor, S. Hicks, T. Nicholas, J. Campbell, I. Read

Photographic Secretary-G. Dorey

Photographic Editor-J. Smith

Rugby Captain-G. Jordan

Magazine Editors-G. Dorey, M. Findlay, P. Lamphee

Spring Term, 1974

Senior Prefect- D. M. Wiggall

Prefects:- **J.** D. Whiteside, C. Partridge, M. T. K. Findlay, J. C. Lane, B. Mann, R. Beckett, E. Finney, S. Hennessy

Public Workman: W. Hall

Church Ushers: N. Roberts, C. Mathias, S. Hennessy, S. Reason

Librarians—C. Partridge, P. Lamphee, M. Findlay, N. Roberts, C. Mathias, M. James

Music Librarians—A. Wilson, C. Dendy

Bell-Ringers—D. Pearce (Tower Captain), J. Holloway, P. Curtis-Hayward, K. Harmon, C. Bourne, C. Hart, D. Yates

Senior Stagemen—S. Bushell, R. Weston

Stagemen—M. Denley, N. Crowe, B. Pritchett, I. Taylor, S. Hicks, J. Campbell, I Read, J. Stupple

Editors-P. Lamphee, M. Findlay

Hockey Captain-D. Wiggall

Games Committee-J. Whiteside, D. Pearce, T. Stroud, S. Bushell, P. Rose

Squash Captain-P. Rose

Netball Captain-S. Stanhope

MEETING OFFICERS

Winter Term, 1973

Chairman—M. Findlay

Secretary—T. Longworth

Meeting Banker-A. Jenkins

Boys' Banker-B Mann

Shop Banker—K. Harmon

Senior Shopman-N. Roberts

Junior Shopmen-P. Curtis-Hayward, T. Wormleighton

Entertainments Committee—S. Hennessy, D. Pearce, T. Evans, C. Findlay

Paperman—A. Ashmore

Record Warden-P. Lace

Rule Committee—J. Lane, C. Bourne, P. Smith

Breakages Man-R. Thomson

Furniture Man-T. Ingles

Broom Warden—D. Brennan

Amplifier Technicians-I. Taylor, N. Crowe

Rugby Wardens—J. Holloway, S. Hewitt, A. Moulton, C. Pulford

O.S. Hockey Warden—P. Curtis-Hayward

Badminton! Squash Warden-N. Longworth

Cycle Committee—J. Falconer, S. Beckett, A. Flambard

T.T. Committee—I. Forrest, C. Pulford

Food Committee—R. Beckett, J. Dixon, K. Stuckey, T. Roberts

M.A.C.-K. Stuckey, G. Dorey

Spring Term, 1974

Chairman—C. Partridge

Secretary—R. Barrett

Meeting Banker—P. Sayers

Boys' Banker-I. Taylor

Assistant Boys' Banker-T. Roberts

Shop Banker—A. Medhurst

Senior Shopman—N. Powell

Junior Shopmen—A. Moulton, C. Pulford

Entertainments Committee—M. Denley, N. Crowe, K. Barraclough, R. Thomson, J. Stupple, T. Evans

Paperman—T. Lausch

Record Warden—M. James

Rule Committee—B. Mann, C. Mathias

Badminton and Squash Warden-A. Bennett

Food Committee—R. Stroud, S. Hennessy, L. Schnitzer, W. Hall

Amplifier Technicians—J. Fletcher, S. Honeyball

Broom Warden-N. Raymont

M.A.C.-C. Partridge, K. Harmon

Council—S. Stanhope, M. Findlay, T. Stroud, P. Smith, D. Pearce, J. Scawin

Junior Advocate—S. Blyth

O.S. Rugby Warden—S. Fear

Hockey Games Wardens-A. Harris, O. Davies, I. Forrest, J. Cooper

O.S. Cricket Warden—S. Tyler

Cycle Committee—J. Ferguson, R. Caney, D. Knox

MEETING NOTES

LITTLE significant business has been conducted over the past two terms. There was some constitutional discussion over the participation of Form V and they do not now, in fact, attend meetings, though there may be some kind of Form V alternative scheme in the Summer Term. The newly arrived girls were allowed to vote after one meeting.

The Entertainments Committee remained fairly inactive during the first half of the Spring Term but, after being duly admonished, livened up. The Paperman was councilled for general slackness.

The Meeting Charity collection was voted to go to Release, a charity dealing with drug addicts, tenants in difficulties, and others. The total sum raised was just under f.

Finally, the voting for the office of Meeting Chairman during the Summer Term was exceptionally close and after two recounts the retiring chairman had to exercise his casting vote.

ACADEMIC SUCCESSES

THE following passes were gained by members of the college at G.C.E. Advanced Level in 1973:

- D. Barling-English; History; Economics and Public Affairs; '0' General Paper.
- G. J. Dorey-English* (n); History* (M); Mathematics*; '0' General Paper.
- P. C. J. Graham—English; History.
- N. E. Hance—History; Art; '0' General Paper.
- C. D. Horton—Mathematics; Physics*; Chemistry (M); '0' General Paper.
- R. R. Ingles—English; History*; Mathematics; '0' General Paper
- C. F. Jones—French.
- G. B. Jordan—Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry.
- J. Millard—Mathematics*; Physics* (n); Chemistry* (M); '0' General Paper
- C. W. Partridge—English; History; French (M); '0' General Paper
- S. J. Robbins—Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; '0' General Paper
- D. J. Shield—Mathematics; Physics (M); Chemistry; Music; '0' General Paper
- J. C. Smith—Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry (M); '0' General Paper.
- K. Stuckey-Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry (M); '0' General Paper.
- K. R. Underdown--Mathematics.
- J. D. Whiteside—English; History; Economics and Public Affairs; '0' General Paper.
 - * indicates a Grade 'A'.
 - (D) indicates a Distinction in the Special Paper.
 - (M) indicates a Merit in the Special Paper.

Ordinary Level passes:

- M. Bauer (Form VIb)-Classics in Translation.
- C. W. Beck —English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics. Physics, Chemistry; Biology.
- N. Bradbury English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- N. T. Crowe —English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- M. D. Denley English Lang.; English Lit.; Mathematics; Physics; Biology.
- J. P. Dixon —English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- R. C. Evans English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics.
- M. T. Findlay (Form VIb)-Classics in Translation; Mathematics.
- B. G. Fisher (Form VIa)—Additional Mathematics.
- J. P. Fletcher English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- K. A. Harmon (Form VIb)—French.
- S. A. Hennessy (Form VIb)—Classics in Translation.
- S. W. Honeyball—English Lit.; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- M. R. James English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics.
- D. M. Knox -English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Biology.

- P. C. Lace English Lang.; English Lit .; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biolog Y.
- P. J. Lamphee —English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biolog Y.
- N. J. Lumby English Lang.; English Lit .; History; Mathematics.
- C. Mathias English Lang.; English Lit .; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Chemistry; Biology.
- A. W. Medhurst—English Lang.; English Lit .; History; French; Mathematics; Chemistry; Biology.
- P. Millard English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- A. G. Otter English Lang.; English Lit.; Latin; French; Mathematics.
- S. F. Pendell —English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; Mathematics; Chemistry.
- V. Penney (Form VIb)—Classics in Translation.
- S. E. Pink (Form VIb)—Classics in Translation.
- B. Pritchett -English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- S. R. L. Reason English Lit.; History; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- M. P. R. Rose English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- P. R. Sayers -English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- S. D. M. Stanhope (Form VIb)—Classics in Translation.
- T. J. Stroud (Form VIb)—Classics in Translation.
- I. Taylor -English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- M. W. Wapshott—English Lang.; Mathematics.
- R. A. Weston —English Lang.; English Lit.; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology.
- S. J. Wormleighton—English Lang.; English Lit.; Religious Knowledge; History; Mathematics.

* * * *

Details of entrances to Oxford, Cambridge, and other universities are recorded under Old Rendcombian Notes in this issue.

RENDCOMB COLLEGE AWARDS, 1974

The Noel Wills Scholarship-one FREE place:

Mark Burchall — Lydney C. of E. Primary School.

Seven Gloucestershire Foundation Places:

Callum Dick — Lakeside Junior School, Cheltenham. Douglas Gassor — Lakeside Junior School, Cheltenham.

Alastair Munro — Dursley C. of E. School.

Mark Harris — Tidenham Tutshill C. of E. School.

Andrew Pitt — Rowanfield Junior School, Cheltenham.

Richard Pledge — King's Stanley C. of E. Junior School, Stonehouse.

Peter Uglow — St. Joseph's R.C. School, Nympsfield.

The Ernest Cook Trust Bursary:

Thomas Paton — Querns School, Cirencester.

* * * *

The Girls' Scholarship for entry to Rendcomb in September, 1974, was awarded to Jane Lyons (Monmouth School).

The following appreciation published in the March 1974 number of *The A.M.A. Magazine* and is reproduced verbatim—Ed.

Mr. J. C. JAMES

A member of the staff of Rendcomb College, Cirencester, for 38 years, John Churchill James died on the 9th November, 1973, after a short illness. Educated at Dean Close and Merton College, Oxford, he taught at Queen Mary's School, Basingstoke, from 1928-31 and then devoted the rest of his teaching career to Rendcomb College where he became Second Master in 1934 and Acting Headmaster from 1960-61 after the death of the former Head, Mr. D. W. Lee-Browne. After his retirement in 1969 he continued to live in Rendcomb and to take an active part in college affairs.

In Rendcomb, John James will be remembered, not only for his outstanding contribution to the scholastic life, reflected in a long line of open scholarships in History, but even more for the part he played in the general life of the community. The library was expanded under his direction to a state of efficiency where it could play an important role in college life. For many years he ran the cricket so successfully that the school was able to compete on level terms with schools of three or four times its own size. He was an able administrator who took charge of the college at a difficult time and laid the foundations during this period for its future expansion. Most of all, generations of former pupils and young schoolmasters will remember with affection the unlimited time he was always willing to find to advise on their individual problems, and the wisdom of that advice.

To a wider circle in Gloucestershire Mr. James became well known as a lecturer on current affairs to the Workers Educational Association and the Bristol University Extension Lectures. During the war years his lectures provided a welcome change for many members of the armed forces who found themselves in this part of the country.

In the educational world, he will be remembered as vice-chairman of the I.A.A.M. committees which produced 'The Teaching of History' in 1950 and its second and third editions in 1957 and 1965. He contributed personally to several articles in the first edition. He was an examiner in A-level History for the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate between 1946 and 1969. Latterly he was also the I.A.A.M. representative on the Schools Council History Committee.

To summarise, John Churchill James was a man of great integrity, dedication and energy. To his widow and daughters we extend our sympathy in their loss and our gratitude for the contribution he has made to our own lives.

Mrs. F. R. LEE-BROWNE

FREDA ROSAMUND LEE-BROWNE came to Rendcomb in 1929 as the wife of Denis Lee-Browne, then an assistant master teaching Biology. They lived in a flat in the courtyard until Denis Lee-Browne was made Headmaster in 1932, when they moved to a flat on the first floor of the College. Here they remained until Lee-Browne's death in 1960.

As the daughter of Frederick Austin, a well-known Grand Opera singer of the 1920's who had composed the music for a revival of Gay's *Beggars' Opera*, Freda Lee-Browne was well acquainted with the musical and theatrical world. In the pre-war years she devoted a good deal of her time to encouraging the lighter side of College life. Her gifts as an accomplished pianist and graceful dancer were employed in the Saturday night and Sunday afternoon entertainments of the College. Her long evening dresses and swinging ear-rings brightened the rather drab grey-flannelled community and her knowledge of theatrical costume and design enabled her to extend the modest theatrical wardrobe of the College into a large and varied collection of stage clothes. Many of these costumes were made in the Linen Room under her supervision. She herself acted in many staff, or staff and boy, plays, her parts ranging from Portia in *The Merchant of Venice* to the heroine of a P. G. Wodehouse farce. For some years play-readings for the staff in her drawing-room were a welcome diversion - made possible by the relatively small numbers (80-90) in College then.

During the war Freda accepted responsibility for the College flower borders and devoted much of her time to planning them. Indifferent health, however, made it difficult for her to take an active part in College life and this became increasingly obvious in the 1950's.

To many onlookers her elegance and charm in her early years in College tended perhaps to suggest the hot-house plant in the rough Gloucestershire soil. Certainly the decorative qualities with which she was endowed provided, for the rather narrow College world of the 1930's and 1940's, a glimpse of the colour and gaiety of life in the operatic and theatrical world.





Brains and Beauty: I



THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

THIS year we had a Christmas Party which appeared more highly organised than any other yet. The theme, so sadly missing last time, was "Alice in Wonderland," and the antics of the staff reduced the school to great mirth. The Sixth Form and staff and staff families then sampled some wine in the Library, while the rest of the school indulged in various pastimes such as estimating how many sugar lumps were in a jar and guessing Mr. Sells's birth-date (not to be revealed here). The meal was its usual delicious self, and the annual sketches (especially, perhaps, 'Pig Track' by the prefects) were very funny indeed.

In the Fancy Dress competitions, junior prizes were won by Anthony Flambard and friends as Doctor Doolittle and the Pushmi-Pullyu, and by John Purkiss as St. George. Senior prizes were won by Annabel Goodenough and Charlotte Brain as a toadstool and The Laughing Gnome, John Falconer and Alisdair Wilson as the royal couple, and Carol Robinson, Sally Blyth and Lilli Schnitzer as The Three Locals.

I am sure that the whole school appreciated Mr. Bell's organisation and the kitchen's hard work. If we can improve on the standard of entry for the Fancy Dress by next year, we ought to have all the ingredients of a really fine Christmas Party.

MUSIC NOTES

THE new Music Library in the Arts Block was opened at the beginning of the Autumn Term. This houses a Steinway upright piano and high quality stereophonic record-playing equipment. A large collection of records with scores of most of the works is available for pupils' use at any time, and it is hoped to build up a section of musical reference books.

The next concert is planned for Sunday, 19th May, at 7.30 p.m. in the Gym. The College orchestra will play Haydn's Symphony No. 104 in D ("London") and accompany the Choir in Bach's Cantata No. 79 ("Gott, Der Herr") and "O, Be Joyful" by Vaughan Williams.

Concerts

Autumn Term

Sunday, 21st October in the Gym by the College Orchestra:

Solo Pianist: David Shield

Overture "Alceste" Gluck
Piano Concerto in A (K488) Mozart
Symphony No. 3 in D Schubert

Sunday, 11th November, in Christchurch, Cheltenham:

A German Requiem Brahms
Sung by the College Choir with Elizabeth Baker (soprano),
David Shield (baritone), and Orchestra led by Kenneth Moore.

Spring Term:

Sunday, 24th February, in the Gym:

Recital consisting of music for Brass and Recorder Consorts, a Brahms Rhapsody for piano solo played by Christopher Dendy, and two pieces sung by the Special Choir.

Anthems

Ascribe Unto the Lord	Travers
(Treble solo: Jonathan McGill)	
Thou Visitest the Earth	Greene
0 for the Wings of a Dove	Mendelssohn
(Treble solo: Simon Buist)	
0 for a Closer Walk with God	Stanford
Ave Verum Corpus	Mozart
The Souls of the Righteous	Nares
0 Sacrum Convivium	Vittoria
Nun Danket	Bach
(Trumpets : Adrian Bell and Jeremy Ferguson)	
	(Treble solo: Jonathan McGill)Thou Visitest the Earth0 for the Wings of a Dove (Treble solo: Simon Buist) 0 for a Closer Walk with God Ave Verum CorpusThe Souls of the Righteous0 Sacrum Convivium Nun Danket

An Advent Carol Service was held by candlelight on 2nd December, and the annual Christmas Carol service was sung in Cirencester Parish Church on 9th December.

Spring Term

1 0		
13th January	The Shepherds' Farewell	Berlioz
loth January	Lord for Thy Tender Mercies' Sake	Farrant
3rd February	Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	Bach
	(Flute obligato: Clare Bourne)	
10th February	The Heavens are Telling	Haydn
24th February	0 Love, How Deep!	Willson
19th March	Sunt Cervus Desiderat	Palestrina

The College Orchestra accompanied the service on loth February, and Stuart Honeyball was organist on 21st October, 20th January, and 3rd March.

BELL-RINGING NOTES

Tins term bellringing has progressed as usual, although the numbers have slightly decreased. Jonathan Smith and Christopher Horton, both experienced ringers, left last term. We would like to thank John Smith for his services as Tower Captain; he has been succeeded by Donald Pearce.

We are again very grateful to Miss Bliss for helping in our ringing. Next term, the College Bellringers are joining the P.S.B.R.A. and we hope also to enter some ringing competitions.

D.P.

CLIMBING NOTES

THE weather over the last two terms has prevented us from doing very much rock climbing, but we have been very fortunate on our weekend expeditions. In the Winter Term we spent a pleasant weekend on Scafell Pike and Scafell and a day nearer the end of term was spent snow-climbing in Snowdonia.

Christmas was spent in Glencoe but the weather prevented us from doing anything exciting.

We spent a weekend in the Spring Term in the Peak District and one in Snowdonia snowclimbing.

Six boys will be visiting Glencoe in the Easter holidays, hoping for good snow and ice conditions, and four of them will be going to climb in the Austrian Alps for a fortnight in July.

Norway 1973

Mr. Willson and five boys spent almost four weeks in Norway in the summer holidays. We spent our time in Romsdal and Isterdal but were only able to do seven days climbing owing to the weather, poor maps, and untracked terrain. The highlight of the holiday was on the Roms dalshorn, a difficult peak where we were forced to bivouac unexpectedly on the descent.

Snowdonia 1973

Eighteen boys spent one week in Snowdonia. The party split up on most days but conditions were rather wild and we only managed to climb Snowdon, Tryfan, and the Glyders.

D.J.B.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NOTES

THERE was little activity in the Winter Term: the only time the Society's voice was heard was on the occasion of asking the Meeting (out of its habitual generosity) to provide for the purchase of *Amateur Photographer*, as well as a new lock to replace that broken by Mr. Sells in an attempt to prevent the dark-room burning down!

The entry of girls to the Society has been delayed and membership has remained static; only the quantity of expensive chemicals used ever seems to increase.

A reasonable quality of work was maintained throughout the Spring Term. Philip Smith succeeded Gregory Dorey as Secretary and David Bell was elected as a photographic editor for the magazine. The play photographs, taken by Peter Lace, were diverse and competent, while Crispin Partridge's general photographs were sold to the Sixth Form.

In view of fuller membership and increasing skill, the prospects of the Society seem healthy.

G.J.D., P.E.S.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY

THE Winter Term saw an increase in membership (now about 40) and a deviation from the standard Literary Society activities: for a start we embarked on a session of TV-style "Call My Bluff" on 17th October. The team consisting of 'experts' Elaine Finney, Michael Findlay and Gregory Dorey won with six points, closely followed by Victoria Penney, Crispin Partridge and Derek Wiggall, with five points. The evening was a particularly successful one and was chaired with great panache by Mr. Bell.

On Friday, November 2nd, the Society visited the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, to attend a performance of A Voyage Round My Father, by John Mortimer. Everyone found this much acclaimed modern play interesting to watch, though some members reacted against the ultramodern structure used by the dramatist.

The last event of the term was a talk by Mr. P. J. Kavanagh, who lives locally and is well-known as a writer and for appearances on television and radio. In a wide-ranging, informal talk he tried to define the forces which influenced his own decision to become a writer, the problems of a writer, and referred to the poetry of T. S. Eliot, W. H. Auden, Wilfred Owen, and Edward Thomas, among others. Questions followed the talk and the evening proved a most lively and entertaining one.

Owing to the pressure of the play and other activities the Society was relatively inactive during the Spring Term. However, there was a successful visit to the Wyvern Theatre, Swindon, on 25th January to see the fine Prospect Theatre Company production of Peter Shaffer's *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*. Finally, a play-reading session took place on Tuesday, 19th March: two Theatre of the Absurd One-Act plays were read, lonesco's *The Bald Prima Donna* and N. F. Simpson's *A Resounding Tinkle*. The reading was generally intelligent and the evening enjoyed, though pressure of work and end of term fatigue produced a somewhat reduced attendance.

One meeting, featuring a talk centred on Chaucer's *The Miller's Tale*, is planned for next term before the annual G.C.E. frenzy arrives.

G.J.D., P.J.L.

THE SCIENCE SOCIETY

THE programme for the term has been very ambitious in the topics covered, ranging from the general appeal of 'Apollo 15' to the specialist interest in `Fluorescers'. The average attendance has been around 60 and, again, lecturers have commented on the quantity and quality of the questions asked in the discussions following the lectures.

The films shown have been:

Concordes Fly
On to Mach 2
The structure of protein
Genetics and plant breeding
The physics and chemistry of water
Water in biology
Fluorescers
Colloids
Apollo 15-A ride on the moon

The lectures have been:

'The Jet Engine'-B. L. Button, Principal Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering, Lanchester Polytechnic.

'The Development of Transportation'—H. D. Cooke, Head of Department, Faculty of Art and Design, Lanchester Polytechnic.

R.K.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

"Tins House believes that a Woman's place is in the home," was the topical and controversial motion for the first debate of the school year on 30th September. The proposition was ably headed by Gregory Dorey, and seconded by Peter Millard, appearing in his first debate. They were opposed by Debbie Yates and Andrea Don.

Greg Dorey opened his speech with the immortal words: "Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen, and others..." He continued to point out that women were made differently to men, and that a woman's place was in bed, and three times a day in the kitchen. He commented on the fact that if Adam hadn't had a good set of ribs, woman wouldn't be here today. In answer to the present-day Women's Liberation Movement, he asked the house to imagine a man burning his Y-fronts publicly.

Opposing the motion, Debbie Yates attacked the opinion that a woman's place in the home was traditional. She pointed out that men no longer have to use their superior strength in fighting prehistoric beasts, and that women no longer have to look after families of fifteen or more. She argued that men were as capable as women when it came to doing general housework and looking after children. Although she conceded the point that men are physically stronger than women, she said that women had more stamina in that they live longer, despite the strains of childbearing.

Seconding the motion, Peter Millard asked who, if the men were to stay at home, would do the cleaning while the men were watching football on the television? As Eve had committed the original sin, he said, women should stay at home before they did any more harm. He finished by pointing out that if women found bearing children to be tiring, then they should be too worn out to work.

Andrea Don gave the house examples of famous women who were not dominated by "male chauvinist pigs." Elizabeth I had turned down marriages, yet defeated the Armada, Queen Victoria had built up Britain's empire, and the Amazons had cut off their right breasts so as to be able to draw a bow more easily! She finished her speech by quoting the Bible in saying that God created woman as a companion to man, not a slave.

The motion was thrown open to the house, who remarked that Boadicea was beaten by a man, female spiders have the right idea in eating their mates, more milkmen should be provided to keep the women from being bored, and that all the tribes ruled by women were primitive. Mr. Bell told us a delightful theory, rivalling that of Darwin. He said that the theory stated that the species was originally female, but one day there was a terrible aberration in the breeding cycle and the male was formed. The male was thrown out of the caves, so he killed animals and developed his strength and virility. The women then were attracted to him and came out of their caves in the hope that he would court them. Thus, he said, "If women are in a secondary role, it is only because they fancy us!"

Gregory Dorey and Debbie Yates then summed up, and the motion was put to the vote, and defeated by 27 votes to 20, with 11 abstentions.

Our second debate took place on the 4th November; Teta Hennessy, Crispin Partridge, and Elaine Finney argued that "Fat is Best," and were opposed by Phillip Lamphee, Victoria Penney, and Gregory Dorey (the boys with cushions up their jumpers). It was pointed out that fat persons kept warmer and floated better; the opposition countered with information concerning the invention of clothes and rubber rings. Suggestions of fat people being jollier were crushed by the examples of Napoleon, Nero, and Goering. Finally, it was pointed out that world resources are wasted in clothing large people, and strengthening bridges. This was the first debate at Rendcomb where

the audience might ask the panel direct questions, and lively (and often angry) interchanges took place between interested parties. The motion was defeated by 44 to 33 votes, with 11 abstentions. The evening ended with Phillip Lamphee doing press-ups on the table with his cushion; a slight departure from the ethics of debate, but no doubt a valuable one!

On 5th December, Gregory Dorey, Phillip Lamphee, and a group of supporters went to a debate at Hatherop Castle Girls' School, where two girls advocated the re-education of this country's attitude to dead bodies. The boys (dressed in top hats, tails, and black ties to indicate their allegiances) expected to argue against cannibalism, and were surprised by the girls who thought our country not reverent enough, and wanted to embalm their corpses to keep in their living rooms, and chop them up for scientific purposes. This morbid subject was treated with humour by both sides, and an enjoyable buffet meal precededed the event. The balance of opinion was with the present funeral rites and practices of burial and cremation, and the boys won by 26 votes to 11, with 6 abstentions. A very pleasant evening; let us hope it is not the last.

We thank Mr. Holt and Mr. Bell for their organisation of a most eventful term's activity.

Only one debate was held in the Spring Term, one of the two planned being cancelled due to play rehearsals and other commitments in the latter half of term.

The debate held was on Sunday, 13th January, and the motion was that "This House believes that Britain would benefit from a Dictatorship." Such a political topic attracted such speakers as Clive Mathias and Pete Millard supporting the motion and Crispin Partridge against. The speakers had no difficulty in displaying their personal political bias, and after a brief session of political bickering the motion was put to the vote and defeated by 25 votes to 13, with 6 abstentions. The debate was chaired by Phillip Lamphee.

Three debates are planned for the Summer Term, one of which will probably be a Junior Debate.

G.J.D., P.J.L.

CHESS CLUB

THE Chess Club was started again last Autumn and met with quite an enthusiastic response from the younger members of the school. The Club meets every Sunday morning in the Library and provides a few hours of relaxation from the rigours of school life. All from the Third Form upwards are welcome, although membership is restricted to about twenty. Demonstration matches have been played with three of the masters and the moves written down so that the chess annotation could be learnt. A chess ladder was also started, and the most spectacular improvement in position was that of Brennan, who rose five places. More fixtures are planned for next term and it is hoped to begin a school team in the autumn; but at the moment Sixth Form chess intellectuals are limited almost exclusively to the fairer sex.



HOT DAY - DUSTY PAVEMENT!

Kevin Barraclough (Form V)

THE day is hot and dry, and the market town dull. Your mother suddenly, in a flash of genius, decides that you are walking crookedly and need a new pair of shoes. So there you stand, aghast at the idea of removing your shoes in someone else's vicinity, and attempt to dissuade her from the idea. But no. She seems to be set on the idea, and so, as she drags you along, you frantically try and will your feet to cool down. Then, as the "Milward's" sign drifts into view, you see in your mind's eye the snooty shop assistant being felled by the odour at twenty paces.

In the shop you sit down on one of the waiting chairs and decide the best course of action would be to try and keep your shoes on for as long as possible. On the other hand, if you take them off now, the odour will have time to disperse. But no, the "assistant" approaches (who soon turns out to be the "assistant" manager) and you resign yourself to your fate.

"Very well, madam, we'll just check him for size," he says, as he picks up the famous Clark's pedometer and sets it down on the stool.

"Just put your foot there, please, sir." He points to the stool, and you miserably lift your foot, shoe and all, onto it.

"No, sir, we can't measure your foot with your shoe on. Surely your socks aren't that bad?" He gives you an assistant-manager-to-boy-customer laugh and you smile feebly. You wonder how much he will regret that statement in the next minute.

The fateful moment having arrived, you relax in your chair as he takes off your shoe. Now strangely at ease, you watch his face, fascinated, as he peels off the shoe, to reveal the smouldering dungheap inside. The "assistant" drops back a pace and stifles a cry. Your socks start steaming as the second phase of embarrassment sets in. People start sniffing the air and muttering, and gradually you feel your ears get hotter and hotter as you are subjected to the scrutiny of all the eyes of the world.

Your mother asks if you changed your socks in the morning and as you answer your voice cracks and shoots into a falsetto. More eyes seem to be looking at you, and you contemplate making a dash for the door, wishing you had never entered the God-forsaken place.

Unfortunately, at that moment your intestine, having been rather objectionable all morning, makes its presence felt with a rather loud retort.

Desperately, you hope that nobody else has noticed this lapse into vulgarity; but all your hopes are expelled when the assistant walks over, inhales, gasps, drops the shoes beside you and walks off. Feeling very small, you try on the shoes, decide that they are too small, but haven't got the "guts" to ask him for a second pair to try. You accept the bill at the counter and reel before the final blow:

"Would you care to purchase a new, *clean* pair of socks, sir?" You hurtle out of the shop onto the crowded pavement and try to lose yourself in the wide world.

AIRBORNE

Christopher Pulford (Form IVA)

Wisps of Cumulonimbus cloud darted past, silent as night, as white as cotton — the ears hurt. The ground was plastered like a lunatic's drawing board, fields of all colours dominated. Sun cut the retina into pieces, the engines roared, Throwing out their tremendous power and torque.

The heavenly doves ascended, the sky became clearer; Only the occasional patch of cloud remained. Pressure increased, ears laboured — hurt. Acterons swirled up, the aircraft descended — gracefully.

A barrier loomed up, tall, thick, challenging. We were small, courageous, full of hope. At the foot of the mountain lay a servant, Zermatt — the village of cedarwood and deal.

The mountain stood there tall, up in the heavens, White as an angel.
King of Switzerland, lord of all mountains,
Wonderful, awe-inspiring — unbelievable.

THE BRIDGE IS DOWN

Gregory Dorey

(Being the final part of a trilogy printed in THE RENDCOMB MAGAZINE.)

Down under the leafy covering Droplets of water on the elephant's back

Shone like diamonds;

Pouring.

Relaxed, comfortable, admirous of the

Eagle overhead,

Worm underneath.

A deer, surprised,

Coughed elegantly, politely, hurriedly made off,

Graceful, bounding.

The lion ignored his greeting,

Because he was careful to avoid them,

The ants sneered at him.

Powerful, he could not lead.

But the sun, the shade, the breeze was his:

A deep peace was his, and was of him, and was him.

The millionaire watches the incinerators, Smokily consuming his money. The ruined house stands, solitary, In the shoulder-high weeds. He thinks: "Now I have helped them. They will praise me; I am like them.

"God be in my heart and in my doing — Excuse me, please, I think my train Is due in."

Two high cliffs border the chasm.

On one side stand the lion, the deer,

The millionaire.

On the other lolls the hippopotamus, surrounded

By swarming ants.

Silently, awed by a new, pervasive power,

They watch as the elephant rises from the depths —

On his back the penguin —

Reunited, in one, at last.

Great, silver wings beat at the air.

Underneath the eagle becomes

A toy,

A point,

Nothing.

The elephant disappears;

The bridge is down.

WHEN YOU'RE GROWN UP AND HAVE MORE SENSE

Peter Haynes (Form III)

BILLY strode down the street with an air of panache about him. He knew he was big and smart, no kid on the South Bank dared to cross Billy's path. Billy was sixteen, grown men feared him, and all the while, in his mind, he felt an inner flame of confidence. "Billy's tough," he told himself, "Billy'll hit the big time soon."

He wasn't stupid, so far as stupidity goes, in fact, he was even thinking of staying on at school for another year, but he had seven weeks to decide about that. Across his back lay a .22 air rifle, and in his hand was a flick knife, while his boots were brown with steel toe caps and blood stains from the Spurs match.

An old man stumbled in front of him. Billy flicked the blade of his knife; it had become a natural reaction now. He looked the man up and down, then spat on the floor, drawing back the blade of his knife. As he walked on, the old man yelled back, "I'll set the coppers on you, Billy Draper, I will." Billy turned with an uninterested sneer on his face and made a V-sign at him.

He reached his destination in the midday sun's full splendour. After stuffing down his lunch he took up his gun. He was seated on a small hill, from which everything in view was in range. On the one side of him (Billy believed this to be East) was the town and all its chaos, on the other (naturally assumed to be West) was countryside. He pivoted round, the sights of his gun passing over many targets which a day's shooting could soon hit, out of the town and into country, and flicked over a boy walking his dog in a field. "Poncish little brat," lining up his sights. Bang! - the dog lay dead, a pellet through its temple. Billy sat back on his throne and thought, "Billy's hit the big time."

Billy crept down the road — blackened face, dressed in plimsols, dark trousers and polonecked sweater with a stocking over his head. Billy was now thirty-one, and, perhaps, the most successful crook on Southside. He had enough '0' and 'A' levels to get a good office job but he found being a criminal more profitable. He'd kept his name out of the records too; as far as the police knew he was a man who had been renowned for stealing sweets and toys when he was young. He had promised himself a holiday abroad if he pulled this one, and he was, to say the least, very confident.

He carried a tool bag containing all that one needs for breaking into warehouses and in his trousers was a .45 revolver. He stood on the corner opposite the warehouse; if all went to plan he would hear the all clear signal, an owl hoot, in about fifteen minutes.

Suddenly a van, lights blazing, loomed out of the darkness. "Scat, Billy, the fuzz!" was the cry from the van.

Billy drew his revolver, he stepped into the road, the panda car roared round the bend, the headlights glared viciously at him, dazzling him, he pulled desperately at the trigger, four times he pulled, "bang, bang, bang, bang!" The bright searching rays of the headlamps went out. Whether a bullet had put out the lights, Billy would never know, he pulled again, "bang!" A policeman lay dead, a bullet through the heart.

Billy would have probably been pleased to know he'd killed a policeman, but he never will know. Something had gone wrong, bullets stop anything, perhaps the bullets were blanks, perhaps the car had a bullet-proof windscreen, but something went wrong. Billy was only aware of a car

screaming loudly at him and growling over him, of a sudden pain in his head and his knees feeling weak, he saw his life fly past as though he was looking through a stream, his knees gave way, the hard tarmac ground felt cold against his face and the blood wet his clothes, He never knew that he was dying but he could feel his inner flame of confidence weakening and dying until he felt no more. "Billy's hit the big time! Billy's hit the big time!" it repeated until the final drop of water put it out.



THE OXEN

Timothy Wormleighton (Form IVA)

The earth trembling underfoot, Their tails swishing with the breeze, Their heads bowed, never moving, The oxen tramp along. Their massive hooves squashing The land on which they tread, Their muscles teeming with energy, Heaving them along. The driver whips them on, Impatient for his rest, Yet the oxen just plod on, Never hurrying, always working. But their time is yet to come, And once every ounce of strength Is drained from the flagging sieve, The journey will be over all too soon. And as the knacker's knife comes down, It is their turn to wait for rest.

IN A WEIGHTLIFTER'S MIND

Ian Underdown (Form IVA)

Yeah, man, you can do it. Take the pressure, man. Cool it Build it up; Push your arms; Up she goes, baby. Keep praying, son. 0.K..... now, man. Hold it, man, hold it. Pray, man, pray, Keep it in heaven. Two more seconds, man, Pressure, man, Come on, baby, one second, Yeah, man, one second Hold it f for o..one s..s..second, now, man, cool it.

SUNDAY SOCCER

Andrew Harris (Form IVA)

The freezing mist clothed the park
Like the devil's cloak,
Tall, barren trees, like sentries on guard,
Stand, stripped of leaves.
Crisp and brown, they covered the ground,
Ripped, torn and tattered, they lay dying,
Victims of winter's hate....
Ooff! Aww! Ooh! The leather ball screamed,
Its laces sodden, sides splattered with mud.
Thud! It flew through the air, wheezing,
Oohh! The flight's end was abrupt,
Dazed it lay, unconscious of its surrounds.
"Hard luck, Dad!" the little boy yelled.
"That post!" Dad replied.
Dad stood, his arms dangling meekly by his
side.

Like puppets on a string,
His head held low, bowed to ground.
Panting like an engine out of steam,
He gazed solemnly at the ground.
His baggy trousers hung in knots,
Though carefully tucked beneath his socks.
The boy turned, ball under arm,
Nursing it like a new-born babe.
He was well built,

Powerful leg muscles rippling at every step. His green, woollen jumper was splattered with mud,

While his hands were numb with cold.
"Let's go back, Dad," he pleaded.
"Okay, son, give us the ball."
They turned, and started off, talking as they went ••••

Under the tunnel of branches, to the clapping of the wind.

THE PERAMBULATOR STAKES

Hamish Wilson (Form MA)

"TWEET tweet, tweet tweet . . . bang!" There's dad occupied in his usual morning habit of shooting pigeons when they dare to roost on his chimney pots.

I look out of the window. There is the usual scene taking place — boy to school, car to garage, dog to lamp-post. Nothing exciting seems to be going on. Nothing ever does.

Wait a minute! Mrs. Smith is talking to her baby. I expect they are off to the clinic. I do not know why she bothers talking to that wretched creature in the pram. She only receives intelligent answers such as "mumma," "dadda," and "fruit cake."

Young Johnnie is behind her, whistling aimlessly. He too is pushing a pram. Mrs. Patel, a Pakistani, is following the young boy. She is pushing an old, bright red perambulator. Behind her is Freddie Fisher and behind him is Miss Jane Smith, but behind her is someone who wishes to remain anonymous.

There are "thousands of 'em," greens, blues, blacks, old ones, new ones (and many more like that), all prams, prams, prams!

There is a slight pushing and shoving and gradually the "pushers' " walk changes into a brisk trot and then into a steady jog. I hear father's gun, the signal for the start of the "perambulator stakes," a race of three hundred yards to the clinic!

They're off! The prams join together in the pack. There is a lot of bustling and jostling. Mrs. Smith is leading by a short pram handle. Closely behind her is Mrs. Patel. Anything could happen now! In fact it seems to be happening. Penelope Hinkly-Avonhurst is now coming up from the back of the field pushing her "sporty," white de luxe model.

Now, as the pack approach the clinic, teddies, dolls, dummies, blankets and babies are being thrown out in an attempt to win this race.

Alas! The Marle Hill Parade mob of mothers are coming the other way on the other side of the "race-track" street!

Back in the race, Penelope Hinkly-Avonhurst has been put right out of the race with a broken wheel. Freddie Fisher has had baby trouble and Jane Smith has had a milk leak, the carburettor-bottle has gone on a three-day working week.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Patel seems to be the clear leader. Unfortunately she hasn't seen the Marle Hill Parade lot coming, at a great rate of knots, around the approaching corner.

Bang, crash, wallop! Babies are all over the road, together with six milk bottles, seventeen blankets, one denuded Mrs. Patel and a host of other things. (Mrs. Patel was denuded when baulk ing in the early stages of the race!)

The whole place seems suddenly quiet again. I expect it will settle down to the usual, boy to school, car to garage, and dog to lamp-post!

WAR

Colin Hitchcock (Form III)

"War is on the way," is the chatter in the pub.
"There be a new airfield down yon Ripley way,"

Is the rumour on the farm.

"It's all the Conservatives' fault," says the

Businessman with a furled umbrella.

The rumour gathers moss, and the people worry more.

Summer comes, with its gaiety and hope. And people are forgetting that their country Isn't safe from enemies; like Russia and Germany. But the people are still ignorant.

War is declared — the people run, from snow, Intermingled with bombs, Flashing with death overhead.

"There is no mercy for young men, captured In war, and taken to Germany," says the radio.

The people cry with sorrow for their lost sons.

"With the coming of Spring, an end is foreseeable," proclaims the radio.

"At last!" reply the people. "An end is on the way!"

With the coming of Summer, all is over.

And people's long lost sons are home.

POLITICAL SP - - CH

Andrew Grainger (Form I)

"Mistr Hath has mad th usag of th fifth lttr of th alphabt illgal. W hay found this unbarabl, as I am sur you all know. I do not s why th qua allowd him to stop us using th most valuabl lttr of our livs.

If you vot for m, I will allow you to us this lttr as bfor. Othrwis mn will hay to b mployd to invnt nw words. Sinc Mistr Hath mad this law, mic hav bcom silnt, as thy can't scrch, and cats hav bcom silnt, as thy can't mow.

About fifty pr cnt of th words in th nglish languag possss or usd to possss this lttr.

What puzzls m is why it was bannd. I suppose h'll ban all thothr yowls, and if that wasn't nough, h might vn ban the lttr "y", so that no word rmains intact.

So vot for m, for your word's sak!

"Thr chrrs for Mistr Wilson!" shoutd an onlookr. "Hip, hip-hooray, hip, hip-hooray, hip, hip-hooray!"

"Anothr thing that I don't lik about it," said Mr. Wilson, "is that I now hav to smok a pip!"

STOP FEELING, DEAR - A QUESTION

Phillip Lamphee

Why do the smiling women nudge so? Beckonings leap and smiles surprise me from behind, And goading eyes laugh lashing invitations At my "come" - stung urging backwards. Who sings the siren in my ears? The demons buy me drinks, and Chatter toasts too quickly down my throat. The demons soda my excuses, and Light another for me. When will the women wash the lurings from their Netted-tight and silk-strung bodies? When will their bodies cease to sway to the Flute-tones of my eyes? I must survive the smoke-sparkle, and Surging, touching, touching, . . . touching. Or perhaps I'll go to the Dance after all ...

PEGASUS - ANOTHER QUESTION

Phillip Lamphee

Why does my mind so easily Caress the downward curves of love? Imagination tugs the lust from reality, Which ploughs each ridge and trough with equal disregard; And, like a tethered bird, Each flight of mine ends earthwards. Love is throttled by this leash, So how must I snap the cord? How can I snap the cord? Ignore, fly blinded, and crash the same? Better myself see failure Than be told of it by others. Or should I, too, tow the plough, and Drag each minute through soil and plod, Feet in furrows? No. I must soar, slide, Then, leap-checked but lovingly, Admit my failure. But tomorrow perhaps I fly.

TRIALS AND 'ERRORS' OF A PROPS MAN

David Pitt (Form IVA)

A clearly audible click, the music spins into action. Lyons and Longworth entered. Andy walked round with Cooper, they were late, broke into a trot to keep up with the music.

"Harris, Cooper, hurry up!"

The courtesans made their approach through the non-existent audience, chatting with empty chairs.

"That's perfect, Sue, don't overdo it!"

Owen dropped down the stair with an imaginary tray of imaginary trinkets. Treve Evans 'stole' the imaginary drum from the imaginary tray.

"Don't forget, Pitt, I want a tray. Quickly, lad, the D.R. is tomorrow!"

"Sir, I haven't had time."

"Well well, find time!"

Gotley approached the front of the audience, turned, threw off an imaginary cloak and gave a yell. The tumblers ran onto the stage, amidst applause, then

"Where's Boothman? Where is Boothman? WHERE IS BOOTHMAN? Boothman! BOOTHMAN!"

Owen appeared. "Sir, I think he went on a packed lunch."

"A PACKED LUNCH! I'm sorry, people, the rehearsal's off. We'll try again at half-past four. We'll try the Prologue now. Pitt, I want a cloak, a . . ."

"Who's nicked me pencil? Andy, where's me pencil?"

c`. . telescope. Have you got all that?"

"No, sir."

"NO, SIR."

"No, sir. It's disappeared."

"What has, lad?"

"My pencil, sir."

"Then find it!"

"Sorry, sir."

"You WILL BE!"

STRANGE ILLNESS

Simon Tyler (Form IVA)

"Move your head."

"It aches."

"Cough."

"lt explodes."

"Your throat . . . "

"Feels terrible."

"Lost any weight?"

"Half a stone."

"Put this under your tongue."

Pause...

"103. A classic case of—"

"What do I do?"

"Stay in bed, only have fluids."

"When do I . . . "

"... get up, when the temperature's normal." Six days of fluids and high temperature.

Coughing his head away,

Sleeping badly,

One step out of bed, dizziness surrounds him. Finally he sweats till the bed's soaked through.

The temperature's gone.

The other symptoms stay.

Slowly he gets better again.

A man is reborn.

CLERIHEWS

Stephen Hawkins (Form III)

- Edward the Third,
 To say was once heard,
 My son is a fool,
 He's not fit to rule.
- Lady Jane Grey, Ruled for a week and a day, Then she was tried, Found guilty and died.
- 3. The prophet Jeremiah Follows after Isaiah, Last comes Malachi, I wonder why?
- 4. Edward Clerihew Bentley, Who, incidentally, Lived in Gretna Green, Wrote poems obscene.

FIREWORK SING-SONG 1973

"Cinna"

Cacophony.

Barrage of polyphonic frenzy in the hall.
Hands crashing like Vulcan's hammers,
While feet, an Anvil Chorus, stampede, wallow,
Dance in the dancing fire.
Unmoved, stony Saul watches
Fawkes with a flaming torch,
Bacchus in grey trousers.
Next day.

Sober-suited, Sabbath-solemn, They (hoarser than usual) intone the anthem. Their hearts masked again, Their bodies pillars. St. Cecilia is back.

DAFFODILS R.I.P.

Alan Bennett (Form V)

I

I wandered lonely in a shroud Like a one-man Ku Klux Klan. And all at once I saw a crowd, And a 'Punch and Judy' stand. Beside my foot, Beneath my knees, Was the sun-tanned form of Vivien Neves. I can't have wandered this far; I thinks to myself, thinks I, It must be hallucinations,— Or a puddle in my eye! I blinked, I coughed, I screamed, I cried. But still he cackled on, "Shall we put her in the sausage machine?" Punch asked the infant throng. "No, no," they squealed: "Yes, yes," sneered I, And everyone fell quiet; I felt as small as a garden gnome— Or Gandhi on a diet.

I1

Vodka, vodka everywhere,
That's all I had to drink.
Vodka, vodka everywhere,
I couldn't see or think,
Vodka, vodka everywhere,
I heard men in my head,
Vodka, vodka everywhere,
I wished I could be dead.
At length did cross
St. John's Red Cross,
And saved me from the drain,
They put me in the "looney bin,"
I'm classified "insane."

GEOGRAPHY ROOM REFLECTIONS

Timothy Parfit (Form IVA)

The train came roaring down the fireplace, Till it hit the copper kettle, And Concorde had its first flight. Meanwhile, I swam away, covered in the blood Which dripped from Snoopy, Who, after shooting the Red Baron down, Came up from behind and bombed me.

I caught the gold pellets, And caught the last train back to Nashville, On the way I met a Daydream, Who shouted: "I'm not your stepping stone!"

England was towed out of the ten-mile zone, While concentrated nitric acid slowly dissolved America.

The Dictionary of Geography Then proceeded to save his sweetheart, Regional Geography (Part One).

The non-toxic school chalks Grew legs, got up and walked, Till they came to Yorkshire, Where English First (Part Four) stopped them. THE sky's dark solemn shade is flecked with bars of grey. It has a cruel, leering look; the brows of a magnificent giant are embedded in the sky's vast expanse. The clouds blot out the sky. A storm tonight, I think, but I never expected this.

I settle down to sleep and am soon fast asleep.

I wake with a shock, for what is that? A mighty roar. Startled, I look up, and a flash of lightning seems to be fighting its way through the glass.

As I prop myself up against the pillow my hand stretches for my watch. Another flash, a mighty roar, and in the distance I hear a single chime, drowned by the thunder.

It is one o'clock.

I try to settle down to sleep but flashes of lightning and roars of thunder prevent this. Then everything seems silent, but now I am deafened by a grand crescendo, a gigantic roar of thunder, lightning falling like rain. Then silence. Cool and calm; the god's wrath is subdued.

In the morning the destruction is seen; many walls were shattered and thrown in that last moment of triumph, the god's farewell gift. He so mighty that stone, solid stone, crumbles at sight.

AS TRUE AS I'M LYING HERE

Richard Pitt (Form I)

TODAY was Pancake Day or otherwise called Ash Wednesday. **I** had had the appropriate dish of Spaghetti Bolognese and afterwards had a *fiesta* or a small rest. After sleeping for a couple of days I arose, and walked across to the television. I watched "Match of the Day," which is my least favourite programme. I then fried my breakfast and had a cup of bedtime chocolate.

I ventured outside and had a ride on my bike. Consequently the tyre burst and so I had to be content with kicking a rugby ball against the roof so that it hit the ground the other side and bounced back to me. For the next ten minutes I did some woodwork and made a very ornate golf ball by sticking pieces of sawdust together. After lunch I travelled into town and bought a new car with the two pounds old Aunt Ethel had given me for my recent birthday on May the first. In my new mobile I returned home on the motorway 'London'. I swung out across the lane in my very fast Morris one thousand; I was doing forty now, I didn't know what to do, I couldn't hold the wheel at this tremendous rate.

The next thing I knew was that **I** found myself speeding up to a screaming twenty-five miles an hour and didn't awaken till I was lying in bed on Shrove Tuesday with a pancake on my knee.

POWER

Suzanne Marston

HE stood at the window. The sky was a sullen grey; soon it would doubtless snow again. They stood outside there, close-packed along the pavement and just below the king of cars, the Rolls. A footman was still holding the door, shuffling his feet slightly in the slush as he waited to deliver a respectful good morning and gently shut the door. And all the shivering figures were waiting too, blowing on frozen fingers, waving banners, whilst he who was the reality behind that printed image stood and watched, almost paralysed.

A small hunched man, past the prime of life, with a slight balding patch conveniently covered by the hat, leant heavily on the window-sill. His face was strangely pallid, pulled into taut lines that strained and contorted the wrinkled skin. He had had no sleep the night before; first there had been the papers to complete, then the monotonous stomach cramp which now seemed a constant companion.

An obsequious cough. "The car is ready now, sir." There were private worries, worries that concerned a wife who was disillusioned with marriage to a man she never saw, a wife who threatened to run of to an anonymous accountant with no money, no fame, no influence.

Another cough, a shade louder, a shade bolder. "It is five past nine, sir, the car is waiting, sir."

He clenched the edge of the table: his knuckles turned white, his nails dug into the fleshy palm. The warmth of his breath had made a little cloudy patch on the window, and this obscured that multitude, that mass waiting to be inspired, satisfied, to be led and taught and heard.

He slowly stretched out his fingers and murmured inaudibly. The conflict was over, he was ready.

"I am sorry, sir, I did not quite hear. It is six minutes past, sir, the car is waiting, sir."

He turned round. The mask was in its place, the inner self was conquered for a time, maybe it was only lack of sleep after all. An "I am coming now; you may take the bag, Jones," with just the right pitch of authority before he picked up the brief-case.

Slowly he descended the stairs, passed along the passage out onto the pavement, into the harsh winter light. There was a forced smile, an accustomed, automatic straightening of tired shoulders before the spontaneous cheers resounded in reply. As he stepped into the black bullet-proof Rolls, the banners, those mocking mirrors, were waved with enthusiasm in the first flakes of snow. Soon, maybe next year, the cheers would be for another, the image on the banners would change; but the irony would be the same.

TEMPTATIONS OF A CAT-NAPPING VICAR

Simon Fear (Form IVA)

Yes: it was nice to Come - again. Some call it madness, But I am sane.

Yes: it was pleasant Before — but now, Suddenly, waking's a drag: (I'm a king

Now. I'm on my throne. Crown: on knee Sceptre: lying in lap.) Help me.

Now! The Devil is tempting, Horns shining Seductively. I struggle, Resist. He has gone.

No, dozes aren't good. Sleep — of course, Entirely . . . but then I came for a doze! Dog collars are fronts, And I live behind those!

THE THING

Patrick O'Donahoe (Form IIIA)

In the corner it stood, like a soggy Cornish pasty,

Looking not very good, in fact rather nasty. Three feet long and two feet high, Staring at me with one big eye. Suddenly it sank to one foot tall And cried, with an earsplitting whistle, "Ootle, ootle!" From beneath it out came a tentacle of

Which, with a painful push, threw me onto the

It sat, with a one-eyed, icy stare, Waving three tentacles in the air, Like a three-headed worm or a three-legged octupus.

Or a cyclops—I think I'll call it a cycloptopus. I sat on the settee, quaking with fear, When suddenly I had an idea, I licked my lips, and thought, "Very good!" What a change from ordinary school food! So I gave it to the kitchens where they cut it up And scraped off all the yellow-brown muck From its thick, black, rubbery hide. "Cycloptopus soup!" they cried. They cut off the spaghetti, then—you won't be amazed—

From the inside they made bolognese.

AT THE SUPERMARKET

Peter Haynes (Form III)

The assistant stood by the sugar counter, amazed,

Amazed at the sight that filled her eyes.

The sight of civilized human beings milling like bees,

Squealing like pigs

Squealing like pigs, Fighting like jealous dogs.

The manager looked on, spellbound. Spellbound with the sound that filled his ears. The sound of money chinking and rustling, Cash registers ringing, Wallets and purses opening.

The customer felt lonely, standing at the counter.

Trying to clear her mind of confusion. Confusion from the juke-box throbbing, The sirens howling, An empty purse knocking.

The clock struck three, stopped with old age. Old age immeasurable.
Too old to hear "Puppy Love" again,
To see another shoplifter,
Ten pounds change hands.

The noise choked itself, grew so loud it went quiet.

Quiet to compare the grass to a crowd, Quiet as they fought for a packet of P.G. As the customer fainted, The manager made a million.

The assistant watched it all, disgusted. Civilized? She stopped and wondered, Lost her job.

THE FULFILMENT OF SAINT BRUNO

Phillip Lamphee

She lies beneath the yawning willows,
On sun-mottled moss and snow-soft cushions,
And round her toes the daisies bloom.
Languishing there, she hears the sighs of
Pale young men, come straight from cricket,
And wishes she were left alone.
Then on the lawn, just after dinner,
She floats on the tinkling of brandy and ice,
And tries to think of something nice to say to
Adonis, whose lust-rapt eyes bar her way,
And, trying to escape, she weaves her social
grace

Away.

Then the gold-grey sky solidifies,
And mists breathe silver light;
The last bruised clouds crystallize,
And it's night.
And she walks alone in star-shadows, and
Moon-white.
And as the last bird warbles in its nest,
She lights her pipe.

THE SEDUCERS

Stephen Hawkins (Form III)

Come to Ibiza, Sardinia, Spain! Come to Tunisia, for the minimum rain! Come to the Costa del Sol, or maybe Madeira, Majorca, perhaps Italy!

The travel agent's window, where all worship one,

The wonderful, welcoming orb of the sun, Posters of faraway places arrayed, Enticing with spotlights, exquisitely played, On bodies bronzed deftly, by photographic skill,

Or a narrow street, cobbled and neat, in proud, sedate Seville.

A superior camel, captured in cellulose, Selling Morocco to Europe's teeming hordes, Cool, efficient Teutons, manufacturing cuckooclocks,

Opening the autobahns to Renaults and Fords. But usually beaches, ribbons of whiteness, Sweltering under the power of the sun, Wrinkled old peasants in national costumes, Encouraging everyone to join in the fun. Tahiti, Australia, Kenya, Bermuda, Animals growling and dancing-girls giggling, Giraffes, staid policemen, or blue barracuda, Lobsters in frying pans, ecstatically wriggling.

BIRMINGHAM

Simon Fear (Form IVA)

Silence and noise together: Sadness and mirth together: Lone men and groups together. Total unawareness of the man next to you.

Cascades of laughter

Flow down a hill:

Perhaps two pools of joy bubble And evaporate into sad eyes by you.

The fairy-lights of the town:

Red, red and amber, green, and amber: Flicking like a discotheque

Flash the tempo of the traffic passing you. Nearby the publicans eject stragglers,

The sad-eyed mothers greet happy sons. Gloating winners and bad losers

Struggle for barbaric social existence.

And you, the visitor, pass through,
Glad to leave the communal loneliness.
But we live here, and we love here,
Happy when melancholy, in our selfcentred lives.

AMERICAN TOUR?

Robin Swaine (Form IIIA)

N ow, folks, settle down, settle down. You are going to be the first people to enter this Jetcumlunar plane so I thought you lot might wanna take a quick look around. As I was one of the engineers of this technological piece of genius I'll take you round myself. Now quiet, please, ladies, I know you are thrilled but let me do the talking around here. Now let's go up the lentuland and get into the plane itself.

Well, here it is: the whejetanks trangulatoracal which is part of the world-famous tuburacical lunderandel engines. They help power the Sannelneg system, the Wangalong system which is the one that stops you going to sleep, and the Hydragen system which is well known to you all, I'm sure. Now let's go round the corner and I'll show you something else.

Here it is, the hiplidon worked by the protrantyasilatil intricalor which is activated by grade 6210101 degrees of trankatual power. You all know what that means, don't you? Now here is the tricup converging, condictising and cobputalating conveyor belt which is a piece of sheer brilliance. It's the only machine in the world which can make five hundred cups of Condula and put the recula in, in ten seconds. Isn't that marvellous? Well, now you had better sit in your super sydontrised seats and switch on the activator as the plane is about to take off; I can see the typandra in position.

COMPASSION ON A RECORD

Robert Barrett (Form V)

I feel someone tugging my outside cover. How right I am! — and out I come, naked except for a polythene cover and white paper. My circular vision lets you see what I will say.

Your clammy, impersonal hand pulls me out, and gently I slide down onto the spindle, my glistening, undulated body is swiftly cleansed of dirt by a parastatic cloth; I am now ready to await my fate.

I now rotate at constant speed, my clean grooves are ready to be awakened; the cartridge cover slides off to reveal my executioner.

I watch the diamond tip descend slowly onto me. My biased upwards visions distort any defects upon the conical surface. The harsh contact brings sweet melodies soon to life. The amplifier distorts and twists the virgin sound, it has no heart for my simple feelings. I feel my beauty wrecked by scratches and yet each scraping revolution brings joy to him, the listener.

After my forty-three minutes are up, the automatic shut-off system releases and removes my. tormentor. My passion now has been appreciated and l, a humble piece of vinyl with a hole, will return to my glossy cover with a few more blemishes, back to the vacuum between *The Eroica* and *The Drum Roll*.

PORTIA

Graeme Connelly (Form III)

Her beauty far surpassed that of any other mortal woman. This beauty was by all the world known. Her graceful body struck every man; great and strong in battle Though he may be, his courageous heart cracks.

0 Portia, be thou animated, glowing there, in that dull, leaden prison.

0 God, I ask your guidance now,
In this, my greatest judgement.

RAGING FURY

Andrew Harris (Form IVA)

A dog's anger is like witnessing a raging hurricane blowing at full strength, but it is best compared with the sea

As he tugs at his sturdy chain it reminds one of the wind, striving and straining to be let loose on a calm and cloudless day. His body, whether it is small or large, shaggy or clean-shaven, resembles the menace of dark, grey clouds drawing across the raging sea. His paws that beat the air so violently may be compared with lightning, flashing across a stricken sky, or like swords beating down across the cold, damp morning sky. The cold, wet nose is no longer a beckoning beacon to strangers, but like a foaming bull. Razor-sharp teeth that glint like a thousand knives flashing in the sunlight, or as jagged, needle-like rocks lurking above sea-level; ready to rip into pieces any unwelcome stranger, as cheese goes through a mincer. Froth and foam lay hold of those teeth as waves splash against breakers, spray flying everywhere.

Growling ferociously, he presents an unwelcome barrier to any person wanting to pass. His tail, normally hanging down between his legs, is curved in a graceful arc, tip nearest the head, while his fur is fluffed and matted, lying in strange patterns. Pointed back like the devil's wings, the dog's ears flap against the sides of his head.

A stranger runs like a coward fleeing from battle, and yet another victory is to be added to the dog's growing score. His forelegs drop, the chain slackens, the deep rumbling inside his throat ceases; it's all a chain reaction. The teeth seem to vanish, the ears drop in an attitude of surrender. Back and forth like engine pistons the tongue journeys, great beads of sweat drip down, like a mountain stream, forming a salty puddle on the floor. The whole body has undergone stress and strain, and now it lies, in a mass of tangled hair, sprawled along the ground.

2037/96

Catherine Ledger

THE SORCERER

Ian Pengelly (Form III)

University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate General Certificate of Education.

just a number now

no name no identity

no personality.

just a number

fighting with the masses

for recognition of achievement and achievement of recognition

i have no choice there are too many competitors in this

riverine race; i am just one against millions we have all lost

our meanings our originalities

what is life

but a ballot box?

but:

if you're clever

influential, rich, cunning there is always a slot using the less fortunate

as footholds.

let those with these attributes use them to their advantage

i do not want them

they're dirty and underhand and cruelty does not merit success

just a number.

PART I.

lmages perform their task.

The scene is a lair;

Potions — idle on a dusty shelf, Cauldrons whistling merrily Like birds of paradise song.

The bubbling ceases into a violent hush.

A blinding crash, The sorcerer himself,

Ferocious in mind and blood, Like the ruthless lion of death.

Angrily he storms his treasures of woe;

Viciously selecting his idea As the Mastermind of fate.

He laughs, a rasping sound of awe.

PART 2.

The cloud fades, dispersing morosely. A picture of the fair and truth; Like — A new garden of Eden,

A chain of humanity.

A thunderclap; mist of black war.

Each silent figure of beauty

A stone of wrath — Transformed:

From Heaven to Hell.

The darkness passes;

Truth moved from its neglected form.

Hate is defeated!

A unique friendship formed.

Impregnable — in future generations.



"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST"

CAST in order of appearance

111 0	ruci .	or appea	unicc	
Lane, manservant		11		CLIVE MATHIAS
Algernon Moncrieff				PETER LACE
John Worthing				JON DIXON
Lady Bracknell				TETA HENNESSY
Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax				CATHERINE LEDGER
Miss Prism, governess				SALLY BLYTH
Cecily Carden				CAROL ROBINSON
Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D				NIGEL BRADBURY
Merriman, butler				RODERICK THOMSON

Prompter: ROBERT SHERRATT

Costumes - Alison Garvie Set Design .. Keith Thome, Colin Burden Make-up .. Anne Thorne, Susan Stanhope, Phillip Lamphee, Lilli Schnitzer, Christopher Hart, Timothy Wormleighton

Stage Managers .. Michael Denley, Robert Weston Lighting .. Stephen Bushell, lan Taylor Stagemen .. William Hall, Norman Crowe, Timothy Nicholas, Julian Campbell, Jeremy Stupple, Stephen Hicks, lan Read Pianist - David Shield

THIS was the first comedy to be adopted as a senior play for some years; the sophisticated humour of Oscar Wilde made an enjoyable change from the junior farces. Once again the addition of girls to the cast made it even more convincing; the present writers remember with shame their own attempts as a scraggy Greek female and a beauty with a broken arm.

Perhaps it is unfair to pick performers out of the whole, since the play in its entirety provided a most enjoyable evening; nevertheless it is customary to attempt some such analysis. The two butlers, Clive Mathias and Roderick Thomson, both gave excellent, suave performances, and generally managed the difficult task of preserving dead-pan expressions during a comedy. Peter Lace, as Algernon, was obviously the right choice, but occasionally was rendered slightly inaudible by the vast number of cucumber sandwiches he consumed. Sally Blyth, in a completely out of character part, showed most promising ability, and Nigel Bradbury, apparently clinging on to his hat for support, was very convincing. Carol Robinson, clearly enjoying her part, slid easily into the role of the sweet, unsophisticated country girl, and her town counterpart, Catherine Ledger, was again well-chosen; her only failing was a tendency to say even "Oh, darling" with a certain aggression-however, no doubt this was a trait inherited from her stage mother.

Pride of place, though, must go to the final two actors. Jon Dixon, as Ernest, gave the polished, expert performance which we have come to expect from him (he may well make his name on the stage some day). Teta Hennessy, as Lady Bracknell, went a long way towards recalling, if not equalling, Dame Edith Evans.

We went on the first night when, quite naturally, a slight inclination towards nervousness and stammering was apparent, but, nevertheless, we left with an overall impression of a production which reflected credit on all concerned. It would be easy, considering the high standards always maintained, to take the work of Mr. Thorne and the stagemen for granted, but this time they surpassed themselves. The stage, although never committing the fault of attracting attention completely away from the actors, was done with elaborate and pleasing care. Credit must be given to the make-up people and hair stylists for their good work, as they are rarely mentioned. It would also be wrong not to mention Mrs. Garvie, who was responsible for the costumes which greatly added to the overall picture.

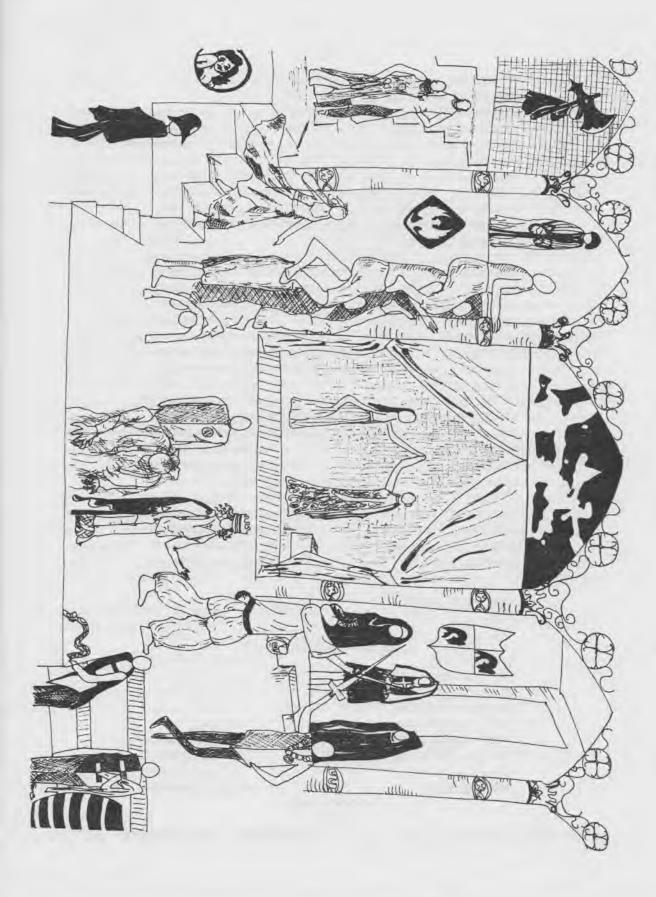
Mr. Sells may congratulate himself on yet another success to add to his list.

C.P., G.J.D.

"THE COMEDY OF ERRORS"

PROLOGUE			
The Voice of Ephesus	P. J. LAMPHEE		
Egeon	S. FEAR		
Mime Figures	S. M. BRENNAN, M. F. CRAGOE, S. C. M. ELLIOTT,		
-	P. J. HARRIS, S. J. HOWELL, J. S. PORTCH,		
	J. R. PURKISS, D. W. SAYERS, A. D. SERGISON,		
	D. TAYLOR, M. J. WEAVER, M. A. R. WEBB,		
	T. G. WILSON		
	TITLE		
Mom	bers of Form I, including:		
"THE"	R. TUDOR		
"OF"	N. PRICE		
"BY"	N. MARLOW & M. REID		
DI	N. MARLOW & M. REID		
	PLAY		
Solinus, Duke of Ephesu			
Egeon, a merchant of Sy	racuse •. S. FEAR		
Antipholus of Ephesus	P. M. ROSE		
Antipholus of Syracuse	J. P. DIXON		
Dromio of Ephesus	C. P. FINDLAY		
Dromio of Syracuse	J. M. G. STUPPLE		
Balthasar, a merchant	S. F. PENDELL		
Angelo, a goldsmith	R. Hudson		
Doctor Pinch, a schoolm	aster and conjuror R. N. THOMSON		
First Merchant	J. S. G. COOPER		
Second Merchant	M. R. JAMES		
Officer	H. J. A. WILSON		
Emilia, Abbess of Ephesi	us and Egeon's wife S. BLYTH		
A driana, wife of Antiphe	olus of Ephesus R. BECKETT		
Luciana, her sister	L. S CHNITZER		
Luce, her maid	E. FINNEY		
Courtesan	S. STANHOPE		
Wench	D. YATES		
Executioner	R. A. EDWARDS		
Halberd Bearer	D. J. BRENNAN		
Banner Bearer	A. T. F. MOULTON		
Torch Bearers	A. J. D. ASHMORE, D. K. BUTLER		
	E. O. L. DAVIES		
Lute player	P. SAYERS		
Trumpeter	A. BELL		
Bosun	A. W. F. HARRIS		
Scholars	P. J. LYONS		
	N. R. S. LONGWORTH		
Tumblers R. W	V. A. HENNIKER-GOTLEY, I. M. BOOTHMAN,		
	J. M. HOLLOWAY, P. HAYNES,		

D. W. SAYERS, N. R. S. LONGWORTH



Mother	C. BRAIN
Son	T. R. EVANS
Second Courtesan	C. BRETT
Attendants on the Duke	M. BAUER,
	C. MARSACK
Nuns	A. MACGINNIS, A. DON

1 11/1/13		n. mncommo, n. be	<i>)</i> 11
Director	DEREK J. BELL	Stage Director	S. J. BUSHELL
Set Designer	J. P. DIXON	Set construction supervisor	C. BURDEN
Production Secretary	CLIVE MATHIAS	Stage Manager	R. A. WESTON
A.S.M.'s and stage crew.	. W. HALL, M. DENLEY	z, B. PRITCHETT, 1. TAYLOR, I	1. READ, S. HICKS,
	N. CROWE, T. NICHOL	AS, J. CAMPBELL	
Sound	S. W. HONEYBALL	Lights	l. TAYLOR
Art supervisor	K. THORNE	Make-up supervisor	A. THORNE
Pyrotechnics supervisor	S. JACKSON	Tumblers supervised by	B. HEMBRY
Properties	D. J. PITT	Prompter	<i>L.</i> J. FORREST
Music supervisor	J. WILLSON		
Wardrobe A. HOLT, C. LEI	OGER, J. HAWKESWELL, V	⁷ . PENNEY, J. ESSENHIGH, C. ROI	BINSON, G. HEMBRY
Musicians _ R. STROU	UD, T. STROUD, M. FIND	DLAY, M. GRIFFITHS, B. MANI	N, J. D. FERGUSON,
C. G. TRC	UGHTON, A. W. MEDHU	TRST	
Photographer	. P. LACE	Programme cover design	S. STANHOPE

THE theatrical effect of this presentation was tremendous-right from the beginning when the lights were dimmed and the electronics sound effects prepared us for what was to unfold, your audience was kept enthralled by a feast of exciting movement, colour and sound.

Form I started us smiling with their visual 'titles' and then the combination of the mimed synopsis and tape-recorded voice flash-back by Egeon nicely got over the problem of a lengthy soliloquy to be learnt by heart. A small point, but the diction of the recorded voice was indistinct in places and one had to strain slightly to hear it.

Lighting was excellent and interesting little effects were achieved with well used spots. Costumes were adequate and the music very good indeed. The acting generally was good and a great understanding of the play was clearly apparent from the expression and innuendo put into the lines. I liked the little 'extra' bits, for example the Scholars and Courtesans, and enjoyed the way the rhyming couplets of Adriana and Luciana were set to dance steps-it looked so natural.

The multi-level set then really came into its own during the scene with the tumblers; it was a splendid set anyway with its play on levels. A theatre in the round approach made it for me and I nearly got up and joined in with the pyrotechnics.

To summarise, I found that very little jarred in this superb production. There was some extremely sensitive acting with excellent variation in pace; timing, however, was erratic now and then and I didn't like the boredom and mock-tragedy piece—it degenerated into pantomime for me then. But apart from that I believe I shall have to wait a long time to see a better amateur production.

Thank you everyone for a truly memorable evening-you were terrific!

MRS. J. JOHNSON (Secretary of Cheltenham Operatic and Dramatic Society)

LECTURE ON "CIVILISATION" by Mr. D. L. Hurford

MR. HURFORD'S theme of "Civilisation" took us through the various stages of art up to the end of the nineteenth century; from the Pantheon at Athens to the Post-Impressionist period. His talk, illustrated with slides, covered painting, architecture, and furniture, with the emphasis on painting and architecture. He particularly aimed at showing us examples which are housed in this country, and emphasised our marvellous heritage, encouraging us to visit the art centres around us. However, his lecture inevitably suffered from covering too large a period in too short a time, and was perhaps uneven in its emphasis. Mr. Hurford tended to 'gloss over' large periods of history and dwell perhaps too long on certain examples which he showed us. However, the lecture was largely successful and undeniably added to the cultural knowledge of most people present.

P.J.L.

SCIENCE LECTURE for Vth and VIth Forms

ON 18th January, Dr. N. S. Isaacs, from Reading University, visited the school to give a very informative lecture, which he called "Stretching, Rocking and Twisting."

During the course of the lecture, Dr. Isaacs outlined the principles of chemicalan alysis, using infra-red light. He began his lecture by showing that when white light is passed through a coloured substance, and is then split up to form a spectrum, a particular section of the spectrum is lost, due to absorption by the substance. By noting the exact frequencies of the light lost, information about the substance under test could then be obtained.

Dr. Isaacs then continued to outline the basic background knowledge required to interpret similar results on the graph of an infra-red spectrometer. By the use of simple models, he showed that molecules may be agitated in three ways, rotation, stretching and bending, in addition to translational excitation. If energy, in the form of infra-red light, is applied to these molecules, energy is absorbed in specific quantities at specific frequencies to increase the processes of rotation, stretching and bending of the molecular bonds.

If then a detector is placed to measure the quantities and frequencies of infra-red light passing through the molecules, and the output from the detector is fed to a pen-recorder, a graph of energy absorption against frequency can be obtained.

Dr. Isaacs had brought several such graphs from infra-red spectrometers and two of the actual machines with him, and after passing the graphs round, he explained that the sudden "peaks" of energy absorption each showed a specific group of atoms in the molecule, and by noting all of the "peaks," and consequently groups of atoms in the molecules, the chemical equations for the molecules could be written.

Dr. Isaacs concluded his lecture by inviting anybody interested to use and examine his spectrometers, and he gave several graphs from these to the school.

R.S.

VISIT TO THE COURSE IN CHEMICAL TECHNIQUES AT THE CITY UNIVERSITY, LONDON

FROM 9th-12th July, 1973, Andrew Jenkins and Kim Stuckey attended the above course. This consisted mainly of practical work, although there were three lectures with films on Chromatography, Spectroscopy, and Radiochemistry. The practical work consisted of two projects, which both involved the identification of organic groups using various equipment. Our two projects were the preparation of benzilic acid and the addition of hydrogen chloride to unsymmetrical alkanes.

The experience was obviously beneficial, but could have been much more so. Firstly, not enough time was allotted to the projects; the samples at various stages of the projects were run through various pieces of equipment, nuclear magnetic resonance, infra-red spectroscopy and gas-liquid chromatography, and graphs were obtained, but there was no time to analyse the results and relate certain peaks to various groups present. Also, when two groups (four in each) were under the same supervisor, it was difficult to hear what was being explained, or get near enough to see what was being demonstrated, especially in a crowded room. At the end of the course, five people had to give a short talk on their projects, but, thankfully, neither of us was chosen to do this.

Everyone involved with the course was very friendly, co-operative, and eager to help and advise people either on the practical work itself, or choosing university courses and careers later on. The food and accommodation were excellent, and the whole course was very enjoyable.

A.J.

LECTURE ON THE JET ENGINE by Mr. B. L. Button

A very informative talk on the principles and history of the jet engine was given to the Vlth Form scientists by Mr. B. L. Button. He began by demonstrating, with the aid of a model, how probably the first jet engine (a rotating sphere propelled by two right-angled nozzles under steam pressure) was used by the Ancient Greeks as a toy, which communicated the fundamental conception of jet propulsion.

His lecture then proceeded, illuminated by slides, with the birth of the modern jet engine in the 1920's. Using diagrams, he outlined the functions of the various types of jet engines in common use at that time, leading up to the present complex form of the engine. Whilst recounting the work he was engaged upon, Mr. Button mentioned that he was doing a four-year project to find out why the centre of the flame was the hottest part of the jet engine! The lecture was concluded by a few inspired questions which the speaker answered authoritatively.

S.H.

BUSINESS GAME

THIS has been a most successful term; results easily topped Kettering Grammar School, and we beat our nearest rivals, Dartmouth High School, Birmingham, by over £2 million; a very respect able lead.

According to the adjudicator's report, we took full advantage of the business climate; our prices continually topped those of the other teams until right at the end when substantial increases by them made no difference to the result. We followed our usual R. & D. pattern; reducing expenditure exponentially. Our main shortcoming was in insufficient investment in production, resulting in slight loss of orders throughout periods 1-3. Perhaps the money used to repay loans might have been better allocated to plant, since the interest rate was only 4%, although one other company had a loan of £9 million, which seemed unnecessarily high. Our marketing throughout produced good results; at the end our sale of some plant, over which we had some division, was regarded as unnecessary; nevertheless, overall, we may congratulate ourselves.

The widely different outlooks of those taking part has produced some most interesting discussions and favourable compromises: an enjoyable start to (we hope) future successes.



THE performance this term has been our best since we first competed in this national competition some three years ago. It was not the fact that we won the round, but the way in which we won which is very encouraging for future participation. Special mention must be made of the contributions of Gregory Dorey and Kim Stuckey, who have been key members of the Board since the introduction of the Business Game.

A small, but significant, change this year has been the preparation and discussion of individual reports and decisions. This has resulted in members of VIb becoming quickly integrated into the game and obtaining a sound understanding of business ideas.

R. K.



Brains . . . and Beauty: II





Park House



First Aid?

CAREERS

As usual, the emphasis recently has been on further education courses for Vla and preliminary interviews for the Vth forms.

With the continued employment difficulties of graduates, Sixth Formers are being encouraged to consider the polytechnics as alternatives (rather than second best!) to universities.

During the summer holidays K. Stuckey and A. Jenkins attended a course at the City University. They carried out some research topics using the sophisticated (and expensive) instruments made available by the Chemistry Department.

C. Beck, J. Fletcher and J. Millard had interviews at Biggin Hill for various R.A.F. awards but were unsuccessful. It is worth reminding other would-be applicants of the high standards of eyesight required; all the above failed on this account.

Representatives from the National Westminster Bank and from the Army visited the College to outline the careers available and to meet interested individuals.

R.K.

(Extract from Headmaster's letter to parents, March, 1974.)

I thought that parents might like an idea of what we do about Careers. Information is obtained from three main sources:

- 1. Careers journals and guides, institute information services and firms recruitment literature (all available in the Careers Room).
- 2. Visiting speakers at the Annual Careers Convention as well as at other times in the school year.
- 3. Careers courses arranged through the Careers Master and the Independent Schools Careers Organisation (ISCO).

Careers guidance starts formally at the beginning of the Fifth Form when the boys are interviewed on several occasions by the Careers Master as well as by their Tutor and the Area Careers Officer. An innovation this year has been the introduction of the Connolly Occupational Interests Questionnaire. Next year we are considering the introduction of I.S.C.O./Birkbeck Aptitude and Interests Questionnaire—a test to improve further the guidance given before selecting Sixth Form courses.

The Careers Master keeps in close touch with Sixth Form tutors, and further advice and interviews are available to boys and girls throughout the Sixth Form. Normally a Sixth Former would attend three careers conventions during his or her time at school, as well as several careers lectures and talks.

At this term's Careers Convention we had speakers on:

- 1. Civil Service-Land Registry and the Department of Health and Social Security.
- Banking.
- 3. Accountancy.
- 4. Insurance.
- 5. Royal Navy and WRNS.
- 6. Polytechnics and Graphic and Industrial Design.
- 7. Universities, with special reference to Leeds University.

Other speakers have included Professor G. Faules and Dr. N. Isaacs from The Department of Chemistry at Reading University and Inspector M. Mylod, the Police Schools' Liaison Officer.

RUGBY FOOTBALL, 1973

1st XV Report

1

Two good wins against Cirencester and the Old Boys ended a season where wins equalled losses for the Rendcomb 1st XV.

Although a good start was made against Marlborough (won 14-0), good fortune was not with us against King Edward's, Bath, where Rendcomb finished with twelve fit men and their captain Graham Jordan off for three weeks with a dislocated shoulder.

The tactics employed throughout the rest of the season resulted in improved performances in contrast with last year's fixtures. Notable was the narrow 10-7 defeat at Colston's, which in my opinion was the best game of the season.

We knew from the start that our strength lay in the pack, and with this in mind our centres were drilled to bring the ball back inside and link back with the forwards. The result was not spectacular, but it did achieve some good wins and some fine individual performances.

There are three particular players who have improved steadily throughout the season: full -back Whiteside, wing forward Denley, and right wing Stroud. They inspired confidence in their colleagues by intelligent attacking rugby, Whiteside especially showing signs of class. Graham Jordan was, of course, the backbone of the pack, always reading the game well and thinking ahead.

This brings us to thoughts of next season. My only comment would be that there are players coming into the 1st XV next year who have plenty of skill. If they have only half the enthusiasm shown by the present team, better results are inevitable.

B J H.

MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE 3rd XV (Away). Won 14-0.

A scrappy game in which our pack gained immediate supremacy both in set play and in the loose. Long grass made kicking difficult and we missed several penalty goals. Their backs were quite good and in the last few minutes of the game became dangerous, but our covering was just adequate. They were under pressure for most of the game, but we seemed to lack finish to our moves. A good start to the season, though.

KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL, BATH (Away). Lost 54-6.

A disastrous game. We were playing three substitutes including the fly-half at the beginning of the game. The first 15 minutes went well and it looked like being a good game, but then Millard became injured and 5 minutes later Jordan had to go off with a suspected broken collar bone. The team lost rhythm and became disjointed. Our three-quarters saw very little of the ball and our large and more powerful opponents, with a permanent overlap in the line, started running in tries. However, despite being 50 points down, we played hard right up to the final whistle.

COLSTON'S SCHOOL, BRISTOL (Away). Lost 10-7.

A rather poor first half with bad covering and tackling on our side, but our defence improved noticeably throughout the game. Our fly-half was getting a very poor service from set pieces so the backs hardly ran at all until the last quarter. They used the box kick successfully several times, but the full-back covered it well. We played 40-minute halves, and as we were far fitter than they, we had complete supremacy in the last quarter—running the ball wherever possible. It was a very enjoyable game.

COKETHORPE SCHOOL (Away). Won 20-9.

A muddy, wet pitch took its toll and at half time we were 3-o down against a weaker side. The play was scrappy and handling very poor so the ball was contained in the scrum where possible. After half time we started playing better rugby and completely dominated the loose play (though we rarely won the set scrums). Both the backs and the pack worked well, running in tries both through forward rushes and by passing along the line. We were, again, fitter than our opponents, which helped a great deal at the end.

BLOXHAM SCHOOL (Home). Lost 27-6.

We were up against a well-drilled side who tackled and covered well. in the first half the score was quite even, but we failed to use our chances. The scrum was outplayed so that what ball we did get was poor and the scrum half-fly half link suffered. Because of this the backs did very little running with the ball. The referee was very keen on set pieces and did not let loose play continue for long, but despite this our score came from a loose scrum.

DEAN CLOSE (Home). Lost 6-3.

A very annoying game as they scored in the first 30 seconds from a dummy kick-off to the winger, and we spent the whole match trying to recover from this. We played quite well, with much improved tackling and rucking. Although outweighed in the pack we saw a lot of the ball and Taylor, at scrum half, had a very good game. We nearly ran in several times, but we did not quite have the finish to our play.

PRINCE HENRY'S SCHOOL, EVESHAM (Home). Won 17-6.

The dominating factors in the game were a high wind and a low, dazzling sun. We played into both in the first half, and Prince Henry's soon had 2 penalty goals. Luckily they didn't use the wind as much as they could have and our pack played well against heavier opposition, dominating the loose. In the second half we played a much better game, with the backs using the wind to put a lot of high kicks over their three-quarters. It was a very rough game and was beginning to get scrappy when half way through the second half we scored from a loose scrum. Team morale went up considerably and we scored twice more in fairly quick succession.

WELLS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL (Away). Lost 6-0.

After a very long coach journey it was a disappointing game. We conceded an early penalty but we were the bigger side and played much better rugby, especially in the last quarter when, under continuous pressure, it was only their full back who saved them. Our scrum half-fly half link was bad again as Wiggall was unable to play so that in the first half the three-quarters were starved of the ball. But perhaps the main reason for our defeat was lack of discipline at penalties, leading to wasted penalty moves.

CIRENCESTER SCHOOL (Home). Won 24-0.

We were on top from the very start, getting good ball from the set pieces. We made several very promising-looking breaks through their three-quarter line in the first few minutes. In the first half we scored three tries, once from a 'smoothy', once from a straight three-quarter move ment with an overlap on the wing, and once from a loose scrum. In the second half a score came from a movement along the line with the full-back coming in the line outside the winger. Pendell was kicking over their line and Stroud scored from running on to one of these kicks. It was an easy match but we wasted a lot of opportunities and should have scored much more.

At the beginning of term, Mr. Price gave up the coaching of the 1st XV which he took over on his arrival four years ago. During this period the 1st XV has steadily improved its performance and has enjoyed some very successful seasons, resulting in the upgrading of some of the fixtures. This has largely been due to Mr. Price's enthusiasm for the game, which has been felt throughout the school, and to his institution of regular training sessions. The organization of rugger and the coaching of the 1st XV has been taken over by Mr. Hembry.

W.W.

Second XV

THIS has been the most successful season ever for the 2nd XV, who lost only three out of the eight matches played. As most opposing teams come from schools much larger than ourselves, this is a commendable achievement.

There has been a great deal of competition for places and several very competent players have been unable to secure regular places in the side. Team building at the start of the season presented few problems, especially amongst the forwards. Bushell, Wormleighton, James, and Knox, all experienced players from last year's team, provided a basis around which to build a powerful pack. Scawin, Fletcher, Everatt, and Barrett filled the remaining positions, with Bennett being the principal reserve forward.

Behind the scrum Taylor was an automatic choice at scrum half until he was promoted to the 1st XV whereupon Weston took his place, whilst the other backs were Stupple, Longworth T., Barraclough, Griffiths, and Sayers, with Stroud at full back and Pritchett the reserve. These backs proved a formidable attacking force, scoring 26 tries. The strong running of Sayers and Barraclough was a notable feature as was the fine all-round play of Stroud and Longworth.

Amongst the forwards Wormleighton was invaluable in the lineouts and Barrett developed into one of the outstanding players of the team. However, the whole pack played well, inspired and led by the fine example of Bushell, the captain, and the indefatigable James. The secret of the team's success was the fine team spirit, self-confidence and will to win shown throughout the season.

The opening match of the season, traditionally against Marlborough, provided a stiff test which was passed with flying colours. The team played with great determination and achieved a fine victory. The second game was less of a contest, Avonhurst fielding a very young and inexperienced side, and Rendcomb had a runaway win. After these successes the team had a rude awakening against a strong Colston's team, suffering their only heavy defeat of the season. Of the remaining five matches the team defeated Dean Close and Cirencester School very comfortably, drew with Hereford Cathedral School and narrowly lost to both Wycliffe and Wells Cathedral School.

Results:

•	
v. Marlborough U.16 XV.	Won 12-4 (A).
v. Avonhurst 1st XV.	Won 54-9 (H)
v. Colston's 2nd XV.	Lost 0-36 (A).
v. Dean Close 3rd XV.	Won 30-0 (A).
v. Wycliffe 3rd XV.	Lost 0-4 (A).
v. Hereford Cathedral U.16 XV	Drew 7-7 (H).
v. Wells Cathedral 2nd XV.	Lost 14-22 (H).
v. Cirencester 2nd XV.	Won 58-9 (H).
Played 8, Won 4, Drawn 1, Lost 3.	Points for 185; Points against 91.

S.W.J.

Under 15's XV

Results: Played 10; Won 5; Lost 5.

KING EDWARD'S, BATH	Lost 20-4
WYCLIFFE 'B'	Won 48-4
COKETHORPE	Won 26-8
BLOXHAM	Won 18-8
DEAN CLOSE	Won 36-8
HEREFORD CATHEDRAL	Lost 10-6
BURFORD	Lost 22-12
WELLS CATHEDRAL	Won 14-3
KINGHAM HILL	Lost 16-0
WYCLIFFE	Lost 13-12

This year the U.15's had quite a successful season holding their own against many larger schools. pack played with fire and always as a unit which resulted in good ball for the fast three-quarter R. Thomson, I. Underdown and P. Gready were the prominent forwards and I. Forrest, K. Barraclough and A. Moulton made the openings in the three-quarters. R. Caney shows considerable promise and will be a useful member of next season's XV. More matches could have been won if the team had shown more confidence in themselves.

The following played:—Sinclair, Caney, Davies, Moulton, Barraclough, Forrest, Longworth N., Baynham, Fear, Winstone, Walton, Pulford, Thomson, Underdown, Gready.

Also played:—Ingles, McGill, Brennan, Cooper, Boothman.

P.J.G.

Under 13.5 XV

THIS season was, as expected, even better than last. Only one match was lost and then by only two points, the record reading:

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Played 7, Won 6, Lost 1. Points for 162; Points against 44. v Avonhurst (H). Won 42-6. v. Colston's Junior School (H). Won 32-10. v. Cheltenham College Junior School (H). Won 8-0. v. Oakley Hall (A) Lost 16-18. v. Wycliffe College (A). Won 12-0. v. Burford School (A). Won 14-4. v. Kingham Hill (A). Won 38-6.
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I twould be inappropriate to single out individuals for praise, since the successes stemmed from team effort rather than individual brilliance. The spirited approach and knowledge of the game indicates that this season's junior XV will produce very capable senior XV's in future seasons.

The regular players were: Troughton (Captain), Mathias (Scrum-leader), Mackonochie, Harris A., Moore, Haynes, Evans P., Sergison, Galtress, Carroll, Smith S., Hewitt, Ferguson.

R.K.

HOCKEY, 1974

1st XI Report

FOR most of the first half of the season rain and 'flu casualties hampered the team in its bid for victory. Looking at the results of the first half of the season in comparison to the second half, one sees a marked difference: 1 drawn and 3 lost as opposed to 3 won, 2 drawn and 1 lost. The team really 'clicked' in the second half of the season and this showed by a series of very good games.

Although a few faults still remained at the end of the season most of them were eradicated in the course of time. On occasions (mostly in the first half of the season) the forwards lacked pene tration and many goal-scoring opportunities were lost as a result. The centre forward was able to be further upfield with the new offside rule and the inside forwards were advised to stay further forward. The marking was sometimes lax and players tend to stay on the wrong side of their opponent. Clearing from defence quickly was something that took a long time for players to grasp; too often we were caught in possession.

The place of goalkeeper was shared almost equally between Bushell and Denley. Of the two, Denley is the safer, as Bushell is more adventurous and was sometimes caught out on this. Pearce, at full-back, saved the team on many occasions with his strong and well-timed tackling. He had the ability to assess a situation and then act accordingly, often setting up a counter-attack with his accurate distribution. James ably assisted him and gained in experience throughout the season but both were guilty of hanging on to the ball too long. The half-back line soon became a stable unit and the defence remained unchanged for the whole season. Whiteside played well in every match, controlling the midfield and assisting with attacks. He is well worth his county place. Stupple and Medhurst improved as the season went on, becoming more aggressive and putting more effort into their game; the former especially advanced and is in the running for Gloucestershire Under 16 selection.

This season the forwards learnt the meaning of scoring goals. The ball was moved around quickly and shoot on sight was the order of the day. Rose seemed to have endless energy and improved considerably. The aggressiveness of Jenkins was replaced by the finesse of Stroud and this appeared to make a better contribution in the forward line.

Everyone who played thoroughly enjoyed themselves and this year there were, fortunately, no "incidents." My thanks to all the masters who coached and umpired, especially Mr. Holt, to Mr. Essenhigh for the excellent condition of the pitches, and to the Games Co. for all their "behind the scenes" work.

D.M.W.

The 1st XI were, as the above implies, an effective blend of youth and experience and progressed enormously over the term, both in technique and teamwork. To lose by the odd goal to Colston's, Bristol, one of the strongest sides in the West this year, was no disgrace in the opening match, and the games against King Edward's, Bath (lost 0-1) and Crypt, Gloucester (drew 2-2 after leading 2-0 midway through the second half) should really have been won. We were unbeaten in the latter half of term until the final match against a powerful Old Rendcombian side.

Three factors especially, perhaps, helped towards the success of the season. Firstly, I would mention the consistently sound displays of our three most experienced players, Donald Pearce (left back), John Whiteside (centre half), and Derek Wiggall (inside right); Whiteside looks like going in the Glos. squad to Bryanston School in April for the inter-county schoolboys' tournament.

Secondly, I would cite the Millfield School Six-a-Side tournament in March, a congenial and well-organised hockey occasion graced by sunny weather-twenty West Country schools took part, and the team did well to draw with Taunton School and lose narrowly to Millfield, the eventual winners of the tournament. The experience was of evident benefit to those members of the XI who made the trip to Somerset, and six-a-side hockey will, it seems, become still more popular in the future. Finally, no survey of the season would be complete without a word of thanks to the captain, Derek Wiggall, whose enthusiastic example and blend of firmness and encouragement did much to keep the spirit of the team buoyant and the level of discipline and sportsmanship creditable.

1st XI Matches

v. COLSTON'S SCHOOL 1st XI. Lost 1-2. Home.

Against a very strong Colston's side, the team played extremely well in its first and perhaps most difficult match. Jenkins showed great determination in scoring our only goal, but on the run of play this was a fair result.

v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 2nd XI. Drew 2-2. Away.

Il lness depleted our ranks, and a tendency to become complacent after scoring allowed Cheltento score twice. Whiteside scored both goals from short corners. We were lucky not to lose Cheltenham missed 2 penalty flicks at the end of the game.

ν . KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL, BATH 1St XI. Lost Home.

A mixture of every type of weather turned the pitch into a muddy skating-rink. Lack of pene tration in the forward line meant that we didn't score; not clearing quickly enough in defence meant that we gave away a goal.

MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE 2nd XI. Lost 3-6. Away.

The score-line was not a completely true reflection of the game. It was the first time we had played on an all-weather pitch and Marlborough's ability at this type of game showed in the second half when they scored five times, after we had been leading 2-I. Goals came from Rose, Wiggall and Jenkins.

v . LACKHAM AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. Won 18-0. Home.

Overestimating the strength of the opposition (which included four girls!), we fielded our 1st XI and gained our first win in no uncertain terms. However, we did play well and it was of benefit to the team. Scorers were Jenkins 6, Rose 5, Wiggall 3, Whiteside 3, Stroud 1.

v. CRYPT SCHOOL 1St XI. Drew 2-2. Home.

We were unlucky not to score more than two but superb goalkeeping limited us. Wiggall managed to beat the Crypt goalkeeper with a first time shot from a well-controlled through ball from Stroud. Due to our inability to clear the ball quickly from defence, Crypt pulled back two goals in the last 15 minutes. Rose was the other scorer.

v. KING'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER 1St XI. Won 5-0. Home.

This was perhaps our best game of the season (in full view of the county coach as well). Every department of the game was good and there was no lack of finishing in the forward line.

v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL 1st Xl. Drew Home.

A tremendous goal from Tim Stroud (one of the finest at Rendcomb for a long time according to an eminent authority) brought a fair result to this game. Bloxham had two or three short corners in the closing stages which created some tense moments. Again the team played very well.

v. DEAN CLOSE SCHOOL 2nd Xl. Won 2-O. Away.

A second chance to play on a hard pitch brought another victory. It took time for us to settle down but we applied a lot of pressure in the second half. Dean Close made good use of the width of the pitch and the speed of the game—factors that we lacked. Scorers: Rose, Wiggall.

v. OLD RENDCOMBIANS. Lost 1-5. Home.

An extremely strong Old Boys' side gave a display of talent that was a pleasure for the spectators to watch (frustrating for the team!). Denley had a magnificent game in goal, saving us from a heavier defeat. However, we were able to attack effectively many times. Stroud scored our only goal.

Matches against Prince Henry's School and Lydney G.S. were cancelled.

The following played in the Est XI: D. Wiggall (Captain), J. Whiteside (Vice-Captain), P. Rose (Secretary), D. Pearce, T. Stroud, S. Bushell (Games Co.), M. Denley, M. James, J. Stupple, A. Medhurst, R. Weston, A. Jenkins, J. Lane, T. Longworth, l. Taylor.

D.M.W.

2nd XI

v. CHIPPENHAM SCHOOL Est XI	Won 9-I.
v. COLSTON'S SCHOOL 2nd Xl	Lost 0-3.
v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 3rd Xl	Lost 0-1 .
v. MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE 3rd Xl	Lost 0-4 .
v. PRINCE HENRY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2nd X	l Cancelled.
v. LYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2nd XI	Cancelled.
v. CRYPT SCHOOL 2nd X1	Won 10-o.
v. BURFORD SCHOOL Est XI	Cancelled.
v. PRINCE HENRY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2nd XI I	Lost O-2
ν . BLOXHAM SCHOOL 2nd XI	Lost 0-3 .
v. OLD RENDCOMBIANS 2nd XI	Won 3-1.

The weather this term has not been so favourable as last year and many of our matches have been played on slippery surfaces, after periods confined to wet-weather asphalt hockey. The team's enthusiasm has resulted in another enjoyable series of matches, no matter what the outcome.

We have encountered some good 2nd XI's but some of the matches could well have gone the other way with a shade more ball control to produce the finish and the goals in the face of tight defences.

The defence was the sounder department of the team and N. Crowe should become an able full back for the XI next season.

A notable event was the inclusion of a new fixture against an Old Rendcombian 2nd Xl, and we hope this may be a permanent fixture.

Those representing the 2nd XI were: J. Pendell (Captain), B. Pritchett, N. Crowe, R. Stroud, R. Barrett, A. Jenkins, N. Roberts, I. Taylor, M. Griffiths, J. Bushell, S. Reason. J.R.D.

Under 15 XI

In all six matches that were played, the pattern of play was very similar although the results were very different.

Underdown was a sound goalkeeper and was always well protected by Walton and Gready, who both initiated many attacks by their powerful hitting.

The weakness of the team was in midfield where there was often a wide gap between defence and attack. Forrest and Moulton worked hard to produce attacking situations which were exploited Longworth and Thomson, who provided the main threat to opposing defences.

The all-round standard of the Under 15 game has been high and in better ground conditions team would have had even greater success.

Results:

v. KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL, BATH (Home)	Lost 0-1 .
v. MARLBOROUGH (Away)	Drawn 0-0.
v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE (Away)	Won 4-0.
u. PRINCE HENRY'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL (Home)	Drawn 2-2.
v. DEAN CLOSE (Away)	Won 2-0.
v. BLOXHAM (Away)	Drawn

The following played for the Under 15's: P. Walton (Captain), I. Underdown, P. Gready Forrest, A. Moulton, R. Allen, N. Longworth, M. Holloway, R. Thomson, O. Davies, K. Barra

D.A.H.

Under 14 XI

In the early part of the term, the frustratingly variable weather forced us to use the asphalt more than the pitches. However, the nucleus of a team was emerging, and there was little difficulty in making the final selection.

After a slightly ragged performance in the first two matches, the team began to be more position-conscious and the last two games provided some exciting hockey. As so often happens with a single-term sport, one wishes that a few more matches could be played while the team are at their Peak.

Results:

February 26 v. l	MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE (Away)	Lost 1-5
March 3	v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE (Away)	Lost 0-1
March 20	v. BLOXHAM (Away)	Won 6-2
March 23	v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE (Home)	Won 5-0

Team: T. Evans (Goalkeeper), C. Hitchcock, C. Troughton, S. Smith, J. McGill, G. Moore, H.Sinclair, A. Mathias (Captain), A. Mackonochie, R. Caney, A. Flambard.

The following also played: N. Carroll (Goalkeeper), I. Hawkins.

K.G.T.



SQUASH RACKETS

Results:

1st V v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 1st V (Home). Lost 1-4.

(K. Barraclough won at No. 3).

U.16 V v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE U.16 V (Away). Won 3-2.

(K. Barraclough, J. Stupple and T. Longworth won at Nos. 1, 2 and 3 respectively).

1st V v. DEAN CLOSE 1st V (Home). Won 5-0.

1st V v. BELMONT ABBEY 1st V (Away). Lost 1-4.

(D. Pearce won at No. 2).

'A' V v. KING'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER 1st V (Home). Won 5-0.

1st V v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 1st V (Home). Lost 1-4.

(K. Barraclough won at No. 3).

 $2nd\ V\ v.\ CHELTENHAM\ COLLEGE\ 2nd\ V\ (Home).\ Lost\ 0-5$.

Teams:

1st V: P. Rose (Captain), D. Pearce, K. Barraclough, J. Stupple, M. Findlay.

2nd and/or U.16 V's: A. Medhurst, A. Jenkins, l. Forrest, R. Hudson, P. Lyons, T. Longworth, N. Longworth.

K.J.K.

This year the girls managed to retain enough enthusiasm to raise a squash team which played several successful fixtures. Results were as follows:

ν . DEAN CLOSE	Won 5-0
u. CHELTENHAM LADIES' COLLEGE	Won 3-2
v. PATE'S G.S.	Drew 3-3

The following played: Elaine Finney, Kathy Harmon, Maxine Bauer, Clare Bourne, Jackie Wilson, lsabel Bartlett, and Ruth Beckett (reserve).

E.F.

JUDO

IN the Spring Term, 197 4, two judo gradings were held. The first, a junior grading, was at Stonehouse on Sunday, 3rd March, and the following were promoted:

Caney	from 8th Mon to 10th Mon
Troughton	9th Mon "11th Mon
Mackonochie	"8th Mon "9th Mon
Evans T.	"8th Mon "9th Mon
Carroll	"7th Mon "8th Mon
Galtress	" novice " 5th Mon

The other grading was held for seniors at Gloucester Y.M.C.A. on Monday, 18th March, and all entrants were promoted:

M. Denley	from Lower Blue (4	th Kyu) to Upper Blue	(3rd Kyu)
P. Rose	" Upper Green (5	th Kyu) "Lower Blue	(4th Kyu)
D. Brennan	" novice	"Lower Oran	ige (8th Kyu)
A. Moulton	" novice	"Yellow	(9th Kyu)

The arrival of girls in the judo club (only four now remaining) lowered the level of concentration but greatly increased the enjoyment.

P.R.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

DURING the Lent Term the Junior House competed in the North Gloucestershire Schools Under-13 Cross-country League. The competition consisted of four meetings, at each of which fifteen teams, about 120 runners, took part. The Rendcomb team finished creditably in 4th position.

The team performances were 8th at Sir Thomas Rich's School, 6th at Marling School, 2nd at Cheltenham Grammar School, and 4th at Whitefriar's School.

lndividual performances were: Timothy Wilson (23, 9, 6, 16th); Simon Knapp (39, 39, i8, 25th); Kevin Nunan (40, 23, 19, 17th); Michael Curtis-Hayward (26, 24, 8th); Nicholas Marlow (39, 24th); Nigel Hall (39, 64, 26, 42nd); Mark Webb (88, 52, 44, 47th); Michael Twinning (63, 76, 57th). K.J.K.

GIRLS' NETBALL

THE first netball team to play for Rendcomb surprised everyone, including themselves, in that such a small group of girls could be such keen and able netball players. We very quickly began to play together as a team and to know instinctively where colleagues were positioned.

Some very competitive and enjoyable matches have been played and only one of these was lost during the full season, the fixture against Pate's G.S., Cheltenham, the county champions.

Results were as follows:

v. CIRENCESTER SCHOOL (home)	Won 18-7
v. BURFORD SCHOOL (home)	Won 23-6
v. ST. CLOTHILDE'S, LECHLADE (away)	Won 23-14
v. MALMESBURY SCHOOL (away)	Won 27-11
v. BURFORD SCHOOL (away)	Won 12-8
v. PATE'S G.S. (away)	Lost 7-13 (2nd Team lost 8-12)
v. MALMESBURY SCHOOL (home)	Won 17-8
v. DEAN CLOSE SCHOOL (away)	Won 18-16

Team: S. Stanhope (captain); C. Brett; C. Marsack; K. Harmon; R. Beckett; S. Pink; E. Finney; D. Yates was reserve.



SPECIAL thanks are due to Susan Stanhope and Elaine Finney. Susan, as captain of the Netball VII, has played with untiring enthusiasm throughout the season and has been the driving force behind the success of the team.

Elaine Finney has contributed enormously with her help in the general organisation of the girls' games.

C.A.H.

OLD RENDOOMBIAN NOTES

ALL Old Rendcombians will have learnt with deepest regret of the deaths of MR. J. C. JAMES and of MRS. FREDA LEE-BROWNE. Appreciations of them both can be found earlier in this issue. A widely representative selection of Old Boys was present at the funerals and also at the Memorial Service for MR. JAMES on December 8th.

Many Old Rendcombians have written to express their tribute to MR. JAMES and, in reply, we have been asked to include the following message:

KATHLEEN JAMES wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the gifts to Rendcomb Church Fabric Fund in memory of J.C.J., and in lieu of flowers. These amounted to £200

She was grateful to receive many letters from O.R.s. Most of them stressed the debt which they felt they owed to John, both as a teacher and as a personal friend. These extracts from two letters seem to typify the feelings of many:

"It seems very hard to think of John in the past tense. He was always so vital. I have never come across anyone with his imagination and gift of phrase. He could take your mind back to bygone events and evoke the period with a vivid phrase—this was his own special gift." and—

"To all of us at Rendcomb he was so much a part of things he seemed like "the orient and immortal wheat; which never should be reaped, nor was even sown"; His going leaves a gap in all our lives, but our sadness is tempered with deep gratitude and affection for all that he did for us: for the skill and sureness with which he laid the foundations on which so many of us have been able to build in later years."

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Old Boys' Matches

It has been encouraging to see an increasing number of Old Boys, with their wives and fiancees, at the annual Rugger and Hockey matches against the School. We hope that there will be, as usual, a good turn-out for the Cricket match on July 6th and also that a large number will be able to stay for the Buffet Supper after the match.

Old Rendcombian News

- J. D. PAINTER (1944-52) has been recently appointed Lecturer in History at Weymouth College of Education.
- P. N. W. OSBORNE (1962-64) visited the School in January. He was about to return to Africa where he is a partner in a Quantity Surveying firm in Malawi.
- DAVID TOVEY (1956-64) is now a sales representative in the Bristol area for a firm marketing office furniture.
- DAVID MABBERLEY (1959-69) was awarded his Ph.D. in December. His thesis was on giant groundsels on the high volcanoes of Africa. He is now a Research Fellow at St. John's College, Oxford, and is on tour in the Far East for a few months.
- MARK COLLINS (1963-70) now has a Research Fellowship at Imperial College and has recently gone to the Cameroons to study termites.
- ROBERT ARKELL (1963-70) has graduated from Oxford and is with Sankey G.K.N. at Wolver hampton.

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EDWARD YATES (1962-70) graduated recently and is working as a Petroleum Geologist in the North Sea.

RICHARD VERGE (1958-65) is back in England after two years in Singapore. He is still in the Civil Service and has been involved in the administration of Army buildings.

MARTIN S. LEE-BROWNE is now a Lieutenant-Colonel and has been awarded an 0.B.E

DAVID TYLER (1965-70) was narrowly defeated when standing as Liberal candidate for the Presidency of the Cambridge Union. His brother, JONATHAN (1965-72), is studying Business Management at Lanchester Polytechnic and is Treasurer of the Students' Union.

PETER TREASURE (1966-71) has passed his O.N.D. in Business Studies and is at Simpson's (Piccadilly).

ANDREW THOMSON (1965-71), who came down from Birmingham to play in the Old Boys' Hockey match, gave us news of his two brothers. ALEC (1960-67) is now teaching in Sheffield and HAYDN (1963-70) is working in a London hostel for 'down and outs'.

ANTHONY HILLIER (1962-68), now at Larkhill, has been playing hockey for the Royal Artillery, and occasionally for the Army.

Recent Leavers:

DAVID SHIELD: City University in October.

CHRISTOPHER HORTON: with E.M.I; Birmingham University in October.

JOHN MILLARD: working in the Southampton University laboratories. Christ's College, Cambridge, in October.

GRAHAM JORDAN: Birmingham University in October.

Kim STUCKEY: Pembroke College, Oxford, in October.

GREGORY DOREY: with National Westminster Bank. Exeter College, Oxford, in October.

DAVID BARLING: Warwick University, reading politics.

CHRISTOPHER HIGGINS: Swindon Technical College.

MARK WAPSHOTT: Hereford Technical College.

STEPHEN ROBBINS: with Lloyds Bank in Bristol.

KEITH UNDERDOWN: has been training as a heating engineer and now hopes to do an H.N.D. in Engineering.

ROGER INGLES: Aston University, reading Business Studies.

This section of the magazine depends for its existence on the information which O.R.s themselves supply. Please send us news of your own activities and also those of any O.R.s about whom you hear.

W. J. D. WHITE

