

# THE RENDCOMB MAGAZINE

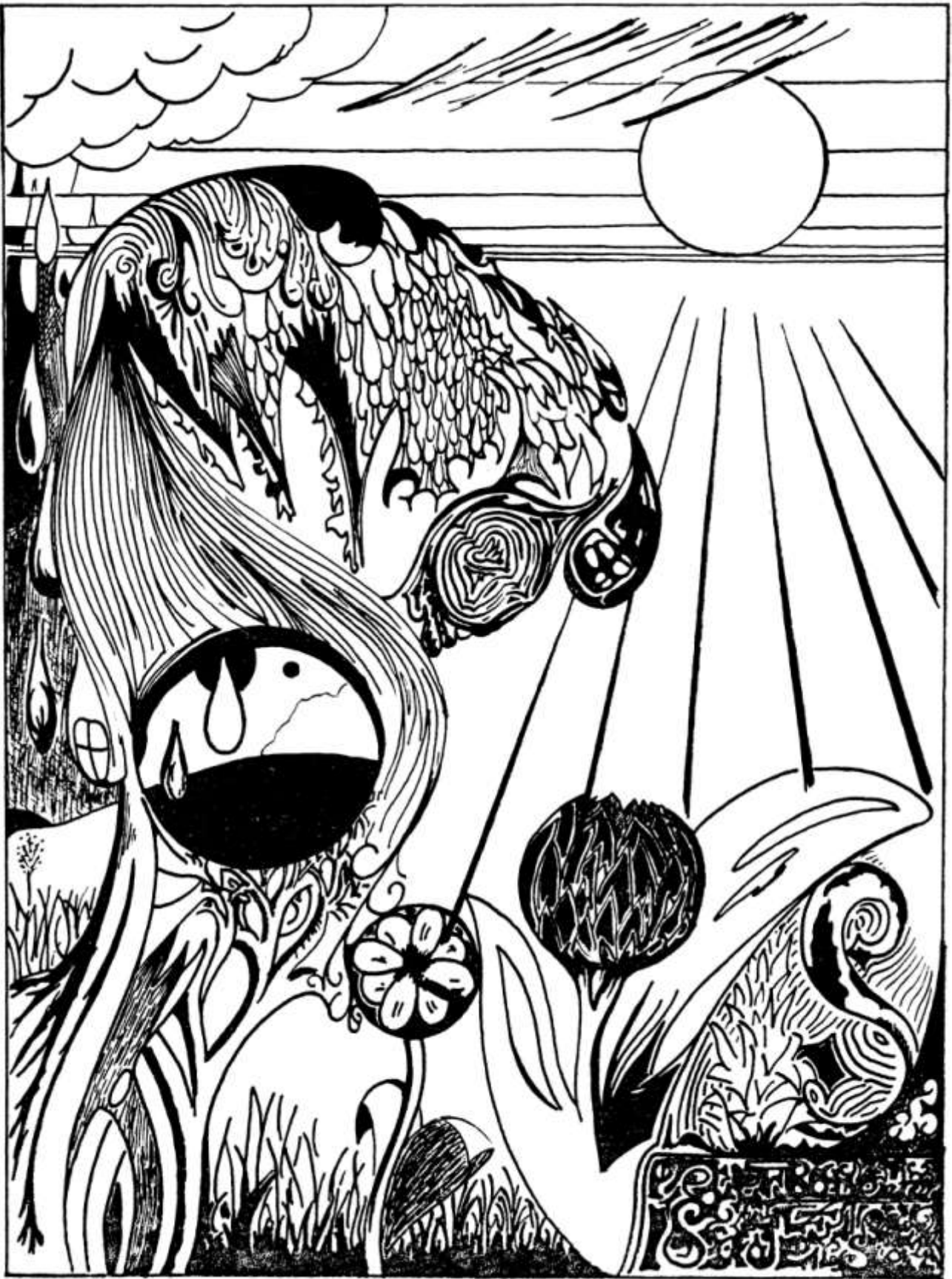


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## EDITORIAL

*“You have seen sunshine and rain at once.”*

SHAKESPEARE’S words (from *King Lear*, as if you didn’t know) are perhaps more appropriate to this past spring term than they might at first seem. To begin with a humble example, the weather has done its best to prove “sunshine and rain at once” an understatement. Just think of the alliteration in “You have seen sunshine and snow at once.”

Sport too has proved to be both successful in one sphere, and disappointing in another. Yet again we can blame the weather for a large number of cancelled fixtures, but those matches which did take place resulted, on the whole, in victory for the school (or rather, the 2nd XI).

On the academic level this has been a term of high tension for the second-year sixth form, a term spiced with U.C.C.A. communications. The vultures hovering over the post table have nipped the bloody entrails from many a second-class delivery (who can afford first-class these days?) and have tasted the various joys of acceptance, refusal, and unreachable offers. The processes of revision and speculation about academic careers have kept us looking both ways at once. The distant future seems dependent upon the immediate future, which is itself dependent upon how well we understood Latin grammar in the third form. “Sunshine and rain at once” - it’s nearly all over, but the worst is yet to come.

Socially, the term has had its high and low points. The disappearance of several members of the school to France, home, Germany, or the sick-bed over the last week or so of term has given the impression that the term is about to do a slow fade into a hazy sunset, but even so we have, for the most part, avoided the spectre of ‘flu this winter.

Mock examinations are over. Next term it’s the real thing, but in between, a holiday. But even the holiday is but the half-promise of a rainbow. Each day spent lounging “like a sun-dozed cat” turns into another pin to prick the conscience, and the textbooks grin evilly from their shelves. One must, one supposes, strike a balance. Anyone coming down the pub for differential equations and a game of darts?

In the words of the football commentator, the game is over, the crowds slowly file out of the ground, and as the drizzle descends we leave you and hand you back to the studio.

## MISCELLANEA

### Winter Term, 1974

THE Editorial for this issue was contributed, for the first time for many years, by a senior boy; we hope this will be a precedent for editorials by more staff and sixth formers in the future.

\* \* \* \*

Since the last magazine the following staff births have been recorded: a son, Benjamin, to Mr. and Mrs. Hembry, in July; a daughter, Jennifer, to Mr. and Mrs. Kelsey, in October.

\* \* \* \*

At the start of the new school year we were pleased to welcome the Rev. W. K. A. Hussey as college chaplain and as priest in charge of St. Peter's Church, Rendcomb. He is also teaching divinity, English and history at the college. We wish him well and hope that he and his family will enjoy their time at Rendcomb.

\* \* \* \*

We were also glad to welcome in September Mr. Smith, to teach physics, and Mrs. Tyler, who teaches part-time French; we hope that both are enjoying their time with us.

\* \* \* \*

Films shown this term have included: *Rentadick*; *The Candidate*; *Zeppelin*; *The Lion in Winter*; *What's Up, Doc?*; *Kidnapped*; *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*; *Baffled*; *The Ipcress File*.

\* \* \* \*

The following left the college at the end of the winter term, 1974: David Bell; Andrew Jenkins; Bruce Mann; Victoria Penney; Timothy Ingles. We wish them all well in the future.

\* \* \* \*

A group from the college visited Coventry Cathedral on September 15th and had an enjoyable conducted tour.

\* \* \* \*

A party of sixth form biologists visited the wildlife park at Burford on September 22nd.

\* \* \* \*

On 22nd September Dr. Tom Clarkson came to the school to give an illustrated lecture entitled "Mountains of Peru and Patagonia".

\* \* \* \*

On 29th September a mixed Rendcomb party visited Tintern Abbey and Symond's Yat.

\* \* \* \*

On 4th October a largely fifth form group went to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford, for a performance of *Twelfth Night*, while on 22nd November a sixth form party visited the same theatre for *Macbeth*, with Nicol Williamson in the title role.

\* \* \* \*

Dr. William Urry, formerly Keeper of the Archives at Canterbury Cathedral, gave a lecture at the school on October 11th on the subject of "The Murder of Becket".

\* \* \* \*

Parent/teacher meetings were held for form II parents on 3rd November and form III parents on 24th November.

\* \* \* \*

The half-term holiday lasted this term for a week rather than the usual long week-end. This enabled us to end the term on a more realistic date later in December and provided a fuller break in a long term.

\* \* \* \*

The Books for Students Exhibition was held on Thursday, 7th November, and paperback sales were again brisk. Perhaps the college, like many other schools (albeit larger ones), will one day have its own paperback bookshop.

\* \* \* \*

Remembrance Day was celebrated on 10th November and included an evening performance by the college choir and orchestra of Haydn's *Mass In Time of War*.

\* \* \* \*

On 13th November Dr. Ernest Neal gave a lecture on "Badgers", a subject on which he is recognised as a leading authority. Dr. Neal taught at Rendcomb for some years and did much of his research in this area; it was good to welcome him here again.

\* \* \* \*

A sixth form dance was held on November 30th.

\* \* \* \*

A group of bird-watchers visited the Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust on December 1st.

\* \* \* \*

T. S. Eliot's drama *Murder in the Cathedral* was this year's senior play. A review appears later.

\* \* \* \*

An Advent service of lessons and carols was held in St. Peter's Church, Rendcomb, on December 1st, and the term ended with the customary Christmas carol service in Cirencester church on December 15th.

\* \* \* \*

The Christmas dinner and sketches took place on Friday, 13th December, but the superstitious were confounded by the success of the festivities. Our increased numbers meant that the Junior House ate separately this year in the Assembly Hall - another small example of the temporary problems caused by the greater size of the college.

### Spring Term, 1975

We are very sorry to say goodbye to the matron, Mrs. Garvie, and to Miss Gibbs, who has been supervising the cooking. Both have worked hard on our behalf in their respective fields and we wish them well in their next posts. The link with Mrs. Garvie, in fact survives since her son, John, still has a further year to do in the sixth form.

\* \* \* \*

Films shown this term were: *Man in the Wilderness*; *Hitler's Last Ten Days*; *Bless this House*; *When Eight Bells Toll*; *Suppose They gave a War and Nobody Came*; *The Thief who Came to Dinner*.

\* \* \* \*

A series of history lectures were given by Mr. Price on the subject of "1875".

There was an illustrated lecture by Mr. Swaine on Sunday, 9th February, entitled "A Visit to the Arab Republic of Yemen".

\* \* \* \*

Mr. S. Wort gave a lecture on "Antique Silver" on 23rd February.

\* \* \* \*

There were two Literary Society lectures this term. The first, given by Mr. Paul O'Flinn on 26th February, was entitled, "Tess - Down and Out in Wessex"; the second, on 19th March, was by Malcolm Farquhar, director of the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, and was entitled "The Director - or the Actor?" Fuller accounts appear elsewhere.

\* \* \* \*

The junior play this term was *Toad of Toad Hall*, presented with 'a cast of thousands' on 27th and 28th February and 1st March. A review appears later.

\* \* \* \*

A further visit to the wildlife park at Burford was organised on Sunday, 16th March.

\* \* \* \*

Science lectures this term were given by Dr. Gilbert, from the University of Reading, on 16th January, and Dr. Latham, also from the University of Reading, on 11th March.

\* \* \* \*

Fifteen members of the VIb history group attended an all-day course on local history organised by the Glos. Community Council in Cirencester on 24th March - an enjoyable, instructive day.

\* \* \* \*

Parent/teacher meetings were held for form IV parents on 26th January, form V parents on 17th February, form VIb parents on 9th March.

\* \* \* \*

By the time the next edition of *The Rendcomb Magazine* is in print, a record number of candidates will have entered for the Oxford and Cambridge entrance scholarships.

\* \* \* \*

J. P. Fletcher is to be warmly congratulated on winning one of the few G.P.O. scholarships from a large number of candidates from all parts of the British Isles. The award is tenable at any university of his choice.

\* \* \* \*

Mrs. Price and members of the sixth form have been busy planting trees and shrubs in the vicinity of Park House. The mild winter has helped them all to take; Park House should be a blaze of colour by the Spring of 1985!

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations to Kevin Barraclough, some of whose poems earned honourable mention in a recent national competition for budding Byrons.

\* \* \* \*

Members of the sixth form visited the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on 22nd January, for a performance of Tchaikovsky's ballet *The Sleeping Beauty*.

Another party of sixth formers visited the Royal Academy, London, on 30th January, for the Turner exhibition; a fuller account appears later.

\* \* \* \*

There were some outstanding history projects amongst the twelve submitted to the Cambridge Board by VIa this year. The subjects ranged from “The Cliveden Set and Appeasement” (Catherine Ledger) to “The 15th Century Lords of Brecon” (Richard Evans) and “Gloucestershire Fairs in the 13th Century” (Phillip Lamphee).

\* \* \* \*

Organ recitals were given this term by Stuart Honeyball on 19th January and by Mr. Willson on 16th March.

\* \* \* \*

The college orchestra gave a concert, consisting of three works, on Sunday, 23rd March. Further details appear elsewhere.

\* \* \* \*

Paul Rose and Jeremy Stupple are to be congratulated on representing the Glos. schools hockey XI in various inter-county matches during the term.

\* \* \* \*

Congratulations also to Jon Dixon, who has gained a place, in the teeth of fierce competition, at the Bristol Old Vic Training School for the acting profession. His varied roles in sundry Rendcomb productions should at least aid his versatility!

\* \* \* \*

A sixth form party visited the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, on 10th March for a performance of Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot*.

\* \* \* \*

A successful sixth form dance took place on Saturday, 15th March.

\* \* \* \*

Largely because of the Easter dates the term ended on a Thursday instead of the usual Sunday - a necessary arrangement but one which created problems of orientation and which at times made the last few days seem something of a postscript.

\* \* \* \*

We are grateful to the following for providing photographs and line drawings for this issue: Jon Dixon; Henrietta Hooper; Ian Taylor; Peter Millard; Peter Sayers; Peter Lace; Owen Davies.

\* \* \* \*

The editors of *The Rendcomb Magazine* are Phillip Lamphee and Philip Lyons.



## COLLEGE OFFICERS

### Winter Term, 1974

*Senior Prefect:* B. Mann

*Prefects:* D. Bell; P. Lamphee; P. Rose; M. James; C. Mathias; J. Fletcher; I. Bartlett, A. Goodenough

*Public Workman:* S. Bolt

*Church Ushers:* C. Mathias; M. James; S. Bolt; C. Robinson; S. Baynham

*Librarians:* P. Lamphee; C. Mathias; M. James; P. Lyons

*Music Librarians:* C. Dendy; A. Wilson

*Bell-Ringers:* M. Holloway; P. Curtis-Hayward; N. Smith; S. Hewitt; D. Yates; J. Lyons; D. Taylor; K. Winmill

*Magazine Editors:* P. Lamphee; P. Lyons

*Captain of Rugby:* P. Rose

*Games Committee:* P. Rose; J. Stuppel; M. James; R. Weston; S. Wormleighton

*Captain of Squash:* P. Rose

*Girls' Netball Captain:* S. Blyth

### Spring Term, 1975

*Senior Prefect:* P. Rose

*Prefects:* P. Lamphee; M. James; C. Mathias; J. Fletcher; N. Crowe; A. Medhurst; I. Bartlett; A. Goodenough

*Public Workman:* R. Weston

*Church Ushers:* C. Mathias; M. James; S. Bolt; C. Robinson; S. Baynham

*Librarians:* P. Lamphee; C. Mathias; M. James; P. Lyons; R. Barrett; A. Rickards

*Music Librarians:* C. Dendy; A. Wilson

*Bell-Ringers:* M. Holloway; P. Curtis-Hayward; N. Smith; S. Hewitt; D. Yates; J. Lyons; D. Taylor; K. Winmill

*Magazine Editors:* P. Lamphee; P. Lyons

*Captain of Hockey:* P. Rose

*Games Committee:* P. Rose; J. Stuppel; M. James; A. Medhurst; R. Weston

*Captain of Squash:* P. Rose

*Girls' Netball Captain:* S. Blyth

## MEETING OFFICERS

### Winter Term, 1974

*Chairman:* J. Fletcher  
*Secretary:* I. Forrest  
*Meeting Banker:* S. Honeyball  
*Shop Banker:* N. Bradbury  
*Boys' Banker:* R. Sherratt  
*Senior Shopman:* P. Lace  
*Junior Shopmen:* I. Forrest; S. Beckett  
*Entertainments Committee:* S. Pendell; P. Haynes; T. Longworth; O. Davies; S. Tyler  
*Paperman:* G. Connelly  
*Food Committee:* I. Bartlett; S. Blyth; R. Evans; J. Falconer  
*Amplifier Technicians:* P. Lyons; R. Barrett  
*Broom Warden:* S. Young  
*Breakages Man:* J. Cooper  
*Badminton/Squash Warden:* M. Hamer  
*T.T. Committee:* S. Galtress; G. Moore  
*Assistant Boys' Banker:* D. Oughton  
*Rules Committee:* M. James; S. Bolt; J. Fletcher  
*Council:* C. Mathias; S. Oughton; J. Wilson; J. Dixon  
*Rugby Wardens:* A. Mathias; J. Sinclair; R. Caney  
*O.S. Hockey Warden:* S. Smith  
*M.A.C.:* P. Sayers; J. Fletcher

### Spring Term, 1975

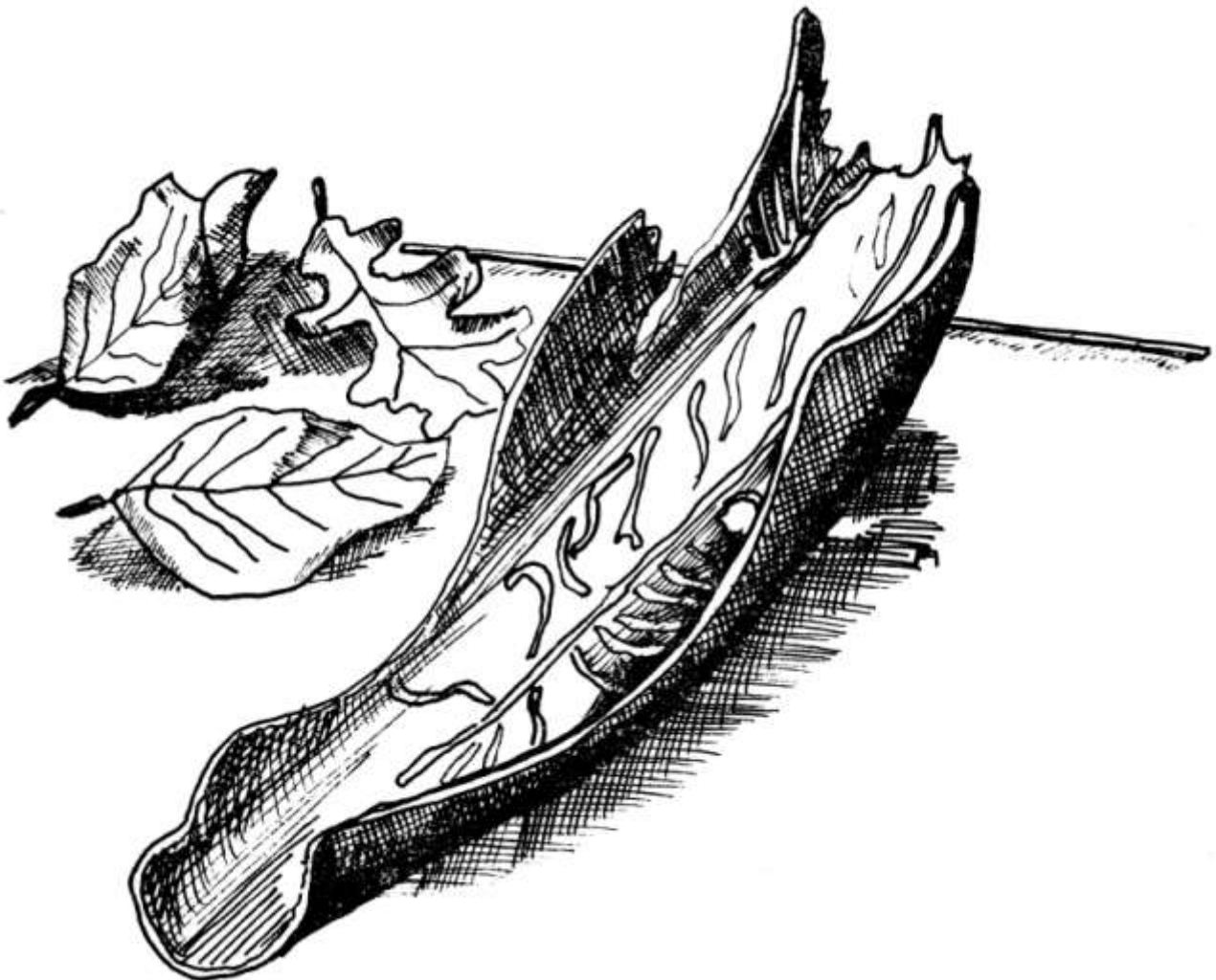
*Chairman:* N. Crowe  
*Secretary:* T. Lausch  
*Meeting Banker:* B. Pritchett  
*Shop Banker:* N. Longworth  
*Boys' Banker:* S. Baynham  
*Senior Shopman:* P. Lyons  
*Junior Shopmen:* O. Davies; C. Pulford  
*Entertainments Committee:* R. Thomson; D. Sayers; A. Moulton  
*Paperman:* S. Hawkins  
*Food Committee:* M. James; C. Mathias; I. Forrest; J. Wilson  
*Amplifier Technicians:* S. Hicks; T. Nicholas  
*Broom Warden:* N. Taylor  
*Breakages Man:* N. Raymont  
*Badminton/Squash Warden:* J. Cooper  
*Junior Advocate:* P. Lyons  
*T.T. Committee:* T. Parfit; J. Sinclair  
*Assistant Boys' Banker:* S. Hewitt  
*Nominations Committee:* N. Crowe; P. Lamphee; J. Fletcher

## MEETING NOTES

IT has been a very quiet period for the Meeting, conceivably due partly to the efficiency with which the various offices have been run.

There has, however, been some controversy over the Meeting funds, with many people fearing a cut in the Meeting allowance as the school tries to economise more than ever, but only a short while ago the allowance had to be raised to compensate for inflation, and since then inflation has been hitting us even more strongly. We do have a profit in the shop bank but I can foresee the necessity of 'falling back' on this useful reserve in the not too distant future. In the meantime it is in a newly opened deposit account, a useful (not to mention money-making) brainchild this term.

N.T.C.



## ACADEMIC SUCCESSES

THE following passes were gained by members of the College at G.C.E. Advanced Level in 1974:

M. Bauer	English; History; 'O' General Paper
R. Beckett	Botany; Zoology (M); 'O' General Paper
D. Bell	Maths; Physics*(M); Chemistry; 'O' General Paper
C. Bourne	Maths; Chemistry; Zoology; 'O' General Paper
C. Brain (form VIb)	French
C. Brett	Botany; Zoology
S. Bushell	'O' General Paper
M. Findlay	English; History; French; 'O' General Paper
E. Finney	Physics; Chemistry; Zoology (D); 'O' General Paper
W. Hall	Physics; Chemistry; Botany
K. Harmon	Maths; Chemistry; 'O' General Paper
S. Hennessy	English; History*; Economics and Public Affairs; 'O' General Paper
A. Jenkins	Maths*(M); Physics; Chemistry*; 'O' General Paper
J. Lane	Maths; Physics; Chemistry; 'O' General Paper
B. Mann	Maths; Physics; Chemistry; 'O' General Paper
C. Marsack	Botany; Zoology; 'O' General Paper
C. Partridge	English; French
D. Pearce	'O' General Paper
V. Penney	English; French; German; 'O' General Paper
S. Pink	English; French; German
N. Powell	Maths; Chemistry
N. Roberts	English; History
J. Scawin	Chemistry; Zoology; 'O' General Paper
P. Smith	Physics; Chemistry (M); Zoology (D); 'O' General Paper
S. Stanhope	English; Art; 'O' 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 VIa)	German
C. Brett (form VIa)	English Language
K. Barraclough	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Physics; Chemistry; Biology; French; Mathematics
R. Barrett	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Physics; Chemistry; Biology; French; Mathematics
S. Baynham	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Physics; Chemistry; French; Mathematics
A. Bell	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Physics; French; Mathematics
A. Bennett	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Physics; Chemistry; Biology; French; Mathematics
N. Bradbury (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
J. Campbell	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
N. Crowe (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
C. Dendy	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics
J. Dixon (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
R. Evans (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
P. Everatt	English Language; English Literature; Latin; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
J. Falconer	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
C. Findlay	English Language; English Literature; History
J. Fletcher (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
J. Garvie	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
P. Gready	English Language; English Literature; History; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
M. Griffiths	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology

B. Hall	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Chemistry
S. Hicks	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
R. Hudson	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
T. Ingles	English Language; English Literature
M. James (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
D. Knox (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
P. Lace (form VIb)	Classics in Translation; British Government
P. Lamphee (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
C. Ledger (form VIb)	Classics in Translation; British Government
N. Longworth	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
T. Longworth	English Language; English Literature; History; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
P. Lyons	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
A. MacGinnis (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
S. Marston (form VIb)	Classics in Translation; British Government
C. Mathias (form VIb)	Classics in Translation; British Government
D. Morris	English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Chemistry
T. Nicholas	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
S. Oughton (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
B. Pritchett (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
S. Pendell (form VIb)	Classics in Translation; British Government
I. Read	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
T. Roberts	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
C. Robinson (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
P. Rose (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
B. Russell	English Language; English Literature; History; Mathematics
P. Sayers (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
R. Sherratt	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
P. W. Smith	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry
S. R. Smith	English Language; English Literature; History; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
R. Stroud	English Language; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
J. Stuppel	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
R. Thomson	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
P. Walton	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; French; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry; Biology
R. Weston (form VIb)	Classics in Translation
A. Wilson	English Language; English Literature; History; Latin; Mathematics; Chemistry
R. Yeats	English Language; History; Mathematics; Physics; Chemistry

Annabel Goodenough has gained a place at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, to read zoology.  
Henrietta Hooper has gained a place at Newnham College, Cambridge, to read medicine.

## RENDCOMB COLLEGE AWARDS, 1975

**The Noel Wills Scholarship** - one free place:

David Denby      Longlevens Junior School, Gloucester

## Seven Gloucestershire Foundation Places

Philip Chivers	Dunalley Street Primary School, Cheltenham
Thomas Dunwoody	St. Mary's C. of E., Tetbury
Nigel Pitt	Picklenash County Junior School

Jonathan Pedley	Winchcombe County Junior School
Richard Stibbard	Coberley C. of E. School
Peter Stroud	Gotherington County Primary School
Calum Watson	Minchinhampton Parochial School

The girls' scholarship for entry to Rendcomb in September, 1975, was awarded to Diane Crew (Sir William Romney's, Tetbury).

## COLLEGE MUSIC

### SUNDAY SERVICE MUSIC

#### Autumn Term

13th September:	Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	<i>Bach</i>
22nd September:	If Ye Love Me	<i>Tallis</i>
29th September:	Now Thank We All Our God	<i>Bach</i>
13th October:	O, How Amiable	<i>Vaughan Williams</i>
20th October:	Ave Verum Corpus	<i>Mozart</i>
17th November:	Lord For Thy Tender Mercies' Sake	<i>Farrant</i>
8th December:	Rejoice In the Lord Always	<i>Purcell</i>

The Advent carol service was held in Rendcomb church on Sunday evening, 1st December.  
The Christmas carol service was held in Cirencester Parish Church on Sunday, 15th December.

#### Spring Term

19th January:	The Shepherd's Farewell	<i>Berlioz</i>
2nd February:	Sicut Cervus Desiderat	<i>Palestrina</i>
9th February:	Love Of The Father	<i>Gibbons</i>
2nd March:	Turn Thy Face From My Sins	<i>Attwood</i>
16th March:	O Bone Jesu	<i>Palestrina</i>

On 23rd March a special service of readings and music for Palm Sunday was held.

### THE MASS IN TIME OF WAR

THIS work, known also as the Drum Mass, was composed by Haydn in 1796 while Austria was being ravaged in the Napoleonic Wars. It gives plenty of scope for singers and players, and, for the first time in a major work, the college choir and orchestra combined to perform it on Sunday, 10th November, in St. Peter's Church.

### SPRING ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

THE college orchestra's concert was given on Sunday, 23rd March, in the gymnasium. The programme consisted of Gluck's Overture Iphigenie en Aulide, Mozart's Horn Concerto No. (in which the soloist was Andrew Medhurst), and the first movement of Schubert's Unfinished Symphony.

### ORGAN RECITALS

ON 19th January Stuart Honeyball played a Prelude and Fugue by Bach and Chorale Preludes by Brahms and Vaughan Williams.

On 16th March Mr. Willson gave a recital of music for Passion-tide by Bach.

J.W.

## LIBRARY NOTES

WE are most grateful to Mrs. K. L. James for the gift of a new edition of "The Ancient and Present State of Gloster-shire" by Sir Robert Atkyns. This gift is made in memory of John James, who was school librarian from 1935-72 and who devoted so much time and interest to the library.

We are also very grateful to Mr. I. Wilkinson of the King's School, Canterbury, to Mrs. P. M. Sutherland and to Dr. G. J. Pitt for gifts to the library.

D. de G.S.



## SCHOOL PLAY: MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL

### CAST in order of appearance:

<i>Chorus of women of Canterbury:</i>				Dawn Mackonochie, Jane Wilson, Stella Joel, Alice Parshall, Tessa Wolferstan, Andrea Don, Mary Harvey
<i>First Priest:</i>	..	..		Paul Rose
<i>Second Priest:</i>	..	..		Phillip Lamphee
<i>Third Priest:</i>	..	..		Michael James
<i>Messenger:</i>	..	..		Richard Evans
<i>Thomas Becket:</i>	..	..		Jon Dixon
<i>First Tempter:</i>	..	..		Peter Lace
<i>Second Tempter:</i>	..	..		Robert Sherratt
<i>Third Tempter:</i>	..	..		Nicholas Longworth
<i>Fourth Tempter:</i>	..	..		Philip Lyons
<i>First Knight:</i>	..	..		Robert Stroud
<i>Second Knight:</i>	..	..		Roderick Thomson
<i>Third Knight:</i>	..	..		Jeremy Stupple
<i>Fourth Knight:</i>	..	..		John Garvie
<i>Banner Bearers:</i>	..	..		William Wilkinson, Adrian White, Mark Burchell
<i>Set design and construction:</i>	..			Keith Thorne, Colin Burden
<i>Wardrobe:</i>	..	..	..	Alison Garvie, Anne Holt
<i>Stage Manager:</i>	..	..	..	Timothy Nicholas
<i>Lighting:</i>	..	..	..	Julian Campbell
<i>Stagemen:</i>	..	..	..	Stephen Hicks, Ian Read, Simon Beckett, Owen Davies, Ian Forrest, Stephen Hewitt
<i>Make-up:</i>	..	..	..	Anne Thorne, Phillip Lamphee, Peter Millard, Victoria Penney, Lilli Schnitzer, Sally Blyth, Jacqui Crowhurst, Jane Wilson, Charlotte Brain, Rosemary Beckett, Anne Rickards
<i>Chorus of Monks:</i>	..	..		Robert Sherratt (praecantor), Peter Walton, Alisdair Wilson, Simon Buist, Shane Galtress, Stephen Hawkins, Jonathan McGill, Nigel Taylor
<i>Players:</i>	..	..	..	David Bell (flute), Martin Griffiths (clarinet), Adrian Bell (trumpet), Andrew Medhurst (horn), Bruce Mann (timpani), Stuart Honeyball (violin), Graeme Connelly (viola), John Willson (viola), Annabel Goodenough ('cello), Paul Curtis Hayward (double bass)

### *Instrumental music composed by John Willson*

*Murder in the Cathedral* is a play fraught with intense feelings and many subtle, almost indefinable ideas. Indeed, it is not a play of great physical action but one largely of mental action. Yet from this difficult and complex theme a comprehensible, unified drama of strong, flowing feeling emerged.

From the beginning Becket seemed doomed to die: there was great mental anguish as he was tempted both by temporal tempters and the devil. Then when Becket himself was composed and serene there was the confusion of the murder, with the fear of the three priests, the wailing of the Chorus and the cruelty of the knights. Ultimately the atmosphere was one of fulfilment and peace. The emphasis had switched from the terrible futility of the act of murder itself to the glory of Becket's death; he had become an ethereal and eternal figure. Thus despite the brash levity and logical reasoning of the knights the audience firmly sympathised with Becket at the end.

Jon Dixon, as Becket, dominated the play and never failed to hold the attention of the audience. Throughout he evoked a great feeling of dignity and wisdom; a feeling of strength and yet frailty. Courageously he stood alone, peacefully against the priests who were afraid and wished to save him; against the tempters; against the Chorus, who at first begged him to save himself and so them. His entrance always brought peace and strength; only in the temptation scene were his mind and will strained, and one could appreciate the inner anguish and the eventual mastery.

The three priests, Paul Rose, Phillip Lamphee, and Michael James, provided a vivid contrast with Becket. It was obvious that they were all men of inferior understanding and weaker religious faith. Yet one was conscious of subtle differences: the third priest (Michael James) was the most philosophical, while the second priest (Phillip Lamphee) was perhaps more concerned for his own-interests and was certainly more aggressive. All three were afraid whilst Becket was fearless.

The swaggering gait and logical worldliness of the knights provided another and indeed welcome contrast. Their case for murdering Becket was argued well with a confident humour. Yet, as Eliot intended, their humour was somewhat grim: they did not persuade the audience to condone the murder but evoked even more sympathy for the dead Becket. The actors clearly enjoyed these parts and played them exuberantly.



The Chorus of the women of Canterbury, composed of seven girls, sparked off the whole play, both creating and echoing the distinctive atmosphere. They skilfully managed to evoke the monotony and seeming insignificance of the lives of ordinary people, 'living and partly living'. But they also aroused great intensity of feeling, especially when they underlined the horror and barrenness of the murder. Sometimes the women all spoke together, sometimes certain lines were spoken individually, thus giving more force to Eliot's marvellous images.

Some parts of the play were especially successful. In the temptation scene Becket was lit in a halo of light and the four tempters came upon him from the darkness, barely infringing on the light. The first three tempters were offering him worldly pleasures and power; but the last tempter, the devil himself, offered him spiritual power and symbolically he bent right into the light.

Throughout the play the deep sense of communion between Becket and the women of Canterbury, his people, was beautifully expressed and some of the play's most moving moments came when Becket was speaking to them, bringing them words of comfort, joy and peace. At the end the Chorus realised that his murder did not merely signify destruction and they humbly prayed for him.

The orchestra played music composed by Mr. Willson as a prelude to acts and at moments of special intensity. This enhanced the play's power and was especially effective at the murder when it suggested tumbling chaos. The procession of monks chanted convincingly and created a feeling of devotional zeal and piety.

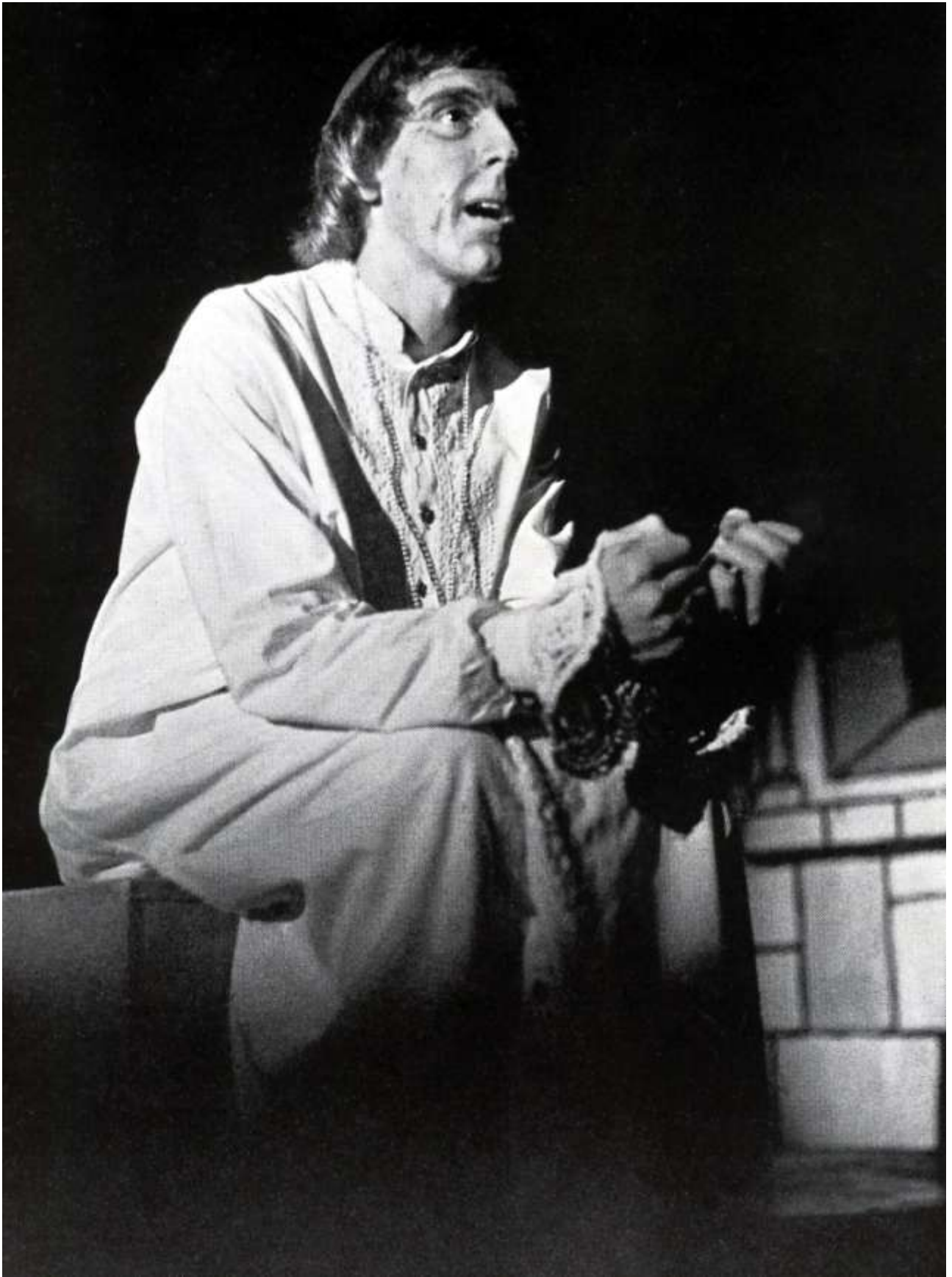
The scenery served well both to suggest the rather grim walls of the archbishop's hall and the more enclosed space of the cathedral. The stonework effect in varying shades of blue and white looked solid and had the pleasing two-dimensional perspective of mediaevalism. Three banners, portraying the martyrdom of St. Stephen, added to the feeling that Becket could not escape death.

Generally, the blue and yellow lights were used well: Becket was constantly pin-pointed with light and this was especially effective, as indicated earlier, in the temptation scene. When Becket was murdered the whole stage was plunged into darkness and then gradually lightened again so that the play ended in fittingly gentle light.

The costumes were as various as the characters and all were very suitable. Becket had a magnificent embroidered robe of red and gold, together with a bejewelled mitre, which contrasted with the plain garments of the priests. The ragged, subdued clothes of the Chorus were particularly suitable, as was the bright red outfit of the first tempter, who offered Becket mirth. The devil looked right in a black costume with a scarlet border. Make-up was also successful, especially that of the white, suffering Becket and the sinister knights with their black moustachios.

This review has been a rather serious one but then the play itself is extremely profound. Most important, one felt that the actors and everyone else concerned in producing the play enjoyed it as much as the audience did.

A.G., S.M.



## JUNIOR PLAY: TOAD OF TOAD HALL

### CAST

<i>Toad:</i>	..	..	..	..	J. R. Purkiss
<i>Badger:</i>	..	..	..	..	C. I. Burkham
<i>Rat:</i>	..	..	..	..	J. S. Portch
<i>Mole:</i>	..	..	..	..	M. F. Cragoe
<i>Front End of Alfred:</i>	..	..	..	..	D. Taylor
<i>Back End of Alfred:</i>	..	..	..	..	K. P. Winmill
<i>Chief Weasel:</i>	..	..	..	..	D. R. Strong
<i>Chief Ferret:</i>	..	..	..	..	S. J. Howell
<i>Chief Stoat:</i>	..	..	..	..	S. P. W. Lorenzen
<i>1st Fieldmouse:</i>	..	..	..	..	R. G. Pitt
<i>2nd Fieldmouse:</i>	..	..	..	..	M. T. Burchell
<i>3rd Fieldmouse:</i>	..	..	..	..	T. Evans
<i>4th Fieldmouse:</i>	..	..	..	..	P. M. Uglow
<i>Judge:</i>	..	..	..	..	M. H. Raven
<i>Usher:</i>	..	..	..	..	R. I. C. Tudor
<i>Policeman:</i>	..	..	..	..	D. Ind
<i>Turkey:</i>	..	..	..	..	M. J. Weaver
<i>Duck:</i>	..	..	..	..	M. A. R. Webb
<i>Rabbits:</i>	..	..	..	..	D. J. Gassor, R. E. M. Webb, R. G. Hazell, A. J. Harris, T. G. Wilson
<i>Squirrels:</i>	..	..	..	..	A. H. M. Simmins, W. S. Wilkinson, S. N. Lovett, A. C. Graham-Munro
<i>Weasels:</i>	..	..	..	..	A. D. Sergison, S. E. Trigger, R. Pledge, N. F. Marlow, J. D. Henniker-Gotley
<i>Ferrets:</i>	..	..	..	..	N. M. Blencowe, S. T. Paris, A. R. Pitt, C. H. K. Waddell, M. J. Curtis-Hayward
<i>Stoats:</i>	..	..	..	..	C. A. J. Dick, T. M. Paton, A.S. White, J. D. Wilson
<i>The Brave Stoat:</i>	..	..	..	..	M. A. Reid
<i>Choir:</i>	..	..	..	..	R. G. Pitt, M. T. Burchell, T. Evans, P. M. Uglow, M. J. Guppy, M. D. C. Harris, A. M. Grainger, T. F. Etherington, J. Duncumb, B. J. Hatchwell, N. Miles, F. M. Wilcox, R. A. Funnell, S. C. M. Elliott (Trebles and Altos) A. J. McGill, J. Bull, K. N. G. Nunan, M. A. Twinning (Tenors)
<i>Overture:</i>	..	..	..	..	D. C. Dendy
<i>Director:</i>	..	..	..	..	Derek J. Bell
<i>Stage Directors and Stage Managers:</i>	..	..	..	..	S. Hicks and T. Nicholas
<i>Set Designer:</i>	..	..	..	..	D. J. Bell
<i>Set Construction Supervisor:</i>	..	..	..	..	C. Burden
<i>Production Secretary:</i>	..	..	..	..	J. R. Steed
<i>A.S.M.'s and Stage Crew:</i>	..	..	..	..	J. Stupple, S. Hewitt, Jane Wilson, O. Davies I. Forrest, J. Ferguson, J. Watson, S. Smith, J. Sinclair
<i>Lights:</i>	..	..	..	..	J. Campbell and I. Read
<i>Art Supervisor:</i>	..	..	..	..	K. Thorne
<i>Make-up Crew:</i>	..	..	..	..	A. Thorne, P. Lamphee, C. Brain, J. Wilson, P. Millard
<i>Wardrobe:</i>	..	..	..	..	C. Ledger, D. Mackonochie, C. Robinson, L. Brain, A. Parshall
<i>Properties:</i>	..	..	..	..	J. Archer, M. Middlemist, J. Marson, D. Sayers
<i>Prompter:</i>	..	..	..	..	R. A. Edwards
<i>Accompanist:</i>	..	..	..	..	D. C. Dendy
<i>Violin:</i>	..	..	..	..	S. Honeyball
<i>Programme Cover Design:</i>	..	..	..	..	J. Dixon
<i>Costumes hired from:</i>	..	..	..	..	Dauphine Stage Hire, Bristol



THE junior play was *Toad of Toad Hall*, by A. A. Milne (based on Kenneth Graham's classic story *The Wind in the Willows*), and was performed on Thursday 27th, Friday 28th of February and Saturday 1st March. A summary of the plot would be both inadequate and unnecessary as the story is so well-known.

The cast were magnificent. John Purkiss as Toad gave a performance remarkable for its energy. Badger, played by Chris Burkham, was just the gruff, unsociable old bore I have always imagined him to be, capable however of violent action when necessary and his constant referring to Toad's "uncle, the Archdeacon" was very funny. Credit must be given to him for his sustained growled voice, a difficult feat. Jon Portch as Rat gave a very capable performance, with a good use of facial expression. (This was one thing which struck me; none of the cast ever 'forgot to act' when not actually speaking, giving an air of realism to the action). Mole (Matthew Cragoe) also gave a strong performance - although a little hampered by his mask at times - and really brought to life Mole's bashful, wondering character. The supporting cast were also excellent, perhaps Mark Raven as the Judge and Duncan Taylor and Keith Winnill as Alfred deserving a special mention.

The music was good, Christopher Dendy giving a masterly performance on the piano and Stuart Honeyball playing a short but sweet air on the violin. However, sometimes the music did seem to continue for rather too long (the carol singing of the Fieldmice, for instance) and, I thought, tended to interrupt the action of the play.

The ingenious set was very effective, involving as it did real trees and a 'fold-out' house. (I especially liked the scene in the Wild Wood, where the dead tree, silhouetted by an orange spot, gave a really ghostly atmosphere to the stage). The very difficult scene changes (which were perhaps a little too long to be carried out in front of the audience) were managed extraordinarily well by the stagemen (and women, for the first time) who as usual seemed to do an impossible amount of work in the very short time they were allowed to build the stage. Mr. Burden and the stagemen seem to achieve miracles with that tiny area.

The make-up was excellent as usual, supervised by Mrs. Thorne.

Finally, thanks are due to the wardrobe girls, Carol Robinson, Lucy Brain, Alice Parshall, Dawn Mackonochie, and Catherine Ledger, for their hard work, pinning tails onto assorted animals, backstage, and, of course, supervising all the costuming.

J.D.

## THE LITERARY SOCIETY

THE Society, currently numbering about forty members, has been quite active and enthusiastic over the winter terms, and some varied, profitable meetings, usually with the added stimulus of coffee and biscuits, have taken place in the college library.

Members are becoming more familiar now with the avant-garde methods of Ionesco, Pinter, Simpson, Beckett, Saunders, and other playwrights, and on October 23rd we held a play-reading of Ionesco's important *Rhinoceros*. Despite the undue length of its second half, the play was generally enjoyed and the quality of the reading, on the whole, high, aided by some sporadic sound-effects. On this occasion liquid refreshment at half-time was a practical necessity in view of the straining vocal cords of those readers mid-way through their rhinocerotic metamorphosis. At the end of the play we left Berenger (Jon Dixon), defiant like a sinking sandbank, in a remorselessly atavistic world.

On November 27th we held a further session of 'Call my Bluff', chaired by Mr. Bell, in view of the popularity of last year's game. A team consisting of TV 'personalities' Jon Dixon, Robert Weston, and Sally Blyth matched their wits against Phillip Lamphee, Stephen Pendell, and Carol Robinson, the panels urbanely defining words like 'flummadiddle', 'hooze', 'carphology', 'frog-hood', 'muckluck', and so on. Ultimately Phillip Lamphee's team vanquished their opponents after a close and entertaining contest in which the audience were given an opportunity to select their own correct definitions.

On February 26th Paul O'Flinn, who teaches English at the Oxford Poly and at Trinity College, Oxford, gave a talk, followed by discussion, under the title "Tess - Down and Out in Wessex". He opened with a broad account of Hardy's early life and the social and economic forces which shaped his attitudes, and then examined the way these attitudes emerged in some of the Wessex novels and the later poems, including his well-known poem on the Titanic disaster, "The Convergence of the Twain". The talk and discussion were both lively and were, perhaps, of special use and interest to those now studying "Tess of the D'Urbervilles", arguably Hardy's finest achievement, as an 'A' Level book. Finally, on March 19th, Malcolm Farquhar, Director of the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham, gave an excellent talk, informal, witty and wide-ranging, under the heading "The Director - or the Actor?" He described his own theatrical career, the fine training provided by the old one-week repertory system, and the daunting economic problems faced by the theatre at national and local level. He discussed the relationship between the actor and his director and covered a number of other topics, including the place and future of pantomime. A very full and lively session of questions followed the talk; the Society is extremely grateful to Mr. Farquhar for giving us his valuable time and we hope to organise many more school visits in the future to his beautiful theatre.

J.N.H.





# contributions

## MEET THE CAREERS ADVISER

Kevin Barraclough

"NEXT, please!"

I open the door and shuffle awkwardly into the Careers Room. A blaze of colourful leaflets flaunt their lusty attractions at me:

"Join the Professionals", and get your guts professionally spattered on the ceiling of an Ulster department store.

"Take up accountancy: the safe bet". Yes, a safe bet to have a wife, three screaming kids and a mortgage on the suburban semi-detached at thirty, with only the plastic pixies on the front lawn to comfort you in your mediocrity.

The Careers Adviser looks up from his papers and flashes a Maclean's smile at me.

"Do take a seat. Shan't be a minute." He hands me a printed sheet. "Could you complete this little test for me? Won't take you a minute."

I stare incredulously at the fatuous questions on the paper: "Underline the one occupation from each pair that you find most appealing", it says.

"Doctor or Architect,

Blacksmith or Midwife,

Actor or Steel Worker,

Statistician or Fishmonger . . . . "

My mind wanders; a poster of an astronaut on the moon catches my eye. I see him striding over a crisp, sterile, clean terrain, where the shadows are sharp, distinct; the horizon jagged and well defined. In the sky above this fresh, cold world hangs the melon-shaped earth, looking like a lump of rotting fruit, covered with stale blue mould, oozing the putrescent pus of decaying life and of man's filthy excrement.

The keen, young, bespectacled man on the other side of the desk clears his throat politely to return me to reality.

"Have you finished that test, then?" he asks, smiling. I mutter apologetically that I have not. "Ah well, never mind.

How far have you got?"

I hand him the paper.

"Ah. You didn't actually get around to starting. I understand; best not to rush these things." He laughs generously; I grin inanely. "Anyway, they aren't wildly important. So, let's get down to business!" He claps his hands enthusiastically. "Have you any idea what you want to do when you leave school?" he asks.

"Err . . . no", I answer.

"No ideas at all?"

"No."

"Ah", he says.

There is a rather long pause. I attempt to break the silence:

"I mean, that's your job, isn't it?"

He looks vaguely irritated. "What is?"

"Well, that's your job . . . to give me an idea of what to do when I leave."

He forces a laugh. "Yes, of course it is. Very witty of you." He looks pained. "Well, let's see what we can do."

"Now, have you any particular hobbies?" he asks.

I sit there gaping stupidly. I can see him thinking to himself: "Oh God! The boy's a halfwit!"

He smiles brightly, maybe a little too brightly.

"Well, what about ambition?" he says. "What do you want to be in life?"

"I want to be a God", I say.

He continues scribbling on a pad.

"Yes, that's good. Any particular kind of landscape gardener?"

"No, I don't want to be a landscape gardener."

He looks up. "What do you want to be?"

I look him straight in the eye.

"I want to be a God." There is a long pause. "Ah", he says.

"Any particular reason for wanting to be a, er, a God?" he says uneasily.

"No, not really, I'd just like to be a God."

"I understand", he says, not understanding.

There is another long pause.

"Err, what God had you in mind?" he asks awkwardly.

"Oh, just any one would do", I say, generously.

The man stares at me unhappily across the table.

"But there is only one God", he whispers.

"Well, I'll share it with him then", I say.

“What, now?” He looks the picture of misery.  
I pause. “No, not now, later. I’ll settle for landscape gardening for now”, I say.  
He perks up instantly, his whole face smiling.  
“Ah, in that case, sir, I have the very thing for you . . . .”  
He hands me a leaflet.

## CHATEAU IN VIRGINIA WATER

Jon Dixon

Broken English words cracked the air like a bell;  
She had a chateau in Virginia Water,  
Free from all those culture-vultures:  
Her car, a Silver Cloud, cloaked the air in a shroud,  
Her pearly author’s teeth tore the seasoned cedar-coloured pheasant.

Her one rich wish is to write a book about  
A Venetian mother’s problems on a barge in Little Venice.

She peers at the portrait of her poetess grandmother,  
Who’s theatrical in character,  
Wise just like Socrates.  
She sinks her nails into the aged canvas.  
But the power from the wordster’s head was cool and shrill and frightening.

Mrs. Drag is intermingled with the powder-blue chaise longue;  
She types some acid words to her hairless havana art-dealer.  
Her one rich wish is to write a book about a chateau in Virginia Water,  
Free from all those culture-vultures.

## MANHATTAN MOSAIC (1)

Graeme Connelly (Form IV)

HERE am I, a thousand feet above man-made metallic monsters; and there are they, specks of dust on graph paper, slowly blown about: square people, in square houses, in a square city. A huge world of electric food mixers and automatic knife sharpeners, of grey, tarmacadam, car-worn gardens, and seventy-fourth floor neighbours. A baby cries on an unknown front doorstep, while a millionaire feeds popcorn to his unmarried wives in a Fifth Avenue penthouse flat. An unwanted baby’s cries are stifled at the hands of a surgeon, whose hands are equally agile in the counting of money, and a small boy dies in the hands of others, curious as to the effect of fire, while a ponce takes the money of those that think they can buy love.

Below me now is a small, salty, swirling mass: the sea, cut off from its usual haunts by the hurly-burly of city life, and so, while a few of the dedicated attempt to clean the expensive rubbish from the sewage of the sea, the rest multiply their work, pouring ton upon ton of jelly-like slime to rest upon the bottom of a bottomless sea.

Finally, a closer look at the populace as a whole: the greasy mob, and the pensioner’s weekly-shattered window, the man in the casino, balding, timidly watching his twitching half-dollar die, and the shrill scream-surrounded man, bathing in women, who comes home at the end of a sticky, sandy day and goes to bed with his pyjamaed flat-mate, all have something in common.

Manhattan is a place where those that do wrong are right, and those that do right are dead.

## MANHATTAN MOSAIC (2)

Peter Haynes (Form IV)

DOWN on Twelfth Avenue, looking west from the Northside of the river, the sun has reached a climax, the cars continued their never-ending vigilance on block thirty-four and the tugs ploughed lazily up the bourbon-on-the-rocks river.

The sun smiled but didn’t burn or tan the busy hamburger and popsicle inhabitants who shuffled in and out of the field of corn buildings on the well-defined streets who popped into a pizza parlour for deep-frozen strawberries. High up, aeroplane catching in the sky, Manhattan’s male members scribble numbers on forms in their “Thanks, Jim, make mine a double”, hot-dogging, shirt-sleeving offices. While their secretaries hitch their skirts up another inch and say, “If there’s anything you want, sir”, in a good ol’ Mississippi accent. Just one tiny cog in one massive machine.



One small step for man across the sun-spangling river, the orderly blocks have been shuffled about, the office buildings have become dockyards, a warehouse, the favourite store replaced by two hundred thousand spare Cadillac hub-caps. This is Manhattan's vast pumping heart, the aerosol cream, anchovy pizza, all enter its bloodstream here. As one looks down on this great city, one can sense life; the docks pump, the people circulate, the office workers think and digest, and finally any of the excreta is pumped back into the air and water. It must be good to be American!



## FACES

Peter Haynes (Form IV)

Biconcaved cigarette,  
Squeezed till its tobacco spews.  
Long ploughed forehead,  
Angled eyebrows,  
Like grand plumes they flower and curve.  
Rolling lower lip,  
Like a Hawaii breaker, it clasps the filter.  
Averted nostrils flame  
As he puzzles over fourteen across.  
Looks up.  
The forced grin spreads,  
As of a person about to vomit happily.  
The eyelids flutter  
And splash their cochineal about the cheeks.  
The mouth gives a nervous explosion,  
The jaw takes maximum stress,  
And the eyeballs step out of the dark.  
Finally, all defences broken,  
The face is that of a cowering dog.

## THE GOLDEN VALLEY

Graham Moore (Form IVa)

THE Golden Valley is the name given to the steep valley near to the little town of Stroud. Bordered at one end by the winding road running through Chalford, it is a valley one would expect to see by a town. The valley tops are as yet untouched by the busy future - small picturesque cottages still stand in little green fields surrounded by trees. A large forest dominates most of one side, green and golden in the sunlight.

As you move down towards the town small mills still nestle below the height of the road - some making cloth and other materials. (The town of Stroud is quite famous for its red cloth used to make soldiers' uniforms years ago). The twisting lanes from the valley-top widen until they reach the main road. Nearer still to the town small factories continue their work - not huge, polluting factories, but those of the small clean type, mainly making, as previously mentioned, cloths and fabrics. The largest factory is probably the 'Olympic Varnish' factory, making, as the name suggests, varnishes and polishes. Alongside the smooth River Frome, which flows quietly into the Severn, runs the railway-track, gleaming through use. Now and then the valley is split in two by an express, like a pursued hare dashing along a forest trail. From sunrise to sunset the valley is alive with noises: chirping birds, bustling mills, humming factories, and roaring diesels all add to the valley's unique layout. But after the little factories have closed down, when the birds have ceased their twittering, and when the cars are quiet, the valley is something different - a valley of dark peace. The lights in houses on either side echo the day's sunlight. Sometimes the dark is broken by the lights of a sluggish freight train journeying towards its destination. The water moves, cool and still, as the night air moistens it with its crisp breath, and the Golden Valley slumbers.

## LIMERICKS

Anthony Simmins (Form I)

There was an old man of the west,  
Who had a great hole in his vest,  
But as he grew older,  
He found it much colder,  
So he grew some more hairs on his chest.

There was a young fellow called Max,  
Who filled his back pockets with tacks,  
So he thought he was clever,  
But found he could never  
Just gently sit down and relax.

## RENDCOMB

Isabelle (a French visitor)

RENDCOMB est une école spéciale et inhabituelle, mais très agréable. Elle est située en pleine campagne, ce qui est un grand avantage pour le travail. Elle est immense pour le nombre d'élèves qu'elle contient. Les élèves sont

assez détendus durant les cours, mais gardent quand même un bon esprit de travail; les rapports professeurs-élèves sont beaucoup plus amicaux qu'en France. Les élèves sont chargés de nombreux responsabilités et possèdent beaucoup de liberté (ceci vu probablement de leur bonne discipline). Les activités extra-scolaires sont nombreuses et les locaux pour cela sont très bien aménagés: locaux pour les travaux manuels, bibliothèque bien fournie et bien organisée, terrain de sports, salles de billards . . . .  
Le fait que l'école ne recoit qu'un petit nombre d'élèves est très bien car l'entente est plus facile; la majorité des élèves doivent probablement se connaître entre eux.  
L'école est aussi très accueillante!

## LOVE RIVER

Phillip Lamphree

Love is a river and flows through all of us, and love is life.  
Your love springs laughing from deep pools of tragedy,  
Creeping from earth in glad obscurity  
Where grey hills kiss the floating clouds.  
And in its childhood it rushes blindly,  
Laughing over flashing pebbles,  
Gurgling, tumbling, slipping over smooth barriers of stone,  
Whilst children splash each other in its shallows.  
And it is fed by all it passes through,  
Fed by the music of soft evening rains,  
Dew dripping from an overhanging fern,  
Thick experience running from ditches.  
And now you stand, we stand together on the bridge  
Which crosses, and leads into  
The life which flows beneath us;  
And love has more than beauty.  
Love is the crashing waterfall, the whispering willow.  
And those who swim across will find  
No comfort on the other bank, but will,  
With towels of logic, wipe dry emotion -  
Their souls float safe.  
And those who bridge you laugh, keep dry  
But never feel the pangs of birth, of death,  
The soft caress which crushes minds.  
But there are those who give themselves,  
Are carried to the sea,  
Immersed, soul-deep in the sweet security of drowning,  
The sharp rip of rock against the spring flood.  
What destiny awaits us?  
The river is obscured by floating leaves,  
No more ignores the obstacles which choke it,  
But carries all before it, in it.  
The waters are stung by the flickering rain,  
The drains of civilisation taint it.  
Is your face reflected in some still, deep, stagnant mill-pool?  
Is love the endless meandering of hopelessness?  
No.  
Destiny awaits us.  
And where the living waves enfold the shores,  
Where tall cliffs crumble to the everlasting sea,  
There new life waits for love, and waits for me,  
And, cleansed by the salt of tears, the joy of infinity,  
We are all reborn to silent, glad obscurity.

## FEAR OF TIME

Treve Evans (Form IV)

Vibrations of time shivered down my spine,  
As I saw the setting sun pierced by the silhouette  
Of an ancient monster; bending over its feet.  
It was  
Me.  
I tried to cry for a million years,  
But my eyes had turned to rock.  
I was a statue;  
Carved by the weapons of nature,  
Wind, rain and frost.  
The orange sun turned to a glistening white moon.  
And I was a man.  
I saw the years flit by like pages in a book with no cover.  
The sun rose and I saw cities,  
Littering the earth like tin cans.  
The sun was high in the sky  
And I could hardly see for the millions of people,  
With hardly room to stand,  
Crushing each other with their living weight.  
The night came;  
The morning didn't.

## THE QUICK WAY IN

Colin Hitchcock (Form IV)

A sign on the side of the road  
Gives its informative news,  
'Borough of Chippenham'.  
Then the halt.  
Everyone settles.  
The clock on St. Paul's chimes twelve.  
A short burst of movement. Another sign.  
'Concealed works entrance. 200 yards'.  
200 yards of movement reveals  
The Problem.  
A stream of cars with hungry drivers  
Pour forth from a jungle of buildings.  
Or, to call it by its rightful name,  
'Westinghouse Brake and Signal Works'.  
A small gap appears,  
The chequered flag goes down,  
And you've passed obstacle number one.  
A short stretch of speed through the  
'Semi-detached' area reveals number two.  
'Give Way'.  
The car in front stops.  
An unending stream of cars slithers past.  
Curse. Shout. Swear.  
Do what you like.  
They don't care.  
They want their dinner.  
A solitary traffic warden  
Ambling along the pavement  
Notices the problem.  
Promptly crossing to the middle of the road,  
He raises his hand.  
Amid mumbled 'well dones'  
You race for the traffic lights,

Only just in time to stop at red,  
And let hordes of shoppers stampede the road.  
When number three has quite finished,  
You race on.  
You park a fraction of the car  
On three feet of grey roadside.  
A hole appears in a pink blob with a blue hat  
with a yellow band -  
"Excuse me, sir, but . . ."  
Number four.

## FIRST KNIGHT

Peter Millard

THERE was a feeling of subdued tension. The lights radiated a cheerful, warm glow; tins of powder and grease made a sweet smell, like some tainted perfume. On the cloth-covered table was a cracked mirror, slightly askew, and round it lay sticks of make-up scattered by some impatient hand. Some, indeed, lay half-hidden on the floor, waiting to be noticed and picked up.  
A little way off a painted tempter sat talking in earnest stage whispers to a hairy first knight. All that could be heard was a quiet monotone. An archbishop's robe hung from a peg, jewels glittering from its back in an attempt to be noticed.  
Everywhere people were sitting on chairs or the floor in silence, some reading a book, others gazing vacantly into space. Someone moved and knocked a book off a table. At once every head spun round and stared at the culprit, in silence. Occasionally the silence was perforated by a subdued chuckle - someone had told a joke.  
In the midst of it all a monk, clad in white, was avidly reading a book and listening to a cassette-player through head-phones. The first knight got up and walked off, ready to "go-on". Others slowly followed and stood grinning at each other. The first knight slowly went up the steps, and, once on stage, started the speech that he had learned like a parrot.  
The first night of the play was on.

## A MURMUR

Suzanne Marston

IN cool passages of stone slabs and cold dust there is a murmur as of grey grass rubbing against moorland heather. White light snaps hard on stone slabs; strikes the handle of a reclining broom; the coal bucket which stands with the icy steeliness of still water; dried clods of earth, discarded and parched on the desert stone, curled up near the indomitable boots.  
But there is the murmur as of sand shuffling into heaps and unshuffling again like a thousand cards falling. The branches of a tree break across the window, their shadows somnolent on paintwork which cracks smoky yellow above the wainscot. Bottles lie broken on the hearth. And the white light cracks the leaves apart and snaps open on stone slabs. The fall of dice.  
But there is a murmur of coats swung on and boots that

creep toward the dark. Birds alight on the branches and disappear like newspapers that open and close. But there is a murmur as of tea spilling from the pot or hissing from smoky urns. A branch bends slowly down like them as they bend to meet the harsh, white light of day.

But there is a murmur as of gulls drowning in the stench of clogging oil; as of boots shuffling out down grimy steps. It is they who crawl through passages of darkness and lie stretched like seaweed across pinnacles of rock; lie slumped like clay over shiny table tops.

There is a shouting as the water roars toward, as greasy cup converges on tea-swilled saucer. There is a yelling as water breaks on rocks, as bottles crack and fall against tin cans. There is a sob as water scrapes back sand again, as arm bends to comb back hair.

But there is a murmur as of flowers breathing through grass. When the tree bends and rises, the wave rolls under and surges up. They stretch out a hand and stand trembling, dignified as the broom reclining on the seared wall, struck with cold white light. And the light ripples and glows warm upon the stone. Coal burns hot in the grate and ashes flow and are cooled in silver threads of rain. Earth crumbles and rubs against the stone sweet with the scuttle of worms.

They come and they go again and again and again as the birds that swoop and soar once more upward and away. But the cool stone slabs are sunken, powerful in the roots of the earth, not waiting or moving but being as the tree which surges and hangs silent.

## UNREJECTED

Phillip Lamphee

I whirled entranced in brightness, spiralled in sun-shafts,  
Danced my summer like a midge,  
But then she locked me far from woods and scented silence,  
Chained me dark from searching moonlight,  
And there I crouched and clutched sharp landscapes,  
Stung with flicking doubts  
Which licked the questions from my heart  
And spat them in my mind.  
And there my dreams were screaming beauty,  
The sensual, and the groin-kick.  
The things I'd heard about you  
Smiled, and screwed on the blindfold,  
Syringed my brain with purely sexual fluid,  
Clothed me with another's flesh.  
Unresisting.  
I was unresisting.  
What *they* wanted, I could seize -  
What *I* wanted, tormented me.  
And here I am,  
I who dream and share my heart with you,  
You who with petalled fingers crush my mind,  
The better loved, the less loving.

## COLOUR TELEVISION

Jonathan Portch (Form IIIa)

HAVING just wasted two hundred and forty-seven pounds you are now the proud owner of a large debt and a colour television. But do not worry, you will soon find yourself with an even bigger debt. You thought that the neighbours would envy you because you had a colour television but they really know that you have wasted two hundred and forty-seven pounds.

What is more they are dead right. The little green line which you thought would help you find the perfect picture is painted on the inside of the screen. Honestly, how can you have a perfect picture with a green line down the centre?

One advantage of this set is that it will keep you fit. How? you ask. The answer is simple. You will continually be walking from your chair to adjust it, kick it, thump it or use any other method which you amateur electricians think will improve the picture. This will also help to wear out your slippers. Your shoes will suffer as well because you will have to walk to an electrician's shop to ask him to repair your television set. To save a little money we have made a list of common faults and how to rectify them:

1. If you find that the only picture you receive is a mass of dots, see a technician. For a mere ten pounds he will plug the aerial in for you.
2. If you now find that all you receive are black and white pictures, see us. For a mere fifty pounds we will sell you a colour television aerial and, for a modest five pounds, we will plug it in for you.
3. Lastly, remember to purchase a Colour Television Licence. These are not absolutely necessary but failure to possess one can result in a fine. We keep a large stock of these worthless pieces of paper and we would be pleased to remit one to you on receiving a cheque for twenty-seven pounds.

P.S. Your bank balance is now three hundred and thirty-nine pounds in the red.

## MESSAGE FROM ETERNITY

Kevin Barraclough

Suspended in Time and Space,  
I am Time and Space.  
I am a white dwarf attempting suicide,  
A sparrow combatting nature,  
A galaxy, a myriad of stars hanging in nothingness,  
A shark preying on the shoal,  
A comet battling with interstellar forces.

In your corner of eternity,  
You are me, as I was.  
I, being eternity, am you as you will be.  
I have fallen, been disposed inside my own being.  
And have reformed, from the individual, an Entity,  
Which is Me.

The Fall was swift and painless,  
The Rise exhaustive and constructed with suffering.

But risen I have, and as Unity,  
I watch you - My past.  
You are me.  
But you are broken, fallen;  
Between the individual lies a gulf.  
For me to evolve, that gap must be bridged by Love.

I plant love on my planet and watch it grow,  
Under my conscious it grows and flourishes, bridges the gap.  
I am formed beyond you,  
I am all of you,  
Each individual is a part of me.  
I am perfection, completion.  
I am God.



## FOR THE INNOCENT

But the mission had to be completed,  
Regardless of the hurrying housewives  
Who were snatching up the special sales,  
And of the timid old lady stealing  
A jar of coffee with trembling hand.  
The man paid for the groceries and left  
The parcel innocently on the floor;  
He desperately made for the door -

But the explosion came too soon for him,  
And the freedom fighter was exalted  
Only to fall on the wreckage below;  
The old lady still clutching the coffee;  
A bruised mother feeling a dream denied -  
And the painful loss of the child inside.

## ONE AND THE SAME

**Richard Caney** (Form IV)

Her mind was full of emptiness, as is  
The glass without liquid, as is  
The sky without cloud, as is also  
The stars without their courteous twinkle.  
It had got lost while thinking and was  
Doomed to solitude.

The room was hollow and dark,  
The furnishings sparse and dusty,  
The French windows open,  
Allowing the world to glide in  
In different shapes and forms.  
The car-horns, the dust, the polluted air.  
Thinking even harder.

The two clamp together as one.  
The empty mind enters the hollow room,  
Where it lies and stops, and thinks.  
The room was still, dark and quiet,  
As a target awaits its punishment,  
The atmosphere being light, yet heavy.  
Her mind had gone forever.

## LIMERICK

**Keith Winmill** (Form IIIa)

There was a young lady from China,  
Who said, "No-one can make rice finer".  
She was universally known,  
From Bengal to Cologne,  
And even in Wales, by a miner.

## LAST MINUTE (Haiku)

The dazzling headlights,  
Rush onwards towards me,  
Without a care.

## Philip Lyons DEPRESSION

**Ian Cummings** (Form IVa)

THERE will be a slow north-east movement on the systems to the west and north of the British Isles with Low 'H' filling a little, Low 'Y' deepening a little, and High 'U' declining a little.

The bird call chimes, clear in the air.  
The wind echoes the note, rustles my hair.  
And the sunlight - sifted, from the clouds,  
Tries to trickle, through these will-o'-wisp shrouds.

A river reflects the woods of bare beech  
Which, although stilly frozen, can just reach,  
The fields, bespeckled of frozen dew,  
Appear to be of faded green hue.

A slight rime of very whiteness  
Suffers the sun in blinding brightness,  
Fades; every crystal, each grain.  
Yet the fine crystalline crust contrives to remain.

Never moving nor even changing  
Yet covering hillside, ranging  
Far out of sight.  
Is the weatherman ever right?

## A LIFETIME OF

Graeme Connelly (Form IVa)

Time; time for what?  
Back of one's mind.  
Try to remember,  
Remember what?  
Time moving on;  
Forever climbing.  
Birth and living,  
Death and forgetting.  
A distant object  
Getting nearer,  
A recognized face -  
A forgotten face,  
An instant of light  
But an aeon of darkness.  
Chime hours; chime.  
The days ring by  
With no after-thought,  
A year slips by  
With no memories to hold:  
A lifetime of half-forgotten memories,  
Of wishing that . . .  
Time; what time?

## CLOTHES

Ian Pengelly (Form IV)

Flapping blue shirts, dashing maroon tea-towels  
Obscure the dull yellow sun,  
Clouds on the horizon.  
While dainty pink trousers,  
Green, and purple spotted,  
Muse lazily with the succulent wind  
Like fronds of ill seaweed, on the gull-infested shore.  
And to its side,  
A sheet of orange  
Yachts sailing gracefully  
On washed out waves of blue dye.  
And over the radiator warmth  
The old, warped suede hat  
As a surfacing seal, out of sight  
To wind-swept washing line and beach-bathing people.  
In the hedge, a ragged lost handkerchief flutters meaning-  
fully,  
A green flag, high over the bustling bay:  
Soon, all fades, darkness enfolds,  
And the disappearance of the drab dressing-gown,  
Signifies the young bird, which swoops in to rest  
On the shapeless, shingle shore.



## NIGHT FLIGHT

Clare Gardner-Medwin

THREE birds in the evening sunlight, gliding peacefully through their beloved sky; as pure as starlight and glowing with gentleness in the clear night air. Their wingtips move at a precise and constant inch from each other. They reduce speed, twist, glide for a moment with perfect equilibrium, then increase their speed again, their wings fully stretched out. Beaks lifted up towards the sky, they bring their fore wings tightly in towards their body, keeping them still. If they unfolded them now they would be blown into a million tiny shreds of seagull. To them, wallowing in the perfection of their art, speed is joy, speed is pure beauty.

In flawless formation and perfect harmony they ease out of the dive with the faintest twitch of their wingtips and the wind roars against them like a monster. Flapping their wings rhythmically they make towards the shore as three grey cannon balls beneath the watery moon.

The flying lesson is over.

## IN THE HEART

Simon Fear (Form Va)

IN the heart of the woods, which happened to be near one edge, there lay a boiler. Disused it was, and it lay in the midst of the thickest tangle of the semi-forest, though in its hey-day it must have scorched the area around it to cinders. An evergreen stood over it - in times gone by we had called it Old Granny; it stood withered and the trunk was gnarled and twisted like huge folds of skin. It dropped only a few leaves during the year, and those were widow's mites.

The Boiler and Old Granny were both decrepit, some memoir of days that had long passed away, remnants of another epoch. But the rust and moss formed a unity that was inviting even to youths, such as ourselves, seeming not to resent the intrusion and brashness of our modernity, tolerant of our misuse. The Boiler had some kind of chimney that was more than half broken, and it funnelled cigarette-smoke as well as it had been designed to do.

The floor was covered in straw and other odds and ends; rumour made it a tramp's home or a badger's sett, and amongst the oddments were ancient newspaper corners without a date, and a pile of stowed deposit bottles that were decades out of date, worth nothing except to the antique-dealer. And now there lay empty packets, each one a symbol of where it had been bought and where it had been smoked; a library of memories written into the Government Health Warning.

All this lay in my mind throughout Christmas, throughout each one night stand and the pubs where they had asked my age: it stood as a barrier to progress of thought and found itself hidden in every song. It was a terrible trap; it was not pain or anger, but held me in its clutches with tenderness and a love that lay dormant now, though it had laid in reality on that floor.

Returning was not easy, but the siren call grew louder as I drew near, and for a while I stood poised as on a precipice; behind me the comforts and freedom that I had begun to love, and in front of me the abyss from which I had, reluctantly, climbed. But I had overestimated the distance, the decision was no longer in my hands, for I was falling. But falling where? Not in love, that was another beautiful trap I had been caught in, but the threads were wearing thin; no, not there again.

I do not know where I fell to. I was not lonely, or afraid, but loneliness and fear wept around me. And here, in the waking world, the Boiler lay at my feet. I was eye to eye with Old Granny, we stood with linked arms and gazed. The door had not moved an inch, and inside the packets lay the same, the straw was depressed in the same place.

A lust for the flesh came over me, but it was empty and hollow, and my subconscious called it base. And again I was one with Old Granny, and together we watched me and my loved one caress. With her ecstasy I found myself shuddering with her: I lay at the same time in the present with Old Granny, and in the past inside the Boiler. But my younger self was not aware of the future, here I found I was love-blind - but so content; and with Old Granny I had the power to condemn that love or to praise.

I praised it. Old Granny sensed the feeling, knew my thought, agreed. She was at all times both young and old; new leaves grew on her old trunk; she was as indifferent to me as a king feeding his pets; she did not try to alter my decision. But as I made it, I felt a thrill, a knowledge that with her experience she condescended a silent agreement. That was all. Now I found my feet were on the ground, Old Granny was towering over as she always used to. Nothing there could change, time knew no reason there in the thicket. My love had laid a power on it then that knew no bounds; I quickly left it as it stood, a little awed at my own achievement. And that was all.

HE walked along the beach on the north side of the estuary, looking out to sea. The wind was from the west and blew in his face, forcing him to lean into it slightly and playing with the strands of hair on his neck. Where the river became sea was an island. A small island, but big enough to support a house, a pony, and a royal-patronized bird sanctuary. He could not see it properly because the sun was low down in the sky, and the island, between him and the light, was thus colourless. But the man knew it was green and red just as he knew on the other side of the island lay seals on the sand, like grey, immovable rocks; he had seen them before and he knew they were there.

He stopped and looked at his watch. He looked at his feet, where the puppies, whose exercise was the point of this walk, were playing. He looked at the puppies and admired them as though he had produced them, not bought them off a farmer who had intended to put them down. "Yes", he mused. "They're good puppies, the two of them." Their tails were good and straight and about the right length, the bitch's was a bit on the short side, perhaps . . . Their coats were smooth and glossy and around their black markings the tan was beginning to appear, softening the change from black to white. Their eyes were bright, mischievous, above all, healthy, and there was an air of "joie de vive" about them. The man laughed and bent down to caress the head of the dog who had jumped up on his legs, with his pink tongue hanging out, and his stern flickering from side to side. "You're a good fellow, aren't you, oh yes you are, yis, yis, yis." The dog ran away, his tail flickering faster, and looking over his shoulder at his master, but he was not looking any more.

He looked out to the hills on the other side of the estuary. He started with the Point of Ayr which once boasted the only lighthouse for miles around, but now supports only a caravan site. He followed the line of hills, naming the villages he knew were there but could not see, because of the light's tricks. Then he named the hills; Moel Famau was easy to tell, it was the highest, pointing up to the yellow sky, with a hump on the top, and beside it, Mod Arthur. He tried to remember the names of the others, but could not.

He turned round, up the estuary, called the puppies, and began to walk fast, his shoulders hunched against the wind, and his hands in his pockets. The trouble with walking down the estuary, with the open sea ahead, the exhilarating wind, the island like a beacon, which draws the eye, and the sun, was one had to walk back again to civilisation. Five miles along the coast he could recognise the Boathouse Inn, bright yellow against the green fields to the left of it, and the red-brown of the houses to the right. On the other side of the estuary corresponding to it was a laundry; its tall, straight chimney ejecting long columns of steam into the atmosphere. At the end of the estuary, where the marshes ended, and the river narrowed, was a steel works, huge and grey, backed by a blackening sky, which, to his dog-attuned brain, looked like Cerberus. At his feet was the litter of a hundred trippers; and from the corner of his eye he could see the foam at the edge of the river, which lapped on the oily sand, telling the tale of the steel works, the laundry, and the innumerable sewage systems which found their way into its kindly, receptive waters.

And the man began to run, cursing the puppies when they tripped him up. He ran back to his car, and hurried home, and shut himself up from the world. He need no longer look at steel works and laundries, but he can no longer see the wide open sea, or the warm friendly sun.



## THE DEBATING SOCIETY

This has been an exceptionally active year for the Debating Society, with the addition of two closely fought fixtures against Hatherop; the first of which indicates an unusual and commendable concern on the part of the first year sixth for the world's standards in ethics and morality (see motion). The girls felt themselves more than adequately entertained and enlightened, and the latter debate, also very much a social occasion, saw the Rendcomb fifth year turning intellect against charm this time on away ground.

Autumn and Lent Term Senior Debates were:

“This House accuses the British Nation of submission to Capitalist Brainwashing”

“This House believes that contemporary ‘Pythonesque’ humour can be only advantageous to the Nations of the World”. (v. Hatherop)

“This House believes that a white lie is never justifiable”. (Fifth year v. Hatherop)

D.J.B.

\* \* \* \*

At the fifth year debate and social, Hatherop provided an excellent meal before the debate and the conversation flourished.

Opposing the motion were P. Curtis-Hayward and Antony Ashmore. The chairwoman asked the opposition to speak first, which was rather unorthodox, but we delivered our speeches. The proposition put forward very good speeches but mainly based upon child upbringing which is not a boy of 16's favourite subject. We were, therefore, beset by an onslaught of questions on child psychology which we could not answer. The male opposition tried in vain to steer the debate towards the question of the Watergate scandal. Eventually the chairwoman decided enough had been said about President Nixon and child psychology.

The motion was won by 20 votes to 16 with 4 abstentions.

Coffee was served after the debate and after being shown around the school we left at about 9 o'clock.

A very pleasant evening was had by all and we should like to thank Hatherop for their excellent hospitality.

P.C.H.

\* \* \* \*

THE junior half of the school have been no less active. Debates were held in both terms and were well attended, the standard of speaking being often as good as (or even superior to) that in the senior debates.

\* \* \* \*

*Christmas Term Junior Debate:* “This House believes that the Scientific Progress of this Century is more advantageous than disadvantageous”.

The three speakers for this motion, Sutherland, Steed and Pitt, came into the library with their lab jackets on, while the three speakers against, Purkiss, Webb and Curtis-Hayward, came into the library with grass in their sports jackets. So the scene was set for a lively debate. Sutherland said that many of the people at the debate would have died had it not been for progress in medicine. Purkiss retorted that soon we shall all die because of the chemicals from modern machinery polluting our streams and the atmosphere. Steed said that machines like washing machines, cars and refrigerators are now invaluable and give people more free time to enjoy themselves. Curtis-Hayward, in an excellent address, said that too many dangerous drugs are now being sold on the black market. After the six main speeches, many interesting points were raised from the floor, although there were too few from the first form willing to make a speech.

Altogether it was a very interesting debate.

Result: For 17; Against 35; Abstentions 5.

R.S.

\* \* \* \*

*Spring Term Junior Debate:* “This House believes that Capital Punishment should not have been abolished”.

Tudor opened the debate by claiming that if murderers knew they were going to be hanged they would not commit the crime in the first place. But the criminal knows that all he will receive is ten years in a “free hotel”. Nunan looked at the subject from the religious angle. He said that in the Bible it says, “Thou shalt not kill”, and asked who has the right to kill somebody apart from God? He also said that killing was barbaric. Strong followed this up by saying that if a murderer knew he was going to be hanged he would be more willing to shoot his way out if surrounded by the police. Also, if after the trial it were found that the suspected murderer were innocent, he could not be dug up. Lovett said that the I.R.A. would be glad to martyr themselves and that criminals in general would be more willing to carry firearms. Then the police would have to carry firearms and we would be in the situation America is in at the moment, but at the

moment people have confidence in their local "bobby". Uglow and Sergison also added many interesting points. More interesting ideas were raised on the subject from the floor. Curtis-Hayward said that if juries every day had to decide if a man should die they were bound to make mistakes sometimes. The first form were also more willing to speak at this debate than the previous one.

Result: For 28; Against 12; Abstentions 11.

R.S.

## **PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**

DURING the last two terms the Society has had harsh sumptuary difficulties, even though the entrance emoluments were doubled at the beginning of the spring term. This was due to the augmenting rate of inflation, which has escalated chemical prices out of proportion. In fact, because of this, this report may well be the last to appear in the school magazine. The Society is finding it increasingly hard to survive, even at a subsistence level, unless Meeting help is forthcoming. The Society, in fact, has applied for an increase in allowance from the Meeting, but so far without success.

Nevertheless the Society has managed to struggle on. The quality and quantity of work has greatly increased, as has the scope. Colour photographs were taken of "Murder in the Cathedral" and diverse monochromatic ones were produced. Owen Davies has staged some superb landscape pictures and the fourth form members' creations have been well worthwhile. The Headmaster has utilised the facilities of the Society, as have several other masters.

P.L.

## **BELL-RINGING NOTES**

GREAT progress has been made this term in expanding our team, for we now have four new ringers who in a very short space of time have learnt to handle a bell competently.

Last term a quarter peal of plain bob doubles was rung and this lasted about three-quarters of an hour.

We should like to thank Miss Bliss for organising a very successful joint ringing outing with the Radley ringers, when we rang at Rendcomb, Elkstone, Chedworth, North Cerney, and Cirencester. The outing was enjoyed by all, and even the weather favoured us.

All in all, it has been a very good term's ringing.

P.C.H.

## **CHESS CLUB**

DURING the spring term there has been too marked a lack of the Russian flair for, devotion to, and skill in the exacting game of chess to justify the formation of any team, and this remains an activity in which we have yet to challenge players from outside the college.

Competitive play within the college, however, was very marked throughout the autumn term and at the beginning of the Lent term. Thirty-four players from the third to the sixth year competed for the chess trophy; Ian Pengelly of form IV is to be congratulated on his success in the final, as are the large number of third and fourth formers who reached the third round and the quarter-finals.

D.J.B.

## **BRIDGE CLUB**

INTEREST in bridge has continued this term and meetings have been quite well attended, particularly by this year's beginners.

Mr. Hawkeswell gave the club an excellent introduction to Duplicate early in the term; this system has proved popular and provided five tables at the last session.

We hope to hold at least two meetings next term and it would be good if as many Bridge players as possible would support them.

W.J.D.W.

## **ANNECY EXCHANGE, 1974**

LAST summer twelve boys and one girl from Rendcomb took part in the Cheltenham-Annecy schools exchange. Everyone paired up with a French student and then each pair spent three weeks in England and three weeks in France, staying with the families of the host students.

The trip to Annecy, which is located in the Haute-Savoie, about thirty kilometres from Geneva, was exhausting and chaotic but few people minded as there was a general air of excitement about going on holiday in a foreign country. The trip was made doubly pleasant for the Rendcomb boys by the presence of approximately five times as many girls as boys! Age limits stretched from twelve to eighteen and there was a great atmosphere of sociability and friendship. The French hosts, once we had arrived in Annecy, were the most generous people I have ever met. The beautiful weather and scenery were only surpassed by the friendliness of the people. Great credit is due to the organizers of the scheme and the hard-worked adults who supervised the journeys between Cheltenham and Annecy. I would also like to thank Mrs. Holdaway for all the hard work which she put into the scheme; I know that I can truthfully say that Annecy was a holiday I will never forget.

D.B.

## **THE TURNER EXHIBITION**

ON Thursday, 30th January, a party of sixth formers were taken to the Turner exhibition at the Royal Academy, London. Upon arrival it was obvious that there was plenty of emphasis on security, and we were initially ushered into the bowels of the building and left, before we entered the exhibition proper.

The first thing which struck us was the vast number of paintings, ranging from small, quick water colour sketches to some of his largest canvasses, housed in the penultimate chamber. The vast scale of Turner's work leaves one gasping (it was a pity that due to the same security one was prevented from going outside to catch a breath of "fresh" air). The fluidity of Turner's technique in using the different media is astonishing.

The exhibits were arranged chronologically, from his beginning in topographical water colour, to his late abstract work, and were interspersed with sketch-books (which in themselves could have formed an exhibition) and other objects of interest such as Turner's fishing rod!

Turner achieved early fame in his life with highly detailed, topographical studies which show a heavy Dutch influence. After his first travel abroad (July, 1807) his work showed a marked difference. The accepted techniques of painting were transformed to produce a far less pre-determined process. His style, in both water colour and oil painting, showed a gradual divergence from his earlier style and accepted technique. He became obsessed with the power of light, a fact which is reflected in many of his paintings, and the idea that "Energy is Eternal Delight". His later works were almost totally abstract, using colour and light. He died in Chelsea in 1851 at the age of 76, having lived the last years of his life as an almost total recluse.

The exhibition was mentally and physically exhausting, but one was left at the end with a feeling of wonder at the sheer genius and proliferation of the artist. His amazing feeling for light and the subtle effects of light on the atmosphere give his paintings a luminosity which is measurable not only physically but spiritually. His last words ("The sun is God") perhaps sum up his incredible style of painting. Although we had over two hours in which to view the exhibition, many found this insufficient - Mr. Thorne, for instance, had only got past the first stage of the exhibition, twenty minutes before we were due to leave, which was a pity as he had come primarily to see Turner's later works - a comment on the interest of the exhibition.

To sum up, we would like to quote Mr. Thorne, on leaving the exhibition. Half in jest, he said, "It makes you want to give up painting, doesn't it?" This, perhaps, was a feeling shared by all of us.

P.M., J.D.



## CLIMBING

### AUSTRIAN TRIP

ON Monday, 15th July, we set off from Rendcomb and drove through the pouring rain to Dover. The moment we left England the sun came out and raised our spirits considerably.

Finally after various problems with public transport we started off one fine evening into the mountains. We very soon felt the altitude for after only a comparatively strenuous walk we were all exhausted, but anyway we eventually reached the Neue Regensburger hut. The next day after an abortive attempt to climb the Ostlicher Knotenspitze we fought our way through knee-deep snow to the Franz Senn hut. We stayed for two days and did two good routes, one of them upon the Ostlicher Knotenspitze. Then we walked down to the valley and took a bus to Mutterberg Arm, a ski resort. We guiltily climbed on board a cable car watching less well off climbers tramping up a steep footpath to the Dresner hut. We climbed the Ostlicher Daumkogel, then the next day walked to a lovely hut called the Hildesheimer. From this hut we climbed the highest mountain in the Stubaier Alps, the Zuckerhütl (3505m). The next day we went to the Hochjoch Hospitz and climbed some good peaks. We then went up to the infamous Breslauer hut; it might have been nicer to sleep in the snow, but from here we climbed the highest mountain of our trip, the Wildspitze (3770m). We couldn't bear to spend another night in the Breslauer hut so we descended to the Vernagt hut and the next day we climbed the Brochkogel by its ice flank, probably the hardest ice climb a Rendcomb party has attempted. After various celebrations on the top we went down to the valley. Stephen and Ian went to Innsbruck the next day to catch the train home. David, Mr. Willson, and I went off to do our 'cultural bit' in Bayreuth, which was very enjoyable. All in all it was a superb holiday, the weather favouring us for most of the time. We climbed 16 peaks over 3000m, which is quite an achievement for a Rendcomb party, and I think it was enjoyed by everyone.

P.C.H.

### NORTH WALES

IN the first week of the summer holidays a party of 18 boys went to north Wales in order to do rock climbing and mountain walking. We arrived at the camp site on the Monday after the end of the autumn term. On the Tuesday we climbed Tryfan, a good introduction to scrambling and general mountain work. During the course of the week we also traversed the Glyders, and the Snowdon Horseshoe. After the walks, in the afternoons we managed to do some rock climbing up to severe standard on the crags around, notably Dinas Mot and Dinas Cromlech. All in all another very successful week which everyone enjoyed, and we hope to go again this summer.

S.B.

## CAREERS

THE most important innovation this year has been the introduction of the Birkbeck Aptitude Tests and the Connelly Interests Questionnaires. It has been thought particularly necessary to introduce these in view of the cut-back in training schemes and graduate employment, resulting from the current economic difficulties. These factors highlight the importance of obtaining as much information as possible before making a choice of career, the choice being influenced by both aptitude and interest.

At the time of writing, we await the results of these tests in which almost the whole of the fifth year was involved. Another important consideration is the use of the time between school and university. During the past six years, Rendcomb boys have spent 8-9 months involved in research projects for I.C.I. (Pharmaceuticals) before going up to Oxford. This outline of the organisation is intended to give an idea of the type of employment which may be obtained in a large, well-known company.

### New ICI Research Laboratories increase facilities by 60 per cent

THE newly completed, additional £4 million research complex at ICI Pharmaceutical Division Headquarters, Alderley Park, Cheshire, will allow the company to expand its present main fields of research. The new buildings have now created the most up-to-date medical and veterinary research units anywhere in the world.

They will play a part in ICI's plan to become one of the world's major pharmaceutical companies within the next ten years. To this end, the Division intends to spend well over £100 million on pharmaceuticals research and development in the UK in the next decade. By the end of this year, 1100 people - a third of the Division's UK employees - will be occupied on research and development work, and the total investment in the Alderley Park complex will be approximately £13 million.

### Research Complex

The laboratories are sited in a 400-acre park belonging to ICI which includes a 120-acre farm. Work began on the project in 1970, and the new buildings have added some 227,000 square feet to the existing 405,000 square feet of labora-



tories and associated offices. It has effectively increased the Division's total research facilities by over 60 per cent. The eight new buildings include a five-storey building providing new chemistry, biology and biochemistry laboratories, a library, additional staff facilities, and an extension of the safety of medicines department. There has also been an increase in the animal breeding facilities.

Research to find new drugs is a very costly business. The Division's expenditure on new equipment for pure research is running just off £1 million a year. About 4500 new chemicals are synthesised each year, which are then screened in 100,000 biological tests. Out of these, perhaps some 20 compounds will be worth further detailed study, and perhaps half of them will reach "sighting" toxicity prior to a full pre-clinical toxicity test. This, in turn, eliminates more compounds, and so the chance of ultimate success in finding a new and beneficial drug is something like 1 in 15,000, or one in every three years.

ICI, with world-wide pharmaceutical sales at £80 million last year, has been actively engaged in pharmaceuticals research for some 36 years. In this time, a considerable number of major discoveries have been made. These include 'Paludrine', one of the leading anti-malarial drugs; the bactericide 'Hibitane'; 'Mysoline', which has enabled thousands of epileptic patients to lead near normal lives; and 'Flouthane', an inhalation anaesthetic. Their most recent successes have been in the cardiovascular field, with the introduction of 'Atromid-S', which has been shown to halve mortality in patients with coronary artery diseases and a history of angina pectoris; and 'Inderal' and 'Eraldin' which are used in the treatment of high blood pressure, angina pectoris and disturbances in the rhythm of the heart.

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R.K.



A view of ICI Pharmaceuticals Division's research complex at Alderley Park, Cheshire, from the air.

### **VISIT TO ASHCHURCH R.A.O.C. DEPOT**

ON the 26th of March, form 3 visited the R.A.O.C. Central Vehicle Depot at Ashchurch and arrived there at 2.30 p.m. We stopped at the guard room where we had to give in our cameras.

In a lecture room we were shown a few slides about Ashchurch by a sergeant who was conducting our tour. Ashchurch is the biggest vehicle depot in the U.K. and unfortunately we could only see a small part of it.

We saw a large variety of vehicles, ranging from Land Rovers to cranes, but we did not see any actual repair work because it was their day off. Ashchurch looks after and stores 'B' and 'C' class vehicles ('B' class as lorries, 'C' class cranes and tractors).

We were able to learn some interesting facts about the size and capacity of the base. It covers about 89,000 square metres and can hold about 11,000 vehicles.

We were allowed to go on to any vehicles we wanted to examine and to ask any questions. We had to leave after two hours which everyone enjoyed immensely.

R.E., P.E.



## RUGBY FOOTBALL, 1974

A disappointing season as far as results go, with the school team only winning two matches and drawing one. We were a young side and lack of experience and basic skills were all too obvious factors in the early part of the term. However, the pack, led by Paul Rose, began to work together, and now shows great promise for next year, as also do the centres who made a great effort to correct their mistakes. If they maintain their present enthusiasm, the team should have a much better season next year.

The thirds also saw competitions this year with a game against Dean Close 3rds, and much to their surprise came away with a victory.

As our aim is to get as many boys of differing standards who enjoy the sport playing competitively, it is intended to reorganise the structure of the teams next year as follows : Under 13 XV; Under 14 XV; Under 15 XV; 3rd XV; 2nd XV; 1st XV.

B.J.H.

v. MARLBOROUGH 3rd XV, 21st September (Home). Lost 14-23

A disappointing start to the season. A half-time lead of 10-8 through tries by Hussey and Griffiths, with Hussey converting his own, soon augmented by a try from Rose, was given away by lack of marking in the centres and general apathy in parts of the pack. Fortunately they had no reliable kicker, and managed only a penalty goal, none of their tries being converted.

v. DEAN CLOSE 1st XV, 24th September (Away). Lost 3-42

Lack of tackling in all parts of the field led to us being overrun by a fast and well drilled side, the pack being hopelessly outweighed. However, they were restricted to 12 points in the second half, and no-one stopped trying until the final whistle. Hussey kicked a penalty goal.

v. KING EDWARD'S, BATH 1st XV, 28th September (Home). Lost 13-22.

An encouraging game, our best so far. Hussey kicked three penalties and Pendell scored a try against a side expected to overrun us. The side showed more cohesion, and it can be only a matter of time before we gain a favourable result.

v. COLSTON'S 1st XV, 12th October (Home). Lost 10-35.

Losing to Colston's was no disgrace as they had no weakness in the side anywhere, and our covering was slightly suspect. However, the pack did remarkably well, managing to push the opposition, and proved themselves at least their equal in the loose. Weston scored a try, and Hussey kicked two penalties in a second half lost by only 10-11.

v. COKETHORPE 1st XV, 19th October (Home). Won 19-16.

A very frustrating win: we tried a change of tactics in that instead of giving the opposition a lead and then trying to catch up again we scored all our points in the first 25 minutes and then allowed Cokethorpe to come back at us. We conceded four stupid penalties in front of our posts, all converted. However, two tries by Hussey, one by Griffiths, and two conversions and a penalty goal from Hussey were just sufficient.

v. WYCLIFFE 2nd XV, 7th November (Away). Lost 4-52.

Wycliffe were an exceptional side, way out of our class: however, poor tackling, especially among the backs, contributed to their high total. In the second half their scoring was more restricted by increased effort and superior fitness, and the scrum managed to push a far heavier pack late in the game. Taylor scored our only try.

v. PRINCE HENRY'S 1st XV, 9th November (Home). Won 14-12.

A rearranged side played with great determination to gain a good win. Against the wind in the first half, we let in two tries but Griffiths pulled one back, making the half-time score 4-8. Playing with the wind, Hussey soon scored another, levelling the scores, and Taylor added a third which Hussey converted. However, Prince Henry's scored a third try, and pressed hard, but improved tackling maintained our lead and we almost scored twice more.

v. BLOXHAM 1st XV, 16th November (Away). Lost 3-22.

Bloxham had a very powerful pack, and so we saw very little of the ball as they also dominated the line-outs. They scored one simple try through poor marking, but otherwise their tries came from overlaps, the Rendcomb tackling being greatly improved. Superior fitness told, as we were able to push their pack in the last few minutes, but our only score was a penalty goal by Hussey.

v. BURFORD SCHOOL 1st XV, 20th November (Home). Drew 14-14.

As usual, the team gave away two tries in the first half, but then used the wind well to fight back. Weston scored a good try from a prearranged move, and Griffiths and Stuppel added two more. In the last minutes Burford equalised, and we were very lucky to hold them to a draw. Hussey converted Stuppel's try.

v. CIRENCESTER SCHOOL 1st XV, 27th November (Away). Lost 6-14.

When defeated, it is customary to blame the referee; however, in this case this could be done with a degree of justice. This does not, however, excuse the three tries we should have prevented and which were given away by poor tackling. The pack gained very little second phase possession, and the team as a whole did not work together. Hussey scored a try and converted it. Perhaps this match can be written off as just "one of those days".

v. ESHER COUNTY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, 30th November (Away). Lost 0-44.

Despite requests for a weakened side, Esher fielded their full 1st XV, and so the result was never in doubt. However, we contained them well until the final 20 minutes, and made up a great deal of our deficiency in weight and ability by determination. From Esher we went to Twickenham to watch the All Blacks play the Barbarians, and we all offer our thanks to Mr. Hembry and Mr. Jackson for organising such an enjoyable outing.

v. THE OLD RENDCOMBIAN XV, 14th December (Home). Lost 6-12.

A very fast and enjoyable game ended in a narrow defeat. The old boys scored three tries through Julian Gray, Tyler, and Pearce A., while Hussey kicked two penalties for us. In the last few minutes we were pressing strongly and could well have scored again, but the scoreline was a fair indication of the play.

The following played for the 1st XV during the term: Rose (capt.), James, Crowe, Weston, Wormleighton, Pendell, Stuppel (sec.), Knox, Sayers P., Taylor I., Barraclough, Barrett, Bennett, Everatt, Griffiths, Hussey, Longworth T., Stroud R., Thomson, Walton, Brennan D., Forrest, Davies.

M.P.R.R.

## 2nd XV

This season's results were not as good as in previous years, but the style and spirit of play gave much enjoyment both to the team members and to their spectators. Of the seven matches played only two were won, but several others were very closely fought affairs, and the college was never defeated by more than twelve points.

The team was ably captained by Fletcher, whilst Baynham did a fine job of leading a pack in which Underdown and Bennett were outstanding. Amongst the backs were several fine players who will develop into very useful 1st XV members, but, although certain players impressed, the essence of the side was its unity, a body of fifteen who played as a team.

There was sharp competition for places, not only at the beginning of term, but all through the season; however, after the first few weeks a regular squad emerged. The pack was a fairly light one, which was a handicap in the set pieces, but an advantage in the loose play when their extra mobility was a telling factor. In this phase of play they obtained a good share of possession for their enterprising backs, who passed the ball with flair and ingenuity, producing some fine open play. Unfortunately the final pass would sometimes go astray, often due to lack of experience, causing a promising move to come to nothing.

As many of this year's players will be here next season, we look forward, with optimism, to having a bigger, more experienced side. Whether this be so or not, if they play with the same spirit and enthusiasm as this year's team, they will make formidable opponents and be a credit to themselves and the college.

The following played: Fletcher, Walton, Roberts, Baynham, Sherratt, Wormleighton, Boothman, Brennan, Underdown, Bennett, Cooper, Longworth T., Longworth N., Pendell, Stroud, Davies, Sayers, Pritchett, Winstone, Moulton, Ingles, Hart, Hussey, Knox, Barraclough.



Results:

v. Marlborough U.16	..	..	Drew	7-7	(H)
v. Dean Close U.16	..	..	Lost	7-18	(H)
v. Avonhurst 1st XV	..	..	Lost	12-13	(A)
v. Colston's 2nd XV	..	..	Won	10-4	(H)
v. Wycliffe 3rd XV	..	..	Lost	0-11	(H)
v. Hereford Cathedral U.16	..	..	Lost	0-12	(A)
v. Cirencester 2nd XV	..	..	Won	33-0	(A)

Played 7; Won 2; Drawn 1; Lost 4.

S.W.J.

## U.15 XV

Results:

v. Dean Close (A)	..	..	Lost	4-8
v. King Edward's, Bath (H)	..	..	Lost	0-8
v. Colston's (A)	..	..	Lost	3-12
v. Cokethorpe (H)	..	..	Won	14-0
v. Wycliffe College (A)	..	..	Lost	0-36
v. Hereford Cathedral (A)	..	..	Lost	3-16
v. Bloxham (A)	..	..	Won	12-11
v. Burford (H)	..	..	Won	17-8
v. Kingham Hill (H)	..	..	Won	15-0

The following represented the school during the term: Caney, Mathias A., Tyler, Flambard, Harris A., Mackonochie A., Evans P., Sergison, Troughton, Ferguson, Sinclair, McGill, Galtress, Hewitt, Smith S. R., Masters, Moore, Taylor N., Middlemist.

The first few matches were narrow defeats because we failed to play as a team. As the season progressed the tackling improved considerably and the moving of Mathias to scrum-half gave the team more confidence. The backs, particularly Sinclair and Caney, played well and Troughton at full back was prepared to run with the ball. Sergison and Mackonochie were strong members of the pack.

R.C.

## U.13½ XV

**Results:** Played 7; Won 5; Lost 2.

Points for 196; Points against 35.

v. Avonhurst (A)	..	..	..	Won	42-6
v. Colston's Junior School (A)	..	..	..	Won	32-0
v. Cheltenham College Junior School (A)	..	..	..	Lost	0-18
v. Oakley Hall (H)	..	..	..	Won	62-0
v. Wycliffe College Yearlings (H)	..	..	..	Lost	0-8
v. Burford School (H)	..	..	..	Won	26-0
v. Kingham Hill (H)	..	..	..	Won	34-3

This has been another good season for the U.13½ team. Although two matches were lost, mainly due to inexperience, this team has great potential, which was demonstrated in an outstanding display during the last match of the season. Everyone who played in the team played some part in this success. However, much was owed to the powerful running of Twinning and Marlow in the centre and the all-out effort of Nunan, Duncumb and Jordan in the forwards.

The following played: Harris P., Hatchwell, Strong, Marlow, Twinning, Beanland, Archer, Keil, Steed, Jordan, Ind, Nunan, Duncumb, Wilcox, Page, Adams.

Also played: Sherwin, Radford.

D.A.H.

## HOCKEY 1975

### 1st XI Match Reports

January 22nd v. COLSTON'S 1st XI: cancelled.

January 28th v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 2nd XI: postponed.

February 1st v. KING EDWARD'S, BATH 1st XI (Home). Lost 0-5.

The first match of the season was a disaster: apathy filled the team, with one or two exceptions, and after King Edward's School scored their second goal on the stroke of half-time the result was never in doubt.

February 4th v. MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE 3rd XI (Home). Won 4-2.

Twice in the first half we went ahead through goals from Pendell and Griffiths, but each time lost it due to poor marking. However, goals from Rose and Thomson won a match which should have been won by a far larger margin.

February 8th v. PRINCE HENRY'S 1st XI (Away). Lost 1-2.

Our only goal came from a penalty stroke just before half-time, and the 1-0 lead was well deserved. Two second half goals saw Prince Henry's home, and although we pressed hard and hit a post, we could not equalise. Scorer: Rose.

February 19th v. KING'S, GLOUCESTER 1st XI (Home). Lost 0-1

In a poor match we failed to get many shots on target, and King's scored the only goal just before full time.

February 22nd v. BRISTOL GRAMMAR SCHOOL (Home). Lost 2-3.

With a reshuffled team, we played our best hockey to date. Half-time saw us one goal down, but Stupple equalised at once with a planned short corner move. Bristol Grammar School then went 2-1 up, only for Stupple to equalise again from an unbelievably narrow angle. However, we lost to a late goal.

March 1st v. CRYPT 1st XI (Home). Drew 3-3.

An early goal from Weston looked to be starting us on the road to an easy victory, but Crypt equalised just on half-time; we then took a 2-1 lead through Rose, but Crypt scored twice more. For the last twenty minutes we were encamped in the Crypt half, our only reward being a goal from Griffiths. Too many shots from narrow angles, rather than pulling the ball back, cost us a win we deserved.

March 12th v. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL 1st XI: cancelled.

March 15th v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL 1st XI: cancelled.

March 18th v. DEAN CLOSE 2nd XI (Home). Drew

A very poor game, due only partially to a wet pitch. We led 1-0 at half-time but squandered several chances. Dean Close equalised just before full time. Scorer: Rose.

March 22nd v. OLD RENDCOMBIANS (Home). Won 2-0.

The first half was very even with both sides creating chances; Michael Denley was in good form for the old boys, and made some good saves. However, strong pressure in the second half forced errors in the old boys' defence and they conceded a penalty stroke, converted by Rose. Griffiths scored a fine individual goal immediately afterwards and Underdown made a good save from Glennie. Possibly the score-line was a little flattering, but it was a game that was won deservedly.

February 25th v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 2nd XI (Away). Won 2-1. (*Re-arranged*).

For the first twenty minutes we played excellent hockey resulting in a goal for Medhurst. However, we soon lost rhythm, and soon after we had gone into a two goal lead in the second half through Griffiths, Cheltenham pulled one back and looked likely to equalise.

A depleted squad attended the Crypt School 6-a-side hockey tournament on 10th March, and performed with great credit. Drawn in the strongest pool we won all our games, won our semi-final, and lost by a single goal in the final after much Rendcomb pressure. It was a most popular occasion, and we hope to do just as well next year.

#### Results:

v. Brockworth (holders)	Won 2-1
v. Crypt 'A'	Won 1-0
v. King's 'A'	Won 1-0

Semi-final v. Crypt 'B'      Won 3-1  
 Final v. Whitecross 'A'      Lost 0-1

The following represented Rendcomb at Crypt: P. Rose (capt.), M. James (vice-capt.), J. Stupple, S. Pendell, R. Thomson, I. Forrest, J. Sinclair.

Overall it has been a disappointing season, matches being lost that we could, and should, have won quite comfortably. However, the team spirit has been good, and the work-rate generally high. M. James has been a most reliable full-back, very strong on the tackle, but perhaps a little slow on the turn. A. Moulton and N. Crowe have competed for the right back position, Moulton with great aggression and Crowe, though less mobile, still very safe. I. Forrest has worked hard all season, and promises well for next year. A. Medhurst moved from left half to centre half, and turned in excellent performances in both positions; although erratic he has been a key member of the defence. R. Stroud has played with great determination and keenness, although lacking a little in clean hitting. R. Thomson played rarely, due to an injury, but was a fine example of endeavour if not of stick control. S. Pendell played both inside forward and full back, neither spectacularly, both very competently. I. Taylor played twice, but failed to make any real impact. R. Weston would have been a superb player if he could have contrived to keep the ball below waist height, but was still very skilful and dangerous on the right wing. M. Griffiths played both centre forward and left wing with equal speed, aggression, and control, and will be a useful player next season. T. Longworth has shown he has great skill and has improved fast; more application will make him very useful indeed. J. Stupple has not always done himself justice, but, when he found his form, was a driving force to the entire forward line, especially - typically - in the old boys' match: he should be a regular in next season's Gloucestershire Under 19 XI. I. Underdown has gathered experience throughout the term, and, although letting in some bad goals, has made several fine saves.

My thanks go to Mr. Holt for his coaching and umpiring, Mr. Essenhigh for his excellent pitches, and the Games for their considerable help throughout the term.

The following represented the 1st XI: P. Rose (capt.), M. James (vice-capt.), J. Stupple (secretary), N. Crowe, R. Weston, A. Medhurst, S. Pendell, I. Taylor, P. Lamphee, M. Griffiths, T. Longworth, R. Stroud, R. Thomson, I. Forrest, A. Moulton, I. Underdown.

M.P.R.R.

Grateful thanks are due to Paul Rose, who has been a keen and capable captain; he set an industrious, skilful example on the field at inside-left and did much to sustain morale in one of the wettest hockey seasons on record.

The dismal weather this term has underlined the fact that the college is not adequately equipped to deal with the situation when the grass pitches are unplayable for so many games' days. The asphalt surface has served the school well in the past but only fourteen boys can play on it simultaneously and the pressure on it is therefore now considerable with a total of nearly 200 boys in the school playing hockey (fewer boys opt out of hockey than any other major sport here). The girls' netball pitch is also on the asphalt at the moment, which increases the pressure, and the Stable Block area is too small to be of any great use, though it has, with monotonous regularity, provided a limited practice space for the youngest boys. The need for a larger additional all-weather area for hockey (and for other sports, winter and summer) is now urgent; many schools have a full all-weather hockey pitch.

The 1st XI had a poor season on the whole; the chief factor was probably the poor weather, which severely restricted practice, but this was not the whole story. Hockey is a game of considerable self-discipline, control and skill, and it is impossible to improve significantly without paying due attention to both basic individual techniques and the requirements of teamwork; the necessary dedication and determination were not always evident from some members of the team. Symptomatic were the abuse of pre-match practice; the neglect of spare-time asphalt opportunities; and the sadly over-confident approach against weaker opponents in matches.

However, there were encouraging signs: our fine performance in the Crypt School's six-a-side competition, which we were unlucky not to win; the fluent, dominant display in the first half against the Cheltenham College 2nd XI; the fighting spirit shown against the Bristol G.S. 1st XI; and the constructive hockey played for much of the game against a by no means venerable old boys' side. Next year we shall be looking for more sun and more spirit.

J.N.H.

## 2nd XI

In spite of the unfavourable weather and consequent lack of practice games, the 2nd's have had a successful season, with only two matches cancelled. The keynote again has been hard, keen, worthy hockey with a large slice of enjoyment.

### Results:

v. King Edward's School, Bath	..	Won	2-1
v. Marlborough College 3rd XI	..	Lost	1-2
v. Prince Henry's School	..	Won	3-2



v. Bristol Grammar School	..	Won	11-3
v. Cheltenham College	..	Drew	1-1
v. Crypt School	..	Won	6-0
v. Burford Grammar School 1st XI	..	Won	4-3
v. Old Rendcombians	..	Won	5-4
v. Colston's School	..	Cancelled	
v. Bloxham School	..	Cancelled	

The following have represented the XI during the season: Crowe (capt.), Lamphee, Pritchett, Bolt, Taylor, Pendell, Barrett, Longworth T., Longworth N., Walton, Thomson, Yeats, Stroud, Davies, Barraclough, Winstone.

J.R.D.

### Under 15 XI

The lack of serious match play was clear from the early results. This also showed in the improvement shown in the second half of all the matches.

The right-wing pair of Mathias and Sinclair could always create goal-scoring chances when given enough of the ball. McGill and Hawkins played well in midfield, while Carroll improved his goalkeeping technique with every match. Troughton was sound in a defence which often failed to clear the ball from the danger zone.

Results:

v. King Edward's School, Bath (H)	..	Lost 2-7
v. King's School, Gloucester (H)	..	Lost 1-3
v. Bristol Grammar School (H)	..	Drawn 1-1
v. Marlborough U.15 'B' (H)	..	Won 2-1
v. Cheltenham College U.15 (H)	..	Won 9-1

The following played for the Under 15's : A. Mathias (capt.), N. Carroll, C. Troughton, S. Hewitt, J. Ferguson, J. McGill, I. Hawkins, J. Sinclair, A. Mackonochie, R. Caney, A. Flambard, S. Tyler.

D.A.H.

### Under 14 XI

Very poor weather forced us to play mainly asphalt hockey this term, and in fact our first experience of rather soggy turf was during the first match. Of the seven matches planned, three had to be cancelled.

The situation was even more frustrating, as for the first time in several years, we had a surplus of good players for three or four positions. Despite the shortage of real practice, the team played quite well, with Graham Moore as captain providing the correct amount of friendly persuasion.

Results:

February 1st	King Edward's, Bath (H)	..	Lost 9-1
February 22nd	Bristol Grammar School (H)	..	Drew 2-2
February 25th	Marlborough College (H)	..	Won 3-2
March 1st	Cheltenham College (H)	..	Lost 3-4

Team: Sergison A., Hitchcock C., Taylor N., Evans P., Moore G. (Captain), Middlemist M., Jordan A., Hall N., Sayers D., Twinning M., Gwilliam R.

The following also played for the team: Harris P., Keil K., Carter A.

K.G.T.

## SQUASH RACKETS

### Results:

1st V v. BELMONT ABBEY 1st V (Away). Lost 0-5

1st V v. MONMOUTH SCHOOL 1st V (Home). Lost 2-3.  
(P. Rose and A. Medhurst won at Nos. 1 and 3 respectively).

1st VIII v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 1st VIII (Away). Won 5-3.  
(P. Rose, J. Stupple, T. Longworth, I. Forrest and P. Lyons won at Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 respectively).

1st V v. CIRENCESTER S.R.C. (Away). Won 3-2.  
(J. Stupple, A. Medhurst and T. Longworth won at Nos. 2, 3 and 4 respectively).

1st V v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE 1st V (Home). Won 4-1.  
(P. Rose, A. Medhurst, T. Longworth and I. Forrest won at Nos. 1, 3, 4 and 5 respectively).

'A' V v. KING'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER 1st V (Away). Lost 2-3.  
(R. Hudson and P. Lyons won at Nos. 4 and 5 respectively).

2nd V v. CHELTENHAM COLLEGE U.I6 COLTS (Home). Lost 1-4.  
(K. Barraclough won at No. 3).

Teams :

1st V: P. Rose (Captain), J. Stupple, A. Medhurst, T. Longworth, A. Jenkins, I. Forrest.

'A' and/or 2nd V's : K. Barraclough, R. Hudson, P. Lyons, P. Lamphree, A. Moulton.

K.J.K.

The girls played only one squash match during the spring term and although the full team was not present the match was drawn 3-3. It was a very pleasant and sociable occasion and enjoyed by all those taking part. The girls who have been in teams during the year (Alice Parshall, Lucy Brain, Charlotte Brain, Mary Harvey, Ann Rickards, Isabel Bartlett, Debbie Yates, Stella Joel, Henrietta Hooper, and Jackie Wilson) have generally improved and show much promise for the future.

LW.

## JUDO REPORT

This term's judo has been disrupted by injury and illness, Kevin Barraclough being unable to take part due to a cartilage operation, and we wish him a speedy recovery. However, two senior gradings have taken place, both at Cheltenham Y.M.C.A., and over the course of them the following standards have been attained:

Paul Rose	remained at 4th Kyu (Lower Blue)
Philip Everatt	6th Kyu (Lower Green) to 4th Kyu (Lower Blue)
Adrian Moulton	to 6th Kyu (Lower Green)
David Brennan	to 6th Kyu (Lower Green)

In the junior grading at Winchcomb on 8th December, the best ever results for a new group were achieved:

Carter A.	novice to 10th Mon	Sayers D.	novice to 7th Mon
Sutherland R.	novice to 10th Mon	Wilson T.	novice to 7th Mon
Tudor R.	7th Mon to 9th Mon	Brennan S.	novice to 6th Mon
Archer J.	8th Mon to 9th Mon	Williams A.	novice to 6th Mon
Edwards R.	novice to 9th Mon	Lovett S.	novice to 6th Mon
Portch	novice to 9th Mon	Waddell C.	novice to 6th Mon
Weaver M.	novice to 9th Mon	Etherington T.	2nd Mon to 5th Mon
Kiel K.	novice to 8th Mon	Harris P	novice to 4th Mon

M.P.R.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 three meetings, at each of which eight teams, about 60 runners, took part. The Rendcomb team finished creditably in 2nd position.

The team performances were: 3rd at Sir Thomas Rich's School; 2nd at Marling School; and 3rd at Cheltenham Grammar School.

Individual performances were: K. Nunan (11, 6, 11th), M. Curtis-Hayward (15, 12, 15th), C. Dick (19, 20, 16th), J.

Duncumb (30, 29, 24th), T. Evans (35, 36, 23rd), D. Gassor (54, 23, 27th), A. White (39, 32, 17th), R. Webb (52, 50, 33rd), S. Knapp (9, 8, 10th).

K.J.K.

## GIRLS' NETBALL

THE netball team has tried to maintain the standard of success achieved last year. This proved difficult at the beginning of the season when people were out of practice and unused to playing together as a team. However, towards the end of the last term and throughout this term the team has become very enthusiastic and this showed by the standard of success achieved. But once this was maintained we had to overcome the difficulties of illness, including two members of the team breaking their arms.

Everybody has enjoyed playing together and we have had some competitive matches, the most enjoyable of these being the ones against Dean Close; in the last match of the season we played a second team against them, which we unfortunately lost 14-7, due mainly to the lack of practice.

I would like to thank all the members of the teams who have played so enthusiastically, and Mrs. Holdaway for her moral support.

Team: S. Blyth (captain), J. Wilson, A. Parshall, C. Ledger, S. Oughton, T. Wolferstan, J. Crowhurst.

Also played: R. Beckett, L. Schnitzer, A. Rickards.

Results were as follows:

	WINTER TERM		SPRING TERM	
v. Pate's	Lost	5-25	-	
v. St. Clothilde's	Lost	9-10	Cancelled	
v. Cirencester School	Drew	9-9	Won	15-4
v. Wycliffe College	Won	31-12	Won	39-9
v. Dean Close	Lost	15-23	Lost	18-21
v. Hatherop Castle	Won	15-10	Won	21-10
v. Burford School	Won	24-5	Won	26-8
v. Malmesbury School	Won	17-9	Won	15-7
v. Cheltenham Ladies College	-		Won	35-5

S.B.

Many thanks to Sally Blyth for the excellent way she has captained the team and has helped to organise the girls' games.

C.A.H.

## OLD RENDCOMBIAN NOTES

THERE was a good turn-out of old Rendcombians (of both sexes) on the last day of the Christmas term for the rugger match against the school, and also the newly-started netball match. These were followed by a social gathering in the library.

### Old Boys' News

COLIN MABBERLEY (1961-69) has been interviewed on radio by Jack de Manio, in the "Jack de Manio Precisely" programme, about his work as director of the Bear Garden Museum of Elizabethan Theatre, London. Unfortunately no-one at Rendcomb was able to hear the programme.

HUGH GOUGH (1955-62) is a lecturer in history at University College, Dublin. He has recently been awarded his D.Phil. (Oxford) for work on the French Revolution. He writes to say that he is married and has a two-year-old son. He has published a history textbook: "*Europe 1763-1970*", with Longmans.

HOWARD GOUGH (1949-57) lives in Burton-on-Trent, is married and has four children. He is director of a small building firm.

PAUL CHANIN (1961-67) is to head a two-year nationwide study to save the otter from extinction. He was described in the *Daily Telegraph* as "an expert on aquatic animals". He is based at Exeter University.

MARTIN BUTLIN (1940-47) has been keeper of the British Collection at the Tate Gallery since 1967. He has published various studies on Turner and has been much involved in preparing the Turner Exhibition at the Royal Academy. His wife has also contributed to this by her research into contemporary reviews of Turner's paintings.

DICK FIELD (1924-31) has recently edited, with John Newick, "*The Study of Education and Art*", published by Routledge and Kegan Paul. He has previously published several other works on this subject.

MARTIN C. JONES (1954-60) is now a partner in an established firm of Gloucester solicitors.

PHILIP W. TAYLOR (1962-68) graduated from Exeter University and is now with Davey, Son and Jones, Solicitors, of Cirencester.

RICHARD ROLT (1967-72) started at Durham University this year.

DUNCAN BLACK (1963-69) completed his course at Loughborough in 1973 and writes from Cairo where he is teaching English to foreigners at the American University. After leaving Loughborough, he joined a theatre group which involved, apart from acting, working in a health food restaurant next to St. Paul's and also on a building site to raise money. He then attended a "Peace" festival in Houston, Texas, which he says was an amazing experience, allowing him to meet people from all over the world. Following this he worked as a porter at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, and then as an occupational therapist in a mental hospital. After travelling round Europe and managing to see a production of "Antigone" at Delphi, he eventually reached Cairo where he is following an Indian Guru!

DENIS JENNER (1965-72) reports that he is "happy and prosperous with Eagle Star Insurance".

ANGUS ROBERTSON (1965-72) has left the B.B.C. and is now an assistant editor of *Video* in Croydon.

ROBERT MORRIS (1967-72) is a financial adviser with Machell Mills Associates in London.

DOUGLAS DAKIN (1920-26) retired in September, 1974, having previously been vice-master of Birkbeck College, London, and having held the Chair of History there. Since retirement he has been made an honorary fellow of Birkbeck and an emeritus professor of London University. He continues to be Dean of the College of Preceptors (a position which he has held for six years and which J. H. Simpson once held) and is also an editor of the First Series of British Documents on Foreign Policy, 1919-1939.

PETER DE IONGH (1946-52) has been appointed headmaster of Lathallan Preparatory School, Montrose.

K. M. SHEPHEARD (1944-47) was producer of the programme on Florence in the Chronicle Series on B.B.C.2 last December.



DAVID MABBERLEY (1959-66) has been appointed Druce Fellow in Public Taxonomy at the Botany School, Oxford.

J. C. MIDDLETON MURRY (1936-44) had his autobiography, *One Hand Clapping*, published by Gollancz in January. This contains various reminiscences of Rendcomb. He has also written science fiction under the pseudonym of Richard Cowper.

CHRISTOPHER SIDGWICK (1929-33) now lives in Brussels. His latest publication was *Greece*, a guide book, published by Letts in 1969.

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We received the sad news of the death of CHANSIL YUVABOON (1968-73) in January. He was involved in a severe car accident in Bangkok in which his brother, TANSIT (1965-67), was seriously injured.

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**Some news of recent leavers:**

MAXINE BAUER	North Glos. Technical College - Social Welfare course.
RUTH BECKETT	Aberdeen University - Zoology.
DAVID BELL	Durham University - Physics (1975).
CLARE BOURNE	Durham University - Maths and Economics.
CAROLINE BRETT	Bristol University - Botany/Zoology (1975).
STEPHEN BUSHELL	Avon Council.
MICHAEL FINDLAY	Oxford Polytechnic - B.A. Course (History).
ELAINE FINNEY	Bristol University - Biochemistry.
KATHY HARMON	Leeds University - Maths/Chemistry/Computer Science.
TETA HENNESSY	Leeds University - Psychology (1975).
ANDREW JENKINS	Pembroke College, Oxford - Chemistry (1975).
JONATHAN LANE	Reading University - Chemistry.
WILLIAM HALL	Bangor University - Agricultural Botany (1975).
BRUCE MANN	Sheffield University - Civil Engineering (1975).
CHRISTINE MARSACK	S.R.N.
CRISPIN PARTRIDGE	Sussex University - European Studies.
DONALD PEARCE	Royal Agricultural College (1975).
VICTORIA PENNEY	Durham University - Persian (1975).
SARAH PINK	Roehampton Teachers' Training College.
NIGEL POWELL	Cardiff University - Electrical Engineering.
NICHOLAS ROBERTS	Cardiff University - Economics and Business Studies (1975).
PHILIP SMITH	Liverpool University - Medical Sciences.
SUSAN STANHOPE	Leicester Teachers' Training College (Art and English).
TIMOTHY STROUD	Oxford Polytechnic - Business Studies: B.A. Course.
JONATHAN WHITESIDE	University of Keele - International Politics.
DEREK WIGGALL	Management Trainee - Cavendish House, Cheltenham.
CHRISTOPHER HIGGINS	Durham University - Zoology.
MICHAEL DENLEY	High Wycombe College of Technology, School of Furniture and Design.

W.J.D.W.