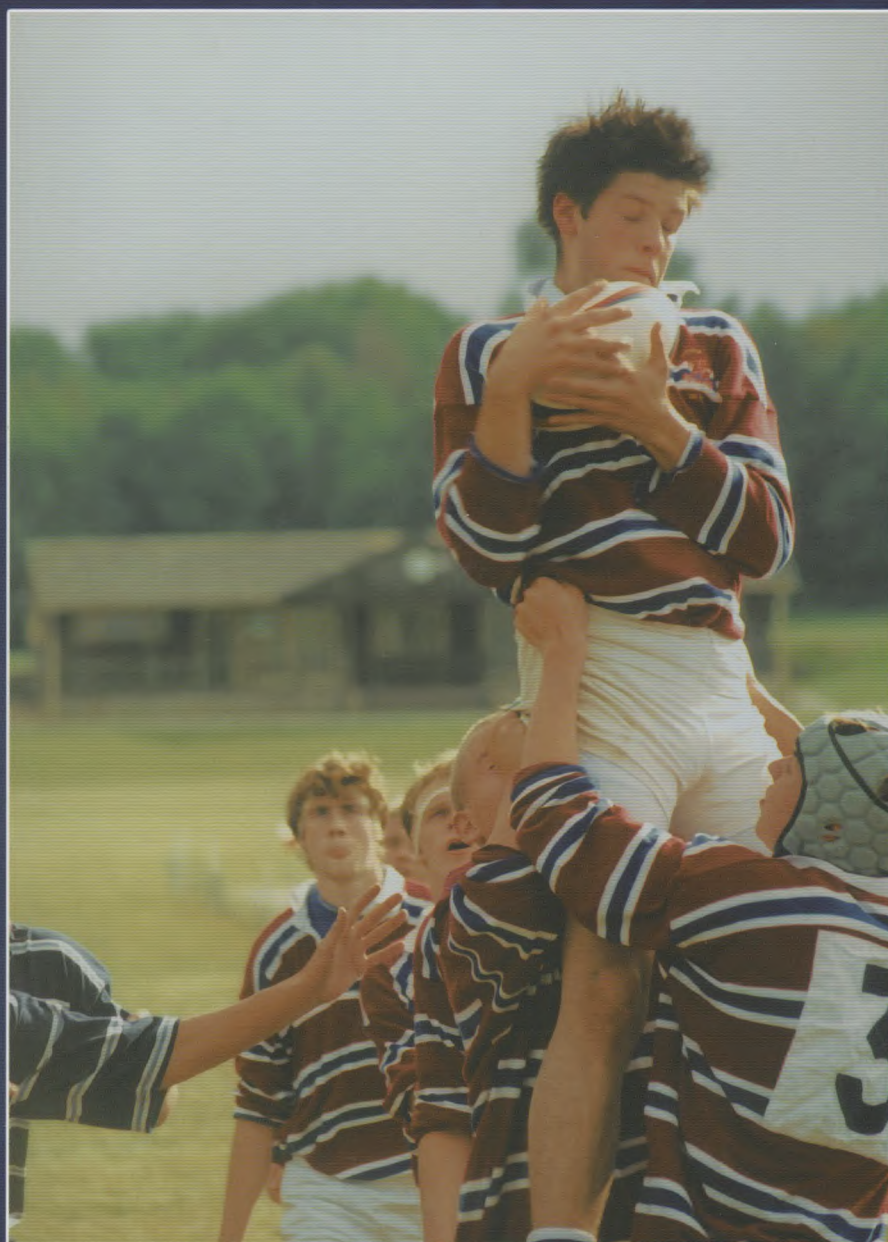




# RENDCOMBIAN



*The magazine of Rendcomb College and Junior School*

2003





# RENDCOMBIAN

No. 21

September 2003

## FRONT COVER

Jo Von Rotenhan receives the ball in the line out.

## INSIDE FRONT COVER

Junior school – “The Wizard of Oz”

## INSIDE BACK COVER

Junior School – Swimming Gala

## BACK COVER

The Bond Girls

(Left to Right): *Alexandra Collins, Hana Lawrence, Polly Rudderham and Emma Medus*



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Reset in Times Roman typeface

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## Welcome to 'The Rendcombian' 2003

This is my first Rendcombian so please treat me gently! This year we have had a really excellent team of sub-editors who have slaved over articles; marvelling, in equal measure, at the erudite musings from members of Common Room and the illegibility of their handwriting! The team have been fully involved in the production process and this is an area I wish to develop further in next year's magazine.

Creativity will be next year's theme-SO...: get painting or writing or singing or calculating or drawing or dancing or ticking or reciting or acting or passing or bowling or experimenting or catching or shooting or riding or fishing or swimming or declaiming or parsing or mapping or researching or doing whatever you're going to do to be a part of the life of the school.

There are many highlights waiting for you inside these bold blue covers: triumphant rugby boys and scheming French courtesans; giant human eating plants and deadly accurate shooters. There are nightingale voices swooping and soaring. There are runners, swimmers, jumpers and climbers. There are explorers and inspectors, war and expeditions. There are Bond girls (and boys), 'Leavers' and 'stayers', artists and artistes. Trips in the snow, trips to rainforests, trips to theatres and trips to festivals! In fact, all of life is here in this year's magazine. Inside these covers we will tell you the story of 'a run of the mill year' in the life of Rendcomb College.

So, sit down, pour yourself a drink and we hope you enjoy the magazine. Could I take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the following sub-editors who have worked like Trojans throughout the year:

Rebecca Maxted  
Alex Collins  
Chloe Slater  
Polly Rudderham  
Tara Richards  
Alex Staines  
Matthew Hook  
Tom Mixture  
Laura Burley  
Alice Barefoot  
Caroline Lay

And there was a crew who worked with us for one term:

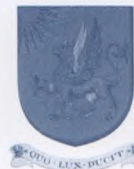
Hazel Kay  
Kirki Matthew  
Rhys Thomas  
Dominic Stevens  
Carra Williams  
Michael Richards

And many thanks to the staff who helped in the production of the magazine; all staff who wrote articles or took photographs and particularly Chris Wood, Jeremy Grey, Carol Endersby, Gerry Holden and Mike Slark.

If you have any observations or comments about the magazine please feel free to contact me through school, or by e-mail *PJ*



The Editorial Team



## Paul & Jane Sykes

In the last quarto sized school magazine of 1982 entitled "The Rendcomb Magazine", Paul Sykes was simply welcomed as the new assistant mathematician and I am sure that this is how this unassuming man would have wished to be welcomed. Rendcomb was extremely fortunate to get more than just a mathematician, as his twenty one years of dedicated service prove.

Initially he was responsible for the non Maths, Physics and Chemistry mathematicians. An Old Rendcombian wrote "I have very fond memories of Paul Sykes from my A level Maths classes with him. My group included one Alex Brealy. The memories centre on the Friday afternoon double Maths Test. The test was often a real blow to finish the week, leaving us trudging back from the Stable Block to the Main Building, shrugging our shoulders and already worried about the Saturday morning aftermath. One of his approaches on the Saturday would be to arrive slightly late, shut the door behind him, clutching our tests. He would stand before us and exclaim in his distinctive, soft, Northern accented voice: "Vis was wivout doubt, ve worst test vat you have ever done for me." He would then return our tests to us, walking around the class, smirking, shrugging his shoulders, sighing appropriately depending on our performance. All of this was done with great humour and a sense of fun. His explanations of the work were always clear and faultless. It amazed us all how we could not have got the answers right; he made it feel logical and plain. And for

us non-scientists he even made Applied Maths (Physics in all but name!) something we could understand."

He was involved in games immediately and in his first year he was given the task of coaching the under 13s for cricket, presumably to see if he knew anything about the game.

Well he did and in that year when the staff side won all their matches, Paul was said to have batted well! In fact he is a very talented sportsman and he took rugby and cricket every year. He ran cricket at one point and then went on to coach the 1st XI, which he did with his usual professionalism. He introduced the successful tours to Jersey and believed vehemently in the need to reward those who gave up so much of their time to this sport.

Paul and Jane had arrived with baby Christopher and within three years the world was to welcome Emma, who was herself a leaver this summer. The family often joined in school events and both children did their A levels at Rendcomb, contributing much to school life and particularly to music.

In 1989 Paul and Jane took over the running of Godman House, which at that time was a transitional house for third year boys only, in a horizontal house system. It is always a very important year group because not only do the ex Old Rectory boys have to be integrated with the new third year intake but they have to be persuaded to grow up! This Paul and Jane did for 6 years both sensitively and effectively, so much so that Old Rendcombians remember those times with great affection, whether they were their third form inmates or sixth form house prefects.

A former assistant in the house wrote "The Sykes made a formidable house team, creating a sense of order, providing security as well as good humour, all vital to a successful house. One had only to observe Mr

Sykes on one of his more disciplinary forays, water pistol in each hand, pipe in mouth, ready to take on even the most hardened case. Nor should Mrs Sykes be forgotten. She was in fact the powerhouse, and woe betide the boy who forgot that Thursday was laundry bundle night; his was the lonely vigil in the corridor whilst the staff played bridge." On one occasion two or three boys were standing outside Paul's study in considerable trepidation waiting to be admonished for some misdemeanour or other - they were in for a long wait. Obviously it was a particularly busy evening or perhaps it was an especially gripping game of bridge. Whatever the reason, when Paul went to unlock the house the next morning he tripped over the still sleeping forms of the unfortunate boys. I believe in those days the phrase was 'you can do it my way or the hard way' - boys invariably and wisely chose the former.

In 1990, the head of Maths retired and no-one worried about the future of that department. Paul's sums have always been up to it and he ran that department unerringly until he handed it over to John Williams.

Rendcomb has lost a dedicated teacher, sports coach and colleague but we are grateful for all that he has contributed during his 21 years. We wish Paul, Jane, Chris and Emma much happiness and success with their venture in France.

*CW*

When I arrived at Rendcomb, Paul and Jane were still running Godman House. I recall my first impressions - here was a genuine schoolmaster in the true sense of the word, utterly dedicated; firm but fair in discipline and consistently so, and all things done with just the right touch of humour. To be respected as a professional and to be much liked at the same time is a rare trick, and it is one that Paul has accomplished throughout his time at Rendcomb.

1995 saw a change of direction as Paul and Jane left Godman and moved to their home at Woodmancote. Paul took on the newly created role of Director of Studies. In this capacity he has helped see Rendcomb through the delights of





two inspections; he has been passionate in his mission to raise academic standards and evidence of his success is clear for all to see. He has also inflicted upon himself the dubious privilege of doing the timetable three times a year, and I know that PD will be quietly thanking him for this in the years to come.

Over the years, he has of course continued to teach sums and until recently run a highly successful Maths department. The 1996 inspection report speaks of the deep commitment and great qualities of the department, and from the marginal GCSE candidate to the Oxbridge mathematician, nothing has ever been too much trouble for Paul - over the years he has devoted endless time to students who have needed his help.

But there is much more to him than this - he has always believed that the key to being an effective schoolmaster is that your contribution extends far beyond the classroom. Paul is a very talented games player and an outstanding coach - of course, cricket is his greatest love, and in his time he has been master in charge, coached at various levels and most recently run the 1st XI. He initiated and more recently revived the Jersey tour and his legacy to Rendcomb cricket was plain to see at the most recent Old Rendcombian Society's summer reunion Paul has also made an excellent contribution to Rendcomb over the years and not just by being the only man to attend every single rugby club dinner to date. I have no doubt that every group of players that he has coached has benefited enormously from his efforts over the years - and that is certainly true of this year's all conquering 1st XV.

In the Lent term, he has been a faithful supporter of hockey and, over the years, a regular at staff soccer - head and shoulders a better player than the rest of us, he has always played it just right.

In recent years, Paul has developed a passion for birds of prey - indeed, it is partially upon the expertise that Paul has acquired, that a new life in France will be built. As this interest developed, the garden at Woodmancote was soon transformed into something resembling the bird

house of London Zoo. And, of course, he can play the piano too (as many of us saw earlier this year at the Fab Jazz event) - he is a Renaissance Man but totally self-effacing.

Above all, he is the consummate schoolmaster and the esteem in which he is held has been evidenced by the response of Old Rendcombians to news of his going. I know that Paul has been deeply moved and characteristically surprised by this response - but he should not be surprised. He is much liked and respected by his colleagues too - he has been a great listening ear over the years, utterly honest, he says what he thinks and is unafraid to disagree with you but without ever a hint of rancour.

In 21 years, Paul Sykes, has been an outstanding servant of the college, a fine colleague and a true friend. He and Jane, and the children will be much missed and I am sure that the whole Rendcomb community wishes them well in their exciting new venture as they pursue their dreams in France.

MS

## Adrian & Julie Palmer

Adrian and Julie Palmer joined us from Warminster Preparatory in September 2000. A confidential marketing report at Warminster had referred to the Palmers as Warminster's "secret weapons" and fortunately for Rendcomb, they quickly became weapons of mass recruitment. What Adrian and Julie have achieved is one of the great success stories of recent independent school education. From 'a start-up situation', they have built up the Junior School to a school of 130 pupils; pupils who in the words of the recent ISI report are "happy, committed and talented" - as you will see from the other reports which are included in this edition of The Rendcombian.

During the last three years, the Junior School has emerged as "a centre of excellence in its own right" and has also contributed to a renaissance in Rendcomb College. Adrian has brought style, fun, flair and a truly

appalling taste in ties to his Headship of the Junior School! In all of this, he has been supported and indeed led by Julie, who in her own right, has taught English and Art superbly - in fact, a Junior School parent recently confided in me that Mrs Palmer was the best teacher she had ever met.



The Palmers have brought a breath of fresh air to Rendcomb and I shall miss my weekly meeting with Adrian with him driving us to a local hostelry in his headmagesterial Volvo (affectionately known as "the tank"). As many people know, Adrian is a fanatical Manchester United fan and not unlike that other Old Trafford legend, David Beckham, Adrian seeks pastures new at the start of this season.

We thank Adrian and Julie from the bottom of our hearts for all that they have achieved at Rendcomb and we wish all the Palmers, including Luke and Emily, Godspeed as they embark upon the next chapter of their lives at Wycliffe College.

GH

## Martin & Pam Griffiths

The Head of Art, Martin Griffiths also left the school this year. A fuller account of his contribution to Rendcomb College will appear in next year's magazine.

PJ

# New Staff

## New Teaching Staff and Internal Appointments for September, 2003.

Mr Stephen Clark joins us from Wootton Bassett College as a full-time Mathematics teacher with a particular interest in A level and Oxbridge teaching.

Mrs Georgina Harford will be our first Head of Psychology, a new Sixth Form subject. She has taught the subject to both school and adult groups.

Miss Claire Gallon will be joining the English and Drama Departments as a part-time teacher.

Mr Ralph Mann to teach Art and Tutor in Old Rectory.

Mrs Christine Johnson has already made a distinctive mark in her highly professional work as Headmaster's P. A. since May.

Mr Paul Dodd will take over from Mr Sykes as the new Director of Studies.

Miss Sophie Blackwell will take over Head of Art.

Mrs Barbara Shiells becomes Director of Sport.



Kirsty Mackintosh (Left)  
and Bonnie Stanway (Right)



See below



Jon Arnold, Julia Lee-Browne, Martin Watson &  
Lynn Watson



Georgina Harford, Stephen Clark, Claire Gallon & Ralph Mann

### MARTIN AND LYNNE WATSON



Martin and Lynne Watson

Rendcomb College is delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Martin Watson to Headmaster of Rendcomb College Junior School from September 2003. Martin is married to Lynne and has a daughter Rachel, aged 12, who will be joining the Senior School.

Martin was Deputy Headmaster at the Downs School, near Bristol and has had considerable experience in the independent sector and has also been an Independent School Inspector for the last five years. Lynne currently teaches Maths and Geography to Year 5.

Martin, whose educational values are well tuned to the Rendcomb ethos, spoke recently of his excitement in joining the Rendcomb Community and was enormously impressed by the obvious happiness and confidence of our children.

We are sure that Martin and Lynne will build on the excellent foundations that have been laid by Adrian and Julie Palmer.

GH

From front to the right: Jeremy Grey - Bursar, Diana Wyatt - Receptionist, Pam Ruthenbury - Receptionist  
Christine Johnson - PA to the Headmaster, Gerry Holden - Headmaster, Emma Stanley - Admission Registrar  
Sue Thomson - Assistant Accounts Manager





# Births and Marriages

## Jemima has a baby boy - Benjamin

Jemima and Richard Collishaw, a son Benjamin Robert on June 11th 2003



# School Reports



## Founder's Day Address

*Saturday May 24th 2003*

An Ofsted Inspector was visiting a local school, where he was observing a Maths lesson with the first form. The teacher, keen to use practical examples to illustrate her question, asked the Class: "If I have six apples in my basket at forty pence and three pears in my basket at twenty pence how much is my basket worth?" A forest of hands went up. However, the inspector observed one little boy in the corner of the room, who looked perplexed. The inspector approached the little boy and asked him if he understood the question. "Not really," said the boy. "What is it you don't understand then?" asked the inspector. "Well, how am I supposed to work out what her basket is worth, unless

she lets me know if she is buying or selling?"

So the Headmaster began his Founder's Day address. He went on to comment on the turmoil caused by the A level fiasco of last year but added that Rendcomb had not been too badly affected by the difficulties. Our results remained strong: At A level, our upper sixth secured a pass rate of 94% with nearly 40% graded A or B. Freddie Lait went up to Oxford to read Mathematics and Edd McHenry starts at that same university next October to read Fine Art. Of equal importance, of course, was the performance of all our candidates, many of whom won places at the university of their first choice, thanks to the excellent career advice of Mr Morgan. Our GCSE students also performed admirably with a pass-rate of 92% A\*-C, with 25% being awarded A\*.

The Headmaster went on to add the following:

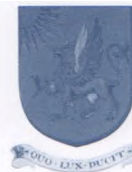
"But even if we escaped relatively unscathed from last year's midsummer's madness, the whole episode brought to the fore once again the efficacy of the Government's league tables. Those of us who teach in small schools in the independent sector are acutely aware of how statistically

crude league tables can be; indeed several independent schools, including ourselves, are now actively campaigning for their abolition. Where this will all lead is still unclear but at Rendcomb you will be pleased to know that we are genuinely determined to maintain our independence and to continue to provide: "education, education, education" and avoid our pupils becoming lambs to the slaughter of "assessment, assessment, assessment".

He then promised the audience that the sermon was over! He went on to focus upon the sporting successes enjoyed by The College.

The Rugby teams, with Mr Dodd in his first season as master in charge, played 50 matches, won 33, drew one, and lost sixteen. The jewel in the crown of Rendcomb Rugby this year rests at the top of the College with the spectacular performance of our 1st XV. This side, superbly captained by Tommy Lait, won all fourteen of their games. The team's success are dealt with in more detail elsewhere in the magazine. Next year, we are looking forward to our Rugby squad going on tour to Barcelona.

On the theme of tours, you will also be aware that our Hockey sides [both boys and girls] enjoyed an excellent trip to Dublin last Lent half-term. Quite clearly the liquid refreshment available on this Irish jig inspired



*Japanese Students in traditional dress on Founder's Day.*

Mr Brealy, the organiser, to enter Rendcomb for the Guinness Book of Records by playing a colossal number of fixtures; 111 to be precise over a ten week term. This was an excellent season with 50 matches won, eighteen drawn and 43 lost. Similarly, girls' hockey enjoyed a good season with the 1st XI winning 5 out of their ten games and our U16 and U14 sides winning two district cups, under the impressive coaching of our new and enthusiastic Head of Girls' Games, Miss Barbara Shiells. Barbara Shiells' arrival has heralded a whole host of initiatives including the introduction of lacrosse, the revival of a Sports Activity Day and the extension of AS level PE to A level PE.

In his address, The Headmaster celebrated the variety of trips undertaken by the school and extended his thanks to the Common Room. He also pointed out a variety of major revivals of certain activities at the College, such as Horse Riding and clay pigeon shooting. These events are presented elsewhere in the magazine.

The Headmaster then spoke about creative and performing arts. He suggested that the situation was 'vibrant' and he

went on to commend the numerous displays of art that can frequently be seen around the college and the superb drama productions that occur throughout the year. There have been displays of students' work, fantastic themed evenings, The Big Draw and plays like 'Blue Remembered Hills' and 'Dangerous Liaisons'. Read all about these events inside this magazine!

The Music department has been equally busy. The Headmaster took the opportunity of his address to celebrate the cultural diversity of The College: Japanese students performing items of traditional dance, music and songs was one of the real highlights of Founder's Day.

Earlier in the year, the Music department produced two concerts for Remembrance Sunday including works by Purcell and Vivaldi's Gloria. This was Rendcomb's music at its very best with our excellent choral traditions being combined with impressive individual performances. In the Lent Term, we were also treated to a lively Rock Concert organised by Miss Gibbons, our new Assistant Director of Music.

The Headmaster then went on to talk

about links between the Junior and the Senior School and to congratulate all of those involved in the Junior School production of 'The Wizard of Oz'. The Headmaster pointed out that the successful collaboration between the two schools was something highlighted in our recent inspection report which then enabled him to add the following about the inspection:

"Inspections can be stressful occasions for some schools but we deliberately viewed this process as part of our on-going school evaluation and school development. It was gratifying to read that the main findings of the inspectors were very much in tune with the College which we love and value; let me just remind you of the Inspectors' main findings:

1. The staff have a wholehearted commitment to the pastoral care and individual development of the pupils.
2. The pupils have a positive attitude to learning and to the life of the school.
3. The pupils have a caring attitude to one another.
4. The headmaster provides strong leadership and a clear sense of direction.



*Sir Michael Angus, Dame Margaret Weston and Gerry Holden*





The recommendations from the inspectors included the need for the College to extend its provision of ICT in the classroom and such a recommendation is pivotal to our development plan over the next two years. Consequently, I am delighted to confirm that the College is investing £250,000 of the Martin Wills' Trustees funds for the development of this ICT project which will result in a whole school network, ultimately designed to enhance the quality of pupils' learning and teachers' teaching."

The Headmaster then extended his thanks to the non-teaching members of the college and finally thanked those members of staff leaving Rendcomb this year: Paul and Jane Sykes and Adrian and Julie Palmer. Their achievements are described elsewhere in the magazine.

The Headmaster concluded his address with the following words:

"Every year on the day before Founder's Day, we hold a small private service attended by the Head Boys and Head Girls from both the Senior College and the Junior School, at the grave of our Founder, Noel Wills of Miserden. Yesterday was no different but as we were leaving the churchyard, I spent a minute speaking with our Head Boy and Head Girl, reading the inscription on the Founder's tombstone, it reads as follows:

"One who never turned his back, but marched breast forward, never doubted clouds would break, never dreamed, tho' right were worsted, wrong would triumph. He held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better, sleep to wake"

What a magnificent epitaph to reflect upon on Founder's Day."

GH

## Head Boy and Head Girl's Addresses

Perhaps breaking with tradition this year, we are presenting the two speeches given by Tim and Georgina in extended form. They seem to reflect very well the complex emotions felt by the students who are coming to the end of their time at Rendcomb.

### TIM BATES (HEAD BOY)

"Stepping up to this podium in front of all of you reminds me very much of the large award ceremonies such as the Oscars or Brit Awards. Here you see actors and artists stand up, usually to make fools of themselves with rambling acceptance speeches filled with fake emotion or, this year, a fashionable dig at George Bush and Tony Blair over the war in Iraq.

This always struck me as a shame as I believe such occasions are a fantastic opportunity not only to show off what wit and charm you possess but also to thank all those people behind the scenes who rarely get the praise they deserve.

Well, anybody who has ever seen me act, play a musical instrument or, God forbid it, heard me sing will know that there is more chance of an Elvis Presley concert in a new Wembley stadium, completed on time and within budget than me winning an Oscar or a Brit Award! I am not winning a shining statuette to put on my mantelpiece today, however, I do have an opportunity to acknowledge those people and aspects of life that have made Rendcomb a special place for me.

Many of you as parents often only get fleeting glimpses of the school. You see the obvious, public side. The side that gets plastered all over the prospectuses and which strike you

first on open days. You see the beautiful scenery, the classic buildings and the large marble statue with only half a big toe. You get to read about the range of subjects offered, the excellent exam results. But you may not see that extra hidden layer - the people, the relationships, the spirit, the fact that you always get help, often from areas where you least expect it. You see the things that you possibly only really appreciate if, like me, you have spent almost 7 years here.

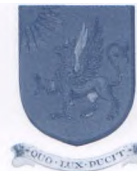
If I could take you on a guided tour of my time at Rendcomb you would see all sorts of people in all situations.

You would see a very nervous 11 year old boy starting his first ever year of boarding in a brand new school. It did not take long for a friendly and ever-enthusiastic Dave Roper to make it feel like home.

You would see Mr Essenhigh. He never did manage to make me see the attraction in cricket and you would see Mr Sykes, who, for the past 2 years, has had to suffer 10 periods a week with me. I fear this is why he now leaves, not just the school after 21 years, but also the country! His contribution to my A level results will be the telling thing in August but he also got me into rugby in a big way, helped me make major GCSE choices and was always willing to dispense good advice throughout the 6th form.

You would also see the spirit, adrenalin and emotion as the Rugby First XV clinched a tough game 15-11 in the gathering gloom of King's Gloucester playing fields to remain unbeaten.

Rendcomb is constantly moving with the times: where there was once a snooker table there is now a smart business-like reception desk. Where once there was a language lab, there is now a Multimedia Centre complete with computers and an internet con-



nection. However, perhaps more importantly, there are things that will never change and I don't mean that the weather on top pitch will always be cold and miserable! It is the people inside who really make Rendcomb and while that spirit, atmosphere and dedication remain, it will continue to do for others, what it has done for me."

*Tim Bates*

## **GEORGINA WEBB-DICKIN (HEAD GIRL)**

"I came to Rendcomb in the fourth form and unfortunately developed an instant dislike for it, much as happens with my paintings when I start them. I didn't get on well in my year group and I couldn't wait for the day when it would be time for me to leave. Then as I went into the fifth form, I started enjoying being here. I found some fantastic friends and I then realised that it is always difficult settling into a new way of life and that, as with any piece of art, you just have to give it time.

A painting has its upheavals. It can change at any time, and this happened for me when I went into the sixth form. I was terrified because my closest friend had left and I didn't think I would get along with anyone. What a relief when I discovered that everyone else was feeling the same! I soon made friends and with the help of Mr and Mrs Slark, we all enjoyed the first year of the new sixth form. The final year has also been special with a fantastic ball and fun times in the sixth form flat.

Today as we are about to embark on a new chapter of our lives we are all ready to find out what the future holds and although it is sad to leave Rendcomb and leave our childhood behind, it is also exciting. As young adults we will have to make our own decisions and choose new directions for our lives. This is a nerve-wracking moment but we leave with our inde-

pendence and the confidence to make our lives into whatever we want them to be.

I was asking my friends if they had any thoughts about how Rendcomb had affected them. One person said that Rendcomb is like a box of Quality Street: everyone wants the green one and leaves the long yellow ones. This didn't make sense to me at first, but the person explained that we leave with a variety of memories, some good, some bad and it will always be the bad ones that we leave behind and the good ones we should pick to remember; like the evenings in the Green Room and the afternoons spent on the grass outside Park House pretending to work!"

Georgina ended her address with the following words:

"If I could thank everybody who has been important to me during my time at the school, I would be here all day. So, I will just say a big thank-you to all the people who have helped to make Rendcomb what it is and who continue to do so, especially to my friends, because it is they, above everything else, who have made my time here so memorable."

*Georgina Webb-Dickin*

## **The Headmaster's visit to Japan**

In April the headmaster and his wife visited Japan and spoke to the principal, staff and pupils of Shukutoku High School with whom Rendcomb has a very special relationship. The main body of his speech is re-printed below:

"I wish to say just three things this morning.

Firstly, how much we enjoy welcoming students from your school to our schools in Rendcomb, Cheltenham

and Malvern. I can think of many pupils from the Shukutoku High School (some of them who were on stage with us yesterday) who, by studying hard, have improved their English and contributed so much to the musical, sporting and cultural side of our schools.

So, I say thank you to the staff of the Shukutoku High School for teaching them so well and to the pupils for having the courage to decide to extend their education to England.

Secondly, I wish to stress that travelling is an important part of education.

My advice would be take the opportunity to travel, to the United States to play baseball and basketball, or to England to use your language skills, learn rugby and make new friends.

Finally, I wish to leave you at the start of your new academic year with my philosophy on education; my views on what we should do when we come to school every day, we are lucky to have the chance to learn - there are many parts of our world where people are denied that opportunity. I would urge you to make the most of what this wonderful school gives - in the classroom, in music, in drama, in sports and in so many other areas.

The famous Latin poet Horace wrote that we should:

"carpe diem" - seize the day; live each day as if it was your first.

And may I offer the greatest riches to all people in your school for the year ahead. May this year give you life, love and liberty."

*GH*





## Chapel Notes 2002-3

Someone once said that the problem with clergy is that they are six days invisible and one day incomprehensible! Well as someone who teaches every pupil in forms 1 - 5 and coaches both rugby and cricket, I am not so sure about the first. And as to the second, if incomprehensibility is a valid criticism, it's not restricted to one day alone! For in a normal week I speak at two College assemblies, two Junior School assemblies (infants and juniors) and usually at a Sunday College service.

This year we have enjoyed visits from a number of outside speakers. These have included Mrs. Michelle Jones on behalf of TEAR Fund at our Harvest service; Messrs Lee Edmond and Paul Montgomery from Dean Close School; Mr. John Bunce from Dean Close Preparatory School; Reverend Stephen Gray former Chaplain of Wycliffe College; Mr. Chris Pulford of REACT; together with our Headmaster who spoke at the Remembrance Service.

The students of the College have supported a range of national and international charities which have included Christian Relief Agencies (TEAR Fund and Christian Aid); the United Nations Children Fund; Red Nose Day; Whizz Kids (the Movement for Non-mobile children); Cirencester Housing for Young People; and McMillan Cancer Relief.

In our College Sunday services we have considered a number of topics - the evidence for and objections to Christian belief; the great 'I am' sayings from St. John's gospel; and the background to some of the key Christian festivals (Easter, Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity).

In our midweek assemblies we have examined contemporary events from

a Christian perspective, key events in the life of Jesus; and the background to and meaning of some great traditional hymns.

In the Junior School, using a variety of cartoon illustrations, inter-active assemblies involving pupil participation, and straight story-telling, we have considered important events in the life of Jesus, lessons from the life of David and the stories behind well-known saints. One assembly with the Otters in particular stands out when Billy Bass' made a guest appearance to illustrate Jesus' call of the fishermen to be his disciples. As Billy started singing, the children's faces were an absolute delight! They - and the teachers - left church to start the school day laughing and singing!

My thanks, as ever, to fellow colleagues who have shared in assemblies this year, together with choir and musicians who have enriched the music in church under the guidance of Mr. David White. Their contribution to the Advent and Christmas Services was especially appreciated.

My hope is that through our assemblies and services students will be encouraged to reflect upon their place in the world, their relationships with others and consider a faith in God - and that through their experience of worship and teaching they may grow both emotionally, intellectually and spiritually.

CJ

## Bursar's Notes

### BUILDING AND GROUNDS STAFF

The core of the group is Paul Cairns, Manager, Pete Cairns, Deputy Manager, Harry Evans and Matthew Hodgson. Sebastian Grey has ably assisted the Works Team, as has Chris Sykes and Euan Cooper. The state of the Buildings and Grounds often receive favourable comments and it is a great tribute to the team that a Campus of so many buildings and

nearly 200 acres of land is maintained to such high standards.

### MEDICAL CENTRE

Julie Pritchard and Judy Hunt, the two registered nurses, rallied brilliantly during the SARS problem in the Easter Term. Their professionalism and sense of humour made the best of the situation, and maintained the morale of those pupils who had to spend over ten days in the Medical Centre. Their helpfulness and positive attitude contributes so much throughout the life of the College.

### CATERING, DOMESTIC, LAUNDRY, HOSPITALITY, CHARITY BALLS

It is hard to know just where to begin in a year that has seen a ball or major function for each year group.

These have been themed from James Bond to The Twenties along with Dinner Dance and Side Shows for the "They cannot be years One and Two they look too old"!

The Annual Bonfire Night and, Fireworks, organised by the Parents Association, was so well attended that the Head Chef, Mark Robbins, thought he was running a Pizza Restaurant and a fleet of Hot Dog Vans. I am not permitted to disclose the quantity of Mulled Wine that was consumed, suffice to say following the event Oddbins did have to give us an emergency restocking of wine the following week!

The staff from all departments have supported events for The Cancer Cobalt Appeal, the Red Cross, Save The Children and Minchinhampton Hospice to mention just a few of the charity fundraising evenings that have taken place at Rendcomb this past year.

Catering has benefited from some of their facilities being upgraded to cope with the increased number of customers that we are now required to



support and have won for the fourth year in succession, the coveted Gold Award from Cotswold District Council.

The Domestic and Laundry Staff have seen the introduction of Colour Coded equipment for them to use and had the privilege of being selected to trial a new vacuum cleaner that is being produced for the commercial market by James Dyson. It soon became evident that everyone wanted to have their go with the new equipment as Karen Savoury the Domestic Supervisor was asked repeatedly on her daily rounds, "when is it my turn with the Dyson?"

We have said farewell to Jeannie Puffit from Lawn House and Karen Cairns from the Junior School and we wish them well in their new jobs in Cirencester. In the kitchen we said goodbye again to Clive Waldron and welcomed his sister and mother Dawn and Ann. After six years in the Catering Department, Gracia Averio has left us for a job as a Chef at Prior Park School in Cricklade, following her successful completion of her NVQs. We all wish Gracia and her sister Edite, who spent a short spell with us, this last year every success in their new careers.

I must sign off now as here comes another Wedding Party, or is it a Spring Fling or a Recumbent Cycling Holiday, or Music at Rendcomb Opera Singers??? Life at Rendcomb College in the Catering and Domestic departments certainly is diverse!!! I forgot the Royal Wessex Yeomanry and their Punjab Theme Christmas Party, complete with indoor Polo Pony, all were dressed appropriately and Rendcomb was taken back to the days of the Raj for the night - thank you for the experience.

*MN*

## ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT

The Accounts Department, Kay

Collins and Sue Thomson, have survived their move from the ground floor to the top floor of the Main Building. Tip toeing along the corridor to their office you can hear the gentle strains of distant melody as they sing to the hum of the computer. Solitude and a nice new environment have doubled the work output. Their unfailing good humour and eye for detail is to be applauded.

## SECRETARIAL SUPPORT

The team now consists of: Christine Johnson, the Headmaster's Personal Assistant, Carol Endersby, the Bursar's Secretary, Emma Stanley, the Admissions Registrar standing in for Jemima Collishaw who has had a baby, Pam Ruthenbury and Diana Whyatt who job share the Receptionists' role.

The team has quickly settled down to provide a professional and good-humoured service to staff and pupils, and we all rely on their efficiency and good will.

We welcome Dawn Freegard as the Secretary to the Headmaster of the Junior School and hope that she settles in quickly and has a long and happy association with Rendcomb.

## LABORATORY TECHNICIANS

Margaret and Derek Coombes continue to work stoically as the Physics and Chemistry Laboratory technicians, whose support and dedication is so appreciated by everyone. William Ballinger is welcomed as the stand-in Technician for Rachel Hall, while she is on maternity leave.

## INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Darrell Hayward's promotion to Network Manager from a cast of

thousands was thoroughly deserved. He has run a complex I.C.T. network very efficiently and has found time to devote to writing the background papers for the ICT Martin Wills Project.

A thoroughly good year for all in the Non-Teaching staff at Rendcomb and we look forward to the next one with anticipation.

*JG*

## **RCPA Rendcombian Report**

The Parents' Association had a busy 2002 summer term. We supported the Cricket Club Dinner and the production of 'Bugsy Malone', and also organised the Summer Gala. The Gala raised £1,380 which was split between the Cirencester Opportunity Group special needs playgroup and the Association. Our thanks go to all the parents and the staff who helped and supported these events.

Our funds are allocated to support projects that benefit as many of the pupils as possible and that might not otherwise be funded. This year we have also decided to allocate some extra funds to each House, with every House Committee getting £150 to spend each year - power to the pupils! So far this has been used to provide amongst other things a video recorder, a DVD, a table tennis table and a basketball net.

We had another busy term in the autumn, with events, two committee meetings and an AGM. These included the RCPA Bonfire Night and refreshments for "Dangerous Liaisons". Everyone seemed to have a splendid time at the excellent fireworks evening. The fireworks were even more impressive than usual, it was dry, and just over £1,350 was raised - giving us more funds to support extra projects that benefit the pupils.





The Drugs Awareness talk by Tony Francis after the AGM in October was considered very appropriate, educational and thought provoking. It stimulated such good questions and discussions, both during and after the evening that the College will hold a similar presentation for the students, and then later another open event for all parents and staff.

Events held during the Lent term were the 'Fab Jazz Spectacular' in aid of the Hockey Tour and Macmillan Cancer Relief, and RCPA support for the 6th Form Ball. Reports on these have been sent out. You can also keep updated by checking our notice board in the Clock Hall and by visiting the college website ([www.rendcombcollege.co.uk](http://www.rendcombcollege.co.uk)). Please look at the Parents' Association web pages, see who's who and what's happening, join us at our meetings and get involved!

The RCPA aims to have representatives from every school year on the Committee. We usually meet twice a Term and meetings are open to all parents. We would also like more help at the College events we organise and support - any volunteers? Please do contact the RCPA Chairman Paul Goffe if you want to know more about helping your association.

## The Library

This has been a year of major development in the Library. To begin with, the first phase of the long-awaited restoration has taken place. The ceiling and walls have been repainted, the mouldings restored, and a new carpet fitted. New curtains and sun blinds have also been installed to control the temperature in the room and give greater protection to the books and computers. In addition, the layout of the bookcases has been altered in order to create a greater feeling of space. The transformation has been dramatic, and the Library has now been restored to something approaching its Victorian splendour.

Already it is proving a very attractive place to work or to just browse through a book or magazine. The second phase, which is already under way, will involve the upgrading of the lighting, the linking of the Library to the main school computer network, and computerization of the catalogue.

Mention of the catalogue leads on to the next major development. The ongoing work of recataloguing, to bring the Library more into line with modern subject classifications, has been going on quietly for several years and is now finally nearing completion. This summer holiday should see the last section fall into place, and the catalogue can then be transferred onto computer. This will allow the Library to provide more support to individual subject departments in terms of booklists and information and ultimately it is hoped that the details of departmental libraries will also be available in the main Library.

It has been an exciting year and the Library is now well on the way to becoming what it should be; one of the showpiece rooms of the College and a major resource for study and learning.

MHG

## Job Swop (Head for a Day)

### *Love Poetry and Leaves*

For one day this term, the Headmaster, Gerry Holden, swapped jobs for a day with Peter Cairns, a senior member of maintenance department team. The aim was to enable them both to see the school from a different perspective and gain insights into their very different roles.

Both found the experience challenging but rewarding and a great deal was learned as a consequence.

Peter's day started with assembly and he found the prospect of standing in front of over 250 expectant faces a rather anxious experience. His fears soon abated when he was received with spontaneous applause from the pupils. This was followed by a meeting with prospective parents hoping to send their children to the school, a senior management meeting and then possibly the most daunting prospect of all, teaching English to the Third Year. The theme of the 45 minute lesson was "love poetry" and by all accounts there ensued some very lively discussion!



Peter Cairns and Gerry Holden "Swop Jobs"



Gerry spent the day helping the maintenance team undertake the huge volume of work needed just to keep Rendcomb running on a day to day basis, from sweeping leaves in the Junior School playground to clearing old documents from a cupboard and he was very grateful when the time came for a tea break to take a breather from the physical activity.

Both found their experiences of the day illuminating and they were both able to offer each other suggestions and ideas in a frank exchange of views after the day's work. All in all, the venture was considered a great success by both staff and pupils at Rendcomb.

LH

### GAP TUTORS 2002-03

Rachel Morrison came from the North Island of New Zealand and arrived on a cold damp January day from the New Zealand summer. Rachel threw herself into everything Rendcomb has to offer. She was very much the big sister in Godman House and proved especially gifted in her relationship with the Junior School boarders. She ran a Saturday morning entertainment programme for them and was patient in dealing with their problems. Elsewhere in the school she played an active part in the Games Programme was a valued member of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Expedition team and she successfully passed her life saving qualification. Rachel was also valued in her work in helping the Junior School and was always prepared to help any member of staff with any job however grotty! Rachel was replaced by...

### KIRSTY MACKINTOSH & BONNIE STANWAY

In 2003 we have been fortunate enough to have 2 Gap tutors at Rendcomb, both of whom have been resident in Godman House. The two ladies offer us very different skills and nationalities, with Kirsty hailing from Australia and Bonnie the North Island of New Zealand. Kirsty chiefly works with the Junior School and

Godman House and Bonnie with Senior School Drama and Sports. Both ladies have given complete and utter commitment to the college and become much valued members of staff. Kirsty has become very much the elder sister to both the girls in Godman and the boys in the Old Rectory and shown herself to be capable and prepared to adapt to change. Bonnie has kept us all well organised and been a well-respected and liked tutor in Lawn House. Both girls travelled extensively over the long summer break and we look forwards to more of their hard work in their final term at Rendcomb.

NG

## School Council

The School Council has met this year with five aims in mind:

- [1] to meet more regularly
- [2] to be a focus for creative suggestions for improving college life for all students
- [3] to create an informed student and staff community by widely distributing the minutes
- [4] to learn effective representing of other views as well as one's own
- [5] to experience and learn meeting procedure.

In much of this we have been successful but it is in the specific detail of new initiatives that we can assess the success of this year's councillors. We count amongst our successes the following:

- Water fountains
- Discos inviting other schools
- Karaoke Night
- Encouragement of House Committees
- Weights' Room improvements
- Alton Towers trip
- Saturday, Period 1 later start from September
- Change to structure of school day from September
- New college scarf
- Form 5 James Bond night
- Founder's Day improvement

We hope to be equally effective next year. Thanks must go to Georgina Webb-Dickin who has chaired all of our meetings and to all House representatives who gave up their lunchtimes to sit and eat the Headmaster's biscuits and to consider the wider picture of life at Rendcomb College.

DD

## A View from the East

Every year Rendcomb is delighted to host a group of Japanese students through the KEIO scheme. It is quite a challenge for these students to come to a different country, a different school system and to spend a year in the darkest wilds of the Gloucestershire countryside! These visiting Japanese students add enormously to the richness of the multi-cultural life of Rendcomb. Below are a few observations the students wrote about their experience of their year in Rendcomb:

"Rendcomb has nice meals and activities during the week and at the weekend I had a longing to go horse riding before I came here; therefore I have fun every time I go"

Rie Okamura

"I think Rendcomb college's teachers are very nice because they know each pupil's personality and effort"

Keiko Nagano

"I have made friends-that has pleased me the most"

Yoko Kanemaru

"English pupils are very friendly: sometimes I couldn't understand some English so they explained to me really simply and carefully"

Rio Jinno

"I sometimes can't understand all the English in the lessons but at least the lessons are not boring"

Eisaku Nakamura

We wish all our Japanese KEIO students well and keep in touch!

JS & PJ





## Park House

### THE SIXTH FORM CONFERENCE: THE WORLD IN WHOSE HANDS? '

On a freezing October morning, 6A packed themselves into mini-buses for the journey to Gloucester to attend a debate on Globalisation.

The first speaker, Dr Gill Samuels gave us an informative account of the devastating effects of HIV and AIDS. She was followed by the Earl of Sandwich, John Montague, a member of the board of Christian Aid and an international expert on development issues. Both of the opening speakers argued against the desirability of globalisation. This view was strongly challenged by the third speaker, Claire Fox, the Director of the Institute of Ideas, an agenda setting organisation committed to forging a public space where ideas can be contested without constraint. She is also a panellist on BBC Radio 4's, 'The Moral Maze'.

After a short break, we were divided into 12 separate groups for a stimulating discussion over possible questions we could pose to the panellists. Finally, after we had defined the retails of our questions, a man with a microphone ran around frantically so we could challenge the speakers. They replied with thorough and informative answers.

It was a very interesting morning and thanks must go to Mr Slark and Mr Dodd for taking us.

*Zuki Turner*

### "BEDTIME BAR"

"Bedtime bar" was the last 6B's and 6A's bar of 2003. After a lot of persuasion, the majority of both years turned up in there wide ranging bed

clothes. This ranged from slippers, towels, nighties and boxers. Particularly memorable was what Tommy was wearing... or not wearing!!

This theme bar was just one of many throughout the year, full of outrageous costumes, unique dancing and lots of memories!

### FILM CLUB

This Christmas term showed us the start and the end of the Senior School Film Club. The challenge proved to be finding a suitable film each week that would appeal to boys and girls as well as providing examples of good quality film making. After a shaky start, due mostly to the uncomfortable venue; (I do not recommend two and a half hours of sitting on plastic chairs in a dark, empty English classroom), we gained a steady stream of support from both 5th and 6th form enthusiasts. Success increased still more when finally the venue was moved to the sofa-filled common room in Lawn House, where the whole experience proved to be much more enjoyable. Films shown over the course of the year included, 'Thelma and Louise', 'Terminator 2' and 'The Fifth Element.'

Although the activity did not contin-

ue into the second term it was generally considered fun while it lasted.

*Sarah Rudderham*

### "ROCKY HORROR BAR"

Flesh, fishnets, heavy make-up and dancing were all key components to the very successful "Rocky Horror" themed bar. It was a night of socialising and dancing which everybody thoroughly enjoyed - the boys particularly enjoyed the transvestite dress code to a worrying extent and revealed their (very) feminine side. The girls just strutted their stuff in minimal clothing!

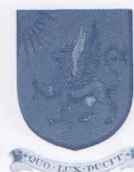
*Alex Andersson*

### SIXTH FORM BALL

On the 26th March, the two years of Rendcomb College 6th form came together for a night of 1920's "Black and White Jewels". The women looked absolutely fabulous in their classy ball dresses and the men looked cool in gangster hats. The evening started with pre-dinner cocktails, while photographs were taken outside beside the vintage car.

The dinner was exquisite and the waiting of the fifth form was much appreciated. The casino was a big hit and many people gambled their life





treasures away! I feel the human roulette wheel went down better with the parents than the pupils; clearly they wanted to re-live their youth. Dancing was very popular until the early hours in the morning. Then the balloons were eventually released from the heavens. The night was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thanks must go to Mrs Slark's efforts for making this a unique and unforgettable evening, not forgetting her team supporting her all the way.

*Harri Kingsford*

### "EX-LIBRIS"

On a Friday night in the Lent term we all met in the Reading Room to play a strange game: write the opening line of a novel based on the blurb on the back and if someone guesses your attempt you win a substantial prize. Thankyou to Mr Jennings for organising the event.

*Sabine Armbract*

### SKITTLES OUTING

It was a dark stormy evening in the Gloucestershire Cotswolds, when 20 intrepid males and females accompanied by their chirpers (teachers) set out to scale the dizzying heights of the prestigious, yet noble, '7 Tuns' of Chedworth, skittling arena. There were beers and there was merriness, frolicking and frivolousness, cheers

and jeers among these adventurous whipper-snappers!

*Tommy Lait*

### THE SIXTH FORM FLAT



During the Lent term, all 6A students were given the opportunity to spend a week in the flat in the main building. It gave us the chance to experience life as self-reliant students living on our own.

Each person was given £15 for the week and this was to cover breakfast and dinner. Most groups tended to merge their finances and found that it was enough for both meals and snacks throughout the week.

The only requirement, apart from not destroying the flat, was to invite two members of staff for dinner on one night of the week. This was carried out very successfully, with compliments on the cooking and no complaints of food poisoning the following day.

*Duncan Bond*

## Lawn House

### REPORT

Looking back over all that has happened since I took over from



Mrs Dodd in August, it's really been quite a year. We've had our parties - Pyjama/sleepover and Disney - and our Bond Extravaganza (and didn't everyone look glam!) and we've had our McDonald's breakfasts on a few Sundays over the course of the year, as well as a thoroughly enjoyable House outing for a meal at Harry Hare's. We have also had some spectacular sporting successes: not only the U16 but also the U14 girls' Hockey teams have won the District Hockey League - which is an amazing achievement; while the U16 Rounders team has left a wake of destruction in its path. And as for Lacrosse, we've had some excellent taster days and training days, ready to start the game next year. Similar things are of course planned for next year; and there will also be some other exciting developments in the House - watch this space! And finally, I would like to mention my excellent house team: my deputy, Mrs Breal, the house tutors, Mrs Westhead, Miss Shiells, Mrs Jennings, Miss Bell, and our Gap tutor, Miss Stanway. They have all done a wonderful job and the girls and I would like to thank them for their hard work and commitment.

*VH*

## Stable House

### REPORT

As we come to the end of the second year of the restructured Rendcomb, Stable House is in a very healthy





position, with 70 boys, 37 boarding and 33 day. In September 2003 we shall be 71, with a slight shift to boarding, 41/30.

On the academic front we have had a largely successful year, with good grades, occasionally excellent and rarely below par. Sport has played a major part in the lives of many boys and matches are greatly enjoyed. Drama, too, has seen many Stable boys on stage in School productions and our contribution to Rendcomb music has been splendid ranging from classical to our numerous rock musicians.

We are blessed with very supportive ancillary staff who clean and launder for us, and a dedicated team of work-staff who repair and maintain the building. To them we extend our thanks and gratitude.

We begin next term with a fully redecorated House and it must be our aim to preserve its pristine condition and to enhance it further. We also hope that a proper play area will be created to the front of the building to enable boys to enjoy exercise and ball games.

The great Bill Shankly said that football is a very simple game but that it is very difficult to make it look simple, and so it is for the realisation of the vision of what one wants a house to be. I am sure that all boys in Stable, fully support my belief that a community is only as good as how well it treats and cares for each individual.

All other achievements follow in the slipstream of the successful application of this belief. We have come a long way towards our goal, but we are not there yet. I am, however, confident that with the fine group of boys in the House, we shall continue to progress and I look forward to another year in an immensely enjoyable and rewarding job.

BN

## Godman House

### REPORT

This has been a more settled year for Godman House with greater continuity of staff and no adjustment to changes of year groups in the house!

We continue to enjoy a family feel to the house and with both day girls and boarders we have had a busy and fun-packed year of hard academic work as well as numerous weekend outings and entertainments. These

have continued to be diverse and included the death slide at Bowood House, swimming, bowling, breakfasts at McDonalds and even a weekend away with the boys! Mr Brealy ably organised the 2nd annual 'bonding' trip to the Wye valley, which was a talking point for many weeks. The elected house committee, chaired by Miss Morrison and Miss McIntosh continued to work hard and made many sensible suggestions as to how the house could be improved in small ways - such as more social activities with the boys and suggestions of purchases of house DVDs.

### From Rendcomb With Love - a poem written in homage to the Lawn and Stable James Bond Extravaganza, 17th May 2003

It all took place on a Saturday in May  
When the 4th and 5th Formers came out to play.  
We had our mission: a James Bond theme,  
Set up so carefully by an exquisite team.

We did all our hairdos and put on our frocks,  
And donned our tuxedos and sparkling rocks;  
We chatted and mingled in Bond-themed Clock Hall,  
'Cause this was the start of our very own ball!

The Dulvie was glittering in orange and red.  
The waiters appeared and then we were fed;  
We talked and we laughed, with so much to say,  
While the chilled jazz band played the night away.

Once they finished, next up was the disco,  
So we sang and we danced to people like Sisgo.  
Was anyone sitting? No, not a chance -  
Even the teachers got up to dance!

And then the time to finish arrived;  
The bright lights came on and to clear up we strived:  
The balloons came down, and all goodbyes were said,  
And we all wandered home, tired and ready for bed.

Ever since then, we look back and smile,  
Because that's the best night we've had in some while.  
It was such good fun and so enjoyed by all -  
And that was the end of our very own ball!

*By Harrie Stutchbury, Faith Roberts and Jess Weston*



We enjoy running a friendly and caring community where both day girls and boarders can play a part in the smooth day-to-day running of the house. We are also grateful for the role our supporting staff play, notably Mrs Fielding who has been the Assistant Housemistress. This year, just a few weeks after returning from her maternity leave, she organised the third Rendcomb charity ball, this time to support the Special Care Baby Unit at Cheltenham Hospital. The evening was spectacular and we are very grateful for all Mrs Fielding and her committee's hard work. We were also delighted to welcome back an OR (and former tutee of Mrs Gill!), Miss Gibbons and of course our gap tutors from both New Zealand and Australia: We are extremely lucky to have such capable tutors, who genuinely care for all the girls. The girls were very sad and tearful when 'Miss Morri' departed for home at Christmas but the ever patient and thoughtful 'Miss Mci' has proved a worthy successor. Our 6th form prefects this year, Emma Sykes and Jenny Wulkop, have also played an important role and done well in balancing the difficult task of being big sisters' to the girls as well as carrying out their responsibilities to the house staff reliably and sensitivity, they will be a hard act to follow, Meg Barne and Alex Andersson will have a lot to live up to! I am just so grateful that the senior girls are so willing to give up their time in helping both staff and students in Godman House.

As I have acknowledged before publicly, Godman also has a superb domestic team and we run efficiently thanks to the hard work and observations of our team of Jenny, Jennifer and Joy. This year they have proved particularly adept at tracking down bad smells in the kitchen! I have also continued to enjoy the support and friendship of our parents. I enjoy our daily discussions at the office door and trust that the parents will continue to be so forthcoming with their ideas and support for Godman House.

Many of our girls have achieved notable success in events outside of

Rendcomb. Laura Brown and Sian Clift have trained hard for local swimming clubs and Sarah Lockyer has acquired a position in an elite national riding squad. In the Summer Term we were sad to say goodbye to our second year girls. But I know that there will be excellent continuity of care for them as they move up to the senior girls' house with the ever-organised and efficient Mrs Hayward.

The year ended with a trip to Alton Towers and a sleep-over party in Godman House. Here the girls celebrated their achievements of the year, said goodbye to the leavers, and enjoyed just being 'girls'. Godman House continues to be a really special place. The girls are fun and supportive and make looking after them seem easy! Elliot, William, Madeleine and I look forward to more fun and challenges in the academic year ahead.

NG

## Old Rectory

### REPORT

Pack'em in and all breathe in together was the motto for this year. Never before had so many been squashed into so small a space and given off so much by way of vigorous vibrations than the year of 02/03. High octane energy off the games field bubbled over into continuous soccer on the Old Rec lawn (weather permitting) but quite specifically into daredevil adventures on wheels outside the front door. Limits were pushed to extremes as skate board and roller blade flying leaps, multiple runs, crashes into hedges and eventually leaps off steps and walls onto grass became ever more extreme. Luke Lester Powell was conspicuously king of all this but he was given a run for his money by Jonno and Neil. Slightly more sedate but particularly skilled was the sudden and inexplicable craze for uni-cycling. James Bladon,

Mark Gunner and Richard Pass weaved in and out of whatever was going on and even tried to emulate the Chinese circus with linked cycling - all put to good use in the "Shop of Horrors". All this was extra-curricular, and out of school as well, Mitch Barltrop, Richard Mason and Tom Restorick were building a formidable reputation as horsemen, both as a team but also individually. The atmosphere within the House was often charged and decorated by exuberant singing and guitar playing. It helped when one of our excellent pair of prefects, Tommy Lait, could share his experience. Likewise our other prefect, Jo von Rotenhan, provided his own special variety of sartorial and hairstyling decoration and enlivened the day to day grind considerably. It took a little time, but Leo Wong cut a strong figure in the House. At first, not very certain of what English schooling was all about, he eventually became quite a fixture, sharing his curious tuck with any and all who dared to try flat sea weed. As for problems with stuck doors, non-operating videos and remote controls, Laurie - the land yacht and electric car expert - could be depended upon to be the "fixer". We said goodbye to Mrs Rita Allen who had to leave suddenly because of ill health - did we have anything to do with that? She found her way into our hearts catching on to all the gossip and feeding selected bits back to our batty and deaf housemaster. It was grand to have another batty and generous tutor in the shape of Griff Griffith and we will all miss the relaxed and dedicated footballer, Mr Palmer.

DW







## Social Events

### Girls' Hockey Dinner



At the end of a busy season the girls deserved a 'do to remember' so we went for 'The Little Owl' in Cheltenham, utilising a large dining room with dance area. Mr Stutchbury and Mr Wood acted as chaperones to some 30 girls, so it had the potential

for being a very interesting evening!! The meal was a tasty Christmas dinner, with wine, music and presents for all. The party atmosphere soon got going with dancing and singing from both 1st and 2nd XI's. The party hats and streamers proved too much

for some, who decided to put together a costume of hats, not dissimilar to one of Madonna's outfits!

The speeches managed to return everyone to their seats and after the boring proverbial from yours truly, Amanda Lomax spoke for the 2nd XI and Emma Sykes for the 1st XI. Mr Morgan then arrived, having abandoned his daughter's birthday party, just in time for his own delivery on the team's fortunes. Much appreciation was extended to Mr Stutchbury, Mr Wood and Miss Morrison for their continued support and coaching.

The evening was great fun and a brilliant opportunity to relax and socialise.

BS

### Fab Jazz

The Fab Jazz theme night was held in February to celebrate the era of Jazz music and associated Art and to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Relief

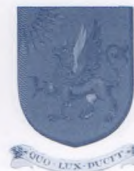


and the hockey tour to Dublin. The Dulverton Flail was decorated with artwork produced in the Art department and because this had been woven into the schemes of work, all members of the First to Third forms were involved. Giant cartoons, hanging clouds like drapes and subtle use of netting, lighting and colour gave the room real atmosphere. As ever the works team gave their valuable time to help set this up.



*The Hockey Girls enjoy themselves*





Paul Sykes on the ivories

Music was ably provided by the music staff and their students. Phil



Emma Sykes and Seb Goffe, singing "My baby just cares for me".

The excellent meal, which was cooked and served by our own catering team, followed a hot New Orleans theme with chili prawns, Cajun chicken and Mississippi mud pie. If the meal was not hot enough then



there was always the classic hits disco, which attracted many pupils, parents and staff wanting to "strut their stuff" under the Rendcomb Disco lights.



Dunn impressed us with his moody guitar playing and Mr and Mrs Day, on piano and saxophone reminded us of many Jazz classics. There were fine performances from pupils such as Graham Hulbert, Jonathan Williams and Dan Hines. However the Top of the Bill was definitely Naomi Gibbons, accompanied by Paul Sykes,

This event was attended by 150 people and enabled us to present a cheque for £1000 to Macmillan Cancer Relief. In addition the auction of items donated by parents and businesses in support of the hockey tour to Dublin and ably put under the hammer by Martin Griffiths, raised an enormous £2, 400. The games department is very grateful to all those who helped in some way.

The Parents' Association fully supported this event and ran the bar on the night but everyone would want to thank Martin Griffiths for the idea and its execution, which resulted in such an enjoyable evening.

CW & MSG





## Dublin Hockey Tour Disco

There was a junior disco on January 19th, in order to raise money for the Dublin hockey tour to meet the famous leprechauns! The D.J.s were James Tarleton and Guy Tathem-Losh. Everyone entered with high spirits, that continued throughout the two hours of the disco. There were over a hundred participants of all ages. It was great fun and all the proceeds went towards the Dublin hockey tour.

*Hazel Kay*

## Bonfire Night

The Parents' Association have adopted Guy Fawkes night as one of their major fundraising evenings. So, Jeremy Grey, the bursar, coordinated the best efforts of Mark Naylor, the operations Manager in charge of food and liquid refreshment; Paul Cairns and his team letting off the fireworks and torching the enormous bonfire; the Parents Association who covered the mulled wine stall, car parking and the bar; Reception base Diana Dodd; tickets and ticket checking Carol Endersby, Diana Whyatt and her son; Martin Griffiths in charge of the disco; Sister Pritchard on first aid; front of house Bobby Morgan, and Charles Jefferson and Alex Brealy who helped wherever it was needed.

Everyone who came, from the Senior and Junior schools all said it was a great success. Spectacular fireworks, great food and drink, helpful car parkers, cheerful ticket collectors - the recipe for fun and a memorable evening. Well done to the team.

*JG*

## Karaoke Night

On Saturday, 30th November, there

was a Karaoke Disco. All pupils came with high spirits and by the end of the night everyone was singing and dancing, all year groups together. All kinds of different songs were sung, from rock to ballads. A special mention must go to Tom Ruddy for his outstanding solo singing and well done to Jonathan Williams for winning a prize for best dancer. As a finale, the evening's entertainment was rounded off by the Robbie Williams number 'Angels' This was enthusiastically supported by the assembled cast including Mr. Holden and Mr. Stutchbury both clearly unable to sing in tune!

It was a brilliantly organised night by Georgina Webb-Dickin and Charlie Fothergill and the decorations were fantastic. Thank-you to everyone who helped to make the evening such a success.

*Samya Malik and Holly Taylor*

## Sixth form Christmas Dinner

Just as it always is, this year's 6th form Christmas bar was fantastic! We began the evening with the Park House tradition of a glass of buck's fizz in the common room, where we received a present each from the 'secret Santa', otherwise known as Mrs Slark. We had decorated the common room so that it felt very Christmassy and we had festive songs on in the background whilst we chatted.

We then made our way to main college where a delicious three-course meal awaited us, courtesy of Mark Naylor and his kitchen staff; we ate until we could eat no more and the girls no longer fitted into their dresses!

Mr Dodd made a very witty speech!!) and we got onto the part we had all been waiting for: THE BAR! We

danced, drank and laughed our way to the end of the evening and it turned out to be a very memorable night.

On behalf of the sixth form I'd like to say thank-you to everyone who made the evening happen we had a wonderful time!

*Jenny Wulkop*

## Netball Dinner

The Netball Dinner took place on the 17th March when a coach full of twenty girls set off for Cheltenham in better spirits than two weeks previously. We were met with a warm welcome from Pizza Piazza, some lovely food and a good atmosphere. Despite the trials and tribulations of the season, we felt that there was in fact call for celebration: much was learned in skill acquisition and the psychology of sport and with this proficiency we now look forward to the prospect of future Lent terms. The after-dinner speeches rightly concentrated on looking forward to these plans.

*BS*

## 1st to 3rd Form Charity Ball

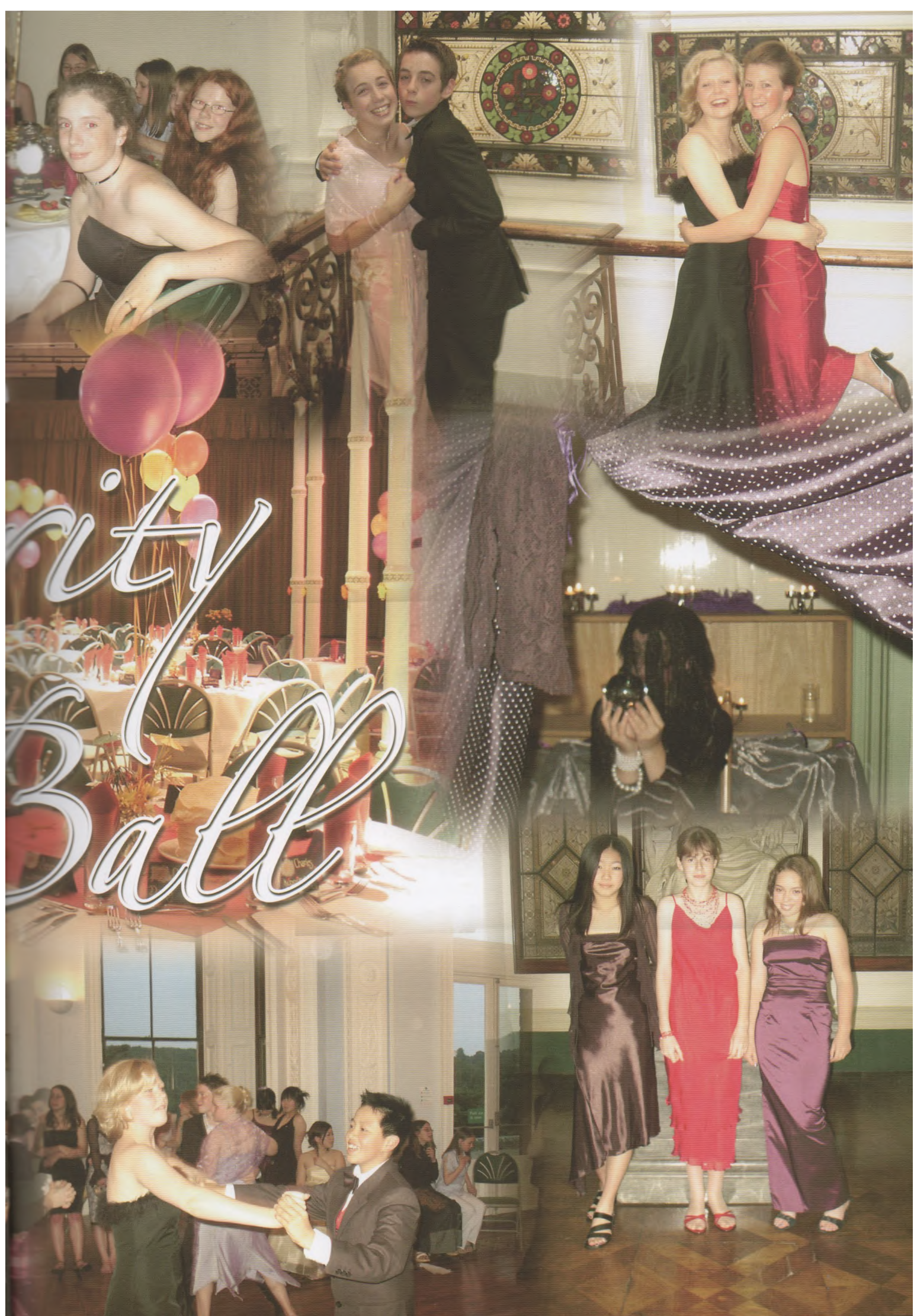
On the 7th of June the 1st, 2nd and 3rd form had their first ball this year. With everything being prepared for the occasion, everybody was really looking forward to dressing up. The time passed very slowly all of the girls couldn't wait until the night! At approximately 6.05pm we all set off to a wonderful evening full of ball room dancing, entertainment and a sumptuous meal. As people arrived, we had our photo taken on the stairs. The building was brilliantly decorated thanks to Mrs Fielding, Mrs Brealy and lots of other helpers; we all loved the colours.

After everyone's photo had been taken, we made our way into the

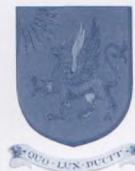












reading room for a drink and the adults' raffle. The raffle was a complete success and the prizes were no disappointment: the lucky winner, Mark Richardson, took home a vegetable steamer!! It was time for the 3 course meal. The meal was delicious and we would all like to say a BIG thank you to the kitchen staff for putting all of their time and effort into the wonderful food.

My favourite part of the night was the ball-room dancing. The rules were: when tapped on the shoulder by Miss Gibbons or Miss Stanway you must leave the dance floor; no dancing with the same sex and dancing must be in an appropriate manner. Ben Crane and Edward Jefferson seemed to ignore all of these particular rules and danced the night away with each other letting nobody stand in their way! The winners of the ball room dancing were Victoria Turner and Mitchell Barltrop who seemed to enjoy the dancing and impressed everybody with their amazing moves!

Everybody dashed off into the Dulverton hall after the ballroom dancing for the tricky and witty games. There was: The Crackers Game; What's the Teddy Bear's Name? game; How Many Wine Gums game and The Map and the Sweet Corn game. The winner of The Wine Gum game was Miss Mackintosh who, after 5 or 6 goes, finally managed to get the right number! Well done to Miss Mackintosh! But the funniest game of all was The Crackers Game which Sam Slater managed to win. He shoved 10 crackers into his mouth and swallowed them all. There was also another entertaining and scary experience which seemed to excite many people: the fortune teller. In groups of two we would wander into the dark room curiously but we all came out in laughter, except Dominic Stevens and Michael Richards who came out fast and looked shocked!

The night ended with a brilliant disco

and everybody dancing with one another. The music was up to date and even some of the teachers joined in. Mr Dodd was one of the teachers who surprised us by dancing his heart and soul out! We would all like to say a really big thank you to Mrs Fielding for organising the wonderful and unforgettable night. We hope that an event like this will take place again in the next couple of years.

We would also like to extend our thanks to Swindon Outlet Village who supported the event by providing the prizes for the raffle.

*Tara Richards*

## Rock Concert

The annual Rendcomb Rock Concert rocked the foundation of the Dulverton Hall with bands representing every year group. Under the guidance of Miss Gibbons, pupils danced to the music of well-known groups and to less well known music written by the performers themselves. It was a successful and enjoyable evening.

*Matthew Hook*

## Disco Nights!

Congratulations to James Tarleton and Guy Tatham-Losh for D.J.ing a Hawaiian disco. They entertained the masses with their skills and their music and in the process raised money for CLIC.

*PJ*

## 4th and 5th Form James Bond Extravaganza

*"Do you expect me to talk? "*

*"No, Mr Bond, I expect you to DANCE!"*

5 took to the Dulverton Hall for the James Bond Extravaganza. With Money Penny and Bonds' aplenty, coupled with cool non-alcoholic cocktails in Clock Hall, the scene was set for a night to remember!

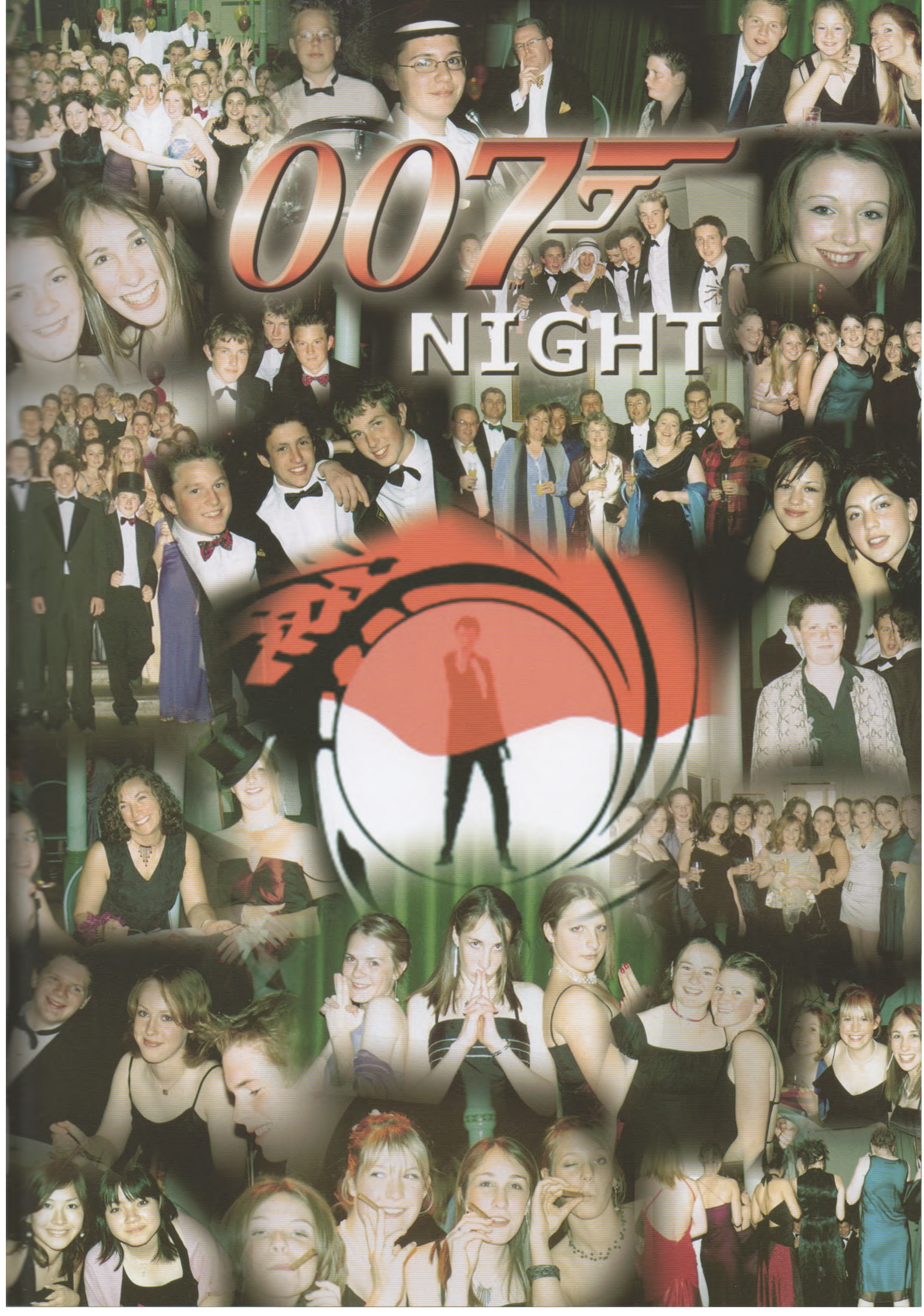
The evening began with orange juice, shaken not stirred of course, followed by a sumptuous selection of exquisite delicacies, including chicken, salmon and sorbets for afters. Whilst we were eating, the fantastic musical talents of Miss Gibbons, Sam Slater, Jonathan Williams, Emma Sykes, and Mr and Mrs Day astounded us. After the meal there was dancing with some entertaining dance movements from certain members of staff (not mentioning any names-Mr Jennings, Mr Dodd!!). Pupils also joined in and laid down some cool boogie. The whole evening was a huge success and thanks must go to the ball committee and especially Mrs Hayward for organising the event.

*'From Rendcomb with love'*

*Polly Rudderham,  
Alexandra Collins  
and Rebecca Maxted*

On Saturday the 18th May, forms 4 &





# 007 NIGHT



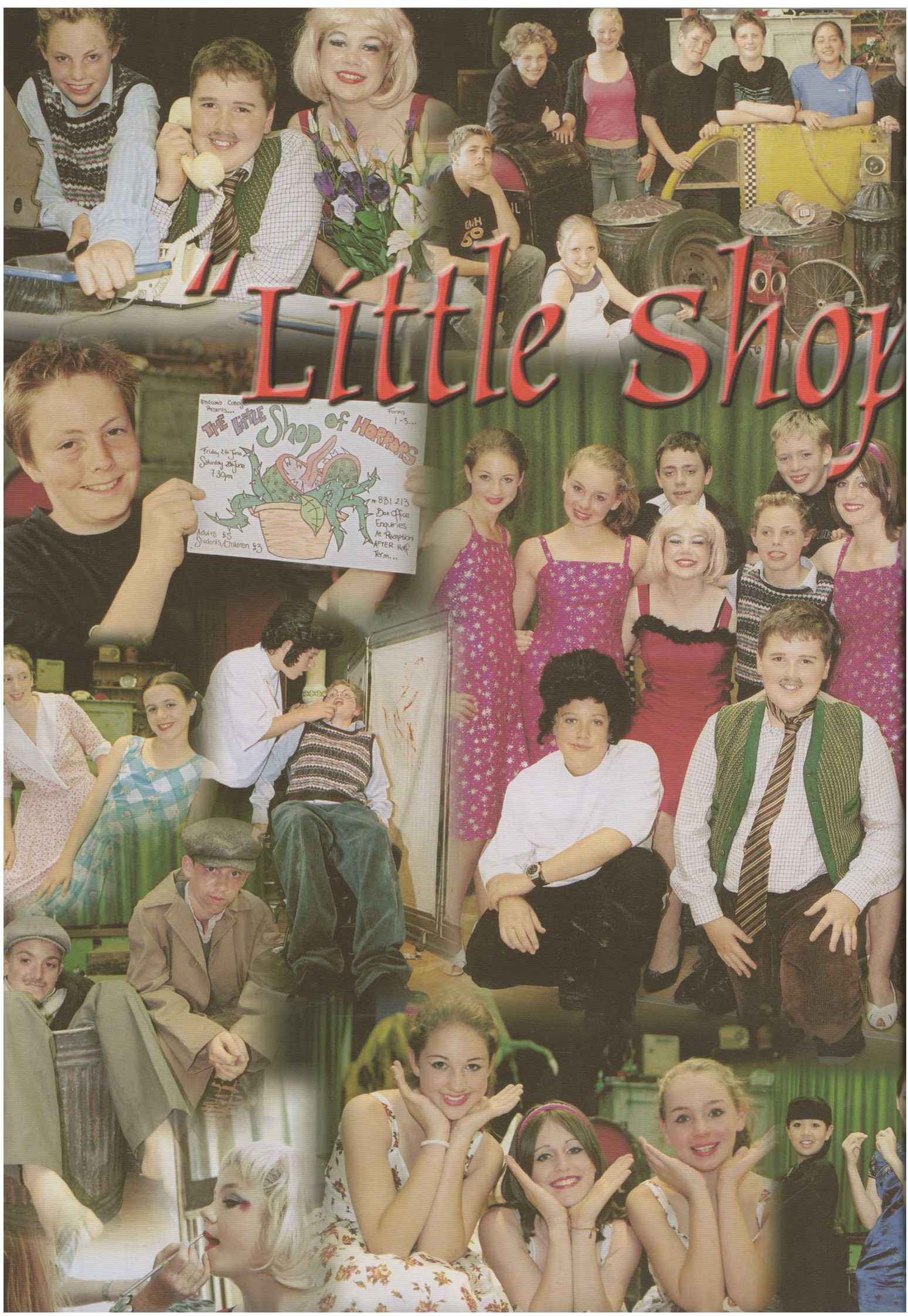
Brookside College  
Presents...

**THE LITTLE Shop of Horrors**

Friday 24th Jan  
Saturday 25th Jan  
7.30pm

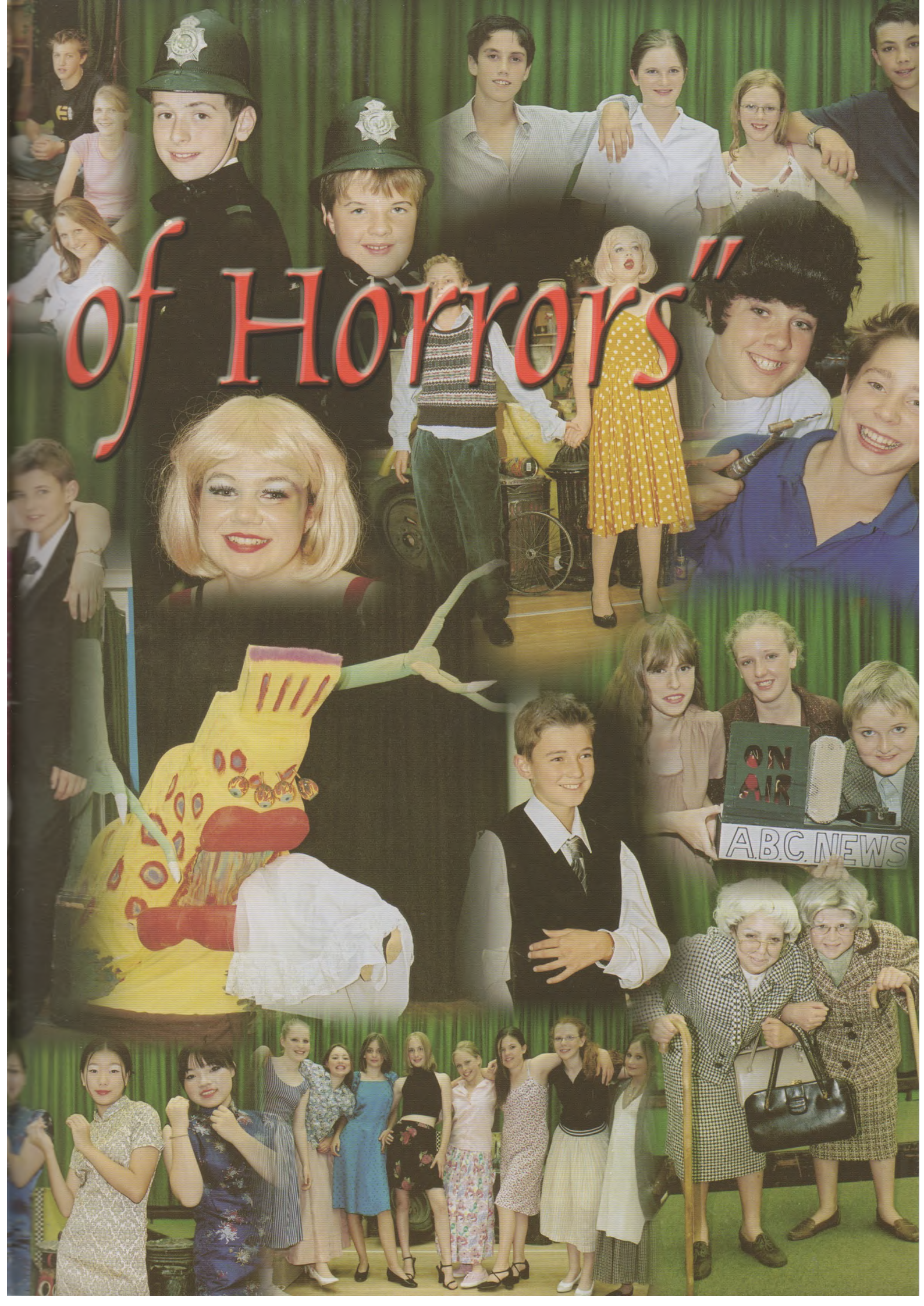
Box Office  
Enquiries  
At Reception  
AFTER Half  
Term...

Adults \$5  
Students/Children \$3





# of Horrors"





## “Dangerous Liaisons”

Our main school play this year was “Dangerous Liaisons”, Christopher Hampton’s cruel expose of love and passion set in the heady days just before Madame Guillotine became public entertainment in the French Revolution.

We located our play in the Reading Room because of the gloriously appropriate decor. As soon as the audience entered, they stepped back in time with Rupert Uzzell’s harpsichord playing. The play was particularly notable for the rich colour and detail of the costumes—some were hired from the RSC and remade by Sister Pritchard while others were made from scratch by Verity Symcox and Claire Taylor. It was a visual feast.

Our cast learnt very quickly that theatre with an audience on 3 sides means there is nowhere to hide. Caroline Wells was a convincingly neurotic mother, Hollie Mathias showed enthusiasm as a young ingenue in the bedroom and Harriet Kingsford played the older matriarch part, with gentle delicacy. Alex Stratton-O’Donoghue was an amusingly foppish Dauceny who ultimately stands up for his love, whereas Azolan, Valmont’s manservant, is prepared to do anything for his master.

In our three leads we had actors who grew in stature and skill over the rehearsal period.

Laureen Lees played a hugely emotional Madame de Tourvel with a great deal of crying and hand wringing! Her intensity was etched on her face throughout.

Sally Geake was the cold and manipulative Marquise who used men as her toys in her game of life. An exciting but difficult role convincingly

played with a chilling clarity.

David Moxham was the ultimate lady killer as the Vicomte Valmont. This is a difficult role as the audience must simultaneously hate his wickedness but also be fascinated by it. David was able to bring a confident and defiant charm to his portrayal.

A play’s success is not only about its actors - it comes down to teamwork. Laura Holmes and Jonathan Williams learnt the difficult and demanding skill of stage managing. We now have a trained stage crew, stage managers, lighting and makeup teams for future productions.

Mrs Dodd’s direction was light but



controlled: the actors were impressively focused on their different roles.

Well done to everyone who worked on this project. It was not as Valmont would say “beyond our control”

GH

## “Little Shop of Horrors”

In the Michaelmas term, Miss Gibbons and I sat down to brainstorm ideas for the Lower School play. We knew we wanted something modern after “Dangerous Liaisons” and “Bugsy Malone”. “Little Shop of Horrors”, with its cult film and musical following, seemed a “strange and interesting” idea!

These are indeed the words which best sum up this musical: Tom Ruddy learnt how to operate two of the plants encased inside them, Dan Hines learnt to sing and speak in a delicious Isaac Hayes voice, Sam Slater grappled with Mr Dodd’s drill set in his cameo dentist role while James Hill learnt how to be eaten by a “strange and interesting plant”.

This was a difficult show to stage, apart from all the singing, dancing and acting because it was so dependent on the successful use of a wide range of props. Our two stage managers Samya Malik and Joss Acock and the rest of the crew, worked very hard over the final two weeks familiarising themselves with a wide range of stage effects. Well done to them.

The pupil band of Ed Hutchison, Seb Goffe, George Lawson and James Bladon showed excellent skill and restraint in playing the backing music to our songs.

Our trio of streetwise girls: Tori Turner, Sophie Arkle and Carra Williams, acted almost as a Greek chorus commenting on the action and offering characters advice. Without two confident performers in the lead roles no show can succeed. Amanda Graham tottered convincingly about the stage in her high heels as the battered and bruised Audrey who dreams of “somewhere that’s green”, probably the emotional highlight of the show with sensitive dancing from Maria Odintsova. Alex Holden threw himself into the role of the underdog Seymour so much so, that the biggest Audrey Two managed to knock him out in our Dress Rehearsal! Alex showed mature confidence in both speaking and singing.

Miss Stanway, once again, displayed how positive and creative she is as Miss Gibbons’ right-hand woman in all matters.

Directing a show this size during reports, exams and lessons is





designed to test anyone's spirit. Congratulations to Miss Gibbons for keeping her nerve as we rehearsed, sometimes frantically, and finally got the show onto the stage as a "strange and interesting" entity! A great team effort. Well done to all the cast, the crew and the band.

Next term there are two dramatic productions to look forward to. Mr White is going to stage a Christmas opera in Clock Hall while Miss Stanway and I will be working on the Senior Play "Bouncers and Shakers" a very modern piece which takes a satirical look at the night-clubs and cocktail bars of "Cool Britannia".

DD

## "Blue Remembered Hills"

On Friday the 23rd March, the Fourth form GCSE group performed "Blue remembered Hills", a play by Dennis Potter.

"Blue Remembered Hills" remains

one of Dennis Potter's best-known plays. It is a story about childhood. The characters are young children but Potter's twist here is that they are not played by young child-actors. Instead it is adult actors that fill the roles.

The play is set in 1943, in the West Country, with war in the air. The different children have individual fears and temperaments. They tease, play, argue and chase a squirrel! It is still a world of considerable innocence, but innocence comes tumbling down in an awful climax. An outstanding performance was given by Samya Malik playing Donald, who captured the torment and grief of an abused outcast. Joss Acock playing Donald for the second half brought drama and tension to his performance and ended the show with a dramatic finale. Another particular favourite of the audience was the funny little attention seeker Audrey, played by Laura Evans. Using extreme facial expressions, she transformed herself into a very believable seven year old and her character brought humour to the tragic play. The use of two casts was very successful.

I very much enjoyed performing in "Blue Remembered Hills". As well as being an enjoyable experience it has taught me a lot about my acting ability and about the acting of others in my group. Many thanks to all members of staff who helped to produce this play and particularly to Miss Stanway and Edd Kiggins for their direction and guidance.

*Tanya Wells*

## Theatre Sports

Once upon a time in the land of 'Luvvie-dom', there lived group of locals who loved to entertain. BUT: they had done so much entertaining of various sorts: song, dance, plays, presentations; they feared that their entertaining might become mundane!



So... they rolled all the above into one for one night of ground-breaking improvisational drama.

It was to be called: 'The Sport of Theatre'.

The debut event took place on 9th May to an appreciative audience of fellow villagers, who had no idea what to expect-a feeling shared by the entertainers themselves! There was a rustle of limbs, whispers and anxious voices and then suddenly... BANG: the stage burst into life as the performers brought the Sport of Theatre to the simple villagers of Rendcomb. The Lord of the land, (A.K.A. Mr. Holden) was pres-



The cast of "Blue Remembered Hills"





# “Dangerou





# s Liaisons"







Charlie Fothergill and Georgina Webb-Dickins

ent, along with his loyal subjects, Mr Jennings and Mrs Dodd to act as impartial judges (honest Edd!!). A 4th form team won the day: they had it all: variety, creativity and a frightening ability to cross-dress!

The evening was a great success and the humble villagers have asked for a repeat performance; to be held on 14th November. This time it will include loyal subjects and various other prestigious members from the bigger Lands (parents' association). No more giggling at the participants on the stage: this time we're all in it up to our necks!

Tears were cried at the end of this 'luvvie-dom' treat and more will no doubt be shed in the future. But no doubt... all will live happily ever after.....

BSI

*(P.S. Well done Miss Stanway for organising it all! PJ)*

## Gloria-Vivaldi



Rendcomb College Choir, under the leadership of David White, performed two concerts for Remembrance Sunday, one in the College and one at Woodchester Priory Church for which the proceeds went to charity Emmaus. A brass ensemble comprising James Bladon, Jonathan Williams, Jeremy Pidgeon and Mark Gunner opened the concert with a moving rendition of March and Canzona by Purcell. This was fol-

lowed by a powerful performance of the Vivaldi Gloria with excellent solos from Naomi Gibbons, our new Assistant Director of Music, Sophie Barltrop and Laura Holmes.

DW

## The Amigo Trumpets Trio

The visit of the Amigos Trumpet Trio turned out to be an action packed day, with concerts, busking, ensemble work and master classes. The trio - last seen busking in Cheltenham High Street and booked on the spot - are three amazing young men who play the trumpet as if possessed. They came to show Rendcomb what trumpet playing is all about and created a feeling of high octane delight. They gave two little concerts - one to begin the day and one to finish it. By the second concert, word had spread and the intended audience had swollen to double the planned number. They astonished the College at Lunch time by busking on the stairs. The afternoon continued with the Rendcomb brass players plundering the skills of the trio and then feeling good when they all played together, sounding like a million dollars. It was an inspirational day.

DW

## The Big Draw

As part of a national week promoting drawing, the students of Rendcomb College worked together with teachers and auxiliary staff to produce a massive drawing of a great oak tree in the school's main hall. The art club produced the initial image and each leaf was drawn, cut out and glued into place to transform the bare branches into an oak tree in full leaf. It was pleasing that every student in the school was able to draw their own individual leaf.

MSG



# THE GALLERY



“CAIRN”

*Thomas Lockyer, A2 Art*

This massive painting is a remarkable mixture of materials and techniques and really pushes the boundaries of what can be achieved with watercolour and drawing inks. The monumental central pyramid structure was inspired by one of Tom's own sculptures and the picture reflects his passionate interest in atmosphere and drama within an essentially romantic English landscape.





**“THE FALL OF ICARUS”**  
*Georgina Webb-Dickin A2 Art*

This large and imposing painting (2m x 1.5m) was inspired by the story of the fall of Icarus and the paintings and poetry on the same theme by Brueghel and William Carlos Williams. In Georgina’s version, Icarus has been reduced to a tiny insect sized fragment in the top left hand corner of the picture whose plunge towards death seems insignificant to the disinterested spectators and massive forces of nature.





### **“FRENCH FLAG”**

*Alexandra Andersson, A/S Art*

Alex’s flag contains images collected together from elements of French life and culture and uses a wide variety of textile printing techniques which include stencilling, block printing and heat fix paper.



### **“A SCATTER OF CUSHIONS”**

*GCSE Artists*

This is just a small collection of cushion covers designed and block printed by the 5th form. The images are derived from the students’ individually developed designs based upon their original drawings of foliage.





### **“FLYING DRAGON”**

***Max Webb-Dickin, Form 3***

Made in DT out of wood, wire and paint this working model dragon flaps its wings using a constructed cam mechanism and is just one example of working toys and games produced within the department this year.



### **“MUSICAL FISH”**

***Charles Stutchbury, Form 2***

This skeleton fish structure actually works as a very effective musical instrument and was made out of beech wood, beads and string. It was designed and made as part of a DT project which looked at the technology of sound and world music. A whole range of responses were constructed during this project which included clay and leather drums, Peruvian inspired maracas and recycled instruments.



### **“GREEN MEN”**

***4th Form GCSE Students***

These T-shirts were designed and printed as part of the students' course work and was part of a large project which looked at the magical world of the Green Man. Work was also produced in paint and clay and there were some wonderfully inventive clay models produced in the junior years.





# Activities Programme

## Overview

The activity programme has continued to flourish and remains an important part of the school day. Parents and students comment on the scheme in a positive fashion and the inspectors spoke very favourably of the scheme, commenting on the breadth of choice and the dedication of the staff.

In the first term a series of new activities emerged; circuit training, run enthusiastically by Miss Shiells, the junior drama activity on "The Great War" directed by Mr Jennings and the revitalising of riding, under the dedicated guidance of Mrs Holden. On average around 140 pupils were involved in activities on each of the four evenings of the week.

In terms two and three the activity programme was enhanced by the re-introduction of the ever popular cookery activity run by Mrs Grey and Mrs Stutchbury: a whole range of culinary delights were produced! Athletics grew in popularity and led into the very successful Athletics' day. The climbing wall also found its way back into circulation and the school also put out senior soccer team against Cheltenham Junior School, (The College won 8-0). The junior musical used activity time to rehearse for their production, whilst riding at Tolland attracted a loyal band of equestrian enthusiasts throughout the year.

As I hand on the position of Director of Activities, I would like to extend my thanks to all those members of staff who have supported the scheme over the years. As the inspection report commented; the breadth of the scheme shows what a multitude of talent lies in the common room. This is the reason for the fundamental success of the scheme and the reason why it remains popular amongst both parents and students.

PD



*Richard Mason in full flow*

## Stonar Horse Trials

On a sunny Sunday in the spring, Richard Mason, Mitch Baltrop, Victoria Cannon and myself took part in 'The Stonar Inter Schools One Day Event'. A one day event is made up of three disciplines: Dressage, Show-jumping and Cross Country. In Dressage, the lower the score, the better and we achieved less than 45, which is above average. We all set personal bests: Richard Mason scored 40.6, Victoria Cannon scored 41.2, Mitch Barltrop scored 35.9 and 34.7 for myself.

In high spirits, we moved onto show-jumping. This proved quite difficult, although Richard Mason rode the best clear round we have ever seen him ride. An unlucky pole for Victoria Cannon, three down for myself and a technical fault for Mitch Barltrop, despite that a clear round.

The final task for the day was cross country. This is ridden across a long distance. Unlike show-jumping, the fences are solid and hence do not fall down! It includes water jumps, brush fences and is much more challenging. Richard Mason was in his element as he is a keen huntsman and loves

cross country, so he ended up with a wonderful clear round. I did the same and our youngest team member at the age of nine, Victoria Cannon, jumped the biggest fence that she had ever jumped before and sailed round bringing us in an impressive clear round. Cross country is not my pony's forte, coming unstuck at the trickiest fence on the course.



*The Stonar Team*





Overall, Rendcomb finished on a score of 141.5. I am sure that our parents will agree that during our several training sessions with the top three-day eventer, Paul Tapner, we have come on in leaps and bounds.

A big thank you to Mrs Holden for arranging everything. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to our Rendcomb cheer leaders for supporting us at the event!

*Tom Restorick*

## Remembering The Great War

On Monday the 11th of November an activities group of 3rd and 4th form-



*Members of the cast*

ers presented an evening entitled "Remembering the Great War". This was an evening of letter readings, poetry and first-hand accounts from soldiers who experienced battle on the western front. There were also dramatisations of three extracts from the play "Journey's End".

The students approached this project with enthusiasm and commitment. The readings were clear and some were read with real feeling; Those who were there will remember Stephen Lockhart's reading of "Futility" for a long time. Louise Bowen's "In Flanders Field" was also a highlight.

All three play extracts were acted well and the final scene between Tom Ruddy and Joss Acock was very powerful. Ben Symcox was an acting 'find' as the naive young officer, Raleigh.

The music and projected art work added atmosphere and the cast's singing of the two war songs was, shall we say, unique!

Well done to all those who took part and thank-you to the 100 or so students, staff and parents who supported the evening. A big thank-you must also go to Mr. Dodd, who directed the three extracts from "Journey's End". He managed to bring the very best out of some inexperienced actors.

*PJ*

## Cross Country Running

The Michaelmas term provides the best conditions for cross-country running: rain,

wind, cold temperatures, mud and the hilly Cotswold countryside which have inspired Rendcomb's athletes for many years! This year was no exception: We participated in two league races. The first at Rednock School in Dursley. This hilly course consisting of road and off-road stretches, was most definitely the hardest. The hills were steep and the sheep were plentiful and spirits were, as usual, high. Everyone put in their best efforts and this was reflected in the excellent results achieved.

The second race was at Archway School in Stroud. Running around football and rugby pitches has never been enjoyed, but the team, as usual, did the school proud and proved their stamina was better than Mr Brealy could have hoped for. Well done to everyone who took part and we hope to see your running shoes out again next year.

David Roper, Laura Burley, Emma Medus and Richard Mason were selected to represent the Cotswold District team. Well done to all who ran, especially to Richard Mason who was running for the first time and proved to be a valuable participant in his team. Towards the end of the running season, Laura Burley was asked to represent the County at her senior girls' level and despite not being able to attend the race, she intends to come back and fight next year.

*AB*

## Soccer

In the Lent term a soccer activity took place which led to a Rendcomb first: a senior school soccer fixture against another school. A mixed second and third form team played against Cheltenham Junior School. We proved a little too strong for them and came out as 8-0 victors. Everyone who participated enjoyed the experience and I hope to be able to organize more fixtures in the future.

*PJ*





Charles Stutchbury, Henry Pullen, George Tatham-Wosh

## Clay Pigeon Shooting

The 2003 British Schools' Shooting Championships turned out to be another trophy winning occasion for Rendcomb. The competition was held at the "Sporting Target", the Olympic Training Venue in Bedfordshire. The Rendcomb squad was made up of 3 man teams, 4 Father and son partnerships and 11 supporting parents.

The junior Team of George Tatham-Losh, Charlie Stutchbury and Henry Pullen scored 43 out of 96, a very

creditable performance. This has been their first victory together, and there was a debut for the Stutchbury father and son combination.

The B-team, captained by Henry Wilson, scored 162, tying with King's Ely. James Groomebridge was high gun with 32/50, a quite excellent performance in his first year of shooting.

The A Team, captained by David Roper scored 169, gaining a 9th overall from a field of 42, with Matt Hutchins on a high gun score of 37/50. It was a fitting finale for this predominantly 6A team made up of:

David Roper, Matt Hutchins, Matt Harbottle and Joe Von Rotenhan.

It was a very successful day.

*JHS*



The Senior Squad

## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

The year began, as usual, with the Bronze assessment expedition in the Forest of Dean. In fine walking weather, thirty Fifth Form pupils enjoyed a very successful outing and proved to be one of the strongest groups to have tackled the Forest in recent years. It is a requirement of the award that candidates not only complete the 24 kilometre hike, but also have a purpose for doing it in the first place! To fulfil this requirement the students organised an evening presentation during which



each group recounted their experiences of both the practice and the assessment expeditions. Recurring themes were the importance of teamwork, and motivation.

October saw the Gold assessment expedition for seven 6A students in the Black Mountains. In true Rendcomb style, these very strong and competent candidates completed the 80 kilometres without a hitch (no pun intended) and impressed their assessor, John Willson, whom many ex-gold candidates will remember well.





dog walking, litter picking around the village, helping Junior School pupils with their reading, photography, cookery and magazine editing. Residential have included 'Riding for the Disabled' and a BSES expedition to the Amazon.

To conclude, it has been a very busy year but the Award scheme at Rendcomb continues to provide challenges to test the candidates and though occasionally some fail to meet all the requirements of the Award, the majority do and so maintain Rendcomb's standing as one of the County's most successful Award units.

This year's Gold candidates are also well on their way to success in this section of the Award, having already completed a training/practice expedition in Mid-Wales and a much more demanding 'mock' assessment expedition in the Brecon Beacons.

The current Bronze cohort has not been so successful, however, and it has been necessary to arrange a second practice expedition in the Cotswolds at the beginning of the Michaelmas term. Provided that this is completed satisfactorily the assessed expedition will take place in the Forest of Dean at the end of March.

Besides the expedition section there are other areas which must be completed before candidates can submit



*Members of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh award team*

their record books to the County Award office for certification. These are the Service, Skill, Physical Recreation and, for the Gold Award, a Residential experience. This year a wide variety of activities have been undertaken by candidates including

My thanks as always to all those staff who contribute to the operation of the Award, and in particular to Chris Wood and our two 'super crossword puzzle solving' Gap students Bonnie and Kirsty.

CV





*The Perfect Shot*

## Lawn Bowls Club

This year the lawn bowls club enjoyed a thrilling season of matches on the immaculate grass of the old tennis courts. We remain ever hopeful that a full conversion will take place soon so that even more students can come and enjoy this thrilling sport. The sixth form students who made up this year's club were a competitive and determined bunch and the skills they developed were complex and varied. They certainly brought a whole new competitive dimension to the game and many of the matches were characterized by dynamic shot making and finger biting tension.

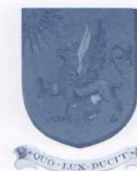
The students developed highly personalized styles of delivery and they

became adept at all the various shots, from the basic draw, to the full on firing shot. This year's captain was Duncan Bond and he was an authoritative player in the classic mould. Certainly he has a bright future within the game. Other players of this type were the vastly experienced and talented Tom Lait and Chris Jeffreys and the coolly efficient Greg Jones and Sam Gunner. Henry Wilson and our international representative Jo Von Rotenhan added a more excitable dimension to our play and were often attacking the jack with gay abandon. This was very evident during our annual world bowls tour which this year went to the Mid Gloucestershire indoor arena and the famous Cheltenham Town outdoor club where their club champion gave us a master class in the varied delights which can

be enjoyed within the world of bowls clubs. This was followed by the club's formal dinner where the club captain made a highly amusing and wonderfully precise speech about the future of bowls within schools and its relationship to the development of the cosmos. At this point everyone agreed that bowls was one of the most thrilling sports they had ever played and one which they hoped to return to in the future.

*MSG*





## Photography

This activity took place in the Michaelmas and Summer terms and it was well supported. The emphasis this year was on the taking of photographs and many interesting photographs were taken using the digital and SLR cameras. The group not only took photographs on various themes (the most successful one being flowers), but they also organised the school photographic competition. Results of the competition, which was judged externally, were as follows:

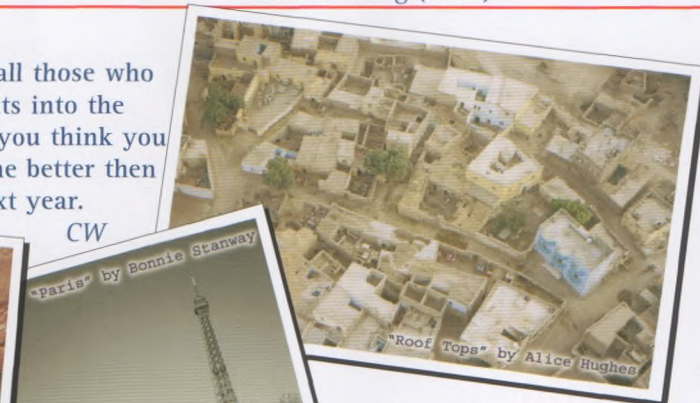
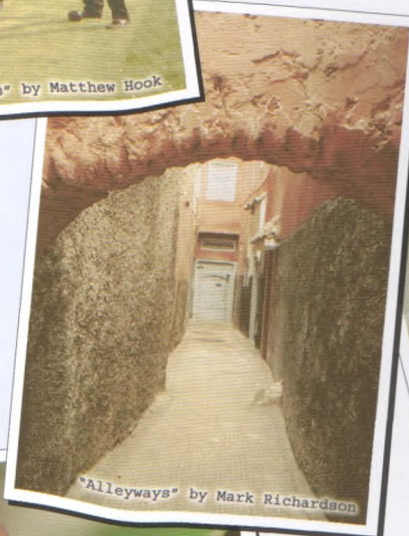
RESULTS 2003 OPEN CATEGORY	1st	"Bowls"	Matthew Hook (3)
	2nd	"Roof Tops"	Alice Hughes (6A)
	<i>commended</i>	"Tunnel of Love"	Amanda Brealy (Staff)
	<i>commended</i>	"Snowdrop"	Chris Wood (Staff)
HOLIDAYS	1st	"Alleyways"	Mark Richardson (1)
	2nd	"Paris"	Bonnie Stanway (Staff)
	<i>commended</i>	"Sunset"	James Daborn (6A)
	<i>commended</i>	"Sauntton Sands"	Chris Wood (Staff)

### ANIMALS

1st	"Butterfly"	Freddy Wüthrich (3)
2nd	"Bear"	Freddy Wüthrich (3)
<i>commended</i>	"Seal"	Alice Hughes (6A)
<i>commended</i>	"Cat"	Jim Harding (Staff)

Thank you to all those who entered prints into the competition. If you think you could have done better then enter next year.

CW







# Academic Trips & Events

## 1st & 2nd Form Science trips to Cheltenham Science fair

On 4th June the 1st and 2nd form went to Cheltenham town hall for a hands-on science day. The 1st form had 'Hollywood Science' and some fun with a gyro-scope and a robot called Oscar. They also had a very interesting lecture from Jonathan Hare who talked about movie stunts.

The second form had an equally enjoyable time learning about time travel and experiencing what it would be like to be an astronaut. Their lecture was about music and sound technology and included a demonstration of the theremin as used in the Beach Boys' classic, 'Good Vibrations'.

All in all it was a fantastic trip and many thanks to Mrs Gibson, Mr Wood and Mrs Gill for taking us.

Contributions from: Charlie Kiggins, Sian Clift, Richard Collins, Joe Scott, Jeremy Skelton, Elbe Whittles, Sarah Lockyer.

## The Natural History Museum - 4th Form

On arriving at the museum we were confronted by an imposing building with the most impressive entrance, I personally, have ever seen.

The museum is an incredible building with such a huge range of exhibitions that there wasn't going to be enough time in the day to see them all.



*The 4th Form at The Natural History Museum*

The Ecology exhibition displayed an enormous range of detailed information, which was clearly laid out.

The dinosaurs were amazing: to see all the skeletons and models at life size, rather than on a television screen, was breath-taking.

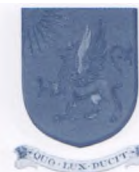


The museum displayed an A to Z of stuffed animals and birds, both current and extinct, with, in my view, the most impressive being the blue whale alongside its skeleton. My personal favourite was the escalator ride up inside the globe to view the Geology exhibition, complete with a simulated earthquake!

Both staff and pupils were kept in awe throughout the day with something new and inspiring around every corner - a thoroughly enjoyable day out.

*RH*





## 6th Form Biology field trip to Wales - Snowdonia

The trip to North Wales was yet again a lot of hard work with many miles walked. We studied rivers and wood-



Sixth form biologists

land and enjoyed the work even though it was very cold. The backdrop was stunning; the mountain range and the beautiful rivers were fantastic. We covered around 40% of our Unit 5, and 75% of our coursework, which meant that the intensive four days were extremely useful and helped us to complete our projects in a short space of time.

In the evenings we entertained ourselves with a 12 inch marguerite from the local 'Kebab and Pizza', and mixed with the locals in The New Inn. This was probably the most enjoyable part of the trip; apart, of course, from wading in a river of slurry amongst such pristine and



beautiful mountains!

Everybody who participated in the trip enjoyed it immensely. Thanks must go to Mr Stutchbury for organising such a successful trip.

*6th Form Biologists*

## Faraday Lectures

On Tuesday the 11th of February, the third form travelled to Colston Hall in Bristol to see the 2003 Faraday Lecture based on forensic science. The lecture began with the dramatic murder of a female professor. The point of the show was then to solve the murder using forensic science and audience participation.

The speakers introduced the "Crime Scene" and took two volunteers up on stage to look for evidence in the office. It was set up in a professional way, with barriers and "Stepping Stones" to walk on. The volunteers found no fingerprints but found a mask and a strand of hair. A footprint was also discovered and this was enhanced by shooting 10,000 volts through it. There then developed an interesting discussion involving the structure and nature of DNA. An experiment was performed with the audience to show the unlikelihood of people sharing invariable DNA.

Next, we saw a mobile phone robbery on film and were asked to identify the criminal in an identity parade. Another volunteer was then brought up to use a simplified pro-fit system to get a picture of the murderer of the professor whom we briefly glimpsed earlier.

The lecture concluded with a role-play where the murderer came on stage and tried to kill the lecturers, was found out and summarily taken away by the police.

It was a good day out and we would like to thank the staff who organised this trip.

*Stephen Lockhart, Alex Staines.*

## 3rd form trip to Stratford-upon-Avon

On Wednesday the 5th of March, the 3rd form, and a various assortment of teachers, boarded a coach armed with umbrellas, raincoats and any other water proof items they could find and of course everyone also had the classic Rendcomb packed lunch! Everyone seemed unusually excited, (probably because of the free shopping time rather than out of reverence for 'The Bard'). We arrived at Stratford-upon-Avon and it looked fairly 'Shakespearian', (although we could only see a few inches due to the torrential rain). At last we saw something and headed for The Shakespeare Trust, where we all learnt about the author. We then moved onto a selection of other houses relating to Shakespeare where we learnt more and more. It turns out Shakespeare isn't 600 years of boredom. This trip was actually quite fun and beneficial as each of us is doing a project on Shakespeare and it inspired a mood. Whether it was Shakespeare or being out of school, something helped... and even teachers seemed relatively human. Amazing, but true!

*Sam Slater*

## 6B English: "Othello" study trip to Bristol

"I haven't. it is engendered. Hell and night must bring this monstrous birth to the world's light."

*(Iago, Act 1 sc. 3)*

So Iago schemes at the end of the





The 4th form in Stratford

first act of that most domestic of tragedies; "Othello". And so we brought a trip to Bristol to light. The

text. The students also got a feel for what undergraduate lectures might be like: quite an eye opener!

A very enjoyable and rewarding experience.

PJ



only "monstrous" aspect of it was Mr Jennings' monstrous forgetfulness in leaving all the packed lunches back at the college!

6B students spent the day listening to lectures about the play. The topics were stimulating and challenging, offering particular insight into character motivation and cultural con-



## Poetry Live!

On 29th November 2002, the whole of the fourth form travelled to the Colston Hall in Bristol, to listen to a range of live poetry readings. Many of the authors will be studied in the G.C.S.E course. Performing live were: Carol Ann Duffy, Gillian Clarke, Simon Armitage, John Cooper Clarke and Moniza Alvi. Carol Ann Duffy read from her collection of poems about some of the famous women behind the apparently famous men of history. (see below) Although all of the poets were interesting and entertaining in their own ways, John Cooper Clarke stole the show with his irreverent humour and his machine-gun delivery. Most of his poems are unsuitable for a magazine like this, but we have included just two, as well as one of Carol Ann Duffy's, for a taste of their work!

Haiku

TO-CON-VEY ONE'S MOOD  
IN SEV-EN-TEEN SYLL-ABLES-

IS VE-RY DIF-FIC

John Cooper Clarke

Tom Jones

Back in town in a black Rolls Royce  
the funky, hunky housewives'  
choice. In one fact we can rejoice  
his trousers don't affect his voice

John Cooper Clarke

Mrs Darwin

7th April 1852  
Went to the zoo  
I said to Him -  
Something about that Chimpanzee  
over there reminds me of you.

Carol Ann Duffy

We enjoyed these!

Alexandra Collins  
Rebecca Maxted  
Chloe Slater  
Polly Rudderham  
PJ

## World Book Day

The College celebrated World Book day again this year. The theme was first hand accounts and readings took place in chapel and within English lessons. A member of every year group read publicly and some fourth formers also wrote their own eyewitness accounts, both true stories and fictional accounts. All who participated read with flair and enthusiasm and it is hoped it helped to encourage students to read as widely as possible.

PJ

## The Cheltenham Literature Festival

On the 11th of October the first form and J6 went on a trip to listen to Michael Morpurgo and Elizabeth Laird. This event took place in the main hall at Cheltenham Ladies' College. Both authors talked about what had inspired them to write and





they read from their latest novels. Michael Morpurgo was particularly good at holding the attention of such a large and varied audience. It was a thoroughly entertaining and interesting insight into the life of a professional writer.

*Michael Richards*

On Friday 11th of October the third form went to a festival of literature at Cheltenham town hall. We went to hear Melvin Burgess originally but we encountered other authors as well; including the award winning Sonya Hartnett, Melvin Burgess was talking about his latest novel. We read some of Melvin Burgess' novel "Junk" in our English lessons to enhance the experience. Each novelist talked about their books then read out an extract and talked about the extract. The floor was then permitted to ask questions. It was an entertaining and unusual evening

*Alex Staines  
and Mathew Hook*

On the 18th of October, J6 and the second form set out to see the famous author Anne Fine at the 'The Everyman Theatre' Cheltenham. She read stories from her famous books and described to us how she was inspired to write. She was amazing and amusing to listen to.

*Tara Richards*

Many thanks to the members of staff from the senior school and the junior school who made these visits possible particularly to Mr Jennings and Mrs Palmer.

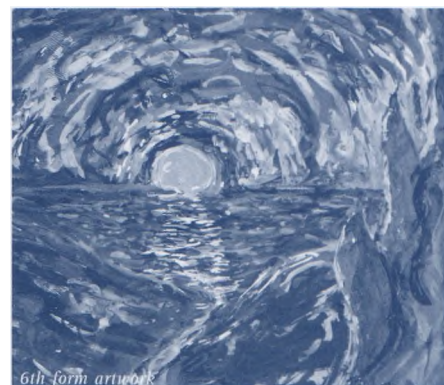
## Art Trips

During the year one of our students questioned the value of spending the day visiting Art galleries in such exotic cities as London, Oxford and Cardiff. Interestingly he had at that time never visited one. This somewhat censored version was the basis of my reply.

Firstly we visit galleries to study Art first hand because it is an essential part of the GCSE and "A" level

coursework. It inspires our imaginations, helps us create real tangible links with the past, see our own endeavors in context to the work of others and of course helps us to investigate other artists' techniques. Seeing pictures on posters, in books or on computer screens can certainly be useful but offers us none of the "WOW" factor you get when you see your favourite artwork in the flesh. The scale, drama, colour and texture can make a sensational impact upon us both mentally and physically. Art History is great for Art Historians who wish to analyze everything to death under the cold tap of what they regard as fact, but to the artist it is about the magic of turning a dull white canvas into an image which should pulsate with energy, life and perhaps even poison. Seeing pictures produced in the past, or by contemporary artists is therefore not just about learning about the past but should be a vital process which is about inspiring the future.

Our visits at the moment take in the cities of London, Oxford and Cardiff with some trips going to the Brewery Arts in Cirencester where a wonderful range of changing exhibitions and educational workshops can be found. London of course contains an awesome amount of great art: magnificent Monet's, terrific Titian's, lovely Leonardo's and scintillating Seurat's. But look carefully in the Ashmolean Gallery, Oxford and you can find some real gems, such as delicately passionate Palmer's and clever Kandinsky's which can summarize a whole expressive landscape within a few brushstrokes in a tiny frame. In Cardiff there is a hugely impressive impressionist section which seems to shimmer with colour and the nuances of sunlight. Looking at the paintings here you can see the way the individual brushstrokes were applied by the artist. The Van Gogh for instance is slashed with brushstrokes to represent the vigorous streaks of rain which cut across the canvas. The field is a turbulent triumph of arcs and curves and the plain of the artist as he responded to the bleak rain swept landscape of Northern France in the year of his death, is tangible.



You can touch his pain, feel it in every brushstroke, see it there before you, like a terrible cry of anguish and hurt. Everything which absorbed Van Gogh as he sought absolution through his art is there for you to see, to discover. No book can give you this.

That is why we go.

*MSG*

## GCSE Geography Visit to the Farmington Estate

There are few industrial sectors that are evolving as rapidly as agriculture. In order to delve into the changes that are occurring in this sector, and to grasp the political influences on it by the C. A. P, it was necessary to get the latest insight straight from those involved in it. Mr. Roper very kindly agreed to enlighten the Fourth Form Geographers at the estate he manages near Northleach.

The students found out about the many physical and political influences on the estate and how collective farms are adapting. In recent years the estate has begun diversifying into organic farming and recreational pursuits, reflecting the developing political and social environment of today. These new features of farming life were experienced first hand - an excellent fieldwork afternoon.





My thanks go to Mr Roper and to the students for their respective delivery and receptiveness to the complexity of the agricultural arena.

*AB*

## 6B geography field trip to Wales

On the 12th of February 12 geographers travelled to Wales, after a stop off in Cardiff Bay redevelopment centre, where Jason told us it was absolutely 'Pukka', we arrived in Pembroke to a week of rivers, sand dunes, salt marshes and settlement studies.

Thinking we had got out of lessons at Rendcomb that morning, we were horrified to find that we had a lesson at 7.30 in the evening. At dinner time we got a chance to check out the other school where the majority were boys!

The first day was spent studying rivers. It was a cold day and morale was high to start off with. We were split into two groups 'Mr Brealy's group' and 'Paul's group'. This meant that we could get more sites done in one day. There was so much equipment needed for all the results required and the boys made sure the girls did their share... in fact they left it up to the girls to carry everything! I was in Mr. Brealy's group and with a bit of Westlife we were enjoying the experience of standing in cold, fast flowing river! In fact Chris enjoyed it so much he decided a swim was appropriate.

On the second day we all went to the coast to look at sand dunes, we

couldn't have asked for more perfect day (in Wales anyway!) In our water-proofs we decided sliding down the dunes would be more fun than studying them. We spent the whole day here going to different sites to examine different plants. After doing what seemed like 20 sites we went back to the centre where we were allowed to analyse our sand samples.

The third day was for people to collect data from all the towns, everyone else stayed back at the centre working on their projects. Collecting the data was a bit of an experience for Nick and myself because when we jumped out the mini-bus to collect the data Mr. Brealy drove off and it was half an hour until we saw him again! Come 4 o'clock all work came to an end and the TV was switched on to watch England beat France. On Saturday night we were let out, to celebrate Ralph's birthday. Mr Brealy treated us to a trip to the fair-after a competitive go on the bumper cars we continued our evening with a disco in the mini-bus and then games on the beach and not forgetting the beautiful view of Texaco oil refinery.

On Sunday, the holy day, the day of rest, we had to go to a cold, wet, sea-smelling salt marsh. This seemed too much for some and mobile phones seemed more important. After having a good play in the mud we went for a bus ride to all the tourist areas along the coast to look at coastal management strategies (and to do some well-earned shopping!)

With all our data collected we decided to return a day earlier. On our last night we had a prize giving ceremony and we were all given a gift to sum up our attitude during the week... so Chris being given a huge dummy and Ralph a big red clown's nose really made them smile.

Thank you to Mr Brealy for taking us and if you ever get asked by 12 teenagers to go on bumper cars then say NO!

*Alice Barefoot*

## Rainforest

### 5TH FORM GEOGRAPHY TRIP TO NEWBURY INDOOR LIVING RAINFOREST

In the Christmas term the 5th form geographers set off for a rainforest adventure-to Newbury! When we arrived we were taught about the different layers of the rainforest. The first zone we entered was the humid forest floor. In here we found out about some rainforest animals like boa constrictor which was very frightening. We then learnt about some of the typical plants that are found in this layer, for example, the giant taro which has very big leaves to intercept a high proportion of light because only 5% of the light that is present reaches the forest floor. The sanderae plant is also found in this layer that has a purple colour. This clever plant reflects light back onto the leaf which means that it can survive on the forest floor because it is able to live in dark areas by storing light. We finally learnt about the higher altitudes plants such as the common feature like 'drip-tips'. This is to help leaves shed water during heavy rains which is needed for water transpiration to occur. Then we found a cage full of monkeys-this excited some of the geographers greatly! After a painful departure from the monkeys we ventured into the toucan area-this also excited us greatly. After the shop visit (loaded with vital rainforest accessories), we arrived back at Rendcomb feeling educated, refreshed and like we had just had a tropical holiday! Thank-you to Mr Brealy for organising the trip.

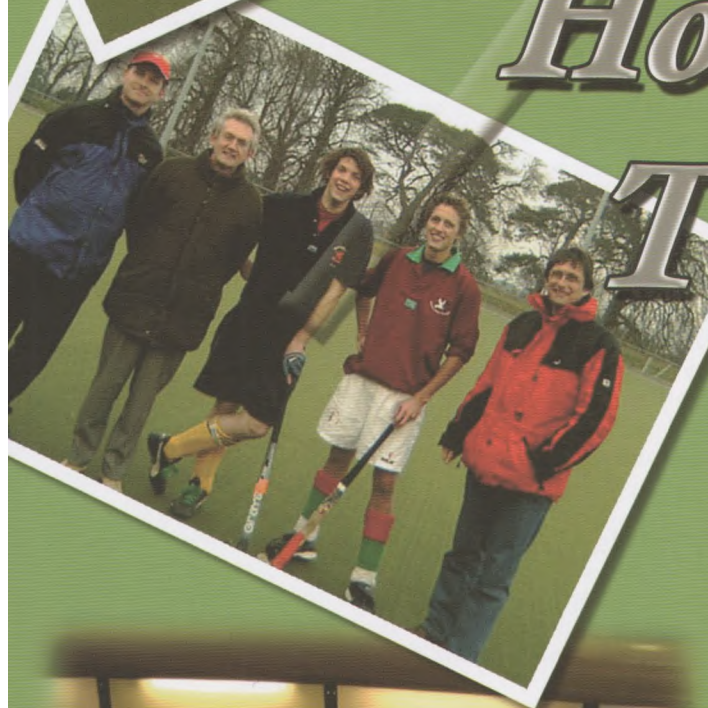
*Faith Roberts and Jess Weston*







# *Dublin Hockey Tour*







# Trips: Social, Cultural and Sporting

## Dublin Hockey Tour 2003

Thirty-eight students disembarked from the coach at St. Columba's College, South Dublin to be greeted by unusually sunny conditions and one of the best playing surfaces in Ireland. The 1st XI girls played first and considering the fact that they had all got on the coach at 5 o'clock that morning at Rendcomb, they put in a very good performance to win 1-0. The 2nd XI followed and could not quite get the winner, ending up 0-0. The scene was set for the 1st XI Boys: they got straight down to the task and after a great deal of pressure went ahead early on. St. Columba's kept coming back but eventually Rendcomb held out 4-3 victors.

St. Columba's then entertained the teams with some fine cuisine, a very generous gesture from St. Columba's warden Dr Lindsay Haslett (Head of French at Rendcomb 1985-1996), before the squad set off for Taylor's Three Rock Bar for its "Irish Night". This was an unashamedly touristy affair with ballads, Irish Music and dancing but it served to be an excellent 'first night' for anyone unsure of what Irish culture is like. Alexandra Andersson made it onto the stage to show her co-ordination as did Mr. Brealy; (more like 'All at Sea' rather than Riverdance!).

The next morning it was only a short walk from the Avalon House hostel to Trinity College for a view of The Book of Kells and the famous library above it. It was then time to head off to one of, if not *the* most, prestigious hockey clubs in Ireland-Three Rock Rovers (mentioned in Simon Mason's article for the tour brochure as the venue for his first U16 England cap). The 1st XI played one of its best games of the season so far to end up 4-1 on top. The girls' teams practised on an adjoining pitch, fine-tuning their skills ready for the next day when they would meet much stronger

St. Columba's teams. The first part of the evening saw the students heading off to various eateries in central Dublin. This gave them the energy to take on each other at the Tallaght Leisureplex at Quazar and Tenpin Bowling. It was Boys v Girls in the Quazar, the Boys putting in a very strategically sound performance-carnage for the girls! (The fairer sex got their revenge the next evening...).

On the third morning, connoisseurs of Guinness (a growing number as each evening passed), were able to see how it's done at The Guinness Store House. The final part of the tour can be spent in the top bar with excellent views over the Wicklow Mountains and the Dublin Bay area. St. Columba's hosted us once again in the afternoon with strengthened teams and the Girls' XI's did very well to draw (both 1-1). The Boys played the College at Three Rock Rovers Club-it was always going to be a tall order playing three days in a row so they weren't too discouraged by the 4-0 defeat-certainly against one of the best teams they will face all season: as Sean Kerly said in the tour brochure: "There is no shame in losing to a better side".

'Petrol-heads unite,' was the war cry for the evening as the whole group took part in an Indoor Championship Go-karting evening at Kylemore karting, Dublin West. The girls were out for revenge after the previous evening and they were certainly championed by Alice Barefoot and Sarah Colson. They pushed Matthew Harbottle to the wire and it enabled him to put in the fastest lap time-Michael Schumacher watch out!

Saturday morning was a relaxed affair (it needed to be after all the excitement of the previous few days) but the group gathered for lunch and it was time to head to Kilmainham Gaol to find out about the political dimension of Ireland-the students were fascinated both by the place and by the stories behind the internments.

After hearing about the Phoenix Park assassinations, it was certainly appropriate to visit the Park and take a moment to see where Pope John Paul II took communion with over a million people in 1979. Fortunately there weren't that many people there with us but there were some beautiful views over hundreds of grazing deer.

After enjoying the ambience of the hostel or nearby public houses in order to see the England - Wales Six Nations match, it was time for the tourists to get their glad rags on and set off for the North side of the Liffey to Chief O'Neill's restaurant. The four course meal went down a treat as did the speeches and gifts. Having seen Dublin by day high up in the Guinness Sky Lounge, it was exciting to also see it by night from the dizzy heights of 'The Chimney' which is attached to the restaurant.

The next morning it was time to say our farewells to the 'fair city' and head back home for a well-deserved rest!

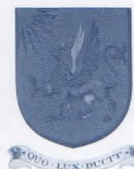
AB

## Ski trip 2003 to Val D'Isere

On Friday the 14th of February, 2003, around 30 people from years 1-5 boarded a coach outside Stable Block and prepared to go to France for an eight day skiing holiday. As we waved goodbye to our parents, and sat back in our seats, we knew we were in for a long journey and a fun







time when we arrived: we were right!

After a quick pick-up of another school, we arrived at the port for a crossing at around 11pm. The coach was full of excited but tired people as we arrived in France.

There was not a lot to see but factory smoke, but as it was late, we rested until morning. After a few “problems” with the coach, and spending about 2 hours in a French coach garage having the coach fixed, we arrived in Val D’Isere at 7:30pm. After settling into our apartments, we set off to a

‘French restaurant’, (more like an English pub...!) to have our dinner, which was fish and chips (see!!!). We then retired to our bunk-beds, to sleep before the busy day ahead of us.



Sunday was our first day of skiing.

We were split into our appropriate groups, depending on skill (or lack of it!) and had our first ski lessons. In the evening we had tea and hit the slopes for a second time that day for some ‘bum-boarding.’ This involved a large slope, giant spades and a lot of crashes!

Over the course of the week we went to two lessons a day, each lasting 2 hours. In the evening we ate and then did various different activities; bowling, ice-skating, or just relaxing in our apartments. We also went to a fireworks display where the ski instructors skied their stuff for our entertainment.

The trip ended with a final meal (a curry!) and a short presentation of badges and booklets from the instructors to the pupils for their hard work during the week. We then reluctantly boarded the coach for the long journey home. We arrived back at Rendcomb at around 4:30pm.

The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who took part. Thanks must go to Mr Holden and Mr and Mrs Hayward for taking us and for putting up with us throughout the week! Thanks also to Mr Stutchbury who organised the trip and who was our brilliant team leader!

LH

## The First Form Adventure Weekend

In mid-September, a group of first formers found themselves answering the call of the wild in the depths of the Forest of Dean. They had to work together in order to confront the challenges provided: climbing Symond’s Yat Rock, kayaking the rapids of the Wye and squeezing through the joints and bedding planes





of the limestone caves. All this, as well as 'pulling together', as they 'stomped', 'unknotted' and tried not to get tangled in the "spider's

web" or eaten by crocodiles, whilst fording the 'river' armed only with planks, crates and their initiative during the "problem solving session!"



They all survived - but it wasn't so much "survival of the fittest" as "survival of the fitters," as they all 'fitted together' so well in overcoming their phobias, self-doubt and pooling their ideas in order to face the ordeals.



It goes to show that "the whole is greater than the sum of the parts!"

Many thanks to all the 'adventurous spirits' who took part (including the staff - Mr White, Mr Holden, Miss Gibbons and Miss Morrison as well as

the 'Brealybunch'-Amanda, Edward, and Eleanor).

AB

## Theatre Club

Theatre Club continues to be a popular Friday night option for Drama students and for those of the non-"luvvie" persuasion. Once again, the get-up-and-groove musicals have been the most popular with the punters but we have also experienced some more cerebral evenings when we have had to think to gain the full meaning of the performances which we have seen.

In the Michaelmas term, Mr Dodd took us to see "The King and I" in Bristol which was for the more romantically inclined! Great set pieces and costumes were the hallmarks of this show.

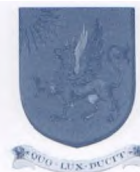
In October we headed up the Fosse Way to The Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford where the new stars of the future from the R.S.C. Academy presented "King Lear" in modern dress. The eye-gouging scene was particularly revolting Hana Lawrence reports!

We finished the term with "Oh! What a Night" in Bristol which included every disco tune Mrs Dodd could remember. Sadly, her disco dancing was not up to everyone else's but we still managed to let the cast know that we were in the back row of the stalls!

The Lent term saw us back at Bristol for the visual feast of "Miss Saigon" which several students had studied for GCSE and A level production questions. Who can forget the stunning helicopter sequence as the American marines left Saigon or the rather risqué nightclub scene? Jamie Burley and James Tarleton certainly appreciated the latter!

We then travelled in March to the





Theatre Royal in Bath to see “Othello” which Sixth Form English Students had studied. Luckily, they told us the plot. Most male characters seemed to be trying to kill everyone else but the final strangling of Desdemona was probably the most memorable for its pathos and violence.

For the final term we had two completely contrasting shows. Ibsen’s “Brand” at Stratford was a hugely intense experience for us all with Ralph Fiennes, fresh from the film “Maid in Manhattan”, showing us that he is the consummate performer as well as a screen idol.

Then, in June, “Saturday Night Fever” at Bristol reminded us once again why disco fever will never die with stunning dance sequences and great ensemble performances. A hugely enjoyable conclusion to our year as Theatre Clubbers.

Next term we can look forward to “Richard the Third”, “Blood Brothers” and “Whistle Down the Wind”.

Keep clubbing!

DD

## Make-Up Workshop

On Friday 18th October 2002, 5th and 6th form drama students took part in



Jonathon Williams and his hand!

a Make-up Workshop day with Max Vanderbanks from “Maximum Effects.”

First we were taught how to apply a straight make up which would appear to look normal on stage. This was fun and fairly straightforward for the girls!

Next, Max made Emily Stanley look ill using pale make up. This was followed by a demonstration on how to do cuts. We practised doing cuts on our friends and by the end we could produce a realistic cut. Finally, Jonathan Williams was given a 3rd degree burn, which was made up of gelatine and covered in make-up. It looked incredibly realistic.

We all found the day interesting and we learnt a lot from Max.

*Verity Symcox*

## “Grease” Trip

On Wednesday 11th December, the majority of Lawn girls and Stable boys travelled to London to see “Grease” on stage. After a long bus journey and plenty of food we arrived. Unfortunately we were very early, but we hung around the entrance hall and read all the leaflets about the show. Finally we took our seats and prepared for the singing and dancing. The show lived up to expectations; the music was brilliant and Mr North, Mrs Mang, Hana Lawrence and Alexandra Collins all got a little bit carried away with the dancing! The show was a huge success with everyone and I don’t think it will be a night to forget. Thanks must go to Mr North, Mr Jennings, Mrs Mang and Miss Bell for taking us.

*Alexandra Collins  
and Rebecca Maxted*

## ‘The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe’

Before the Christmas holidays Mr and Mrs Stutchbury, Mr White, Mrs Allen, Miss Gibbons and Miss Morrison took years 1 and 2 to watch the theatre production of the well known story “The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe” at the famous Royal Shakespeare Theatre. After a long bus journey and a short walk we arrived for a pizza meal. After supper we went to the theatre. We found our seats, bought our sweets then the show began. The scenery was excellent and so was the play. It was exciting, atmospheric and entertaining. I’m sure everyone had a great time. We would all like to say a big thank-you to the members of staff who made this trip possible.

*Victoria Turner*

## ‘The Importance of Being Earnest’

6A & 6B English scholars went to a production of “The Importance of Being Earnest”. We should have known what to expect when the publicity material loudly proclaimed a ‘most physical performance’ Indeed! Not for the faint hearted, perhaps but certainly for the adventurous. For anyone interested in innovative and hilarious theatre, this was a fantastic night out. If I reveal that Lady Bracknell was a gin-swilling, cocaine-snorting, stiletto-wearing haridan, you may have a flavour of the piece!

The show was almost like a circus or dance performance as the actors swayed and sashayed across the stage. The set was modern and use of strobe added to the swirling excitement. It was a remarkable show thoroughly enjoyed by both year groups. I feel absolutely certain that Oscar would have approved of Kaos’ irrever-





erent but powerful production of his play. Splendid!

PJ

## Drama Department Inaugural London Tour



Or.....

### *“Luvvies let loose in London!!!!!!”*

On 24th march 2003 the drama department tour set off for the bright lights of London and theatre-land. A mixed group of fifth, sixth formers, Mrs Dodd, Miss Stanway and Mr



Jennings were going to take Rendcomb luvviedom to a higher plain.

We arrived in Leicester Square and the students were off on a theatre-land treasure hunt. Much wheeler-dealing went on and the first team arrived back at Covent Garden in 50 minutes: they jogged!! How sad is that!! A theme for the tour developed:

Mr Kiggins and ironic detachment: (his team lost!). We walked round theatre-land and had a back-stage tour of ‘Les Mis’ (as we luvvies call it). Miss Stanway was barely able to control the palpitations. On to a fab pizza and then: “My Fair Lady”. This was a visual delight. Stunning choreography, set design and a ‘cor-blimey-heart-warming tale’

to boot! And!!!!.... a full-on Cilia Black experience!!!! She was surrounded by a “lorra, lorra, lorra Rendcomb drama luvvies” and was



ab-fab with us.

Back to the hotel and ready for the next action-packed day.

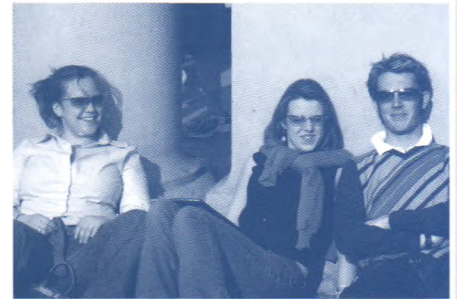
SUNDAY:

*Gosh! Whorra a lot we did!*

8.30: continental breakfast.

10. 00: Workshop in the theatre museum, Covent Garden. Fantastic mime and movement class.

12 ish: Workout dance routine with a chap from last night’s performance of



“My Fair Lady”.

Wowwwwwwwwwww!

At Pineapple Studios!!!! (“Wiv a little bit, ‘wiv a little bit...”)

1 ish: Lunch.

3.00: “Woman in Black”

3.30: Heart by-pass operations all round: that is one scary play!

5 ish: Rendcomb students get to talk to the cast. Fantastic!

6 ish:

onwards: The long march home

It was a superb trip and the students were a credit to themselves and to the school. A huge thank-you must go to Mrs Dodd for conceiving this idea and to Miss Stanway for being such a brilliantly enthusiastic shopper!

Look at the pictures and judge for yourselves!

PJ



## BSES expeditions

On the front cover of last year's Rendcombian, four rather nervous figures stood; kitted out in rucksacks, waterproofs and woolly socks. These were our four intrepid explorers: Alice Hughes, Cindy Cheung, Meg Barne and Sarah Rudderham. Helped by travel bursaries from The Old Rendcombian Society, they were off to The Arctic and to The Amazon.



Meg Barne addresses the Royal Geographical Society

The four girls experienced the highs and lows of adventurous travel. For all of them it was a challenging and rewarding experience. Their reports of their experiences are in the Old Rendcombian newsletter (issue 29) and will not therefore be repeated here. However, I will record here the last line of the reports they gave on their return. The conclusions to their tales speak clearly about why travel is so important. Current students: get applying for bursaries and get travelling!

"Nobody would believe us; that in the Arctic Circle we went up to the ice-cap and sunbathed: it was incredible."

*Cindy Cheung*

"I hope I get a chance to do some-

thing like that again as those 42 days were so different to anything else in my life and I made so many new friends who I hope I'll keep in touch with for the rest of my life."

*Meg Barne*

"The children followed us back into the forest, holding our hands until they were allowed to go no further. Even the most hard hearted of us were touched."

*Alice Hughes*

*PJ*

## The Leavers' Weekend

At the formal dinner in the evening Paul Sykes addressed the Leavers. The report of that speech lies elsewhere. However, we thought it appropriate to reprint here Zuki Turner's farewell speech on behalf of the Leavers. She speculated in her speech on what a 20 year re-union of the class of 03 might look like. Here is an edited version of what she said:

"... I can imagine that the first person to arrive would be James Daborn, though 20 years of wear and tear on those legs might leave him only with stumps. James would be closely followed by David Roper, who would have chosen to run to the event, wearing speedos and matching fluorescent sweat and wrist bands resembling a slightly camp 80's aerobics

instructor. Charlie F would be next, although after recently losing his driving licence, he has come on his bicycle-lowered with alloys, a spoiler and a mean stereo system, of course. Already at Rendcomb and hovering around the drinks table is G, who upon leaving Rendcomb soon became headmistress, bursar and deputy head, ably assisted by her husband, although they're just good friends honest, Sam Gunner.

Soon to arrive are the seemingly more successful members of our year group: Jenny has flown in by private jet courtesy of her husband, King William and she is being followed around by Tommy, hot off the set of his new blockbuster; 'Carry on Plumbing'. T is also there and has become the world's richest builder and he is talking to Greg, a member of that successful 'Blue' tribute band; 'Turquoise'.

Another highly successful member of our year group is the honourable Jeffreys mingling with Emma whose career making convincing bird noises for the film industry, has made her a multi-millionaire. Henry Wilson, wearing a rather stylish Oakley jacket has brought a date along-a rather haggard Hugh Grant and they are smooching to the soothing sounds of our own human 'beat-box', Duncan.

Mat Harbottle is sitting in the corner eating all the pies and making terrifying dove noises as Alice pulls up



The class of '03





fashionably late wearing red leathers and sitting astride her thunderous Harley Davison. She is accompanied by a sun-tanned hunk named Hank.

Timmy is a huge surprise having carved out a career saying; "do you want fries with that?"



A few won't make it: Jo will be advised not to attend because of the danger of worryingly high stress levels and despite the fact that he left two weeks early Sambo isn't here yet because his combine harvester won't go any faster! Hutch of course stuck to his vow never to return.

We've all had an amazing time here and thanks go to all the staff past and present. Here's to friendship and see you all in 20 years!"

*Zuki Turner*

Tim Bates, the Head Boy, also wrote about the leavers:

It was the end of an era. A time for reflection on the past, present and future. It was Leavers' Weekend 2003. This event will be memorable to me for so many reasons.

We had Friday afternoon swimming in the pool and then played the superb human table football, which provided great entertainment for all watching and participating, (with the possible exception of Dave Roper who ended up on the wrong end of a flying bungee cord!)

We saw the return of old friends in the Taplin's and Mrs. Botham. The grace by Mr. Taplin proving that two years in Bristol hasn't dulled his

sense of humour!

We ate a superb dinner, with the democratically chosen menu that seemed to go down well all round (as did the wine). We sat and listened as Mr. Sykes, a leaver himself, and Zuki entertained us with their carefully crafted insults, sorry, I mean speeches.

We discovered in the Church service the next morning that, much to Mr. Jefferson's, surprise, we can actually sing! Mr. Morgan read the address and there were readings from Chris and Henry. Emma played Mendelssohn's 'Song Without Words'.

There are many other events I could mention: the bar, the 1st form German video, Henry and the bar (again)! Thanks must go to Mr and Mrs Slark, anyone who spoke or performed and anyone else who helped to bring the weekend together.

The most important thing about the event, though, was that, probably for the last time, The Rendcomb Leavers 2003 were all together and a fantastic time was had by all.

*Tim Bates*

## The Old Rendcombian Society Weekend:

Most sixth form leavers continue to join the Society and the annual newsletter was sent to some 1200 members around the world.

There were three reunions at College during the academic year. In December a rugby match between two teams of Old Rendcombians, the Reprobates and the Retrobates, took place in Arctic conditions and in March three teams played the school, who won the 1st and 2nd XI matches. The summer reunion focused on the departure of Paul Sykes and during the lunch break of the cricket match

he was presented with a cheque. He intends to buy a hawk and name it in honour of the society once he has established a bird of prey centre in France.

At the AGM, which took place during the summer reunion, the following officers were elected:

President: Julian Comrie (1946-54)

Chairman: Neil Lumby (1968-73)

Vice-Chairman: Charlotte Jeffery (1988-90)

Secretary: Jane Gunner (1975-77),  
Whiteway Farmhouse, The Whiteway,  
Cirencester, GL7 7BA  
[jane@r2g2.co.uk](mailto:jane@r2g2.co.uk)

Treasurer: Chris Wood (1965-71; staff 1976-)

Committee members: Michael Miles (1943-50), Richard Tudor (1973-80), Alex Brealy (1980-87; staff 1994-), Richard Reichwald (1983-87), Fiona Burge (1988-90).

Hon. Auditor: David Williams

Newsletter Editor: Bill White (Staff 1961-97)

The travel bursary, established to support pupils who wish to travel with a purpose, goes from strength to strength. This year Christopher Jeffreys and Henry Wilson received awards and next year £1,000 will be available. Further details may be obtained from the secretary or Chris Wood.

The reprinting of the History of Rendcomb College vol 1 had been held up by technical problems, but should be available by Christmas.





## Valete

### NAME

BARLTROP Mitchell  
RICHARDS Michael  
TURNER Victoria

HINES Daniel  
PALMER Luke  
RICHARDS Tara

LIDENWALL Lucy  
LU Lucy

CURTOYS George  
JINNO Ryo  
KANEMARU Yoko  
NAKAMURA Eisaki  
OKUMARU Rie  
SYMCOX Ben  
WUTHRICH Freddy  
HO, Ivan  
NAGANO Keiko Nagano

BLESOVSKY Rachel  
LI Jie Stephen  
WILLIAMS, Tomos

BAGHADI Luke  
BARLTROP Sophie  
CHESTER-MASTER Tom  
CHU Douglas  
DENHAM Matthew  
FINN Adam

GEAKE Sally  
JUDE Christine  
KING Nicola  
LEE Wing Fung  
MALIK Safia  
MCALLISTER Claire  
MIXTURE Tom  
PEACH David  
PRESTON Rebecca  
QUINN Sara  
ROBERTS Faith  
SANDERS Laura  
SOANES Thomas  
STANLEY Emily  
STUTCHBURY Harriet  
SYMCOX, Verity  
WELLS Eleanor  
WILLIAMS Jon  
WILLIS Daniel  
WUTHRICH, Willemijn  
O'DONAHUE, Alex  
ALL 6A

## Salvete

### FORM 1

Barkes, Rosalind  
Bladon, Amy  
Brittain, James

Clark, Rory  
Cooke, Rebecca  
Cooke, Christopher  
Edwards, Katya  
Ellis, Shaun  
Foley, Emma  
Graham, Laura  
Griffiths, Sophie  
Hackett, Alice  
Heyman, Lucy  
Hook, Alexander  
Hopes, Thomas  
Humphrey-Gaskin, William  
Jones, Charlotte  
Lane, Eleanor  
Lee, Georgia  
Maisey, Harry  
McCourt, Amanda  
Medus, Jack  
Mulcahy, Dominic  
Parker, William  
Potter, Guy  
Rahman, Samiur  
Rathie, William  
Richards, Hannah  
Scott, Harvey  
Sweeting, Jennifer  
Tapsell, Oliver  
Trim, William  
Turner, Emily  
Valentine, Jemima

### FORM 2

Li, Benson  
Melia, Jessica  
Sinclair, Craig  
Watson, Rachel

### FORM 3

Cumberpatch, Edward  
Finneron, Sean  
Hattori, Mitsutaka  
Ikawa, Koji (Malcolm)  
Johnson, Callum  
Kaiya, Nanako  
Ku, David  
Minezaki, Yuki  
Mori, Yoshiya  
Richards, Oliver  
Roach, Jack  
Sinclair, Amy  
Ruddy, Katherine  
Suzuki, Chiharu  
Usami, Madori  
Xu, Guoqiang (Michael)

### FORM 4

Hardy, Martin  
Andres, Anna  
Ng, Shong  
Xu, Tingting (Christine)

### FORM 6

Clements, Anja

Dai, Shiwen  
Dommes, Lisa  
Dysdale, Joseph  
Hardy, Rachel  
Roos, Jonas  
Schmid, Judith  
Spigiel, Sina  
Von Rotenhan, Lotta  
Wuller, Lina

## Officers

### PREFECTS 2002-03

Head Boy:  
Timothy Bates

Head Girl:  
Georgina Webb-Dickin

Prefects in the Old Rectory:  
Thomas Lait  
Johannes von Rotenhan

Prefects in Godman House:  
Emma Sykes  
Jenny Wulkop

### PREFECTS 2003-04

Head Boy:  
Nick Evans



Nick Evans - Head Boy

Head Girl:  
Sarah Rudderham



Sarah Rudderham - Head Girl





Deputy Head Boy:  
Edd Kiggins

Deputy Head Girl:  
Harriet Kingsford

Prefect in Stable House  
Edd Kiggins

Prefect in Lawn House:  
Laura Burley

Prefects in Old Rectory:  
Amanda Lomax  
Sarah Colson

Prefects in Godman House:  
Meg Barne  
Alex Andersson



*The Prefects*

## 50 Years On

In this year's Rendcombian, we continue our series of reflections about the college 50 years on. We look at an entry from the Rendcomb College Chronicle, as it was then known, from December 1953 chronicling the events of the previous summer term. The Chronicle appeared four times a year A5 size and consisted of 6 pages. No photographs of course! It tells of visits to The Cheltenham Festival of Contemporary Music, and 'Q.P' ('Quiet Period') concerts taking place on Sundays at the College. R.A.P. told of a visit to Stratford to see Michael Redgrave as King Lear and Waite and Harrison were skittling out oppositions for the 1st XI cricket team! (Waite: best bowling; 5 for 19 against Cirencester Grammar school, Harrison; 6 for 4 against Burford School!)

Two short articles were particularly entertaining. One tells the story of the excitement caused by the arrival of the B. B. C. to Rendcomb:

"On Friday, July 3rd, a B.B.C. Recording van visited the College. Records were made of the Choir at practice in the Music Room. And interviews with various members of the Choir and the Choirmaster were recorded. The results of these labours could be appreciated in the programme "Apollo in the West" which was broadcast in the West of England Home Service of the B.B.C. on Thursday, September 17th."

If anyone has a copy, contact the editor!

News of an 'open stage' was also of interest. I like the withering sarcasm of the comment about 'non-cricketers': non-major games people beware; you may find yourself doing hard labour next term!

"The Open Air stage was used on Founder's day for the first time since 1938, when a performance of the 'Mock Doctor', a translation by Fielding of Molière's 'Le Medecin malgre lui' was presented. During the weeks preceding the performance an enormous amount of work-clearing, leveling, and rolling-had to be done on the stage, and this was most efficiently performed by R. W. Muchamore and a gang of devoted non-cricketers."

*PJ*

## Destinations of 6A Leavers 2002

Frances Burden	Univ of Warwick	Biological Sciences
Korn-Anong Chaiwantanasirikul	King's College Univ of London	Human Biology
Winnie Cheung	Sutton Coldfield College	Art Foundation
Richard Demczak	Oxford Brookes Univ	Music
Olivia Evans	Univ of Newcastle	English Literature
Penelope Foster	Univ of Newcastle	Geographic Information Science
Nellie Gilson	Univ of Birmingham	Humanities
Philip Gordon-Jones	Royal Agricultural College	Business Management
Dave Law	Oxford Brookes Univ	City Planning
Hau Ling Leung	Sutton Coldfield College	Graphic Design
Edward McHenry	Ruskin College	
	Univ of Oxford	Fine Art
Victoria Mackinnon	Univ of Birmingham	Law
Thomas Matsukawa		Psychiatry
Nat Maylott		Art Foundation
Stanislav Odinysov	Oxford Brookes Univ	Business Management
Sarah Padmore	Leeds, Trinity and All Saints	Marketing & Management
Jonathon Pratt	Birmingham College of Food & Tourism	Tourism Management
Aimée Smith	Univ of West of England	Equine Business Management
James Spackman		Business Studies
Nicolas Trost	Univ of Birmingham	Mechanical Engineering
Stephen Ward		Marketing
Friedrich Ysenburg	Univ of Brighton	International Business



# GCE Examinations



Timothy BATES	C*, M*, FM*, P, H* (AS)
Duncan BOND	BS*, G, H, E (AS)
James DABORN	E, G, H, BS (AS)
Charles FOTHERGILL	D, BS (AS), MU (AS)
Samuel GUNNER	C*, M*, FM*, P*, A (AS)
Matthew HARBOTTLE	B, BS, G
Samuel HICKS	BS, G (AS)
Alice HUGHES	A, B*, C*, G*
Matthew HUTCHINS	BS*, G, PE (AS)
Christopher JEFFREYS	A, E, G, B (AS)
Gregory JONES	A, G (AS), E (AS)
Thomas LAIT	BS, F, P
Thomas LOCKYER	A*, H, M
David ROPER	PE (AS), P (AS)
Emma SYKES	E, MU, MT, D (AS)
Zuki TURNER	A*, D*, E*, MU (AS)
Johannes VON ROTENHAN	B, C, GM*, P
Georgina WEBB-DICKIN	A*, D, E, F
Henry WILSON	BS, G
Jenny WULKOP	F, GM*, H, G (AS)

Key: \* grade A

Subject Key: A=Art, B=Biology, BS=Business Studies, C=Chemistry, D=Drama & Theatre Studies, EL=English Literature, F=French, G=Geography, GM=German, H=History, M=Maths, FM=Further Maths, MU=Music, MT=Music Technology, P=Physics, PE=Physical Education.



Heather Roper and Jessica Weston



Sam Gunner and Zuki Turner





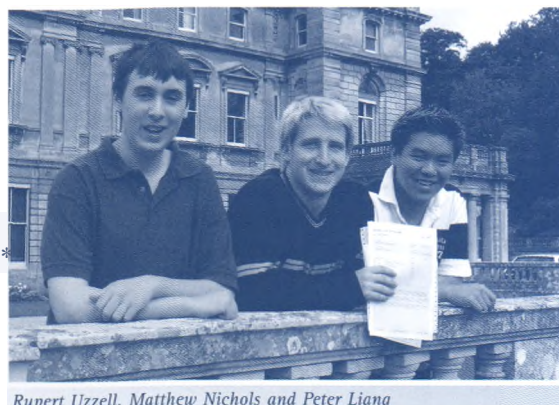
# GCSE Examinations

## SIXTH FORM ENTRY

Michael ARKLE	E
Jenny WULKOP	E, M

## FIFTH FORM ENTRY

Luke BAGHDADI	B*, C, E*, EL, G*, H**, M*, MU, P
Sophie BARLTROP	B*, C, D**, E*, EL*, F**, GM, M*, MU, P
Hannah BISHOP	A, B**, C**, E*, EL, G*, GM*, M*, PE*, P*
Thomas CHESTER-MASTER	B, C, E, EL, F*, H*, ICT*, M, pe, P
Douglas CHU	A, CH**, e, ict, M, sd
Charlotte CUMBERPATCH	A, B, C, E*, EL, F**, G, M, MU, P
Matthew DENHAM	E, EL, f, H*, ICT, M, PE, SD
Adam FINN	A, B, C, E, EL*, F, H**, ICT*, M, P
Sally GEAKE	A*, B, C, D*, E, EL, f, G, M, p
Luke GUNNER	A**, B*, C*, E, EL, F, G, GM, M*, P*
Laura HOLMES	B*, c, D*, E*, EL*, F**, ICT*, M, MU*, p
Geoffrey HULBERT	A, B*, C**, E*, EL, f, H**, M, PE, P*
Graham HULBERT	B**, C**, E, EL, H*, M, MU*, PE, P*
Christine JUDE	A, E, EL, gm, ICT, M, PE, SD
Nicola KING	A, B**, C*, D**, E*, EL, G*, GM, M, P
Dennis KWOK	A, B, C, CH**, e, g, ict, M*, P
Wing Fung LEE	A, B**, C**, E, EL, G*, ICT, M*, P
Lauren LEES	D*, E, EL, F, ICT, M, MU*, SD
Peter LIANG	B**, C**, E*, EL**, GM*, H**, ICT**, M*, MU**, P**
Safia MALIK	B, C, E, EL**, G, GM, ICT*, M, pe, p
Holly MATHIAS	B, C, D, E, EL*, f, G, H*, M, p
Claire McALLISTER	A*, B, C*, E*, EL*, F*, G**, ICT**, M*, P
Tom MIXTURE	B, C, E, EL, F, G, ICT, M, MU, P
Ryosuke MURAHASHI	A, e, ict, J**, M, pe, SD
Matthew NICHOLS	B**, C**, E**, EL**, F**, G**, H**, ICT**, M**, P**
David PEACH	B, c, E, EL, f, H, ICT, M, PE, p
Rebecca PRESTON	A*, B, C, E*, EL**, G, GM*, H**, M*, P
Sara QUINN	A, E, EL, f, ICT, m, SS
Faith ROBERTS	B**, C*, E*, EL**, F*, G*, M*, MU*, PE, P*
Heather ROPER	B**, C**, E*, EL**, F**, GM**, H**, M**, MU, P*
Laura SANDERS	A, D, E, m, sd
Daniel SEO	A, e, ict, M*, SD
Benjamin STAINES	B, C, E, EL, F, H*, ICT, M, PE, p
Emily STANLEY	B*, C*, D, E*, EL, F**, ICT, M*, MU*, P
Harriet STUTCHBURY	A*, B, C, E*, EL, F**, G, GM, M, p
Verity SYMCOX	B*, C, D, E, EL, F**, GM, M, MU, P
Claire TAYLOR	A*, B*, C*, E, EL, G*, GM, ICT*, M*, P
Rupert UZZELL	B**, C**, D**, E*, EL**, GM*, H**, M, MU**, P**
Caroline WELLS	B*, C, D**, E*, EL*, F*, G*, H**, M, P
Eleanor WELLS	A, B, C, E, EL, G, GM, ICT, M
Jessica WELLS	A, D, E, EL, GM, ict, m, ss
Jessica WESTON	A**, B**, C*, E*, EL*, F**, G**, H**, M*, P*
Edwina WICKHAM	A, E, EL, GM, ICT, M, SD
Jonathan WILLIAMS	D**, E, EL*, f, H, m, MU, SS
Daniel WILLIS	B, c, E, EL, F, G, H*, ICT, M, p
Willemijn WUTHRICH	A**, B, C, E*, EL, F*, g, GM**, M, p



Rupert Uzzell, Matthew Nichols and Peter Liang

## FOURTH FORM ENTRY

Dennis HO	CH**
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Key: Capital letters show grades A\* - C, lower case letters grades d - g.

\*\* grade A\*, \* grade A

Subject key: A-Art, B-Biology, C-Chemistry, CH-Chinese, D-Drama, E-English Language, EL-English Literature, F-French, G-Geography, GM-German, H-History, ICT-Information Communication Technology, J-Japanese, M-Mathematics, MU-Music, P-Physics, PE-Physical Education, SD-Science (Double), SS-Science (Single).





## 1st XV Overview



*Ralph Aspin in full flow*

The rugby club has enjoyed a momentous season in 2002. The overall results are:

Played: 50. Won: 33. Drawn: 1. Lost: 16. Points for: 1,096 Against: 720

As this was my first season as master-in-charge of Rugby, it was a delight to watch so much excellent play. To carry on from Mr Slark, who had run rugby so efficiently for the previous eight years, was a daunting task, but the systems in place made the job much easier. Rendcomb has a realistic fixture list and we are able to compete on an equal footing. This year the coaches Messrs:

Sykes, Graham, Essenhigh, Griffiths, Brealy, Williams, Ford, Jefferson and Slark; were able to choose which group they coached. I would like to thank all of them for their dedication, loyalty and support throughout. I have no doubt that we have an extremely talented coaching staff for such a small school. This was com-

mented upon by the Inspectors.

Three years ago a group of coaches sat down to discuss the future of rugby at Rendcomb College; we were struggling to put sides out, we were often too small and some of the scores reflected this. Yet we have survived, and there is a real renaissance in Rendcomb Rugby as we now move forward. The excellent record of the 1st XV, an unbeaten season, winning fourteen out of fourteen, was an indication of this new vigour, and the rearrangement of coaching at the senior level has reaped huge dividends.



*Nick Evans in the line out*

There are several other achievements worth mentioning. We have resurrected our 'B' teams at the lower age groups, showing the growing strength of rugby at the junior end of the school. With the increasing strength and depth emerging from the Junior School, the future appears rosy here. Our teams have maintained a high level of sportsmanship and self-discipline throughout the season, and we are determined to continue playing our style of fast running, expansive rugby. 110 boys represented the college on the rugby field this season. Sometimes it would appear easier to turn your back on the game, but many returned - trained hard and played to the utmost of their ability.



*Edd Kiggins takes on his man*

The following pages of team reports will give you a flavour of the season. The season was celebrated with an excellent Rugby Club Dinner on the final Tuesday of term, where the combination of tradition and humour ensured that a lively evening was had by all. Mr Michael Newby, Headmaster of Bredon School, made a most entertaining speech, and it was most appropriate that at this very special night an ex-Head of Rugby and Coach of the 1st XV should join in the very special celebrations.

*PD*

*Master-in-charge of Rugby*

## 1st XV

### CAPTAIN'S REPORT

It is said that war makes ordinary





people do extraordinary things. It is also said that sport is a battle and this year the 1st XV proved that both of these sayings are true.

Fifteen ordinary people took to the pitch 14 times this season and came out with the most successful season in the history of the school. A record that cannot be beaten as we achieved the ultimate, we were unbeaten! We aren't 15 full time rugby players, but when we played, we played like it was what we were born to do, like it was all that mattered, and at the time it was.

In our matches against Bristol Cathedral and King's Gloucester, we showed our passion and our desire to win in the fullest. We just refused to let them score. It was the first time we didn't concentrate on our attack but just came so committed to our defence that it didn't matter.



*The Captain leads by example*

We had already shown this season that we could score points; we will all remember the Monckton Combe match because it's not often that you put 50 points on a team in the first half. We also remember Matt Harbottle's dissatisfaction at being subbed. Matt has been one of the key players this season, he has really come into his own this season. His body took a battering every match but he kept coming back for more. He proved that he is a very skilful and very passionate player and for his commitment to the team I thank him

as the season would have been very different without him.

Ralph Aspin has proved himself to be quite a superstar this season. Despite his laziness in the weights room he's produced a lot of magic on the pitch. His pace has been vital in attack and he has been solid in defence. He is someone with a lot of potential.

Three 5th formers have taken the giant leap to 1st XV status this season and they haven't let us down. Dave Peach has been a battling prop solid at all times. Luke Baghdadi and Geoff Hulbert both had outstanding seasons. They can both be very proud of their attributes on the pitch. Luke has had an especially good season; he has been a vital asset to the team both as hooker and around the pitch.

The last Saturday afternoon of the season was a very sad day for me. It was the end of an era, and one that I have enjoyed a lot. It was the end of my school boy rugby career. And the last time I will play with people like Sam Hicks, Chris Jeffreys, Tim Bates, Dave Roper and Matt Hutchins. Seven years ago we all started playing together and it's all over now. But luckily

we went out in a blaze of glory. I thought the season we had at U15's was good, but this year really has been remarkable and I owe a lot of it to these guys.

Sam has had an excellent season especially when he concentrated. He did get side-tracked some times by things like caravans or his Aunt's house, but generally he was very reliable.

Chris Jeffreys has had a massive season this year. His kicking from hand

has been very useful and his place-kicking even more so. He's been a rock in defence putting in some huge tackles when needed. It's been a pleasure playing with him all these years.



*Chris Jeffreys goes for goal*

We were lucky this year to have one of the most intelligent wingers in the world of rugby. Despite struggling to get over the try line himself he helped others on their way. I particularly remember his fantastic pass to Chris Barefoot against STR, it was a brilliant piece of quick thinking and Tim has had an excellent season.

And of course Dave Roper, a man who doesn't know when to stop. He's been a vital player this year not only for his scary level of fitness but for his skill and commitment to the team. Also for the interesting grunts he makes during the match. I'm never quite sure whether he's hurt or not but as you can imagine he carries on going.

Then there's Matt Hutchins. Six seasons we've played together now and five of them as No 8 and scrum half, all of which have been not only enjoyable but also successful. He's looked after me to make sure I didn't





make any stupid mistakes and was quick to forgive me when I did. It really has been an honour to have played with him all these years and I hope our rugby together isn't over.

This year there have been two pretty boys in the forwards and scarily one of them is a prop. Tom Lockyer and Johannes' concern for their appearances was incredible. The classic moment for me was before a match doing some warming up with the tackle shields and Jo said "I'm not going on the floor I don't want to get dirty! " Despite this though they have both been superb on the pitch. We all got a shiver down our spine when Joe lined up for a big tackle or when Tom dropped his shoulder when he was running at someone. Even if neither of them steps on a rugby pitch again they have both achieved so much already it won't really matter. But of course Jo is going to go on and become a German international and beat England in the world cup finals.

Then finally the survivors for next year, Nick Evans, Chris Barefoot, John Adler and Ed Kiggins. At the start of the season we knew we had a good player in Nick Evans but no one could have imagined he'd have as good a season as he has. He may not have scored himself but his support play and lineout work have led to so many points that we could give him an honorary try.

Chris, John and Ed were all new boys at the start of the year and all arrived with good reputations and so I looked forward to seeing if they could live up to these and I wasn't disappointed. Chris has been of huge benefit to the team, his years of club rugby have led to him developing an excellent rugby brain which he used well. His tackling has been solid all season and he can be especially pleased with the tackle he put in against KSG on the last Saturday, it could have saved the match. I'm sure he'll be important next season.

Last year we were worried we weren't

going to have a front row this year. However John Adler showed up and filled the prop position perfectly. He's been a solid scrummager and good around the pitch. He truly has been a useful introduction into the team.

Ed has also had a good season, especially when he wasn't injured. Sadly he's been held back somewhat this season by injury but I'm sure he will have the chance to redeem himself next year, because I'm sure these four and Ralph will form the backbone of what will hopefully be a very successful team.

The coaches. Mr Dodd and Mr Slark have been brilliant. They made sure we kept our feet on the ground and didn't let our confidence get the better of us because complacency was the only thing that would have stopped us.

They helped us all stay committed to the team because we could see how much it meant to them. Their coaching over the past few years has been both useful and enjoyable, and particular thanks must go to Mr Dodd for taking over as head of Rugby allowing Mr Slark to concentrate on coaching us. It's also been nice to have some input from him as well.

This season has been absolutely remarkable. Everyone who had anything to do with it can feel very proud. Everybody's contribution was important, even if like Duncan Bond you only came on for a bit the fact you were willing to come on is important. However I am disappointed I didn't get to see the intimidating front row of messrs Gunner, Fothergill and Wilson but maybe they will rise one day to take on the world.

Last year when Mr Slark asked me if I wanted to be captain this year I said yes knowing I would have a good team behind me. I wasn't wrong. I actually called up my brother and said that I was going to have an unbeaten season so that I would beat him at something. I thought I was joking when I said it but thanks to my teammates I'm not anymore. I still haven't stopped thinking how amazing it is that we were unbeaten, but we were and it's something that will stay with me the rest of my life, and the team as well.

I can't say enough how thankful I am to my teammates for being so committed and putting so much effort into the season. We really have achieved something amazing and I hope everyone realises that.

## RESULTS

v	Abingdon (A)	44-7
	Cokethorpe (H)	24-12
	Cirencester RFC (A)	42-0
	Rednock (H)	22-15
	Bredon (A)	32-0
	Leighton Park (H)	23-12
	St John's Marlborough (A)	36-14
	Rougement (H)	37-12
	Monckton Combe (H)	50-0
	St Edward's Cheltenham (A)	25-7
	Sir Thomas Rich's (H)	36-12
	Bristol Cathedral School (A)	6-3
	Kingham Hill (H)	26-0
	King's School Gloucester (A)	15-11





## POSTSCRIPT



The stalwarts of the 2nd XV

To win 14 out of 14 is a truly remarkable achievement - at any level - this year's XV have set very high standards and lived up to them - those who aspire to follow them should understand what this means - the standard is not to win every game - it is to give absolutely everything you have to the team - this season the consequence of living up to the standard has been to win every game - this cannot be bettered and possibly will never be equalled - but those of you who want the shirt can measure up to this team in terms of commitment and pride - that is what we demand of a Rendcomb 1st XV.

No one should underestimate the pressure this team was under in the last week of the season - playing 3 games in 8 days - but as the pressure mounted their remarkable strength of character saw them through - any one who doubts the value of team sport and above all of rugby as the team sport should have witnessed their magnificent performances on the last 2 Saturdays of the season winning away 6-3 at BCS and finally 15-11 at KSG - the last 20 minutes of the season saw a large and powerful King's team battering the Rendcomb line but the line held through sheer strength of character and absolute determination not to be beaten - no one who saw it will ever forget it - words cannot do justice to the magnitude of the achievement - you had to

be there to understand it.

Great teams need great leaders - this year's XV had two.

Matt Hutchins phlegmatic as ever - a truly outstanding vice capt - the heart of team - one of the major reasons why this team could not be beaten was that Matt Hutchins would not be beaten - as a player I can pay him no higher compliment than to say

that I would have been very happy to play alongside him - And finally, the skipper, Tommy Lait - 3 years in the first XV - three winning seasons and an outstanding and record setting captain in his final season - looking back on his 3 years he never had a bad game in a 1st XV shirt - this season he has been the outstanding player on the pitch in game after game - he set the highest standards and his team have followed him with absolute commitment - a captain can do no more.

As for the future, I am delighted to confirm the appointment of Ralph Aspin as captain of rugby for next season - his great pace and flair in attack and reliability in defence made him a vital element of team's success - he truly has potential to become a very good player indeed - I can also confirm the appointment of Nick Evans as vice capt - congratulations and good luck to both of them.

MS

## OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

Club Captain: T. LAIT  
Vice Captain: M. HUTCHINS  
2nd XV Captain: T. DAVIES

Team from: T Lait (capt), M Hutchins (vice-capt), T Bates, M Harbottle,

S Hicks, M Hutchins, C Jeffreys, T Lockyer, D Roper, J von Rotenhan,

J Adler, R Aspin, C Barefoot, N Evans, E Kiggins, L Baghdadi, Ge Hulbert, D Peach

## STATISTICS

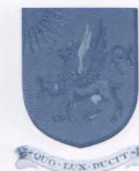
Played.....	14
Won.....	14
Points for.....	418
Points against.....	105

## 2nd XV

How can you say it has been a pleasure to coach a team which has played 7 matches won only 2 and lost 5? You can if it was this Rendcomb 2nd XV Rugby team; for the simple reason that as a team they consistently played with tremendous spirit and determination. Indeed, two of my most abiding memories from what was a very long and physically demanding season, was Jan San Lee (who had never played rugby before) launching himself horizontally as he tackled his opposite number in one of the best school-boy tackles I have ever seen. Together with that, there were numerous occasions when only Graham Hulbert, our full-back, stood between the try line and the opposition, and yet almost without exception Graham stood his ground, waited, and tackled superbly. All of this more than compensated for any frustrations caused by our tactical and technical limitations. For this was a side which was a credit to Rendcomb, to the 2nd XV, and to themselves.

The results, therefore, do not tell anything like the whole story, but, for the record, they are as follows. The season began with an away fixture against Abingdon School who fielded a very large pack. Although in no way disgraced, the team lost by 28-5 with Geoffrey Hulbert scoring our only try. Our first home fixture was against Cokethorpe School. In a fiercely contested game the team lost 17-0 due to a breakaway try and 2





penalties. Then we played Sibford School and recorded our first win by 15-7 with Graham Hulbert and Ralph Aspin scoring our two tries. This was followed by the visit of Bristol Cathedral School who won comprehensively by 34-5. Sir Thomas Rich's school were our next visitors and in a very tight game the 2nd XV narrowly lost by 12-8 with Duncan Bond as our try scorer. We then saw a return fixture against Bristol. Taking the field with 4 first choice players injured or unavailable, we soon lost 2 more to injuries and finally finished the game with only 14 players. The result - a 40-0 win to Bristol. Our last match was against Kingham Hill School where our defence and the tactical kicking of Ed Kiggins proved decisive: the try by Michael Arkle enabled us to win deservedly by 11-7. The Captain - Tom Davies - was a constant source of encouragement to the team, and his maturity and willingness to give one hundred percent were a great example to the rest of the players.

Those who remain next season will undoubtedly have learned much from this and are all better rugby players for it.

*CJ*

## Under 15's XV

The 2002 season has been one of mixed fortunes for the under 15s. At times we have played some excellent rugby but a lack of strength in depth left us exposed on several occasions, particularly at the end of the season.

We started well with two hard fought wins against Abingdon 26 points to 24 and Bredon 29 points to 19, both at home, and followed this up by coming from behind to secure a 29 all draw away at Leighton Park.

In our first match disrupted by injury, away to Bristol Cathedral School, we suffered a heavy defeat 39-0, a result

which was then repeated at home to Rougemont 36-0.

Fortunately we were able to reverse this trend with three excellent wins:

Firstly, away to St. Edwards where, after a very hard fought match, we emerged victors, 22-10.

Secondly, at home to Cheltenham College where we won easily 35-0.

And thirdly, in what was our best performance of the season, we reversed the result against Bristol Cathedral School at home winning 22-12.

Unfortunately, we could not sustain this effort and with sides much weakened by injury and sickness we were heavily defeated in our last two away games: 51-0 against Kingham Hill and 36-0 against King's School Gloucester.

In all, 21 boys represented the under 15's this season, two of whom had never played rugby before the start of the season. Immense efforts from the eighteen regular squad players have meant that we have finished with a winning season in particularly difficult circumstances. Mention should be made of the contributions of George Lawson, Ben Forshaw, Chris Scott, Jamie Burley and James Tarleton. Special thanks to George Curtoys of the under 14's and Graham Hulbert and Tom Soane from the seconds for helping us out in two matches.

*MF*

Final results for the season were:

Played.....	10
Won.....	5
Lost.....	4
Drawn.....	1

## Under 14's XV

It is a testament to the U14 squad that 22 players represented the team over the season. Obviously there were the stalwarts, too many to mention, but there was a breadth of ability and a real sense of commitment from the boys.

Ben Symcox captained the squad with vigour-a real "leading by example" approach. He has quiet, confident man-management skills. His mature and 'match situation head' sat squarely on young shoulders; ready at once to cope with whatever scenario loomed in front of him in a calm and collected manner.

The side had to work together as a unit and dig deep on several occasions-the highlight being the away win at Bristol Cathedral School-the 'big hits' really did need to be put in. The rucking was also good.

Defensively, the players rarely looked out of their depth-although the King's Gloucester side made the Rendcomb team pay for some sleepy defence in the first ten minutes of the last match. That said, the three matches lost were never more than by 5 points.

In attack, the pack rucked and mauled very effectively, with the backs showing good pace and angles of running; this, allied with Alex Holden's kicking put many opposition sides onto the back foot.

Tactically, the reworking of the back row for 'powerplays' and strengthening the defence worked very well; so well that it gave a very satisfying moral victory over St. Edward's as the team out-thought their backs in the second half.





Overall then, an extremely pleasing and constructive season - my thanks go to the whole squad for their commitment to the Rendcomb cause of playing quality rugby.

AB

## TEAM

*Forwards:* Bliss, Curtoys, Finlay, Frost, Hook, Whittles, Wuthrich, Morris, Slater, Taylor, Watson, Webb-Dickin.

*Backs:* Crane, Holden, Jefferson, Jinno, Nakamura, Ho, Lockhart, Purvis, Smith, Symcox (capt)

## Under 13's XV

This year has been the most successful U13 season for a long time. There was lots of quality throughout the team, with Luke Lester-Powell and Max Rushton as our top try scorers.

The season got off to a great start with thumping wins against Bredon and Bristol Cathedral School. After those two memorable victories, we went to Exeter for our Tour looking for some more good results, which came with a victory against Exeter Cathedral School and then an annihilation of Monkton Coombe, 71-0.

After the tour we came back and played St Edwards and Bristol Cathedral School which we won comfortably.

The last game for an unbeaten run was against King's School Gloucester. Unfortunately we were just beaten but celebrated our memorable season anyway.

Our season was based around good work by the forwards lead by Dylan Kennaway, helped by Henry Pullen and George Tatham-Losh. The forwards then let the backs spread it out and use the talent of Phil Ellis, Richard Mason, Luke Lester-Powell and Charlie Stutchbury.

The squad included some excellent first formers who should have a good season next year.

Our thanks to Mr Sykes and Mr Essenhigh for their patience and advice.

*Richard Collins (Captain)*

## TEAM

James Hill, Max Rushton, Harley Phelps, Matt Richards, George Tatham-Losh, Dylan Kennaway (pack leader), Henry Pullen and Richard Collins (captain).

Mitchell Barltrop, Phil Ellis (vice captain), Richard Mason, Luke Lester-Powell (backs' leader), Charlie Stutchbury, James Bladon and Luke Palmer.

## STATISTICS

Played: .....	8
Won: .....	7
Lost: .....	1
Points for: .....	421
Points against: .....	45

## Under 13's Tour to Devon

On 8th November, the U13 Rugby squad set off on a tour to Devon,

staying at Exeter Cathedral School. We were warmly greeted and shown to our 5 star accommodation: in the PE hall!

For the first match against Exeter Cathedral School Rendcomb started strongly with dominating play from our forwards, especially George Tatham-Losh and Henry Pullen who had storming games. The final score was 34-0 to Rendcomb.

In the second match against Monkton Coombe the opposition looked very small but fierce, nevertheless. It made no difference to how we played and we managed a score of 71-0.

Well done to the whole team with special mention to Joe Scott and Will Jefferson and other first year players who played extremely well for their first match. A big thank you to Mr Sykes and Mr Essenhigh for taking us.

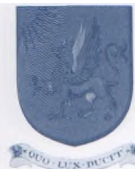
*Philip Ellis  
(Vice Captain)*



*The Rugby Club Dinner*



# Sports - Hockey (Girls')



The 2nd XI team

## Girls' Hockey Overview

This has been an excellent season for all five of the girls' hockey teams. We have met with tough competition, but all the teams have gelled well together and demonstrated strong teamwork and determination.

Some 40 matches have been played this season. Of these we have won 26 and drawn 9. The girls have shown, not only a high level of skill and maturity in their game, but also enthusiasm and commitment to the school and sport.

Congratulations should go to all those girls who represented not only their age group but older teams as well. The fact that they were welcomed and by supported by all is a testimony to the excellent cooperation and supportiveness of Rendcomb pupils.

On a personal note I would like to say many thanks for the welcome I have received from all the girls since joining the school, well done all of you, and I look forward to next season.

BS

## 1st XI

The team have enjoyed a very successful season both in terms of the results and the spirit in which they played. The fixture list is tough, yet they managed to compete in all the matches and achieve some excellent wins, most notably against Colston's and Wycliffe. The draw against Pate's side and a narrow defeat in the second match against Bloxham, who went through the season unbeaten, were also outstanding results. The key to success was the level of confidence displayed by the team; when they could be persuaded that they were really quite good then the skills flowed and they played some splendid hockey.

In defence Sarah Colson made the most progress, playing at the back with an increasing authority. Laura Burley covered and tackled with considerable tenacity, while Jade Finn provided some impressive marking. They, together with the captain, Emma Sykes, proved a capable unit and they were supported most ably by Heather Roper whenever she came into the side. The collective weakness, however, remained the inability to clear the ball consistently and accurately. Behind them Nicola King was quite outstanding in goal. She made some remarkable saves and was always reliable. In midfield Alice

Barefoot was very effective; her hard-hitting caused real problems for the opposition; Harriet Kingsford and Meg Barne sharing the central roles showing endless determination in the marking and tackling and Jessica Weston on the left made more and more of an impact through her developing skill and persistence. Sabine Armbrecht and Alexandra Andersson had limited opportunities in the matches but showed real improvement over the season. Up front we relied heavily on the pace and skill of Charlotte Ellis once the promise of Hannah Bishop was cut short by a cruel injury. Charlotte still needs to see the early pass but she scored some sensational goals. Jenny Wulkop filled in for Hannah in the second half of the term and provided some excellent running - if only she had got her goal!

Emma Sykes captained the side; she has a refreshing outlook on the game and she did her best for the others, leading with real determination. Some public duties were delegated to Harriet Kingsford and I am extremely grateful for their combined efforts. I must also thank Miss Shiells who has taken over the administration of girls' hockey this year and has given every assistance to me as well as coaching the 2nd XI so effectively.

DHM

## STATISTICS

Played.....	12
Won.....	5
Drew.....	3
Lost.....	4
GF.....	27
GA.....	14

## TEAM

from: E. Sykes (capt.), A. Andersson, S. Armbrecht, A. J. Barefoot, M. E. Barne, H. Bishop, L. J. Burley, S. M. Colson, C. L. Ellis, J. E. Finn, N. L. King, H. S. Kingsford, H. L. Roper, J. J. Weston, J. Wulkop

## 2nd XI

I have enjoyed every moment of coaching the 2nd XI team. (P9: W5,





L2, D2). The results are an illustration not only of the team's ability but also of the great enthusiasm with which they played.

We met some tough competition but

## RESULTS

v	Christ's College, Brecon (H)	D 1-1
v	Cokethorpe School (H)	W 9-0
v	The King's School, Gloucester (H)	L 0-1
v	Kingham Hill School (H)	W 2-1
v	Bloxham School (H)	L 0-3
v	Colston's School, Bristol (H)	W 3-0
v	St. Edward's School, Cheltenham (H)	L 1-2
v	St. Peter's School, Gloucester (A)	W 0-5
v	Wycliffe College (H)	W 1-0
v	Pate's Grammar School (H)	D 3-3
v	The King's School, Gloucester (A)	D 2-2
v	Bloxham School (A)	L 0-1

the solid and reliable defence have withstood immense pressure. The team could always rely on the back four and Romilly Evans was consistently outstanding in goal. The mid-field players worked hard in several matches, particularly against

Bloxham and Wycliffe. Our fitness levels enabled exceptional sprinting that broke down many defences. We were pleased to come away with decisive wins over King's school, Gloucester and St. Edwards, Cheltenham.

BS

## TEAM

from: Romilly Evans, Heather Roper, Harriet Stutchbury, Claire McAllister, Faith Roberts, Edie Wickham, Amanda Lomax (capt), Charlie Cumberpatch, Cindy Cheung, Sally Geake, Laura Holmes, Sarah Rudderham, Verity Symcox, Sophie Barltrop.

## Under 16's XI

Most of the 2nd XI transferred their skills to the U16's where, joined by Jess Weston, Hannah Bishop and Nicky King, they took on St Edwards in the Cirencester Schools' League. During a last minute attempt on goal, Hannah broke her ankle seconds before she was about to shoot. The team had to soldier on without their 'star' and did so very ably with a win against Deerpark. Overall, a very satisfactory season.

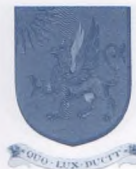
BS

## Under 15's XI

This has been a great season for the under 15's. Some of our fixtures we







*The Girls 2nd XI hockey team*

knew would be hard, against schools much larger than us as Bloxham and Colstons.

The season started very successfully with a 2-0 win against Christ College Brecon. Three matches which followed were probably more our best beating Cotswolds School drawing to Colstons and Stroud High, on not the best of pitches. We then had very hard matches against Wycliffe and St. Edwards in which we fought hard but unfortunately lost. Our last match of the season was against Bloxham where we had to fight very hard to gain our win, some of the team nearly did fight hard though!!

A special mention has to go to Emma Medus for some brilliant saves, Holly Taylor for being a very solid defender and great vice-captain. Also to Carra Williams and Kirki Matthews for playing above their year and proving to be very helpful. A huge thank you goes to Mr Stutchbury for being such a great coach.

*Alex Collins*

## Under 14's XI

We felt that this season would be a very competitive one and we were right! Even having to use some of the first and second forms, we hit the pitch with Determination. In all we played six matches, winning three

and losing three. Two of the victories were in the local area league and this allowed us to look forward to some more hockey during the netball season.

*Carra Williams and Kirki Matthew*

This was always going to be a tough season with only eight girls in the third form who had played hockey before. However, Yoko Kanemaru did well to learn the skills so quickly and the pupils chosen from the years below soon adjusted to the discipline required at this level. In fact it was the tackling of the backs; Amanda Graham, Joanne Maxted, Amy Bridgen-Page and Jade Harrison, combined with the goal-keeping skills of Maya Chester-Master that led to the small number of goals conceded.

The strength of the side was based around the skill of Kirki Mathew and Cara Williams in midfield. They proved to be a formidable combination when they learnt to pass quickly. Aimee Schofield also demonstrated great potential as an attacking midfielder player, as did Victoria Turner and Charlotte Cox as forwards. Jasmine Barks developed well in midfield. The team achieved fantastic results considering all the younger girls who played and they should be thoroughly proud of their achievements.

Played 6: won 3, lost 3.

*CW*

## TEAM

C. Williams (captain), K. Matthew (vice-captain), A. Graham, M. Chester-Master, J. Harrison, J. Maxted, C. Cox, R. Soanes, Y. Kanemaru, A. Bridgen-Page, A. Schofield, J. Barks, V. Turner, H. Kay, K. Nagano.

## Under 13's XI

Our first match was at home against Christ College, Brecon. The final score after a hard match was 0-0. We were impressed with the result. Next we were away to St Edwards we knew it would be hard but we tried our best losing 5-0. After that we beat the Cotswolds school 1-0, we lost against Wycliffe 6-0 and lost to Prior Park 3-1. Overall we won one lost three and drew one. Thanks to Miss Bell and Miss Sheills for training us and organising the matches and to the two goal scorers Aimee Schofield and Victoria Turner. Better luck next year. The team was as follows: Tessa Couch, Josefine Lindewall, Tara Richards, Amy Bridgen-Page, Laura Brown, Hazel Kay, Aimee Schofield, Jasmine Barks, Victoria Turner, Sophie Arkle and Annabelle Turner.

*Aimee Schofield.*

**Stroud District  
League Winners!**





# Sports - Hockey (Boys')

The U14 girls' hockey team and the U16 hockey team were both victorious in their first entry into the Stroud district Hockey League. Both teams remained focused on their hockey throughout the spring term as one of seven schools who entered the league.

The U14 girls' hockey team, did not lose a match, scoring over 12 goals. This has been a fantastic achievement for a year group of only 11 girls, showing determination and purpose, under the expert coaching of Mr Wood, and the leadership of Carra Williams.

The U16's won 5 out of the six games and scored a massive 18 goals whilst conceding only 2. With Jess Weston as captain, the girls faced some tough competition against Katherine Lady Berkeley School and a strong Stroud High side; however the Rendcomb resolve was clear when we emerged victorious from both games.

Special mention must be given to the undisputed sportsmanship that was apparent in both the U14 and the U16 teams, some opposition teams commented that they didn't mind losing to us!!

BS

## 1st XI

This has been a tremendous season for the 1st XI. They have won 13, drawn 4 and lost only 2 games in a very long and crowded season. That number of wins is perhaps the highest tally ever. The team that got closest was the 1998 side captained by Harvey Davies and it was good to see several of that side returning to play in the Old Rendcombians' match.

The wins were achieved from a very tough fixture list against some strong opposition, particularly from those schools who are far bigger than us such as Kingswood, Colston's and Bloxham. The Kingswood victory by 4-3 was our first over them for some time and it was sealed by a magnificent goal in the final minute scored by Matt Hutchins which will be long remembered by everyone who was fortunate enough to see it. Other outstanding victories were recorded against the Three Rock Rovers club side while on tour in Dublin and

against Colston's where we were 3-1 down at half-time yet came back to win 6-3. There was well earned revenge against a King's Gloucester side that had deservedly surprised us earlier in the season and we might have done better against the might of Clifton if things had gone our way on the day. Defeat here was the only blemish on a sustained run of victories right through to the end of the season. There was also an impressive tally of goals scored.

The team has been composed of a very strong element from 6A, most of whom have now been in the side for three seasons. Outstanding has been Chris Jeffreys who has superbly maintained Rendcomb's long tradition of excellent goalkeepers and perhaps he is the best we have ever seen here. The rest of the defence was a little precarious at times but they were held together by some wonderfully assured performances from the captain, Johannes von Rotenhan, at centre back and some excellent tackling from James Daborn. Tim Bates and Tom Lockyer usually provided solid support at the back, particularly when their confidence was high and they proved well able to extricate themselves from trouble. Duncan Bond

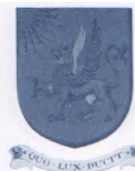
joined the side for several of the matches and made a sound job of any of the defensive roles he was asked to fill. In midfield, positions on the left were contested between James Groombridge and Tom Davies. Both learnt a lot about positional play and made an important contribution in defence and attack. On the right Tommy Lait and Ralph Aspin interchanged their positions; both could be absolutely devastating going forward and they scored some brilliant goals although Ralph still can't see when it pays to pass the ball! Behind these David Roper worked enormously hard in the role created for him; when he was in the mood he was capable of covering the whole pitch to mark his man and still support the attack. Up front we were well served by the old firm of Sam Hicks and Matthew Hutchins who continued to add to the vast stack of goals that they have scored in their time at Rendcomb. This season Matthew revealed an all-round dimension to his game that impressed all who saw it, including the county selectors.

The Dublin Tour at half-term was a real highlight in the term. A multitude of thanks are due to Mr Brealby for his colossal efforts in organizing

## RESULTS

Royal Agricultural College	(A)	Drawn	3-3
Cheltenham Wednesday HC	(H)	Drawn	1-1
King's School, Gloucester	(A)	Lost	2-5
Kingswood School	(H)	Won	4-3
Leighton Park School	(H)	Won	8-0
Bristol Grammar School	(H)	Drawn	2-2
Bournside School	(A)	Drawn	1-1
St Columba's College	(A)	Won	4-3
Three Rock Rovers HC	(A)	Won	4-1
Royal Grammar School, Worcester	(H)	Won	7-1
St Edward's School, Cheltenham	(H)	Won	3-2
Clifton College	(H)	Lost	1-4
Hereford Cathedral School	(A)	Won	1-0
King's School, Gloucester	(H)	Won	4-1
Colston's Collegiate School	(H)	Won	6-3
Christ's College, Brecon	(H)	Won	9-0
Old Rendcombians' Society	(H)	Won	2-0
Abingdon School 2nd XI	(H)	Won	7-0





that tour - a huge undertaking taking 38 students on a hockey tour for their first time and the tour was an outstanding success both on and off the pitch. Mr Brealy has again done so much for the school's hockey this term and staff and players owe him a considerable debt of gratitude. The team has also been well-supported by its captain; Johannes, as I have already said, played magnificently this year and he led the side with real determination. He can be very proud of what was achieved in splendid season.

DHM

## STATISTICS

Played.....	19
Won.....	13
Drawn.....	4
Lost.....	2
Goals for.....	72
Goals against.....	31

## TEAM

from: J. B. von Rotenhan (capt.),  
R. A. Aspin, D. E. Bond, T. Bates,  
J. R. Daborn, T. W. Davies,  
J. Groombridge, S. W. Hicks,  
M. C. Hutchins, C. G. H. Jeffreys,  
T. C. Lait, T. G. J. Lockyer, D. G. Roper.

## 2nd XI

This season certainly proved to be a roller-coaster ride of emotions but the side never let the 'downers' get to them, taking what they had learnt from each match situation and bringing it through to the next encounter. Edd Kiggins was a resolute and indefatigable leader whose resolve was tested in the earlier part of the season by some nonchalant efforts by team members. He rallied the troops well and urged them to take up the cause and give as they had never given before! 'El Capitan's' coverage of the midfield as well as the quality of his distribution was the lynchpin of the side's attack and defence - as time went on others saw the need for anticipation and the offering of options. Adam Finn became a very efficient and, at times, flamboyant player on the left - his teaming up

with Matt Denham and the strikers up front proved an enduring theme and one which brought many good attacks together. Matt Harbottle would be the first to admit that his pace up front was not as much of a revelation as his striking of the ball in the 'D' - there have been few who could have manufactured a goal as well as him - his 4 goals at Bournside were a joy to behold (God bless astro boots, eh Matt?!). Geoff Hulbert was the thorn in many opposition defences - his swift feet and stick work able to get in behind them so well. Greg Jones joined the team late in the season and helped the midfield, pairing up well with Michael Arkle. Defensively, this must have been one of the better vintages to grace the hockey palate: Luke Baghdadi was terrier-like in the central defender role and he dispossessed the opposition so frequently it beggared belief. When caught out by counter-attacks the team was more often than not held together in defence by Richard Burden whose cool head usually helped to rectify the situation. On the defensive flanks both John Adler and Daniel Willis did a sterling job, bringing the ball forward as well as filling the 'pocket' to great effect. Behind all of this was the imposing figure of Nick Evans who always helped to keep the side in the game.

The whole squad should be delighted with its progress and increased self-belief and I thank them for their efforts.

AB

## 3rd XI

The 3rd XI have enjoyed their hockey this term and at times have played really well.

Graham Hulburt had an excellent season in goal making some fantastic saves. Dennis Kwok, David Peach, Charlie Fothergill and Douglas Chu were part of an excellent defence. Tom Soanes and Peter Liang improved throughout the season.

Jonathon Williams, Ben Staines, and Henry Wilson all worked hard up

front and I don't think we will ever forget seeing Henry's face after scoring two goals against King's Gloucester!

Well played to all who turned out for the 3rd XI.

DE

## STATISTICS

Played.....	12
Won.....	2
Drawn.....	2
Lost.....	8

## Under 15's XI

Without a doubt this has been a season of contrasts: this spirited side has produced some flowing attacking hockey to secure wins against notable sides including Bloxham and Clifton College and an excellent 2-2 draw against Dean Close.

The other side of the coin has found us frustrated by the effective 'wing line' hockey of sides such as Cheltenham College and Kingswood Bath.

This is a side with some skilful and determined players, Joss Acock in goal, Jamie Burley in midfield, classically strong on the left side and James Tarleton feeding his forwards.

In a season this short, a side that produces six wins and two drawn games deserved real credit.

Well done to the entire U15 XI.

JHS

## Under 14's XI

The U14 boys' hockey team had an easy start to the season, winning their first 2 matches 8-0.

However..., this did not prepare them for the real level of play they could expect to encounter. Consequently it took some time to adjust to the con-





cept of man to man marking and to the discipline of positioning. After a disappointing patch, the side found its form: Ed Jefferson and Paul Taylor played well in midfield and we are grateful to Alex Holden for moving to centre back, which gave the defence some rigidity. Sam Slater was new to goal-keeping and showed good promise. Perhaps the best games were against strong sides; namely: Kingswood, where we came back from 3-0 down at half time to just lose 4-5; the Colston's game at RAC which we won 3-1 and the Dean Close Junior game which was a closely fought 1-1 draw. Overall we scored 34 goals, 14 of which have come from captain Ben Symcox. This side promises to provide good hockey players for the future.

CW

## STATISTICS

Played.....	14
Won.....	6
Drawn.....	2
Lost.....	6
Goals for.....	35
Goals against.....	28

## TEAM

from: B. Symcox (capt), P. Taylor, W. Smith, A. Holden, E. Jefferson, B. Crane, H. Frost, G. Curtoys, M. Webb-Dickin, A. Purvis, B. Morris, S. Slater, J. Tapsell, L. Bliss, E. Nakamura, F. Wuthrich.

## Under 13's XI A

After an uncertain start, with narrow defeats by King's Gloucester and Greendown, the season came alive with a nail-biting 3-2 victory over Kingswood. A goalless draw with Bristol Cathedral School, which perhaps should have been a win, was followed by a 1-0 defeat by Bloxham.

A purple patch, which saw consecutive victories over Pinewood, St Edward's and the plum scalp of Colston's was ended by King's

Gloucester (again) and a very strong Dean Close side.

A surprise rematch against St Edward's saw the completion of the double, with a 4-0 victory and then a less surprising rematch with Greendown ended in another victory.

In between all this there was the runner's up position in the Rosehill 7's tournament held at Wycliffe. Not a great season but one that will be remembered for the determination and competitive spirit throughout the team.

CV

## Under 13's XI B

This year's U13B hockey has been very successful: played 8, won 3, lost 2 and drawn 3. In two of those drawn matches we should have won. The nadir of our season was being outplayed by a good passing team from Kingswood and the undeniable zenith, was doing to King's Gloucester what Kingswood had done to us: -final score against King's was a very satisfying 4-0 victory. In the Rosehill 7-a-side tournament, the B team came third, missing out on a place in the final only on penalty flicks.

In a way, the last game of the season was perhaps the most satisfying: we beat Dean Close junior school with a team containing quite a few students who had not represented the school before: after that game, every member of the second form had played hockey for the school. Well done to all on an excellent season.

PJ

## Under 12's XI

This year's team was an impressive and successful group, many of whom also helped bring success and style to a highly effective and motivated U12b team. The U12's won most of their matches and were always competitive and stylish. They had a vari-

ety of captains during the term, all of whom did a very good job while also gaining great experience for the future. The defence was consistently awesome with the goalkeeper, Dominic Stevens the rock shot-stopper. In front of him was a fearsome combination which often included the classy Henry Evans, a top hitter in Charlie Kiggins, a resolute Harley Phelps and Mr. Motivator himself, Mitch Barltrop. Mitch covered a vast area of astro in every match and could always be relied upon to come up with a desperate last ditch tackle or telling interception when it was most needed.

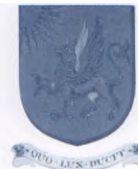
The skill in the middle definitely came from the slick stick work of William Jefferson who really did run rings around people. He was also the source of a whole mass of lightning bolt strikes at goal. He was complemented by the energy and commitment of the players on the flanks and here Jack Barton and the massively improved Tom North were consistently outstanding. Tom was also hugely effective going forward and set up and a pile of top class moves and scored great goals. Mark Richardson became a decisive and potentially awesome right winger whose power and intelligence should give defences nightmares in the years to come. On the left side we often used the ever reliable Andy Forshaw whose competitive guile caught many defences flat-footed. In the middle was our goal scoring machine, Tom Restorick. Often he kidded with defenders who might think his stick work and hitting a little awkward, however, give the boy a sniff of a goal and with it the chance to grab the glory and Tom was there. He also worked terrifically hard at his game so he deserves his success but then so did everybody else, including those who I've been unable to mention.

Congratulations to you all and thanks to my co-coach, Mr. Jennings, who, despite being a footballer at heart, certainly helped bring discipline, concentration and motivation to the squad.

MSG



# Sports - Netball



## 1st and 2nd VII

The first seven, captained with resolve by Harri Kingsford, and the seconds, captained by Hannah Bishop, were determined to find the motivation to continue to compete against very strong first teams from Cheltenham College and Bloxham. Their tenacity was amazing but unfortunately this tenacity was not always reflected in the scores.

## Under 15's VII

The U15's fared a little better after some reorganisation brought a new lease of life to the team. The result showed a development in team structure, tactics and set plays and the team proved that training and determination does pay off by winning their final matches.

## Under 14's VII

The U14 seven produced some excellent play and demonstrated the skill, speed and technical qualities of netball in some superb matches. Amanda Graham took her team to resounding victories over Cokethorpe, King's Gloucester and Deer Park. Some fantastic goals were scored by Charlotte Cox whose goal against Colston's from the circle line was applauded by all spectators. Carra Williams continued to develop all her skills including marking, intercepting and passing, which earned her a fearsome reputation with other schools.

## Under 13's & Under 12's VII

The U13's and U12's developed their netball skills and gained valuable experience in their games. Special mention must go to Aimee Schofield, Amy Bridgen-Page and Tori Turner,

who represented the school at higher age groups on several occasions.

Well done to all the girls who represented Rendcomb in Netball past and present. I look forward with anticipation to the introduction of lacrosse for next spring.

BS

## Lacrosse Taster Day

Rendcomb saw a new occurrence this spring. Prior to getting all dressed up for the sixth form ball on the penultimate day of term, the senior girls took to the grass pitches, sticks in hand, with great anticipation. However the goals were very different, the boundaries non-existent and the sticks had leather strapping?! No we weren't playing hockey-this was lacrosse. We were lucky enough to have some first class advice and coaching from ex international Karen Hughes, who taught us the basics of lacrosse. We ended in a game that showed the fantastic potential of the girls in this school; so much so that Karen was already spotting for county squad training!! The first ever lacrosse goal was scored by 5th Former Hannah Bishop after only 5 minutes of play! The afternoon was a great success with I think a 100% conversion to the joys of this strenuous, skilful and exciting game.

BS

## Cricket Overview

With a talented squad of senior players, a full and successful season was anticipated, but sadly inclement British weather curtailed many matches, some unfinished, others cancelled. It was a greatly disappointing way, for me to say farewell to several 6A cricketers who have graced Rendcomb sport for seven years. They will be missed and we wish them well. It must not be overlooked that the 1st XI has only lost one match in two years. We also say farewell to the team coach, Mr. Paul Sykes. When I took charge of the cricket in 1997, Paul became 1st XI coach and has enjoyed a splendid six years. He is not only an expert on the game of cricket, but also a true schoolmaster, who cares so much for the team and its individuals. I would like, individually, and on behalf of Rendcomb cricket to thank him for his enormous contribution. We wish him success and happiness in his new venture with many dicky birds, but this time flighty, feathered and rapacious.

The U15 side grew in confidence over the season ending with solid victories in the final weeks, the U14's were unbeaten, except by the weather and cancellations and the U13/U12's had an extremely successful time.

As ever, no report can be complete without its thank-yous'. Mark Naylor and the Catering Department have again provided a high standard of lunches, teas and often late suppers. Matt Hodgson's wickets have been outstanding and are regularly praised by visiting teams. We have once more been blessed by tremendous parental support, greatly valued on long afternoons and I remain indebted to my colleagues, Paul Sykes, Michael Slark, Paul Jennings, Charles Jefferson, Paul Dodd, Simon Leigh, David Essenhig





and John Williams for their time, expertise and enthusiasm.

*BN*

## 1st XI

The 1st XI cricket season this year was a rain governed one with only three matches being completed. However, there were some notable performances throughout the season.

Chris Jeffreys and Sam Hicks shone as our opening bowling attack and dislodged many obdurate batsmen. They showed good pace and accuracy and were rewarded with a number of key wickets. Batting was steady and good scores were shared out between a number of players.

Our opening fixture was against Swindon Wednesday and we won in a nail biting final over, Yoski Murahashi scored the winning runs. The next two fixtures were either abandoned or postponed because of the weather. Against Cokethorpe, we played well and batting first, Luke Baghdadi scored an impressive 79 out of a final total of 173. Cokethorpe made 112 all out and we recorded our second victory. A draw against King's followed with notable contributions from Greg Jones (46) and Sam Hicks (34). Henry Wilson and Geoff Hulbert saved the game in the last over.

Unfortunately, our final two games were also washed out.

I would like to extend my thanks to Mr Sykes and Mr Essenhigh for all their guidance in this rain affected season. Good luck to next year's team!

*Matt Hutchins*

## TEAM

*Squad:* M. Hutchins (c), C. Jeffreys (vc), S. Hicks, T. Lait, G. Jones, H. Wilson, R. Burden, L. Baghdadi, E. Kiggins, G. Hulbert, R. Murahashi, J. Burley

## 2nd XI

As the great Sir Neville Carduss once observed, "There can be no summer in this land without cricket", and how right he was. However, it was not the lack of cricket, but the lack of summer which disrupted the 2nd XI season this year.

Despite having only two games, our bowlers were still able to perform well, getting some important wickets. Special mentions must go to Johannes Von Rotenhan for his consistency under pressure and also to James Daborn for his dogged determination.

It was in this final game, against a strong World XI, that we found our real batting form, knocking up an impressive 138-9 to draw the game. Our efforts were helped by Ralph Aspin hitting some quick fours.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Slark, our team coach, manager and umpire, for the support he has given the whole team this season. To find the form we did in such a small number of games typifies the commitment of this year's 2nd XI and I would like to wish all team members still at the college, good luck next season with their matches and the weather!

*Duncan Bond*

## Under 15's XI

In a rain affected season the U15 performed with a mixture of enthusiasm, dedication and suicidal tendencies! Our record illustrates the problem: played 7, won 2, lost 3, drew 2.

In the early part of the season we were far too hesitant and allowed ourselves to be bowled out too easily. In one match we sat comfortably at 62 for 2 and ended up 71 all out! However, as the season progressed, we grew in confidence and played with more conviction. Rupert Hooper

as captain led by example and bowled with accuracy and some movement whilst Jamie Burley and Chris Scott were always a threat. Cameo performances came from James Brierley, Andy Thomas and Simon Wong who has a good eye for the ball and could really improve with a little more self belief. Indeed, one of the pleasures of the season was seeing the improvement in 'fringe' players who improved enormously as cricketers and as a team. Ben Forshaw's bowling is a good case in point-he bowled first change and took a number of wickets at crucial moments.

The batting was patchy throughout the season. Chris Scott and Jamie Burley both achieved scores in the 30's but we never saw that really big knock.

The last two games of the season were the most rewarding. Fielding a mixed side of U15's & U14's, we won against Bredon and Kingshill. Fittingly we saved our best for last, beating Kingshill by bowling them out for 36.

It has been an enjoyable season and after a rather uncertain start we finished in fine style. Well done to all those who took part and my thanks go to Matt Hodgson for the immaculate wickets he prepared for us in sometimes trying conditions!

*PJ & CJ*

## Under 14's XI

This was a fantastic season in lots of respects: the team remained unbeaten, played some quality cricket and enjoyed themselves. The most disappointing feature however was that only five games were played, the wild weather of May created many cancellations while many of our opponents scratched when the weather had improved. Sadly cricket is struggling as a summer sport in schools, one of the challenges for cricket devotees is to ensure that this great game survives.





One of the delights of the season was to watch Ben Symcox in action. As a batsman he showed he had an excellent technique scoring a most delightful fifty against Sir Thomas Rich's, he bowled with genuine pace and captained the side with a growing maturity. He was well supported by the rest of his team with Ed Jefferson scoring freely and keeping wicket with tenacity showing real promise. Paul Taylor a compact and neat player played in his normal composed style and he will surely mature into a most useful player. Alex Holden scored quickly and took useful wickets, Will Smith bowled tidily until injury intervened and Ben Crane, although he had a difficult season, showed us glimpses of his ability. Alex Purvis bowled with real venom and once his self-confidence grows he will develop into a most useful player. The rest of the team was made up of those who, although they never had the chance to really shine, played with a real spirit and determination, these included George Curtoys a hard hitter, Alex Staines a competent batsman, Max Webb-Dickin always keen to learn, George Finlay, Sam Slater and Richard Whittles, my plea to these final group of boys would be to stay with the game, your rewards will come later.

Of the matches played after two rain effected matches against Bristol Cathedral and King's, the team won their first match in a limited overs game against Marling. After half term the team won two classy matches against a most competitive Sir Thomas Rich's and the visiting tourists from Victoria College, Jersey. In both these matches the quality of the cricket was thoroughly deserving of the 1st eleven square where the matches were played, sadly that was it, several of the boys played alongside the U/15's at Bredon but two of our opponents then cancelled while we were crying out for more! I would like to thank the boys for their enthusiasm and loyalty and I hope all of

you continue to play this great game.

*PD*

## STATISTICS

Played.....	5
Won.....	3
Drawn.....	2

Best batting performance:  
Ben Symcox 51 v Sir Thomas Rich's.

Best bowling performance:  
Ben Symcox 4-13 v Victoria College.

## **U12 XI and U13 XI B Cricket**

Thursday 15th May was a momentous day for Rendcomb Junior Cricket as this was the day we fielded an U12, U13 A and an U13 B XI against Kings, Gloucester.

The U12 side bowled the opposition out for 98 and after a good start courtesy of Charlie Kiggins, Edward Brierley and Andrew Forshaw were finally dismissed for 91. The other members of the team that day were: - H. Homan Green, M. Richards, M. Richardson, J. Skelton, M. Barltrop, M. Ellis, H. Evans, H. Phelps and D. Stevens (scorer).

In the U13 B match Rendcomb were 53 all out, with James Bladon top scorer on 10. Kings reached 57 for 6 with Joe Scott claiming four wickets.

In their second match the U13 B XI entertained Cheltenham College Junior School. Rendcomb rode their luck in making 142 with Luke Lester-Powell making 58 and Harley Phelps 28. One of their bowlers secured a hat-trick at a time when Rendcomb were scoring very quickly and had it not been for this the score could well have reached close to 200!

Cheltenham rose to the challenge magnificently and aided by below standard bowling and fielding reached 100 before losing a wicket! They reached 143 for 2 with about 10 minutes to spare for a well-deserved victory.

Team from:-

L. Lester-Powell, Jo Scott (both captains), J. Bladon, S. Edwards, J. Hill, D. Hines, L. Wilcox, R. Pakeman, N. Parker, R. Pass (wicket-keeper), M. Ricjards, H. Homan Green, M. Richardson, E. Brierley, C. Daly, M. Lockhart, H. Phelps and D. Stevens.

*JGW*





## Sports - Rounders

### 1st Rounders

Due to the short term and the ever increasing demands of external examinations, the 1st rounders team met opposition in a more relaxed atmosphere this year. True to form the team excelled themselves with very close and exciting matches. Rain temporarily stopped play in the middle of the match against King's Gloucester but the sandwiches and doughnuts refuelled us to come back with an excellent innings to tie the game.

### Under 16's

The U16's continued their winning form from last year against Bloxham and King's, Gloucester with an unbeaten season. There was some fantastic batting from all players, including Captain Edie Wickham, Jess Weston, Ellie Wells, Chrissie Jude and Heather Roper. There was also some excellent work between bowler, first

post and backstop, Hannah Bishop, Verity Symcox and Claire McAllister: the trio continued to stop most opposition in their tracks.

### Under 15's

The U15's put together a good team that took on Bloxham and Wycliffe where matches ended close but with the opposition getting the better of us on the day. Captain Emma Medus took her team out against King's in a match that began with the opposition scoring well. However the girls fought back in the second innings with some much improved fielding and decisive running to bring the rounders to a more respectable score.

### Under 14's

The U14's started their season well with a close match against Cokethorpe, where the girls showed excellent understanding of the game. Using this knowledge to prevent high

scoring from the opposition, they were then able to bat with precision and secure some great complete rounders. Bloxham proved a little more difficult as the girls were unable to use the fast bowling tactics of Carra Williams and the match finished very close with Bloxham just pipping us at the post. The girls played well and thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere that surrounds this exciting summer game.

### Under 13's & Under 12's

Both the U13's and U12's developed some very good batting and fielding techniques. In games against King's Gloucester, the girls showed every potential to win, with some great catches and efficient fielding but in the last innings we were just beaten by big hitting from the opposition.

BS



## Sports - Tennis (Boys')

In a very short season, only two matches were played. The opulent surroundings of the John Lloyd Tennis Centre provided the venue for the first contest against Bristol Cathedral School. Unfortunately the standard of tennis did not quite match that of the facilities and Rendcomb were defeated 5 - 4. This was followed by a closely fought tie against Cheltenham College. There was some very good tennis played but again the College went down 5 - 3.

CV

### TEAM

*Team:* D. Roper (Capt.), T. Lockyer, N. Evans, S. Gunner, M. Harbottle, J. von Rotenhan, M. Denham.



# Sports - Golf



A team of eight Rendcomb students competed in a match against Hartpury College at the end of the Easter term at Puckrup Hall Golf Club.

## TEAM

*Team:* M. Hutchins (Capt.), S. Hicks, T. Lockyer, E. Kiggins, C. Ellis, W. F. Lee, A. Thomas, P. Ellis.

The College was able to field a very strong team, which included Charlotte Ellis (County Ladies' Squad), Andrew Thomas (Junior Captain at Shrivenham Park Golf Club) and Wing Fung Lee (Hong Kong Junior Boys' Team).

The match was keenly fought, with most matches being very close, frequently down to the final holes, but Rendcomb eventually won the contest by 2 points to 1.

*CV*



*Charlotte Ellis fires one down the fairway*





## Athletics Day



Emma Couch launches the discus

As the sun shone throughout the week preceding the Athletics' day, the anticipation of an exciting afternoon of athletics grew. The ground staff had made an excellent job of preparing the fields and the teams were organised with precision by Mr Jennings (Bannister), Mr Ford (Radcliffe), Miss Gibbons (Redgrave) and Mr Stutchbury (Edwards). There was a general air of excitement and nervousness around the college.

The Field events got off to a flying start on the Estate Gardens, with Louise Bowen reaching 1m 25cm in the U15 Girls High Jump, and Eisaku Nakamaru beating the schools' standard record with an excellent jump of 1m 45. Many pupils had worked extremely hard to practice for their events, especially Rhys Thomas who had regularly attended Athletics' Club and Fiona Trumper, proving how practice makes perfect with tremendous wins in the Discus for the U12 Boys and U12's Girls. The Long Jump saw some superb efforts by all competitors, with records being broken by Carra Williams for the U14 Girls, Charlie Stutchbury and Matthew Richards for the U13 Boys, Joe Tapsell for the U14 Boys, and a huge jump by James Tarleton of 5m 56cm.

Staff at the field events commented on the general excellent standard of athletics and the real enthusiasm that

they saw. Mr Dodd, now an expert at coaching the shot, and Mr Jefferson on the discus were continually astounded at the determination from each competitor. Both Mr Vuolo and Mrs Hayward remarked how exciting the events became as competitors grew more confident in their abilities. My thanks must go to those staff who withstood the blistering heat of the afternoon to support and encourage each pupil.

The Track events began with a very taxing 1,500m where some nervous competitors lined up for their first challenge. April Edwards completed the 5 laps of the 300m track in a brilliant 6 minutes 40 seconds for the U12 Girls, whilst Richard Mason saw off the competition inside 6 minutes for the U13 Boys. An exceptional run, however, was made by Chris Scott for the U15 boys when he came across the line in just over 5 minutes, smashing school standards' time for that age group and above.

In the 400m James Tarleton took off with an extremely fast start but managed to maintain his pace to finish inside 1 minute. George Curtoys for the U14 Boys ran home in the 200m in 28 seconds and likewise, in a superb race, Chris Scott sprinted the 200m in just over 25 seconds, taking 3 seconds off the school standards' record. The 100m saw Jamie Burley for the U15 Boys set yet another school record in just over 12 seconds.

An exceptionally efficient group of staff kept the events running smoothly, with Mr Jennings, Mr Ford and Mr Essenhigh marshalling competitors to Mr Stutchbury whose shooting skills perfected the start of each event! A merry band of judges timed each event, Miss Stanway, Mrs Gill, Mr North and Jenny Wulkop proved to be extremely well organised, as were the place judges, Mr Williams, Mrs

Fielding, Miss McKintosh, and Miss Gibbons who had to keep their eyes peeled in some very close finishes. Again my thanks go to these colleagues whose resourcefulness and support was outstanding.

The track events finished with the thrilling 4 x 100m relays. All the races were very closely fought, with each team emerging victorious in different age groups. Supporters were out in force for each team and in the last straight the noise level soared to see the final leg across the finish line.

With an outstanding turn out where almost the entire 1st to 4th form competed in events, the pressure was on Mr Morgan, the scorer, to add up the results. Each and every competitor gained points for their contribution to the day and their team, some several times over by managing to compete in numerous events. The overall result left a tie for third place between Radcliffe and Redgrave both on 207 points, with Bannister, a close second on 233 points and a victorious Edwards on 252 points.

The day was rounded off with a well deserved barbecue for parents and competitors, with excellent food from Mr Naylor and catering staff that complemented the atmosphere of the day.

My most heart felt thanks go to all my colleagues who made the day run with such efficiency but primarily to all the pupils who surpassed themselves in their courage, tenacity and overall sportsmanship. At the finish of one of the 100m races the competitor who came in 4th went to the others and shook their hands; for me, a relative newcomer to the school, this one action summed up the very essence of the school and its pupils.

I look forward, with baited breath, to next year's Athletics' Day!

BS



# Athlet





# ics' Day





# Sports - Athletics Results



## GIRLS..... TRACK EVENTS

EVENT	Age Group	1st	Time	2nd	Time	3rd	Time
1,500m	U12	A. Edwards	6m44s	S. Lockyer	7m43s	E. Whittles	7m47s
	U13	T. Couch	6m46s	L. Brown	6m57s	T. Turner	6m59s
	U14	A. Graham	6m51s	J. Harrison	6m54s	C. Cox	7m42s
	U15	A. Edwards	6m44s	H. Kay	7m01s	H. Taylor	7m14s
200m	U12	A. Bridgen-Page	33.06s	J. Bakes	35.22s	A. Dawkins	38.08s
	U13	V. Turner	33.77s	T. Couch	36.85s	L. Snow	37.03s
	U14	A. Schofield	33.78s	J. Maxted	34.30s	M. Chester-Master	35.77s
	U15	N. Wells	32.24s	E. Couch	34.72s	R. Maxted	36.25
300m	U12	V. Turner	58s	E. Parker	1m07s	H. Timmins	1m08s
	U13	S. Arkle	59.75s	S. Hamilton-R	60s	A. Carpenter	1m02s
	U14	K. Matthew	56s	C. Cox	59s	Y. Kanemaru	1m05s
	U 15	L. Evans	57s	M. Murahashi	59. 09s	R. Blesovsky	59.74s
800m	U12	S. Brennan	3m19s	R. Bakes	3m12s	A. Bridgen-Page	3m31s
	U13	L. Snow	3m25s	A. Turner	3m28s	M. Odinstova	3m50s
	U14	C. Williams	2m51s	A. Graham	3m18s	R. Okamaru	3m45s
	U15	S. Brennan	3m19s	A. Collins	3m28s	M. Murahashi	3m35s
100m	U12	A. Bridgen-Page	15.30s	V. Turner	15.58s	J. Bakes	16.21s
	U13	A. Schofield	15.74s	S. Hamilton	17.28s	A. Turner	17.46s
	U14	C. Williams	14.86s	K. Matthew	15.39s	J. Maxted	15.88s
	U15	A. Collins	14.90s	T. Wells	15.62s	L. Bowen	15.84s
Relay	U12/13	Bannister	1m07s	Radcliffe	1m09s	Edwards	1m 10s
	U14/15	Radcliffe	1m05s	Edwards	1m05.36s	Redgrave	1m05.89s





# Sports - Athletics Results

## BOYS.....TRACK EVENTS

EVENT	Age Group	1st	Time	2nd	Time	3rd	Time
1500m	U12	T. North	6m07s	W. Jefferson	6m26s	H. Evans	6m47s
	U13	R. Mason	5m41s	J. Barks	5m47s	L. Palmer	6m24s
	U14	I. Ho	6m18s	R. Jinno	6m19s	R. Whittles	7m07s
	U15	C. Scott	5m06s	D. Ho	5m35s	S. Li	5m58s
200m	U12	M. Richards	34.84s	H. Evans	35.46s	A. Forshaw	35.82s
	U13	R. Mason	31.09s	P. Ellis	31.41s	R. Pass	33.45s
	U14	G. Curtoys	28.79s	A. Purvis	31.41s	G. Finlay	33.15s
	U15	C. Scott	25.87s	S. Li	28.03s	R. Hooper	28.58s
400m	U12	T. North	1m 14s	A. Forshaw	1m 23s	C. Daly	1m32s
	U13	D. Hines	1m 19s	M. Reeves	1m 24s		
	U14	A. Holden	1m07s	E. Jefferson	1m 10s	R. Jinno	1m 13s
	U15	J. Tarleton	59s	B. Forshaw	1m 06s	S. Goffe	1m 14s
800m	U12	L. Greenaway	3m03s	W. Jefferson	3m 11s	H. Homan-Green	3m16s
	U13	M. Richards	2m57s	M. Bartrop	2m58s	R. Pass	3m09s
	U14	A. Holden	3m21s	E. Jefferson	3m22s	I. Ho	3m23s
	U15	J. Tarleton	2m39s	D. Ho	2m47s	S. Wong	2m51s
100m	U12	J. Beck	16.44s	H. Evans	16.64s	C. Kiggins	16.90s
	U13	L. Lester-Powell	14.03s	C. Stutchbury	14.39s	M. Gunner	17.05s
	U14	G. Curtoys	13.39s	E. Nakamaru	13.41s	J. Tapsell	13.64s
	U15	J. Burley	12.16s	W. Drewett	12.95s	S. Wong	13.18s
Relay	U12	Bannister	1m06s	Radcliffe	1m07s	Redgrave	1m08s
	U13	Redgrave	1m	Edwards	1m02s	Bannister	1m03s
	U14	Edwards	59sec	Bannister	60sec	Radcliffe	1m02sec
	U15	Edwards	54secs	Redgrave	54.90sec	Bannister	56secs



# Sports - Athletics Results



## GIRLS..... FIELD EVENTS

EVENT	Age Group	1st	Dis/ Hgt	2nd	Dis/ Hgt	3rd	Dis / Hgt
Long Jump	U12	A. Edwards	3m81	V. Turner	3m39	S. Brennan	3m36
	U13	M. Odinstova	3m08	S. Arkle	3m07	T. Richards	2m55
	U14	C. Williams	4m26	A. Graham	4m20	B. Sampson	3m81
	U15	L. Bowen	4m	T. Wells	3m89	L. Evans	3m63
High Jump	U12	E. Whittles	1m	S. Clift	0.95m	S. Lockyer	0.90m
	U13	A. Schofield	1m20	L. Lu	1m10	L. Brown	0.90m
	U14	K. Matthew	1m30	C. Williams	1m25	B. Sampson	1m15
	U15	L. Bowen	1m25	L. Evans	1m20	N. Wells	1m15
Discus	U12	F. Trumper (jt)	9m60	A. Dawkins (jt)	9m60	E. Parker	7m30
	U13	T. Richards (jt)	12m70	R. Hutchisson (jt)	12m70	T. Couch	9m20
	U14	K. Matthew	16m30	B. Sampson	16m	K. Nagano	9m
	U15	E. Medus	15m90	P. Rudderham	12m60	E. Couch	9m60
Javelin	U12	A. Carpenter	11m40	S. Lockyer	10m62	H. Timmins	9m30
	U13	R. Hutchison	13m21	M. Odinstova	11m30	T. Richards	11m21
	U14	C. Williams	22m61	K. Matthew	12m70	B. Sampson	11m10
	U15	E. Medus	15m40	R. Blesovsky	11m20	P. Rudderham	10m72
Shot	U12	H. Timmins	5m85	S. Clift	5m59	A. Dawkins	4m92
	U13	T. Richards	5m78	R. Hutchison	4m79	L. Snow	4m72
	U14	T. Couch	3m11	xxx		xxx	
	U15	P. Rudderham	6m12	C. Slater	6m11	E. Medus	5m82





# Sports - Athletics Results

## BOYS..... FIELD EVENTS

EVENT	Age Group	1st	Dis / Hgt	2nd	Dis/ Hgt	3rd	Dis/ Hgt
Long Jump	U12	M Richardson	3m60	C. Daly	3m44	M. Richards	3m25
	U13	Matt. Richards	4m56	C. Stutchbury	4m22	P. Ellis	3m98
	U14	J. Tapsell	4m50	R. Mason	4m29	B. Crane	4m20
	U15	J. Tarleton	5m56	S. Wong	4m90	R. Hooper	4m56
High Jump	U12	H. Homan Green	1m15	H. Phelps	1m10	P. Ellis	1m
	U13	S. Edwards	1m25	L. Lester Powell (jt)	1m20	R. Mason (jt)	1m20
	U14	E. Nakamaru	1m45	R Whittles	1m20	S. Slater	1m20
	U15	J. Burley (jt)	1m50	J. Tarleton (jt)	1m50	C Scott / W Thwaites	1m45
Discus	U12	R. Thomas	14m70	C. Kiggins	14m	L. Wong	9m30
	U13	L. Wilcox	16m90	R. Collins	14m50	J. Hill	14m
	U14	M. Webb-Dickin	16m60	M. Hook	14m20	F. Wuthrich	11m40
	U15	W. Drewett	21m90	E. Hutchison	21m10	B. Forshaw	19m
Javelin	U12	H. Phelps	15m80	H. Homan Green	13m80	A. Forshaw	11m81
	U13	R. Pakeman	23m10	H. Pullen	19m10	J. Scott	16m60
	U14	M. Webb-Dickin	18m61	S. Slater	17m32	F. Wuthrich	14m71
	U15	W. Thwaites	28m70	W. Drewett	26m40	A. Thomas	18m54
Shot	U12	E. Brierley	6m	R. Thomas	5m85	M. Richardson	5m40
	U13	H. Pullen	8m78	L. Wilcox	7m08	D. Hines	6m97
	U14	G. Curtoys	8m78	J. Tapsell	7m15	R. Jinno	6m16
	U15	E. Hutchison	7m73	W. Drewett	7m45	T. Ruddy	7m15



# Individual Sporting Achievements



## David Roper

David Roper (6th form), is a member of the Gloucester triathlon team, who won a duathlon competition in Cambridge in May, thereby qualifying for a place in the under 18 team in Switzerland this summer. This is a tremendous achievement for David

he is Junior Captain. Over the last year his golf handicap has dropped from 26 to 9, which is an impressive achievement.

He has won numerous trophies over the years, and his parents say they are running out of space! He is also a member of the successful Rendcomb College golf team.

## Chris Barefoot

Chris Barefoot of 6B represented Gloucestershire for rugby at county level.

## Ben Symcox

Ben Symcox represented Gloucestershire in cricket at U14 level.

## James Tarleton

James Tarleton of the 4th form played rugby for the Bath Academy.

## Luke Baghdadi

Luke Baghdadi has represented Worcestershire in cricket at U17 level.



Andy Thomas and Chris Scott

who had to run and swim for 7km and bicycle for 35km. David is now looking for sponsorship and support for the world championships in August.

## Chris Scott

Chris Scott is a Cadet in the Air Training Corps at RAF Innsworth. He was recently awarded the accolade of Sports Cadet of the Year as a result of his success on the Athletics field. He has represented his wing in the cross country section of the West Midlands Regional event and hopes to progress to national level next year.

Chris is also the Athletics Team Captain at Rendcomb and broke the school records in both the 200m at 1500m at the recent Athletics' Day.

## Andrew Thomas

Andy has been playing golf for the last 7 years and is a member of the Shrivenham Park Golf Course where

## Sarah Lockyer & Laura Brown

Laura Brown and Sarah Lockyer are two Godman house girls who have successfully combined their demanding Rendcomb life with considerable success in sport outside of College.

An accomplished swimmer, Laura has performed brilliantly for her club, The Swindon Dolphins, winning medals for several strokes, including her strengths of breast stroke and front crawl in competitions. She is also a member of the Wiltshire County Squad for swimming.

Sarah, who has been riding since the age of 5, has been selected for the elite squad of the British Dressage team for the under 12s. She won the 2000 U12 dressage on her horse Splash and she is now working hard with her horse Rocky.

LH

## Chris Jeffreys

Chris Jeffreys of 6A has represented Gloucestershire as a hockey goalkeeper.

## Tommy Lait

Tommy Lait of 6A is playing rugby for The Gloucester Academy.



# Junior School Section





# The Year at a glance



## Michaelmas Term

Our third year opened with six new members of staff and our highest number of pupils to date, over one hundred and thirty. More details about the new staff can be found elsewhere in this magazine.

As always this turned out to be a very busy term. The Ermine Street Guard visited to teach Junior 3 and 4 how to march Roman style.



The pupils enjoyed a variety of interesting outings. Junior 5 and 6 visited the Cheltenham Festival of Literature and listened to such illustrious names as Elizabeth Laird, John Foster, Anne Fine and Michael Morpurgo. Towards the end of the term we had a pantomime workshop to prepare us for our trip to the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham to see a fabulous performance of "Dick Whittington".

Our sports teams enjoyed a high level of success with our under 10 rugby team being unbeaten and our under 11 six a side soccer team coming runners up in the St. Francis School soccer tournament. The boys thoroughly enjoyed showing their

dads just how good they are at football. This entertaining match ended in a high scoring draw.

The sporting highlight of the term, however had to be the performance of our under 11 girls' hockey team who won our own tournament beating such teams as St. Edwards, Rosehill, Richard Pates and Hatherop Castle. I thoroughly enjoyed being able to present the trophy to our captain Rosie Barks. Well done girls!



Many of us enjoyed a wonderful display of fireworks put on by Paul and Pete Cairns and their team. You really would have to travel a great distance to see anything more spectacular. Mrs O'Sullivan ran an extremely successful Book Fair in November which raised a substantial amount, allowing us to buy many new books for our own library. Our ladies from JEST ran an extremely exciting race evening, the feature race being the Rendcomb Gold Cup. I think the adults enjoyed it every bit as much as the children!

Also in November we enjoyed a visit from a team of Inspectors, who spent a very busy four days watching lessons and learning about how the school works. The resulting report was extremely positive and proved just how good our teachers are. It was also helpful in the writing of a development plan to make a very good school even better. A full copy of the report can be seen on the Internet.

The term ended with us enjoying a lovely Nativity featuring every member of the Otters.

The very next day the Juniors entertained us with their production of Baboushka, which was a wonderful way to Finish a long, busy term.



## Lent Term

The Lent Term is usually a rather quiet one but not this year. The Junior 6 children enjoyed a visit to Gloucester, where they enjoyed being taught Victorian style. Johan Trim with inky hands was marched out of the classroom and caned (!) for this gross misdemeanour, and Ottie Henniker-Gotley had a lesson in sitting up with a straight back. It certainly made them realise how lucky they are to be at school now. The under 11 soccer team enjoyed a successful trip to the Isle of Wight, winning two of their three matches and enjoying such activities as ten pin bowling, ice skating and playing on the beach.







A group of our Junior 5 pupils led by Catherine Sharpe, Edward Slark, Sarah Tarleton and Sarah Jones arranged a sale of second hand goods in aid of the Blue Peter appeal raising



over £200. We all enjoyed dressing up as our favourite characters on World Book Day.

Later in the term we all came to school with wild and wonderful hair styles as part of our 'Wild Hair Day' in aid of raising funds for deaf children in Peru.

A new and successful feature of the year was the number of children volunteering to take assemblies. We heard all about dolphins from Emily Palmer and Rachael Jennings.



The term ended with our now traditional Easter Egg hunt around the school grounds and in the afternoon a fabulous set of hats on display in the Easter Bonnet Parade.

## Summer Term

The summer term turned out to be as manic as ever. The first half of the term was spent practising for our production of The Wizard of Oz. Most of our junior pupils took part in the show and the two performances were absolutely outstanding and undoubtedly the highlight of the school year. The great thing about a show is that so many people take part, parents helping by making costumes, staff by supporting the producer, the maintenance staff making props and so many others. I still find it amazing that children who are so young can have such presence on stage.

The pupils have enjoyed a variety of outings. The Otters have recently visited Westonbirt and the Cheltenham



Festival of Science, Junior 3 and 4 watched an amazing display by the macaws at Longleat, Junior 5 had a day out at Westonbirt and recently came second in a national science challenge in Bristol. Junior 6 were challenged to find fossils on the beach at Lyme Regis and they all did. One found by Harry Maisey was so big we were unable to carry it to the



coach.

We have enjoyed more interesting pupil assemblies, including a great many facts about cats, brilliantly



researched by Isabel Bruce and Jessica Tait. Andrea Haas and Tershie Hayward taught us all about South Africa.

We also heard about Ancient Egypt and several teachers were mummified in toilet roll paper.

On the sports front, the children have enjoyed sports days and swimming galas. The cricket and rounders teams have had a variety of matches. We enjoyed our first swimming gala against Rosehill School and a golf match against Ferndale school. We entered athletics teams in the area





# Welcomes and Farewells



championships and met with considerable success. For a small school the variety of sporting opportunities for the children is amazing.



The greatest achievement by far was the performance by Victoria Cannon



in the recent Under 13 riding event at Stonar. Her clear round in the cross country was a phenomenal effort.

Another first this term was the fashion show organised by Miss Bell in aid of CLIC. We raised £540 and had a fabulous time doing so.

## Welcomes and Farewells



At the beginning of this year we welcomed six members of staff to the Junior School.

### MRS MARY PLINT

Mrs Plint joined us to teach the newly formed Junior 2 class. Mary, who is originally from South Africa had been teaching at Berkhamstead School in Cheltenham so was well aware of the demand and expectations of the Independent sector. She has also played the piano in our assemblies and introduced a Junior School Band which has played several times in Distinction Assembly.

### MISS JACQUI HAMPSON

Miss Hampson joined us on a one year contract to teach Junior 1. This was Jacqui's first teaching appointment. She quickly established a busy classroom, which the children in her care enjoyed being part of. We wish her every success in her future career.

### MRS ANNE MARIE HILDER

Mrs Hilder joined us initially as maternity cover for Mrs Audritt, this was extended to a one year contract when it became clear that Mrs Audritt

would not be returning. Mrs Hilder has been a Junior 5 tutor and has taught Mathematics to Junior 4, English to Junior 5 and History, Design Technology, French and Religious Studies to various classes across Key Stage Two. She has also run a very successful lego club. We wish every success in her future career.

### MRS AMANDA HOUGHTON-BROWN

Miss Bunn joined us in September from a school in Switzerland and married in the Easter holidays. She has been tutor to Junior 4. She has taught Geography across Key Stage Two, teaches English to Junior 4, Mathematics to Junior 5 and also teaches French. Amanda is a wonderful teacher with the gift of being able to control children without raising her voice. She has already proved herself to be a hard working and valuable addition to our team.

### MISS NICOLA TAIT

Miss Tait joined us as the classroom assistant to the Reception Class. She has been an invaluable help to Miss Hunter in the classroom. Her happy, willing nature quickly endeared her

## Prizes

The following prizes were awarded in Final Assembly :-

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Reeves Cup for Improved Reading     | - Archie Doyle                                 |
| Carden Cup for Music                | - Amy Bladon                                   |
| Boys Cross country Cup              | - George Ardley                                |
| Dufosse Art Cup                     | - Freddie Ardley / Georgia Lee                 |
| The Henniker-Gotley Victor Loderum  | - Rosie Barks/Michael Crickmore/Katy Schofield |
| Osborne Cup for Girls' Sport        | - Rosie Barks                                  |
| Palmer Cup for Boys' Sport          | - Johan Trim                                   |
| Tatham Losh Shield for Improvement  | - Jeremy Long                                  |
| Arkle Cup for All Round Improvement | - Jemima Valentine                             |
| Shackel Cup for Drama               | - Sarah Tarleton                               |
| Trim Happy Cup                      | - Harry Maisey                                 |
| Potter Cup for Overall Contribution | - Ottie Henniker-Gotley                        |



to us all. The Reception class all love having her in the room and she was a factor in the successful Inspection we gained for the Early Years. Nicola has also run the after school crèche very efficiently. She has become an important part of the team.

### **MRS JOANNE HADLEY**

Mrs Hadley also married during this academic year. She joined us from Taunton Preparatory School and has been a Junior 6 tutor. She has also taught English to Junior 5 and 6, taken on the responsibility for ICT across Key Stage Two and taught P. S. H. E and Religious Studies. At the end of this term she is taking maternity leave and we all wish her a restful, exciting early experience of motherhood before her return in the future. Jo has proved to be hard-working, dedicated and extremely conscientious. Her dry sense of humour has endeared her to us all and she too has made a significant contribution to this successful year.

### **MRS MARGARET MOORE**

Mrs Moore joined us in January 2003 on a one term contract to teach the support lessons during the enforced absence of Mrs O'Sullivan. She is a vastly experienced teacher and Ofsted Inspector, having inspected SEN provision on several occasions. So successful has she been that she has now been appointed as the learning support teacher on a permanent basis.

### **MR GEORGE MOORE**

Mr Moore joined us early in the Easter Term to assist with the teaching of boys games. An ex professional footballer himself, he has quickly become an indispensable member of the staff.

At the end of this term we say farewell to:-

### **ADRIAN AND JULIE PALMER**

(see page 5)

### **LOUISE TURNER**

Louise joined us in September 2001 to be a classroom assistant in the 'Otters' and a part time Headmaster's Secretary. As the school has grown so her role has changed to be more of a secretary, with some time each day in the classroom. When in the classroom, she has built up a strong relationship with the children and so good has she been that on occasions she has stood in for absent staff as the class teacher.

As a secretary her patience and tolerance are amazing. Nothing has ever been too much trouble for her and everything she has been asked to do has been done with enthusiasm and a lovely infectious smile. She has done a fabulous job ensuring I am at the right place at the right time. Her manner with parents has been excellent - always being polite and helpful.

Everyone at Rendcomb will miss her, she has made a huge contribution to the success of the school. We all wish her every success in her training and future career as a teacher. Our loss is most definitely the profession of teaching's gain.

### **JACQUI MITCHELL**

Mrs Mitchell has been the teacher of music to all classes from Junior 3 to Junior 6. Her lessons, as well as allowing children to make music, have helped them understand such things as the parts of the orchestra and some basic theory of music. We wish her every success as she leaves to concentrate on her individual music tuition.

## **INSPECTION**

For one week in November we had a team of four inspectors who watched our every movement. They visited lessons, assemblies, watched after school activities. They met with parents, teachers and pupils. A full copy of the report they wrote is now available on the Internet.

The main findings were :-

The school has various strengths, of which the following are the most important :-

- It is well led
- It has a welcoming and supportive family atmosphere to which all the staff subscribe. Pupils of all ages feel happy and secure.
- The pastoral care of the pupils is a strength of the school. Relationships between staff and pupils are warm and show mutual respect. Relationships amongst pupils are good
- The achievement in the Key Stage Two National Curriculum tests in core subjects in May 2002 is above national standards and compares well with similar independent schools.
- All staff are positively willing to accept changes in order for the school to continue to evolve and improve.

*Adrian Palmer*





## Outings

### DAY WITH THE ERMINE STREET GUARD

On Tuesday 1st October 2002 the Ermine Street Guard visited the Junior School.

First we all tried on roman helmets and chain mail. They were very heavy! The Romans must have been very strong they had a shield and weapons too. I held a shield ..... it went up to my neck! Miss Payne dressed up as a Roman lady.



Then I sat on a roman saddle. It had no stirrups and was like a western saddle. After this we learnt how to route march, march on the spot and charge at the teachers. They were a bit surprised!

Then we watched a video. This was interesting. If soldiers did something very bad and against the rules, they were put in a line and every tenth man was killed. Their food was very boring. The toilets were wooden in a long line. Every one sat together and used the same toilet sponge. We were told about the different ranks by the centurion and the standard bearer.

It was a great day. We really felt like Romans.

*Sophie Popper (Junior 3)*

### A TRIP TO THE CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE

On Tuesday 15th October the children of J5 all bounced excitedly into school. We were all going to the 'Everyman Theatre' in Cheltenham to hear the poet John Foster at the literature Festival. We all had an idea of some of his poems but not of what he looks like.

One of my favourite was called 'In Memory of Winnie Pooh'. Others we enjoyed were 'Excuses, Excuses', 'This Is The Foot' and 'Gran Can You Rap'. He read many others as well.

In the question and answer session two of our girls asked John a question. Kirsten asked, "What would you be if you were not a poet?" He said he would be a teacher as he had once been. I have forgotten what Sarah asked, but they stood on a very high balcony! Weren't they brave?

The day was lovely. I am really thankful to Mrs Hadley, Mrs Hilder and Mrs Palmer for taking us. John Foster was so amazing and I learnt lots of things. I also enjoyed listening to his poems.

*Emily Palmer (Junior 5)*

### THE OXFORD ASHMOLEAN

It was a long hard journey to the Oxford Ashmolean Museum. First we went to see the Egyptian artifacts. These were some of the artifacts that we saw: canopic jars, mummified objects and shabati. The canopic jars had inside them the lungs, liver, kidneys and intestines. The Shabati were used for the afterlife. The Egyptians thought that it would help them after death. These were some of them:- a mummified hand, a mummified fish,

a mummified dog and lots of other mummified things.

Then we went to see the Tudors and Stuarts. We saw lots of money which was very old. We saw Guy Fawkes' lantern. Everyone was amazed.

*Holly Phelps (Junior 4)*

### JUNIOR 5 TRIP TO A SIKH TEMPLE

On June 3rd 2003 Junior 5 went on a trip to the Sikh temple in Swindon. We went on a bus and finally reached an open gate leading to a tall building with golden minarets.

We had to take our shoes off before going upstairs, we also had to put a scarf on our heads. We were led upstairs into an open room with a beautiful stained glass window. The person who took us upstairs told us never to turn our back on the holy book.

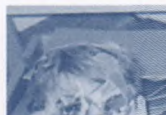
When we got into the room there were other men and a television. The President spoke but it was hard to understand him. We watched a video and learnt about Sikhs.

We had to walk out backwards, went downstairs and had some food. Sadly that was the end of our trip.

*Abigail Whittles (Junior 5)*

### JUNIOR 3 AND 4 TRIP TO LONGLEAT





# Reception Class

## JUNIOR 6 VISIT TO LYME REGIS



Junior 6 had a class outing to Lyme Regis as part of our Geography course. We had loads of fun and we enjoyed it. We sketched the sea defences and looked around. The funniest part was when three people were splashed on the harbour wall. (Will Trim, Guy Potter and Charlotte Jones) They were all drenched. After our lunch we met up with a man who took us fossil hunting and we all became palaeontologists. We had so much fun even though the tide was coming in. We found lots of fossils, mainly ammonites. Some of them were in massive rocks so we couldn't take them home. Some people found a yellow horned poppy and a bee orchid, which is extremely rare. Thank you Mrs Houghton-Brown and Mr Palmer for taking us on such a fun trip.

*Ottie Henniker-Gotley and Rosie Barks (Junior 6)*

## JUNIOR VISIT TO CHEDWORTH ROMAN VILLA

The Roman Villa was amazing. The man told us that when you put wax on an apple, it stays ripe all year round and it is like a Babybel cheese. You cut off the wax, wash it and you have a ripe apple to eat. In the Villa they had two dining rooms and two kitchens and one temple with a pool. I enjoyed it, people dressed up like slaves and we saw the heating system. We went to the shop. I bought a model of a soldier and a Roman

penny. A lady took us to the classroom and told us about the remains of the villa. I wish I was rich like the people who owned the villa. I was amazed that the Victorians found the villa as it is on a huge hill, the mud fell on top of it and for years no-one found it.

We went to the bath house and saw the bath and the changing room. The sort of animals they had were: horses, sheep, pigs and donkeys.

I had a lovely time and I learnt so much about the Romans. Thank you Miss Payne for organising such a fun trip.

*Isabel Bruce (Junior 3)*

## THE SCIENCE CHALLENGE

On 26th June 2003, we made our way down the M5 to Bristol for the Science Challenge. We had to do a drama investigation and a quiz. I was in the drama. We did well in everything but we came second by just four points. We had 53 points. The lady who presented the certificates was from HTV.

I felt very proud that we had come second out of 16, 000 schools. I really enjoyed the day, it was so exciting.

I would like to thank @Bristol, Science Challenge and BNFL, who were the sponsors of the competition.

*Sam Dally (Junior 5)*

## Reception Class

In September 2002 the Reception class was fortunate to be joined by our wonderful new teaching assistant, Miss Nicky Tait.

It has been another busy year for the Reception class. Here are some of the pictures of their fabulous work and particular highlights from the Year.

As part of our topic on 'ourselves' the Reception class learnt about 'our senses'. The children made binoculars and we went on a site walk. They had fun making magical spectacles and playing in the 'Otters' Opticians'.



This year's Nativity was a great success. Everybody enjoyed the show.

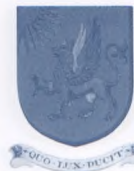


The children visited the Rendcomb Post Office, where we posted a letter and had the opportunity to stand behind the counter weighing and stamping parcels. We then made our own post office in the classroom.



Dave and Judy, the paramedics visited us in their ambulance. The children explored the inside of the ambulance and particularly enjoyed playing with the flashing lights and the siren.





On World Book Day the children dressed up as their favourite story characters.



In March, we all visited Abbey Home Farm in Cirencester. The children particularly enjoyed the tractor ride, seeing the lambs and meeting 'Bradley the Pig'.



The Reception children looked at and grew sunflowers. They painted their own still life pictures, just like Vincent Van Gogh.



At the end of the year we all enjoyed the swimming gala and sports day.

## Junior 2

### A POSTCARD FROM CYPRUS

Dear Granny,  
I am having a wonderful holiday in Cyprus. I love it here because it is always sunny. We found a rock pool with fish and crabs. Me and Daddy went high in the sky on a paraglider. There was a man who pulled us down from the sky. The boat went very fast.

*Megan Chadwick*

### LUCY AND THE ALIENS

One night Lucy was skateboarding. Lucy went to the aliens' planet. She taught the aliens to skateboard. They thought it was great fun. Lucy was sad. She missed her parents. They swapped gifts so they would remember each other. Lucy went home.

*Georgina Cannon*

### TADPOLES

Tadpoles are easily frightened.  
Tadpoles are black.  
Tadpoles look like a little head with a tail.  
They are fast.  
Tadpoles grow humps which become legs.  
Their tails become shorter, then they are froglets.  
Their tails soon disappear.  
Then they are frogs.

*Tom Wickers*

Tadpoles are small and black.  
They wriggle about.  
We feed them fish food.  
When they get older they grow legs.  
They need water to stay alive.  
Tadpoles swim fast.  
They are easily frightened,  
They eat green weeds.  
They grow into frogs.

*Patrick Tarleton*

Tadpoles are black and have a tail. They wiggle their tail to swim. Frogs have eggs. Tadpoles eat fish food. Tadpoles get back legs first then they get front legs. Tadpoles grow gills outside then they grow gills inside. Tadpoles turn into frogs.

*Millie Parker*

### GOING ON A JOURNEY

I like to take my Lily Dolls and all their clothes. I also like to take some books and some story tapes. James will take some CD's. Matthew would take a football magazine and mummy would take her book and a map.

I like to go over bridges and I like to go over bumps. I like to play 'I Spy' and I look out for horses.

I feel sick, I feel happy, I feel excited.

*Emily Beck*

### WEEKEND NEWS

We found a toad on my cousin's back lawn and we put it in a bucket. He kept on jumping on the rock and we called him Ted. I saw him stick his tongue out.

*Archie Doyle*

### AUTUMN

Squirrels collect nuts for winter. Hedgehogs collect leaves for a bed. Leaves are gold and red and yellow. Leaves fall in Autumn. They have tiger stripes and giraffe stripes. They are crispy and crackly and they float. They twirl and they flutter.

*Harry Priestner.*

### WHAT MADE TIDDALIK LAUGH

*(A traditional tale from Australia)*

Once on a boiling day in Australia, the sun shone on a giant frog called Tiddalik. So he had to drink. He was so thirsty, he drank up all the water



from all the ponds, lakes, rivers and streams. He grew fatter and fatter and fatter.

After he had done that he fell asleep. The animals, kangaroo, snake, koala, cockatoo and kookaburra all planned how to make Tiddalik laugh so that all the water would come out of him and back into its places.

They all want to wake Tiddalik up. They tried tricks. Kangaroo did a tail flip, snake tickled him, kookaburra sang, but nothing worked. All the noise woke up platypus. She thought: "What is all the noise?" So she came out of her burrow to investigate. When Tiddalik saw platypus, he started to giggle, chuckle and then laugh. All the water gushed out of his mouth. The animals all had a drink and promised not to leave platypus out of their games in future.

*Katina Ellis*

## Junior 3

### ANGLO SAXON RIDDLES

The Anglo Saxons used to entertain themselves by making up riddles.

J3 set about writing some of their own. See how many you can solve.

I go through hair and make it neat  
so its not all fuzzy.  
What am I?

*Delia Rich*

I help you live.  
I am always running and I am very  
useful.  
What am I?

*Alana Carpenter*

You use me to blow your nose.  
I can be fitted into a packet or a box.  
What am I?

*Abigail Fawcett*

I have a curly tail and a snout.

I love rolling in the mud.  
What am I?

*Katie McCourt*

I help you but I do not think?  
What am I?

*Oscar Ellis*

### HOT AND COLD

When I am hot I feel like smashing  
everything I see. Hot is a tantrum, it  
is like fire.

When I am hot I feel like a red  
bomb. Hot is explosive it is like a  
volcano.

When I am hot I feel like the sun.  
Hot is red, it is like a guy on a bon-  
fire.

When I am cold I feel like everyone  
is against me. Cold is loneliness it is  
like a blue cloth.

When I am cold I feel like silver,  
cold is purple, it is plucked chicken.  
It is like ice.

When I am cold I feel like frost. Cold  
is white, it is like a see through  
gloss.

*Isabel Bruce*

When I'm hot I feel like I'm in a  
volcano. Hot is tiring, it is like  
anger.

When I'm hot I feel like jumping in  
a freezing bath. Hot is annoying. It  
is like a raging fire.

When I'm hot I feel bothered. Hot is  
red like fire. It is like something  
exploding.

When I'm cold I feel like I've got ice  
down my back. Cold is an ice cream.  
It is like snow.

When I'm cold I feel like I'm trapped  
in an igloo. Cold is silver. It is very  
sparkly.

When I'm cold I feel like getting in a  
hot bath. Cold is freezing. It is like  
an ice block.

When I'm cold I feel like snuggling  
up in mum's bed. Cold is lonely. It is  
like sleeping on the street.

*Hannah Clift*

When I am hot I feel like I've just  
been put over a roaring fire. Hot is  
like anger. It is like fire.

When I am hot I feel like I'm  
embarrassed. Hot is soothing. It is  
like being touched by a warm hand.

When I am hot I feel like I'm sun-  
burnt all over. Hot is excited. It is  
like melting plastic.

When I am cold I feel like I'm  
standing on a frozen swimming pool.  
Cold is loneliness. It is like snow.

When I am cold I feel like I've got  
frost bite. Cold is alone. It is like a  
frozen river.

When I am cold I feel like I am in  
the middle of one sea in the North  
Pole. Cold is silver. It is like ice.

*Jessica Tait*

### TEN TERRIBLE TONGUE TWISTERS

One wild, wacky, wobbly waiter

Two, tall, tubby, terrific teachers

Three, thick, thoughtful, thinking  
thatchers

Four, fat, fantastic, frightened  
firemen

Five, funny, furious, frightening  
fishermen

Six, strong, serious, soft sailors

Seven, silly, shouting, sour shooters

Eight enormous, adventurous, acting  
actresses

Nine, naughty, nutty, nice nannies

Ten, terrifying, terrible, tall typists

*Tori Collishaw*



# Junior 4



One wild, wacky, wonky welder  
Two treacherous, torturous, tiny teachers

Three thick, thanking, thoughtful thieves

Four fiery, famous, frightened firemen

Five feeble, fat, foolish farmers

*Joshua Thomas*

One wild, windy, wacky waitress

Two tall, talking, teaching teachers

Three thanking, thinking, thieving, thatchers

Four falling, face painting, fiddly factory workers

Five fading, fainting, feeling ill, face painters

Six sick, scratching, suffering sowers

Seven sleeping, sticking, slinky swimmers

Eight eating, elegant, electricity workers

Nine nasty, naughty, nice nurses

Ten terrible, ticklish, teddy, makers

*Charlotte Jones*

## Junior 4

### A CHINESE STORY: AN EXERT FROM THE WILLOW TREE

No one saw Chang slip in the wooden gates and climb up the willow tree but it was hard to get up as it was so windy. Chang managed to get up "How did you get here?" said Koong-see. "A little thing called a boat", replied Chang as they jumped out of the Willow Tree on to the boat. The boat was slippy and Koong-see slipped off the boat. Chang dived in the water and swam to Koong-see and put her on the boat to sail to freedom.

*Oliver Greenaway*

### SIMILE POEM

As strong as beastly snarling ox  
As quick as a netball hitting you on the head

As fast as a rolling hockey ball  
hit towards the goal

As slow as a writer stuck without an ending

As happy as sweet smelling roses  
As silly as a snowman dancing in the snow

As bright as a yellow-orange sun

As hot as a waxy, burning candle

As blue as the clear, blue sea.

*Tershie Hayward*

### MR MAGIC THE MAGICIAN

Mr Magic the magician was an amazing man.

Mrs Magic the magician was an amazing woman.

Miss Magic the magician and master were amazing children and 'Malty' cat was an amazing cat.

For some of the time Mr Magic and his family were flying on their brooms. For the rest of the time they wrote down spells. When Mr Magic wrote down spells everything was quiet. One day Mr Magic lost his spell book. Mr Magic made a plan. Mr Magic's plan was to look into his magic ball and reverse time to last night. It showed him a chair covered up in a piece of velvet. He went to Westergate, he found his spell book on his chair.

The moral is to retrace your steps or use a crystal ball.

*Andrea Haas*

### MY POEM

The writer of this poem is bubbly, pretty,

Blue eyed and blond haired.

As strong as a netball pumped till it's full,

As gentle as a mouse carrying nuts,  
As fast as an ant being chased by a human,

As slow as a plodding elephant,

As happy as a clown,  
As silly as a lunatic,  
As funny as a chimp,  
As naughty as a monkey nicking bananas,  
As stunning as a black panther,  
As tall as a giraffe.

*Georgina Reid*

### STORY STARTER

I was walking in the castle. I was in the dining room. I saw a huge tapestry on the wall. It had a picture of a giant skull on it. The room was dusty and dark. The bookshelves creaked. My spine went hot and cold. The table was a long wooden plank. I thought about ships. There was a picture of Moby Dick on the wall next to the bookshelves. The curtains were tattered, torn, old, dusty and a sort of black colour. The whole entire room was scary. The carpet was grey, in fact it was so grey that it looked like the grey eyes of a demon. The door was a black, rusty, creaky door. It looked like a black clock of a campfire or the black night sky. The chairs had marks in them like a vampire's toothmarks. The cushions were ripped and all the feathers had come out. It looked as if a werewolf had scratched it and torn it apart. Then I heard a voice. It said this: "you are in danger. You must leave us the clues around you to win a dream". I went back to the tattered and old tapestry. Then swords came out of nowhere and charged towards me! The swords had gold handles. They were as sharp as knives. I had met my doom. I looked around me I thought of ships. Then I ran to the tapestry. I shouted "PIRATES!" The tapestry swung open; I ran inside. The wall closed, I was trapped. I was in desperate need of help.

*Ciara Mulholland-Fenton*

### WHAT I DID IN THE HOLIDAYS

In the holidays I went to Ciara's birthday party, it was a rock climbing party. You had to get to the top as



fast as you could. I did it in 37 seconds. I came second, Oliver came first he did it in 31 seconds.

A few days after I went to Holly's sleepover party. It was really; good fun. Lots of girls were there nine in total. First thing we did was that we played rounders. After we got changed into our own dinner dresses most people borrowed one from Holly. We had a candle lit dinner. We had a roast chicken with gravy and sausages wrapped in bacon. Then for pudding we had strawberries dipped in chocolate sauce. Then we watched Holly open her presents. Then we did a talent contest. After we went up-stairs and got ready for bed then in bed we watched the video "Spirit." Then we ate marshmallows and went to sleep. In the morning we did the pinyater. Then we had breakfast and played wink murder. Then we all went home.

*Charlotte Stedman*

## SATURN

Saturn is like Jupiter they are both fast spinning gas giants with a massive equator. The upper atmosphere is mostly made up of hydrogen which forms into dark belts and bright zones. Saturn has 23 moons and you can see fewer than ten through a large telescope. Saturn has the brightest rings in the solar system.

*Alex Symcox*

## Junior 5

### BIG WALK

As Big-Walk stormed into the village every door on every house shook or fell off, every window broke. Children and women hiding under beds, babies screaming. Men marching out with swords and knives headed toward the village shop, where the D.C rushed out from the bar to the shop. "What

are you doing here thief?" yelled Duke. Big-Walk's yellow glaring eyes peered-down at the Duke. Saying nothing, but glaring, Big-Walk grabbed some flour, eggs and oil, his dog ran by his feet growling. "What about meat, tramp?" shouted Cousin Dago. "He stole them!" cried the crowd. Big-Walk put his fist to the dagger in his old ripped belt, but did not kill anyone. He just stormed back to his mangled hut. "No, let's arrest him!" cried the crowds still standing around the village shop. "He deserves it, for since he came out of jail, sheep, pigs, goats and fowls have gone missing. And that dog, he may be small, but he's fat!" announced Duke. "Yer" cried the crowds of people. Back at Big-Walk's hut Big-Walk was swimming as it was one of his hobbies.

*Alice Collishaw*

### THE FAILURE

The skier jumps,  
He's doing fine.  
He's ten feet off the ground,  
Can he make fifteen?  
The crowd goes  
"ooh" and "aah"!  
He does not see the rope -  
Bang! He's starting to fall,  
Crash! Bang! Boom!  
"Ow, ow ouch!"  
That's a fall that  
He'll remember.  
Here comes the ambulance,  
His leg is broken.  
"Oh no, it's over!"  
His career ended in an instant.  
One voice is heard,  
The rest of the crowd are silent.  
As he's stretched away  
There is a standing ovation from the crowd.

*Sam Dally*

### MUM IT WASN'T ME!

"What happened this Loo?  
Oh what am I going to do?"  
"But Mum it wasn't me.  
It was the baby, he!"

"Don't ever lie to me!  
I know I heard you cry, see!"  
"But mum it wasn't me  
It was the baby, he!"

"How could a baby break a lamp?  
You lied to me you little scamp!"  
"But Mum it wasn't me  
It was the baby, he!"

*Sarah Jones*

### THE WALRUS AND THE POLAR BEAR

The Walrus asked the Polar Bear  
"What do you say,  
Wanna come to Australia with me  
just for the day?"  
"Is there any sun?" the Polar Bear  
cried  
"Yes there is," the Walrus signed  
"Then I won't come," the Polar Bear  
said,  
"I think I will go straight to my sofa  
cold bed."  
The Walrus set off on his very long  
journey,  
But first he had to go through South  
Cerne. South Cerne is where the monsters  
live  
So he took a short cut and went to  
sea in a sieve.  
When he got to the very hot country  
He rested in a really old oak tree  
"I think this is too hot for me -  
So I think I'll go back to the North for  
Tea!"

*Hannah Wood*

### WHY?

Love is like a star shining in its  
brightness. Glory is like a diamond  
excelling in its success.  
Faith is like a river gradually getting  
stronger and  
Hope is like a precious stone, only a  
few of it in existence;  
But if diamonds and precious stones  
be found together  
Then why are stars and rivers so far  
apart?

*Sarah Tarleton*





## IF

If the children were the teachers and  
The teachers were the kids,  
The children would be awful creatures  
And the teachers might lose their  
lids.

If the children were the parents,  
And the parent was the child,  
The parents would do all the moaning  
The house would be wild.  
If the baby was the clown  
And the clown stayed in the cot,  
The baby may be going down  
The clown couldn't watch.  
If the cats were the mice  
And the mice were the cats,  
The cake would eat ice  
And mice would be fat.

*Emily Palmer*

If the baby was the Queen,  
And the Queen was the youngster,  
The baby would be pleased,  
And the Queen with a hamster.

If the prawn was the Shark,  
And the Shark was the prawn,  
The prawn would be beaten,  
And woken up at dawn.

If the Ozzy's were the English,  
And the English were the others,  
The cows could make the milk,  
But they wouldn't have udders!

*Ottie Henniker-Gotley*

## MY POEM

If the world was flat,  
And sugar was sour,  
If the birds went Oink,  
And snails rode at 50 miles an hour.  
If the blackboards were white,  
And the sea was red.  
If children didn't go to school,  
Instead they stayed in bed.  
If the sun orbited the Earth,  
And the moon was made of cheese.  
If sharks had just bare gums,  
And bread was made of peas.  
If any of these wonders,  
Should ever come about,  
Do not come to me,  
For I shall be inside-out!

*Imogen Meborn-Hubbard*

## BILLY THE BULLY

Billy the bully was very fat.  
He strolled in the corridor with his  
pack.  
He wore a school blazer but never his  
hat.  
Oh! Billy the bully what are you at?

When lesson time came he was very  
subdued  
His havoc, destruction was kept under  
wraps,  
He never would dream of being so  
rude!  
To disturb Miss Hilder with even a  
pat.

But when all was quiet no one in the  
room  
He let out his fury and picked an old  
stew.  
Poor stew was left sobbing and  
bruised by the broom.  
When in charged Miss Hilder and  
bellowed "You prune!"

*Catherine Sharpe*

## HI, I'M AN ALIEN

Hi, I'm an alien from outer space  
I'm really, really tall with a shiny  
green face.  
I travel through space in a super fast  
rocket  
My rocket's so small it would fit in  
your pocket

I arrived on earth to investigate,  
And came across you, and your mate.  
You looked rather shocked, and  
started to run  
I shouted, hey stop! let's have some  
fun.

You started to laugh and I laughed  
too.  
Come on chaps, let's think, of  
something to do.  
We set off together, we headed to the  
beach.  
We played volleyball, but you  
struggled to reach.

The sun went down, it was time to  
leave.  
We had, had so much fun, it was hard  
to believe.  
I asked for my rocket which was in  
your pocket  
I said my goodbyes  
And off into the skies.

*Tom Margesson*

Hi I'm an alien from outer space,  
I'm really, really tall with a shiny  
green face,  
I travel through space in a super fast  
rocket,  
My rocket's so small it will fit in your  
pocket.

I travelled through space on a great  
big mission,  
I tried very hard not to have a  
collision,  
But when I wasn't looking, along  
came a planet,  
There was a great BANG as I crashed  
in this granite.

My ship was all smashed and my  
head got a bang,  
Then I saw you and you're a new kind  
of gang,  
You've got brown faces and you're  
not very tall,  
You don't have a rocket and you're  
really, really small.

*Ed Slark*

## Junior 6

### NIGHT PERSONIFIED

As soon as Mum closes the door,  
Night draws back the curtains.

His slit for a mouth, his deep red eyes.  
No wonder everyone's scared of him,  
But really if you look closely,  
You see a friendly face.

He wears droopy clothes,  
Which, when he moves whoosh in the  
wind.



You see a lonely,  
Little black creature  
And the next thing you know,  
You're at school listening to the  
teacher.

*Jemima Valentine*

## DIDCOT POWER STATION

Didcot Power Station,  
Didcot,  
Oxon.  
OX11 7HA

Dear Madam,

I am writing to thank you very much for taking our group around Didcot and explaining how the power station operates.

I learned lots from your tour, for example, about all the huge scrapers which carry up to 40 tons of coal and how the cooling towers condense all the water to be recycled. I was amazed at the size of the towers and the chimney. I also learnt that the coal is pulverised by ten 1 ton weights to make it easier to burn. I think it would be very interesting if our class went to a nuclear power station to learn how nuclear power is produced. I also learnt that you can fit St. Pauls Cathedral inside a cooling tower.

Thank you very much again for giving us such an interesting talk and I hope in the future to see one of the bee orchids you mentioned.

Yours sincerely,  
*Alex Hook*

## HAIKU - METAMORPHOSIS

Caterpillars crawl,  
In cocoons ready to hatch  
And then flap their wings.

*Rosie Barkes*

## A HOLIDAY TO REMEMBER

Our two week trip to America was the most fantastic experience. My dad was forever on business in America and I had been looking forward to it for months. Only problem, we had to go on a plane. Three whole hours of awful children's films (Stuart Little) and my thirteen year old brother kicking the back of my seat. What fun!

As if it couldn't be any worse, as the plane descended, my ears popped and crackled like balloons. I became happier straight away. As I was eight at the time, I was very amused by the machine that brings bags out of the planes. But to my horror, it was going to be a very long journey to Las Vegas.

When we finally arrived at Las Vegas, was I in for a surprise? I was told this place was boring. No, it was a dazzling paradise for kids. When we went to book in at the Sahara Hotel my brother was threateningly telling us he was going to puke. We quickly went to our room. My brother ran to the bathroom and then fell asleep on the bouncy bed. (I tested it) As my brother was ill, we went for a walk down the strip. The lights were like a kaleidoscope, blazing fireworks, the fire of the 'mirage' lighting up the sky.

Next day my brother was feeling better. My brother, sister (Rebekah, ten at the time), Mum, Dad and I sneaked into the Mirage (a hotel on the strip). Behind the counter was an aquarium filled with various fish. As we trekked further through the jungle of a hotel, we came to some beautiful mammals, diving playfully into the water. The droplets of water, trickling off their fins in a ray of sunshine, wading through the cool water. The dolphins would gaze mischievously through the glass. We stood watching the animals play in and out of the artificial waves.

The next day we went to look around 'New York New York', yet another hotel on the strip. This hotel held the largest roller coaster ride in the world. But to my bitter disappointment, I was too small for the ride. My sister, mum and I waited anxiously, when my dad and brother came out, they looked pale and ghostly.

Sadly, before I knew it, our bags were packed and we were on our way to the Grand Canyon. When we arrive there we knew it was not a mistake.

As we wandered aimlessly around the Canyon, we understood it would be stupid to fall now. The narrow path guided us around the beautiful Rocky Mountains. A rainbow of reds and browns, the swirling, smiling sun, its rays pointing at the rock. The small creature on a stone suddenly disappeared.

Sadly my mum managed to part me from these images. We came back at sunset. The sun going down in the cast a shadow over the valley.

The next day we went home. "I guess there's always next year," I said comforting myself as we drove home.

*Naomi Soanes*

## TWOC

For those of you who don't know TWOC means 'Taken Without Owners Consent.' When Junior 6 discovered this new word, in this case, to steal a car. The class was invited to demonstrate their new knowledge to Mr Palmer. William Parker's hand went straight up and with a wicked glint in his eye, he said "Don't worry Sir, your Volvo is in no danger of being TWOCed!"

## MY REPORT ON BRIDGES

We were told to make bridges because we needed to learn about structure. I have learnt that the strongest way to build a frame is by using triangles.





The criteria of the bridges was: it has to span 50 centimetres, it had to hold a toy car, it had to hold a traffic jam, it had to have a good payload and lastly it had to be easy to build with conventional materials.

In the test my bridge did span 50 centimetres, it held a whole traffic jam without flexing. My payload was quite good but it would be expensive to build because concrete is expensive and if I used steel it would have to have mufflers.

If I could change my bridge, I would make it out of thinner tube so I could cut off the top to make it lighter and easier to get things out.

*Kerrianne Shackel*

## A CHRISTMAS NATIVITY



All the children in 'The Otters' took part in the Christmas Nativity. It was a combination of acting and singing and the children responded well singing the catchy tunes such as 'Rocky Road' and 'Hush Hush, My Little Child', with great gusto and enjoyment.

The Reception class starred as animals and angels. The Year Ones were village people and the individual parts were played by the children in Junior Two.

All the Junior Two children acquitted themselves well, delivering their lines

clearly and confidently. The children enjoyed the simple dance routines they had to learn to go with some of the songs.

## THE WIZARD OF OZ

To the wonderful sound of Mr White's piano playing, the curtains revealed a little cottage and busy workers in Kansas where Dorothy Gale had gone missing. Her anxious Aunt Em (Alice Collishaw) and ever gentle Uncle Henry (Ed Slark), urgently tried to find her before a fierce cyclone (definitely produced by Mr Hayward) swept everyone and everything away.

Dorothy (Sarah Tarleton) and her dog Toto (Georgia Lee) found themselves at the foot of the rainbow in colourful Munchkinland, surrounded by over twenty little animated munchkins - beautifully dressed by Sister Prichard's clever needlework. The farmers (James Bell and Joshua Thomas) showed the Mayor (Harry Plunkett) that by Dorothy's house landing on top of her, the Wicked Witch of the East had been killed. The Munchkins celebrated to music by singing Ding Dong The Witch is Dead and this was verified by Coroner William Colaluca and certified by Barrister Freddie Ardley.

Dorothy was keen to return to Kansas so the Munchkins advised her to seek the help of the Wizard of Oz in the Emerald City, and to reach Oz she would have to 'Follow The Yellow Brick Road'. En route she met Scarecrow (Joe Hines), Tin Man (Matthew Blesovsky) and Lion (Fergus Reid), all of whom became her dear friends but she also met perils such as the Wicked Witch of the West (Rosie Barks) and the contagious dancers, the Jitterbugs.

When they finally arrived at the beautiful Emerald City, they watched the changing of the guards and were met by the welcoming committee of Courtiers. Lord Growlie (Oscar Ellis), his daughter Gloria (Kerrianne Shackel) and her friends (Amanda McCourt, Jemima Valentine and Amy Bladon) looked after them and introduced them to the terrifying Wizard of Oz (Guy Potter).

He ordered them to destroy the Wicked Witch to make the Land of Oz safe once more. They felt the task would be impossible. The Wicked Witch was watching them from afar and after entertaining her two witchy friends (Charlotte Jones and Emma Foley), assisted by Tibia (a rare stage appearance in the shape of one Mr Palmer ..... with hair!). She used magic to collect the four friends. Just as she was about to boil Dorothy alive, her friends cleverly popped the Witch in the pot. As she shrank to Abbie Fawcett's size and down to a mini-mini-me, while the two scary skeletons looked on, the friends rejoiced at being able to return to the Wizard of Oz to ask for help.

At last the Wizard was able to award a certificate to the Scarecrow, a medal for the Lion and a clock to beat like a heart for the Tin Man. Dorothy and the Wizard returned to Kansas by the newly built ATOMIC ROCKET SHIP.... and all finished happily.





Year Six pupils Harry Maisey, David Baldwin and Naomi Soanes were all helping the grown-ups behind the scenes and Mrs Palmer was delighted that so many parents and staff wanted to be involved. The whole production had energy, colour and enthusiasm resulting in everyone enjoying the true feeling of team spirit and satisfaction.

Like all good events - we now wish we could do it all over again. (Well, most of us, heh Ferg!?)

*Mrs Julie Palmer*

## Sport

### GIRLS' HOCKEY

This was the Junior School's first hockey season and matches were contested at U9, U10 and U11 level. For some children it was their first time with a hockey stick in their hand, for others they were able to build on their previous experience and develop their game. For all the girls it was a hectic time with many new skills to be mastered and plenty of practice required. At all levels of hockey, teamwork is the essence to success and this is something the girls realised very quickly. As the season progressed they really began to support one another and work together rather than trying to play as individuals which is often more tempting.

Some of our most notable results saw our under nines beating Wycliffe, the under tens beat St. Edwards and a squad of girls at under 11 level won our tournament beating Richard Pates, Hatherop Castle and St. Edwards. A special mention must be made of Katy Schofield who scored all of our goals in the tournament.

Given that we are still a small school, we only fielded one team against some of the larger schools. Many of the U10 girls were seen representing

the school at U11 level and competing well, which is a promising sign for the future.

*Miss Jemma Payne*

### RUGBY

Under the coaching abilities of Mr Essenhugh and Mr Palmer, the under 11s made the switch from soccer to rugby. We even employed Miss Morrison as our 'mind set' guru to teach us the Haka, which that moderate team the All Blacks chant at the beginning of their matches.

I can report that in the games I captained at Rosehill, Hatherop Castle, Kings Gloucester and St. Edwards, 100% effort was given on the field by all players. We were 100% fit and 100% committed to winning. Fergus Reid and Joe Hines were our try scorers, running in precious tries against strong opposition.

It is a pity that our flashes of talent were not enough to save the team from its 100% record of losses! However, we are 100% determined that, although these individual battles were lost, the war is not yet over.

*Alex Hook (Junior 6)*

### NETBALL

Unlike hockey, most of our girls in Junior 5 and 6 had played netball last year and had some experience of match play. Again, we fielded teams at U9, U10 and U11 levels and some of our stronger U10 players were able to boost the U11 team when their own side did not have a game. The U10 team was undoubtedly our most successful team winning all their matches except the first which they lost by a single goal. Convincing wins were recorded against Richard Pates, Rosehill and Ferndale. Congratulations to Tori Cannon and Imogen Meborn-Hubbard on their consistent goal scoring. This team has

real potential for next season.

*Miss Jemma Payne*

### SOCCER

The under 11 team had a successful season, winning most of their matches, when at full strength. At the St. Francis under 11 six a side tournament, the boys played extremely well to finish runners-up, losing by one goal in an extra time final.

The highlight of the season was the tour to the Isle of Wight. The team played three games and won two of them. During the weekend they ate well at McDonalds, K.F.C. and the chippie. They also enjoyed ice skating, ten pin bowling and beach soccer.

The under ten and under nine teams also experienced match play, winning more often than they lost.

*Mr Adrian Palmer*

### CRICKET

The under 11 cricket team played four matches this season with mixed results. The great thing about cricket is you learn by playing the game. As the matches progressed, it became clear that Tom Dally is a batsman of great promise and Matthew Beck has the potential to be a quality bowler. The final match of the season against the mums and dads was great fun.

### GOLF

For the second year we had a mixed golf match against Ferndale School over a nine hole course at Faringdon Golf Club. Our first pair of George Ardley and Harvey Rich shared their match with George hitting a ten metre putt on the last green. The girls, Catherine Ardley and Lucinda Norton were beaten by two terrific young players. Our third pair of Freddie Ardley and Guy Potter lost





narrowly on the last hole. Harvey Rich won the closest to the hole competition on the fifth green.

## SWIMMING

We enjoyed our first ever swimming gala in the summer term, against Rosehill School, which was organised by Miss Bell. It was a wonderful event with over twenty enthusiastic swimmers representing the school. Although we lost the match the performances of Delia Rich in winning the back stroke and Ciara Mulholland-Fenton in winning her race were well worth the journey.

In the last week of term 'The Otters' had their swimming gala, during which all the children swam widths, chased corks and jumped in. At the end all the children were awarded certificates.

The Juniors also had their swimming gala in the rain. Over fifty races were enjoyed by a large band of loyal and supportive parents. Following the races a welcome hot cup of tea was served in the dining room.

## ATHLETICS

All the children enjoyed sports days towards the end of term. The Otters had to compete in the Sports Hall due to inclement weather, which actually worked out extremely well. The Juniors had a lovely afternoon on top pitch. The Henniker-Gotley Victor Ludorum was jointly won by Rosie Barks, Katy Schofield and Michael Crickmore.

Our happy band of athletes entered the North Cirencester District athletics event. We took a team of over thirty athletes. Anyone who won at this event went on represent the North at the Area Athletics.

The Area Athletics held at Kingshill School, Cirencester, was an extremely

well organised event. Michael Crickmore won the 80 metre sprint, Katy Schofield won the 600 metres and Imogen Meborn-Hubbard won both the 50 metre and 80 metre sprint. These children deserve a special mention due to their outstanding performances.

## Goodbye to Junior Six

### FERGUS REID

Played in the under 11 soccer, rugby and cricket teams. A member of the swimming team. He was excellent as the Lion in the Wizard of Oz. Congratulations on entry to and good luck at Pates Grammar School.

### WILLIAM TRIM

William only joined us after Christmas. He quickly became a member of the year. He played in the cricket team.

### KERRIANNE SHACKEL

Her confidence grew during her time with us. She was a Prefect. Kerrianne was a member of our athletics team.

### JOHAN TRIM

Played in the under 11 soccer, rugby, cricket and athletics teams. He was awarded the Palmer Cup for Boys Sport.

### FREDDIE ARDLEY

Played in the under 11 rugby team and was a member of the golf team for two years. Barrister in Wizard of Oz. Joint winner of Dufosse Art Cup.

### CHARLOTTE JONES

Only joined us towards the end of the

Easter Term. She was a member of the netball, rounders, athletics and swimming teams. A witch in the Wizard of Oz.

### ROSIE BARKES

She was a member of under 11 netball, hockey, rounders, athletics and swimming teams. Joint winner of the Henniker-Gotley Victor Ludorum on sports day. A Prefect. She was awarded the Osborne Cup for Girls Sport.

### JAMES BRITTAIN

He was a member of the under 11 soccer and rugby teams. Captain of the cricket team. A Prefect. He was a butler and a General in the Wizard of Oz.

### WILLIAM COLALUCA

He was a member of the under 11 rugby team. A Prefect. The Coroner in the Wizard of Oz.

### AMANDA McCOURT

A Prefect. A girl in the Wizard of Oz.

### NAOMI SOANES

A member of the under 11 athletics team. A Prefect. An excellent violinist. Winner Distinction Cup 2002. Congratulations on entry to Denmark Road Grammar School.

### GEORGIA LEE

Toto in the Wizard of Oz. Joint winner of the Dufosse Art Cup.

### DAVID BALDWIN

He was a member of the under 11 rugby, soccer and cricket teams. A Prefect. Backstage during the Wizard of Oz.



### DUNCAN MORELAND

He was a member of under 11 soccer and cricket teams. A Prefect. Congratulations on entry to Grammar School.

### WILLIAM PARKER

He was a member of under 11 rugby and athletics teams. A General in the Wizard of Oz.

### JOSEPH HINES

He was a member of under 11 rugby team. Brilliant as the Scarecrow in the Wizard of Oz. Runner up for the drama prize.

### GUY POTTER

He was a member of under 11 rugby, athletics and golf teams. Second in the cross country race. The Wizard in the Wizard of Oz.

### OLIVER TAPSELL

Head Boy - Michaelmas Term. Prefect. He was a member of under 11 soccer, rugby and cricket teams.

### OTTIE HENNIKER-GOTLEY

Head Girl - Easter Term. Prefect. She was a member of under 11 netball, hockey, rounders, swimming and athletics team. The kind witch in the Wizard of Oz. Baboushka in the Christmas production. She was awarded the Potter Cup for All round Contribution to School Life.

### ALEX HOOK

Head Boy - Summer Term. Prefect. Captain of under 11 rugby team, member of soccer and cricket teams.

### AMY BLADON

Head Girl - Summer Term. Prefect. A girl in Wizard of Oz. Winner of the Carden Cup for Music.

### HARRY MAISEY

Head Boy - Lent Term. Prefect. He was a member of under 11 soccer and rugby teams. Back stage in Wizard of Oz. Tibia understudy. He was awarded the Trim Happy Cup.

### LAURA GRAHAM

Head Girl - Michaelmas Term. Prefect. She was a member of under 11 hockey, rounders and netball teams. Skeleton and farmer in the Wizard of Oz.

### EMMA FOLEY

A witch in the Wizard of Oz. A prolific reader, often having three or more books on the go at any one time.

### JEMIMA VALENTINE

A member of the rounders and netball teams. A prefect and the well-deserved winner of the Arkle Cup for all round improvement.









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