

# Rendcombian



# Rendcombian

No. 2

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Front Cover: *Sailing at South Cerney*

Back Cover: "Harlequin" clay relief by Richard Hayward

Photographs: C. J. Wood

***Rendcomb College, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 7HA***

Telephone: +44 (0)1285 831213 e-mail: [info@rendcombcollege.org.uk](mailto:info@rendcombcollege.org.uk)

[www.rendcombcollege.org.uk](http://www.rendcombcollege.org.uk)

(Contact details updated 2023)

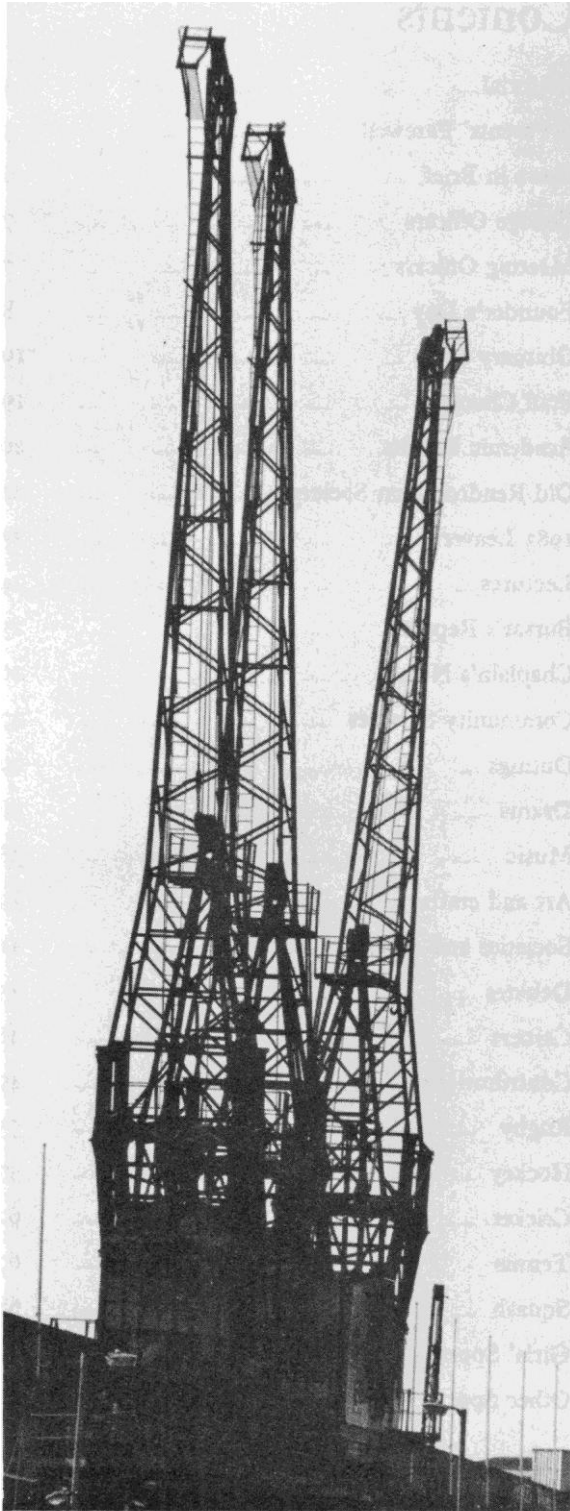
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*Photo: D. Adshead*

## Editorial

I hope that this, the second edition of the new-style Rendcomb magazine, matches the high standard set by its predecessor and reflects the great diversity of interests, activities and achievements in the school.

In a year when the writings of George Orwell are coming under particular scrutiny, many comparisons are being made in the media between the horrific scenario of '1984' and life in Britain today. I wonder how many school magazines reflect this obsession, their creative writings laden with doom and pessimism. I am sure that we are still far from a Big Brother society, but it is very important for us not to become complacent. Democracy and freedom are endangered if we take them for granted.

Equally, the quality of a school is attained by the hard work, thought, imagination and good will of each one of its members. All of us have the opportunity of maintaining Rendcomb's standards and, where possible, improving them. Let us hope that 1985 will see a new generation of Rendcombians prepared to uphold our best traditions both in school life and in the outside world.

TIM ROBINSON



## A Parents' Farewell

We say 'goodbye' to Rendcomb after twelve years and are consoled only by the Bank Manager's happier countenance. The education has fulfilled all our hopes for our three sons and we too have learned a few things. For all of us there have been both achievements and missed opportunities.

The boys have acquired social advantages. They are completely at ease in second-hand clothes shops. Long-suffering matrons in charge of outgrown uniforms perhaps take credit for this attribute. Oxfam, Help The Aged and Nearly New hold no qualms and the garments purchased hold no equals. Few people know that Khrushchev gave his overcoat to the Cheltenham Oxfam. It is in our house now though we nearly left it in a cafe in Bath. An over-efficient waitress pursued us and returned it to its owner.

Fashions change abruptly. Tee shirt and jeans gave way overnight to a collarless cream silk shirt (Help The Aged) worn with gold cufflinks (Christening gift), some vaguely military trousers of loose dimensions (Oxfam) and shoes that had matured into a form of sandal. This longlife footwear can apparently last until such time as boots are "in". One Rendcombian on holiday arrived wearing boots under his kaftan. He was waving a Union Jack and we liked the patriotism the school had taught.

We also like the meticulously fair political education which has resulted in one supporter for each of the three major parties; in-family pairing can now be arranged for convenience at election times.

Our family has seldom graced the Rendcomb

stage, appearing only as a duck and a juryman in Toad of Toad Hall and as the Dictator in a banana republic. Nor was the school equal to the enormous challenge of instilling music into them. However it has compensated in a most original way by providing a musical daughter-in-law to be. The Park House marriage bureau is an optional extra omitted from the prospectus.

We have had some success at cricket, providing the 1st XI with opening batsmen for seven successive seasons. If any parent should attempt to beat this record, be warned — it calls for great spectator punctuality. You can miss your son's whole innings if you are one minute late.

To my shame I must admit defeat at Rugby. All efforts to like it failed. When our youngest reached the First XV I suppressed visions of mangled bodies and wheelchair TV interviews and feigned the greatest enthusiasm. At our first match a boy was carried off on a stretcher and driven away in a master's estate car, his motionless feet sticking out of the back. It did not help and, as I watched, thinking of his poor mother, a thirteen-stone spectator leapt backwards to avoid an onslaught of players and landed on my foot. My rugby injury was extremely painful but David survived the season, even if his nose is now under one eye. It could have been worse — one keen rugby school we considered had a large downstairs dormitory which the headmaster explained was "for the boys with broken legs".

We have now moved on to a wider world — a world of hectic comings and goings, of fluctuating numbers at our table, of grant forms, health food, CND and earrings. Life was peaceful at Rendcomb!

Anne Webb

Denis and Mary Price outside Park House

Photo: C. J. Wood



## News in Brief

1983-4 saw the extension of the **Duke of Edinburgh's Award** scheme, with participation in the bronze, silver and gold sections.

The year saw a **large number of outings**: a party of photographers went to the Fox Talbot Museum at Lacock; 6B visited Longleat House, and the annual visits to local historic houses, Norman sites in Gloucestershire, Welsh castles and the Chedworth Roman Villa also took place. Other excursions are reported in detail elsewhere.

The **Senior Play** was Bertold Brecht's '**Threepenny Opera**' and the Juniors offered '**Mowgli's Story**' based on Kipling's 'Jungle Book' and performed on the **outdoor stage**. Both plays were very well attended.

**Among the many talks** given during the year were one by Buster Waeland, stunt performer, by Lord Oaksey, the horseman and racing commentator, and by Mr. David Jenks, a Governor and local businessman. In February Mr. P. Francis, Regional Secretary of I. S. C. O. gave a talk on Careers to parents of Fifth-Formers.

**Lord Cameron** was the preacher at the **Remembrance Service** and followed his sermon with an interesting discussion period.

The **Confirmation Service** was conducted in March by the **Bishop of Tewkesbury**.

The **new 6B study-bedrooms** were completed during the year.

During the Easter holidays a party went for a **skiing holiday** to Northern Italy.

In the Summer Term 6B public Affairs students visited the **House of Commons**.

The **Rendcomb Open Day** was well attended in October. **Founder's Day** on the 26th May, saw some excellent Art, Woodwork and Science exhibitions. The address was given by **Dame Diana Reader Harris**.

A major decision taken during the Summer Term was to **reform the General Meeting**. Some committees have been abolished, and a redrafting of the rules, aims and procedures is to take effect next September.

After the G. C. E. examinations the Fifth Form once again took part in a week of **Work Experience** with local firms.

Apologies are due to **Mr. Burden**; last year's magazine failed to report his marriage. Our belated congratulations combine with fresh ones, on the **birth of their daughter, Frances**, to Colin and Dorothy.

At the end of this school year **Mr Denis Price** moves to the Mill House from Park House, where he is succeeded as Housemaster by **Mr Charles Hannaford**.

**Ben Knapp's success on the tennis court** continues. He reached the final of the B. M. W. West of England Tournament at Bristol, beating British international John Feaver en route. With his partner Richard Whichello he won the British Covered Court Junior Championship and Junior Wimbledon Doubles. He also won the Singles title at the Open Tournament at Solihull in July.

We very much regret to record the **recent death of Mr Ron Fry**. An appreciation of his contribution to Rendcomb will be found elsewhere.

In the winter gales **David Essenhigh's tractor shed** was blown away, and a new one has now been built.

Sadly the **cedar tree** in the flying field has had to be felled. **Many new trees**, including some given by Lord Dulverton, have been planted.

In the coming year it is hoped to develop **Landage** near the stables, into a new sports area. A **golf course** is being started in the Park.

## College Officers

*Head Prefect:* D. Green

*Head Girl:* C. Parfitt

*Prefects:* C. Grieves, A. Young, C. Acocks, D. John, B. Knapp, A. Lewers, A. Maton, M. Uglow, R. Wakeham, C. Walton D. Webb

*Church Ushers:* A. Maton, J. Richards, A. Young, R. Bendy, A. Waddell

*Librarians:* D. George, K. Knight, M. Stitt, C. Jones, M. Houseman, J. Rosa

*Magazine Editor:* T. Robinson

*Rugby Captain:* A. Payne

*Rugby Secretary:* J. Healey

*Hockey Captain:* D. Webb

*Hockey Secretary:* M. Uglow

*Cricket Captain:* D. Webb

*Cricket Secretary:* J. Healey

*Christmas Party Committee:* T. Brealy, A. Waddell, A. Payne, B. Uglow, M. Hastings

*Paperman:* J. Kook

*Breakages Man:* J. Quick

*\*revised to:* J. Butling, B. Uglow, C. Harris

### Spring Term 1984:

*Chairman:* M. Airey

*Secretary:* J. Morris

*Meeting Banker:* L. Squire

*Boys' Banker:* C. Carpenter

*Paperman:* T. Robinson

*Assistant Paperman:* R. Draper

for others see Winter Term 1983

### Summer Term 1984:

*Chairman:* J. Butling

*Secretary:* K. Knight

*Meeting Banker:* S. Why brow

*Boys' Banker:* K. Knight

*Assistant Boys' Banker:* R. Draper

*Nominations Committee:* A. Hall, S. Evans

*Debating Society:* J. Rutherford, S. Hannaford, S. Noyes, R. Prynne, M. Thompson, M. Cordeux, M. Reid, B. Branston, M. Hastings

*Entertainments Committee:* D. George, S. Noyes, D. Edwin, B. Branston, G. Carter, W. Sherwood, A. Miles

*Meeting Advisory Committee:* C. Carpenter, K. Elderfield, N. Paterson-Fox

*Council:* D. Brown, J. Butling, B. Uglow, J. Awdry

*Pupils' Suggestions Committee:* M. Newman, B. Hatcher, M. Hammond, J. Healey

*Food Committee:* J. Merrett, D. Edwin, D. Aylott, J. Carter, K. Holmes

*Film Committee:* D. George, N. Paterson-Fox, B. Branston, M. Hastings

*Snooker Committee:* J. Butling, B. Uglow, C. Harris

*Christmas Party Committee:* D. George, R. Prynne, C. Harris, T. Needham, D. Scarlett

*Paperman:* M. Astill

*Breakages Man:* M. Cordeux

## Meeting Officers

### Winter Term 1983:

*Chairman:* M. Uglow

*Secretary:* J. Butling

*Meeting Banker:* C. Mansfield

*Boys' Banker:* J. Morris

*Assistant Boys' Banker:* N. Wharmby

*Nominations Committee:* D. Green, D. Appleton

*Debating Society:* D. Webb, A. Bailey, D. Green, D. Wilson, R. Prynne, N. Blackshaw, M. Reid

*Entertainments Committee:* A. Payne, M. Uglow, J. Kinch, D. Clark, M. Hastings, C. Wood

*Meeting Advisory Committee:* P. Paterson-Fox, J. Merrett, K. Cloutman, D. Green

*Council:* B. Knapp, J. Greenwood, A. Maslin, M. Lynton, A. Maton

*Pupils' Suggestion Committee:* D. Green, A. Payne, S. Noyes

*Food Committee:* M. Uglow, L. Squire, D. George, M. Cordeux, J. Rosa, M. Hastings, A. Cochrane

*Film Committee:* C. Carpenter, S. Noyes

*Snooker Committee:* N. Paterson-Fox, S. Jenkins, M. Faulkner\*

## Chairman's Founder's Day Speech May 26th, 1984

MR MAYOR, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, MY LORDS,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Before we have the privilege of listening to Dame Diana Reader Harris our Guest of honour today, this assembly has to endure some remarks from me and from the Headmaster.

This year it is my duty to thank all those parents who replied so helpfully and objectively to the Survey which the Governors commissioned through Gabbittas-Thring. The exceptionally high *number* of replies demonstrated the profound interest which the Headmaster and I and my Governor colleagues have always sensed that parents take in all aspects of College life: whilst the *substance* of many replies (and let me stress their anonymity) have confirmed the view that we do not make enough use of you.

The Headmaster and I have been talking for nearly a year about different patterns of Parent Associations and I have invited him to put his firm proposals to the Governors at their next Meeting in June.

I cannot of course commit my colleagues or my successor but I can certainly see the case for a Parents Association whereby your individual views, often conflicting, sometimes critical, but always helpful, may be channelled to the Headmaster and Governors, not once for all time and at some expense, by Gabbittas-Thring — but term by term and year by year — for free.

As I have said before we have a very effective Finance and General Purposes Committee under Mr Noel Gibbs, who is also a Trustee, which steers the Bursar in all the great work he is doing to make every penny count: but we also have a Future Policy Working Party under Mr Norman, another Governor and also a recent ex-parent. I know that both these Chairmen welcome the sort of input such as the Survey has given us in their search for the future needs of Rendcomb *and* so importantly how those needs can best be tailored to the resources with which you and the Endowment provide us.

Quite clearly, from the Survey, it is the quality of education here which has drawn the vast majority towards Rendcomb: and I take this opportunity, on behalf of us all, of paying tribute to the Headmaster and Staff that this is so.

One of my first acts, as Chairman, was to ask my colleagues to agree to the establishment of an Academic Advisory Board. I profoundly believe that now they are beginning to know us well (and they have just made their second Visitation) Lord Swann, their Chairman and also a Governor, Professor

Campbell from Bath University, Dr. Glenn Black from Oriel College, Oxford, Dr. Malcolm Lambert from Bristol University, Dr John Mackay a former Headmaster of Bristol Grammar School and Mr Anderson, the Gloucestershire Chief Education Officer will, between them, ensure that the curriculum which is taught here, so well, to those you consign to our charge, will be the curriculum best fitted to the future; at least as far as human wisdom can contrive.

Acceding to their views and since their last visit, we have renewed the Language Laboratory, spent a great deal on Computers and have made provision for more whilst we are investigating how we can afford a fully-fledged Computer Centre and the extra Staff to go with it. We have built 4 new classrooms in the Stable Block, installed a Science Library and recruited a Laboratory Technician (of course from the Royal Navy) and built 11 new Study Bedrooms. And all this in addition to the vast maintenance load not only from the weather but from 500 or so feet, however lightly and carefully they may tread.

The Survey comments fell into two clear categories. Those implying major policy decisions which the Governors will consider in the light also of Lord Swann's recommendations which we await: and changes in administrative arrangements some of which I think the Headmaster has already been able to revamp for your convenience.

As far as Careers advice goes there must be no doubt in anyone's mind that this should be a joint effort. Some months ago the Headmaster appointed Mr Ball to assist Mr. Kelsey, who has done so much to enlarge the quantity and quality of advice available. But (in my view) the individual concerned, the parents, the Headmaster and the Tutor must all come into the act. I think we all understand the aim. Tertiary education for those who go for it is a means to a career and not a career in itself. University or Polytechnic life is a new beginning and ideas for a career may change. But there must be no hanging about afterwards. The same goes for those who leave here earlier without going to university or polytechnic; and because those who do so are necessarily younger our joint responsibility is greater to see that their Rendcomb experience is not wasted.

I believe that for all our leavers it must be that (if I may quote):

“He knew the signal, and stepped on with pride  
Over men's pity —  
Left play for work.  
‘Time to taste life’ another would have said,  
‘Up with the curtain’  
This man said rather ‘Actual life comes next;  
Patience a moment’.”

Now if I may turn to another point in the Survey — Religious Education in the Christian Faith was one



of the tasks specifically laid down by our Founder that the Governors should oversee. I must therefore welcome Canon Grey, the Director of Education in the Gloucester Diocese, to our Board of Governors. In an increasingly faithless age and in dealing with those who are at a moment in their lives when they *SHOULD* be questioning, and when doubts creep in, I know that Rendcomb will benefit from his wisdom and experience; and we are indeed grateful that he has added one more load to his already heavy burden.

Now from things spiritual to things more temporal. Food. I counted the other day that in the interests of my own sustenance I have been on 7 Mess Committees in the Navy and have been President of one dealing with the views of 460 ardent and very fit young officers from 13 Nations all paying their own mess bills from (in their view) an inadequate pay check. So I have seen the problem from both sides and I fully understand that food is rarely a matter for much unanimity of advice and often a great bone of contention when other subjects for comment are lacking. Mrs Mezo, our patient and experienced Domestic Bursar is often surprised at the few ideas put up by the Food Committee and I know, because I always visit them when I come up, that she and Mrs Mills our Head Chef are always only too happy to try out new ideas, so long as they are not in the *caviar* category.

It may be that we should get a better answer if we went to cafeteria feeding. Our Bursar, Commander Thring, belongs to that generation of supply Officers who with the help of professional caterers put that form of food service into the Navy with such beneficial results to health and morale. But I must warn that there is a considerable price to pay, not only in financial outlay for new kitchen and servery equipment, but also because it would probably kill off some of the family climate which is one Rendcomb feature which several parents applauded and the importance of which, in their eyes, the teaching Staff have constantly emphasised to me. It might also of course militate against our not always wholly successful attempts to set a fairly acceptable standard of table manners.

However I know the Future Policy Working Party visited a school recently that had changed to cafeteria feeding. I believe my successor is personally anxious that this should be looked into very carefully, but I must say in fairness to everyone that after paying for 11 new study bedrooms the Bursar's till is a bit empty, so that there must be a pause before we embark on such a project, which would anyway require a vast amount of preplanning, more than most people realise.

There were a lot of other comments and suggestions in the Survey. Perhaps I could mention two. *Athletics Track*, this again is a matter of money



**Founder's Day Exhibition**

*Photo: D. Adshead*

but may be on the cards thanks largely to Major Tom Wills, who has given us the Landage Field, in memory of his grandmother, our Founder's widow. I think Mike Newby has four schemes but I rather doubt if the one costing £1M will get past the Finance and General Purposes Committee. *Video Camera and a School Film*, which one or two of you mentioned as being so very desirable, not only for the School but also to attract potential customers. From the money that I have personally collected for The Friends of Rendcomb (which I shall come to in a moment) we bought a Video Camera some months ago. And we now have classes, run by an expert, I think every week. I doubt if Rendcomb will take Hollywood by storm just yet — but we have made a start. And I am very grateful for your support.

I have three last points which have nothing to do with the Survey.

Most sadly Sir David Wills has had to resign as Chairman of Trustees and as a Trustee. But I am thankful that he remains a Governor. If he has a monument (and happily he does not yet need one) I would say 'Look around Rendcomb'. Some of the great improvements come of course from his father's Endowment, from the generosity of Lord Dulverton personally and from the Dulverton Trust and some from the Appeal which so many Parents so generously supported some seven years ago. But Sir David would probably shoot me if I revealed how many of the amenities came from his own private resources. We have reason for great gratitude. As we have too to Lord Dulverton, who has resigned from the Governors but not, I am happy to say from the Trustees. Sadly Bishop Bardsley has given up but I hope we shall see him here often and hear his inspiring sermons from the pulpit. Mrs Gibbs, Sir David's sister, has retired too after many years of great service and her gifts hang on the walls to remind us of her generosity. Her son of course is our very active Chairman of the F. & G. P. C. Besides Canon Grey, whose advent I have mentioned, we have new strength in Miss Catherine Wills, Sir David's daughter and Mr Martin Wills, his son, who has become a Trustee. And I am happy to say that Major Wills from Misarden Park, our Founder's grandson and already a Governor and Trustee has taken on the onerous task of coping with my importunities, by taking Sir David's post as Chairman of Trustees.

But happily for him he will not have to listen to my solicitations for very much longer. When Sir David did me the honour to invite me to relieve Major Birchall as Chairman of Governors I gave it as my view that it was a job for a younger man but that I would fill a gap, at least till I reached my allotted span of three score years and ten, and that occurs next year. So I can announce that the Governors recently elected Admiral Sir Richard Clayton as Vice Chairman (something we have never had since Major Birchall sided Colonel Godman) and Chairman DTBR. That is a naval term meaning

"Date to be Reported" which in practical terms means when Admiral Clayton can no longer stand the sight of me. I'm sure that such an arrangement giving a gradual turnover between Chairmen is the best for Rendcomb. And Admiral Clayton is so well suited for the post because he has not only held two of the most crucial jobs at the top of the naval hierarchy but he is also now at the very heart of one of Britain's greatest industrial complexes. Better still, because until recently he had a godson here whom he frequently visited, he has seen and heard our problems from both sides of the fence for 3 years as a Governor and perhaps 5 or 6 as a proxy parent.

He was, until recently, President of the Royal Naval Ski and Mountaineering Club which I helped to found nearly forty years ago. Of course we already have a great mountaineer on the Staff in the shape of Mr Willson, but as I relax in the future in my chair and watch Ski-Sunday perhaps Rendcomb will feature as it does in so many types of sport. But I must warn everyone to drive carefully on Governors' Meeting days. Admiral Clayton often rides a large and rather fast motorcycle.

Last of all may I mention once more The Friends of Rendcomb, which I first mentioned as an aspiration two or three years ago. With the help of the Headmaster and one of our Governors, Mrs Hughes-Hallett as well as thanks to the generosity of several parents and of several great Firms and Banks and Insurance Companies that I have approached, we now have a reasonable sum in the Bank at compound interest or promised. This seemed to me therefore to be the moment to establish a proper Friends of Rendcomb Trust. Thanks almost entirely to the great work of Mr Sells we now have six Trustees, myself as Chairman, Mrs. Hughes-Hallett representing the Governors, Mr White a parent, Mr Martin Jones the Vice-Chairman of the Old Rendcombian Society, The Headmaster, and Mr David Sells because we couldn't do without him and his 30 years experience of Rendcomb is quite unique.

The prime object of the Trust will be to raise money to provide Bursaries for those boys and girls who are suitable in all respects for entry and who wish to come to Rendcomb, but who do not have the full resources to meet the fees.

Thus we hope to perpetuate not only the Founder's Dream, which inflation has tended to diminish, but also the factor, which you so overwhelmingly applauded in the Survey, namely the ability of Rendcomb to absorb so many boys and girls with totally different backgrounds and give them a 5 or 7 year taste of the Rendcomb Experience. Incidentally, it was also the view of Lord Swann's Academic Advisory Board on their first visit that somehow money must be provided for what they regarded as this, the most important and most unique feature of Rendcomb Education.

And now I turn to the Headmaster for his Report.



## The Headmaster's Report

A very warm welcome to you all, and especially to our main speaker, Dame Diana Reader Harris.

Considering that it's now eleven years since the first girls came to Rendcomb, it has taken us rather a long time to invite a Lady, distinguished in education and in public life, to address us. We value the opportunity of hearing a different point of view, especially in this year which has been designated WISE — which in case you hadn't heard of it, stands for Women into Science and Engineering. Of course there have been women in science and engineering before, but not enough. A remarkable example was Dorothy Palmer who was one of the first women to read Engineering at Cambridge and who in the 20s and 30s supervised the building of the Tashkent to Samarkand Railway, an astonishing and romantic achievement for a woman at that time. It was she who, in the role of Great Aunt speaking to a young lady of my acquaintance, gave this piece of good advice: 'Let the young men flatter you, my dear; it's quite all right so long as you don't inhale'.

One of the emerging trends in education, and one that I am sure will continue, is for schools to become more open institutions, more permeable by outside influences, more responsive to changing requirements. The questionnaire which parents have recently completed with such gusto is a reflection of this trend and an indication that Rendcomb is going to be ahead of the action rather than behind it. To the best of my knowledge, only half a dozen other schools in the country have carried out such a survey and none has invited such candour as the verbatim comments revealed. The sort of things that your best friends won't tell you.

I think the survey implied a proper humility on our part. We don't claim a monopoly in the writing of reports, which is why we asked *you* to write one for *us*. And as with any school report, we value constructive criticism as highly as praise.

But it was also surely a declaration of faith in what we are trying to do and a clear statement that school and parents are partners in a community that embraces past, present and future. And let me add that our association here with one another is more important than any item on the curriculum.

Already one action has resulted in better arrangements for our meetings. I think some waiting is inevitable on these occasions, but parents of boys in the Third form have sampled the new system and given their approval. I must re-emphasise what I have often said in the past that these contacts between us are vital and we value them accordingly. And as the Chairman has mentioned, the formation of a Parents' Association in the year ahead will undoubtedly improve these links.

Further signs that the school is opening its doors more widely are the foundation of the Friends of

Rendcomb, which I hope will be supported wholeheartedly; the letting of our premises this summer holiday; and the clarinet and flute master-classes planned to take place here. The first of these was a great success and attracted skilled young musicians from all over Gloucestershire and beyond.

In the Easter holiday, along with 50 other Headmasters and Headmistresses, I attended a Conference 200 strong to explore the changes we are facing as well as to remember some things which don't change.

In spite of our largely secular society, Billy Graham is still drawing people in huge numbers, including a coach load from here, just as he did when I heard him at Oxford 30 years ago.

The search for what is permanent goes on, and I hope and believe that foundations laid here will be built upon in future years.

I know that this would have been a central concern also of our Founder, Noel Wills, whose memory we honour today. And in passing I'd like to mention that the East window of St. Peter's Rendcomb needs repairs costing £4,000. The Parish will be holding a flower festival on Saturday and Sunday, September 7th and 8th, so any parents who had time to visit the church when bringing their son or daughter back to school on the Sunday evening would be most welcome.

Now from what is changeless to the rapid changes which face us all the time. In Computer Studies we have more than kept abreast of any school our size: two rooms and ten machines plus another couple of dozen private ones, while Mr. Hawswell has demonstrated both for parents and for local Primary School teachers. But further developments are needed and will be undertaken when funds permit. I would like the teacher of any subject to have access to what computers can provide, and that means a fully fitted computer room for 24 people. We have to be prepared for any eventuality — as the great W. C. Fields said: 'I always keep a bottle of whisky handy in case I see a snake — which I also keep handy'.

But while recognising this need, just three cautions: 1. There's some evidence that Computer learning may be superficial learning, which fades from the mind as easily as the message on the screen. 2. What the Computer provides is information, and information — however useful — is not education. 3. I know less of these things than I should, but well informed people tell me that much of the software available at present is simply an insult to any self-respecting computer. Perhaps it's lucky they don't have a right of reply.

I've mentioned Women into Science and Engineering Year and we are certainly playing our part, as more than half our 'A' level girl candidates last year were taking science courses. But we must keep our balance. More than half our successes at Oxford and Cambridge last year — and seven is a pretty



good tally — were on the Arts side, a History Exhibition, two places gained in English and one in Modern Studies.

When people start pontificating about 'a high technology society opening up undreamed of possibilities for human development' — I make a dash for the door. We sometimes forget that besides the amazing discoveries of medicine, electronics and atomic Physics, Science has provided the means of permissiveness and of pollution, and of violence in unlimited quantities. We desperately need the human qualities of mind and heart to cope with them. The study of history, of English and of foreign or ancient literature demands powers of reason, imagination, memory, analysis and human judgement — precisely the qualities needed for almost any job you care to mention. And the words we use and the books we read contain the values we live by.

Turning now from the general to the specific, Ladies and Gentlemen, you have the details of our results in the programme. 8 or 9 'O' level passes by the end of the 5th Form year remains the norm and the 'A' level pass rate was about 88%, down a point or two on last year, but impressive nonetheless.

During the year I have tried to emphasise to those aiming at University entrance, a sizeable

majority, the importance of adapting rapidly to a new self-motivated style of working in the first year Sixth. There simply isn't time to ease off; and with the 7th term Oxford and Cambridge examinations coming to an end, there is an increasing urgency for 4th term candidates who, in the coming year, may number more than one third of the lower Sixth.

And having mentioned Oxford and Cambridge, I only wish that they would commission a Headmaster's attitude survey on their proposals for what they describe as 'simplified' entry. They might hear a few home truths.

But if I have a general message this year it would be of praise and admiration for the quiet workers, those who, whatever their ability or level in the school have slogged away and pulled themselves up by their own determined efforts, coupled with a plea to those — comparatively few — who are lucky enough to have ability, but seem reluctant to use it.

I hope you've enjoyed the Exhibitions and the music this morning. The quality of these things speaks more clearly than any words of mine can do. We've been summoned by bells, and we've also rung the changes by using the Dulverton Hall to avoid congestion in the Arts Block. I wish we could

*Photo: D. Adshead*



present more of what goes on during the year, but in fact, many parents do come to our Open Day in October as well as to plays, concerts and school matches.

You may have noticed the increasing interest in Pottery and in Design as well as in Drawing and Painting. We are exploring how in an already overloaded curriculum we can encourage still more people to enjoy these creative activities and to gain the skills of fine woodworking, which will give pleasure and employment for a lifetime.

And it's this new, broader, view of employment that gives impetus to the growing parity of esteem between the practical, the imaginative and the academic subjects.

If we re-define employment as 'work done for others or for yourself whether paid or not', then people who have had a broad education will have the inner resources to look to the future with full confidence, whether for employment — in our present sense — or for leisure.

This year The Beggar's Opera was performed with great zest by a large cast, a production which left little time to prepare for our rather crazy overgrown Fancy Dress Christmas Party. It's a moment for fantasy, so when I went as 'Beaujolais Nouveau', nobody was unkind enough, or truthful enough, to say 'shouldn't it be 'The Last of the Summer Wine?' . '

Our junior play production was postponed in order to bring into use the outdoor stage. What could be more appropriate in that woodland setting than an adaptation from the Jungle Book? It takes place on June 8th and 9th and any parents are most welcome.

There have been some excellent concerts and recitals during the year, including the fine Beethoven Concert and a sparkling Bach Concert last Sunday still fresh in our memory. But for me one of the highlights of the year was: 'O for the Wings of a Dove' sung as a duet by our heavenly twins.

Now I turn to Sport and perhaps it's worth remembering two points about a school of our size: your involvement in school teams will be greater, but so may be the variation of those teams from year to year. You can have two outstanding rugby seasons, as we had, but three is too much to expect.

Let me say at once that I am not going to speak in code. There's a kind of rugby reporting language which is sometimes used to veil the uncomfortable truth, for instance: 'After a slow start' means: "We lost all our matches up to half term, ' and 'all too often, the backs squandered possession' means 'under pressure they threw the ball to the opposing team'.

I would only use a true paradox and say that I have never gained so much pleasure from watching a team being defeated. It's easy and exhilarating to enjoy rugby when you're on the crest of a wave but

to continue to play with courage and commitment against heavy odds — that's what reveals your true quality. As the All Blacks Captain said after England had defeated them 'You have to take the losses with the wins, but if you come out at the end a better player, it's a plus'. That's the true spirit of the game and I was proud of the way we played it.

So, on to mention one of our best hockey seasons for years — fast, dry conditions, and, with the new field extension, 9 excellent pitches and 9 enthusiastic teams.

Here, as in the rugby, the spirit of the game was highly competitive but convivial. I ask all captains to write me a brief report and here's a comment on an away match which we won 9-2:

'The pitch was worse than any ridge and furrow that I have ever seen and we were all sure that somebody had to get hit, and within about 2 minutes one of their squad hit the ball which hit a ridge and flew into the sky, missing about 3 people and finally hitting one of their team right on the head, but luckily he was a farmer and so he got up in full spirit unhurt and this represented the good atmosphere that was associated with this match as all the team members got on on both sides'.

The cricket season was outstanding, with both first and Under 15 XIs unbeaten. Seven boys played for Gloucestershire teams and our fast bowler gained 50 wickets during the season, including on one occasion all ten for five runs — an extraordinary feat in a first XI match. Seven centuries were scored, three by this year's captain.

Apart from the Main School games there is an increasing interest in some of the sports which we describe as minor, only because of the smaller numbers involved — sailing and sail boarding is a popular one this term, for instance. But I want to finish my remarks on sport with a reference to climbing, in which our standard has for 15 years compared favourably with that of any school anywhere. A glance at the Founder's Day programme under Rock Climbing may leave you none the wiser but the grades of difficulty progress through, Easy, Moderate, Difficult, Very Difficult, Severe, Hard severe, Hard very severe, and Extremely severe — E1, E2, etc. (highest at present E7). This gives some idea of our exceptional standard this year.

A nerve-tingling photograph in the local paper of a boy clinging by his fingertips and toes to a sheer rockface 200 feet up brought both B. B. C. and H. T. V. camera teams to film two of our climbers on the rockface at Chepstow, which we have 'adopted'. A pity the cameras couldn't have followed them to Switzerland in the Summer, where they climbed the Matterhorn and where only the weather a few hundred feet from the top cheated them of the Eiger too. I asked one of these Spidermen what he felt like when he reached the top of Cenotaph



Corner and he said 'The greatest moment of my life'.

And now, as I draw towards a close, I return to my opening comment about girls at Rendcomb. The first dozen lived in our houses for a year while Park House was being completed, and then eleven years ago the full house was launched with Mr and Mrs Price at the helm and with Mrs Holdaway as Tutor.

There is no doubt in my mind that this was the most important change at Rendcomb since its foundation, more so even than its trebling in size during the last 20 years.

Very few boys' schools at that time had taken girls into the Sixth Form and fewer still had made a wholehearted attempt to accept a realistic number of boarders and to make proper provision for them. So it was a pioneering job and Mr. and Mrs. Price threw themselves into it with most generous energy and enthusiasm. The demands of the job have been enormous, not only in the day to day running of the House, but in the work done and advice given for University and further Education courses, and all this while Mr. Price was teaching two 'A' level subjects.

But I believe that the rewards have also been great because there's nothing more heart-warming

than the respect and affection of the young; and all those who have lived in Park House for one year or for two will have memories which they will always cherish. We owe a warm debt of gratitude to Denis and Mary Price as they hand over to Mr. and Mrs. Hannaford and move down to the Mill House.

Now, before my last few words, it's my pleasure to thank the Staff both on my own behalf and on yours for all they have done during the year. I am sure that you will want to recognise that.

And finally, out of all the people who work here with such dedication, I would like to record our deep appreciation to the women of Rendcomb, those other quiet workers without whom the School simply couldn't exist; and thinking of our new wider community, doesn't that also include everybody present today? Whether cooking or teaching, laundering or learning, dusting or flower arranging, keeping the books or typing the letters, or caring for the sick, or simply for being around to supply a bit of sympathy or common sense.

As any former Naval person will know there is a different toast for every day of the week aboard ship and the toast for Saturdays is 'sweethearts and wives', so, Gentlemen, on this Saturday, I give you the women of Rendcomb, our sweethearts and wives.

*Photo: D. Beales*



## Address by Dame Diana Reader Harris

It's a great honour to be invited here today, though I marvel at my temerity in having accepted such an invitation when I heard that my predecessors had been: last year, a Reith lecturer, the year before, the Chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority and before that the Principal of the London School of Economics. I feel that confronted by me this year you may be feeling like the Chairman of a London School prize giving who said sadly when introducing me, "Last year we went to the Mansion House and the Lord Mayor of London gave away the prizes. This year we are not so fortunate." And of course he was right on that occasion and you'd be right in feeling like that now.

However for me it is a great privilege to be here and I have enormously enjoyed all I have learnt about the "Rendcomb experience" and in particular from the Headmaster's brilliant and wise report. Before coming I had of course read the Rendcombian, on whose quality I do congratulate the editors and contributors, and I'd also studied the prospectus. In the latter I was amused to read the statement that the School was "600 feet above sea level" for this reminded me of a statement I'd been told was included in an American School's prospectus that it was "600 feet above sea level and 7 miles from any form of sin." But I haven't seen that prospectus and I can't vouch for it.

But I can vouch for some very happy impressions that I shall take away from here, not least of the courtesy and friendliness of everyone I've met and specially that of the kind guides who took my sister-in-law and me on a tour yesterday. If there are any of you who have not yet seen the very impressive exhibition in the Dulverton Hall I would urge you most strongly not to miss it. For there, as throughout the School's activities, is evidence of what Aristotle called "the joy of excellent performance." It is a first-class exhibition showing some outstanding work.

What I have been particularly interested in discovering is the remarkable way in which over the years since its formation the philosophy on which the school acts combines apparent antitheses. You emphasize on the one hand recognition of every individual's uniqueness and capability and on the other the interdependence of everyone; and again you encourage on the one hand individual initiative and on the other co-operative effort as against competitive self-interest. You seem moreover to be able to strike a balance between the importance of critical and discriminating judgment and also of respect for other people's beliefs and points of view. The resolving of these apparent—and I believe they

are only apparent—opposites gives to a visitor at any rate a remarkable impression of openness to ideas and readiness to accept both personal and corporate responsibility. Somehow these terrible clichés of our time: "I haven't a clue, I couldn't agree with you more, I couldn't care less, or even So What?" don't seem to belong here at all.

And how encouraging it was this past week to find that in other communities too where those clichés have no place something good happens. I am thinking of the village of Bishops Waltham, when because a whole community cared and took action on behalf of an Indian family threatened with deportation, a Government Minister was prepared to change an order and the family was allowed to stay.

My good wishes to you therefore are linked with a prayer of Reinhold Niebuhr's which is probably familiar to many here but which in its combination of apparent antitheses seems to me to have a relevance for us all:

"Grant me the courage to change the things I can change,

The serenity to accept the things I cannot change  
And the wisdom to know the difference".

Whatever our age and wherever we live or work we are confronted continually by situations and circumstances for which such courage or serenity and always such wisdom are needed. As we look over beyond our own community the very weight of the world's wrongs and of the human suffering of which we catch glimpses on T. V. or in the press can I suppose deaden our sensitivity and make us shockproof.

Often perhaps we just don't want to know and like those frightened monks in T. S. Eliot's play would rather cry: "Bar the door—bar the door—the door is barred. We are safe; we are safe. They dare not break in". Remember how Thomas Becket responded to that isolationism: "Unbar the doors, Throw open the doors" (and as they hesitated) "Open the door, I command it, Open the door". And they did, and he was killed. There's always a risk for those who expose themselves to wrong, and we salute the courage of many men and women in the world today, especially in countries with oppressive Governments, who are prepared to take the risk of working for justice and human dignity for those denied this and who identify themselves with the powerless and dispossessed.

I was reading the other day some of the facts of poverty in today's world; here are just three of them:

130,000,000 children are unable to attend even primary school.

570,000,000 people suffer from hunger and malnutrition.

2,000,000,000 do not have safe water to drink.

Such figures and others like them are however so vast that we are bewildered and numbed by them. It is only when we make the effort to try to think of them in terms of individuals like ourselves: children, young people, adults, that the facts become more real to us.

Willy Brandt for instance, at the end of his introduction to *Common Crises*, the second report of the Commission he chaired, says, instead of quoting statistics, "Every two seconds of this year a child will die of hunger and disease. And no statistic can express what it is to see even one child die, to see the uncomprehending panic in eyes which are still the clear and lucid eyes of a child."

When I read that and indeed the whole report I can't help remembering words from Herbert Agar's *A Time for Greatness*. "The pity is that few people know the facts and that even among those who know them there are many who do not care. If we did know and did care the problem would be solved."



Photo: D. Adshead

And if that sounds simplistic and over optimistic it's worth remembering that in six years recently with international support the World Health Organisation wiped out small-pox in 32 countries where it was endemic in epidemic proportions. And what happened then can be repeated in face of other human needs.

And so we pray for courage to face the facts and wrongs whether on our door step or elsewhere in the world and for courage to take action when there is something we can do. And don't let us hesitate if that something seems very little. Edmund Burke, two centuries ago made the point. "No one ever made a greater mistake than to do nothing, because he could only do a little."

I've been very struck recently by the number of stories in the New Testament told by Christ in which the condemnation explicit or implicit is for people who, faced by an opportunity, did nothing. Whether it was the priest or the Levite faced by the wounded man on the Jericho road or the rich man with a poor man at his gate or the one talent man who buried his talent to keep it safe—all of them did nothing. They could all have said I suppose "But we haven't done anything wrong". The priest and the Levite hadn't struck the man down, they only left him where he'd fallen, the rich man hadn't intentionally at any rate fleeced the poor man, he just ignored him, didn't see him as a person at all, the one-talent man certainly safeguarded his resources but he made no use of them. They all refused to be involved.

Here in this school as the Headmaster emphasized in his report last year, "It is the individual that matters and what he or she is capable of achieving and of contributing", and every one of us—of this I am convinced—has a contribution to make, both towards change where change is possible, and also to those other situations which at times confront us and which we have to accept because we can't change them.

In that context the prayer asks for serenity but I think often courage is needed too. Many of us I expect can think of people we know who, faced by a situation they can't change—a family responsibility maybe, or personal ill-health or disability—have accepted it and in such a way that they have produced good out of it. Let me take an example from exceptional personal suffering—represented by a scrap of paper found near the body of a dead child in Ravensbrück Concentration Camp. On it was written "O Lord remember not only the men and women of good will but also those of ill will. But do not only remember all the suffering they have inflicted on us, but the fruits we bought thanks to this suffering—our comradeship, our loyalty, our humility, the courage, the generosity, the greatness of heart which has grown out of this. And when

they come to judgment let all the fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness.”

And now a final quotation which seems to me to follow on. This time it is not anonymous but comes from Albert Schweitzer, who in his work for lepers at Lambarane had the courage to work for change, but it is something he said about the influence of other people’s acceptance of things they can’t change that I find pertinent. I read them in the introduction to the recent Memorial Service for Lord Brooke of Cumnor, former Home Secretary, and himself a very courageous sufferer in the last years of his life, “Much that has become our own in gentleness, modesty, kindness, willingness to give, in veracity, loyalty, resignation under suffering, we owe to people in whom we have seen or experienced these virtues at work sometimes in a great matter, sometimes in small. If we had before us those who have thus been a blessing to us and could tell them how it came about they would be amazed to learn what passed over from their life into ours.”

Such a thought fits well surely with the celebrating of Founder’s Day and with our gratitude for all that has passed from the life of those who have gone before us into ours.

But for us there are still decisions to make and actions to take and so I pray for us all.

God grant us the courage to change the things we  
can change,

The serenity to accept the things we cannot change  
And the wisdom to know the difference.

Very best wishes to every member of the School.

## **Speech of Thanks**

**by the Head Prefect, Doré Green**

I have the great honour to propose a vote of thanks to Dame Diana Reader Harris for such an interesting speech.

For myself and for others, this Founder’s Day, our last as pupils, must have stimulated reflection of one’s years at Rendcomb. To have had the opportunity to spend one’s most formative years in such agreeable surroundings and to have experienced the atmosphere of friendship and loyalty, which I believe to be unique to Rendcomb, is undoubtedly a privilege.

To be a Rendcombian is to be distinctive. For at Rendcomb an individual develops freely while learning a sense of responsibility, of service to the community and the importance of fellowship. It is these qualities which the school will consistently instil in its pupils, because this is the spirit of Rendcomb. Any school must be capable of reconciling traditional values with the needs of modern society; and while the school must not stray from the ideals of its Founder, whom we remember especially today, Rendcomb cannot and will not estrange itself from the outside world, remaining sufficiently flexible to meet its challenges.

I trust that all those visitors, especially our distinguished speaker, who share with us this Founder’s Day have experienced something of the quality of Rendcomb.

Thank you, Dame Diana, for joining us.

## Mr. R. Fry

In July we learned with regret of the death of Ron Fry, for many years a familiar figure both in the College and the Village.

Ron Fry, with his wife and young family, moved to Rendcomb from Sapperton in 1963 to take up the new post of dining-room steward. Up to this time, most of the work in the dining-room had been carried out by the pupils, but increasing numbers required there be someone in overall charge. It was therefore important that the steward should be able to establish good relations with staff and pupils. It was Ron Fry's ability to do this, to strike the right balance, to be friendly but also firm, that earned him the respect of all those with whom he had to deal and enabled him to carry out his duties successfully for many years. Essentially a warm-hearted man, Ron worked loyally at a job which often required long and unsociable hours and was always willing to lend a helping hand when occasion demanded. He was devoted to Rendcomb, and his cheerfulness was in itself evidence that he enjoyed his job and that he valued the friendships which he made among staff and pupils.

He continued with his work after a major operation, but eventually his health compelled him to retire early and he moved to Cirencester some three years ago. Those who knew him will remember him as a loyal friend of the College and will wish to extend their sympathy to his wife and family.

W. J. D. W.

## Dai Warren

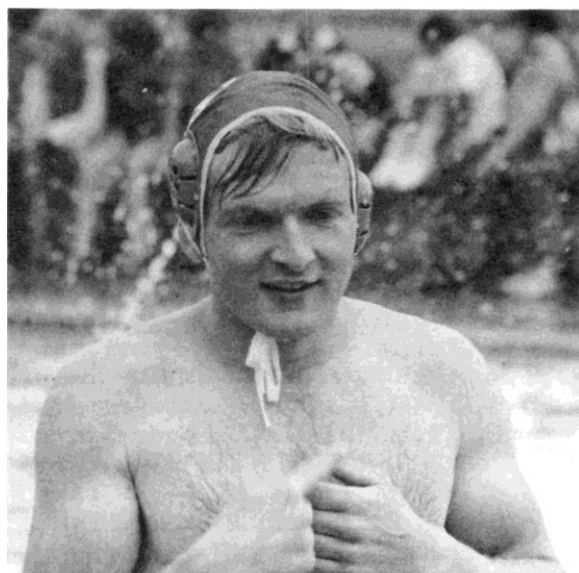
When Dai Warren arrived at Rendcomb to teach riding none of us realised what a tremendous contribution he was going to make to the life of the school. He coached athletics, hockey and rugby. He took sail-boarding groups to South Cerney and helped in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, instilling the basics of chess into the school's budding Karpovs. But this description of his work does not convey the unfailing enthusiasm and concern for the young which are an integral part of Dai's character. If we needed someone to take a group on the games field for an activity, Dai would have a go, and the boys would have a rewarding and instructive afternoon. All this, and we never made use of his History degree in the classroom.

And what of his cricket? If Genghis Khan had had an XI, Dai Warren would have been the second name on the list. Whether hurtling in from long-on to volley the ball (yes, with his foot) in the direction of mid-wicket or making fearsome swipes at balls delivered by spinners who thought they could play the game, Dai brought a style to the sport which accounts for Glamorgan's lack of success in the County Championship.

If you are ever in Haverfordwest, go to the nearest steakhouse (Dai will be there; staff suppers are now free from attempts to break gastronomic records) and ask the blond, bespectacled man with two meals in front of him about Rendcomb. Buy him a pint, and he will tell you of the maladies suffered by his uncle who was an usher. Ask him how he scattered Third Formers in five-a-side football matches like J. P. R. Williams ploughing through an Irish back row. The Army are getting a marvellous recruit.

The photograph of Dai was taken during the water-polo tournament in which, of course, he played.

P. M. E.



Dai Warren

Photo: C. J. Wood

# Academic Results

## Honours

We congratulate the following:

Alan Bennett (1969-76)	Ph. D. in molecular genetics Leicester University
Philip Evans (1972-79)	Domus Scholarship, Pembroke College, Oxford.
Guy Healey (1978-83)	Stapledon Exhibition for History, Exeter College, Oxford.
Simon Knapp (1975-82)	First Year Award, London School of Economics.
Katharine Prynne (1981-83)	Instrumental Award ('Cello), St. Hugh's College, Oxford.

Stephen Bell (Ferndale School, Farringdon)	Entrance Scholarship
Caroline Ellis (Mill Mount Grammar School, York)	Entrance Scholarship
Jonathan Lutwyche (Marsh Court School, Stockbridge)	Entrance Scholarship
Ian Spencer (Grange County Junior School, Tuffley)	Entrance Scholarship
Geoffrey Broomfield (Great Chart School, Ashford)	H. M. Forces Bursary
Leigh Thompson (Liden County Junior School, Swindon)	H. M. Forces Bursary

### GLOUCESTERSHIRE FOUNDATION PLACES:

Christopher Brown (Cashes Green County Primary School, Stroud)  
Patrick Evans (Broadwell Church of England School)  
Matthew Rogers (Haresfield Church of England School)  
Nigel Utting (Longlevens Junior School)

### RENDCOMB FOUNDATION PLACES:

Daniel Maslen (St. Mary's Junior School, Tetbury)  
Richard Rowlatt (Corse Church of England School, Staunton)  
Nicholas Smith (St. Lawrence Primary School, Lechlade)



## ‘A’ Level

The following results were obtained in G.C.E. examinations at ‘A’ level this summer:

Charles Acocks—English, Geography.  
 John Adams—English, Public Affairs.  
 Gaye Adamson—Geography, Maths, Chemistry.  
 Michael Airey—Maths, Physics, Chemistry.  
 Daniel Appleton—History, Biology, Public Affairs.  
 Simon Badcott—Maths, Physics, Chemistry.  
 Anthony Bailey—English, French, German, Music.  
 Simon Barrow—Maths, Physics, Chemistry.  
 Richard Bendy—History, Public Affairs.  
 Toby Brealy—Biology.  
 Susannah Brown—English.  
 Charles Carroll—Maths, Physics.  
 Clare Draper—English, History, French.  
 Jocelyn Goldie—English, Biology.  
 Doré Green—Maths\*(M), Physics\*, Chemistry\*(D).  
 Nicholas Green—Maths\*, Physics, Chemistry.  
 Jacquelyn Greenwood—Maths, Physics, Chemistry.  
 Caroline Grieves—History\*, Biology, Public Affairs.  
 Matthew Hadley—English, History, French.  
 Richard Hayward—History, Art.  
 James Hutton-Potts—History, Public Affairs.  
 David John—Chemistry, Biology.  
 Benjamin Knapp—History\*(M), Public Affairs(M)  
 Adrian Lewers—Maths, Physics, Chemistry.  
 Matthew Lynton—History.  
 Christopher Mansfield—Maths\*, Physics, Chemistry(D)  
 Anthony Maton—English\*, History\*(M), Public Affairs (D).  
 Jane Merrett—English, History.  
 Andrew Mills—Physics, Chemistry, Biology.  
 Richard Newman—Geography, Chemistry, Biology.  
 Clare Parfitt—Geography, Biology.  
 Philip Paterson-Fox—English, History, Public Affairs.  
 Alexander Paton—Geography, Chemistry, Biology.  
 Andrew Payne—Biology, Public Affairs.  
 Jessica Richards—French(M), German, Chemistry.  
 Andrew Rontree—History, French, German\*, Music.  
 Juliet Rutherford—Maths, Physics, Chemistry.  
 Stephen Simkin—English\*(D), French, German.  
 Alison Smith—English\*(D), History\*, French.  
 Lyndall Squire—Maths\*, Physics, Chemistry(M).  
 Gareth Thomas—Maths Physics, Chemistry.  
 Allison Twyman—Geography, Maths, Chemistry.  
 Michael Uglow—Physics, Chemistry(M), Biology\*(M).  
 Angus Waddell—Maths, Physics, Chemistry.  
 Robert Wakeham—English, History.  
 Christopher Walton—English, German.  
 Kerstin Waterloh—Maths, Physics, Chemistry.  
 David Webb—English\*(D), History\*(M), Public Affairs.  
 Anthea White—History.  
 Alison Young—English, History, Public Affairs.

Key: \*—‘A’ grade, (D)—Distinction in Special Paper, (M)—Merit in Special Paper.

## ‘O’ Level

The following results were obtained in G.C.E. examinations at ‘O’ and ‘AO’ level this summer:

Darrell Adshead—cs, AM, Cl.T  
 Karen Alder—CS  
 Benjamin Almond—A, CS, Cl.T, LL  
 Vanessa Andreis—Cl.T  
 Paul Attwood—Cl.T, fl  
 John Awdry—am, Cl.T  
 Alexandra Aylott—Cl.T  
 Clare Bichard—cs  
 Mark Binder—Cl. T  
 Duncan Brown—Cl.T  
 Jeremy Butling—A, AM  
 Christopher Carpenter—cs, AM  
 Karl Cloutman—CS, Cl.T  
 Samantha Evans—Cl.T  
 Victoria Finney—Cl.T  
 Beverley Foote—CS  
 David George—Cl.T  
 Andrew Hall—Cl T, LL, fl  
 Colin Harris—e, cs, am  
 Barnaby Hatcher—cl.t  
 Sara Hawkswell—CS, AM  
 Michael Hicks—A  
 Nicholas Hoare—a, Cl.T  
 Marcus Holland—Cl.T  
 Fiona Howard—Cl.T  
 Blaise Jenkins—A, AM  
 Juliette Loehry—AM, FL  
 Robert McIntyre—CS, AM  
 Stewart McIntyre—cs, cl.t  
 Josephine Merrett—m, Cl.T  
 Jonathan Morris—AM  
 Stuart Newell—cs, Cl. T  
 Mathew Newman—FL  
 Simon Noyes—A, Cl.T  
 Paul Partridge—Cl.T  
 Jane Perkins—Cl.T  
 Robert Prynn—Cl.T, FL  
 Sophie Rutherford—Cl.T  
 Jonathan Suffolk—A, cl t  
 William Tong—cs, Cl. T  
 Benedict Uglow—AM, Cl.T, FL  
 Suzanne Whybrow—Cl.T  
 David Wilson—cs, Cl.T  
 Nicholas Badcott—e, EL, H, G, F, gn, m, p  
 Mark Bailey—e, EL, h, G, F, GN, M, P, C  
 Kristian Benning—e, el, 1, F, M, P, C, B  
 Nicholas Blackshaw—E, EL, H, L, F, m, C, b  
 Richard Bown—E, EL, G, f, M, p, C, B,  
 Alistair Brain—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, B  
 Thomas Branston—E, EL, H, G, F, GN, M, P, C  
 Matthew Cordeux—E, EL, L, F, GN, M, P, C  
 Darren Denby—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, B  
 Alan Doyle—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, B  
 David Edwin—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, B  
 Kevin Elderfield—E, EL, H, L, F, GN, M, P, C  
 Myles Faulkner—E, el, H, L, F, M, c  
 Paul Grainger—E, el, H, G, f, M, p, B  
 Mark Hammond—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, B

Alex Hayes—E, EL, H, G, F, M, P, C, B  
 John Healey—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, B  
 Simon Jenkins—E, EL, H, G, M, p, C, b  
 Christopher Jones—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, B  
 Reza Khosrowshahi—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, b  
 Karl Knight—E, EL, H, G, M, P, C, b  
 Duncan MacDonald—E, EL, H, G, F, M, P, C, B  
 John Marland—E, EL, f, M, P, C, B,  
 Richard Moss—E, EL, H, G, F, M, P, C, B, A  
 Timothy Needham—E, EL, G, f, M, P, C, B  
 Adam Pallant—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, B  
 Simon Palmer—el, G, f, M, c  
 Neil Paterson-Fox—E, EL, H, L, F, GN, M, p, C  
 Richard Pitt—EL, G, M, P, C, b  
 Jonathan Quick—EL, H, G, M, P, C, B, W  
 Timothy Robinson—E, EL, H, L, F, GN, m, p, c  
 Dominic Scarlett—E, EL, h, G, f, M, P, C, B  
 Paul Spackman—E, EL, H, G, M, P, C, B  
 Martin Stitt—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, B  
 John Taylor—E, EL, H, L, F, gn, M, c, b  
 Mark Thompson—E, el, h, G, F, gn, M, P, C  
 Angus Trowern—E, EL, H, G, F, M, P, C, B  
 Graeme Veale—E, EL, H, L, F, M, P, C, b  
 Nicholas Webb—E, EL, H, G, f, m, C, B  
 Corrin Adshead—R  
 Robert Anderson—R  
 Mark Astill—R  
 David Aylott—R, A  
 Daniel Beales—R  
 Giles Branch—R, A  
 Barnabas Branston—R  
 Alexander Brealy—R  
 Thomas Burns—R  
 Andrew Cayton—R  
 Dominic Clark—MUS  
 Edward Crowther—mus  
 Giles Davies—mus  
 Robert Draper—MUS  
 Ian Ford—R  
 Nicholas Hannaford—r  
 Kevin Hewston—R  
 Roderick Hill—MUS  
 Matthew Houseman—mus  
 Darren John—R  
 Simon Kingscote—R, A  
 James Kook—R, A  
 Adrian Lamb—R  
 Kerry Mallindine—R  
 James Mann—r  
 Christopher Moody—MUS  
 Philip Moore—R  
 Justin Noyce—MUS  
 Julian Odell—R  
 James Penneck—R  
 Christopher Pope—r  
 Timothy Prince—R  
 Nicholas Prowse—R, A  
 Simon Reichwald—R  
 Matthew Reid—R, A  
 Angus Rollo—R

Justin Rosa—R  
 Mark Walters—MUS  
 Nicholas Wharmby—R  
 Iain Whittaker—R  
 Stephen Young—R

Capital letter denotes a pass at Grade A-C;  
 small letter denotes a pass at Grade D-E.

#### *Subject Key:*

E	English Language
EL	English Literature
R	Religious Studies
H	History
G	Geography
L	Latin
F	French
GN	German
M	Mathematics
P	Physics
C	Chemistry
B	Biology
A	Art
CS	Computer Studies
MUS	Music
W	Woodwork
AM	Additional Mathematics
Cl.T	Classics in Translation
LL	Latin Literature (AO)
FL	French Language (AO)

## **Old Rendcombian Society**

The annual reunion of the Society was held on July 17th at Rendcomb. The fine weather encouraged a larger number of Old Rendcombians than usual to meet on 'top' to watch the cricket match against the school. After the A. G. M. in the evening, about 100 O. R. s and their guests enjoyed an excellent buffet supper in the Dulverton Hall.

As usual, the main news of the Society was sent out in April in the annual Newsletter.

#### **SOCIETY OFFICERS, 1984-85.**

*President:* J. B. Fell (Staff 1934-73)  
*Chairman:* C. J. Wood (1965-71, Staff 1976- )  
*Vice-Chairman:* M. C. Jones (1954-63)  
*Secretary:* Mrs. J. Gunner (1975-77)  
*Treasurer:* J. D. Williams (1966-71)  
*Rugby Secretary:* D. Woof (1978-83)  
*Hockey Secretary:* J. D. Sinclair (1972-78)  
*Cricket Secretary:* M. Webb (1972-79)  
*Girls' Secretary:* V. Powell (1977-79)  
*School Representative:* W. J. D. White (Staff 1961- )

W. J. D. W.

## 1983 Leavers

The following were omitted from the list given in last year's *Rendcombian*. Details of 1984 leavers will appear in next year's issue.

- Nicola Agius—  
Exeter University: Economics
- Robert Akers—  
North London Polytechnic: Business Studies
- Giles Brealy—  
Royal Agricultural College
- Richard Deacon—  
Jewellery Business
- Charles Ekin—  
Reading University: French
- Guy Healey—  
Stapledon Exhibition, Exeter College, Oxford:  
History
- Oliver Medill—  
Leicester University: French, German and Business  
Studies
- Katharine Prynne—  
St. Hugh's College, Oxford: Physics
- Edward Roberts—  
Robinson College, Cambridge: Engineering
- Mark Smith—  
Exeter University: Business Studies and Statistics
- Benedicta Syrett—  
Birmingham University: History
- Kennedy Taylor—  
Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford: Human Sciences
- Nicola Tinto—  
Exeter University: Geography
- Georgina Walker—  
Birmingham University: Civil Engineering
- Edward Wilcox—  
Reading University: Business Studies
- David Woof—  
Farming
- Jonathan Baker—  
Farming
- Gavin Boyce—  
Witney Technical College
- Jonathan Goode—  
King Charles School, Kidderminster
- Gautom Barthakur—  
Swindon Technical College
- Spencer Hannam—  
Apprenticed to a firm of Photographers
- David Harber—  
King's School, Worcester

## Talk by the Chief Constable of Gloucestershire

Before answering Sixth Form questions, Mr. Soper gave a brief introductory talk about the Police, making some interesting points. It was a young service started only 150 years ago, and Gloucestershire was the second county in England to form a Police Force, Wiltshire having done so two days earlier.

It sprang from the ancient public duties of 'Watch and Ward' and 'Hue and Cry', and it is still true that everybody is required to aid a policeman.

With only one man or woman for every 500 citizens it is clear that the enforcement of the law must be with the community's agreement, and it is a system based on the right of the citizen, who himself has the right to make a citizen's arrest.

The policeman has few extra powers and he is responsible for his actions and liable at law. 'Parliament makes the laws, so if you don't like them, change the laws rather than blaming the policeman.'

Mr. Soper spoke of the fascinating variety of the work in dealing with the whole range of society. 'Policemen are enthusiasts; they see the best and the worst in people; on occasion they may play a part in history.' He answered frankly and expertly a wide range of questions and was clearly anxious to present the Police Force as a reflection of society. He readily admitted that, as in any institution, there were problems, but there was a very efficient procedure for dealing with them.

The Chief Constable came over as a warm, sincere and humorous man dedicated to his job.

We are most grateful to him for spending some time with us.

ALISON SMITH

## Lecture on Nuclear Power

Thursday, March 8th, saw the visit of two scientists from the Government Research Station at Harwell. The talk was introduced by Mr Kelsey to the audience of Fifth and Sixth Formers, and Dr Lee opened the lecture by outlining the work done at Harwell. He said that, although Harwell had acquired a reputation as a 'nuclear' institution, this was by no means the only research that was carried on there, his own field being that of metallurgy. He also emphasised that Harwell had no business in the development of atomic bombs.

A slide show followed, describing the entire nuclear power industry: from the mechanism of fission through to the mechanism of the modern fast-breeder reactor. A major part of the show was

concerned with methods of disposal of nuclear waste, and it was this topic which dominated the ensuing discussion.

Dr Lee took great pains to emphasise just how safe he believed nuclear power to be; when questioned directly he said that he believed the only slight cause for concern in the industry to be the loss of expertise as older scientists retired. He also said that much of the furore over the disposal of waste was due to the fact that it was impossible to make accurate quantitative studies of the incidence of cancers and leukaemia due to radiation; 'safe levels' were decided almost arbitrarily.

In response to a question about the Three Mile Island incident he quoted the results of a study of a hypothetical 'worst possible case' of an accident in a power station: although the results could be very serious, contamination would not be widespread; it was impossible for a nuclear reactor to explode as a nuclear bomb.

Security of nuclear materials was another topic of discussion; Dr Lee revealed that he had access to a critical mass of uranium, but he also said that it would be next to impossible to smuggle it out of Harwell. He said that every milligram had to be accounted for in a twice-yearly check.

The talk finished with the memorable question "If Harwell is so security-conscious, why aren't there any number plates on your car?". And this was the question which finally managed to nonplus the scientists.

## Buster Waeland

On the 25th of January Buster Waeland gave an engrossing talk on the various aspects of being a professional stunt man: protection, equipment, the variety and complexity of stunts, and many others.

Speaking of protection, he mentioned the parts of the body that need padding. He then put on all his protective equipment and asked a volunteer to hit him with a wooden bar: he then dived on to a small collapsible table to show one of his many diving techniques.

Then he spoke of some of his many stunts, including jumping from a tower on a flexible rope and numerous other stunts involving both horses and automobiles.

He continued his talk by explaining the difficulties involved in becoming a professional stuntman. As well as the obvious ones, qualifications are required in trampolining, one of the martial arts, swimming and ballet. Such skills demand many years of practice; becoming a professional is a long and laborious task.

WILLIAM SHERWOOD

AUBREY POWELL

## Bursar's Report

This might be described as a year of gales, gutters and grafting. Gales, because in March we had what must have been approaching a tornado across the playing fields, which removed David Essenhigh's machinery shed and deposited the roof some 150 yards away in John Baxter's cornfield. This was a blessing in disguise really, because the shed was never big enough and we have now been able to replace it by something of the right size in which we can keep all our machinery and have a bit of space for their maintenance. Suggestions have been made that it looks a bit stark, and we will see what we can do to improve its appearance. We did consider whether we should not build something which looks nice in Cotswold stone, but the estimated cost was enough to send that project flying out of the window pretty quickly.

Guttering — we had to replace the gutters in the well of the main building on the second floor, and when we did so we found a lot of structural damage which was expensive to repair but has now been done.

Grafting — I have had to graft away like anything to make my maintenance budget cope with the essential items which have had to be carried out this year. There is still a lot to do; the Finance Committee have given me a small increase and I hope to be able to get on with a bit more next year. It may not be appreciated that I have not only all the school buildings to maintain but all the staff houses, which are all old and solidly built but need money spent to prevent deterioration. We are all enormously indebted to Tony Partridge and his men for the amount and high standard of work they get through during the course of each working day. I would also like to welcome Paul Cairns to our staff; he will be working part of the time with the hard-pressed David Essenhigh to help maintain our lovely playing fields, and part with Tony.

We are now in a period of consolidation, when I hope we will not be faced with the sort of expenditure which was needed to build the new study bedrooms. There are several other projects in the pipeline, but happily not so expensive, to which we will be progressing as the money becomes available. The first of these is to be a new Computer Laboratory to be housed somewhere on our present sites, where not only computery can be taught but other academic subjects also, using the computers as a teaching aid. In parenthesis I might mention that we are also looking at the possibility of a computer to carry out some of the administrative functions, particularly financial ones, as these machines become cheaper almost by the day.

Another project is to provide a Biology and Geography Field Centre where these two subjects can be studied in a more practical situation. I can't put a date to this, but it certainly is in "the

foreseeable future"; and we plan to convert part of the barn down at the Mill House which would be a very suitable site.

Also, dear to my heart and I believe to most parents, I would like to improve the traffic system during exeats, half-terms and end of terms. At present everyone comes in and out through the same gateway and, especially at exeats when most arrive at the same time, the traffic jams are trying to people's patience. I hope to be able to tarmac some more of the road between the Arts Block down over the bridge past the stables and up to the Stable Block, so that we can achieve a one-way flow. Again I can't promise when, but it will not be lost sight of.

Perhaps I should say a few words about our new fire precautions. We have now fully protected the Main Building and the Junior House (the others already have their protection) and there are heat and smoke detectors and emergency lighting all over these buildings. We have had our teething troubles, and I can well understand the feelings of those who are hauled from their beds in the middle of the night for a false alarm. It has, however, been very good practice! I hope we are now through the teething troubles and the system will settle down and activate itself only in a real emergency; the detectors are, however, very sensitive and there is always the chance that one of them may be set off by something other than a fire. I think, though, that we will all sleep better at nights knowing that the system is present and active.

Finally to show that the Bursar's life is not all kicks, I can report that he has very much enjoyed the staff cricket matches which have now become a feature of the Rendcomb scene, particularly as most of them end up in a local pub with both teams enjoying each other's company.

E. T. T.

## Chaplain's Notes

**Services.** The experimental change in Services inaugurated at the beginning of last academic year has proved a great improvement. We now have two well attended services: a Communion Service with hymns and address at 8.45 a.m., and the Morning Service at 10.30 a.m. The Bishop of Gloucester licensed two members of Staff, Mr Graham Ball and Mr David Hawkswell, to administer the chalice at Holy Communion, a practical necessity with the number of communicants now averaging seventy- five. Marcus Rann of Form 3A has been a most efficient sacristan.

We have been fortunate in visiting preachers this year. Amongst the most memorable were Mother Frances from Helen House in Oxford, the hospice for terminally ill children; Mr Hedley Jones from Tunbridge Wells, whose Advent address was vividly illustrated with a Christmas parcel; Brother Gregory from the Franciscan House in Worcestershire; the Revd. Ted Baines from Keston College, the Western Church's link with Christians behind the Iron Curtain; the Revd. Geoff Crago, Director of Religious Broadcasting on 'Severn Sound', whose striptease act from formal clerical garb to jeans and T-shirt, and acted parable of his address, will long be remembered!

We very much hope to have Brother Gregory back as a Lenten Visitor in 1985, when he will stay with us for a week and share in the life of the College. **Thanks.** Anthony Maton and his team of Ushers have done a splendid job in marshalling school, parish and visitors in and out of Church Sunday by Sunday. They won everyone's admiration on two occasions in particular, when every scrap of space in the Church was used — and some in the porch! — on Remembrance Sunday and Confirmation Day. To him as leader, and to Jessica Richards Alison Young, Richard Bendy and Angus Waddell we offer our thanks and appreciation.

The new team has already been initiated, and we welcome Stewart McIntyre as leader, and Samantha Evans, Sara Hawkswell, Karl Cloutman and Nicholas Hoare.

I would like to add a personal word of thanks also to Mr Bill White, who is 'always there' and whose help has been invaluable.

**Confirmation.** The Confirmation Service took place on 11th March, conducted by Robert, Bishop of Tewkesbury. He remarked how many saints' names the candidates shared — a hopeful sign? It was a morning service and a happy, family occasion. Those confirmed were: Karen Alder, Corrin Adshead, Mark Bailey, Anthony Bedford, Barnabas Branston, Angus Cochrane, Giles Davies, Thomas Eastham, Julian Fellows, Mark Hastings, Andrew Kinch, Richard Kolb, Robert Matson, Christopher Moody,

James Penneck, Christopher Pope, Timothy Robinson, Andrew Satterthwaite, John Shaw, Edward Webb, Nicholas Wharmby. Our own daughter Caroline was also confirmed and provided female company for Karen!

**Mission England.** We took a full coach to Ashton Gate, Bristol, on the afternoon of Sunday, 13th May, to hear the American Evangelist, Dr Billy Graham. Even the cynical were impressed, and many found it an occasion to make them think, and some the occasion to dedicate their lives in the service of Christ. It provided a talking point for weeks after.

**Bible Study and Discussion Group.** This year about fifteen members, pupils and staff, have met fortnightly at the Rectory on Thursday evenings. We shall be sorry to lose some of our keenest members, who leave this year; Jessica Richards, Andrew Mills, Stephen Simkin, Gareth Thomas and Christopher Walton.

**St. Peterstide Tea Party.** Fifty villagers were well looked after by half a dozen members of 6B at the tea in the Rectory Garden on Saturday, 30th June. Vicky Finney, Sara Hawkswell and Katie Rowe, 'assisted' by several boys, worked hard, and their attentiveness and efficiency were very much appreciated. For two years now this has proved a pleasant link between College and Village.

T. O.



**St. Peter's Church  
Rendcomb**



## Community Services

Community Services started the year with a great deal of enthusiasm, so much so that there were not enough places for the numbers wishing to attend.

Groups of four to six have been visiting Paternoster House twice a week for most of the year, and this seems to be one of the more popular options. These groups spend the afternoon talking and serving tea to the old people, as well as playing skittles with them. Unfortunately there have been many deaths this year at the Home, sadly reducing the number of people to be visited.

Paternoster School, next door to the Home, has proved to be a very rewarding and satisfying place to visit. The numbers visiting here have been fewer, and thus closer and more intimate relationships between the school pupils and ours have been created.

Escorting disabled riders has been fairly popular this year, with between three and six volunteers.

Querns Hospital for the aged was very popular at the start of the year but, due to exams and other commitments, attendance here diminished early in the summer. This will, however, be restarted next term, and there already seem to be interested people.

Sadly Mr Sims, whom we have visited over recent years, passed away in May. Although no-one can take his place, we hope to be visiting others like him in the near future.

The Star Centre has been very popular this year, offering physical activities from wheel-chair basket ball to swimming. It has been visited by parties as many as 15 in number, but once again this has had to be stopped owing to travel difficulties. Duncan Brown has shown much interest here and has been arranging for the visits to continue next year.

We hope to be able to expand Community Services next year, and we are thinking of visiting Primary Schools in Cirencester. It is unfortunate that the Services have suffered cuts during the summer term owing to exams, deaths and a touch of apathy. Luckily there seems to be a lot of encouraging enthusiasm for next term, and C. S. should take off again.

BLAISE JENKINS

## Schools' Community Service Conference

The 14th annual Schools' Community Service Conference took place during the weekend of May 12th-13th at the long-established venue of Windmill House, near Avechurch. The representatives from Rendcomb were Fiona Wilkins, Suzy Whybrow, Jerry Butling and Blaise Jenkins.

The activities began with an introductory talk on Windmill House, which was built in 1972 primarily as a centre for community services in the area. It is also used as a day and weekend centre for the elderly and homeless.

A discussion followed in which all present were invited to air their views and speak from personal experience about the problems and achievements in community service.

'Age Concern' and 'Helping the Handicapped' were the two main topics for the afternoon. David Hobman, Director of Age Concern, was the guest speaker, and he outlined clearly and sympathetically the need to help old people in society without making them feel outcasts or a burden to the public. He also pointed out that many do not want or need help and agree to receive it only in order to give the local schoolchildren something useful to do.

The Headmaster of Swanswell Special School talked about the facilities provided by his school, which caters not only for the permanently disabled but also for those temporarily handicapped by injury or accident. Children are able to participate in swimming, archery and rifle-shooting, and there is also a sports club open to all disabled members of the surrounding community. Children are able to become gradually integrated in normal school life at the Comprehensive, which is on the same campus as their school. Also, the use of computers gives some their only opportunity to communicate with the outside world.

Last on the agenda for Saturday was a light-hearted debate, the motion being 'This House believes that young people can make no significant contribution to solving the world's problems, so they may as well eat, drink and be merry and forget the rest'. It was not surprisingly heavily defeated, despite the fact that as soon as it ended everyone made a bee-line for the local pub!

On Sunday morning we visited the Springfield Special School for disadvantaged children and the Springfield Environmental Centre, a nature centre built especially for disabled children, with excellent facilities enabling them to study the wildlife.

The weekend ended with a talk from the Head Boy of Solihull School, describing how he managed to raise £7,500 for charity virtually in one afternoon by means of sponsored events, a raffle and a school fete.

After hearing about the many achievements and ideas related by other schools attending the conference, I think we came away feeling that more could be done for the community by Rendcomb, with a bit more enthusiasm and encouragement from the rest of the school. After all, if Solihull can raise £7,500 in one afternoon, surely Rendcomb can do better than one old people's party a year?

SUZY WHYBROW

# The Duke of Edinburgh's

## Award

### BRONZE

This is a system whereby pupils are encouraged to take part in four separate kinds of activity:

1. Service — for example First Aid,
2. Skills — for example Chess,
3. An Expedition — for example in the Black Mountains,
4. Physical Recreation.

The first part of the course was completed in the third year; everyone passed this stage. The second section was run during the three terms of the fourth year, but the expedition was the meat of the scheme. It was here that several people chose to pull out.

Meanwhile the remainder started a training scheme, including tent-pitching and map-reading. There were three practice expeditions. The first two were leisurely walks around the countryside, with no tent-pitching involved in the first. On the second we had to pitch the tent and cook dinner knee-deep in snow. The third practice expedition was a replica of the actual expedition, that is to say we walked a pre-planned route, pitched tent at a camp-site, cooked meals, slept overnight and returned to the rendezvous in the minibus the following day (about 15 miles). The only difference was that a project had to be carried out on the real expedition; the project was meant to be anything you were likely to encounter on the walk.

The fourth section, physical recreation, rugby for example, requires a record of your improvement kept by a master. This section has not yet been tackled by us in the Fourth Form, but will be next year.

PHILIP MOORE

### GOLD

The Award involves a Service, a Skill, Physical Recreation, an Expedition and a Regional Project.

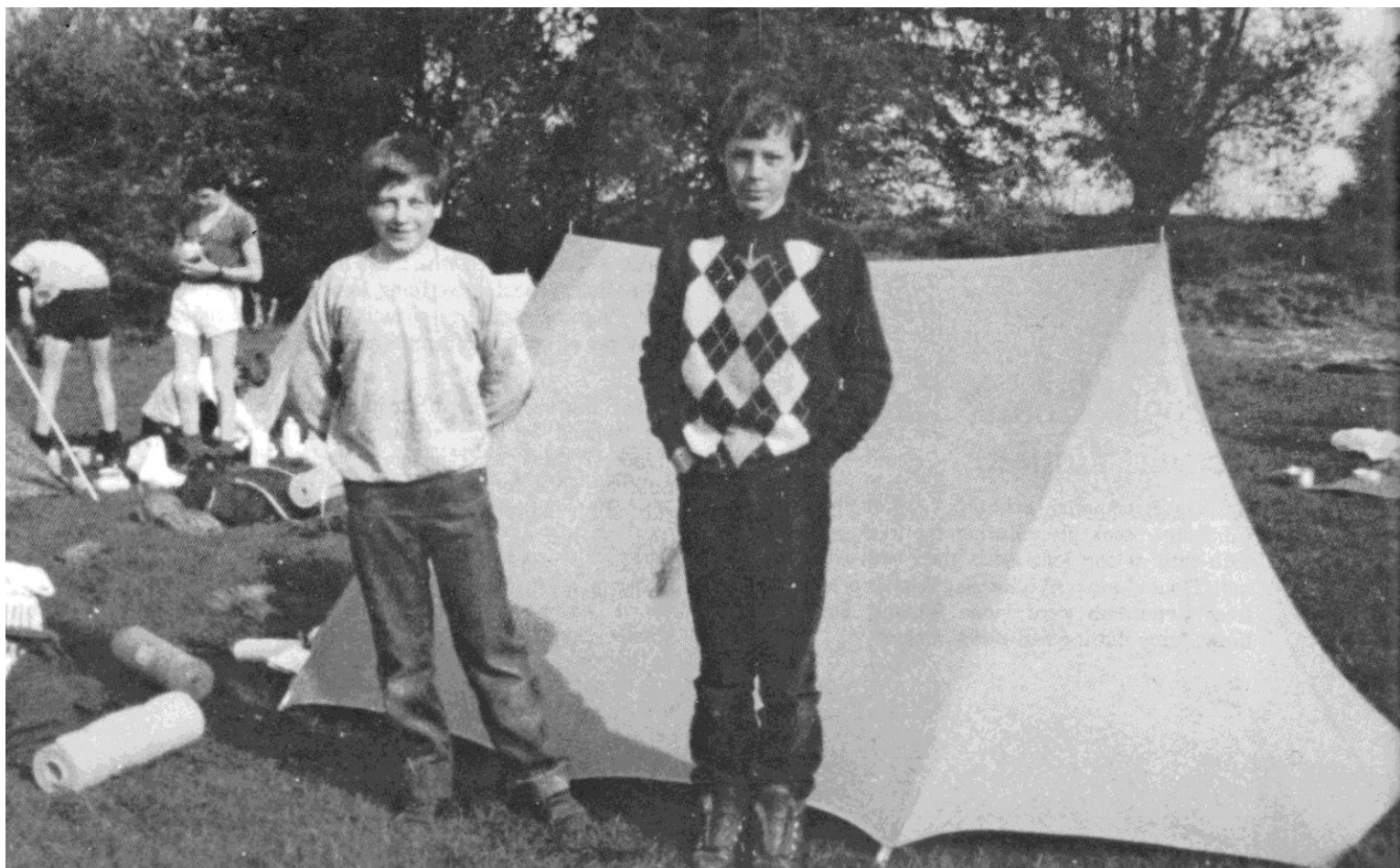
For the Service I started a Dungeons and Dragons Club in Charlton King's, which had about 20 members between the ages of 15 and 25. However, interest was lacking, and the 14 weeks for which it ran were insufficient to complete my award. I shall therefore probably start a club of this sort at the school for the junior forms.

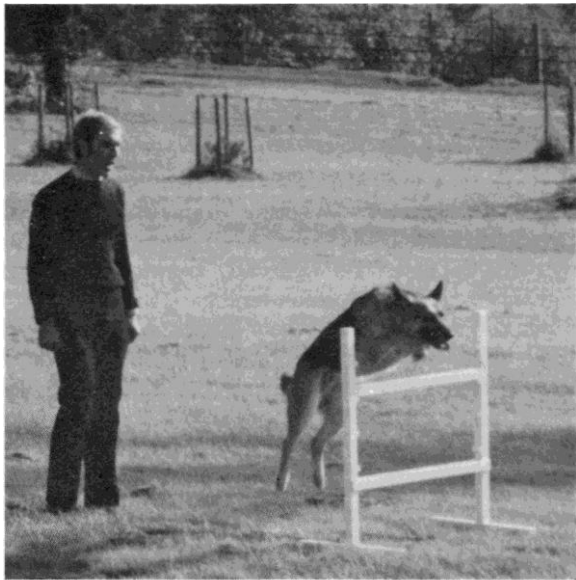
The section entitled 'Skill' includes hobbies, music, craftwork and similar activities. I have chosen Bridge and took part in the Area Finals of the 'Daily Mail' Bridge Competition with my partner, Andy Hall. This section will have been completed by the end of the winter term.

The Physical Recreation section requires one to attain 36 points. This is done either by participation for 18 weeks or by achieving a specified standard. I gained a blue belt in judo, for which I was awarded 24 points, and I had to participate for only a further 6 weeks, but I continued until the end of the year.

Although I have had a lot of pleasure completing all of the above, the Expedition has provided the most enjoyment. The walk requires a minimum of

### Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme





**Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme** Photo: K. Knight

four people owing to the 'wild' nature of the terrain covered. Karl Cloutman, Jonny Morris and Jerry Butling have accompanied me on all the three practice expeditions we have done so far. We have to cover 50 miles in four days and three nights.

On the practices we have been to Cornwall, the Peak District and Snowdonia, and the final Expedition will take place in the Black Mountains.

Despite the occasional uncooperative weather conditions, morale has in the main stayed high thanks to our industrious leader, Karl, and we have still been able to enjoy ourselves.

I would very much like to thank all those who have helped me in my pursuit of the Gold Award: Mr. Ball, Mr. White, Alan Davies, Mr. Willis and especially Mr. Willson, who has put a lot of time and effort into making the expeditions possible.

BEN ALMOND

## 'A New Way to Pay Old Debts'

On the 15th November we visited The Other Place, which can be found just round the corner from its superior, the celebrated Royal Shakespeare Theatre of Stratford. It is a gray, barn-like building, rather lacking in windows and looking from the outside somewhat like an overgrown tool-shed.

We arrived, a party of eighteen Sixth-Formers accompanied by Mr. Holt and Mr. Edwards, and took up our places at the end of an outdoor ticket queue. A combination of cold night air and curiosity made everyone eager to get inside when the doors were opened. The theatre was in the shape of a square, with the stage in the centre on ground level, with cushioned benches surrounding it, both on the same level and on wooden balconies above. The interior was by no means plush or ornate—quite the opposite in fact—but the atmosphere was intimate and comfortable.

The play was introduced by some jolly, live music played by a small group of instrumentalists while a scruffily dressed urchin, crawling on all fours, marked out the date 1642 on the stage in huge, chalk figures.

During the first half the plot of the comedy had unfolded so far as to show how the ruined hero was going to make his way back to prosperity with the help of his step-mother, and the consequences seemed fairly obvious. At interval-time the question was: what turn of plot did Massinger have in store for the audience during the second half of his play? Our suspense was held at bay only by the presence of a small refreshments van outside the theatre, where we bought our tea, coffee, hot-dogs, crisps and kit-kats!

The audience fully refreshed, the second half began. The now prosperous hero paid his debts; love affairs were rearranged into a happy order; the villain, a jealous lord and father, was deceived and went mad. This half of the play was full of action: bits of food were thrown into the audience (and even eaten), and the villainous lord swung down on to the stage, Tarzan-style, during a furious chase.

The simple theatrical facilities and the absence of a detailed stage set meant that the effectiveness of the comedy depended almost entirely upon the skill of the actors. The performance was very entertaining, and the audience's interest was maintained all along, showing that the acting was of high quality.

We Rendcombians walked back along the cobbled streets, past the majestic, glowing Royal Shakespeare Theatre, and met our coach for the return journey. Snackers were more than welcome! Full of enjoyment, 'the cultured feeling' and of food many of us slept all the way home.

KAREN ALDER

## **‘Measure for Measure’**

On the 17th January two parties were taken to Stratford, one to see ‘Measure for Measure’ at the main theatre, the other to see Ben Jonson’s ‘Volpone’ at The Other Place. The performance of ‘Measure for Measure’ was typical of an R. S. C. production, with the actors enjoying themselves as much as the audience and the acting easily living up to the Stratford standard.

The set was very well designed and undoubtedly added to the production, especially a prison wall which, stretching across the whole width of the stage, was brought in at high speed and was turned back to front in a later scene with even more agility. The cast included some famous names: Daniel Massey, Richard O’Callaghan, Sarah Berger and Peggy Mount. The two men acted excellently but the women, playing minor parts, never really got the chance to prove themselves. But a special mention must be made of other actors performing minor parts, those who come on with nothing much to say and have to sit through the scenes being ‘normal’. This supporting function is important and was performed especially well, I felt.

The playing of Angelo by David Schofield was open to criticism. Despite the fact that he was playing a puritan type of part, he did not seem to put much expression into his acting. This was especially evident at the end, when he had supposedly changed into a wonderfully happy person. I did not really notice much difference.

Comic relief is welcome in a three-hour production, and this was administered to the best effect by Lucio (Richard O’Callaghan), Pompey (Anthony O’Donnell) and Froth, a foolish gentleman (Raymond Platt), though others also were good. I felt that the comedy was the most enjoyable part of the play, but this is merely personal preference.

Taken overall, the production was yet another Stratford masterpiece. I can safely say that I have not yet been to a play there which I have not enjoyed, and this one was no exception. However, I would rate it below the production of ‘Twelfth Night’ which we went to last May; that, I am sure, was the R. S. C. at their best! Our thanks go to Mr Holt, who arranged the trip.

PHILIP PATERSON-FOX

## **‘Volpone’**

When we reached Stratford, the party divided and I was fortunate to be among the group who visited The Other Place to see ‘Volpone’.

The play was written by Ben Jonson, one of the most famous of Jacobean dramatists. He was regarded during the seventeenth century as superior to Shakespeare, and with this knowledge we were guaranteed an enjoyable evening. The play is set in Venice and reveals the greed and hypocrisy pervading all sections of society. Jonson uses the open dishonesty of criminals to bring down the false respectability of supposed pillars of the community, and this theme continues in his other three great comedies.

It was a long play, lasting three and a half hours, but it was enjoyable and humorous throughout. Richard Griffiths was excellent as Volpone, and his facial expressions put the audience in good spirits. Miles Anderson was notable as Mosca, Volpone’s parasite, and the Dwarf, Eunuch and Hermaphrodite all added individual comic touches. Sir Politic Would-Be, his wife and Celia were well portrayed also. The costumes were colourful, and the set, although simple, was extremely effective. The Other Place provides the audience with a degree of intimacy not readily achieved in the far larger main Shakespeare theatre, and the actors amply capitalised this in the production.

It is a great advantage for us to be so close to Stratford, and Rendcomb enjoys this to the full. Our thanks go to Mr Holt and Mr Johnson for providing us with such a pleasurable outing.

BEVERLY FOOTE

## **‘Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat’**

On the 17th February the Third Form paid a visit to the Theatre Royal, Bath, to see this production. It was certainly a very impressive performance, highlighted by some marvellous singing by Earl Adair, playing Joseph, and Ria Jones, the Narrator. The Pharaoh was played by an Elvis Presley look-alike, who sang some obvious contenders for a number one hit. Overall it was a very good show, enjoyed by everyone.

CHRISTOPHER EAMES

## **‘Les Précieuses Ridicules’ at Malvern**

The ‘Theatre du Nombre d’Or’ is a company of young French actors and actresses who specialise in the performance of seventeenth - century plays. They attempt to do for this repertoire what the early music specialists have done for pre-classical music: namely, to rid it of an overlay of Romantic and twentieth-century convention. By researching into contemporary performing techniques and then partially relearning their craft in order to assimilate the results of this research, they hope to re-create for modern audiences the sort of performance that the playwright or composer would have had in mind.

Malvern, so closely linked with the thoroughly Romantic and thoroughly English composer Elgar, made an unlikely setting for this performance of an early play by Molière, performed in the Baroque style and, of course, in seventeenth-century French. But its impact was all the greater. Even those among our party of sixth-formers who missed the occasional nuance of dialogue noticed the hundred metres of ribbon in the costume of Mascarille, the principal male character; his elaborate posturings, which included sticking his tongue out at the least opportunity; and the affectations of the ‘Précieuses’, the young ladies ridiculed in the play for their pretentious speech and behaviour. The finely executed dancing added to the entertainment. At the end the leading-actor-cum-producer courageously came back on stage to answer the questions of the audience.

This session revealed more about the audience than about the play, principally that some, at least, had failed to relate Molière’s ridiculing of the ‘Précieuses’ to their own little affectations. The self-consciously ‘cool’, trivialising questioner who asked: ‘Is it difficult to dance in high-heeled shoes?’ was outbid only by the one who prefaced his question with the words: ‘When this play was first performed in November 1659...’ The play deals with the fun that can be had by playing up to the expectations of those who set themselves apart on account of their awareness of fashion, their taste, refinement and good sense. How much fun Molière would have had playing up to those questioners. And how few alterations he would have needed to make to his play to set it in a modern, trend-conscious fifth/sixth form.

G. R. B.

## **A Day Out at Wookey Hole**

On Sunday, 18th September, the First Form went to Wookey Hole, leaving more or less straight after church at 11.30. The coach trip took about two hours and, warned by Mr Sykes that it would be boring, we all took something to amuse ourselves.

We had our packed lunches as soon as we got there; this took about a quarter of an hour, and then we set off towards the caves. When we got there there was a big queue, and we had to wait for five minutes. Just outside the caves the guide told us some interesting facts about it all. Soon another guide came, and we set off. It was amazing to see how all the caves had been formed by the River Axe. There were many stalagmites and stalactites, which were very beautiful. Now it was the start of the tour, the guide told us to watch our heads, as there were some very low rocks. He also told us about the legend of a Witch and her dog who both got turned to stone by holy water for poisoning the water of the River Axe.

We were shown into many different caverns and walked over a very high bridge, which felt rather unsafe as we went across it.

It hardly seemed any time at all before our tour of the caves had ended, and we went straight on to the Paper Mill where we saw the old way of making paper, done by putting a tray into a sort of large bucket of special liquid which forms on the tray and then is lifted out of the bucket; it is then taken out and put on to a piece of cloth; this is done a hundred times, and then the two men finish work. We then went into a shop where you could buy paper at from ten pence to five pounds.

Finally we went to look round a very small but old fairground collection, which was very interesting: you could buy old pennies and play on the old machines. I think we all enjoyed that day out.

JOHN CARROLL

assisted by

ANDREW WATSON

KINGSLEY RAFFAEL

ADAM BAIN

## **Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust**

On the 26th February the Third Form went to the Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust. We spent the afternoon watching the tremendously assorted bird life. The birds were very tame and would allow their photos to be taken. Some of us bought some seed to feed the birds and some bought seed to feed ourselves. The weather was terrible, but we still enjoyed our day out among the Gloucestershire birds.

CHRISTOPHER EAMES

## Easter Visit to Osnabruck

This is the tenth year that pupils from Rendcomb have taken part in the Osnabruck language course sponsored by the German Government. The course is designed primarily to develop and improve one's knowledge of the German language and to allow one to capture the flavour of everyday German life, *das Alltagsleben*, by staying in a German household for three weeks.

After 18 hours of travelling by ferry and train, we were confronted by the German families and the enigmatic Herr Schmidt, the course director. From there, we began to sample the delights of not understanding what people were shouting at us.

The organisation was very good: bus passes had already been provided, as well as school passes and lists outlining our route and future activities. In the mornings we would go to school for three lessons; this was not as much torture as it sounds, even though they were in German, as both the English and German tutors made the lessons enjoyable and memorable. We learnt about such topics as the German political system, its structure and its weaknesses. We learnt about the German education system as well as about food and the views of the young in Germany today.

The school itself was modern, something like what one would find in a 'Habitat' catalogue; we met each morning in the 'Forum', which was like a crazy golf course and was filled with mounds of concrete covered in sports-hall-type carpeting.

The afternoons were usually filled with various tours, to places like the working mill at Nettetal, the tower where witches were tortured and burned in the Middle Ages, the scintillating 'Karmann Karosserie Werke', where we were shown what happens to a piece of steel when it passes through a double-cranked-flange-sprocket or how a piece of tin can be converted into a Porsche cabriolet.

The evenings were spent either in one of the numerous local pubs, *Kneipe*, such as the *Grüner Jäger* or a disco, of which there were three, the most frequented being the *Nouvelle*, or at home with the host family if we so wished.

The *Jahrmarkt* (an annual fair) and Easter also provided entertainment, for each was greatly celebrated by the Germans. Whole evenings were spent at the fair and a whole weekend devoted to Easter; these celebrations included 'riveting' activities such as Easter Nest Hunts and a large bonfire.

Thus, as well as the language and food of the Germans, their customs were learnt and observed, as well as the views of the inhabitants on various aspects of life. Overall, it was a thoroughly enjoyable trip and one to be recommended to anyone who wishes to combine a serious and earnest improvement of his understanding of the German language with a remarkably enjoyable vacation.

DARRELL ADSHEAD  
DAVID GEORGE



Photo: D. Adshead



## Visit to the Royal Academy

On the last Tuesday of the Christmas Term Mr Price, Mr Denny and Mrs Holdaway took the whole of 6A to the Royal Academy to see the 'Genius of Venice' exhibition. This had been extremely well reviewed, hailed as one of the best exhibitions seen in London for many years.

Although our appreciation of art stems from the general impression given rather than from a recognition of technical achievement, it was not difficult to see why this had so impressed the experts. What we were presented with was a wealth of brilliant colour and at the same time an attention to detail which together produced remarkably vivid and vital art. There was also often a slight undertone of disquiet or darkness, which not only gave the works an extra dimension but also reflected the variety of life in Venice in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries: the lavish brilliance of the Renaissance that excited, simultaneously with the church's exploitation of the poor and the growing severity and sense of foreboding which were a feature of the increasing Spanish domination of Europe and of the imminent Counter-Reformation.

The paintings divided roughly into two categories: first the narrative compositions, based on biblical, classical or contemporary scenes, and secondly the portraits, of religious figures and of the artists' patrons. The two types of subject for the portraits provide another example of the close relation between the art-work and the life of the artists. Their attentions were divided between their preoccupation with religion and their concern for their patrons and their patrons' desire to be perpetuated in the vitality of their artists' work.

To our untrained eyes the quality of the painting was breathtaking. Each work seemed imbued, perhaps through the brilliance and opulence of its colour, with an indefinable living quality. Every painting repaid a close examination, and indeed the sum of the talent on display was overawing. By the end we had been swamped in a wealth of colour and detail, which made individual paintings difficult to recall.

After seeing the exhibition we had a couple of hours to spend in London on our own, before returning to Rendcomb in the late afternoon. Our thanks must go to Mr Price, Mr Denny and Mrs Holdaway for their enterprise in organising such a trip and giving us a chance to enjoy a field of art of which most of us had been only dimly aware. I hope that future sixth forms will be lucky enough to be given similar opportunities.

DAVID WEBB

## Skiing Trip

The 26th March saw another group of intrepid Rendcombians Franz Klammer look-alikes leaving Luton Airport for Italy. Our destination was the high-level village of Tonale, the tried and tested resort visited in 1982. We were told that snow was guaranteed, but we did not expect drifts level with the hotel roof! The ample snow and clear blue skies early in the week made skiing a delight; even though some of us had only mastered the snow-plough turn at the Gloucester Dry Slope. These pre-trip sessions in fact proved invaluable, helping most of the party to achieve parallel turns (or so we thought!) by the end of the week. Poor visibility on a couple of days made the skiing more testing; having to avoid not only the unseen powder snow but also the large mechanical 'Snow Cats' or 'Piste Bashers' that would occasionally appear out of the gloom.

The instructors varied in their ability to communicate with us; some relied on their reasonable grasp of English, but most combined a great deal of waving of arms with shrieks of "Bend ze knees!" or "Cretino!"; the latter phrase proving to be the most popular of the week. The hotel was comfortable and the food adequate, but most of us supplemented this in the evening with one of their excellent pizzas; the hotel had the best pizzeria in town!

Highlights of the week? The evening toboggan race and discos proved good fun, with Beau Awdry showing particular talent in these areas, certainly more so than in his skiing. One memorable moment was when Mr King, who for the latter part of the week wore a bandanna to hide his burned face despite Mr Newby's ten minute lecture to us all on the first day about the importance of wearing lots of protective cream, decided to play the role of instructor, announced that some of us should follow and copy him, and promptly fell flat on his face in powder snow!

By the time we battled our way out of the blizzard conditions in Tonale, travelled the 3½ hours to Verona and landed, rather bumpily, at Luton Airport, everyone was exhausted but sported an impressive sun-tan and had thoroughly enjoyed what was without doubt a successful and very exciting holiday.

Many thanks to Mr Newby and the other staff for organising such an excellent trip.

ALEX PATON

## Easter Biology Field Trip

The setting was a 15th-century manor house at Nettlecombe, nestling between Exmoor National Park, the Quantocks and the North Somerset coastline. An ideal site for a health farm or a rest home for ageing conservationists. We had an amusing, but firm, introduction by the Warden: on the one hand about the dangers of fire, and on the other about the need for doors to be locked at 10.30pm. The dangers of unsettling the resident staff and ghosts by nocturnal visits to the pantry was also emphasised. These proved unnecessary as the three outstanding features of the course were the excellent food, the marvellous weather and the intense, but largely enjoyable, work schedule.

The average day consisted of an introduction to the day's study and then a day in the field collecting data from 10.00am. to 4.30 pm. What we had not bargained for was the session recording the data from 5.00 to 6.30pm., and even less the night-time vigil from 8.00pm. to 9.30pm. Studying the movements of mussels / winkles in the lab. was tiring enough (for the students, *not* the molluscs), but wandering through the churchyard at 3.00am. to see if the Gammarus (freshwater shrimps to the uninformed) were moving upstream or downstream was too much.

By the end of the week we had studied the contents of two streams and one rocky shore. In our heathland study area we were stopped by the police as potential hunt saboteurs. We also measured everything on a Primrose. We shall never be able to view them with such innocence again. It appeared at times that we walked the entire coastline of North Somerset, measuring every limpet and dog-whelk. We were shamed into completing the exercise mainly by the tireless efforts of Baxter, the Warden's dachshund, who accompanied us everywhere.

The general consensus of opinion was that we learned a great deal and that the course was well worth giving up a week of the holiday and no T. V. We would like to thank the Warden and his staff at Nettlecombe for their patient guidance, and Mr Hannaford who contributed largely to our enjoyment.

Finally, we would like to pay our tribute to the patient dogwhelks and primroses of Somerset without whose co-operation, understanding and goodwill the course would not have been possible.

ANDY PAYNE  
JOCELYN GOLDIE

P. S. I would like to thank the 6A and 6B Biologists for not wreaking havoc on the habitats, niches (realised or not) and ecosystems of Nettlecombe Field Centre, Porlock Weir harbour, Quantock Stag Hunt and Minehead. A most enjoyable and worthwhile experience. No doubt the dogwhelks and primroses will be there to welcome next year's 6B pupils.

R. C. H.

## Science at Oxford-

### Open Day

On a fine Tuesday morning a party of about twenty Sixth-Form scientists and the Chemistry teaching staff left Rendcomb for a visit to the science laboratories of Oxford.

On arrival the party divided into small groups. My group, after losing its bearings several times, eventually found its way to the Department of Engineering Science. Reaching the Department, we were confronted with either climbing a daunting number of stairs or using the Paternoster lift. We chose the lift, which does not stop at each floor but continues round and round. We successfully jumped on to our desired floor.

We visited four demonstrations and were glad of the opportunity to talk to scientists about the experiments and their related topics. The demonstrations concerned fluid mechanics, plasma, electricity and elasticity and structures. The fluid mechanics included two turbines which were hydroelectric power generators providing power from running water. Our group enjoyed these discussions and gained a far greater insight into these areas.

We had a brief lunch at Keble College and were impressed by the majestic dining room, although the food was not of remarkable quantity.

Our party re-divided for the afternoon lecture on artificial organs, which also took place in the department of Engineering Science. I was particularly fascinated by the problems encountered by surgeons when performing open-heart surgery. One of these is to find a machine to take over the role of the heart and lungs while these areas are immobilised during surgery.

Finally I would like to thank Mr Kelsey and Mr Wood for taking us on a most enjoyable and educational visit.

CLAIRE BICHARD

## The Harwell Visit

On Saturday, 2nd June, 6B scientists went to Harwell, Europe's largest nuclear research and development centre.

On arrival each of us was given an identity badge in case, as they put it, we fell into a reactor!

Our first event was a film about Harwell and its 'works', what Harwell does and how it operates. The subsidies for its research come from the government and from private organisations.

We were then taken to a gas-cooled reactor called Dido. This supplied enough energy to power half of Cheltenham, but most of it was wasted. This

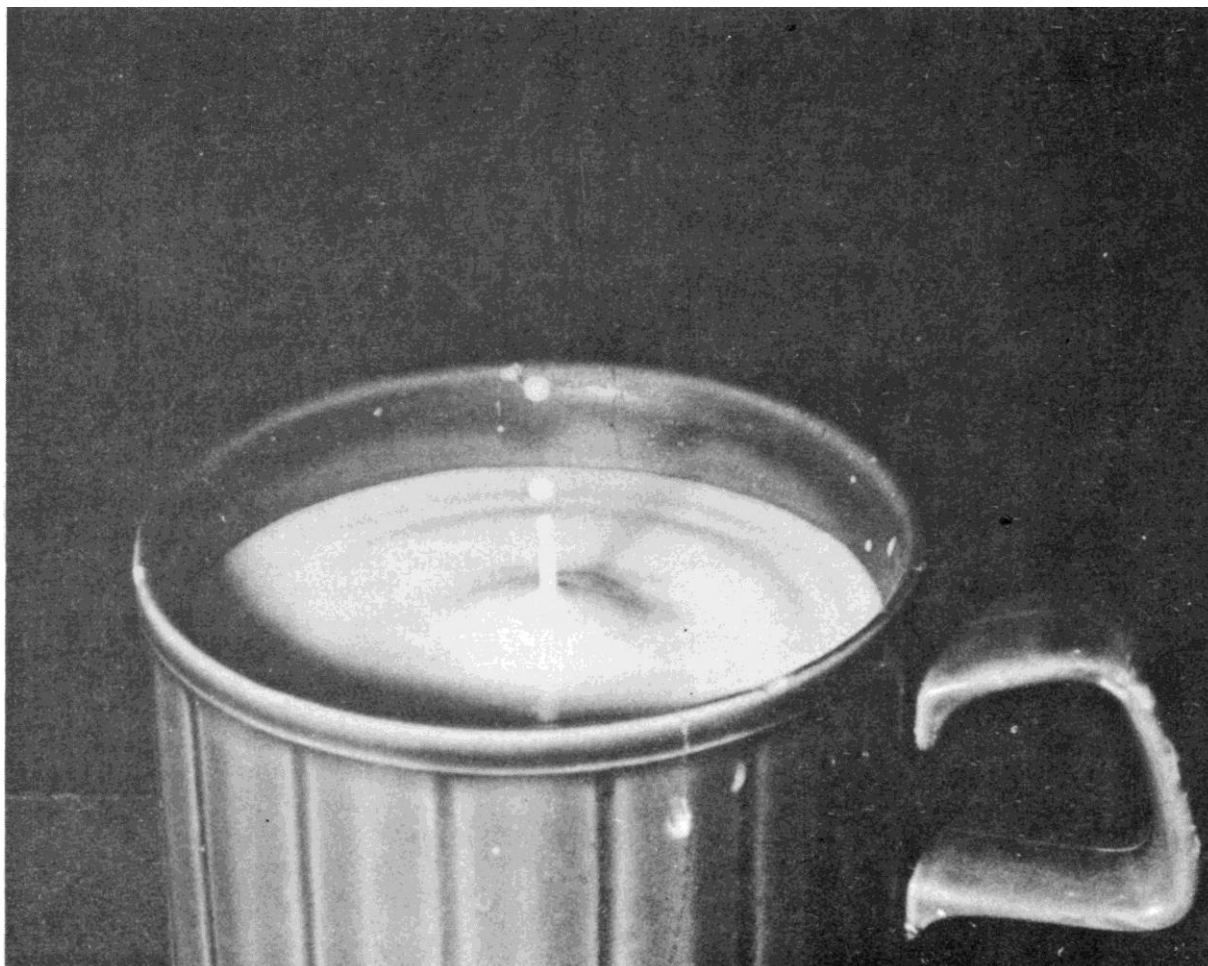
was due to its being only experimental and to its having an eight-day cycle with one day's refuelling, a whole day without power output.

We put on plastic overshoes (unlucky for people with large feet) and walked around on top of the reactor, asking and answering questions. We then went through a radioactivity detector.

Next was a visit to the first reactor built outside America. While we were there our guide demonstrated liquid nitrogen (boiling point:  $-196^{\circ}$  Centigrade).

After a refreshing cup of tea we returned to Rendcomb; an intriguing time was had by all.

STEWART MCINTYRE



*Photo: D. Adshead*

## “The Threepenny Opera”

This is a difficult work to organise and perform. However, it was a success for the director and his cast and very enjoyable for the audience.

Christopher Walton, as the narrator and ballad singer, sang clearly and introduced the audience to Jonathan Jeremiah Peachum (Jonathan Morris). He runs with his wife Celia (Juliette Rutherford) a begging agency, where beggars are clothed and assigned to districts and where he takes the profit. The opera is a social satire, and Morris, singing competently and acting excellently, brought this idea over clearly to the audience.

His daughter Polly (Anthea White) elopes with the London arch-villain, Macheath or ‘Mac the Knife’ (Daniel Appleton). Anthea sang very well, although she was sometimes too nervous to hit the high notes and hold them. She conveyed the songs’ meanings better than most and put a lot of life into them. Daniel Appleton acted very well as the master criminal, and so did his gang, as a bunch of bungling idiots.



**Threepenny Opera**

*Photo: D. Adshead*

Peachum plans to have Macheath arrested and hanged. However the police captain, Brown (David Edwin), is an old friend of Mac’s. David Edwin was tremendously funny and captured the whole audience, singing flat and very loud, strutting round the stage and generally making a fool of himself. Brown reluctantly arrests Mac, who then escapes with the help of Lucy (Jacky Greenwood), another of his wives. One of the funniest songs is a cat-fight between Lucy and Polly over who is Macky’s real wife. Both the girls sang well here, and this was a highlight of the show.

Much to the relief of Brown, Macheath escapes, but Peachum sends his wife to a Soho brothel where Macheath is betrayed by Jenny (Jocelyn Goldie). Jocelyn sang excellently and managed to hit the notes perfectly and clearly. Brown is forced to arrest Macheath again, and he is sent to the Old Bailey to be hanged.

However, as Peachum turns to the audience to deliver yet another cutting, satirical speech, a royal

official enters on a horse to give the audience the happy ending accorded by custom to the hero. ‘Tiger’ Brown is the official and announces that, because it is Coronation Day, Macheath will not be hanged; he is brought down from the gallows much to everyone’s delight.

An ambitious project, the production was an outstanding success and very enjoyable. The orchestral accompaniment helped greatly with the solo pieces and, considering the difficulties of producing the play in ten weeks, this was also a great achievement. Much work went into the preparation, and the art and woodwork departments must be thanked for all their effort. Finally, thanks from audience and cast to Mr Johnson for making it a success.

BEN UGLOW

First performed in 1928, ‘The Threepenny Opera’ remains perhaps the best known and most popular of Brecht’s early works. Using John Gay’s ‘Beggars’ Opera’, Brecht created a vehicle for his unresolved and evolving political beliefs. The play is consequently something of a hotch-potch, lacking the clear philosophy of his later works, ‘Mother Courage’ and ‘The Caucasian Chalk Circle’. The broad lines of the ideology are Marxist: an oppressive bourgeoisie, an oppressed proletariat, a corrupt judiciary. But in this work Brecht created fuller characters than he was to use later. Macheath, a ruthless villain with middle-class pretensions; he wants only to make enough money to go into banking. Peachum, a callous exploiter with a social conscience. Brown, an inept and corrupt official, torn by conflicting loyalties: friendship and money.

The collaboration with Kurt Weill produced some of the most extraordinary music ever written for the stage. It was the first, and arguably the most successful, attempt to introduce the jazz idiom into modern drama. Weill’s haunting melodies combined with Brecht’s blunt lyrics in a way which still captivates modern audiences.

The play is not an easy one either to produce or perform. Brecht’s theory of alienation, the notion of demonstrating rather than ‘being’ a character, presents especial problems for young actors, and Weill’s atonal music requires considerable skill to master. I would like to express my admiration and thanks to all those involved in ‘The Threepenny Opera’ for the zest and enthusiasm with which they approached the task, and for the talent which they demonstrated in its execution.

S. H. J.

## “Mowgli’s Story”

‘Moo, moo, moo’. Those who were fortunate enough to see this year’s Junior Play, a dramatisation of Rudyard Kipling’s ‘The Jungle Book’, will know immediately what is meant by ‘Moo, moo, moo’. Those who were not should imagine first the setting: the newly restored outdoor theatre in the Wilderness on two successive summer evenings, with a gathering of parents, staff and pupils seated on benches, facing a small plot of sloping grass and hemmed in on all sides by tall, thick trees. Hidden or partially hidden in the undergrowth were seventy junior boys, attired in costumes which increased in splendour and in body coverage in proportion to the importance of their role: thus the junior wolves sported furry loincloths and cardboard masks, whereas Shere Khan the tiger wore a whole hearthrug.

The play opened with a vigorously chanted chorus, and the plot began to be revealed: how Mowgli escaped the clutches of Shere Khan, took refuge among the wolves and was taught the ways of the jungle. The intervention of the *Bandar-log* (tribe of monkeys) ensured that the audience capitulated to the illusion, since it was very easy to believe that these gibbering creatures were real monkeys. The principal characters also evoked well their respective characteristics: the vindictive Shere Khan; the well-meaning Baloo; the casual, over-confident Mowgli; the earnest Bagheera; and the cool, poised Kaa.

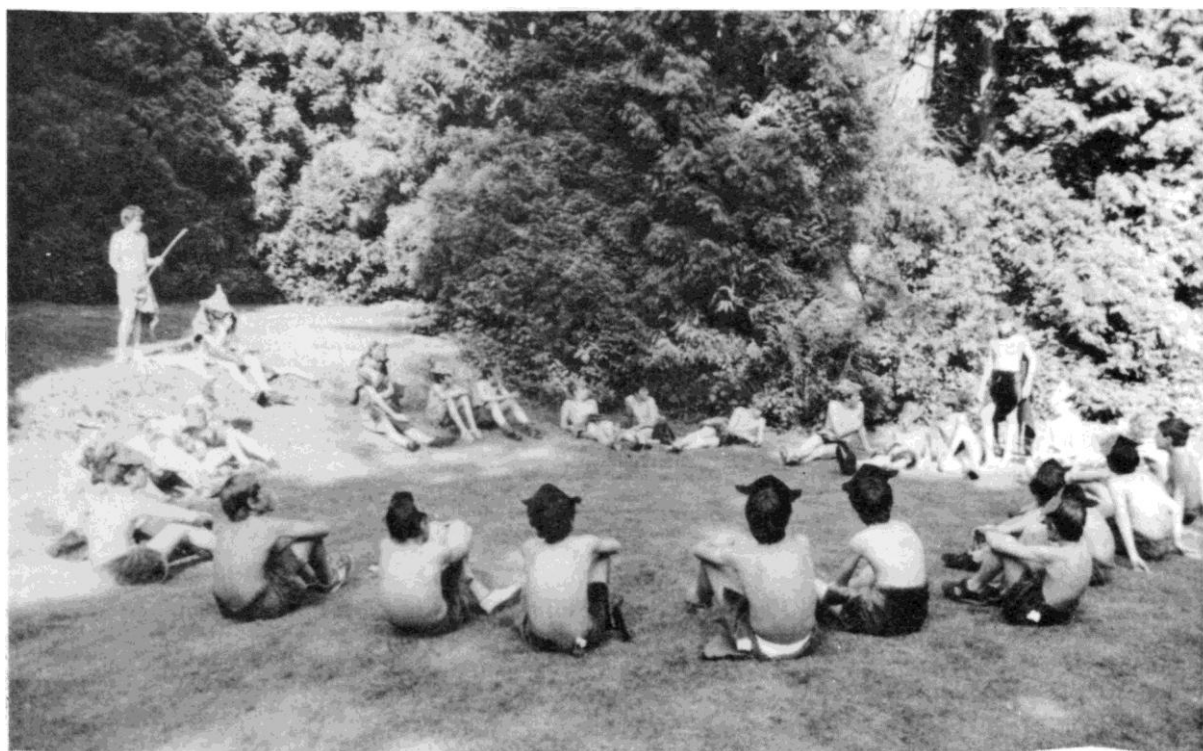
By the interval the audience felt that they understood the situation and knew the characters, and



Photo: D. Adshead

they scarcely imagined that there could be a star turn yet to appear; but they were wrong. The first indication was a tentative lowing behind our backs, which quickly grew in intensity as a herd of buffalo moved on to centre stage and milled around, grazing and going ‘Moo, moo, moo’. The simple lines are indeed the best. After this, the plot was soon resolved, and the audience expressed their appreciation to the cast, who then joined in applauding Hilary Lane for having accomplished an enormous task of organisation, She in turn expressed generous thanks to Simon Johnson, the cast and the audience.

G. R. B.



Mowgli's story

Photo. O. Adshead

## Choir, Choral Society and Orchestra

This last academic year has been quite a busy one for the choir, choral society and orchestra alike. In all, there have been four concerts, the annual carol service and, for the first time, a choir outing.

The carol service was undertaken by an augmented choir and several members of the college orchestra. Adrian Lewers played the violin solo in the Adagio for organ and strings by Albinoni and Mr Graham Ball, Matthew Hadley and Christopher Walton sang solos during the service.

On the 18th March the Choral Society and Orchestra performed four works — a Fanfare for Brass by Ketelby arr. J. T. Lane, “Zadok the Priest” by Handel, “Hear My Prayer” by Mendelssohn, with Justine and Juliet Loehry singing the solo, and a full eight-part version of “I was Glad” by Parry. The concert was a great success, due particularly to the excellent performance given by the two soloists.

The summer term has been quite an adventurous one for the choir. Major Tom Wills kindly invited the choir to sing at Miserden parish church and on May 13th an elite choir of 26 sang at the morning service. This was followed by a small reception in the village hall. It was a most enjoyable morning out, and it gave the choir a chance to take part in a traditional matins service. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Major Wills for arranging such an enjoyable occasion.

On May 30th Mr Willson conducted a Bach Concert. The programme consisted of the Suite No. 3 in D, the Cantata No. 29 and the fifth Brandenburg concerto, in which the soloists were: Julie Adams — flute, Lesley Hunt — violin and Tim Lane — harpsichord.

Finally, on Saturday, July 7th, the choir sang at the wedding of Fiona Jane Wilson in St Peter's Rendcomb. This was a new experience to many choir members and, with the anthem “I was Glad” by Parry, was a most suitable ending to a most enjoyable year.

CHRISTOPHER WALTON  
T. J. L.

## Courtyard Arts Trust Concert

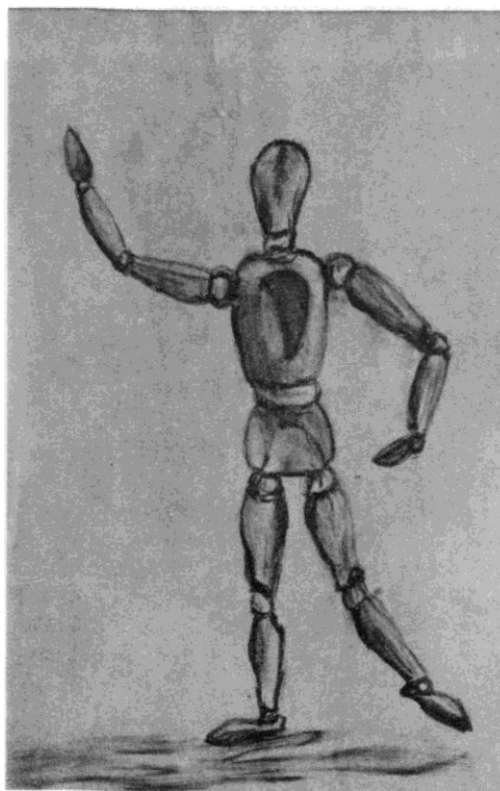
The concert held on June 30th was given by members of the Courtyard Arts Trust, an organisation set up to encourage and give financial aid to promising young musicians in the area.

The first half began with a six-year-old violinist and proceeded with the younger soloists. All these players gave very commendable performances, although the brilliant playing of one nine-year-old boy, on both piano and violin, rather overshadowed the others.

The second half consisted of longer pieces from the older members, and also number of duets, trios and quartets. Again the performances were very enjoyable, but sometimes a little too long and overdrawn.

Overall the playing was of an extremely high standard, considering the variety of ages (six to eighteen) and instruments, and it gave an indication of the dedication of these young musicians to their music. The concert was certainly enjoyed by all the audience, and it may become an annual event in the school in future.

SUZY WHYBROW



“Figure” by Caroline Grieves Photo C. J. Wood





**"Girl in Hat" by Philip Paterson-Fox**

## Art

*Photo: C. J. Wood*

The art room has seen an interesting range of activities this year, with several new ventures within the overall context of drawing and painting.

Stained glass, involving cutting, painting and leading-up, is perhaps the most unusual subject newly available. One imagines that few, if any, other schools offer this discipline, one which is especially valuable in learning basic design ideas. A small group of most attractive windows formed part of our Founder's Day Exhibition.

This year's Exhibition benefited from the ample space and light of the Dulverton Hall; a particularly strong selection of work was thus enabled to appear at its best in this fine setting.

The Landscape seems to have been the theme of the year with, latterly, a great deal of work being done in the open air. Rendcomb views are of course endlessly fascinating, and good things have been done throughout the school, several boys in the lower forms being responsible for wonderfully sensitive watercolours and pastels. The latter have been indeed the distinctive medium of the year — an especially appropriate one for working at speed out of doors.

Richard Hayward, this year's 'A' level student, assembled a portfolio of powerful and interesting work, especially in sculpture, that secured him a good place at Art School; one hopes that this success will become more usual at Rendcomb in the future.

'O' level is getting off the ground with a group of boys from the Fourth and Lower Sixth Forms attempting the exam this year. It would be satisfactory to see some of these continuing to Advanced Level.

The department seems to have settled down to the idea of producing serious and committed work.

T. F. C. D.



**"Boots" by David Norton**

*Photo: C. J. Wood*

## Woodwork

Generally the workshop has been well used during free time. The response from boys in their fourth year has been disappointing, a trend which has developed during the last three or four years.

The Dulverton Hall was used for the first time for the Founder's Day Exhibition. We had an ideal setting to display the woodwork, pottery, art and graphic design. Many parents visited the exhibition in this central location.

One of the major woodwork items on display was a bookcase in Brazilian mahogany made during Public Work periods by three boys in their third year: Rory Johnston, Colin Sainsbury and John Shaw (with some help from C. C. B!). It was made for Major and Mrs Tom Wills and presented to them to mark their wedding.

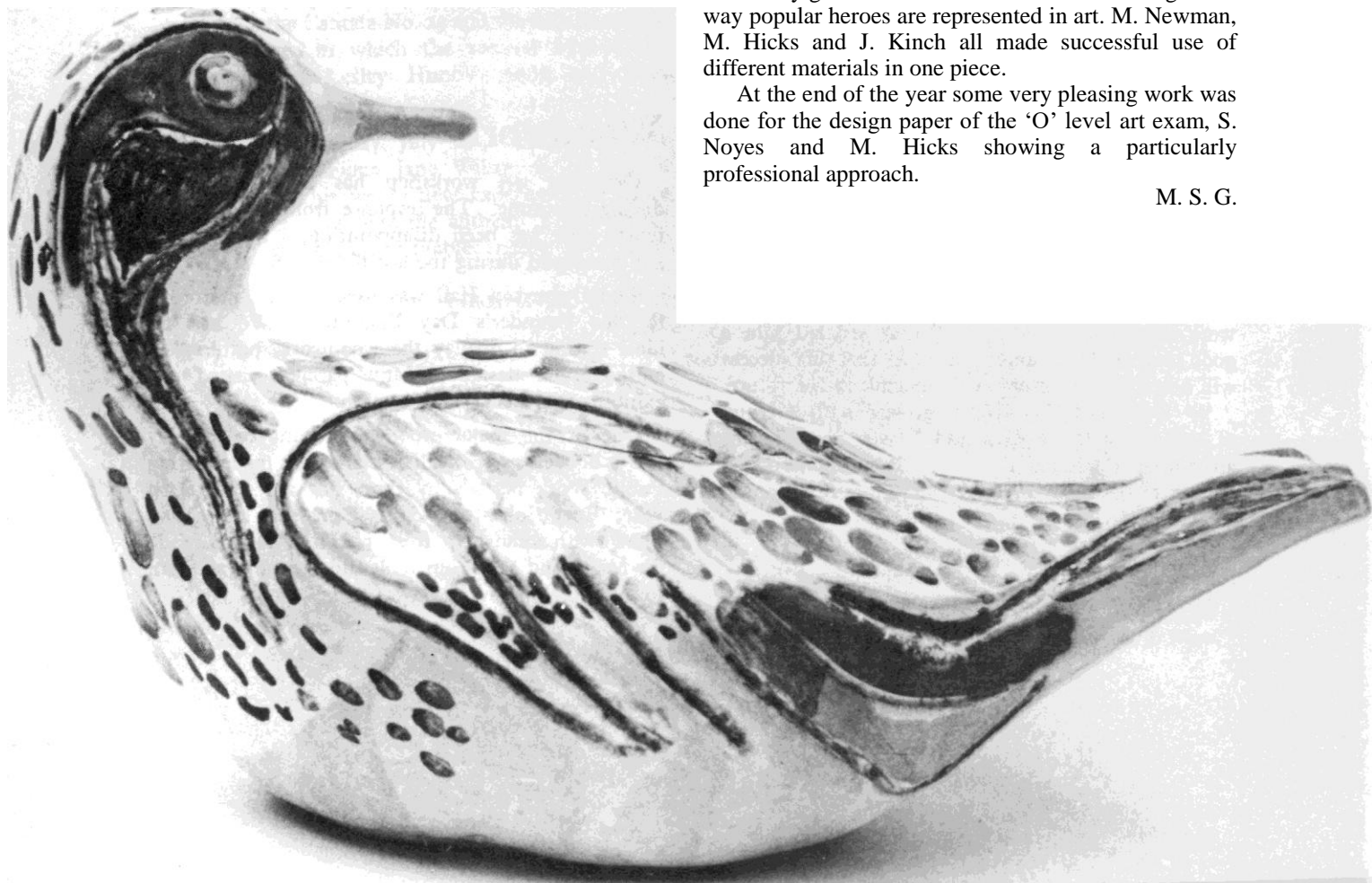
C. C. B.



## Pottery and Graphics

The department has been busy over the last year, with several boys taking pottery as the major part of their 'O' level art exam. J. Quick, D. Denby, T. Needham, D. Macdonald and R. Bown were all successful in November, and several others are now preparing to take the exam. Those who passed really excelled themselves in producing work of a very high standard in such a short time.

The pottery has also been used for free time work throughout the year by pupils of all ages, and the range of techniques and materials used has been extended, producing some very colourful results. N. Prowse and R. Moss have both not only shown a high degree of skill in making pots, but have also done some excellent glazing, while N. Wharmby's dragon is quite memorable.



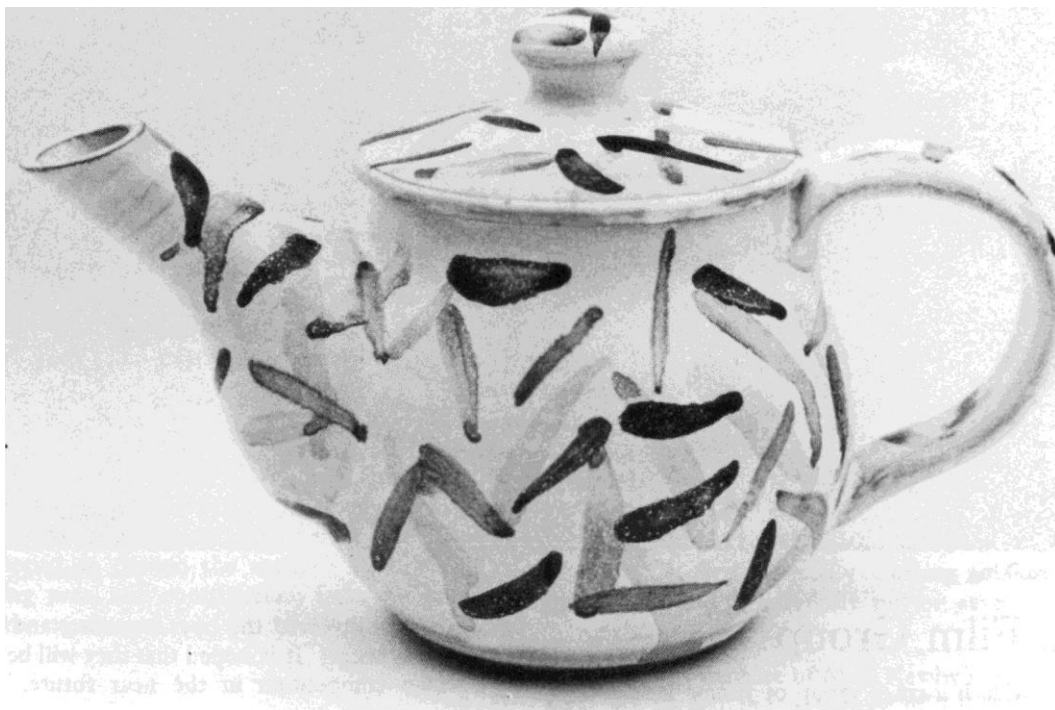
On Sunday afternoons the junior pottery group has again been in action, with J. Prince, A. Mackinnon, C. Daniels and C. Paine all producing lively work, while from the second year, among much fine work, Rupert Martin again excelled himself.

During the past year graphic design has been given more emphasis within the expanding art syllabus. The Second Form were given projects which involved looking at various aspects of advertising, lettering and design. A Fourth Form group also covered similar ideas, while going more deeply into the methods of designing a company logo; S. Kingscote and M. Reid produced some very successful work.

A 6B group looked at various aspects of design, including making teapots and designing and making their own tie. Throughout the year they made visits to local exhibitions of Art and Craftwork and produced some very good work of their own while looking at the way popular heroes are represented in art. M. Newman, M. Hicks and J. Kinch all made successful use of different materials in one piece.

At the end of the year some very pleasing work was done for the design paper of the 'O' level art exam, S. Noyes and M. Hicks showing a particularly professional approach.

M. S. G.



## Photographic Society

To make the investigation of the history of Photography more interesting for those attempting the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award, there was a visit to the Fox Talbot Museum at Lacock, near Chippenham, during the Christmas Term. There was an excellent permanent exhibition of Henry Fox Talbot's achievements as well as a temporary display of contemporary work.

Thanks to Dominic Clark's father, the Society also visited the Colortrend (Truprint) processing laboratories in Staffordshire, where many stages of colour print production were seen. The last part of the tour was the Educational Section, and many of us were reassured by the quality of the photographs and the general use throughout the country of the basic Pentax K 1000 camera.

The darkroom has been well used this year, and plenty of prints were produced for the Founder's Day display as well as for the magazine. The only weak area was school sport, which is never easy, owing to the bright back lighting on the playing fields.

The project for the coming year is to find new premises for a darkroom which will enable teaching of groups to take place and colour processing to be introduced alongside black and white. Funds are slowly accumulating for this purpose, although an automatic enlarger timer was purchased last year.

Andrew Mills has handed over the post of secretary/ treasurer to Darrell Adshead, who wishes to make a career in photography.

C. J. W.

**Cat by Darren Denby**

**Duck by Duncan MacDonald**

**Teapot by Timothy Needham**

*Photographs by Martin Griffiths*



**Film making group**

*Photo: C. J. Wood*

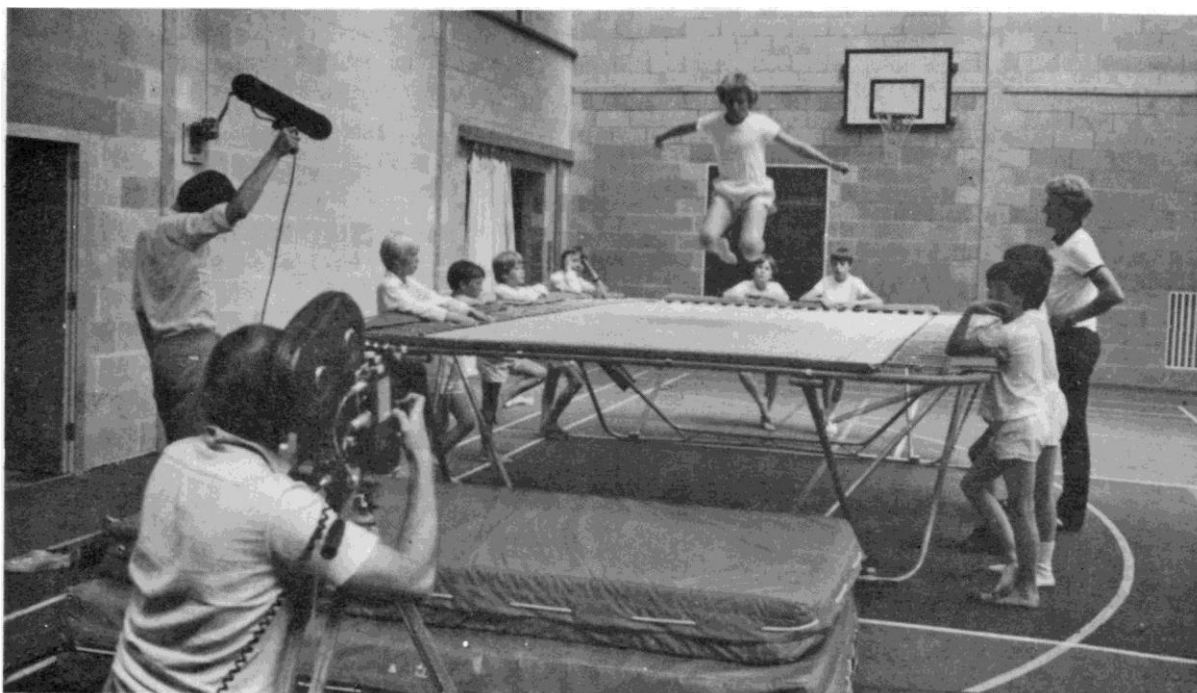
## **The Film Group**

Since March a small group of Junior House boys have been learning the technical and artistic aspects of film-making on Sunday mornings under guidance.

which has involved the boys in acting and in using the equipment. It is hoped that they will be entering a video competition in the near future. C.J.W.

The school now has a portable video camera system, and the boys have had a great deal of 'hands on' experience already. The camera has also been used for coaching sport and recording events such as sailing and the displays on Founder's Day.

Currently the group is producing a short film,



**Professional film unit**

*Photo: C. J. Wood*

## Arts Society

The Arts Society has had an active first year, and all its meetings have been well attended. There was one outing to Stratford where the party split into two groups, one going to see 'Measure for Measure' at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre while the others saw 'A New Way To Pay Old Debts' by Philip Massinger at The Other Place.

There were two literary presentations, on Thomas Hardy and on W. H. Auden. The former will be remembered particularly for the splendid reading of Hardy's poetry and prose by members of 6A.

Many films have been watched and discussed over the year, including 'The Draughtsman's Contract', 'Angels With Dirty Faces', 'The Candidate', 'The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie' and 'Twelve Angry Men'.

It is hoped to expand the society's activities in the coming year, and contributions from pupils are particularly encouraged.

P. M. E.

## Bridge Club

During the year the Sunday evening meetings of the Club were well supported, especially in the winter months, and the standard of play improved.

In the Gloucestershire Schools Pairs Competition in November, the placings were as follows out of a field of 26:

A. Hall and B. Almond	333 points	8
J. Kook and J. Odell	316 points	13
W. Tong and S. McIntyre	299 points	16
J. Morris and R. McIntyre	295 points	21
N. Wharmby and C. Moody	251 points	23
R. Pitt and N. Hoare	246 points	24

This competition also counted as a qualifying round for the 'Guardian' Under 25 Pairs Championship. A. Hall and B. Almond qualified to play in the next round in Bristol, but were not selected to play in the Final.

In the 'Daily Mail' schools Cup, played at the Cheltenham Bridge Club in January, the team of R. McIntyre, J. Morris, B. Almond and A. Hall scored 84 points and were placed 7th.

I hope that more junior players will join the Club, to provide continuity when the Sixth Formers leave.

W. J. D. W.

## Stockpiler

There was much enthusiasm this year and some keen rivalry between teams from 6A and 6B. Experience finally told as 6A came third in the County Competition, in which about 20 teams competed.

In the internal 6A competition Richard Newman demonstrated his financial skills by more than doubling the value of his portfolio.

R. K.

## Cookery

During the first two terms of this year a number of VIB indulged in fantasies of becoming a new generation of Fanny Craddock and Robert Carriers. The boys looked especially enticing in their frilly aprons and the girls rapidly put on several pounds in weight.

Amazingly, because of Mrs. Newby's patience and skill, we turned out a variety of EDIBLE dishes ranging from *Coq au vin* to chocolate cake.

Many thanks and commiserations to Mrs. Newby.

VICKY FINNEY  
BARNY HATCHER

For the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award Mrs. Newby took five Fifth-Formers for cookery every other Thursday afternoon and some Fourth-Formers on the other Fridays. On about five or six Sundays we had theory lessons.

During the Winter Term we all tended to make the same thing, with only slight variations within the group; during the rest of the year we began to make very different things, some of them quite difficult.

Our last couple of lessons of the year were taken up preparing for our final effort, that of giving a group of masters afternoon tea for three-quarters of an hour one Friday at Mrs. Newby's house. We made them sandwiches, cakes, lots of tea, cream scones and so on; all of them said that they had enjoyed it a lot and that the food was very good.

We all enjoyed the whole of the year, and I must thank Mrs. Newby for all the time and effort she put in, as well as for the patience she had with us while explaining things again and again. But I think she enjoyed it as much as we did.

PAUL SPACKMAN

## Bell Ringing

At the end of last year it seemed that bell ringing was rapidly losing support, but we are now very pleased to report otherwise. This year six or seven new pupils have taken it up, and there are at present at least sixteen people who come along regularly to ring.

Once again we would like to thank Miss Bliss, who has been coming to the College nearly every week, for the time that she has devoted to teaching and supervising. We hope that she will be able to help with the ever-increasing band of ringers. We would also like to thank Mrs Dennis for coming along once or twice to help out. Next year Dominic Scarlett takes over the post of Tower Captain. We hope that he will be able to gain support and encourage further interest in bell ringing.

CHRIS WALTON and ANDY MILLS  
(Tower Captains 1982-84)

## Gardening

The College grounds as usual looked attractive in the Spring, with a fine show of daffodils and with the primroses having spread more widely on the banks. But May and early June were really memorable for the superb display of blossom on the flowering trees and climbing shrubs: in particular the clematis and wisteria in the Old Rectory grounds were the best they had been for many years. Two young lilac trees have been planted on the banks next to the may and the rowan.

Last Autumn the Library beds were planted with pansy seedlings, forget-me-not, tulips and wallflowers; these provided a welcome splash of colour for many weeks in early Summer. This year we have put trailing nasturtiums with the geraniums in the urns on the terrace; as they like a poor soil, they should flourish—the soil has not been changed for twenty-five years! African marigolds, nicotiana, asters, nemesia and cosmea have been used for the Summer bedding-out.

It would not be possible to provide the modest show of colour in the grounds without the loyal support of the gardening squad. I am grateful to the following for their help during the year: P. Attwood, K. Cloutman, S. McIntyre, A. Hall, R. Matson, M. Larroucau, D. Kenny.

W. D. J. W.

## Science Society

The recent activities of the Society have included a lecture to the Fifth and Sixth Forms entitled 'Nuclear Power' by Dr. Lee of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment and visits to I. C. I. Fibres Gloscat, A. E. R. E. Harwell and Oxford University Science and Engineering Open Day. The Oxford visit included lectures on 'Drug Design by Computer' by the Chemistry Department and 'Artificial Organs' by the Engineering Science Department.

R. K.

## Fishing Club

After some discussion with the Headmaster and the Bursar, it was decided to set up a trout fishing club. The members were given access to the River Churn, the stretch below the main College building. The size of the club was limited to five; they were to be allowed to use only dry-fly fishing methods, floating imitations of flies, and to keep a maximum of three fish per week per person.

In late April a hundred mature brown trout, of about three-quarters of a pound in weight, were placed in the river. The fishing began on the first day of the Summer Term and, despite interference from dense weed-beds and overhanging trees, a fish was finally caught a week later.

The fishing improved, until about a dozen fish were being caught each week, of which on average only one was kept. The initial success was followed by the discovery that there were large fish in the river, when one of nearly two pounds was landed, and returned.

The two-week period after half-term when the mayfly emerged from the river produced frenzied feeding from the fish. During this fortnight the total of a dozen fish caught in a week by one person was reached. Towards the end of term the approach of exams and a general bad patch in the fishing reduced catches.

During the term about a hundred fish were caught, of which about a dozen were kept.

Best Fish:	1 lb 13oz.	R. McIntyre
	1 lb. 12oz.	D. Adshead
	1 lb. 2oz.	R. McIntyre
	1 lb.	R. Matson

ROBERT MCINTYRE



## Senior Debates

The Debating Society has continued in a lively vein this year with virtually full houses on each occasion.

The first debate of the year was entitled “This House believes that Pop Music has come to a dead end” proposed by Ben Uglow and David George and opposed by Simon Badcott and Andrew Rontree. This was a topic close to many pupils’ hearts and so, once the motion was thrown open to the House, debating began in earnest. The result was—46 in favour, 25 against, 7 abstentions.

On March 21st the Society decided that, in view of the recent news items, it would be topical to debate that “This House will, in no circumstances, fight for Queen and Country”. The motion was proposed by Chris Mansfield and David Webb and opposed by Robert Prynne and Jonathan Morris. Despite very convincing speeches from the proposers, the opposition spoke forcefully and the result was 7 in favour, 48 against and 3 abstentions.

For the final debate of the year it was decided that junior members of the committee should assist the main speakers, so Sophie Rutherford and Matthew Cordeux proposed that “This House believes that censorship stifles Art” and they were opposed by Robert Prynne and Matthew Reid. Owing to the breadth of the subject, the debate began in a state of confusion but, after clarification of certain points, it settled down, and some excellent and entertaining speeches were made. The result was 7 in favour, 23 against and 16 abstentions.

The committee this year was: David Webb, Doré Green, Tony Bailey, Robert Prynne, David Wilson, Matthew Reid.

T. J. L.

## Junior Debates

### 9th October, 1983: “This House believes in Unilateral Disarmament”.

*For:* Mark Hastings  
Jonathan Chappelle

*Against:* John Barnett  
Michael Bews

Mark Hastings started the debate by saying that we should set an example to the Super Powers by throwing away all nuclear weapons. We should also commit ourselves to stopping NATO deploying nuclear weapons on our territory. Was it better to be safe or sorry, he asked. He ended with the claim that the scientists who had invented nuclear missiles had made the worst mistake in this world’s history.

John Barnett said that in the last thirty-eight years there had been no major wars because people were too scared. Nuclear bombs were a continuing effective deterrent. He emphasised this point by saying that possible attack was the best form of defence and that CND policy was aiming for war, not peace.

Jonathan Chappelle pointed out that it was a disgusting state of affairs if we could not trust other countries. He believed that if we disarmed a Super Power there would be more prospect of peace.

Michael Bews told us that nations were at a deadlock. He indicated the obvious consequences if we unilaterally disarmed: if Britain had no weapons she would be an easy target. He said that unilateral disarmament would mean that in a few years we would be either dead or under Russian power.

The following spoke from the Floor: John Delaney, Giles Carter, David Paton, Richard Reichwald, Hari Nathan, Richard Kolb, John Shaw. Two of the Godman House prefects, David John and Michael Airey, also spoke.

*Voting:* For — 0. Against — 10. Abstentions — 9.

CHRISTOPHER HOARE

### 13th November, 1983: “This House believes in Ghosts”.

*For:* Robert Matson  
James Williamson

*Against:* Hari Nathan  
Marcus Rann

Robert Matson spoke first, saying that ghosts were not mere myths. He claimed that it was only man’s ignorance that caused him not to believe in them; just as cavemen understood little, so we do not know everything. We should consider how so many ideas have changed over the past two hundred years and, until there is proof to the contrary, accept all the evidence that ghosts exist.

Hari Nathan asserted that there was no clear scientific evidence that either ghosts or another dimension existed. Ghosts had been invented by man's imagination to explain some 'unexplainable' things.

James Williamson used an analogy of three bricks in a wall to clarify his point of view. He also said that man should not refuse to believe in something just because he cannot understand it.

Marcus Rann made similar claims to Hari Nathan's, stating that ghosts were just 'psychological ideas'.

The following spoke from the Floor: Michael Bews, Mark Hastings, Richard Reichwald, John Delaney, Warren Hammond, Richard Kolb, Piers Bowley, John Barnett.

*Voting:* For — 15. Against — 3. Abstentions — 2.

JOHN BARNETT

### **26th February, 1984: Balloon Debate.**

*Speakers:* John Barnett as Christopher Columbus

John Delaney as Alexander Fleming

Christopher Eames as Charles Babbage

Warren Hammond as Bo Derek

Edward Webb as Mother Theresa

John Barnett said that the entire expansion of Europe had been due to his thinking. Also he should take the credit for all the technology that had come from America since he had discovered the land in the first place.

John Delaney said that his great service to mankind was to have invented a drug which enormously relieved human pain and suffering. It was only his premature death which had prevented him from making other vital inventions.

Christopher Eames said he had invented the computer and this had in recent years greatly contributed to the advance of technology.

Warren Hammond said that she was an actress in her own right and not an immoral woman. If entertainment did not exist, all scientists would be driven to commit suicide.

Edward Webb claimed that she had done more for Third World countries than anyone else had. Her motives were saintly and she had set a wonderful example of love and peace.

The following spoke from the Floor: John Shaw, Mark Hastings, Adam Binder, Richard Reichwald, Paul Griffiths, Colin Sainsbury, Jonathan Chappelle.

*Voting:* Christopher Columbus — 0

Alexander Fleming — 1

Charles Babbage — 2

Bo Derek — 10

Mother Theresa — 7

MICHAEL BEWS

## **Careers**

In addition to the usual range of activities, including ISCO tests, interviews and talks, we have extended the range of work experience introduced last year. Another twenty or so organisations were approached, resulting in fifteen new opportunities being provided. These included accountant, solicitor vet, pharmacist, Royal Air Force, bank, hospital, building society, transport, advertising, engineering design, garage, farming and retail management.

R. K.

## **Work Experience**

### **Estate Agent**

My week began with an introduction to the staff of Hobbs & Chambers by Mr. Perry, a partner in the firm.

I then went with another partner, Mr. Daubney, to see a small town house owned by a student who was moving out after finishing a course. We discussed what would be included in the price of the house, and also the possibility of building a garage in the shared back yard.

After lunch, Mr. Daubney and I went to measure a bungalow in Kempsford. The bungalow had had an extension built on, which made the building interesting, as it had two lounges and two kitchens. There was also a large workshop and garden. The only problem seemed to be the airbase nearby, which seemed liable to produce a lot of noise when a plane flew over; this could well feature in the survey.

The next day I spent in the office, collecting details for people who wanted specific types of houses that we had on our books. Then Mr. Perry and I went to Fairford to measure a house for sale. It was a semi-detached house with a large garden (possibility for another house), and we gave a valuation and returned.

I then had my first taste of stapling the details of houses and placing the photos on them; I was to become very experienced in this field!

After lunch I went with Mr. Daubney to show two people round two cottages in the Fairford area. They seemed to have been deceived by the photos and mentioned that they were after a 'starter' home at about £230,000! They were not really interested in these cottages, and so we had to go away without a sale. I spent the rest of the day carrying on with stapling the details.

In conclusion, it was a very enjoyable week, giving me the widest range of jobs I could have hoped for. Many thanks to all concerned!

MARK THOMPSON

## Pharmacist

I experienced my first taste of work at Horton's in Cirencester. It is primarily a dispensing chemist, with various other sections, including cosmetics and photography. It was at the photography department that I started, owing to staff illness. Running the department with a very limited knowledge of photography proved hectic, and I was glad to be transferred for the rest of the week to the pharmacy. To add to the initial confusion, the female employees were all wearing costumes to mark Wool Week, commemorating the historical importance of wool to Cirencester.

In the pharmacy the walls were lined with row upon row of drugs and other pharmaceutical products. Stock control was computerised: when products were exhausted their code number was typed into a computer, and twice a day the order was automatically telephoned to Vestric, a supplying company.

Labels for prescriptions, the main business, were computer-tabulated. Checking and classifying the new orders was one of my first tasks. After collecting bottles and retrieving obscure chemicals, I helped make up the prescriptions. Counting pills in a triangle or machine was very commonplace; there was little formulating.

White coat errands to Boots and surgeries to borrow drugs and obtain prescriptions were frequent. I calculated the price of private prescriptions and checked prescriptions for the use of controlled drugs.

Mrs. Brown, the proprietor, advised me on routes into pharmacy, should I wish to pursue it as a career. The staff were very helpful and informative, and I learned a great deal. It was undoubtedly an experience, if traumatic at times, and a vivid illustration of the commercial world and the application of theory in practice. All this combined to produce a very tiring day, and the weekend was a welcome rest, but it left me with a sense of loss.

ALEX HAYES

## Veterinary Surgeon

(Extracts from a Diary)

**Day 1.** I was introduced to Mr. Mackinnon, who was to look after me for the week. First a farmer brought two sheep to the surgery; one was given an injection. The other, being dead, was promptly opened up in order to discover the cause of death; it was a pierced heart, through the oesophagus. We then made a call to a dairy farm in Minety to carry out tuberculosis tests on the cattle. During the afternoon there were a couple of surgery cases, including a dog owned by a television actor. There was also a call to a farm in South Cerney, where a cow with conjunctivitis was injected in the eye to aid recovery. We returned from this farm to attend surgery; it included dogs needing their nails cut, stitches removed, injections given, cysts looked at, and also a kitten which had a growth of fur in its eye, but was too young to have it removed. A client rang wanting a postmortem done on a budgie which was sent to the Veterinary Investigation Centre.

**Day 2.** We visited two farms, one in Braydon, both for pregnancy test on cattle. Then it was Mr. Mackinnon's turn to inspect the Cirencester Market, where all the stock of sheep and cattle were inspected. Unfortunately one cow had lumpy jaw and had to be withdrawn, in order to maintain the high standard required for a beast to be on public view at the market. During the afternoon I observed operations performed by Mr. Hay, as Mr. Mackinnon had a half-day. One cat was spayed, a lump removed from the groin area of a dog and a piece of wire removed from a dog's jaw. Afterwards I had the welcome job of helping to tidy up after the 'ops'. Later I observed afternoon surgery: infected cat—injected, cat with temperature of 104—injected, cat with eyelid infection—injected, dog given rabies injection as its owner was returning to Canada. The Bursar came in with his young dog, and a lady came to pick up her dog after its operation.

Not only was the week extremely interesting and varied and thoroughly enjoyable, but also valuable, otherwise unobtainable, experience. I owe my many thanks, mainly to Mr. Mackinnon, with whom I got on very well, but also to everyone at Hay, Lester and Mackinnon who made my week with them possible and who helped and put up with me throughout the week.

DUNCAN MACDONALD

## Remembrance Day Sermon

The Remembrance Day Sermon was given by Lord Cameron of Dalhousie, G. C. B., and below we include two extracts from it.

We all have some poignant memory of those wartime days. To me it is the blue skies of the Battle of Britain—that wonderful summer, the smoke trails, the Thames Estuary below, the fires you could see burning all over London, the barrage balloons and the moments of hectic activity with German bombers and fighters, the comradeship of the fighter squadrons and stations. Later the dusty air of the Desert battles and the jungles of Burma.

To the older generation, it is still the slaughters of the Somme, Gallipoli, Mons and Passchendaele. Yes, all experiences and memories which are not easily forgotten.

Some years ago I was in Libya standing on the escarpment overlooking Tobruk harbour. I had a few hours to wait for my aircraft to be refuelled and, having fought over and around Tobruk during 1942, I felt moved to go down to visit the British cemetery which I had heard so much about and where several of my friends were buried.

It was an experience not easily to be forgotten. The area around Tobruk is not unlike the Holy Land in many aspects. There are the tented villages of the nomad Senussi Arabs—the camels, the donkeys—the cactus, the rocks and the dusty sand tracks.

The cemetery itself, green, watered and fresh, stands on the escarpment overlooking Tobruk harbour and the blue Mediterranean. To it have been gathered the dead from some of the great battles in that area of the Western Desert—two sieges of Tobruk, the battle of the Knightsbridge Cauldron—Bir Hacheim where the French made their great stand and many others, including the great air battles.

It is a pleasant setting and now a place of peace, but I could not help wondering as I stood there of the *utter futility* of war and why these kinsmen of ours should come and fight in a foreign land—to die a lonely death and be buried far from home and family.

But there in a moment of silence I looked around these neat white grave stones in their ordered lines and felt acutely the real greatness and glory of their sacrifice—Lance Corporal Macintosh, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, aged 25—Private John Llewellyn, Welsh Fusiliers, aged 19—Sgt. Ewan McVitie, 2nd Battalion Australian Light Infantry—Seaman Norman Reid, H. M. S. Braham—Sgt. Pilot John Watson, No. 213 Squadron RAF and many thousands of others.

My thoughts dwelt for a moment on John Watson who had flown as my No. 2 during many of the air

battles. He was a simple fisherman from Arbroath in Scotland. Even I, being a Scot, had difficulty in coping with his accent, particularly when he got excited. He was shot down in flames not far from Tobruk. He gave his all in everything he did.

And how about the Australians, New Zealanders, Canadians, South Africans, Indians, yes and indeed the Germans and Italians lying in their respective cemeteries close by.

A short distance away in the German cemetery there was a German family making the pilgrimage to their son's grave—it had possibly cost them a lot of marks but the old folks had determined to make the journey at least once.

Yes all sadly missed whether friend or foe in some home, be it London, Arbroath, Birmingham, Sydney, Milan or Düsseldorf. All sacrificed because of the anti-Christ of a system.

Yes, it is in the inner region of the spirit of each man and woman that the seeds are sown which at the last bear the bitter fruits of war. It is not in resolution, deterrents, societies and treaties that war is likely to be abolished, but in the hidden heart of man.

It is each one of us who must seek peace and pursue it—for instance in our daily attitude towards our neighbour, in our daily thoughts, still more in our daily talk—*about our fellow men of other countries and nations*, in our restraint of prejudices against them, in our refusal to think the worst and in our readiness to think the best of them.

And just because the ultimate conquest of war depends upon the conquest of the spirit, there must be some motive, some power, *strong enough, constant enough* to penetrate and possess this inner region. Where is such a motive, where is such power to be found?

It is to be found, I suggest, in the body of Christ, the Church of Christ as the instrument and the witness of his Kingdom in the world. Here is a cause in which all who profess and call themselves Christians can, and surely must, think and pray and work together. It is for them to create a spiritual force *impelling, encouraging and sustaining* our statesmen in their difficult and anxious efforts to widen and strengthen the foundations of peace.

Would that we who are members of the Church of England were more visibly active in this cause. It is not our way to pass resolutions or stage demonstrations. It is perhaps fitting that a national Church should reflect the national temperament, which likes to keep ideals in close touch with concrete realities. But without active and unswerving enthusiasm in the cause of peace no Church can keep the honour of its soul. And let us remember that as a tribute to our dead of two Wars.



## Mulanje ‘Crater’

It is known as the ‘crater’, not because it is known to have been formed volcanically, but merely because of its shape—and surely such an enormous feature deserves more vivid description than ‘an indentation in Mount Mulanje’—yes, even an ant-hole on the mountain would fit this description.

The crater lay ahead, higher than where we were, and open, in the large, general sense of the word: open in shape, and to the skies. Yet it was closed in detail. Under the green canopy of rain-forest there was certainly more intricacy, more movement, more life. From just below the only variety was to be found between the blank expanses of grey rock, the green of the thick forest, the mottled green and brown of the thinner vegetation at the top of the crater and the occasional bright white streak of a rushing river.

To reach the open end of the crater we walked along a dirt road through some lush tea plantation, following the heavy water pipes which brought water down to the estate from the Ruo River, in the crater. Although there were thunderclouds in the sky, it was very bright and very hot—a prickling, humid sort of heat.

Reaching the edge of the forest, the road narrowed to a path which led into the bowl of the crater. Once under the trees, everything changed. It became suddenly cooler, and the sunlight was now dappled, rather than being everywhere in great intensity. Noises of forest birds and insects were audible, irregular and busy. Now we could hear the freely gushing Ruo, unrestricted by metal pipe

line. The ground underfoot was moist and dark, with ferns rooted here and there.

We came to a group of pools on the river, fed by a small waterfall. Now inside the crater, it curved up around us—the openness of the pools showed us where we had to go. Here we crossed the river.

There was no path on the other side; however we followed a dry tributary bed for a while. The ground was very uneven and pebbled, with the turned, swept look of having been recently washed through in the last rainstorm.

A sheer, almost vertical rock-face presented itself alongside this river-bed. A short way up the face was a protruding rock, ideal for sitting on, and from there one could get a magnificent view across the inside of the crater.

The ascent was more of a scramble. There were strong, trustworthy tufts of grass to use as hand and foot holds, although many of them had thorny euphorbia growing up their centres, so care was necessary in choosing one’s friendly tussocks.

Seated on the destined rock, we had a beautiful dramatic view across this non-volcanic crater. All was spread out below and around us. The view downwards was of the rocks and speed of the Ruo River, looking ready to snatch away anything that fell into those white waters. Curving round us, like the sides of a cup, was the lining of the crater, with its variations of rugged, smooth, green and brown landscape. There it all lay, rounded, majestic, complete in itself, surmounted only on its rim, by the sky.

KAREN ALDER

## The City

The dirty city,  
The clean city,  
All wrapped into one,  
Pollution, smoke, dirt,  
The grubby city,  
Beautiful buildings,  
Slick tower blocks,  
The clean city,  
The old buildings,  
The ancient landmarks,  
The old city,  
The new skyscrapers,  
Porsche, Ferrari and Spitfires,  
Aircraft and airport,  
The modern city,  
The slums and backstreets,  
Where danger lurks,  
Mugging, murdering, raping,  
The dangerous city,  
Football, theatre, cinema, disco,  
The entertaining city,  
Schools, colleges, university,  
The educational city,  
Building sites, road works,  
The expanding city,  
Corner shops, supermarkets, hypermarkets,  
The shopping city,  
The cathedrals, churches, chapels,  
The Christian city,  
Houses, flats, apartments,  
The city home,  
Factories polluting,  
Council cleaning,  
Only one city.

GORDON HEWSTON

## In the Jungle

It would take only ten days for anyone to realize the truth. Ten days cut off from society's ignorant machine, and, naked and pure as nature intended, ten days subject to nature's dominance and jungle rules.

After hours of cursing and bleeding, suffocating in sweat and stagnant filth, choking in nature's vicious purity and choking down coarse bark, the revelation would come.

With blotched vision obscured by clouds of winged parasites, one would finally see the deception that comes with innocence and inexperience: met upon its own level, nature has no beauty, only death and procreation.

SIMON NOYES

## A French Landscape

Towering waves conducting the orchestra,  
Jumping and waving vigorously, keeping every  
instrument in time,  
The wind plays oboe, flute and clarinet,  
The seagulls off-tuned violins.  
The conductor moves back and the tide and  
tune turn,  
As the tourists flood the beach;  
The sand whisks around checking the instruments  
are in tune,  
And everyone listens for the next piece.  
A change of music, as the orchestra play a slow,  
calm movement,  
The wind group sit back and listen as the solo  
violin plays,  
Reminding us all of the restaurants and shops  
Scattered along the quayside.  
A short cadenza before the final tutti,  
Everybody claps and cheers as the waves bow  
and orchestra stand;  
The children all rush to the sea and enjoy themselves,  
While parents sit and watch, wondering, while  
they drink wine.

JASON VERNON

## Death of Caesar

I, Brutus, pulled by love of him,  
Am afraid.  
His cloak shrouds me, caresses  
My taut nature.  
My brain is caught in mental torment,  
My distressed soul a guardian angel  
For the beloved multitude,  
My burning heart devoted to  
The master.  
They will follow me, loyal pilgrims,  
Me, Brutus, Lord of Rome.  
I would die for him:  
Lay my faithful form  
Under his divine feet.  
At one command  
My legs would carry me to suicide,  
Diving like a foolish boar into  
Spears of a hungry tribe.  
I, Brutus, am afraid;  
But no! I have been too pensive.  
My distorted passions have wandered.  
My life is for the people;  
Caesar will die.

STEPHEN GREEN



## Runner

Standing quietly, jostled by the rest of the crowd, legs slowly getting colder, waiting for the hoarse command to start: there it is, and the milling stops, only to become a flood, carrying everyone along. The pace is too fast, and to get up front calls for a short, sharp sprint before running carelessly down the mud-track through the wood. A quick left turn, and a fight for the first few places is already beginning. Even now, so soon after starting, people are lagging behind, while the stronger ones push on, regardless. The splinter-sharp cold of the river penetrates the shoes, harder to lift out up the banks, covered with mud, a slight stumble, a muffled curse to hide the dull pain.

Leaping the stile causes too much energy to flow, yet climbing it takes too long: the decision to jump further down the fence is 'made' by the two-man queue already forming. Passing them, a small group of spectators shout; a few smiles, and then the land and track dissolves as the eyes become confused and bleary. Lungs, heart and pulse all move in unison, muscles scream for more air: a slight sense of intoxication as more air is sucked

in, and then the cold wish to give up in defeat as the hill begins. A quick glance to the right makes a shiver of anxiety run through the body as the sight of a rival only yards behind causes an instant change of pace. The terrain becomes rougher, more pitted and tortuous; it cannot be endured, it must, yet more air is needed; the head begins to reel, but then the downhill part begins, allowing semi-relaxation. Gravity takes over, arms flail to keep the body balanced, legs absorb the shock of each downward leap, the stomach tightens at each jolt...

But then comes the long struggle uphill again, on to the road. The going becomes easier, the pace faster, still faster. Yet there is still one adversary in front, striding on relentlessly, gaining time and distance. A few yells give warning of the approaching finish, and soon the actual distance can be seen. A final surge of energy, and the yards are eaten up; the rival gets nearer, but it is too late, the post is passed, and only second place is good enough. The fight for oxygen to soothe the screaming muscles begins again, while in the background murmurs of 'Maybe next time' buzz around. Already the resolve to turn 'maybe' into reality is forming.

DARRELL ADSHEAD



*Photo: K. Knight*

# The Ship

The once great monument  
Of man's genius Lies stranded,  
Bearing the agony  
Of seeing boats, half her size,  
Go past at unimaginable speeds.

Reflecting on her maker  
She thinks 'What would the engineer,  
Once best in his field, think? '  
Would he be ashamed of today's man?  
Or would he be ashamed of himself  
For having made her?

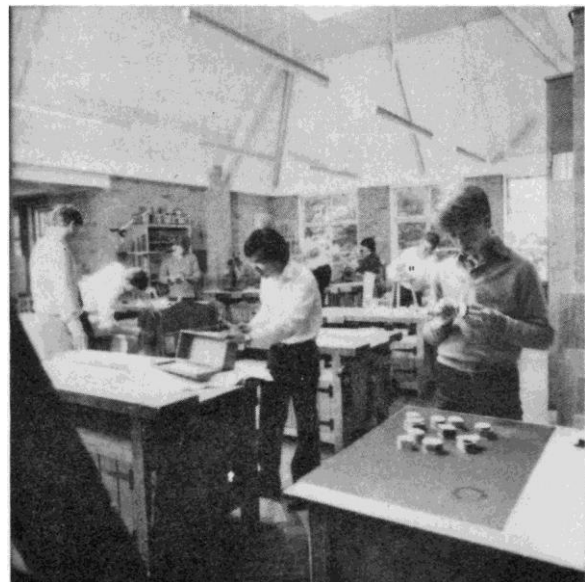
Gigantic and graceful were once the best,  
But now it seemed  
Speed and slighthness was better.  
Solid wood and metal girders  
Make her skeleton,  
But plastic forms the unicellular creatures.

Roars from great crowds  
Had hung around her once.  
And they still do,  
When the winner, proudly speeding past,  
Holds up the cup,  
And not his head.

The rhythmic thud of a crew working,  
Where is it now?  
The crew which had acted as one  
Was now simplified to one.  
No songs, no fights, no drunkards  
Adorned their boats.

There she still stands,  
Her mast towering high,  
Defying gravity.  
Power boats come and go,  
Win or lose,  
But never live on.

WARREN HAMMOND



Woodwork

*Photo: Focol*

## Rugby

All of the school sides seemed to play with great enthusiasm and commitment; Mr. Burden's U13s having a particularly successful season, the U15s achieving some notable victories whilst the U14s showed great spirit, despite lack of size and depth of talent.

The keenness of the senior boys to play rugby prompted the school's first ever 4th XV fixture; the attitude and surprising ability of the players led to an impressive performance (and victory). I hope this can be continued in the future.

The annual staff/boys match was a keenly contested battle of youth and fitness on one side against old age, experience and a lack of fitness on the other. The result was not exactly high scoring, a 0—0 draw, but everyone seemed to enjoy the match.

The season proved frustrating for the 1st XV. Injuries occurred frequently throughout the term and in no match were we able to field the best possible XV; a total of 23 players played for the side, certainly a record in my Rendcomb career. This injury problem was directly responsible for our biggest defeats—having six 2nd XV forwards against Prior Park, 13 and 14 men for most of the match against Monkton Combe and King Edward's, Bath, respectively. It proved to be “one of those seasons” where not only did we have more than our fair share of injuries but two of our easiest fixtures from the previous season could not be played and several matches were lost by narrow margins, the result of silly mistakes or missed chances at crucial times. Despite these problems, the attitude of the XV was impressive—they managed to “keep their heads up” and attempted to play running rugby with enjoyment as a key factor.

The most enjoyable matches proved to be against Kingswood, Rednock and the Old Boys. In the latter, the ORs were desperate to succeed after the last few years' defeats, hence they fielded their strongest ever team. The match was played in great spirit but the opposition were just too powerful for the school XV.

During the season, the forwards were outgunned on several occasions, but showed great aggression and tenacity in loose play and sound discipline in the set piece. Credit must go to Uglow and Hayward, whose determination in the line-out and excellent technique in the scrum respectively provided considerable quality possession. Hutton-Potts, Brealy, Holland and Wakeham were particularly strong in support play whilst the squad back-row of Waddell, D. Webb, Paterson-Fox and Trowern provided “fire” from the base of the scrum in both attack and defence.

The young halves N. Webb and J. Healey developed well; their increased skill and confidence will certainly help them for the '84 season. Payne, Binder, Wilson and Acocks in the role of threequarters played with great enthusiasm and ability, whilst special mention should be made of G. Healey at full-back; as “The Old Man” he was the perfect model for the other players, his maturity, experience and skill proving invaluable in attack and defence — certainly many opponents suffered from his obliterating tackles!

Tribute must be paid to A. D. Payne in his role as Captain of Rugby. In a difficult season he maintained a high level of motivation in the squad, helped by his personal commitment off the park and his determination, work rate and skill on the pitch.

Next year's XV will be young and probably of a modest standard, although I hope they prove me wrong, but if they approach the game in the same way as the '83 squad then they should gain a great deal of enjoyment throughout the term.

Finally may I take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the season's rugby, especially my hard-working colleagues involved in the coaching, Mr. Essenhigh as groundsman and Mrs. Kenworthy and her medical team; let us hope that the latter has much less to do in '84.

M. J. N.

## 1st XV

In the light of last season's success, we had a lot to live up to. However, we were a small side, and we had more than our fair share of injuries, which proved to be crucial in some matches. Nevertheless, considering these disadvantages, we coped well with the bigger sides. The results were deceptive; we played some adventurous and enjoyable rugby, working well as a team. This enabled us to apply pressure and resistance right through to the final whistle. But the lack of a consistent goal-kicker or of a couple of really penetrating players meant that we were rarely able to turn our possession into points.

I wish to thank everyone who played for the 1st XV for helping me in the role of captain. On behalf of the team I would like to thank Mr. Newby for his knowledge and experience of the game. I assure him his efforts were not in vain.

ANDY PAYNE

Played 14; Won 2; Lost 12

Points for 45; Points against 277.

v. Marlborough College 2nd XV (H)	Lost	0—32
v. Dean Close School (H)	Lost	0—12
v. King Edward's School, Bath (A)	Lost	4—42
v. Rednock School (A)	Lost	0—12
v. Kingswood School, Bath (H)	Lost	0—16
v. Wycliffe College 2nd XV (H)	Won	11—9
v. Bloxham School (H)	Lost	3—21
v. Dauntsey's School (A)	Lost	4—24
v. Burford School (A)	Lost	0—6
v. Monkton Combe School (H)	Lost	7—32
v. The King's School, Gloucester (A)	Lost	4—10
v. Prior Park College (A)	Lost	0—32
v. Sir Thomas Rich's School (H)	Won	12—6
v. Old Rendcombians	Lost	0—24

## 2nd XV

If hard work and honest effort were enough to win rugby matches, then this year's 2nd XV would have enjoyed a memorable season. Alas, however, this is not the case. A heavy fixture list ground away at our limited resources, and a string of injuries to key players left the side weakened and vulnerable. Those called into the breach acquitted themselves as best they could; often this was not enough.

In the pack Wakeham, leading by example, and Edwin deserve special recognition for their determined efforts, and amongst the backs Acocks and Khosrowshahi gave us moments of hope. I should like to thank all those who played for the 2nd XV this season and who, in spite of the difficulties, never gave up.

Team from: R. Wakeham (captain), D. Edwin, S. Hannaford, R. McIntyre, S. McIntyre, B. Jenkins, R. Khosrowshahi, C. Acocks, K. Elderfield, J. Awdry, A. Hall, N. Green, C. Carpenter, B. Hatcher, J. Adams, J. Kinch, N. Badcott.

S. H. J.

Played 12; Lost 12; Points for 68; Points against 303

## 3rd and 4th XVs

The relative success of the 3rd XV was again due to the large pool of players, so that we were able to put out a team even when so many players were injured. On few occasions did the selected team reach the pitch intact; indeed Saturday or Wednesday break was usually a period of frenzied activity! With a more settled team the results would probably have been better, but far fewer boys would have had the chance to play competitive rugby. Of the 39 players who represented Rendcomb at this level 30 could be available next year to provide a valuable nucleus for the senior teams.

If we have enough players, a few 4th XV matches are of great benefit, as they maintain interest and give valuable experience to those who play.

Teams from: C. Mansfield (captain), D. Appleton, J. Awdry, N. Badcott, S. Badcott, N. Blackshaw, R. Bown, A. Brain, T. Branstons, J. Butling, C. Carpenter, D. Denby, D. Green, N. Green, A. Hall, M. Hammond, C. Harris, B. Hatcher, A. Hayes, N. Hoare, S. Jenkins, C. Jones, J. Kinch, N. Kinch, M. Lynton, D. MacDonald, R. McIntyre, S. McIntyre, R. Moss, R. Needham, M. Newman, A. Paton, E. Roberts, D. Scarlett, M. Stitt, K. Taylor, G. Veale, C. Walton, N. Webb.

D. A. H.

3rd XV Played 11; Won 3; Lost 7; Drew 1;  
Points for 59; Points against 207.

v. Dean Close School 3rd XV	Lost	0—27
v. Rednock School 3rd XV	Won	13—0
v. Kingswood School, Bath U16 XV	Lost	0—10
v. Wycliffe College 4th XV	Won	10—3
v. Bredon School 1st XV	Lost	8—25
v. Bloxham School 3rd XV	Lost	0—27
v. Dauntsey's School 3rd XV	Won	25—10
v. Burford School 2nd XV	Lost	0—31
v. Monkton Combe School 3rd XV	Lost	3—66
v. The King's School, Gloucester 3rd XV	Drew	0—0
v. Kingham Hill School 2nd XV	Lost	0—8

4th XV Played 2; Won 1; Drew 1.  
Points for 24; Points against 7.

v. Bredon School 2nd XV	Won	20—3
v. Bredon School 2nd XV	Drew	4—4

## Under 15 XV

The team had come to rely far too heavily on two outstanding individuals, D. Aylott and S. Kingscote. It took a while for the other members of the team to take on more responsibility and develop their own skills. After three heavy defeats by Kingswood, Wycliffe and Bloxham, the team, now without the injured Kingscote, were forced to take stock and reaffirm their commitment.

All the remaining games were hard fought and closely contested. A number of players improved a great deal as the season progressed. A. Brealy at outside half gained in confidence, as did B. Branston at centre. R. Draper continued to be a reliable full-back. M. Astill proved to be a useful lineout jumper and a highly dependable player in difficult situations. Without doubt the major influence throughout the season was the tireless effort, enthusiasm and strength shown by Dave Aylott as captain.

R. C. H.

Played 12; Won 4; Lost 8;

Points for 82; Points against 164.

v. Dean Close School U15 XV (H)	Lost	0—12
v. King Edward's, Bath U15 XV (H)	Lost	0—10
v. Rednock School U15 XV (H)	Won	18—14
v. Kingswood School, Bath		
U15 XV (A)	Lost	0—26
v. Wycliffe College U15 XV (A)	Lost	0—32
v. Bloxham School U15 XV (H)	Lost	4—24
v. Dauntsey's School U15 XV (H)	Won	14—4
v. Burford School U15 XV (A)	Won	14—0
v. Monkton Combe School U15 XV A	Lost	12—19
v. Cokethorpe School U15 XV (A)	Won	14—4
v. The King's School,		
Gloucester U15 XV (A)	Lost	0—6
v. Kingham Hill School U15 XV (A)	Lost	6—13

*Photo: Mr. Hill*



### Under 14 XV

The season seemed to be a very long one, given the consistently poor results. The main problem was one of physical strength and stature. We simply lacked anyone with the strength to win sufficient lineout and maul ball to give our backs the opportunity to run at the opposition. This problem aside, we played a brand of rugby that was intended to involve all members of the team during a match. The constant demands of defence against physically stronger sides did mean our morale was low for matches on a Saturday. When we might have narrowly won in other years, we did tend to expect defeat rather than victory.

There were, however, some promising individual displays of rugby skill, most noticeably by Carter, who is a very talented player lacking only a strong kick. Davies tackled furiously and ran very strongly and Matson worked tirelessly, leading the side well from the base of the scrum. Taking the team as a whole, there is considerable promise for the future if a little more muscle can be added to the natural skills already blossoming in some individuals.

Team from: A. Andreis, J. Barnett, A. Binder, G. Carter, J. Chappelle, E. Crowther, G. Davies, J. Fellows, S. Green, M. Hastings, D. Hauton, C. Hoare, R. Johnston, R. Kolb, R. Matson (captain) H. Nathan, D. Paton, M. Rann, C. Sainsbury, J. Shaw.

C. P. M. K.

Played 10; Lost 10.

### Under 13 XV

The team made an encouraging start in their early matches and were outplayed only on one occasion. The boys enjoyed their games and were well supported by parents throughout the season.

The side was strengthened by several third-year boys who were not required by the under 14 team. Owing to injuries, however, the strongest side was never fielded. The tackling was sound, but not enough possession was obtained after the breakdown of play. The backs showed some ability to run the ball. The forwards had difficulty in obtaining possession at the lineout, but their scrummaging improved as the season progressed. The team would have benefited further had more fixtures been possible.

Next season, with the availability of all boys in this age range and the inclusion of the new third-year intake, a promising side might develop.

Team from: R. J. Martin, R. E. Martin, D. Norton, S. Scott White, M. Bradford, J. Vernon, W. Matson, W. Sherwood, C. Bannister, J. Carter, G. Hughes, V. Tredwell, J. Myers, W. Hammond, D. Kenny, C. Hauton, G. Hewston, M. Croft, A. Powell, R. Kolb.

C. C. B.

Played 5; Won 2; Lost 3.

Points for 59; Points against 67.

v. Rednock School U13 XV (H)	Lost 9—10
v. Dauntsey's School U13 XV (A)	Lost 6—12
v. St. Hughes School U13 XV (A)	Won 10—0
v. The King's School, Gloucester, U13 XV (A)	Lost 0—42
v. Kingham Hill School U13 XV (H)	Won 34—3



# Hockey

The hockey season is always at the mercy of the elements, but this year the lack of heavy snowfalls and the presence of drying winds allowed use of the grass pitches on all but six afternoons. As well as providing stone-picking periods for miscreants, the extension to the games field allowed for an extra full-size pitch plus a seven-a-side pitch and gave us greater flexibility in borderline weather conditions.

Although the hockey staff had dwindled in numbers, there was no lack of enthusiasm, and in the event D. A. H., M. G. and D. W. came to the rescue. This, combined with the self-motivation of the boys and girls, allowed us to field four strong senior XIs once again. Happily there is a great deal of talent lower down in the school which should enable us to display strength in depth in future years.

My thanks go to all those who contributed to the success of the season, whether they coached, washed shirts or played, and special thanks to David Essenhigh, who prepared the pitches so well while still running the 3rd XI.

For those who are statistically minded: the school as a whole played 51 matches, won 33, drew 7 and lost 21; goals for 150; goals against 86.

## 1st XI

The initial squad was certainly determined, if a little lacking in skills, and the rapid passing between the forwards, especially Andrew Payne (7 goals) and Philip Paterson-Fox (2 goals), proved extremely incisive. As the term progressed several players developed their individual styles successfully. Mark Binder and Charles Acocks, at full-back, timed their tackles well, and their ability to clear the ball was never in doubt. Only at the start of a game did they look vulnerable during a quick attack.

David Webb, as captain, proved invaluable in defence because of his clean 'first-time' hitting under pressure, although he often found it difficult to position himself within the 4-3-3 formation. Towards the end of the season, in the more difficult matches, he played as a true sweeper and he kept out the hungry Old Rendcombians forwards very effectively, if perhaps to the detriment of the mid-field. Alex Paton and Andrew Hall as halves became more reliable as time went on, the former becoming an expert reverse-stick tackler and the latter making good use of a strong push. The biggest problem was the lack of a good mid-field player, and several people, including Richard Hayward and James Hutton-Potts, tried their hand at this position. For the last two matches Andrew Payne displayed his ever-improving stickwork there, but it never worked fully, perhaps indicating the weakness of our formation.

Angus Waddell fulfilled an important role as left wing, distributor and goal-scorer, whilst Toby Brealy was not given enough of the ball on the right side of the field. Sadly Paterson-Fox developed glandular fever, and so Brealy played inside, which he did very well. In the last game he gave a demonstration of attacking skills and scored both goals. The two late arrivals from the 2nd XI soon found their confidence, and Marcus Holland, who was in the 4th XI at one stage of the term, should be a key figure in next season's team.

The important position of goalkeeper was held by Michael Uglow, who timed his runs well and made good use of hand and stick, his only real weakness being shots from an acute angle. Unfortunately he was unable to complete the season for medical reasons, and James Kinch courageously took his place. Although it took him some time to build up an understanding with his backs, he made some brilliant saves and, with that extra bit of confidence, he should do very well next year.

It was after half-term that the team were not as sharp as before, and the two matches on all-weather surfaces emphasised this. In addition it was clear that the unusual amount of grass hockey had led to a tendency not to use the square pass and not to bring the ball under close control following hard, accurate passes.

Perhaps the most enjoyable game to watch was the match against Cheltenham, in which the style of play was very open, and so individuals could display their skills and learn from more mature players, such as John Webb (Old Rendcombian).

C. J. W.

This was a successful season in every way. We played good hockey throughout the term and obtained the results to reflect this. In fact, I think that the whole team would be quick to claim that if Dean Close and King Edward's had been prepared to play us on the grass, then the results of these games would have been rather different. Ours was a grass-pitch game; instead of relying on the skill of individuals, we always sought to pass the ball quickly and directly. Our best hockey came when the forwards picked up through balls and attacked at speed, often with one-touch passes. The defence was generally very sound, although sometimes liable to be caught square; the goalkeeping also was performed efficiently, despite the fact that, for varying reasons, we had to use three people to do this job during the season.

However, more important than the technical prowess of the team was the fact that it was almost always great fun to be playing. I hope everyone enjoyed the season as much as I did, and I think that the game against Cheltenham Wednesday XI proved that Rendcomb hockey this year was as much about enjoyment as about results.

I would like to thank Mr. Essenhigh for keeping all the pitches in such good condition, and Mr. Wood for his encouragement and enthusiasm, and for his patience in putting up with our sense of humour for a whole term.

DAVID WEBB

Played 11; Won 7; Lost 4;  
Goals for 21; Goals against 21.

v. Gloucestershire College of Art and Technology (A)	Won	3—2
v. Marlborough College 3rd XI (H)	Won	2—0
v. The King's School, Gloucester (H)	Won	3—1
v. Marling School (A)	Won	5—2
v. Colston's School (A)	Won	1—0
v. Dean Close School (A)	Lost	0—3*
v. Bloxham School (H)	Lost	0—1
v. The Crypt School, Gloucester (A)	Won	1—0
v. King Edward's School, Bath (A)	Lost	0—5*
v. Cheltenham H. C. Wednesday (A)	Lost	4—6
v. Old Rendcombians (H)	Won	2—1

\* played on all-weather surface

## 2nd XI

The first match of the season was against Marlborough, which set the team off to a bad start, owing to our uncoordinated play and lack of practice. However, once the team had recovered from this defeat, they soon started to get to grips with the game. The forwards showed considerable promise as the season progressed, with some excellent goals by Marcus Holland and some sparkling cross-field play by the wings. The greatest challenge to the team was the game at King Edward's, Bath, where they played for the first time on a very fast all-weather surface. To begin with it appeared that King Edward's would walk all over the team but, once we had overcome the problems of the pitch, we fought back to end the match with a well-deserved draw.

My thanks must go to all team members for making the season so successful and to Adrian Lewers for captaining the team so efficiently.

The team was taken from: A Lewers (Captain), R. Hayward, R. Newman, B. Almond, C. Carpenter, M. Holland, R. Prynn, J. Kinch, M. Cordeux, R. Bown, N. Webb, S. Jenkins, R. Khosrowshahi.

T. J. L.

Played 10; Won 6; Drew 2; Lost 2;  
Goals for 30; Goals against 11.

v. Marlborough College 4th XI	Lost	1—2
v. The King's School, Gloucester 2nd XI	Won	2—0
v. Marling School 2nd XI	Won	10—0
v. Colston's School 2nd XI	Won	1—0
v. Cheltenham Grammar School 2nd XI	Won	2—1
v. Dean Close School 2nd XI	Won	2—0
v. Bloxham School 2nd XI	Drew	1—1
v. Bredon School 1st XI	Won	6—0
v. King Edward's School, Bath 2nd XI	Drew	5—5
v. Old Rendcombians 2nd XI	Lost	0—2

### 3rd XI

The 3rd XI played with enthusiasm, commitment and skill during the season and enjoyed considerable success. The team was well led by David Edwin, who was also the most consistent player. Jonathan Morris led the attack with typical ferocity and scored many fine goals. He was aided by Jeremy Butling and Reza Khosrowshahi, and these central attacking players were all well served from the wings by Dominic Scarlett and Mark Bailey. Although the team attempted to place the accent on attack, this is often possible only if the defence is sure; in this area Graeme Veale and Kevin Elderfield were most competent, while at wing-half Alistair Brain and Neil Paterson-Fox also performed well. Overall, despite a couple of defeats, the 3rd XI can look back on 1984 with satisfaction, and it is hoped that many of the team will go on to represent the school at a higher level.

The team was taken from: D. Edwin (captain), D. Appleton, D. Adshead, M. Bailey, N. Badcott, R. Bown, A. Brain, D. Brown, J. Butling, M. Cordeux, K. Elderfield, P. Grainger, C. Harris, J. Hutton-Potts, B. Jenkins, R. Khosrowshahi, J. Kinch, M. Lynton, A. Maslin, J. Morris, N. Paterson-Fox, R. Prynn, D. Scarlett, M. Thompson, G. Veale, N. Webb. '

D. E.

Played 9; Won 7; Lost 2;

Goals for 37; Goals against 7.

v. Marlborough College 5th XI (H)	Won 4—1
v. The King's School, Gloucester, 3rd XI (A)	Won 8—1
v. Colston's School 3rd XI (A)	Won 4—0
v. Cheltenham Grammar School 3rd XI (H)	Won 7—0
v. Dean Close School 3rd XI	Won 1—0
v. Bloxham School U16 XI (A)	Lost 0—3
v. The Crypt School 2nd XI (A)	Won 8—0
v. King Edward's School. Bath U16 XI (H)	Lost 0—1
v. Mixed Old Rendcombians' XI (H)	Won 5—1

### 4th XI

With unrestrained vigour and commitment, the 4th XI went from game to game knowing that, whatever the result, an eventful hour's hockey was guaranteed. Certainly the side's teamwork improved, and possibly the best performance was seen in the defeat at Bloxham. I shall remember with great delight the sight of Tony Maslin's resolute defence, which threatened most attackers with decapitation, and Duncan Brown's mazy runs in midfield (even if he was not always sure where he was going). In attack there was the determined wing-play of Nicholas Badcott and Darrell Adshead, with Jonathan Suffolk always willing to make a hearty strike in the general area of the ball if it came into the circle. My first season in charge of the 4th XI was enjoyable and instructive, and I look forward to next January with great pleasure.

The team was taken from: A. Maslin (captain), D. Adshead, M. Airey, D. Appleton, M. Astill, S. Badcott, N. Badcott, D. Brown, N. Green, P. Grainger, C. Harris, B. Jenkins, J. Kinch, M. Lynton, A. Mills, J. Suffolk.

P. M. E.

Played 5; Won 3; Lost 2;

Goals for 22; Goals against 11.

v. The King's School, Gloucester 4th XI (H)	Won 8—0
v. Colston's School U16 XI (H)	Lost 0—3
v. The King's School, Gloucester, 4th XI (H)	Won 2—1
v. Bloxham School 4th XI (A)	Lost 3—5
v. Bredon School 2nd XI (A)	Won 9—2

## Under 15 XI

This was an above-average Under 15 side who did well to finish the season unbeaten, winning four and drawing two of the six matches played. In the mainly dry conditions the team were able to play regularly and had the necessary keenness and intelligence to develop fast. Two other major factors in the side's success were the fairly settled selection and the teamwork on the field, with individuals working hard to help each other in moments of crisis and in building constructive moves.

After two cancellations, the first match at Marlborough, against the College Under 16 'B' side, was an excusably scrappy one on a pitch exceptionally heavy after overnight rain but we adapted well in the second half and the draw was a fair result. The next game, at King's, Gloucester, was narrowly won but we were in lethargic mood and the performance was probably the worst of the season. However, the side rose to the occasion in the ensuing trio of matches against stronger opposition. Colston's Dean Close and Bloxham were all enjoying successful seasons and we were pleased to gain two wins and a draw against them, even though the Colston's result flattered us. Probably the most dramatic contest was with Dean Close, who were obviously confident after winning six and drawing one of their previous seven matches against strong opposition. Here with a quarter of an hour to go we led 2—0 but they scored two good late goals and an exciting draw resulted. At Bloxham we achieved a first half advantage which we did not relinquish. The final game produced a comfortable win over King Edward's, Bath, though our opponents were weakened by illness and we were not at our most positive.

Perhaps my main memories will be of Mark Astill's excellent goalkeeping, the solidity and hammer-hitting of Barney Branston, the remarkable work-rate of Robert Draper, the growing skill and confidence of Simon Reichwald and Kevin Hewston, and the menacing probing of the inside forward trio (Andrew Cayton, Philip Moore and Tom Burns) when on song. But all members of this successful group deserve praise for their effort and great progress, and I am grateful to the captain, Philip Moore, for his organisation, example, and leadership.

The team: M. Astill, B. Branston, S. Reichwald, R. Draper, A. Breal, M. Walters, M. Reid, A. Cayton, P. Moore (captain), T. Burns, K. Hewston. Also played: D. Clark, A. Rollo.

J. N. H.

Played 6; Won 4; Drew 2;  
Goals for 16; Goals against 7.

v. Prince Henry's School, Evesham U15 XI (A)	Cancelled
v. Cheltenham College U15 'B' XI (A)	Cancelled
v. Marlborough College U16 'B' XI (A)	Drew 2—2
v. The King's School, Gloucester U15 XI (A)	Won 3—2
v. Colston's School U15 XI (H)	Won 4—1
v. Dean Close School U15 XI (H)	Drew 2—2
v. Bloxham School U15 XI (A)	Won 2—0
v. King Edward's School, Bath U15 XI (H)	Won 3—0

## Under 14 XI

Blessed with a prolonged spell of good weather and a consequently uninterrupted fixture list, the team had the chance to play a lot of hockey. The list of results achieved does not do justice to the considerable improvement that the squad managed during this full season. The defence played particularly well, with Matson and Barnett emerging as two fine players. At half-back Fellows, Carter and Croft often combined well together and have the makings of a fine unit. Scoring goals proved our chief problem, and the results would have been improved had the forwards taken the chances that were offered. Binder and Green combined well, and Hastings often struck the ball cleanly, while Kenney began to show promise on the right wing. It was a season that the squad can look back on with some satisfaction and which augurs well for the future.

The team was taken from: J. Fellows (captain), A. Binder, J. Barnett, R. Matson, H. Nathan, R. Kolb, M. Croft, G. Carter, S. Green, M. Hastings, J. Shaw, R. Johnston, C. Sainsbury, A. Andreis.

S. H. J.

Played 9; Won 2; Drew 1; Lost 6;  
Goals for 7; Goals against 18.

v. The King's School, Gloucester		
U14 XI (A)	Lost	1—3
v. Marlborough College U14 XI (A)	Lost	0—2
v. Cheltenham College		
Junior School (A)	Won	2—1
v. Colston's School U14 XI (H)	Lost	0—2
v. Dean Close School U14 XI (H)	Lost	0—2
v. Bloxham School U14 XI (H)	Lost	1—3
v. Bredon School U15 XI (H)	Won	1—0
v. 'B' Team v Bredon School		
U14 XI (A)	Drew	1—1
v. King Edward's School, Bath		
U14 XI (H)	Lost	1—4

## Under 13 XI

This lively group enjoyed and benefited from the remarkable amount of hockey played in 1984. The outstanding player was G. Hughes at inside right; his technique and positional sense are exceptional. C. Bannister distributed the ball well at centre-half, D. Houseman at back, with his sound tackling and hitting, was always reliable. Most of the goals were scored by W. Sherwood at centre-forward with his exceptionally powerful shot. The team combined together well in their matches, producing convincing victories.

As a whole the group has considerable talent and potential and will provide good material for teams in the future. Two points need particular attention, however; learning to control the ball before hitting and taking care not to 'turn'.

The team was taken from: A. Kinch, D. Houseman, C. Hauton, P. Matson, R. Hardy, C. Bannister, J. Carter, A. Powell, G. Hughes, W. Sherwood (captain), G. Hewston, J. Vernon, M. Bradford.

W. J. D. W.

Played 3; Won 3; Goals for 12; Goals against 0.

v. The King's School, Gloucester		
U13 XI (H)	Won	5—0
v. Cheltenham College		
Junior School 2nd XI (A)	Won	4—0
v. Cheltenham College		
Junior School 2nd XI (H)	Won	3—0

## Under 12 XI

This year's under 12 group displayed the usual enthusiasm and enjoyment for the game, but the encouraging feature was the great depth of ability in the form. Good weather and early play on grass helped their hitting and general skills, essential for the two encounters with a more experienced Cheltenham College Junior School XI. The first match was fast and exciting with continual end-to-end play. Fine goalkeeping by Gregory kept a clean Rendcomb sheet, while Carroll produced a blistering second half goal to crown an excellent team performance. In the boggy conditions of the return match the XI played less fluidly and less efficiently as a team. The forwards failed to take their opportunities, unlike their opposition, whose single goal in the first half gave them the game.

The team was taken from: J. Gregory, A. Mac-kinnon, A. Clark, C. Paine, C. Daniels, N. Hall, B. Maslen (captain), T. Nicholls, J. Carroll, A. Bain, K. Holmes, K. Raffael, A. Miles, A. Watson.

M. J. N.

Played 2; Won 1; Lost 1;  
Goals for 1; Goals against 1.

v. Cheltenham College		
Junior School XI (H)	Won	1—0
v. Cheltenham College		
Junior School XI (A)	Lost	0—1

# Cricket

## 1st XI

This was another good season for the 1st XI. Although the side missed the outstanding players who left last summer, this gave the opportunity to boys in the Fifth Form to establish themselves in the team. They took their chance well, and success in future seasons will depend upon the quick bowling of Neil Paterson-Fox and Nick Webb, the spin bowling of Kevin Elderfield and the batting of John Healey. The senior members of the side once again acquitted themselves with distinction. David Webb was a most able and thoughtful captain and also had a good season with the bat. Tony Bailey and Andrew Payne gave very sound support, and the all-round talents of Richard Newman and Mark Binder often turned games to Rendcomb's advantage.

Perhaps the find of the season was Alex Paton, whose slow left-arm bowling provided much needed variety in the attack. Many of the seven games which ended in draws saw Rendcomb on the attack, either with all the fielders round the bat or chasing runs in very limited time. The side can be pleased with most of their performances in 1984 and can look forward to next season with some confidence.

The team was taken from: D. Webb (captain), A. Bailey, M. Binder, A. Brealy, T. Brealy, M. Cordeux, K. Elderfield, J. Healey, J. Kinch, C. Mansfield, M. Newman, R. Newman, N. Paterson-Fox, A. Paton, A. Payne, J. Suffolk, G. Veale, R. Wakeham, N. Webb. D. Essenhigh and P. Sykes also played for the Rendcomb XI in the match against Cirencester Cricket Club.

P. M. E.

Played 14; Won 4; Drew 7; Lost 3.

v. NORTH CERNEY—Lost by 8 wickets.  
Rendcomb 209 for 6 decl. (D. Webb 76, Bailey 50)  
North Cerney 210 for 2 (Broadhurst 105)\*

v. THE KING'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER—Won by 7 wickets.

King's 101 all out (Elderfield 5-16, Paton 3-30)  
Rendcomb 102 for 3 (Payne 50)

v. MARLING SCHOOL—Won by 168 runs  
Rendcomb 235 for 8 decl. (R. Newman 51, Healey 43, Binder 49\*)

Marling 67 all out (Paterson-Fox 3-9, Binder 3-15, N. Webb 3-24).

v. CIRENCESTER CRICKET CLUB—Won by 5 wickets  
Cirencester 149 for 7 decl. (Telling 56).  
Rendcomb 150 for 5 (Bailey 38, Payne 34, Sykes 57\*)

*Photo: C. J. Wood*





v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL—Match Drawn.  
 Rendcomb 195 for 4 decl. (R. Newman 48, Payne 47)  
 Bloxham 131 for 9 (N. Webb 3-29, Paterson-Fox 3-41).

v. COKETHORPE SCHOOL—Match Drawn.  
 Cokethorpe 111 for 9 decl. (Binder 3-20).  
 Rendcomb in for 4 (Healey 54\*).

v. PRIOR PARK COLLEGE—Match Drawn.  
 Rendcomb 202 for 3 decl. (D. Webb 105, R. Newman 57\*).

Prior Park 132 for 4.

v. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL—Match Drawn.  
 Rendcomb 168 for 9 decl. (Healey 49).  
 Cheltenham 87 for 7 (Paterson-Fox 3-20, Binder 3-18).

v. WESTWOOD'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL—Match Drawn.  
 Westwood's 123 all out (A. Brealy 5-20, N. Webb 3-25).  
 Rendcomb 85 for 5 (Bailey 35\*).

v. REDNOCK SCHOOL—Lost by 1 wicket.  
 Rendcomb 86 all out (Williams 4-26).  
 Rednock 90 for 9 (N. Webb 5-44).

v. DIOCESAN XI—Lost by 27 runs.  
 Diocesan XI 145 all out (R. Newman 4-22). Rendcomb 118 all out (D. Webb 40, Boore 5-52).

v. FORTY CLUB—Won by 39 runs.  
 Rendcomb 138 all out (R. Newman 42).  
 Forty Club 99 all out (Paton 4-32, R. Newman 3-18).

v. BALLIOL COLLEGE—Match Drawn.  
 Rendcomb 187 for 6 (J. Healey 86\*).

Balliol 177 for 6 (Elderfield 3-38).

v. OLD RENDCOMBIANS—Match Drawn.  
 Old Rendcombians 158 for 9 decl. (Glennie 42, Hillier 43, R. Newman 3-29, Binder 3-41). Rendcomb 145 for 9 (D. Webb 39, Page 4-44, G. Healey 3-27).

## 2nd XI

The 2nd XI played extremely sound cricket throughout the season, and their success was well deserved. Tony Maton was a most astute captain and the leading bowler, supported in this department by Jon Suffolk, James Kinch and Graeme Veale.

Christopher Mansfield was undoubtedly the most consistent batsman, although when runs were really needed someone managed to score them, whether it was through the careful innings of Matthew Cordeux, the strokeplay of Robert Wakeham or the valuable last-wicket partnership of Jon Suffolk and James Kinch.

Teamwork remained the essential ingredient for success, and each member of the side contributed to the summers' victories.

The team was taken from: A. Maton (captain), M. Astill, T. Brans ton, T. Burns, C. Carpenter, M. Cordeux, D. Edwin, M. Hammond, C. Harris, J. Hutton-Potts, J. Kinch, D. John, C. Mansfield, M. Newman, R. Pitt, P. Spackman, J. Suffolk, G. Veale.

P. M. E.

Played 8; Won 6; Drew 1; Lost 1.

v. THE KING'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER, 2nd XI—  
 Won by 4 wickets.

King's 99 all out (Maton 4-18).

Rendcomb 103 for 6 (Wakeham 42).

v. MARLING SCHOOL 2nd XI—Match Drawn.

Rendcomb 132 all out (Mansfield 50, Suffolk 22).

Marling 85 for 9 (Suffolk 5-27).

v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL 2nd XI—Won by 42 runs.

Rendcomb 136 all out (Mansfield 85).

Bloxham 94 all out (Maton 7-18).

v. BREDON SCHOOL 1st XI—Won by 90 runs.

Rendcomb 133 all out (Suffolk 45).

Bredon 43 all out.

v. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2nd XI—  
 Won by 28 runs.

Rendcomb 133 all out (Cordeux 22, Spackman 21).

Cheltenham G. S. 105 all out (Veale 3-40).

v. PRIOR PARK COLLEGE 2nd XI—Won by 9 wickets.

Prior Park 28 all out.

Rendcomb 29 for 1.

v. WESTWOOD'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2nd XI—

Lost by 5 wickets.

Rendcomb 87 all out.

Westwood's 90 for 5 (Kinch 3-18).

v. REDNOCK SCHOOL 2nd XI—Won by 134 runs.

Rendcomb 174 for 7 decl. (Newman 36, Veale 33, Brealy 25).

Rednock 40 all out (Kinch 6-13).

### 3rd XI

There was one 3rd XI fixture this season, against The King's School, Gloucester. The team was: D. Appleton, J. Awdry, C. Carpenter, M. Hammond, N. Hannaford, C. Harris, N. Hoare, C. Jones, D. John, R. Moss, R. Pitt.

v. THE KING'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER 3rd XI—  
Match Drawn.  
King's 166 for 6.

Rendcomb 137 for 6 (Hammond 40, Appleton 22).

### Under 15 XI

As there were only 13 boys who opted for cricket this season a good team spirit developed, and coaching was made easier. Only one game was lost, and in the drawn matches Rendcomb usually had the upper hand.

In most of the games, although we scored slowly, we managed over a hundred runs. Alex Brealy was the best batsman; Ian Whittaker, Darren John, Mark Astill and Simon Reichwald made useful scores but need to acquire a wider range of strokes. Barnabas Branston and Tom Burns show some promise.

The bowlers performed well and were never punished, and as the season progressed they achieved a much better line and length. The opening attack of Iain Whittaker and Alex Brealy was a success and claimed 43 wickets.

Mark Astill and Barnabas Branston did well as first change bowlers. Only one of the spinners was given a chance to bowl. Had they bowled in the drawn games, the breakthrough might have been made.

The fielding on the whole was good, and some excellent catches were held. Andrew Cayton, fielding in the gully, took eight catches—a remarkable achievement in nine matches.

This was a rewarding season, as many of the side improved the quality of their play. However, most of the batsmen need to work on their technique next Spring Term in the nets in the Sports Hall.

The team was taken from: M. Astill, B. Branston, A. Brealy, T. Burns, E. Crowther, A. Cayton, D. John, S. Kingscote, J. Kook, P. Moore, S. Reichwald, M. Walters, I. Whittaker. Alex Brealy and Iain Whittaker took turns as captain.

C. C. B.

Played 9; Won 3; Drew 5; Lost 1.

v. THE KING'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER U15 XI—  
Match Drawn.  
Rendcomb 136 for 6 decl. (John 37, Brealy 37,  
Whittaker 31).

King's 57 for 8 (Brealy 3-20, Whittaker 5-15).

v. MARLING SCHOOL U15 XI—Won by 4 wickets.  
Marling 70 all out (Whittaker 5-36, Burns 3-10,  
Brealy 2-14).

Rendcomb 72 for 6 (Whittaker 26\*, Brealy 24).

v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL U15 XI—Match Drawn.  
Bloxham 112 for 5 decl. (Brealy 3-21).  
Rendcomb 107 for 5 (Reichwald 18\*, Walters 16\*).

v. BREDON SCHOOL U15 XI—Won by 9 wickets.  
Bredon 54 all out (Branston 5-8, Brealy 4-18).  
Rendcomb 56 for 1 (John 22, Astill 24\*).

v. KINGHAM HILL SCHOOL U15 XI—Won by 101  
runs.  
Rendcomb 134 for 9 decl. (Kingscote 23).  
Kingham Hill 33 all out (Brealy 5-17, Whittaker 3-8).

v. PRIOR PARK COLLEGE U15 XI—Match Drawn.  
Rendcomb 125 for 5 decl. (Brealy 59, Reichwald  
24\*). Prior Park 52 for 6 (Whittaker 4-23).

v. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL U15 XI—  
Match Drawn.  
Rendcomb 126 for 5 decl. (Astill 34, John 30, Brealy  
29\*).  
Cheltenham 77 for 8 (Brealy 4-15, Burns 2-10).

v. REDNOCK SCHOOL U15 XI—Match Drawn.  
Rednock 132 all out (Astill 5-9, Branston 3-23).  
Rendcomb 60 for 8.

v. LATYMER UPPER SCHOOL U15 XI—Lost by 7  
wickets.  
Rendcomb 67 all out (Burns 19).  
Latymer 69 for 3 (Branston 2-30).

## Under 14 XI

A large number of Third Formers played for the team this year, and indeed the best results were achieved when the side was bolstered by a number of Second Formers. In general the side bowled well, particularly Stephen Green and Adam Binder, but inevitably they dropped too many catches. The best, or worst, example of this was the ten 'catches' put down in the quarter-final of the Lords Taverners' Cup Competition, against Whitecross School. These ranged from the difficult to the 'dolly' and undoubtedly cost us the game. It was however in the Cup Matches that we played our best cricket and, perhaps learning from previous mistakes, the team managed to win the final three matches. The final record could in fact have been much better, given that we bowled out two other sides for very low totals. It follows that our batting did not come up to scratch in the final few games. Individuals lost concentration after playing themselves in and too frequently gave wickets away when an aggressive approach might have turned the match.

Julian Fellows captained the side with increasing authority and confidence, and his top score of 56, together with a brave 32 in his final game, gave much cause for optimism for the future. Robert Matson held an invaluable 6 catches and batted without luck, with a top score of 31. Richard Reichwald was under-bowled and, with a little more confidence, might have done even better than his season's figures of 41.5 overs; 106 runs; 11 wickets; average 9.6. Hari Nathan bowled very fast at times but must take care to improve his action, which let him down too often early in the season. Mark Hastings latterly emerged as a likely wicket-keeper, and generally the side began to 'emerge' as an outfit of promise.

The team was taken from: J. Fellows (captain); A. Binder, H. Nathan, S. Green, R. Reichwald, R. Matson, R. Kolb, M. Attwood, J. Barnett, G. Carter, M. Hastings, P. Griffiths, J. Chappelle, M. Rann, J. McMonigall, D. Kenney.

C. P. M. K.  
S. H. J.

Played 12; Won 6; Lost 6.

v. BEAUFORT SCHOOL U14 XI (Lords Tav. )—  
Won by 4 runs.

v. MARLING SCHOOL U14 XI—Lost by 8 wickets

v. BLOXHAM SCHOOL U14 XI—Lost by 7 wickets-

v. BOURNESIDE SCHOOL U14 XI (Lords Tav. )—  
Won by 1 run.

v. COKETHORPE SCHOOL U14 XI—  
Won by 36 runs.

v. PRIOR PARK COLLEGE U14 XI—Lost by 81 runs.

v. WHITECROSS SCHOOL U14 XI (Lords Tav. )—  
Lost by 50 runs.

v. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL U14 XI—  
Lost by 35 runs.

v. THE KING'S SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER, U14 XI—  
Lost by 4 runs.

v. BEAUFORT SCHOOL U14 XI—Won by 6 wickets.

v. REDNOCK SCHOOL U14 XI—Won by 12 runs.

KINGHAM HILL SCHOOL U14 XI—Won by 2  
wickets.

## Under 13 XI

The Under 13 side have had an excellent season, losing only one of the seven matches played and producing some outstanding performances. The all-round ability of Sherwood, Bannister and Carter was capably backed up by the opening batsmen Hewston and Hughes, and indeed throughout the season almost all the team contributed in some form. It was encouraging to see five players selected for the Under 14 team and to see Holmes and Carroll perform well there, which augurs well for next season. The way in which the boys applied themselves in matches was commendable, showing a lot of common sense and determination together with a fair amount of technique. The fielding at the beginning of the season was poor, but this improved greatly, along with the bowling; in the final match of the season the bowlers bowled straight, no catches were put down, and consequently the opposition were all out cheaply. The highlights of the season include, among others, the batting against Kingham Hill, Bannister's all-round performance against Tockington and a particularly fine catch by Carroll in the same match.

As captain, Sherwood not only played an outstanding part for the College side but has also been chosen to captain the Gloucestershire Under 13 Team. Indeed in his first match for the county he scored an undefeated 77. Congratulations to him and to all the Under 13 boys who shared in a successful season.

The team was taken from: W. Sherwood, C. Bannister, G. Hughes, G. Hewston, J. Carter, A. Powell, V. Tredwell, J. Vernon, K. Holmes, J. Carroll, D. Houseman, R. Hardy, J. Myers, C. Hauton, A. Kinch.

P. S.

Played 7; Won 3; Drew 3; Lost 1.

v. MARLING SCHOOL U13 XI—Match Drawn.  
Marling 129 for 4 decl. (Vernon 2-36, Carroll 1-4).  
Rendcomb 99 for 5 (Sherwood 36, Carter 20\*,  
Hewston 13, Hughes 11).

v. KINGHAM HILL SCHOOL U13 XI—Won by 187  
runs.  
Rendcomb 200 for 7 decl. (Sherwood 99, Hughes 37,  
Hewston 22, Vernon 20).  
Kingham Hill 13 all out (Bannister 5-4, Carter 5-6)

v. PRIOR PARK COLLEGE U13 XI—Match Drawn  
Prior Park 149 for 9 decl. (Bannister 5-38). Rendcomb  
143 for 8 (Sherwood 83).

v. TOCKINGTON MANOR SCHOOL U13 XI—Lost by  
34 runs.  
Tockington 91 all out (Bannister 6-29, Holmes 2-7).  
Rendcomb 57 all out (Carter 18\*, Bannister 21).

v. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL U13 XI—  
Won by 64 runs.  
Rendcomb 105 all out (Bannister 30, Sherwood 22).  
Cheltenham 41 all out (Bannister 6-21, Sherwood 4-  
14).

v. BEAUFORT SCHOOL U13 XI—Match Drawn.  
Beaufort 120 for 6 decl. (Sherwood 3-10) Rendcomb  
67 for 7 (Hughes 42\*).

v. REDNOCK SCHOOL U13 XI—Won by 10 wickets.  
Rednock 32 all out (Sherwood 6-15, Bannister 4-11).  
Rendcomb 36 for 0 (Hewston 18\*, Hughes 10\*).

## Staff Cricket

The multi-talented staff cricket team were again in action during the Summer Term and, although the results were not so favourable as in the 83 season, several players produced remarkable individual performances and the team played with a great deal of spirit. Accounts of three matches follow.

Against Wycliffe G. Ball lured the opening batsman into an early mistake but, with batting in depth, they were able to produce a large score of 139 for 9 in their allotted 20 overs, despite the bowling efforts of C. King and M. Newby. Rendcomb's early batting was devastated in one over of gently curving seamers by Miss J. Hodgetts, who clean bowled E. Thring and D. Warren in a very accurate spell. However, with S. Johnson playing the heavy anchor role and M. Newby confirming his all-rounder class with a hard-struck 48, the stage was set for an exciting finish. Some desperate running between wickets took the total to within reach and, with good support from D. Essenhigh, P. Edwards was left needing to score three runs from the final delivery, G. Ball, at the non-striker's end not having faced a ball. P. Edwards rose to the occasion and produced a classic on-drive to long-on; amid a flurry of dust and exhaustion the three runs needed were run to win the game.

Two enjoyable games were played against Balliol Erratics. The first, at Rendcomb, was highlighted by a decisive winning century by D. Webb and by C. Hannaford's taking two wickets in one over! The return match, played at Oxford, was eventually started after D. Warren had given a definitive exhibition of three-day eventing — cross-country section. Batting first, Rendcomb were inspired by C. Hannaford's 80 and D. Essenhigh's 62 and reached a total of 223. Balliol made a good start with some aggressive hitting and were well up with the necessary scoring rate. However some controlled bowling by the staff's more experienced (*surely some mistake*, Ed.) spin bowlers tilted the game in our favour and Balliol were all out for 213. This fine contest was concluded with the traditional post-match discussions in the delightful setting of Balliol College, with both teams in complete agreement as to what an excellent game cricket is.  
Played 8; Won 3; Lost 5.

M. S. G.

## Boys' Tennis

About thirty boys opted for tennis as their major summer sport this year and there was a lot of keenness at all levels of the Club. Virtually no games days had to be called off through bad weather and thus rapid improvements in playing standards ensued. However, such regular play in official and spare time also made enormous demands on the courts, and by the end of the season the baseline areas on the shale and grass courts definitely had a Flanders trench look about them, though at least this had the effect of encouraging ambitious volleyers.

We were rather thin at the top this year and in inter-school matches struggled against our stronger opponents, Sir Thomas Rich's, Dean Close and Cheltenham College, though Marling School were heavily defeated and we also won the mixed doubles game against Cirencester School. Periodic epidemics of double faults did not help our chances of further success. Particularly gratifying was the emphatic win of the Junior VI against Cheltenham College and it is clearly with this very useful body of players that the future welfare of the Club rests.

However, I feel that the main features of the season were the considerable enjoyment and improvement generated and we must hope that this spirit continues. One constructive innovation this year, for example, was a parent-pupil doubles tournament, an all-day affair held in perfect sunny conditions on the penultimate Sunday of term. The handicapping system meant that the effects of differences in standard were reduced and all parents who participated voted the event a great success; we hope this will become an annual fixture. Eleven

pairs played and the prize-winner were Mr. Marland and his son John.

By next season the two shale courts, which have really lived on borrowed time recently, should have been replaced by better surfaces requiring little or no maintenance and we hope this will produce a facility which can be used, along with the Sports Hall, for a bigger part of the year.

I am grateful to David Hawkswell for all his expert coaching and help and also to Adrian Lewers, who has been a most enthusiastic and sensible captain this term.

The following represented the 1st VI: Adrian Lewers (captain), Michael Uglow, Charles Acocks, Reza Khosrowshahi, Christopher Walton, John Marland, Nicholas Hannaford.

The following represented the Junior (Under 16) VI: Andrew Cayton, John Marland, Matthew Cordeux, Giles Carter, Nicholas Hannaford, Piers Bowley.

### Results:

Wed. 2nd May (A): 1st VI v. Sir Thomas Rich's Lost 1½—7½

Wed. 9th May (A): 1st VI v. Dean Close Lost 1—8.

Sat. 12th May (A): 1st VI v. Marling Won 6½—2½

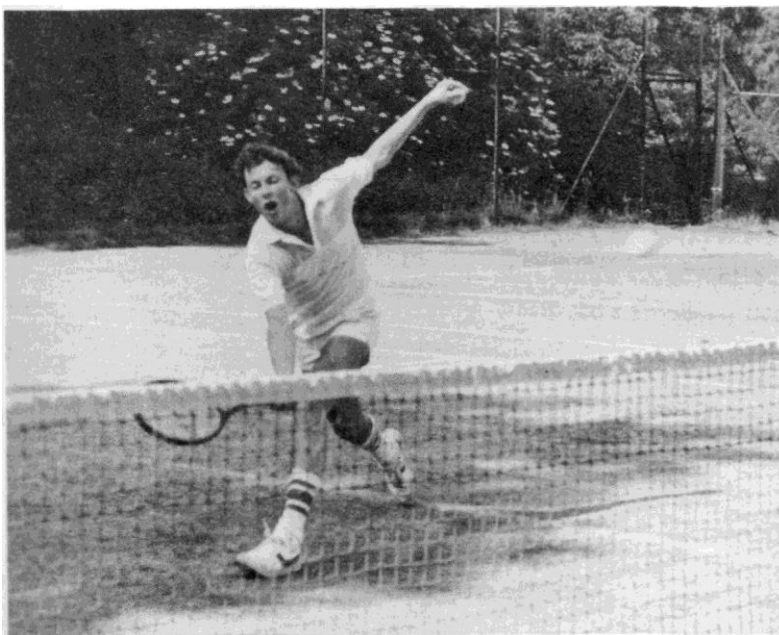
Sun. 20th May (H): Under 16 VI v. Cheltenham College Won 7—2.

Sat. 2nd June (A): 1st VI v. Cheltenham College 2nd VI Lost 1—8.

Wed. 20th June (H): Mixed VI v. Cirencester School Won 6—3.

Sat. 7th July (H): Mixed VI v. Old Rendcombians Won 5½—3½

J. N. H.



*Photo: D. Ads head*

## Boys' Squash

Only Ben Knapp remained from last year's strong team and, with little ability in the Sixth Form, it was necessary to rebuild the teams with younger players.

Graeme Veale, Simon Jenkins and John Healey are talented and enthusiastic, but their other sporting commitments prevent them from reaching a strong match standard. In the fourth year Kevin Hewston, in particular, shows promise.

### Results:

#### CHRISTMAS TERM:

##### Gloucestershire Under 19 League, Division 2

1st V v. Cheltenham College 'B'	Lost 1—4
1st V v. Gloucester Country Club <sup>1</sup> 'B'	Won 5—0
1st V v. East Gloucestershire 'A'	Won 3—2
1st V v. Cirencester 'A'	Lost 2—3
1st V v. De La Bere 'B'	Won 5—0

#### EASTER TERM:

##### Gloucestershire Under 19 League, Division 2

1st V v. Cheltenham College 'B'	Lost 2—3
1st V v. Cheltenham S. R. C.	Won 3—2
1st V v. Gloucester Country Club 'A'	Lost 1—4
1st V v. Tewkesbury 'A'	Won 5—0

##### Gloucestershire Under 19 League, Division 4

2nd V v. Cirencester 'B'	Won 4—1
2nd V v. East Gloucestershire 'B'	Won 4—1
2nd V v. Tewkesbury Country Club	Won 5—0
2nd V v. Tewkesbury 'B'	Won 5—0

The following played:

**1st V:** Ben Knapp won 5 out of 5, Graeme Veale 5 (9), Simon Jenkins 4 (8), Colin Harris 3 (7), John Healey 2 (4), James Hutton-Potts 4 (7), Anthony Bailey 2 (2).

**2nd V:** John Healey 2 (3), Kevin Hewston 4 (4), Anthony Bailey 3 (3), Thomas Burns 3 (3), Ben Uglow 2 (3).

K. J. K.

## Girls' Sport

The team captains,

Jane Merrett—Netball,

Caroline Grieves—Squash,

Jessica Richards—Hockey,

Caroline Grieves—Tennis,

have been very conscientious this year, and I am grateful to them for their enthusiasm and their support throughout.

I should like also to thank Gaye Adamson and Jane Perkins, the games secretaries, most warmly for their efficient help with the organisation of the girls' sport.

C. A. H.

## Girls' Netball

The Christmas and Lent Terms have seen a great improvement in the standard of netball, thanks to more concentrated effort during practice. All matches were very close, particularly that against Marlborough, where both teams showed their improvement. The second team, helped especially by Justine Loehry and Jane Perkins, played with more consistency and greater teamwork.

In the Lent Term priority was given to hockey; this led to a few disappointing results, due more to lack of practice than to lack of enthusiasm.

JANE MERRETT

### 1st Team:

v. Cirencester School	Lost 7—8
v. Chosen Hill School	Won 11—9
v. Hatherop Castle School	Won 17—0
v. Charlton Park Convent School	Won 13—6
v. Marlborough College	Lost 11—13
v. Chosen Hill School	Won 15—8
v. Dauntsey's School	Lost 4—11
v. King's School	Lost 8—11
v. Marlborough College	Won 12—10

### 2nd Team:

v. Cirencester School	Lost 2—29
v. Hatherop Castle School	Won 15—9
v. Marlborough College	Lost 7—17
v. Chosen Hill School	Won 16—15
v. King's School	Lost 5—11

## Girls' Hockey

Despite our poor showing on the score card, all credit must go to all members of the team for their standard of play. We were not helped at the beginning of term by the weather, and so a lack of practice was apparent.

In those matches which were not affected by the weather each game was battled out extremely hard and, had it not been for the determination and sheer tenacity of the half-backs, notably Gaye Adamson and the efficient clearing of the final defence, in particular Jane Perkins, very effective with her backing up, and Sara Hawkswell our reliable goalkeeper, we would have been defeated quite soundly. Caroline Grieves must also be mentioned for her hard work in midfield.

The forward line eventually started to work together well and began operating more as a team; at times they carried the ball up the pitch with considerable style. Jo Merrett and Lyndall Squire played particularly well on the wings. In the end the main problem was not being able to get the ball into the goal.

It was a great shame to have lost against Marlborough, as we were so evenly matched, and an even greater shame to have lost against the Agricultural College, having led at one stage by 2—0. We hope that next season the results will reflect more accurately the effort and enthusiasm put in by the girls' team.

The team was: S. Hawkswell, J. Richards, J. Perkins, G. Adamson, C. Grieves, F. Wilkins, J. A. Merrett, A. Young, C. Parfitt, A. Aylott, L. Squire. Reserves: S. Whybrow, J. Loehry, J. Rutherford.

JESSICA RICHARDS

Played 6; Drew 2; Lost 4.

v. Cirencester School (A)	Lost	0—1
v. Marlborough College (A)	Lost	1—2
v. The Royal Agricultural College (A)	Lost	2—5
v. Wycliffe College (A)	Drew	0—0
v. St. Clotilde's Convent School (A)	Drew	0—0
v. Westwood's Grammar School (A)	Lost	1—2



## Girls' Tennis

Good tennis depends as much upon temperament as it does upon ability, and the girls' teams achieved quite a successful combination of these in their matches this term. As with other sports, it is fair to say that the scores do not always do justice to the hard-fought games of individual sets, many of which went to 6—5.

Sadly, this year's fixtures with Charlton Park and Dauntsey's were cancelled, but we had a very enjoyable (and victorious) mixed match against Cirencester School. The marvellous weather throughout the season made the tennis all the more enjoyable for everyone.

My thanks go to both teams and to Miss Dennis and Mrs. Holdaway for their continuous help and encouragement.

The Teams were:

**1st VI**—C. Grieves, F. Wilkins, J. Richards,

K. Arnold, J. E. Loehry, G. Adamson.

**2nd VI**—A. White, V. Andreis, J. K. Loehry,

J. Perkins, J. C. Merrett, J. A. Merrett.

Reserve: K. Alder.

CAROLINE GRIEVES

### 1st Team:

Played 6; Won 3; Lost 3.

v. Wycliffe College	Lost	2—7
v. Westwood's Grammar School	Won	7—2
v. Dean Close School	Lost	4—5
v. St. Clotilde's Convent School	Won	5—4
v. Wycliffe College	Won	6—3
v. Marlborough College	Lost	2—7

### 2nd Team:

Played 6; Won 2; Lost 4.

v. Westwood's Grammar School	2nd VI	Lost	4—5
v. Dean Close 2nd VI		Lost	2—7
v. St. Clotilde's Convent School	2nd VI	Won	8—1
v. Marlborough College 2nd VI		Lost	1—8
v. Hatherop Castle School 2nd VI		Won	8—1
v. St. Clotilde's Convent School	2nd VI	Lost	4—5
Mixed Team v. Cirencester School		Won	6—3

## Girls' Squash

This year the girls have had a most successful season. The team had more matches than in previous years, playing against Dauntsey's School for the first time. There was certainly a marked change in the quality of match play by the end of the season, no doubt due to weekly coaching.

Many thanks to all members of the team for their continuously enthusiastic approach, entering into every match with great determination to win, even against Cheltenham Ladies' College! Also thanks must go to Mrs. Holdaway for her advice and support throughout the season, for which we are all very grateful.

The team included: C. Grieves, J. Goldie, L. Squire, K. Alder, A. White.

CAROLINE GRIEVES

Played 13; Won 6; Drew 1; Lost 6.

v. Marlborough College	Lost	2—3
v. Kingswood School	Lost	2—3
v. Cheltenham Ladies' College	Lost	0—5
v. Charlton Park School	Won	5—0
v. Wycliffe College	Won	3—2
v. Dauntsey's School	Lost	2—3
v. Marlborough College	Lost	1—4
v. Kingswood School	Won	3—2
v. Charlton Park School	Won	3—2
v. Wycliffe College	Won	3—2
v. Dauntsey's School	Lost	1—4
v. Cheltenham Ladies' College	Drew	2—2
v. Wycliffe College	Won	4—1

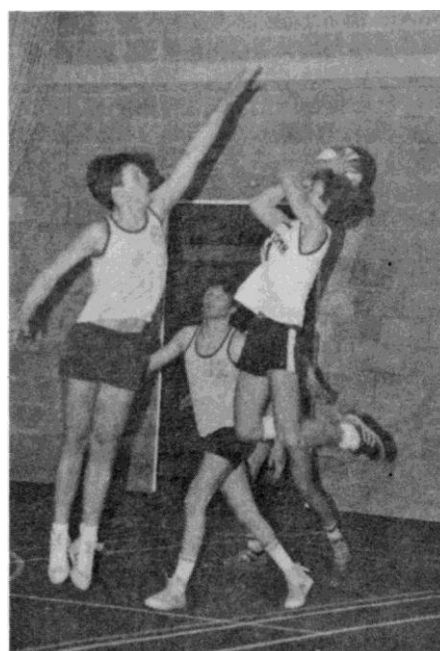


Photo: D. Adshead

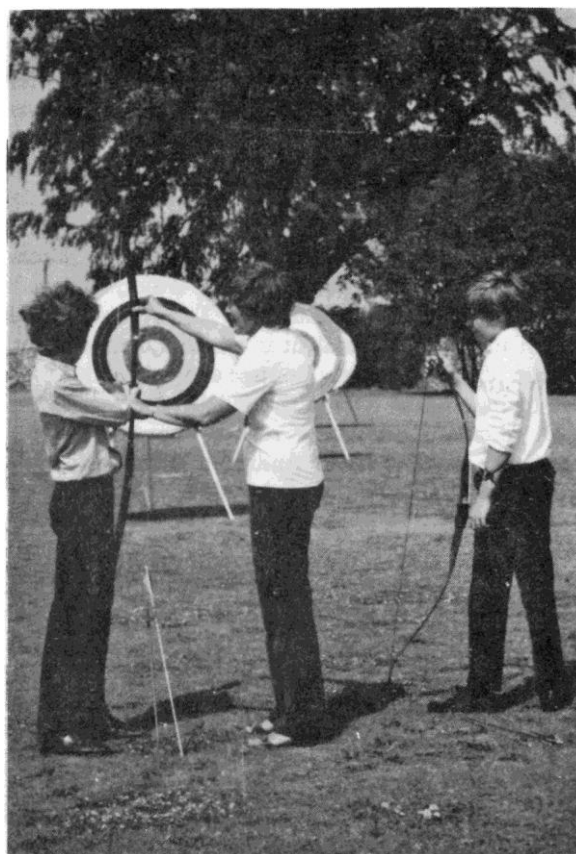
## Archery

The year started with Claire Newth winning the Rosalind Rose Bowl at the Gloucestershire County Championships. This award is for the best third- class Gloucestershire Lady. Claire was the only participant in open tournaments during the year, but in August we have two entries in the 1984 Gloucestershire Championships, which are to be held at Rendcomb College for the first time.

During the school year we gained many new members. In the Sports Hall we were able to take part in 'Archery Darts' as an alternative to the conventional target face. In the Summer Term we were able to try Clout Archery, which is quite different from target archery; the arrows are dropped on to a target area on the ground over a fairly long distance.

We hope to see more new members during the coming year.

J. M. E.



Archery

*Photo: D. Adshead*

## Basketball

Adequate training proved impossible this year, due to players' having other commitments, but the Friday sessions were enjoyable and well attended. Skills continued to develop, with some of the 4th and 5th year showing particular potential. In a friendly match against Farmor's School, M. Uglow's injury confined him to the bench for a coaching role only, and with this lack of height the Griffins went down 36—31, despite aggressive team defence, some devastating outside shooting from R. Newman (8 points) and S. Jenkins (10 points), and effective work under the basket by D. Scarlett (5 points).

The other 'even-friendlier-friendly' match against the Staff Common Room All-Stars was enthusiastically supported and despite the 'crash tackle' style of some masters in this supposedly non-contact game (Mr. Warren blamed it on his sporting upbringing in the Welsh Valleys!) the Griffins came out winners by 44—41.

Team members were:

M. Uglow (captain), R. Newman, R. Wakeham, A. Waddell, A. Paton, S. Jenkins, D. Scarlett, A. Trowern, N. Webb.

M. J. N.

## Judo

Judo was well supported on Tuesday evenings at the beginning of the Autumn Term, with 44 boys and girls taking part. In the Spring Term the numbers dropped to 25. The main core of support came from the first and second years, with a few faithful Sixth-Formers.

This made participation in the Lynworth Judo League very difficult. By the beginning of the Summer Term a hard core of only about 12 boys remained. This made practice very difficult, so the decision was made to abandon Judo until the Autumn Term, when it is hoped that fresh blood from the new intake will revitalise the sport. Mr. Alan Davis will continue to coach the group.

C. C. B.

## Climbing

This year has been quieter than last, with Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions, exams and other activities conspiring to reduce the opportunities for climbing. Though the weather in the Autumn Term was mixed, not a single Saturday in the last six months was lost to rain, and Doré Green climbed a number of new routes at Wintour's Leap. Weekend visits have been paid to North Wales, Cornwall and Derbyshire. The Summer Term was marred by an unfortunate accident in which a climber from Devon fell on to Andrew Rontree and broke Andrew's leg badly; it was further marred by the sensational and ridiculous newspaper reports that the climber fell while going to help Andrew's leader, who was safely belayed at the top of the cliff.

Finally, we are extremely grateful to Charles Carroll for looking after all our mountaineering equipment so efficiently for the last four years: it has been most helpful always being able to rely on finding the right items at the right time.

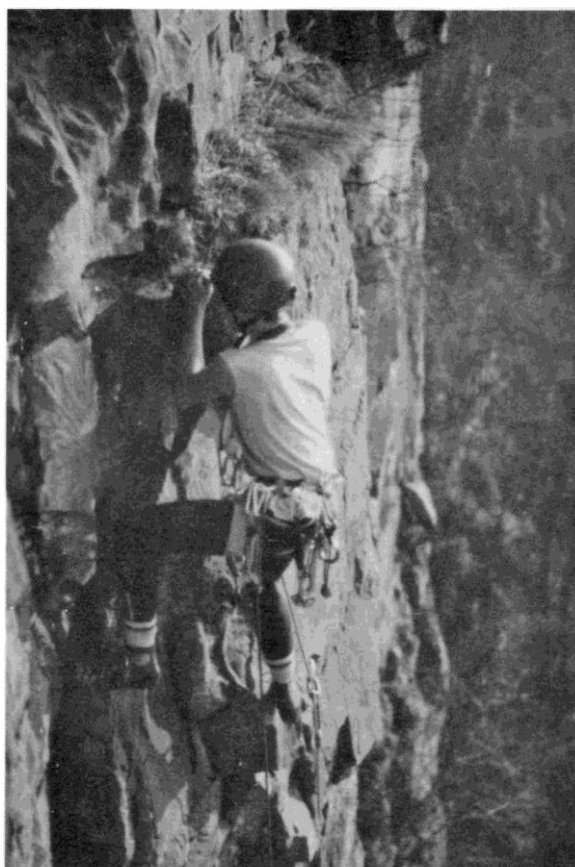
J. W. R. W.

## Sailing

During the last academic year I was approached by Mr Victor Hill of Hill's Aggregates (and father of Roderick Hill) about the possibility of starting sailing at Rendcomb on a regular basis. Since I have been at Rendcomb I have been keen to encourage pupils to try this sport, so this was an ideal opportunity.

At the beginning of the summer term, with the help of Roderick Hill and Robert Draper, I transported three boats to the Cotswold Sailing Club at South Cerney and so began the start of an excellent term's sailing. We have been to the club virtually every Wednesday of the term, and a large number of pupils have had the opportunity to try sailing, many of whom are now becoming quite competent. There have been a few mishaps during the season mostly, it seems, to do with Robert Draper's boat; for some reason, his boat suffers from seepage, that is to say it sinks, and many is the time I have seen pupils desperately bailing water out of the boat in a vain attempt to keep her afloat. However, due to constant capsizing practice and lots of manoeuvring; all the pupils have at least had a wide range of sailing experience, for beginners. My thanks go to the management of the Sailing Club and Hills Aggregates, who have allowed us to use their facilities, to the Hill family and the Draper family for allowing us to use their boats, and finally to the pupils themselves who have put a lot of hard work into getting sailing off to such a good start.

T. J. L.



*Photo: J. Awdry*

## Sailboarding

"It can be regarded as a mixture of sailing, water skiing, acrobatics, inevitably swimming and, in strong winds, even flying!"

Sailboarding has continued to prove a popular activity with the senior school, and regular trips to the South Cerney gravel pits were re-established in the summer term. The excellent instruction and perfect conditions allowed everyone to rapidly improve their sailing techniques, although some still seemed to spend more time in the water than on the board (stick to playing the piano Mr Lane!). Some of the days provided us with force 3-4 winds which brought about a clear division of the Rendcomb party into two categories — (i) the swimmers and (ii) the posers. Whilst we of group (i) floundered amongst the 'white-caps', group (ii) which included Messrs. Needham, Hatcher and Newby, practised their 'head-dips', 'rail-riding' and, to cheers from the rest of us, accidental 1½ somersault dismounting nose-dives!

May I pass on my thanks to Mr Newby, Mr Warren and Mr Lane, and to the enthusiastic and very competent instructors of the Cotswold Leisure Sailboarding School, for such an enjoyable term in what is without doubt an exhilarating sport.

MIKE AIREY

