
The
Wycombiensian
1984



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The Magazine of the
Royal Grammar School
High Wycombe

Editorial

We hope this edition will fulfil the magazine's function of a record of many aspects of the School's life; we are conscious that it is defective, however, especially in the paucity of its "creative" content. Very few imaginative pieces were submitted this year. Perhaps the arrival of the Literary magazine Ad Lib has attracted all the poems and stories: its success has possibly led to our failure. Nevertheless there should, in a school of this size and excellence, be room for both. Next year, perhaps?

My thanks to N. Solanki and M. Clegg who helped edit this year's contributions.

J.M.

Staff News

At this stage, at the start of the Summer Term, three members of staff will be leaving in July. Mr Ratcliffe has been teaching Economics for one year, having previously taught in Harrow as a colleague of Mr Cowburn. The Economics Department has felt itself lucky to have shared in Mr Ratcliffe's expertise and experience, and enjoyed his sense of humour. He will be replaced by Mr M.J. Grout, B.Sc. (Warwick) who will teach both Economics and Business Studies.

Mr Waddington, who left a career in accountancy to teach Geography here during this year, is hoping to start a P.G.C.E. course at the London Institute of Education. We wish him and his wife well.

Mr Mitchell is to take part in a teacher exchange for one year, and to teach at Exeter Area High School in New Hampshire, U.S.A. His replacement will be Mr J.B. Ferguson, B.A., M.Ed. who will, we hope, have an enjoyable year in the High Wycombe area.

J.M.



Examination Results

We congratulate the following on gaining Open Awards:

- P.B. Channing** Open Scholarship in Modern Languages/PPE, University College, Oxford
S.B. Fenwick Open Exhibition in Natural Science, Trinity College, Oxford
D.G. Forbes Open Exhibition in Mathematics, Queens' College, Cambridge
A.D. Huxley Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences, Churchill College, Cambridge
T.E. Jones Open Exhibition in History, Christ's College, Cambridge
J.I. Miller Open Exhibition in PPE, St. Edmund Hall, Oxford
M.G. Smith Open Scholarship in PPE, Magdalen College, Oxford
P.J. Steggle Open Scholarship in Engineering, Clare College, Cambridge
N.P. Topping Open Exhibition in Mathematics, St. John's College, Cambridge
C.D.B. Walker Choral Scholarship, King's College, Cambridge
M.P. Wise Open Exhibition in Medicine, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge

PLACES AT OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE FOR 1984

- I.P. Buxton** Pembroke College, Cambridge for Engineering
H.S. Drewett* Emmanuel College, Cambridge for Mathematics
W.M.L. Finlay St. Catherine's College, Oxford for Human Science
P.G.R. Griffin* Sidney Sussex, Cambridge for Medicine
L.P. Harker Pembroke College, Cambridge for Economics
H.V.M. Hoefle Magdalene College, Cambridge for Modern Languages
R.L. Jolly Robinson College, Cambridge for Engineering
D.P. Jones Churchill College, Cambridge for Mathematics
A.C.D. Knox* Pembroke College, Cambridge for Archaeology & Anthropology
K.I. McAusland Pembroke College, Cambridge for Natural Sciences
L.P.S. Nielsen Churchill College, Cambridge for Engineering
C.J. Pilling Jesus College, Cambridge for Geography
M.B. Roe Girton College, Cambridge for Natural Sciences
S.A. Rose St. Edmund Hall, Oxford for Modern Languages
** denotes conditional offer*

UNIVERSITY PLACES 1983

- K. Ashby**: Goldsmiths College, London, Maths & Physics
S. Ashcroft: Leicester University, Philosophy
J.D. Atkins: Loughborough University (1984)
J.P.L. Bargh: Lancaster University, Geography
M.J. Barnard: University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology, Management Sciences
A.N. Bell: Exeter University, Accountancy Studies
I.M. Bell: Newcastle-upon-Tyne University, Geography
T.H.C. Berendt: St. Thomas' Hospital Medical School, Medicine
A.J. Bobath: Exeter University, Social Studies
S.M. Bown: Bath University, Chemical Engineering
P.D. Carr: Loughborough University, Sports Science & Recreation Management (1984)
D.C. Clark: Newcastle-upon-Tyne University Agricultural Zoology (1984)
A.D. Clifford: Southampton University, Botany (1984)
P.A. Cooke: Loughborough University, Chemical Engineering
M.P. Craik: Imperial College, London, Chemical Engineering
A.G. Crighton: Bath University, Mechanical Engineering
R.M. Dawe: Leeds University, Electrical & Electronic Engineering
J.D. Dickins: Essex University, French & Linguistics
H.R.D. Dixon: Surrey University, Civil Engineering
M.G. Foden: Southampton University, French
A.P.K. Fontana: University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology, Management Sciences
A.J. Fordham: Royal Holloway College, London, History
J.D. Forbes: St. Andrews University, History
M.L. Free: Exeter University, History & Arch. (1984)
A.J. Fuller: Chelsea College, London, Electrical Engineering
M.J. Garratt: Reading University, Economics & Accountancy
A.D. Green: University of Wales, Cardiff
S.J.P. Grant: Sussex University, Economics
A.N. Hall: Swansea University, Chemical Engineering
S. Halliday: Edinburgh University, Law
J.L. Hamilton: Reading University, Mathematics & Computer Science
T.A. Harrington: Leeds University, Biology
A.R. Harrison: Exeter University, French & Arabic
M.E. Hayward: Queen Elizabeth College, London, Food Science
J.C. Heather: Aberdeen University, English & French
K. Hodges: Scholarship to Northeast Louisiana University, USA for Tennis

- M.V.A. Howe**: Surrey University, Psychology
D.A. Irwin: Surrey University, Economics (1984)
R.W.L. Jarman: University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology, Oriental Studies (1984)
H.R. Jones: University College, Swansea, Chemical Engineering
A.N. Kelly: Reading University, Estate Management (1984)
M.A. Knight: Exeter University, Engineering Science
M.J.R. Letheren: St. Andrews University, Medicine
M.J.B. McDermott: King's College, London, Religious Studies
A.P. Michell: Warwick University, Economics
I.J. Morris: Exeter University, Social Science, Psychology
Z. Nawaz: East Anglia University, Physics
R. O'Connor: Bristol University, Electronic Engineering
R. Peatey: Loughborough University of Technology, Engineering Science & Technology
R.W. Phipps: Exeter University, Geography
C.A.F. Pinder: Leeds University, Medical Science
J.L. Roberts: Reading University, Economics/Agriculture
O.G. Roberts: King's College, London, Dentistry
J.M. Rudd: Manchester University, Geography (1984)
P.C. Rugg: Liverpool University, Physics
R.D. Sibley: Exeter University, Geology
T.R.S. Siva Ramalingam: Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, Medicine
A.J. Slater: Hull University, English/American Studies
J.P.M. Slatter: Surrey University, Physics
S.A. Steel: Birmingham University, Geography
G.J. Stewart: Leicester University, Geography
M.E. Sullivan: Middlesex Hospital Medical School, Medicine
A.S. Teasdale: Birmingham University, Electronic Engineering
S.M. Truman: Nottingham University, English
R.M. Twissell: Leeds University, Computer Studies
D.W. Veitch: Bristol University, Biology
J.K. Walshe: Liverpool University, Electrical Engineering
B.L. Warner: Loughborough University of Technology, Computer Studies
S.C. Wegerif: Sussex University, Electronic Engineering
S.P. Wilson: Manchester University, History (1984)

POLYTECHNICS (Degree Courses)

- N. Ashcroft**: Plymouth Polytechnic, Geography
J. Clarke: Sheffield City Polytechnic, Accountancy & Financial Control
R.N. Elder: Plymouth Polytechnic, Hotel Management
R.J. Frost: Oxford Polytechnic, Catering
P.T. Gudge: North London Polytechnic, Geography
E.C.W. Leuzinger: Teeside Polytechnic, Business Studies
G.W. Lewis: Birmingham Polytechnic, Business Studies
D.W. McLaughlin: South Bank Polytechnic, Chemical Engineering
C.B. Morgan: Portsmouth Polytechnic, Accounting
K.M. Moss: Birmingham Polytechnic, Accountancy/Finance
R. Nesic: Polytechnic of Central London, Science/Computing
S.A. Newport: Brighton Polytechnic, Geography
D. Outhwaite: Coventry Polytechnic, Modern Languages
P.W. Quinan: Bristol Polytechnic, Law
S.C. Read: Middlesex Polytechnic, Geography
D.C. Westgate: Teeside Polytechnic, Business Studies
C.R.J. White: Manchester Polytechnic, Geography & Environmental Studies

OTHER COLLEGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

- A.T. Brown**: Avery Hill College, Theological Studies
N.S. Roberts: Royal Naval College, Dartmouth

'A' LEVEL RESULTS 1983

The successful candidates who took the Oxford GCE Board 'A' level Examinations were:

- KEY: A-Art; B-Biology; C-Chemistry; E-Economics; Eng-English Literature; F-French; FM-Further Maths; Ger-German; Geo-Geography; Gre-Greek; H-History; AH-Ancient History; L-Latin; M-Mathematics; Mus-Music; P-Physics; BS-Business Studies; CS-Computer Studies; GS-General Studies; PS-Political Studies; R-Russian; Sp-Spanish; RS-Religious Studies.
** Denotes Grade A*
JD Dickins AH,F*,Ger; **MG Foden** AH,F,Ger; **ML Free** Eng,AH,GS,E; **HM Hoefle** AH,F,Ger*; **MJB McDermott** Eng,AH,RS; **ADS Neish** L*,AH,Gre*; **RW Phipps** AH,F,Geo; **TR Reid** AH; **SA Rose** L*,F*,M; **MG Smith** L*,F*,M; **SG Ashcroft** Eng,E,Geo,GS; **MJ Barnard** Eng,H,E,GS; **AT Brown** Eng,H,RS; **BP Church** Eng,H,PS,GS; **APK Fontana** Eng,H,E,GS; **JD Forbes** Eng,F*,H,GS,E; **RS Franks** Eng,Geo,GS; **SJP Grant** Eng,H,E,GS; **P Halliday** Eng,H,RS; **PD Carr** Geo,M,P; **RW Fairbrother** H,E,Geo,GS; **RJ Frost** Eng,Geo,GS,BS; **JR Harris** Eng,H,E; **AJ Keohane** Eng*,F*,H,GS; **GW Lewis** F,E; **DJ Potter** Eng; **SC Read** Eng,E,Geo; **IM Sadgrove** BS; **A Salter** Eng,H,GS,E; **GJ Weeks** Eng,H*,Geo*,GS; **N Ahmed**

M,GS,E; **AJ Bobath** E,Geo*,M; **PR Boggon** Geo,GS,BS; **MJ Fox** Eng,E,GS; **AD Glaser** M,GS,E; **RJ Heaton** E,CS; **JJ Knight** E,GS; **CB Morgan** E,Geo; **AM Reed** F,H,E; **RCW Thomas** A; **VS Thompson** H,GS,E; **MJ Garratt** Geo*,M*,GS,BS; **DA Irwin** H,E,Geo; **TH Jones** Eng,Geo; **A Marsland** Geo,BS; **DC Westgate** E,Geo; **PT Gudge** E,Geo; **JN Hopcraft** Eng; **BJ Horsfield** Geo; **SJ Irvine** H*,E,Geo*,GS; **JC King** Geo,GS; **SA Newport** AH,E,Geo; **SR Oliver** G; **CJ Pilling** H,E*,Geo*,GS; **JM Rudd** F,H,Geo,GS; **DG Webb** Geo,GS; **CRJ White** F,E,Geo,GS; **JD Atkin** Eng, H,E; **GD Edwards** H,PS,E*; **RNS Elder** F,H,E; **IM Johnston** AH, H,E; **JA Keen** Eng,Geo,GS; **ANP Kelly** F,H,E; **EC Leuzinger** Eng,Ger,H; **IMcCormick** H,E*,GS; **P Quinan** H,E*,Geo; **JVC Scott** H; **SP Wilson** H*,M,GS,E; **SRB Wilson** F,H,E; **IM Bell** Ger,Geo,M,GS*; **PB Channing** F*,Ger*,H*,E; **TE Jones** Ger*,H*,M*; **IJ Morris** F,Ger,E*; **SM Truman** Eng,F,Ger; **CDB Walker** F*,Ger,H*,Mus*; **AR Boyne** Eng,F,Sp; **WML Finlay** F,E*,M*; **RHeath** Eng,F,Ger; **JC Heather** Eng,F,Ger; **PD Hosking** F,Ger,BS; **MR Irons** Eng*,F*,Ger; **PA Lipton** A; **RJ Morris** F,M,E; **D Outhwaite** F,Sp; **PF Shrimpton** F,M,GS,CS; **JC Blackburn** Geo, M,P; **JM Horsburgh** E,P; **IC Lister** C,P; **JR McDonald** C,P; **GD Meyrick** P; **R Peatey** M,C,P; **NS Roberts** Geo*,M,P,GS*; **ID Rundel** Geo; **I Russell** E,M,P; **C Thurston** E,A; **JK Walshe** M,C,P,GS; **SC Wegerif** M,C; **IP Buxton** M*,FM*,C*,P*; **AC Campbell** FM*; **MP Craik** M,C*,P*; **SM Fenwick** M*,FM,C*,P*; **AJ Fuller** M*,FM,C,P; **RL Jolly** M*,FM,C*,P*; **LPS Nielsen** M*,FM*,C*,P*; **RCJ Sharples** M*,FM,C*,P*; **PJ Steggles** M*,FM,C*,P*; **RM Walsh** Eng,P,GS; **JPL Bargh** E,Geo,C,GS*; **PA Chapman** M,C*,P*; **PA Cooke** M,C*,P; **RM Dawe** M,C,P; **HJ George** E,C,GS; **AN Hall** M,C,P,GS; **RWL Jarman** M,C,P; **HR Jones** M,C,P; **KM Moss** E,C,P; **TR Sivaramalingam** M,C,P; **SA Steel** Geo*,M,C,GS; **NM Troitt** M,C,P; **SM Brown** M*,C*,P*,GS; **B Coyte** C,P; **AG Crichton** M,C,P*,GS; **HRD Dixon** M,C,P; **DW McLaughlin** C,P; **CA Paterson** M,P; **SF Prior** M,C,P; **PC Rugg** M,C,P; **RD Sibley** M,C*,P; **AS Teasdale** M,C,P; **KP Ashby** M,P,CS; **NS Harris** M,C,P,GS; **TR Hawker** P; **LEJ Howes** M,C,P,GS; **MA Knight** M,P,A,GS; **TJ Knott** M,P,CS; **CP Lambert** Geo,P; **JMC Lister** M,P,GS; **R Nestic** M,P,CS; **AN Bell** M,P,BS*,CS; **J Clarke** E,M,P; **AD Green** M,C,P,GS; **JL Hamilton** M*,P*,GS; **AP Michell** E*,M,P,GS; **Z Nawaz** M,C,P; **R O'Connor** M*,P,BS; **JL Roberts** M,P,GS,BS*; **JP Slatter** M*,C,P,GS; **MJ Austin** M*,C,P*,B; **THC Berendt** M,C,B,GS; **AD Clifford** M,C*,B*,GS; **ST Cope** H,C,GS; **DR Griffin** M*,C*,P*,B*; **K Hodges** GS; **CG Leggett** M,C,B; **MJR Letheren** M,C*,P*,B*; **CAF Pinder** M,C,B; **OG Roberts** M,C,B; **ME Sullivan** M,C,B; **RM Twissell** M,C,P*,B,GS; **DW Veitch** M,C,BN; **IJR Williamson** C,GS; **MP Wise** C*,P,B*,GS; **DAP Angus** M*,C*,P*,B*; **NC Ashcroft** Geo,B,GS; **JC Binns** Geo,B; **DC Clark** Geo,B; **ST Greer** C,P,B; **TA Harrington** C,B; **ME Hayward** C,P,B*; **MV Howe** C,P*,B*,CS; **JJ Miller** M,C*,B,GS,E*; **JC Oldham** C,B; **NP Tilley** Geo,C,B,GS; **B Warmer** M,P*,CS; **G Evans** H; **JC Lambert** E,M; **AR Harrison** L,F,GS.

'O' LEVEL RESULTS 1983

The following boys obtained Grade C or above in five or more subjects in the G.C.E. Ordinary Level Examinations:-

C.G. Aubrey (10); J.D. Audcent (10); P.J. Becque (8); J.M. Boothroyd (10); J.R. Brown (9); G.J. Cann (9); M.R. Carr (7); K.D. Colgate (8); J.P. Gatward (7); C.G. Hodson (10); C.M. Kennedy (10); J.B. Lawrence (9); M.G.L. Leigh (9); S.J. Lincoln (9); D. Liverseidge (9); P.M. Machin (8); R.J. Moorin (10); G.R. Morrison (9); R.W.S. Nash (8); A. O'Connor (10); G.J. Oliver (8); P.D. Ratcliffe (9); S. Rich (8); M.J. Robertson (8); P.M. Saich (8); J.N. Sare (8); R.J. Thornton (7); D.E. Vanstone (8); S.A. Walsh (9); S.J. Ancliffe (9); C.L. Ayling (9); G.J. Billington (9); T.A. Clayton (8); J.T. Cogg (9); B.M. Copping (9); J.C.G. Crowther (6); P.W. Dawson (8); N. De Luca (9); M.J. Dow (9); S.L.W. English (10); G.N. Evans (8); M.C. Firth (7); S.A. Gower (9); T.B. Hall (9); A.D. Hill (9); J.M. Hill (9); A.G. Hodgson (10); R.L. Hooper (9); N.A. Hopkinson (9); S.J. Innes (8); R.J.R. Irvine (8); R.I. Jarvis (9); P.I.H. Jennings (9); S.J. Jones (9); P.A. Knight (9); T.C. Lasica (8); M.S. Malaure (8); G.C. Newell (9); A.R. Palmer (9); R.A. Price (9); M.D. Ray (7); D.I. Strutt (9); C.D. Wagstaff (9); M.A. Adams (7); S.A. Alway (9); D.P. Atkins (9); J. Bargh (10); M. Cartwright (10); C.J.R. Coward (9); C.E.M. Cox (10); J.P. Edwards (10); N.D. Eggleton (9); T.R. Ellis (10); N.R. Fleming (9); I.J. Hale (10); C.P. Harbour (9); A.D. Howard (10); M.R. Lane (7); A.J. McAusland (9); D.J. O'Neill (8); G.R.D. Parker (8); S.J. Quinney (9); N.J. Rolfe (9); S.A. Sawyer (9); A.L.P. Smith (9); S.A.P. Smith (9); J.P. Taylor (9); P. Watson (5); N.G. White (9); T.R. Williamson (9); R.J.D. Wooster (8); S.J. Ziegler (9); R.N. Abbott (6); M.J. Adams (8); J.L. Baker (10); M.P. Baker (8); J.M. Barr (10); P.J. Boddy (9); J.C. Brazier (9); C.M. Buss (8); J.A. Cooney (9); S. Cooper (9); H.F.R. Copas (11); T.M. Dean (8);

P.R. Emmett (9); J.O. Everard (9); M.J. Farmer (9); W.J. Furniss (8); M.K.B. Gabriel (9); N.E. Gallacher (7); R.J. Grant (6); A.J.C. Hay (9); G.J. Higgins (7); I.S. Kennedy (8); J.R. Lloyd (9); C.G. Lucking (5); B.L. Sayer (9); G.L. Steen (7); D.W. Stonell (7); J.P. Swift (9); J.C. Van Der Pant (8); J.M. Wilkins (8); A. Abbott (9); D.P. Ball (7); R. Booker (7); H.D.E. Clark (9); M.J. Clegg (9); L.R. Coleman (7); A.D. Griffin (8); T.J. Grimmett (8); P.A. Hatter (8); G.N. Hester (5); G.M. Holland (7); S.D.P. Ives (5); J.R. Kipping (6); M.G. Lewis (9); A.B. Mackay (7); P.R. Nash (8); W.J. Potts (6); A.C.S. Stalham (9); S.J. Turner (7); C.J. Aylott (8); R.M. Basford (6); J.C. Corby (5); G.P. Bryant (6); S.J. Clark (7); J.V. Currie-Cathey (6); R.J. Dickinson (8); M.A. Garratt (8); G.J. Giles (10); J.E. Hall (8); W.J. Harris (9); S.D. Kain (9); R.J. King (6); A.F. Langdon-Ellis (9); W.P.C. Martin (7); M.I. Newitt (7); M.J. Savage (9); M.P. Scurrell (9); C.L. Shaw (9); M.E. Stephenson (9); I.F. Thompson (5); A.J. Warren (5); M.J.T. Wayte (7); G.W. Weblin (9); S.R. Weir (9); J. Welch (8); N.J. Wightman (7); D.R.J. Williams (9).

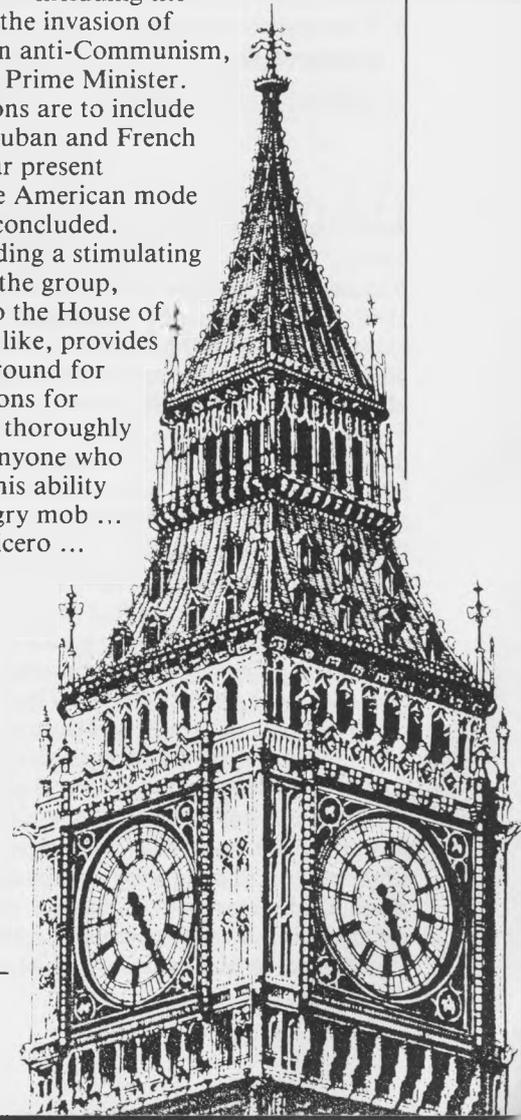
"Mules of Politics"? — T.A.A. Politics Group

True to the discourses of Aristotle, several members of the sixth-form "are, by nature, political animals" and in the true spirit of enlightenment, they are accustomed to meet every Thursday, under the auspices of Mr. File, to debate political theories and discuss current governmental policy. From misguided Trotskyite through Alliance moderates to authoritarian "De Gaullist" — all shades of political opinion are represented and discussions are 'lively' to say the least.

A large range of topics are debated, since each week a member of the group is invited to speak on his 'pet' subject — which results in an extraordinary diversity of 'talks' — including the ethics of taxation, the invasion of Grenada, American anti-Communism, and the rôle of the Prime Minister. Further declamations are to include a closer study of Cuban and French Politics — after our present investigation of the American mode of Government is concluded.

As well as providing a stimulating forum for debate, the group, through its visits to the House of Commons and the like, provides an ideal training ground for those with aspirations for political life and is thoroughly recommended to anyone who wishes to sharpen his ability to win over the angry mob ... like a latter-day Cicero ... or Mrs.T.?

BEN O'FLYNN



1983 R G S Mock General Election

The Mock Election held in 1983 reflected the trend of declining party loyalties and the growing unwillingness to take this traditional school exercise as a serious expression of political viewpoint — although there are those who ask if it ever was!

It is true that the proportion of those voting who supported the Conservatives was very close to the national figure in the General Election, but there were more spoiled papers than votes for the party coming second and it seemed likely that about one-third of the voters were eager only to express facetiousness, maverick individuality or a contempt for the party political process.

The result:-

Conservative	443
SDP/Liberal Alliance	145
Monster Raving Looney	96
National Front	68
Labour	42
Ecology	24
Communist	11
British National Party	4
Sinn Fein	4
Plaid Cymru	2
SNP	1
Spoiled Papers	157

Conservative majority over Alliance	298
Conservative share of the vote	46.8%
Alliance share of the vote	15.3%

R.C.F.

Death of a Salesman

Arthur Miller's play was first produced in London in 1949, at the height of the McCarthy era in America, and led to accusations that Miller was 'un-American' in his attitudes, because he appeared critical of the country's ideals of individual competition. A revival at the National Theatre in recent years, with Warren Mitchell playing the doomed salesman Willy Loman, brought the play again into public attention, and Peter Cowburn's production at the end of the Spring Term has now shown us its great potential as a school play.

The set is a demanding one, as Miller requires virtually a complete house on stage, but Dennis Smith and his helpers had solved that beautifully, with a three-level arrangement to show the living area, the parents' room, and the bedroom of the boys upstairs. This was clear, but gave the director plenty of stairs and doorways for dramatic use. The period feel of the set was nicely enhanced by some well-chosen props, particularly the sporting pennants and the ancient telephone — congratulations to its discoverer!

Within this framework — supported by some immensely skilful lighting organised by Russell Everett (I particularly remember a moment when Willy, depressed, is caught in blue light, while his idealised brother Ben stands next to him radiantly white) — we saw as good a

production as I have ever seen at the R.G.S. The director had gone all out to communicate the emotional power of the drama, rather than impose some 'interpretation', and it certainly had me close to tears on several occasions in the second half.

Roland Shanks did exceptionally well in the demanding lead role. Although his diction was occasionally too hurried for clarity, he gave us all the emotional force of a simple man's tragedy, constantly showing us by little gestures and vocal inflections that this man was at the end of his tether but unable to perceive that his own 'get-rich' ideals were causing his destruction. This tension was sustained in the character, and attained gripping and near-tragic heights towards the end. The centre of the drama is the love-hate relationship between Willy and his eldest son Biff, and to that part Paul Warwick brought a similar commitment, so that the scenes between them were the most powerful in the play (I am thinking particularly of the crucial confrontation between the two when Biff discovers that his father has a mistress in Boston). Tessa Killmister, one of the five guest actresses from Lady Verney High School, handled the role of Willy's wife Linda with similar skill, her face perfectly communicating her feeling of baffled and tragic defeat. Her confidence in the part did much to highlight Willy's more neurotic and confused state of mind.

One of the particular problems for the actors was the need to sustain American accents throughout. Occasionally a very English vowel slipped through, but almost throughout they were varied, consistent and, I think, quite accurate. Patrick Jennings, for example, as Uncle Ben, although he was a little stiff in movement, was most convincing as a self-made rich American.

Among the other parts I was particularly struck by the physical energy which Jon Overton brought to the role of Happy, Biff's simpler and less morally scrupulous younger brother, and the way Chris Kennedy caught the ironic tones of the perceptive Uncle Charley. Toby Hall was perhaps a little too gawky as the younger Bernard, but when he matured into a successful lawyer he handled the part with impressive confidence. Peter Cowburn had done a fine job with the whole cast; though fairly inexperienced, they were confident, showed total involvement, and moved with a physical ease unusual in school drama.

Many people contribute to a school play. Mention must be made of the inconspicuous but important music from Cathy Gibbs, Stephen Quinney and Karl Tomlin, and the well judged 1940's costumes (I particularly enjoyed Uncle Ben's large, startling white suit!), but congratulations to everyone involved — I shall relish the memory of the splendid evening of drama which you all made possible.

P.M.A.G.



“Design the Car for the Future”

Haymill Motors Ltd of Farnham Common, on behalf of Saab Motors, organised a competition “Design the Car for the Future”. The competition was won by Philip Diamond of 4E. At a presentation ceremony he was presented with the 1st prize of a two week skiing holiday in Sweden for himself and his parents and a framed replica of his design. Mr. Eaton received, on behalf of the school, a cheque for £500. The presentations were made by Bill Oddie of ‘The Goodies’.



*Kent Software Trophies Computer Competition.
Robert Forbes receiving his Merit Prize of £50.*

American Exchange 1983

This is the fifth consecutive year that an exchange has taken place between the R.G.S. and Ridgefield High School and, as I am reliably informed by the organisers in Ridgefield, it becomes more welcome and enjoyable each passing year.

The purpose was to spend a month at Easter as a member of an American family, going to school to experience their relaxed attitude to education, and of course, to sample their world-renowned cuisine! Although at times it seemed that the entire nation survived on a staple diet of beefburgers and doughnuts (not to mention those awful cup cakes), the monotony was often broken by such delights as peanut butter ice cream in a rum and raisin sauce.

The enthusiasm and cordiality of the American students made it very easy for us all to fit into classes, making many friends and soon becoming part of the American scene. Mutual hobbies and interests were soon found, and whenever boredom momentarily set in, Matt Woodwark was always on hand to thrill us all with his amazing knife-throwing act.

There were several field trips to nearby museums, the State capital — Hartford — and the proverbial megalopolis, New York city. The latter included visits to the Stock Exchange, the World Trade Centre, the United Nations building, an illuminating stroll around Chinatown.

An unfavourable exchange rate and a somewhat spendthrift attitude ensured that almost everyone was out of pocket towards the end of the stay. The exception was Richard Blackett, who made a profit selling his beloved West Ham scarves to the enthusiastic Americans, whilst delighting everyone with such a tuneful rendering of “I’m forever blowing bubbles”, that one was left wondering how Mr. Holmes could have let such talent go.

In June there was a chance to renew friendships (stop blushing Giles) when we played host to a group of Ridgefield High School students who attended school with us and enjoyed a reciprocal holiday in England.

Our thanks must go to Mr. Mitchell for keeping us in check, when our mischievous tendencies might otherwise have led us astray, and for his excellent organisation of a thoroughly enjoyable exchange.

Participants were: R. Blackett, G. Britton, G. Dance, D. Dewar, K. Harrow, K. House, A. Jarvis, A. Knox, D. Livingstone, D. Lock, N. Morris, H. Tyte, S. Waite, M. Woodwark.

Osnabrück Exchange 1984

Due to pressure of time, this article reporting on the exchange has had to be written before it has taken place! However, at the time of writing, the German partners have been here for a week and seem to be making the most of the unusually sunny weather. They have already been to London twice and to Oxford once; what is more, they still have another visit to the capital and also to downtown Windsor ahead of them. This will all be capped with a soccer match on Friday. Then it will be time for us to pack our bags and depart with our guardian angels: Miss P. V. Crothers and Mr. K.D. Keysell. Our programme consists of a day in Bremen and a guided tour of the Osnabrück signal-box.

Undoubtedly, this exchange will be as memorable as last year's, but, I am sure, for different reasons, as we do not anticipate any arrests!

So, to conclude, it only remains for me to say that I would like to express a very warm "Danke schön" to Mr. White-Taylor, who now has enough money for a one-way ticket to Milton Keynes, and, in advance, to everyone involved, on behalf of all the partners.

PHILIP SAICH

Ski Club : Auffach '83

The RGS Ski Trip of 'Staff Revue' fame occurred between the 17th and 25th of last December. After a predawn departure we were rerouted to Verona rather than flying to Munich though Mr. Meyer maintains that it was not a Geography Department error. The resulting field trip through the Dolomites in a blizzard, including a two hour period trapped in an impassable Brenner Pass, whetted the appetite of the intrepid band of forty-five skiers, who were dismayed to find that due to another map reading error (by Mr. Thomas) the hotel was a half hour uphill climb from the village of Auffach.

This hill witnessed energetic and eager skiers running down each morning and aching wrecks, notably the staff, toiling up at night. Skiing conditions were excellent and with the aid of enthusiastic, demanding instructors, budding Bartelskis were soon in evidence both on and off the piste. Total exhaustion was ensured by typically Austrian après-ski, which included tobogganing, bowling, ice skating and floodlit skiing. Next Christmas will see a return trip to the resort, the Geography Department is working on the navigation, we hope that the terrific time had by all will be repeated.

D.B. THOMAS



Geography Field Course — Easter 1984

It was a sunny morning when a group of sixth form geographers met on a lonely hill top — the annual field course had begun!

The party left in festive mood but arrived in Cardiff exhausted after the stress of the first day's work in the Teme Valley. Fortunately the hall of residence was extremely comfortable and the excellent meals were supplemented by Mr Meyer's "economy" packed lunches. For some paté was a novel experience, for many it was something to be avoided in the future.



The first whole day was spent in the Brecon Beacons with a gentle stroll to the top of Pen y Fan. During our study of "valley in valley" forms it became apparent that the RAF low flying acrobatic team were also interested in Mr. Pantridge's scheme of work. The concise debrief in the evening was interrupted by an important telephone call from High Wycombe where everyone was asking the question "Where is the Geography field course party?". At the end of the debrief, an assignment was given which could be completed at one's leisure so long as it was handed in before breakfast.

The two other most enjoyable days were spent on the Gower Peninsula and in Cardiff. It was at Rhossili that we encountered a unique method for choosing random stones from the remains of a morainic cliff. This may explain why the results of the Mann-Whitney U Test were not terribly useful. The day in Cardiff involved a detailed study of the CBD (or a car park on derelict land depending on your survey area) and a lecture in the sumptuous council offices of South Glamorgan.

The final day was spent in the upper Neath catchment studying long profiles and fault guided waterfalls.

We returned to school on Friday both tired but satisfied. Our thanks go to Mr Meyer (no more paté please), Mr Pantridge, and Peter Price from Oxford University who relived pleasant memories of the 1982 field course.

RIJ & SJI

Clubs and Societies

Electronics Clubs

The popular breadboarding construction of the Third Form club has continued to flourish this year. It has been joined by a more advanced club for Seniors in which permanent construction of projects is possible. The Club possesses a growing arsenal of tools and equipment and is able to assist novices.

D.B. THOMAS

The Computer Club

For the first time ever all the School's computers are together in one place. The old Research Machines and the two recently acquired BBC model 'B's now reside in what was the language laboratory. The BBC's have proved very popular, especially after the informative talks given at the few BBC micro user group meetings that weren't cancelled.

With the vast increase in numbers of home computers and subsequent growing numbers of good programmers our results in the Kent Software trophies are all the more encouraging.

The departmental use of computers is increasing and it won't be long before all the departments are making use of the School's computing facilities. To supply the increased demand on the computing department, major plans include the purchase of a network system.

DAVID FORBES

Music Society Notes

The Music Society has again enjoyed a fruitful year's music making. After slight reorganisation due to the loss of several distinguished musicians last year the Choral Society, the two orchestras and both Wind Bands have resumed activities and many musicians were given the opportunity of showing their musical expertise in a busy year so far.

The first concert of the year was the Recital on 19th October, which gave the more accomplished musicians of the school an opportunity to perform solos and in ensembles. This was the first time the Society's newly acquired harpsichord was used. It was heard in both a solo capacity with performances of harpsichord solos by Bach, Couperin and Telemann played by Simon Howart and Kevin Bashford, and as a continuo instrument notably in the culmination of the evening, the Concerto for Two Trumpets by Vivaldi played by Jonathan Barr and Martin Garratt.

The next major concert was the Christmas Concert in which there were performances from the First Orchestra, First Wind Band and Choral Society. The music ranged from Mozart's Divertimento K.136 to Britten's Soirées Musicales and ended in true Christmas spirit with a performance of Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols with Mr. Flinders as soloist.

The Choral Society along with the Junior Choir sang at the Festival of Lessons and Carols in the Parish Church just before Christmas.

Undoubtedly the highlight of the year was the Choral Society's performance of Handel's Messiah with Carys Dosser, Mr. Flinders and Simon Gay, an old boy and a distinguished alto, as soloists. This was another opportunity for the new harpsichord to be used and together with the orchestra it complemented the singing perfectly. The performance was acknowledged as one of the Choral Society's finest achievements and it was a great success all round.

The Society's activities continue with the Summer Concert on 23rd May and with the First Wind Band appearing at the Show.

Finally the Society must thank Mr. Holmes and Mr. Wheeler without whose ceaseless efforts none of the above would have been possible. We also thank other staff whose support is greatly appreciated.

CHRISTOPHER AUBREY

The Model Railway Club

The major event of the year for the MRC was the Model Railway Exhibition on 17th March, when the Queen's Hall was filled with layouts and trade stands. It was well attended and was complimented by both exhibitors and members of the public. The profit from the exhibition will be used to improve the club's layouts and lighting.

So far this year we have had trips to York, Quainton Road museum and Tinsley B.R. depot at Sheffield. Future outings are planned to Pendon museum and Didcot, where Mr Lovell's use of one of the school's minibuses will be invaluable, especially once he has passed his driving test. (Good Luck!)

The Committee

Christian Union

This year, we believe, our task was to build up personal commitment and fellowship within Christian Union and to tell others within the school about Christ.

To this end, we have organised several activities outside school-time. These have included two films, Years of the Beast, and more recently, the Cross and the Switchblade. The latter of these two proved to be very successful with over 150 people present from this and other schools. Last Autumn, the Christian Union took a week of assemblies, performing a series of lively and challenging sketches.

Over the year, we have strengthened our links and fellowship with other local school Christian Unions through a variety of activities. We held a very enjoyable Christmas Bonfire and Barbeque and a three day camp in the Spring half-term. The camp was very successful since it was spiritually challenging and enjoyable. In addition to this, we have held a number of after-school meetings which are becoming increasingly popular.

Following its introduction last year, the Junior Christian Union has grown considerably, with many more members of the lower school attending regularly.

We can now look forward to next year, believing that there is considerable potential for further growth and outreach.

CALUM MACLEOD & ANDREW HOGGIN (Leaders)

Debating and Public Speaking: 1983/4

Both the Rotary Club and English Speaking Union run Speaking competitions in which a team of three chooses its subject, and decide who is to be main speaker, chairman and proposer of the vote of thanks; and this year we entered two teams for the Rotary event and one for the E.S.U.

Our B team of Hans Copas, Robert Irvine and Ben O'Flynn, speaking on the decline of oratory, were placed third while the A team of Chris Kennedy, Matthew Leigh and Jonathan Hill won the competition, speaking on Christian non-violence and pacificism. The preponderance of classicists shows the influence of Cicero, whose "lactea libertas" still reverberates through Room 28.

The A team went forward to Wokingham for the zonal final of the Rotary competition, where we put forward a serious point of view in a serious manner. This was too much for the judges who seemed to prefer concentrating on the acting abilities of the competitors. Hans Copas had stepped into the breach at the last moment after Jonathan Hill had fallen ill and spoke excellently.

In the E.S.U. we reached the regional final always being pushed hard by excellent teams from Beaconsfield H.S. and Wycombe H.S. In the regional final both these teams beat us and a worthy team went on to the national final.

Public speaking offers a chance to make friends from other schools and set up contacts. Its value as a social event is perhaps higher than as a competition.

In the "Observer" Mace debating competition Matthew Leigh and Chris Kennedy have won the regional final for the last two years, and by using a minimum of preparation treat the audience, by necessity, to some genuine cut and thrust debate. When Sarah Par of Beaconsfield employed similar tactics against us the result was spectacular. In the South of England Area Final we were placed second, and had Matthew Leigh conducted the summing-up with more verve the team would almost certainly have won. The judges took an hour to decide, and finally chose Gateway Sixth Form College, Leicester, who had had to propose a very difficult motion.

The Wycombe Junior Chamber of Commerce debating team of Robert Irvine, Julian Smith, Hans Copas and Robert Tideman were beaten early on by a young Beaconsfield H.S. team, but they performed well — especially Robert Irvine.

Throughout the year the teams have received much help from members of staff and parents in attending competitions, providing transport, giving advice. Thanks go especially to Mrs Kennedy, Mr and Mrs Cooper, Rev. J. Skipp, Mr Brown, Mr Gelsthorpe, Mrs McGuinness, Mr Mitchell and Mr Jones.

M.G.L. LEIGH

Photographic Society

The society has continued to meet regularly on Monday lunchtimes. New members have learnt how to develop and print a black and white film, and competitions have been held on topics such as 'Action', 'Animals' and 'People'. A wide range of photographic reference material is available, and the society is slowly increasing its number of video recordings.

M. EARL

The Wargames Club

This year, cruelly evicted by Mr. Meyer from the Geography Block, and without Mr. Talbot to oversee Thursday evenings, the club has found refuge in room 31 with its remaining (we would not let him get away) master in charge, Mr. Crease. As is normal for the club, the enrolled membership is around forty, but the hard core who turn up every week are about a dozen, mainly third, fourth and fifth formers. Many different genres of games are played, but the most dominant is the fantasy/science fiction role-playing group. Whilst I enjoy the occasional role playing game, and certainly do not agree with some who believe Dungeons and Dragons to be an inherently evil game, I regret the extent to which some players play only these games. The imagination and playability of these games are enjoyable and convenient, compared to the old style historical board games, but the satisfaction and challenge of generalship is in danger of disappearing. However not all is bleak on the board games front, since the tactical sub-battle level games are regaining the following they enjoyed when the first versions were published. Another distinct improvement this year has been a reduction of the noise level during meetings to a level where thinking is possible, although Lance Dann has done his best to combat this.

ROBIN ILIAN, CHAIRMAN

General Knowledge Teams 83/84

Schools Challenge is the prestige event for school general knowledge teams and it was sad that this year, when the school had a team capable of great things and which had reached the last 16 in the country the year before, there was no Schools Challenge in the Bucks/Herts area.

Robert Irvine 6C1, Matthew Leigh 6C1, Julian Smith 5RP, and Andrew Hutt 5S only once got the opportunity to show their talent when they won a quiz night organised by Beaconsfield Help the Aged in which about 25 local organisations competed. Yet, in the R.N.I.B. competition we are still unbeaten and Alex Welby 5S, Chris Nielsen 5S, Mark Walmsley 4E and P. Denison 3Y, show every sign of being able to retain the title which we won last year. In Bucks, we are only seriously threatened by Dr. Challoner's.

Despite the non-appearance of the Senior Schools Challenge competition, the junior version of the event did take place. Last year when we lost out in the second round, I blamed a lack of maturity in the team; only to receive countless poison-pen letters and death-threats from young men/little boys who felt profoundly wronged. Yet when the same thing happened this year to an equally talented team, I reluctantly drew the same conclusions about some of the members of the team. Still, Jonathan Buckley 2W, Jeremy Cravos 2E, Philip Lewin 2HM, and Simeon Thornton 2W should persist in trying to get into school teams, and Simeon has demonstrated a remarkable and admirable talent among today's computer-obsessed youth — the desire to read a book, and a knowledge of literature.

Mr. Edwards organises every event which we enter with great efficiency, drives us everywhere and deserves our thanks.

M.G.L. LEIGH

Wycombe Youth Action — a Report

For most of this school year, the 'Wycombe Youth Action' — which enjoys a thriving existence amongst sixth-formers — has departed somewhat from its usual methods of 'community service'. While the essential work of visiting isolated old age pensioners and the infirm has obviously continued, much effort has been directed towards the compilation of an access guide to shops and other amenities in High Wycombe. By liaising with girls from the Wycombe Abbey and Wycombe High School, sixth-formers have surveyed all the public buildings in High Wycombe — and the information thus collected is, at time of going to press, being edited and compiled in a book which will be available from mid-May onwards.

As well as drawing attention to the plight of disabled members of our community through media coverage of the venture and visits to shops in the area, it is hoped that all of those who have participated will gain some understanding of the problems encountered in everyday situations by those who are incapacitated in any way.

While hoping that participants will have derived valuable experience in dealing with these problems, it remains only to thank everybody who has contributed towards the work of the 'Action' group — and to look forward to the day when they will form the nucleus of a more "community-conscious" society.

BEN O'FLYNN

Literary Society

The Society flourished in the early months of 1983 only to end up dashed upon the rocks of apathy in 1984. Topics such as 'The Public School Novel' and 'How to be a great Poet' by Matthew Leigh and Simon Gerhand respectively, attracted crowds of over thirty people to the Society in the winter months. Come Spring, young men's fancies had turned to other, if not better, things. Audiences began to dwindle away and late March saw the Society's record low attendance of two people. On such a note it was decided to abandon the remaining fixtures.



However, Phoenix-like from the ashes, rose the Society's own alternative School Magazine, 'Ad-Lib'. Selling two-hundred copies on its debut and over four hundred copies in April the magazine was, to quote the editor's own words, "really quite good". The editorial talent of N. White, N. Fleming, A. Smith and S. Gerhand when fused with the drive and direction of Mr Gibson and Mr Gilpin, and then guided and helped by the kind ladies of the Resources Centre, could only add up to a magazine destined to brighten up the life of unhappy second-former and grumpy school master alike.

The 'Ad-Lib' team would like to thank both contributors and helpers, without whom the magazine would never have reached beyond planning stage, and the buyers without whom our efforts would have been in vain.

N. SOLANKI

Astronomy Club

We have had many new members this year (9 in all) and funds have done well.

These funds were used to purchase slides of Jupiter, Saturn, Mars and Men on the Moon.

The club wishes to thank Mr Talbot, for donating the small refracting telescope.

The main activities for the last few meetings were lectures on The Moon, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

We were not able to use the big telescope due to bad weather conditions.

S. SAHOTA
Treasurer

Bridge Club

We have played well this season. The School has been represented by 12 players: 6 from the Upper 6th, 2 from the Lower 6th and 4 from the 4th Year. There have been 2 regular pairs in the 1st team: Tim Lohmann and David Dawson as the 1st pair and Michael Roe and Andrew Huxley as the 2nd pair.

The season opened at the Bucks and Berks Schools' Championships where we finished 16th. Next was the Daily Mail Cup where we finished a good 2nd and thus qualified for the semi-finals in Oxford. After a memorable trip to Oxford the R.G.S. won well to qualify for an all-expenses paid weekend in Oxford in May 1984. The last event was the Lederer Salver in which Tim Lohmann and David Dawson played well to come 5th out of 88 pairs.

TIM LOHMANN (Club Captain)



Sport

Rugby

1st XV Played — 23 Drew — 2
 Won — 18 Lost — 3

Dark, wind-chilled evenings on the school field and Saturday mornings at Redfords seem very distant now as the School 1st XV prepare to set off for sunny California to extend the rugby season into areas better suited to orange-pickers and beach boys.

It is by no means suggesting that the 1983-84 school rugby season was eminently forgettable; it was, in fact, just the opposite. No, it is more the thought of the spikey-haired John Marsland kicking off in temperatures of over 80°F, expecting the ball to be chased by the pink-legged Robert McEwan and the over-heated Chris Buss, that cause many of the traditional school incidents to pale into insignificance.

Yet it is only appropriate that this ambitious tour should come at the end of a highly successful season: it is a reward not just for the hours of practice but also for the hours of jumble-sorting and ticket-selling.

The long flight to San Francisco will give time for the coach and players to think back over the year's rugby and to recall the moments of pleasure and the periods of frustration.

The pack developed into a formidable unit and must to a man have felt aggrieved to lose to Aylesbury, having won the set play and handed out a lesson in rucking. All credit, however, to Aylesbury's strength of counter-attack and quality of defence.

This was the only time we were beaten by a better team on the day — the only other two defeats were to worse teams who simply happened to take advantage of good fortune. Windsor ended a 13 match winning streak by holding on to a rapidly decreasing 15 point half-time lead, and Gunnersbury had an excellent kicker who more than made up for their technical deficiencies.

There were, however, eighteen victories during the season, the best of which were against Tiffin, St. Benedicts, King James', Watford, and Lycee Joliment from Toulouse. Over 80 tries were scored (16 of which were against Haydon School) and only 12 conceded: a fair reflection of the team's dominance throughout the year.

Many of the tries stemmed from forward pressure, although the backs handled neatly at times to outflank cover defence. Nigel Topping enjoyed an excellent season, taking advantage of the solid platform created by the tight forwards to initiate many surges from the base of the scrum. Most breakdowns went in favour of the R.G.S.: the pack rucked cleanly and appropriately, a unit skill achieved through regular practice and a settled group.

The main failing came behind the pack where lack of imagination and wrong options often led to wasted opportunities. Both wingers, David Lock and Andy McCubbin, often disguised this creative weakness by running out of difficult positions with guile and aggression, respectively. These qualities were recognised by the Bucks county selectors, who also picked Simon Alway, Chris Buss, Pat Jennings and Nigel Topping as Captain.

It was, however, the team spirit which was most impressive throughout the season — everyone working for everyone else, spreading the workload and developing individual skills within a team framework. This is the

essence of rugby, minimising individual glory: a concept rather incongruous in the movie-star state of California.

Yes, 1983-84 was, in fact, a memorable season. If flight time allows, thoughts may even drift to next year, when even younger players will be training on even wetter December nights.

S.B. GAMESTER

2nd XV Played — 19 Drawn — 1
 Won — 14 Lost — 4
 For — 340 Against — 152

The 2nd XV enjoyed another successful season this year with a newly assembled team working well together. The front five provided a solid platform for the scrums and with a seemingly ubiquitous back row (which in the season consisted of Andy Cooney, Mike Cartwright, Alex Welby and Mike Davies — the leading try scorer for the season) enabled us to win a large amount of second phase ball, with which we would pressurise our opponents and exploit gaps. Success was often gained by keeping the ball close to the scrum, but there were many well taken tries produced from good handling, sometimes covering the whole length of the pitch as at Windsor when we scored seven tries, three of which were by Carl Bush.

Pleasing wins were registered against Sir William Borlase, Gunnersbury, Tiffin and Emanuel who always provide strong opposition. Our few defeats included one by 3 points at Aylesbury, and one by 1 point at Latymer Upper. As the season progressed our cover defence became more and more experienced with admirable performances allowing us to soak up moments of tremendous pressure. In fact it was our discipline and teamwork which set us apart from our opponents, and their moments of relaxation enabled us to produce several scores.

Good performances were given by James Cook (leading points scorer) who deservedly played for the 1st XV several times, and Matt Store, Neil Worley and Dave Griffiths whose fine efforts in the front row were appreciated. Steve Ellis used his experience well to give good service to our backs and to spoil the opponents' possession, whereas Adam Wilsher deserves a mention for his good defensive and attacking qualities at Full Back, and Austin Lock for taking his chances well.

Finally thanks must go to all the players I have not been able to mention and to Mr. Learmonth for his guidance and support throughout the season, and his unending patience whilst trying to keep all of us under control.

STEPHEN PODESTA



3rd XV	Played — 19	Drew — 1
	Won — 13	Lost — 5
	For — 265	Against — 174

Even though the annual problem of a continually varying team plagued the 3rd XV once again this year, the team managed to keep a fairly even won/lost record. Although a heavy defeat against Aylesbury weakened morale during the latter part of the season, it was soon regained in the following matches, which brought the season to a fairly respectable close.

Our thanks once again to our great tactical leader, Mr. Chamberlain, and my personal thanks to all the members of the team.

D.A. DEWAR
3rd XV Captain '83/84

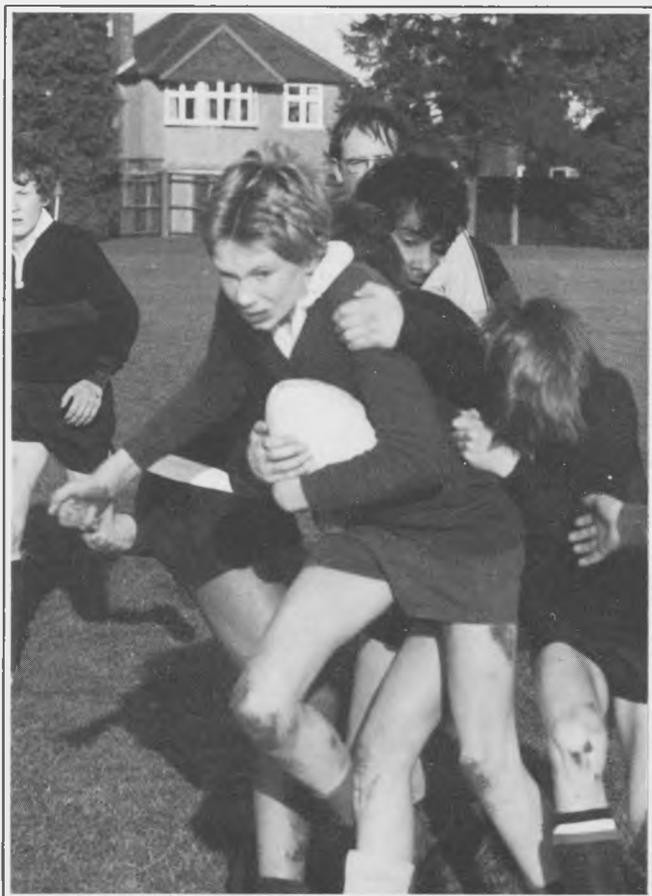
U15 XV

Both A and B team squads have enjoyed an excellent season: being unbeaten in all games. The A team now have not been beaten for 30 matches in succession; a record which promises a strong base for future senior sides. The main strength has lain in the pack providing plenty of possession for a skilful but sometimes lethargic three quarter line. Although individuals do not make a team special mention must be made of the sensible and courageous full back play of Peter Smith and the knowledgeable calm leadership by example of Robert Jordan.

KAG/AW

U14 XV

	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against
'A' XV	16	10	6 (62.5%)	275	208
'B' XV	7	4	3 (57.1%)	133	72



'A' XV

A reasonably settled side — or squad — and regular attendance at training ensured that, despite its limitations, the side had a fairly successful season. Only three defeats were not very close, and in these the games were closely contested until the late stages.

Two players stood out as lethal try-scorers: the very fast left wing, David Meli; and the powerful No 8 and captain, Justin Pearson. They scored 38 of the side's 54 tries.

However, it is a team game, and so often these two were indebted to a good scrummaging front row, or to quick transfer of the ball by the backs. Unsung members of the team were admirable in their contributions.

Regular players: Eales, Moss, Skrimshire, Brown, Meli, Pearson, Drage, Gamble, Brimelow, Twichen, Dodds, Reid, Pegler, Clark, Doyle and King. Others: Curl, Fisher, Wilcox and Hall, N.

'B' XV

A keen, active 'B' side offers much to the development and enjoyment of so many players. The 'B' team games this year were a pleasure to watch. Several players developed their game to 'A' team standard, and all three games lost were well contested.

Regular players: Hammond, Pegler, Harris, Niedrum, Weaver, Skanlon, Cook, Lewis, King, Caviff, Jackson, Keeble, Curl, Gibson, Hoad and Doyle. Others: Howe, McLeod and Hall, M.

My thanks to all the players and to Mr Cook, the Master-in-Charge of the 'B' team.

S.R.G.

U13 XV

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
'A' XV	8	4	0	4	108	85
'B' XV	8	7	0	1	126	50

After several weeks' training throughout a wet Autumn a promising squad was assembled. The 'A' team's season proved to be a mixed and difficult one largely for reasons outside their control. After a defeat in their first match against an experienced Watford side two promising wins were to follow. However, Mr Stubbs' absence severely disrupted the continuity of their season: five different members of staff coached the team during this period. Nevertheless, two close defeats were followed by a comfortable win over William Ellis School, a dispirited performance at Aylesbury, and a strong finish to the season with a victory over Sir William Borlase School.

The 'A' team was led by their outstanding outside half Nick Beal who scored eight tries. Scott Cutler (three tries) was a busy scrum half, but the rest of the backs did not manage a score between them. The front five forwards also had problems, but Anthony Jenkinson and Stuart Evans proved very useful in the loose, scoring four tries each. The back row did not live up to early promise, but David Pardon at number eight made most progress and secured four tries.

The 'B' team had one of the most successful seasons for many years and late in the season several players went on to play for the 'A' team. The main features were Julian Beaumont's captaincy, Simon Rake's tackling, and in particular the half back combination of Richard Flack and Robert Dawson who often made telling use of the possession gained by the forwards' frequent domination of opposing packs.

Finally, many thanks to Mr. Stubbs who led the training of the squad until December and to Mr. Moffatt who helped out with his usual cheerful enthusiasm.

R.J.D.

Hockey

1st XI	Played — 24	Won — 18
	Lost — 3	For — 64
	Drawn — 3	Against — 22

As the record suggests, this season has been a highly successful one. No previous team has recorded wins in the same year over Watford G.S., Merchant Taylors' School (only beaten twice) and Bloxham School (their only defeat). The character of the side came through when we conceded 3 early goals against Abingdon School but recovered to win 4-3. At the end of term we convincingly beat local rivals, Aylesbury G.S., 4-0 and then drew with a strong Old Boys' team which included England international, Richard Stayner.



The team's success has been achieved through good players combining well together. David Capel has kept goal throughout and has looked very good at times. Full backs, Stephen Maynard and Nick White have played with composure. In mid-field, the strength of David Barnes and flair of Stephen Langton, together with the work-rate of Mike Farmer, have enabled us to control games. It is a tribute to David that he was the leading scorer with 22 goals, just one ahead of Richard Cook, who changed from right-half to centre-forward and is now a very accomplished player. The pace of Peter Grimmett and clean striking of Nigel Grace has given the attack force in wide positions.

Special mention must be made of Tim Scriven, a much improved player, whose excellent distribution has set up many attacks, and to Chris Beckford, a promising 5th

former who quickly established a place at right-half. Sean Sawyer, a talented cricketer who started hockey last September, really took to the game well and played in later games.

A total of 21 players has represented the team, some thus gaining valuable experience for next year. Best wishes go to those leaving and our sincere thanks to the groundsmen for their hard work in maintaining the pitch, to the tea ladies, and to Mr. Cook for assisting with the umpiring duties.

During the season the following honours were gained: Stephen Maynard — selected for South-East England U18; David Barnes and Stephen Langton — for Bucks U21; David Capel, Peter Grimmett and Mike Farmer — for Bucks U19.

D.G. STONE

2nd XI	Played — 16	Won — 9
	Lost — 3	Drawn — 4
	For — 48	Against — 8

This was an outstanding season for the 2nd XI. A large number of players represented the 2nd XI, including several promising 5th formers. Despite many team changes the team played with much determination and teamwork and was never totally outclassed by any opposition.

The defence was strong, only conceding eight goals in the entire season. This was due to superb goalkeeping by Richard Ryll who kept nine cleansheets, and fine defensive play by Gary Williams and Geoff Newell. The skilful midfield played well together, with determined efforts from Richard Malaure, Richard Grant, Sean Sawyer and Kevin Bint. The forward line was particularly successful with the wingers, Andrew Medhurst, Adrian Abbott and Peter Stephenson making many opportunities for Jon Wilkins and Peter Cusdin to score from.

Noteworthy events included two well contested draws against strong opposition at Haberdasher's Aske's and Watford G.S.

It was a very enjoyable season and special thanks must go to Mr. Pantridge for his much appreciated effort and enthusiasm.

Team members: A. Abbott, K. Bint, H. Clark, P. Cusdin, N. Grace, R. Grant, R. King, R. Malaure, A. Medhurst, R. Medhurst, G. Newell, G. Ormiston, M. Pope, P. Rea, R. Ryll, S. Sawyer, C. Shaw, P.J. Stephenson, J. Wilkins, G. Williams.

PETER CUSDIN (captain)



3rd XI Played — 12 Lost — 4
 Won — 5 Drawn — 3
 For — 18 Against — 17

The season started in much the same vein in which we finished last year — with two defeats. After these we began to play as a team and recorded an unbeaten six-match run. This was highlighted with our best win for several years, a 5-0 victory against Merchant Taylors' School, with Robert King and Chris Shaw dominating the attack. The defence of Simon Turner, Tim Williamson, Alasdair Bath and Zac Ramsden played well, although Martin Jones in goal had to make up for errors and poor marking early in the season. In attack, Tim Byrne, Richard Griffin, Phil Thackrah and Kevin Wotherspoon always looked threatening, even if the finishing touch was not always quite as intended.

The most successful season the 3rd team has ever had ended when a hard-earned goal from Kevin Smith secured a fine 2-1 victory over Bloxham.

Our thanks go to Mr. Grundy for running the team and umpiring the matches.

PETER REA

UNDER 15 Played — 9 Lost — 5
 Won — 1 Drawn — 3
 For — 8 Against — 18

The season as a whole was rather disappointing. There were contrasting performances against Aylesbury G.S. (1-1 and 0-3), and the team would have played better if they had practised the basic skills more and played together rather than as individuals. Carl Davies, however, was outstanding throughout in goal.

The best hockey was produced in the games against Sir William Borlase's School and Bloxham School. In the latter we recorded our solitary win with only seven regular players available, scoring the goal from a penalty corner. Gavin Bambury, Sajid Ali and Gavin Elliott, all under 14, did well when called upon.

Congratulations go to John Walker, Graham Farrar, Neil Stephenson and Martin Heys, still under 14, on their selection for the County. Thanks go to Mr. Rodger and Mr. Gilpin for helping to organise the squad and to other staff who have assisted with the umpiring duties.

GRAHAM FARRAR

UNDER 14 Played — 10 Lost — 4
 Won — 3 Drawn — 3
 For — 20 Against — 19

This was a most encouraging season. The group was very keen and was prepared to give time and energy to developing skills and learning the game. To this end, a number of training sessions at Bisham Abbey were also held. An 80% attendance was most gratifying, which meant that when we were selecting teams the competition for places was keen. Having suitable talent in depth in the set meant that the school matches were well contested. In some fixtures, U14 players were selected for both U15 and U16 teams.

In addition, the annual tournament for this age group at Bisham Abbey resulted as follows:

 Played — 5 Won — 4 Drawn — 1
 goals for 11 goals against 3

The team was selected mainly from:- Ali, Bambury, Bignell, Buxton, Cook, Elliott, Fox, Griggs, Hall, Hatcher, Iver, Keshane, Lane, McAllister, Mould, Nickolay, Taylor.

A.J.S.

Tennis

1st VI Played — 13 Won — 9
 Drawn — 1 Lost — 3

This was actually a more successful season than the playing record suggests. We lacked the strength in depth that had been enjoyed in previous years. Despite this, however, we lost only three matches, two of which were the minimum 4-5 scoreline, and these results could easily have been reversed. The exciting climax in the match against the undefeated Merchant Taylors team falls into this category, RGS losing out in the final set by six games to four.

Comfortable wins were recorded against St. Bartholomew's (9-0), King James's College (9-0), Sir William Borlase (7-2) and a strong Dr. Challoner's team (6½-2½).

Kevin Hodges and Jeremy Morris were undefeated as first pair throughout the year. Kevin partnered by Andrew Knox, reached the final of the Clark Cup (The National Schools Tennis Championships) including, on his way, an excellent victory over St. George's, Weybridge, who could call upon two players of national standard.

However, the final at Wimbledon proved to be just too much, as both players were defeated 7-5 in their final sets by a strong Repton pair.

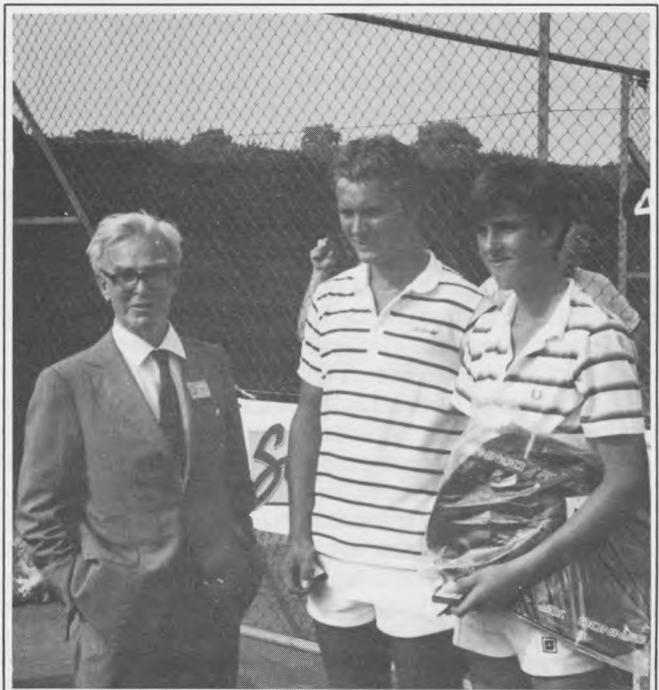
In the summer Kevin won the National Junior doubles title, and Andrew made a clean sweep of the Bucks County Closed Championships.

Our best wishes go to Kevin, who has now left for America to pursue a tennis scholarship. His skills will be greatly missed, but with a real team effort next season could again be very successful, and we look forward to it with anticipation.

Many thanks are due, once again, to Mr. Grundy for his organisation of the matches.

The following represented the school 1st VI: K. Hodges (Capt.), A. Knox, J. Morris, R. Cook, G. Ormiston, J. Meacher, A. Glaser, J. Marsland, S. Oliver, P. and M. Stephenson and A. Medhurst.

M. EARL



K. Hodges and A. Knox receiving the runners-up prizes for the Clark Cup at Wimbledon.

Cricket

1st XI Played — 15 Lost — 1
 Won — 7 Drawn — 5
 Abandoned — 2

Batting

Jonathan Atkins	462 runs @ 38.5
Richard Styles	208 runs @ 26.2
Mark Sullivan	262 runs @ 26.0
Andrew Duncan	278 runs @ 23.2
David Barnes	160 runs @ 20.0
Guy Lewis	138 runs @ 17.3
Tim Scriven	145 runs @ 13.2

Bowling

Mark Sullivan	45 wkts @ 9.8
Ian Rundle	22 wkts @ 11.2
Sean Sawyer	21 wkts @ 15.3
Tim Scriven	24 wkts @ 15.5

Catches

Jonathan Atkins (13); Neil Cole (wkt-keeper)(12);
Mark Sullivan (10).

Full Colours Awarded

Andrew Duncan, David Barnes, Ian Rundle, Tim Scriven.

Bucks Schools U19

Jonathan Atkins*, Tim Scriven*, Mark Sullivan,
Guy Lewis, Andrew Duncan.

(* awarded County Schools Colours)

Only one defeat was experienced in the season — a surprising fall to neighbouring Dr Challenor's, owing to a splendid innings by County captain, Tim Barry. With all three first-choice RGS seam bowlers missing from this game, problems might have been expected, but excuses are inappropriate for a game which we should still have been able to win.

Seven fine wins were achieved, and in all the draws we took the honours, although RGS Worcester out-batted us (258-8 dec. v. 202-7). Only a desperate last-wicket hanging-on, still 62 runs behind, saved Emanuel in the two-day game.

This game was memorable for a marvellous century by vice-captain Mark Sullivan, taking us from 59-6 to 209-9 dec.

The captain, Jonathan Atkins, an elegant left-hander, was the leading batsman, with four half-centuries. Andrew Duncan (two half-centuries) was not always at his best, but when he was, he was a forceful, lively batsman. David Barnes, with limited opportunities so often, was a powerful striker, and Richard Styles began to develop as a pleasing opening bat. Tim Scriven's batting promised a lot, but often disappointed. Guy Lewis was a useful, pleasant-looking opener, and Sean Sawyer showed glimpses of attractive innings to come.

All had their moments; the tail-enders were very rarely required.

The bowling offered much good, eminently watchable cricket, particularly from the spinners. Off-spinner Mark Sullivan, the best of his type we have seen for a long time, was a frequent match-winner. Rarely was he attacked successfully for long. The result: 45 wickets in only 14 games. Tim Scriven's slow left-arm bowling was the perfect foil. His figures do not do him full justice. He will take many more wickets. (He played 2nd XI cricket for Northamptonshire). The seam bowlers did better than

expected. The lively, characterful Ian Rundle put in a lot of effort. Whilst hardly a purist's favourite ('Nor is Bob Willis!' he might retort), he took vital wickets with his extra bounce. The young Sean Sawyer's away swing was encouraging for the future (which we had expected) and brought him over 20 wickets (which we had not). Simon Alway, another good, young prospect, won the third seamer's place, and we look to a successful future for him in the 1st XI.

A gamble was taken with an inexperienced wicket-keeper. Neil Cole has much to learn, but he showed glimpses of being the genuine article.

Every season has its bad luck story. This one was Stuart Newport's. A nasty broken hand in practice sadly disrupted a season in which he had hoped to emulate his more illustrious brother, Philip, now making his mark in First-Class cricket with Worcestershire.

The RGS fielding was usually passable, occasionally quite good, at times mediocre. We labour under the difficulty of having no time and no proper facility for full-scale practice matches — but more could be achieved by greater dedication to the techniques and skills of fielding by most RGS senior cricketers.

I thoroughly enjoyed the season's cricket, despite the poor weather in May, and I feel privileged to be able to coach so many talented cricketers.

My thanks are due to the captain, Jonathan Atkins, who used his bowlers well; to Mr. Chamberlain, Master-in-Charge of the 2nd XI and a source of constant support and friendly assistance; to the tea ladies, Gill, Vera and Bridget; and to our groundsmen, Arch Hewitson and Richard Tedham, who have nursed the square back towards former glories.

Postscript: Arch Hewitson retired in July after several years of immensely reassuring skill and reliability as Head Groundsman. We shall continue to see him taking an interest in our welfare, and we wish him and his wife, Christine, a very happy retirement.

SRG

2nd XI Played — 10 Drawn — 2
 Won — 5 Lost — 2
 Abandoned — 1

After the rain had virtually washed out the first month of cricket, the 2nd XI enjoyed another successful season in 1983. Once again only Worcester Royal Grammar School really outplayed us. Our other defeat was against local rivals, Aylesbury G.S., who took full advantage of generous attempts to open up the match.

Our bowling attack was again dominated by seam. Richard Treadwell and Chris Walker were "the quickest opening bowlers" that Worcester R.G.S. had faced. Richard was too fast for the Abingdon batsmen and took 5 for 37, while Chris destroyed Emmanuel, taking 7 for 24.

On paper the side's batting looked very strong but never fully realised this potential. Batsmen often laid the foundations for big innings but Andrew Campbell, with 66 against Emanuel, was the only batsman to go on and make a fifty. Adrian Abbott, a 5th former, contributed stylish knocks of 46 against Q.E.'s Barnet, and 33 not out against Abingdon, and newcomers Stephen Podesta and Gareth Cann also played useful innings. Stephen Share, our main wicket-taker with his medium pace swing bowling, batted well on occasions down the order.

The team enjoyed their cricket and were very grateful to Mr. Chamberlain for the time he devoted to coaching and umpiring, and to the groundsmen and tea ladies.

A.C. CAMPBELL

3rd XI

By winning both their games in 1983 (one other was cancelled), the 3rd XI maintained a 100% record stretching over the three years of its existence.

Four fixtures are arranged for 1984. If it were possible, we would have more.

SRG

UNDER 15	Played — 10	Drew — 0
	Won — 4	Lost — 6

If cricket talent could be measured on the Richter Scale, the U15 squad could probably create a big enough tremor to dislodge a wooden bail. If, however, enthusiasm and effort could be similarly measured, the squad could undermine the foundations of many proud structures. The fact that the team started most matches as underdogs was often a relief because, virtually regardless of the result, there were pleasing performances.

The batting was dogged rather than fluent — a total of 100 was the exception rather than the rule! Paul Miller, Ian Wiles, James Cook and Paul Hammond all scored runs at times, but rarely enough to enable their bowlers to attack throughout the opposition innings.

The bowling was steady and occasionally good. Cook, Wiles, Miller and Nick McLaughlin all showed control and enough variation to keep wicketkeeper Daren Blaker on his toes.

The fielding was similarly varied, with Blaker again kept busy collecting an assortment of lobs and chucks. Michael Read and Robert Cleary could be relied upon to stop the ball, and all the others worked hard to improve their ground fielding and catching.

Such was the determination of the side that the net practises were very well attended and some good results achieved, in particular a last ball victory against Emanuel School. With similar application next season many will play 2nd XI cricket, with Paul Miller probably making the 1st XI.

These players played regularly for the U15: Read, Hammond, Miller (Captain), Wiles, Cook, Cleary, Daw, Baxter, Ball, Goodwin, Blaker, McLaughlin.

S.B. GAMESTER

UNDER 14	Played — 13	Drawn — 3
	Won — 8	Lost — 2

At six o'clock on the playing field of Hampton School on May 7th, prospects for the season looked bleak with R.G.S. 26 for 6 after Hampton had scored 114. With still an hour of play left Martin Flack and Peter Smith led a rear-guard action, and with the help of last man Trevor Hoggan, who batted for 20 minutes, we just managed a draw, making 68 for 9.

This was the lowest point of what was a highly successful season. We were defeated twice by Dr. Challoner's G.S., the second occasion being in the final of the Lord's Taverners' Competition. The strength of the team lay in good all-round contributions, backed up by some excellent fielding.

The team was well led by James Baker whose own contribution of 274 runs and 25 wickets earned him selection for the County. Martin Flack, Tom Fountain, Peter Smith and Mark Puddephatt all made around 150 runs averaging 20 or over, and all gained tremendously in confidence during the year. Justin McNamara quickly secured a regular place and did well to take 21 wickets. The left arm in-swing of Jason Pidgeon, the off-spin of

Trevor Hoggan and medium pace of David Treadwell provided good variety to the bowling attack, which proved very effective in bowling sides out. Gavin Davey kept wicket tidily and also played two important innings.

It should be noted that a number of other cricketers attended nets regularly and several were selected for occasional matches. It will be interesting to see the players in this year group develop as they move up the school.

D.G. STONE

UNDER 13	Played — 9	Drawn — 2
	Won — 5	Tied — 1
	Lost — 1	

The U13's enjoyed a successful season, starting well, with 5 consecutive wins but fading out a shade at the end.

On the field the team performed admirably. With the bat, they were only once bowled out for less than a hundred runs, and with the ball five teams were bowled out.

As for individual performances, Sajid Ali's 63 not out was one of the main highlights of the season with the bat, and with the ball Richard Wilkinson's 6 wickets for 7 runs certainly stunned Aylesbury Grammar School. Other good contributors with the bat were David Meli, Matthew Dodds, Rodger Mould and Martin Middleton. With the ball Richard Wilkinson, John Skrimshire and John White took 21 wkts, 17 wkts and 16 wkts respectively.

Thanks are due to Mr. Grundy and Mr. Yeates, whose advice certainly contributed to the good results, and much of what they said rubbed off on a number of players, particularly on Matthew Dobbs, Sajid Ali and John Skrimshire who represented the county.

Overall, this season was a most enjoyable one for everyone concerned.

JOHN SKRIMSHIRE

Basketball

UNDER 19	Played — 13	Lost — 3
	Won — 10	Points For — 1076
	Points Against — 778	

We started this season well, winning at Desborough, who will be buying new rings next season, and only narrowly losing to last year's national champions, St. Columba's. We played four more friendlies, only losing one — against R.A.F. Halton where the constant threat of an intruder at the base interrupted our naturally fluent game. Yet again we won the Bucks Cup, in the final of which we met a strong Dr. Challoners' side and managed to scrape through to win 106-62. In the National Cup we reached the quarter-finals after getting a bye against Great Saltern and then beating Barton Peveril, Ranelagh and Framwellgate Moor, but then we lost to King Edward's, Birmingham. Two high points of the season have come when those from last year's squad received their County badges and when the school record was broken; a hundred and sixty six points in one game and of these Steve Carter, "Bucks' wonderkid" as the press call him, scored one hundred and fifteen. The team also took up netball this year and won our one game against Wycombe High School.

Steve Carter, who is in the England team again, and Russell Cooke, "Mr. Basketball (Mark II)" have been this year's best players, but Andrew Knox, Nigel Topping, Jon Marsland and Giles Britton have all complemented their talents. The bench of Richard Styles, Peter Ratcliffe, Mike Cartwright, Carlo Petrie, Arjunan Siva, Jeremy Morris and Thomas Oliver have been very consistent. Our deepest thanks must go to Mr. Stubbs for his undivided attention, even from his hospital bed. Thanks also to Mick de Luca who, although unable to play this season, has done a fine job as Secretary.

Congratulations to the staff side for putting up a good fight in the recently drawn match and appreciation to all those staff who supported us in our home games.

GILES BRITTON (Capt)

UNDER 15

The Under 15 Basketball team had an outstanding season winning all their matches. On two occasions they scored over 100 points, against Aylesbury Grammar and Pembroke School. The latter game was in the Bucks County Final.

There has been tremendous team effort and spirit throughout the year. Our leading scorers were Carlo Petri and Tom Oliver who both represented the successful county team. Carlo also had an England trial.

M.G. MILL

UNDER 14 Played — 11 Lost — 2
 Won — 9 Points For — 733
 Points Against — 359

This season was a successful one for the U14 Basketball team. They reached the final of the Bucks Cup but unfortunately lost narrowly to Chesham High. There was success however in the Wycombe league which they won, winning all their matches.

The top point scorers were: James Gamble 137, Justin Pearson 120, John Skrimshire 81, and David Meli 66. Other members of the squad were Sajid Ali, Philip Shaylor, Andrew Peglar, Roger Mould, Andrew Brimelow, Gavin Elliot, Paul Moss, Ian Cann, Nick Moore, Philip Doyle and James Tapley.

Our thanks to Mr. Gibson for organising our matches and coaching us.

JAMES GAMBLE (Captain)

Swimming

The school had a good season last year winning all their matches except one, against Queen Elizabeth, Barnet. Although the team includes several nationally recognised swimmers, the Barnet team proved too strong in the intermediate age group, many of their swimmers coming from the very strong local Barnet Cophall Club.

Several swimmers have done well at county level this year. Thomas Payne and Tony Lewis both swam well, being placed high up in their own age group competitions.

In the Junior/Senior championships Brian Wright and Simon Lee managed to take several good medals. Both of these two are very promising swimmers.

Brian Wright, at present holding eleven school records, competed at the South of England championships last year. In a fine race he took second place in the 50m Freestyle. Brian unfortunately just missed the National Age Group qualifying time last year. He will be competing in the same age group in July. We wish him well.

Simon Lee, at present holding ten school records, competed in the South of England championships. He took first place in the men's 200m U/19 Backstroke but only managed 4th in the 100m Backstroke. He went on to compete in the European trials and also the National Age Groups where he was 12th in the 200m Backstroke. We wish Simon well this year in the National Championships and the Olympic trials where he hopes to be competing.

At the start of this season the team again swam against Queen Elizabeth, Barnet. This year, in a much closer match, the seniors were run away winners. The intermediates, a very young team at present, swam better, but still lost. The school can look forward to the future with some good young promising swimmers.

The team, Lee (Capt), Buss, Wingfield, Wright, Cartwright, Godfrey, Gabriel, Payne and Lewis, can look forward to a very successful season in the coming weeks.

J.R.L.

Badminton

This season the badminton team has enjoyed its greatest successes for many years. The results read as follows:

Played — 9 Lost — 2
 Won — 7

The two losses were both 6-3 defeats against a strong Aylesbury Grammar side, who won on the basis of having strength in depth.

Our most pleasing results were the 8-1 home victories over John Hampden and Abingdon. Victories were all the sweeter, as we have not tasted success against these two teams in recent times. These victories were complemented by successes against Sir William Borlase, Brenchwood, Misbourne and an 8-1 win against the staff. Congratulations to Mr. Wilson and Mr. Page for winning the staff's only game, and thanks to the other members of staff who competed, for making the match an enjoyable and lively event.

This year four school players have represented the county. Robert Devenport of the 3rd form has played for the U/14 and U/15 teams and in addition he won the doubles event and was runner-up in the singles in the county U/14 tournament.

Graham Farrar of the 4th form has been part of the U/16 county squad this season, and Iain Kennedy of 6 1 is a member of the U/18 team.

However pride of place goes to Adam Turner of the 5th form. This year Adam has represented the county at both U/16 and U/18 level. At the U/16 County Junior Tournament he made a clean sweep, collecting the singles, doubles and mixed doubles titles. He then progressed to the U/18 County Tournament and won the doubles title and was also runner-up in the singles and mixed events. Playing with Iain Kennedy, Adam has not lost a game for the school this year, and Iain has only lost one game playing with other partners.

Thanks to Tim Palmer, our secretary, who has helped in co-ordinating the matches and the team, and also to Mr. White-Taylor for his great enthusiasm in organising the badminton set, and arranging transport for our away matches (all the coaches arrived at the right time and in the right place!).

Full colours this year have been awarded to Adam Turner and Iain Kennedy and half-colours to Tim Palmer, Vernon Reuter and Jeremy Morris.

JAMES LAWRENCE (Team Captain)

Fives

In September 1983 the cracks in the floors of the Fives Court were filled in and the steps resurfaced. The new surface has lasted well through the frosty weather. R.G.S. boys play Fives at lunch times and on Thursday afternoons.

The 4th Year Fives competition has been won by 4SG. The 5th Year Fives competition has been won by 5K.

The Fives Club has had fixtures against Mill Hill School, Highgate, Harrow, Marlborough College, Eton College, the Eton Fives Association and the Hill Club in Harrow. We won the fixtures against Mill Hill and Marlborough. There is keen interest amongst boys in the present Fifth Year and we hope to improve our record next year. We also hope very much that soon our courts may have a roof and lighting.

The Captain of Fives is Stephen Ellis.

T.J.D.

Fencing

Each season seems to have its level of successes, but I think to describe this one as our most successful yet would not be using hyperbole.

As far as matches are concerned, we did lose two: to Marlborough and Harrow. But against that can be set a string of victories over Radley, Bradfield, Wellington, Douai (twice), KCS Wimbledon (twice) and Winchester.

Competitions have brought in twelve medals at local, regional and national levels. This is double last year, which had been our best season yet. Adrian Griffin (captain) won the BBO U18 foil but saved his greatest efforts for the Public Schools Championships at Crystal Palace, where he achieved third place (bronze medal) in the Senior Foil. James Everard was second in the BBO U18 sabre, fifth in the foil and second in the Southern Section U18 epee and fourth in the foil. In the National Finals he reached the quarter finals of the epee. James Bartlett was second in the BBO U16 foil, second in the sabre, third in the Southern Section U16 epee and fourth in the foil. James thus qualified for all three weapons in the National Finals (the first time that an RGS fencer has done this) and reached the quarter finals in the sabre. But like Adrian Griffin, James saved his greatest efforts for the Public Schools Championships where, in a fight off, he came second in the Junior Foil, a truly magnificent achievement.

Other medals were won by Simon Alway (foil), Simon Aspinall (foil and sabre) and Nick Payne (foil). Both Tom and Nick Payne qualified for the U14 National Foil Finals at Bletchley on May 5th. That made a total of seven qualifications for National Finals this year: another record.

A major innovation in the spring term was the acquisition of Allan Skipp as a professional coach. His skill and expertise are clearly already bearing fruit with our fencers. My thanks also go to Mrs. Payne (mother of two of our rising stars in the club, and a qualified president) who has been an invaluable help with home matches, presiding over the first team bouts.

Full colours were awarded to Giles Weblin and James Bartlett. The RGS Fencing Cup goes to Adrian Griffin for his leadership of the team, for his gold medal in the county final and for his placing at the Public Schools Competition.

J. ROEBUCK

Boat Club

Although 1983 looked set to be a successful year for the Boat Club, with the new boat, the 1st IV fresh from their win at Bedford, and a 2nd IV with "prospects", overall results were disappointing.

The 1st IV: Heath Drewett, Martin Howgate, Ira Morris, Owen Roberts and Phillip Rugg, although not lacking enthusiasm, found that this quality does not win races, and came through the season without a regatta to their name, though with some individual wins.

The 2nd IV: Timothy Andrew, James Dible, Andrew Lowe, Richard Sharp and Timothy Lohmann, started well with a win in the Junior Ball Cup, but failed to retain this winning flair, with a disastrous end to the season at Egham, where victory stared them in the face, but some 'accidents in the boat' prevented them from winning. The J.15 crew did not compete this season, but next year should see them racing.

I must, on behalf of all the boys, thank Messrs. Blyth, Edwards, Box and Meyer for their help and support throughout the season, and let's hope that next year is a better one (it couldn't really get much worse; could it?).

HEATH DREWETT

Cross-Country

This has been one of the busiest years in the history of the Cross-Country Club. We sent a record number of boys, 27 in all, to the Waddesdon Open, and broke new ground by sending 2 teams to compete in the St. Anselms Golden Jubilee Race at a wet and windy Birkenhead in October. We also made first visits to Orange Hill, Highgate Harriers and Merchant Taylors.

At senior level, Jimmy Read the captain has been the outstanding runner, winning the gold medal at Waddesdon; he represented the county in an inter-counties match along with Mark Stephenson, Mark Baker, Peter Machin and Richard Walker, and joined Mark Stephenson in the county team of eight for the National Schools Championships in March.

At intermediate level, David Hooper has run exceptionally well, just missing out on a medal at Waddesdon; he represented the county along with his brother Mark Hooper and David Jolly, and also ran very well in the National Schools Championship; on several occasions he has matched or even bettered Jimmy Read when running for the school.

Despite the lack of competition the season has thrown up some promising juniors, in particular Neil Panchen of the 3rd form who finished in 13th place in the School Open, and Alastair Wittome of the 2nd form who finished 18th in the County Championships and 21st in the School Open.

The senior team, showing a tremendous strength in depth, has run well on several occasions, but particularly at the Abingdon Relay where we came 6th out of 42 teams, at Orange Hill, 4th out of 16, and at Merchant Taylors, 6th out of 21.

It has been a most enjoyable season, and with a good crop of 5th formers moving into the 6th form next year we shall be hoping to match if not improve upon our performances this year.

IAN J. WILSON

Orienteering

The Orienteering Club has had a quiet year, with only a few major events being entered. However, the local TVOC colour coded events have been attended regularly. Several members have completed or almost completed the three runs above par time required to gain badges at this level.

As always the year started with the easy event at Youlbury. It is good for learning, and blowing the cobwebs from the compasses. Younger members who started there are now showing promise for the future.

A team was scraped together for the CCF Championships near Grantham and the school came a creditable 7th out of 22 teams.

The British Orienteering Federation Concorde Chase was also attended by the Club. M. Roe gained a silver award at this level. At the end of last year half colours were awarded to P. Reupke.

Mr. Boutland and Mr. Crease must be thanked not only for coaxing reluctant minibuses to the events but also for arranging the meetings and holding the club together.

P. REUPKE

Chess Club

The chess club meets every lunchtime in Room 14 and has entered several teams for local and national competition. The senior first team did very well indeed to avoid relegation from division one of the Bucks. Men's league, eventually winning three of their nine games. David Dawson was a keen and competent captain while the whole team played well and won or drew a few games. Outstanding performances were put in by Chris Kennedy who drew with Paul Girdlestone, one of the strongest players in the county, and by Patrick Jennings who defeated the brilliant Jason Kirk of Dr. Challoners, while, the author, with 5 out of 9, was the only player to achieve a plus score for the season. Chris Kennedy played regularly for the County First team with spectacular and well-publicised success, while David Dawson, Matthew Leigh and Nick White joined him in the County Seconds.

The Sunday Times team played reasonably well to reach the Bucks Final of the Competition where they were slaughtered by Aylesbury Grammar School. Various reasons for our demise, but in the end Aylesbury were just rather the better team. (Heresy?)

The Senior Seconds are pressing hard for promotion with Nick White and Kevin Buzzard putting in excellent performances. Malcolm Lewis and David Robinson turned up for every game and always ticked the board on time. It is heartening to think that we have such keen and promising juniors.

The Under 16 First team won their league while the Seconds struggled hard against uncompromising opposition. The present fifth and fourth forms contain many players who will be required for Senior teams next year and should be ready for the hurly-burly after cutting their teeth in the league.

The Under 14 league now contains three R.G.S. teams — a tribute to the encouragements and efficiency of Chris Kennedy who regularly marshals their matches and picks the teams. The Firsts won the league title led by Chris Doe who remains our most exciting and consistent junior for years. Michael Shipley 3S and Matthew Ball 2W have also played most commendably, as have the whole team.

M.G.L. LEIGH

Army Section Report 1983/84

After a very successful recruiting campaign the Section set off for summer camp, this year at Cwm Gwdi in the Brecon Beacons. The Advance Party spent two days labouring with the many tents, although there were lighter moments — such as Captain Hollingworth negotiating the narrow (!) lanes in a Four Tonner and Cpl. Buss' remarkable resemblance to a honey monster when in his shorts! Our peace having been shattered by the arrival of the Cadets we embarked on a packed programme, including a two day Exercise and a two day hike remarkable for the Senior NCOs' apparent inability to agree on the exact route they took!

Back at School in September new Senior NCOs faced new Cadets with the same feeling of desperation! But in all fairness, 'B' (Recruit) Company have been extremely keen and have learnt fast.

As the year progressed the programme began to look distinctly crowded. A range day was quickly followed by a visit to our new found friends, The Royal Green Jackets. In the Spring term the annual Night Navigation Exercise (aided by our excellent Signals capability) was followed by the Aldershot Weekend — which included an Exercise where C/Sgt. Cooper took command of the Platoon.

The Section was also energetically involved in the Ridgeway Run — more than 80 miles in a Relay in just under 12 hours. Captain Hollingworth and Mr. Claye were the Officers in Charge, taking their turn in running as well, and C/Sgt. Baxter masterminded the operation.

The whole Section went on a Field Day to the School of Infantry, Warminster and were most impressed. We were also glad to have a letter from the School of Infantry commending the bearing and turnout of this Section.

This year's Easter Camp will be at Butterton and will include a two day Exercise (featuring stupefyingly complicated Orders Groups from C.S.M. Hyams and Sgt. Manocha learnt on U.K.L.F. Cadet Leadership Course last year), and a one day hike plus the added bonus of Initiative Exercise in Lumpool, Rock Climbing on the Roaches, Survival Training and Orienteering.

At the end of the year the Senior NCOs leave — C.S.M. Hyams and Sgt. Monacha hopefully to R.M.A. Sandhurst (the latter only briefly before University), Sgt. Baker to Lympstone and the Royal Marines, and C/Sgt. Baxter, C/Sgt. Cooper and C/Sgt. McAusland to University. We wish them all well.

Finally my thanks go to Captain Hollingworth, for his organisation of and enthusiasm for Camps, to Lt. Grundy for his guidance and help, and to Major Wilkes and SSI M. Faerber.

C.S.M. T. Hyams
NCO i/c Army Section

R.N. Section Report

This has indeed been a very successful year for the Section and we would like to welcome Sub. Lt. Barker to our 'merry ranks' and wish him many more years in the Senior Service.

To begin the season we dispatched a party on a field day to HMS Royal Arthur, where a team took part in the infamous Cliff & Chasm race and the Assault Course. Thanks to a truly superb effort on everyone's behalf, we

managed to break the CCF records for both events, coming very near to the times set by the RN teams themselves. Our river season has been equally eventful with our "fleet" being substantially strengthened thanks to a very generous donation of various sailing craft from W/O Faerber (thanks Mike).

Our finest hour came just after 'mocks', when we were very fortunate to have Lt. Cmdr. Skinner (an old boy), pop in for a flying visit, (excuse the pun), in a Sea King helicopter of 706 Squadron — giving the section a ride around the area and finishing off with a presentation of his exploits 'down south'.

At present the section look forward to the biannual sea training on board a Fleet Tender — this year to be held down in Plymouth and surrounding waters.

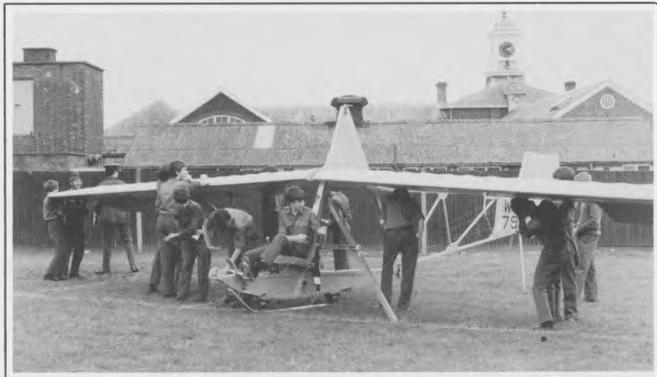
With the onset of 'A' levels, we wish those leaving the section all the best in the future. Lastly, but certainly not least, we should all like to express our appreciation to our gallant leaders — Lt. T. Claye and Sub.Lt. R. Barker — for their hard work in keeping the entire crew shipshape.

Coxswain — J.H. DIBLE

P.O. — S.J. MASH

R.A.F. Section

The initiative and ability of the NCOs has been tested this year in coping with a section of record size. In addition to the basic training for Part II and III exams, cadets took part in .22 shooting, orienteering, and visits to the Assault Course at Wilton Park. The flying programme at RAF Abingdon was curtailed due to poor weather conditions.



Senior cadets have been involved in selection for Flying Scholarships. Congratulations to Ian Hannah, Richard Malaure, Andrew Hogbin, Paul Warwick and John Walshe on attaining these coveted awards. Gliding Courses, which train a cadet to fly a solo circuit in a Slingsby Venture motor-glider, were attended by Cadets Sexton, Nash, Warwick, Jarvis, Dewar, Innes and Malaure minor.



There have been three adventurous training weekends in the New Forest and the Black Mountains.

The battle-scarred primary sailplane has been taken away for repair, so cadets will not experience the delights of man-powered flight this summer. However the summer programme consists of outdoor activities and, with luck, flying for all cadets.



Easter Camp was held at RAF Binbrook and Summer Camp will be at RAF Shawbury.

Thanks must go to Sqn. Ldr. Smaje, Flt. Lt. Sollars, Fg. Off. Boutland and Fg. Off. Mill, and to Flt. Lt. Gregory and F.S. Francis for their organisation and invaluable assistance.

W/O S.G. LEWIS

R.A.F. Summer Camp 1983

A contingent of 21 cadets accompanied by 2 officers attended the camp at RAF Sealand, Deeside. A station exercise caused disruption to the programme involving a change of accommodation from tents to barracks and back again!

Flying in Chipmunks at RAF Wood Vale was unfortunately cancelled due to poor visibility.

The cadets (re)visited the aircraft museum at RAF Cosford and were kept occupied with a questionnaire, the results of which were included in the "inter-tent" competition.



The night exercise (which was held during daylight!) involved "escape and evasion" from cadets of the local ATC.

RAF Sealand is responsible for servicing aircraft components and visits to the various sections on the station, though rather technical, were an interesting insight into the less glamorous side of the Royal Air Force.

Cadets took part in live firing of .22 and .303 rifles. Swimming at a local pool was combined with an afternoon off in Chester.

The sporting highlights were a 5 a side football(?) competition and a rugby match between RGS and Maidstone Grammar School. With typical spirit and determination RGS defeated the more skilful opposition by 20-16.

Our thanks go to Fg. Offs. Boutland, Munday and Mill for their work during the week.

SGL

C.C.F. Expedition IZMIR — 1983

Friday July 22nd. saw furious activity outside the school as seventeen cadets and five staff packed the equipment they would need for five weeks into two Transit mini-buses, which seemed to become smaller with each item loaded. Was it an omen when one of the buses was found to have a puncture at the very start of this undertaking?

Just about on time farewells were said and the small convoy left High Wycombe for Folkestone and adventure.

A detailed account of the trip would fill this Wycombiensian, so just a few of the more memorable moments are recalled.

The Eiffel Tower and Notre Dame-Sacre Coeur by night — Heatwave in Pisa and Rome — sewer beach at Pompeii — Ferry from Brindisi and sleeping on deck — rocky campsite at Dafni, Athens — the baking Acropolis — Chios dockside at dawn — chaotic Customs at Cesme — meeting the Hunts at Izmir — ruins and amphitheatres (all open) — Classical sites of Ephesus, Troy, Pergammon, Miletus and Priem — the beauty of Bodrum — the starkness of Gallipoli — Bazaars and bustle of Istanbul — Topkapi Palace and Blue Mosque — congestion of roads in Jugoslavia — freedom of Austrian and German Autobahn — fitting into the Munich campsite — winding Rhine Gorge — Real food at Wildenrath — sunrise at Dover — five minutes early back at school — home and a real bed.

No more would tents come down and up as a daily routine nor Andrew Langdon-Ellis and Chris Aylott do their mountaineering act on the roofrack, Mark Basford could forget oil levels and tachographs, the police forces of Europe could relax from Colin Thurston's attacks on their equipment, the recession would be felt by water-melon salesmen, our trip to Izmir and return was over!

Five thousand miles, six hundred gallons of petrol and thirty seven days out of England all added up to Operation "Turkish Delight" which will, I am sure, have a place in the memory of all who participated.



CCF Ridgeway Relay Run

Sunday 25th March, 1984

After spending the Saturday night 'concentrating our forces' in the stores at school, including the late arrival of one number in a red carnationed dinner jacket, the team of ten arose at 3.30 a.m. in order to get to the Ridgeway Cafe, close to Avebury in Wiltshire by 7, so as to be able to start in reasonable light conditions.

A thin wind blew over the rolling downs as Captain Hollingworth (ex RGS) set off in a grey dawn to cheers of modified rapture. Route finding proved easy on the early legs and we achieved halfway at the bridge over the Thames at Streatley in 5 hrs. 15 mins. averaging 8 m.p.h., rather faster than we expected to keep going for the whole way. Yet we found time to observe quite a variety of mammals at first hand including fox, deer and hare. Organising the transport to pick people up and set runners down proved a lively affair but the team was basically called to order by the excellent planning of Major Wilkes (father of SCM of the Army Section), who met us at the start in his car. Bumping our way at slow speed round the circuitous country roads between changeover points gave opportunity for the team to develop new skills: mobile tea brewing and re-negotiating legs so as to gain more downhill/a shorter run/a road section in place of a rough path.

Running beside the Thames introduced us to treacherously slippery tracks and as we left it behind to follow the line of the Chiltern Hills the weather worsened to give us an uncomfortable four hours of wind driven sleet during the afternoon. This eased as we closed on Princes Risborough but the conditions underfoot were difficult and route finding became very difficult (future teams would do well if team members reconnoitred their individual legs over the last third of the course) and our tiredness added to these problems. Richard Stephens enlivened one of his pitches with an argument with an alsation. Lost time, and I do mean lost, meant that despite the improvement in the weather, we looked to be in danger of not completing the course in our target time of 12 hours, but Graham Baxter, very much playing a team captain's role throughout, set off in great style on the fortieth and final leg of the 89 mile journey as the video bears witness.

In an indescribably steamy and muddy minibus we got ourselves ahead of him to Ivinghoe Beacon and staggered to the top. It was an unforgettable occasion. To our south and west lay the tortuous route we had followed since dawn; behind us lay the folded shadowed valleys between the hills and to our north the white chalk lion of Whipsnade.

As we clambered up the steep sides and onto the plateau the westerly sun broke through the stratus with golden shafts of light as a white figure tore up the path towards us, touched the trig point and collapsed flat on his back having made it with over five minutes to spare.

It was a deeply satisfying and fitting finale to our endeavours.

Technical note: The time taken was 11 hours 54 minutes 11 seconds — a time which could well be broken in better conditions with a team who know their sections well from around Nuffield onwards.

The team were: Captain Hollingworth, Lt. Claye, Sgt. Baxter, CSM Hyams, Sgt. Manocha, Cpl. Welch, R. Stephens, Pt. Ponting, Pt. Godfrey & Pt. Nuttall.

T.J.N. CLAYE

Uplyme House Report

Another year has come and gone, so another infamous Uplyme House Report is due! The past twelve months have seen the departure of Mr Grundy and Michael Irons and the arrival of Mr Yeates and Alexis Read. Both seem to have settled in quickly and are enjoying the "pleasures" of communal life at Uplyme. Daily life, here at the House, is punctuated with the pleasure of experiencing one's comrades' emotional ups and downs.

Uplyme has been well represented on the sporting scene. In hockey Nigel Grace has played for the 1st team and Sean Sawyer for the 2nd team. Andrew McCubbin, Alexis Read and James Baker have played in various rugby teams. Graeme Hendry has been drafted, several times, into the staff football team to improve their quality of play.

On the arts side Roland Shanks starred in the school play "Death of a Salesman". His performance, in the leading role, exposed his natural talent.

Yet again we must extend our thanks to Mr and Mrs Stubbs for their ever present guidance. Also our appreciation to Mr Yeates for his perseverance and dedication.

JOHN DARROCH
SIMON AYEE



School House Report

A year of change. After the change of staff last year there has been a mass exodus of boys from the boarding house. Is this because of the new regime? Kommandant Page assures me that this is not the case and if I say it is, Stormtrooper Goldthorpe will be let out of his room. In all seriousness though, the sharp decline in numbers was due to the fact that a great many of last year's boys were either in the 6th or the 5th form. Of the sixth formers Mark Sullivan and Gavin Edwards were most successful, going on to Medical School and Oxford respectively.

While there was a large gap left by those that left at the end of last year, it has been partially filled by a number of newcomers. In the Junior Dormitory there have been three newcomers in Martin Brown, Jonathon Bealer and Peter Lawrence. In the Middle Dorm. there has been one newcomer in Scott Simmons, who has provided a much-needed intellectual stimulus to the dining-table conversation. In the sixth form there has been one new addition in Kevin Bint.

While the numbers in the boarding house were as low as 14 at one point, they appear to be on the increase again. Three more arrived after Easter, and there will be six more, if all goes well, at the beginning of the Autumn term 1984.

On the sports field there seems to be some renewed interest, with Jeremy (who me?) Iver and Clive (I wasn't doing anything) Nickday playing hockey for the U14 XI as well as cleaning the back yard. Kevin Bint has played hockey for the 1st and 2nd XI, and Robert McEwan has played rugby for the 1st XV. And, of course, Gavin would be in the basketball team.

The highlight of the year is divided between Mr. Goldthorpe's ambulatory escapades at the Christmas party and Gavin cutting down his use of the phone from 5 to 47 hours per evening.

Finally, thanks must go to Mr. Page for letting the Red Cross parcels through and for making sure Mr. Goldthorpe is taken for his walk every day. Also thanks to Mrs. King for dealing with the flu epidemic in mid-term, while at the same time allowing Jim to go for his audition at Palitoy. Thanks also to Gill for her sterling efforts in the kitchen in keeping Kevin topped up and in working condition.

ROBERT McEWAN
(Head of House)

Old Wycombiensian's Club

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The A.G.M. was held in the Masters' Common Room at 6.15 p.m. on Saturday April 7th, 1984. 35 Old Boys were present, the President, Mr. Rowland Brown, took the chair.

The minutes of the last A.G.M. were read, confirmed and signed.

Financial Report. The new rates of membership of the Club were outlined — £30 for a Life Member, £2.50 for an Annual Member and a Term Subscription of £10 for 5 years. The report of the Hon. Auditor was read to the meeting, which stated that the deficit of £545 for 1982 had been converted into a surplus of £266 in 1983. This was mainly due to an increase of £582 in donations received, £63 in the surplus from the Annual Dinner and £24 in annual subscriptions.

Election of Officers. All the officers were re-elected.

President's Comments. The President reported on the state of the new building programme. The Gaunt Memorial Building was almost complete and the opening date had been arranged for April 28th, 1984. Work was about to get under way with the construction of the New Technology Block. He reported that the school continued to do well on all fronts and he paid tribute to the loyalty of the Staff.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the President for conducting the meeting.

THE ANNUAL DINNER 1984

164 Old Boys attended the Annual Dinner in the New Dining Hall. M.M. Davies proposed the toast to the Guest of Honour, the Rev. A.J. Skipp (1929-37) in his usual amusing fashion. John Skipp told many stories of people he had known connected with the school both past and present. He has just returned to live in High Wycombe having found retirement in rural Lincolnshire not really his cup of tea. Apparently John had got to the stage where, instead of looking at his stocks and shares first in the Telegraph, he had started to read the deaths column — to see if he was still alive.

R.J. Martin-Fagg (1962-68) proposed the toast to the School and Club, to which the Headmaster responded.

DEATHS

Staff

Price, T.H., B.Sc. (London), (1935-46), on February 17th, 1984 in Wycombe Hospital, aged 78 years.

Thomas Henry Price joined the Staff in 1935 to take charge of the Chemistry Department. He commanded the Air Training Corps at the School from 1944-46. He later became headmaster of Victoria Boys' School, a post he held for 20 years. He and his wife continued to live in High Wycombe and until his death he kept up his close connection with the Royal Grammar School and the Old Boys' Club.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Olivia Price, who lives at 18A, Lucas Road, High Wycombe.

Eastman, Lt.Col. C.E.C., M.A. (Oxon), (1930-42), on January 19th, 1984, at his home, Prestwood Cottage, Prestwood Village, aged 74 years.

Charles Edward Cooper Eastman joined the Staff in 1930 from Goldsmith College, London University, as a

physical education specialist. Shortly after, he went to Oxford University and on his return took charge of the organisation of the Officers' Training Corps at the School. When the Home Guard was formed in High Wycombe he took over the training of the unit. In 1942 he was commissioned in the King's Own Scottish Borderers and was eventually promoted Lieutenant-Colonel in the Intelligence Corps. On being demobilised he became education officer for Unilever, then director of training for Stewart and Lloyd and finally he was with the Road Transport Training Board. He was a Governor of Pipers Corner School and for 20 years was on the University of Oxford Appointments Board.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Greta Eastman, and three children.

Old Boys

Callaway, F.W. (1913-16). Frederick Callaway died in March 1983. He had been a well known and popular publican, taking over the Kings Arms in Frogmoor from his father and later having the White Lion, Cryers Hill. He was always immaculately dressed and very proud of being an Arnison boy.

Clews, J. (1975-81) died aged 20 years after a climbing accident at Gordale in the Yorkshire Dales.

Craven G.A. (1923-28). Geoffrey Craven died on August 23rd 1983 aged 71 years. He joined the Midland Bank in Sept. 1928 and at the time of his retirement was Manager of the Midland Bank Stock Office. He belonged to 88 (City of London) A.A.Reg.R.A. 283 Battery and was a life member of Royal Artillery Association. During the war he served as an officer in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

He was an enthusiastic member of the Bluebell Railway and in his retirement made scale models of railway engines which have been accepted by the Bluebell Railway museum at Sheffield Park. As a young man his hobby was the making of scale models of ships. His other interests included ornithology, nature conservation and roses.

He leaves a wife and a daughter and Mrs. Craven has donated to the school several group photographs of the 1926-28 era.

Duckering A.G. [1940-47] died 19th December 1982. G.E.G. writes: Tony Duckering can properly be described as a "rounded person" in every sense. A natural leader from his days as Junior Head of Disraeli House until he became Head Boy his talents were varied — not only as Captain of Rigger, but also in the more artistic areas — as a leading Thespian (MacDuff and Sir Toby Belch) and as a musician ('Cello). A Quaker, he spent most of his years as Master (and for many of them as Housemaster) at Leighton Park School, where he was confirmed in his rightful position as a leader. He was much loved by the many boys who benefited from his teaching. To us, who knew him, he was always a person who enjoyed life and who had the ability of imparting that enjoyment to others.

Rose, C.A. (1940-44). Clifford Rose died after a long illness on 20th July 1983. He joined the Great Western Railway as a booking clerk at the age of 15. He subsequently served in the London area, in the West Country and South Wales becoming Divisional Movements Manager at Cardiff in 1966 and Assistant Divisional Manager in 1968. He became Chief Personnel Officer of the Southern Region in 1972, Executive Director Personnel, British Railways Board in 1975 and Member (Personnel) British Railway Board in 1977. In January 1983 Clifford became one of British Rail's two Deputy Chief Executives.

G.E.G. writes: Such is the power of television, that few could say that they did not know Cliff Rose. Hardly a day passed in the long drawn-out negotiations with the Railway Unions in 1982 than he was subject to exposure on our screens. Even though he was then suffering from increasing ill-health, his bearing and manner, the same as at School, thoughtful, courteous and caring. His undoubted ability at School bore fruit in that area in which he became outstanding and an acknowledged expert — industrial relations. In this, he enjoyed the confidence of both sides of the industry, a fact recognised by his appointment in 1978 to the Council of ACAS. In January 1983, he was appointed C.B.E. and promoted Deputy Chief Executive of the Board of British Rail. A devout Churchman, he devoted all his energies to serving the cause of his fellow men.

Sinden, C. (1970-77) died in March 1984 of leukaemia. He was an Uplyme boarder and had been training to become a farmer.

Willott, S.C. (1908-13) died in February 1984. He had a leather goods and menswear shop in Easton Street.

Winter, D.A. (1914-22) died on the 2nd March 1984. Dennis Arthur Winter had just celebrated his 80th birthday and 52 years of marriage. Until a few years ago he was patents adviser to the LEC Refrigeration Co. of Bognor Regis.

NOTES

Angell, B.W. (1965-72). Brian Angell has recently transferred on promotion with the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food. His work as a National Extension Specialist based at Reading means he now travels widely in England and Wales. Houses are somewhat more expensive in this area but hopefully he will settle in Caversham with his wife and daughter. His second child is due this spring.

Ashby, D. (1953-59) was elected to Parliament in June for the North West Leicestershire constituency. There are now two Old Wycombiensians in the Commons and David writes that Peter Fry has been extremely kind and helpful. He would like suggestions on how to shift half a ton of mail daily!

Baker, M.G. (1957-65) is head of Middle School in Hinchinbrooke School, Huntingdon, the largest comprehensive in Cambridgeshire, where he also teaches Economics.

Barnard, R.G. (1925-31) spends the winter months of the year in his holiday flat in Kyperia, Cyprus.

Barrett, Paul R. (1966-73) graduated in June 1983 from the "Ecole Superieure de Commerce" in Reims. Now working in Johannesburg for an international business information organisation, returning to the U.K. later in 1984 to commence studies in the field of computing science.

Blewett, P. (1966-73) has been a P.E. teacher in George Orwell School in Islington for five years. He was featured in a Guardian article in Jan 1984 on mixed PE lessons. Peter is a former British judo international and now spends much of his spare time teaching judo — a sport which has always ignored conventional prejudices against mixed teaching.

Bradshaw, D.H. (1945-51) since August 1983 has been Production Director and General Manager of the Architectural Division of Acorn Anodising Company Ltd.

Briden, J.C. (1949-57) has been awarded the 1984 Murchison Medal by the Geological Society of London. This is one of the highest honours in British earth sciences and has been awarded to Briden for his "distinguished contributions to palaeomagnetism". He has worked

mainly in Britain, Africa and Australia and has been Professor of Geophysics at Leeds since 1975.

Broadribb, J.S.C. (1972-9) in the past year has become qualified, engaged and unemployed. He obtained a B.Sc.(Hons) in Industrial Studies in Chemical Engineering at Loughborough University. He is engaged to Karen, a dental journalist, who is always telling him how to clean his teeth properly.

Buckingham, M.B.J. (1972-79) has recently successfully passed out of Sandhurst in December 1983 and has gained a commission as a Second Lieutenant in The Royal Pioneer Corps. At Sandhurst he met up with **Shapcott, W.J.** (1972-79) who will hopefully gain his commission in The Royal Tank Regiment in April 1984.

He has been posted to Münster for a two year tour, and has recently returned from a two week skiing course in the Harz Mountains with some members of his Platoon, where he was successful in both the Downhill and Longlough (cross-country) skiing examinations.

He is enjoying life in the Army and next year hopes to change his commission to a Regular one.

Bungey, R. (1974-80) has recently joined C.A.P. (a computer software company) as a programmer. He hasn't released any L.P.s yet!

Chapman, P.G. (1970-77) after 2 years of engineering at Emmanuel College, Cambridge and 1 year of industrial training with Rolls Royce Aero Engines, he decided that particular career path was not for him. He is now in his second year of clinical medicine at the London Hospital and hopes to qualify in about 17 years time. He is looking forward to becoming self sufficient — a full 8 years after leaving school!

Clark, J.W. (1960-66) is Lecturer in Industrial Relations, Department of Sociology and Social Administration, University of Southampton. He has written four books, the most recent being 'Labour Law and Industrial Relations' published by O.U.P. in 1983. He is joint author with Lord Wedderburn and Roy Lewis. He is currently undertaking a Research Project with electronic engineers for British Telecom on the Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in Britain.

Cooke, W.P. (1942-44). Peter Cooke has been Head of Banking Supervision at the Bank of England since 1976. This is one of the top five jobs at the Bank.

Coulon, M. (1966-74). Captain Marius Coulon has been Lord High Everything in the Falkland Islands dependency of South Georgia. Apart from being a captain in the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, and officer commanding the small Army garrison in South Georgia, Marius has been the resident civil official, magistrate, postmaster, special constable, assistant Queen's harbourmaster and deputy collector of customs. His assumption of the roles was designed formally to re-establish a civil administration in the island which had been under military control since its recapture from the Argentines in April 1982.

Currie, D.N. (1969-76) is Operations Manager for Sports Sponsorship International, a company that arranges for the sponsorship of power boat racing and snooker doubles. He works with Neil Durden-Smith, husband of Judith Chalmers.

Davies, B. (1954-57) has moved on from Geneva, where he spent 18 years as a construction engineer, to Brazil. He was hoping to build properties in Brazil, but found that the natives could not afford to buy properties and instead has bought himself two banana groves. His nearest telephone is 25 miles away.

Davies, A.J. (1955-62) is working for Watson Hawksley, Consulting Civil Engineers at Terriers House. He is an

associate of the firm and he manages the Structural Engineering and Computing Departments.

Diffley, J. (1969-76) is advertisement manager for Educational Equipment.

Dixon, A. (1959-64) has been made a Lighting Director at the BBC. Having worked alongside other Lighting Directors on seven of the Shakespeare series and Jonathan Miller's "Beggars Opera", he now has to work on his own starting with "Breakfast Time". He is grateful to the RGS, its operas and plays, for introducing him to his craft.

Dodgson, A. (1913-18). Still living alone in Harrow. He has continued to make constant visits to Sweden where his elder daughter lives. Meets regularly with his brother **Dodgson, S.** of Chalfont St. Peter (1919-21). Both long retired but happily keep fairly busy.

Draper, P. (1948-55) his work as Division Marketing Research Director of the Americas/Far East Division of Richardson Vicks Inc. based in Wilton Connecticut takes him overseas quite regularly. He recently had the opportunity of meeting Vidal Sassoon at his offices in Los Angeles while there on a business trip to learn about the shampoo/hair care industry.

Ellis, J. (1974-80) was captain of his university sailing team and went to the USA for the world championships.

Farmer, A.S.D. (1958-66) is still based in Kuwait with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, working on shrimp culture using intensive raceway systems for commercial application in arid lands. He is also involved in environmental impact studies, pollution and ecological studies, hydrographic surveys, coastal development and landscaping.

Featonby, N. (1971-78) has completed a 4 year course in Business Administration and French at Loughborough University. He is working as a commercial trainee for a London company within the Dickinson Robinson Group.

Fenner, S.G. (1969-77). Qualified MBBS B.Sc. from St. George's Hospital Medical School London in July 1983 following an elective of 2 months in India. Presently he is doing his house officer posts in Worthing & Portsmouth.

Finlay, W.M.L. (1977-83). Mike Finlay and **Andrew Glaser** (1981-83) are working their way across Australia for seven months prior to taking up places at university in Sept. '84.

Foster, M. (1971-78) has completed four years studying Classics at Oxford and is very much enjoying working for Arthur Anderson & Co. Management Consultancy in the City. He still regularly sees **McDermott, C.** (1971-78) and **Sendall, A.J.** (1972-79).

Gardiner, D.J. (1969-76) is still working in a polythene bag factory in High Wycombe. He enjoys pot holing and in the Mendips recently he dived his first sump. He keeps in touch with various other old boys of his years —

Copcutt, M. is working at B.A.C. Bristol, **Murnane, G.** is helping build the M25 in Surrey, **Dicker, J.** is a chartered accountant working in London, **Hagger, M.** is in Dubai on a 2 year civil engineering contract, **Lidgley, P.** is working for chartered surveyors in Reading, **Pillidge, A.C.** is a medical representative in Cambridge, **McElroy, A.B.** is still doing research in Cambridge, showing the marks of being run over whilst hitch hiking.

Goulborn, S.A. (1928-36) was elected to the Buckinghamshire County Council in November 1983. He is also Vice Chairman of Wycombe District Council and is expected to become Chairman in May. He was Mayor of the former Borough of High Wycombe in 1967-8. His son, **Robert**, (1957-64) who took a B.Com.degree at Leeds in 1967, is now in senior management with Carpet Express Ltd. at Hinckley, Leicestershire.

Green, P.J. (1971-78) has passed the Law Society's Final Exams and he is doing his Articles with Knight and Maudsley of Maidenhead.

Griffin, A.J.R. (1976-82) is captain of Churchill College Hockey 1st XI in 1984-85 and on the J.C.R. Finance Committee. He did a year's service with Project Trust, teaching in Honduras. He took all ages from 5 to adults, one student being the prospective Parliamentary candidate for the area!

Hardy, C.D. (1963-70) has joined the Wycombe firm of solicitors B.P. Collins, where **Staynor R.P.** (1965-70) is a partner. Richard Staynor is still doing well on the hockey field and was a member of the England team that went to Australia last year.

Hardy, T. (1966-73) is a solicitor working for Barlow, Lyde and Gilbert, specialising in litigation. He has played cricket in Kenya and shared a stand with a Swaziland international. He reports that **Wood, A.K.C.** (1968-73) is seconded to the World Bank by the Ministry of Overseas Development. He is living in the Watergate complex and has survived a car accident in minus 35°, the main trouble being that his nostrils froze up. Tim Hardy also sees **Watson, K.M.** (1966-73) who ran in the New York marathon, **Adam, M.** (1966-73) working for the O.U.P. and **Cormach, R.** (1966-73) who is working for the Personal Assistant to the Chairman of Plessey.

Hazell, D. (1942-44) helps his wife, who is official museum custodian at Overbecks Museum at Sharpitor, near Salcombe in South Devon.

Hickman, H.C. (1939-46) is Secretary of the Guildford Branch of the British Institute of Management and is doing Open University Course T301. He reports that **Sharp, E.** (1939-44) is in business in Byfleet.

Hipgrave, R.P. (1963-70). Tony Hipgrave is a lecturer at Leicester University School of Social Work and has published research on Specialist Fostering: Child Care Policy and Practice (with Mr. Martin Shaw). In it they state delinquent adolescents would be better placed with a caring foster parent rather than locked up in a borstal or sent to community homes (ex approved schools).

Hooker, M.J.W. (1968-75) gained a first class honours degree in Electrical Engineering at Thames Polytechnic in 1983. As a result he has been awarded the IEE Prize (Institute of Electrical Engineers) for 1983.

Horner, A.C.H. (1969-76) has been appointed Newspaper Sales Manager for the Methodist Newspaper Company Ltd., who publish the Methodist Recorder. He joined the Recorder from the Slough, Windsor and Eton Observer Group of newspapers where he was circulation and promotions manager. Alasdair is an elder at Marlow United Reformed Church.

Hubble, D.N. (1954-61). David Hubble was recently selected for a Concept Manager's position in the U.S. Army Aviation System Command in St Louis, Missouri. Duties involve management of Research and Development efforts to generate future rotorcraft weapon systems for the U.S. Army.

Humphrey, K.B. (1966-73) has just opened a new office for Milne Ross in Kingston, Surrey.

Hunt, G.H. (1967-74) is a solicitor working for Cardales in London. He specialises in company flotation and was involved in getting Pineapple Dance Studios off the ground. He has drunk coffee made by the delightful Debbie Moore! At weekends he plays hockey for Dulwich Vagrants.

Jenkins, R.C.P. (1974-80). Bob Jenkins, having spent three very happy years at U.C.W. Aberystwyth, where he graduated in Law and Politics, now enjoys living in London, working for Barclays Bank.

- Johnson, H.W.** (1930-37) is in his 45th year of teaching and he is still coaching and umpiring school cricket. He sends his best wishes to all RGS cricketers who played for the school during his time as Master i/c Cricket. He still takes school cricket tours to U.D. Deventer, Holland.
- Jones, J.H.** (1969-74). Howard Jones has had two records in the top ten this year and his L.P. has been at the top of the LP charts. Howard served his apprenticeship on the local gig scene and now he has tours to all parts of the world planned. A very able lad at school it was once written of him that his work had suffered of late because of his musical interests. A great pity — continued the comment!
- Jones, M.** (1966-73) took his first degree at Keele and then undertook further work at Oxford and McGill University (Canada), where he met and married the daughter of Professor Doehring Jones of McGill. He now does Computer Studies at Waterloo University, Ontario. They live in Rockwood. His wife, a member of the United Reform Church, has a theology degree and has broadcast coast-to-coast in Canada.
- Jones, Mrs. P.L.** was 90 years old on 13th March 1984. She is in excellent health and looks set fair to attain the 100 mark!
- Knowles, K.M.** (1972-79) has embarked on a three year temporary lectureship at Newcastle University in the Department of Material Sciences and Metallurgy.
- Laskey, R.A.** (1956-63) is Professor of Embryology and a Fellow of Darwin College, Cambridge. He is working on cancer research. He has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.
- Laurie, J.K.** (1959-65) is now Vice-President of the Oxford Instruments Group's U.S. holding company.
- Madelin, R.P.** (1968-75) has been on a 13 month 'sabbatical' at the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Paris. ENA takes about 30 "auditeurs étrangers" each year to participate in the 27 year course with which graduate trainees are introduced to the French Civil and Diplomatic Services. He spent 1982-83 as Private Secretary to the Permanent Secretary at the Department of Trade.
- Mawhinney, R.M.** (1967-72) is beginning to specialise in Copyright Law. He went by car to the USSR for his summer holiday.
- Merryweather, M.W.** (1974-81) has recently completed at H.N.C. in metallurgical studies, which qualifies him as a technician member of the Institute of Metallurgists (MIM(TECH)) and technician engineer (T.ENG). He is employed by Anderson Strathclyde, Princes Risborough as a technical officer.
- Mumford, P.G.** (1969-76) is working for the National Bus Company and has now obtained the Royal Society of Arts' Certificate of Professional Competence in Public Service Vehicle Operation.
- Ovenden, N.E.** (1919-24) before retiring to East Tuddenham, Norfolk helped to produce 25 different types of aircraft from Mosquitoes to Tridents.
- Pattinson, M.R.** (1953-60) shooting master at Rugby School and a Great Britain and Warwickshire county marksman, won the Grand Aggregate Challenge Cup for 'best overall performance' at the "Birmingham Bisley" Open at Kingsbury, Warwickshire.
- Pearce, J.N.** (1968-75). Since graduating from Loughborough University in Banking and Finance, he has worked for the Midland Bank. After spells in Carlisle and London he is now based in Sheffield in their Marketing Department. His brother **Pearce, S.J.** (1968-75) joined commercial estate agents Healey & Baker upon graduating from Reading in Estate Management. On April 1st he became an associate partner of the firm.
- Quiney, R.E.** (1967-74) is presently working as a Surgical Registrar at University College Hospital, London. He qualified from Charing Cross Hospital Medical School in 1980. He has also worked in Brighton, Reading and St Thomas Hospital London. He is married and living in London.
- Robinson, J.N.** (1928-33) completed 22 years in the army in 1960 and from 1961 he worked for the local Hospital Management Committee, retiring in 1978. He left in the same year that G.W. Arnison retired as headmaster and recalls part of GWA's farewell oration. GWA would always be pleased to see any of his old pupils at any time except as the accused party in the magistrate's court.
- Shaw, R.J.F.** (1971-78) with **Hutton, I** (1971-78) built an old landrover and drove to South Africa via France, Algiers, the Sahara, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroun, Central African Republic, Zaire, Rwanda-Burundi, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi and Botswana. They stayed around there for 2½ months — Swaziland, Namibia before Julian Shaw flew back to study for his bar finals at Grays Inn. Ian Hutton is now a quantity surveyor in Johannesburg.
- Speed, C.P.** (1972-79) has an International Rotary Scholarship to study for a degree in Business Administration at Harvard for two years. He will be leaving his present post with I.B.M. next summer.
- Stewart, R.W.** (1970-78). Robert Stewart now lives in a flat up in London and has been working as a Reinsurance Broker at Lloyds for 6 years. He has recently been selected to represent Lloyds Under 30's Group in a study tour of the Far Eastern Insurance Market, concentrating in Singapore, Hong Kong and Tokyo.
- Stinchcombe, P.D.** (1972-78) has been made a Frank Knox Fellow for 1983-4 at Trinity College, Cambridge. He has also been awarded a Henry Arthur Hollond International Law Scholarship from Cambridge.
- Sweeting, C.R.** (1958-63) recently accepted a new job as General Manager and Publisher of Asian Business Press, publishers of a series of computer, travel and advertising magazines. Chris and his family will also soon be next-door neighbours to **Laws, W.H.N.** (1958-66) and, by further coincidence their children are in the same class at school in Singapore.
- Tomes, I.M.** (1951-58). Major Ian Tomes is currently in Kaduna, Central Nigeria with the British Army Advisory Team. He reports little has changed since the recent military coup there.
- Tordoff, M.G.** (1968-74) is working in the Dept. of Psychology, University of California, Los Angeles. He is currently at work on his Ph.D. thesis aided by various awards and grants, including the Shepherd Ivory Franz prize for outstanding teaching.
- Turner, G.K.** (1968-75) is now running his own business — Gamma Theta Marketing and Management Services in High Wycombe. This involves sales promotion, marketing consultancy and a variety of specialist services to the greetings card and stationery industry.
- Warner, G.** (1948-54) is Professor of Modern History at Leicester University and is the General Editor of a new series of history books 'The Making of the Twentieth Century'.
- Watkins, A.D.** (1974-80) was awarded a 1st class honours degree in his B.Sc. last year. He went on to a research post in Human Genetics at Yale University for two months. Since his return to Charing Cross Hospital to continue his medical training he has set up a holistic medicine society. In addition to his studies he is presently training in hypnotherapy. Following on from his position as Capt. of Boats at RGS he is now rowing with Thames Tradesmen Rowing Club.

Westney, M.E.W. (1940-47) has recently moved to Slough to become Vicar of St. Andrew's Shared Church, Cippenham. When built this was the first church shared between Anglican and Roman Catholic congregations, and was also designed to be used as a community centre by local organisations.

White, C.M. (1968-75) has just returned from carrying out the audit of the Falkland Islands government. Clever fellow got his wife to move house whilst he was away! With his brother **White, D.B.** (1968-75) he has been used as a guinea pig in research into alcoholism at the Institute of Psychology. Barry is a member of BDM Chemicals marketing and the pair have been taking part in twin studies at the Institute for the last ten years.

Williams, T.C. (1947-52 Shell) has now completed 9 years with P & O and still enjoys his interesting and varied work as Group Treasury Manager. The past year has been enlivened by programmes of rationalisation and a bid from Trafalgar (who own that other shipping company!) Having tasted the delights of cruising, he now awaits the delivery of the company's new super liner, to be named "Royal Princess" by Her Highness in November this year. We hope that she does not use the new baby's feed bottle in error!

Wombwell, R.S. (1960-67) was married at the end of 1982 and spent 7 months of 1983 on "honeymoon" travelling around the world with his new-found wife. They will shortly be moving from Maidenhead to set up home in Wokingham.

Wood, P.G. (1965-71) now works as a Programming Engineer responsible for hydrocarbon administration,

dealing with staggering sums of money out east.

Wood, R.M. (1959-66) told the British Association in August 1983 to stand by for a British earthquake. During the past three years he and others had collected 8000 pages of archive material describing 1000 British earthquakes in the last 1400 years. Continued research, said Dr. Wood, would help to ensure that British earthquakes were taken as seriously as they deserved.

Woolfenden, I.P. (1974-80) has been elected to an award at the Middle Temple.

THE OLD WYCOMBIENSIAN MASONIC LODGE

During the consecration of the Lodge which took place in the School Hall in 1949, Lord Burnham stated that he was a firm believer in what represents the 'old school tie', not as the parading of a coloured piece of silk, but the invisible bond of which it was the token among the inheritors of great traditions in which they had been trained in good citizenship, not solely by the teaching from books, but in practical fellowship and teamwork.

It is very appropriate that a School with such a record as the R.G.S. should have a Masonic Lodge available for its Old Boys and members of staff.

The current Worshipful Master is O.E. Harris (1933-38). The Master Elect is A.G. Hall (1933-38). The Lodge Secretary is P.A. Langstone, 'Primrose Cottage', 20 William Smith Close, Little Woolstone, Milton Keynes, MK15 0AW.

The Hon. Sec. would like to thank all those who have helped with the compilation of these notes. The Annual Dinner in 1985 will be held on

30th of the 3rd 1985



The Voyage of Bran

I

In the land of five kingdoms, Ireland of old,
Before Guinness and Kitty O'Shea,
There lived an old type hero, his name was Bran —
Long ago he sailed away, far out to sea.

Went with his comrades, over the water,
Through day and through night, and into the sky,
To the land of gold, of silver, of bronze:
While he sailed, unnoticed time passed by.

Went to the land which the old women sang,
The land of eternal youth, Tir Na Og.
To get away, a normal hero's life,
Away from Ireland, the moss and the bog.

But when he came to the shore and the land,
The teeth of the island, the cliffs, were bare,
Tall and gray, as the land waiting beyond;
In the homes and harbours — nobody there.

All over the island they found the same —
The houses were empty, the doors swung wide.
Bibles left open, the larders were primed.
They all had left — For nobody had lied.

II

Another new place, a land of the young;
Golden glow boys, strutting along the street.
Coming on from a war generation,
They have their rhythm, the personal beat.

The half lighted lorries, thundering through,
Posters to sell us fish fingers and other:
The tall black hats are not for the lads —
Clean and alone, no father or brother.

They came to an empty land — trees and grass —
Plains are quiet, herds and hunters are gone.
The greening moss — bones, only these remain:
From a bird-free beach the ship sailed on.

Divided island, all full of people,
Between the two halves they have built a wall,
Arguing again at the ends of an egg:
Yes, here we're right for sure — big end not small.

They had found no gold, no silver, no bronze,
In the islands of happiness over the sea:
Just the old and trendy, expectant crowd —
They found a people, just like you and me.

III

But when at last the voyage was over,
He thought for only a year and a day,
This was not so: actually, in fact,
One hundred years the ship had been away.

So they sailed along, over the sea,
Waiting to tell of the sights they had seen —
So they sailed along, over the sea,
Waiting to tell of the places they'd been.

They came to the shore of their native land;
They leaped ashore from what had seemed a dream —
And then — and then they all were turned to dust —
Unnoticed, silent — none were heard to scream.

Of course no one found the washed up ship,
Rotting by the dockyard's polluted space —
The workmen are too busy to notice,
The predictors removed in time and place.

So they sail along, far out to sea,
Waiting to tell of the places they've seen —
So they sail along, far out to sea,
Waiting to tell of the places they've been.

LEWIS AYRES

