



Wycombiansian '86

# The Wycombiensian

Vol. XVII No. 10 1986

The Magazine of the  
Royal Grammar School  
High Wycombe

## Editorial

This year's Wycombiensian (or more affectionately 'Wycombeano') owes its existence largely to Mr. Mitchell's gathering and editing material, and thanks are due to him as they are to Mr. Eaton, who edited the magazine's pictorial content. Thanks also to those staff and boys that succeeded in promptly submitting material to meet the rather tight deadline.

The R.G.S. is going through changes at the moment, but some things never change — once again it's the editorial's job to urge you to get writing/drawing and to hand your work in, no matter when, where or what. To give the magazine a fully rounded shape creative input is a must — it's your magazine, and your input is what is needed.

C. KENDALL

## Obituaries

### Mrs Isobel Connolly

Past members of Uplyme will be sad to hear that Mrs. Connolly — 'Connie' to everyone — has died.

She was appointed as Matron in Mr. Mervyn Davies's days and ruled her domain with visitations of necessary wrath and with slightly fearsome expressions of frustration at the waywardness of socks or boys or whatever was occupying her attention — all easily dissolved, if the timing was absolutely right, into warm hearted amusement. Everyone in the House seemed to learn to master this timing, though there was always the interesting risk that for once one might have got it wrong.

Even in our sadness at missing her it is hard to think of her without smiling.

Her room was often a centre of good cheer for all generations.

Happily we remained in touch all the time after she retired. She was always good company. She enjoyed the past but in no way dwelt in it.

The comings and goings in her wide circle of family and friends were a perpetual source of conversation and usually laughter.

Like most people, particularly perhaps those who live as long as she did, she had her own sadnesses. She met them with courage and without fuss.

We realise that the school and we personally have lost an old friend, who made much of her long life by being unselfconsciously herself.

F.N.C.

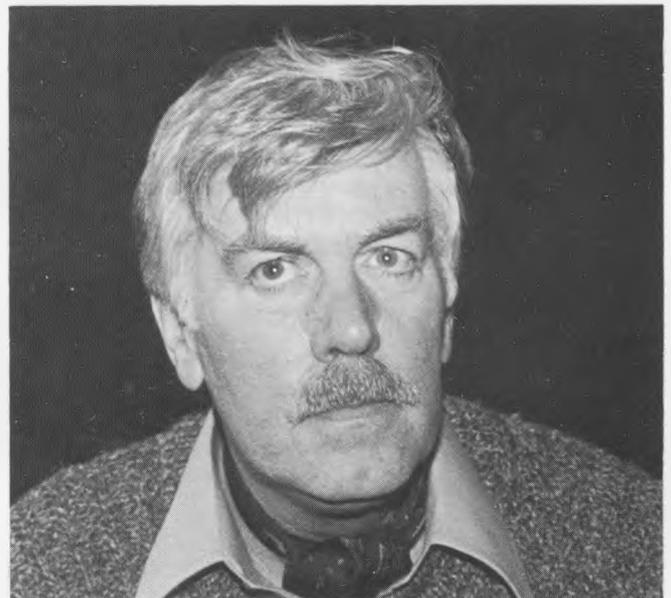
## Staff Leavers

### Mr. Dennis Smith

"He might be a rolling stone, what do you think?"

This was Headmaster, Malcolm Smith's question to me in 1966. We were reading the curriculum vitae of an applicant for an Art post. I am fairly certain he was referring to the variety of previous activities listed by a Mr. Dennis Smith rather than the possibility that he was a member of a pop group. We took a chance and Mr. Dennis Smith was appointed. Now 20 years later, with not a sign of moss, Dennis Smith is taking early retirement.

Those early years following successful studies at Leeds College of Art specialising in pottery, were spent in various activities amongst which antiques and stage manager of the Ballet Rambert have been mentioned. Eventually teaching appeared prior to coming to the R.G.S. Dennis has worn three hats here, Junior School Headmaster, Pottery Teacher and producer of theatrical and cultural extravaganzas, anyone of which would have been a career in itself for most of us. The appointment as Headmaster of the Junior School came in 1971. This meant a drastic cut in art teaching time, a great loss to the department and I know in some ways sorely missed by Dennis. Our loss however, was the school's gain. Mr. Smith brought to the post a dignity, stature and compassion which has been appreciated by hundreds of pupils and colleagues.



It is not sufficient to say that Dennis produced school plays — theatrical experiences of all shapes and sizes have appeared regularly for our enjoyment. Did anyone ever have the courage to say "no" when asked to build a set, make costumes, masks, props, etc? I doubt it, for one of Dennis's great assets has been his ability to involve boys, staff and parents in his enterprises.

One year, and I think it lasted the whole year, we had "Century" when monthly performances dealing with the life, arts and politics of a century were given. 'Drama weekend' has become an annual event in the school calendar as are the Vulture Society's regular cultural trips to theatres, galleries and concerts, not to mention the host of plays in the round, on the stage, in the quad, etc that we have experienced, all the inspiration of Mr. Dennis Smith.

"Big D", as he is known to the boys, will leave a gap which will not easily be filled and will be greatly missed by his colleagues both for his professional and social activities. We wish him a happy, long and fruitful retirement which I am sure will be filled with even more creative activities.

M.J. EATON

### Mrs. Heather Eastham

Heather Eastham was appointed to the school in 1981 to teach Mathematics. She soon proved to be a highly competent and dedicated teacher adjusting quickly to the dominant male environment of the R.G.S. Although only employed on a part time contract she never regarded her day to be confined to definite hours and willingly helped in the major syllabus changes in recent years.

Pipers Corner School's gain is our loss, but we wish her success in her promotion to be in charge of Computer Science.

We shall miss her quiet, soothing personality in the Maths Department; even more we shall miss her splendid hospitality when the Maths Department dine out in Speen!

R.M.P.

### Mrs. Mary Nichols and Mrs. Deidre Jones

These two ladies were appointed on a one year part time contract to replace Stephen Box. They have both

entered into the spirit of the R.G.S. staff room and their lively presence will be missed. We thank them for their service this last year and wish them well for the future.

R.M.P.

N.B. With these three ladies leaving the Maths department will be all male for the first time since 1954.

### Mr. E.J. Perfect

It has long been part of the valued tradition of English grammar schools that they have attracted and retained the loyal and lasting service of good scholars and sound teachers who have continued to serve the school quietly and efficiently for most of their working lives. Mr. John Perfect joined the staff in 1951, with a distinguished record of war service as a pilot at Arnhem behind him. He was a member of the English department, and he continued to teach this subject at all levels in his quiet efficient way until his retirement. One of the special gifts he brought to the school was the establishment of teaching in Russian, and this contribution continued for most of his time with us. A man of principle and of quiet firmness, he had very much to give to many boys throughout his long service; and many Old Boys who knew him are deeply grateful for what he gave them.

His keenness for gardening (and his Fellowship of the Royal Horticultural Society) brought a lasting benefit to the School when the (former) ornamental pools, into which rubbish and paper so easily drifted, were transformed into very attractive rose-beds which he has continued to maintain.

He will be greatly missed, and we wish him well in his retirement, with leisure to enjoy his many interests.

A.C. HILLS

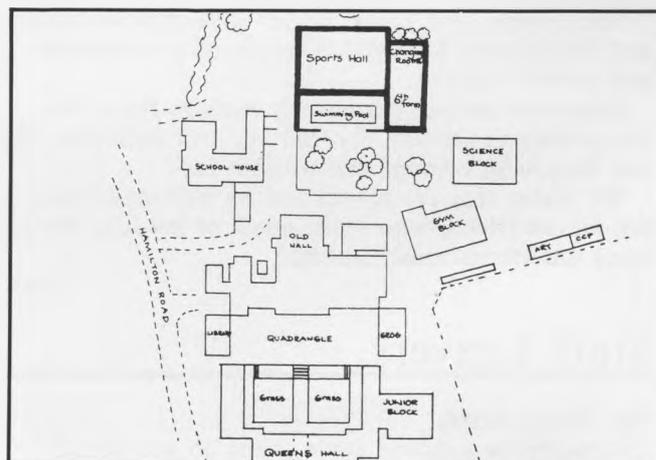
## Buildings Development

Schools, like public companies, city institutions, government bodies or any large organisation can easily stagnate and become a museum piece unless they continually adapt and modify to suit the needs of the times. Such adaptations frequently need to be reflected in the buildings, and R.G.S. is in the middle of a £1.25m extension and development programme, covering the first two phases of the Governors' 10 year plan. Already the school has new Design/Technology provision in a block adapted from the old games changing rooms. An electronics laboratory, a Sixth Form Art Studio and two new Mathematics rooms were also included in that stage of the development plan.

The single largest element in the whole development scheme is the new sports hall, with kitchens and dining hall provisions below, new sports changing accommodation and Sixth Form Common Room alongside. As the sketch plan shows, this phase, which is being built now, is located on the field side of the swimming pool and will create a new quadrangle to the rear of the school providing a balance to the one at the front.

Once the sports hall comes into use, this will release the pressure on the use of the Old Hall for P.E. and

the plan is to convert it into a central library to serve the whole school, and provide an adequate private study area for the 380 Sixthformers. The present inadequately sized library can then revert to teaching use, and at the same time the Tucker Room (the present Sixth Form Common Room) can develop as a Careers/Higher Education Information Centre. The present building contract is due to be completed in the summer of 1987.



The provision of new facilities is bringing about rapid changes to the appearance of the school. It is interesting to trace these changes with the help of photographs kindly lent by Mr. J.K. Prior, Chairman of the Governors.



Below: 1960. The science block, canteen, swimming pool and school chapel were completed.



Top left: School House before it was gutted by fire in 1935.

Top right: 1915. After 300 years in Easton Street, the school moved to the top of Amersham Hill.

Above: 1938. Addition of library and geography wings, changing rooms, workshop and stage.

Below: 1985. Phase I of the current development plan blends in with the earlier buildings. Foreground: the 1930 gymnasium/changing/dining and junior school block.



Above: 1963. The Queen's Hall, Junior School, music and staff rooms create a quadrangle.



Above: The area to be demolished after completion of the VI Form/canteen/sports complex.



Left: The site of the new quadrangle to be laid out after the completion of Phase II.

# Examination Successes 1985-1986

We congratulate the following on gaining places at Oxford and Cambridge

## OXFORD

*Place on Exam.*

**S.J. Ancliffe** Merton, Chemistry  
**C.G. Aubrey** Trinity, Maths.  
**S.A. Clarke** St. Peter's, History  
**G.S. Collinge** Keble, Geography  
**C.M. Kennedy** St. John's, Modern Languages  
**D.J. Rogers** Mansfield, PPE  
**A.C. Sanderson** St. Anne's, Maths.  
**A.G. Smith** Lincoln, Maths.  
**J.S. Smith** Jesus, History  
**A.J. Welby** St. Edmund Hall, Law  
**B.S. Wright** St. Peter's, Modern Languages

*Conditional Offer*

**K.J. Allin** Magdalen, Engineering Science  
**A. Barnes** St. Peter's, Engineering Science  
**G.J. Buxton** Pembroke, Engineering Science  
**M.S. Higginbottom** St. John's, Law  
**J.D. Morris** Pembroke, Maths.  
**J.P. Smith** New, Engineering Science  
**N. Taylor** St. Anne's, Metallurgy

## CAMBRIDGE

*Place on Exam.*

**A.M.F. Bailey** Churchill, Maths/Nat. Science  
**D.S. Chamberlain** Clare, Engineering Science  
**H.D.E. Clark** Caius, Arch. & Anth.  
**M.J. Clegg** Trinity Hall, English  
**R. Daw** Clare, Natural Science  
**J.O. Everard** Sidney Sussex, Medicine  
**A.D. Griffiths** Christ's, History  
**J.M. Hill** Pembroke, Medicine  
**S. Howat** Christ's, Music  
**A.W. Hutt** Churchill, Modern Languages  
**D.I. Robinson** Churchill, Engineering Science  
**J.R. Rollason** Trinity, English  
**J.E. Rugg** Robinson, Engineering Science  
**N.C. Slater** Queens', Natural Science  
**A.C. Trobridge** Robinson, Engineering Science  
**R.M. Walker** Trinity Hall, History

*Conditional Offer*

**R.J.H. Brownlie** Corpus, Natural Science  
**J.S. McNaughton** Christ's, Geography

## UNIVERSITY PLACES 1985

**M.A. Adams**: University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, French/Spanish  
**S.A. Alway**: European Business School (City University), Languages  
**S.J. Armitage**: Magee College, University of Ulster, Peace Studies (1986)  
**C.J. Wylott**: University of Glasgow, Veterinary Science  
**P.H.J. Bailey**: East Anglia University, Biological Sciences  
**J.L. Baker**: Edinburgh University, French & Business Studies  
**M.P. Baker**: Southampton University, Environmental Sciences  
**A.C.H. Bath**: Edinburgh University, Veterinary Science (1986)  
**G.J. Billington**: Reading University, Electronic Engineering  
**R.C. Booker**: East Anglia University, Environmental Sciences  
**J.M. Boothroyd**: Durham University, Engineering (1986)  
**G.J. Cann**: Birmingham University, History (1986)  
**M.R. Carr**: Liverpool University, French/History  
**S.J. Clark**: Kent University, Electronic Engineering  
**J.T. Cobb**: Nottingham University, Biology  
**P.R. Colville-Nash**: St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School, Medicine  
**J.A. Cooney**: St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, Medicine  
**H.F.R. Copas**: University College, London, Economics & Economic History

**D.M. Copping**: St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, Medicine  
**G.J.R. Coward**: Liverpool University, Engineering Science & Industrial Management  
**C.E.M. Cox**: Loughborough University, Electronic & Electrical Engineering (1986)  
**M.E. Coyte**: University of Bath, Physics (1986)  
**J.C.G. Crowther**: Nottingham University, English Studies (1986)  
**N. De Luca**: St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, Medicine (1986)  
**R.J. Dickinson**: University of Bath, Chemical Engineering  
**M.J. Dow**: Hull University, Computing  
**N.D. Eggleton**: University College, Cardiff, Institutional Management (1986)  
**T.R. Ellis**: Bangor University, Microbiology/Zoology  
**S.L.W. English**: Sheffield University, Electronic Engineering (1986)  
**M.J. Farmer**: Royal Holloway College, London, Chemistry  
**A.E. Gaylard**: Brunel University, Manufacturing Engineering  
**S.A. Gower**: Bristol University, Veterinary Science  
**A.D. Griffin**: University College, London, Medicinal Chemistry (1986)  
**T.B. Hall**: Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, Medicine  
**P.A. Hatter**: University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Social Science/Accountancy (1986)  
**S.J. Higgins**: University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology, Biochemistry  
**A.G. Hodgson**: Brunel University, Engineering  
**A.D. Howard**: Aberdeen University, Maths. & Economics  
**S.J. Innes**: Nottingham University, Electrical & Electronic Engineering  
**S.J. Jones**: Southampton University, Medicine  
**P.A. Knight**: Birmingham University, Physics with Astrophysics  
**T. Las'ica**: London School of Slavonic & East European Studies, History (1986)  
**J.B. Lawrence**: Loughborough University, Civil Engineering  
**S.J. Lincoln**: Warwick University, Engineering Science  
**G.R. Morrison**: Liverpool University, Engineering Science  
**M.V. Moss**: Warwick University, Physics  
**R.W.S. Nash**: Aston University, Managerial & Administrative Studies  
**G.C. Newell**: Bristol University, Mechanical Engineering (1986)  
**A. O'Connor**: Southampton University, Electronic Engineering  
**P.D. Ratcliffe**: Nottingham University, English Studies (1986)  
**M.D. Ray**: York University, Philosophy/English  
**J.A. Reece**: Sussex University, Electronic Engineering  
**M.J. Robertson**: Southampton University, Psychology & Sociology (1986)  
**N.J. Rolfe**: Southampton University, Geography  
**M.J. Savage**: University College, London, History of Art (1986)  
**B. Sayer**: Bath University, Mechanical Engineering  
**M.P. Scurrall**: Kent University, Computer Science (1986)  
**C.L. Shaw**: Hull University, Psychology  
**S.L.P. Smith**: King's College, London, History (1986)  
**A.C.S. Stalham**: Dundee University, Genetics  
**M.E. Stephenson**: Southampton University, Mechanical Engineering (1986)  
**J.P. Taylor**: Birmingham University, Engineering Production & Economics  
**A.D. Toller**: Aston University, Transport Operation & Planning (1986)  
**S.J. Turner**: Imperial College, London, Computer Science  
**A.B. Twitchen**: Loughborough University, Geography & Economics  
**D.E. Vanstone**: Lancaster University, Management Sciences/Marketing  
**S.A. Walsh**: Liverpool University, Maths.  
**G.W. Weblin**: King's College, London, Pharmacy  
**N.G. White**: Bristol University, French  
**M.J. Whitfield**: City University, Air Transport Engineering  
**T.R. Williamson**: University of Kent, European Studies (French)  
**S.J. Ziegler**: University of Bath, Electrical & Electronic Engineering

## POLYTECHNICS (Degree Courses)

**D.P. Atkins**: Bristol Polytechnic, Microelectronics, Computing

**D.P. Ball:** Portsmouth Polytechnic, Physics  
**S. Cooper:** Portsmouth Polytechnic, Pharmacy  
**J.V. Currie-Cathey:** South Bank Polytechnic, Electrical & Electronic Engineering  
**T.M. Dean:** Woolwich Polytechnic, International Marketing & French  
**J.E. Hall:** Sheffield Polytechnic, Geography  
**S.D. Kain:** Portsmouth Polytechnic, Quantity Surveying  
**A.F. Langdon-Ellis:** Teeside Polytechnic, Humanities  
**J.C. Van der Pant:** City of London Polytechnic, Geography  
**J.M. Wilkins:** Plymouth Polytechnic, Social Sciences

## OTHER COLLEGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**T.D. Hyams:** Royal Military College, Sandhurst

### 'A' LEVEL RESULTS 1985

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-Maths; Mus-Music; P-Physics; BS-Business Studies; CS-Computer Science; GS-General Studies; PS-Political Studies; Sp-Spanish; RS-Religious Studies; AwH-Art with History of Art

*\*Denote Grade A*

**CJ Aylott M,C\*,P\*,B; PHJ Bailey M\*,C\*,P\*,B\*;** **MP Baker** Geo,C,B\*; **ACH Bath C\*,P\*,B\*;** **M Cartwright C,B;** **JT Cobb M,C,B\*,GS;** **PR Colville-Nash M,C,P\*,B\*;** **JA Cooney C,P,B\*;** **S Cooper M,C,B;** **DM Copping C\*,P,B\*;** **N Deluca M\*,C\*,P\*,B\*;** **TR Ellis M,C\*,B\*;** **PR Emmett C,B;** **S Gower C\*,P,B\*;** **TJ Grimmer Geo,B;** **TB Hall C,P,B\*;** **SJ Higgins C,P,B\*;** **JM Hill M,C\*,P\*,B\*;** **SJ Jones M\*,C\*,B;** **RJ King B;** **WJ Potts C,B;** **ACS Stalham C,P,B;** **DI Strutt M\*,C\*,P\*,B\*;** **GW Weblin M,C,B;** **AJ Cann L,AH,Gre;** **H Copas L,H,M\*,GS;** **NRF Fleming F,AwH;** **RJR Irvine Eng,L,H,GS\*;** **AF Langdon-Ellis AH,H,GS;** **MGL Leigh L\*,F\*,H\*,Gre\*;** **PM Machin L;** **JB O'Flynn Eng\*,L\*,F\*,H\*;** **GJ Oliver L\*,AH\*,Gre\*;** **ALP Smith Eng,L,H;** **S Rich L,AH,H,GS,Gre;** **SJ Armitage Eng,H,E;** **JC Brooks E;** **JCG Crowther Eng,F, H\*;** **SD Kain Eng,E,Geo,GS;** **DS Levinsohn Eng,GS,Sp\*;** **PD Ratcliffe Eng,F,H;** **MD Ray Eng,H,E;** **MJ Savage Eng,H\*,E,AwH;** **CL Shaw Eng,H,E\*,GS;** **JW Small Eng,H;** **SAP Smith Eng,F;** **JM Wilkins Eng,F;** **GP Bryant GS,BS;** **PA Hatter P,BS;** **AD Howard E,M,P,GS;** **JDJ Overton F,AwH,GS,BS;** **MJ Robertson M,P,BS;** **GL Steen H;** **SD Toller F,H,GS,BS;** **AB Twitchen PS,E,Geo;** **DE Vanstone F,GS,BS;** **J Welch E,P,GS;** **RC Booker Geo,P,GS;** **MA Garratt RS,Mus,GS;** **JE Hall H,E,Geo;** **NJ Rolfe F,E,Geo\*;** **RS Singleton Geo,GS,BS;** **IF Thompson Geo,AwH;** **SR Weir Geo,BS;** **DRJ Williams Geo,M,P,AwH\*;** **AM Abbott Geo;** **MJ Adams AH,H;** **AM Buss E,Geo;** **ND Eggleton F,E,Geo;** **MKB Gabriel Eng,E,Geo;** **JP Swift F,E,Geo;** **JC Vanderpant F,H,Geo;** **N Wightman BS;** **HDE Clark Eng,F\*,H\*,GS;** **MJ Clegg Eng\*,H\*,E\*;** **TM Dean F,H,E,GS;** **SMP Glynn H,Geo;** **TC Lasica Eng,H,E;** **SA Sawyer H,E,M;** **DW Stonell H,E,Sp;** **CG Townsend H,E,Geo;** **RM Walker F\*,H\*,RS\*;** **JD Audcent F\*,Ger\*,E;** **JL Baker F,Ger\*,M;** **KJ Bint F,Sp;** **TA Clayton Eng,F\*,Ger\*;** **AJC Hay F,Ger,M;** **CM Kennedy F\*,Ger\*,M\*,GS\*;** **RJ Moorin F\*,Ger\*,M\*;** **RWS Nash F, Ger;** **P Saich F\*,Ger,H;** **JN Sare Ger,E,Geo;** **NG White Eng, F\*,Ger\*;** **TR Williamson F\*,Ger,E;** **MA Adams F,H;** **SA Alway F,H;** **PJ Boddy H,Geo;** **MR Carr Eng,F,H,E;** **KD Colgate F,H,GS;** **ERM Davis F,GS;** **GN Evans F,H,E;** **CP Harbour F,H;** **S Quinney F,Geo;** **CG Aubrey M\*,FM\*,P\*,Mus\*;** **CL Ayling M\*,FM\*,C\*,P\*;** **JM Boothroyd Geo, M\*,FM,P;** **CEM Cox M\*,FM,C,P\*;** **JP Edwards M\*,FM\*,C\*,P\*;** **AT Hill M\*,FM\*,C\*,P\*;** **CG Hodson M\*,FM\*,C\*,P\*;** **RL Hooper M\*,FM,C\*,P\*;** **PA Knight M\*,FM\*,C\*,P\*;** **A O'Connor M\*,FM,C,P\*;** **CD Wagstaff M\*,FM\*,C\*,P\*;** **SA Walsh M,FM,C,P;** **SJ Ziegler M\*,FM,C,P\*;** **JM Barr M,Mus;** **MJ Farmer C,P;** **AD Griffin M,C,P;** **WJ Harris P,AwH;** **IS Kennedy M,C\*,P;** **AB Mackay M,C,P,CS;** **WPC Martin M,C,P,GS;** **SJ Ancliffe M\*,C\*,P\*,GS;**

**GJ Billington M,C,P\*;** **PW Dawson M,C,P;** **RJ Dickinson M\*,FM,C,P\*;** **JP Gatward C;** **IJ Hale M,C,P;** **JB Lawrence M\*,FM,C\*,P;** **ME Coyte M,C,P;** **JV Currie-Cathey C,P;** **AE Gaylard Geo,M,P;** **SJ Innes Geo,M,P;** **RI Jarvis Geo\*, M\*,P\*;** **MG Lewis M,P,AwH,GS;** **MV Moss M,C,P;** **RV Ryll M,C,P;** **BL Sayer M,C,P;** **JP Taylor M,C,P;** **SJ Turner M, C,P;** **LR Coleman C,P;** **GJR Coward M,C,P;** **SJ Lincoln M,C,P;** **SDJ Mason P;** **AJ McAusland C,P;** **G.C. Newell M\*,FM\*,C\*,P\*;** **DJ O'Neill P,GS;** **AR Palmer M\*,FM\*,C\*, P\*;** **MJ Dow M\*,FM,C,P\*;** **SLW English M,C,P;** **JO Everard M\*,FM\*,C\*,P\*;** **AG Hodgson M\*,FM,C\*,P\*;** **PIH Jennings F,M\*,FM\*,P\*;** **RA Price M,C,P;** **JLJ Bargh E,Geo,GS;** **A Burrell M\*,P;** **DG Morrogh M;** **TJ Andrew Eng;** **ST Langdon E;** **IR Jackson E,M,CS;** **SJ Clark M,P, CS;** **WJ Furniss M,P;** **DP Atkins M,P,CS;** **D Ball M,P,CS;** **PJ Becque M,P;** **JR Brown M,P;** **SDP Ives M,P,CS;** **G Morrison M,FM,P;** **MP Scurrall M,P,B;** **MJ Whitfield M,P,CS;** **NA Hopkinson E,M,P;** **JF Atkinson M,P;** **APG Dixon E,P;** **JA Reece E,M,P;** **ME Stephenson E,M\*,P\*.**

### 'O' LEVEL RESULTS 1985

The following boys obtained Grade C or above in five or more subjects in the G.C.E. Ordinary Level Examinations:-  
**JE Baker (9); CG Barrack (10); JMJ Bennett (9); DS Currie (10); RN Dunlop (10); JA Eales (9); JR Ellis (8); GJM Farrar (9); SPM Farrell (9); MR Flack (9); NJD Gabriel (9); BM Griffin (9); RG Heasman (9); RH Hector-Jones (7); RD Hipkin (9); SJ Hussey (8); AH Johnston (9); R Jordan (9); RP Lloyd (9); PJ Mahon (10); JCP Nicoll (8); GW Oliver (9); M Puddephatt (10); GC Reid (7); JA Stanworth (8); CS Tebbutt (9); RD Thompson (10); MD Trobridge (8); DJ Warren (9); CB Watson (10); SL Webster (9); GP Westall (8); BC Ayling (10); ADM Barkey (10); RLW Barnett (10); DM Bonner (7); CP Buck (10); MG Carter (7); DAC Cleave (5); BA Clegg (10); SR Cooper (10); RP Davies (10); DA Gee (9); TE Hamp (10); JJ Houchin (9); JA Jagger (9); AA Khan (10); RC Miles (9); DS Mills (11); TR Nuthall (10); JR Pidgeon (9); AJ Pond (9); MJ Rogers (8); MC Rymill (10); TJ Singleton (10); KJ Smart (10); GM Smith (10); PR Smith (10); DRH Solomons (9); PA Taylor (10); PA White (9); DF Wigham (8); JA Wilson (9); PM Altern (10); PM Appleton (10); SA Cayzer (10); NS Clarke (10); MA Coutts (11); GW Davey (10); PH Diamond (10); SJ Dow (11); RG Forbes (10); YY Ford (10); T Fountain (8); PJ Giles (10); M Glynn (7); AD Godfrey (10); AC Hammersley (10); PTD Hutchings (10); MR Jackson (10); CJO Kendall (11); KJ Lewis (9); GD Painton (10); RA Pincock (10); TM Ponting (10); CP Reece (10); IA Rose (9); MJD Santucci (9); DS Sarshar (10); KA Savage (10); JD Sharpe (10); NJ Stephenson (10); TC Walker (10); MA Walmsley (10); KL White (9); MJ Adamson (10); SJW Barber (10); MGA Barrell (9); RJ Bees (9); APJ Bower (10); GM Bradshaw (10); CG Butler (10); MA Butler (9); KM Buzzard (10); AS Dodds (10); MCG Fitzwilliam (6); AP Goss (9); IJ Greggor (10); AM Henton (10); MC Heys (8); DJ Mahon (10); JP McNamara (9); JJ Newton (5); MA Page (10); JR Sears (9); CG Sherlock (10); AG Sutton (10); KS Tomlin (8); DS Treadwell (9); PA Wainwright (10); DC Walker (10); JGK Walker (10); SG Walker (11); IA Weston (11); DJ Young (10); AC Adkins (7); MC Baldwin (8); TJ Chambers (10); LP Dann (8); JC Doig (8); RJR Drysdale (6); SJ Eastham (10); AJ Edwards (9); CJ Ellis (6); JC Ellis (10); TJ Hoggan (7); CJ Howard (10); JRG Hutchins (6); MS Jones (6); DR Lewin (8); PW Moorin (5); RJ Mortimer (6); SL Oliver (5); CA Paterson (7); BM Russell (7); MA Shah (8); RWA Walsh (9); WJ Busby (5); DJ Coleman (7); GD Cresswell (5); SN Darby (7); LTP English (10); AD Furner (9); IM Gilbey (10); AJ Green (10); DC Harper (5); CA Hatter (5); WS Hester (9); ME Hobson (7); AM Hussain (7); IJ MacTavish (10); A Mountford (6); SC Petri (10); A Popplewell (9); ML Richards (6); RJ Smith (5); JAD Stocker (9); AJH Strange (7); J Swan (6); WAG Tapley (6); DT Taverner (10); T Wilson (8).**

# Sport

## Cricket

### Records, Honours and Achievements

Team	Matches					
	Played	Wins	Defeats	Draws	Aban.	%
1st XI	18	9	2	5	2	72
2nd XI	14	10	1	3	—	82
3rd XI	4	4	0	0	—	100
U15 XI	16	12	1	3	—	84
U14 XI	17	8	6	2	1	56
U13 XI	9	8	0	1	—	94
All Teams	78	51	10	14	3	77

*U15 XI:* National Finalists in the Lord's Taverners/'Cricketer' Colts Trophy

*U14 XI:* County Finalists in the same competition

### Individual School Centuries

*1st XI:* Paul Miller; *U15 XI:* Matthew Dodds;

*U14 XI:* Andrew Swain

### County Selections

*Bucks County Cricket Club U25:* Sean Sawyer

*Bucks Youth Amateurs:* Sean Sawyer

*Bucks Schools U19:* Sean Sawyer; Paul Miller; Philip Saich; James Lawrence

*Bucks Cricket Association U16:* James Baker; Mark Puddephatt; John Skrimshire;

Robert Devonport; Matthew Dodds; Martin Taylor

*Bucks Schools U15:* John Skrimshire; Matthew Dodds; Robert Devonport; Sajid Ali; Philip Shayler;

Shomit Dutta; Martin Taylor

*Bucks Schools U14:* Shomit Dutta; Richard Flack; Dale Parkinson

*Bucks Schools U13:* Jonathan Blenkarn; Marc Chan

### Higher Honours

*English Schools (South) U15:* John Skrimshire

*Regional Selective Coaching Courses:*

*U16:* James Baker (1986)

*U15:* John Skrimshire; Matthew Dodds (1985)

*U14:* Shomit Dutta (1986)

### School Colours Awards

*Full Colours to:* Philip Saich (Captain of Cricket, 1985), James Lawrence, Gareth Cann, Paul Miller (Captain of Cricket, 1986)

*Half Colours to:* James Baker, Martin Baker, Daren Blaker, Michael Cartwright, Robert Cleary, Richard Daw, Michael Farmer, Nicholas Goodwin, Paul Hammond, Jason Pidgeon, Mark Puddephatt, Ian Wiles.

*Valete:* Philip Saich, Sean Sawyer, Simon Alway, Adrian Abbott, James Lawrence, Gareth Cann.

### 1st XI Averages

#### Batting

Paul Miller 591 runs @ 45.5

Sean Sawyer 336 runs @ 37.3

Simon Alway 239 runs @ 21.7

Philip Saich 271 runs @ 21.5

Adrian Abbott 261 runs @ 20.1

Ian Wiles 177 runs @ 19.7

Nicholas Goodwin 157 runs @ 15.7

### Bowling

Simon Alway 32 wkts @ 12.8

James Lawrence 36 wkts @ 15.3

Martin Baker 16 wkts @ 17.0

Sean Sawyer 20 wkts @ 23.5

Gareth Cann 13 wkts @ 31.7

Paul Miller 10 wkts @ 40.1

### Catches

Daren Blaker (wkt-keeper)(6+5 stumpings);

Gareth Cann (8); Paul Miller (7); Philip Saich (7);

Adrian Abbott (6); Sean Sawyer (5); Ian Wiles (5).

### 1st XI

1985's 1st XI was not expected to be quite up to the standard of the R.G.S. sides of recent years, since it lacked the high-quality batting and spin bowling of recent sides and lacked bowlers of genuine pace.

However, its final record compares not unfavourably with that of previous sides. Only two games were lost, and as many as nine wins, some of them crushingly decisive, were achieved.

It was a cool, damp summer, but most games were completed, although two had to be abandoned.

Both games that were lost should have been at least drawn. Watford G.S., becoming our bogey side, profited from a lot of dropped catches in arctic weather and amassed a big total. A batting collapse against good spinners in the final 20 overs sealed a bad day. The other defeat was at Lord Williams' Thame in a dog-fight on a suspect pitch. Victory was possible; saving the game should have not been difficult, but we contrived to go down by 15 runs.

A very strong Abingdon side nearly beat us too, although we contributed positively to an entertaining game. The game with the awesomely strong R.G.S. Worcester was also drawn, but only thanks to prolonged tail-end resistance after the Worcester batting had reduced us in the field to tatters.

Crushing wins were recorded against Oxford School, Desborough School, and Sir William Borlase, and easy wins came against St Benedict's, Latymer Upper, Queen Elizabeth's Barnet, The Staff, and, in a good game, Enfield G.S., new opponents. An excitingly close victory was gained against Hampton School. Disappointingly, a good position against Tiffin was surrendered and a draw resulted. In the two-day game Emanuel were outplayed by a weakened R.G.S. side but held on for an honourable draw. St Bartholomew's Newbury were also outplayed, but we could not force the desired result.

Unfortunately, rain prevented any game against neighbours and rivals, Dr Challoner's, and stopped the other "derby", against Aylesbury G.S.

Our bowling attack was limited by the lack of a front-line spinner, although some spin was used. Martin Baker, promoted meteorically from the 3rd XI, offered some variable but tactically useful left-arm spin and twice picked up 5 wickets, although expensively. Jason Pidgeon's left-arm spin emerged during the season and offers promise for the future. Paul Miller's leg-spin was used, but it proved expensive. Earlier promise has faded.

Much was hoped from Gareth Cann's pace bowling after 2nd XI success in 1984, but, although his 5 wickets against Hampton were vital, he was disappointingly inaccurate for much of the season, bowling too many wides. Sean Sawyer, a talented

cricketer, who excelled at higher levels, did not do himself full justice as a seam bowler for R.G.S. At times he bowled well, but too often he failed to give his all when his luck was out. However, the other two faster bowlers had good seasons. James Lawrence's medium-paced inswing was always reliable and at times penetrative. Simon Alway at last fulfilled his promise and was bowling excellent medium-fast away swing at the height of the season. Although others had their moments, Alway and Lawrence were the most consistently successful members of a limited but useful attack.

Among the batsmen, two had distinguished seasons. The left-handed Paul Miller, after a nervous start as a middle-order batsman, seized his chance to open the innings with relish and reeled off a succession of fast-scoring innings. Six 50's and a century against Emanuel were the result. He is a great leg-side punisher of wayward bowling. Sean Sawyer, a cultured stroke-maker at number 3, hit two 50's and had a good season. He also scored some runs at county level. The captain, Philip Saich, always ready to switch his position in the order, did not quite develop as hoped, but he played some useful innings. Opener Adrian Abbott played a number of good opener's innings, but did not make the bigger scores of which he was capable. He was unable to practise quite as much as previously, owing to a family house-move. Simon Alway, a fine striker of the ball, developed into a genuine school all-rounder, playing some important, fast-scoring innings. The left-handed Ian Wiles played some useful supporting rôles and scored a valuable maiden 50 against Emanuel. Nicholas Goodwin gained promotion from the 2nd XI and showed touches of genuine 1st XI batsmanship. Youngsters James Baker and Mark Puddephatt, with limited opportunities, showed promise for the future. The lower-order batsmen had their moments. Gareth Cann promised well, but never really played a significant innings. Wicket-keeper Daren Blaker had his finest hour with James Lawrence against R.G.S. Worcester, where their partnership saved the game and rescued some honour.

The fielding was variable. Too many catches were dropped. These certainly cost us the game against Watford. Wicket-keeping was a problem. Eventually, Daren Blaker from the 2nd XI won the position. He is prepared to work at the job and may yet make a sound 1st XI 'keeper. Each 1st XI player ought to take pride in his fielding and to work to improve. A greater attention to fielding practice is necessary by 1st XI players.

All in all, it was a good season. Philip Saich's captaincy in the field was not always sharp or tactically astute: a result of inexperience. However, his personal qualities outweighed other considerations. He enjoyed his rôle and led a generally happy team. He can look back upon his year of office with satisfaction.

I wish all those 1st XI players who have now left the very best in their future as cricketers.

Thanks are due to Julian Smith, a real Bill Frindall among scorers; to the Head Groundsman, Richard Tedham, for some good cricket pitches; and to Mrs. Hunter and the tea ladies for their never-failing work in the kitchen. I would also like to thank Mr. Yeates for his efficient work as Fixture Secretary, Mr. Page for his supervision and care of all our kit, and Mr. Stone for ordering the teas. Without the too-often-unacknowledged work of these people behind the

scenes, R.G.S. cricket could not flourish as it does.

S.R.G.

## **2nd XI**

As so often in recent years, the R.G.S. 2nd XI proved to be very successful. The only defeat, against Watford, was in extenuating circumstances: fielding (after a declaration) in the evening of a bitterly cold day (Mr. Chamberlain could remember nothing worse) was a feat of dogged endurance. The end was a relief.

Most other games were won, all of them when R.G.S. were batting second. Only against St Benedict's, Enfield, and R.G.S. Worcester did the side fail to win. The performance against Worcester, who normally win this fixture handsomely, was notable.

By R.G.S. standards the 2nd XI bowling was only moderate. James Cook, the leading wicket-taker, was the most successful seamer. He took 25 wickets. Alex Twitchen, the captain, bowled reasonably well, as did Robert Cleary, the fastest, on occasions. The leading spinner was Jason Pidgeon with his slow left-arm attack, although Julian Gatwards's off-breaks were successful at times.

Paul Hammond, the leading run-scorer, and Richard Daw were useful opening batsmen. Paul hit one half-century. 5th formers, James Baker and Mark Puddephatt, were successful middle-order batsmen. James hit two 50's, Mark one. Michael Cartwright, James Cook and Alex Twitchen were other successful run-makers, as was Nicholas Goodwin before promotion to the 1st XI. The highest individual score was by Simon Alway, normally a 1st XI player: 89 not out.

The fielding was variable, but there were good fielders in the side, and the standard was usually acceptable. Frequent changes in the side provided variety — for instance, in the case of wicket-keeping — but the captain Alex Twitchen managed to keep most people positively involved.

S.R.G.

## **D.R. CHAMBERLAIN**

At this stage it is appropriate to pay a special tribute to Mr. Chamberlain, whose record as Master i/c 2nd XI cricket has been outstanding over the last decade. R.G.S. 2nd XI's rarely lose: that is itself a tribute to Mr. Chamberlain's enthusiasm, commitment and skill as Master i/c. His sides were always well-disciplined and happy sides. His nets practices were always purposeful, regular and lively. His selections were invariably astute. He loved fair play, good cricket and the opportunity for boys to show character. Everything was always well organised and he sought to be a good host to visitors. His match reports were never less than interesting.

Too often such work as Mr. Chamberlain's goes unacknowledged, as he well knows. Running a 2nd XI doesn't appeal to pot-hunters and glory- and credit-seekers. Yet 2nd XI cricket is crucial to the success of R.G.S. cricket. We should be proud of the standard he has set.

S.R.G.

## **3rd XI**

It is my particular delight to see the gradual establishment of 3rd XI cricket at R.G.S. So many good cricketers are available to us in the school that the development of a 3rd XI has seemed right and proper. Only 4 games could be played in 1985. There

will be more in 1986. All four games were won, and those who played greatly enjoyed them. Michael Farmer deserves every credit for his good-natured and cheerful captaincy. John Cobb (71) and Neville Rolfe (51) scored half-centuries. Christopher Shaw was the leading wicket-taker, and Martin Baker's 6 for 46 the best bowling analysis.

S.R.G.

## UNDER 15

### The Lord's Taverners/Cricketer Colts Trophy

The U15 XI enjoyed a very successful season. They were unbeaten in their normal inter-school fixtures, but the season itself was dominated by their success in the Lord's Taverners'/Cricketer Colts' Trophy which is regarded as the most prestigious of all the national schools' cricket competitions. To reach the final is an outstanding achievement. The competition is staged over two years and a school team must first win its own county competition before progressing to the final rounds. In 1984 R.G.S. defeated Aylesbury Grammar School in the final of the Bucks competition. As county champions R.G.S. went forward to play in the main competition in 1985 with matches against other county schools' champions eventually culminating in a memorable final at Edgbaston.

C.C.T.

### 1st Round v Wellington College, Berks

Played in High Wycombe on the last Saturday in April, R.G.S. held a very strong Wellington side to 147-9 in 40 overs, and looked in trouble at 43-3 when the match was abandoned because of snow. R.G.S. were fortunate to scrape a victory by virtue of a faster scoring rate.

### 2nd Round v Gayton High School, Middx.

R.G.S. batting first scored 212-4 in 40 overs following an excellent opening partnership of 110 runs by Dodds (37) and Shayler (66). Skrimshire accelerated the run rate late in the innings with an unbeaten 47 runs. In reply Gayton started strongly with their opening bat Rumprakash, scoring 51 of the first 66 runs. He was eventually caught by Skrimshire fielding on the boundary and Gayton collapsed to 93 all out.

### 3rd Round v Lord Wandsworth College, Hampshire

R.G.S. found it difficult to score runs on a damp pitch but eventually scored 176-7 in 40 overs due to the efforts of Dodds (43), Skrimshire (27), Dutta (42). Lord Wandsworth College had no answer to the superb opening bowling of Devonport 8-4-16-2 and Taylor 8-1-18-2. Excellent fielding contributed three run outs as Lord Wandsworth were bowled out for 83.

### South East England Regional Final v Ipswich School, Suffolk

Played at R.G.S., Ipswich were asked to bat on a damp wicket and were soon in trouble against the accurate spin bowling of Devonport 8-4-6-2 and pace of Taylor 8-2-14-1 losing 3 wickets for only 2 runs. Ipswich recovered to score 109-8. In reply R.G.S. made a terrible start, losing both openers in the first over for one run. Ali, 23, and Skrimshire added 46 runs before Ali was bowled. Skrimshire dominated the Ipswich bowling, scoring an unbeaten 57 to add to his bowling figures of 8-3-20-4 as R.G.S. gained a 7 wicket victory.

### National Semi-Final v Marlborough College, Berks, at Abingdon School

R.G.S. won the toss and elected to field against the South West Champions. Some good catching and fine bowling by Devonport and Taylor reduced Marlborough to 17-3 before their middle order batsmen allowed them to close at 132-8. Set just over 3 runs an over to win R.G.S. made a poor start losing 2 wickets for 8 runs. Skrimshire then dominated the game scoring 69 not out as R.G.S. won the game by 5 wkts with 2 overs to spare.

*The following report originally published in the September 1985 edition of "The Cricketer International" magazine is reprinted with the kind permission of the Editor.*

### The Lord's Taverners Cricketer Colts Trophy Final

#### LUNT BLUNTS HIGH WYCOMBE

The final of the world's largest cricket competition was played at Edgbaston on July 10 when Malvern College beat the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe by seven wickets to win the **Lord's Taverners Cricketer Colts Trophy**. Both sides played cricket worthy of the final of a competition that encompasses nearly 1,600 schools (over two years), which is sponsored by the Lord's Taverners and is most efficiently organised in preliminary rounds by the County Secretaries of ESCA.



R.G.S. supporters at Edgbaston.

Seven wickets seems a large margin, but it was much closer than that. It seemed that the RGS had done more than enough to win, but they were unlucky to meet two fine players in form. Set the daunting task of 197 to win, Malvern got off to a quick start through Maughan and Timberlake, 32 runs coming from the first six overs. Devonport, a left-arm spinner of fine action, tied them down and both lost their wickets for the addition of only eight in the next eight overs. This brought together the match-winning pair of Wileman and Lunt, who added 149 for the third wicket. Wileman, a classical player of delicate touch, hit seven boundaries in his 56 with strokes that would have pleased the Fosters. (He had sat Latin 'O' level at eight o'clock that morning and reckoned he had scored more before breakfast than after lunch at Edgbaston). If he was the rapier, the Malvern Captain Lunt was the broadsword, hitting 16 fours through drives and cuts in his undefeated 93. In the 31st over he took the game by the scruff of the neck, hitting four consecutive boundaries, and was jubilant as he drove the winning stroke past mid-on.



R.G.S. U/16 at Edgbaston.

RGS High Wycombe had done everything right in their innings of 197. An opening stand of 78 between Dodds (42) and Shayler (36) gave them just the start they needed. They accelerated at the right time through Ali, a hockey player who ran fast between the wickets and seemed to favour the open spaces over the head of mid-on. He hit seven fours and two sixes in his fine innings of 57. What wickets they lost were due to some good catching, for the bowling tended to deceive in its variety of length and direction. Skrimshire, who had played some fine shots, including one off the back foot past extra cover, was particularly unlucky to hole out off a full toss. 197 for seven looked more than enough until the scholar and the captain joined forces.

It was a great cricketing final, played in marvellous spirit. Edgbaston provided a perfect setting for a crowd which included a battery of boys, a multitude of masters and many anxious parents.



### Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe

M.J.W. Dodds c Gough b Wileman	42
P.R. Shayler c Miller b Lunt	36
S. Ali c Lunt b Johnson-Marshall	57
J. Skrimshire c Gough b Bullough	22
M.J. Middleton c Lunt b Johnson-Marshall	14
J.P. McNamara c Drummond b Gough	4
S. Dutta c Lunt b Gough	1
H.E.P. Twichen not out	0
Extras (lb5, w8, nb8)	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>197</b>

Did not bat: T.J. Clark, R. Devonport, M.C. Taylor  
 Fall of wickets: 78, 99, 146, 179, 195, 197, 197  
 Bowling: Johnson-Marshall 8-1-33-2, Maughan 8-2-22-0, Wileman 8-0-32-1, Lunt 8-0-44-1, Bullough 2-0-18-1, Usher 3-0-20-0, Gough 3-0-15-2

### Malvern College

E.G. Maughan c Dutta b Taylor	13
I.K. Timberlake b Taylor	23
J.R. Wileman c Dodds b Skrimshire	56
G.N. Lunt not out	93
S. Johnson-Marshall not out	0
Extras (b8, lb5, w2, nb1)	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>201</b>

Did not bat: N.G.W. Gough, B.C. Usher, M.P. Drummond, M.J. Richards, J.G. Miller, I.A. Bullough  
 Fall of wickets: 37, 40, 189  
 Bowling: Davenport 8-3-14-0, Taylor 8-1-31-2, Skrimshire 6-0-36-1, Clark 8-0-44-0, McNamara 4-0-36-0, Dutta 3-0-27-0

RGS won the toss

Umpires P. Wormington and C. Peerson

**Malvern won by seven wickets**



Above: M. Dodds batting.

Left: S. Ali batting.

## UNDER 14

After a disappointing year as Under 13's, the team was pleased to welcome to the school Shomit Dutta, a player who had already played at County level.

The team took time to settle and were well beaten by Hampton and Watford G.S. However, performances improved greatly as the Summer passed and only Abingdon were able to expose the side's batting weakness. A run of 5 wins and a draw towards the end of term was well deserved but it was disappointing to be defeated by Dr. Challoner's G.S. in the final of the Lord's Taverners' Competition. This match was finely balanced until the closing stages when our bowlers lacked the necessary control to force a victory.

The batting was unconvincing. If the innings was to prosper, Shomit Dutta and Andrew Swain had to remain at the crease for a substantial time. Shomit showed considerable ability scoring freely and twice making 70. He was well supported by Andrew who showed a sound temperament with several 30's and 102 against Desborough. Alastair Whittome, Shaun Martin, Jamie Cole and Timothy Seymour made runs at times but were inconsistent. Azhar Hameed had potential as an all-rounder but sadly he was not regularly available.

The bowling attack developed well. Richard Flack opened enthusiastically with a lively action and good control. Shomit Dutta surprised several batsmen with some deliveries but lacked consistency in line and length. Dale Parkinson took 5 wickets in an innings on three occasions with his flighted left-arm spin. Alastair Whittome bowled in-swing effectively and a fine spell earned him 6-12 against Burnham G.S. The rest of the bowling was shared between Timothy Seymour's in-swing, Azhar Hameed's away-swing and Anthony Ball's off-spin.

The team was captained by Shomit Dutta who thought hard about the game and learnt much about a difficult art. He did his best to keep a varied group of fielders alert and by the end of the season, good returns were coming in to Shaun Martin who kept wicket throughout.

Several other keen cricketers made up a squad which attended practices regularly and positively enjoyed its cricket. With an increase in confidence and concentration, I'm sure that performances can improve.

D.G. STONE

## UNDER 13

Strength in depth led to a most successful season with the side winning 8 of their 9 fixtures and drawing the other. No fewer than 12 bowlers took wickets, and 4 batsmen scored half-centuries, with Stuart Garvie's match-winning 85 n.o. against Watford G.S. being the highest individual contribution. The high-point of the season was undoubtedly the extraordinary match at Abingdon School, where the opposition collapsed from 50-2, to 52 All Out with Jonathan Blenkarn taking 5-16, the R.G.S. eventually winning by 7 wickets.

One notable feature of the season was the tremendous parental support, both home and away. Their help with chaotic score-books, concussed first slips, exhausted opening bowlers, and ensuring fair play when the umpires had failed to notice that the R.G.S. had taken the field at Abingdon with 12 men, was very much appreciated.

J. Blenkarn and M. Chan both represented the county at U13 level. The following also played in the school team:

S. Shaw, D. McNamara, F. Currie, A. Igbal, R. Page, S. Garvie, J. Rattray, A. Brooks, N. O'Doherty, C. Hamp, J. Howard, D. Gatcum, J. Dickinson, P. Gould, N. Charles.

A.R.Y., M.J.G.

## Hockey

In many ways this season has been a most encouraging one. At present the Under 16 team is preparing for the final stages of the English Schools National Hockey Championship which is to be held on astroturf pitches in Birmingham on May 4th and 5th. This is only the second year of this official Championship and R.G.S. will be competing for the Cup along with winning schools from seven different regions of the country.

Our players have gained some valuable experience in the School's senior teams and have the ability to make a good impression, even at the highest level.

### Results

XI	P	W	D	L	For	Ag.
*1st	22	9	4	9	42	44
2nd	8	1	1	5	14	20
3rd	4	2	2	0	12	3
U16A + B	8	4	2	2	28	11
U15	15	6	2	7	22	25
U14	8	3	3	2	14	12

*\*It should be noted that the strongest 1st XI (fielded for seven games only) contained five 5th formers with restricted Wednesday availability.*

### Fixtures

The season was seriously curtailed by the severe weather and the teachers' dispute. Only the 1st XI and the junior teams were coached outside school time. Thanks are forwarded to all staff who have umpired matches throughout the season.

### Honours

The following awards were made at the end of the Easter term:

*Full Colours:* M.C. Heys, C.P. Lewendon, T.J. Prior

*Half Colours:* S. Ali, G. Bambury, G. Elliott, G.J.M. Farrar, J.S. Hall, D.R. Hamm, C.D.R. Jones, M.J. McAllister, R.M. Medhurst, D. Pearce, M.R. Pope and J.G.K. Walker.

### 1st XI

This season has been unique in that open team selection for Saturdays often included five 5th formers. The majority of matches were played on Wednesdays and so it was essential for all players to maintain team discipline in order to cope with the many enforced changes made. Training sessions at Bisham Abbey were always well attended.

The School was outplayed by two very strong teams, Watford G.S. and Sir William Borlase S. Marlow, both containing England Under 18 Internationals. Our best performances were against Kingston G.S. (4-2), Haberdashers' Aske's, Elstree (4-1) and Desborough S. (5-1). An 'over 25' Old Boys team led us by 2 goals but we recovered to win 4-2 after some excellent play.



A fine 2-2 draw at Stowe which contained our 'goal of the season' was a fitting way to end the year.

Returning colours Chris Beckford and Grant Ormiston worked hard to introduce pattern to our play in midfield. Both deserved their selection for the championship winning Bucks U19 team. Chris Lewendon could usually be found on the right wing and he provided centres which were often put away by Tim Prior on Wednesdays or Mike McAllister on Saturdays. Tim reverted to a marking role at left defence on weekends. Graham Farrar came into form after Christmas and gave our attack width on the left with good control. Gavin Bambury showed fine ball skills and has begun to improve his distribution. Jonathan Walker played regularly but needs to look for earlier passes and Sajid Ali impressed on the right.

In defence, Justin Hall shared goal-keeping duties with Chris Jones. Both were effective cover for the clean-hitting Martin Heys who became the regular penalty corner striker. Other positions were ably filled by Gavin Elliott, David Pearce and Martin Pope.

I extend my best wishes to all those leaving this year and hope that their school hockey experience will be valuable when they compete for places at a senior level.

D.G.S.

## 2nd XI

The team only played eight matches this year and this, combined with promotions to the 1st XI and injuries, prevented the formation of a settled team. Less experienced players were frequently drafted in from the 3rd XI and they often found themselves playing in unfamiliar positions.

Despite the lack of practice after Christmas, some good hockey was played and most matches were closely contested. Poor opportunism in front of goal often let the side down. The top goal scorer was Gavin Davey and there were creditable performances from David Ellison in goal. He, together with Neil Stephenson and Ian Greggor, formed a strong defence. Richard Medhurst, David Lewin and Mark Barrell showed a good level of commitment.

Although the results were disappointing, the matches were played with much enthusiasm. Those selected regularly were David Ellison, Ian Greggor, Neil Stephenson, David Lewin, David Hamm, Richard Medhurst, Mark Puddephatt, Bruce Ayling, Gavin Davey and Mark Barrell.

DAVID HAMM

## UNDER 16

This year group plays few regular fixtures. Boys progress by playing for the School senior teams on Saturdays and by joining clubs.

However this year's particularly strong team have had more fixtures arranged and have qualified for the final stage of the English Schools Cup by convincingly defeating Aylesbury G.S. (5-0) and then at regional level Seaford College, Sussex (9-0) and Kent College (5-1). Prospects for a high final placing are encouraging.

Many of the side played for the Bucks U16 team which remarkably beat Surrey 5-4 to become Southern County Champions after trailing 0-3 early in the second half.

The following honours have been gained this season:  
S.E. England U18: Gavin Bambury, Justin Hall  
S.E. England U16: Sajid Ali, Jonathan Lane,

Michael McAllister, Martin Tucker  
Bucks U16: Gavin Elliott, Martin Heys, Roger Mould

Others to have played include Jonathan Buxton, Michael Chandler, Stephen Andrews, Benedict Nielsen, Charles Cook and Mark Hatcher. Several others in this year group will also be competing for places in senior teams next year.

D.G.S.

## UNDER 15

The team enjoyed a good season with several convincing victories to their credit. With initial problems solved, the arrival of Michael Chandler at the beginning of the year added all-round strength to the team and gave greater stability to the midfield. He, along with Martin Tucker and Stephen Andrews represented Bucks on numerous occasions. Ben Nielsen and goal-keeper Simon McCauley, although unlucky not to play, were also regular members of the squad. Probably the best game of the season was against Haberdashers' Aske's when we produced some of the best hockey of the term and eventually overcame some strong opposition to record a fine 4-2 win. With several members of the team already establishing themselves in higher elevens future prospects look good.

Our thanks must go to Mr. Pantridge whose coaching and support have made this season so enjoyable.

MARTIN TUCKER

## UNDER 14

Although the weather severely curtailed the use of the school field, a number of training sessions were held at Bisham Abbey. This practice was very helpful, enabling the team to have some closely contested matches.

The team was made up mostly from Neil Edmonds, Neil Charles, Daniel Anderson, Stuart Garvie, James Dean, Iftahkar Ahmed, James King, Anjim Iqbal, Scott Ashdown, Peter Wheeler, Gavin Wagstaffe, Simon Tallett and Robert Elliott.

James Dean and James King were selected for the County.

A.J.S.

## Basketball

<b>UNDER 19</b>	Played — 9	Lost 2
	Won — 7	Points For — 727
	Points Against — 528	

After last season's poor performances, this year's team did not really have much to emulate. But an encouraging start to the season, beating local rivals

Aylesbury in a scrappy match, led us to believe that we could make something of this season.

A fixture against the USAF base put us in our place. Expecting to be thrashed soundly by the Yanks, we were lucky to get a game as they tried to cancel. In an almost 'rule-less' game we eventually conceded 77-54.

But good form returned as we overcame Theale easily in the Nationals and were too good for Desborough School (even though we played terribly and had a huge height disadvantage). Chesham, too, had to step aside as we visited them twice and both times emerged victorious, scoring over 100 points on both occasions. This latest victory put us in the Bucks Cup Final, against Aylesbury G.S.

First came the hardest match of the season: against Barton Peveril, the team who so mercilessly humiliated us last year. This time we came out fighting and it looked like a giant-killing win could be on the cards, but alas it was not to be. Despite Nick Cooke's numerous 3-pointers, we were outplayed in the last few minutes and had to concede 67-76.

A good win in the Cup Final made up for this defeat. Despite falling behind early on, a gritty effort by the R.G.S. saw us humble a bigger side. A satisfying end to a pretty good season.

Thanks must go to Mr. Stubbs for training us and driving us to matches, and to all the players.

ROBERT CLEARY

Squad: R. Cleary (Capt.); A. Siva; R. Hollingsworth; C. Petri; N. Cooke; T. Nuthall; D. Currie; J. Baker; D. Wigham; R. Jordan; A. Pond

**UNDER 16**      Played — 6      Won — 4  
                          Lost — 2      Points For — 440  
                          Points Against — 346

This season was fairly successful with the team reaching the final of the Bucks Cup, but unfortunately losing the game by one point to Buckingham School.

The team also played in the National Competition and made it to the second round, but met a strong side from Swindon who, after a hard fought game, won by 67-83 points. One success this year was that we beat our rival team, Chesham High, by 82-53 points.

Squad members were James Gamble, Justin Pearson, John Skrimshire, David Meli, Sajid Ali, Philip Shaylor, Andrew Brimelow, Paul Mon, Clive Nicholay and Mike Shipley.

The team would like to thank Mr. Stubbs for organising our matches and coaching us.

JAMES GAMBLE (Capt.)

## Rugby

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
1st XV	21	17	0	4	505	182
2nd XV	17	17	0	0	519	41
2nd 'B' XV	7	5	0	2	77	53
U15 XV	13	9	0	4	268	120
U14 XV	13	7	0	6	168	155
U14 'B' XV	1	1	0	0	36	6
U13 XV	7	4	1	2	63	72
U13 'B' XV	4	1	0	3	48	80
U13 'C' XV	1	1	0	0	10	8



Justin Pearson.



Justin Pearson jumping in the lineout England v. Italy.

Bill Smith FRPS.

School rugby teams have enjoyed another successful season with 75% of all inter-school fixtures resulting in victories for the school.

Following a good season the 1st XV squad undertook a very successful three-match tour to Lisbon, Portugal. The 2nd XV completed their most successful season for more than twenty years and junior school teams all recorded good victories during the season.

Many boys gained recognition at county and regional levels but of these special mention must be made of Alexis Read who was selected for the South and South West U18 XV squad to play Australia, and of Justin Pearson who became the first person from R.G.S. to gain an international schoolboy rugby cap when he played for England U16 XV against Italy, in Milan at Easter.

### Bucks U18 XV Representatives:

P. Smith, R. Chuter, J. Cook, A. Welby, J. Goldstone, C. Trowbridge, A. Read, P. Harrison, M. Stone

### South England U18 XV:

A. Welby, A. Read

*South and South West U18 XV: A. Read*

*Bucks U16 XV Representatives:*

J. Pearson, J. Brown, K. Badham, J. Skrimshire,  
J. McNamara, G. Higgins, J. Gamble

*South Midlands U16 XV:*

J. Pearson, J. McNamara

*England U16 XV: J. Pearson*

C.C.T.

#### 1st XV

1985-6 was another successful season for the R.G.S. 1st XV. With all team members being pushed hard for their places by an outstanding 2nd team, practices were well-attended and made worthwhile by the high-level effort.

The pack was fast, good at handling and efficient in the tight, but was badly affected by the new laws concerning loose-play. Some forwards were so used to the traditional R.G.S. rucking game that they found it difficult to adapt to a mauling strategy. This often resulted in a lack of unity, which restricted the flow of good quality, second-phase ball, which threequarters need to perform to full effect.

The backs were potentially as quick and as skilful a unit as the school has seen in recent years, but lacked leadership and communication. When they were on song, the crispness of the handling in midfield and pace on the wing were electric. Only once, against Aylesbury G.S., did they meet a threequarter division which, on the day, outplayed them in every aspect of the game.

The team as a whole showed great spirit and enthusiasm and won matches by playing hard, clean fifteen-man rugby. We benefited from the support of a band of loyal parents, whose cheerful enthusiasm was greatly appreciated. We should also like to thank Mr. Gamester for the time and effort he devoted to the team during the season.

ALEX WELBY (Captain)

#### SCHOOL RUGBY TOUR TO PORTUGAL

Results: vs. Tecnico Won 48 — 4  
vs. Belenese Won 20 — 3  
vs. Cascais Won 17 — 9

Some four or five weeks before the start of this year's rugby tour an esteemed geography teacher, using his intimate knowledge of Mediterranean climates, confidently predicted that "...the firm pitches of Portugal would be well-suited to the school's style of play". Well, after ten minutes' play in the first match at the University Stadium, fifteen frozen tourists, unable to extract their boots from the deep Lisbon mud, started to doubt the wisdom of said esteemed teacher. But, like most durable leaders, the teacher had ready this philosophical justification of his prediction:

"Meteorological conditions, like the elements of rugby itself, are unpredictable, and it is often the quality of adjustment to changing conditions which ultimately determines the degree of success."

So, this deliberate misrepresentation by the teacher served to enable him to assess the players who had this quality.

A successful school rugby tour is one which can accommodate the holidaymaker, athlete and ambassador, all rolled into one teenage rugby player. There is room on tour for all, providing they "emerge" at the appropriate time. It is the learning of

this appropriateness which constitutes a major part of the educational process. As most teachers are semi-responsible adults, their main fear when in charge of a touring group is of being let down or embarrassed by the members of that group. One of the pleasures of being with an R.G.S. rugby tour party is that on nearly all occasions the players behave correctly and those that do not are immediately and suitably chastised by the others.

Another pleasure is that in both the USA and Portugal the R.G.S. has been undefeated, and the team has attempted to play attractive and technically mature rugby at all times. The Portuguese contested well and are a rapidly emerging rugby force but, as in America, little money is readily available for the development of the sport and the clubs themselves rarely have adequate facilities.

However, cold showers, wet weather and strange safaris to and from matches did not detract from the enjoyment of the tour. A poor country, such as Portugal, has much to offer the inquisitive tourist — even if that tourist is a half-asleep English adolescent!

In the hotel the rooms were spacious, with cold-and-cold, nearly-running water. This did not matter much as it was impossible to wash anyway, as all available baths and sinks were clogged with muddy rugby kit. The lift was temperamental, with the upward thrust rarely sufficient to overcome the gravitational force acting in the opposite direction.

The food was different; some more different than others! In fact, the meals accounted for more medical discomfort than the rugby. Bruises and cuts heal in a few days; salmonella takes a bit longer!

Lisbon, itself, is steeped in historical interest, and most of the boys availed themselves of the opportunity to visit the landmarks of the city. This obviously had nothing to do with the fact that the female courier was an 18 year old, attractive Portuguese student.

Congratulations to the senior rugby squad on a good tour and a fine season. I hesitate to make any other predictions, but I hope next season lives up to expectations.

S. GAMESTER

#### 2nd XV

Played — 17	Won — 17
Drawn — 0	Lost — 0
For — 517	Against — 41

The 2nd XV started their most successful season for 20 years by coming third in the Windsor 15-a-side tournament. After this the team went from strength to strength.

Of the early games, the match against Hampton proved to be closest and the hardest, the school eventually winning 9-4. This was followed by convincing wins over Queen Elizabeth's Barnet, Watford, Windsor and Desborough. However the highlight of the season was beating a strong Aylesbury 2nd XV by 24-15 in a very hard fought game.

There were only two matches after Christmas, due to the weather, but the 2nd XV finished with a flourish, beating Royal Latin (59-0) and Gunnersbury (46-0) to complete an unbeaten season, averaging 30 points a game.

Although the team did not always play to the best of its ability, it raised its standard when the occasion demanded. The pack was particularly dominant, with Nick Ball in the front row, and the back row playing well. The backs also proved capable with Angus Pond



J16 IV T. Nuthall, G. Westall, M. Jones/M. Coutts, A. Furner, R. Mortimer (Cox)

Throughout the winter training period there proved to be very little difference, both in strength and technique, between the 1st and 2nd IVs. The J16 IV was also proving to be a quick crew. The outlook for the summer was therefore promising, fueled by two good results in Heads held in the early Spring.

The 2nd IV entered the Henley Head and finished 5th out of the 10 crews in their 1st IV category. The 1st IV went to Putney for the Schools' Head and although faced with strong competition, finished 16th out of the 105 fours entered.

The School hosted the first regatta of the season at Marlow. The 1st IV had two easy wins in their first two races, but in the final narrowly lost to Wycliffe, who took the Ball Cup and therefore hosted the event in 1986. The 2nd IV also went through to their final easily, but lost after a close battle with Cokethorpe. Alexei Gaylard, representing the School in the sculling event, faced weak opposition and won easily.

The Bedford Star Junior Regatta was the next event where all three crews competed. The 1st and 2nd IVs finished 6th and 7th respectively with a course time difference of just 1 second indicating the narrow margin between them. The J16 IV clocked up some fast times and rowed into the late afternoon to win their class in the regatta.

At Coate Water Park the 2nd IV had their revenge over Cokethorpe and also knocked out the R.G.S. J16 IV. In the final a blade clash led to disqualification for Wallingford, thus giving R.G.S. victory.

The J16s went on to enter two further regattas at Bedford Town and Reading. No longer able to row as novices due to their win at Bedford Star they came across stronger opposition. They reached the semi-finals at Bedford and finished 3rd at Reading.

Our thanks to Mr. Blyth and Mr. Edwards for their coaching and support throughout the year, to Mr. C.C.S. Tideman for the riggers for the School's 2nd shell "Sir Harry Snapper Organs", and to Mr. J.C. Knott for the training tub, which is to be used in the School pool on the completion of the current building programme.

J. KNOTT

## Fives

This season the Eton Fives Club played away matches against the Eton Fives Association, Stowe School, Harrow School, the Harrow Hill Fives Club and Wolverhampton Grammar School, and a home fixture against the Eton Fives Association. The season began very well, with a draw against the Eton Fives Association in our first match, and a fine win over Stowe School by Ian Wiles, the Captain, Tim Prior, the vice-Captain, David Pace and Ijaz Hayat, with each match being won by 3-0. Thereafter, fortunes were more mixed — there was a draw against the Harrow Hill Fives Club by Wiles and Pace, but the other matches were lost. The poor weather in the spring term when nearly four weeks of practice was lost, due to the courts still being uncovered, clearly damaged the team's performance. In the spring term we had the benefit of the coaching of Ian Hutchinson, a member of the Eton Fives Association, which will resume in the autumn term and which we hope will be reflected in next year's results.

## Badminton

This has been another successful season with the School having one of the strongest sides in depth for many years. The team was selected from a squad of nine players including two regular county players and four other players with county experience.

After getting off to a bad start with a poor performance against our main rivals Abingdon, to whom we lost 6-3, the team found their form and won the remaining seven matches. Magdalen College School suffered a 9-0 whitewash and Watford Grammar School were defeated 9-0 at home and 8-1 away at the hands of our strongest team.

The highlight of the season was the match against the staff. The staff surprised the school with the strength of their first two pairs and went into a commanding 4-2 lead. Fortunately for the School the staff's third pair was not so strong enabling the School to clinch a narrow 5-4 victory.

The backbone of the team consisted of Adam Turner, who was defeated only once throughout the season, Aled Smith, Robert Devonport and Ian Wright.

Adam Turner retained his position as No. 1 in the county by winning the singles, doubles and mixed in the Bucks U/18 Restricted. Robert Devonport reached the semi-finals of the singles and mixed and was a finalist in the doubles in the U/16 event.

The team wishes to thank Mr. White-Taylor who has, once again through his enthusiasm and interest, been of great assistance in the efficient running of the badminton club.

ADAM TURNER (Team Captain)

## Fencing

This season has seemed to prove the adage that success breeds success. School matches brought a string of victories over Radley, Douai, KCS Wimbledon, Bradfield, Wellington, Marlborough, Merchant Taylors and Winchester, with only one defeat by a weakened team against Harrow. Regional and local competitions brought their individual successes and promotions to National Finals. Here, however, the results were a little disappointing. But this was amply compensated for in the National Schools Team Foil Championships at Dulwich. Here, the team of James Bartlett, Simon Aspinall and Tom Payne swept through the early rounds to be drawn against Harrow in the quarter finals. Harrow were defeated 5-0 and the R.G.S. found themselves drawn against Millfield, previous title holders, in the semi finals. In a tough, well fought round the R.G.S. came out on top by 5 fights to 4. Unfortunately, this form could not be repeated in the final against Whitgift, who took the title. To be runners up, though, was a great achievement.

Better was to follow in the Public Schools Fencing Championships at Crystal Palace in early April. All seven entrants from the R.G.S. reached the top halves of their competitions in different weapons and age groups. Many went on to the final stages: Tom Payne to two final pools (5th in the Junior Epee, 6th in the Junior Foil), Nick Payne to the final of the Mount Haes Cup (1st), James Bartlett to the semi finals of the Senior Foil and Sabre, Simon Aspinall to the semi finals of the Senior Foil. Three fencers also reached the quarter final stages: James Bartlett and Simon

Aspinall in the Senior Epee, and Peter Fison in the Junior Sabre. This consistent high finishing gave the R.G.S. 37 points in the All Weapon Team Event to take the Peason Cup ahead of St. Paul's School (33 points).

The major individual success of the Championships was Nick Payne's victory in the Mount Haes Cup for under 15 year old fencers. He fenced through five rounds of competition (25 fights) before reaching the final pool of 6 fencers. He won four fights but lost one, thus having to fight off for first place, which he successfully did.

List of entries for the various weapons:

James Bartlett. Senior Foil, Epee, Sabre.  
Simon Aspinall. Senior Foil, Epee.  
Tom Payne. Junior Foil, Epee.  
Nick Payne. Mount Haes Cup.  
Tony Chambers. Junior Sabre.  
Peter Fison. Junior Foil, Sabre.  
Simon Keeling. Mount Haes Cup.

J. ROEBUCK

## Tennis

In a considerably curtailed season the 1st team played only 4 matches, winning 2 and losing 2.

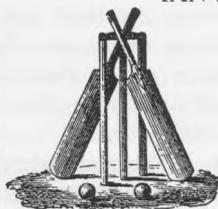
The Colts only had one match which they lost at Carmel College. We entered the Clark Cup as usual and progressed to the last 16. The Captain was Andrew Knox who also played for the Bucks County Team. We hope for a full season next year.

S.J.G./M.E.

## Cross-Country

The 1985-86 season has been the most successful in my 9 years in charge of the team. We have nearly always had considerable strength in depth, but rarely sufficient top-class runners to hope for medals in major competitions. But when Neil Panchen won the gold medal at the Waddesdon Open Intermediate event, supported by Andrew Bailey in 4th place, it looked possible that, when these two could run for the Senior team, there was just the chance of a team medal. We were edged into 4th place at Guildford, and just before Christmas missed a bronze medal by only 22 seconds at the prestigious Dr. Challenor's Relay. The breakthrough finally came on a bright but freezing cold February 26 when we won the team silver medal in the Merchant Taylors Cup, with Neil Panchen winning the individual bronze. The Senior team that day was: Neil Panchen, Andrew Bailey, David Hooper, Mark Walmsley, Mike Read and Luc English. The first four of these mentioned went on to run for the county in the National Championships at Durham, where Neil Panchen led home the Bucks team in the 35th place. This rounded off an excellent season, and I am hopeful that 1986-87 will be even more successful.

IAN J. WILSON (Master i/c)



## Horace Odes, Book 1 Carmen IV

*solvitur acris hiems grata vice veris et Favoni,  
trahuntque siccas machinae carinas;  
ac neque iam stabulis gaudet pecus aut arator igni,  
nec prata canis albicant pruinis.*

*iam Cytherea choros ducit Venus imminente Luna,  
iunctaeque Nymphis Gratiae decentes  
alterno terram quatunt pede, dum graves Cyclopum  
Volcanus ardens urit officinas.*

*nunc decet aut viridi nitidum caput impedire myrto  
aut flore, terrae quem ferunt solutae.  
nunc et in umbrosis Fauno decet immlare lucis,  
seu poscat agna sive malit haedo.*

*pallida Mors aequo pulsat pede pauperum tabernas  
regumque turres. o beate Sesti,  
vitae summa brevis spem nos vetat inchoare longam.  
iam te premet nox fabulaeque Manes*

*et domus exilis Plutonia: quo simul mearis,  
nec regna vini sortiere talis  
nec tenerum Lycidan mirabere, quo calet iuventus  
nunc omnis et mox virginis tepebunt.*

Bitter winter melts to welcome Spring and warm west winds,  
Isis willing, disused galleys leave dry dock for sea;  
Eagerly the herds forsake the stable, the ploughman  
quits the hearth,  
Hoary Frost daren't stiffen blades of grass in  
blanching meadows now.

Aphrodite leads the dance beneath an overhanging  
moon,  
Linking grateful hands with fresh-faced Graces, sylvan  
Nymphs,  
Verdant forest floor resounds to laughter, while her  
spouse  
Lame Hephaestos tends the Cyclopes' smithies'  
deafening heat.

Now the time to deck one's shining hair with myrtle  
fronds  
Or flowers freshly sprung from unchained Earth, to  
greet the spring;  
Time to honour Faustus bathed in woodland's shady  
light,  
Pray for plenty, sacrifice the new-born lamb or kid.

Pale Pluto's apathetic feet tread pauper's huts  
Just as often as the towers of Kings — Sestius my  
friend,  
Man's overshortened life denies his unattainable  
dream:  
Everlasting night will duly hem you in with tenuous  
wraiths

In Hades' hollow halls — once past the nine-fold river  
Styx  
Yours won't be the turn to buy the round, go out with  
friends.  
Never again can you indulge in Eros' secret sport:  
New youth discovers womanhood and pays its court.

C. KENDALL

# Clubs and Societies

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## Public Speaking Society

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1986 has been a most successful year for the Public Speaking Society. In January our senior team of David Young, Richard Walsh, and Bill Tapley, came second in the Rotary Club Competition. In the junior section our team of Simon Monjack, Tim Clark and Simon Newton-Smith won their heat, but unfortunately came second to Wycombe Abbey in the final.

In the English Speaking Union Competition the subject The Power of Music provided an interesting and informative topic, which was much enjoyed by the audience. This was the first ESU competition for the team of Simon Monjack, David Young and Tim Clark, and they managed to achieve a very creditable second.

SIMON MONJACK

## Music Society

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A society whose membership is as large as that of the present Music Society inevitably finds it a difficult task, firstly, to involve all its members at one time and, secondly, to maintain a high standard throughout the whole spectrum of activities. However, these two problems together with the departure of many talented musicians last year, among them Mr. Wheeler, are difficulties which the Society has managed to overcome with a high degree of success.

Mr. Wheeler, who left to become Director of Music at the Northcestrian Grammar School, Altrincham, had been on the staff for four years, during which time he built up a considerable musical reputation as a conductor and a teacher. His easy-going approach masked a gritty determination to obtain the highest of standards, particularly in the field of choral music, culminating in a performance of the Fauré Requiem, which he conducted shortly before Easter, last year.

The void that he left was a hard one to fill, but any fears were quickly dispelled by the arrival of his extremely capable successor, Mr. Hussey, who, in addition to taking over the reins of the Junior Choir, Second Orchestra and Second Wind Band, has resurrected the Jazz Band (to be known as "Jazz 645"), which is to give its first performances at the Summer Concert and on Show Day.

The first concert of the year, the Recital, drew many fine performances from the school's more talented musicians, in pieces ranging from a flamenco guitar solo, played by Karl Tomlin, to the finale of Haydn's Trumpet Concerto, played by the First Orchestra, with Jonathan Barr as soloist.

The First Orchestra appeared again at the Christmas Concert, along with the First Wind Band, Second Orchestra, Junior Choir and Choral Society, in a varied and entertaining programme encompassing the high spirits of Offenbach's Overture: "Orpheus in the Underworld" and the solitary stillness of Stanford's part-song: "The Bluebird". The Choral Society ended the concert with a spine-tingling account of Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb". The work's diversity of styles enabled the choir and soloists (taken from the Choral Society) to display their musical capabilities to the full, skillfully accompanied at the organ by Mr. Heath.

The Junior Choir and Choral Society rounded off

the Music Society's autumn term in the traditional way, with its Festival of Lessons and Carols in the Parish Church.

The Spring term was another busy one for the two choirs: on 25th March, the Junior Choir and Choral Society, joined by soloists (Simon Gay, Mr. Flinders and Bruce Kershaw) and two orchestras, gave an exciting and moving rendition of one of the greatest choral works ever written: Bach's "St. Matthew Passion". It was a memorable concert and one to be treasured, standing high amongst the Society's achievements.

Finally, a long and sincere "Thank You" must go to Mr. Holmes and Mr. Hussey, without whose musical and administrative skills, selfless devotion and ceaseless efforts none of the above would have been possible. Thanks are also due to those members of staff who give up their time to sing in the Choral Society, as well as to those who operate behind the scenes at concerts — namely, Mrs. Campbell (Box Office), Mr. Edwards (Front-of-House) and Mr. Everett (Lighting). We now look forward to future events with the hope that the standards achieved during the last year will be maintained and improved upon.

S.M. HOWAT (Secretary)

## Computer Club

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The club has been flourishing over the last couple of terms, with a large influx of second-formers. The club meets every day in the Computing Laboratory to use the eight-station Research Machines 480Z network. The computing facilities have been recently enhanced by the acquisition of a daisywheel printer, and it is hoped to expand the network system in the near future.

The club also has access to a BBC model B micro-computer and a CASE 400/213 modem which has proved popular among some club members who regularly communicate with an electronic bulletin board in Egham.

J. MCCAULEY & N. PHILLIPS

## YHA Club

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Since the last issue of the School magazine appeared, the club has had a major trip to Snowdonia during July 1985, five days in the Brecon Beacons and several weekend trips. The following account of the week in North Wales was written by Michael Harrison of 4B.

The journey to Snowdonia started off early and was long. At regular intervals the 'peace' would be broken by loud fragments of song from the Back Seat Boys.

Our first hostel was at Llyn Idwal, set among some stunning mountains. Our first discovery was that we were sleeping in a converted chapel. Our second discovery was that the midges were waiting for us (especially for Gareth Sellors and Julian Howe). Our third discovery was the pool table. Goodbye Back Seat Boys.

After unpacking, most of us were dragged off to do one lap of Llyn Idwal, the nearby lake. Then it was back to one of the famous suppers of Mr. Edwards and Mr. Keysell.

On the Wednesday it was hot and sunny, so to dispel our good moods, we split up to climb Pen-yr-Ole Wen. This was followed by a couple more



*On Crib Goch, Snowdonia.*

mountains and a long, long descent to a road walk home. Mr. Gelsthorpe's group had a long lead on Mr. Berry's, as Mr. Berry had taken a short cut. It was on this 'short' cut that Russell Gigg demonstrated his new trick — sticking his head into the lake. Very refreshing.

We split up again on Thursday to climb Bristly Ridge. No comparison with Mr. Berry, please. Some people didn't want to do it, so Mr. Grout was demoted to take them on a low level walk. After conquering the two glyders, Mr. Gelsthorpe took his group off towards the hostel and Mr. Berry took his group off towards the horizon. Another short cut.

The combination of changing hostels and visiting the castles at Conwy and Caernarfon on Friday was regarded by most as a rest from the mountains for shell-shocked feet (as was our trip to the Ffestiniog Railway on the Sunday). The new common room had a table ideal for Mr. Grout and Julian Howe to demolish two innocent, friendly little third-formers at bridge. Personally, I think it was unfair — Mr. Berry gave better advice to the other team than to Richard Holloway and me.

The high point of the week was the climb up Snowdon on Monday. A small group of people with a death wish volunteered to go up via the Crib Goch ridge, a pleasant little jaunt along a ridge four feet wide, rocky, uneven and with a nice big sheer drop on either side. Those people with less guts (or more sense?) walked the Pyg Track instead. The climb was damp, cold and scary, but it was worth it for the majestic view of the inside of a cloud that we got at the top.

On Tuesday, we returned. Back from a country of spectacular scenery, multiple marshes and lakes to beatings-up from older brothers and arguments with younger ones. Was it worth it? When can we escape again?

The trip to Brecon took place during the October half term last year, with Mr. Gelsthorpe and Mr. Berry taking 14 boys to stay at Llwyn-y-Celyn hostel in the Brecon Beacons National Park. The weather was very much better than the previous year and many fine views were appreciated. The waterfalls walk this year was given the full day that it deserves, after some boys covered just part of it the year before. The walk follows the courses of the two rivers Afon Nedd and Afon Mellte including dramatic waterfalls and underground rivers. The path passes behind one of the waterfalls — Sgwd yr Eira. Included in the peaks climbed were Pen y Fan, the highest in South Wales at 2906ft and the Black Mountain.

Several weekend trips were also organised — including Hombury St Mary for the North Downs Way in the Autumn Term. February saw a very snowy visit to Streatly for the Ridgeway, March for trips to Cheddar for the Mendips and nearer to home at Bradenham for more of the Ridgeway Long Distance Footpath. Between writing this and the magazine being published we shall visit Swanage and the Lake District in May.

R.M.B.

## Chess Club

The school chess teams have had a season of mixed results this year. The school first team playing in Division One of the Bucks League began well thanks partly to Chris Kennedy who played for the school whilst doing seventh term Oxbridge exams. After Christmas, however, the team found the going much harder and despite enthusiasm and reliable results from the captain Nicholas Heritage, Chris Doe and Mark Higginbottom, failed to avoid relegation. The valuable experience earned in the higher division should however be rewarded with success next season. Following promotion from Division Three the second team has acquitted itself well to the rigours of chess at this level. This new-look side showed glimpses of promise and was unlucky to lose several games narrowly. The bulk of the points came from the lower boards of the team with very strong performances from Scott Clarke and Joe Biles, Neil Clarke also performed well but will be best remembered this year for playing black in eight consecutive games. Tom Walker has also matured as a player and will be a valuable asset to the first team next year.

In "The Times" National Schools' Competition the school reached the zone final when, fielding a much weakened side, it lost narrowly. The game of the season was in my view played by Chris Doe in the semi-final when the attacking flair he had been trying to employ all season finally paid off.

The school junior teams have been very well supported and well organised by Phil Giles and Kevin Buzzard. In the U16 Schools League the second team of J. Biles, G. McCaughan, C. Jones, I. Hussain, M. Nixon and J. Burke comfortably beat the first team and went on to win the League. At U14 level the players performed creditably and showed good promise for the future particularly if they learn to slow down and concentrate on their own games.

The school has had much success in the individual county tournaments. Matthew Ball and Phil Giles won titles for the second year running, whilst Tom Walker and Chris Doe are involved in a playoff for the U16 title. J. Melsom is to play-off against the winner of the Aylesbury G.S. heat of the U18 competition.

The club has run successfully most lunch hours and thanks must be extended to senior members for their assistance. Thanks must also go to Mr. Clark for giving up his evenings to take us to our fixtures, and for his overall supervision of a most popular club.

J.M. (Club Secretary)

My thanks to Jonathan Melsom for his work as Secretary and organizer of the Club, in particular the Under 14 teams.

I.R. CLARK

## Model Railway Club

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September 1985 saw the annual membership surge, with approximately one quarter of the new second form joining the Club! This resulted in a large amount of rolling stock being run on the Club's permanent layout.

Apart from running trains, slow progress has been made on the new '00' gauge portable layout, and trips have been undertaken to the Severn Valley Railway, a preserved line in Shropshire and to York.

The future of the Club is still uncertain as no decision has yet been announced regarding the removal of, or use of, the Old Hall stage, when the new Library is built. However, one definite future event is a Model Railway Exhibition in the Queen's Hall on March 14th 1987.

Our thanks go to Mr. Lovell for his support.

A. BOOTHMAN

## Stage Team

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The last year has seen the Stage Team grow from strength to strength in another successful season. This year's intake of 2nd and 3rd formers have been taught a wide range of wood and stage skills such as hammering screws and bending nails, which have been absorbed with a great deal of enthusiasm. These new talents were put to excellent use along with the senior advanced wood manipulation techniques to produce a pleasing set for both actor and spectator in the spring production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

There are too many members to mention but thanks must go to Luc English whose skill and discipline held the team together.

Finally the sad departure of our mentor Mr. Dennis Smith at the end of the year has led to us renaming our tool cupboard in memory of him.

I.J. MACTAVISH (Stage Manager)

## Stage Lighting and Sound Team

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Quiet, but with an exciting finale. This best describes the year so far for the team. Earlier months were spent rewiring lights, refurbishing control systems and general maintenance.

The ultimate goal for all this hard work was Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream". The lighting for this play was met with enthusiasm by the new operating team, as many new problems were tackled. The use of stage gauze to create the illusion of a disappearing actor provided a magical effect. The electronic music complemented the lighting to produce a spellbinding performance for all concerned.

The play would have been made more difficult without the use of four new spotlights, which we have been able to purchase due to the generosity of the Parents' Association. Also acquired was a second tower which proved to be invaluable in rigging for the play, as it allowed two groups of stage personnel to work at the same time.

Throughout the year we have had a supply of new members who are keen to learn but not always so ready to scale the scaffolding. In a few years' time

they will be competent enough to design and operate their own lighting rigs.

The equipment we now have is a good base for expansion and development and will provide the means for a flourishing team in the future.

Thanks as always go to Mr. Everett for his never ending support and technical assistance, not to mention his relentless supply of coffee and cake which help us through the late nights spent at school.

IAIN M. GILBEY

## General Knowledge Quizzes

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R.G.S. has had an excellent year in the field of general knowledge quizzes. With the demise of the RNIB Quiz, there remain two interschool competitions, and R.G.S. has been successful in both.

The highlight of the year was the progress of the junior Schools' Challenge team to the National Finals for the second time. In a style reminiscent of our national victory in 1982, Paul Deraney (2E), Matthew Keer (2Y), George Thomas (2Y) and Julian Davies (2JM) defeated Wallingford School, Arnold House Preparatory School and Berkhamsted School comprehensively. They became Regional Champions by dismissing Aylesbury Grammar School and then travelled to Gloucester for the National Finals, where they beat Prebendal School, Chichester in the semi-final. Sadly, they lost the Final in no uncertain terms to an outstanding side from Nottingham High School, but their futures look promising.

The Schools' Challenge side has so far reached the stage at which R.G.S. had been knocked out in the previous two competitions, so we hope to improve on this. The team of Julian Smith (6H<sub>2</sub>), Andrew Hutt (6LD<sub>2</sub>), Richard Buckley (4B) and Simeon Thornton/Philip Lewin (both 4PG) beat Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls, Elstree, comfortably, but not very confidently. In two very close matches held one after the other, we played better, defeating Haberdashers' Boys in the semi-final and then completing a "double" for R.G.S. by beating Aylesbury Grammar School in the Regional Final. This was our third consecutive Regional Championship, and we go on to play the winners of another region.

All the competitors, particularly Andrew Hutt and I, would like to thank Mr. Edwards for all the time and effort he has devoted to quizzes in recent years. We can only hope he has enjoyed it as much as we have. Thanks must also go to Messrs Blyth, Heath, Keyse and Mrs. Campbell for putting us through our paces...

JULIAN S. SMITH 6H<sub>2</sub>

## Christian Union

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This has been a very exciting year for the Christian Union and we have been fairly active. As well as our weekly meetings we have had several other events. In November we hosted a Joint Christian Union meeting, bringing together schools from the Wycombe area, and were both excited and challenged by the message given by Rev. Graham Dawson of Goldhill Baptist.

In February we went to Seer Green with the C.U.'s from most of the Wycombe area schools. We had a

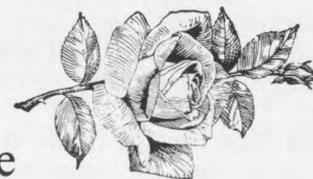
very good time both learning about and experiencing the power and love of God. I must express my thanks to everyone who helped organize this event.

We have also had the opportunity to lead two separate weeks of main school assemblies, two boarders' chapel services and at the time of writing we are looking forward to participating in the R.G.S. Show.

We believe that this year we have come closer than ever before to seeing what God can do when we let Him. This is all the more amazing when you consider He owes us nothing but has given us everything just because He loves us.

Many thanks to all the staff who have offered their support this year, again special thanks to Mr. Kempson. Also my thanks to the increasing and much valued support of Wycombe Youth for Christ.

MARTIN ADAMSON 6SD<sub>1</sub> (Leader)



## Innocence

Innocence is a flower  
who, molested not by wingèd vampires,  
throws open to the public  
her unsuckled purity.

M.N.F. McDERMOTT

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## Uplyme Boarding House Report

With Uplyme's traditional problem of having mostly 6th formers, this year saw six former inmates leave, and five unsuspecting victims arrive. We have also had changes at the top, with the banishment of Mr. Yeates and the calming influence of Mr. Edwards coming in as House Tutor.

This year's rabble has been quieter than of late, but sporting-wise Uplyme has been better than ever. In rugby, Paul Miller, Alexis Read and Greg Higgins all played for the 1st XV, Dave Pearce and Mark Barrell represented the school 1st XI in hockey, and Sandy Burton had a good season for the cross-country team. Of the others, Tom Fountain became the Saudi Arabia U18 Squash champion, Keith Jordan took up Taekwondo, Jim Hearn took up singing football songs, and Roger Dunlop became a hairdresser par excellence. The other thing that did well in Uplyme this year, was the Pay Phone, which has made huge profits, due to a mass discovery by the House of the opposite sex.

My thanks must go to the dormitory monitors, Paul, Roger and Jim, who have done sterling jobs (I couldn't have done it without them), although it was rumoured that Jim was having trouble with his only other dorm. member, Martin Dunlop (very rebellious for a 12 year old), and Paul's effort to first of all wake himself up for breakfast, and then to wake up our resident sun-tanned Spanish sleepy-head Louis Dey, proved, at the best of times, nearly impossible.

And last, but not least, thanks must go to Mrs. Stubbs (especially for washing my rugby kit), Mr. Edwards (for telling us when to stop feeding ourselves at tea and to get to prep), and to Mr. Stubbs, for casting his watchful eye over all of us. Special mention must also go to Grant Ormiston, who spent so much time here, that one wonders when he's going to move in. (Oh, and did someone mention Christmas Presents??)

ALEXIS READ  
Head of House

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## School House Report

This year has seen the brief visit of some great new characters, namely Jeremy 'Fascist' Dickinson who brought great intellect to the constant political arguments and Ed 'Wimp' Moore — imported from the good ol' US of A, but who couldn't take the pressure of Boarding House life and left at Christmas. We have also seen the sad departures of Gavin Steen to Wycombe College, Kevin Bint and, most memorably, the dramatic departures of Giles the Hippy and Dillan (who went home to the Bronx one holiday and never came back; last seen trying to cross the Atlantic on his Vespa).

School House was well represented on the sports field this year, but undoubtedly our greatest triumph was the massacre of Uplyme on the basketball court.

The middle dorm has been 'dogged' by girlfriend troubles with 'Slaphead' Monaghan and Hugo Wastnage making frequent visits to Terriers' Kennels. Gatings have been a regular occurrence this year, dished out for such atrocities as smashed torch bulbs on the stairs and mystery people roaming the roof.

Finally, Bert deserves a special mention for his 'starring' role in this year's school production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.

Our special thanks must go to Mr. & Mrs. Gamester, Mr. Goldthorpe, Jill, the cleaning ladies and matron who have made this yet another memorable year at School House.

B.J.M., R.W.P.,  
S.F.D.S., R.K.O.

## CCF

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It is encouraging to see the variety of opportunities being taken by members of all three Sections in the Contingent, especially those who go on camps, weekend training and courses.

We are part of a network of support involving the Regular Services, Governors, Headmaster and Staff and friends who come from outside the school, in particular Old Boys and parents. To all I should like to express the warmest thanks.

Time and again the response and development of the NCO's and cadets shows how worthwhile this effort is.

This year we say "goodbye" to Mike Faerber who has been our SSI for five years. His help in administration, in going beyond the call of duty in activities outside his original RAF background and especially as Captain of Boats at Danesfield has been greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to welcoming his successor, Mr. John Smithson, who was a REME Sergeant and more recently a BBC cameraman.

We have already welcomed Mr. P. Wilkes who is coming on to the establishment on joining the staff. He has already successfully completed his Basic and Qualifying Course at the Cadet Training Centre at Frimley Park and a Range Course at Bicester. He has given valued help not only on Thursday afternoons but also on Weekend and Adventure training. He will also be coordinating arrangements for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

It is a special pleasure to have an Old Boy, Lt. Commander Tim Wills, R.N., as our Naval Liaison Officer. He has come after distinguished service in the Falklands.

F.N.C.

## R.N. Section Report

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The section now consists of 30 cadets, the new intake numbering six. The year began with the section making the most of the good weather, with frequent trips to the river. The acquisition of the new sailboards (thanks to the Navy, and some generous contributions from the parents of the cadets) has increased the range of activities available. Throughout the winter the more mundane side of the section came into service. The various syllabuses were taught, and the newly-acquired wetsuits were put together.

Captain Round-Turner's visit in October was successful, and the section enjoyed hosting him as



*R.M.A.S. Cricklade (on the Clyde Sept. '85). R.G.S. cadets lived in the cargo space underneath the rubber dinghy.*

much as he enjoyed being here. We look forward to Captain Norman's visit.

Once again the section has applied for many of the Navy's Cadet courses. These courses are always highly enjoyed and with their variety, a cadet can always find something that interests them (be it range firing, first aid, engineering ...). The section also organized various field days to Naval installations as well as a highly enjoyable week on a fleet tender.

We must now say goodbye to Chief Petty Officer Pearce, who recently left the section after 7 years of attachment to us. A heartfelt Thank you and our warmest wishes for the future.

Finally, the section would like to thank Lt. Claye and Sb-Lt. Barker for their effort and perseverance on our behalf.

C.P.O. J. RUGG  
P.O. S. DAVIES  
P.O. N. DAVIES



*M. Rymill, A. Johnston, R. Drysdale, A. Swift. Four ratings visiting H.M.S. Dolphin Submarine Day March 1986.*

## Lt. Clayne's Naval Section Report

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The Coxwain's report suggests life in the R.N. Section is a little dull, but in the last twelve months I have:

1. Flown in a helicopter at the Naval Air Day at Portland;
2. Sailed three types of craft on a super-hot sailing weekend organized by Mike Faerber;
3. Sent Dr. Barker and cadets on the Navy's cliff and chasm course at Royal Arthur in Wiltshire;
4. Slept in a polythene bag on a wind-swept mountain in Scotland;
5. Got lost in a mist on the mountains of Arran. Cooked fresh caught mackerel over an open fire on a beach. Caused a submarine to surface in front of our bows, to avoid being rammed by us. Had a wonderful time navigating up the Clyde by night under the guidance of Robbie Burns-quoting skipper Willie McVey;
6. Sent Simon Mason to Jamaica via BRNC Dartmouth;
7. Sent cadets climbing with the Royal Marines;
8. Sent five cadets to a special submarine day at Portsmouth, to name but some of the highlights.

## Army Section Report

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The year started off well, with an initial number of new cadets at 31, bringing our total up to 60 in all. Some of the keen new cadets came to summer camp '85 at Sheepstor (better known by an 'affectionate' nickname!) from 20th July to 26th.

The advance party left on Thursday 18th and arrived 6 hours later, with the task of putting up 20, eight man tents. This job finished, the main party arrived to face a tough week. The first day was a training circus, i.e. teaching the cadets campcraft, survival, map reading, cooking comports and putting up 'bivi' tents (2 man). On the same day, the orienteering took place in the mist and rain, but it was nevertheless completed successfully by all. The next day saw everyone prepared for the exercise, but, due to almost zero visibility was called off. Luckily the next day the weather had improved and a highly successful exercise was undertaken, carrying on until midnight, when the enemy HQ was overrun. The next day, under a clear sky, the expedition took place and the night was spent camping out and then, the day after, we walked back over a different route, continuing to find answers to taxing questions like "Where on the route would be the best place for a supply drop by a Hercules?". The last day saw the job of taking the tents down and packing them into their respective trucks. The trip back to school was uneventful, but without mishap, and the end of a good camp, enjoyed by all.

The term started well, with both companies doing the necessary courses (Drill for the 4th formers and Cadet Cadre for the 5th formers). The next 'camp' was the one day Battlecraft exercise held in November at Aldershot. For the past few years, the weekend has been taken up by a visit to the Royal Green Jackets in Winchester where we do the assault course, shooting, and a challenging cross-country map and compass exercise. However, due to the Royal Green Jackets 'moving site', this weekend was used to practise the newly acquired Battlecraft skills.

A very good response enabled a four section platoon to be formed, despite inherent control difficulties. On arrival at the training area, the morning was spent practising basic section battle manoeuvres. The platoon, under the able command of Cpl. Mark Ponting, with Cpl. Jeremy Bennett as the platoon sergeant, moved out. Despite the weather closing in and soaking us, enemy contacts were swiftly dealt with. After a successful platoon attack on an enemy stronghold, the platoon formed an 'all round defence', from which the reconnaissance patrols were sent out as dusk fell. Using the information gained, the platoon HQ planned the night phase, culminating in the successful recapture of the 'friendly' officer at the Enemy's HQ and the massacre of the Enemy (again!).

The March Aldershot camp came next in our busy programme. This time, however, the Enemy enjoyed a short lived victory over the platoon HQ and the section commanders, when an orders group was closely watched and fired upon by the Enemy HQ (consisting of Sgt. Mark Ponting, Cpl. (now Sgt.) Dave Taverner and myself) much to the dismay of Armourer Sgt. Duncan Reid! The night exercise was successful in liberating an allied sigs. operator and equipment (aptly played by Cpl. (now Sgt.) Jock Mactavish).

Only four weeks later there was another camp, this time the annual Leek camp (March 28th to April 3rd).

This year's camp started off with very bad omens as we had absolutely no luck with the 4 ton truck. First of all, the first truck broke down half way from the depot to the school; the second truck reached the school, heaved a sigh of relief and refused to go any further without a new solenoid. The third truck arrived at the school the day after it was originally supposed to go. Lt. Grundy, Cpl. (now A. Sgt.) Steve Riley and myself had to turn the cadets back home, until the 29th, when they started to arrive at 9 o'clock. The advance party finally left before lunch on the 28th, after that the camp could only proceed without mishap. With the exclusion of the Kinderscout walk, the activities left were: the training circus, an orienteering competition, a 2 day exercise in some of the coldest conditions encountered at Leek, the initiatives, rock climbing and the annual football match with the local team (the 'Wallabies') and this year we managed to hold them to a draw, with the official score being 4-4.

Whilst this was going on there was the 15th United Kingdom Land Forces (UKLF) Cadet Leadership course (March 24th to April 3rd) at Wretham Camp, Norfolk, the top Cadet course in the country.

This year the CCF was allocated two places for the course, this being the first time, recently, that we have been allocated more than one place. These places were filled by Sgts. (now C. Sgts.) Mark Ponting and Jeremy Bennett. The course lasted 11 days. There were three twenty-four hour exercises, during which they spent constructing and developing (besides other activities) platoon hides (the bases from which reconnaissance patrols are undertaken). Quite a lot of time was given over to the Assault course containing obstacles of a high, low, deep and wide nature. The course was specially designed to ensure that everyone got as muddy and wet as possible, whilst being harassed by thunder-flashes and bursts of 'blank' machine gun fire! An afternoon was also given over to the confidence course which involved a number of manoeuvres up in the trees at a height of up to 40 feet. There was an orienteering competition, and an opportunity for all to familiarise themselves with, and shoot, the Self Loading Rifle, the Light Machine Gun and the General Purpose Machine Gun. They were also treated to "first class demonstrations" on varying topics including setting up an ambush and the new section tactics which will be employed with the distribution of the Army's new automatic weapon, the Enfield 5.56 L185A (SA80). This, in conjunction with lectures on leadership, advanced signalling and minor tactics, rounded off "a first class, very enjoyable course" (C. Sgt. Bennett).

I would like to congratulate all, especially this year's 'B'-recruit company on their impressive efforts, bearing in mind their relative lack of training and experience. Thanks must also go to the officers who put in so much unseen work, without whom any camp or course at school could not run. Thank You.

C.S.M. STOCKER

## Easter Camp 1986 RAF Bruggen (Germany)

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The twelve cadets from the R.G.S. joined twenty eight from other schools to fill the places offered by RAF Bruggen for this Easter Camp.

The programme arranged for us included both on and off station visits to make our stay interesting. Roermond, the local town in Holland; the Evoluon, which is the Philips' Museum in Eindhoven; Overloon, which is an outdoor museum on the site of a WWII battlefield; and the caves at Maastricht were among the places of interest off camp. We were fortunate to visit the caves at Maastricht, which are not open to the general public, and contain many paintings and statues made by Jesuit monks in the 18th-19th century. A whole day visit to a Belgian Air Force base near Liege allowed us to compare the operation of another NATO country with both RAF Bruggen and RAF bases visited in the U.K.

On-station visits included the Tornado simulator, a "working" squadron, as well as sections like Air Traffic Control common to many RAF stations.

The week gave a good insight into RAF operations in Germany.

Our thanks to Flt. Lt. Sollars for looking after us, and to the staff at RAF Bruggen for an enjoyable week.

Cpl. B.M. RUSSELL

## RAF Section Summer Camp 1985 — Swanton Morley

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After an uneventful journey through the wilds of Norfolk the small, if boisterous, R.G.S. contingent arrived at RAF Swanton Morley just after a cloud burst, to find S/L Smaje's promised luxury accommodation was in fact — tents. (He did point out they were fully air-conditioned.)

Most of the organised activities had a very strong emphasis on physical exertion, two 10 mile walks, a station "trim trail", night exercise and inter-flight volley ball, football and badminton.

Among the interesting outings was a visit to the (now famous) U.S.A.F. base at Lakenheath where FB111s and A10 aircraft are based. At RAF Marham the cadets were allowed to climb all over a Victor refuelling tanker aircraft and also an £11 million Tornado IDS aircraft.

An opportunity for the R.G.S. NCO's to display their wit and charm on the local females was provided at the Station Disco.

Food in the Junior Ranks' Mess was quite surprisingly good as were the cucumber sandwiches for packed lunch so enjoyed by most cadets.

All in all a most enjoyable camp and our thanks to the officers who made it possible.

Cpl. A. POPPLEWELL

## RAF Section Easter Camp 1986 — RAF Brawdy (Wales)

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No. 1 Tactical Weapons Unit equipped with Hawk trainers and No. 202 Squadron's Sea King Helicopters together with the superb Pembrokeshire coastline made for a rewarding Easter Camp at RAF Brawdy.

Our cadets enjoyed a varied programme being helped by much better weather than was experienced by most of the U.K. Outdoor activities included a cliff walk, an exercise round the local roads, swimming where eight cadets gained proficiency certificates, shooting 0.303 rifles with three cadets becoming

qualified marksmen, orienteering in nearby Picton Park, with the bonus to some cadets of returning to base by helicopter, and flying in Chipmunks and Sea Kings of 202 Sqn. The flying area included the local coastline and this added a dimension to the pleasure of flying.

Cadets, attached to various sections, had the opportunity to see the real Air Force at work. Most found this interesting and rewarding, in particular those on the helicopter flight who managed to obtain the odd "unofficial" trip.

A Station Commander's Inspection at the end of camp was given full marks for the high standard achieved. Free-time activities — ten pin bowling, football, snooker, .22 shooting and a film show of "Back to the Future" and "The treasure of Yankee Zulu" — helped make it a full and enjoyable week.

Our thanks to Sqn. Ldr. Smaje, Fg. Off. Boutland and Flt. Off. Brown for their help during this camp.

Cpl. C. TEBBUTT

## Nîmes '86: The R.G.S. & L.V.H.S. exchange with the Lycée Alphonse Daudet

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Saturday 22nd March witnessed a potential breach of the "entente cordiale" when a party of some thirty students set sail for the south, under the pretext of improving the language. With a twenty-hour trip ahead of us, Nîmes seemed a long way away — and it was — about 800 miles. Pausing only for light refreshment on the lengthy train journey between Calais and Arles, I shall take us on, to Nîmes station, where we first confronted our exchange partners, who were at the other end of the huge booking hall. The typical English attitude meant we had to stay put, while the French group, predominantly female, edged slowly forward, holding their noses.

The first week of our exchange was the last week of their spring term, so we all found ourselves back in the centre of Nîmes at 8 o'clock, 9 o'clock or 10 o'clock, depending on the start of the respective partner's lessons and the laziness of the particular English pupil. The first week included a tour around the Roman buildings of Nîmes with a delightfully eloquent guide, and several unguided tours of the local cafes (when we had a free lesson, of course). The non-alcoholic party marked the end of week one, and demonstrated that what the French call dancing is really a cross between a shuffle and a wiggle, on the spot.

The next week and a half were taken up mainly with private trips, depending on the family, but it seems many people went to the famous "Pont du Gard" (a complete Roman aqueduct) and Avignon (of "Sur le pont..." fame). There was also a trip to Montpellier and a football match (both organised by Paul), the latter seemed to be all half-time refreshments and no football.

The last day of the French spring break was set for the Anglo-French joint trip to the "Camargue" and Marseilles, backing music of "Ten Milk Bottles" supplied by those "in the know", until we thought of making use of the in-coach tape deck. Marseilles, as the major port of France, is a centre of industry and immigration. Personally, I thought Nîmes was a much

more interesting town. It is thus not surprising that a trip to the Perrier source and a local wine-producing farm proved to be much more popular — but where was the source of the fizzy water?

That just about covers the action-packed holiday; the journey back, however, is another story. We must extend our thanks and commiserations to the key characters in the trail of mishaps — Mr. and Mrs. T. Claye, Mrs. Coutts, Matthew and Kevin (S) — I hope the latter two enjoyed their extended stay in Paris.

Although there were a few cases of non-compatible partners, on the whole the English crowd got on very well with their French counterparts and the standard of French has definitely improved.

Once again we must show our gratitude, firstly to the staff for their courage in making a trip to France for three weeks with a party of unpredictable teenagers, and also to those who kept an eye on any less-well members during the visit.

C.G. BUTLER

## Pierre Le Sage, Santé

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(Santé is not what staff are losing at the end of a hot double on Friday afternoons. It's French for 'Good Health' or 'Cheers')

To you gentle reader (as to me erstwhile) Nîmes is a name heard occasionally on the tongues of the cognoscenti of the French department, and one of many excuses for a boy's absence from class.

Apparently boys go there to practise French from time to time. It is a town in the South of France. It is famous for its Roman ruins (and possibly its ruined Romans), in particular the Pont du Gard.

'The Pond du what?'

'The Pont du Gard — that picture you always see in geography books, of a Roman aqueduct with bridges sitting on top of each other — the daddy bridge at the bottom with big arches, the mummy bridge next with slightly smaller (but not fallen) arches and the baby bridge right up on top with, er, little baby arches. Currently used in advertising the Ford Orion.'

'Oh yeah, I know. Well, so what?'

'Well, that's where Nîmes is, close to there. Hot. Sunshine. Olives. Wine. Mediterranean beaches. Croissants. Sticks of bread. Pretty girls. Down there.'

'Yeah? Well .. sounds good. I mean can I go? I mean why down there? I mean how come it happens every year that everyone with a good excuse, including members of the staff (to name no names), hops off to this Nîmes place for a three week holiday, allegedly learning French, while the rest of us have to make do with two weeks over here?'

'Well it's this bloke, you see, this Monsieur Le Sage. Apparently he was sent here 30 years ago to learn, er, English at the R.G.S. and, um, teach anyone who was prepared to listen properly, to speak Fench something like the way the French do it instead of the way you murder it in class. He was a Fench assistant.'

'Oh, I see. Dead old sort of geezer then?'

'No, no, he's not like a careworn, whey-faced, overworked teacher of the same age in England (sorry, Sir Keith, it just sort of slipped out), he's very youthful, very energetic, very ... (dreamily) it must be the diet or the climate or .....

'Yeah. Well?'

'Well. One evening, having had perhaps a drop too much Entente Cordial, he wrote to the headmaster's

predecessor .... no, dear boy, not his grandfather ... and suggested the idea of an exchange with the students of his school. And every year of the twelve years since then 30 first year Sixth Formers, including some girls from Lady Verney High School, have had a virtually free three week holiday arranged for them due to his initiative, enterprise and considerable efforts (not ignoring the additional contribution made at the R.G.S. by Mr. Flinders and Miss Munday).'

'So?'

'So, if you meet this gentleman this summer (he'll be around for the last two weeks of term), slightly below medium height, curly black hair, energetic looking, clear concise English with a Maurice Chevalier accent, be nice to him. Offer him an olive (the Nîmois appear to be unable to survive a day without this essential), a glass of wine or beer, or, failing that, raise your metaphorical beret and enquire, in punctilious French, after the health of the Bertillon family. At any rate, don't elbow him out of the dinner queue, because it's just possible that, thanks to him, you too might one day make that journey to an unforgettable Easter Exchange'.

Pierre Le Sage, the Wycombiensian salutes you.

from our Special Correspondent  
Cafe de la Bourse, Nîmes

## Cambridge University Law Conference

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Each year, the Cambridge Law Faculty holds a three day conference in March for Sixth formers interested in going on to read Law. Places are in great demand, so R.G.S. was fortunate to be able to send three boys: Paul Gibb, Patrick Altern and Alex Welby.

The lectures, spread over three days, covered all aspects of studying the Law and included an excellent Forum on 'The Role of the Police in Society'. Perhaps the most useful talks were those given by a 'Careers Panel' of barristers, solicitors and a company lawyer. Accommodation in Gonville and Caius' annexe was excellent, the food passable, and the party thrown on the last night was great fun.

ALEX WELBY

## A visit to the Science Museum (Munich)

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Monday 29th July saw eighteen students, together with staff, packing themselves into two minibuses with "GB" stickers on their rear doors. On time, this mini-caravan left the R.G.S. to wend its way to Dover where the cross channel ferry quickly conveyed the group to Calais and the Paris Autoroute. A slight mistake and the party found themselves heading for Brussels, Cologne, in fact anywhere but Paris. Eventually Neil Cook managed to unravel the secrets of the Autoroute system and the first night's campsite at Compeigne was made, if a little behind schedule.

Two days sandwiched into the campsite at the Bois de Boulogne enabled the major sights in Paris to be visited, then it was off to the planned visit to the Fischer Technik Works in the Black Forest. After a most "informative" explanation of the various fixing devices manufactured by the Fischer Works (all in German) the group toured the factory where intended

machines were producing millions of plastic items — all a little eerie! The visit was rounded off with a typical German meal in the staff canteen. In the afternoon there was a visit to Freudenstadt which boasted not only the largest market square in Europe (now used as a car park) but a fantastic aquatic centre with water chutes, jacuzzi, indoor and outside swimming pools.

In spite of dire warnings of heat stroke and sunburn, the weather at Garmisort Partenkirchen managed to produce some fifty hours continuous downpour! The projected trip up the Zügspitz mountain was cancelled, the brave souls who did undertake the trip to the summit found three feet of snow and a temperature of  $-6^{\circ}\text{C}$ , in the middle of August!

Thence to Munich and the Deutsches Museum. Many pages could be devoted to this visit alone, suffice to say with its fifteen miles of corridors and sixteen thousand exhibits, there was something to interest everyone. Possibly the most memorable item was the coal mine, which embodied the many methods used in winning this fuel.

A brief look at Heidelberg, a visit to a Winery at Nierstein and a run up the Rhine Gorge to the final campsite at Brühl near Cologne where a colony of ducks were constant visitors to every meal.

Phantasialand, the German Disneyland, made an exciting finale to the three week tour before it was time to head west for Zeebrugge and home. The ferry was the last to leave before the port was closed by a strike — but the only major delay on the whole trip was a burst water main on the A40: we were home!

C.P.S.

## Greek Trip, Easter 1986

Athens-Delphi-Corinth-Epidauros-Tolon-Tiryns-Mycenae-Nauplion-Olympia.

7:30 PM, March 26th: 34 R.G.S. boys dive through the rain from the cover of their parents' cars to a coach bound for Gatwick — and beyond. 4:30 AM, March 27th: they emerge from the Dan-air 737 into the pleasantly warm Athenian night. A mere five hours later and they're standing blinking in the bright Mediterranean sun waiting for a bus into central Athens.

The R.G.S. Greek trip will not soon be forgotten by its participants. Highlights of the holiday included David Wilcox's outstanding performance as a fairy from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' before a packed audience of tourists in the ancient theatre of



Epidauros, and Rob Tideman's equally fine imitation of a Vespa in full throttle to a group of Greek scooter-boys gathered below his balcony; Jim Jackson did much to bridge both generation and gender gaps, Anglo-Italian relations were much improved and a whole new meaning was given to the term 'Anglo-Irish agreement'; Dave Lambert, with stitches in one leg, heroically hopped up 827 steps to the Venetian fortress at Nauplion, only to find it closed. One could go on.

Modern Greece is a country of contrasts: the stark, sunlit Acropolis dominating Athens and the misty, rainy vale of Delphi; the sunny quiet of the ancient Agora and the hot and noisy streets of modern Athens; the pre-1300 BC palace of Mycenae and the post-1300 AD fortress of Nauplion; the seedy, ferro-concrete Athenian suburb of Glyfada and the picturesque, peaceful coastal resort of Tolon. We were impressed by the friendliness of our Greek hosts, but the streets we were walking in Athens had been the scene of running battles between police and students the night before — and, most alarmingly, on arrival at Athens airport at the end of our stay we learnt that earlier the same day a 'plane had been blown up over the very spot we were about to fly over ourselves.

It seems impossible to think that we fitted so many sights and experiences into just one week. Every one of us enjoyed the holiday immensely, and we'd all like to thank Miss Munday, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Edwards for imparting to us their enthusiasm for the trip, for tactfully dealing with any problems that did arise and for organising the trip in such a way that we not only had time to visit all the major classical sights, but also the time to indulge in social (and anti-social) activities and to top up our suntans to show off in sleet-stricken England. And, of course, thank you for the Creme Eggs.

CHRIS KENDALL



## Geography Field Course — South Wales

It seemed that we — the students and teachers of geography at the Grammar School — set out for Penarth at cross-purposes. We, the students, were eagerly anticipating a well-earned holiday, free from the academic rigours of the classroom. The teachers, on the other hand, seemed to think that we would prefer to contemplate rocks, wade through rivers and listen to harrowing lectures than indulge ourselves in regular holiday-type activities. We realised from the first day that what Messrs. Partridge and Meyer had planned for us could not, by any stretch of the most

keenly geographical imagination, be construed as "fun". Most of us were too shocked to argue, so the five days passed as the Department had intended.

A great deal was learnt by the members of the party, including the imprudence of stepping into an ingestive peat bog whilst carrying an expensive personal stereo in your pocket (thanks to a histrionic demonstration from Angus Pond). Sights such as the spectacular waterfall system of the River Melte and the anonymous girl in the Cardiff coffee bar compensated for the inconveniences of nightly written assignments and the permanently unsociable weather conditions, so that by the end of the Course (nearly) everybody agreed that the whole thing had been very worthwhile.

The day spent in the Brecon Beacons was certainly the most exhilarating, although the sight of responsible 6th form students playing at snowballs close to the well-concealed cliff edge appeared to have a marked effect on Mr. Meyer's confidence. The comic appeal of my over-sized waterproof trousers provided him with much-needed relief from the physical arduous of the expedition, which were obviously taking their toll on him. Without the substantial meals provided by Cardiff University, it is doubtful that any of us would have made it through the week. As it was, we all got back to undemanding High Wycombe in one piece — exhausted, but satisfied.

Thanks must go to Mr. Iain Meyer and Mr. Roger Pantridge for preparing a course which, if not designed to gratify our more basal desires, was certainly most enlightening and stimulating.

IAN ROSE

## American Exchange 1985

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On the 28th March 1985, 9 R.G.S. and 2 Lady Verney pupils left for Ridgefield Connecticut in the time-honoured fashion — in the back of a good old R.G.S. minibus. As concerns air transport, we were one of the more fortunate groups, going by TWA as opposed to one of the more dubious companies used on earlier exchanges! However this did not stop the flight being delayed a couple of hours, meaning that we reached JFK Airport in the dark and so saw little of New York on our way to Ridgefield (in rather more comfortable vehicles than earlier that day!).

On arriving in Ridgefield we were handed over to our various hosts, in whose homes we were to spend the next four weeks. School the next day was optional for us, but several did go in. Our first impressions of the school building were mixed — it was undoubtedly clean and in fairly good repair (with the exception of the library roof, as we were to find out later!), but it somehow lacked character. The school had obviously realised this — hence the many murals to be found around the building, which proved invaluable in aiding our navigation around the seemingly identical corridors. And 2nd-formers find R.G.S. confusing!

We were welcomed by all we met, and were always accompanied by a group of interested Americans, asking questions such as "Do you have television in England?", and "Don't you get fed up with it raining all the time?" We were all given the chance to sample the American classes, indulging in such diverse courses as photography and psychology, film studies and theatre arts.

Our trips consisted of three to New York, a visit to

the Great Adventure theme park in New Jersey and various other evenings of entertainment. The first two trips to the Big Apple were strictly organised — the Empire State Building, the Rockefeller Centre (using their spelling, of course), the World Trade Centre, and so on — but on the last trip we were free to wander where we liked, being the first party to be given such freedom in the big city.

I think my strongest memory will be of the fleets of big yellow school buses converging on the building every morning. Or perhaps the New York Subway trains, with so much graffiti that you can but guess as to what colour they really are, and looking through a window is an impossibility. Or perhaps the classes standing in their rooms every morning, swearing their allegiance to the flag — each classroom has its own Stars and Stripes — and listening to the day's notices over a loudspeaker.

The Americans came over here in June of that year for their four week stay, and it can certainly be said that they made their mark on the school. They visited such places as Bath, Stratford, Windsor and of course London.

The party consisted of Alan Dawson, Dave Saunders, James Morris, Richard Brownlie, Jon Cook, Jim Rugg, Andy Sanderson, John Kazantzis, Graham Clarke, Eileen Probert and Annabel Cleare, and we would all like to express our thanks to Mr. Berry for all the work he put in to make it a success.

A. SANDERSON

## American Exchange 1986 (March 17th — April 16th)

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After an exhausting 7½ hour flight the English Exchange party, consisting of 7 RGS and 4 Lady Verney pupils, reached their long-awaited goal — Ridgefield. We were met by 11 rather anxious American students who seemed to have smoked their way through dozens of "fags" (a term which was to prove troublesome). Despite, however, the lack of concern for their lungs, the Americans showed us more than enough attention.

The following morning (at the unearthly time of 7.45!), the English Exchange partly invaded Ridgefield High. As the aliens politely made their way through the School, the American students could not but help mentioning how strange these English people looked; especially those two boys who distantly resembled Julian Lennon and Bob Geldof. "At least," the English said, "We don't all look the same!" This, in fact, was quite a startling contrast between "Us Brits" and the Americans. The majority of the American boys paraded Ridgefield in either moth-eaten, stone-washed jeans and "I love Bruce Springsteen" T-shirts, or American football shirts. Despite their bland appearance, though, they were far from boring people.

Most of our school-time was spent either listening to a psychology teacher, or "catching some rays" in the smoking lounge (which happened to be outdoors) during our free periods. All of us would lie on our backs fully clothed (with one notable exception), during the brief gaps between lessons, whilst "Rambo" look-alikes would take part in inane hand-standing competitions. I think my strongest memory of the school, though, must be the armed policemen patrolling the school grounds, making sure that

nobody left Ridgefield High without written permission.

As our stay progressed, all the English students personally discovered the differences between our two societies. In New York State everybody who is under the age of 21 is forbidden to drink alcohol or be in possession of it, even in their own home. Unlike in Britain, where the drinking laws are not strictly enforced, America has stringent identification checks, and it is almost impossible to buy alcohol unless you have a fake I.D. Therefore, it has got to the point where the children find it easier to obtain "pot" (and even cocaine!) than alcohol — a quite ridiculous situation. Even the parents seem to prefer their children smoking pot (there are exceptions, of course) than drinking alcohol. The main reason for this seems to be the ever-increasing numbers of drunk-drivers.

Thus, our trip to America can be described as a tremendous experience. Not only did we meet hordes of new and interesting people, but we also came into contact with a society quite different from our own. It was a pity we had to take the return journey "across the millpond", leaving with tears in our eyes (especially one person who shall remain nameless), but return we did.

The party consisted of Benjamin Clegg, Bruce Ayling, Stephen Cooper, Graham Farrar, Adam Strange, David Taverner, David Young, Liz Spire, Alex Burke, Louise Elliott and Kate Plummer, all of whom would like to thank Miss Stuart of Lady Verney for helping to organize a very successful and enjoyable trip.

G. FARRAR

## Midsummer Night's Dream: the Review

"The best in this kind are but shadows," says Theseus, about actors, when faced with "Pyramus and Thisbe". We can, then, be similarly charitable to the Spring term performance of "Midsummer Night's Dream". It is a play beloved by amateurs, because it is hard to fail with, and Shakespeare carried the day again, occasionally under difficulties.

The chief of these, it seemed to your correspondent, was the decision to enact it in modern-dress. The advantage to the producer is obvious: costumes are cheap and easily available. Unfortunately, problems immediately appear. Like the incongruous arrival of Theseus in the forest, hunting, in jodpurs and a red waistcoat. Mark Gabriel looked ashamed and well he might. Or like Demetrius and Lysander resembling nothing so much as two refugees from the "Dukes of Hazzard". Not that I didn't like Lysander's pony-tail and ribbon. The pre-show publicity said something about showing Shakespeare's relevance to the present-day, which sounds better than it actually is, especially when applied to "Midsummer Night's Dream" — a fantasy in its own time, and one which really doesn't go with jeans and trouser-suits, let alone D-J's and tails.

An unexpected side-effect of this appeared shortly after the whistle blew for the second-half: we soon met with two more intervals in the space of ten minutes, for no apparent reason. Subsequent investigation showed this to be for a scenery-change, and more important, thanks to the modern-dress, a complete costume-change. It also inflicted some synthesized



"G.B.H. on our earholes" while we were waiting. The music was not one of the production's strong points.

The visual aspect, however, was. The lighting was striking, and satisfyingly ethereal in the forest. The supernatural characters, too, had visual impact: Oberon — Ian Rose — had stage-presence, a strong voice, and looked the part. Titania, too, was convincing: a bit young-looking, perhaps, but we could believe in her. Puck had massive enthusiasm, and is obviously an actor with potential, though his speaking was rather monotonous. The minor fairies looked good — until they danced round Titania's bed, when they became embarrassing. The mortals? Well, Bill Tapley as Demetrius spoke clearly, and was quite realistic: Helena, Hermia, and Hippolyta were also satisfactory. It seemed a pity that Hermia was blonde when the text insists she's dark, but that's (Shakespearean) life, I suppose. Rohan Jackson as Lysander, though, was wooden and not at all clear. He, in particular, would have benefited from a more varied set: the unfortunate cast had nowhere to sit, lean, etc, and had to stand about a lot. Lord Olivier could handle it, but amateurs tend to "dangle".

Which brings us to the major talking-point. Was it a brilliant stroke of originality to have the rude mechanicals played by the staff? The audience certainly liked them, and they pulled in the crowds — nothing so popular as staff being silly. It tended to unbalance the production, splitting it into two distinct parts, which came together uneasily in the last scene. However, they were there to get laughs and they certainly got them. The eventual production of "Pyramus and Thisbe" was very funny: Jeff Walker's Prologue being the high-spot, while Geoff Heath and David Keysell did a neat double-act as Moon and Lion. At the risk of mortally offending people, I thought they were all better when trying to be bad bad actors than when they were being Bottom and Co. off-stage. Some distinct coarse acting there! Peter Cowburn as Bottom developed his popular impression of Benny Hill, though his ass's head proved rather muffling.

However, as I said above, Big Bill won through again, and the large audiences clearly enjoyed themselves, which is all he would have asked. "If we shadows have offended, Think but this and all is mended...If you pardon, we will mend...give me your hands if we be friends."

I.A.B.

# Old Wycombiensians' Club

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The meeting was held on Saturday March 22nd 1986 in the Masters' Common Room. There were 24 members present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and adopted.

**The financial report** indicated a reduction in income from £543 in 1984 to £500 in 1985, whilst total expenditure increased by £72 to £705. The deficit for 1985 was £205. After adding life members' subscriptions of £540 to the Capital Account and deducting the deficit for the year, the balance on the Capital Account increased by almost £335 to £3653.

**Election of Officers.** All the Officers were re-elected. Two committee members had resigned during the year, J.P. Lord (1934-38) and S.A. Goulborn (1928-36). The President thanked them both for their years of valuable service to the Old Wycombiensians' Club.

**President's Comments.** The President referred to 1985 being industry year and the fact that one of the school's sixth formers work was shadowing the Chairman of British Rail. He asked for Old Boys to offer themselves to be work shadowed and a slip for this purpose would be included in the next magazine. He repeated that the major building project was now well in hand.

## ANNUAL DINNER 1985

121 Old Wycombiensians sat down to dinner in the Old Dining Hall. The Guest of Honour was G.W. Ray (1917-23) Vice-Chairman of the School Governors and director of Ercol Ltd. O.E. Harris (1933-38) proposed the toast to the Guest of Honour referring to old magazine articles commenting on the youthful George. George took all present back down memory lane with his reminiscences and remarked on how the school had changed since his early days.

A.C. Collins (1934-40) proposed the toast to the School and Club to which the Headmaster responded.

## DEATHS

### Staff

**Johnson, H.W.** (Old Boy 1930-37), (Master 1940-63) died on 22nd February 1986 at the Northern General Hospital, Sheffield, aged 67 years.

Horace Johnson will probably be best remembered for his dedication to cricket at the School. He was Master i/c Cricket for over 20 years and when he left in 1963 to be Housemaster at King Edward VI Grammar School, Louth, Lincs. he continued to coach cricket there. In the 1984 edition of the magazine he wrote that he was still coaching and umpiring school cricket in his 45th year of teaching. This is remarkable because he was crippled and had to wear a heavy surgical boot.

"Hosh" Johnson left the R.G.S. in 1937 to train at Culham College. In 1940 Mr. Tucker brought him back to teach and help him in the School Boarding House as Tutor. In 1948 he went to Tylers Wood Boarding House as Tutor and remained there with Mr. and Mrs. R. Pattinson until 1963 when he was appointed Housemaster at Louth by Old Boy Headmaster Donald R. Witney (1934-42).

At the R.G.S. he taught a variety of subjects but eventually made particularly his own. Woodwork and Engineering Drawing which he taught to 'A' level standard with great success. During the war he was active in the A.C.F. as a Flying Officer and continued to serve after the war in the R.A.F. section of the CCF. He was a faithful member of the Old Boys' Committee and was very helpful in the organisation of the Annual Dinner. He was unmarried and the two schools he served were fortunate to have such a dedicated teacher.

**White, N.H.** died on November 25th 1985 in Bracknell, aged 63 years.

Mr. N.H. White came to the School in 1948 to teach Spanish and French after service as a pilot in the R.A.F. He was Second-in-Command of the Air Section of the CCF and under his instruction many future pilots became air-borne for the first time in the School glider. He was also Master i/c Tuck Shop for many years.

He left in 1962 to take up a post in the College of Further Education in Bracknell and eventually became Head of the Department of Business Studies.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Anne White, who lives at 18, Firlands, Harmans Water, Bracknell, Berks., three sons and a daughter.

### Old Boys

**Hall, A.G.** (1933-38) on October 28th 1985 at Wycombe Hospital after much suffering courageously borne, aged 63 years.

"Bert" Hall spent 36 years in Community Public Health Administration in High Wycombe and then transferred to the newly re-organised National Health Service to the post of Hospital Secretary, Amersham and Chesham Hospitals.

**Stevens, S.J.** (1935-40) on 18th October 1985 suddenly in Newport, Isle of Wight, aged 60 years.

Stanley Stevens, Master Butcher, left school to help his father in the family meat business (established 1824). At the end of the last war he was in the Friends' Ambulance Unit that helped with displaced persons in Germany. The suffering he saw there influenced his life. His greatest interest was to promote peace and understanding and he travelled the world over to further his aims. He stood firm for the rights of the individual. He was a keen member of the Newport Rotary Club, a Mason and a sidesman in the Church. He was currently involved in a battle with British Telecom over charges. Mr. Stephen Ross, M.P., paid a tribute to him in the House of Commons. He put forward a motion that "this House regrets the passing of Stanley Stevens who has almost single-handedly challenged the whole structure of British Telecom charges and exposed many anomalies".

He leaves a widow Mrs. Ruby Stevens who lives at 18, Alderbury Road, Newport, Isle of Wight, a son and a daughter.

**Youens, J.M.** (1933-38) has died at his retirement home in Motcombe, Dorset, aged 63. During the War he served in Burma with 3rd Carbiniers along with W.A.P. Child (1921-26), and R.J. Gomm and O.E. Harris, both of his year. Severely wounded, he became sufficiently fit on his return home to transfer to the Royal Army Pay Corps and it was during that

latter service that he acquired a definite aptitude for accountancy which later in civilian life led to several financial directorships.

He recently had a four year period as Hon. National Treasurer of the Burma Star Association, promoting a highly successful appeal in aid of the Association's Welfare Fund.

#### NOTES

**Andrews S.T.H.** (1972-80) presently commissioned in the Royal Anglian Regiment, and just about to go to South Armagh, still sees **Summers, M.** (1972-80) who is reaching dizzy heights in the sales world.

**Barton, C.M.J.** (1966-71). As Organist and Master of the Choristers at St. Woolos Cathedral, Newport (where he has entered his eighth year) Christopher Barton has recently been responsible for the music at the Enthronement of the Archbishop of Wales and the Consecrations of the Bishops of Bangor and Llandaff. He has also recently been appointed Music Director of the Dyfed Choir, one of the leading mixed choirs in Wales; the Choir broadcasts regularly and has frequently worked with other conductors including Old Wycombiensian Richard Hickox.

**Beardall, M.J.D.** (1977-82). Sublt. Mike Beardall is serving on HMS Liverpool as an Officer of the Watch. HMS Liverpool has been in the Falkland Island Patrol Zone, returning to the UK, via the West Coast of South America, Panama, and Florida.

**Bird, M.A.** (1944-51) maintains contact with a number of his school contemporaries including Ron Wyrands, Roger Ball, David Miles and Mike Hastings. All of this group met for dinner in December 1985 and posed for a group photograph to be sent to Dick Wheelbrand who lives in the wilds of Canada.

Malcolm meets the Wheelbrand family from time to time on business trips. He works in the City and had a book on Management published in 1985 and hopes to have two more published in 1986. He is now a grandfather.

**Briden, J.C.** (1949-57) formerly Professor of Geophysics at Leeds University, has been appointed Director of Earth Sciences with the Natural Environmental Research Council.

**Buckingham, M.B.J.** (1972-79) has had another very busy, rewarding and enjoyable year in Münster, West Germany with the British Army on the Rhine (BAOR). Sporting achievements have been representing his corps for Rugby as Captain and for Cricket. He also completed his first marathon in Berlin in September 1985, in a respectable time of 3 hours 28 minutes.

His time in Germany has not been all sport in that he has been promoted to Lieutenant and passed his Captain's exams. He recently passed the Army Colloquial German exam.

On the social side he spent his summer holidays 'doing' Europe and also spending a week in a cottage in the Dordogne, France with **Stott, A.J.C.** (1972-79) and their respective ladies.

Finally he met up with **Vladar, S.V.** (1972-79), **Wilson, D.O.R.** (1972-79) and **Watts, D.K.** (1972-79) at the marriage of A.J.C. Stott in March 1986. He is now looking forward to his return to U.K. in July 1986.

**Butcher, I.A.** (1975-80) graduated from Southampton University in 1984 with a B.Sc. in Aeronautics and Astronautics. He now works for the M.O.D. in Farnborough, engaged in research and development.

**Butler, D.H.** (1937-44). Finally retired in July 1985. He went into semi-retirement from the family road transport business in 1968 to lead a life of bliss teaching at Beaconsfield where he stayed until last year.

**Clutton, G.N.** (1966-73) now lives in Alton, Hants and is a section leader of a software trials group with EASAMS of Frimley, Surrey. He was married in 1980 and has just become a father of a girl.

**Colley, P.M.** (1960-68) has recently left Canada, his home for the past 12 years, and has moved to Los Angeles, California. He has been one of Canada's most popular playwrights and his thriller "I'll be back before Midnight!" has become the most produced Canadian play ever, with nearly a hundred separate productions in five years. Another stage thriller, "The Mark of Cain", was made into a film in Toronto in January. "Midnight" is also getting its British and U.S. premieres this year, the British one being at the Salisbury Playhouse in July and August.

**Collins, F.G.** (1972-79) will complete his Articles in Frome this September and qualify as a Solicitor, after which he is looking forward to taking up his appointment as an Assistant Solicitor with the same firm. He still sees **Griffiths, T.J.K.** (1971-78) regularly and maintains contact with **Ball, D.J.** (1972-79) and **Sendall, A.J.C.** (1972-79) who were both married during 1985. The latter's wedding proved something of an R.G.S. re-union, with **Foster, M.** (1971-79), **Wise, G.R.** (1971-78) and **Coutts, E.J.** (1972-79) also present.

**Connor, N.R.** (1972-79). After gaining a degree in International Politics at Aberistwyth University he joined Digital, a large US based computer company. He is currently a salesman working in Basingstoke. He has recently purchased a house and still plays rugby actively. He still sees **Speed, C.P.** (1972-79) regularly and would like to contact others from his class, notably M.A. Goodwin and M. Coburn.

**Cooke, W.P.** (1942-44) was until recently the Bank of England's director solely responsible for supervision, but now the job has been split into domestic and international matters and Peter will take charge of the international aspects of this work.

**Crutchfield, D.W.H.** (1935-42). Retired from teaching Summer 1985.

**Davies, M.J.W.** (1970-77). Michael is working for Philips in Croydon, having given up a career in research at Cambridge. Brother **Davies, P.R.F.** (1973-79) is at present on Prince Andrew's old ship, HMS Brazen, having graduated in medicine from Leeds University. The third brother at the school **Davies, P.D.** (1975-81) joined S.T.C. in the autumn to follow Michael into the computer industry. The youngest of the brood, **Davies, D.J.** (1976-82) is about to take his final exams in agriculture at Nottingham, having completed a year's practical experience on a large farm in Essex. He is in contact with **Green, L.** (1976-82) who completed his degree in Marine Biology at Newcastle last year.

**Dickinson, A.P.** (1961-67). After two "tours of the country", Alan Dickinson has come back "full circle" to live in the High Wycombe area once again. He spent three years at Birmingham University, then went on to Manchester Business School to do an M.B.A. degree before joining Williams & Glyn's Bank — now The Royal Bank of Scotland. After several years in "The City", he was "sent to Coventry" to manage the Bank's branch there before promotion to be their

Manager at Reading. Alan now lives in Whiteleaf — with one wife and two children — but lived for 18 months in Lacey Green where he suddenly discovered he had inherited as a neighbour, one S.A. Morgan! Even 15 years on, the sight of Sam at the garden gate was quite a shock! Fortunately, Sam seemed to have forgotten the “efforts” at Geography of many years ago!

**Drayton, P.C.** (1956-63) is in charge of music at Stowe School. He has a number of published compositions and his works and arrangements are regularly performed by such notables as the Kings Singers.

**Duncan, A.** (1972-79). Alasdair finished his PGCE course in Liverpool and then travelled round Malaya, Thailand and Singapore before taking up a history teaching post at Morley High School, Leeds.

**Emery, M.L.J.** (1974-80) is going to Kurayoshi on Honshu Island, Japan to teach English for at least one year. He has been recruited under the Japanese government English Teaching recruitment programme.

**Feirn, D.R.A.** (1974-78) is working in Kisumu, Kenya, as a dentist with the Church of the Province of Kenya.

**Fenner, S.G.** (1970-77) obtained Part I FFARCS whilst working as Anaesthetic SHO in Guildford. He is currently at Atkinson Morleys Hospital, Wimbledon as a neurosurgical SHO.

**Fontana, A.P.K.** (1977-83) is now in his final year studying Management Services at UMIST. He has recently completed the Territorial Army course at R.M.A. Sandhurst and has been awarded a T.A. Commission.

**Fuller, I.D.** (1971-78) has settled in Chelmsford, Essex, where he is teaching science — viewing the melée from the other side of the teacher's bench. This has led to a starring role on BBC TV's “Beat the Teacher” programme, where he was ignominiously beaten by a fourteen year old! He is contented and very busy.

**Gann, A.S.** (1939-45) took early retirement from the Civil Service at the end of 1985.

**Giles, R.N.** (1931-39) has retired from his post as Industrial Tutor and Senior Lecturer in Mathematics at Surrey University after 39 years in the Maths department there. He will still be interested to give and receive advice about industrial opportunities for mathematicians.

**Goulborn, S.A.** (1928-36) is still very much involved with the County and District Councils. He is Chairman of the District Finance Committee and of the County Youth and Community Sub Committee which is responsible for Adult Education, the Youth Service and Community Centres. He is also a Governor of the R.G.S., Amersham College and three primary schools.

**Greene, A.A.** (1975-81) has joined the Greater Manchester Police Force. He was one of fifteen accepted out of 1500 graduate entry applicants. He will eventually go to Bramshill Command College and will be promoted to Inspector in five years time.

**Grimsdale, W.T.** (1920-25) has been in Hong Kong for forty years now and is director of Sir Elly Kadoorie Continuation Ltd. He comes back once a year to meet old friends, including Old Boys and old colleagues at R.M. Blaikie Accountants, where he was articled sixty years ago.

**Havard, A.D.N.** (1960-68) moved to Guernsey in the Channel Islands in 1982 after spending 7 years in private practice as a Solicitor at first in the City and later in suburban London. After temporarily suspending his legal career to act as a banker in the

Channel Islands, he is now back in private practice and is currently completing the harrowing task of becoming an Advocate in Guernsey by studying at the University of Caen in France for six months.

He is married with two children and is regularly in contact with **Ward, J.J.** (1960-68) and this Christmas saw **Wright, P.S.** (1960-68) who was on a rare visit to England from America where he now lives.

Any Old Boy of whatever vintage visiting Guernsey is invited to contact Andrew whose number is in the local telephone directory.

**Hawtree, C.A.** (1968-75) has edited and introduced an anthology of ‘Night and Day’, a magazine launched in July 1937, which folded six months later. The magazine was the nearest publication this country has ever had to the New Yorker. He has just completed his first novel.

**Heather, F.J.** (1937-45) is Managing Editor of YOU, the Mail on Sunday colour magazine. He started his newspaper career on the Sheffield Telegraph and Star (1950-55); moved to the London Evening News in 1956 and was its Executive Features Editor when it closed in 1980. In 1982 he joined the Mail on Sunday in preparation for its launch and two years ago moved to its magazine. He is married with two children (one in personnel work, one in banking) and lives in Woking, Surrey.

**Hickman, H.C.** (1939-46), after spending the previous 21 years in the metal finishing industry, became involved with noise control towards the end of last year. A current project is concerned with the new equipment printing the Daily Telegraph in Manchester which has recently been in the news. He is also Hon. Secretary of the Guildford Branch of the British Institute of Management and any Old Wycombiensian living in the area would be most welcome at any of the monthly meetings.

**Hughes, J.C.** (1957-64) recently joined Logica as a Principal Consultant, working in their technical centre in Cambridge. Clifton is currently co-ordinating a 3 year project to design a high speed computer based on the new ‘transputer’ chip from Inmos in Bristol. This involves 50 man years of effort from seven collaborators, both University and industrial, and a useful injection of £2 of government money. Logica (Cambridge) are also involved with Knowledge Based Systems (so-called Artificial Intelligence), integrated circuit design, voice recognition and other advanced projects, which provides a very stimulating and enjoyable environment.

**Iles, K.B.** (1931-37) is now retired and living in Brookmans Park with his wife. He is near to his daughter and her husband and their three children. He does *not* miss the travelling to London or the pressures of the advertising profession at all!

**Jarman, M.** (1951-58) has been working at the Institute of Cancer Research in London since obtaining a PhD from Cambridge in 1965. In 1984 he was awarded a DSc by London University and the following year was appointed Reader in Chemistry. He still sees **Farmer, P.B.** (1957-64), a former colleague at the Institute who now works nearby at the MRC Toxicology Laboratories in Carshalton.

**Jarvis, A.R.** (1978-84). Since school Adrian has joined the Royal Air Force and by the end of 1985 had graduated from the Officer Training College, Cranwell holding the rank of Pilot Officer. He is now going through navigation training at RAF Finningley.

**Knowles, T.C.T.** (1920-26) still lives at Westbury

where he is a West Wiltshire District Councillor, a Town Councillor and a leading member of the Royal British Legion Branch which he was instrumental in reviving; he still personally supervises the local Poppy Appeal and has been much involved in the controversial resiting of Westbury's Memorial to the fallen. Unlike President Reagan "Farmer" Knowles will probably not seek a second term, at 76, but intends to continue to play a full part in local affairs generally and the Royal British Legion in particular. His son (**Knowles, W.A.C.** 1951-59) continues to practise as a Solicitor in neighbouring Warminster, where he would be happy to see Old Wycombiensians, new clients, an increase in the rates paid for conveyancing work and free beer.

**Laurie, J.K.** (1960-66) is now General Manager of Oxford Medilog Inc., Clearwater, Florida, a medical electronics company supplying ambulatory monitoring ECG and EEG equipment. He keeps in touch with **Beattie, M.J.** — a tax manager — and **Johnston, B.C.** — a roofing contractor — of the same vintage.

**McIntosh, A.R.** (1947-51) is now Lord McIntosh of Haringey and is the Labour spokesman on Education in the House of Lords.

**Minch, N.P.G.** (1971-79) completed a B.Sc. at Stirling in Management Science and Technology Studies (First Class) and then spent two years at the University of Illinois on a Masters of Business Administration programme. He now works for Electronic Decisions, a small company engaged in high technology R and D.

**Mitchell, C.J.S.** (1937-45) writes that after a career in Electronics designing and installing aircraft flight simulators in the '50s and '60s and being concerned with the introduction of Integrated Circuits for Mullard Ltd. in the '60s, indifferent health caused a diversion into corporate management and consultancy and he has now effectively retired.

**Moorcroft, J.L.** (1971-78) qualified as a Chartered Accountant in December 1984 and is now working in High Wycombe for Haine's Watts.

**Moore, R.M.** (1955-62). Having spent the last three years flying Strikemaster and Hunter aircraft in Oman, he joined Dan-Air in January as a pilot on the Boeing 737. He expects to be based at Birmingham, so any old boys taking a holiday this summer may find him "up front".

**Morgan, B.J.** (1972-79) is working with Schroders, Merchant Bankers, specialising in the Eurobond market.

**Myant, C.A.** (1956-62). Former assistant editor of the Morning Star, he has become editor of 7 days, the Communist Party's new weekly paper.

**Newport, P.J.** (1975-82) consolidated his place in the Worcestershire first eleven last season and received several favourable reports in the press and on radio. During the winter he has been teaching geography at R.G.S. Worcester but next year plans to coach abroad.

**Pickles, B.** (1937-41). Bernard Pickles, together with his wife Jessica and son Jonathan, begin their 9th Season as owners of Minffordd Hotel, Tallyllyn, a place well known to lovers of narrow gauge railways. The year 1986 sees him installed as the President of the Rotary Club of Machynlleth, Powys. Old Boys who are Rotarians, and in the area, are invited to come and enjoy the fellowship of Lunch — held every Monday — at the Wynnstay Arms Hotel, Machynlleth.

**Philbrick, G.J.** (1972-75) will be ordained Deacon in Winchester Cathedral at Petertide, to serve in the

parish of Maybush, Southampton. He has studied theology at the universities of Edinburgh and Tübingen, Germany, and trained at Edinburgh Theological College.

**Philpott, G.B.** (1940-47). Having relinquished his partnership with a firm of Chartered Surveyors in Hereford in 1985 he bought out the sales side of their organisation and runs it as a separate company called Phillips. He recently acted in a professional capacity for R. Hope (retired schoolteacher) who was at the school in the 1930's — and has never been back! Although he deals with commercial and residential property a related part of the company sells hotels and public houses throughout the country. He is in touch with D.F. Toynson and A. Housdon who both live in the Poole area and were at school during the war.

**Poulson, S.M.** (1973-78) is working in Wales for an American company Accuracy, which makes process control computers.

**Prior, P.J.** (1929-36) has been Chairman of a Government Commission on The Prison Disciplinary System.

**Rake, C.R.** (1950-57) returned to the Buckingham area in 1971 from Rhodesia having spent 5 years in the British South Africa Police. He is married with two children, the eldest attending R.G.S. and now living locally. He is currently employed as a Probation Officer at High Wycombe, and is still playing Rugby (Golden Oldies).

**Rowe, S.N.** (1970-77) has returned after 3 years in Zambia to take up the post of Research and Development Metallurgist at Copper Pass Ltd., North Ferriby, North Humberside.

**Rundell, P.F.** (1963-69) is now Financial Controller, Industrial Products Division at Amersham International, Little Chalfont.

**Sansom, K.G.** (1954-62) is Managing Director of The Laporte Group Australia. A photograph of him in the Australian Business Magazine "Ryldges" showed him still proudly wearing his old school tie. If any of his era are in Sydney he would like them to get in touch with him via Laporte.

**Santner, R.S.** (1976-82) was awarded an honours degree in Civil & Structural Engineering from Sheffield University, July 1985. He now works for the Ove Arup Partnership of Consultant Engineers, based in London.

**Scruton, R.V.** (1954-61). Professor A.J. Ayer wrote in the Observer, reviewing Roger's latest book "Sexual Desire" — 'This is a rather silly book but it is not stupid'.

**Stephens, J.S.** (1925-30) won a coveted Oscar for his Art Direction of the film "Tess" produced a few years ago.

**Sweeting, C.R.** (1958-63). He continues to live in Singapore with wife Heather and two children. Chris travels frequently in his position as Publishing Director of Asian Business Press Ltd — publishers of 12 special interest newspapers and magazines which are distributed throughout South East and Far East Asia. Keeps in contact with **Laws, W.H.N.** (1958-66) who returned from Singapore with his family to live in trendy Richmond.

**Thomas, N.W.** (1970-77) has recently been appointed to a Lectureship in Ceramics at the University of Leeds. Much of his leisure time is taken up in musical activities, and there is plenty going on in Leeds in this respect. He still sees **McKendrick, S.** (1970-77), who is studying for a Ph.D. in the History of Art in London,

and **Barnes, S.A.** (1970-77), who is working as Publicity Officer for the London Borough of Uxbridge.

**Thomson, K.** (1970-77). Keith has been working for Westland Helicopters since graduating but is currently on loan to the Ministry of Defence for a two-year period. He enjoys working in London and sends news of his brother **Thomson, I.** (1972-80) who spends much of his time in the Middle East as a Chartered Surveyor.

**Tomes, I.M.** (1951-58) returned to England in early 1985 after 2½ years of instructing the Nigerian Army. He is now stationed with the Ministry of Defence and inspects Army units throughout the UK and abroad.

**Williams, T.C.** (1947-52 Shell). In his 11th year with P & O, which now has many transport, construction and industrial services interests in addition to its mainstream shipping activities. He is Treasury Manager in a very busy team of only 5 now based in Pall Mall, and not looking forward to the closure of Marylebone Station.

He was in Helsinki for the delivery of P & O's super luxury "Royal Princess" cruise ship, so there are the odd perks to alleviate the hard work!

His youngest son, Gary (1978-84) now works for Dad's former employer Standard Chartered Bank (née Bank of West Africa) but he is unlikely to follow in father's pioneering footsteps to Sierra Leone, where many happy years were spent 1956-69.

#### **THE OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' MASONIC LODGE No. 6754**

Principal officers of the Lodge for 1985-6 were:

Worshipful Master Peter Smaje (Staff)

Senior Warden Sydney Goulbourn (1928-36)

Junior Warden Peter Ray (1926-33)

The Hon. Sec. thanks all those who have contributed information for these notes. The Old Boys' Dinner next year will be on Saturday April 5th 1987.