



WYCOMBIENSIAN 1991



The Wycombiensian

Vol. XVIII No. 2 1991

The Magazine of the
Royal Grammar School
High Wycombe

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Staff Leavers

Mr David Jones

Typically of this very private man who, nonetheless, has gained a strong hold on the affections of so many colleagues and pupils, he has ordered the strictest of limits on what is to be said about his very long and valuable service to the Royal Grammar School - "Five sentences, that is all you get!"

David, 'Benny' to generations of boys, came in 1958 from King George V Grammar School, Southport, and quickly became Head of the History Department in succession to Leslie Ashford, the first headmaster of Burnham Grammar School, and apart from the term when he went as a Schoolmaster Fellow to Churchill College, Cambridge, to study Disraeli's Home Secretary, R A Cross, and the great Imperialist, Alfred Lord Milner, he has remained with us and will leave only one term short of his hundred!

He set up the Social Service group, managed the Under 15 rugby team, helped with cricket, organised public speaking teams and taught four Marxists, but thinks his greatest achievement was the same as that as the Abbé Sieyès in the French Revolution - 'I survived!'

A true bibliophile, he intends to spend his retirement reading, avoiding complex road junctions and ladders, doing more voluntary work in Wycombe General Hospital and walking with the Ramblers both at home and abroad.

His departure certainly marks the end of an era in school which for much of the century has been dominated by schoolmasters from South Wales - The Taffia - and the teaching staff (which had five Mr Jones plus a Mrs Jones in 1962) will sadly be without one for the first time since 1915.

R.C.F.

Editor's footnote: Our new Bursar is Mr Mike Jones!

Mr Tony Sollars

Tony Sollars joined the school in September 1974, and from then on was a great strength as No.2 in the Chemistry Department. In addition to his science qualifications he was in charge of a school hockey team each season, and

also partnered Peter Smaje on school excursions to the USA and Turkey. He was fully involved in the CCF as its Second in Command and as the RAF Section's Squadron Leader. (A tribute appears in the CCF report). We shall miss his friendship, his quiet unruffled super efficiency, his commitment to the department and his contribution to a range of out-of-classroom activities. We wish him well in his new post of Head of Science at Licensed Victuallers School.

B.K.G.

Mr Michael Grout

After leaving Warwick University for insurance in the City and then a PGCE at London University's Institute of Education, Michael Grout accepted his first teaching post here with a look of surprised apprehension in 1984.

His straightforward manner and willingness to undertake an enormous variety of activities made him an easy person for all members of the R.G.S. to relate to. The Economics Department gratefully acknowledges his role of fall guy to a number of practical jokes including the occasion in the wild woods of Wales when, as one in charge of a wide game, he was subjected to the implacable outrage of an apparent Welsh speaking 'Welsh landowner'. (Eventually recognised as RGR.)

Coaching a team of under 15's to the Daily Mail Schools Rugby Final at Twickenham must represent a particular high spot in his wide contribution to school sport; latterly he also dominated Staff golf. He gave unstintingly of his time with Young Enterprise, fourth form Insight Into Industry courses, helping run YHA and skiing, factory visits, a Board Sailing Course, teaching golf on TAA, Careers, cricket coaching, and was pressed into the Naval Section on occasion. Besides Staff Cricket, he scored the occasional goal for the Staff Football Team and, more significantly, handled the subs and transfer fees.

He helped initiate Business Studies courses in the middle school and battled with unflinching cheerfulness to impart the mysteries of 'A' level Economics and Business Studies to a succession of sixth form initiates, many of whom found in him a kindly and ever encouraging form master.

Marriage and his departure to head a department at John Hampden happened in rapid succession and we wish him every success in both spheres of endeavour.

T.J.N.C.

Mrs Jill Bocquet

Jill joined the Physics Department in 1986. She immediately showed the enthusiasm, energy and commitment which have proved such an asset to the school ever since. Her lively personality quickly endeared her to colleagues and her warmth and kindness have had a welcome softening effect on us all.

Within the limitations of a part-time timetable she has been actively involved in developing and establishing new courses, such as electronics in the junior school and AS Physics in the sixth form. Her classes have benefited from her hard work and determination to achieve the very best standards possible.

Her husband's career has now enforced a move to the West Country and we lose her services with much regret. We wish her every success in her new job at Wells Cathedral School. She will be much missed.

J.A.W.

Mrs Dawn Bushell

Dawn Bushell, who departed last July, joined the staff in September 1986 from Wellesbourne School. Her combination of natural elegance with an efficient and thorough approach to her job were soon evident to us all. She had a great enthusiasm for English and Drama teaching, and the department benefited from her imaginative approach.

Alongside her professionalism was the 'pastoral touch', and her ability to encourage individuals. She did this both as a subject teacher and a Junior Form mistress, and also proved to be a capable organiser of the school's social services.

On top of this, Dawn still had energy to spare for extra-curricular activities. She took the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme under her wing, and was largely responsible for its development within the life of the school. This involved her in tackling everything from minibus driving to week-end camping expeditions and archery lessons.

She was always friendly and ready to help her colleagues. Her handbag was a treasure-trove of objects useful for emergencies, whether you needed Tippex or a needle and thread!

Dawn made a significant contribution to RGS, and one which we continue to appreciate since her husband's job took her to Holland last summer.

J.D.M.

Commander Chris Fleming

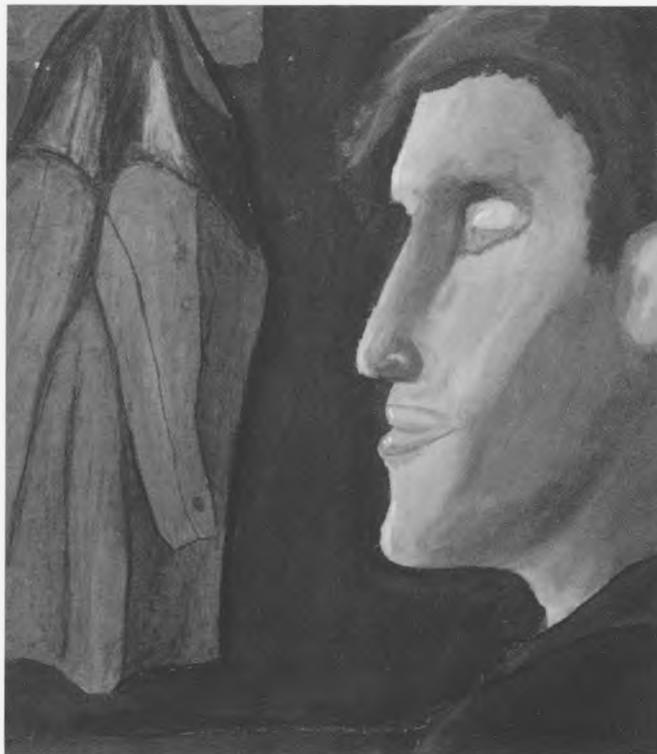
Commander N C Fleming will have a special place in the annals of RGS, not for the shortness of his tenure of office, though that was all too brief from the RGS point of view, but because he was at the financial helm of the school as it sailed out of the calm waters of Local Financial

Management (LFM) into the more swirling floes of Local Management of Schools (LMS). Here a steady hand on the tiller was necessary to avoid the hidden reefs of unpredicted expenditure categories and fast flowing currents of local authority circulars. After a full career in the Royal Navy as an engineering officer, Commander Fleming embarked on a second career in Bursaring, first at St Mary's Shaftesbury for two years before joining RGS in 1989. He thus brought with him the experience of running the finance of a boarding school as well as the administrative expertise gained from looking after various comparable establishments nurtured both in the Navy and at Shaftesbury.

After years of seeing virtually no methodical planned painting done inside or out, the school suddenly and to its surprise, found the whole of the exterior of the main block decorated and then experienced the almost forgotten nostalgic smell of freshly applied paint in the main block classroom and corridors. It is rumoured that on training courses bursars are tutored in 100 ways of saying 'no'. Commander Fleming could do that with the best of them, but it was an ill-informed rumour that had it that there was an attempt to level scores in the Staff Revue of December '90.

Other schools, it is known, have had a painful transition from County Hall financial control to LMS. That the experience at RGS was by comparison remarkably pain-free is due in substantial measure to the bursarial skills of Commander Fleming who in the spring was lured westwards by an attractive prospect of a bursar's post within a short drive of sailing on the Dart. For piloting this school safely in the invigoratingly different waters of LMS the Governors and School will always be deeply grateful.

R.P.B.



Martin Webb 4th Year Powder Paint

Miss Sue Mushin

Sue Mushin, who left the RGS last summer to take up a post in Oxford, joined the Modern Languages Department in 1988 as a full-time teacher of Spanish and French. She could hardly have known that after only one year here she would find herself in sole charge of the Spanish teaching in the school following the departure of Mr G W Heath. It is much to her credit that she coped admirably with the unexpected demands made upon her. During her short time with us she proved to be a stalwart member of the department and made her mark with all the pupils she taught.

She will be remembered for her competent, lively and thoroughly professional approach in the classroom, for organizing a successful trip to Spain, and for her contribution to the school Choral Society. We were sorry to lose her and trust that she is enjoying every success in her new position.

D.J.F.

Mr Stephen Hussey

Stephen Hussey left RGS last July to take up the position of Director of Music at Watford Grammar School. This sees him returning to the school he went to - in fact replacing his own teacher at the helm.

There were those who probably thought that Stephen was on the Games staff - he was in the Cambridge Soccer squad before coming here and was a batsman who only narrowly missed playing for the Cambridge First XI. His performances in Staff soccer and cricket games are legendary - more than one century (and broken greenhouse panes) and a bagful of goals that should have had league scouts flocking to Bisham Abbey to sign him on professional terms.

I suppose we best remember him musically for keeping the Jazz Band at a level of peak performance throughout his stay - including producing the album *Makin' Grooves*. He was a great hit in the classroom, getting to grips with new technology as well as extracting the best from high-flyer boys with his harmony teaching. He was very popular in the common-room and we were all sorry to see him go. We all wish him, Michelle and baby Christopher the very best for the future.

M.C.S.

Mr Stephen Armstrong and Mrs Trish Flint

If I gave a quick test on staff initials, most of the school would probably falter slightly with S.R.A. and P.M.F. - Stephen Armstrong and Trish Flint. All of the junior school will have seen their backs each week, because part of their brief in easing the load of your Director of Music has been to play the organ in assembly on Wednesday and Thursday. When Stephen Hussey left for Watford, we found it impossible to replace him, but luckily for us these two excellent souls appeared at the eleventh hour to teach in

the one case A level and GCSE and in the other some second form lessons. The present writer has therefore found life much more bearable with this help for which he is most grateful and he wishes them well in the future.

M.C.S.

Mr Adrian Griffin

Adrian Griffin joined the school in September 1990, having left in 1985 to do a degree in Chemistry at University College London followed by teacher training at Oxford Department of Education, where he gained a Blue for fencing.

He quickly settled into the department and became involved in a wide range of out-of-classroom activities, the School Fencing Team particularly benefiting from his expertise. We wish Adrian well as he moves to the world of Commerce.

B.K.G.

University Entry 1990-91

OXFORD

J Bhat Engineering, Jesus
N Grassly Biology(Botany), Pembroke
D Hackett Music, St. Hugh's
R Holden Law, Brasenose
A Hunt Classics, Queen's
M Keer History, Lincoln
P Kingsnorth History, St. Anne's
A L'Estrange Music, Merton
M Sheiham PPE, Jesus
R Watson Maths/Computing, Balliol
M Wightman Biological Sciences, Keble
J Wyatt Chemistry, Corpus Christi

CAMBRIDGE

C Carter Chemical Engineering, Girton
C Claydon Engineering, St John's
A Denniston Medicine, Downing
A Gill Law, Queens'
D Harding Veterinary Medicine, Robinson
D Holland Law, Pembroke
M Koster Land Economy, Pembroke
S McDonald Medicine, Gonville & Caius
J Mawdsley Medicine, Queens'
P Maxmin Social & Political Sciences, Queens'
B Mitcheson Natural Sciences, Emmanuel

P Oram Natural Sciences, Queens'
J Richards Engineering, Clare
D Slater Anglo-Saxon, St John's
D Smith Physical Sciences, Clare
D Stevens Natural Sciences, Downing
T Stokes Engineering, St John's
G Thomas Law, Clare
M Thomson Engineering, Jesus
J Vaughan Maths, Pembroke
A Walker Music, Fitzwilliam
C West Natural Sciences, St John's
G Wheatley Engineering, Jesus

HIGHER EDUCATION ENTRY

N D Adams: Imperial College, London, Maths with Business Studies (1991)
N Ahmad: Kent University, Economics/Social History
P Airley: Bristol University, Law
A J Aitken: Leicester University, Combined Sciences
D J Anderson: Kingston Polytechnic, Accountancy
J S Arthur: Sheffield University, Zoology
S R Ashdown: Loughborough University, Engineering Science & Technology
A H Aston: Bristol University, Veterinary Science
D J Ayling: Nottingham University, Mechanical Engineering & Material Technology (1991)
P A G Benstead: Cardiff University, Economics
M A Bickford: Bath University, Aeronautical Engineering
J Blenkarn: Trent Polytechnic, Accountancy
C M J Bray: Reading University, Anatomy/Physiology
A J W Brooks: Humberside Polytechnic, Humanities
A T Brown: Cheltenham & Gloucester College of Higher Education, Maths with Philosophy
D Brown: Nottingham University, Chemistry
I M Brown: Southampton University, Mathematics with Economics
S R Brown: Huddersfield Polytechnic, Law
P D Buckley: Imperial College, London, Material Science & Engineering
J Burnett: Keele University, English and Classics
B H Bushill: Sheffield University, Archaeology
R B Chacksfield: Surrey University, Biotechnology
J S Clark: Trent Polytechnic, European Languages
P St J Churchett: Staffordshire Polytechnic, Production Engineering
D A Conway: North London Polytechnic, Computer Studies
P A E Cranie: Keele University, PPE
C St J Cropper: Edinburgh University, Zoology
F L Currie: Bristol Polytechnic, Business/Management Studies
M A J Day: Leeds Polytechnic, Business/Management Studies
J D Dyer: Nottingham University, Electronic Engineering & Material Technology
A J Estabrook: Essex University, Law (1991)
S Edwards: Queen Mary College, London, French & German
K R Evans: East Anglia University, Physics
D Fawell: Middlesex Polytechnic, Economics (European)
I R Fazey: Sheffield University, Physics
J R Fieldhouse: Birmingham Polytechnic, Town & Country Planning
A B Fitzjohn: Liverpool University, Law and German

J B W Francis: Royal Holloway College, London, Italian (1991)
D Y Garner: Cardiff University, Geology
D Gatcum: Cheltenham & Gloucester College of Higher Education, Countryside Planning
J R Gatward: City of London Polytechnic, Business Studies
O M Gaylard: Nottingham University, Chemistry & Economics
P A Gould: Southampton University, Aeronautical Engineering
C J Grant: Southampton University, Civil Engineering
G W Groves: Loughborough University, Economics with Accountancy
I C W Hamilton: Buckingham Polytechnic, Computer Studies
C J Hamp: Southampton University, Aeronautical Engineering
M C Harrison: Buckingham University, Social Science
J S A Hemuss: Loughborough University, Chemical Engineering
P M Holloway: Glasgow University, Veterinary Medicine
S J Hough: Oxford Polytechnic, Town & Country Planning
A J C Hunt: King's College, London, Classics (1991)
Q Hussain: Brunel University, Economics & Financial Management (1991)
J M Jenkins: Imperial College, London, Mathematics
S H Jie: Buckingham University, Politics & History (1991)
S P Keeling: University College, London, Geography and German (1991)
J E King: Edinburgh University, Geography/Science
P K Krishnamurthy: Leicester University, Combined Science
A D Kydd: Nottingham University, Electronic Engineering
S C Lacey: Warwick University, Psychology & Philosophy
F P Martin: Christ Church Canterbury College of Higher Education, English & History
I McGill: Royal Holloway College, London, Biochemistry
H R Morjaria: Warwick University, Sociology & Social Policy
R A Muchmore: Dorset Polytechnic, Computer Studies
M J Musgrove: Bristol University, French & German
S J Munday: Birmingham University, Law
R A Nicholson: Swansea University, History
N J O'Doherty: Bristol University, Geography
S J Oldcorn: Sheffield Polytechnic, Computer Studies
N Orolin: Cardiff University, Economics
S P Owen: Bath University, Computer Studies
S J D Paton: Bristol Polytechnic, European Law & Languages
D S Pearce: Cardiff University, French & German
J R V Pearson: Staffordshire Polytechnic, History of Art
S D C Pearson: Imperial College, London, Chemistry
D A Pereira: Imperial College, London, Chemistry
D C Pike: South West Polytechnic, Combined/General Course
J D Rattray: Royal Holloway College, London, Physics with Business Studies
P J Read: Hull University, Physics
D J Reading: Stirling University, Economics and French
S J Reid: London School of Economics, Law
C M Rylett: Staffordshire Polytechnic, Biology (1991)
K R Sampson: Oxford Polytechnic, Architecture (1991)
S Samuel: Liverpool University, Combined/General Social Sciences
M R Sanders: Queen Mary College, London, History
J P S Saraan: Bristol University, Chemistry
K Sarshar: Oxford Polytechnic, Architecture (1991)

N A Seymour: Southampton University, Electronic Engineering
T H F Shakeshaft: Royal Holloway College, London, French & German
S M Shaw: Loughborough University, Economics & Geography
J E Sherlock: Lampeter University, History & Archaeology
A P Somerville: Southampton University, Electronic Engineering
T I Sparks: Coventry Polytechnic, Civil Engineering
N C Stapleton: Reading University, Computer Studies
A Steel: Birmingham University, Law
M S Stewart: Southampton University, Electronic Engineering
D S Sutton: Nottingham University, Civil Engineering
R I D Sweetman: Hatfield Polytechnic, Civil Engineering
L W Thompson: Queen Mary College, London, French & European Studies (1991)
J S Uden: Bristol University, Biology
P J G Watson: City of London Polytechnic, Combined/General Course
M J Weaver: St Andrews University, Physics and Maths
T C B Webber: United Medical & Dental Schools, London, Dentistry
A J Wheeler: Bradford University, Chemical Engineering
J R H Wilkins: Staffordshire Polytechnic, Computer Studies
G R Wynter: Cardiff University, Economics
S T Zabel: Nottingham University, Economics
P M Zimmerman: Manchester University, Electrical & Electronic Engineering

P L Krinks: L*,H*,Mus*,GS*,Gre* **S C Lacey:** Eng,F,GS.Phil **R J A Monk:** Eng,Geo,GS,Gre; AS:CF **M J Musgrove:** L*,F*,Ger*; AS:Comp* **M J Spooner:** F,C,GS **P J Wheeler:** E,GS; AS:AH **J B Banks:** Eng,H G R **Carson:** Eng,H,Geo; AS:GP **J R Fieldhouse:** Eng,Geo,A **C P Hazelden:** Eng* EPS*,Geo*; AS:Comp* **P C F Moynihan:** Eng*,H,GS; **R A Nicholson:** Eng,H,EPS*,GS **D A Peddle:** Eng,F,M C **A Pinks:** Eng,H*,Sp* **D A G Till:** Eng*,H*,EPS*; AS:Phil* **D J Anderson:** H,E,Geo; AS:DM **P A G Benstead:** H,E*,M,GS; AS:CF **C P Birmingham:** Eng,E,Geo **P A Cranie:** E,Geo,GS,Phil **Q Hussain:** H,E*,M; AS:GP **H R Morjaria:** Eng,E,GS,Phil **M A Wybrow:** H,E,Geo **I M Brown:** Geo,M,BS*; AS:P **P S J Churchett:** F,Geo,BS; AS:DM **D Fawell:** F,M,BS **J R Gatward:** Geo,C,BS; AS:A **M C Harrison:** H,E,M; AS:GP* **S J Hough:** Eng,Geo,A **A J Law:** Eng,Geo,BS; AS:AA **Moir:** BS **R A Muchmore:** F,M,A,GS,BS **M R Sanders:** F,H,E **P J G Watson:** Ger,Geo,BS **P R Williams:** E; AS:GP **S M Bennett:** F,E,Geo; AS:DM **J Blenkarn:** E,Geo,M; AS:DM **A F Boothroyd:** EPS*,Geo,P **A J Brooks:** Eng,Geo; AS:Phil **B H Bushill:** H,E*,Geo*; AS:CF **M A J Day:** E,Geo,M; AS:BS **J S Dickinson:** AS:Phil **S Edwards:** F,Ger **P D Fines- Allin:** Eng **I R Gould:** Eng,H **B C Jerrome:** E,Geo **S H Jie:** H*,E,Geo; AS:GP **S P Keeling:** Eng,Ger,Geo; AS:Comp **D S Pearce:** F,Ger,Geo **D C Pike:** Geo,P **N Saunders:** Eng,H **S M Shaw:** Geo,M,BS **S S Bent:** Geo,A **A T Brown:** Eng,H,M **J S Clark:** Eng,H,EPS **A J Eastabrook:** H,EPS,Geo **G W Groves:** H,E,M,G **R Holmes:** F; AS:GP **F P Martin:** Eng,H,EPS; AS:Phil **J R V Pearson:** F,H,Geo; AS:A **S J Samuel:** Eng,H,EPS **J E Sherlock:** H,RS,Geo **L W Thompson:** F*,H*,RS*; AS:GP* **A Collins:** F,Sp **A B Cooper:** Eng,Ger,H **R M Elliott:** Ger,H*,EPS*,GS; AS:CF **D H Jacobson:** F*,H,GS,SP* **A N Johansen:** FR*,M*,GS,SP* **D J McNamara:** Eng*,F*,Ger*; AS:H **J L Pendleton:** Eng,F*,SP* **A J Phillips:** Eng*,F,Phil **T H F Shakeshaft:** Eng,F,Ger* **J R H Wilkins:** Fr,Comp **O M Barkey:** H,BS; AS:BS **A B Fitzjohn:** F,Ger*,EPS*,GS **D Gatcum:** Ger,H,Geo **M G McCarthy:** Ger,Geo,BS; AS:DM **N J O'Doherty:** Ger,EPS,Geo,GS*; AS:DM **R A Page:** Ger,H,GS; AS:BS **S J D Paton:** Ger,H,Geo **S J Reid:** F,Ger*,E,GS; AS:DM **A R Till:** H **C M Walsh:** F,Ger **G R P Wynter:** E,Ger,BS; AS:CF **N D Adams:** M*,FM,C,P **N W Edmonds:** H*,E*,M*,FM,GS **D M Hancox:** M*,FM,C,P*,GS* **J S A Hemuss:** M*,FM,C,P*,GS* **W Holden:** M*,FM*,C*,P* **D Pereira:** H,M,P* **S G Pratt:** M*,FM*,C*,P* **F L Currie:** F,M,C; AS:DM **J D Dyer:** M,C,P; AS:Elec **O M Gaylard:** M,C*,P*; AS:H **C J Grant:** Geo,M,P,GS; AS:Elec **A D Kydd:** M,C,P; AS: Elec **A C D Palmer:** Geo*,P,GS; AS:Tech **T I Sparks:** M,C,P **N C Stapleton:** Eng,M,C; AS:P **M S Stewart:** M,C,P; AS:Elec* **D S Sutton:** M,C,P; AS:GPD **J Ayling:** M,C,P,GS; AS:CF **S R Brown:** EPS,M,C,GS; AS:P **D Garner:** Geo,C; AS:GP **P A Gould:** M*,FM*,C*,P* **P K Krishnamurthy:** E,C,P; AS:GP **K A Sarshar:** Geo,M,C **S Slater:** Geo,M*,C* **A P Somerville:** M,C,P; AS:Elec **M J Weaver:** M*,FM*,C,P* **S R Ashdown:** M*,C,P; AS:Elec **K R Evans:** M,C,P **S P Garvie:** M,C,P*; AS:CF **G L R Herschel:** E*,M*,P,GS* **R K Mills:** M*,C*,P* **S D C Pearson:** M*,C*,P* **J C Pinot de Moira:** M*,FM*,C*,P* **A Steel:** Geo*,M*,P* **I Ahmed:** P **P D Buckley:** M,C,P; AS:A **M Chan:** M,P,GS; AS:BS **I R Fazey:** M,C,P; AS:CF **J D Rattray:** M,C,P; AS:CF **P J Read:** C,P; AS:CF **N A Seymour:** M*,FM,C,P* **R I D Sweetman:** P,A **R H Tulloch:** M*,FM*,C,P*,GS **P M Zimmerman:** M*,FM,C*,P* **D A Conway:** H,P **J R Dean:** P,BS; AS:H **P S R Jackman:** P,BS **N Orolin:** E*,M,Comp,P,GS **K R Sampson:** P **K M Wootton:** P,BS;

"A" Level Results 1990

The successful candidates who took the Oxford GCE Board "A" Level Examinations were:

KEY: A - Art; B - Biology; C - Chemistry; Comp - Computing; CF - Contemporary French; DM - Decision Maths; E - Economics; EPS - Economics & Political Studies; Eng - English Literature; E.La - English Language; F - French; FM - Further Maths; Ger - German; Geo - Geography; Gre - Greek; GP - Govt & Political Studies; H - History; AH - Ancient History; L - Latin; M - Maths; Mus - Music; P - Physics; Phil - Philosophy; BS - Business Studies; GS - General Studies; SP - Spanish; RS - Religious Studies; AD - Art and Design; Elec - Electronics. AS denotes 'AS' level

* denotes grade A

C M J Bray: C,P,B; AS: Phil **D Brockway:** Geo,C,B,Phil **D Brown:** M*,C*,P*,B* **R B Chacksfield:** M,C*,P*,B* **S M Couper:** C,B **P D Hardie:** P,B,GS; AS:CF **R H Johns:** M*,C*,B*; AS:P* **R M McManus:** M,C,B; AS:P **S J Oldcorn:** C,P,B; AS:A **A I Qureshi:** C,P,B; AS: BS **J S Uden:** L,C,P,B* **T C B Webber:** C,P,B,A **S T Zabel:** M,C*,B*,GS*; AS:P* **P Airley:** M,C*,P*,B* **J S Arthur:** C*,P,B*; AS:A **A H Ashton:** C*,P,B*; AS:A **J L Ball:** M*,C*,P*,B* **C S J Cropper:** C*,P*,B*; AS:CF **P M Holloway:** C*,P,B*; AS:A **J E King:** Geo,C,B; AS:H **I R McGill:** C,P,B; AS:A **S J Munday:** C,P,B* **D J Reading:** F,C,BC **M Rylett:** Geo,C,B; AS:Comp **J P S Saraan:** M,C*,B*,GS **M F Stidworthy:** C*,P*,B*,Mus* **A J Wheeler:** C,P,B **D O Allen:** Eng*,AH*,H; AS:Phil* **N J Baikie:** Eng*,L*,AH,F* **A J Hunt:** L*,F*,Gre*; AS:Comp

AS:Elec N Ahmad: E*, Phil R Swain: F*,Ger*,EPS C
Hamp; E,M,FM,P J Hart E,M*,FM*,P* J Jenkins:
 Ger,M*,FM*,P M Nixon: Ger,M*,FM*,P* I Hamilton:
 E,Comp A Aitken Ger,M,P*; AS:CF S Owen: M,P;
 AS:Comp,E M Bickford: M,P,S* G Edwards: M,Comp,P;
 AS:BS J Francis: F,M,PD Lewis: P, W Mirza:E; AS:BS
 N Charles;F,Ger L Santucci: F,Ger

“GCSE” Results 1990

The following boys obtained Grade A - C in five or more subjects in the GCSE Examinations

B S Brown(10); A P Calleja (10); R N Clark (10); C D Collins (9); A J Cooper (10); P R Doe (10); R D W Fraser (10); P A Hall (10); M J Hobden (6); N A J Hollin (11); M C Keating (8); A R J Kinner (9); C R Leslie (10); P T J Marsden (9); N S Molden (10);A P McCarthy (9); T J Milward (10) M S Moore (10); S J Morley (10); M J Pavitt (10); T J Perrins (10); A J Pullen (10); M R Ratchford (10); M Seymour (10); A J Shearer (10); R R Sturrock (7); J D Sugg (9); L M Thatcher (9); S M Wall (7); J A Woodley (10); A A Zachary (9); C G Baynes (6); S A Bonham (6); A S Bowen (10); I R Brownridge (10); R J Coope (9) M R Davies (7); T D Davis (9); S Ewing (8); R P Flint (10); P R Foot (11); M S Gomm (9); D Harris (9); A S Hazell (8); C P Heaven (10); A B Hoad (8); S Jones (9); P E G Locke (9); M J Lunnon (9); J R Mawson (10); H M G McEvoy (9); T G Minton (10); A P Moore (10); M Oden (10); D J Pain (8); B P Pearce (6); J B Richards (10); A Rubis (9); A Shepherd (10); G T Stythe (8); A Taylor (9); N S Thompson (9); R I Bareham (10); D A Bennett (10); N P Berry (9); M R Booth (10); L J Chadzynski (9); A J Cotter (10); M R Darby (9); K C S Duncan (5); L D Edwards

(10); P R J Element (10); J R Hadley (10); R N Haylett (8); F H Hill (10); P J Huber (8); R E Hutton-Squire (10); A J Lindsay (8); S E Long (10); P S Mennie (10); J P V Rake (6); T S F Rayfield (6); S P Schlaepfer (9); J M Sheridan (9); J D Stephens (10); E L Toms (11); J K Tonna (10); A M Toone (10); M C L Vance (10); A M Walters (10); C M Bailey (10); C L Bartington (8); E M Belcher (8); T H Briggs (10); A F Charles (8); S C P Clements (5); J P Davies (10); M J Dawkes (6); G Devlin (8); C R Green (10);J M Neil (9); T P Hogbin (10); A G S Horridge (10); A C J Levan (10); M A Linney (7); G S Lord (8); D J Musgrove (10); D J Orr (7); M D Parkinson (9); A C Peattie (7); M T Perkins (10); R M Pickles (9); P Rake (6); S P Reeve-Parker (10); B D M Rendall (10); N P Sawa (8); P S G Sawyer (10); M D Skingley (9); A G Smart (8); D C Wiles (5); A C Ardron (10); T A R Badman (10); W A D Brooks (10); T Buck (10); A Butler (10); P Clark (10); C R Constable (10); P D Cooper (5); C M Denison (11); S R Goodfellow (10); J W Gordon (11); J D W Green (9); R J Hall (9); R E M Hallam (9); P I Hext (9); A J Holmes (11); M E Howell (10); A P Lewis (11); G O Maddock (11); A C Mawhood (10); R B Mills (11); K A North (10); S P O'Donovan (7); J R Powell (7); S Reynard (10); D J Russell (10); T P Sledge (10); J A Taylor (10); S D Tobler (10); J Weingard (10); M G Wingate (10); T P Witcher (10); Q Askew (9); S R Bayly(10); T J Brooksbank (10); M R Brown (11); C M Brownridge (10); M J Church (10); D A J G Coleman (10); S P Curl (9); T P Day (9); J L Farley (10); J R French (10); S P Godley (7); N J Grant (11); N R S A Hall (9); T P Havelock (10); S W Lucas (10); M J McKenna (9); P D Munday (11); J J W Parkinson (10); C J Parsons (10); M N Pavlovic (9); P J Pipkin (9); R D Proctor (11); J N Read (8); E A Sey (9); W H Spooner (10); R M Sykes (10); J P Symmons (10); P S Toller (10); T C Townley (9); P M Wilson (9); M D P Wynter (10).



Mujahidin or Terrorist?

The 1980's saw America and Europe launch a war against international terrorism, the new evil. This has had a powerful effect in the West in stirring up mass hatred against Islam, Arabs and Iranians. The gutter press has had a field-day in portraying Muslims as bloodthirsty fanatics intent on causing destruction. The bearded fundamentalist has become synonymous with terrorist. It is only when the Muslim is fighting the 'enemy' i.e. Russia, that he is termed Mujahidin, i.e. freedom fighter.

The West does not define the terrorist by his use of violence, but by his political ends. Thus the Palestinian Mujahidin is termed a terrorist because he seeks to liberate his land from its illegal occupation by the Jews; on the other hand the Afghan Mujahidin is called Mujahidin because he seeks to liberate his land from its illegal occupation by the Russians. From the Islamic viewpoint both are fighting in the way of Allah, to liberate Muslim land. The West, however, draws a distinction between the two because one is challenging the interests of the Western powers and the other is seen by the West as promoting its own interests of fighting for its cause, which is to demolish Communism.

The hypocrisy goes further. When Iran puts a price on the head of Salman Rushdie it is labelled a terrorist state and the world is outraged. When President Bush puts a price on the head of the elected leader of a sovereign state, i.e. General Noriega of Panama, the USA is labelled a champion of democracy. America shoots down a civilian Iranian airliner and acts as if Iran was the guilty party; what's more, Margaret Thatcher supported the action as she did when Reagan bombed Libya.

The West uses romantic euphemisms of 'freedom' and 'democracy' to justify their widespread use of state terrorism on the Muslim world. The West, particularly Britain, America and France, has created the destruction and widespread instability that dominates the Middle East. The use of violence by the Muslims there is a natural response to this domination and oppression.

Sajad Hayat 4G

Now that the Gulf War is officially over it has received the label of "another victory for justice and democracy", and that is the way in which history will record it. But is it really such a victory: and has it done more harm than good?

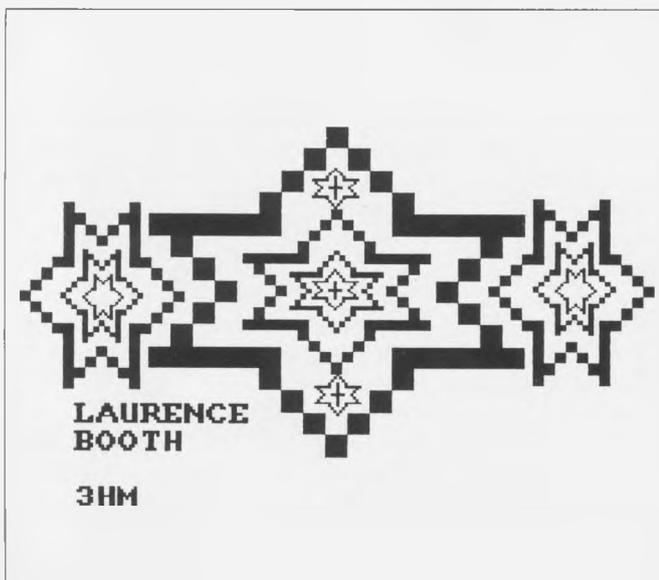
Though most of the allied soldiers have come home safely to a hero's welcome, the State that they were trying to liberate is too easily forgotten. In Kuwait six hundred oil wells have been set alight, causing the whole country to be surrounded by a cloud of acidic black smoke, which makes even midday look like dusk. At the time of writing, the wells are still burning, and most citizens of Kuwait City are still without water and electricity. In fact, it is difficult to deny that Kuwait is actually worse off now, than it would be under Iraqi control. When faced with this prospect many people argue that Kuwait is better off now, because it has freedom. But surely the purpose of freedom is to increase the quality of life of the citizens, so if obtaining freedom has the opposite effect, it cannot be considered to be worthwhile.

The war is often considered to be acceptable, on the grounds that it has a just cause. But the war is quite clearly about only one thing: oil. It would never have occurred had Kuwait's main export been rubber. Iraq is condemned for attacking a smaller neighbour and ignoring UN resolutions, but America was "allowed" to invade Panama, and Israel has taken little notice of the order to leave the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Saddam Hussein is condemned for having chemical weapons though the USA used agent orange in Vietnam, and also actually supported Hussein against Ayatollah Khomeini (the bogeyman of yesterday). In war, the only thing that really counts is self-interest, and justice is merely a tool for salving the conscience of the masses. (In history, how many leaders have gone into battle claiming that God was on their side?).

I am aware that I have condemned war without really presenting an alternative, and many of the obvious alternatives are unlikely to produce satisfactory solutions. Appeasement is a policy that has been tried in the past, but history has shown it to be ineffective. In the case of the Gulf crisis, it seemed likely that Hussein would have continued his expansionist policy even if given Kuwait, so appeasement was not a realistic option. It has often been said that economic sanctions could have solved the problem, but again there is no example of sanctions achieving the required effect.

Another, perhaps more drastic, solution to the problem would have been to assassinate Saddam Hussein, and blame it on an extremist group. This is a solution which too few people take seriously. Many object on moral grounds, saying this is murder, but it is no less murder than war. The principal difference is that assassination targets the actual individual responsible, whereas war kills thousands of innocent soldiers, who are no more than pawns in Saddam Hussein's game. Public opinion seems to tolerate war, probably because people are brought up to believe that war is undesirable but necessary. On the contrary, I believe that assassination of leaders is a realistic alternative, provided it is used only as a last resort. And finally, to the accusation that this would set a precedent for assassination to be used as a solution to international disputes, my response is that if it prevents the needless loss of thousands of lives, then it can only be considered to be beneficial.

Mark Sheiham 6SG2



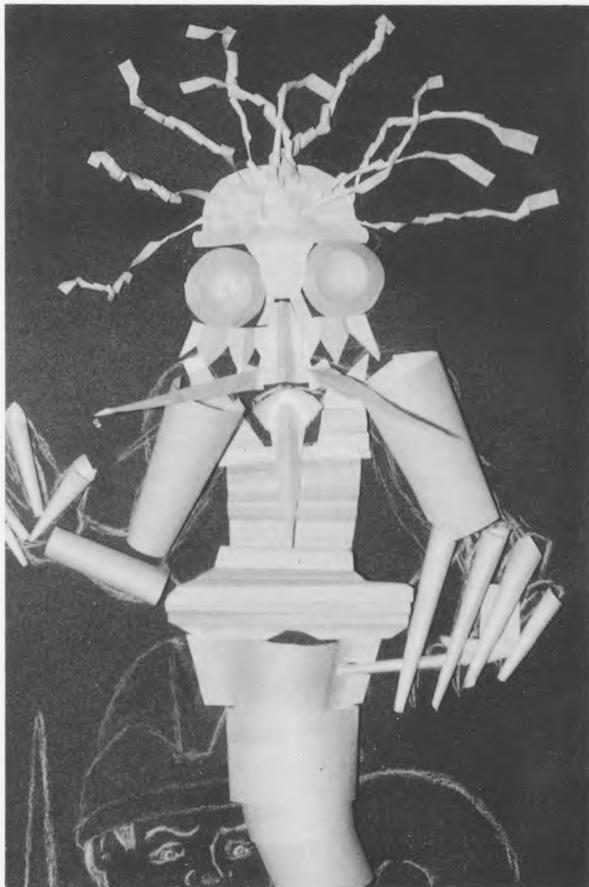
The view on top from down under

During 1990 geography teacher Mr Robert Pratt was on a teacher exchange from Brisbane Boys' College, Queensland. Here are his impressions of the RGS.

There are few ways anyone can live and work on the other side of the world. One is to migrate, which we did to Australia in 1974 to escape poor conditions and a poor salary. A second is to undertake a teacher exchange, again which we did to Canada from Australia in 1978. When we felt we would like to return to England 'for a look', an exchange seemed the answer. So when the opportunity arose, we accepted the challenge, and, in some respects, that is what this year has been. When I heard of the RGS's reputation as one of the best grammar schools in Britain, I undertook the exchange with some trepidation, realising I would be teaching the equivalent of first year university in Queensland. However, having had a grammar school and university education in Britain, I've kept my head above water - just. So what are my impressions of RGS?

It has certainly lived up to its academic reputation, and the high number of outstanding students has made my experience here both challenging and rewarding. The main point is that most boys want to learn and excel, making teaching a pleasure. However the standard of dress and grooming in general leaves much to be desired. I must report, though, that in Brisbane I teach in a private school where the general standard of dress is higher, though some still look as though they sleep, play football and swim in their clothes!

The opportunities for diverse extra-curricular activities really are mind-boggling and, in turn, are purely a result of



the dedication of those who lead them, i.e. the staff. And who could want to find or work with a better staff than the people whom I have been privileged to call 'colleagues' for the past twelve months? Their wide range of talents, humour and camaraderie have certainly been a highlight for me. I have particularly enjoyed playing football and cricket for the almost invincible staff teams, especially as I have not played either sport regularly for a number of years. Of course, following the games, I have also delighted in the learned discussions which have taken place at a variety of fine local hostelrys, even if the beer is warm! The final honour of the year was to be invited to appear in the renowned 'Staff Revue'. To be involved with the fine talents who wrote, directed and produced 'Oh, Staff it', was indeed a privilege. To appear in a starring role in a major Shakespearean play was an experience I shall never forget (nor repeat); and to mime - sorry, sing - a duet with diva Hilary Munday was exciting. In fact the whole ordeal - sorry, performance - was a fitting highlight to what has been an unforgettable year of humour and challenge at the RGS.

R.P.

From one flagship to another - Reflections on an exchange year Down Under

If you think that by disappearing to the other side of the world you can at last achieve anonymity, you are mistaken. I discovered this on arrival at Sydney airport when I was immediately confronted by John Scott who had left RGS in 1982 with an A level in Medieval History. Would he have got there earlier if he had passed Geography I asked myself. My confidence was however restored later that morning when whilst waiting for a connecting flight to Brisbane I happened to share a table with Barry Humphries in the airport coffee lounge. At least he did not recognise me as a member of the RGS staff.

January in Brisbane came as a shock after just having spent the Christmas week in the Italian alps with the RGS downhillers. An even greater shock was to come when I was informed that my school day started at 5.45 am on the river coaching rowing. I astonished myself and indeed RGS staff that know me well that I was able to get up so early. At least on arrival at the school's boathouse I didn't have to fight over the only coaching launch or John Edward's bicycle. There were a dozen launches to choose from and on a good day you were provided with a driver.

Being a pom in an Australian school can be a trying experience. At Brisbane Boys' College I was frequently reminded by my students of great Australian sporting achievements and English disasters. Needless to say the miserable performance of our touring cricketers (except on the day I went to the Gabba) merely provided my young critics with yet more ammunition.

With the absence of public examinations, and assessment by coursework, the efforts of many sons of this lucky country were spasmodic. However the introduction of daily record books for all students and the issue of personal detention stamps to all staff by the new headmaster put an end to this. However, had I been paid a dollar each time a boy asked me whether a piece of work

counted, I would have been the most highly paid member of staff.

The Queensland system did at least lessen the workload on teachers. Together with a light timetable (MJM take note!) I was once again able to indulge in some creative writing. But like my sabbatical at Oxford the lure of the river proved too strong to resist. After a few uncomfortable outings with the old men of Toowong Rowing Club, I decided to take up sculling again knowing that if I fell in I wouldn't suffer from hypothermia. The World Rowing Championships in Tasmania provided another distraction and I was fortunate in having a headmaster who thought I deserved a week off school to attend this regatta (RPB please take note!). At last I had found somewhere that reminded me of the charm of the English countryside on a summer's day.

Despite receiving a string of parking tickets from the Queensland Police department, breaking down on the Pacific Highway and almost being permanently hospitalised by a lunatic driver during the morning rush hour, my year in Brisbane was a happy one. As a close friend and colleague frequently reminded me, "It's a great life in Australia if you don't weaken!" How right he is.

I.R.M.

Ich bin ein Wycomber

Leif Kamann from Goslar in Upper Saxony spent the summer term of 1991 at the RGS. Here he contrasts it with his Ratsgymnasium

One day I decided to come to Britain for a term to improve my English. I nearly cancelled my decision as I heard that I had to wear a school uniform, but it was already too late.

Instead of staying with a family I decided to stay in the Boarding House. So far it has been a pleasant experience. I like it and I get along with the other boys quite well. The

only problem is washing myself in the morning. The shower has only got cold water in the mornings and I have to share a sink with two other persons which can be hectic.

After I had arrived I was told I was a Lower Sixth-former. Then I had to choose my subjects. Only four subjects, I thought, not too bad! In Germany I do thirteen different ones. My happiness did not last long as I noticed that I did not finish school until 3.40 pm. In Germany I finish school at 1.10 pm but I start at 7.50 am. At home there is no assembly except at the beginning and end of the year or when pupils from partner schools arrive.

Another difference is the importance of sport. How many different sport teams you have! But where is the football team!? In my school sport is not important. We only have 90 minutes physical education per week, and if we have football matches against other schools, a teacher hangs out a list which asks "who wants to play?" The teacher's opinion is that sport belongs to the pupils' free time. This leads me to another point - the teachers. I must say the teachers are nearly the same as mine at home. Mr Crease looks and acts like my German teacher at home and Mr Claye has the same unorthodox methods of teaching someone Economics as mine in Germany! What I really like are the free periods. Every day I got at least one. I will miss them when I go home because there I have free periods only when a teacher is ill. Something I don't like is the changing of the classroom. In Germany I am normally in the same room the whole day, except when I have a science lesson, music or art. We have a short break between each lesson. In my opinion this is more convenient for the pupils.

The school year in Germany is divided into two terms, so called 'half-years'. In these you write two major tests a week (on average). You have to take at least eight different subjects for the last two years of which four have to be considered important. The more subjects the better because the bad do not count towards the result. For example I chose eleven different subjects, so I can have three bad ones. These, I think, are the main differences and it took me some days to get into your system.

Leif Kamann



The ignorant generation

If three in ten fifteen-year-olds were unable to locate the Pacific Ocean on a globe then we would have the right to worry. Unfortunately the largest expanse of water, covering a third of the surface of the earth, remains alien to that very proportion of British school children. To Harold Wilson this would be a distressing statistic, not because of the appalling lack of knowledge but because everyone is not equally ignorant.

The main success of the education system has been the achievement of absolute mediocrity. We have a system which encourages everybody to be average, instead of to specialize to attain excellence. Economic prosperity depends upon academic prosperity; both depend upon specialization. Some excellence in all fields is much better than plenty of adequacy. The blame is clearly attributable to four groups: Socialists, Conservative politicians, teachers and parents. The education system was destroyed by the first group, preserved by the second, experimented with by the third and ignored by the fourth.

Harold Wilson is a criminal; the abolition of the grammar schools has served to frustrate those very people who are our future labour force, entrepreneurs and civil servants. The few grammar schools left in Britain provide the chairmen for seven of the top thirty European companies. Meanwhile, the disastrous Comprehensive system which intended to eradicate class distinction in the teaching profession and amongst pupils has succeeded in insulating children from the real world. Now pupils are taught what they think they should know and not what they need to know. Prince Charles rightly bemoans the fact that few ever read Shakespeare.

After Wilson, little could be expected of Edward Heath but I would have thought better of the Thatcher Government than to perpetuate a failed system. The National Curriculum and the GCSE were attempts to make the best of a bad job, but this is an unacceptable attitude from a government which made so much progress on liberating the individual to be successful. Kenneth Clarke vehemently denies that tests for seven-year-olds are part of a move back to selective education. That it has been officially denied is always a good sign, for selective education is the first and overwhelming priority. Scrap Comprehensive schools, scrap Local Education Authorities; they do so little good. Promote grammar schools, technology colleges, Local Management of Schools; they work.

Teachers and educationalists are to blame for trying out fashionable techniques on defenceless children, parents are to blame for allowing this to happen. The 'real books' method of teaching children to read is certainly imaginative; many socialist-controlled schools have introduced this scheme with deadly inefficiency - sentences, punctuation marks, correct spelling are now optional extras. Problems have proliferated: history as a factual subject is almost a thing of the past (if you pardon the expression!). It is now a game of pretend, of empathy - what do you think? Not, why did this happen? Good teachers, it must be said, are woefully underpaid, the maximum a class teacher can receive a year is £17,522 compared to an Under Secretary in the Civil Service who can receive up to £57,000. Good teachers should have a salary to reflect the extreme importance of their job. There should be no room for bad teachers. It is vital that teachers sign a no-strike agreement, and the remaining militant power of the NUT and the NAS/UWT should finally be neutralized.

The competitive ethos is a necessity because life is competitive, and an education system is needed which develops people's strengths so few need fail. Good schools, good teachers and good management should be the tenets of the future and a successful future it will be.

Nicholas Molden 6HR1

My Best Friend

My best friend is he,
Whom nobody can see,
My best friend is he,
Who is far better than you and me.
He always listens to what I say,
He forgives me for my mistakes each day.
He is admired in every place,
He is a phenomenal case.
My friend has never made me sad.
He's given me a brilliant mum and dad.
I am honoured to have such a friend,
To whose merit there is no end.
No, it won't be odd,
To say this friend is GOD.

Iftekhar Yunus 2F



File Past

From the Wycombiensian of 1910:

SACK RACE (OPEN)

1st, G S Paxton, 2nd F H Turner, 3rd D Fane

This popular race was an easy triumph for Paxton. The strenuous nature of the race, which on the village green is accomplished by a series of vigorous jumps, calls for no such exertion from the person of small proportions: for he is wrapped in a voluminous sack, which permits of his moving rapidly down the course like a pair of dividers. The Committee is advised to obtain sacks which shall fit close, and thereby ensure that the race shall not be a "walk over."

From the Wycombiensian of 1950:

The Twentieth Century Opinion Society, as befits this Festival year, has been in a frolicsome mood. In its first debate it rather lowered its prestige by passing a vote of

confidence in the Festival of Britain, but it redeemed this decision by defeating the motion "That the only use of the old school tie is to keep the trousers up." Many members are looking forward to a resignation of the Government for an excuse for the society to hold another election itself and reaffirm their faith in Conservatism.

From the Wycombiensian of 1970:

Graffiti seem to have been the most outstanding aspect of this last term - how could it fail to be in red felt-tip six inches high! It gets everywhere; the more obvious places, like toilets (labelled 'Hilton Hotel' by one enthusiast) and less obvious places (like the ceiling). One would be surprised by the end of term not to get it in one's soup (so *that's* what the school canteen churned out last Wednesday!). Hmm! *I* shall be having sandwiches next year.

A green poem

I choke and destroy
kill trees and plants,
I am everywhere, everyday
Increasing in size
Gradually destroying everything in my path.
You don't stop me,
You just wait till it's too late
I can't help being so destructive.
You make me the way I am.

I am pollution
Black, destructive, menacing, a killer,
Made of acid rain, smoke and fumes
It's me who kills animals and plants, trees.
It's me who makes you cough and choke
It's me pouring off tall chimneys.
It's me coming out of your exhaust pipes
I am a deadly killer,
But I can't help it
You make me the way I am.

Philip Little 2F



Ulrich Payne 3N Poster paint

SOCIETIES AND ACTIVITIES

Senior Vulture

This year's activities started in November with a trip to see "The Crucible", by Arthur Miller at the National Theatre. This thought-provoking play describes the hysteria which surrounded the Salem witch trials, with allusions to the McCarthy 'witch trials' against suspected communists in American government.

The second trip was to see Mozart's frivolous opera about the infidelity of women, "Cosi fan Tutte". The production, with an English libretto, was put on by the English National Opera at the Coliseum.

The last trip, at the time of writing, was to see the Handel Memorial Concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in the South Bank complex. The programme included "Arrival of the Queen of Sheba" and "Water Music".

Our fourth and last trip is planned for Thursday 25th April to see the critically acclaimed film "Cyrano de Bergerac" at the Renoir cinema.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank Messrs Keysell, Mitchell, Cowburn, Arnfield and Ratcliffe, Miss Kelly and Matron for making these enjoyable trips possible.

C M Denison 6BK1

Junior Vulture

Over the past year, Junior vulture has been to three places, and have still to go to another. They were all enjoyable, but in our view the best was the trip to Windsor to see the thrilling detective story, "An Inspector Calls". Before the performance we went to see the State Apartments and Queen Mary's Doll House in Windsor Castle.

Thanks go to Messrs Mitchell, Cowburn and Keysell for organizing it.

Matthew Sheraton 2E

BBC Computer Network

This has been an eventful year for computing at RGS. The event that will stick in my memory above all others this year was the unexpected discovery one morning that the most expensive (and most interesting) items of equipment that the "Beeb Room" has accumulated over the past few years had been stolen following a break-in to the school premises over the weekend. With traditionally disastrous timing the items stolen included the laser printer - causing the production of the second issue of IKON magazine to be postponed. However, the insurance company came up with the money, and we were able to replace the stolen items with somewhat superior equipment in a matter of a few weeks.

The new Information Technology Centre will soon throw open its doors to the school. The substantial sum of money being spent on industry-standard computer hardware and software will ensure that the RGS has one of the best educational computer installations in the country. My personal wish for the new Centre is that it will be much more of a resource than either of the two existing networks, and that more of its users will be pupils using the facilities

of the Centre to achieve an objective (whether it be word-processing a Second Form essay, desktop-publishing a GCSE geography report, or even producing a piece of A Level art coursework), rather than the brand of diehard computer enthusiasts that tend to form the basis of the existing network's members.

The old BBC Network will survive, albeit reduced in size, under the auspices of the Maths Department, with several stations being distributed among various other departments. The new Network will consist of twenty eight 386-based fully IBM-compatible computers, which will combine impressive speed and graphics with the ability to run industry-standard software.

Interesting developments have abounded this year in the "Beeb Room". Most notable of these has been the Multi User Catacombs program (MUC) from the former hackers Jim Ayling and Scott Walters, and the somewhat more respectable Glyn Cannon. MUC came hard on the heels of the somewhat similar MUD on the Nimbus Network, and led to an unexpected resurgence of interest in the "Beeb Room" from the school community.

It is encouraging to see that the lower school has had a vintage couple of years, producing several talented young programmers, who I feel sure will make their mark on the new network, such as Jonathan and James Page (unrelated), together with Andrew Brant and Michael Upton. Glyn Cannon and Chris Fletcher have continued to make an impact on the Archimedes section of the BBC Network, and their help is, as always, greatly appreciated.

Special thanks are also due to Phil Lishman, and the uniquely dedicated Peter Mennie, who will be jointly taking on the mantle of Assistant Network manager of the IT Centre next year.

Finally, as always, thanks are due to Messrs Gibson, Berry and Everett for putting up with us all, and especially to Mrs Briggs who has kept the whole show running marvellously, and has on many occasions kept the BBC Network open well after the official closing-time.

Linus E A Twizell

(ex-Assistant Network Manager)

Modem User Group

After a remarkably hectic start, the Modem User Group has had a quiet year at school, although the users have carried their extra-curricular activities through with relish. The high point of the term was Michael Barnes' bulletin board successfully running throughout the entire term. Several people have become interested in the possibilities of the echomail system, whereby mail may be sent to people all over the world on any topic at all, ranging from IBM to genealogy. Some of the special interest groups (SIGs) have been investigated, ranging from the Arachnid Retailers SIG to the Whole Erse Preservation SIG.

The MUG is still interested in setting up a bulletin board (preferably on the network, so the Computer Club users can join in on our thrilling activities), and is in particular looking for a high speed modem to enable rapid transfer of software and messaging. This would enable us to become part of the Fidonet network, and to allow some of the more rapid users to integrate themselves socially, albeit in a rather limited fashion.

Stephen Bromwich 6E2

Computer Club

The last year at the computer club has been stunningly eventful with the thrilling arrival of just two RM Nimbus 286 network stations. This year saw the creation and the tragic departure of MUD, the multi-user dungeon, my experiment into virtual reality. The program enables people to interact in a computer environment - unfortunately the element of interaction turned into brutal violence. This proved to be extremely popular but the limited number of stations forced many people to commit the capital offence of 'loitering'. However, the most mind-blowingly awesome happening was the installation of disk drives in all the sad plastic boxes (Nimbus 186s).

On the software front several new programming development packages were bought but have not been realised to their full potential, owing to the limited compatibility of the network stations. It is hoped that future purchases will replace the decomposing CP/M stations and that the desktop publishing facilities will be enhanced by the addition of a laser printer.

Paul Oram 6SG2

Christian Union

The highlight of the Christian Union Calendar has always been the 'CU weekend' and this year was no exception. It was held from 8th-10th February this year in snowy conditions at the Wyciffe Centre and was the largest so far, with about 80 members from ten schools in the area. Our great thanks to Mark Wynter who organised the weekend and made it run so smoothly.

The Christian Union's main assemblies have, as always, been very challenging (especially with minimal feedback from the school), but they were a good opportunity to share our faith.

The Inter-School Christian Fellowships have generally been well attended and have been times of great encouragement for all present.

In April we were graced with the presence of the Rev. John Samways who spoke to many in the school giving teaching, encouragement and help. His assemblies and meetings at lunchtimes and after school were excellent and it was good to have the opportunity to speak to Mr Wingfield-Digby.

The General CU meetings have been varied and the numbers are usually encouraging. It has been a year in which many have become openly interested in our faith. Next year we look forward to a continuation of this work and a growing renewal of faith in the school.

T Hogbin 6HK1

Forum

The 6th Form Christian discussion group which meets every Tuesday lunchtime has provoked a series of interesting discussions and has attracted people who hold a wide range of views. The meetings give boys a chance to chat about the Christian faith in a relaxed way over a cup of coffee. We are happy to welcome anybody. The 5th Form have their own Forum meeting on Fridays - (details of both meetings from Mr Ratcliffe).

P Toller 6MB1

Benevolent Fund

At the time of going to press, gifts to the school Benevolent Fund this academic year have just passed the £2,000 mark. This is a marginal increase over the same period last year.

Towards the end of last Summer term a special collection raised £160 for the victims of the Iranian earthquake disaster, and since then we have only had two special designated collections, £86 was raised on the Poppy Day Appeal in November, and £200 for the suffering children of Romania.

The fund will, as usual, be allocated to various charities at the end of this Summer term, according to the wishes of the boys of the school. Our thanks go to the form reps and to Mrs P Grundy, who are responsible for collection and counting of the money each Monday morning.

J R Barry Kempson

Comic Relief Day III

Comic Relief Day 3 proved to be an even greater success than in previous years. Again pupils paid to guess the identity of the two staff members who would arrive in fancy dress. On the day everyone, except one second former, was amazed when Mr Edwards arrived as the rotund Henry VIII and Mrs Ball as a red-headed Arabian Princess.

Mr Arnfield fulfilled the old RGS tradition of sacrificing his beard. Only hours after this announcement sponsor



Daniel Lambourne distracts Jonathan Dormand, while Daniel Ginn works on.

sheets appeared around the school predicting a similar fate for Mr Tattersall, providing a suitable amount was forthcoming by the end of the week. With this requirement met the deed was performed on the following Monday, in the Queen's Hall, by 'Michael J' hairdressers.

Some 4th formers, tired of lengthy cross country runs, challenged Mr Auld to an eight mile run around the school fields. A large crowd assembled to watch Mr Auld, who had donned a kilt and wig, and Mr Davies who joined him. Both were 'cooled off' with a deluge of icy water after each circuit.

It was not only the staff who had the fun. Around the school there were various fund raising activities throughout the week; day-long reading of 'Red Dwarf' scripts, a volleyball match with Lady Verney School, a three-legged race, raffles and a 'Jam Session' amongst others.

A fun time was had by all and now that pledges have been honoured a cheque for over £1,600 is winging its way to Comic Relief.

Mark Goodfellow 4N

School House Report

This year has shown a marked change in School House routine, not least because some people are going to university!

The all-new 'liberal' routine has led to a renewed spirit of love and friendship, exemplified by the innovative Wednesday evening sessions, a result of which we are all better people.

The departure of Mr Goldthorpe, along with his 'quirky' sense of humour and his consumer durables, has left a gap in the community which has been filled by Mr Moore. The latter's DIY skills have contributed greatly to the present condition of the house, for better or for worse.

This year has been a remarkable one for the School House Tuckshop, which under dynamic and enterprising new management, spearheaded by Paul 'no amusing nickname' Kingsnorth, together with Keebie and CJ, has consistently raked in the cash. Thanks must go to our faithful customers, who have braved wind, rain and torrents of abuse in order to pay our exorbitant prices.

Achievements this year include our remarkable Trivial Pursuits win, when the four-man team of Paul, Keeb, Nya and Clag proved conclusively that honesty is always the best policy! Academic achievements this year have broken all records. They include 2 Oxford places, 1 Cambridge place, 2 places at Imperial (please God!) and a 'D' grade in GCSE maths (again).

New boys this year include JCP, 'Ian' Bucknall, Adam Gilbert. Manly Matt Tucker, Neal Armpits (is that really his name?), and human depravity taken to even lower levels by a further extension of the Kingsnorth clan's hellish grip on the house.

We feel a mention must go to the following for entertaining us all with various aspects of their characters: Matt Albino for his consistent reams of pathetic excuses, Jerome 'plastics' Bhat for his continuing crusade to enlighten the female world, Paul 'who needs a car anyway?' Kingsnorth for giving us all an opportunity to revive the old driving test jokes again, Donkey Dom for his TBF music and entertaining T-shirts, Richard Bounds for surviving as long as he did, Rhona for being so tolerant in the face of our washing and our abuse, and finally Dweeb, for being so unremarkable that we forgot to mention him earlier.

Eternal thanks of course go to Mr and Mrs G for doing the impossible as usual, Mr Moore for adapting so well, and Mr Noyes for being temporarily stressed. Thanks of course to Gill and the ladies for managing us so well, and extra special thanks to Commander Fleming for all the love, care and attention he lavished on us during his brief stay, and for giving Simon Albino another excuse for not having a bath.

Goodbye all, we'll miss this place (a bit).

PSK, MK, CJ, DAS, MCA, DCC, PEX

Uplyme Report

This year has seen Uplyme have something of a 'facelift'. The comprehensive redecoration, combined with the purchase of a video and microwave has greatly improved the quality of life.

In the junior ranks, we have been joined by Julian Free and Andy White. Julian, with his smooth, dulcet tones, has settled nicely into the role of telephone answering-machine while Andy has brought his very own brand of clothing and haircut(?), all the way from Essex.

The 4th form saw no new arrivals this year. The year started disturbingly with the discovery, after the summer holidays, of three items of ladies underwear in the study shared by Miles Nurnberger and Robin Callister! A few of the 4th formers have broadened their horizons this year. Darren Mills has spent many hours hacking away at golf balls in the new golf net, kindly donated by Mr Grout's mother, while Jimmy Baker has uncovered a hidden talent in conkers, winning the inter-house tournament. The 5th Form has seen the departure of Uplyme's longest-standing stalwart, Jamie Blackwell, leaving Stuart McKellar and Mark Holmes to maintain the malodorous level in their study.

The first term saw Stuart Tyler of the lower-Sixth take residence, but he was soon to be replaced at Christmas by James Vaughan. James immediately marked out his territory by releasing his 'scent' through the house.

Congratulations go to Doug on his dramatic rise from the cradle-snatcher of last year to the toy-boy of this year, though he was lucky to keep his girlfriend after she landed a sharp right hook from Ali. Ali's songwriting has gone from strength to strength and, at present, he is on the 93rd verse of the same song. James Richards has suffered from being extremely whimpy all year, and has been lumbered with all the chores in the 6th Form block. Fortunately, his big brother, William, is always at hand to protect him if needs be.

Perhaps, the greatest change in the boarding house this year has been the arrival of Mr and Mrs Davies. Their commitment to the upkeep of living conditions and general well-being of the house has been greatly appreciated by all and they have helped to create a warm and friendly atmosphere throughout the house. We also extend our congratulations to them, as they are expecting their first child in July.

Thanks, as ever, go to Mr Edwards, whose watchful eye has been ever present throughout the year, in keeping us all under control.

Finally, we were all saddened to hear of the tragic death of Mr Derek Stubbs, who had served the Boarding House as Headmaster for the last 22 years. We offer our sincere condolences to Mrs Stubbs, Adam and Sarah. He will be sadly missed by us all.

David Harding, Head of House

Careers Talks

Among the many opportunities offered by the Careers Department are careers talks. We aim to cover as wide a variety of careers as possible and welcome further contributions.

Attendance at the series of talks arranged this year has been encouraging and, given the large amount of work which goes into organising the talks, both by the Careers Department and the speakers, we hope this will continue next year. Students should attend a variety of talks, not just those they think they are directly interested in. The more you know about careers in general, the better informed your final decision will be.

This year talks were given on topics such as medicine, chemistry, engineering, banking, accountancy, law and the defence industry.

Work Shadowing The school's work shadowing scheme has had another successful year with students undertaking a very wide range of placements. The school is grateful to all companies involved in the scheme, and the following reports show the variety of placements.

Saffery Champness - Chartered Accountants

The first hour and a half of the first day was occupied by discussing accountancy as a career and the company my supervisor worked for. Following this I worked in the office of a partner of Saffery Champness watching him sorting out an investment trust left to relatives of a deceased person. I attended a management lunch where the managers decided how to occupy junior accountants in the following weeks. The afternoon was spent working out values of shares in the aforementioned trust fund.

On the second day I was driven to Wokingham at 8.00 am by two accountants to a boiler manufacturing company. The accountants were working there on a two week period auditing the accounts. I helped by performing minor tasks and generally observing what goes on when an audit takes place. Also I had explained to me the basic principles of auditing.

I have learnt quite a lot about management structures within accountancy firms, and about accountancy as a career. I may well pursue a career in the financial world.

Andrew Fallaize 6MT₁

Barclays Bank

During the week the nature of the manager's work varied from meetings to sort out the financial problems of people who can't repay loans, to finding out if a person is suitable for a loan. I discovered what the treasury, cashiers, personal bankers and securities did, as well as how standing orders and direct debits were dealt with.

Every morning at 9.00 am there was a meeting to decide what would happen during the day and how to deal with people who were overdrawn. I was allowed to sit in on all meetings with clients.

I found this week very interesting and it has helped me decide that I wish to go into banking because the career combines mathematical skills with a social aspect and is a position of trust.

Mark Sykes 6SG₁

Temple End Road Surgery - Veterinary Surgeon

The week was very interesting, showing the various aspects of veterinary work. The daily consultations and

various everyday operations (e.g. spaying or castration) showed that being a vet not only required hard work but also a great caring for animals and their owners. As well as these daily operations several interesting ones also took place. I actually took part in the re-arrangement of a dog's hind limb ligaments.

As well as care for animals the vet also has to understand people and several times I saw the vet handle traumatised people, whether it was due to the animals having to go for an operation or for the animal having to be put down.

With the intention of being a vet myself, I found this week most helpful and reassuring for my hopeful future career.

Jonathan Hadley 6BK₁

Echange Scolaire Des Elèves de Troisième à St. Germain-en-Laye: Paques 1991

Le car est parti vers sept heures pour arriver à Douvres à dix heures. Là, nous sommes montés à bord du ferry pour traverser la Manche. Nous sommes arrivés à Calais vers midi et après un trajet de sept heures environ nous sommes arrivés à St. Germain.

Ayant déjà rencontré nos correspondants, tout le monde s'est reconnu et nous sommes allés passer le week-end chez eux.

Lundi matin tous les Anglais ont été contents de se revoir et de se raconter leurs impressions et leurs expériences (et de se plaindre de la cuisine française). La première sortie était à Fontainebleau. Après la visite du château, nous avons pu nous promener dans le parc. Puis nous avons fait le tour de la ville et, puisqu'il faisait beau, nous avons fait un pique-nique dans la forêt qui entoure la ville.

Mardi nous avons passé la matinée à la Cité des sciences à la Villette, un nouveau quartier de Paris. Nous y avons vu un film bizarre à la Géode (cinéma en trois dimensions). L'après-midi nous avons visité le Sacré-Coeur et nous nous sommes promenés à Montmartre.

Mercredi matin nous avons assisté à des cours au Collège St Erembert avec nos correspondants mais la plupart des Anglais ont trouvé les cours plutôt ennuyeux. L'après-midi nous sommes rentrés chez nos correspondants, parce que les Français ne vont au collège que le mercredi matin.

Le lendemain nous sommes allés en excursion à la ville historique de Rouen. On a vu le célèbre Horloge et l'endroit où Jeanne d'Arc a été emprisonnée. Sur la route du retour, on s'est arrêté pour voir les ruines du Château Gaillard, aux Andelys, construit par Richard Coeur de Lion et le duc de Normandie au 12e siècle.

Notre dernière sortie était à Paris. Nous avons visité d'abord l'Arc de Triomphe puis le Louvre et sa pyramide. Ensuite on est allés au Centre Pompidou et enfin à la cathédrale de Notre-Dame, qui nous a beaucoup plu.

On a passé le dernier jour en famille. Moi, j'ai vu la Défense, un quartier très moderne de Paris, et je suis monté au sommet de la Grande Arche. Cela m'a beaucoup impressionné.

Nous sommes partis dimanche matin, déçus (malgré la cuisine française!) qu'il ait fallu retourner en Angleterre. Dans l'ensemble nous nous sommes tous bien amusés.

Roland Levan 4F

Art & Design

Extra curricular Art & Design takes place during lunchtimes and often after school hours. Art Club has continued to be very popular. Facilities for a wide range of 2D and 3D activities are available to every boy in the school. These include drawing and painting, print making, textiles, sculpture and computer graphics.

Visits and Workshops - a host of activities which have brought boys in contact with original 'master' works of art have been organised throughout the year. Visits for boys studying at GCSE level have included 'The Permanent Collection', 'Impressionist Exhibition', and 'Van Gogh to Picasso' exhibition at the National Gallery, the British Museum and the Museum of Mankind.

A joint visit with Wycombe High School took the Lower Sixth to see 'Monet's Series Paintings' and 'Egon Schiele' exhibition at The Royal Academy. The Upper Sixth linked up with Radcliffe School in Milton Keynes for an A level seminar and visit to the 'Anna Maria Pacheco Exhibition'.

Two boys from the RGS were represented in the Royal Academy of Art's 'Life Drawing' exhibition following the 'Outreach' programme where an artist and model came to the RGS to work with our A level and AS level art students. Following the workshop with artist Will Maclean, we were privileged to have an exhibition of our Upper Sixth art work organised at the Barbican Art Gallery earlier this year.

Following the success and popularity of introducing the Archimedes computer into the Art studio environment we can now digitise in colour and we have extended the potential for more experimental work in image manipulation by linking up with our new acquisition, a VCR with edit facilities, colour television and video and camera which is currently being used for simple animation and documenting events.

R.P.S.

Public Speaking

The RGS has recently done exceptionally well in the dual competitions organized by the Rotary Club and the English Speaking Union of the Commonwealth.

In January 1990 the then junior team of Nicholas Molden (speaker), Mark Oden (chairman), and Paul Foot (vote of thanks) won the Wycombe round of the Rotary Club 'Youth Speaks' competition, speaking on the subject of 'Buy British'. The team also performed with considerable success in the ESU competitions in the autumn of 1990, securing winning positions in both the primary and final Bucks rounds against keen opposition, on the subject of 'The Disunited States of Europe'. However, the team was unable to proceed to the south of England regional final because administrative confusion on the part of the ESU resulted in the school being given a completely inadequate four days' notice to prepare for the next round! However, the team lives to fight another day.

Our current junior team of Rhodri Jones (speaker), James Wilkinson (chairman) and Edward Bennett (vote of thanks), is the most successful team the RGS has produced for many years, and they are currently carrying all before them. In the spring and summer terms of 1991 they won both the Wycombe and the district zone rounds of 'Youth Speaks', orating that 'The Public House has contributed more than the Public School'. They went on to the finals in Oxford, where they came top yet again.

M.J.S.

Debating Society

Following the limited success of last year's team, the debating society once again embarked upon a season of ineptitude and irrelevant satire.

Undeterred by the realisation that the combined egos of the Wycombe Abbey girls would prevent them from facing the intellectual minefield of the RGS debating society, in case they lost, a first debate was arranged with the ever short ladies of Beaconsfield High.

Incompetence from the chair allowed insults to flourish and friendships to be strained, but the quality of our arguments, coupled with a confused and intellectually inferior opposition, ensured a resounding victory.

The society's prophetic genius was revealed when 'Thatcherism is a moribund concept' was chosen as the topic for debate at Wycombe High. Despite few people knowing what moribund meant, and a Party Political Broadcast by Craig Leslie taking up most of the afternoon, most of us managed to stay awake long enough to appreciate (or not) Phil Read's unique, and unamusing, sense of humour.

A return match against old boys David Allen and Phil Krinks (complete with fruit) reminded us all of how to win a debate whilst totally avoiding the motion.

Finally, thanks must go to Mr Roebuck for his tireless efforts in aiding every aspect of the society, and his encouragement for next year's 6th Form to continue the wonderful tradition of eloquently spoken bunkum that is debating.

Matthew Koster 6EG2

American Exchange

In late March a group of school pupils from England crossed the Atlantic with a whole set of preconceived ideas about America and Americans. Three weeks later the same group returned to their homeland with new thoughts, new images and new opinions on the richest country the world has ever known.

Some of the nine Sixth-formers involved in this year's trip had *been* to the USA but none had actually *seen* it. Visits to tourist areas, such as Florida, had never allowed us to get to know the natives, so our holidays had been a touch incomplete. Three weeks of living with families in Exeter, New Hampshire changed that.

By the end of our visit, not only had we been up skyscrapers, canoed wilderness style, eaten 'Boston style' and spent too much money, but we had also sampled a lifestyle that we had never even met before. Our hosts were not just hospitable, many of us were deliberately made to feel like one of the family.

Trips included days out in the wonderful city of Boston, a visit to a nuclear power station and hours of shopping in the factory outlet stores that cover New Hampshire. Shopping took up a good deal more time than was expected!

To anyone considering going on the exchange in the future, I say go. You may get the chance to go to America some other time, but without living there you will get few chances to meet the people. If you still need convincing then you might like to know that some of us are already making plans to return this summer.

Thanks must go to Muriel Lee of LVHS, who organised the trip.

N S Thompson 6LF1

Stage Lighting and Sound

This has been another very busy year for the team with increased hiring of the canteen and Queen's Hall which required lighting and sound facilities. This has meant that the members of the TAA team have been working hard with these extra requirements, as well as with the usual school music concerts and maintenance of the large amount of lighting equipment that the school now owns.

The autumn term saw the bi-annual occurrence of the Staff Revue which was this time humorously (?!?) entitled "Oh Staff It". The lighting and special effects were designed by David Morris. The complex lighting design involved the team spending several weekends rigging and setting lights as well as sorting out cue timings with the Director. The highlight of the show was the finale which made extensive use of the school's computerised lighting system as well as a hired special-effects system which required careful co-ordination between the Lighting Operators, the Stage Manager and the Sound Operator.

The period between Christmas and Easter saw the purchase of several new lights, with profits from the Staff Revue, and these were immediately put into action with the school's production of Julius Caesar in March. A smaller team was involved in the lighting of this production with other members supervising the large, and mostly young, cast and also generally dealing with the Stage-Management side of operations. This shows the wide diversity of jobs available to members of the team with no pressure to specialise in any one backstage department if they do not wish to.

Team members continue to be involved in various local amateur groups and use the knowledge that they have picked up at school to design and run shows for themselves outside of school time. Past members continue the RGS lighting tradition at various higher education establishments around the country with Magnus Stewart, who left last year, already running shows at Southampton University's Nuffield Theatre.

Special thanks must go to Antony Everett, Mark Govan, David Morris, Daniel Downing and Tom Stokes who leave the school this year, for their hard work and supervision over the last six years, and I would like to wish next year's prefects, Matt Moore and Paul Doe, the best of luck with their year in charge of the team. David Morris 6GC2

Chess

The chess teams have had another successful season this year with two senior teams being entered into the local men's league and five teams being entered into the junior league. A very strong first senior team managed to win the Division 2 Championship after a convincing 6 - 0 win against Slough 4 in their final game and the 2nd senior team were Division 3 champions. The school has fielded only five junior teams this year with varying success, but enthusiasm to play at this level has nevertheless remained strong. The RGS has continued to provide a large proportion of the Bucks under 18 county team, with many of our players appearing regularly at this level. The Sunday Times team failed to win the zone this year after being narrowly beaten in the zone final by Dr Challoner's. Thanks go to the team captains for their organization and to all senior players for their consistent availability.

Ali Shahrukhi 6BK2

I would like to thank Ali Shahrukhi for all his work with the Chess Club.
I R Clark

Geography Field Trip 1991

Geography is, broadly speaking, the study of the earth's surface and its various characteristics. So obviously a week in the company of Messrs Meyer, Pantridge and Cook in gloriously sunny Aberystwyth was a fine place to examine the delights of the planet. This view appeared not to be shared by a certain R Mole who decided that the prospect of spending five days in Wales was all too much for him and chose to express this thought by being sick.

Once the rest of the coach had finished miming and mimicking the aforementioned incident, a brief stop ensued in the Teme Valley, Worcestershire, where a study of the pro-glacial activity in the area was halted by the weather which, purely for our benefit, tried to recreate the arctic conditions once experienced in this vicinity.

The course itself consisted of primarily two aspects of geography, namely coastal and glacial. The coastal side of the trip was undertaken on the Ynyslas dunes which



Searching for the rarely sighted Headstanding Quico Askew.

provided us with some excellent examples of the rather unstatic nature of dunes. A transect of the plant life on the dunes revealed such oddities as Dovesfoot cranesbill, Lesser Hawkbit and the even stranger Headstanding Quico Askew! The other side of the course took us to the impressive mountain of Cader Idris. Efforts by the teachers telling us not to desert them halfway up the mountain, as younger legs would start to stretch away, were thwarted when it was relayed to us that we were actually going to do some work! This involved scree slope measurements.... and that was it. The rest of the day was spent sledging down bracken hills, trying to lose the super-fit Mr Meyer and banging our heads on rocks (M Lunnon).

The evenings followed roughly the same routine. Two hours of lectures which was followed by an item of work which had to be finished in time for the far-too-early breakfast at 8.00 am!! But as luck would have it sustaining liquids were at hand for the few who needed it (Element, Hoad, Toone, O'Donovan, Davis, Meyer, Pantridge, Cook).

A most successful, informative and enjoyable week was undoubtedly experienced by all. The patience of Messrs Pantridge, Meyer and Cook was extended to the limit so a big thanks must go to them and it revealed that teachers can actually be nice people. Finally an indication of how good the trip was can be seen in the fact that two people were sick on the way home, obviously due to not wanting to leave, compared with only one on the way there!

James Pettitt 6E1

Library

The previous year has proved most eventful for the Library. We were joined in September by Mrs Fiona Evans, a fully qualified librarian, as part of an experiment by the County Education Authority and the school. Mrs Grieve has continued in the mornings to give Mrs Evans invaluable assistance in preparing for the move from the present Senior and Junior Libraries to the New Library, which is to be opened on June 6 by HRH The Princess of Wales.

Mrs Evans left us just after Easter to take up a new post at Maidenhead Library. A new librarian is to be appointed in the near future, but in the meantime Mr Mitchell has taken over as "Caretaker Manager", to supervise the move into the new Library. We welcome Mrs Wynter who has joined the staff as an afternoon library supervisor.

Thanks must go to my fellow prefects Tony Gibb, Jonathan Wyatt, Andrew Chipping and Matthew Keer for their help in keeping the libraries in order during the lunchtimes, and also the TAA team which has consisted of David Chapman, James Peters, Simon Eade, Kashaf Khan, Nicholas Lamb and Mark Goodfellow. I wish all the best to Mr Mitchell, Mrs Grieve and Mrs Wynter with the new Library after it has opened.

Richard Sparks 6EC2

Music Society

The first event of the year was the performance by the Jazz Band at Blenheim Palace on 13th October. It proved highly successful, displaying the band's continued high standard over the last few years. This occasion was swiftly followed by the Autumn Recital on 17th October. The programme included solo performances from David Stevens (trumpet) Luke Donald (treble), Lawrence Power (viola), Alexander Walker (double bass) and John Palmer (piano). Also performing were brass and guitar ensembles and the Jazz Sextet. The second half started dramatically with Chris Thompson's composition for Atari Computer and Yamaha DX7 synthesizer, demonstrating the department's latest technological acquisitions.

This year's Christmas Concert took place on 29th November, with performances from the school's two orchestras, two wind bands, School Choir and Jazz Band. The School Choir gave a fine performance of Vivaldi's *Gloria*, which included solos from Andrew Smy and Luke Donald.

1991's musical calendar commenced with a Recital on 6th February. A number of soloists featured, including Matthew Dawkes (horn), Jonathan Dormand (trombone), Alexander L'Estrange (piano) and Stephen Medhurst (horn). Also playing were a string ensemble and quartet, and brass ensemble. On 18th February, the Jazz Band provided an evening of music at Wycome Abbey's Lancaster Arts Centre, entitled *Jazz at the Abbey*, organised by members of the High Wycombe Rotary Club in aid of the Mayor's Appeal. The event was very successful, raising around £1,000 for the charity.

A highly ambitious project was undertaken in April this year, with a combined concert featuring the RGS and Wycombe High School Choirs, together with two professional soloists and the Oxford Symphony Orchestra. The *Gala Opera Night* was an evening of famous choruses and arias from composers of the Nineteenth Century, including Verdi and Puccini. The finale of the evening was a triumphant performance of *Nessun Dorma* from *Turandot* - more popularly known as the theme from last year's

World Cup. The year's final musical event, the Summer Concert, took place on 14th May and featured all of the various school ensembles.

Musical activities at the RGS have not been confined to concerts. In October, the department was visited by George Benjamin, one of Britain's most acclaimed contemporary composers, who talked about his latest piece which recently received a world premiere at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. This followed a successful project last May with the London Sinfonietta, in which the A Level and GCSE groups worked with composer Nigel Osborne to produce a set of pieces which were later performed as a demonstration at the Royal Opera House. The Music Department is now up-to-date with the latest technology, after the recent purchase of an Atari computer and Notator software. This allows the user to produce printed scores by playing a piece into the computer from an electronic keyboard. This has proved extremely useful, not only for the GCSE set in the scoring of their compositions, but also in providing some experience of computer applications in music.

The Society is indebted to Mr Smedley, Mr Armstrong and Mrs Flint for their commitment in the running of activities, and to Mr Hussey, for his continued organisation of the Jazz Band. Thanks are also due to Mrs Smalley (Box Office) and to Mr Edwards (Front of House).

John Palmer 6LY2

Railtours

Railtours was set up in Spring 1990 when the Model Railway Club premises were demolished as part of the development of the Old Hall into the New Library and Information Technology Centre. The 'O' gauge layout has been put into store until a suitable space can be found to accommodate it. It is hoped that the MRC's absence will only be temporary while more spacious premises are sought.

Railtours took over the excursions side of the MRC operations and has run a number of excursions including a trip to York. It is hoped to run an excursion later this year although the date and destination have yet to be confirmed.

Richard Sparks 6EC2

Osnabrück Exchange

5.30 a.m 13th March

A horde of weary-eyed, jean-clad teenagers were assembled in the driveway of the Wycombe High School, eagerly awaiting the luxury coach which was to be their home for the next fifteen hours.

We were soon underway, and before too long we found ourselves hurtling across the flat expanses of Belgium and the Netherlands, our destination only a few hours ahead of us.

Our premature arrival provided us with a valuable opportunity to look through Mr Crease's survival sheet of useful German phrases for one last time, before our partners, whom we had last seen at Wycombe station five months earlier, turned up to welcome us and take us back to their homes.

Those restricted to GCSE vocabulary soon learned, much to their dismay, that the use of such phrases as 'Could you tell me the quickest way to the station?' was very limited in general small-talk within the family! After

a few days, however, once the initial language barrier had been overcome, everyone was able to relax, and most found that their families were very warm and hospitable.

As those of us who had been before were already aware, Osnabrück, like most reasonably civilised habitations in the Northern Hemisphere, is vastly superior, in every aspect, to High Wycombe. The streets are clean, the buses run on time, and the shopping facilities are first class. The general atmosphere of the town is very lively, especially at the weekend, when it is a regular hive of activity, with street-entertainers on every corner in the pedestrian zone.

During our stay, we visited the towns of Bremen, Hamlin, Bückeberg and Münster. Unfortunately bad weather rather spoiled the Bremen trip, and the guided tours in Hamlin and Bückeberg were really only worthwhile for people with a vested interest in Weser-Renaissance architecture.

The stay enabled us to form our own opinions on the German people, who we discovered, on the whole, to be far more friendly than their reputation in England might suggest. We also had the chance to sample some of the local cuisine. This included vast mountains of emmentaler cheese and cooked meat, the unmistakably dense schwarzbrot, and the sauerkraut, which can only be described as, well - sour! Other planned events included a disco at the "Haus der Jugend" and a visit to the Karman car-assembly plant, which turned out to be surprisingly informative.

After what had proved to be an exciting and fun-filled fortnight, enormously beneficial to our German, it was time to leave. For reasons of either bad organisation or simply due to a general deafness on the part of certain students (the later, I'm sure!), a number of us turned up early for the departure ceremony, and were forced to wait for half an hour in seemingly sub-zero temperatures. Anyway, eventually everybody had arrived, and after many emotional good-byes, we slowly boarded the coach. It was a sad farewell, as we had developed a fond affinity for the people and their way of life, and so it was with both the regret of leaving, and the anticipation of returning home, that we pulled out into the early-morning traffic.

M Pavitt 6LY₁
and M Vance 6LY₁

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

1990 saw the departure from the school of a number of valued members of the staff, including Mrs D Bushell who made a considerable contribution to school life in getting the Award Scheme off the ground. However, the Scheme is still very strongly represented by many enterprising boys within the school.

Over 100 boys are participating in the Award Scheme which is all the more commendable when one considers that it requires a minimum 6 months' commitment at Bronze level.

So far this year fifteen boys have completed their Bronze Award. Six, Adrian Cotter, Jon Hadley, Stuart Lawton, Mark Oden, Matthew Skingley and Matthew Vance have finished their Silver Award and all are to be congratulated.

In addition, there have been outstanding performances by Michael Nixon and Tim Sparks who after two years' involvement and much effort finally gained their Gold Awards in the latter half of 1990. They have now left the school and are engaged in the new challenge of higher

education, but there are a further 11 boys striving towards this standard, with an expedition to the Ardennes to look forward to later this year.

Last year's Bronze expedition was a popular and enjoyable venture. The trek started in Chartridge and some 4 hours later the first team of fifth formers arrived at Aston Clinton. Having camped overnight at 9.30 am the next morning the groups set off towards Great Missenden railway station, the final checkpoint. Happily all boys passed this section, blisters notwithstanding.

Since the departure of Mrs Bushell, Miss Goldsmith has taken over the running of the Award Scheme and on behalf of all the participants I would like to thank her for the marvellous work she has done over the past year and wish her a very successful year next year.

Paul Farrugia 5CP

Kart Club

At the time of writing (April 1991), the club is about to start another racing season with every hope of emulating last year's successes. As the new trophy cabinet outside the Queen's Hall will testify, we had a number of placings and outright wins in only our second season.

The year also saw the team enter their first National Championships, held over a glorious weekend in July. Racing against experienced teams from all over the country, we were just happy to be there. As it turned out Jonathan Tarry did us proud and earned himself a sixth place trophy, and not to be outdone, Jake Conway went one better and came fifth in a large class of 29 starters. A most enjoyable event; made even better by a superb barbecue, courtesy of Mr and Mrs Senior, and the bacon sandwiches served in the pits on Sunday morning by Mr Tarry.

The Autumn Term saw us back again at the Rye House track for the Hertfordshire Annual Championships. This time we really did upset the opposition. Jonathan Tarry came away with a second place trophy. David Senior and Ian Danby drove into first place to become Herts Champions in the high power 100 class and just to rub salt into the wound, Jake Conway walked off with the Herts Championship Trophy for his class. Overnight our engraving bill has become a financial burden. The two



Ben Randles at Rye House, Waddesdon.

outright wins mean that our karts in those classes can sport the coveted No.1 on their plates this coming season.

Thanks to a donation from the Parents' Association, we purchased a new Comer engine. We ran this on a poor chassis last year without success. During the winter, Robert Beever has transferred it to a new chassis and if the last practice meeting has anything to go by, we should see some high placings from him. We have also purchased a superb six-speed 125 cc watercooled Yamaha engine. Jake Conway is in the process of mating this to a chassis, ready to enter the fastest school's karting class, with speeds up to 80mph.

Finally, a foot note about RGS Show Day 1990. The day before, the Head asked me if we could replace the motor cycle team as they had to cry off at the last minute! I rather foolishly agreed, thinking that the publicity might do us some good. We rapidly cobbled together an 'act' that evening. The following afternoon saw yours truly standing with a radio microphone that disconcertingly took two seconds to transmit your voice, in the middle of the main arena, trying to control four wayward and totally unreliable karts. I am too embarrassed to go into details, but briefly; someone pulled the start cord out of one of the engines so it could not be used, the same person fell off the back of a kart whilst hitching a lift, and the last straw was a wheel falling off, and gracefully disappearing through the crowd. I am told that most people thought this was part of the act and thoroughly enjoyed the spectacle. Well, we did try our best. Thank goodness they are only once every two years!

C W Howe

Photographic Society

The photographic society offers skills courses in developing and printing black and white photographs.

(Photographic assignments are arranged and cheap black and white film is available for purchase.)

The Society supports the Scouts and Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

R.P.S.

Ikon

A posse of outlawed desperados set out last year to justify the unjustly infamous IT budget by producing a radical "creative arts" magazine, marrying the talents of various bloodthirsty computer mavericks with those of some revolutionary mortals they were acquainted with under the logical (!) title of "Ikon". Despite the guiding hand/beard of guerilla publishing magnate T. Arnfield, and hothead Linus Twizell doing all the fiddly bits, it didn't work - the product of the dress-rehearsal literary uprising "only sold because people bought it."

By this year our ranks had swollen to about the same size as last year, so we bravely embarked to produce a completely different magazine with the same name (logical, eh?). With techno-squires Glyn Cannon and Chris Fletcher in control, all reviews of excursions and monologues on train-spotting were ruthlessly guillotined in favour of horror, romance, Stalin, a lot of Pritt- Stick, a bizarre version of the school rules and of course, Peter Rabbit, suitably covered with black and blue "flub" doodle clandestinely jotted in an economics lesson (it made a change from Daleks).

Thanks to improved standards, violent persuasion and

that waistcoat, we actually emerged in the black, despite a breathtakingly low budget, the small fact that all our computer equipment had recently been stolen, and an initially unenthusiastic public who had mysteriously just given all their worldly riches to charity. Thanks to all who assisted.

The hordes of adoring fans we spoke to may not have deduced that the number of contributors external to the Ikon team could be counted on one thumb, but on bended knee we absolutely demand more material from the peasantry for the next edition. However, if you've recently visited an exhibition, read a good book or taken up late fifteenth-century Nepalese basket-weaving, pray tell someone else.

K Burnett 6HK2

Isle of Wight Trip

Once again last September Mr Ratcliffe led a party from the school to the Westbrook Centre, two miles from the centre of Ryde. A wide range of facilities were available including a pitch and putt golf course and a heated outdoor swimming pool. Two new activities, a 9-hole putting green and a much derived form of deck quoits, were also on offer.

Each day a trip was arranged to one of the island's many tourist attractions such as Sandown or the Needles. At Sandown we went on a helter skelter, got soaked on bumper boats and played beach football. On most days a wide game was planned and put into action. At the end of the game, everybody was slightly altered physically but all enjoyed the game.

Time at the centre was spent playing wide games, using the very good sporting facilities or swimming in the pool. A short discussion led by Mr Ratcliffe about some aspect of Christianity was held in the early evening.

A final night encounter with the surviving members of an eighteenth century African slave trader, the Zulus of Wight (the Wight Zulus), ended off a very fine holiday. Roll on summer!

Andrew Price 5R
Andrew Speedy 6C2

6th Form Report

The main project hit upon by this year's phenomenally inactive committee was to crush and send off for recycling the huge quantity of aluminium drinks cans generated by the school in return for money which was to be used to sponsor a Guide Dog for the Blind. Green bins for can collection flooded the school, and a hugely innovative poster and assembly campaign involving 'Stan the Can Man' launched the project in style. However initial enthusiasm amongst the committee faded as the messy nature and power of the smell generated by the task undertaken became evident. With can collection only occurring every 3 weeks the project's base (the old changing rooms) temporarily became a 'no-go' area in spite of Andrew Speedy's manful disinfecting. At 1p a can, the eventual sponsorship target of £1,000 is still a fair way off, but a successful start to a potentially on-going project has been made.

The members of the committee (and a glory-seeking Andrew Gill) also managed to find time to bask in the reflected glory of last year's project, spending a highly enjoyable Thursday afternoon at Stoke Mandeville and

being pictured in a local paper presenting Air Miles to the British Paraplegic Sports Society. The initial target of 3,000 miles had been surpassed with 16,000 miles (including contributions from local organisations such as British Gas, Alfred Marks, and Granada TV Rentals) enabling approximately 30 wheelchair athletes to compete overseas.

The Common Room itself underwent a facelift at the start of the year, but no major changes have been deemed necessary. Many thanks to Mr Page for his support, Richard Parker for his effective management of the dispensing machines despite numerous setbacks, and the other members of the Committee (Andrew Speedy, Jerome Bhat, Julian Oxley, Toby McCullagh, Tim Channon, Tony Gibb, Robert Mills and Richard McGrath) for their occasional presence.

Peter Maxmin 6HK2

Julius Caesar

The publicity leaflet said this was a 'fizzing production'. Well, "Julius Caesar" is a popular play with schools. I can recall three/four performances at the RGS in my time. The trouble is, of course, that it's not one of Shakespeare's best; it has two really excellent scenes, but the main character, Brutus, doesn't have a lot going for him. An honourable man, of course, but... Meanwhile, back in the auditorium, we're fizzing gently. First the good news.

Visually, very striking: nice 'classical' looking sets from Pinewood, good lighting effects, costumes impressive, weapons from the National Theatre. All good stuff. Chris Camp as Brutus was impressive: commanding stage presence, looked natural and convincing, strong voice. Well done. (I remember his father as Cassius in 195-. There, that'll embarrass him - and his father). Scott Walters as Caesar, too, was authoritative, credible and convincing ... the foremost man of all this world. Matthew Keer, as Antony, was fine ... excellent even ... as long as he stayed in low key. He's a good actor but any time he really went for it, calling the crowd to riot, crying 'havoc' and letting slip the dogs of war, he lost vocal power. A pity; though perhaps the real Antony did - who knows? Cassius, too, has to move into a high gear very early in the play, and Marc Keating became very harsh very soon.

Most of the lesser characters supported well - in some cases, very well. Octavius (Rhodri Jones) was good - strong. So was Trebonius (Nick Simpson), and Decius Brutus (Jerome Bhat) was quite good - perhaps a bit quick. I would like to have seen more of Lepidus (James Dewar), too.



The council of war at Sardis.

What else? Well, the murder should have been a winner - red strobe lights and a high-pitched scream over the tannoy, as Caesar bought it. In some ways it was rather striking, but it was very quick. I wanted it to last longer. After all, it is the centre of the play. Caesar's blood was an alarming colour too. He must have had anaemia as well as the falling sickness! The crowd, in the following scene, were full of the will to win, and the four big ones killed poor old Cinna the poet quite ruthlessly.

Some miscellaneous points; I personally, was not very happy with the scene changes. I always feel you either change the scenery in full view or you do it hidden and as silently as possible. Here we had black-outs with murky figures doing this and that in silhouette. I said the lighting effects were good and so they were. The circling clouds and flickering flames on the cyclorama were evocative and innovative. The lighting team did a good ghost, too. A spooky green, and it rose effectively into view above the tent roof. The only thing that struck me, literal-minded chap that I am, was that Brutus kept his back firmly towards it all the time, making me wonder why he said "It is the weakness of mine eyes that shapes this monstrous apparition." Mind you, he was looking at the audience at the time, so maybe he had a point. The sound-men had a slight problem with the weather. The storm scene is tricky, since too much thunder means you can't hear the actors, and too little means the script sounds silly. Still, it was the rain which caused the trouble. For one thing it was another noise to compete with, and for another, it kept stopping and starting again, thus distracting us from the deathless verse of Casca and co. The final scene was satisfactorily climactic, and that about wraps it up. "Speak of me as I am ... nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice." Othello said that, and I've tried to do it here.

I.A.B.

Role-Playing Club

The fifth year of the club saw a continuation of the success of the club, despite some locational difficulties. Yet again the membership rose to over 80, and the lunchtime meetings in Room 5 were well attended. The meetings after school were less noisy affairs, but a number of groups regularly took advantage of the meetings after school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

This year most monies were spent on expanding the extensive club library, which members have free access to. This year's acquisitions include 'Bloodbowl', Shadowrun' and 'Heroes Unlimited'.

The club also ran a roleplaying tournament and several groups attempted to stop hi-jackers taking over an interstellar spaceship. None succeeded, but some groups did very well, and there was a great deal of good role playing. The winners, Dave Peach and Paul Spackman, won their cash prize deservedly.

I would like to thank several people who made this year so successful. Firstly I thank this year's committee of Graham Millward, Andrew Taylor, Bob Hutton-Squire, Seang-Lim Tan and James Rivett-Carnac, all of whom amiably agreed with anything I wished to do. I also wish Bob and his new committee as good a year as I had.

Finally I say farewell to those members who kept me busy roleplaying in most meetings; Andy, Peter, Patrick, Paul, Alan, Dave and Matthew. I wish them better luck in their future roleplaying than they had in my campaign.

Duncan Slater 6SW2

Up, up ... and down!

"You must be joking!" said friendly schoolmaster to excited pupil. "You will never get me to jump out of an aeroplane at 2,000 feet."

Three months later, 6.30 am, Saturday 14th July 1990, the same apprehensive schoolmaster leaves the Royal Grammar School with nine excited pupils and heads for the Parachute Centre near Peterborough.

On arrival, down to business with a jog, a few physical jerks, and then we are being lectured in a converted hangar. Our instructor decrees that parachuting is sport, fun, and perfectly safe. At this stage, schoolmaster is prepared to concede the first of these, but definitely not the latter two.

After the second PLF (Parachute Leg Fracture) - schoolmaster has dislocated his shoulder, and wishes he were somewhere else - still, only another 9½ hours training today. The instructors coax us to leap off ramps, swinging chandeliers and platforms 20 feet up, each time performing a perfect PLF. Schoolmaster definitely not enjoying falling on his shoulder, but there is sponsors' money at stake. Soldier on!

Towards the end of the day, we are lectured on malfunctions; 'total', 'blown peripheries', 'streaming' and 'damaged'. All of which mean you are hurtling towards mother earth at 120 mph. Schoolmaster nervous. We progress on to the procedure for landing in a tree, on a hangar roof, in water, on power cables and other ill-advised places. Schoolmaster extremely nervous. Not helped by excessive drilling on how to operate the reserve parachute.

8.00 am Sunday, and we are back in the hangar, being drilled on emergency procedures, and jumping out of the aircraft in a 'stable spread' position, yelling 'One thousand, two thousand, three thousand, four thousand ... check canopy' by which time there should be a patriotically coloured parachute above your head. Another session of PLF's ensues and we are marched to the packing shed to collect main parachute, reserve parachute and helmet.

After a couple of hours of anxious anticipation, schoolmaster is being kitted out, every move and facial expression being recorded by brother-in-law's video.



"That's one small step for a schoolmaster, one giant leap for Mankind"

Comments such as "Have you ever seen Uncle Alan look so frightened?", and "Did you remember to cancel the milk?", are particularly enjoyed by excited pupils.

We are cajoled into the Skyvan, and soon we are roaring into the sunshine, trying to convince ourselves that everyone else is scared too. "In the door ...Go!" and already two excited pupils have vanished into oblivion, screaming, "One thousand,..." You hear no more...

Schoolmaster next on the list, sweating profusely with heart-beat out of control. The Jumpmaster taps you on the head, grins, and directs you towards the door. Schoolmaster thinking about his 'stable spread' when suddenly "Go". Schoolmaster launches himself from the bowels of the plane, counts rigorously, and then there is total and absolute silence. Somewhat belatedly, schoolmaster realises he has forgotten to 'check canopy'. He dares to look up, and there it is; big, blue, red, white and beautiful. Target wind-sock is located and all is well. Schoolmaster now feeling rather queasy wondering whether his stomach will make contact with the clover before he does. Suddenly the clover is very close indeed. "Knees and feet together... knees and feet together, ... knees and ..." Crash, PLF perfect, "Ouch! that's my shoulder," run round parachute before you're dragged into the chicken farm, and gather in canopy. Landing is short of target, but schoolmaster never was keen on landing on the wind-sock. Huge sigh of relief!

However the next time excited pupils ask wise schoolmaster to jump out of aeroplane, wise school master say "No!".

'Be wise today; 'tis madness to defer.'

Alan R Yeates

Ski Trip

Under Mr Davies' leadership, a party of seventy five embussed on the Friday afternoon of the February half term. This seemed a strangely pointless exercise in snow bound Southern England. The M25 circulated surprisingly clockwise on the advice of motoring authorities, being littered with abandoned vehicles; the bus's plumbing remained unyieldingly frozen and our courier unsuccessfully essayed to catch up with us by rail from London in imitation of Phileas Fogg.

Dover, the crossing, the Continong, dozing, a surrealist pit stop somewhere in France, more dozing and it appeared we'd arrived. Certainly there were mountains, snow, pines and French speaking hoteliers. But was this a hotel? Where was the bar? Did the absence of other inmates suggest something sinister? What was the tattooed lady muttering as she wielded her machete in the kitchen? And what meat was it any way? The 'Hotel des Vacarines' should have made the more spartan youth hosteller feel at once at home. A visit during the forenoon meal by Henri, head of the ski school, seemed hopeful. The, ah, arrangements for booting and skiing the party? Quel arrangements? Well, it all sorted itself out and next morning found us as members of the chic and the beautiful at the top end of the télécabin in Superchatel. Groups departed, some like express trains after their mountain bandit instructors, some of whose best English was summarised with a Gallic shrug of the épaules. The weather closed in, the lifts stopped, and the initiates had the interesting experience of willy-nilly getting off the hill by skiing all the way down to the village. Daniel Talbot's arrival there clad chiefly in glorious red underwear was greeted appreciatively. Where was Dave Sturrock and why was Philip Hill's leg encased in white plaster?

From then on the sun shone, the skiing was glorious,

international communications improved and Mr D was observed smiling in a relieved kind of way, even if some of the meals made one think with tears in the eyes of 'home' and 'mummy' and even 'the school canteen'. Our noble drivers Dave and John were unflagging in their help, many strikes were scored at the bowling alley, birthday cakes were consumed, an evening tobogganing slithered into a free-for-all and, on the last day, a cheery evening was celebrated with our guides passing us, with kindly eyes apparently, on a variety of tests of proficiency.

Between shots of Mrs Grout, most of us had found our way to brief stardom on the bus's video courtesy of Stuart-the-cameraman, and it was time for one last bout of arm wrestling with the Iron Kitchen Maiden and naughty crossword anagrams of the hotel's balcony lettering (Put what back, Mr D?). Then it's 'make like sardines' again, cramming the unsavoury litter of our rooms into our cases and go, go, go for the white cliffs of Dover, not omitting one final stop for an amazing Frenglish breakfast at Bully-les-Mines near the Channel. Back to a now snow-less Wycombe and smiling relatives.

Well done Mr Davies, well done the courier, well done the grown ups (eh?), well done the lads: as for the rest, my lips are sealed.

T.J.N.C.

General Knowledge Quizzes

School Teams

In *Schools' Challenge* our team regained the Bucks/Herts/Beds regional championship with wins over Sir William Borlase's School (640 points to 540), Aylesbury High School (780 to 370), Wallingford School (850 to 340) and, in a very closely fought final, Bedford Modern School (500 to 440). RGS has now held this regional championship for six out of the last ten years.

At the time of writing the team awaits an inter-regional match against Bishop's Stortford College for a place in the national finals.

My thanks go to George and Paddy for stalwart support over the years. (It is to be hoped that they can go on to equal, or even better, their achievement as national runners-up in the junior competition of '86).

TEAM: Matthew (Paddy) Keer (6HK2), George Thomas (6BG2), David Chapman (5H), Simon Eade (4F).

The *Junior Schools' Challenge* team have so far beaten the Oratory Preparatory School (530 points to 380) and Beachborough Preparatory School (490 to 380). At the time of writing they await a regional final against Berkhamsted School.

TEAM: Stephen Gilbert-Davies (2F), Dafydd Flower (2C), Kevin Greenhill (2F), Jon Crawford-Phillips (2G).

Internal Competitions

The Fifth year competition was won by 5R (148 points out of a possible 212). The other scores, in order, were 5S (103), 5M (97), 5A (87), 5H (76½) and 5CP (65½). The collator of the Staff's entry was heard to mutter, "Oh! Staff it!" when it became known that a mere 4½ points separated their score (152½) from that of 5R. It is unclear whether this was an oath or an excuse. It can now be revealed that it was only the Director of Music's unfairly expert knowledge of obscure pieces of string orchestra that saved the Staff from humiliation.

The Fourth Year competition was won by 4F, the Third Year by 3C, and the Second Year by 2C.

J.P.E.

Brittany, April 1991

Brittany, frequently described as a monster from a coat of arms with its spine stretched out, its jaws open and a three-pointed tongue darting out to lap the salt water of the Atlantic Ocean, was invaded on April 6th, 1991 by a contingent of RGS fifth and sixth formers accompanied by the ever informative 'Michelin Guide' Munday, "give me an enclos" Noyes and "find me a Monoprix" McNeil. Newhaven and Dieppe were alerted when the coach left High Wycombe early that morning. After one of Sealink's less calm crossings we reached Rennes and dispersed to the families.

Our first full day, Sunday 7th, was spent with the respective families. Needless to say the boys got up as late as humanly possible so as to avoid any communication with the French people. Some of the hosts took people to places that we did not have enough time to squeeze into our extremely tight schedule.

Monday we visited the area of Morbihan which included the Alignements at Carnac which possessed a certain "je ne sais quoi" and the largest menhir in Europe at Locmariaquer (now in four pieces). In the afternoon we received a tour of Vannes.

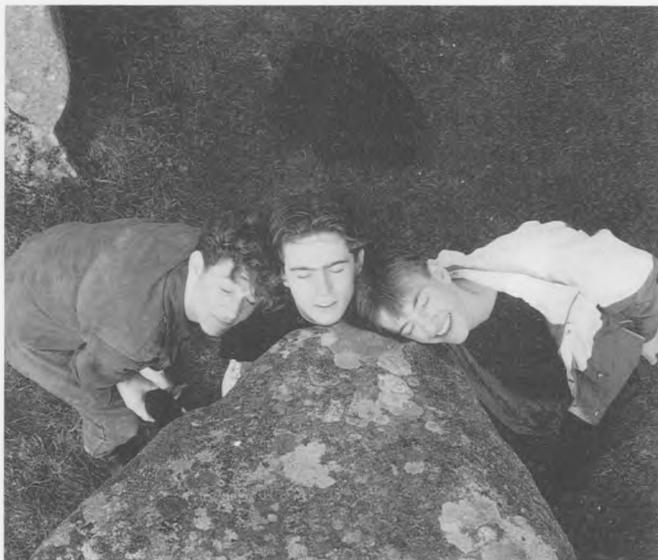
Tuesday, the tranquil setting of St. Malo was destroyed by the intrepid students. Having viewed the architecture, including the famous ramparts, we decided to sample some of the local brews, and it was almost as enjoyable as the sightseeing. Dinan, a town nearby, enjoyed Alex L'Estrange's musical talents as he serenaded the clientele of a creperie.

Wednesday was Rennes and the surrounding area, including a visit to Vitre and an archaeological show at "Le musée de Bretagne" in Rennes. Unfortunately Alexis McCarthy succumbed to a virus and spent the rest of the week being ill on the back seat of the coach.

Our last day was spent in and around Morlaix. We visited many splendid churches and cathedrals before entering the town of Morlaix where at least Janaka Alwis enjoyed himself.

Friday the Thirteenth loomed as we prepared for our departure. In most cases Brittany lived up to its reputation, fond farewells and promises of letter writing echoed in the early morning mist, as the coach left for High Wycombe, and a new term to look forward to.

Michael McKenna 6C1



Quick — help me lift this menhir off my foot!

Business Studies Hat and Coat Hook Simulation

The 5th year Business Studies group entered the Hat and Coat Hook Simulation at Amersham College during April. Three teams, code named the Spartans, the Bananas and the Trojans were entered, each consisting of three people.

The object of the simulation was to make as much profit as possible over 12 periods by selling hat and coat hooks made from lengths of metal tubing. All decisions made were entered into a computer with the help of our aides, and the results printed out for reference.

The Spartans, consisting of Wai-Kwong Lin, Simon Hutchins and myself went straight into the lead from the first period of play and maintained it, eventually winning amid controversy and allegations of cheating! The Bananas, consisting of Chris Strand, Henry Heygate-Brown and Simon Blows came a very close second, and the Trojans, consisting of Phil Hills, Danny Talbot and Matt Ward came a promising last out of 10.

All in all it was a successful result. We received a plaque for winning and £15 of book tokens and also a copy of the simulation.

Interestingly enough, the winning team consisted of 2 players who had not even read the instructions.

Mark Holmes 5R

Spanish Trip - March 1991

The official RGS sponsored invasion of Zamora kicked off at a more civilised hour than some school trips. At 1.00 in the afternoon, luggage loaded and missing people recovered, our all-star, singing and dancing luxury coach set off bound for Ramsgate. Landfall at Dunkerque was made toward early evening of Thursday, whereupon the fun really began - the near 24 hour coach trip down through France and Northern Spain to Zamora. En route we sampled the delights of French motorway catering and took in the sunrise over picturesque Bordeaux.

We eventually arrived in the town of Zamora in the evening of the Friday and proceeded to be carted off to our respective Spanish families for the night. Since it was Holy Week, the town came alive with innumerable religious processions, and some members of the group were taken to one that very night.

During the week in Spain day trips were organised, the first of these was a tour around the town taking in the historic monuments of Zamora accompanied by our resident guide Cipri. It soon became apparent that our day-trips were, in addition to being fascinating insights into Spanish culture and history, in-depth explanations of the differences between romanesque and gothic architecture. This was due to Cipri's penchant for the subject. Trips to Salamanca and Segovia took on this familiar pattern, much to the dismay of the younger members of the group. Thankfully, there were respites during our visits to Portugal and to the lake near Puebla de Sanabria, possibly because there were no cathedrals to visit there.

On the whole the families with whom we stayed were very friendly and understanding towards their British visitors, and the trip proved most beneficial to those studying Spanish at a higher level, since some very interesting vocabulary was picked up! Whenever any of us had any problems with the language, we were referred instantly to our sage, Mr Pantridge, whose prowess at the Spanish tongue is famed throughout the land! Zamora itself was a delightful town with its huge complement of bars, very popular - so I hear!

Time seemed to flash by and soon it was time to board the coach of doom to endure Mrs Fletcher's incisive repartee and return to Blighty. With some dubious compliance to the speed limit on the M25 we were delivered home just in time for the Boat Race!

All in all it was an interesting trip which was enjoyed by all. On behalf of the whole group I would like to thank the teachers who so valiantly took us to Spain, Mr Pantridge, Mrs Fletcher and Miss Kelly, who organised the trip in the first place.

Andrew Mawhood 6HR₁



Andrew Levicki 4N Mixed media

SPORT

Rugby

1st XV

Played 26 Won 19 Drawn 2 Lost 5 For 464 Against 240

Having enjoyed two very successful seasons and with only two of last season's regular 1st XV members returning to school, this was regarded by most people as a rebuilding season with a 40-6 victory over Watford Grammar School, but complacency the following week in the final quarter of the game against Hampton saw a 15-7 RGS lead collapse to a 19-15 victory for Hampton. It was a mistake that this young XV never made again, reaching Christmas with an undefeated run of 17 matches. There were some excellent hard fought games during this period including two drawn games at St Benedict's, Ealing 7-7 and Berkhamsted 6-6. Desborough produced a good 1st XV and it took a try by Peter Maxmin with the last move of the match to secure victory 18-17. Old rivals Aylesbury Grammar School were defeated 20-0 giving RGS victory for the fifth successive year. Wins were also recorded in two new fixtures against John Fisher 19-16 and Bedford Modern 17-12.

For the first time the RFU staged a National U18 Cup Competition and RGS made good progress defeating Henley College 16-6, Bishop Stortford High School 20-13, and St Edmunds College, Ware 22-8. Wellington College from Berkshire were considered by many observers as favourites for the cup but when they visited RGS in the middle of December they found us in excellent form and we secured a 14-8 victory.

Clongowes Wood College, from Ireland, ended the RGS run of success 16-18 in a hard fought game during the Christmas holidays. Three days later RGS bounced back with a 12-10 victory over Belvedere College Dublin. Following a two week break an indifferent display against Latymer Upper was punished with a 9-15 defeat. Tiffin were beaten 16-6 as RGS prepared for the quarter finals of the National Cup. Bishop Wordsworth were the opponents and RGS made the long trip to Salisbury full of hope. On the day we did not play well and were easily beaten 4-20 by a team that went on to reach the final. RGS overcame the disappointment of defeat to give one of their best performances of the year against RGS Guildford winning an exciting game, 16-10.

Two silly errors cost RGS victory in the last match of the season to Reigate Grammar School losing 10-16.

Captain Matthew Dawson and Vice Captain Peter Maxmin had outstanding seasons for the team contributing many superb individual tries. Their experience will be missed next year as will the contributions made by Gregor King, Jay Cross and players' 'Player of Year', Andrew Gill. Special mention must be made of 1st XV Captain Matthew Dawson. Despite undergoing a knee operation after the first game of the season he showed great courage and determination to regain his fitness level and returned to play for the 1st XV by half term. Having captained the Bucks Schools team his selection as Scrumhalf for the England Schools U18 XV to play against Australia at Twickenham in January was richly deserved. I was pleased to be able to attend the after match dinner and watch him presented with his England cap. In April he gained further recognition playing for England in all the home international championship matches. His dedicated approach to the sport is an example to all boys in the years

below him and I hope he has been the first of many RGS pupils to gain England U18 XV rugby honours.

With 10 of this year's team available next season the prospects for the future look bright, but they must remember not to be complacent or take opposition teams for granted, if they are to do well.

Once again, we thank Mr Tattersall for his help and support throughout the season and all the friends and parents who supported from the touchline and helped prepare after match refreshments.

M Dawson and C.C.T

2nd XV

Played 24 Won 15 Drawn 2 Lost 7 For 442 Against 139

This season approximately 40 different players made an appearance in the 2nd XV because of promotion, injury or unavailability. However, each game, despite having some fundamental problems, proved to be very competitive.

The season began well with the team losing only 2 matches before Christmas. Unfortunately, the long break seemed to have an adverse effect on our performances, and this resulted in the narrow loss of two games to two Irish sides, Clongowes Wood and Belvedere College. Although beating Tiffin 14-8, the season ended with two defeats; a very close affair with RGS Guildford 6-8, and a very disappointing 0-31 defeat at the hands of Reigate Grammar School. The season saw some notable victories, the most memorable being against Lord William's Thame 52-0, Royal Latin 1st XV 7-0, Q.E. Barnet 66-0 and against old rivals Aylesbury Grammar School, 4-0. In the match against Berkhamsted, RGS finished through injury with only 13 men, and the resulting scoreline of 10-10 was very commendable.

Thanks go to all players, especially all Upper Sixth formers who will never play for the school again (probably just as well in some cases) but still played so admirably, these being Wyn Davies, Paul Deraney, Mark Foster, Mark Govan, George Thomas, Chris Camp and Andrew Speedy. Gareth Wheatley also graced us with his presence in-between his numerous injuries. Thanks also go to Mr Davies who went to coach the U13s when the pressure proved too great, and Mr Taylor.

Tony Gibb (Captain)

Paul Deraney (Vice Captain)

3rd XV/U16 XV

Played 17 Won 12 Drawn 1 Lost 4 For 339 Against 190

This year's teams were drawn from a large squad of players which included some very able younger players gaining their first taste of senior rugby, assisted by more experienced sixth form pupils.

A rather ill-disciplined opening game against Watford was won 18-16. A good U16 XV victory against Hampton followed and they played very well in a new fixture against Radley College to win 24-8. Four further wins for the 3rd XV followed including a pleasing 24-6 victory over Forest 2nd XV.

The visit of Bradford GS, last season's Daily Mail U15 Cup winners, tested the U16 XV to the limit and in a hard fought game lost 0-12. After half-term there were wins against Windsor and Berkhamsted but defeat against Bedford. The three games in the Spring Term were all close

encounters, with RGS scoring good victories against Tiffin 26-14, and RGS Guildford 13-11. In Reigate they found stern opposition but an open, flowing game finished in a nailbiting climax with victory to Reigate 29-28.

Many players improved during the season and aspire to a place in the more senior teams next season.

C.C.T

U15 XV

Played 19 Won 13 Drawn 0 Lost 6 For 363 Against 210

The U15 XV team enjoyed a relatively successful season and despite losing six matches in all, at times produced performances of quality, the best example being against a favoured Aylesbury GS team in the first round of the Daily Mail Cup competition. Expectation of our team surpassing the first round of this competition was low owing to our having lost to Aylesbury in the previous two contests, and on the day hearts almost began to fail as three of their county backs appeared complete with vulcan knee bandages!

From the beginning of the match it was obvious that our pack was too overwhelming for them and a very spirited performance saw us safely into a second round tie against King's Peterborough. They boasted talented backs combined with a weak pack which in turn enabled us to pile on the points (40 in all). After then defeating a rated St Paul's side, an awesome Bristol Grammar side were our opponents in the quarter-final. They were blessed with an outstanding fly-half and from the onset they gradually began to outplay us in more than one department resulting in a final score of 0-36. We had lost earlier on in the season to teams that we should never have lost to such as London Oratory, but here we realised that we had been beaten by a better team and it was reassuring to think that we had lost to the eventual winners of the competition.

Thanks must go to Mr Grout (who coached up until Christmas) and to Mr Tattersall who took over from then on and also to the many parents that turned up each week to support us.

Jun Shaw (Captain)

U14 'A' XV

Played 18 Won 17 Lost 1 For 597 Against 47

The U14 team had much to live up to after the successes of last year but no-one was disappointed by another outstanding year.

The combination of teamwork and individual strength proved to be far too daunting for many opposition teams and thumping victories were recorded against Lord William's Thame (76-0), John Fisher (72-0), Windsor (54-0) and Bedford Modern (50-0).

Much more satisfying for the loyal band of supporters were the closer encounters against Emmanuel (14-6), Bradford GS (17-0) and Reigate GS (10-7) where the team showed a great determination and will to win. Perhaps the match of the season was against Tiffin when, slightly weakened by injuries, we succumbed to our only defeat of the season (8-20) in an enthralling end to end match.

The team's success and 125 tries was based around a fit and mobile pack and skilful ball players behind the scrum, all of whom often played with a maturity way beyond their years.

Ian McLaughlin switched from centre to No. 8 and became the linchpin of the pack, personally scoring a remarkable 37 tries but it was by no means a one-man show. Were it not for the aggressive ball-winning of Adam Harrison and Chris Mee, the outstanding line jumping of Joe Davis, the bullish determination of Darren Goldie and the admirable front-row of Toby Shaw, Robert Moretto and John Greenfield, the side would not have functioned in the efficient way it so often did. James Cornish looked a player of enormous composure and quality at fly-half, being ably served by the ever enthusiastic Michael Reed. He often chose the ideal option, sometimes using his own pace (16 tries) and often setting the rest of the backs away. Pierre Nasr was always sure of hand and strong in the tackle as was Matthew Tucker, new to the team this year, making a strong side look even stronger.

Top try scorer in the backs was Kurt Johnson whose elusive running and fearless tackling are at times simply wonderful. Barry Mason too adapted well to the team's needs and played maturely at wing, centre and full-back. Philip Gibbs and Gareth Rossiter both proved sound players and strong runners.

27 players played in 'A' team fixtures this season and all who played did so with great pride and much skill. Rarely have I seen such enthusiasm and such an abundance of talent in a squad of players. It is with some regret that I pass them on to U15 level and surely the prospect of greater things to come.

S.J.N.

U14 'B' XV

Played 6 Won 4 Drawn 1 Lost 1

Most of the activity for the 'B's took place in the Christmas term and the enthusiasm of the squad was obvious from the start. Attendances at training were excellent and the side always tried to play good rugby in their matches. Outstanding players were Chris Harris and Nathan Thorne in the forwards, and half backs Stuart Gatie (who has now gone 'North'), and Guy Holland. The side has much talent awaiting further development next season.

D.R.C.

U13 XV

The enthusiastic, but largely inexperienced, squad made great progress during the season. Playing against teams with at least one year of rugby behind them proved a tough initiation to the game. Four defeats in the first four games for the 'A' XV did not disguise their growing potential. A fine 40-0 victory over Lord William's was followed by wins against Watford (28-4), Bedford (16-8), Latymer Upper (14-4) and Aylesbury (4-0). Despite losses against physically stronger opposition from London Oratory, Tiffin and Reigate, the side always performed with spirit and commitment.

The 'B' XV developed a very strong pack which frequently dominated the opposition. Narrow losses to Reigate, London Oratory and Lord William's were countered by some exciting victories. Their record of six wins reflected the progress made throughout the season.

The 'C' XV unfortunately only played three games - beating QE Barnet and Watford but losing to Desborough. Nonetheless, despite this abbreviated season, a depth of

talent and enthusiasm was displayed which augurs well for the future.

MJD/MJM/RJD

Sevens

As the Spring Term tournaments approached training went well. It became clear that the 1st VII would be young, containing five players from 61 who would look to their captain, Peter Maxmin, the only remaining player from last year's successful seven, for his experience and speed. Maxmin rose to the challenge dominating the VII, and many games, with his elusive running skills. At Windsor in the opening tournament he scored all the tries in the first game against Hampton as RGS avenged their 1st XV result with a 16-10 victory. Victories over Bearwood (10-8) and Ynysawdre (28-0) took RGS to the quarter-finals and an 18-12 victory over John Fisher. The semi-final against Eton was very hard fought but again RGS triumphed 14-10 for a most unexpected place in the final against Bedford School. Although RGS scored first, it was Bedford who scored with the last move of the match to win 12-6.

Full of confidence the 1st VII retained the Bucks Sevens title with a 22-6 victory over Aylesbury. In the wind and rain at Douai they looked tired and made an early exit. The Surrey Sevens is always a good test of strength and we made good progress to the quarter-finals before losing to a very strong Millfield VII. A missed conversion from in front of the posts cost the 1st VII a quarter-final place at Oxford; but in the National Schools Rosslyn Park Sevens the 1st VII played some of their best rugby, to beat Emanuel, King's Macclesfield, Saintbridge and Enfield GS for a place on the final day against the opposition, Ampleforth, who had won the tournament on ten previous occasions. The 1st VII paid their opposition too much respect and allowed them a 16-0 half time lead but made a brilliant second half comeback to 10-16 before running out of time.

In other tournaments the U16 VII did well to reach the semi-finals of the Guildford Sevens, and the quarter-finals at Barnet, but illness and injury prevented them fielding a full strength squad in any tournament.

The U14 VII played extremely well to storm to victory in the Sherborne Sevens leaving some of the best schools in the West Country in their wake. At Barnet they could not master the wet ball and heavy underfoot conditions but eventually were beaten by a good side from Oundle. After a slow start at Reigate they played some excellent sevens to win the competition.

The U13 VII played well but were unlucky to meet a strong Solihull VII in both tournaments they played.

C.C.T.

Hockey

1st XI

Played 20 Won 20 Drawn 0 Lost 0 For 78 Against 15

Honours

Jonathan Wyatt achieved the highest honour in schoolboy sport when he was elected to captain England in the Home Counties Tournament in Dublin. The quality of his play in Germany was recognised in a national newspaper.

Jonathan also captained the S. East England team which finished level on points with the Midlands, and Simon Noakes played in goal.

Arshad Khan, Adam Smith and Timothy Townley all appeared for the S. East U17 team.

Bucks U18's were successfully captained by Colin Carter and had seven other RGS players, Martin Cartledge, John Gordon, David Harding, James Isaac, Christopher Pateman, Timothy Townley and Murad Vassib.

Colours

Following a consistently high standard of 1st Team performance the following awards were made;

Full - Martin Cartledge, John Gordon, James Isaac, Arshad Khan, Christopher Pateman, Adam Smith, Timothy Townley, Murad Vassib.

Half - Mark Darby, Christopher Lockyer.

A playing record such as this could only be achieved by a quite exceptional team. Jonathan Wyatt has led by example a side of skill, discipline and balance which has made a fine impression locally and throughout the Southern Counties.

The season will be remembered for the 'double' over Sir William Borlase's School, the 2-1 defeat of Kingston GS, a fine 7-0 victory over Stowe and Jonathan Wyatt scoring all 6 RGS goals against KCS Wimbledon. A new development was a match with Radley which was won 2-1.

In tournaments the school again reached the final of the 28 entry St George's Weybridge 6's but lost on penalties to the Kingston GS team of internationals. The only consolation was that Colin Carter was voted 'player of the tournament'. Indoors RGS lost the South final to the eventual National Champions but outdoor victories over Merchant Taylors', Horsham HC and Kent College, Canterbury gave us the South Championship and entry to the finals for the fourth successive year.

It is hoped that the squad plays to its potential as it aims towards the National Title after what has been a remarkable season.

D.G.S.

2nd XI

The season opened with a convincing 4-0 win over John Hampden on the astroturf at Handy Cross. Despite never having played together before, the injection of six Lower Sixth-formers and the benefits of playing more games on all weather pitches than ever before, combined to produce some of the best second team performances in recent years.

When playing on grass the team was often slow to adapt, but on artificial pitches the hockey was fast and open. Chris Lockyer had a fine season at Sweeper and John Symmons and Mark Darby were outstanding in midfield. Apart from conceding a few very soft goals, the defence coped admirably, and in midfield we were normally dominant, but found it extremely difficult to convert pressure into goals. Despite good wing play, the team was lacking a natural goalscorer and suffered as a result.

However the team played with admirable commitment and turned in several memorable performances, notably against Shiplake College and can consider themselves unlucky not to have won more games. The team would like to thank Mr Cook for his continuing support and hard work.

Regular team members were: M Cartledge, C Lockyer, R Flint, D Downing, J Richards, J Symmons, M Darby, C Widgery (Captain), A Butler, A L'Estrange, M Hobden, T Minton, S Goodfellow, R Skarda.

C Widgery 6GC2

U16 XI

The team has enjoyed a most successful season this year, which started with an impressive 6-0 victory at Daneford. Then followed a number of good wins in annual fixtures. The players showed a great deal of commitment, especially the indoor side, which trained hard with great dividends. A disciplined performance in the final earned the South Championship and an outstanding team effort at Crystal Palace brought the National Indoor Title to High Wycombe for the first time.

Outdoors too, the side showed character and strength-in-depth to such an extent that even without Arshad Khan and Adam Smith, who were on 1st XI duty, it won the S. East Championship and now goes forward to the national Finals in Coventry. David Bocquet has improved a great deal this season and has commanded the defence. Mark Madden, Aumran Mohammed and Matthew Walters have grown in stature at the back. Michael John and Jon Axworthy along with Arshad Khan were strong enough in midfield to unlock most defences and release Adam Smith, Nicholas Hughes and Andrew Ball up front. The positive approach of Andrew Wardill, Giles Edwards and several others was much appreciated.

Jon Axworthy, Arshad Khan, Alan Morton and Adam Smith all achieved Divisional Status in a year of progressive development following on from last season's successful Dutch tour. Final thanks go to Mr Pantridge and Mr Stone for all their advice and help.

Arshad Khan (Capt)
& D.G.S.

U15 XI

Overall this season has been most successful. The team had some very good early performances recording well earned wins over Haberdashers' Askes 2-1, Desborough 4-2 and Daneford 3-2, the latter two teams having beaten us in the previous season.

Throughout the season many players were given new positions and they responded to this by showing real spirit and determination, rising to their new roles with great flair. Andrew Goodfellow, Marc Washbourne and Stephen Barlow all proved their talent with some fine performances.

Captain Jonathan Axworthy and top-scorer Nick Hughes, both played vital parts in Bucks U15's and Andrew Goodfellow played towards the end of the season.

Several of the team players have been playing for the school senior teams, helping the U16 team to reach the National Finals in Coventry to be held in early May. Congratulations to Jonathan Axworthy for his inclusion in the SE U15 and U16 teams.

Finally we would like to thank Mr Pantridge and Mr Stone for their work and guidance during the season. The team is looking forward to a successful season next year.

SQUAD: (C) - County (D) - Divisional

Jonathan Axworthy (CD), Nick Hughes (C), Andrew Goodfellow (C), Stephen Barlow, Ben Rayner, Marc Washbourne, David Forrest, Stuart Large, Simon Milward, Roger Bates, Neil Fitch, Simon Hallam, Nick Hudson.

N Hughes (V.Capt)

U14 XI

The U14 squad has been very enthusiastic and improved their skills and team play throughout the season. We have played against teams who have been playing hockey for a

number of years and we still put up a very good performance though with mixed success. It has been good to have been able to have a number of 'B' team games as well which were thoroughly enjoyed.

Five of the team were included in the County Squad which is very encouraging, as their experience is very limited: James Gilbert, Robert Morgans, Tim Parr, Nick Pembroke and Hugh Spurling. Nick Pembroke worked very well as Captain all season and Tim Parr was the most improved and promising player. We all look forward to a good season next year.

Team: J Gilbert, I O'Callaghan, R Morgans, T Parr, N Pembroke, H Spurling, S Molden, A Cox, M Lewis, B Walters, J Maxmin, M Peddle, D Ginn, J King, J Wickremer.

R.N.P.

Cricket

1st XI

Played 15 Won 6 Drawn 6 Lost 3

As with the previous season the 1st XI pinned their hopes on their batsmen, rather than on their bowlers, as Captain Simon Shaw inserted the opposition whenever possible, and asked his batsmen to chase the target.

In the first fixture Simon Shaw showed the rest of the team what he wanted them to do with a ferocious 127. David Warboys (433 runs) Jonathan Wyatt (349), Stuart Garvie (410) and Simon Shaw (437) were the leading run-makers during the season, although David Harding, Richard Parker and Matthew Dawson all contributed one half-century.

The bowling was supported by some excellent fielding throughout the season, which regularly knocked 40-50 runs off the target. Andrew Chipping developed the useful talent of being able to take wickets when brought on as 3rd or 4th change, and recorded figures of 3-0 against Latymer Upper. Not until the RGS festival did a bowler take 5 wickets in an innings, when David Harding took 5-36.

The match against the staff at the end of the season proved to be a run feast, with the staff led by Mr Davies 87 n.o., and Mr Stone 74, failing by just 16 runs to reach the very stiff target of 259, and the game ended in a draw.

The following were awarded full colours in 1990: S P Garvie, J F Wyatt, D J Harding, D J Warboys and R J Parker.

Leading Run Scorers

	Runs	Higher Score
S M Shaw	437	127
D J Warboys	433	98 no
S P Garvie	410	69 no
J F Wyatt	349	63
D J Harding	146	53 no
R J Parker	142	50
M J Dawson	137	54

Leading Wicket Takers

	Wickets	Best Bowling
R J Parker	17	4-32
A I Chipping	16	4-26
D J Harding	16	5-36
A R W L'Estrange	13	4-39
S M Shaw	10	2-16

A.R.Y.

2nd XI

Played 12 Won 6 Drawn 3 Lost 3

It is always nice to win the first game, and the 2nd XI did just that in beating Tiffin by 7 wickets, as the season got off to a good start with James Hall scoring 76. The following game against Desborough was won thanks to a fine 41 from J Isaac and inspired bowling by G Singh 5-11. Rob Nicholson developed into a solid opening batsman but his 48 not out and J Symmonds' 6-36 could not stop the game against Hampton being drawn.

The match against Dr Challoners was played on a pitch which made batting very difficult. A. Chipping bowled well to take 6-26 but RGS lost the match as their batting collapsed. They were also beaten by Lord Williams in a lack-lustre performance.

The middle of the season went well with sound batting leading to victory against St Bartholomew's and N O'Doherty's 5-18 destroying St Benedict's. James Vaughan 5-11 bowled well in the Latymer Upper game which was drawn but the following week it was the solid batting of the RGS last batsmen O'Doherty and Crozier which saved the game at Aylesbury.

RGS chased and got 150 runs at Abingdon thanks to a fine innings of 60 not out by S. Priestley. Apart from an excellent 52 by Hall, RGS Worcester totally outclassed the 2nd XI in all areas of the game, but a sound team performance restored morale and brought victory in the final game of the season at Enfield.

Twenty eight players were used during the season and the team was well led by Nick O'Doherty.

M.W.C/C.C.T

U15 XI

There was never a dull moment with the U15 XI of 1990. Even in snatching defeat from the jaws of victory they maintained an enthusiasm and enjoyment for the game that was always refreshing! They would confound their supporters and critics by vacillating between victory and crushing defeat.

Defeat by Hampton in the first game by 78 runs was followed by an exciting run chase against Lord Williams. Having bowled the opposition out for 124 (Crozier 4-30) RGS finished four runs short in losing their final wicket. After a solid six wicket victory over Desborough the batting collapsed again against St Benedict's. John produced another fine bowling performance in taking 5-47, but the 121-run target was too much as RGS plummetered to 120 all out. Mohammed and Ward wagged the tail to set Latymer Upper a target of 106, but despite Hills' 6-24, spin was not used to wheedle out the last two opposition batsmen, as Latymer finished at 80-8. A crushing nine wicket defeat at Abingdon was followed by a visit to RGS Worcester. Good catching and a rare assortment of deliveries from Smith (5-26) saw the opposition dismissed for 106. Weaver then produced a marathon effort to bat throughout the innings, carrying the side to victory by 5 wickets. A well-struck 50 by Clinch established the basis for a declaration at 124-6 against Enfield. John then destroyed their batting with 5-18. In the final inter-school game at Aylesbury, poor bowling allowed the opposition to reach 151-2. However, fine hitting from Smith (54) and good support from Hills (33) ensured the target was reached with five wickets to spare. Victory against the U14s and the staff provided a suitable culmination to the

season's efforts.

My thanks to Mr Arnfield for his support and umpiring of this team.

M J Davies

U14 XI

Played 11 Won 3 Drawn 4 Lost 4

After losing three of their first four matches the team settled down to play some good cricket with much improved results. Interest was high. Net sessions were always well-attended with as many as 30 on some occasions. Players gained confidence and worked hard to overcome weaknesses. The disappointing start was partly due to Jun Shaw's wrist injury and Nick Humphrey's unavailability but the team depended to a large extent on Stuart Large (103 n.o v Denbigh) and Neil Fitch for runs. The only penetration present in our bowling department came from the off-spinners Jun Shaw and Neil Fitch.

It was pleasing to have significant batting contributions from Miles Davis and Mark Richards (32 and 20 v Latymer) and Jun Shaw (74 n.o v J Hampden) but performances lacked consistency. Yasser Taher was the most successful of the quicker bowlers and Robin Ghosal was always energetic behind the stumps. Thomas Hadley showed promise which never materialised into a big innings. The team relied also on an enthusiastic group of cricketers including David Forrest, Matthew Hotston, Neil Govan, David Catling, Adam Wallace and Zulfikar Shamim to make a positive contribution to the enjoyment of the season.

D.G.S/I.J.W

Athletics

The RGS Athletics teams had an outstanding summer in 1990 with great success at District, County and National levels.

RGS dominated the High Wycombe District Championships, winning the overall title by a margin of 116 points. The Intermediate team (predominantly 4th form) were placed second to John Hampden, with Price (200m), Stephens (400m) and McLaughlin (discus) winning their events. In the Junior competition (3rd Form) RGS won by 26 points from Sir William Ramsay, Jones (400m), Munday (800m) and Downing (discus) achieving first places. The Second Form Junior Championship saw RGS in overwhelming form taking first or second position fourteen times. This outstanding team was to flourish in the English Schools' Cup. Ian and David McLaughlin were the first brothers to be Individual Trophy Winners in their age groups in the same year. Of the boys who represented the District at the County Championships, Andrew Price enjoyed the most success. In winning the intermediate 200 m in 23.4 seconds he broke the school record and qualified to represent Bucks at the all England Championships in Derby. We congratulate him for achieving this, particularly in his first year in this age group.

The School entered the English Schools Cup for the first time in 1990. This competition for second and fourth forms requires quality and versatility from the 14 athletes within the team. Both age groups qualified from the area rounds with encouraging points scored.

The Intermediate team progressed to the regional round at Stantonbury (Milton Keynes) but were only able to improve their score by four points and therefore did not qualify for the National Place Final. However the juniors, in coming second to Tiffin at Crawley and improving their score by 39 points, progressed to the National Finals at Barnet Copthall Stadium. In a memorable day for all concerned the team finished 6th out of twelve. This outstanding achievement should provide the basis for considerable optimism for RGS athletics in the future.

M.J.D.

Cross Country

This year has been the most successful for at least 15 years. Not only has the Senior team been successful but also both the Intermediate and the Junior teams.

The highlight of the Autumn Term was a splendid 3rd place at the Dr Challoner's Senior Relay; particularly memorable was the sight of Ben Brown coming up the 'Big Dipper' in 1st place on lap one and also the sight of Matthew Hill storming past the Rochester runner at the same spot on the last lap to secure the bronze medals for the team. In the Dr Challoner's Junior Relay, the Juniors went one better - after leading for virtually the whole race, we were overtaken on the home straight of the last lap and had to settle for silver medals.

The District Championships, just after Christmas, witnessed a welcome repeat of last year since both Intermediates and Juniors won the team events, the Juniors being particularly impressive with Darren Goldie winning gold and Ian McLaughlin just edging past Tim Crompton for the bronze. In the Intermediate race Nic Beecroft won silver and Matthew Hill bronze, with Jonathan Ray in 4th place.

I was hoping for great things in the County Championship which was held this year for the first time on home territory in Hughenden Park. The Senior team however was devastated by illness while the Junior team was devastated by the call to play rugby. But there were successes: Craig Fines-Allin, captain of the club, produced his finest race of the year to come home in 9th place, and win County selection. In the Intermediate race Nic Beecroft finished 5th and Matthew Hill 4th to earn County selection too. In the event Darren Goldie was also selected on the strength of his District Championship win.

In the National Championships held this year near Taunton, Somerset, Matthew Hill sadly had to drop out through illness and Darren Goldie failed to complete the course, but Craig Fines-Allin produced another excellent performance as the County's number 5 counter finishing in 243rd place, and Nic Beecroft, who was by now running splendidly, finished as the County's number 2 in 96th place.

All three teams finished the domestic season winning medals: the Seniors took silver at Merchant Taylors and Haydon. The Juniors took silver at Haydon and bronze at Haberdashers, each time with below strength teams, and the Intermediates won gold medals and the trophy at the inaugural Rochester Road Relays.

Craig Fines-Allin has been an excellent captain this year, following in the considerable footsteps of his elder brother, Paul. Although he will be missed next year, the Senior team should be even stronger, with the regular presence of some improving Intermediates, especially Nic Beecroft and Matthew Hill. If this year's regulars, Matthew Vance, Ben Brown, Nick Grant and co. can continue to improve, then our Senior team may well give local rivals



Trophies and medal winners at the 1991 District Championships.

Dr Challoner's a good run for their money next season. And I sincerely hope that our excellent juniors, Darren Goldie, Simon Molden, Matthew Tucker, Alex Mann, Tim Crompton and Tom and Ben Beecroft will continue to run strongly next year. This year has been good, next year could be even better!

I J Wilson

Tennis

Ist VI

Played 9 Won 2 Drawn 0 Lost 7

Colts VI

Played 5 Won 0 Drawn 0 Lost 4 Abandoned 1

The RGS Tennis Teams are going through a re-building stage at the moment after many years of success at school level. The Colts, though not winning a single match, are a very promising group with several young County squad members. So the future looks very bright and we expect to do well in the Midland Bank Cup. The Club Captain was David Allen and full colours were awarded to David Allen, Nick Baikie and Marc Chan.

S.J.G.

Badminton

The lack of a team manager this season has made it difficult to organise and participate in matches at competition level. A few matches were played earlier on in the season which brought winning results.

Badminton Club for Lower and Middle school meets on Wednesdays from 3.45 - 5.00 pm in the Sports Hall and has been popular throughout the year.

R.P.S.

Golf

Last year the Golf Team comprising Captain Mark Howell (5), Nick Hollin (7) and Richard Weaver (9) competed in the Golf Foundation Schools Team Championship at Beaconsfield Golf Club.

On a dull windy day the team played very steadily for a 19 over par team total of 235 which in most years would have won easily.

Unfortunately we were foiled by a superb team comprising handicaps of 2, 2 and 4, who scored 82.76 (at which stage we were leading) and a fine 71 (1 under par) by their 4 handicap which meant we were regional runners up.

However all bodes well for next year in October at Stoke Poges Golf Club when all 3 members of the team will still be at the school. However yet again there will be stiff competition for places next year as many of the younger members of the school are improving rapidly and have single figure handicaps.

Mark Howell

Boat Club

1990 Regattas

A poor season at the senior end was balanced by promising performances among the junior oarsmen.

The 1st VIII were unable to agree among themselves as to the relative importance of rowing and academic work. Consequently, after two early regattas their season ended prematurely and in some disarray, with two planned entries having to be scratched. At Wallingford, in a Senior 3 event dominated by university crews they won twice, over Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford (narrowly), and Southampton University (impressively), but were then well beaten in the semi-final by the eventual winners, Hampton School. At Marlow Spring they came a very close second in a straight final, beating Clare College, Cambridge, but going down to Emanuel School. And that, regrettably, was it. It was a shame that our most distinguished crew of recent years should finish on a low note.

The Boat Club is very grateful to Messrs Geoff Baker and Peter Hunt, who gave up a great deal of time this year to coach the VIII in the absence of Mr Iain Meyer in Australia. Without their efforts there would have been no racing season at all.

The 6¹ 1st IV, who had suffered from a dearth of coaching and had rather lost heart as a result, did not race at all, and subsequently decided to give up rowing altogether. Though understandable in the circumstances, this was a disappointment, considering the promise that their year-group had shown at J16 level. The J16 IV, also in an exam term, were an object lesson to their elders in the successful combination of rowing with work without detriment to either. Their season began impressively in the Novice IVs event at Wallingford. After two fairly easy heats they faced a strong, technically very competent, adult crew from Molesey Rowing club in the final. Though hard pressed all the way, and labouring in the considerable heat of the afternoon, they managed to answer all the attacks of the bigger crew to win. There were no other regatta wins to report for the season, though beating

the Shrewsbury IV into third place at Thames Valley Park was a pleasing achievement. This crew has shown a refreshingly positive attitude, an openness to constructive criticism, and a sense of humour that was perhaps epitomised in the tee-shirt devised by their 3-man (The Famous Five and WHO?).

The J15s, racing in IVs, began their season with a promising second place to Hampton at Thames Ditton. They also reached the final on a very windy day at Reading Town, but succumbed to local rivals, Sir William Borlase's School, who coped better with the difficult conditions. Both the 'A' and 'B' crews showed themselves capable of performing well in individual races, but not of driving on through to win events. There is potentially much strength in the squad, but it needs greater singleness of purpose, and improvement in technique to bring it out.

The Saunders Rowing Cup was awarded to Jarrod Farley, stroke of the J16 IV.

The Boat Club has been delighted to see the achievements of former member Mark Thomson at junior international level, and we wish him every success in the sport in the future.

Summary of Entries

Wallingford	1st VIII - J16 IV*
Marlow Spring	1st VIII**
Avon County Schools'	J16 IV
Hereford Schools'	J16 IV
Thames Ditton	J15 'A' IV**
Bedford Star Junior	J16 IV - J15 'A' IV
Thames Valley Park	J16 IV** - J15 'A' & 'B' IVs
Reading Town	J16 IV** - J15 'A' IV**

* win ** second place

Crews

1st VIII	1st IV
M F Stidworthy (cox)	J B Baguley (cox)
J D Dyer (str)	A M Gill (str)
A J Hunt	R Holden
J L Ball	C R Jennings
M D Groves	D T Holland
S T Zabel	
S E McDonald	
N A Seymour	
D M Hancox	

J16 IV

W H Spooner (cox)
J L Farley (str)
A C Mawhood
C M Denison
M D P Wynter

J 15 squad

A T M Bain
B J R Cave (cox)
T J Crompton
J A Goodwill
M D Hoare
A M Lewis
G M Lynch
J C Martin (cox)
J S Ray
A Sweetman

1991 Head of the River Races

The Club was represented at five 'head' races, including the two premier events for schools at Henley and on the Tideway in London. The 1st IV were second overall, and fastest coxed IV at Reading Schools' Head. The J16 VIII achieved second place in Novice VIIIs at the Marlow Thames Valley Trial Head and fifth place overall at Reading Schools' Head. The bow IV achieved third place in Novice IVs at the Abingdon Head.

In the national School's Head, rowed over three quarters

of the Boat Race course on the Tideway, the 1st IV were 37th out of 74 senior IV's and the J16 VIII were 66th out of 88 senior VIII's.

Summary of entries

Thames Valley Head (Marlow)	J16 VIII
Henley Schools' Head	J16 VIII - 1st IV
Reading School's Head	J16 VIII - 1st IV
The Schools' Head	J16 VIII - 1st IV
Abingdon Head	J16 'A' & 'B' IVs

Crews

1st IV	J16 squad
W H Spooner (cox)	G M Lynch (str VIII & 'A' IV)
J L Farley (str)	A Sweetman
A C Mawhood	J A Goodwill
C M Denison	T J Crompton
M D P Wynter	A M Lewis (str 'B' IV)
	A T M Bain
	J S Ray
	M D Hoare
	B J R Cave (cox)
	J C Martin (cox)

J.P.E.

Basketball

The 1990-91 season was a far from memorable one for RGS basketball. No teams qualified from the first group stage of the English Schools Championship; only the U19 side played in a Bucks Cup final, and although there were some notable victories in an abbreviated Herts League season, the School was 'white-washed' by local rivals, Chesham High. A number of reasons could be cited for this disappointing form, but perhaps the most significant was a new ruling that greatly inhibited the 'fast-break' - a fundamental source of points in the RGS game.

The U19 team, who had so successfully outrun teams in previous years, found a lack of height and limited 'fast-breaks' particularly harsh. A good win against Gyosei in the English Championship was followed by defeat against Barton Peveril (74-96). An undistinguished season ended with a Bucks Cup Final defeat at the hands of Chesham High (65-77).

The U16 squad, having enjoyed limited success in earlier seasons, were the most improved team of the year. After an exciting 63-62 win against Lord Grey they were knocked out of the English Championship by Crofton (65-50). Conclusive wins in the Bucks Cup against Wing and Misbourne was followed by a dismal semi-final defeat against Chesham High (40-64). It was in the Herts League that RGS produced their best basketball, twice registering over 100 points against useful opposition. The team played with confidence and enthusiasm which augurs well for next year.

The U15 side lacked a dominant influence on court and found scoring with any consistency very difficult. They suffered heavy defeats in the English Championship and Bucks Cup semi-final against Connaught and Gyosei respectively. Their enthusiasm for the game must be applied to developing their shooting skills.

The U14's have developed a squad with considerable depth and talent. They were unlucky to be drawn against Denbigh School in both national and County competitions. In both games they demonstrated the athletic ability to

compete with more refined basketball teams. With more regular fixtures and a commitment to develop their skill and knowledge they have the talent to offer hope of a bright future for RGS basketball.

Out thanks to all boys who worked as table officials this season and to Ann Howarth for her enthusiasm and guidance.

M.J.D/C.C.T

Fencing

Fencing received a boost this year with the return of Mr Adrian Griffin to the staff. Training sessions suddenly become more intensive, sights were raised and the results poured in. The team recaptured the Southern Section Under 18 title, we dominated the BBO age groups and had a clean sweep of wins in all weapons at under 18 in the Southern England competitions; Jeremy Parkinson (epee), Hiroshi Kamide (sabre) and Edward Rysdale (foil). Results in National Finals were also impressive with Mark Chacksfield 10th (under 18 foil), David Whiting 3rd (under 16 foil), and Jeremy Parkinson 6th (under 18 epee). Consequently Jeremy Parkinson was selected for the British Cadet (under 17) Team for the World Championships in Italy. David Whiting represented England at under 16 level in both foil and epee and helped steer England to a comfortable win in the Home Internationals.

The Public Schools Championships at Crystal Palace once again proved a happy hunting ground for RGS fencers. Edward Rysdale's dramatic win in the Senior Foil brought the cup back to the RGS for the fifth time in seven years. Previous notable winners (RGS unless stated otherwise) have been: Nick Payne (1990 and 1989), Tom Payne (1988), Adrian Griffin (1985), Sir Winston Churchill (Harrow School 1892). Other good results were David Whiting 4th and Seang-Lim Tan 9th at Junior Foil, David Whiting 13th at Junior Sabre.

Many of our more junior fencers are coming through strongly. Both William Rysdale and Tim Gallagher reached the finals of the Southern Section at under 14 level and qualified for the National Finals. Tim Whitfield has acquitted himself well in the Leon Paul series along with Tom Roebuck who reached the quarter finals of the Eton Foil and Jamie McCallion who won the last junior competition at the school.

The RGS team was highly successful in matches, notching up victories over Abingdon, Eton, Wellington, Forest, Bradfield, Marlborough, St Edwards, Merchant Taylors, KCS Wimbledon and Harrow. The one defeat was against Westminster. In the National Schools Team competition the RGS first team (Chacksfield, Rysdale, Whiting) beat Millfield for third place and the second team (Parkinson, Tan, Roebuck) took an excellent seventh place - by far the highest placed second team.

The year thus ends with satisfaction over the achievements and with anticipation for the year ahead. We say farewell to 62 fencers and in particular my thanks go to Hiroshi Kamide for his loyal efforts. We also sadly say goodbye to Mr Griffin and thank him for his brief but valuable contribution to fencing at his old school. We wish him luck in his new career out of teaching. Thanks go to Mrs Payne (coach) and Mrs Dodds (matron and repairer of kits).

John Roebuck

Table Tennis

It has been another lively season with regular, twice weekly, after school 'club sessions', and a total of nine school teams playing competitively throughout the season.

Full school colours have been awarded to all members of our Senior 'A' team; Joel Mawdsley (Capt), Sean Priestley, Trevor Woolliams and Edward Belcher. This is a landmark, being the first time at RGS that Table Tennis has been honoured with this recognition.

In their final season playing for the school this team finished third in the High Wycombe and District Senior League Division Three. They have maintained their improvement throughout their RGS years from when they began as second formers in the second division of the Youth League and have done much for RGS Table Tennis by their commitment and sportsmanship.

On a personal note all of the 'A' team players would like to thank Mr Kempson for his unstinting support and effort towards both team and club over the past six years.

Our achievements this season do not end with the senior A team. Our 'B' team: Andrew Hickman (Capt), Stephen Barlow, Justin Webb and Simon Woolliams finished in 2nd

place in Division 6 and both 'C' and 'D' teams fought well to finish in mid-table on the 6th and 7th Divisions respectively.

For the first time ever an RGS Table Tennis team won through the Bucks Schools competition to represent the County at U13 level in the English Schools National Team competition. Our team of Robert Weaver, Christopher Butterfield, Philip Hobbs and Philip Barlow played with great promise and tenacity in the Home Counties competition, finishing in 4th place.

On a personal note, Christopher Monnington (3W), a member of our senior 'C' team, won through to the final of the Boys' Singles in the High Wycombe and District Individual Championship, defeating the second and third seeds in the process, and losing at last, to the player three years his senior. Congratulations and commiserations, Christopher!

In the Youth League, our five teams have shown improvement all season, but 1st place in both divisions was denied them by the might of Hazlemere TT Club. Nonetheless we have the makings of some very capable teams for the future, and things look good for next year.

J.R.B.K and Joel Mawdsley



Peter Szyszko 5S Monoprint

O.C.'s Report

"This range built for the Combined Cadet Force Contingent of the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe by the Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association for Eastern Wessex was opened by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the County of Buckinghamshire, Commander The Honourable J T Fremantle, J.P., RN (Ret'd) on Thursday September 27th, 1990."

"This range is also a tribute to the memory of Lieutenant Colonel R Pattinson, Officer Commanding Combined Cadet Force (1945-1977)

and

Squadron Leader C P Smaje

Second in Command (1977-1987)

by whose work Rifle Shooting was greatly encouraged and the standards of the Contingent continually enhanced."

The story behind those shining brass plaques in the New Range is deeply encouraging. It started just after the war when Colonel Pattinson seized an opportunity. Temporary wooden buildings, put in the grounds in Uplyme as part of a small war-time instruments factory, were being demolished. There was enough material to make a Miniature Range, and Pat (as those of us lucky enough to serve under him knew him), somehow saw this and got it moved the half mile or so to the edge of the School Field.

There it remained in continual use for over 40 years both in training and as a CCF Shooting Club presided over, genially by Squadron Leader Peter Smaje from 1977-1987. Without the foresight and devoted keenness of these men we should not have our own range now and our training would have been very much the poorer.

However the old Range began to show its age and developed a list to port in spite of a rugged military equivalent of flying buttresses on the leeward side.

TAVRA, in the shape of Colonel Ted Shephard, very generously allocated funds for a brick built replacement. It is splendid and we should like to record our very warmest thanks to all those involved in the project which, in spite of ferocious storms, went extremely smoothly. We were able to give some indication of our appreciation at a luncheon for the Lord Lieutenant and our Services friends on the day of the opening. The Cadets of all three sections, Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force played a very important part in the welcoming of our guests. These included the families of both Colonel Pattinson and Squadron Leader Smaje.

It is of course a very valuable practical asset. It is also an expression of highly congenial and positive partnership between the Services and the School to which I was able to pay a more detailed tribute last year. It is an appreciation which I believe is felt by all of us in the Contingent, whatever our roles.

Much has happened in addition to all our normal training here, at Camps, on Courses, on attachments abroad. RSM Tony Gibb has been chosen as Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant's Cadet for the County of Buckinghamshire this year and will be playing an important part in the welcome the School is giving to Her Royal Highness, the Princess of Wales. W O Richard Wells represented all RAF Sections, CCF, at the Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall.

We have had the highest compliments about the bearing turnout, ability and at the same time the friendliness of

these cadets on the most important occasions.

In March the Contingent was chosen as one of five in the country to send a representative team to the Cadet Training Centre when His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh visited the Centre to see the Cadet Forces at work - which they were, energetically engaged on a series of Command Tasks.

Later came the General Inspection Review Day when we have the intriguing task of reflecting, so far as we can in two or three hours, all the types of activity in which we have been engaged in the last two years. The Chief Inspecting Officer was Brigadier Reeves, the Commandant of the Army School of Education Corps, our sponsor unit. He was assisted by Staff Officers from each of the three services who know the Contingent well from their regular liaison visits in which they give such positive help. The Brigadier and his staff have been able to say that, as we hoped, our appreciation of what the Services do is reflected in the standard of training. They were particularly glad that cadet NOC's were given the opportunity to exercise responsibility in graduated levels and were using that opportunity to gain experience of all the planning and reassessment, and the cultivation of the ability both to be involved and to keep their heads above the water.

It is not possible unfortunately to list all those whether within the Contingent - Staff and cadets - or from outside Services and civilians to whom thanks are due. The people are nonetheless there continually in my mind, not only because they are friends but also because of the vigorous and worthwhile work that goes on with such good cheer.

This year though, I should like to mention three parents who beyond any strict call of duty have committed themselves to keep up the good work. First there is Flying Officer Vivien Seymour who joined 'simply to help' and when Squadron Leader Sollars left on promotion she accepted the invitation to take on the much bigger job of OC RAF Section. Then there is Mr Geoffrey Rysdale whose offer to help with shooting coincided admirably with the building of the new Range and whose commitment is such that he now has gained a CCF Commission and is helping with the more general training. These parents in turn have brought in friends who have until now no special connection with the School, Mrs Angela Higgs and Mr Don McGairy. For their help we are extremely grateful. Then Mr Andrew Bucknall has also been on the Range Course and has already given valuable help there.

Squadron Leader Sollars has been at the School since September 1974 and from the start was not only a loyal and hard working officer in the RAF Section in all spheres, but also a valued supervisor and helper in Adventure Training in Snowdonia, Black Mountains, Brecon Beacons, Cader Idris and Dartmoor - not to mention the expeditions abroad including USA and Turkey. He became OC RAF Section and second in Command of the contingent in 1987, and in all these roles he has played a key part both in the activities themselves, and the long business of planning and administration. He goes with our warmest thanks and very best wishes.

When Her Royal Highness comes to open the New Library the Contingent has been extremely pleased to be asked to provide a party to line the route. She has also asked to see Old Boys who have been serving in the Gulf. By latest known addresses, through parents and through the RGS grapevine, we are hearing names and sending invitations. So far we have heard of, or from Peter Fenlon-Smith, Adrian Jarvis, Jonathan Preece, Rupert

Swinhoe-Standen, Timothy Watts, Nicholas Wilkes, Jonathan Coups, Kevin Haugh, Peter Smith and Bruce Martin.

Finally we have just heard with shock and deepest sadness of the death of Mr Derek Stubbs. No words are adequate. It is the price of knowing good people that we feel their loss so keenly. Our thoughts go out to Mrs Margaret Stubbs, to Adam and to Sarah.

All will have their memories. For many of us, perhaps, one that will suggest all that was best in Derek is his presence at our last camp on Dartmoor, happy as he was in that setting in the country, engaged in the variety of our activities with Adam, very young as he was at the time, enjoying the company and coping admirably with the strenuous programme, and Margaret and Sarah driving over one evening to see how the menfolk were getting on.

For all he was to us and did for us we honour him with our abiding affection and gratitude.

F.N.C.

Royal Naval Section

The theme of this year's Royal Naval Section activities would seem to be 'sorry, cancelled'. The start of the year promised much with many trips to various naval establishments arranged, but as was soon to be discovered all were cancelled due to illness and, inevitably, the Gulf War.

One of the main objectives of the section is to introduce cadets to the basic principles of canoeing, sailing and windsurfing. The continued use of the excellent facilities available to us at Danesfield has helped us achieve this. Between this and assorted practical leadership tasks, this year has been very entertaining for any onlookers as well as ourselves.

The opening of the new range has allowed us to resume our full range of activities, which would not have been possible without the help of Mr Rysdale taking charge of the shooting details on a Thursday afternoon.

The main event that we have been building up to this year was the General Inspection. With a practice run back in October and the actual Inspection in March, it was a complete success as the ensuing report shows.

It just remains for me to thank Lt Claye, Cdr. Fleming and all the senior rates who have helped make this an enjoyable year for myself and, I hope, the whole section.

Coxswain David Kumar

General Inspection

The day got off to a predictable start with the ever competent Canoe Intercept Team subtly 'creeping up' on the Brigadier as he was rowed down the river. He claims not to have seen them but I find it hard to believe five big, blue canoes can fail to be noticed! He proceeded under escort to RAF Danesfield where the official inspection took place after the Brigadier was piped ashore. Everything went according to plan and the Brigadier returned to school to continue the inspection of the RAF and Army sections. We could now relax and enjoy the rest of the day's activities which consisted mainly of a downstream expedition to an island close to Hurky Lock. On reaching

the island a temporary Officers Mess and Cook House were set up in which lunch was cooked and served to Lt Claye and Lt Cdr Brown. No expense had been spared to supply a deliciously cooked (!) casserole, ice cream, wine and sherry, all of which were served with such elegance. Coffee was cancelled as time caught up with us, and the expedition continued downstream to Marlow Rowing Club. The equipment and cadets were ferried back to Danesfield by minibus, somewhat precariously with canoes sticking out of the back. The Section then returned to school for the final de-brief from the Brigadier and his inspecting team. Some mention must be made of the Navy Shooting Team who missed out on the fun at the river to participate in the shooting competition. They came a creditable third place.

L.S Dominic Russell

Army Section

This year has proven to be a typically busy year for the Army Section. Events such as the SEDSAM and CADSAM shooting and patrolling competitions and a weekend battlecraft exercise proved very successful. The two main camps in the peak District and the Royal Green Jackets in Germany were very beneficial and enjoyable enabling both Cadets and NCO's to gain valuable experience in leadership and initiative. Visits to Beaconsfield RAEC and a presentation by the Royal Corp of Signals were also very worthwhile, with a presentation by the Army Air Corps soon to come.

The skills of the APC are taught by the NCO's on Thursday afternoons. Because of the large number of Upper Sixth formers, some Senior NCO's have carried out the duties that would only normally require a JNCO. However, as in all cases, these tasks have been done efficiently and without complaint. A great deal of commitment by NCO's and Cadets alike has resulted in a very successful and enjoyable year. All members were greatly encouraged and rewarded by what was undoubtedly the highlight of the year, the General Inspection, in which the Chief Inspecting Officer greatly commended the CCF in his final report. A great deal of hard work and organisation went into this event and all went smoothly.

RSM Gibb
NCO i/c Army Section

As these reports suggest this has been another very active and exhilarating year of activities, none of which would be organised without the unceasing help of the NCOs. It is to these I offer my great thanks to all who have helped but in particular to all of the Senior NCOs for their enthusiasm, leadership and full commitment to the Section.

I also offer many thanks to Sgt. Sadler and Sgt. Jock Ennis from the 16CTT and to my fellow Officers, Capt Roger Hollingworth, Lt. Tony Boreham and 2. Lt Geoffrey Rysdale for all of the friendship and help this year. Finally, we have a very good cohort of Junior NCOs coming through for 1991 and it is to them that I look for yet another exciting year.

Capt S J Grundy
Officer Commanding

General Inspection

Every two years a Senior Staff officer from one of the Services visits the School to see whether our CCF is running correctly and is worth continuing. This year it was the turn of Brigadier Reeves from the RAEC at Beaconsfield to inspect us.

This year, as in all of the years before, the Army Section pulled out all of the stops to put on a good show. We tried to show, in forty minutes, as many aspects of Army Section life as possible. These included: a Guard of Honour, Battlecraft, Rock Climbing, Adventure Training, Leadership Tasks, Orienteering and Lectures.

The Guard of Honour, composed mainly of NCOs with some Senior Cadets, performed a very well executed Salute with Arms after much practice and some threats of physical violence from our Regular Army representative (which thankfully did not need carrying out).

The afternoon continued with the Brigadier having all of the activities shown and explained to him. His tour ended with a very impressive battlecraft demonstration led by Sgt. Cracknell which involved a lot of loud bangs and shouting.

After a brief pause for the activities to be packed away, the whole CCF was paraded in the Queen's Hall for a debrief by the Brigadier, a general summary of which was that he was very impressed by what he had seen and that his resulting report would be good.

C S M Joseph Baguley,
Second in Command of Section



Tending the wounded

Leek Camp, Easter 1991

Leek 91 proved to be an interesting experience for all who went this year. A surprisingly low turnout of the 4th year cadets caused less of a problem than anticipated and it wasn't long before the camp got into full swing. The first day turned out to be a day of revision followed by vigorous exertion (orienteering). Days two and three showed the gradual progression of a resistance force in their attempt to blow up Parliament until their final overthrow by the forces of good (or that was the brief!!). It turned out to be an exercise in a bitterly cold wind on a moor with cadets really enjoying themselves even if they didn't quite know what they were doing. Only Sgt. Ennis, thinking his Landrover was a submersible, interrupted the smooth running of the first day of the exercise.

Day four brought the annual assault of Kinder Scout preceded by Captain Grundy's annual comment on our poor choice of travel music. The weather, although still windy, was perfect (unlike last year), and visibility was excellent. There were the usual bog jumping games, with great amusement arising from RSM Gibbs and Sgt. Ennis both getting stuck in wet peat up to their waists, and C. Sgt. Cracknell displaying his amazing talent of being able not only to walk, but to run, in water.

Day five saw the farewell to the Platoon Commander and his Platoon Sergeant, whilst the remainder of the group went rock-climbing, Lt Boreham having gone over the technique in great detail the night before. After a good morning's rock climbing and initiative tests in the afternoon, everyone came home in high spirits on Friday.

This was the last Leek Camp for the Senior NCO's who will be sincerely missed next year.

C. Sgt. M. Cooper

1st Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, Osnabrück, 1990

This epic visit to our parent regiment in Germany cannot be done justice on paper. There was not a minute spare during our week's stay. We were kept busy with activities both military and otherwise. These included SA80 and LSW weapons training and Section Fire Drills. Regular Army style. (From this came the quote of the week from one rifleman, "I'm a scout, I scout ahead to look for enemy, i.e. where the enemy are located"), and a 36 hour exercise which saw cadets drive APC 432's, fire the SA80 and LSW, throw smoke grenades, use the IWS and generally doing themselves proud with all the real kit - no .303's to be seen!

A 5 mile CFT run in full webbing and 40 degrees C, SA80 range firing a CQB, combat first and training, and assault course, a mortar platoon visit to see MILAN and use MIRA's, a visit to 4 RTR to drive 60 tonne Chieftain tanks around the base, swimming, several times in the 35 degrees C heat we had all week, waterskiing, 10 pin bowling, trips to Osnabrück town, a barbeque, beating 2 platoon at football and watching various training videos.

Great fun was had by all on this rewarding camp.

Sgt J Davies

RAF Section

The year began with more than twice the number of recruits, and they have been busy acquiring the basic skills and knowledge that open the doors to the wealth of activities that are on offer outside Thursday parades. Our Warrant Officers and NCOs have been guiding and instructing the new cadets who have quickly become valued members of the Section and have started taking advantage of the opportunities available.

The highlight of the year was being accorded the very great honour of providing the RAF escort to the CCF standard at the Royal Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. Our Section Warrant Officer, Richard Wells, brought credit to the school and to the RAF section in the way he performed this duty.

Warrant Officers Richard Wells and James Dewar have undergone their Flying Training awarded under the Flying Scholarship Scheme, Warrant Officer Phil Read was awarded a University Cadetship and is now commissioned as Acting Pilot Officer, and Richard Wells has a Sixth Form scholarship.

Corporals Oden and Heaven and Cadet Gerrard were selected for places on the King George VI Leadership Challenge at Frimley Park, conducted under the watchful eye of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh.

Leading Cadets Edwards and Hodgson were part of the CCF's winning team at Cadsam shooting competition and Hodgson (now Jnr. Cpl) was top shot at the Inter Service Shooting Competition on General Inspection Day. Our team came a close second. Every Cadet in the Section gave of his best at the Biennial Review and put on a good show for our Reviewing officer, Brigadier B Reeves, M.A. It was a first class demonstration of teamwork across the whole section.

All Cadets have flown in a chipmunk at RAF Abingdon at least once this year, whilst those who have attended RAF camp notched up one or two more flights. Twenty NCOs have been gliding at RAF Halton. Cadets have also been on Methods of Instruction Courses at 16CTT Bicester and Leadership Courses at RAF Hereford where they have honed their leadership instructors' skills. Corporal Bennett and Junior Corporal Hodgson were selected for the CCF Easter Camp at RAF Gibraltar.

We were delighted to have had visits from our last year's Warrant Officers, Phil Read and Neil Seymour. Neil gave a most interesting talk on his experiences on the International Air Cadet Exchange representing Southern district. He is now undergoing civilian pilot training at Kidlington. Phil, now at Hull University, gave up a week of his vacation to come and assist at our Easter Camp at RAF Linton-on-Ouse. Our activities and programme are as varied and successful as a result of the hard work and enthusiasm of the Warrant officers and NCOs in the Section and the very strong support given by our RAF Liaison Officer, Flt Lt D. Quick, and our RAF Liaison SNCO, Flt. Sgt. A. Waddell, who instructs the NCO cadre and is always ready to help with the need of the moment. Second Lieutenant Rysdale is responsible for our developing success in shooting, Sergeant B Lucas, RAF, gives his time whenever he is free from his duties at Strike Command and has given us a most interesting lecture on the work of RAF Intelligence Services. Mrs. A. Higgs helped with the transportation of the cadets to RAF Abingdon for flying until her family moved to Southampton. Flt. Lt. R. Boutland came to help with our

adventurous training weekend in the Black Mountains and and Fg. Off. H. Munday gave valuable support during our Biennial General Inspection. Our warm thanks to all.

Warrant officers Richard Wells, James Dewar and Jerome Bhat have shown first class leadership qualities, organisational ability and commitment to the Section - a great team strongly supported by Flt. Sgt. Richard Holden (i/c Recruits), Flt. Sgt. Nasar Yaseen (Armourer and Weapons Trainer) and Flt. Sgt. Marcus Elmidoro (Supply SNCO).

They leave with our thanks and very good wishes, secure in the knowledge that they have left the section in first class order with next year's SNCOs well trained and ready to take up the challenge.

We look forward next year to developing our range of activities and accepting new challenges.

V. R. Seymour
Flying Officer, O.C. RAF Section

General Inspection

The main event of the CCF year was the General Inspection, held on the 14th March 1991. A spectacular 'Guard of Honour' consisting of 15 RAF cadets and 15 Army cadets greeted the incoming party. The afternoon's events crammed virtually all of the RAF syllabus into a period of an hour and a half. A glider was launched from the top of the Science Block, demonstrating the aeromodelling skills of section members which, unfortunately, came to an untimely end. Various principles of light lectures and a lecture on the cadet GP rifle took place, along with an excellent display of drill manoeuvres taken by Flt. Sgt. R. Holden. With an orienteering exercise carried out with army cadets, initiative tests, a balloon debate and an intersection shooting competition in which (RAF) J Cpl Hodgson gained the highest individual score, the afternoon was filled. All Inspecting Officers were most impressed with the professionalism of the instructing NCO's and the potential held by cadets. The enthusiasm of all participants led to a very successful day, for which everyone must be congratulated.

Section Warrant Officer
Richard Wells

International Air Cadet Exchange - Germany, August 1990

The International Air Cadet Exchange was originally set up between the British and Canadian Royal Air Forces, and now includes all of NATO, Switzerland, Hong Kong and Israel. In September 1989 I was interviewed by Flt Lt Lloyd of the Air Cadet Liaison Team. I was later informed that I had a place, along with about 80 air cadets nationwide on the Exchange. I would be going to Germany.

On 23rd July 1990, all the British participants flew to Rhein Main Air Force Base in Frankfurt by Hercules from RAF Lyneham. At Rhein Main (US Air Force) all the participants of IACE (about 460) met up and each party was flown by their host Air Force to their eventual destination. The German party from Britain, USA, Canada, Israel, Norway, Sweden and Turkey were 'flown' by coach,

six hours to the Air Force Officer School at Furstenfeldbruck near Munich. From here we were given VIP tours of Munich, the now redundant Border Guard Command and MBB where the prototype 'Eurocopter' was being built.

For the second week we were flown by USAF Boeing 737 to Tempelhof airport in West Berlin. The final part of the tour involved a visit to the Federal Air Force Tornado base at Lechfeld. The highlight of the whole exchange by far was the visit to the Federal Armed Forces Technical Centre 52 at Oberjettenberg in the Bavarian Alps. The centre is an underground weapons testing range for testing state of the art weapons (no cameras allowed). We were flown by Bell UH1D helicopter to the centre, three in formation at 200 feet. If anybody is offered the opportunity to go on IACE they should certainly jump at it. There will never be a second opportunity.

W O Neil Seymour
(1990 leaver now under training at
Oxford Air Training School)

Festival of Remembrance - November 1990

This year saw the CCF's first inclusion in the annual Remembrance Service at the Royal Albert Hall. I was lucky and honoured to be selected to represent the RAF contingent of the CCF nationwide.

The Festival unites millions of people in a most moving ceremony which enables us to remember all those who have given their lives. This year's Festival (10th November 1990) included the Parade of Standards in which 120 standards, representing the 3,290 Branches of the Royal British Legion, the Women's Section and Service Organisations were mustered in a most impressive display. The festival concluded with a moving cascade of poppy petals over the massed gathering of representatives of all Her Majesty's Armed Forces and Civilian Services. "For each petal a life laid down, for every life a memory cherished."

Warrant Officer Richard Wells

Methods of Instruction Course, Bicester - February 1991

This course was held at 16 Cadet Training Team between the 15th and 17th February, and was attended by several CCF's from the local area. There were 8 cadets from our contingent, 5 Army, 3 RAF.

The aim of the weekend was to teach us how to give lectures using the best possible methods. Saturday consisted of lessons on instructional technique and there were two demonstration lectures. Later, we were told the subjects of the lectures we had to prepare, on map and compass and on weapons. The rest of the evening, and the early hours in some cases, was spent in preparation.

The following morning we were told which lecture to give. Half the set did one topic and half the other. Each lecture was marked on different aspects e.g. preparation, delivery, understanding. If your first lecture was a write-off

the second could be used to redeem yourself, but on-one needed to do this.

Junior Corporals James Edwards & Kevin Hodgson

RAF Easter Camp

The Easter Camp was a very enjoyable one and held this year at RAF Linton-on-Ouse, a small village about 10 miles north-west of the City of York which is home to this large training base.

The Cadets who attended the camp were drawn from 7 contingents and totalled 43. Our heartfelt thanks must go out to Fg. Off. Seymour who spared a whole week of her time to drive us there and help with the camp. For once our numbers included female cadets who were originally offered the places to complete the number of rooms allocated to the camp by the RAF. However, it became clear that they were not just there to constitute the remainder of the camp.

Each day a group of 15 or so cadets were taken 20 miles to RAF Leeming where our flying was to take place in Chipmunks. RAF Leeming is home to 3 squadrons of Tornados and we were lucky enough to be given a comprehensive tour around, and in, these aircraft.

Whilst Leeming was home for operational aircraft, Linton-on-Ouse was a training centre for future RAF frontline pilots. The pilots train in Jet Provosts, and 6 cadets were very fortunate to have a half hour stint after attending a medical and an ejection seat brief.

Other activities included section attachments, where cadets chose a part of the station in which they were interested (air traffic control, the armoury, the RAF police, the fire service and the catering department), shooting, a day navigation exercise, swimming and a familiarisation exercise.

On the last day just above the continual crying of the female cadets could be heard, "We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when..."

Corporal Elliot Toms

King George VI Leadership Challenge - March 1991

At Frimley Park, 9 cadets, 4 army, 3 RAF and 2 navy were to meet HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, but that was by no means all. During our visit to the Cadet Training Centre, we were to take part in ten set exercises. Our first exercise was to erect a tent in under 10 minutes and our team was marshalled by our RAF Section Cpl. Mark Oden. From here we moved round all the exercises, all of which demanded a good team and a good leader. These ranged from crossing quicksand with two barrels and three planks of wood, to first aid.

After being photographed with the Duke of Edinburgh, we returned tired after an enjoyable day.

Corporal Chris Heaven

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

Annual General Meeting

Nineteen people were present for the AGM held in the Common Room on 20th April 1991. The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

Matters Arising

The library project had now been reinstated and was very near to completion. The official opening by HRH The Princess of Wales has been arranged for 6th June 1991.

The area of the old canteen has been reinstated with grass and trees. The change back to the 11+ has proved to be too costly for the county to undertake at the moment. The school was just about coping with Local Management of Schools. The county money was just enough to keep the school ticking over.

Treasurer's Report

Subscriptions were received from 37 life members during the year totalling £1,110 which added to the Capital Account together with the surplus for the year of £159, gives a balance of £6,163 as opposed to an opening balance of £4,839. Concern was expressed about the fact that the National Westminster Bank had started to charge for the account, without any individual notification to the Treasurer. Apparently he was supposed to have seen an advertisement in the newspaper informing him of the decision to charge.

Election of Officers

All the officers eligible for re-election were re-elected en masse. Geoffrey West tendered his resignation from the committee after many years' devoted service and thanks were expressed for all that he had done.

Headmaster's comments

The completion of the library project would see the end of the third phase of the ten-year plan drawn up by the Governors at the beginning of the 1980s. The library would not only contain books, but films, videos and Information Technology networks giving access across the world. The Governors had wisely husbanded charitable incomes and investments, which together with money raised by the Parents' Association (£32,000) and a generous benefactor (£12,000) brought a grand total of £62,000.

The school had many sporting achievements to record, particularly in rugby, hockey, rowing and fencing.

Any Other Business

J K Prior congratulated the Headmaster and staff on the way they had rallied round to get the best value for money under the Local Management of Schools Scheme.

T C T Knowles asked if Old Boys might have access to the school on the night of the dinner. The Headmaster said the school would be open for Old Boys to view next year.

Annual Dinner 1991

82 Old Boys attended the Annual Dinner in the New Dining Hall after the AGM. The toast to the school and club was proposed by Daniel White (1968-75). The Headmaster responded with a review of the school year. He mentioned the forthcoming retirement of David Jones, Head of the History Department who is retiring in July after 33 years' service. His retirement would mean that for the first time since the First World War, there would be no 'Jones' on the staff. It was with sadness that he had to

report the tragic death of Derek Stubbs, Old Boy and former P.E master at the school. Derek had been a regular attender of Old Boys' Dinners in the past.

The London Marathon, to be run the next day, is sponsored by ADT, whose Chairman, Michael Ashcroft, is an Old Boy.

Deaths - Old Boys

ALFRED W BRADLEY (1938-43) who died aged 65, was one of the most important single influences in the postwar development of British drama, especially in the regions. Under his encouragement many leading dramatists, including Alan Ayckbourn, Keith Waterhouse, John Braine and Stan Barstow were launched on their careers. Alfred originally trained as an actor, but instead became interested in producing. He spent five years as drama adviser to the County of Leicestershire, before joining the BBC in 1959 where he ran the drama departments at Leeds and then Manchester. His own plays included collaboration with Stan Barstow in the dramatisation of some of his novels including 'A Kind of Loving' and 'The Adventures of Paddington Bear' which he adapted for the West End from the book by Michael Bond. He leaves his widow Judith, a grand-daughter of Eric Gill the sculptor, and six children.

C C CRADWICK (1927-33) died aged 75 on 10th January 1991, the day on which he was to leave hospital after a heart valve operation. From RGS under the guidance of Dr E C Millington, he won a scholarship which took him to Reading University where he gained a first-class BSc Physics Honours degree in 1936. He spent his working life at Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, with long spells in Australia, Washington, The Hague, India etc.

At RGS as an all-rounder, he captained the cricket XI and also gained 1st XI soccer colours.

He leaves a widow and a son, Dr Jeremy, who is a surgeon at Peterborough. His final years were spent at East Coker, in the churchyard of which were scattered the ashes of T S Eliot, a former RGS master.

His brother, L W Cradwick, still lives at Farnham.

A S GANN (1939-45) Tony Gann went from the RGS to LSE. After graduation and National Service, he became a journalist for a short time but then found his real vocation in the Civil Service, firstly in the Colonial office and later for most of his career at the Department of Education and Science. He retired at the end of 1985, involving himself in the life of Lewes, Sussex, where he had lived for many years. After a short illness he died in a Brighton Hospital in July 1989 leaving a wife and four children.

BJORN SIEDENTOPF (1982-88) died tragically in June 1990. He had just finished his second year of Chemistry at Imperial College, London. Bjorn had a keen and enquiring mind and great potential. Independent and determined, his individuality will be missed by his friends.

DEREK J STUBBS (1961-62), Staff (1967-90) Derek Stubbs came from a well known sporting family of High Wycombe. He was an exceptional athlete in all the throwing events and a powerful cross-country runner. He was also a talented basketball player and, although not so developed as a school sport in those days, he played for Wycombe Pirates with distinction.

Derek went to the RGS from Mill End Road School at the age of 16 and entered fully into the life of the school, particularly in sport, though his involvement in school rugby, a game new to him, was confined to a few House games. He went on to study for a Physical Education

Diploma in London at the Borough Road College, and found himself drawn into rugby and developed into a formidable back-row forward. By the time he returned to Wycombe and the RGS, he was embarked on a rugby career that led to his becoming Club Captain of Wycombe Rugby Football Club, rarely to be seen without a book of raffle tickets in his hand or major plans for raising club funds - a field in which he had few equals. At school, he ran the U13 rugby for years and in his last year at RGS he coached them to the national Seven-A-Side Title at Rosslyn Park. He also ran the 1st XV for some years. Beyond rugby he will be best remembered on the sporting field for his involvement in athletics at school and at District level. Off the field and on the court he was behind the great headway made by RGS basketball teams that made their mark in competitions, reaching the National finals at U16 and U18.

Derek Stubbs played a key role in RGS's boarding through being Boarding House Master of Uplyme for 17 years, ably supported by Margaret his wife who became House Matron.

Derek's death at the age of 46, leaving a widow and two children, Adam and Sara, has stunned the many generations of schoolboys whose contact with ball game sports and athletics was so richly enhanced by him as well as his colleagues at Wycombe Rugby Club. We are all the poorer for his passing.

ALAN KNIGHT WHEELBAND (1938-43) died suddenly in Kleinburg, Ontario, on 14th February 1991 aged 63. Born in Chalfont St Peter in 1927, Alan was educated at the village school, then gained a scholarship to the RGS. Although he emigrated to Canada in 1947, he regularly returned to his native Bucks and maintained contact with a number of his erstwhile schoolboy friends.

After a three year apprenticeship as a draughtsman at Martin Baker, where he worked on the company's prototype ejection seat, Alan left for Canada to join A V Roe and, subsequently, De Havilland where he progressed to become one of the company's top aeronautical design engineers.

Elder son of Chalfont St Peter historian, Audrey Wheelband, he took great pride in promoting his mother's books among the resident English community in Ontario. Royalties and sales of Mrs Wheelband's books, 'Chalfont St Peter: A Lost Village' and 'Chalfont St Peter in old picture postcards', which have gone to a total of seven editions, have raised over £6,000 for local charities.

Alan is survived by his wife, Pauline, formerly of South View Road, Gerrards Cross, two children, Richard (33) and Teresa (29), and four grandchildren.

D A WHEELER (1944-49) Derek died on 17th October 1990 after fighting a life time of ill health. He leaves his wife Rosemary at Holmer Green, a married daughter and two married sons. His third son Peter left RGS last July.

The Secretary has also been informed of the deaths of Cecil Peter Gould of The Mill Cottage, Geddes, who died peacefully in January 1991, aged 77, and of Robert Dennis Mead (1912-14) who died recently in Australia, aged 90.

Deaths - Staff

A G MANWARING (Master 1972-85), died at Llanfairwaterdine, Shropshire on 9th February, aged 47 years.

During his thirteen years at the RGS, Anthony Manwaring made an immense contribution to its life, all

the more remarkable in that he was technically only a part-time member of staff. He taught painting throughout the school and was responsible for much of the teaching of the A level Art course, where he deployed his considerable knowledge as an art historian to great effect. His aim was always to challenge his pupils and to encourage them to develop their style and their perception of the subject. An indefatigable organiser of cultural events and visits to exhibitions, Anthony made a major impact on the life of the school. 'Flair', the junior school magazine which he helped to found, produced much lively art work, poetry and prose. He was a founder member of the 'Vulture' club and rarely missed any of the outings. To visit an exhibition with him was a real joy, and many of us learned to appreciate art more fully through his expert guidance.

Anthony was educated at Highgate School and at the Royal College of Art. After two teaching appointments, he spent two years at Oundle School as Art Fellow immediately before arriving at RGS in 1972. He had a formidable intellect and compendious knowledge on a whole range of subjects, including art history, literature, music and natural history. He was also a lover of cricket (a keen supporter of Northamptonshire County Cricket Club), and a railway enthusiast.

Although he was an excellent teacher, Anthony always thought of himself primarily as an artist. When the opportunity presented itself in 1985, he left the profession to devote himself to painting in idyllic surroundings in the Welsh Border Country. In the same year that he left the RGS, Anthony married. His early death is the more tragic as this phase of his life, with his wife Monica, was so short, and left so many of his ambitions as an artist unfulfilled.

Notes

ABRAMS. D (1966-70) The Hon Sec received a bonsai tree as a birthday present from his wife this year. Two months later it was dead. He should have taken advice from Dino who had been in his form 6U in 1970. Dino is Secretary of the Wycombe Bonsai Club and takes a night class at Mill End School, teaching people the secrets of growing the tiny trees. "One of their beauties is that they never finish growing and changing. You can get a beautiful tree in about five years, but it will still be there in four hundred." Where did the Hon Sec go wrong?

ANDREWS. S T H (1972-80) Simon is still serving in Germany with his Battalion. He narrowly missed going to the Gulf and now awaits information as to what training will go on for the rest of the year.

BAILEY. A G (1962-64) retired from British Airways after 26 years' flying and has bought a farm.

BEARDALL. M J D (1977-82) is enjoying his time as First Lieutenant in HMS Berkeley (Mine Hunter) destined for warmer climes. He was honoured to be best man at S C Bowater's (1980- 82) wedding in Dayton, Ohio, last Christmas.

BEATTIE. M (1962-66) is tax partner with Suffery, Champness, Chartered Accountants in London.

BRUDNEY. N (1942-46) is a Consultant on scientific and marketing aspects of pharmaceutical ingredients and products to major companies in Europe and North America. He had previously been Director Product Development for Health Care Categories of Procter and Gamble Health and Beauty Care; and he has been responsible for the development and marketing of many new products such as Clearasil, Vicks Cough Syrup and Oil of Ulay.

BUCKINGHAM. B E H (1939-45) has been decorated by King Juan Carlos of Spain. Bryan was made a Commander of the Order of Civil Merit for his services to Spain's sherry trade, with which he has been connected for more than twenty six years. The Spanish decoration is approximately equivalent to a British CBE.

After leaving RGS, he served with the RAF for three years, then worked as a journalist with a national weekly newspaper for fifteen years, covering the war in Korea and the anti-terrorist campaign in Malaya. In the mid-1960s he left journalism and became UK spokesman and Public Relations Director for the whole of the sherry trade and was the founding director of the Sherry Institute of Spain. Semi-retired for the past two years, he is now a regular contributor on wine and food to *Decanter* and *House and Garden* magazines.

BULL. M J (1968-75) Matthew is a consultant radiologist for the Sunderland-Newcastle area. He lives in Durham and is married with two little girls. His younger brother Marcus (1974-81) has been elected to a Research Fellowship at the Institute of Historical Research, London and is completing a PhD thesis on The Crusades.

COX. G (1976-82) was successful in his accounting finals and continues to work for KPMG. He recently took part in an experiment on 19th century living when he and his girlfriend survived for several weeks with only one cold water tap in their apartment.

DAVIES. G J G (1975-81) has qualified as a Chartered Accountant and now lives in Langley. He married in 1987 and is the father of two sons.

DEAN. J R (1984-90) is currently an Officer Under Training at Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth.

EVERSON. S D (1971-78) has been elected to a Fellowship in Philosophy at Balliol College, Oxford.

FORBES. J D (1977-83) After graduating from St Andrews, John qualified as an accountant with Coopers, Lybrand, Deloitte. He is now in the Liverpool office where he works as a Corporate tax specialist. He is married to Helen, a radiotherapist, who is the sister of Roger Twissel who is a computer programmer in Manchester. He is in touch with Peter Channing who works as an auditor with Touche Ross. Both are active Liberal Democrats.

FREEMAN. J (1915-22) recently wrote with an enquiry, which his contemporary George Rolfe (1919-22) was able to answer. Jack aged 87 on 28th February 1991, must be one of our oldest Wycombiensians. He is remembered as a prefect by a worthy group of octogenarians - Harry Briden, George Wray, Sydney Hands, Paul Slatter, John Taylor, Norman Rolfe and probably others. At Jack's last Speech Day the chief guest, Lord Burnham, proprietor of *The Daily Telegraph*, spoke to the boys about the importance of initiative in their careers. Jack took the initiative to approach Lord Burnham about a job and as a result he joined Lord Burnham's Company which manufactured paper for *The Daily Telegraph*, and he studied as a chemist. After some 20 years he moved to a company in the north of England producing chemicals and fibre glass until his retirement. He lives near Newcastle and he is remarkably fit for his age.

George Rolfe's tenancy of the Royal Grammar School must be unique. He joined the school in 1919 soon after his 7th birthday when there was no age restriction. The minimum age was immediately raised to 10 years. When he left in 1922 to go to another school he was still the youngest boy, having spent three years in the lowest form!

HADDON. J S (1943-47) works as Technical Officer at the University of New South Wales, looking after rock

mechanics tests and the computing laboratory. He lives in a village about 60 rail miles from Sydney and is a keen dog show follower. One of his English setters has acquired 32 points and is now on her way to becoming Australian Champion. When he retires in about four years' time, he plans to go to the Balearic Islands, Arizona or South Devon to be near relatives. He has been a follower of *New Thought* for the past thirty years and has recently submitted several *New Thought* Primers to Religious Science Publication for consideration.

HERSCHEL. G L (1984-90) Having elected to take a year off before reading Business Administration at Bath University, Gareth worked for four months in the offices of a computerised world-wide reservation system operated by a major UK hotel group. This was prior to his taking up an English Speaking Union Scholarship at Virginia Episcopal School, Lynchburg, USA to 'widen his knowledge and experience in another academically challenging school.' He also wants to see more of the US 'especially as Americans see it' during his vacations.

HOGG. A D (1964-70) has worked on Gulf and Texaco Oil tankers till he and his wife started a family. For the past ten years he has worked in Wycombe for the printers Harrison and Sons Ltd. He now has three sons, and his main hobby is the restoration and running of steam locomotives. He recently became a qualified fireman at Bucks. Railway Centre.

HUNNIBELL. M (1976-82) is now a practising Solicitor in Stroud. He has moved from Woodbridge, Suffolk to Cheltenham where he is gaining expertise in decorating Regency apartments. He admits to be suffering occasional withdrawal symptoms since Adnams ale is not readily available in Gloucestershire.

JOHNS. S C (1982-88) Simon rowed at 7 in the Cambridge University Lightweight VIII, helping them to their 14th successive victory over Oxford in this year's Varsity race.

JONES. B (1947-55) Professor Barri Jones believes he has discovered the location of the last stand of that most determined of ancient British rebels, Caratacos, a search which has baffled historians and archaeologists. Using aerial reconnaissance and conventional archaeological excavation techniques, Professor Jones found traces of Roman siege works around an ancient British fortress on top of the 700ft Llanymynech Mountain, on the Anglo-Welsh border. He used the detailed account of the battle by Tacitus to track the location.

KNOWLES. K (1966-72) is now a Director of Studies in Natural Sciences at Churchill College, Cambridge and continues to be a university lecturer in the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgy at Cambridge University. His brother Michael G Knowles (1972-78) is working in Newport, Gwent and has recently gained the Diploma of Fellow of the College of Anaesthetists.

LAURIE. J (1960-66) is the Managing Director of the Newport Technology Group of companies based in Milton Keynes.

LUSCOMBE. D K (1954-59) has been appointed Professor of Clinical Pharmacy at the Welsh School of Pharmacy. He is a graduate of the School of Pharmacy, London University. He went to Brighton to obtain his doctorate and then to Leicester Polytechnic as a lecturer in applied pharmacology. In 1977 he was appointed senior lecturer in pharmacology at the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, as it was then known.

MADLIN. R P (1968-75) is enjoying his first year of married life, in Brussels. His brother, Phil Madlin,

accumulates professional qualifications at the Inland Revenue Staff Federation. Brussels seems too far for most contemporaries, but Robert stays in touch with Stuart Woodward (1968-75), Chris Sheldon, Colin Pendrill and John Wigram, and bumped into Ben Newton in London not so long ago.

MAHONY. P (1978-80) is now employed as Sales Manager for Longman Group UK Ltd and travelling frequently to Africa and the Caribbean which is tiring but very enjoyable. He is recently married and hoping to buy a house in Thaxted, Essex.

MASON. I S (1969-76) After three years in general veterinary practice he formed the dermatology unit of the Royal Veterinary College in 1984. He obtained a PhD in 1990 and is currently offering private referred dermatology consultations to pet owners in London and the South East.

MASTERS. S (1969-76) is currently a partner in a mixed veterinary practice in Pangbourne.

McNAUGHTON. J (1980-86) graduated from Christ's College, Cambridge in 1989 and is currently working as a Marketing Manager for Pergamon Press in Oxford.

MICHELL. A P (1977-83) graduated from Warwick University with first class honours in Accounting and Finance in 1986. He joined Arthur Andersen & Co in their London office qualifying as a chartered accountant in July 1989. He resisted the temptation to go 'down under' transferring instead into the business consulting division. This move has resulted in a number of interesting assignments, particularly in Eastern Europe. It has also resulted in his establishing a hospitality and leisure business operating from his property in South London. Other interests include sub-aqua, kart racing and the frustration of trying to get his golf handicap below 18. As a result of his movements over the last few years he has lost touch with all old pals from the RGS. He intends to change this in 1991 by rounding them up for a reunion drink - anyone interested?

MINCH. N P G (1971-78) is still living in the States and working for a small high-tech electronics company. His present position is Manager, Production & Inventory Control though the company is more oriented toward research than manufacturing. He is married to an American (for 4 years) who is a teacher in a local High School. He has been in contact with Nick Billig who lives in Detroit, Michigan. Nick was married a year or two ago.

MORTON. D (1960-67) As head of the BBC's Russian Service, David now makes frequent visits to the Soviet Union and is searching for new broadcasting partners for the future. In summer 1990 he headed a big BBC venture in Kiev which involved a mobile studio on the ground and teams of broadcasters working in Russian and English. In his travels he discovers countless listeners to the Russian Service - but Old Wycombiensians are thin on the ground.

MURRAY. J W (1976-78) has recently been appointed a director of Touche Remnant Investment Management where he is in charge of Pension Funds. He is active in the Society of Investment Analysts and the Institute of Chartered Secretaries, both of which he is a member. He is married and lives in Surrey with six month old daughter Sarah.

PEARSON. R M (1953-60) Having worked all over the place, Richard is now in medical practice in London. He would be delighted to hear from contemporaries who remember him!

PERFECT. G D (1935-40) Geoffrey, a well known local builder, has just completed a year as Master of the

Worshipful Company of Constructors. During his period of office the Company became only the 99th since the Middle Ages to be granted full Livery status at an ancient ceremony in the City of London's Mansion House.

PHILBRICK. G (1972-75) Gary has recently moved 12 miles south of Southampton to be Rector of Fairley Parish, situated between the New Forest and the coast which is noted for its oil refinery and power station, both clearly visible from the Rectory! He was recently heard on Radio 2 in the Pause for Thought spot.

REES. J M (1955-62) is a Teacher Governor at Beaconsfield Secondary school. He has been there for sixteen years.

SAINSBURY. R F (1948-55) was consecrated as Bishop of Rochester on 17th January 1991.

SAPSFORD. D E (1985-87) is ranked number 3 in Britain in men's lawn tennis. He won £650; money given to players by the Ranking Committee for those who put most effort into their performances.

SENDALL. A J C (1972-79) continues to practise as a barrister at 2 Crown Office Row, Temple, London, specialising in employment, commercial and professional negligence work. He and his wife Christine now have 2 daughters, Emily and Charlotte.

SHACKELL. W E (1951-60) After 3 years heading up the Army's Welfare, Conditions of Service and Casualty Department in the MoD, Willie is to move to York in June 91 to Command 29 Engineer Brigade. His son's tutor at Loughborough University is Dr Roger Mayo (1956-63).

SHEPHERD. C (1969-76) left school after A levels and then went to Exeter University to study archaeology as a mature student. Colin is doing a PhD thesis on Symbolism in Pagan Germanic Art of the 2nd-7th Century AD.

SLADE. A J (1976-82) Having gained a BSc(Hons) at Bangor, he obtained his PhD in genetic Engineering at Southampton in 1990. During his period at Southampton, he fenced for both University and County of Hampshire, meeting many RGS boys and Old Boys at national competitions. He is now leading a Research Team at the national Institute for Biological Standards and Conditions at South Mimms.

SMITH. G (1961-68) is now running his firm's office in Brussels. He is a partner in Clifford, Chance City Solicitors. He spends the week in Belgium and most weekends in London. He spent three weeks in Australia in the new year watching England play cricket.

STIBBON. R (1964-69) is still a co-pilot on Boeing 737 aircraft with British Airways and is hoping to transfer to the 757 in a year or so. He is shortly moving to another house with his wife and two children, remaining within Brighton.

STINCHCOMBE, P D (1972-79) was elected a Labour Councillor in Camden in 1990. Paul is now Chairman of one of the Planning Sub-Committees and is still an ardent Socialist. His career at the Bar has flourished; sport is till his major interest outside work. He married Sue in July 1990. He has kept in touch with several Old Boys: Steven Bramley is Legal Adviser at the Home Office; Huw Jones is an accountant with Deloitte; Carlton Mounsher is on course for a First Class Degree as a mature student on the South Coast; Neil Connor is a top salesman in Basingstoke.

SUMMERTON. R T (1959-62) Robert is a solicitor in Brisbane. Iain Meyer, Head of Geography at RGS, taught his son at Brisbane Boys College when on a year's exchange in Queensland in 1990.

TIMBERLAKE. N (1971-79) who graduated with a B.Sc from Aston was recently honoured by being elected

as a Member of the Chartered Institute of Transport. A recent report of his 'A study of Roadside Bus Facilities and Information Provision in High Wycombe' earned him commendations from the National Consumer Council and Transport 2000, and nearly got him some more post-nominal letters. Birmingham University were so impressed with the report they offered him a chance to get a PhD on the strength of it. So far Neil has declined the offer. "I simply don't have the time" he says.

TOMLINSON. J D (1963-70) has been promoted from Senior Lecturer in Economics to Reader at Brunel University.

VOÛTE.L (1976-82) continues in his equine practise but is not spending quite so much time with horses since his girlfriend returned from a round-the-world trip.

WALTER JOHN F (1923-27) continues to be very happy in North Yorkshire. Following his Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1989, he attained the age of 80 years in 1990. He continues to enjoy his new career as photo-journalist started when he was 79+, and is now official photographer to his local school, and for his MP when in the Topcliffe area. Last November his paper (Darlington & Stockton Times) commissioned him to go to Ripon Grammar School (founded 15 years before the RGS!) to cover the Speech Day presentation of prizes by the designer Bruce Oldfield who is an Old Boy of that school. He is still driving, and with his wife (née Mollie King), enjoys walking over the Yorkshire Moors and Dales and in The Lake District. He can still manage 10 miles. He wishes to be remembered to any of his contemporaries who may still be around, and hopes they will have something in the magazine.

WATTS. G F (1969-76) Greg is currently seconded to the Foreign Office and has recently completed the 1st of 3-4 years in the visa section in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

WEEKS. J C S was on the staff of RGS from 1964-68. Lately Headteacher, Gordano School, Portishead, Avon, John Carrick Stroud Weeks was awarded the CBE in the New Year's Honours List.

WHITE. C R J (1978-83) is currently employed by Mid Suffolk District Council as an Assistant Planning Officer. He is studying at South Bank Polytechnic, part-time, for a Post Graduate Diploma in Town Planning. He finds working in Local Government enjoyable and interesting.

WINTER. P E (1960-68) returned to this country after five years living in a solar-powered house outside Nairobi and building a solar electric business in East and Southern Africa. He found on a recent visit to Germany that two terms of Mervyn Davies' German lessons twenty five years ago were still an adequate foundation for travelling in Germany today.

WRIGHT. I (1976-82) Dr Wright is pursuing a career in paediatrics and is currently working at Alder Hey Childrens Hospital, Liverpool. He got married in January and is presently living in Warrington, Cheshire. Occasionally meets other medical Old Wycombiensians while taking or retaking post-graduate exams.

WYNANDS. R H (1944-50) now retired from the Scientific Civil Service finds his time fully occupied as a local councillor for Princes Risborough Town, with a special interest in the conservation of the countryside through the CPRE. As Secretary of the 'Old 5 Sc-ians 1948 Society' he convened a reunion at School House in 1988, taking afternoon tea with Mr S Goldthrope one Saturday who acted as guide through the School. Little had changed in some areas; "the Junior School showers were exactly as before, when Miss Zoe Body (PE) had chased us out twice

a week in 1944!". R H Wheelband flew back from Canada for the reunion.

YOUENS. B H (1940-46) is retired and living at 5a Dorset Road South, Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex.

YOUENS. H E (1940-46) Retired as Vicar of Eastbourne Priory and Chaplain of King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst at the end of July 1989 following major heart surgery. Remains Canon Emeritus of Worcester Cathedral and living at 71 Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury.

The Hon Sec would like to thank all who have contributed to these notes. Mr David Jones has, as usual, provided a great deal of information from his contacts and scanning of various journals. My special thanks go to my wife for her help with the Annual Dinner arrangements and the compilation of these notes. For the past fortnight I have been incapacitated and she has worked wonders to produce these notes on time.

M.W.C
1 May 1991

Late News

Sam Morgan

Old Boys will be very said to learn that Mr Sam Morgan died on the afternoon of May 9th after having been taken ill only that morning. He was 84 years of age.

Sam retired in July 1973 as Deputy Headmaster after serving on the staff for 43 years - the whole of his professional career. The fact that every master and every boy knew him and thought of him as "Sam" was in no way a sign of lack of respect for him: rather the contrary - this apparent familiarity expressed a deep and universal affection for him.

Mr Arnison appointed him in 1930 when he left Leeds University with a degree in Geography. He displayed immense prowess at games, playing soccer for Leeds University, and cricket and hockey for High Wycombe and the County. He was a very good golfer and was planning to play on the day he died.

His standards of discipline were high and refreshingly old-fashioned. To the wrong-doer he could be a frightening figure. As the late John Skipp said in his toast to Sam at the Old Boys' Annual Dinner in March 1974: "As Sam's voice grew louder, the tongue sharper and the face more purple, the boy would hardly know what to fear more, the stroke Sam was about to have or the stroke he was about to administer."

Mr Malcolm Smith paid tribute in 1973 to his unshakeable loyalty and support, his universal courtesy and kindness. The late Mr C.M. Haworth, speaking for the staff, said: "What are we most grateful to Sam for? Support, when needed, in the ancient war which all schoolmasters wage."

The sudden death of Mr Tucker in Summer 1964 laid on Sam the responsibility of Acting Headmaster during the year's interregnum. This responsibility he carried through splendidly. It is very likely he could have continued in that post had he so wanted - but he chose otherwise. As John Skipp put it in 1974: "Perhaps he is like the desert plant which blossoms only once in 40 years but then dazzles with its splendour. We shall not look upon his like again."

We offer our deepest sympathy to his dear wife Louise, who lives at "Summer Hayes", Lacey Green, Princes Risborough.

