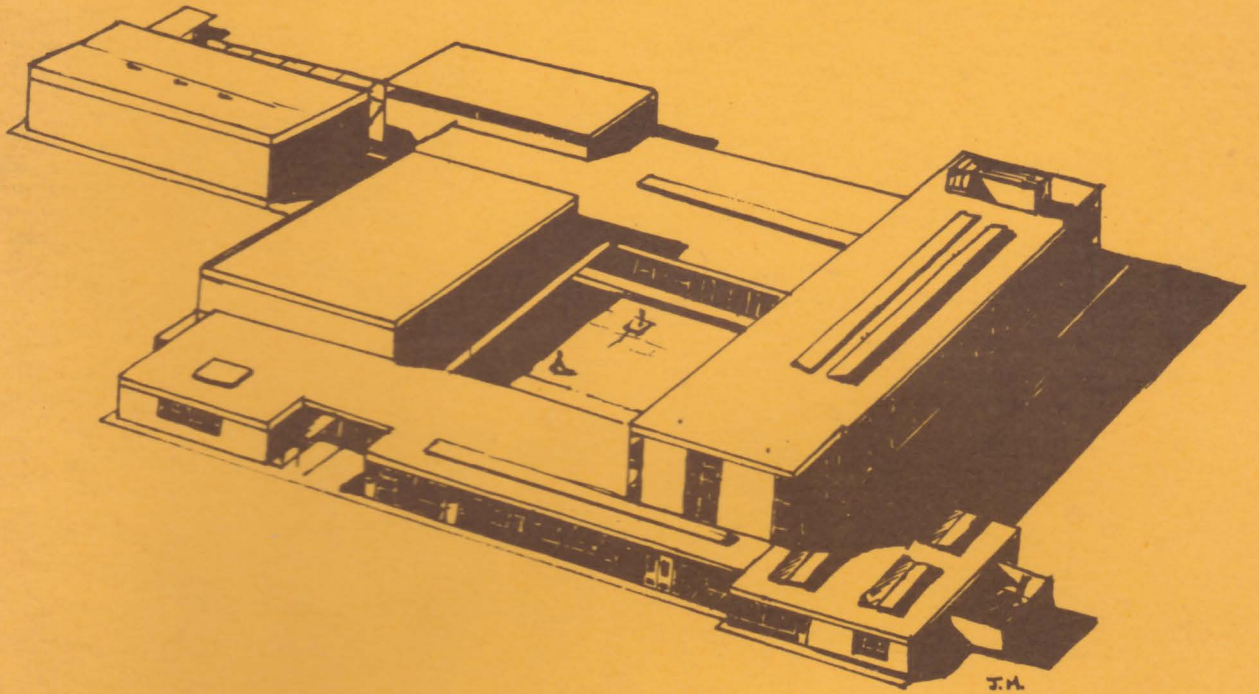


JULY 1969



THE RICHIAN

SCHOOL OFFICERS :

School Captain : P. J. E. Cole
School Vice-Captain : N. K. Wright
Observers : D. I. Barry, M. G. Carter, R. C. Harris, R. J. Hockley,
C. J. Wyatt

Prefects :

I. A. C. Angell	C. T. Loughlin
D. Bradley	C. J. Pearson
C. Brown	D. J. Phelps
A. J. Chalkley	P. C. Poole
G. C. Cooke	C. W. Pritchard
N. P. Davies	J. M. Smith
J. A. Dyer	P. Southcott
P. G. J. Hayward	D. B. Thorley
W. G. Kearsey	S. Tollervey
C. J. Kelly	C. D. Williams

J. D. Woolford

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE :

D. F. Moss (Staff Advisor)
J. M. Smith (Editor)
R. A. Pearce (Advertising Manager)
G. L. Ball (Art Editor)

HALF A YEAR

The School has been faced with a busy, hectic and important Half Year; but has taken the problems and difficulties much in its stride, turning it into a thriving and rewarding period.

The November G.C.E. results pushed up the ever-increasing Sixth Form numbers, leaving the present total standing at over 100.

The first social function of the Lent Term was the B.B.C. "Any Questions?" programme. The hall was packed to hear the panel, consisting of Ian Mikardo, Ian MacLeod, Bamber Gascoyne and Charlotte Bingham, shepherded by David Jacobs, discuss various topical subjects. Perhaps the thrill of 'being on the radio', and seeing just how things were operated behind the scenes, helped to make the evening a success.

January brought the wind and rain, and with these late one Friday afternoon came the fall of the wall at the end of the tennis-courts. This incident led to an examination of the fives' courts which were declared 'unsafe', and now scaffolding lines their furthestmost side, while the top layers of bricks have disappeared one by one.

Following the success of the last illustrated lecture, we were pleased to welcome Harold Abrahams and Tony Smythe to talk on 'The Mexico Olympics' and 'Chile' respectively. Although the former's slide operators were not extremely proficient, Mr. Abrahams gave an admirable account of his stay in Mexico City, from the Games' spectacular opening to their dramatic closure; Mr. Smythe's lecture too, conjured up a suitable atmosphere, explaining his tour in a landrover along the length of Chile, accompanied by his wife.

School sports have flourished throughout the winter period: the Cross-Country teams have staggered up and down Chosen Hill and several away courses many times, usually bringing success on their heels; the Rugby teams, if at first a little restless, soon settled into their games and brought victory to their side. The Rugby Sevens have also had a good season. Although they were knocked out in the Oxford Sevens, they finished as runners-up at Marling and triumphed in the Clifton Sevens, winning with a final score of 63 points; this proves how much spirit and enthusiasm is being put into games, making them team efforts and not one man stands. The Rowing Club must not be forgotten in this long but praiseworthy list; repeatedly have their boats battled over the finishing line ahead of their competitors, and they have returned bearing trophy upon trophy in their blistered hands.

In March, the library was invaded for several days, by a paperback book display; boys showed their enthusiasm for the idea by buying over 600 books, either to read for pleasure or to help them in their studies.

The latter end of the month brought the culmination of the Dramatic Society's rehearsals in the shape of a performance of Miles Malleson's English translation of Molière's 'The Miser'. For the first time ever in a School production, we were joined by three young ladies from Ribston Hall. Everyone agreed how much more real, attractive and polished this made the play, and with Jim Melton taking the major rôle (a true miser), the best play at Rich's for years (if not in its history) was performed. Thanks must go to Mr. Tavener for his marvellous set, and to Mr. Broome, on whose shoulders the entire burden rested, and who carried it with such style and success.

Just before the end of the term, the fourth Sixth Form Annual Dinner was held at the Fleece Hotel. Mr. Speed, a well-remembered former German master of the School, was kind enough to leave his post as Deputy-Head at Redditch High School, to entertain us with a witty speech, as Chief Guest. The Headmaster, Mr. Sheard, and the Sixth Form masters were present, and an enjoyable evening was had by all. Since that time we are pleased to hear that Mr. Speed is on his travels again, and in September will take up the position of Headmaster in a school in the North East.

Over the Easter holidays, Richians travelled once again. One party led by Mr. G. M. Williams, ventured abroad into Germany, but they were greeted by rain and snow and other freak storms. Meanwhile, a party led by Mr. Rangeley was soaking up the sun in the Lake District, and found the snow a refreshing change after walking in scorching heat. Phil Cole, the School Captain, accompanied by several other boys, cruised back up 'the Cut', in two long boats, and in spite of these vessels continually breaking down, they brought back happy memories too. Also under way in the Easter Holidays were three sponsored events in aid of the 'Bus Fair': two walks and a canoe run, in total a distance of 145 miles. The Boundary Walk and Canoe Marathon were within boys' grasp; but it was when the 88 mile Three Choirs Walk took place that boys started to give up 'en route', and from the 35 who started, only 8 jogged on to the bitter end. But this is not anything to be ashamed of in the least; boys made the effort, and if they hadn't, our mini-bus would still be a dream.

Meanwhile, back in Gloucester, the Rev. W. R. Houghton's translation was taking place. He was to leave his old post as Rector of St. John's and St. Mary de Crypt, to become a Residentiary Canon of the Cathedral. This breaks his long link with the School in some ways, but strengthens it in others, for every three years, Founder's Day is to be held at the Cathedral. But we were glad to welcome him as Preacher at this year's Founder's Day at St. John's. The Choir gave an admirable rendering of 'O How Amiable are Thy Dwellings', by Vaughan-Williams and the singing throughout was in the traditional style. Canon Houghton's sermon was the best I have heard at a Founders' Day. He said that although the world is becoming more scientific and mechanised, these things are no use, unless you have the people to go with them: 'What we need are better young men and women, better lads and girls.' There is no doubt that he carried the congregation with him, throughout his sermon, bringing an appropriate finish to an excellent service. We wish Canon Houghton every success in his new post, and hope he will continue to come back and see us.

With Founder's Day over, everyone looked forward to the 'Bus Fair', on the following Saturday. But rain was falling heavily, and in the end, it did not stop until the afternoon. This however, did not put anyone out to a great extent; everything was moved indoors (or at least under cover), and the show went on. By the end of the afternoon, adding what was already in the kitty, we found that we had made £1,450, well over our target. Now a Bus Management Committee has been formed, and it has decided that we should purchase a 15-seater, Ford Transit mini-bus, which, it is hoped, will be in use in September. Our thanks must go to boys, parents, masters and anyone and everyone who contributed in any way to the bus; it is another example of what team effort can do.

The 'Grand Finale' of the 'Bus Fair' and the first half of term, was the School Concert, in which some 170 boys took part. All realms of School music were on show: orchestra, choir, choral society, etc. The result was a first class evening's entertainment, and a further £40 towards the bus. Every credit must go to Mr. Rangeley for providing us again with such a varied and perfect programme.

By no means have all the functions of this Half a Year been covered. The Rugby Club took the annual trip to the 'Varsity Match, the Railway Society have ventured as far as Carlisle, many boys encouraged by masters have put their names down for Adventure Courses during the Summer Holidays, and the list could continue.

There are three people who say goodbye to us at the end of this term, Monsieur Lefebvre, our French assistant for the past year, goes back to his home in Nice. He has, it seems, become a part of the School, and so we will not say 'Goodbye', but merely 'au revoir', and hope he will return to visit us in the near future. Miss Lewis, our laboratory assistant for several years now, is finally to step out from behind the chemistry bottles to become a housewife, and although she is to go, our name will be firmly embedded in her memory, for she is to marry a Mr. RICH! Our final 'Goodbye' must go to Mr. A. B. Hunwicks. He arrived here in 1966 to teach History, and now is to leave to take up a more senior post at Chipping Campden School. He will be remembered for his leadership on the tennis and badminton courts, as well as his control over the Historical Society. We wish him well in his new rural environment, hoping not to be cut off from him permanently.

With the term drawing slowly to an end we turn our minds towards exams, and indeed the 'O' and 'A' level candidates are already in the middle of theirs, sweating in more senses than one. With those over we look forward to Sports and Minor Sports, Speech Day in September, St. Nicholas and the Messiah (Part 1) in December and other events such as the Reading Competition and Project Camp which will be taking up our time in the future. Till then it is nose to the grindstone for everyone in the School, looking forward to Summer Holidays and—we hope—a continuation of the June heat-wave.

* * * * *

Gavin Ewart, who is editing a collection of School songs to be published just before Christmas by Sidgwick and Jackson under the title "Forty Years On", writes of "Tommy Psalm" : "This is in many ways the best School Song that I have ever seen, perhaps because it is eighteenth-century, and free of the sporting preoccupations and the ideas of honour and playing the game which affect the nineteenth-century works; in fact, of course, it is purely Christian."

We look forward to seeing "Tommy Psalm" in pride of place in Mr. Ewart's book.

This therefore might be the time to suggest that two amendments to the words be made. The first would remove both an inaccuracy of fact and an endearing but notorious syncopation : 'SIX thousand pounds of what God gave....' The second would put into idiomatic English what can never have been so and must have been a copyist's error :

"In the hands of *THE* good and wise."

Observant readers of the manuscript copies of "Tommy Psalm" displayed in the School at various times, will have noticed some quite considerable variations in wording and the order of the lines, suggesting that the song was orally transmitted for some time.

"THE MISER"

W.G.F.B.

Most people who saw this performance by the School Dramatic Society agreed that it was a wholly satisfactory production, and there is no doubt that it represented a real breakthrough in the matter of casting. The three young ladies of Ribston Hall confirmed once and for all that female characters are best played by females. We had here a real element of charm and elegance in a play whose style and content requires it.

As always with a Broome production the comedy was extremely well pointed and I particularly liked Harpagon's nose-to-nose confrontations with other characters. We saw as a result, some confident performances from all the cast and particularly Jean Pringle, Miranda Barnes, Peter Sergeant and Christopher Wyatt. While there were two of outstanding merit and maturity.

Jaqueline Newcombe's Frosine was a first class effort — well conceived and observed and played flat out — which was completely convincing.

But it is on the title rôle that the play depends, and Jim Melton's Harpagon was all that it should have been. Whether his version had quite the harshness that Molière intended I doubt, and it doesn't really matter. What it did have was a total reality in itself. There was a tremendous sustained logic throughout Melton's performance — and coughing and wheezing, distractedly defending the treasure buried in the garden — he maintained his character to the end. This was good acting by any standards.

Tav's set was, too, a thing of elegance and charm and quite beautiful simplicity. I suppose that it summed up one's chief impression of the whole play-style.

One hopes that this represents simply a beginning. Our guests added a new dimension to School drama. A whole new range of plays is within easy reach and the chance should not be passed over. Please let us continue to ask the ladies to join us.

"THE MISER" – 1969



"Leave it all to me"



"My word! What have you got there".

THE SCHOOL CONCERT

W.G.F.B.

Perhaps the only adequate comment on the concert is to say that it provided a comprehensive survey of School music; both individual and collective, and that the audience was suitably impressed.

An item by item account of the evening's entertainment would seem pointless, and I would much rather deal with a few highlights. First of all we had some remarkably good solo playing, notably by David Robinson, Alan Viner and David Hedges. But the standard of individual playing in School at any one time is largely a matter of luck — good violinists and pianists are just as thin on the ground as good half-backs; so it is from the ensemble items that the thriving nature of Rich's music can best be judged.

The evening was made for me particularly by the singing of the Madrigal Group whose choice was admirable, apart from the rather fussy "It was a Lover and His Lass." But particularly enjoyable was their style. One was conscious that here we had singers who were in the process of developing a characteristic personality and this was not only interesting but exciting. I wish too, we could have heard more of the orchestra, perhaps in conjunction with the choir.

The latter's best effort, I thought, was the Bach Motet by a long way. Is it again a question of style here? We hear several anthems and introits a term from the choir and they seem most at home with ecclesiastical music as a result. Which brings me to one minor criticism — if we are going to have 'spirituals', could we please attempt an authentic accent, particularly on the all important word "de", which has a short vowel and is not pronounced "dee", a pronunciation too affected and 'refained' by half.

However, let us be grateful to all those who contributed to the evening, particularly to Mr. David Purcell, who was kind enough to co-operate with the Choral Society once again, and particularly to Mr. Rangeley, to whom nothing seems impossible.

RAILWAY SOCIETY WEEKEND IN THE NORTH

A. J. Viner U6A

At 08.05 on Saturday 15th February, a party of twelve boys assembled in the station hall at Gloucester Eastgate. Destination — Carlisle. The 08.17 train to Leeds was boarded and we travelled via Derby and Sheffield. It was just after Derby that we ran into snow, and as we journeyed further north, the snow deepened. Leeds was finally reached at 12.41 seven minutes late. After a cold hour's wait on platforms that were two or three inches deep in snow, we departed for Keighley, where the first highlight of the weekend was to take place.

We were to travel from Keighley to Oxenhope on the privately-owned Worth Valley Branch Line. All afternoon trains are steam-hauled. There is a constant gradient to Oxenhope. The B.B.C. T.V. serial, "The Railway Children", was filmed on this line, and it was a pleasant surprise to be hauled by the engine that was used in the film: number 69023, "Joem". There are two tunnels on this line, and the total distance from terminus to terminus is $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles. At Haworth there is a large collection of preserved steam engines and rolling-stock.

We eventually arrived back at Keighley, and boarded the 16.11 train to Skipton, where we had to change trains. We boarded the 16.40 train for Carlisle, which was a two-car diesel multiple unit. Our reserved seats were right at the front of the train; and further up the line we were very glad that this was so.

The route from Skipton to Carlisle was easily the best part of the journey. There are no words to describe the gigantic civil engineering works on this line, which runs for 96 miles over the Pennines.

From Settle Junction, the line rises on a gradient of 1 in 100 to Aisgill Summit, 1,169 feet above sea-level. The main line is dwarfed by the peaks of Ingleborough, Wharfedale and Pen-y-ghent. It crosses gaping ravines on lofty viaducts, (a good example being Ribbleshead viaduct) and plunges through the mountains by means of long tunnels, (such as Blea Moor and Rise Hill). We finally reached Carlisle at 19.15. Our hotel was twenty minutes' walk from the station. The accommodation was excellent, and we really had the run of the hotel.

Sunday morning brought with it a temperature of 9 degrees F., a sprinkling of snow, and brilliant sunshine. After a good breakfast, we SLID to Kingmoor Motive Power Depot, about a mile from the hotel. We returned to the hotel for lunch; (an excellent, 'much-better-than-school', three course meal). After a substantial tip had been paid to the proprietors, we made our way to the station, and departed for Birmingham at 13.48. Owing to engineering works, our train was re-routed through Hellifield and Blackburn, instead of coming down through Shap and Preston. We arrived in Birmingham at 19.17 and immediately boarded the Gloucester train. British Rail made the blunder of only reserving one compartment, and so half the party travelled back first class. Yet another diversion awaited us at Worcester, where we were re-routed through Evesham and Honeybourne, down the Stratford line to Cheltenham, where we had to reverse into Lansdown Station. We arrived in Gloucester at 21.11 exactly an hour late. We had travelled 586 miles in all.

This was the tenth Railway Society trip, and it was most successful. We hope to go on another journey like this next year. Just one final word. If anyone is going to stay in Carlisle at all, we recommend the 'Angus' Hotel, 14, Scotland Road, where one can be sure of a warm welcome.

OH MY BL.....ISTERS (Easter Trip to Germany 1969.)

4.'s

Gloucester—London—Bruges—Trier—Prüm—Gerolstein—Darscheid—Daun—Manderscheid
Wittich—Bernkastel—Brussels—Gloucester.

Instead of departing on Monday 7th, April at 01.00 hours, we decided it would be advisable to leave Gloucester Eastgate on the Sunday before at tea-time, and spend the night in a London Y. H. A. This, our first night of hostelling, was spent amid clouds of dust.

The journey was uneventful until the smallest member of the party (who shall remain nameless) caused a lot of bother to the border officials, by losing his camera at Wasserbillig (Cheapwater).

Whenever we were travelling it was brilliant sunshine; but as soon as we used feet, as opposed to heads, we got soaked to the skin,.....eyes, nose, ears, legs, knees, u.s.w. (etc.). Everybody took different routes according to the state of their feet. The hostels were, on the whole, very good with plenty of food and squeaky beds.

There were many incidents, but too numerous to mention here; one rather strange one that did occur was that when we walked from Gerolstein to Darscheid, it was surprisingly warm, but the following morning we awoke to find two inches of real German snow carpeting the ground. The scenery around here was particularly awe inspiring, although it was beautiful everywhere.

In our next hostel, Daun, the Herbergsvater (Warden), acted like a leader of the Germans during the Second World War. He was also a good table-tennis player, and beat our champion. On the day we left Daun the clouds were low, and we only had a view of one of the three crater lakes, which bordered our route.

We continued our holiday, walking through the Eifel Forests and Valley until we came to our last German hostel at Bernkastel. In the two days here, the party finished its shopping and prepared for the return journey. The last phase went smoothly with a peaceful crossing, arriving back in Gloucester at 7.39 p.m. on Sunday 20th, April.

All our thanks must go to Mr. G. M. Williams, for all the hard work and effort which he put into the holiday, making it so successful and enjoyable.

RETURN TO THE CUT

P. J. E. Cole 63

The third annual narrow boat expedition (or "Hello, is that Hopwood Craft Ltd?" as I was later to christen the two weeks in April), began when fourteen boys from the School set off on an around the Midlands Cruise.

It had originally been intended to make the journey to London, but an urgent phone call in February to say there had been 'a lock closure' making this impossible left me with little option but to go to Nottingham instead.

Everything having been finished we departed on Saturday 12th, spending the first few days moving along at a leisurely pace (even so we broke the record for descending Hatton Locks.); but Wednesday morning heralded the arrival of many troubled days during the remainder of the two weeks. It was not unlike any other morning to begin with, as fourteen drowsy pairs of eyes peering expectantly out of the gloom awaiting their daily Kelloggs (which is about all the sunshine we had), and wondering what tasty surprise the chefs had in store today, but alas when I pushed the starter there was no welcome abuse from the engine. We had moored the night before just outside a village called Weedon on the Grand Union Canal, in order that we would only have to complete a few hours travelling before arriving at the British Waterways Museum. However, it was 2 p.m. before we set off, after having to phone Hopwood and have them send out a fellow to fix the engine. He incidentally merely tightened a terminal on the battery.

Thursday passed without real trouble, but the engine required constant attention, which finally necessitated me calling Hopwood again on Friday, incurring more delay. A blockage in the fuel line this time put us half a day behind schedule, which mattered little since next day we were informed that due to a different lock closure (a sudden one) it was impossible to continue on this route either.

After spending the night in Market Harborough we retraced our steps of the previous days since there was no alternative now but to follow last year's route through Rugby and Birmingham. Tuesday of the following week found us again with plenty of time to spare but not for long, the cooling system pump which removed all the water leaking in through the hull, was not

working properly so yet again a phone call was made and after another wasted morning we were told to manage as best we could. This we did and using part of the water hose pipe, and a strong pair of lungs, siphoned the water out at every opportunity.

We were now racing to try and reach Birmingham by Friday mid-day, but when we ran out of fuel Friday morning all hopes of this died and we wondered whether in fact we would get back to Hopwood moorings in time. Another phone call brought an extra twenty gallons of fuel totalling 110 altogether, and when we did finally reach Birmingham it was getting dark, so dark in fact that no-one had noticed that the boat had caught under a ledge in a lock until gallons of water appeared pouring over the side, flooding into the kitchen.

Saturday morning 11.15 a.m. saw us safely back on the coach, every one having risen at dawn with a little persuasion, having made a final effort. Looking back at it I can't really say we had good weather, I can't even say we had good luck, but what I hope we have are good memories, and recollections of the spirit of the cruise. My thanks go to all those who helped during the two weeks, who are too numerous to mention, and I wish every success to next year's party.

"TAKE OFF THY SHOES, FOR THE GROUND . . ." J. A. Hook L6A

If you can imagine 250 young people squashing into the School gymnasium, some of them managing to "dance", others having given up the struggle, standing around the sides; a two-hundred watt amplifier blaring out "music" which I suspect could be heard the other side of Gloucester, (and which was certainly heard booming inside most peoples heads, long after the dance was over); having to peer through mists of ultra-violet and dark red lights, and having to shout yourself hoarse simply to speak to the person next to you, you will have captured some of the atmosphere and excitement of the Lower Sixth's discotheque which we held on May 7th to raise money for our now famous School bus (£21. Os. Od. was raised). A lot of hard work had gone into preparing the gymnasium for the on-slaught tactfully getting permission and diplomatically approaching certain issues, arranging a canteen, booking "Triumph Disco", and last, but by no means least, printing and selling tickets.

We were pleased and a little relieved, that the evening went so successfully. One worry had been the damage which might have been done to the gym floor – fortunately there was none, and in this connection I must thank Jaques Lefebvre, our French assistant, for his help in asking certain people to remove their shoes! We were both pleased and surprised to see the Headmaster and other members of staff – apparently enjoying it (although I doubt whether they would admit this). Our thanks to Mr. L. C. Huddleston and Mr T. G. Smith.

At 11 o'clock, no one was particularly keen to stay behind and clear up; exhaustion was the common state. But early next morning, many people turned up to sweep, polish and tidy the gymnasium. By 9 o'clock no one would have guessed what had gone on in the long ago of last night.....well almost.

* * * * *

WILLERSEY TO TEWKESBURY – A 25 MILE WALK I.A.C. Angell L6A

Among the many money-raising activities undertaken by the School in the weeks leading up to the 'Bus Fair' was a 25 mile sponsored walk along part of the northern boundary of Gloucestershire. About thirty boys met at School in the early hours of April 8th and were taken by 'bus to Willersey. During the drive an opportunity was given to study the instructions which had been handed out previously. Among them was a stern warning not "to indulge in fizzy or alcoholic drinks" and another to the effect that footgear should not be removed regardless of pedal agony. Having woken all the natives of the village, Mr. Butler started groups off at intervals. Other members of the staff and School, together with a few parents, gave much welcomed sustenance and directional assistance at points along the route.

From a foggy start the day thankfully developed into a bright warm one. In the early afternoon the sun made its presence felt. It was at this point that people began to have a very real appreciation for the refreshment which was offered by the marshals. The last few miles into Tewkesbury were the most tedious but the appearance of seating accommodation and yet more refreshments restored the vigour which had been much in evidence at the start.

THE MARATHON WALK

D.B. Thorley L6A

The blister-making, foot-killing, knee-torturing 80 mile Marathon Walk, started on May 21st, by transporting the gallant heroes, some 38 of them, to Worcester by coach and then giving them the pleasure of walking the 27 miles back. Soup, cake and bread was served in the pouring rain, at intervals 'en route' by Mr. Butler. Day 1 ended, thank goodness, at Westgate Bridge, and the heroes hobbled away to their tubes of foot-salve and their beds.

Bright and early next morning the gallant martyrs, about 30 now, set off towards the distant goal of a scout-hut in Hereford. The toll of invalids began to mount, and by nightfall 14 of the original 38 remained.

Having recovered slightly from Day 2, the 14 limped into Day 3, and after having had to battle against obstacles like Fromes Hill; 8 finished the course.

Over 3 days a total of 1420 miles was covered raising an approximate total of £115. Praise and thanks must go to Mr. Butler, who organised the walk, Mr. Henderson who walked it, and the Marshals who supervised it. I'm sure all the walkers felt it was well worth the effort.

THE EPIC VOYAGE OF THE "ORMEN LAANGE" AND OTHER ASSORTED CRAFT

R. Harris U6A

The third of the sponsored projects undertaken in the Easter Holidays was a canoe paddle on the Wye between Hoarwithy and Monmouth, a distance of 33 miles: Five people – Mr. Henderson, Simon Tollervey, Nick Davies, Chris Wyatt and myself – successfully completed the trip, in times ranging from 6 hours 17 minutes to 6 hours 34 minutes. We all enjoyed the project immensely, but a full account of it would be both long and tedious. Here instead are a few of my memories of it:

- setting out from Hoarwithy at some unearthly hour in the morning, in the pouring rain.
- the look of surprise on Simon's face—the look of surprise on Simon's face as he capsized.
- Simon getting into his boat at Ross and missing.
- Nick's and Chris' double canoe sinking at Kerne bridge.
- Chris getting out of his canoe, standing up, then falling flat on his back in the river because his legs had gone to sleep!
- Simon shooting Lydbrook rapid sideways.
- Myself being delayed at Symonds Yat by nature and a wet suit.
- The hard slog to Monmouth from Yat rapids.
- The blisters on my hands.
- Mr. Winstanley and the parents who were always in the right place at the right time.
- Mr. Henderson.



GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

This soaring mass of mason's skill
Lurches at the sky as a child does
For something hidden there, silent still
While all its weight it downward throws.

Its walls are muted. They cannot tell
The tales of what they have seen,
The bloody deeds, the kings that fell
And for whom the bells tolled. What's been,

Is sealed in those tight walls ; silence.
A place of worship, a home of praise,
Walls that remember earthly violence
And a Christ we must kill and raise.

But God is not here in cloister
Or radiant Western light.
He doesn't need hymn or Pater Noster
But souls with which to fight.

C. Brown, U6A

And only the "saved" come here
To worship ; the sinners keep away.
Cold stone walls don't hold God! I fear
You must search for him another way".

You'll find Him where the world is dark
And you'll praise him not in Church but
In your heart.

The first draft of this poem, of which this is the second, appeared in the *Citizen* on 8th May, 1969.

M. Beaman, I. Beta

HANDS OF DIFFERENT PEOPLE

The hands of a pianist are long and slender,
The hands of a lady are soft and tender.
A gardener's hands are worn and rough,
A blacksmith's hands are strong and tough,
The hands of a magician are quick and nimble,
The hands of a baby have many a dimple.

And as the leader of their tribe went out,
The others all began to talk about
The things they wanted to.

Beginning peacefully enough,
Almost inaudible, soft, gentle ;
Then, as they began to lose control,
With screams and shouts and cries they danced
About in melodramatic fury.

They screamed and shouted, laughed so joyfully,
Yelling merrily and fighting.
In their battle, throwing objects,
All belonging to each other.

Joyful spirits, glad that they
Were, for a period of time,
Freed from long and boring labours :
Started even wilder things.

Throwing desks, books, chairs around,
Flinging them upon the ground ;
Fiercely energetic, but,
Suddenly, with cries of, 'Stop',
Finish their wild games.

See the wondering master coming,
Guessing what it's all about.
Sees the pleasant boys all sitting,
Quietly working in their desks.
Asks, "What was that noise ?" but knows that
He will never be quite sure,
As the boys with beaming faces,
Show their feigned ignorance.

They know, or think they know, what would be
The result of telling him ;
So they watch the master who is
Eyeing them suspiciously.
But the master's almost certain
What happened whilst he was gone.

My latest love affair has just ended :
We were not in love ; we only pretended.

The purple shades of life
hover in the changing
light. In the day-darkness
life is dead and wasted.
Without the colour of
love to warm the daylight
the heart is useless ; dead.

We lived free and enjoyed the sun
Until she went to run
after her own life ;
to live her own life.

The world comes alive, blooms,
when seen through eyes in love ;
the wind sigh is music
and the grass is vivid,
green and welcoming warm.

Love your Mother
Love your Father
Love me your wayward brother.

I love—
“Mummy and Daddy and Lyndy”
and all my brothers and sisters ;
all those who love God and Socialism.
I love—I also hate

We love—
We love food, we love money,
We love bread and lots of honey.

They love—
Oh my God help them to love.

“Once it was the colour of saying”
now it is love.

The purple shades shiver,
disperse into nothing
and are gone from my sight ;
I have won in losing.

Once so long ago, there was a time
When everything was O so pure.
Good times gone, bad times now.
O Christ whither goest now.

Goodness is dead,
All is gone.
Only my corpse lives on.
My mind is blank,
All will has gone.
A gun I need, to blow my mind,
From here to all eternity.

Life now is meaningless,
God is dead and all have died long ago.
A race of corpses,
Eating, drinking, moving, smoking; but far from living.
The corpses run, the corpses play.
The grey try hard, to carve meat today.

The sky is blue, but what good to you,
Without eyes to see, or mind to feel.
No longer is there any light,
All is darkness and death.
Plastic existence, what can you offer :—
Tins, packets and cheap thrills, what price now ?
The bells are tolling, the hearse draws near.
Containerised corpse your end is near.

What have you done ? For you can turn no more.
Time ticks to a close, and you exist no more,
Mechanised notion of random chance,
For such is life, if life it is.

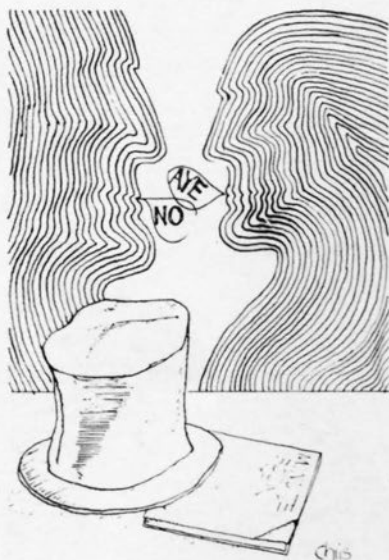
No longer lives love, beauty or truth,
All is now plastic and glass and cheapness.
Where has it gone ? When did it go ?
It left when you rose, from womb to grave,
Your soul is sold, you meat carving louts.
You no longer exist, so why shout about
God and scream in church.
Your soul is gone, what hope now ?

What is left, but a sordid mass of writhing dead
Festering in filth, squalor and decay ?
What price, O corpse, your life today ?
What lies ahead but pain and extinction ?
For a time must come, when even the corpses must go,
Cease to function, and stop to grow.

Death draws near, the Grey turns black.
The dulled tones of coffins, the rattling of bones,
Dull thuds of shovels of earth.
Buried today, and no longer are they.
Your time has come, but what does it matter ?
Life departed aeons hence, only your corpse lived now.

* * * * *





President :	Mr H. J. Potter
Chairman :	Mr C. D. Williams
Secretary :	Mr C. Brown

The Society has held several debates since the last issue of "The Richian", though there has been a drop in the number held since Christmas because of School activities, exams, the Bus Fair, and so on.

On the 28th January the Society said goodbye, with some regret, to some of its more distinguished members, including Ken Burlton and Brian Mander, whose presence will be sadly missed. Most of all we regret, I think, the passing of the Wordsworthian Era. Consequently new Officers were elected, leaving the Committee standing as above.

Witty gems have not been lacking this year; the following are just a small selection from the Minute Book.

"Mr. Jeeves thought censorship a vice."

"Mr. Mander celebrated Christmas on July 19th."

"Mr. Burlton—"That time is past,
And all its aching joys are now no more
And all its dizzy raptures'."

"Trotsky lives."

"Mr. Williams rose. . . . to prove himself—a hypocrite."

I should like to take this opportunity to wish, on behalf of the Society, the best of luck for the future to those who have left our ranks.

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL DEBATING SOCIETY

P. Archer, 4A

The Society has had a reasonably successful year so far. It has organised and held many more debates with varying degrees of popularity. The attendance has, on the whole, increased and the standard of debate improved.

To judge by results, the majority of our House approves of capital punishment; believes in fairies; advocates public birching and supports the universal adoption of gnomes in one's back garden.

Due to the increase in numbers at the last debate, it has now become possible to elect a member for the Committee on behalf of the first and third forms, bringing it up to full strength.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY

J. M. Smith, L6A

This Society was newly-formed, at the start of the Spring Term, under the leadership of J. A. Hook. We have had two full meetings so far: the first, a poetry evening, where members brought along one or more of their favourite poems, read them, and discussed them with others, was supported quite well, but more would have been welcome.

The second meeting was a talk given by Mr. T. G. Smith, on the Russian author Dostoevsky. It was extremely interesting, and very much enjoyed by those who attended. (We would like to thank Mr. Smith for giving us this talk).

As well as these two meetings off our own bat, we joined forces with the Historical Society, on two evenings to hear the two sets of talks on the 1930's, prepared as a project by members of the Lower Sixth. The lectures explained the literary and social aspects of the time.

In the future we hope to hold more frequent meetings, and perhaps arrange some theatre visits, but unfortunately these plans may be hindered for the moment, by the coming 'O' and 'A' level examinations. However, when these are over, we hope for more reliable support.

THE FILM CLUB

R. Pegg, 5C

The Club has at last restarted, giving pleasure to some boys once again, and annoying others when they realise that it costs 5/- to join. The Club began on January 8th with James Bond. Since then the Club has, with some small success, run films every fortnight, either in the lunch hour or after School. We did attempt a venture into the world of the feature film; but in vain; this was due to an organisation called The Cinematograph Exhibitors Association who would give us permission to show films like "Help", and "A Fistful of Dollars".

The Club has also given pleasure to other Societies and their members as we have hired films for them. We did run a Film Theatre at the Fete, when we showed trade film with a sprinkling of "Tom and Jerry" cartoons.

With that all behind us, we look forward to a better future in the coming year.



CHORAL MUSIC

M. B. Bryant, L6A

During the last two terms the Choir and the Choral Society have been largely concerned with preparation for the Concert, which was held on May 22nd, and in the case of the Choral Society also for our joint production of "Saint Nicholas", by Britten, and Handel's "Messiah" to be performed in Saint Catherine's Church on December 4th.

In January, a party from the Choral Society visited Stratford to see a production by D'Oyly Carte of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Mikado". At the same time regular visits to concerts in Cheltenham have continued, enjoyed by all boys, and masters, who have attended them.

The Choir has sung a number of anthems and introits in assembly, by several different composers including Mendelssohn, Bach, Handel, Ireland, Atwood and Tchaikovsky, and also performed "O How Amiable are Thy Dwellings" by Vaughan-Williams at Founder's Day in May.

We have welcomed several new members to the Choir:—Mr. Moss, who has strengthened the bass line; and three new trebles to replace those who have moved to lower voices, now bringing the total numbers of the Choir to 52, with almost three times this number in the Choral Society.

The Madrigal Group, consisting of 14 selected singers, has continued to meet each week, much of its time being taken up with preparation for its contribution to the Concert.

ORCHESTRAL MUSIC

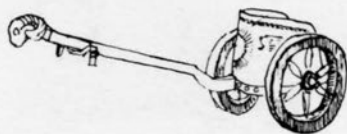
G. R. Holyhead, U6A

The performance of the Senior Orchestra at the Concert this term is an initial vindication of the structural alterations in the Society at the start of this School year. The Mozart Symphony, which the Orchestra played adequately, is not a difficult piece, but is far above

the standard previously attempted by the Orchestra. There were many simple mistakes caused by three main factors; plain absent-minded playing, lack of practice and lack of experience.

There is an opportunity for this mainly young contingent to gain this experience during the next few years; for then they must replace the old hands. A combined practice of both Orchestras at the end of last term illuminated the wealth of young talent learning the orchestral discipline in the Junior Orchestra and who will soon join the Senior Orchestra.

The re-organisation has prepared a way for a developing Orchestra. During this initial year the standard of orchestral playing by both Orchestras has improved. The rehearsals and the performance justify the expectancy of a good future for the Orchestral Society.



chris

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

R. K. Jones, U6A

It is my first duty to express on behalf of the Society our thanks to James Whelan, who was our Chairman last term. We thank him for his efforts in organisation and wish him every success at University.

During the Lent term, Brian Mander treated us to a lecture on the subject of armour, which was much enjoyed by those who attended.

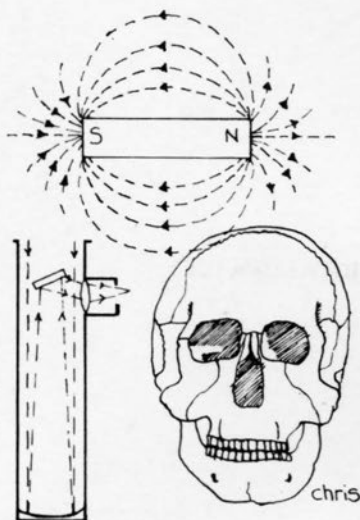
A Quiz was organised with a bias on local history. There was a lot of effort put into getting the questions, printing them, and advertising the Quiz about the School. However, the Lower School gave no support whatsoever to this venture; if they wish the Historical Society to function, then the boys of the Lower School must be prepared to support its organisers.

"Industrial Archaeology", was the title of a talk given by Mr. Rix from Birmingham University. His lecture included slides of the first iron bridge which crosses the Severn, and of the furnaces at Coalbrookdale, the first town to produce machinery made from iron. He explained that industrial archaeology would include the development of computers and synthetic fibres.

During the Summer term senior pupils will be involved in examinations and other important School functions, and therefore will be unable to organise talks, etc., this term.

The Art Club is once again on the scene, after virtually disappearing last year. Support for the present Club has come mainly from the junior part of the School, but we hope that in the future some more seniors will take an interest.

If you are interested please come along; there is always plenty for you to do.



THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

N. K. Wright, 63

Since Christmas there have been very few open meetings; but the support at these has nevertheless been encouraging.

P. J. E. Cole has succeeded J. D. McGarrick, who has left to go to Bristol University, as Chairman.

During the early part of the Lent term the Society welcomed Brigadier E. F. E. Armstrong, O.B.E., from the Gloucestershire Trust for Nature Conservation, to speak about the work that the Trust was doing both nationally and locally. Brigadier Armstrong illustrated his talk with some extremely interesting colour slides.

Later in the Term three films, from the I.C.I. Film Library, were shown. Two of these, "Electrostatics" and "Chlorine", dealt with specialised topics which were helpful to both 'O' and 'A' level candidates. The third, "Discovery of a New Pigment", showed how experimental work on dyestuffs is carried out at I.C.I.

The last meeting of the Society for this year was held early in the Summer term, when another I.C.I. film "Game Harvest" was shown. This film explained in detail how the scientist and the gamekeeper could work in close harmony to produce larger and better broods of game birds.

It is hoped that the Society will continue to flourish in the next academic year.

This year we said goodbye to Jim McGarrick, who was our Chairman for the Michaelmas Term and gave a great deal of his time to the Society.

Many talks have been given this term including studies led by R. K. Jones, and discussions led by N. K. Wright, Mr. D. J. Watkins, Mr. A. S. Pilbeam, D. P. Roe and J. A. Hook. We should like to thank all the agnostics, atheists and humanists, who have come along and joined in our discussions, and we sincerely hope many more will follow their example.



THE CHESS CLUB

J. A. Knight, L6A

This year the School Chess Club has had another successful season with the School team only suffering one defeat in 10 matches. However, that one defeat occurred in the Final of the Gloucester Schools' Knock-out Cup, where the School lost 3-2 to Chosen Hill, after leading 2-0 at one stage.

Individually the season also had its high points. R. Hill and A. Dee finished second and third respectively in the Under 13 section at the Gloucester Schools' Congress at Christmas, and D. Adams finished second in the Under 15 section. C. Ashby won every game he played for the School. Hill was selected for the Gloucestershire Junior Chess Team, and J. Knight represented Gloucester regularly in the North Gloucestershire League.

For the second year running Eastgate won the House Chess Cup with Northgate again coming second.

Over 70 boys entered the School Knock-out Competition, but at the time of going to print the winner is not known. A large proportion of the entries came from boys in the first two years, which shows all goes well for the School Chess in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Sweeting for arranging fixtures and helping many of the younger players to improve their standard.



THE PEACOCK CLUB

The Secretary

“When you were a tadpole, and I was a fish
 In the Palaeozoic time,
 And side by side in the ebbing tide
 We sprawled through the ooze and slime”.
 Langdon Smith.

In fact we wallow in it. We root around in the murky depths of our minds trying to dig up some choice morsel to share with our fellows. Long into the drear hours of the night do we sit huddled together waiting for a philosophical gem to drop from someone's lips and, shining there before us, to let the warmth of this radiance to fill us all with wonder. At last someone stirs. After mulling over his thoughts throughout the evening he feels it time to speak. “What about some coffee, then?” Oh joy! Oh rapture! What wisdom hath this fellow. We rejoice that Reason is not dead and she has lead him to such thoughts.

“Nearly all our best men are dead! Carlyle, Tennyson, Browning, George Eliot!—I'm not feeling very well myself”—Punch, 1893.

“Wot, no bikkies?”—A Member, 1969.

THE RAMBLING CLUB

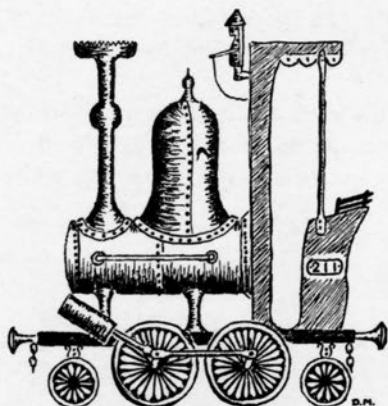
J. M. Smith, L6A

The Rambling Club has embarked on several walks since the last issue of ‘The Richian’, some half and other full days. We repeated the first walk that the Club ever made; walking through Cranham Woods and over Cooper's Hill, fresh snow carpetted the ground, but it did not daunt us and did in fact prove excellent practice for members of the forthcoming Lake District Party.

Another full day ramble, in March, took us into the Forest of Dean, giving us marvellous views from the Seven Sisters' Rocks, and allowing us to explore the outskirts of King Arthur's Cave.

This term we have only had one ramble so far, but three more are planned, including a treasure hunt at the end of term. This first walk (around the Mitcheldean area) was wet on top, and under foot, but nevertheless it was enjoyed by all who went.

The present membership of the Club stands at about 30, and all the boys who are in it, find a ramble an enjoyable way to spend a full or half a day at the weekend.



THE RAILWAY SOCIETY

A. Viner, U6A
M. Hall, U6A
D. Roe, U6Sc

Since Christmas, 1968, the Railway Society has been on trips to Birmingham, Manchester, Swansea and Carlisle. The Carlisle trip was spread over the half-term weekend in February. Tyseley, Bescot and Saltley sheds were visited at Birmingham, Newton Heath, Reddish, and Longsight sheds at Manchester; and Cardiff (Canton) and Landore sheds on the South Wales trip. During the Summer holidays we hope to visit the Dart Valley Railway in Devon.

Great enthusiasm has been shown by younger members in giving talks, which is a good sign for the future. This has given the organisers the idea of awarding a prize for the best talk of the year. During March, the film "Giants of Steam" was shown.

The projects for the Fete were very interesting: The main one was an exhibition on the Gloucester and Cheltenham Railway and the Leckhampton quarry tramroads, which fell into dis-use during the mid-1800's. We were fortunate in being able to borrow parts of old tramwheels and railway tracks from Cheltenham museum. The two great blocks of stone, which served as sleepers were brought down from Leckhampton in cars. The Society would like to thank Mr. Huddleston and Mr. Moss for their support and advice.

The second project was a census of trains and passengers, which was taken by fifteen or so boys during the last week of the Easter holidays. In the light of this census, the organisers feel that all local services between Worcester and Swindon/Bristol, and between Gloucester and Cardiff, should be withdrawn. It is not surprising either that the "Cornishman" now bypasses Gloucester because an average of only 17 passengers a day used that train. The total figures for the week were depressingly low, a total of 4,713 got off. We hope to carry out further censuses of this nature in the future.

Until the Friday before the Bus Fair I regret to say that very little progress had been made. We paid a visit on January 11th to the Rev. W. Awdry (of Thomas the Tank Engine fame) and spent an enjoyable afternoon talking to him about model railways, and examining his narrow gauge layout. Despite some sound advice, we had not done much to benefit the layout until Friday 16th, when we suddenly realised the urgency of having the layout in a reasonable state of completion. I am sorry to add that the electrical side of the layout did not match the excellent appearance of the scenery, and only two locomotives (my L.N.E.R. B 12/3, and Peter Reynolds' 'Winston Churchill') looked anything like happy over the points. Still, we have learnt from our mistakes.

At the moment we have no events planned, although with the certainty of a School Minibus, a visit to Pendon Museum is always likely. Future developments on the layout include more work towards getting a continuous run and the rectification of the errors which became embarrassingly obvious at the Bus Fair.

THE AERO MODELLING CLUB**J. J. Scott, 4A**

Over the last term and a half the Aero Modelling Club has seen increased activity, perhaps due to the warmer weather.

Among the new members we have Jim Barradine, whose "Combat" models show excellent finish and performance, and Clive Warner, whose first racing model put up a very creditable 60 m.p.h. Other Racing models by members of the Club have gained 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in Gloucester races, and a 3rd place in the West of England race.

The members of the Club who fly radio-controlled models have also been busy producing some very fine models. Dave Faulkner built some equipment for £3 which had it been bought in a shop have cost him from £40 to £60.

The most important activity of the Club this term has been the organisation of an exhibition of models in the Physics laboratory and a short flying display on the field for the 'Bus Fair'.

The exhibition of the static models was considerably enriched by several models loaned by Mr. A. Dowdeswell, and Mr. M. Soul of the Glevum Model Aircraft Club, and by the magnificent little Alcock and Brown Vickers Vimy by Mr. Burrow. This model is really tiny but is correct down to the last detail, and was constantly admired all the afternoon.

Finally, if you are at all interested in Model Aviation come along one Friday afternoon and enjoy yourself.

THE TIDDLYWINK SOCIETY**N. J. Eyles, 2A**

This Society came into being early last term, with the Headmaster's approval. Soon actual playing began, and on return to School this term regular meetings were held, and more members appeared. I hope that all boys who are interested will join this Society, and help me to carry on the good work of promoting the exciting and skilful art of tiddlywinking.

BASKETBALL CLUB



Captain : P. Jackson

J. A. Smith L6A

Last season the Basketball club, although suffering from a lack of team experience, managed to win two friendly games against Wycliffe College and Kings School, although we lost to a much more experienced team from Crypt.

It is hard to believe that only the season before we beat the same Crypt team three times, until you remember that then our team was composed of very experienced players, playing regularly in a league. Most of these players have now left, with the notable exception of P. Jackson, who, as Captain last season, provided the experience necessary to balance with the enthusiasm of the rest of the team.

Many of this year's Lower Sixth are now taking an interest in the game, and it can only be hoped that their interest will be great enough for them to form a new senior team that we will need next year.

It is also hoped that more boys from the third year upwards will take an interest in the game.

The Club meets on Mondays and Fridays after school.



BOWLS CLUB

President	:	E. J. Pritchard
Captain	:	M. J. Watkins
Treasurer	:	S. Tollervey

M. Watkins 63

Since the last report, and the writing of this one, an apparently quiet Bowling Club has been preparing for this season. The presence of the indoor rink has made it possible for many newcomers to familiarise themselves with the oddities of bowling, while the green was taking a much needed rest through the winter. Membership is at present round the forty mark, and it is expected to rise higher after the 'O' and 'A' level examinations.

The highlights of this season are the matches against Painswick and the Gloucestershire Vice-Presidents' B.A., the tournaments, and last, but certainly not least, the visit of four famous bowlers to give an exhibition of good bowling. The four bowlers, who visited the School on Saturday the 24th May are Mr. David Bryant (the World Champion), Mr. Gareth Humphries (the Welsh International and Singles Champion), Mr. Peter Brimble (the outdoor and indoor International), and Mr. Norman Hook (the well-known local bowler). The exhibition was open to all the local bowling clubs, and a large number of spectators were present.

Preparations for the tournaments are at present under way, and the Singles Tournament has already started. Once again, we have the singles', pairs', triples', and rinks' competition, and as well as the Ray Jones Memorial Cup, (presented by the Gloucester Vice-Presidents' B.A., for the singles Champion) there will be the new Tom Goddard Memorial Cup (presented by his daughters for the pairs Champions), which was unawarded last year. Later on in the term, after the examination period, there will be two other major events — the Minor Sports Festival, when a pair will try to avenge the defeat of last year by Central Boys' and the House Matches, when Northgate, Eastgate and Westgate will be struggling to wrest the Alan Sinkinson Wood from the hands of Southgate, the champions of last year.

Before this report draws to a conclusion, I feel that our thanks must be shown towards the two members of staff of the School, without whom bowls would be impossible. Mr. Pritchard the President of the Club, deserves praise for the time and energy he spends on the green and the players, and Mr. Moss the groundsman. It is to him that our thanks must go for the many unrewarded hours, spent at all times, that he works, keeping the green well cut and watered, and beautifully surrounded.

SENIOR CROSS-COUNTRY

M. Carter U6Sc

The season was very successful in many ways; above all it emphasised the fact that cross-country running is a team effort. In many of the fixtures we ran, the position of the last man home was as important as that of the first man. We were very lucky in many ways that we had a keen team willing to train hard and always try and improve — and succeeding. This is borne out by the fact that we lost only one fixture, out of 11, against a school, and this we eventually avenged. The end of the season saw the loss of Ken Burlton, the leading runner in the team and Captain from February 1968. Burlton did a lot of work to keep the team together as well as having many individual successes. Burlton was replaced as leading runner by Samuel who had support from Newport, Hodges and “swimmer” Lapington.

Our thanks go to Mr. Winstanley who has given up a lot of time to support us and give us the encouragement which we often needed to help us to more victories.

Ran 12 Won 10 Lost 2
Half Colours — Samuel, Hodges, Newport.

JUNIOR CROSS-COUNTRY

R. E. Samuel 5B

The only races the School Junior Cross-Country Teams had this year were those of the Gloucester Athletic Club's Schools' League. This was a series of three races run over three different courses all around Gloucester.

In the first race the School made a disappointing start, and the A team could only place 3rd, and the B team 6th. The second race gave the teams much better results, and the two teams finished 2nd. and 4th. resp. The strongest side the School could find was fielded for the last race, and the A team were rewarded with a magnificent victory which won them the league from thirteen other teams the B team were placed 5th. overall.

An encouraging feature of this years teams was the extremely high number of first formers who ran. This augurs well for next year when the juniors will defend the title won this year. The School also produced the outstanding runner of a series of races, in P. Hoddy of 2B who won all three races completing a unique hat-trick, the first time this has ever been done.

1st XV

After the successful previous season, there were high hopes all round for this season's 1st XV. However, these hopes were soon diminished as the team was forced to face reality. A few early defeats, an obvious lack of fitness, and numerous injuries, all served seriously to weaken the morale of the team, which was not completely repaired 'till the last match.

As can be seen from the results alone, natural talent in the backs, and weight up front, do not constitute an unbeatable team, or even a good one. By the end of the season it was clear to all that much hard work and training was needed to do well.

The pack, as stated, had a weight advantage in most of the games, but seemed incapable of using it in a combined effort. Most members were proficient in their positions, but only Goddard showed true all-round ability, excelling in the line-out. Rees generally dominated the back of the line-out, but there was still that terribly tendency of players to turn their backs. Tollervey developed immensely during this, his 3rd and last season in the 1st XV, and I should like to thank him for his great contribution to rugby throughout the School. Another player worthy of mention, if only for missing more games than anyone else, is R. Merrett, Vice-Captain, who through injury, missed two-thirds of the season. The loss of this mobile and determined player was a great blow to the side.

Once again, the backs played efficiently, and it was good to see the centres, Marshall and Browning, making the breaks for our two strong, running wings, Smith and Coombs. Redding had another outstanding season at full-back (do we expect anything less?), the restricted kicking law suiting his desire to run with the ball.

In summing up, the team would have benefitted from fitness, more co-ordination between pack and backs, and general backing up. With the present winter season training being carried out under the whip of A. Edwards, I hope for an efficient and successful team next season.

2nd XV

The 2nd XV just about drew even with the number of wins and losses, which is entirely laudable, considering the number of players they lent to the 1st XV. The strength of the team lay in the pack, where they were rarely beaten. No one player can be singled out, although Wyatt's enthusiasm won him a regular place in the 1st XV at Christmas.

In the back line, Hook and Gage stood out, when not required by the 1st XV, and Kelly was greatly missed when a knee injury ruled him out for a couple of months. Claridge and Carter did some hard running along the touch lines, which often resulted in tries.

I hope next season the 2nd XV will be able to field the same team each week, and that they will have a good season. Finally, I must commend all those who played for the 1st XV, and thank Mr. T. G. Smith and Mr. G. M. Williams for supporting and encouraging the team.

Colts XV

The Colts had a mixed season, sometimes unexpectedly winning against good opposition; the pack occasionally showing they could be ruthless and efficient, as seen in their victories over Crypt and Cheltenham Grammar. However, determination was lacking in the backs, espec-

ially when up against a tight defence. There seemed to be a general lack of natural talent, with the exception of Lloyd as scrum-half, an outstanding player and Captain. But on the whole, a great more idea and determination is needed if the players are to step into Senior Rugby with success.

Junior XV

The Junior XV, led by A. Jones, had a very successful season, ending it with an unbeaten home record. I hope, next season, that this will become simply an unbeaten record. The team's strength lay in its all-round ability, based on a large pack, Greig dominating in the open and loose play. The backs were efficient and intelligently led by Gabb.

Under 13 XV

The Under 13 XV played only two games, after cancellations, losing heavily to Marling, but beating Chipping Norton well. It is impossible to judge a team at this stage, but I wish them well next season, and hope they will follow in the Junior's footsteps.

I would like to thank Mr. Moss for his excellent preparation of the pitches each week, and the staff concerned who regularly turn up in all weather. Those who went to Twickenham to see the 'Varsity match would like to thank Mr. Bradford for organising the trip, which was, as usual, enjoyed by all.

This season we had the honour of having an up-and-coming French Star, M. Lefebvre (Jaques à ses amis), playing alongside us. His enthusiasm won him many friends.

Finally, I should like to thank the Lower Sixth rugby players for organising the money-raising schemes which are going on now, and which I hope the School will support.



Oxford Sevens against Llandovery College.

J. Browning L6Sc.

The latter part of the season was devoted entirely to Seven-a-side Rugby. Training of some form had started just after Christmas, and these were regular matches Wednesday, when the probable team always thrashed the opposition. This year the Seven-a-side team was devoted to speed onto the loose ball. This speed was apparent in that one of the regular forwards, R. Goddard, was chosen to play at Oxford.

As usual, the Marling Sevens came before those at Oxford. The team played extremely well to beat Marling, the holders of both the Marling and Oxford cups, but unfortunately they were beaten by Crypt and took second place, winning all other matches.

The following Saturday saw the Junior Seven playing at Clifton. The team played even better than at Marling, with Edwards and Goddard outstanding. On the day the Junior side was unbeatable. The two props, Goddard and Coombs, gave strong support to Marshall, who hooked very well and ended up with a fine record of not loosing one ball on his put-in, throughout the tournament. A. Edwards, by running, kicking or passing, was able to use the ball well, and struck up a sound partnership with M. Redding, J. Browning was at centre, and J. A. Smith on the wing. Smith, a strong player, saved his best efforts for the final, where he seemed to be lifted by the applause of the spectators in the stand. The match was a Knock-out Competition, and the School went through to the final, against Prior Park, without conceding a point, and finally finishing with 63 points.

They returned with the only Rugby cup of the season.

Oxford

The Senior team went to Oxford, to play Llandavery College, Llandavery had a large, strong, team, and reached the quarter-finals after they had defeated the School's Senior side. The only change from the Junior Seven was that N. P. Davies took the place of J. Browning. The whole team was too eager to attack and cover, resulting in loss of rhythm and scrappy play. Even so, the team put up a good show and pleased the Headmaster, who arrived just before the start.

In the Local Junior Sevens, the School entered two teams, both Under 13's. The 'B' went out in the 1st round, but the 'A' team reached the final, only to lose narrowly to Central. This should prove to be valuable experience for the coming years.



BADMINTON CLUB

M. Watkins 63

The Badminton Club, this year, has had a membership of over 60 players, and must surely have been the most popular winter minor sport in the School. The gymnasium has been used on every possible occasion by fifth and sixth formers, eager to channel their energies into a worthwhile form of exercise.

The senior team, this year, has had quite a good season, winning a number of their matches despite the numerous cancellations which had to be made during the season. The first two pairs; M. Watkins and G. Cook, and B. Hockley and M. Jeeves, throughout the season had a fascinating competition against each other to see who could win the greatest number of matches; finally the former pair won by about four. If we had been able to form a consistent third pair, the team would have had a very successful season, since the first two pairs only lost about 10 games between them.

The junior team, I am glad to say, won five out of their six matches, against Hucclecote, Central, Hatherley and Longlevens. This promises well for the season to come, when many of these boys will become members of the first team. Our congratulations must here go to Brian Hunt of 5B, who was selected to play for the County Under 16's team during the season.

Finally, our thanks must go to all those who have borne so ably the running of the Club; the Captains, Hunt and Watkins, and the Treasurer Hockley, who has handled the least glorious task of looking after such problems as broken rackets, new shuttles, and refreshments. Here too, of course, our final thanks must go to Mr. Hunwicks, who has acted as the Master-in-Charge of badminton during the season. Looking ahead, the club seems to have a rosy future, and it is hoped that this year, this popular sport will be represented in the Minor Sports Competition in July.



ROWING

W. Kearsey, L6Sc

After last year's successful season, this year opened with a number of private fixtures, to give the spirit of competition to the Club: Central, Tewkesbury Co. Secondary, King's Gloucester Colts, Hereford Cathedral and Bewdly R.C. were all beaten by comfortable margins. The fixture against Bewdly was rowed down the Severn, from Tewkesbury to Gloucester (10½ miles) as part of Bewdly's sponsored row to raise money for their new boathouse.

Saltford Head of River race produced the first cup in open competition, with the 1st crew winning the Cadet fours, while the Colts in their category, only lost by 1 second. Exeter and Reading University Heads were entered (Reading for the first time, and against crews such as Isis and Galdie) gaining 4th and 74th places respectively.

For the first time, the School entered the School's Head of River race and did well to finish 19th. (The highest place for a state supported school). Tewkesbury School's Head of River was held with the River Avon 6 ft. above normal at this point, flooding the landing stage. Both the Colts and the Cadets won this time with the Junior Colts 4th in their category.

The next event also produced two cups, with wins by the 1st crew in the Norris Cup, and W. Kearsey in the Frith Sculling Cup.

The rowing event of the year: 'The Head', at London, rowed over the boatrace course, brought the School's 1st entry up from 311th to 111th, beating many more senior screws.

During the Easter holidays, the Avon Head at Evesham produced two 5th places in the sculling and the clinber fours. A clean sweep of the Division 23 of the Amateur Rowing Association was achieved in the eights, fours and sculls.

The School's internal Sculling Championship was also held during the holidays: W. Kearsey won, but only after A. Whitney capsized with 10 yards to go, when he was leading by a few inches.



Sir Thomas Rich's 'A' crew triumphing in the final of the 'Norris Cup'.

LIFESAVING CLUB

W. Kearsey L6Sc

The last two terms have not produced any members who have qualified for awards of the Royal Lifesaving Society. However, training still progresses every Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock p.m. any new members will be welcomed.

After a long wait of nearly ten months the awards for N. McDowall and W. Kearsey have arrived. Their award, the "Distinction", is the highest award for lifesaving that any one under 21 can obtain. It is hoped that any ex-members who hold the Award of Merit, will continue to train for the "Distinction". Prospects for a batch of Bronze Medallion awards are extremely good. There are several just on the brink, who, with a bit more training at the beginning of next term, will pass easily.

CYCLING CLUB

R. Ireland 4C

S. Griffin 4B

Over the last six months the club has enjoyed several runs, through a whole variety of places ranging from Newent and Upleadon to Stonehouse and Stroud. So far the weather has not been exactly kind and our Sunday runs have been greeted with torrential rain and even a heavy snowstorm.

At the present time enthusiasm seems to be falling off, and we would like many more of the younger boys in the School to join us. Full details of each run are given on the sports' notice-boards. The club hopes to see its runs given better support in the future.

* * * * *

THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION

President : The Headmaster
Chairman : J. C. W. Harris
Secretary : P. Pearson
Treasurer : F. H. E. Click

CAN THEY READ! is a thought that occurs to me at times when communication between the Officers and members appears to break down.

DO THEY READ? is perhaps a better question and one that you alone can answer.

With some six hundred boys in the School an individual letter to their parents is an impossibility while direct postal distribution would be far too costly.

A PROGRAMME is issued each term of all School and Association activities and it would strengthen the work of your Association if you would enquire for it at the beginning of each term from your sons. Special notices are also issued from time to time as reminder of events.

I have written at some length about our communication problem as I have heard of parents who were unaware of some of the Fete activities. We both need and value your support and would welcome suggestions how to improve our efforts and achieve our aims.

The faithful support given by many is greatly appreciated and helped to make the two illustrated lectures not only pleasant evenings but a financial success. We hope to welcome back both Chris Bonnington and Tony Smythe during 1969-70.

The School have continued to entertain us and we greatly appreciate the skill of Mr Broome and Mr Rangeley, who year by year with unfailing regularity produce talent to delight us in play and concert.

No doubt a report of the most successful Buy-a-Bus Fair will appear elsewhere in this magazine but the Committee wish to thank most sincerely all those who in any way contributed to this magnificently successful Fete. The generosity of Sir Thomas Rich is certainly alive today in those connected with our School.

This generosity has again been displayed in the continued and growing support of the Friends of the School and it was very pleasant to report to the Annual Meeting last September that gifts or grants totalling £187 · 9 · 10 had been made in the previous year. This year we shall do even better and details will be given at the next Annual Meeting which will be on September 11th, 1969. Last year's attendance was good – if not good enough – and we trust that YOU will reserve this date and help fill the Hall. We would be delighted to see you.

No report would be complete without a warm tribute of thanks to those mothers who so willingly and kindly prepare and serve refreshments at our various functions. It was Napoleon who is reported to have said 'An army marches on its stomach' certainly our Association is moved forward by the coffee and biscuits we enjoy together.

We hope to welcome you to some, if not all our future events.

OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS for 1968-69

PRESIDENT

A. V. MARTIN, Esq.

SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT

R. BLAIR, Esq.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

R. S. Chew	G. R. Sheard, B.Sc.
F. J. Freeman	N. F. V. Shelley
R. A. Gabb	Cmdr. R. J. Smith, C.V.O.
B. Harris, B.A.	J. M. Smith
W. G. Hook	S. W. Smith
H. J. Hyett	J. A. Stocks, M.A.
G. R. James	M. C. Sykes
J. D. Meale, B.Sc.	*W. J. Veale, M.A., M.B.E.
*V. G. Munday	E. Warner
J. R. Passey, B.D.	B. Wells
E. J. Pritchard	I. Williams, M.A., B.Sc.
G. O. Romans	A. S. Worrall, M.A., B.D.

*Denotes Life Member

HON. SECRETARY

D. G. Billingham, 69 Nine Elms Road, Longlevens, Gloucester.

ASSISTANT HON. SECRETARY

A. O. Watkins, 68 Elmleaze, Longlevens, Gloucester.

HON. TREASURER

N. V. Hedges, 3 Liddington Road, Longlevens, Gloucester.

ASSISTANT HON. TREASURER

K. D. Ray, 1 Coney Hill Parade, Coney Hill, Gloucester.

LONDON SECRETARY

S. T. Jones, 11 Becketts Close, Orpington, Kent.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

I. Williams, 34 Heathville Road, Gloucester.

COMMITTEE

A. E. Crockford
J. W. Dean
C. F. Dunford
T. Hurcum
V. C. Morgan
R. J. Neiningner
R. A. Owen
P. Price
M. J. Smith
H. Smith
T. Trenfield
H. W. Trinder
E. Turner
R. S. Hobbs
F. O. Watkins
N. Freckleton
D. Wynn

21, Colebridge Avenue, Gloucester.
22, Chamwells Walk, Longlevens, Gloucester.
24, Crescentdale, Longford, Gloucester.
18, Cotteswold Road, Gloucester.
77, Maidenhall, Highnam, Gloucestershire.
191, Cheltenham Road, Gloucester.
"Calfham", Upton St. Leonards, Gloucestershire.
14, Oakbrook Drive, The Reddings, Cheltenham.
18, Lannett Road, Gloucester.
125, Hucclecote Road, Gloucester.
27A, Hillview Road, Hucclecote, Gloucester.
40, Oxstalls Lane, Gloucester.
20, Furlong Road, Gloucester.
31, Estcourt Road, Gloucester.
68, Elmleaze, Longlevens, Gloucester.
32, Rosebery Avenue, Gloucester.
79, Elmbridge Road, Gloucester.

Co-opted

W. G. Bradford
P. J. E. Cole

(Staff Liaison Officer)
(School Captain)

HON. AUDITORS

Messrs. V. G. Munday & J. A. Harris

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1968

The A. G. M. of the Old Richians' Association was held at the School, on Monday September 30th, at 7.30 p.m.

The activities of the Association during 1967/1968 were outlined by the retiring President, Mr. R. Gabb. He spoke of the progress of the plans for a Social Centre; the formation of a second cricket club by Mr. Trevor Hurcum, under the title Sir Thomas Rich's Old Boys Cricket Club; and in thanking the committee for their support, he referred to the services to the Association of Mr. G. O. Romans, Senior Vice-President and Mr. Michael Sykes, Hon. Secretary, who had both resigned upon obtaining appointments away from Gloucester.

The Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. N. V. Hedges, in presenting the accounts, reported upon a reasonably sound financial year. The number of members continued to increase and the number now stood at 423. It was agreed that there should not be any further increase in the ten shillings annual subscription.

A report upon the activities of the Rugby Club was given by Mr. Peter Price. Mr. Colin Dunford reported upon the Old Richians' Cricket Club and the Skittles team which had entered and won Division 3 (East) of the City Skittles League. The report upon the first year of the Sir Thomas Rich's Old Boys Cricket Club was presented by Mr. Trevor Hurcum.

Mr. W. G. Hook reported on the progress of the new Social Centre which would act as a Sixth Form Common Room for the School and as a Clubhouse for the Association. A grant had been refused by the Department of Education and Science, but the Committee had decided to seek a loan from the Gloucester City Council. The tercentenary Committee had agreed to grant a minimum of £750 towards the project provided reasonable financial support was obtained from other sources. All members present were urged to complete a covenant form towards the Development Fund. It was agreed that a Development Sub-Committee would be set up, to include representatives from the Parents Association and the Staff, to deal with all aspects of the development.

Amendments

The major item for discussion was the amendment of the Rules of the Association by the inclusion of rules for Affiliated Sections. A great deal of discussion took place particularly with regard to the proposals for Associate Membership. The rules would provide for Associate Membership to be granted to any member of an Affiliated Section, suitably qualified in accordance with the rules, who was not eligible for full membership of the Association. A small subscription would be made by Associate Members. After a great deal of discussion and several amendments had been made to the draft rules submitted by the Committee, it was agreed that the rules for Affiliated Sections should be included in the Constitution of the Association.

Mr. A. V. Martin, the newly-elected President, in accepting the chain of office from Mr. R. Gabb, extended the thanks of the Association to Mr. Gabb for the manner in which he had conducted the office of President for two years. Mr. Martin had been elected Senior Vice-President during the year upon the resignation of Mr. G. O. Romans,

The Resignation of Mr. Michael Sykes had also been accepted during the year but he had continued in office until the Annual General Meeting. The best wishes of the Association were extended to Michael upon his new appointment. Mr. D. G. Billingham was elected Hon. Secretary of the Association and Mr. H. W. Trinder Assistant Hon. Secretary. It was with reluctance that

the resignation of Mr. Idris Williams was accepted, but it was agreed that the services of Mr. Williams could not be lost and he was persuaded to accept the new post of Membership Secretary. Mr. N. V. Hedges was appointed Hon. Treasurer and Mr. K. D. Ray, Assistant Hon. Treasurer. The members expressed their gratitude to Mr. V. G. Munday and Mr. J. A. Harris who acted as Honorary Auditors to the Association.

The Headmaster remarked upon the success of the School in many academic and sporting fields. He thanked the Officers and Committee of the Association for their continued support.

The President concluded by thanking the Headmaster and Staff for their assistance during the year and for the use of the facilities at the School.

NEVER!

The President has come across a copy of the first edition of the School Magazine. He has included a few notes from it "to all members of the Association and to all Old Boys whom we would like to have as members."

One or two of his jottings will appear elsewhere in the Old Richians' section. Here is the first :

Did you know that the first edition of the School Magazine — called 'The Plutonian' — was dated July 1909 and it cost sixpence ?

THE ANNUAL DINNER

D. G. Billingham

The Association's annual dinner was held at the Fleece Hotel on Saturday December 14th. This was a re-arranged venue because of the poor response to the plans to hold a dinner-dance in September.

Unfortunately numbers were not so high as in past years, but 50 members enjoyed an excellent dinner enriched by highly entertaining speeches from the guest speakers.

Prof. D. Long, proposing the toast to "The Association", spoke of the developments which were taking place in education and recalled the years which he spent at the School. In reply, Mr. A. V. Martin (President) spoke of the Association's activities and, in particular, the planned clubhouse/sixth form common room.

Mr. G. O. Romans, former Senior Vice-President until his resignation, proposed "The School" in humorous vein.

The Headmaster responded by outlining some of the achievements recorded by the School during the past year. He thanked the Association for their continued support.

The top table on this occasion included Mr. Idris Williams, Membership Secretary, whose resignation from the office of Hon. Treasurer after many years of service had been accepted at the Annual General Meeting, and Mr. Michael Sykes, who had resigned as Hon. Secretary at the same time. Michael has now been made a Vice-President of the Association. A presentation was made to both gentlemen at the close of the dinner.

DID YOU KNOW —

That the first Annual Dinner was held on October 8th, 1908, and over half the membership — 68 to be precise — attended ? The evening closed with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne.'

LONDON DINNER, 1969

Kevin N. Anderson

The fourth Old Richians' London Dinner was thoughtfully — not to say cunningly — arranged to coincide with the England v. France rugger International at Twickenham, on February 22nd, 1969. In all 39 members and guests, the highest number since the inauguration of the dinner, made their way to the Rubens Hotel, Buckingham Palace Road, where the waiters look Spanish but speak with Cockney accents.

This is not to detract from the quality of the meal, which was excellent, nor in any way, to criticise an event which was by general agreement first-class. It is pleasing to see the London Dinner now established as an annual function, thanks chiefly to the very competent organisation of Mr. S. T. Jones.

After the meal, the Rev. Terry Harris proposed a toast to "Sir Thomas Rich's and all that it implies". The Headmaster replying, thanked Mr. Harris for his kind words and gave a full account of the School's recent progress, assuring the gathering that Rich's boys do not change with years — whether showing all courtesy and good manners to the citizens of Gloucester or singing songs about the School Captain !

The evening ended in suitably festive fashion, and we all went our several ways, to return I am sure, in still greater numbers next year.

Those present were :

A. V. Martin (President); J. A. Stocks (Headmaster); Rev. T. Harris (1946-52) and Mrs Harris W. G. Hook (1931-39) and Mrs Hook; N. V. Hedges (?) and Mrs Hedges; Insp. W. J. Marshall (1931-38) and Mrs Marshall; D. Eacott (1937-42) and Mrs Eacott; N. J. Dallard (1937-42) and Mrs Dallard; J. M. Davis (1945-50) and Mrs Davis; J. W. Libby (1921-29); H. Trinder (?); R. A. Gabb (?); S. T. Jones (1941-48); S. A. Weller (1950-55); R. A. Nind (1951-59); Dr. J. B. Cook (1951-59); D. W. Ashbee (1956-63); R. A. G. Morgan (1959-66); M. W. P. Fisher (1958-66); S. J. Aubrey (1960-68); K. N. Anderson (1960-68); G. B. Simmonds (1959-66); M. R. Choat (1957-65); I. J. Clucas (1958-66); S. Buttling (1959-66); M. D. Morgan (1960-67) P. J. E. Cole (School Captain); M. Jacques Lefèbvre; and a number of unnamed young ladies.

Apologies were received from : Commander R. J. Smith (1907-12), Eastbourne; T. N. Williams (1939-45), Hemel Hempstead; T. E. Scott (1944-50), Middlesex; P. E. Waite (1939-45), Bromley; Michael Sykes (?), Richmond; C. G. N. Mascie-Taylor (1960-67), University of Surrey.

NEW SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Bob Blair has been appointed Senior Vice-President in succession to Mr. Geoff Romans.

Bob works in the County Surveyors Department at the Shire Hall, Gloucester.

DID YOU KNOW –

That the Association membership in 1909 stood at 143. Our dear friend, the late Mr. George Preedy, was a member of the Committee even then.

SIXTH FORM COMMON ROOM AND OLD RICHIAN'S SOCIAL CENTRE

"Charity begins at home" so the saying goes, but the majority of contributors and covenanters in connection with the above projects are "exiles" living in other parts of the United Kingdom and, in fact, of the World.

The members who will benefit from the provision of a Social Centre are those who live locally in the Gloucester area and yet the response from that section of the membership has been most disappointing.

Complaints have been made in the past that members have nothing to show for the subscription paid by them. Your committee has worked diligently to provide facilities, while the Headmaster, staff and governors of the School, with the City Council, have been most helpful in furthering the Sixth Form Common Room and Social Centre project. However, without the support of the membership by way of covenants and contributions this undertaking will not "get off the ground."

The present position is that the Gloucester City Council has agreed to grant an interest-free loan of £3,000 to the Association which is repayable over a period of seven years. Negotiations are still in hand relative to the conditional details accompanying the loan. The £3,000 would enable the committee to purchase the shell of a Terrapin building, but a further £3,000 – odd will still be required to complete the building and make it really habitable.

Obviously your committee would not be justified in proceeding with this scheme unless the loan from the Council was covered by members' covenants. It is understood from our financial advisers that 100 covenanters at £3 per annum for seven years would probably see us home and dry.

Make no bones about it – this is to be YOUR Social Centre, and anything worth having is worth paying for !

Please let the Treasurer know if you would be prepared to sign a covenant or make a cash donation to the fund. All contributors would then have the satisfaction of knowing that they, at least, were interested enough to join in furthering the good works already carried out by the Old Richians' Association during the years immediately following the Tercentenary Celebrations.

TERCENTENARY AGAIN !

The second Tercentenary—in 1968—has passed unnoticed. "Second ?" you ask. Yes, for a plaque has been mounted on the Guildhall, Gloucester, where the School premises once stood announcing the setting-up of Rich's in 1668.

The explanation appears to be that Sir Thomas Rich announced the founding of the School in his will of 1666, but the School wasn't actually set up until 1668. Hence the apparent anomaly.

NEWS OF OLD RICHIANs

ENGAGEMENTS

Congratulations to the following :

BOULTON, John, to Miss Susan Court.

FOWLER, Chris, to Miss Carol Pritchard, of Gloucester.

JENNINGS, Robert, to Miss Christine Wright, of Gloucester.

WILLIAMS, Roderick, to Miss Angela Pike, of Gloucester.

MARRIAGES

Congratulations and, if we are a little late, in some cases "happy anniversary", to the following :

ASTON, Kenneth J. D., and Miss Cheryl Lewis, married at Ledbury.

COOK, Peter A., who married Miss Ruth Green at Dulwich, London.

CRITCHLEY, Dr. David, and Miss Pauline Llewellyn.

LIMBRICK, Ian P., who was married to Miss Joan Morris in Cheltenham.

OWEN, Richard A., married at Hempsted to Miss Anita Curtis.

PHILLIPS, Gordon, and Miss Julie Bennett, who were married at Longlevens.

Though we regret not knowing who their chosen partners are, we understand that Clive Oliver, Andrew Darke, and Alan Thomas have married since our last edition.

DEATHS

It is with considerable regret that we have to record the deaths of seven Old Richians, including two former masters.

BENFIELD, Ronald, died in a Cheltenham Hospital on Christmas Day, 1968. He was church organist for more than 30 years at St. Lawrence Church, Barnwood, and at Holy Trinity, Longlevens, until about 12 months before his death, when ill-health forced him to give up his regular association with church music. Mr. Benfield was the second son of the late Mr. Herbert Benfield.

BIRCHER, Cecil, in South Africa, aged 61. Mr. Bircher emigrated to South Africa in 1950 after 18 years with Horace W. Stephens Ltd., now Gordon Johnson Stephens Ltd., the Gloucester incubator firm. Making his home at Fish Hoek, near Cape Town, where he took an active part in public life, Mr. Bircher became managing director of a farm equipment firm. He was chairman of the Ratepayers' Association, a Rotarian, a member of the Cape Chamber of Industries and deputy Mayor of Fish Hoek for a year before being elected Mayor in 1961.

FREEMAN, Harry F., was surveyor to Gloucester R. D. C. from 1936 to 1960 when he was forced to retire due to ill-health. After leaving school he worked at the Shire Hall, and then was employed by Stroud and Cheltenham R.D.C.'s before taking up his appointment with Gloucester R.D.C. Mr. Freeman was 67 years old.

SCOVELL, Colin Alfred. 43 years old, Mr. Scovell was Head of the engineering department of the West Wiltshire College of Further Education at Trowbridge for four years. He was a mechanical engineer by profession before taking up teaching at the Forest of Dean Technical College, Cinderford. After a year there he moved to Gloucester Technical College engineering department, where he spent eight years before his appointment at Trowbridge. At the end of the War he served for three years as a navigator in the RAF, mainly with Coastal Command.

SHARPE, David, was killed in a road accident in Camberley, Surrey, during February, aged 20.

SINKINSON, Alan T., only enjoyed a brief retirement. His sudden death in Painswick on December 4th came as a great shock for he had only retired 15 months before. Affectionately known as Sinky he was a "character" in the nicest possible sense. During his 31 years at the School he made his science of mathematics an interesting subject to all those who passed through his hands. He was highly versatile and "fitted in" with the English, Chemistry, and Biology departments while, during the War, he was the Physical Education specialist as well as being an officer in the A. T. C., His sense of humour was immense and subtle. His eccentricities and interests were many and varied ranging from old "bangers" to fungi and hot air balloons. He was school "quack". He inaugurated the School Debating Society. He was, indeed, a character in all senses. Our thoughts are with Mrs. Sinkinson, who will be remembered by many Old Richians as "Binnie", from the days when she was Miss Hale, the School Secretary, and with his son, Timothy.

VILLIERS, G. A. English master from 1932 until he was appointed headmaster of Hatherley Secondary Boys School in 1947. Mr. Villiers was affectionately known to all and sundry as "Gus". He retired in 1963. He was an officer of the School A. T. C. flight, and for about 12 years commanded the Gloucester Squadron retiring with the rank of Squadron Leader. In 1959, Mr. Villiers was awarded the M. B. E. in recognition of the considerable time and effort he gave to the National Savings movement. He is survived by his wife and two sons, Alan, in Australia, and Ralph, who is in the U. S. A.

YOU MAKE THE NEWS

ANDERSON, Kevin, after a stint as part-time soccer correspondent for The Citizen in Gloucester, is now reading German at the University of Sussex.

ASHBEE, David W., is now engaged on a Diploma Year at Goldsmith's College, London, where he succeeded in obtaining 2nd Class Honours (Upper Division) in his English B.A.

AUBREY, S. J., is at the College of Estate Management, University of Reading.

BAXTER, Graham, has been elected President of the NALGO North Gloucestershire Health Service.

BEYNON, G. W., is reading Natural Sciences at King's College, Cambridge.

BOOTH, Frank H., is, we understand, proposing to join the civil service after obtaining what we think is a B.A. degree second class Honours in the Upper Division for English. If this is wrong could you please clarify the picture for us, Frank ?

BOOTH, Mickie H., is still regularly mystifying the opposition from behind the Gloucester scrum where he is still regular choice as scrum half. During the season he played 26 times, scoring 6 conversions, a try, a penalty and a drop goal.

BROAD, Philip, has gained a B.Sc. honours degree in Biological Chemistry at Manchester University.

BROWN, F. B., is studying the French Horn and Piano at the Royal Academy of Music.

BUTLER, Paul, has joined Gloucester R. F. C. from Gordon League as a scrum half. He made nine appearances for the Premier team during the season – at full back! This didn't stop him grabbing two tries as well as a penalty and a drop goal.

CALVER, John, is at present attending the Guildford College of Law. He recently gained a distinction in constitutional and administrative law, as well as criminal law, and passes in the contracts and torts sections of the Law Society, Part 1, Qualifying examination. John is articled with Messrs. Wellington & Clifford, the Gloucester solicitors.

CLARKE, Jeremy D., is carrying out Business Studies at Stockport College of Technology.

COOK, John R., is at Brunel University reading Mathematics with Management Application.

COOK, John, is now assistant manager of the Gloucester (Central) branch of the Gloucester and Severnside Co-operative Society.

COOK, Peter A., whose marriage in London is reported elsewhere, has with his bride of nearly a year been teaching at Dulwich College Preparatory School. He has also been an assistant housemaster at the school's boarding house. For scribes (and others) they have now transferred to Somerset and are living at 29, Greenacre, Wembden, Bridgwater. By the way, Peter has no connection with E. L. Whistey, Spotty Muldoon or Dudley Moore as far as we are aware!

CRITCHLEY, David, has received a Ph.D. "in absentia" from Bristol University. He left Britain towards the end of last year with his new bride – see the marriage column – researching physiology in New Jersey, U.S.A. If this isn't the brain drain at work, then what is!

CROSS, Howard, has been highly commended and awarded a certificate following the part he played in the capture of a London gunman. Howard is a Metropolitan police constable who, with two other officers, chased and captured the man. Pc Cross only had a truncheon for defence. It all started after two men were seen to run from a car which demolished a police telephone. One man was caught almost immediately but the other got away after threatening the constable with a gun. Later when they disarmed him, Pc Cross and the other two policemen found a round up the breach of the gun, as well as 26 others in his pocket. The commendation came from Sir John Waldron – The Met's Police Commissioner – while the presentations were made by the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Mr. Frank Milton, Pc Cross is married and lives near his station at Chingford.

DAVIS, John, has recently been appointed Public Relations Officer for Lyons Bakery, London. In order to publicise the establishment of a £7,000,000 factory at Banbury he joined General Foods Ltd in 1963, after a period with Armstrong-Whitworth. He started in journalism with The Citizen. Now married, he left Gloucester to work on two Nottingham papers before transferring his affections to the Yorkshire Post, Sheffield Telegraph and Star, and eventually the B.B.C. Now let's "beatle" from John to Paul

DAVIS, Paul, left the Citizen where he, too, was a reporter, ending up as technical editor of "Hot Rod". He spent a short period with a Bristol P. R. O. firm, before returning to "Hot Rod". He is now married. The Citizen Davis' clan and Rich's aren't finished, however, for.....

DAVIS, Robert, has joined as a trainee photographer and is going great "flash" guns. (Sorr-ee!—Ed.). We still haven't finished with the Citizen however.....

DEAN, Nigel, is on the first rung of a similar career. He's joined the Citizen as a probationary journalist, after a short spell with the G.P.O. in Gloucester. We can now have a slight break from journalism – but not for long.

EVANS, W. V., Congratulations on your 90th birthday last September. Although you may be in a far-away land – Fish Hoek, Cape Province South Africa – we don't accept your claim to being a "has been", unless you were implying you have been to Rich's in which case we are all "has beens", young or old!

FARRELL, Simon, having obtained a diploma in Art and Design with distinction while at Bath Academy of Art, is proposing to become a freelance graphic designer.

FENNER, Chris, is now a field engineer with Shell International Petroleum, having obtained a B.Sc. second honours in Upper Division Engineering while at the Imperial College of Science and Education.

FLETCHER, Peter, is at the College of Air Training, Oxford. Is this with a view to passenger pilot work, we wonder ?

FOWLER, Chris, who is articled to the Deputy Town Clerk of Gloucester, has recently passed Three Leads of the Law Society Part II Qualifying Examination.

GARDNER, Brian, has just been appointed a Design and Development engineer with Racal Communications Ltd., Bracknell. He had been at Worcester College, Oxford, for some time.

HAINES, Terry, Secretary of the Gloucester Athletic Club, has won the Tredworth Road Walk in Gloucester for the second successive year. He also won in-between-whiles the first Picton House Road Walk.

HALL, R.A., is studying theology at the Congregational College, Manchester.

HARDY, Maurice, is another Old Richian – cum – scribe. He has joined the Gloucester and County News Agency in Gloucester as a trainee journalist after a short term with a local engineering firm.

HARRIS, Basil, our one-time most prolific letter-writing Secretary, and a Vice-President is to be mentioned in the Guinness Book of Records – but not for those missives! Over a period of five years he "explored the furthest compass points of England, Wales and Scotland, and climbed to the highest points of the 40 English counties." Congratulations Basil. Move up with Julie Andrews and "Climb every mountain."

HEMING, Ian R. has passed his B.Ed papers with extremely good results on the Science side.

HILL, Brian (1939-45) has been involved in considerable buying and selling of houses recently with all the "fun" of moving the effects. However, he is now resident at Brickhill, Bedford. We trust your wandering days are over now, Brian!

HOLBROOK, Stan. C., wrote a letter to the Secretary which has only just reached us – three years later! Stan was a Committee member until he moved to Cirencester in 1936. In 1942 he entered the RAF and finished up as an Intelligence Officer on Eisenhower's staff at SHAEF. In 1937 he gained the Associateship of the Royal Photographic Society, and in 1950 the Fellowship. The following January he was appointed manager of the Beaconsfield Branch of Lloyds Bank and retired in 1965. We are sorry about the delay in bringing your history up to date Stan, but what's the latest news ? We promise to get it in the next Magazine, honest!

HOOK, Gordon, was selected early in the season for Leicestershire on the Rugby field. He was able to qualify on a residential basis because he is at Loughborough Colleges.

HOSKIN, David W., is reading Chemistry at the University of Durham.

HUDSON, David M., Having gained 2nd class Honours in Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Queen's College, Oxford, has taken up his duties with the RAF. Members will recall David was

appointed on probation to a permanent Commission as Acting Pilot Officer on the General List of the Royal Air Force.

JACOBS, G.J., had to resign from the Association's Committee when he retired and left the district recently.

JEFFREY, Kenneth C., was ordained priest just before Christmas by the Lord Bishop of Oxford in the Parish Church of St. Luke, Cowley, Oxford. The following day Ken offered his first Mass in St. Michael and All Angels, Summertown, Oxford, where he is now assistant curate. His congregation consists of the families of Dons, priests and their retired counterparts. The younger generations of Old Boys will remember Ken's assistance with the School Scout Troop and his dry wit.

JENNINGS, R., having obtained a B.A. third class honours in Mathematics while at Worcester College, Oxford, is, we understand, pursuing his Certificate of Education in the University's Department of Education.

JOHNSTON, Ian A., is reading English at the Brighton College of Education.

JONES, Ron, is currently President of the Gloucester Lions Club. Congratulations.

KAY, J. Michael, having obtained a Doctorate in Medicine at Birmingham University, is now seeking a University position.

KING, Andrew B., is at Queen's College, Oxford, reading Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

KIRKPATRICK, Ian D., (1943-52) is Principal of School Section No. 3 in the Township of Pearson and Freleigh, Ontario, Canada. Never heard of the place? Not surprisingly, he says he lives in "a somewhat remote area". We understand it is something like an Outward Bound School.

LANE, Roger J. O., is in Oxford reading Geography at Brasenose College.

LEGG, Barry C., is reading History at the University of Manchester.

LONG, D. A., Professor of Structural Chemistry at Bradford University, has received a grant of £19,263 from the Science Research Council toward the cost of a Laser Raman spectrophotometer to be housed in the spectroscopic labs of the new chemistry and chemical technology buildings. (Prof. Long was one of the guest speakers at the last annual dinner.) In addition to this grant he had been awarded two research contracts – which are expected to run for three years – by the Ministry of Technology. The contracts amount to over £6,000 in the first year, and are for investigating and studying the Raman spectra of crystals and the stimulated Raman effect. In addition, further instruments for his department have been provided at a cost of £56,705.

MANDER, Brian, has won a place at Cambridge University. He was school captain.

MARCEY, David, another former school captain, has just gained 2nd Class Honours (Lower Division) in his Mathematics B.Sc.

MARTIN, Keith G., is at Westminster College of Education.

MASCIE-TAYLOR, Nicholas, is reading Human Biology at the University of Surrey.

MERRETT, Arthur, has retired from the Gloucester Police after 30 years. During his last few years he was a familiar figure in court – as prosecutions inspector. His last appearance resulted in countless praise being heaped on his head by the magistrates and officials.

MERRETT, G. H., is undertaking a course of architecture at Portsmouth College of Education.

MORGAN, M. D (Mole) is reading Modern Languages at Ealing Technical College.

MCALPINE, Kevin P., is at the University of Nottingham where he is reading Applied Science.

NEWBURY, Donald E., who left Rich's in 1958, is teaching at a primary school in Bermuda. He went to King Alfred's Training College for three years, and married two years ago. His brother...

NEWBURY, N. T. F., is now married with a year-old daughter and has also emigrated.

He is teaching mathematics and statistics at Strathallon School, Porganderry, Perth, Australia. After gaining 3rd Class Honours in mathematics and statistics at Leeds University he went to the London Institute of Education where he obtained his P.G.C.E. Before emigrating in 1967, he spent four years teaching at Batley Grammar School. We gather he met Harry Pickles recently in Australia. Harry was at Leeds Training College.

NICHOLAS, Dr. Philip, is now Medical Officer of Health in Birkenhead. Formerly he was Deputy MOH of Bolton, and while there he wrote a paper for "The Lancet" on "Food poisoning due to copper in the morning tea." This followed a recent outbreak of the illness among 20 workmen at a Bolton factory shortly after they had imbibed of their char.

NOBLET, John, is proposing to take a degree course in Business Studies. He is, we believe at the Bristol College of Commerce.

OWEN, Richard A., whose marriage is recorded elsewhere, is a director in his father's electrical engineering and contracting firm in Gloucester.

PARKER, J. H., who is believed to hold the lead in the seniority stakes among Old Boys, has been made an honorary member by the Executive Committee.

PENSOM, Ron, is now Captain of Cross Country at Sheffield University.

PHILLIPS, Gordon, had a pleasant surprise when his bride arrived at the Church : Tony Hewitt-Jones, the Gloucestershire Composer had written a special bridal overture which he conducted for them. Gordon later drove to the reception in a friend's 1928 vintage Humber car. A schoolmaster at King Edmund's School, Yate, he is secretary of the Gloucester branch of the 750 Motor Club. They left for their honeymoon in "Babs", Gordon's 1932 Austin two-seater which thoroughly enjoyed the Welsh mountains they toured.

PICKERILL, Rev. Jack, visited Gloucester during the Summer after 19 years in Australia. He has since returned to Perth where he is vicar of St. Andrew's parish in Subiaco. He left Gloucester in 1932 to go to Kelham Theological College, and was ordained in 1938. He spent 11 years in London parishes before emigrating. He has seven daughters and two sons. His address, fellow scribes, is 257, Barker-rd, Subiaco.

PITT, Ron G., the Gloucester R.F.C. centre, didn't play for the firsts last season although his demolition-style of defensive play has been of great use to the United.

PONTIN, Alan, is at the East Birmingham Hospital, having gained his M.B. and Ch.B., at Birmingham University.

PROSSER, G., —see Terry Roberts' entry.

RICHINGS, John, is a detective constable in Gloucester. He is we understand helping to teach youngsters life-saving in the School Pool on Wednesday evenings.

RIDLER, Frank, can be contacted by means of PO Box 891, Salisbury, Rhodesia. (I don't think we are contravening any U. D. I. regulations by mentioning it — Ed.).

ROBERTS, Terry, has joined up with Graham Prosser in Brazil. Both keen rugby men, they have gained international honours — by playing for Brazil! That's the latest news we have of the wandering schoolmaster who left for Rio by sea last year.

ROMANS, Geoff O., had to relinquish his senior vice-presidency last Summer when his work with the M.E.B. took him to Stoke-on-Trent, although he is naturally still a vice-president. Geoff was Central Gloucestershire's area engineer until his move. He is now the Board's Northern area engineer after 36 years in the electrical engineering industry. Geoff will be greatly missed by all on the Committee and by his many other friends, but Gloucester's loss is Stoke's gain. Best wishes, Geoff.

SELWYN, Derek G., was due to enter an agricultural college this year. While still in the VIth he last year won the Gloucester and District Young Farmers' ploughing competition.

SHEPHARD, Jonathon G., caused a great stir when he opened a debate in the Oxford Union while in his first term at the University. He gained an open scholarship in English to St. Catherine's College.

SIK, Bernard, is now a graduate engineer with Peter Lind & Co. Ltd., London. He went there with a B.Sc. 2nd class honours in Lower Division Civil Engineering from the Imperial College of Science and Engineering. Meanwhile his twin

SIK, Michael, is researching for his Ph.D. He obtained a B.A. 2nd class honours in Physics at Wadham College, Oxford. He was also the School's first swimming Blue.

SPARROW, Ken, who is head ambulance man in Gloucester, has been invested with the insignia of Serving Brother of the Order of St. John at the Grand Priory Church of the Order at Clerkenwell. It honours men and women for their services to humanity. Ken is a familiar figure at Kingsholm where he is responsible for the "magic sponge" for injured players. (Presumably he is "in touch" most of the time—Ed.).

SPEED, Alan W. E., has been appointed headmaster of Saltwell Senior High School from September. Many of the younger O.R.'s will remember his French lessons (with affection ?), general studies and duties as Careers Master. Saltwell was until a year ago a boys' grammar school. During its re-organisation to a comprehensive school (horrors !) it has lost its first year, but gained a co-educational intake at the Fourth Year. By 1970 the school will be the top tier of a two-tier system admitting at 14 plus. The school premises have been rebuilt during the past five years. Presently the roll is 640-100 in the VI-with 25 University placings last year. In a recent letter to the Headmaster he wrote of the last VI Form Dinner he attended: "I enjoyed my visit to the Dinner. We don't seem to change, but the boys looked wiser in stature since I last saw them."

STANLEY, A., is assistant development engineer with Plessey Ltd. He left Manchester Institute of Science and Technology with a B.Tech. 2nd class honours in Lower Div. Physics.

STEINHOUSEN, Julian L. P., is a Royal Navy Engineer. He graduated from the R.N. Engineering College at Plymouth with a B.Sc. Honours (Upper Second) in Mechanical Engineering.

SYKES, Michael (1953-59) resigned from the Association secretariat when he obtained an executive position with the Sony Corporation of Japan based on their new Bedford, London, premises. Mike will be responsible for the daily sales co-ordination and liaison with some 600 outlets set up in the United Kingdom by Sony. Something tells us the former scribe is going to be grateful for the letter writing experience he gained with us !

TAYLOR, Gavin, is working in the laboratories of I.C.I. Fibres, Brockworth.

THURSTON, Sidney W., is engaged in making an enlarged colour copy of the School Coat of Arms—in Edwardstown, South Australia. See elsewhere in the Magazine for more of Mr. Thurston.

TIMBRELL, Alan, is now at the College of Law at Guildford where he is studying for the Law Society Qualifying Examinations. He has recently passed four Leads of the Part 1 Examination. Alan is articled to the Town Clerk of Gloucester.

VILLIERS, Ralph F., son of the late "Gus" whose death is recorded earlier, is with the F.M.C. Corporation at Priton, New Jersey, U.S.A., where he is research supervisor looking into textile applications. Ralph delivered a paper at the 1967 A.A.T.C.C. National Conference in New Orleans. His subject—"wool shrink-resisting". He has three daughters-aged 8, 6 and 4.

VOYCE, David J., is now a Police Inspector at Streatham. He joined the Metropolitan Police in 1951. His brother

VOYCE, Dr. Michael A., is consultant paediatrician at Truro Children's Hospital. He was recently awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine for his thesis on "Circulatory problems in children with paralysed limbs".

WATERS, Brian has graduated from Birmingham University with a B.Sc. 2nd Class Honours (Lower Div.) in Chemistry.

WATKINS, Paul A., has been Captain of the English Universities Water Polo Team, and swam in the U.A.U. Championships at Crystal Palace.

WHELAN, James, who was Vice-School Captain last year, is enjoying the best of *all* worlds at the moment. He is currently in Switzerland improving his languages—and learning the hotel trade. Apparently he is bringing the British tone to an English bar in a Swiss pub ! Before leaving for a year he was busily "swotting up" on the local bus scene; but soon he will be back to take his place at Oxford University.

WHITCOMB, Hubert G., (1911-14), retired from London Transport in 1963 after 43 years with them. He compiled their timetables and duty schedules for 27 years. Ironically he mentions the Schools P.S.V. Circle—Jim Whelan was responsible for starting it. (Presumably you recall the K, S, NS, ST, RT and others very well, Hubert—Ed.). His brother emigrated to Canada, became an American citizen, but died in Haiti in 1936. Hubert joined the R.N.A.S. in 1917, was an observer and wireless operator on a Felixstowe Flying Boat until he was "demobbed" from the youthful R.A.F. in 1919. He now lives at Newhaven, Sussex.

WILLIAMS, Terry, is believed to be carrying out post-graduate studies. He gained a 2nd Class Honours(Upper Division) B.Sc. in physiology at University College, London, last year.

WITHERS, Roger, is also pursuing post-graduate qualifications with the object of becoming a professional town planner. He graduated from Hatfield College, Durham, with a B.A. 2nd Class Honours(Division 1).

WYATT, Robert, has been awarded a third share in the Lytell Classics Prize at Southampton University.

WYNN, David, is at Culham College of Education, Abingdon, with plans for becoming a physical education instructor. Last Summer, while an instructor at a North Wales adventure training centre, he was involved in an abortive rescue bid on Cader Idris, after an experienced climber fell 400 feet into a gully on the mountainside.

DID YOU KNOW

That Will Johns, an Old Boy, represented England at half-back in 1906/7 against Wales, Scotland and Ireland as well as Captaining Gloucester through one of their finest seasons. Some of the records set up by that team were only broken in the season just past, and others still survive. He also led Gloucestershire in 1907. Did we then have to wait for another full International until past-President Bill Hook gained his 'caps' ?

"COME AND SEE"

Sidney Thurston has been in Australia for 47 years and has written about some of the impressions he has gained of the country. This is his message:

'I think that the boys should learn something of this vast country. It has many ups and downs but with a determination to take the bad with the good, one can usually come out at the end all the better for the experience.

'It has much to offer the man with a fair average education and a good determination to work. The quite recent discoveries of vast mineral deposits are being developed in several areas on a major scale, using British, Japanese, Australian and U. S. Capital.

'This is largely in the North West at the moment, but also applies to isolated parts elsewhere in the country. Ships, harbours, railways and all the other services, are required, which in turn mean great opportunities for skilled personnel.

'The wages are high and many young men go for a given term to save money so that their own little world can be developed in the home town.

'There is a problem with storing the hundreds of millions of bushels of wheat grown during the past season, particularly where it has not been exported. It exceeds the amount of space, and adequate shipping—for removing grain which has been sold—is falling down on requirements. But this will no doubt right itself in due time.

'The cities of Darwin and Alice Springs, regarded for a long time as "way-back" settlements, are developing at amazing speed; the former as the gateway to Australia, and the latter as a potential tourist centre for the more "outback" attractions.

'My concluding remark for those who may be interested is "Come and see for yourself".'

DID YOU LIGHT UP ?

Maybe half Gloucester's lights didn't go on at the mention of Sir Thomas Rich's School and the Old Richians. But it's a fair bet many faces throughout the country glowed when David Jacobs introduced radio's "Any Questions" from the School in January.

His opening remarks highlighted a major triumph for the Association. For three years we appeared to be fighting a losing battle to bring the long-running popular programme to School. Then, quite suddenly, it was on. We were to play hosts to the B.B.C.

Obviously the panel — with Mr. Jacobs in the Chair — enjoyed their stay, for afterwards Michael Bowen, the programme's producer, wrote thanking everyone for their reception.

His remarks pointed to something we have known since the move to Elmbridge: we have one of the finest halls in the South-West of England.

About 700 people were admitted free of charge — as stipulated by the B.B.C. — and if you were among the other million or so who heard it "live" or in the repeat, have no fear — everything was spontaneous.

There was a moment of tense humour when the names of the successful questioners were announced before the broadcast.

President, Alf Martin, was among them. But he didn't know because he was still in the process of bringing the panel from Cheltenham.

When he arrived in the hall with seconds to spare he was quickly ushered to one of the special seats — looking slightly bemused by the turn of events!

The 1968 season was, in the light of subsequent events, the last year in which we were to play under the name of Old Richians' Cricket Club.

The season was moderately successful with the Club winning 11 of the 29 games played. We lost 7 and drew 8, with the remaining 3 games being abandoned without a result. Three individual centuries were scored by Nigel Halls (143 n.o., against Avonside (Bristol), Cyril Evans (106 n.o., against Redmarley) and Alan Smith (101 n.o., against Gloucester Strollers). The latter batsman had an aggregate of 598 runs for an average of 42.71 and headed the batting averages. Halls was second, averaging 35.4 and Evans third 28.3.

The bowling honours went to Tony Rudge (53 wickets at an average of exactly 10) but Brian Harris in fact headed the averages with 19 wickets for 7.35 each.

The Club, for the fourth consecutive year, won promotion in the Gloucester City Skittles League by winning Division 2 (East) by a very clear margin, losing only 4 matches throughout the season.

At an Extraordinary General Meeting early in January the Club met to discuss a proposal to disaffiliate from the Old Richians' Association. The meeting was convened as a result of the Rules for Affiliated Sections and Associate Members passed at the Association's A.G.M. in September, 1968. I would emphasise that a majority of the rules could be agreed but a few—and in our opinion the most important—were not acceptable to the Club for the following reasons ;

Rule 2. Officers to be Old Richians. If a non-Old Richian is permitted to play for the Club he should be entitled to all privileges afforded to other members. We were opposed to any rule which suppressed the minority. A non-Old Richian would have to pay both his Club subscription and Associate membership subscription but would not enjoy the same privileges as the other members who were Old Richians. Without support from "outsiders" a few years ago the Club would have been in difficulties and may have disbanded, and we felt that if the rule was accepted the non-Old Richians would become "second-class" members.

Rules 5/6. Associate membership. It was generally agreed that the O.R.A. Committee should not have the final word in selecting the names of persons put forward by the Club for Associate membership. We were primarily concerned with the building of a good cricket team endowed with good spirit and comradeship and we felt we should be free to choose any players we considered suitable.

The limitation of the number of Associate members to 20% could not be accepted. In a small Club this percentage represented a very small number of players.

Rule 7. Facilities. Associate members would have little or no privileges at all and would probably be unable to use the new Clubhouse. They would have to pay an annual subscription for which there was no return. With the exception of nets there would be no facilities accorded to Associate members of the cricket section as the ground at Elmbridge was not available at weekends.

The Club was formed in 1954 and has a good name and reputation in local sporting circles. It was with some reluctance therefore that the meeting voted by a majority of about 85% to disaffiliate.

It was subsequently decided to rename the Club **Glevum Nomads Cricket Club** under which name we will play as from the 1969 season. In all other respects the constitution of the Club will remain the same.

S.T.R. OLD BOYS' C.C.

Committee: Trevor J. Hurcum, David M. Hobbs, Geoff Taylor.

I expect you will know by now that our young Club is solely representative of the cricketing interest among Old Boys, an interest which enabled us during the 1968 season to choose from a total of thirty different players.

As was to be expected, it took some time to settle down to the vastly different style of cricket played at a local level; no doubt it will take many seasons to develop into a fully mature Club. We believe that, during our first season, we made an encouraging start.

Not surprisingly, the team's performances throughout the season were highly unpredictable! From a disastrous start in our first match 9 - 9 at one stage (more like a rugby score!)—we were only a month later 83 - 0 and chasing a winning target of 85. In bare facts, we won 8, lost 12, and had 6 matches cancelled, representing a quite satisfactory first season.

Our main strength was in the bowling department, and some excellent performances were produced by Nigel Allsopp, David Wynn, Gordon Hook, and Trevor Hurcum, all of whom are, however, pace bowlers. In fact, a spinner of any sort was noticeably absent throughout. Two bowlers still at School who will be of great value in future are Simon Tollervey and Philip Claridge.

In the batting sphere we are extremely thin, only Trevor Hurcum and David Wynn giving consistent performances. The rest of the batting line-up at present lacks confidence, experience, and a sound defence. One whose batting improved in all three aspects was Barry Legg, while Simon Tollervey, Philip Giddings, and David Hobbs all showed on occasions of what they were capable.

The Club held its A.G.M. in January at which Mr. R. Gabb was re-elected President for another year. The Captain (Trevor Hurcum), Secretary (David Hobbs), and Treasurer (Geoff Taylor) were re-elected en bloc, but it was felt appropriate to extend the number of honorary Vice-Presidents to include, in addition to Mr. J. A. Stocks, Messrs. J. P. Winstanley, J. Butler, W. G. Hook, and I. Williams.

Since February, the Club has held indoor practices in the School gym, and outdoor nets are available on Friday evenings throughout the Summer term, to which all interested cricketers—Old Boys and Scholars—are welcome.

An excellent fixture list has been arranged for this season, including participation again in the Gloucester Knock-out Competition. Of particular interest will be July 5th, when it is hoped to play both the School 1st and 2nd XI's.

The thanks of the entire Club are due to a number of people who have helped us in some way or another during our first season. But special mention must be given to the Headmaster for putting at our disposal so generously the School facilities; to the games masters—especially Messrs. Winstanley and Butler—for their help and support in so many ways; and to Mr. Moss and Mr. Yates whose friendly co-operation is fully appreciated.

OLD RICHIANs' R. F. C.

*President: R. A. Gabb; Captain: M. A. Longney; Hon. Fixture Secretary: M. J. Smith
Hon. Secretary: N. Freckleton, 32 Rosebery Avenue, Gloucester.*

The 1968/69 season has once again been a successful year for the Club. The 1st XV, equalled last year's record of 20 wins with a team which included no less than ten of last year's outstanding 2nd XV. The present 2nd XV, however, have not had quite such a fine season as last year, no doubt due to so many new faces in the side.

This Easter the Club travelled to Exeter for the fifth successive year. We drew with Exeter Saracens (11 - 11) on Saturday and had an impressive win over Exeter United (9 - 6) on Easter Monday.

The annual match against the School was played in April, when the President's XV managed to regain the coveted "Rowley Bowl" by narrowly beating the School 11 - 10.

Our special thanks this season go to the many school lads who played for the Club, sometimes at very short notice. They often helped us out of a "bad patch" caused through injuries and other problems.

May we take this opportunity to say that the Club is eager to greet new players, especially School leavers. At our training sessions on Wednesday evenings at the School a warm welcome awaits those of you who are interested.

The playing record shows:

1st XV :

Played 32, Won 20, Drew 2, Lost 10. Points For 391. Points Against 253.

2nd XV :

Played 25, Won 16, Drew 1, Lost 8. Points For 351. Points Against 209.

Total :

Played 57, Won 36, Drew 3, Lost 18. Points for 742. Points Against 462.

Special Notices

OLD RICHIANs' ASSOCIATION TIE

The Association tie is on sale from Messrs. Young & Co., Westgate Street, Gloucester, still only 22s. 6d.

Ties will only be sold to Old Richians who have paid their subscription for the current year, but arrangements have been made with Messrs. Young for non-paid up members who wish to purchase a tie to collect the 10s. subscription at the time of the purchase. Receipts for subscriptions will be forwarded to these members by the Treasurer.

DO YOU QUALIFY AS A SADIST ?

We hope so ! All you need is to have done something—no matter how trivial it might appear to you—and to write letting us know. You must be latent sadists if you've read news of yourself or your friends on the preceding pages without writing to us.

We had news of just over 100 Old Boys this time. Help us double that figure !

For instance, have you married, got engaged, had children, taken part in the transatlantic air race, gone potholing, got a job ?

We enjoy writing about you—so please give us the work. You apparently enjoy reading it. Why not take a couple of minutes to drop us a card with the latest news ?

If any member wants the address of another please contact the Secretary. He would be pleased to supply any information we have on our records.

It could be sent in with this year's subscription which becomes due on July 1st, 1969. Those for 1968/69 are now overdue. If, as we hope, **you have** paid already, don't forget the news.



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To give you further food for thought write for our brochure of opportunities. Drop a line to Mr E N Thurston Group Apprentice Training Executive Dowty Group Limited Arle Court Cheltenham Glos.

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