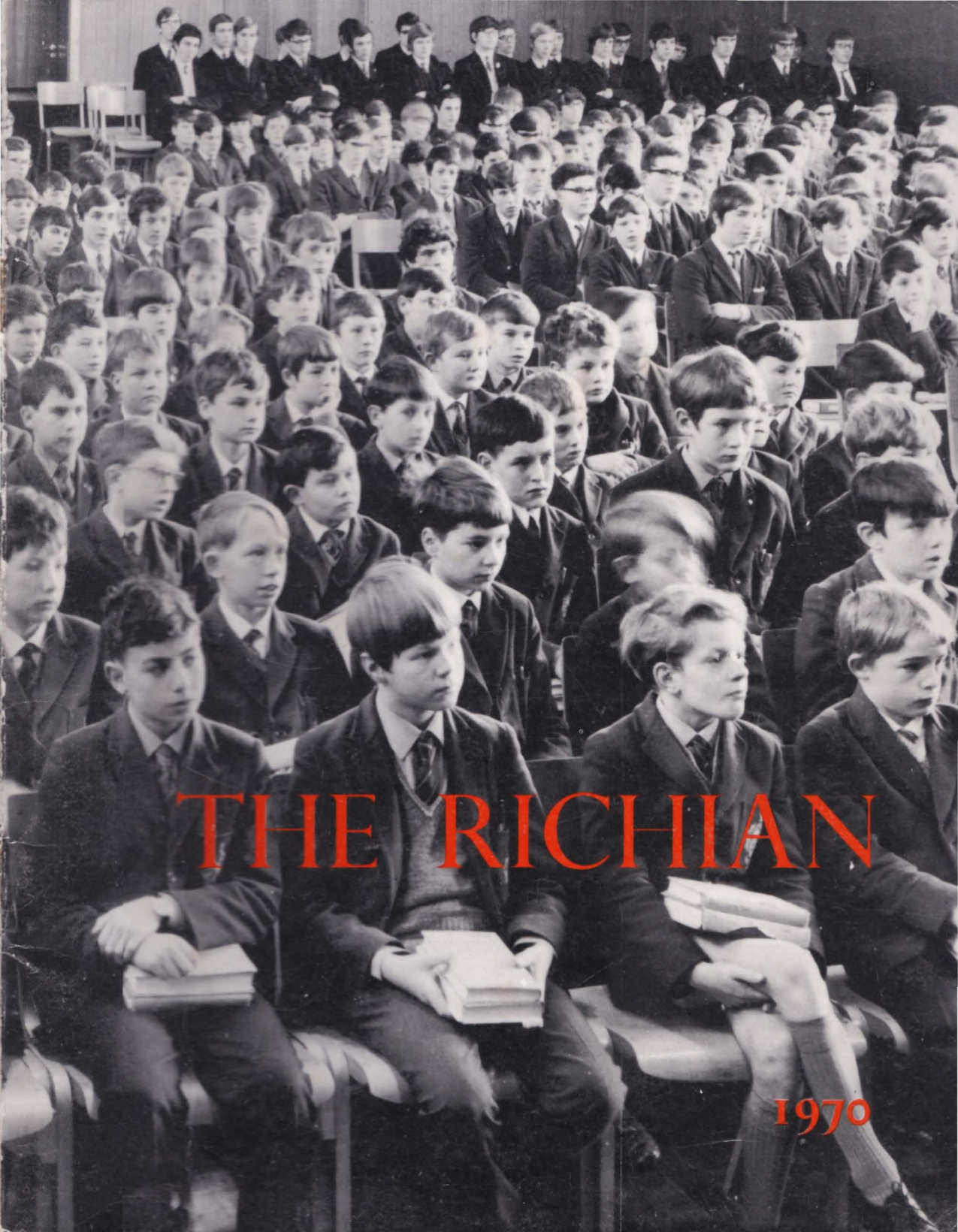




THE RICHIAN

1970



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EDITORIAL

Since the days of the Plutonian back in the 1930's, it has been the custom of this school to publish a magazine twice a year. The squeeze can be felt by a magazine just as much as by a nation, and for reasons of economy the magazine will now be published only once a year.

This obviously has certain drawbacks; especially in this difficult transitional period, society and sports' secretaries have found it hard to give an accurate impression of the year's activities. I regret certain inconsistencies in this edition: several articles are, of necessity, dated; but on the other hand this new arrangement means that the magazine can be both bigger and better planned.

"If we offend, it is with our good will."

ONE STEP FURTHER

It is always difficult to know where to start with an article like this; so much has happened in and around the school these last two terms. Perhaps we could start by taking the advice of the King – “Begin at the beginning and go on till you come to the end: then stop.” But always remember that there never is any end – no matter what happens to the school, whether we remain as we are or become a comprehensive or a sixth-form college – there is always something more ahead. The events of the last two terms may be looked at with a certain amount of pride, after all they *are* achievements, but only for a moment. Memories soon fade, people come and go and no matter how important you might think a group of people are to the running of the school (“What ever will we do after they’re gone?”) you know perfectly well that there are others equally competent to take their place. That’s what education and schools are all about – learning how to live – and it’s a process that never stops. Once you start resting on your laurels, you’re wearing them in the wrong place.

Nevertheless, the school began the year in September by welcoming three new members of staff. From the University of Reading, Mr. D. R. F. Thomas descended onto the History department in a kaleidoscope of shirts and ideas. The Geography department has done well to capture Mr. C.C. Robinson from Downing College, Cambridge. And the Mathematics department was pleased to welcome back to its ranks Mr. B. McBurnie (a student teacher here last year) from Leicester University. All three have quickly made Rich’s their home, and the school has certainly benefited from their presence.

We also have Monsieur M. A. Ripoll from Aix-en-Provence and Herr G. Kraus from Regensburg with us for the year, our assistants in the French and German departments respectively.

Speech Day, on September 26th, brought us the Rev. Brian O’Gorman, President of the Methodist Conference, who presented the prizes and addressed the school on ways of serving the community. Traditionally the first big occasion of the school year, Speech Day really belongs to the previous year – it looks mainly backwards and only incidentally looks forward, so we mention it only in passing.

In October, after weeks of delays, the news came through on the grapevine that the school ’bus was at last arriving. Driven regally onto the forecourt, it was cooed and clucked over for a couple of hours before being sent back to have the right kind of tyres put on it. Since the re-fit however, the ’bus has not long remained in port, and has been widely used by the school – on theatre visits, field trips and by school teams.

School Music has continued to make its presence ever-felt; hardly a week goes by without the Choir singing an anthem or an introit in morning assembly. In December the Choral Society presented “St. Nicolas” and the first part of Handel’s “Messiah” in St. Catharine’s Church. The Choir have also sung in local churches several times – including the Cathedral, St. John’s and Holy Trinity, Longlevens. On February 25th the Madrigal Group and some solo instrumentalists presented “Music at Eight” – school music with a difference. This was an informal concert held in the Library and made a refreshing change from the normal pattern of school concerts. The Madrigal Group also provided the excellent backing for the Dramatic Society’s “A Midsommer nights dreame”.

To show that music is for all – and more important, that it can be enjoyed by all – the House Music Competition took a giant step forward by having over twenty seperate sections.

It almost seemed that Mr. Rangeley was trying to rival the Bath Festival, but his gamble certainly paid off, and in adjudicating, Mr. John Sanders, the Cathedral Organist, praised the hard work and effort made by all Houses and their organisers in carrying out such a mammoth undertaking.

This year's school play, "A Midsummer night's dream", was another gamble. The school had not produced Shakespeare for many years and this production attempted to capture the whole atmosphere of the Elizabethan theatre. It was a tremendous success. The play was put on for three nights instead of the usual two and the hall was filled to the doors at each performance. Although some of the credit must go to our scriptwriter (Shakespeare's name will always draw a crowd) the Dramatic Society, working in ever-closer conjunction with the girls from Ribston Hall, has shown that it can accept the challenge of a difficult play and put it on with a great deal of feeling and force.

The sixth-form gave a considerable amount of their time and shoe-leather collecting in the Toc H "Raid-the-Larder" scheme at Christmas. Over 400 food parcels were collected and distributed among Gloucester's old and needy.

In the February edition of "Gloucestershire Life", the school was high-lighted in a special article — the first of a series about the famous schools of Gloucestershire. The article, which dealt with the life of the school both past and present, has been very highly commended by people from all over the country who know Rich's. The author really got at the heart and soul of the school.

The school has also extended a warm welcome to the new Rector of St. John's, Canon Paton. This distinguished Churchman who is a member of the World Ecumenical Council, has already twice attended our morning assembly.

In March a Book Sale was held in the Library. This was a repeat of the very successful sale held last year, in which paper-back books of all kinds — over 2,000 of them — were on sale to boys in the school.

Quickly running out of printing space, we find that there are many, many more events left unaccounted. The measure of the school's activities can be seen in the number of clubs and societies that fight to hold meetings after school. There is a continual stacking-up and there is now an overspill whereby some meetings are being held in the evenings. As to the others: The Friday-night film-shows continue to draw the fans — school sport is thriving (a complete report of sporting clubs appears later in the magazine) — the School Council meets frequently to listen to boys' grievances and tries to find some solution for them — Outside lecturers have been invited to speak to various societies, and to the Sixth-form on careers. Lastly, the plaque commemorating the move from Barton Street has after six years at last been found a resting place on the wall opposite the tuck shop, where it hangs quietly and unnoticed by the boys as they run up or down the stairs.

However, no matter how many and varied the activities of the school have been, they have in no way detracted from the academic life. The results of the GCE exams last summer were some of the best ever. Twenty-eight places were gained in Universities and Colleges of Further Education — a tribute both to boys and staff. Two boys in the Upper Sixth sat the Oxford Entrance Exam this year, and both passed. Robert Pearce goes up to read Law at Pembroke College, Oxford, in October, armed with an Open Exhibition, and Peter Hammonds has gained a place at Jesus College, Oxford, to read Geography. The Ordinary Level results were equally pleasing — the average number of passes has gone up to five, many of which were at a

high grade, and because of this a record number of sixty boys entered the Sixth-form in September, bringing the total up to 120.

This article would not be complete without some mention of Mr. John Butler. In beginning this article we welcomed the new masters; now we have to say "Goodbye" to an old one (sic). His "obituary" appears later in the magazine.

Finally we want to thank the many Friends of the School without whose continued support this magazine (and many other school activities) would not be possible. We can only hope that they feel they have got their money's worth.

C. D. W.

J. B.

C. J. Wyatt, 63

What can one say about Mr. Butler? In the seven years that he has been at Rich's, he has made a profound impression on all who have been taught by him. His enthusiasm for Geography is obvious, and with over half the sixth form taking Geography at 'A' level, some of this must have rubbed off on them.

Mr. Butler will perhaps best be remembered for his contribution to Geographical Field work in the school. Reports of his expeditions, notably to Islay, Ireland and the Yorkshire Dales, have become regular features of this magazine. He helped to establish the Geology department firmly in the school, and often gave up Sundays to grovel in quarries looking for fossils with aspiring Geologists.

In the sporting field, Mr. Butler's great passion is for Cricket. He is an able player as many of us have found to our cost. He gave inspiration to a rather lethargic second eleven and spent many Saturdays umpiring despite other pressing commitments.

J. B. is a very approachable man and because of this few people will forget him. I certainly won't forget an infant Butler chasing round the skirting board of his house yelling that he was looking for Woodhouses! He obviously has a sense of humour like his father! Thank you, Sir, for your help, and good luck with your new post as Head of the Geography department at Hereford.



FEATURES

On a damp afternoon in February a dozen sweating sixth formers could be seen manhandling the School's grand piano from the hall, via the bowling-green the car-park and the quadrangle, to the library. The harpsichord followed, by a shorter, drier route, and mother and foal soon settled harmoniously into their temporary new stable.

Meanwhile, elsewhere in Gloucester various seemingly disconnected activities were occupying the attention of other members and friends of the School. Our leading musicians were practising hard in their lonely garrets; ladies of the Parents' Association were slicing cheese and spearing sausages; other mums were making white shirts even whiter; Living-rooms were being plunged into darkness as standard lamps and table lamps mysteriously disappeared; greenhouses were plundered for early daffodils.

The reason for all these preparations was 'Music at Eight', the latest addition to the School's music calendar. The object of the venture was to give our most skilled singers and instrumentalists an opportunity to perform longer works than they would normally be able to present at school, works requiring greater sustained powers of concentration and giving opportunities for the beginnings of interpretation. It was felt that this purpose would best be served by holding the event in the library, before a small but discriminating audience and in a relaxed and intimate atmosphere. As a further aid to relaxation the audience would be plied with sherry and savouries during an ample interval. It was decided that eight o'clock would be an altogether more elegant starting time than 'seven-thirty prompt' for such civilised goings-on.

Thus at eight O'clock on February 25th Mr. Rangeley quietly tossed a note to the Madrigal Group who caught it effortlessly and launched into "All Creatures Now Are Merry-Minded". 'Music at Eight' was in orbit.

The programme which followed was interesting and varied. First we had a Corelli sonata for violin and harpsichord, played by David Hedges and Mr. Rangeley. Next came a four-round contest between Alan Viner and the German heavy-weight, Beethoven. The pianist seemed to find his opponent rather a handful at first, but had taken the German's measure by the time they reached the slow movement, and emerged a clear winner after the final hectic rondo. Later in the programme he gave a most mellifluous rendering of a famous Chopin nocturne. The item which perhaps best captured the spirit of the evening was the Sonata for Flute, Violin and Harpsichord by Telemann. Messrs. Archer, Kirby and Rangeley obviously enjoyed this game of tag played by the three instruments, and its gaiety sent us all into the refreshment room in the best of humours. The four trebles gave us several songs by Benjamin Britten, 'I Mun Be Married on Sunday' being especially lively and enjoyable. (But why do these four wear such dead-pan faces when they sing even the gayest of songs? We shall have to christen them 'The Sobersides'.). After the Madrigal Group had given us two more songs, the programme ended with a splendid performance of Mozart's Sonata in B Flat Major for Violin and Piano, in which David Hedges showed us once again that he is a most promising string player.

Mr. Rangeley's accompanying of Hedges and other soloists was only part of his activity in connection with the evening's proceedings. We have to thank him for his excellent and unobtrusive master-minding of the whole event. Its success makes us hope that 'Music at Eight' will become a permanent feature of the musical scene at Rich's.

'Saint Nicolas' and 'Messiah' part one. December 1969.

For their major presentation of the year the school Choral Society offered us an apostolic combination which fairly set the mind reeling. On the programme Queen Victoria's favourite oratorio, that most revered of sacred choral works, Handel's 'Messiah', stood side by side with a modern upstart – Benjamin Britten's 'St. Nicolas' – a lesser known work notorious only for the extraordinary variety of musical instruments for which it was rumoured to be scored.

The evening began with part one of 'Messiah' – which opened superbly with sensitive playing by the orchestra and a magnificent recitative and aria from Philip Langridge, the solo tenor. A strong first chorus introduced the choir and clearly demonstrated the confidence and precision which characterised all their singing. Fine solo performances were given by Gloria Finch (Contralto) and David Purcell (Bass). There was no soprano soloist as such, but rather a committee of trebles from the school – John Barnes, John Bruce, Simon Finch, and Robert Hunt – whose excellent performance is to be commended.

The later parts of 'Messiah' did not, unfortunately, bear out the promise of the earlier items – but this detracted only slightly from the overall effect. Light relief was provided by the intrusion of flying pests into the nave while Mrs. Finch was telling good tidings to Zion.

After the interval we heard Benjamin Britten's 'Saint Nicolas'. This was a cantata to delight any hagiographer's heart. St. Nicolas turns out to have been a fourth century bishop of Myra whose episcopate was crowded with lively incident, mostly involving the spectacular salvations of pickled boys and prostitutes. The cantata is scored for tenor soloist, four part main choir, and three part girls' choir – this last being sung by the choir of Denmark Road High School.

It was perhaps less than sporting for the Bishop of Rome to demote Saint Nicolas in the celestial hierarchy just a few days before the performance, but undeterred even by this the Choral Society plunged into Britten's music with enthusiasm. The part of St. Nicolas is an important part of the whole work, and the society were lucky enough to secure Philip Langridge to sing it. His admirable performance of this difficult part was truly exciting and perfectly complimented the work of choirs and orchestra.

To the present writer at least, the music itself was a revelation. Expecting the worst one was instead presented with a most compelling piece of music. Marvellously descriptive narrative items were interspersed with delightful lyrical pieces. One could not fail to be excited by this extraordinarily skilful piece of writing. It was not without its unexpected moments, the cymbals especially ensuring that no one went to sleep while 'St. Nicolas' was on.

Nicolas journeys to Palestine to the accompaniment of epic film effects – culminating in the storm sequence which tests the choir to the full and which proved a particular high point of the performance – tenors and basses simulating the panic on board ship whilst the girls' choir described the storm most convincingly. Later items tell of his piety and good works – including disturbances at the Council of Nicaea, and Arius' ear being effectively boxed. In the best of modern tradition audience participation was the order of the day, and after a suitable rehearsal the audience (congregation?) rose to the occasion with a stirring rendering of the hymns allocated to us.

Mr. Britten demands that the conductor be 'cool-headed'. Mr. Rangeley most certainly

fulfilled this condition as he skilfully navigated his singers and instrumentalists through the more complex parts of the work — the choir, at times, dividing into as many as seven semi-choruses. He is to be congratulated not only for his skill in accomplishing this, but also for his inspiration and drive which carried this ambitious project through to such successful fruition.

THE NEW TOY

C. J. Pearson, 63

WFH 1 H so gleaming and bright,
Upholstered in black and painted in white,
Proudly we sally forth enthroned in your splendour,
Pity old ————— crumpled your fender.

Complete with automatic step and interior light
You're considered quite comfy, but only just quite,
For your seats are too close, your ceiling too low,
The ashtray's inoperative, and does the horn blow?

The rowers, the ramblers, all use it round town
Even the railway fanatics — what a come down!
We all love our 'bus, our sweet charabanc,
Ford Transit by name, a coach not a van.

And what a garage you return to at night
With two inches all round you fit it just right.
To get in and out is rather a squeeze
Need one say more, Will it last for five years?

A RIDDLE

S. Meers, 1 Beta

My first is in field but not in farm,
My second is in hand but not in arm,
My third is in house but not in room,
My fourth is in fate but not in doom,
My fifth is in clover but not in grass,
My sixth is in teacher but not in class,
My whole you will find wherever you look,
In garden and meadow and shady nook.

Answer to riddle : INSECT.

To mark the European Conservation Year, the Shell Petrol Company and the Nature Conservancy have organised a Conservation Competition for young people. The aim is to involve school-children in projects which will bring them into contact with the problems of pollution, over-crowding and bad planning.

Rich's has entered a team, under the leadership of Mr. Cooper, consisting of biologists, geographers and geologists from the lower sixth; D. L. Badham, S. J. Chalkley, P. J. Grant, A. G. Hobbs, J. K. Hubbard, M. G. Nash, M. H. Pearson, and R. J. Thwaites. Although each member has his own particular interests in the field of conservation, all the main aspects are discussed by the group in after-school meetings.

The area which the team has chosen to study is Alney Island, the flat damp area between Westgate and Over Bridges. At the moment a Power Station, an electricity switching station, a gypsies' caravan site, railway sidings and swampy football pitches sprawl across its southern end, while the fields of the northern end are criss-crossed by power lines and continually diminished by the erosion of the river. Here is a site in desperate need of redevelopment on our very doorstep.

The team were faced with numerous problems when making plans for the island :-

- 1) Alney Island floods, frequently but unpredictably.
- 2) It must continue to flood since it holds the water which would otherwise pour into Gloucester.
- 3) Facilities must be offered to :-
 - a) Users of the main London to Fishguard road (to be made into a new dual-carriageway incorporating a new city by-pass in the near future.)
 - b) Sportsmen who would like some good pitches on the island.
 - c) Visitors to the city who require car parks and overnight caravan parking spaces on the outskirts of the city centre. (Not too far ahead are the days when cars will not be allowed into the city centre.)
 - d) Boat owners (especially Americans) using the Bristol Channel-Stratford on Avon link, soon to be opened.
 - e) Citizens of Gloucester who would like a recreation centre; Ten pin bowling, ice skating, theatre, cinema, restaurant, etc.
- 4) Eyesores which are not going to be removed must be concealed to make the approach to Gloucester from the west a pleasing one.

Most of these problems have been solved by the team, but we would welcome any sensible suggestions from you.

Since December, when work on the project started, the team has been on fact-finding expeditions to the Severn River Authority, the South-western Road Construction Unit, the Town Clerk's office, Birmingham University (to see their model for studying flooding) and Castle Meads Power Station. Everyone contacted by us has been extremely helpful and willing to give up their time for us. The team has also visited Slimbridge where the techniques of conserving Wildfowl were explained to us. The school already looks after a conservation area on the island where the rare Bladderwort grows, so a wildfowl sanctuary could be set up on the north part of Alney Island, especially since the very rare Marsh Warbler is known to nest there.

Help has also come from biologists lower down in the school who turned out on a very cold morning for a wildlife count, and from the Historical Society who are investigating the



GAB

past of Alney Island. We thank all those concerned and hope that they will be able to help us again later on.

Entries must be in by July so there is a lot of work still to be done, and even if the prize of books for the library and a visit to European Conservation areas isn't won by the Rich's team, we shall know much more about conservation than we did last November.

"I SHALL NOT FORGET, BUT..." R. G. Clutterbuck, L6A,b

Just as the spritely lambs are born in Spring,
Or as the Summer's roses bloom;
So time shall ne'er efface your memory,
Ere Sun and Moon are lost in heaven.
Perchance Life's time may gild and colour it? —
How embroidery disfigures!
In time a memory will seem to live,
(No Sun outshines the Harvest Moon),
Endeared by Life's ever changing, ugly scenes.

"FAR FROM THE CITY CROWD"

How beautiful the frosty Winter's morn.
Under a tree a waiting fox,
Not knowing where to run — but run he must!
The Huntsmen's horns have tolled his death,
In misty trees hounds are chiming his knell.
Nature receive our sacrifice!
Go fly, Charlie, thy mother needs thy soul.

O RADIO ONE!

J. Hedges, 63

O Radio One — thou far off offspring of the titanic god-of-music Orpheus — thou upsurge torrent of noise that roars on incessantly from the crackling dappled dawn to the blackest hour of night — thou who never would'st have existed if Orpheus had conceived the outcome of his great invention music:- let me now enter your leafy glades where earplugged nibbling sheep do often stray.

Let me hear the shy request made by yon giggling shepherdess of some number she'd like her shepherd to hear, and after the earshattering echoes have died away, let me not contemplate upon the lack of voice, tune and words but upon the glorious element of "groove" embodied within the unapproachable boundaries of this music. Let me revel over that sparkling gem of a word — "romagic" which made the excitable sages at Oxford and Cambridge verily spin round in their ebonied chairs, perform three most glorious cartwheels, enscribe "romagic" into their wise dictionaries, and die of heart failure.

Let me delight in such phrases too as "I've never seen a hunk of woman like our Ann" and "I'm going to climb into your bed tonight", and revel over their mysterious overtones, their subtle phraseology, and above all their truly traditional romantic flavouring.

Enough of this mockery! Hence fly thou dark shallow bird back to those biting snowy peaked mountains of sarcasm where thou was conceived. I will have none of thee thou loathsome creature hatched by black-eyed brooding Hecate.

But welcome O Compassion and Pity — thou to my bosom fly and unleash tears that flow from a gentle heart. Thou born of the Social Welfare State come to my aid ere I am swallowed up by the dismal waters of Hellish Hell.

Come oh level headed sage, born of the same brood as Compassion and Pity. Accompany me now down the tangling, jangling glades of Radio One. Show me its radiant delights, point out the mysterious elements enfolded within its eardrum-shattering echoes. Lead oh sage and I will follow — your repentant humbled servant.

Let me see that great unifying element that Radio One has unleashed upon Great Jove's world. For who would not think of listening to Radio One? Who would not have a request to a loved one thrown to the other side of the world via Radio One? Who does not share and experience the common comradeship of Radio One?

"Oh Sage" I said, "how can I ever repay you for this enlightened vision? There can be nothing better than these glades of Radio One!" The Sage smiled and pointed to the fresh pastures of Radio Three!

(With apologies to Milton).

THE DEATH OF A KNIGHT

A. Messam, 2 Beta

Sir knight, in silver armour clad,
Where is your honour now?
The mighty one above has fired
Death's arrow from his bow.

A battle you did seek,
A battle you did gain,
But all your brave fighting
Ended in vain.

A sword in the chest
Did pierce your heart,
And now from this world
You must depart.

Within minutes of this
The young knight died,
With sword in his hand
And shield by his side.



"Discipulus primi", normally known as the common or garden first former, is one of the lower species of the genus "homo sapiens".

ANATOMY :

Peculiar among other species of male humans, "discipulus primi" can usually be distinguished from them by the remarkable absence of visible protective structures around the region of articulation between the femur and tibia, although in one mutation, "bracae longae" do occur.

A vestigial structure once quite apparent, but which recently seems almost completely to have disappeared, is the "integumentum capite". This is invariably lost in later years due to degeneration or cremation of the fabric. The structure is either too large or too small in relation to the head and is positioned more or less precariously on the cranium with the support of the left or right pinna.

The height of "discipulus primi" is in the region of eight (usually very dirty) hands, and their weight is usually less than eight stones (their favourite weapon). It will be seen that these dimensions are similar to those of the School Captain. He is not, however, a member of the same species.

HABITAT :

Being naturally gregarious and inquisitive, this creature may be found almost everywhere, although its favourite haunt is close to the "librarium" where it descends in hordes at fixed hours to feed and partake of the warmth emanating from certain fissures in the walls. Owing to the unruly nature of the "discipulus" and some of its elder species, it has been found necessary to control its movements, particularly at the hours of exodus and migration, by means of the "praelectura". Fortunately the species disperses during the Summer months.

Their most concentrated assembly occurs twice a day, the first early in the morning, and the second mid-day, both times in the hall.

NUTRITION:

The largest intake of calories occurs during the species mid-day gathering, when the conscientious observer may see them partake of a diet consisting largely of "solanum tuberosum comiscerens" (an apology for mashed potato!) "brassica serrata" (cabbage), and various other substances. The creature has an amazing constitution and rarely suffers from gastronomic disturbances. Additional nourishment is provided by the intake of carbohydrates and sweetmeats at the Tuck Shop.

OCCUPATION:

"Discipulus primi" is inclined to be secretive about his habits, but it is known that he delights, during the icy months, in sliding wherever possible. He is also inclined to aggravate the "homo praefectus" often to his cost. As for his other occupations, the reader must discover them himself.

FIRST DAY IMPRESSIONS OF SCHOOL:

1 Beta

'I can't remember much in the afternoon but we come out at half past three.'

'Some of the Sixth-form boys are twenty and I am only eleven'.

'The clothes I wore gave me a kind of gloominess.'

'....I was very impressed with the building.'

'I thought I would get a detention the first day.'

'I thought it was going to be nothing but trouble like in my old school.'

'My blazer every so often kept giving me the itch'.

'....The school seemed to be so large and I so small and unimportant.'

'Then we went on to the roof....Richard Williams picked up a dead slow worm.....our form prefect-to-be said in a posh voice 'ough, put the thing down! "

'Our form prefect is a Vice Captain.'

'I was pleased that all the teachers were men because women teachers, in my experience, tend to be rather snappy.'

'I felt all dizzy in the stomach as if I had been suffocated.'

'The thing that I will never forget is that when we went up to the Greenhouse and through it on to the roof, I found a stiff straight crisp hard dead slow worm, probably an unwanted specimen.'

It is something of a backhanded compliment to be asked to write a layman's report on a well known play. I do admit, however, I had never read or seen *Midsummer Night's Dream* before and that as regards Shakespeare, I am in the process of being rescued from the horrors of part of a Henry for O level a few years ago. Consequently I am still surprised and delighted to find colour, action and humour in Shakespeare and on this score alone I had a thoroughly entertaining evening. This was doubtless the playwright's intention four centuries ago and so in yet another way the performance succeeded as an Elizabethan production.

On the mortal level the centre of attraction was an eternal quadrangle of four lovers involved in so complex a case of "Wife-swapping" that I forgot the correct pairings! Miranda



Barnes(Hermia) and Lesley Rowden (Helena) were outstanding especially when hurling abuse at each other and surely more feminine than any Shakespearian actor could have been. Chris. Williams played a virile Demetrius and Peter Sergeant a bewildered Lysander though their rivalry was less noteworthy. The third pair, Theseus (Robert Pearce) and Hippolyta (Jane Hoskin) were less spectacular and one forgot their position; in fact the Master of the Revels was more visually imposing on stage than his Duke.

In the world of fantasy, Oberon and Titania did well but found some of their lines hard work. They were attended by a suitably motley collection of lesser immortals who all looked unnecessarily ugly, daubed with dark green. (I was pleased pretty Meena Patel was left her native colour). The fairies did provide an effective closing scene and as a compliment to the producers I must make mention of their attention to detail in the way in which the tapers were lit from a "fire" that actually flickered. However, my main congratulations amongst the fairies go to Graeme Bowers as Puck who held the play together to the very end. He had more mileage to cover than any other actor and he spoke naturally with clarity and understanding. He seemed to be enjoying himself as much as the audience.

There was a stir amongst the audience every time the "rude mechanicals" appeared. It is true that part of their attraction was to see renowned schoolmasters acting the fool in peasant attire and doing it extremely well. (People always imagine all we can do is teach) I shall remember the Germanic roars of a joiner "slow of study" and the falsetto screams of our bearded chemist and bellows mender. Tav (Peter Quince) presented us with an unforgettable back view, Donald Moss (Snout) introduced himself as the Wall with a masterful, if rather obscene, speech, and John Cooper (Moonshine) made a characteristic exit, his talent once more disregarded. Were these really my colleagues?

However, it was Chris. Wyatt, the one boy amongst this crowd, who stole the show. In all three roles as Bottom, Pyramus and the A-a-ass he never ceased to amuse. He had the clearest yokel accent even when muffled by his hairy mask, and his overacting in the play-within-a-play reminded us that it takes a good actor to act badly. The closing cha-cha with Thisbe I found particularly funny. The ass's ears had the whole audience in fits of laughter and together with the moving jaws on the head, it showed again the fine attention to detail.

Bottom and Helena particularly made good use of the arrangement, with a front stage extension which brought the soliloquies right to the audience. The whole set was simple and sufficient (but noisy at the back) and ingeniously arranged to need almost no alteration. Between scenes the school Madrigal group provided an effective continuity with suitable songs and live music to cue; it would have been so easy to use a tape recorder, I'm glad they didn't. One lighting feature, the spot on Titania deserves praise, and of the costumes, Meena's golden robes were the most striking.

These are my comments and the details I noticed. I cannot say how the performance compares with any Global or Stratford version or even how the production compares with previous or rival school plays. All I know is that my Shakespearian rescue continues apace.

TIME

The seconds of time tick by,
Never to return.
Time has seen what no man has seen,
The beginning of the earth.

No money can buy time,
Yet everybody spends it.
From house to lion, page to King
Time gone, time to come, time now.

D. Hedges, 4A

SPACE

Dark! Dark!
Black as night.
No man has been out there.
Different worlds and suns
That is all there is out in space.
We are just like a giant wheel
Spinning endlessly in space.
Space is just an infinity of nothing!
Never ending!

J. G. Williams, 1 Beta

INFINITY

Never a beginning
Never an ending
Never a middle
Never a turning

Never a tree
Never a brick
Never a creature
Not even a teacher.

G. S. Poole, 1 Beta

SPACE

Without a start,
Without an end,
Without a middle,
Without a bend,
Full of stars,
Far and wide,
Moving in a mighty tide,
Theories abound to make one ponder,
Just what's happening over yonder.

R. F. Williams, 1 Beta

ONCE MORE (WITH FEELING)

What, why, wherefore, when; to do, to do, to do:—
Here?

You

are

Here

To.....

To Grow!

G. A. Ball, U6A

To grip, to grapple, to grope to grow;
To muddle, to master, to maim,
petty paranoid pain,
vain strain,

Don't worry, the rain will keep you sane,
The rain in the sky will make you high,
The rain on the ground will bring you down,
But the rain will keep you sane.

AT MIDNIGHT

Evil cackles rend the air,
Swift, dark shapes flit through the night,
Lidless coffins lie and stare,
At midnight.

The clock strikes twelve, all is well,
Enter the devil and train, beware!
All mortals flee, flee from the spell,
At midnight.

Then the ghostly quick-step starts,
Round and round the spirits spin,
Ghosts and witches, blackened hearts,
At midnight.

Hurly, burly, twist and turn,
Headless Kings, will-o'-the wisps,
Mad the dance that's hard to learn.
At midnight.

When the dance is at its height,
Comes the sound that all do fear,
The cock's shrill cry rings through the night,
At dawn.

M. Sergeant, 2A

THE DECLINE AND FALL:

C. J. Pearson, 63

Oh glowing city set in the vale
Easily reached by land sea or rail
Crossroad of England, proud of its past
We're facing the future . . . we're knocking down fast.

Beside the spires, so spick and span
The old Great Western came and ran,
Now that has gone, perhaps for the better,
All in the interest of speeding a letter.

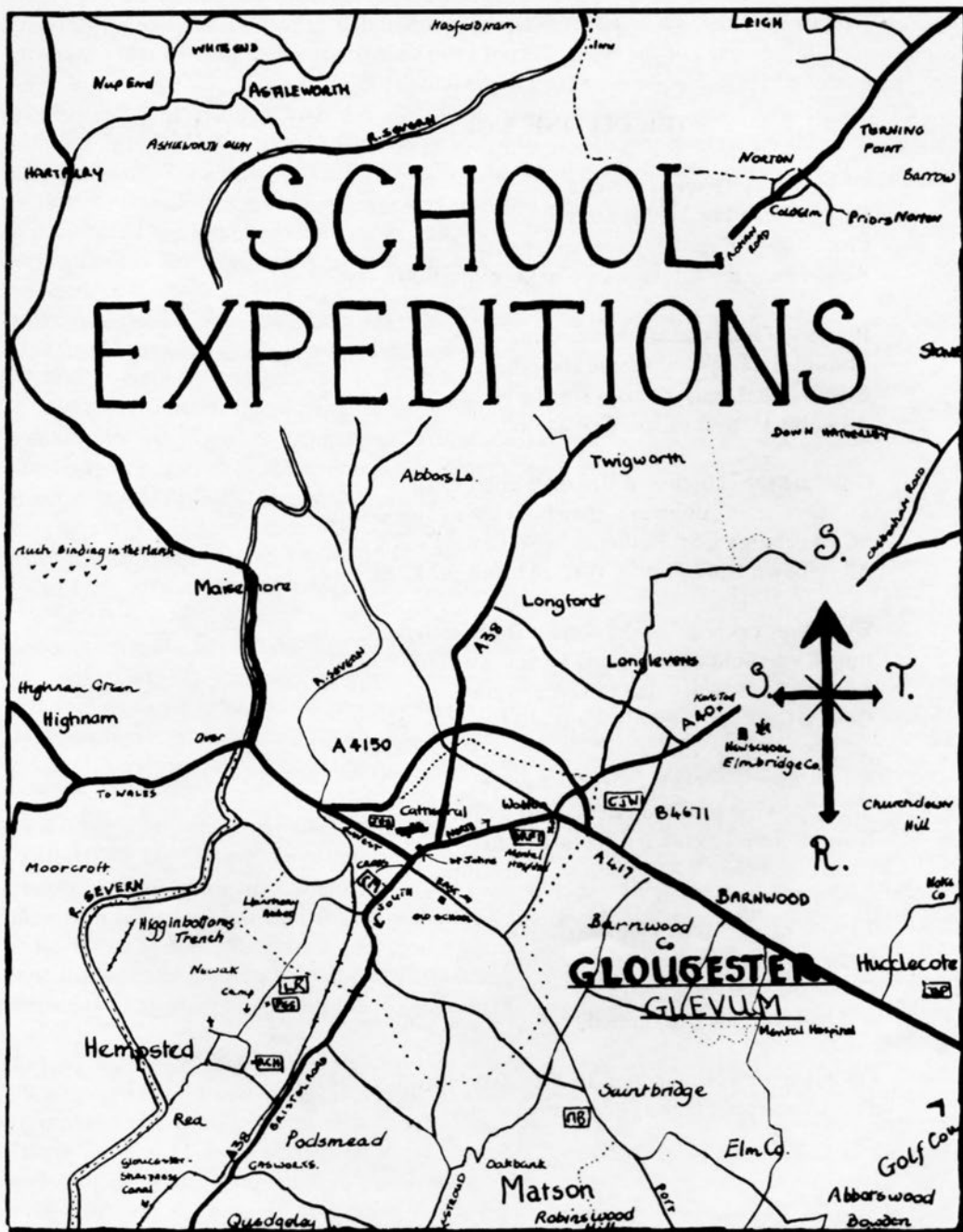
Gone are the churches of this once great town
St. Owen's, St. Aldhelm's, they both have come down,
St. Kyneburga's, St. Katherine's, St. Oswald's as well
All Hallows, Holy Trinity, they all heard the knell.

When they came down the noise was like thunder
But all we could do was stand by and wonder.
Now we have cranes, and towers and rope
Gone is God's influence, gone is our hope.

Save for some pockets of halcyon grace
The concourse of Gloucester is now a rat race.
Now we have Tesco's and trading estates
. . . At least they'll help us to keep down the rates.

Eagerly we demolish Victorian 'piles'
Only to make way for the ubiquitous files
Or for man's servant the car
Old buildings are demolished both near and both far.

Oh but spirit of Gloucester 'tis thee that I love
For despite your faults I don't want to move.



Last year it was decided to spend a fortnight in Scotland for the Summer Camp. It was for many of us our first major Venture Scout camp and it proved to be quite a (pleasant?) experience, although some of the events did not seem very good at the time – notably following non-existent paths through knee-deep bogs in the pouring rain!

Our first night was spent at a camp site beside the River Annan, near Beattock, in Dumfriesshire. It did not really matter to us where we spent the night, as we had been travelling since nine in the morning, coupled up in the back of a van piled high with kit. We travelled next day through Glasgow, and on into the highlands, and saw the surrounding country becoming more and more desolate. Over Rannoch Moor, and so along Glen Coe, and the Great Glen to Fort William, which was to be our base for the expedition. We (that is our driver) started looking for a suitable site, whilst everybody else sat in the back, playing cards. We completed a trip up and down Glen Nevis, with Ben Nevis rising in the clouds above us, passed a couple of camp sites, waterlogged by the rain which had been falling heavily for some time. Eventually we settled for a site at Banavie, just over the famous flight of locks on the Caledonian Canal. We put up the new tents in the rain, and started planning our programme for the next few days.

Next day saw us at Kinlochleven, from where we planned to follow the old military road to Fort William. (Marshal Wade, the road maker, was one of the most talked of characters of the week after Uncle Hamish, and of course, William McGonagall). Phil Cole was going to drive back to base to pick up John Hedges, who was arriving that day by train. There was one nasty moment when Phil took over the van and instead of going forward, nearly reversed into Loch Leven! The party split up along the track, some following the road back, whilst a hardy few climbed a nearby 3,000 ft. mountain.

The highlight of the next few days was the ascent of Ben Nevis. Four of us remained on the top overnight, sleeping in a two-man tent, pitched in the ruins of the old observatory. We cut cards to see who should sleep in the middle, and this resulted in Steve Chalkley and Phil Cole being on the outside with Andrew Chalkley and myself as the more fortunate ones! (Originally there were six who were going to stay on top, but since the temperature there was twenty or so degrees lower than at ground level, two dropped out.)

Whilst still in the Fort William area, we occupied ourselves by visiting Loch Lochy, fishing, climbing and swimming in the Caledonian Canal (just under the sign saying NO SWIMMING) and waiting for the 'O' level results. They eventually arrived, and shortly afterwards Al Robbins, Neil Dyke and Bo Whitney, together with John Hedges set off into the uncharted mountains and marshes of Ardgour. As they battled through bogs and heather, the rest of us set off to Loch Morar to see the recently sighted monster there. We didn't see it. Steve and I joined John Hedges after two days and hiked along more of Wade's road, through more bogs, over heather and dead cows.

Our hike ended at Spean Bridge, where we were picked up and taken on to Fort Augustus, where we stayed one night. There was a flight of locks there which were hydraulically operated, much to the delight of Phil, our canal expert, who frowned on the fact that most locks are hand-operated. Next day, Mr. Henderson left us to walk another 25 miles of Wade's road, whilst we went to search for the monster in Loch Ness. Unfortunately we found no trace of it, even by swimming in the ice-cold water. We drove up to Inverness, and spent some time looking around the highland metropolis before going down to the Sprey Valley to locate our leader. Dave Barry left us then.

With the party reunited, we headed southwards to Dunkeld where we spent the night. As there was a Highland Games there the next day, we decided to stay to see the event. We were soon to leave the highlands so this was our last chance to buy Haggis (this had featured on our menu several times during the preceding days). The games proved to be both entertaining and educational, for we can now answer the question "What does a Scotsman wear under his kilt?"

This was the last event of the camp, as we left Dunkeld at tea time and headed for Edinburgh across the Forth Bridge. After a short stop in the capital, we carried on to Crawford, where we spent our last night in Scotland. The next day we returned home — with a split radiator hose on the van, which fortunately just held until the end of the trip.

The dramatis personae of the production were Mr. Henderson, Phil Cole, Andrew and Steve Chalkley, Chris Kelly, Dave Berry, John Hedges, Neil Dyke, Al Robbins, Bo Whitney and Dave Badham.

SCOTTISH STATISTICS:

The van covered a total of 1,681 miles in all.

Petrol cost £22.0.1d. No oil was replaced. The only expense on the vehicle was 4/- for a radiator hose. Travel cost £2 per person.

Ten camp sites were used during the expedition. (Highest at an altitude of 4,400 ft.)

It actually rained every day bar one, but I don't think many of the campers realised that!

THE MORAY OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL

D. Barnes, 5A

Before moving on to my own experiences, something should be said about the nature of Outward Bound Schools in general. There are six schools throughout the country — in North Wales, the Lake District, Scotland and Devon. Courses are open to boys and girls over the age of 14, and free from any serious disability. Each course is 26 days long. The aims of the courses are to expose the student to adventure on the mountains, seas, moors and rivers and to face him with challenging and seemingly impossible situations, in order that he may discover himself. Aptly, the Outward Bound Motto is "To serve, to strive, and not to yield."

The Outward Bound school at Moray is situated on the Firth at Burghead, some nine miles from Elgin in Scotland. The school buildings are modern, and quite big enough, considering the outdoor bias of the courses. On our arrival we were divided into watches, and from then on we worked together in these groups to face the challenging programme of activities. Under the guidance of highly trained instructors, we learned how to handle 26ft. dipping cutters in the Firth, and then we were trained in the school's own lifeboat, which we were subsequently expected to man in any emergency when we were duty watch.

On land, the activities included rock climbing, orienteering, wide games, P.E., First Aid, life saving instruction, and finally a two day training expedition in the Cairngorms, followed by a more adventurous three day expedition in the Glenaffric estate. The daily routine was a challenge in itself — we got up at six thirty and ran round the school, then took a freezing cold shower before breakfast. The lights went out at ten p.m. The school rules included total abstinence from smoking and drinking during the course, and for some, this was a great test of self discipline.

On successfully completing the course, we each received our Outward Bound Badge, and after we had left, stronger both in body and spirit, this was a reminder of our effort and achievements in the preceding weeks, and of a most rewarding and pleasurable experience.

An attractive part of the northern half of the island was Laxey, with its "World's Largest Wheel, the 'Lady Isabella'," and nearby Snae Fell, the highest mountain on the island (2034 feet).

In contrast to Ramsey was the second work base at Port Erin. To give an idea of property prices in Port Erin — high prices generally go hand-in-hand with beautiful and well-kept areas — a cottage at the back of the Baycliff Youth Hostel was sold for £10,000.

Blessed with glorious weather, most parts of the south-west of the island were visited, including the open-air Natural History Museum at Cregneash, containing Harry Kelly's Cottage (hence the song "Kelly from the Isle of Man") and the last four sheep in existence of the Loghtan breed, peculiar to the island; the Calf of Man — separated from the Isle of Man by a narrow stretch of water through which the competitors of the "Round Britain Power Boat Race" shot; the ancient House of Keys at Castletown (although the most spectacular feature of the town, I felt, was the 85-year-old stationmaster dressed in a genuine Victorian Stationmaster's uniform); and the delightful harbour of Port St. Mary.

Some may think that places mentioned have been criticised too harshly or overpraised; I think not. What I must add, however, is that the many parts and features of the island not mentioned — Douglas being the main example — have been omitted, simply because they were not visited or seen.

The trip was a working holiday, and its aims as far as field work was concerned were adhered to, despite the temptations of golden sands, sparkling blue seas, and clear skies. Concluding on a note of disappointment, after eight days of staring downwards, the only place I was able to see a Manx cat was on a postcard!

SWISS TRIP 1969

S. J. Aubrey

Platform 1 for Switzerland, platform 2 for the Isle of Man. All set for the 32 hour journey ahead with twice as many changes of train in 150 mls. to the coast as half way across Europe. A quick (very) tour of Victoria en route, and then as we passed through the barrier for the boat train, to be greeted by the comment from a West Indian ticket collector, 'Arl Briddish?'. Having verified this, we made for Folkestone as quickly as B.R. possible. Alas, just outside the harbour, one of a party of 500 or so Americans on a whistle-stop tour was heard to say, "I don' mind li'l ol' England, bud I sur' think Yerup's horrid". Harold should give up the Common Market altogether.

Oh to get away from it all and get some sleep in the couchettes (wishful thinking)! "It sur' is togetherness in a big way," as yet another American informed us at one stage. However, we were provided with a welcome breakfast, early (too) next morning, on Basle station, a very well-served lunch at Bellinzona, and spectacular scenery right across Switzerland on the way. In addition, the post-bus journey to Thusis showed us superb examples of modern engineering in the form of the San Bernadino tunnel and the new road being driven over this pass. This road is of the most slender and graceful proportions (90% of which seems to hang in mid-air), defying the mountainous terrain completely.

Thusis, our base for 4 nights, proved to be a good centre, not only for interesting local walks, such as the Via Mala gorge (the route the post-bus took which even the Romans despaired of), but also longer excursions. One of these was to Pontresina and Morterasc, where we walked up a lateral moraine of the glacier, some distance beyond its snout. This, we thought, a good long walk until we discovered several old German women doing the same, and

overtaking us! This was a different story to the time on the other long excursion when we walked down from Feldis through a village with an Old People's Home. There were dozens of old people sitting around the village, having watched the world go by, whereupon, one member of our party was heard to comment, "What are they all waiting for?"

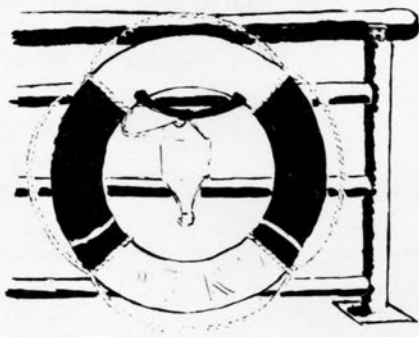
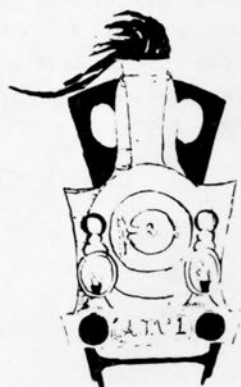
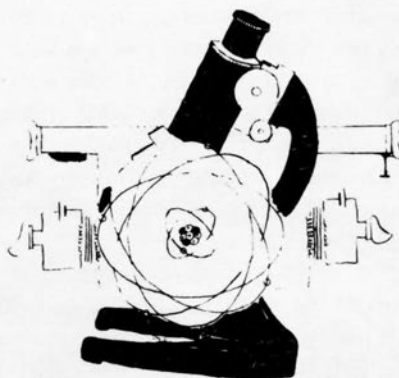
Now we move on to Interlaken by rail and post-bus on a journey that could only be Swiss; over a mountain, literally, by train to Andermatt, and then over two more by post-bus. The Furka Pass and Rhône Glacier we saw in brilliant sunshine, but then a fun-packed 20 minutes on a very cloudy Grimsel Pass.

Our second centre, Wilderswil, proved even better than Thuis, even though we were apprehensive about the weather prospects. As well as many local views and shopping expeditions in Interlaken, a highly commercialised centre, we went further afield to spend a most interesting day in the Capital, Bern, where our non-existent German was tried only too often. Whatever adventurous order one attempted, it always came back as Coca-Cola. A walk from Mannlichen to the Eiger (foot of) and afternoon in Grindelwald with its magnificent gorge, and the Neiderhorn with its chair-lift and impressive views provided two very varied excursions. Swiss National Day being August 1st., we participated in the festivities but, most unpatriotically, soon made a quiet retreat with lantern in hand not having understood a word that had been said.

After a steamer trip on Lake Thun, and paddle boating in the rain, time seemed to catch up on us and so the 23 hour journey lay ahead. A pleasant trip back, other than the re-entry into Gloucester's atmosphere, rounded off a most suitable holiday, complete with musical boxes, lighters, cheese, snowstorms and mooers!

EDITOR'S NOTE—

The following reports are by no means a complete record of the activities of school societies. They are merely comments on some of the more interesting events run by societies since the last magazine. Lack of space prevents me from including reports from such societies as the Angling Club, the Life-saving Club, the Photographic Society, the P.S.V. Club, and even the Tiddliwinks Club, who meet regularly after school and provide a lot of pleasure and interest for their members.





THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

C. J. Pearson 63

“Four and twenty Yankees, feeling very dry
Went across the border to get a drink of Rye.
When the Rye was opened, the Yanks began to sing
God bless America, but God save the King.”
(H.R.H. the Duke of Windsor, 1919.)

The Historical Society has recently blossomed forth after a spiritual renaissance which has had far reaching effects. Our remodelled aims have been to edify and divert, but mainly to entertain. It is up to you to judge whether we have succeeded.

“That great dust pile called History” (Augustine Birrell.) has been gently prodded during the last seven months and several interesting events, but only a little rubbish, have issued forth. This was largely due to the ‘presence’ of Mr. Thomas, whose inimitable character.....flowery ties and coloured shirts.....wrought marvellous changes after the initial shock.

From that stockpile of droll stories known as the Vatican, Mr. Thomas entertained some senior members in a talk entitled ‘Popes and Copes’. The content of this homily was mainly concerned with the amusing deaths of senile Cardinals, riots in St. Peter’s and the various Conclaves with their attendant frolics, fickleness and fulminations.

However we had a few meetings of a semi-serious nature. With the able guidance of R. C. Harris we examined the much maligned character of King Richard the Third. What a revelation it was! With Mr. T. G. Smith we traversed miles rather than centuries to Russia. He spoke of the medieval splendours of Moscow and the changes which have taken place under the Bolshevik regime. What we found particularly interesting and alarming, was their practice of physical exercises between school periods.

At the other end of the Hot line we entertained the Director of Education at the American Museum in Britain at Claverton Manor near Bath, Mr. G. M. Chandler. He told us of the work of his museum, its functions and its history. We later visited the Museum and the tour and film arranged were both considered to be truly excellent.

Another jaunt equally successful, but a little nearer home was that to the Cathedral in Gloucester. Canon D. A. R. Keen very kindly took us round on St. Valentine’s Day when we were all impressed with his knowledge and expertise. History is not a dead subject concerned wholly with dates and facts. The spirit of the past lives on to shape our environment and the

most telling of Gloucester's links with the living past is the Cathedral.

The annual quiz, taking the form of a skirmish between a company of Cavaliers and a band of Roundheads, reflected our bizarre tastes for the flotsam and jetsam of historical minutiae. The questions were not based upon factual aspects of history but upon memorable events and people. And what is more memorable than Queen Mary (of Teck), the Red Dean, and the Carthaginian cure for horses with asthma? All these topics were unearthed and drifted through to the rapt amazement of the audience and the confusion of the teams. The Cavaliers were victorious of course, being both romantic and consistently right, whilst the Roundheads were not only repulsive but invariably wrong.

We have also been entertained by Mr. C. D. Williams who leaves without a blot upon his escutcheon. His talk on 'Heraldry' was most creditable, as he ably led us through the jungle of obscure, irrelevant heraldic terms and the construction of 'coats'. However this was our worst attended meeting there being only about thirty people present. It is gratifying to note that we have had an audience of at least fifty at almost every meeting and as many as ninety at the quiz.

To look forward, our two most ambitious events have still to come. In the Summer Term we are honoured by the visit of two eminent historians, the Reverend V. H. H. Green and Christopher Hill. Their lectures will no doubt be the climax of a very successful year for the society.



THE PEACOCK CLUB

The Secretary

The following papers have been the starting point for a number of very lively discussions, and one very boring one, at meetings this year:

"The 1960's"

"Socialism and the lot of the Apprentice"

"The planned Environment"

"My Coloured Brothers"

"Religion"

C. D. Williams.

C. Brown.

C. J. Wyatt.

C. J. Pearson.

R. A. Pearce.

CHORAL MUSIC

M. B. Bryant, U6A



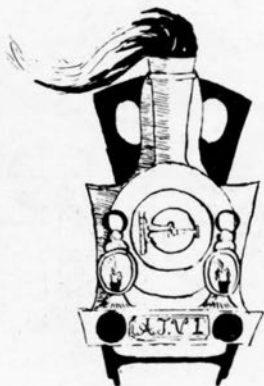
During the last two terms the Choral Society, Choir and Madrigal Group have given many performances, and the detailed reports of two of these, elsewhere in this issue, give the impression gained by members of the audience.

However, for those of us who take part in the choral music of the school, public performances are just the tip of an iceberg—and icebergs would not be visible if there was not a solid foundation beneath the surface.

A musician's life in the school is a busy one, for music is one of the few school activities which can be rendered impotent by the absence of just a few members of the groups. Thus the attendance at choir last year was over 85%, and the absences were almost all due to examination commitments or illness. It has long been a custom that no other school activities are arranged on a Friday evening — when the main choir practice of the week is held. This is no longer merely through courtesy, but necessity, for naturally choir members are interested in other society functions too, but members are informed when they join after audition that choir must come first.

We are not unaware of the danger here, that boys who are talented musically may have all their enthusiasm drained by over-emphasis on music. It is true that the list of rehearsals is not short, and it is all too easy to feel that music is something which we are forced to take part in, unless we remember that we do so because it brings us pleasure. Fortunately there are occasions when we can sing solely for pleasure, without the pressure of a recital or concert for which we have to prepare. For example, each Christmas, groups of a dozen or so choir members visit the houses of members of the staff to sing in a relaxed atmosphere and rediscover the satisfaction in creating music.

We return to the normal school week: orchestra on Monday, Madrigal Group on Tuesday, 8.35 a.m. early practice for the weekly anthem on Wednesday, Choral Society on Thursday and Choir on Friday — and all these are necessary, to maintain the standard which is expected of us when we perform. Perhaps we are inclined to find the week tedious; but ultimately we must remember that we sing primarily for our own pleasure, otherwise there would be no purpose in the existence of a choir. That this is true, is proved by the number of our choir members, who having left school, immediately join a university or college choral society. Music remains one of the few school activities in which members can provide pleasure for others, whilst deriving pleasure for themselves.



RAILWAY SOCIETY

A. J. Viner 63

D. P. Roe 63

M. Hall 63

Since the beginning of the school year, the Railway Society has grown in numbers and, we are glad to say, is now fulfilling its rightful purpose. That purpose is to show boys that there is much more to railways than watching the trains go by and writing down numbers in a book. More boys want to give talks; more boys participate in trips; and more boys are becoming interested in the make-up of timetables and in the way that a railway works.

Both our trips this year have been spread over two days each. The first trip was to London during the October half-term. We travelled there via Bristol, Chippenham and Swindon, and returned via Oxford, Moreton-in-Marsh and Worcester. Finsbury Park and Stratford depots were visited on the first day, and the party went to Clapham Junction on the next. All the major stations in London were visited.

The second trip was a week-end trip to Carlisle on 14th and 15th February. The outward journey was through Leeds and Keighley, where we stopped to travel on the Keighley & Worth Valley Light Railway. All went well until we came within half a mile of Oakworth; then the railbus broke down. After several unsuccessful attempts to restart it had been made, a diesel shunter was called out from Haworth, about a mile down the line, and we were ultimately towed into Haworth station half an hour late. The railbus was taken into Haworth shed, and its innards were transferred to another railbus. By now it was 3.50 p.m., and our train was due to leave Keighley at 4.11 p.m. By constant persuasion and reminders, the Company gradually realised that it would be responsible if we did not get back to Keighley to catch our train, which was the last train of the day on the route we were taking. The second railbus eventually rolled into Haworth at 3.57, and departed immediately for Keighley. There is a 20 m.p.h. speed limit on the line, but the driver threw all caution to the wind and travelled back at 40 m.p.h. During the return journey there were some rather pointed comments about a disorganised Company and the reliability of steam engines compared with diesel. The journey was then resumed to Carlisle through Skipton and Appleby. The train left nearly all the stations two minutes early, and the question arose as to what would happen if someone turned up at the station, only to see the train pulling out early. Surely, therefore, it is better to be late—or never to be late at all, but on time?

On Sunday morning, the party was conducted around Kingmoor depot, and then brought back to the hotel in a British Rail COACH. After an excellent lunch, we left Carlisle at 2.16 p.m.,



R. Thwaites L.6.Bio

J. B.



'Midsommer Night's Dreame' — The Mechanicals

R. Pegg



'Midsommer Night's Dreame' – The Fairies

R. Pegg



'Midsommer Night's Dreame' – The Lovers

Citizen

and travelled home via Shap, Preston, Crewe and Birmingham. Both London and Carlisle trips proved highly successful.

With more and more boys becoming involved in the Society's activities, the organisers are very pleased to say, in this their final 'Richian' report, that the future looks extremely promising.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

D. B. Thorley, U6A

A trip to Richard Thomas and Baldwin's Steel Works at Llanwern; lectures on subjects ranging from Morocco to Glaciation to the Isle of Man; and an inter-form quiz between members of the first and second years have been the recent activities of the society.

Proposed ventures for the summer term include lectures by Professor R. F. Peel and Michael Morgan both of Bristol University; films on Venezuela and North Sea Gas; and trips revisiting Llanwern and visiting two coal mines in South Wales – Brittonia and Bargoed.

Already outside speakers have shown their willingness to come and lecture during the autumn term.

It has been the main endeavour of the society to cater for the tastes of both junior and senior members. It is, however, essential to the success of each meeting – and especially at those where visiting lecturers are concerned – that large enthusiastic audiences attend. This has been the case concerning the majority of meetings in the past, and I feel sure will be a continuing feature in the future.

BRIDGE CLUB

P. Anderson, U6Sc

During the course of this year the Bridge Club was formed by a group of Sixth formers. With financial help from members and the school a set of duplicate bridge wallets were purchased and used in a highly successful, competitive evening, ending in an exciting tie between M. West and P. Anderson; & C. Moss and S. Craig. These two pairs also formed the team which entered the National School's Competition. Although the school did not win, the day at the Cheltenham Bridge Club was enjoyed by all.

Previous to this, a team had competed with local schools, also at Cheltenham, when we succeeded in coming third.

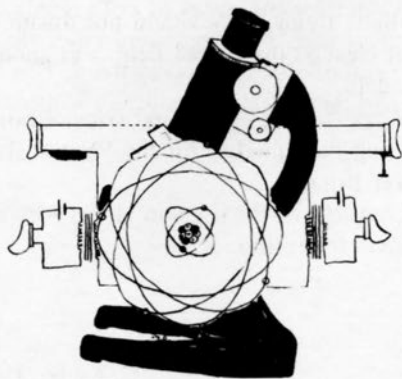
In the future we hope to hold tournaments, both within the school and with other schools in the area.



VENTURE SCOUTS

F. H.

The Unit has been quite busy since the very successful expedition to Scotland last Summer. As our membership is steadily increasing, we have plenty of support for activities. This was shown by the activity camp, held in the Wye Valley in November, when fourteen people spent three days canoeing, climbing, caving and horse-riding. Our second visit to the National Scout Karting Championships, resulted in Andrew Chalkley winning the Venture Scout Trophy, and competing against groups from all over England, the Unit team as a whole was equal third. As well as developing outdoor activities, several successful meetings have been held with a neighbouring Ranger Guide Unit, and a joint hike/camp will soon be held. Another innovation this year was a bi-monthly magazine, 'Venture 44'.



SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Chairman	:	D. C. Wagstaff
Vice-Chairman	:	M. C. P. Hoar
Secretary	:	D. L. Badham

The Scientific Society has been taken over by members of the lower sixth this year, and has functioned with a fair deal of success. The society has followed a variety of approaches to present its subject.

Several talks have been given by members of the sixth form on their own particular pet subjects, and numerous film shows have been staged, in which films of interest to both scientists and artists have been shown. There has also been a lecture given by Mr. Chalkley, from Impregnated Diamond Products, who gave a most interesting and instructive talk on industrial diamonds.

It is hoped that in the near future Mr. Charity will give a talk to a group of sixth formers, on the subject of photography.

AEROMODELLING CLUB

S. A. Kirby, 5A

Success! It works! I have just returned from witnessing the first 100% successful flight of Dave Faulkner's home-built multi proportional equipment—well done Dave, the time spent was well worth it, but a pity the goal posts were in the way.

Club meetings have been held each Friday afternoon, at which a variety of activities have taken place—usually flying models on the field in good weather, or a natter session in room 14 in bad weather. At the latter, pieces of advice, aero-modelling equivalents of 'The one that got away', old jokes and points of view, all get good airing.

The winter has seen many new models from members of the club. Clive Warner produced a duplicate of another club member's racer and his model went faster than the original!

Simon Davies, a relative newcomer to the club, has completed the ambitious project of building a "Monarch" which we now look forward to seeing fly.

In the control line field the only planes flown recently are the "Colt" trainer aircraft which the other newcomers to the club (Messrs Richards, Court, Dixon, Thompson and Thompson) have produced. There is a veritable squadron of these now, and we can expect a good number of proficient pilots for the summer.

Despite the obvious activity in the club, there has been a shift of interest in evidence over the last year or so. Not only have many of the more "wildman" types of model disappeared (does this indicate a measure of maturity?), but also the unusual or ambitious projects which were seen from time to time (complaisance?). It is a sad fact however that a small minority of club members are not pulling their weight when it comes to making the meetings a success. Quite content to come along on Fridays and watch others flying, they would not dream of bringing a model themselves. Why this should be is not clear as the school field is as good a flying site as could be wished for, for most types of model.

As before members have taken part in the Gloucester & West of England competitions, and at the moment the more advanced fliers are preparing their models for the "Nationals". This is a two day contest open to modellers from all over Britain.

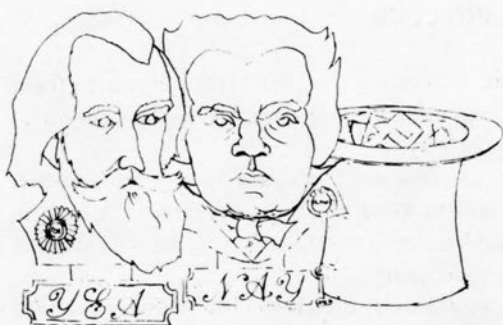
We have been visited on Friday evenings by Mr. Chatfield of the Glevum Model Aircraft Club, and we look forward to a closer liason with this club in the future.

CHESS CLUB

C. Ashby, U6Sc

It has been most encouraging to see a greater interest for chess in the school. This has been evident, by the record number of entrants for the school chess knockout competition this year.

The school chess club has now completed their fixtures, but a game against the Gloucester Chess Club may be arranged next term. The team has been quite successful this year in getting to the semi-final of the Gloucester School's K.O. competition, and only suffering one other defeat by the Crypt school. Individual achievements have also been encouraging. A. Hill 2A came first in the U. 13 section of the Glos. and district School's Annual Chess Congress, and R. Lloyd of 5B remained undefeated in school matches. The House Chess competition was won by Eastgate for the third consecutive year, followed by Northgate, Westgate and Southgate. Our thanks to Mr. Sweeting for the part he played in arranging matches.



DEBATING SOCIETY

J. M. Smith, U6A

The Society has held several debates since the last issue of the 'Richian', including such topics as :

'This House would not stand up for the National Anthem.'

'This House believes women are the root of all evil.'

'This House believes the Royal Family gives value for money.'

'This House believes that we take life too seriously.'

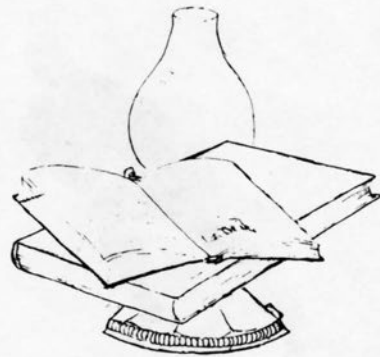
'This House believes that there is a place for the United Nations in the world today.'

At all our debates we have had very good support from the School, especially at two 'Extraordinary Meetings'.

The first of these was based on the Radio Programme 'Just a Minute', in which people have to talk on a given subject for one minute. Needless to say there were about 100 boys present. Also there was 'The Balloon Debate' where boys have to assume they are representing a famous character in a balloon which is rapidly sinking, and each has to give good reasons why he should not be thrown out.

For the future we have several debates in hand and, we hope, a mock election for the end of term.

LITERARY SOCIETY



J. M. Smith, U6A

Throughout the past two terms, the Society has enjoyed a rewarding period. The theatre visits have continued, far and near, and now, thanks to the mini-bus, we have been able to enjoy these pleasures at a smaller cost.

Shakespeare's *Henry V* was our first visit of the season and in spite of one of the characters wigs falling off and the auditorium filling with smoke in one of the battle scenes, we decided that it had been a rewarding evening. A smaller party journeyed, one very foggy October evening, to Worcester to see R. C. Sherriff's "*Journey's End*", a play set in the trenches in the first world war. The set for the production was indeed admirable, and the cave-in of the dug-out at the end of the play was extremely realistic; but we decided that, as a whole, it lacked the sparkle which the play requires (perhaps this was because we had all studied it in detail and formed our own idea of its production).

George Bernard Shaw's "*Saint Joan*", was seen by us soon after at Oxford, with Nyree Dawn Porter in the title role, and a little later on, at the same theatre an 'avant garde' production of Shakespeare's "*Macbeth*". This was indeed strange, for the four students who completed the cast began the play by sitting in a circle and humming; and later on running around the auditorium and leaping onto our seats. However, we all decided that this interpretation of the play was an experience and enjoyable.

More recently we have journeyed to Stratford to see two productions, "*Richard III*", and "*Measure for Measure*". Both plays were a full evening's entertainment.

We were extremely lucky to get Rudolph Sauter to come from Stroud and talk to us about his poetry and give us some readings. We all found his lecture very useful and enjoyable.

Perhaps the highlight of the year was the annual quiz, between the Capulets and Montagues. Bell and buzzer noises filled the Demonstration Room for some time, before the Montagues were finally victorious.

I only hope that members have enjoyed this year's activities as much as I have.



1st XI

The first eleven had a mixed season last year with one or two notable victories and a number of occasions when they failed to press home their advantage which they had earned so well.

The close fielding of the team often proved to be one of its strong points. The slip catching was in some matches superb and this sharpness was carried through in front of the wicket as well. There was, however, some slow outfield work and this must be sharpened up. Many players fail to realise that speed over the ground in the outfield, along with anticipation are of prime concern in Cricket.

The bowling held strong throughout the season, and as few of these players have left it is hoped for a good season again, this year. Andrew Rees was top of the bowling and had some good performances especially in the match against Cirencester. The stamina of some of the bowlers is outstanding with a capacity to bowl up to twenty overs, no mean achievement when bowling fast. It is, however, hoped that the opening bowlers will be able to push up their rate a little.

In the batting field there was a considerable amount of depth with good players often playing well down the order. John Browning had a very good season with the bat and had a notable 'knock' at Crypt when he scored 45. Often the batting did not hold the consistency that could be wished. Often one week a player would be outstanding and then a failure for two or three games. This will, I hope, be remedied by a greater degree of experience.

The finest victory was against Cirencester, when the whole team pulled well as a unit, and did not allow the opposition to 'get off the hook'. As a result the school won by ten wickets. Another victory would have been scored, if the advantage had been pressed, against Crypt. Here we had the opposition struggling, only to be foiled by the last batsman.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Butler for all his work for cricket over the last few years. We wish you good luck in the future and we know that we will miss your enthusiasm.

2nd XI

This team was supported by a team of boys with immense enthusiasm. Under the captaincy of R. K. Jones the team showed some marked successes especially against Westwoods and Cheltenham, in both cases avenging defeats of the first eleven.

The batting was often at fault and large scores relied on one or two players. The best innings of the season was definitely Keith Wynn's 95 against Cirencester. This was a marked achievement as the team declared at 119 for 6.

The most successful bowler was Peter Sergeant who often took over five wickets in an innings, and seven in the match against Hereford.

Colts XI

The Colts did not have a very successful season only winning one game. This weakness must be corrected for future teams. Often the Colt players do not realise that they will be playing in the first XI in the next season and that on them the future of school cricket depends.

Their one victory was an outstanding achievement largely because Peter Wood took a hat-trick of wickets which demoralised Cheltenham's players. The Colts were perhaps unlucky in the fact that in two games, against Lydney and King's they were left insufficient time to score the necessary runs for victory.

Colours:— R. Lloyd, S. Bick, P. Wood.

SCHOOL RUGBY

N. P. Davies, 63

1st XV

After a depressing first match against the Old Richians, the team went on to prove themselves one of the most successful and entertaining sides produced by the school. Not for many years has a school 1st XV remained unbeaten throughout the first half of the season and it is interesting to note that this has coincided with one of the rare, injury-free seasons.

The keyword this season has been mobility. It was obvious from the start that what we lacked in size must be accounted for by speed and mobility, both up front and behind.

This, and a fine team spirit engendered by early victories enabled us in most matches to dominate the second halves, while against Whitefriars these two qualities forced a victory after those on the touchline (we noticed!) had given up hope.

However, unfortunately during the season, our reputation for attacking-rugby appeared to precede, and in a number of games the three's were faced with the opposing threes and back row immediately behind, having simply conceded us possession. Surely when this negative play becomes the rule rather than the exception, Rugby will have sunk to its nadir.

Although unlucky to lose to Bath G.S., we saw, at Pontypool, the truth of the old maxim 'a large talented side will always beat a small talented side'. The usual highlight of the season at St. Brendans was somewhat disappointing in that we failed to take our chances and, to steal someone's phrase 'we were unable to meet the referee's requirements'.

If the team lacked something, I'm glad to say it was a weak link! The pack's speed often enabled them to reach any breakdown in attack before the opposing eight; resulting in efficient rucking and clean second phase possession, which Edwards and Davies turned to good use in setting up attacks. In the set pieces and close-to, much depended on the strength of Ashby and Goddard, while the back row linked consistently well with the halves, and supplemented a more than adequate defence.

Behind the scrum Davies and Marshall exploited any opposing defensive weaknesses, while Browning cleaned up any mistakes made. At full-back was the ever dependable Redding who must be one of the most talented, and certainly the most attacking, full-back in the country. This is not just a personal view as can be seen from the fact that he has been chosen for the English Schoolboy's Team.

Other representative honours went to Edwards and Davies, who played for N. Glos., and the latter was selected to captain the full Gloucestershire side.

2nd XV

As so often is the case, the team was hampered in their efforts by rarely being able to field an identical team on successive Saturdays. As a full team there was much potential which was never realised; due to injuries and first team calls. In connection with the latter Robinson and Lloyd should be congratulated on their 1st XV performances.

The strength of the 2nd XV lay in their refusal to admit defeat until the final whistle. The defence, in which Hayward was outstanding, covered incessantly, while in attack Gage was a penetrative runner and Claridge a speedy wing. At full-back once again the school was served well. Longstaff defended soundly and was always willing to run from his own '25'.

However, the weak point was a lack of organisation and rhythm, which meant a failure to capitalise on the ball won in the line-outs by Robinson, Phelps and Boyle — all six footers.

Colts XV

It is difficult to write about this team, for rarely did a full side take the field, due to injuries and conflicting loyalties. This obviously hampered the side, and it is regrettable to see they have not fulfilled the promise they displayed as juniors. Although the team lacked natural footballers and was technically poor, the nucleus of keen players who turned out, regularly displayed no lack of courage and got through a large amount of work.

Of the team, Cox in the centre, and Ramsted in the backrow were the most improved players, while Jones the hooker should be congratulated on reaching the final England trial.

Junior XV

As a team they had improved considerably on their U13 showing and became a reasonably good team; though certain weaknesses could never be eradicated. The natural abilities lay chiefly amongst the backs, with Carreia at outside-half, with above average skill. However, it was the forwards who improved most in the latter part of the season, with particular good performances against heavier teams like Bath and West Monmouth. Here the best performers were Miles and Wynn in the front row, and Cox in the back row, while the others grafted steadily. However, as a team they lacked the overall skill, weight and speed needed to match really good or big sides; but when competing on equal terms in these respects, they gave a good account of themselves.

Although there is little to write on the actual play of the U13 since they are still finding their feet, one feature does stand out: their keenness. I cannot remember when such enthusiasm has been shown for the game of rugby rather than the 'round ball' game. It makes a welcome change! If in future years the talent matches the enthusiasm I'm sure they look forward to some very successful seasons.

THE BOWLS CLUB

D. J. Phelps, 63

Since the last report the Bowls Club has had a busy if not sometimes hectic season. The undoubted highlights of this season were our annual fixtures against Painswick B. C. and the county Vice-President's team.

In the fixture against Painswick the school was given sixty shot start (ten shot per rink). Three rinks came close to winning, loosing by a couple of shots each. The school was predictably defeated by 135 – 175.

In the fixture against the Vice-President's, they set out to double the school's score. A rink skipped by J. Click did well to hold their opponents to 42 shots each. Two other rinks lost by the odd shot but the school was again defeated by 148 – 170.

During the last two weeks of the Summer term the finals of our school competitions were held. In the singles final M. Watkins again won the Ray Jones Memorial Cup beating P Hayward 24 – 5.

In the pairs final C. Pritchard and D. Phelps won the Tom Goddard Memorial Cup defeating M. Holme and M. Watkins 17 – 15.

In the triples final P. Hayward, C. Pritchard and D. Phelps had a walk over against Beard, Holder and Parker and in the final of the rinks P. Hayward, C. Pritchard, D. Phelps and M. Watkins won by default against Holder, Lycett, Ralph and Hunt.

The house competition was won this year by Eastgate who won two matches, Southgate won one; Westgate did not win any matches and Northgate were not represented.

Finally, during the summer holidays Mr. E. Pritchard was asked to take a rink to play for the Gloucestershire Presidents against Barnwood. The rink, consisting of K. Wynn, D. Phelps, M. Watkins and Mr. Pritchard were defeated by 21 – 12.

SENIOR CROSS-COUNTRY

S. G. Hodges

The season saw many close and exciting finishes, especially those against St. Paul's College and A.A.C. Beachley who narrowly beat us on both occasions that we met.

Samuel continued to run well and broke the school course record on several occasions. He had support from Irvine (New County Champ), Holford and a much improved Lapington.

A team, consisting of Samuel, Irvine, Hodges and Holford, was placed 9th out of a field of 31 starters in the Wolverhampton Road Relay. This was an improvement of 9 positions from last time, when the team finished 18th.

During the Lent term several league fixtures were run at various other county schools. However our "A" team proved too strong for any opposition in all the league fixtures and finished first with 25 points. Second was Cheltenham with 20 points and third our "B" team with 13 points. Other schools competing were King's School, Gloucester and Royal Forest of Dean. G. S.

Due to circumstances beyond our control a cross-country XI was beaten 4 goals to 3 by R.A.F. Hereford in the most unusual fixture of the season.

RESULTS: RAN 13 WON 9 LOST 4

BASKETBALL CLUB

C. Martin, U6Sc.

The basketball club started off the season, with a very inexperienced team, by playing King's School; only three members, J. Smith, A. Rees and D. Robinson, having any previous knowledge of the game. The result of the game was a narrow win for King's and great encouragement for us. Our next opponents were Crypt, whom we defeated, having obtained a better idea of the game.

The next match was with Cheltenham Technical High, an unbeaten team in basketball. For this match we were very glad to have a new player with us, S. Boyle, who is now captain. It was by far the best match of the season, with Cheltenham winning 40 – 39.

With a more confident side the return fixture with King's was an easy win of 60 – 19.

Amongst other matches played was a friendly netball match with Denmark Road, which we surprisingly won.

THE SWIMMING CLUB

M. Hall, 63

The swimming Club has enjoyed encouragingly consistent support for its twice-weekly meetings. The younger element has entered enthusiastically into its activities, showing a steady improvement especially in longer distance swimming. Membership is open to anyone who wishes to swim seriously.

Towards the end of the Michaelmas term, boys went in for the A.S.A. personal survival tests at the Barton Pool. The results were excellent; Out of the thirty one boys who were entered for the examinations, thirty passed. Yost and Hughes gained the Gold standard, six others reached the Silver standard and twenty two obtained the bronze award. It is hoped to repeat this success in the near future.

BADMINTON CLUB

B. Hunt, L6A.

This year's Badminton team has, after some early disasters, been quite successful. It was easily beaten in its first two matches, but then, after a series of postponements, has remained undefeated against King's School, Hucclecote, Longlevens, Saintbridge, and Crypt.

Throughout the latter part of the season, the pairs have remained the same, and this is almost certainly the reason for our good results. The most consistent pair has been S. Hodges and B. Hunt, though they were ably backed up by P. Goble and C. Chant who improved remarkably during the season. D. Ralph and K. Wynn were a more than useful third pair.

Friendly matches have been played against both Denmark Road and Ribston Hall schools where enjoyable evenings were had by all.

There are about fifty members of the club, including some third formers under the supervision of Mr. Robinson. The Third forms have several promising players, though the fourth and fifth forms have proved rather disappointing.

Finally a singles handicap competition was introduced for the first time this year and it will soon be completed. It is hoped to make this an annual event.

I feel it is impossible to answer this question for standards of measurement vary and what is this year's success becomes so quickly only a staging post for a further advance.

It is in this spirit that I write of the measure of success that our Parents Association has achieved during the past year and in the hope that each succeeding report will have a story of continuing advances until all parents are giving their full support to the efforts of their Committee and officers.

The whole-hearted support of the Headmaster and staff continues to foster the very happy relationship that exists between the Association and the School. It was only fitting that the 1969 Annual General Meeting should approve, among numerous other grants, a special gift to the Common Room as a token of our appreciation of their help to the Association and their efforts for our sons. Without the delighting efforts of the Drama Club and Choral Society the programme would be so much less inviting. The 1969 Annual General Meeting was well attended and the number present surprised some of the 'new' parents. Will you help to surprise the intake of parents next September by being present yourself at the next A.G.M.? The Committee were pleased with, not surprised at, the attendance at the Sherry Party given for 'New' parents and once again they responded generously to the Head's appeal for support to the Friends of the School. This is another success story some £200 will have been given in 1969/1970 and I must sincerely thank all subscribers for their support.

In spite of bringing the wrong slides, a mistake discovered on arrival, Tony Smythe delighted his audience with his stories on Mountaineering. Fortunately Chris Bonington made no such mistake, though a phone call on the morning of February 18th nearly caused the early demise of your Secretary from fear of another contretemps.

His lecture on 'The Conquest of the Blue Nile' to a near capacity audience was greatly enjoyed. Steps have already been taken to ensure that we shall hear in his happy graphic style the story of his assault on Annapurna II.

Through the kind permission of the Headmaster, parents are allowed the use of the Swimming Pool on a Tuesday evening, other engagements permitting, and already nearly fifty members are taking advantage of the comfort of the warm water. New members would be welcome but there is confidence that this Section will prove another success story.

Familiarity may breed contempt but I trust the repetition of our warmest thanks to the ladies of the refreshment 'staff' will cause no-one to belittle their achievements and the increasing success that attends their efforts on all possible occasions. Look out for their 'profit' figures in the next Statement of Accounts. To Mrs Dyer, Mrs Kirby and their lady assistants I, on your behalf, say thank you very much. Their activities make further help to the School and its societies possible.

As you will have judged either from this report or your attendance at some of our meetings success has in some measure been achieved but looking to what could have been done I realise how far the Association still has to go. I would ask for YOUR SUPPORT for the Association, and through it to the School, for in unity is strength.

Circumstances over which I have no control, time marches relentlessly on, makes this my last report to the Richian and I would take this final opportunity to express my own sincere thanks to all for the kindness and courtesy shown to me.

OLD RICHIANs' ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS for 1969-70

PRESIDENT

A. V. MARTIN, Esq.

SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT

R. BLAIR, Esq.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

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

HON. SECRETARY

D. G. Billingham, 15, Horsbere Road, Hucclecote, Gloucester.

ASSISTANT HON. SECRETARY

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

HON. TREASURER

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

ASSISTANT HON. TREASURER

K. D. Ray, 10, Hilary Close, Leckhampton, Cheltenham.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

I. Williams, 34, Heathville Road, Gloucester.

LONDON SECRETARY

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

HON. AUDITORS

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

COMMITTEE

A. E. Crockford
J. W. Dean
C. F. Dunford
E. L. Iles
K. Haines
T. Hurcum
D. Mills
V. C. Morgan,
R. J. Neininger
R. A. Owen
P. Price
H. G. Smith
M. J. Smith
H. W. Trinder
T. Trenfield
E. Turner
R. S. Hobbs
F. O. Watkins
N. Freckleton
D. Wynn

21, Colebridge Avenue, Gloucester.
22, Chamwells Walk, Longlevens, Gloucester.
24, Crescentdale, Longlevens, Gloucester.
90, Stroud Road, Gloucester.
48, The Triangle, Gloucester.
18, Cottesswold Road, Gloucester.
Flat 5, 7/9 Hillborough Road, Gloucester.
77, Maidenhall, Highnam, Gloucester.
191, Cheltenham Road, Gloucester.
"Sangria", Twyver Close, Upton St. Leonards, Gloucester.
14, Oakbrook Road, The Reddings, Cheltenham.
125, Hucclecote Road, Gloucester.
18, Lannett Road, Gloucester.
40, Oxstalls Lane, Gloucester.
27A, Hillview Road, Hucclecote, Gloucester.
20, Furlong Road, Gloucester.
31, Estcourt Road, Gloucester.
68, Elmleaze, Gloucester.
32, Rosebery Avenue, Gloucester.
79, Elmbridge Road, Gloucester.

Co-opted

W. G. F. Bradford
M. G. Carter

Staff Liason Officer
School Captain

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1969

The A. G. M. of the Association was held at the School on September 18th.

President, Mr. Alf Martin, reported on the activities of the previous year, and spoke of the Committee's discussions regarding the proposed Clubhouse/Sixth Form Common Room, a matter to which treasurer, Norman Hedges, was later to refer.

Mr. Hedges reported on previous discussions about the clubhouse, at the end of which it was obvious that there was insufficient support for the scheme. It was unanimously agreed that *for the time being* the project should be abandoned.

Mr. Hedges said that although it had been a reasonably sound year financially, increasing costs meant consideration had to be given to raising subscriptions. After further discussion, it was agreed that the rate should not be raised, but that efforts should be made to raise funds during the coming year. A suggestion that recent school leavers should be allowed to join the association for a nominal sum, but without the magazine being provided, was referred to the Executive.

Reports on the Rugby and Cricket sections were presented to the meeting.

Mr. Martin was re-elected President along with the officers of the Association. Mr. Claude Clift – a past President – and Mr. Stan Jones were elected Vice Presidents.

Three new names – those of Messrs. E. L. Iles, D. J. Mills and K. Haines – were added to the committee.

The Headmaster reported on the school's various successes, and thanked the Association for its continued support.

THE OLDER STUDENT ?

Overheard during a meeting of the Executive Committee : "I won't be able to attend that sub committee if it is held on Tuesday – I'm taking part in a demonstration." (Clues elsewhere – Ed).

LAST YEAR'S ENTERTAINMENT

One of the most entertaining evenings enjoyed by massed Old Richians for a long time was achieved at the School in February when 500 people – mainly old boys, but interspersed with local rugby players, schoolboys and even the occasional glamorous face of a spouse or girlfriend – hung on every word of the guest speaker at the Winter's main fund raising activity.

Other events have not been such a success this year as might have been hoped, although the most unlikely of events – the fashion show – attracted about 150 people.

No Disgrace

But returning to the main event. The chief guest was Cliff Morgan, past British Lion, Wales and Cardiff halfback, and now BBC commentator and quiz contestant.

The gathering would not have disgraced the hallowed precincts of Twickenham with so many celebrities of the field present.

Dick Smith, the Gloucester captain, Dennis Ibbotson, and others listened, while Cliff wended his way from BBC film of the All Blacks and Lions' last tours, to a roisterous question-and-answer session with his Lions' panel – Ben Edwards, John Pullen, J. V. Smith and Phil Davis – interspersing with countless anecdotes.

Fashion Show

Turning to the other events during the past year, the fashion show must have perturbed the married men in the Association, each looking at his bank account and contemplating his wife's elation at all the new spring and summer fashions laid on by the local Brenette Boutique.

One might have been a little worried that such a vastly different occasion might not have been a success, but this was dispelled by the many fashion-conscious people who turned up to enjoy the costumes – insured for £2,000 for the evening – and the sherry interval.

Annual Dinner

The annual dinner once again hit the local press headlines when the Headmaster spoke of the fear that the future of the school depends almost solely on the outcome of the forthcoming election.

Other speakers at the dinner, held in the Fleece Hotel, were Dr. Philip Nicholas (MoH of Birkenhead), Mr A. V. Martin (President), and Canon David Paton.

Social Evening

The other major event of the year was the social evening. Too late it was realised that the title given to the entertainment was wrongly chosen, and as a result it was not as successful as might have been hoped.

Nevertheless, the social evening – or more strictly supper and cabaret night – was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended. Miss Audrey Hughes and old boy, Trevor Hamblett, sang a number of songs, there was a highly amusing sketch by the sixth form, and Miss Helen Tait and her dancers added to the generally festive air.

More ideas are being muled over for next year. Why don't you come along? You'll be surprised what the "amateurs" can achieve for your enjoyment.

FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH GO ON

The fifth Old Richians' London dinner was held in all its splendour at the Rubens Hôtel, in Buckingham Palace Road, in February.

Star of the evening was undoubtedly John Davis (1945-50) who proposed the toast to "The School".

Listened to by a very happy crowd of Gloucester visitors, fresh from the England v Wales international at Twickenham, who had joined the London "exiles" and the students from London and Sussex Universities, the former Gloucester journalist attributed his success to the efforts he made to improve his literary style in the main corridor of the old school after countless ejections from the former Chemistry laboratory – "that great centre of scientific learning."

He had been introduced by the President, Mr. A. V. Martin, who also proposed the "Loyal Toast" at the end of an enjoyable meal.

John, whose career was reported in the last magazine, is now with J. Lyons and Co. Ltd., at Acton. In an amusing speech, he said he felt it was a great honour to be asked to speak to the toast of the School.

Fittingly, the Headmaster replied with a graphic account of the life at Rich's today – twenty years after John departed – and thanked him for the many kind things he had said.

Once again it was a joy to see so many ladies present at the gathering.

Those present at the dinner were: Mr. and Mrs Davis, L. Knight (Ilford), Mr. and Mrs; W. J. Marshall (Wanstead), Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Eacott (Hatfield), Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Dallard (Sydenham), T. E. Scott (Pinner), Rev. and Mrs. T. R. Harris (Reading), S. T. Jones (Orpington), S. Buttling, G. B. Simmonds, K. Anderson, S. Aubrey, A. J. Chalkley (students).

The Gloucester representatives were: The Headmaster, the President, Mr. and Mrs. V. Mundy, Messrs. D. Faulkner, N. V. Hedges, H. Trinder, and the School Captain, M. Carter.

WANTED FOR QUESTIONING

Any Old Richian who failed to send in news of his activities recently. After all, judging by the contents received in answer to last year's appeal, you will be in very good company if you send in items for the next issue.

Seriously though, our thanks to everyone who was able to donate news, views or plain criticism following last year's appeal.

Now is the time — don't hesitate — to put pen to paper and send in the news for the next magazine. We would be grateful if you also included your years at Rich's. This section could not survive without your help.

Meanwhile, if you've got this far, read on, there are twice as many people —almost 200 — contained in this year's

NEWS IN BRIEF

Engagements

Congratulations on their engagements to the following:

WATKINS, Alan O. (Hon. Assistant Secretary) to Miss Sylvia Bowkett, of Longhope. Also engaged are David Wynn, Philip Giddings and Gordon Hook.

Marriages

We willingly ring the wedding bells for the following Old Richians, and offer our sincerest congratulations.

BILLINGHAM, David, the Hon. Secretary, married to Miss Margaret Briggs, of Gloucester, at Christ Church, Gloucester.

FOWLER, Christopher, and Miss Carol Pritchard, of Gloucester, married at Down Hatherley Church.

JENNINGS, Robert, married Miss Christine Wright, of Gloucester, at Christ Church, Gloucester.

NASH, David, and Miss Margaret Bennet, of Minsterworth, were married at Westbury Church.

SHEEK, Bernard, and Miss Shirley Taylor, of Upton St. Leonards, who married at Upton Church.

HATTON, John, married Miss Lynn Potter, of Longford, at St. James' Church, Quedgeley.

FILDES, Brian, who married Miss Valerie Smith, of Forest Gate, London, at St. Catharine's Church, Gloucester.

SWAN, Stephen, and Miss Susan Blackett, who married at St. Catharine's, Gloucester.

LIMBRICK, Peter has married Miss Gay Iddles, at Longlevens, Gloucester.

KING, John, married Miss M. Vowles, at St. Cyr's, Stonehouse.

HODDER Paul, and Miss Kathleen Coopey, married at All Saints, Gloucester.

ROBERTS, John ("J.T.") married Miss Elizabeth Hepworth, at St. James', Quedgeley.

HUXLEY, Rob, who married Miss Efrat Vahab of Israel.

Among others married are Brian Walters and Jeremy Witney.

Congratulations

Sincere congratulations go out from the Association to Mr. W. A. (Billy) Brown and his wife, Ethel, who have just celebrated their Golden Wedding.

Deaths

We are very sorry to record the deaths of eight Old Richians.

BENFIELD, Ronald, died at the age of 61 after two years of ill-health. Following 30 years as a church organist he was forced to give up active interest about 12 months before his death because of his illness. His career started at St. Lawrence Church, Barnwood, but he moved to Holy Trinity, Longlevens, in 1946 and over the years devoted most of his spare time and energy to building the church choir, one which is renowned throughout the Gloucester diocese thanks in the main to his interest.

BRADLEY, John Campbell ("Jack"), at the age of 62. He retired just 18 months before his death after 49 years service to the Gloucestershire waterways. At the time of his retirement Jack was manager of Sharpness Docks and ended a remarkable link between his family and the Waterways which had totalled nearly 450 years. He was born at the Llanthony Lock House, and started his career in the Gloucester Dock workshops, later becoming a member of the clerical staff. He transferred to Sharpness in 1939 as assistant docks manager, becoming docks superintendent in 1942. He is survived by a wife and two daughters.

CHUBB, Walter Sydney, died suddenly at Upton St. Leonards last June. Walter, a retired RAF squadron leader, is survived by his wife, and three children.

DAVIES, Sidney Francis, died suddenly in November. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth. FIELD, Most Rev. Mgr., Justin, Bishop of Granada and the Grenadines, died recently, aged 70. His studies at Orcott, after leaving Rich's, were interrupted by the First World War. He joined a line regiment where he was gassed, but it did not stop him returning to Orcott College. He went to Ontario, Canada, before being enthroned as Bishop of Granada. In 1968 — the last year he visited Gloucester — he was chairman of the Eucharistic Congress held at Bogota which was attended by Pope John. He was also delegate of the Caribbean Bishops at the Council of Latin American Bishops at Medellin, Columbia, the same year. He is survived by his brothers, Mr. T. W. Field, of Gloucester, and Col. A. Field, of Northam, Devon.

KINGSCOTT, Hubert George, a former partner in the Gloucester firm of chartered accountants which he helped to found in 1922 — Messrs. Kingscott Dix and Co., — has died at the age of 77. He qualified as an accountant shortly before the First World War after being articled to his uncle who was City Treasurer at the time. He served with the 5th Gloucestershire Regiment

before obtaining a Commission in the Royal Naval Reserve. After the War he joined a London firm, Henry Morgan and Co., before joining forces with Mr. W. B. Dix in Gloucester. Well known in sporting circles, he gained a county cap for the Middlesex XV, and was closely associated with Gloucester RFC and Rowing Clubs. A Rotarian in the City, he was President of the local branch in 1936, and was also honorary treasurer for over 40 years. He is succeeded by his wife, and daughter, who is a City magistrate.

STARR, Harold Hampton, a former assistant chief commercial manager of British Rail's Western Region, died in Slough recently at the age of 78. After leaving Rich's he joined the former G.W.R. in Gloucester in 1908. He lived in Gloucester until 1933 and held many positions on the railways, among which were the positions of chief clerk at Cheltenham, Birmingham's outdoor superintendant and later assistant district goods manager. He was then appointed assistant goods superintendant at Paddington where he held a number of important administrative positions until his retirement in 1958. He is survived by his wife and brother, Len, who is living in retirement at Cheltenham.

TULLY, William ("Bill"), who was a former head of the Maths department, died in retirement at Weston last August. A former pupil of Christ's Hospital and Trinity College, Dublin, he went to Vickers with an engineering degree before the First World War. When hostilities broke out he was sent to France in charge of one of his firm's prototype machine guns. After the Armistice, he taught at Clayesmore School in Dorset and Wellington College, before coming to Rich's in the late Twenties. His son, Kivers, was at the School during the Thirties and later took a Chemistry degree at Oxford. A widower, Mr. Tully subsequently married the daughter of a City Alderman, who also survives him.

NEWS HEADLINES

BARNES, A. T. (1916-20) is now living in retirement at "Athelia", Tewkesbury Road, Norton, near Gloucester. He used to work with our Treasurer, Norman Hedges, in the County Treasurer's department at the Shire Hall, Gloucester.

BARRY, David J., (? - 1969) is at Queen Elizabeth College, London, where he is reading biology. BAYLIS, Roy L., who has been in Malaysia for five years as technical service development manager with I.C.I., has now accepted the post of world technical development manager with the group at Slough. Roy, who is married with two children, made the most of returning to Britain. With his family, he travelled overland through Asia and Europe to ensure that they all saw as much of the world as possible.

BECKINGSALE, Michael J., who gained a 2nd class honours B.A. degree in social studies at Liverpool University, has now joined the Liverpool and Bootle police. The avid Z-car fans in the Association have complained that Mike has not appeared "on the Box" so far.

BOULTON, Clive, is with the Gloucester firm of solicitors, G.W. Langley-Smith and Sons. BOULTON, John G., is still with the Gloucester Corporation where he is the clerical assistant to the Establishment and Training officers.

BRADLEY, Doug (1961-9), is currently at the University of Liverpool reading Geophysics. We also understand that he has a place at R.A.F. Cranwell which, presumably, he will take when he leaves Merseyside.

BROUGH, William, is to be congratulated on his recent award of the M.B.E. William, who served in the Gloucestershire Regiment from 1925 until the end of the War, is currently senior executive officer at the Foreign Office, Cheltenham. He lives with his wife at Far End, Sheepscombe.

BROWN, Billy, although now 75 and retired, still leads a very active life. His Golden Wedding is recorded elsewhere, but we thought his contemporaries, and many others, would like to hear a little more about Billy. He is still secretary and treasurer of the Gloucester Open Bowls Tournament which last year enjoyed a record number of entries. A former County player, Billy was also a member of the trio which won the County Triples championship in 1961. He is still living at 45, Slaney Street, Tredworth, his home when at Rich's before the First World War.

BROWN, Francis, so we understand, is at the Royal College of Music in London.

BURGE, W. C. (? – 1962), is reading politics at the University of Nottingham.

BURLTON, Kenneth J. (1961-9), is at Durham University reading English.

BUTLIN, Eric, after gaining a second class honours B.A. degree in Geography at Brasenose College, Oxford, is participating in a two year Probation Officers' course at Oxford University. Some of the Old Richians scattered around the country's police forces should be able to keep him in business!

CALVER, John, has successfully completed Part 1 of the Law Society's Qualifying examination while articled to Messrs. Wellington and Clifford, the Gloucester solicitors.

CARTER, Nicholas, Uncle of Michael Carter, the present school captain, is manager of the London office of Pan Am. Mr. Ralph Fox has fond memories of Nick's flying activities, for during the War he was saved a lot of blisters by his former pupil. Nick was then flying Liberators while Mr. Fox was in the unhappy position of trying to thumb lifts from Cairo to Benghazi. Footweary, Mr. Fox took a rest in the officer's mess at Derna in Libya when who should he come face to face with but Nick. After reminiscing in comfort about peace time and Rich's, Nick – outward bound by plane to Benghazi – saved Mr. Fox (and his boots) any more walking.

CHALKLEY, Andrew (1961-9), is another Richian who has gone to London University. He is reading chemical engineering at Imperial College. One wonders, Andrew, whether you are contemplating a development of any of the techniques you learn at London for future Karting Competitions. Last year he won the Venture Scouts Class 1 event at the Scout National Karting Competitions which were held at Tilbury.

CHANDLER, Richard, is a detective constable at Gloucester – along with John Richings, and Terry Short. (If you want an introduction, ask him about "flour" power – Ed.).

CHOAT, M.R., has joined the "brain drain". After gaining a B.A. 2nd Class Hons., Lower Division, in international marketing while at the Woolwich Polytechnic, he has joined the export department of Underberg G mb H, at Rheinberg, Germany. We'd love to know just what it is you're selling, Mike.

CHRISP, J. David (1944-54), has risen to dizzy heights, becoming Deputy Director of Education for part of Lincolnshire.

CLARIDGE, Henry, having gained first class honours in English and Emerican Literature at the new Warwick University, has gone to the University of Illinois for between one and two years on an English Speaking Union Scholarship. Henry, we understand, is thinking of becoming a university lecturer.

CLICK, Eric, is refrigeration manager at L. C. Mitchells in Gloucester. It would be understandable if one received a cold shoulder from him in that occupation, but a recent survey proved this to be otherwise! His son

CLICK, Ian is Plant Manager with I.C.I. at Middlesbrough. The former school captain has married since graduating and has been honoured by the award of a D.Phil. by Oxford University.

CLUCAS, Ivor J., gained a B.Sc 3rd class in Zoology while at Sir John Cass College, London. COLE, G. L., (1926-31) has contacted us from Cheadle, Cheshire. He informs us that he is now a Chartered Engineer, Fellow of the Institute of Electrical Engineers and an Associate Member of the British Institute of Management. We willingly pass on his regards to all his contemporaries.

COLE, Phil J. E., (1961-9) one of last year's two school captains, is at the University of Kent where he is reading Chemistry.

COOK, Graham B. (1961-9), is reading physics and maths at the University of East Anglia. COOK, Stephen, is a member of the clerical staff at the Gloucester Telephone Manager's Office at Bearland.

COOKE, Geoffrey C. (1961-9), has gone up to University College, Swansea, where his subject is English.

CORBETT, Peter, is exiled near Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. where he has been since 1955. He is working as an electronics engineer.

CRITCHLEY, Michael, is an architect in Stroud.

CUMMING, Gordon, is returning to this country in June after a period of teaching in Pittsburg, U.S.A.

DAWSON, W. M., is at the University of Liverpool where he is reading Maths and Physics.

DAY, D. J. (? - 1965), is at the University of Bath studying electrical engineering.

DEW, Geoffrey, is to be congratulated on winning his Ph.D. at the University of Manchester following three years' research in the University's chemistry department. Geoff, a former school captain, is now married.

DYER, J. Alex (1961-9), has gone to Keswick Hall College of Education, where he is furthering his Geographical studies.

EDMUNDS, Paul, was top junior in the 1969 National Smallbore Rifle Association's meeting at Bisley, dropping only nine points out of the 400 possible. He was the only Gloucestershire competitor to return with a prize - in his case, the Rhodes Cup, 1 - 1 after competing against 600 enthusiasts from all over the country. Paul, who used to row in the school crew, is a member of the Glevum Rifle and Pistol Club. He is specialising in rifles, but is also proving a dab hand with a pistol. He feat at Bisley helped him to become a member of the British Free Rifle Club. He works in Walwins, the Gloucester photographic chemists, where he continues his shooting activities - this time with a camera, mainly in the operating theatre at local hospitals.

ELLISON, Michael, is working in the Gloucester Medical Officer of Health's department.

FARRELL, Simon, who was at Bath Academy of Art, Corsham, is now working for London Weekend Television.

FAULKNER, D. J., who was formerly chief engineer with the Gloucester firm of Williams and James, after taking the same post with Lacy-Hulbert and Co. Ltd., hydraulic engineers at Beddington, near Croydon, has now become their technical director.

FISHER, Martin P., is undergoing a management apprenticeship with Perkins Diesels at Peterborough. He graduated from Queen Mary College, London, with a third class B.A. Honours degree in English. Martin will be remembered as Rich's answer to Dudley Moore.

FROWEN, Cliff, who was the School cricket captain and one-time English Schools' wicket-keeper, is now an estate agent in Australia. Scribes, grab pen and paper, for his address is 56, Tuart Street, Yokine 60 50, West Australia. (With all the Old Richians now in that Continent it would not surprise me to find we have another overseas barnch being set up in the near future!-Ed).

GARDENER, Doug, is, we believe, on the supervisory staff of the South West Counties Training Centre in Bath (q.v. Alec Parrott).

GARDNER, B. R., is now a design and development engineer in electronics with Racal Communications Ltd. After leaving Rich's he went to Worcester College, Oxford, where he graduated with a second class B.Sc honours in Physics.

GIDDINGS, Philip J. (1956-64), is in his sixth year at Oxford University, the last three being spent at Nuffield College, where he is researching into the British Agricultural Marketing Boards.

GREEN, A. P., father of Ron A. Green (q.v.) has retired and is living in Clapham Court, Gloucester.

GREEN, Ron, has moved to Teignmouth from Exeter where he is in the printing business. (He should have seen some of the proofs of this section of the magazine! — Ed.).

GREEN, Trevor, has discovered what others before him could have warned that dabbling in journalism is a dangerous hobby. After three years training as a valuation officer in Gloucester, and more recently, Cheltenham, Trevor has decided to start anew. It all boils down to having earnt a little pocket money on the side at local sports events, by selling stories to the local newspapers — the news bug bit him hard. He has joined the weekly "Stroud News and Journal" as a trainee reporter, just one more Old Richian who has gone the same way in recent years.

HARDY, Maurice, who was injured in a motoring accident which resulted in his one leg being heavily encased in plaster for several months, has changed offices. After a spell of freelancing with the Gloucester and County News Agency, Maurice is having a taste of the other side of the job, as a staff man with the Gloucestershire Echo, at Cheltenham.

HAINES, Ken, is at I.C.I. Fibres, Brockworth. For the rugby players within the Association he's the chap to contact for games in the affiliated section. The address is 48, The Triangle, Gloucester. End of Commercial.

HARPER, Ron. A. (? — 1967), is probably Rich's only Holiday Girl! The last we heard he had given up his banking career to become a full-time Cosmetics Marketing Consultant.

HART, K. T. J., is now assistant marketing officer with the Deciduous Fruit Board of South Africa. Based in London, his duties cover the European market. Keith obtained a B.A. ordinary degree in business studies while at the Lanchester College of Technology opposite Coventry Cathedral.

HAWKINS, John E., (1961-9) has only moved a little distance, to Bristol University, where he is reading German.

HAYWARD, C. F., has joined the I.C.I. complex. He is now a research chemist in the biological chemistry department of the Pharmaceuticals division at Alderley Park, Macclesfield. Chris obtained the post after graduating from St. Peter's, Oxford, with a 2nd Class B.A. degree in National Science.

HOBBS, David M., is a student of Town Planning at the Gloucestershire College of Art and Design, Cheltenham. He has been Secretary of the S.T.R. Old Boys Cricket Club since its formation.

HOCKLEY, R.J. ("Bob") (1961-9) has moved on to Liverpool University where he is reading economics.

HOLME, Mark C. (1961-1969), is reading Biochemistry at the University of St. Andrews. (It was a very interesting "rag mag" he succeeded in selling me! — Ed.).

HOLYHEAD, Anthony F., (1958-66) has obtained a temporary post with a London firm of accountants after graduating from York University with a Third Class B.A. degree in music and Education.

HOOK, Gordon N., is now teaching at Plymouth College, after graduating from the University of Nottingham with a B.Ed. degree. Gordon recently appeared at Kingsholm in the fullback position – the place in which Bill, his father, gained an England berth during the Forties while a Gloucester club member. But Hook (younger) was not wearing the Gloucester colours, although he has in the past. This time he was turning out for Plymouth Albion (as the opposition) with whom he is the regular choice at fullback.

HOOK, W. G. ("Bill"), our former President, played a leading part in organising peaceful opposition to the visit in January to Kingsholm of the Springboks. A former England fullback who turned out against the tourists in his playing days, he felt strongly enough about the apartheid issues of today to brave considerable opposition from former colleagues and make his feelings known.

HURCUM, Trevor J. (? – 1964), who married in 1967, has since produced (with his wife's assistance) two new opening batsmen, Neil and Craig, who, when they are a bit older, may well follow in Father's footsteps! Trevor, who is in his third year as a teacher at Finlay Junior School, Gloucester, has been captain of S.T.R. Old Boys Cricket Club since its inception. HUSKISSON, A. J., held a number of technical appointments with various companies in between two spells with the Dowty Group. He has since been appointed Chief Chemist to the Malta Rubber Company.

HUXLEY, Rob, is back in Israel once again where he is a member of "The Churchills", one of the top groups in that trouble-torn country. The fighting out there has not missed him, for one day, while playing with the group in between periods of writing music for, and appearing in, Israeli films, Rob was shelled by the Lebanese. He mentioned, while here in Britain in December for his wedding, that the audiences were a little ill-behaved.....but this is ridiculous!

JACKSON, Peter J., (1961-9) is carrying out German and Regional Studies at Surrey University.

JAMES, Bryan R., who had been senior assistant in the surveyor's department of Wantage R.D.C., recently accepted the post of Engineer and Surveyor with the Ashford (Kent) R.D.C.

JEEVES, Mick R., (1961-9) is at Exeter University studying French.

JEFFRIES, D. A. (1961-9), is in Oxford at the Westminster College of Education where he is undertaking an English studies course.

JENNINGS, R.H., will shortly be going to the Church of England Theological College at Birmingham after obtaining a 2nd class lower B.A. Honours degree in Theology at the University of Durham.

JENNINGS, R. J. H., is now teaching maths at King Edward school, Southampton.

JONES, Richard K. (1961-9), is studying Geography at Culham College of Education. (q.v. David Wynn).

JONES, Stanley V., (1961-9) – not, we hasten to point out, our London Secretary and latest addition to the ranks of Vice-Presidents – is reading Mathematics at Southampton University.

JOSEPH, Roland H. (1959-65), son of a member of staff, was one of the leaders of Comex IV, the University Commonwealth Expedition to India.

KAY, Dr. John M., is one person of whom we have refrained saying "It's a carve up". In explanation, he is senior lecturer in Pathology at Liverpool University and also consultant pathologist to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary and Clinic.

KEEBLE, S., is studying mining at the University of Leeds.

LANE, D. J. W., is to be congratulated on obtaining a B.A. Honours, Upper Division, 2nd class, degree in Zoology at Queen Mary College, London.

LAPINGTON, Nicholas (1961-9), has gone up to the University of East Anglia with Graham

Cook. His particular studies are in the field of Chemistry, however.

LEWIS, R. J. (1961-9), must be one of the first Old Richians to undergo a University Degree course in computer sciences. He is reading at Manchester University.

LIMBRICK, Peter (1958-63) caused considerable upset in Gloucester's Brownie circles recently when he got married: his bride, Gay Iddles, had to end her four year spell as Brownie Guider of the 1st Longford Pack, when they decided to set up home together at Mitcheldean. Peter, whose brother's marriage was reported in the last edition, is assistant accountant at Taylors (Gloucester) Ltd. His father was, until recently resigning deputy managing director of Wessex Wholesale Electrics Ltd., and a well-known City Justice of the Peace.

McGARRICK, Jim, with his brother – Philip – and five others, has gone into the pop market by privately cutting a record called "The Road". Jim plays bass and Philip rhythm in "The Followers", a religious group. They have ranged right over the South West area, more than once meeting with drug addicts and social outcasts. However, Jim has now gone up to Bristol University where he is reading physiology.

McGARRICK, Philip, is an apprentice engineer with the GPO as well as being a member of "The Followers" (q.v. brother Jim).

MAKEPEACE, Gerald (1961-9), has gone North to Durham University where he is reading Economics and Sociology.

MANDER, Brian A.C. (1961-69), another former school captain of last year, is at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge. His particular field is in that of Mechanical Studies. While at Rich's we understand he was a keen worker at St. Catharine's Church, and did a great deal for the local Oxfam organisation over the past two or three years.

MARCHLEWSKI, Ron J. (1961-9), is another addition to the ranks of Manchester University. He is reading German.

MARSHALL, Walter, has retired from the Metropolitan Police, where he had been the inspector for the past 14 years in charge of East Ham Court. But 49, as he has discovered, is scarcely time to sit back. So he has gone to college, Barking Technical to be precise, where he has embarked on a two year teacher-training course.

MAYO, John (1938-43) is now stationed in Belgium with the Royal Corps of Transport. His duties often take him to Zeebrugge where he has renewed acquaintance with Oscar Bruggeman, well known to many old boys who went on the School holidays to Belgium immediately before and after the Second World War. Oscar is still at the Plaza Hotel. Blankenburge. During January John brought him for a short holiday to Gloucester where they both visited the school and met members of staff who travelled on those well remembered school journeys. His son.....

MAYO, John (1960-62) is now a Sergeant Quartermaster flying in Britannias from Lyneham.

MERRETT, R. J., finished at the University College of London last year with a B.Sc Honours, 2nd class (lower) in Chemistry.

MICHAEL, R. J., graduated from St. John's, Cambridge, with a B.A. 2nd class honours in Modern and Medieval languages. We understand he is now the English Language Assistant in a West German grammar school.

MILES, John, is teaching French at Illinois University, as well as studying for his Ph.D thesis.

MILLER, Philip, is working somewhere within the mighty complex which is known as the Shire Hall, home of Gloucestershire County Council at Gloucester – though quite where we aren't certain!

NEWMAN, David E.H., is the training officer of the Gloucester County Borough Council.

NICHOLAS, Dr. Philip, is now Medical Officer of Health at Birkenhead.

O'LEARY, M. P. ("Spike"), obtained a 2nd class B.A. Hons. degree in American Studies when he graduated from Manchester University.

OLIVER, Clive, who is now married to a young lady by the name of Jo, is living in the wilds of Outer Berkshire and if you don't believe us here's his address: "Minster", Dark Lane, Chearsley, near Aylesbury.

OLIJYNK, Joe, has been showing a strong set of nerves, if a somewhat blanched expression, most weekends following late nights' navigating rally cars from the local 143 club on races. OUNSWORTH, Paul, could solve a very doggy problem for association members. (We did mean doggy, not dodgy). He is another Old Richian in the Gloucestershire Constabulary, but his field is that of dog handler. Paul, who can be contacted at 14, Lewis Avenue, Longford, has offered to assist any member in dog training or working trials.

OWNER, Alec, who joined Gloucester solicitors, Messrs. Treasure, after retiring from the police force, has retired again — from the position he held there of clerk. A Freeman of the City, Alec had the distinction during his police career of being the first man to hold two new posts in the City Force. He was Gloucester's first detective inspector, and later the first detective chief inspector — a post he held until his retirement from the constabulary. He was an outstanding rugby player in his youth, playing for the Metropolitan Police — whom he left to come back to Gloucestershire in 1926 — the British Police, and also Gloucester. As he said when he finally called it a day with the solicitors', "When I changed jobs I finished prosecuting, and began to have a hand in defending ppeople I had previously prosecuted."

PALFREYMAN, Ian, is at school in Nicosia, Cyprus, studying for his "A" levels with the intention of later going to the London Polytechnic to study for a B.Sc in Photographic Technology. At the time of writing Ian had a pretty full schedule, acting as school captain, appearing for the second time in a fortnight on the local radio, and was just a month away from taking part in an Army Exercise for five days based on the "seek and destroy" principals — since when nothing has been heard from him! His first radio broadcast was in a quiz which his team won; the second appearance was to oppose a debate motion that "Today's youth is useless and degenerate." He was also due to oppose a former Ribston Hall Girl's proposition a week later that grammar schools should be abolished in favour of comprehensives.

PARROTT, Alec (1961-64), went up to Culham College, Abingdon, studying English, and physical education. While there he captained the College Second XV, and played regularly for the First side as well. When he left college, he obtained an assistant masters post at Chinnor C. E. Primary School at Oxford and still found time for the field, playing for the local club's first XV. At school his responsibilities included treasurer to the School PTA Swimming Pool Fund and charge of the school library. Now he has joined the South West Counties Training Centre at Bath where he is a training officer on the supervisory staff.

PARSLOW, C. J., sends his regards to other ex-VI Upper members of his 'vintage' — 1963 was a good year — from Shorncliffe in Kent. Those who remember him will know that on leaving Rich's he entered the Mons Officer Cadet School before being commissioned into the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berks. and Wilts). Since then he has served in Malta, Cyprus and Germany as well as spending a year based on Devizes where he commanded the Army Youth Team. He is now Platoon Commander Instructor to the Junior Infantrymen's Battalion.

PENSOM, Ron, is now taking a physical education diploma at Carnegie College, after graduating from Sheffield University where he was for two seasons, captain of athletics. Ron obtained a

B. A. Hons., second class division (lower) in economics, sociology and politics.

PHELPS, Alec, who was product manager (oil resistant rubbers) with the Polymer Corporation Ltd., in Canada, has returned to Gloucestershire, becoming chief chemist with Dowty Seals Ltd., at Ashchurch.

PITT, Ron, who is now virtually in retirement from the rugby field after a notable career at centre had taken him into the county side, has started his own business in Tewkesbury with another Gloucester county player, Mr. Alan Brinn. They have a sports outfitters shop there. POOLE, Phil C., ("Perce"), (1961-9) is another member of last year's output to go to London University, having joined the ranks of Queen Elizabeth College with David Barry. His studies have led him into the field of microbiology.

POWELL, R. C., is now an electronic design engineer after obtaining a B.Sc Hons., second class upper division, in Electronic engineering while at Manchester University.

PRICE, Trevor, is, alphabetically, the first member of the Brazil branch of the Association. He is living in the "headquarters", an enormous hotel overlooking the beach at Copacabana.

PROSSER, Graham, chairman of the Brazilian "branch" of the Association, was back in this country for a short while recently, but has since returned to the "Chair" in their hotel overlooking the Copacabana beach. Graham is the South American representative for Longman Green, the publishers, and can boast, so we understand, a 500% expansion there in the past three years. He has been going Eurovision as well, according to well informed sources, for the British songster in that "renowned(?)" competition this year, Mary Hopkin, has been espied on his arm more than once in the past year!

Incidentally if anyone wishes to renew acquaintances with Graham, Trevor, Bob Wiley, or Terry Roberts then a letter to Graham, c/o The Old Richians Association (Brazilian Branch). Av/Atlantica 2516/203, Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, should find them.

ROBERTS, Terry, has apparently stopped his world tour at that first port of call, Rio de Janeiro. A member of the Brazil branch, Terry is principal of an English-speaking school in the Capital. We understand, the local churches are polishing their wedding bells in anticipation of his marriage later this year to a Brazilian girl he has met. (Is this a case of one's head being put in the golden noose? - Ed.).

ROBINS, Alan (1939-45), is a quality patrolman at I.C.I. Fibres, Brockworth. His son.....

ROBINS, Stephen (1964-69), has joined the Scribe Drain. After last Summer's spate of journalistic Old Boys, the bug appears to have bitten hard at Stephen as well. Now looking like a junior version of John Lennon, Stephen took a holiday job at the Gloucester and County News Agency, and liked it so much that he joined the staff. Fourth in the County 200 meters, championship not long ago, he candidly describes himself as "a professional waster." The family link with Rich's is not broken for his brother, Ian, is currently in 1 Beta.

SEYERS, Alan W., was appointed to the post of Assistant Solicitor with the Gloucestershire County Council recently. Thirteen certainly was not his unlucky number for Alan - a familiar figure at local courts where, we hasten to point out, he has a formidable reputation as a prosecutor - spent that many years with the Gloucester City Corporation, originally being articulated, and subsequently qualifying as, a solicitor.

SHERGOLD, Colin, is another Old Richian in the local Government field. He is a District Public Health Inspector with Gloucester City Council.

SHORT, Terry, is another Old Richian on the right side of the law. Currently sporting a Mustapha moustache around Gloucester Central Police Station, Terry is ensconced in the C.I.D. as a detective constable. He has been playing in the threequarters with Terry Girdlestone for

the County Police XV. After several highly successful seasons the team is currently going through the doldrums.

SIMMONS, G. H. N. (1950-56), who is married with two children, is now Technical Sales Engineer with Dowty Hydraulic Units.

SMITH, Mick P., (1961-9) is studying architecture at Leicester College of Art.

SMITH, R. P., ("Ropey") is only a few miles from the school, at St. Paul's College of Education, Cheltenham, where he is yet another Old Richian who is following a course of studies in matters geographical.

SOUTHCOTT, Peter (1961-9), is undertaking a course of studies into physical science at Worcester College of Education.

SPARKES, H. J., has attained the position of Chief Clerk in the Town Clerk's Department at Gloucester. He has been with the City Corporation for 37 years.

SPARROW, Kenneth George, has asked us to clear up an error from the last magazine due to a misunderstanding. He is not Gloucester's head ambulanceman — his current post is that of station officer, and divisional superintendant of the City St. John Ambulance. Sorry for nay embarrassment, Ken. Incidentally, his sponge is still mopping the pained brows of Gloucester rugby players and their opposing "victims" at Kingsholm — he was even on television a couple of times during the season with his familiar lope across the turf.

STEVENS, T. K. graduated from the University of Bath with a B.Sc second class degree in electrical engineering.

TAYLOR, Geoff (? — 1967), is serving an apprenticeship at Dowty's. He has been Treasurer of S.T.R. Old Boys Cricket Club since its formation.

THOMAS, Gerald, had a brimful 21st birthday. Apart from getting the key of the door, he completed his apprenticeship at Bryce Berger Ltd., and then received the Arthur Smith memorial shield as Apprentice of the Year. He is secretary of the Bryce Apprentices Association.

THORPE, Charles, is now stationed at R.A.F. Locking, Weston-super-Mare, after a three year posting to Luqa, Malta, where, with the ranking of Senior Aircraftsman, he was employed as a radar mechanic. Apparently, one of the things he is missing is not being able to contact many of his old friends, so those old boys who recall him now know where to renew old friendships: at Locking. By the way, the attractive lady Charles is to be seen with is his wife. (I think we missed the wedding some three years ago — Ed.).

TIMBRELL, Alan C., is to be congratulated on successfully completing Part 1 of the Law Society's Qualifying Examination. He is articled to the Town Clerk of Gloucester.

TOLLERVEY, Simon, has joined Richard Jones in a course of Geographical studies at Culham College of Education.

WADLEY, F. Doug, is currently treasurer of Gloucester R.F.C. which has several Old Richians as members. He works at the Westgate Motor House in the City.

WAITE, Noel R., might have been accused of joining the opposition in our schooldays, for he has been appointed Senior Science master at Leicester City Boys School on which appointment we congratulate him. Noel is married and has two children.

WATKINS, Malcolm J. (1961-9), son of one committee member and brother of another, has now also joined the ranks of the Old Boys. He has gone to the University of South Wales and Monmouthshire at Cardiff where he is reading for a degree in Archaeology. Last year's captain of bowls and badminton, he has managed to keep playing the latter sport, getting into the University's team in the first term. With the rest of the side, he was due to represent the University of Wales in the U.A.U. championships — all within weeks of leaving Rich's.

WHEATLEY, John, is now secretary of the South Western Sports Council and regional officer for the Central Council of Physical Recreation for the South West. A keen yachtsman and mountaineer, John was to have led next year's Ulster Afghanistan expedition to the Hindu Kush. This was while he was in Ireland where he was secretary of that country's council of Physical Recreation and more recently chairman of the sports committee of the Youth and Sports Council for Northern Ireland. During this time he also acted as deputy leader of the Ulster Expedition to the Taurus in 1964.

WHELAN, Jim R., (1961-8) has now left the hostelry business in Switzerland to take his place at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford. His five-month stay on the Continent no doubt helped him to get a sound footing in modern languages – his particular field of study.

WHITCOMBE, Rev. Michael G. S. Somehow we omitted mentioning in our last "round up" that he has now returned to the Far East. The way things are going out there it might be worth starting another branch of the Association in Hong Kong for he is now on the staff of St. Paul's College in the Colony. Before that he was Vicar of St. Paul's, Warwick.

WILEY, Bob, is apparently teaching at an English-speaking school in Brazil. Like Messrs. Price, Prosser and Roberts, he has joined forces to produce our first overseas branch. We hear along that famed grapevine that the bells being polished for Terry Roberts' wedding are going to be kept spotless for Bob's wedding to another Brazilian girl at about the same time. Congratulations to both, but there must be a warning here for professed bachelors wishing to see the world – avoid Brazil!

WILTSHIRE, Bruce, is now somewhere deep in the laboratories at one of Gloucester's Hospitals – working, we should add.

WOOD, Peter A., has joined the Chelsea set – except that he is not loafing about. He is reading Geography and Geology at the College of St. Mark and St. John.

WRIGHT, Nigel K. (1961-9), has joined Malcolm Watkins at Cardiff University. However, he is reading for a degree in Zoology.

WORTH, Allan F. N., is the South West's area training officer with the Rubber and Plastics Processing Industrial Training Board (these training establishment titles get worse all the time). He is responsible for promoting systematic training within the region.

WYATT, Martin T., (1961-9) is the third member of last year's Sixth to go to Bristol University. He is reading medicine.

WYNN, Dave, is taking the Culham College rugby team on a tour of Paris this Easter (No comment! – Ed.) and if he is still fit at the end of that, Dave, who last Summer spent his time as an instructor at a North Wales adventure training centre, will spend a period climbing in the Pyrenees before flying to California to act as Camp Counsellor to an American Youth group. His father.....

WYNN, Doug (1931-6), a member of the Association Committee, is now construction and maintenance engineer with the Midlands Electricity Board. Doug ensured that the family links with the school continued for two of his three sons are currently at Rich's while the other – David – is mentioned above. Doug has been in the Electricity supply industry since leaving school apart from War service with the R.A.F. He was stationed for a time in the Azores and played table tennis for the British forces against the Portugese and American forces. His sporting activities are still a major part of his recreation for he is captain (for the second season) of the Greyfriars Bowling Club who were finalists in the County Cup championship last season. Doug is a member of the Parents' Association, and has been since 1959. Incidentally, with rowing a major feature of Rich's today, it is interesting to relate that in 1935 he rowed from Newnham to Gloucester and back.

LISTING TO STARBOARD

We hope Association members will take the opportunity of renewing old friendships with the assistance of the list of names and addresses sent to everyone with the recent newsletter from Secretary, David Billingham.

For those who wondered at the headline above, the explanation is that the numbers are going the *right* way – upwards. Please forgive the pun.

RUGBY

MIXED SEASON CLIMAXED BY VICTORY OVER OLD CRYPTIANS

The highlight of what was developing into a season of mixed fortunes for the Rugby club at the time of writing was undoubtedly the victory by the Old Richians over those rivals of long-standing, Old Cryptians, despite the inclusion in their team of current County blindside-flanker Charlie Hannaford.

At the time of writing, there were still a few weeks to go to the end of the season, but the annual Boxing Day encounter ended in a resounding victory over the "Podsmeadians" by 21 points to three. It made up for the past few seasons when the Old Richians had only won one encounter in ten seasons.

The season was also marked by the first-ever win over the powerful Cheltenham North XV and in the North Gloucestershire Combinations Sevens competition where the team reached the semi-finals before losing 5 – 0.

For those who have not heard, in the match with the school, the Old Boys won 31 – 3, but only after the team's superior weight had told.

But generally the season has not been exceptional, largely because the club is rebuilding with a good blend of younger players interspersed with the older, more experienced players.

Ken Haines writes "At our best we have played rugby few sides can match. Alas, we have not been able to maintain this all season. We have been beset by injuries which have stretched the resources of the club to the limit. Thanks to the help of the school, we have nevertheless managed to field two full sides all the season."

But of course the injuries have aggravated the position within the Second XV. Their results have not truly reflected the team's true potential because of all the choppings and changings caused by the first team calls.

Forthcoming encounters of note will be on the new tour venue – around Manchester – instead of the Exeter visits of past seasons.

Ken sums it all up. "All in all, it has been a very good season so far but the future must rest with the new members coming up from the School."

Anyone – particularly the youngsters – would be welcomed to training nights (Wednesdays at the school, 7 p.m.), no matter what their standard.

RECORD (to date)

	P	W	D	L	Ptd for	Pts Agst
1st XV	27	14	—	13	311	285
2nd XV	23	8	1	14	220	366

CRICKET

S.T.R. OLD BOYS CRICKET CLUB

President – R. A. Gabb; Vice Presidents – Messrs. Stocks, Winstanley, Hook and R. Hobbs; Chairman of Committee – Mr. J. P. Winstanley; Committee – T. J. Hurcum (Captain), D. M. Hobbs, G. Taylor; Representative, Gloucester and District Cricket Association – D. Oakes.

P 26 W 13 D 4 L 9

The record tells its own impressive tale for a club which was only in its second season. Numerous achievements have strengthened the pride of the side which, in the coming season, faces its toughest fixture list to date.

Ken Haines hit 84 runs against the staff before finally succumbing, John Hurcum took no less than seven for 48 against the school, while Gloucester Hospitals suffered an opening partnership of 63 before the Club's openers, Richard Hunt and Trevor Hurcum, were separated.

Topping the bowling averages was John Hurcum who took 26 for 207 runs – an average of 7.96 – while Colin Rawlings led the batsmen with a 29.0 average.

The club is again putting two teams in against the school's first and second sides on July 11th, in the hope of improving on last year's fixtures. The firsts then drew after a desperate last wicket stand by the club, while the seconds acknowledged a 26 run defeat by the school second string.

Practice for the coming season, which has no vacant dates between April 25th and September 5th, began at the school on April 10th, and continues every Friday night.

New fixtures include Churchdown II's, Gloucester Colts and Newnham-on-Severn, while the club is also trying to organise a single wicket competition for July 18th between the staff, boys, and Old Richians.

100 NOT OUT?

Quote from the Annual General Meeting by the Headmaster : "You owe a great deal to Idris Williams. I have seen it going on for eight years and it has been going on for a century before that." Howls of laughter followed.

But he is absolutely right about how much we owe to our Membership Secretary : among other things, about 400 members and a lot of the information in this issue.

Finally, good luck to everyone in the coming year.

