

The Richian

1975

The Richian

Sir Thomas Rich's
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Set in IBM Baskerville
Printed by Bailey's of
Dursley

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Prior to 1971 'The Richian' had appeared both at Easter and in September of each year. In 1972 printing costs rose sharply and the school found it impossible to finance two magazines. Subsequent editions were published at Easter but were unable to cover the school year as a whole. To overcome this 'The Richian' will henceforth appear at the beginning of each school year in September.

I wish to thank all those who have in any way been involved with the production of this issue and especially Robert Jones for his knowledge and expert advice.

Michael Partridge

A year in the life ...

The last four terms have been as busy as usual at Rich's. Summer 1974 saw the biggest combined operation in the history of the school: the Bus Fair. The old school bus, which had travelled 45,000 miles in the five years since we bought it, needed replacement. A target of £2000 was set to buy a new bus, and through a sponsored swim, a Parents Association dance, and the events of the day of the Fair itself, we easily reached our target. More money was added by two other events: school performances of 'Our Lady's Tumbler' and 'St. Nicolas' at St. Catherine's church, and a Folk Evening at school. Altogether, the incredible sum of £2700 was raised.

Meanwhile, academic work continued, and the standard was as high as it has ever been, with 24 University places gained, four of which were at Oxford and Cambridge, and in the GCE exams an average pass rate per boy was achieved of 5.5 for the O-levels and 2.5 for the A-levels.

A particularly early Speech Day seemed to set the new school year quickly in motion. For the occasion, we welcomed Mr. C.W. Lloyd, the Master of Dulwich College, and his wife, who presented the prizes.

During the Michaelmas Term, rehearsals began for the school's two major productions of 1974/75: Bach's 'St. John Passion', performed in the Lent Term by the Choral Society, and Mr. Broome's controversial production of 'Twelfth Night', produced in association with Denmark Road High School, and performed at the end of November in School and at the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham.

At Christmas, there were two fine Carol Services, held traditionally at St. John's and Longlevens Churches, with the usual high standard of singing from the choir. The Choir also managed to raise £321 for the Multiple Sclerosis Society by

singing carols over the Christmas holiday in the Eastgate shopping centre.

This year's Founder's Day service was held in May at the Cathedral: the preacher was Rev. Donald Rose of St. John's Northgate. Another important ceremony was held in May. The Tercentenary Committee was finally wound up, nineteen years after the idea of a Tercentenary Fund was first proposed: the fund has provided for the school the swimming pool, the cricket pavilion, the bowling green, the statue, the garage and the new changing rooms.

To add to the already numerous activities of school life, several new societies and clubs have been set up, and it was pleasing to see that the initiative came largely from the boys of the school themselves. Among them is the Film Society, which now functions at regular intervals and which has attracted much interest and support during the last year. Similarly, the Early Morning Swimming Club (8.00 a.m. to be precise!) provides a very useful outlet for young and keen swimmers.

The more orthodox sporting activities continue to flourish: there are detailed reports later in the magazine about every school sport, from rugby to croquet.

And there were many other events during the year. The 'sphere-born harmonious sisters, voice and verse' were combined one evening around Michaelmas in the Library. The Choir gave a recital in the Cathedral in March. The biennial House Drama Competition was held during the Lent term. The Occasional Players visited us with four productions over the last four terms: Eliot's 'Murder in the Cathedral', the slightly lower-brow melodrama 'The Red Barn', Ibsen's 'A Doll's House' and an Elizabethan Entertainment. The Choir and Madrigal Group gave a concert in St. Catherine's Church in May. Visitors came to speak to sixth form R.I. sets, and the school was host to a chemistry conference. In November we were visited by the Songwainers, and underwater explorer Ley Kenyon gave an illustrated lecture. The lent term saw visits from author-adventurer-ballonist Tom Sage and gardening expert Percy Thrower, whose daughter Margaret came in May to talk about flower arranging.

Meanwhile, regular events continue. School contingents are constantly sallying forth in the school bus, to destinations as varied as the wildfowl at Slimbridge, the follies at Stowe, and 'Henry IV Part One' at Stratford. The Five Schools Association continues to perform its useful function of keeping our sixth-formers off the streets. Almost every Wednesday, the Choir performs an anthem in assembly. Gloucester old ladies are regularly helped out by gallant Glosaiders. School sportsman are frequently awarded places in county, district or even national teams.

And, of course, academic work continues. By now, another round of GCE exams have been taken and marked, and we have arrived at the start of yet another year in the life of Sir Thomas Rich's. We are sure that the pride of every boy at Rich's will see to it that the very high standards of the school will not fall during the coming year.

Jim Thompson and Robert Jones



PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

President: Headmaster
Chairman: Mr. N.P. Partridge
Secretary: Mr. G. Barber
Sec. Friends of the school:
Mr. P. Pearson
Treasurer: Mr. R.J. Westlake

The 'Bus Fete' held in May must take pride of place in this report, because owing to the whole hearted support given to the School by the parents it was such a magnificent success.

It is remarkable to think that in this economic climate the target of £2000 was easily achieved, the new bus bought and over £1600 invested to ensure that money will be available when required to renew the School bus again.

A new venture, the Parents' Association Dance, was introduced, by courtesy of the Headmaster, to help the bus fund and was an instant success. Due to the excellent organisation of Mr. & Mrs. K. Morris the dance made a profit of £265, after which it was decided to have an Annual Dance, the proceeds to be given to the Bus Fund, so that coupled with any monies made by the added sponsored event it would be hoped that no further 'Bus Fairs' would be required, which should be a relief to everyone. No thanks can be warm enough to each and every one who in large or small ways, helped to provide the new bus which is in keeping with the dignity and status of the School and will continue to benefit every boy.

Again about 100 parents attended the A.G.M. Your committee would like to see an increase in attendance and interest because it is on this occasion that the new committee for the year is chosen and new parents, and ideas, are always very welcome. At this meeting Mr. E.F. Lerry retired from the post of Treasurer, a job he has done very efficiently over the past three years. Our thanks to Mr. Lerry and his son Nick for being a very reliable "postman". May we offer our thanks to Mr. Pilbeam and

Mr. Spear for entertaining us at this year's A.G.M. with their interesting talks and slides on the school expeditions to Brittany and Norway.

Our new Treasurer Mr. Westlake reports that about 70% of new parents have now joined the Friends of the School, about the same number as last year. It is pleasing that the majority of new parents signed 'deeds of covenant' forms which means that with tax concessions every one pound unit is worth nearly half as much again to the School. Remember all the money received (£500 in 1974) is spent each year on your boys for their enjoyment and education. In view of the 'cuts' to the School by the education authority it is even more essential that we of the P.A. try to give more. So to those parents who have not yet joined the 'Friends' please join now by filling in the forms which are available and send them through the School to Mr. P. Pearson or Mr. R.J. Westlake.

As parent members of the Friends of the School scheme one of the benefits is that you are invited to join the swimming section which meets every Tuesday during the school term between 7.00 - 9.00 p.m. Simply come along and be made welcome by our swimming secretary Mr. Pashley. Another section is the Bowling Club which in winter months is open on Monday and Friday evenings for indoor bowls and other activities, while in summer good use is made of the bowling green with opportunity to play against other clubs. Mr. Pritchard, the captain, would welcome new members both ladies and gentlemen.

The committee would like to thank you for the support you gave to the illustrated lectures given by Captain Fiennes, Ley Kenyon and Tom Sage. It has become increasingly difficult to obtain lecturers of the Bonington and Negus class and your committee think that this is probably one of the reasons why the attendances over the last year have been

below par, coupled of course with the financial situation. These lectures do fill a much needed service to the community even though we now have a Leisure Centre in the City, and to encourage more boys of the school to attend we have decided to try and keep the prices of student tickets to 20p.

The Dads' Working Party, although sadly reduced to only four in number, is again in action on Thursday evenings from 7.00 to 9.00 p.m. after their very hectic time before the Bus Fete (their stall made over £100). The present project is to make 100 feet of seating for the new changing rooms and any willing Dad would be very welcome.

Many thanks to Mr. Rangeley, the Choir and the Choral Society for the enjoyment they have given to us in the past months. The Carol Services were really excellent this Christmas, and one was proud to read of the £321 collected by the Choir from Carol singing in the City and given to the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Well done boys! Also to Mr. Broome and his friends of the Occasional Players, our appreciation for their usual excellent performance and their cheque to the Friends of the School funds.

Once again through the year, the committee has enjoyed the full support and co-operation of the Headmaster and his staff, without which the work of the Association would be impossible and therefore I offer them on behalf of all parents our grateful thanks.

Most of the activities at the School require the services of our Refreshment Mums who as usual have done an excellent job, especially at the Bus Fete. Well done and thank-you once again Ladies.

In conclusion may we extend our thanks to you the parents and ask for your continued support at the lectures and all other school functions in the future.
G.B.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Since the last issue of 'The Richian' appeared, we have lost six members of staff. In July 1974, Mr. David Thomas left for Berkshire, while Mr. Brian Johnston and Mrs. Paula Hewitt both moved to Nottinghamshire. Their replacements have by now settled into school life. Mr. Geoff Barrington arrived from Northampton to join the History Department, and is also involved in the Historical Society, the Junior Electronics Club and the Second XI cricket team. At Christmas, Mr. Ralph Tucker arrived to fill the vacancy in the Physics Department, and he is in charge of the new Wargaming Society, as well as pursuing his interests in rugby, rowing and cricket. Until Mr. Tucker's arrival, Mr. J.M. Babbington returned to help out in the Physics Department. Meanwhile Mrs. Carol North joined us for a year to teach French part-time: she has now moved to Churchdown Comprehensive School.

Two other members of staff left in July 1975, both of them long-serving: Mr. Eddie Pritchard and Mr. Idris Williams. Mr. Williams retired officially several years ago, but stayed with us, teaching chemistry part-time.

This September we welcome two new members of staff: Mr. Andrew John Pearce will take Mr. Pritchard's place, and Mrs. North's successor is Mr. Edmund Tickner, who comes to us straight from Oxford.

During last year, Mlle Marguerite Bonneau from Nantes and Herr Wilfried Posch from Innsbruck were at Rich's to help in the French and German Departments. Mlle Bonneau is returning this year, and she will be joined by Herr Rainer Brock — like Herr Posch, an Austrian.

Brian Johnston

Mr. Johnston came to Rich's to the Physics Department in 1970 to take up his first appointment.

From Wakefield, Yorkshire, Mr. Johnston's love of cricket soon showed in his involvement with the senior school teams. He stood in the background following their successes and personally took upon his own

shoulders the burden of their losses. This modest approach quickly earned him great respect from teams and colleagues alike, and his departure will be strongly felt for some time.

To those interested he imparted the skills of Badminton and soon gave his teams an enviable reputation in local leagues.

He leaves to become Head of the Physics Department at Minster Grammar School, Southwell, Notts.

To Mr. Johnston, his wife Susan and son Richard, we extend our warm wishes for every future happiness.

G.H.M.

David Thomas

Seldom can there have been a less appropriate nickname: "Drift" — when his perpetual motion was that of a kind of multi-target guided missile; or like the knight in the schoolboy's essay who jumped on his horse and galloped off madly in all directions. Well.....'purposefully' rather than 'madly', and in some directions more than others: Castles, Cooking, Croquet, and Crosswords; Monarchy, Tuscany, Calligraphy, and Photography; Gondolas in Venice and Games in the Vatican; Fab. Gear and Follies and Grottoes; Music, choral and candelit; Drama and Opera; (And History) — though no one who has been at Rich's more than five minutes expects cobblers to stick to their lasts.

Each of us who shared David Thomas's company in and out of school during the last five years has some special memory: coarse croquet with top-hats, tigerish blazers, the boater and the penny-farthing, and a plaque inscribed in execrable dog-Latin **AVE PRAEPOSITE PRIMUS PRAEPOSUIT ILLE LUDOS CROCI DIVITIIS MCMLXX** is my earliest. Others will recall the first major trip: Four-Welsh-narrow-gauge-railways-in-two-days: "the worse for ice-cream" from Perche-no?; the lasagne that finally brought A — D — to a gastronomic standstill in the Gothic Temple at Stowe; fraught encounters



with legions of official guides from the Catacombs to Powis: the long running battle with the travel agents' Mafia across postal-stricken Italy; and, of course, the flow of informed and good-humoured instruction laced with outrageous linguistic acrobatics — not forgetting the unshakeable logistics of all operations, decorated with some high baroque improvisations often out of Sainsbury's carrier bags.

Governors, Verderers, colleagues, and friends miss him, even though he has the compensation of having installed himself in a Pevsner-listed eighteenth-century mansion in Royal Berkshire (nearer to Her and the Royal Opera House). Rich's is poorer without him. S.Q.U.E.

Eddie Pritchard

It would be interesting to speculate on how different Sir Thomas Rich's School would be today but for a serious accident to the late Mr. R.H. Saunders, the then Woodwork Master, in November 1937. 'Chips' as he was affectionately called became 'hors de combat' for some months and Mr. E.J. Pritchard, a lean young man from Brynmawr and of Exeter University, arrived to fill the gap and soon school will remember the very successful Hobbies Exhibition which he stage-managed in the hall of the Barton Street buildings before his temporary appointment came to an end. He obtained a post at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Barnet.

When 'Chips' retired in July 1943 the Headmaster, Mr. W.J. Veale, offered the vacancy to 'Eddie' who accepted and became Woodwork and Games Master at Rich's. Now after thirty-two years he has retired.

One cannot speak too highly of his ability and inventiveness: it can truly be said that he laid the foundations of many of the sporting activities of which the School is now proud.

His contributions to the School and elsewhere are so many and so varied that it would not be difficult to omit some of them. He introduced 'Rugger' to the School in January 1946. He has played cricket for his home-

county, Monmouthshire, and bowls for Gloucestershire. He started — and became secretary of — the Gloucestershire Public and Secondary Schools Games Association which covered cricket, rugby, soccer, athletics, swimming, boxing and cross-country. From this followed representative games in cricket and rugby. He initiated and was first secretary of the English '19 Group' Rugby Union whose first game against France was played at Kingsholm. He was one of the founders and second President of the English Schools Cricket Association and organised on its behalf a North v. South of England Schools game on the Spa which was umpired by Jack Hobbs and Herbert Sutcliffe. He was one of three Grammar School representatives on the National Council for School Sports. He went on many school journeys.

Of course he will chiefly be remembered for his efforts on behalf of the School Tercentenary Fund. The idea to celebrate the tercentenary in some tangible form was first put forward by Mr. Veale in 1956, ten years before the celebration was due to take place, and Eddie became its secretary. The appeal for money was so successful that when the fund was closed last term the target of £16,000 was exceeded by £6,000. Not only were the swimming pool and cricket pavilion provided, but there was enough money left over to pay for other amenities — the statue of a blue-coat boy in the forecourt, a full-sized bowling green (has any other school in the country got one?) with equipment for maintenance and a hut, a garage for the school bus and two new changing rooms.

He has shown himself to be imaginative and far-seeing and although he has often been impatient with others who did not immediately agree with him, he has usually carried the day and his many innovations in the life of the school will last for a long time.

Eddie is retiring from the staff of which he is Senior Master, but we hope to find him 'skipping' on the bowling green for many years to come and wish him and his wife, Olive, much happiness and good health in the future.

Twelfth Night

An Illyria inhabited by 'beautiful' people in some Mediterranean tax-haven was an intriguing thought and provided a very pretty setting for the play, thanks to Tav, and ensured that the actors were comfortably dressed in costume with which they were familiar. The costume question caused some trouble with the 'yellow stockings, cross gartered' but the resulting vision was probably no more incongruous to a present day audience than were the originals to Shakespeare's audience.

In fact the modern dress and setting which I think some people found difficult to swallow was the least of my worries about this production. After all, what you have here is a quite crazy play in a crazy setting, hence the title, and Illyria could be the other side of the moon really. But what you must have is utter conviction about the roles being played by every individual in this tangle of disguise and mistaken identity, deception and self-indulgence.

It is, I suppose, asking a lot for this is a big cast and we were lucky in that we got a very strong series of performances on one side. The central core of this was the triangle of Maria, Sir Toby and Sir Andrew, with good support from Malvolio and Feste. The 'letter' plot was presented with a liveliness and invention that I have rarely seen bettered and everyone understood the importance of each individual contribution. Susan Bushell's Maria was to receive the recognition it deserved later. Andrew Messam and Michael Partridge made a well contrasted partnership as Sir Andrew and Sir Toby. I liked Michael Sergeant's very stiff Malvolio and Charles Stephens had a good shot at Feste without possibly really enjoying the character.

Which leads me to ask a number of questions. If we were having 'modern' production why did Feste sing traditional versions of his songs? Wouldn't it have been possible to have something more in keeping with the rest and which might have suited him better? I enjoyed the Duke's music, I wish there had been more. There is a great deal of opportunity for music in the play. I wish there had been more of a chance given to it. Which leads me to my biggest bleat. The romantic side of the play lost all its effect because of the dreadful speaking of the verse. The habit seemed catching because almost everyone reduced the verse to a kind of meaningless sing-song at times: so that we lost the effect of all Orsino's wild romanticism, Olivia's devotion, and particularly the lovely recognition scene between Olivia and Sebastian. A pity that so much glorious sound and meaning was thrown away thoughtlessly.

But my lasting impression is one of some really outstanding comic acting with performances of great stature and confidence and this made the whole thing worthwhile.

W.G.F.B.

St. John Passion

This year the School Choral Society, admirably supplemented by Dennis Weaver (Tenor); David Purcell (Bass); and Derek Acock (counter Tenor), chose J.S. Bach's "St. John Passion" for its annual performance.

Preparation, of course, is of vital importance to the quality of any choir, regardless of size. When a choir consists of 170 voices, preparation must be enormous. Practices were held frequently during the Michaelmas and Lent Terms and the success of the performance was a great compliment to the endeavour and

enthusiasm of all concerned.

Under the baton of Mr. Rangeley, both choir and orchestra merged to give a worthy rendering of Bach's art, in which the interweaving of the voice parts stood out clear and distinct. The peaceful blessedness, joy, intense pain, and pain sublimely borne of the work were all expressed. In short, the music appealed to the imagination of the listener, and kindled into life the emotional experiences and visions from which it sprung. What greater praise can be given!

G.B.

French without tears

During April 1975 fifty-one second Formers and four members of staff visited the small French town of Rambouillet, not far from Paris. The party went in two groups, each staying ten days at Rambouillet Lycee, a school with some 2,400 pupils, many of them boarders.

An intensive programme of classes, visits in the town and excursions had been arranged, each boy having a folder of exercises and information on aspects of French life and on the geography of the Paris region. Each boy spent part or all of the weekend with a french family, and this aspect of the visit was undoubtedly the most successful part of a trip aimed at stimulating an interest and greater expertise in a foreign language. In addition to being entertained at home many were taken on trips out into the region.

While the programme was largely the same for both groups it did vary in some of its detail. The first group led by Mr. Saluveer and Mr. and Mrs. North visited the New Town of St. Quentin en Yvelines and on their visit to Paris visited a number of museums including Les Invalides and the military museum. The second group led by Mr. T.G. Smith and Mr. Spear visited the ancient cathedral city of Chartres rather than St. Quentin, and the highlight of their visit to Paris was the ascent of the Eiffel Tower. Their visit coincided with a spell of fine Spring weather and the view from the top of the Tower was most impressive.

Other visits included being shown over a Motorway Control Centre, which included both Civil and Military organisations. The Civil group was responsible for the smooth running of the Motorway — emergency services, snow and ice handling vehicles, while the Military Gendarmerie had an impressive display of high performance vehicles to police the Motorway, of great interest to the party.

Life in the Lycee made perhaps as great an impact as any of the visits. It provided a remarkable contrast to the ordered, if busy, life at Rich's. In fact, the whole visit put the groups in a completely different environment — boarding school accommodation, French meals, the lack of discipline at the Lycee, quite apart from the language and locality differences. The groups visited the great tourist attractions — Paris and Versailles; less obvious but equally interesting visits were successful — a boulangerie and the Motorway; cultural and sporting occasions were taken in their stride. The minor problems — no packed

lunches, boys lost or unwell, supervision of large groups when we were joined by the French classes, all these have faded to leave an impression of time well spent and a most enjoyable school trip. W.R.S.

Madrigal mystery tour

"Friends, lose not heart nor courage though the
way seems long,
"There are many awaiting you — cheer them
with your song."

With cases packed and hymn books at the ready, the Madrigal Group embarked upon its first ever tour. Our destination was Hastings, our objective to perform two recitals.

The journey was exhausting and to a man (or to a treble) everyone was relieved to be met by our hostess Miss Bradford (sister of that well-known English master) the headmistress of the George Rainey School, which was to be our home for the next few days. The accommodation was found to be first class, and having been fed we rounded off the exhausting day by a visit to a place of public interest — "The Prince of Wales".

The following day we got down to the work in hand, and spent a strenuous time rehearsing at St. John's Church, St. Leonards, and All Saint's Church, Old Hastings, in preparation for our recitals. After such a trying day another visit to the haven for hot, dry dusty throats was called for — and duly answered.

While we (the senior members of the group) were wallowing in the warm hospitality of Vera and Harry (the landlords of that splendid establishment) the younger members were acquainting themselves with the slot-machines on the pier and other such vices.

The two recitals were performed to a very high standard and praises were expressed by the congregations of both churches to Mr. Rangeley as to our musical ability and conduct. At a reception held after the first recital in our honour by the Vicar of St. John's Church we were invited to return in the future.

Thanks must go to Mr. Rangeley for his patience and leadership, to Mr. Moss who undertook to drive the minibus, to Jim Thompson for his faultless organisation and especially to Miss Bradford and her staff for their homely hospitality and gastric delights.

Though the reason for our trip was musical, at the same time an enjoyable holiday was had by all and I hope this is a precedent for years to come.

Michael Partridge U6T
Michael Jones U6S
Timothy Probyn 2S

Glosaid

and Raid-the-larder

The main effort of the year was made at Christmas, when the Sixth Form collected enough groceries to make up over 400 food parcels for distribution to the needy in the City. We would like to express our thanks to everyone who contributed articles and to everyone who gave their willing support. As a result, the Raid-the-Larder scheme this year was a resounding success.

On Wednesday afternoon the jobs

completed ranged from reconstructing front rooms — the old lady had to be removed to a home: the shock of our building techniques would probably have been too much for her — to trimming down garden jungles to respectability. It is true to say that many ties between Glosaid and the old people have been established this year and the organisers are most anxious that these ties should be maintained by next year's Sixth Form.

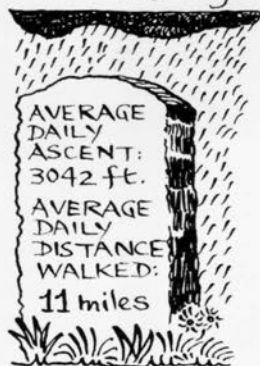
John Price U6R

THE LAKES - JULY/AUGUST 1974

Those taking part were Mr. Rangeley, Mr. Moss, Jim Thompson, and twelve second- and third-formers. The expedition was to the Lakes for 10½ days' fell walking.

What struck me most about this holiday was the great variety: of the weather, the District itself, the hostels we visited, and my fellow walkers!

We began and ended in cloud and rain



but between we had eight days of astonishing warmth and sunshine, with one remarkably clear day when from Dale Head we could see, not merely outlines, but considerable detail on the Pennines and the Isle of Man. Our first encounter with mist was on Lingmell, when it approached, dramatically, almost vertically, and at about 20 m.p.h.



The mountains came in all shapes, from the Pikes (steep, rugged, craggy) to the Dodds (smooth, rounded) Gable, seen from Wastwater, is the pointed shape a mountain assumes in a child's drawing. Each tarn

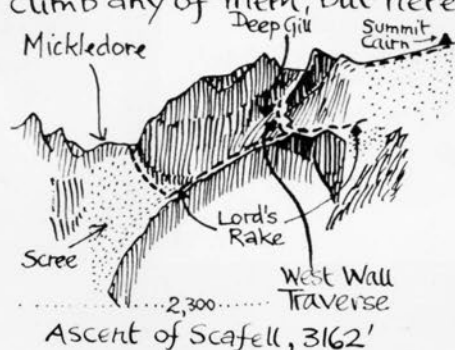
has its own character and mood:

Dale Head Tarn was still and sunlit, Scales Tarn rippled and rain-pitted, High House Tarn reed fringed and shallow, Stickle Tarn deep and overshadowed.

The valleys varied, too: Ennerdale, unfortunately afforested in straight lines before amenity was much thought of; the lovely valley of Buttermere and Crummock Water, with its broad-leaved trees and gentle lush meadows; Oxendale and Mickleden (upper branches of Langdale), stony, barren and austere; and Langstrath, five miles of long, shallow descent.

We voted Wastwater the best hostel architecturally - 1829 'Tudor', panelled, comfortable, and the food was not only excellent but, unusually, was served to the table. Keswick hostel has come to be thought of as a home from home by Rich's parties; run efficiently by Mr. Harrison, a benign presence but watchful for misdemeanour.

Ian Howells enlivened many a march with learned literary references to Tolkien, and (less appreciated) an almost incessant monologue about vampires. A camera fell swiftly towards a ravine followed by a kaleidoscope of arms and legs most of which proved to be Gregory Bennett. In a brief but moving ceremony at the top of Gable Mr. Moss buried an ancient but faithful haversack which had been known as 'Mickle Bag.' Mr. Rangeley and Jim Thompson are memorable chiefly, apart from their inclination to [run] walk swiftly downhill, for their frequent recitation, singly or in concert, of the names of the mountains of the Eastern Ridge whenever they were sighted: it runs like a poem: "St Sunday Crag, Dolly-waggon Pike, Nethermost Pike, Helvellyn, Helvellyn Lower Man, Catstycam." We didn't climb any of them, but here, for the record, is what we did:



Day 1: LINGMOOR FELL Day 2: HARRISON STICKLE, PIKE O' STICKLE, HIGH RAISE, SERGEANT MAN. Day 3: BOW FELL (via Climbers' Traverse), CRINKLE CRAGS. Day 4: GLARAMARA, ALLEN CRAGS. Day 5: CAT BELLS, DALE HEAD

Day 6: GREAT END, BROAD CRAG, ILL CRAG (3 over 3,000' with full packs) Day 7: (Early morning swim) SCAPELL PIKE, SCAPELL (via Lord's Rake/West Wall Traverse) *

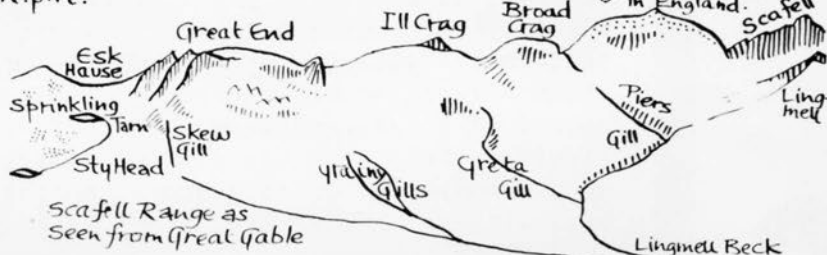
Day 8: PILLAR (via Shamrock Traverse) STEEPLE (our longest day, 16 miles, and nearly late for supper) Day 9: return to Seathwaite, where bus was left, via STYHEAD PASS, GRAINS GILL.

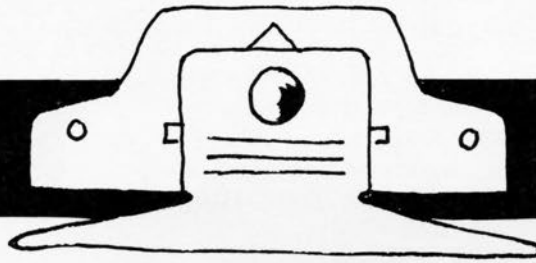
Day 10: BLENCATHRA (Sharp Edge)

Day 11: GREAT GABLE.

Doon.

* The most exciting part of the holiday. A dislodged stone ricocheted down Deep Gill like the crack of





HOUSE PLAY COMPETITION
ADJUDICATOR'S REPORT

The first problem facing a producer for the House Drama Festival is choice of play. He has to find a short play (or extract) which will hold the interest of his audience and be performable with the actors and resources at his command. I think all the houses managed to find plays which fitted the second of these conditions but Eastgate lost heavily on the first as their play was far too static to hold the interest of the audience. On this score, Northgate were most successful with an imaginative, funny play which we all enjoyed.

Having chosen the play, each house has the difficult problem of mounting it in a way which enables a convincing setting to be produced which can be got on or off stage in a few minutes. Here Southgate were most successful with their production of 'Chips with Everything'. The idea of tipping up the rostra to make effective scene backings was very clever. They were also the only house to make really effective use of the cyclorama. Also effective was Northgate's quickly-assembled boxing ring.

In most plays, especially in this sort of set-up, the first essential is to get the plot across. Here Northgate did best with their excellent diction and clear pointing of the storyline. Only knowing the plays helped me through the Southgate and Westgate plays while much of Eastgate's play could not be heard or understood.

I thought the actors, on the whole, did very well, and it was pleasing to see so many people stepping on to the school stage for the first time. From that incredibly vivacious secretary to the council in Eastgate's production to the revolting schoolboy Ernie in Northgate's play, there were many fine character sketches.

One general criticism. All the producers should have concentrated just a little more on technique - enthusiasm and commitment are the first essentials, but little technical points count for so much. Here again Northgate had the slight edge.

Full marks, then, to Northgate for their very imaginative production, but 'well done' to everyone for an entertaining afternoon.

DAVID THOMAS

School Music

Two carol services of exceptional quality marked the first events on the school's music calendar. The fact that all but two of the carols were completely new made both the listening and the singing all the more refreshing without losing the necessary traditional link.

Instead of the lunch-time carol service, last Christmas saw a relatively new venture by the choir, when they gave a 16 hour recital of popular carols spread over three days in the Eastgate shopping precinct in aid of the North Gloucestershire branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Their efforts were justly rewarded by the final, magnificent total of £321, which was presented to the organiser at a later meeting.

By this time, a term had already been spent in the early preparation of Bach's "St. John Passion" to be sung by the School Choral Society in March. The last time this had been performed at school was in March 1968, thus presenting a completely new work to all but a few of the 170 Choral Society. May I say how much better the 1975 performance was, but not necessarily because the singers were that much better than those in 1968. The accumulated experience of choral work in the more senior part of the Choral Society resulted in quicker learning and more ability to convey a finer and more convincing interpretation of the music. The final credit, however, must go to Mr. M.W. Rangeley who put in a great deal of time and effort to ensure the expected high standard of the School Choral Society.

It had been three years since the choir had given a recital in the Cathedral, and it was therefore greatly welcome to be asked to lead the worship in the Cathedral in March. Not only did it give a large number of choir members a chance to sing in the magnificent building, but it also allowed our resident organist Mr. Fowler the unexpected pleasure of being let loose on one of the finest organs in the country.

The choir once again gave of its best and all who came must have felt moved in some way. It was during the service that the Dean announced that the Bishop had just died.

The Madrigal Group tour was a totally new venture, and looking back now on the four day stay in Hastings and St. Leonard's, I certainly think it will become a regular feature of school music. Our two recitals at St. John's and All Saints' were well received by the local people, and generally it was this friendliness towards us that made the visit so successful. Although I gather the school minibus went slightly astray on the return journey, this should not be wholly put down to the fault of the driver, Mr. Moss, who had very kindly agreed to take the bus down to Hastings and generally help out — I thank him very much for his efforts.

Mention should be made of the smaller but just as important events which have continued throughout the year. Wednesday morning anthems by the choir have ranged widely from Bach Chorales such as "King of Glory, King of Peace" and Bach Choruses such as "Dona nobis pacem" from his B minor mass, to later 19th Century works such as Parry's "My Soul, there is a Country" and Wesley's "Lead me Lord". Regular Wednesday concert trips to the Colston Hall, Bristol have also been a feature of last year's music.

Two final events on the calendar: namely, a performance of Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb" at St. Catharine's at Whit, and a Madrigal Group recital at a familiar destination, Eldersfield Parish Church.

Jim Thompson

Reports

Wargaming Club

Chairman: Mr. Tucker
Secretary: Michael Partridge U6T
Organisers: Stephen Denny 2R
James Bryne 2R
Christopher Farmer 2R

Only recently formed the War Gaming Club is receiving new members frequently, and, although the club manages to only put on a War game once every month they are well attended by members as well as non-members. Our latest and most exciting battle was the "Charge of the Scots Greys". A future trip to Bovington Tank Museum has been arranged by Mr. Tucker.

Middle School Debating Society

The Society has held two highly successful debates so far this year. The motion in the first was, "This house believes in the abolition of School" and was unfortunately defeated. In the second it was "This house believes in the supernatural" and the motion was carried. Support in debates has been sadly lacking and we hope this trend will be corrected in the future.

David Hall 3S

Junior Electronics Club

President: Mr. G. Barrington
Chairman: A. Woodward
Secretary: D. Healey

The club aims to open up to the young enthusiast the world of electronics. The club is open to the first three years of the School. Meetings: every two weeks, on Thursday after school in the Lecture Theatre. Membership by application.

Young Ornithologists Club

The school group of the Y.O.C. was formed in December 1973. This is the first report of the activities of the group, and so covers the whole of the group's history.

There have been eighteen field meetings, and fortunately most of these have been very successful. The very first, for example, was at Frampton Gravel Pits, where the water was frozen over except for a few patches in the middle of the pits, where we found several smew. The second trip was very notable, not for its success, but for the angle at which the rain came down, almost horizontal. This was the infamous Poole trip!

Since then we have seen Black Terns at Witcombe, Herons at Ashton Keynes, Sandpipers at Awre, Goldeneye at Frampton Gravel Pits; we have heard Nightingales at Lassington; we have seen up to 51 species (in one day) at Frampton. In my opinion, though, the most successful trip was the Forest of Dean meeting of May 1974. We saw 48 species of birds, including Pied Flycatcher, Tree Pipit, Lesser-spotted Woodpecker and Redstart.

The activities of the group have not been confined to bird-watching trips, though. We ran a nest-box scheme on Robinswood Hill last year, and continued a similar scheme in Lassington Woods this year. We also carried out a bird count on Robinswood Hill, over a period of 12 months.

The very nature of the activities of the Y.O.C. means that transport is essential, and our transport is the school bus. Many members will recall the old school bus with affection. This can only be fortified by the memories of those exquisite "brew-ups" of JYC's on the Poole trip. But when it came to raising money for the new bus, we felt we had a moral obligation to contribute to the bus fund. Money was raised by sponsored work, in conjunction with Robinswood Hill Country Park. In this way some useful conservation work was done, also.

Finally, on behalf of all the members of the Group, I would like to thank Mr. Cooper, Mr. Pilbeam, Mr. Potter, Mr. Spear and Mr. Moss who were kind enough to give up some of their spare time to drive the bus for us. Without the help of these members of staff, none of the above would have been possible.
Stephen Kear — U6T

FILM SOCIETY REPORT

SCENE: An ordinary room, somewhere in England.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE: Cox (chewing on a Kojak lollipop and saying 'Tell me 'bout it, baby' at regular intervals), Barker (later to disappear after much stalwart work - kidnapped by 20th Century Fox), Davies (similarly lost), and Montanaro (his shrewd eye scanning 'Noddy goes to Wall Street').

THEIR QUEST: To build up a society within a certain school which aims to keep the tinies off the streets occasionally, and 'to bravely go where no man has gone before' - on the trail of the Hollywoodisation (Copyright Philip Jenkinson, BBC tv 1974) of Rich's.

ACTION! Frenzied writing of letters, ordering of films, slurping of lollipops and assessing of popular support (a survey almost as accurate as a Harris poll on the incidence of tooth decay in Scarborough). Membership cards are printed (after superb artwork by an eccentric we used to know who was exiled to Reading).

The first night: trepidation shows on the already neurotic faces of our heroes. The film - 'The Red Tent' - is a great success; we actually get applause from the Curly-Wurly chewing, very discerning, experts in the front row. Slightly more relaxed, our heroes re-order. Two local cinemas go bust (well almost!) in the face of 'The Poseidon Adventure', 'Judge Roy Bean' (less memorable apart from the view through the hole where the baddy's stomach used to be), 'Thunderball', 'The Magnificent Seven', and 'Hatari' - previously unknown but now a box-office smash. John Wayne sent a telegram of thanks for doubling his fame overnight.

EPILOGUE: Enormous success so far. The secretary already owns a chauffeur driven Honda 50, the treasurer has just sent his mother away to Majorca (or somewhere) for three weeks, and our patron (many thanks!), Mr J.P. 'Arthur Rank's got nothing on me' Winstanley is known to have employed a secretary for his fan-mail alone!

THE FUTURE: This year can only be better - stay tuned for announcements.

STOP PRESS: 'Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid' and 'What's up Doc' already ordered. Don't miss your chance to join.

Aircraft Society

The Society has had its most successful year since its foundation. The aim of the Society is to foster an interest in aviation among boys in the school and certainly this year has seen a rise in interest in this field.

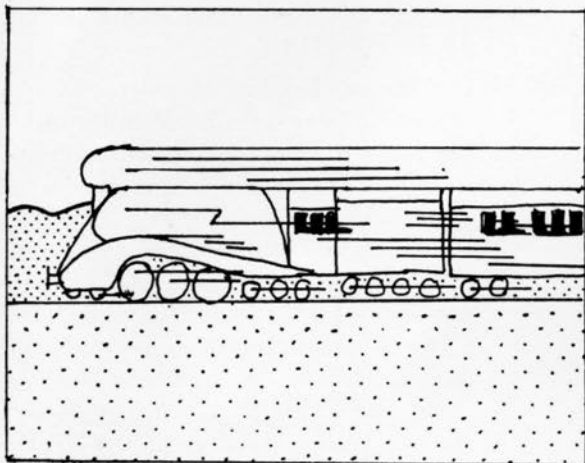
The first two terms saw the Society holding regular meetings, and many interesting slide shows and talks were held. The last term saw two visits, one to the Biggin Hill air show and one to the Shuttleworth collection which houses some of the rarest old aircraft in the world. A trip is also planned to take place during the summer holidays again visiting Shuttleworth, giving an idea of the interest of the Shuttleworth collection.

All in all it has been a good year for the society and I hope that next year the society will carry on being as much a success as this year.

R.E. Kilyan - 5T

S. Venn - 5T

M. Skipp - 5S



Railway Society

Against a background of rising costs and falling services the Railway Society has continued to travel far and wide on the railways of the country.

In September we said goodbye to Paul Bryson and in December to Michael Newcombe, who is now a Railway Employee temporarily. We would like to thank both for their contribution to the running of the Society. The organisers during the last year have been Nick Giles, Paul Fillis and Adrian Showell.

Since the publication of the last Richian successful trips have been run to Doncaster, Leeds and York, and London. A trip to the Severn Valley steam railway at Bridgenorth is planned for one Saturday in July. We have also enjoyed a varied programme of talks, films and slide shows, during our meetings after school on Wednesdays.

We don't feel we can conclude our report without at least a passing reference to the new Gloucester station, now being built, in place of the old Great Western Central station. While agreeing that this building will relieve Gloucester of numerous railway crossings, traffic jams and derelict land, we are dismayed to see that as a result, Gloucester will no longer have the train services, especially on the North-East, South-West route, which it once enjoyed. Even this year before the station is built, Gloucester has lost about 20% of train services on this route — one has now to go to Cheltenham to go to Bristol — a sad state of affairs.

There was a time when Gloucester had two thriving stations and was a major focus on the railway network; it is a great pity that it is not so now, especially when British Rail need to attract more passengers.

Nick Giles, Paul Fillis, Adrian Showell

The Debating Society

Under electrifying new leadership, the Society has made enormous strides in its endless crusade for a more eloquent and informed Society. Among subjects given its careful and qualified consideration were the role of the Liberal party in politics, life as a disease curable by death, and M. Voltaire's surmise that there would always be ignorant beggars. Subjects which produced an unwarranted (though expected) stream of vulgar and irrelevant abuse were the fate of Northern Ireland and whether the law is, in fact, an ass.

Following the recent tendency to steal ideas from the BBC, the Society held a session based loosely on "Call my Bluff", a school team competing against the ladies of Denmark Road, which was a) a roaring success and b) a draw.

Mr. Bowers won the competition for a Victoria sponge and Mr. Sergeant gave a talk on "Highways and Byways of Hampshire".

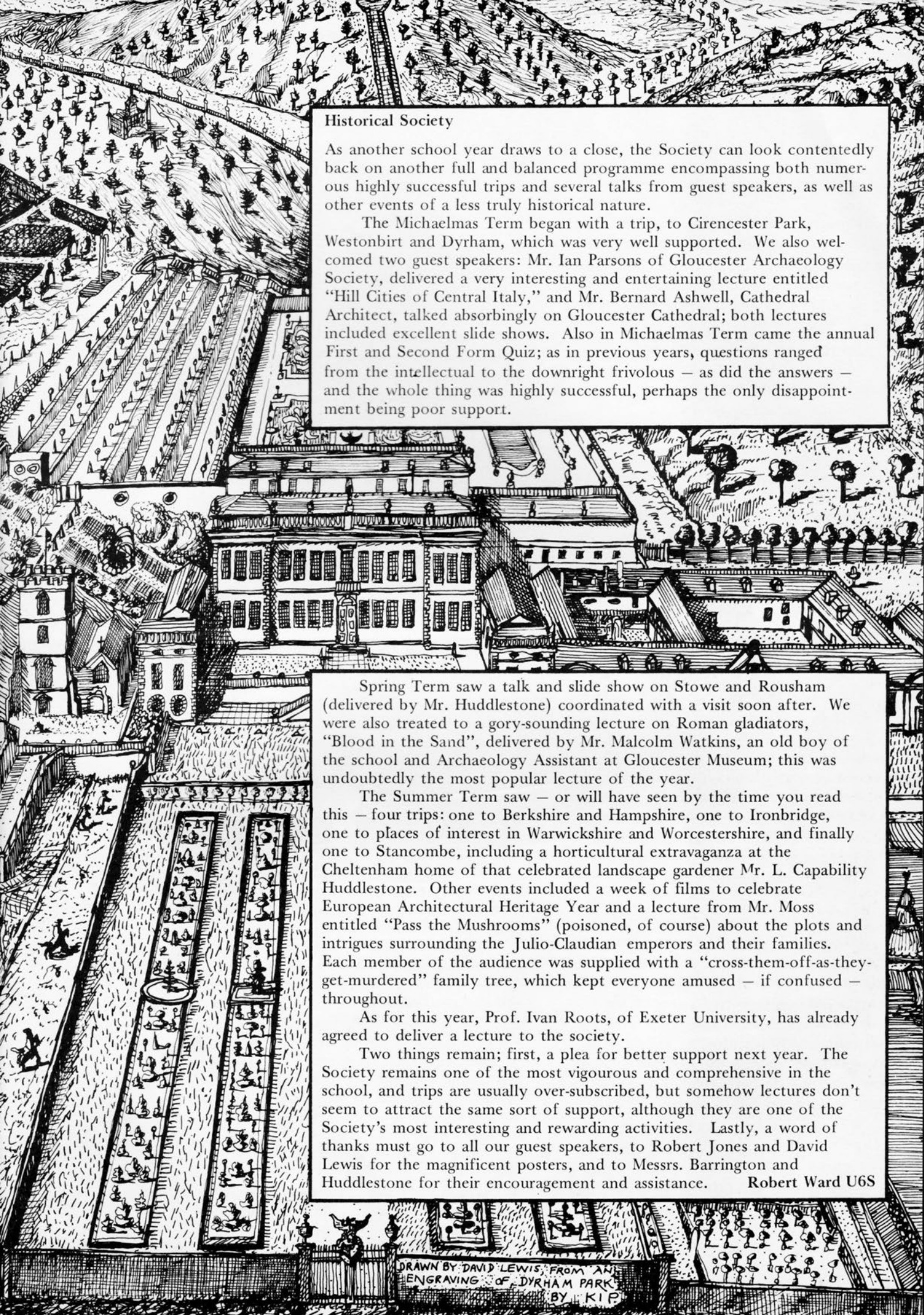
President:	H.J. Potter Esq.
Chairman:	Graeme Bowers U6R
Secretary:	Michael Sergeant U6R

Astronomical Society

The past eighteen months have been quiet ones for the Astronomical Society. The two most important events were our contribution to the Bus Fair in May 1974 — a programme with slides, commentary and music called "Guided tour of the universe" — and a visit to the radiotelescope complex at Jodrell Bank last autumn. We also held an observation session on a particularly cold evening last February, and organised a quiz session. By the time you read this we hope also to have visited the Royal Greenwich Observatory at Herstmonceux in East Sussex: 1975 is the observatory's tercentenary year.

Interest in astronomy in the school has dwindled disappointingly over the last few months — perhaps there will be a new burst of enthusiasm with the new school year. Anyway, look out for our first event of the year — a film about the first fruits of the space programme called "New view of space".

Committee : Mr. B. McBurnie,
Robert Jones U6R, David Wilton 5S,
Glyn George 5S



Historical Society

As another school year draws to a close, the Society can look contentedly back on another full and balanced programme encompassing both numerous highly successful trips and several talks from guest speakers, as well as other events of a less truly historical nature.

The Michaelmas Term began with a trip, to Cirencester Park, Westonbirt and Dyrham, which was very well supported. We also welcomed two guest speakers: Mr. Ian Parsons of Gloucester Archaeology Society, delivered a very interesting and entertaining lecture entitled "Hill Cities of Central Italy," and Mr. Bernard Ashwell, Cathedral Architect, talked absorbingly on Gloucester Cathedral; both lectures included excellent slide shows. Also in Michaelmas Term came the annual First and Second Form Quiz; as in previous years, questions ranged from the intellectual to the downright frivolous – as did the answers – and the whole thing was highly successful, perhaps the only disappointment being poor support.

Spring Term saw a talk and slide show on Stowe and Rousham (delivered by Mr. Huddleston) coordinated with a visit soon after. We were also treated to a gory-sounding lecture on Roman gladiators, "Blood in the Sand", delivered by Mr. Malcolm Watkins, an old boy of the school and Archaeology Assistant at Gloucester Museum; this was undoubtedly the most popular lecture of the year.

The Summer Term saw – or will have seen by the time you read this – four trips: one to Berkshire and Hampshire, one to Ironbridge, one to places of interest in Warwickshire and Worcestershire, and finally one to Stancombe, including a horticultural extravaganza at the Cheltenham home of that celebrated landscape gardener Mr. L. Capability Huddleston. Other events included a week of films to celebrate European Architectural Heritage Year and a lecture from Mr. Moss entitled "Pass the Mushrooms" (poisoned, of course) about the plots and intrigues surrounding the Julio-Claudian emperors and their families. Each member of the audience was supplied with a "cross-them-off-as-they-get-murdered" family tree, which kept everyone amused – if confused – throughout.

As for this year, Prof. Ivan Roots, of Exeter University, has already agreed to deliver a lecture to the society.

Two things remain; first, a plea for better support next year. The Society remains one of the most vigorous and comprehensive in the school, and trips are usually over-subscribed, but somehow lectures don't seem to attract the same sort of support, although they are one of the Society's most interesting and rewarding activities. Lastly, a word of thanks must go to all our guest speakers, to Robert Jones and David Lewis for the magnificent posters, and to Messrs. Barrington and Huddleston for their encouragement and assistance.

Robert Ward U6S

44th Venture Scouts

The Venture Scout Unit has once again enjoyed an exciting and rewarding year. There were anxious moments at the beginning of the year with a view to new members, but this situation soon resolved itself, and for most of the year, the Unit can be said to have been operating at full strength.

This year's Summer Expedition was taken further afield than last year's to North West Scotland: we went to Norway. This expedition because of its nature was only attended by 6 members of the Unit, including the V.S.L. and A.V.S.L. and an ex-member, but it was a great success. Altogether two weeks were spent walking, mountaineering and visiting places of interest, and during our time there we managed to make a successful attempt on the highest mountain in Scandinavia, an eight thousand footer called Galdhopiggen. On our return we made a detour, through Oslo, and spent a day looking at the famous olympic ski-jump; the QE 2, and a maritime museum containing RaII and Kontiki.

Another item on this year's agenda was the half term camp. This year we returned to one of our old haunts: Felindre in Wales. Activities on the camp included a night hike, rock climbing, caving, canoeing and horse riding. Altogether a very successful, well supported camp, and I hope that this will be the shape of things to come!

As well as these camps, the Unit has had a crowded programme during the past year, and many varied activities have been undertaken. Some of our members attended and enjoyed a combined Ranger Guide — Scout week-end held at Cowley, taking part in activities such as canoeing, orienteering and wrestling! During the summer months there have been many weekend and evening canoeing trips, on the Canal, and at Twyn-ing. Four of our members also entered the Boston Marathon and all finished; a good achievement.

There have been one or two visits to Bristol Ice Rink, and R.A.F. Innsworth for shooting evenings. During the Winter, an expedition to North Wales was run for

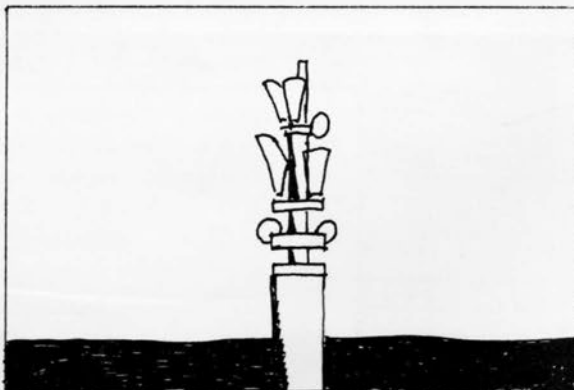
the annual water Hike ... but bad weather dampened some people's spirits.

Recently we have entered a few District activities, coming a close second in the District Skittles, winning the district darts, and the Cotswold Marathon. Throughout the year there have been many community service operations such as Glosaid, digging gardens, chopping wood, and cutting grass at the Scout H.Q.

At the end of this year a large number of the members of the Unit will be leaving to find their way in the world. They take with them our best wishes for the future, and our gratitude for making this one of the best years ever.

I hope that the younger members who will take over the running of the Unit will take it upon themselves to make the coming year another good one.

John Barnes



Amateur Radio Society

The Society has enjoyed a very successful year with an encouraging increase in interest from the lower school.

Throughout the year the society has been most active, scarcely a week passing in which it has failed to meet. By courtesy of the Post Office, we have both been able to visit the microwave tower at Wotton-under-Edge and we have acquired a teleprinter which the older members of the society have been adapting for use with the school transmitting station. By the end of next year we hope to be able to receive weather pictures and numerical data from satellites.

Meanwhile the younger members have been building their first 2-transistor radio. If they maintain their present interest, they will become successful radio amateurs in the future. I wish them luck.

Kim Stilwell, U6T

Contributions

The Imaginary Society Report

Chairman : Hal Lucy Nation
Secretary : Imogen Harry Wright

Initially, the society was slow to materialise, due, we believe, to a general lack of imagination within the school. However, the hard core persevered, and this year we can boast a total membership of 347½, of whom something in the order of 99% are imagined to be.

Last year, several imaginary meetings were held, including lectures by Major Jack Penguin, who spoke of his experiences in Albania, and Basil. Superman also paid a flying visit.

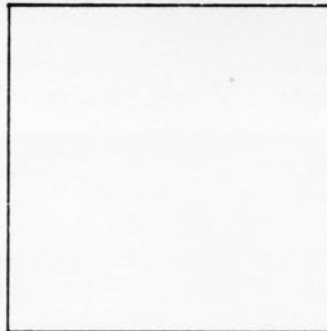
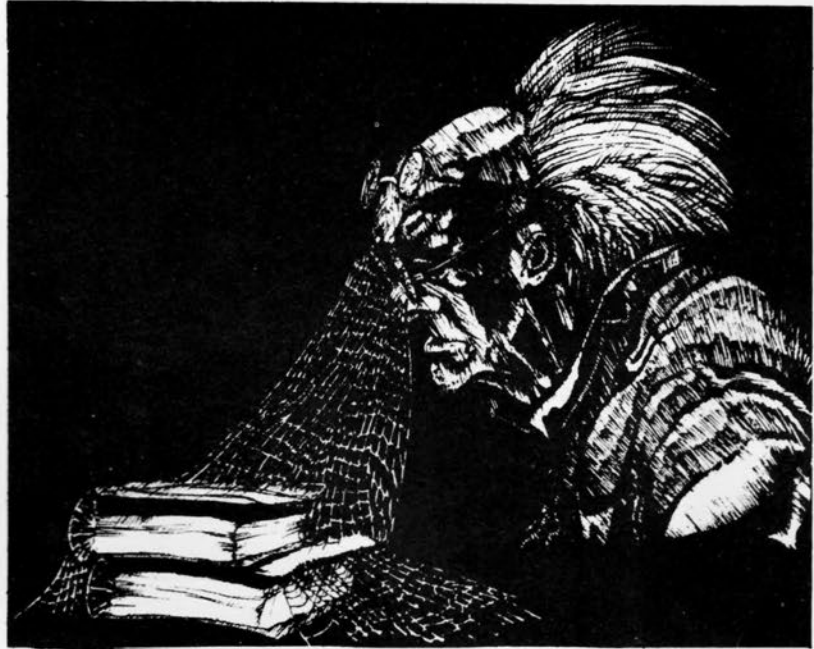
During the summer holidays, an expedition was organised to the Sahara Desert, where the party of 16 spent many happy hours watching mirages. 11 of our number considered the whole thing to have been thoroughly well worthwhile; the remainder, however, were disillusioned.

The Society's Fate was successful beyond our wildest imaginings. The star attraction was the white elephant stall. 12 of the 17 sold went to foreign visitors, thus giving an unexpected boost to our invisible exports. Among the many distinguished visitors were Sir Mortimer Armstrong (pictured right), the late W.G. Sheep (the well known Gloucester cricketer) and Basil.

And so to this year's programme; meetings have been moved to the Careers Office, to accommodate the large influx of new members. Further plans include the erection of a life size illusion of St. Paul's Cathedral on the school playing fields, a quiz between members of staff and the society (with imaginary questions) and visits from several guest speakers, including Mrs. Hilda Gronk (courtesy K. Hughes, Esq.), the venerable Jock W. Dennis G.O.A.T. McSpreader, the prominent organ grinder, and Basil, with topics ranging from deep sea fishing in Tibet to British education.

As yet, the society's influence on school life has been small, but it is rapidly gaining the support of the silent majority, and we can visualise great things in the future.

Jeffrey Gillett U6R and Robert Ward U6S



Sir Mortimer Armstrong OBE

SHORT STARRY

by David Lewis

I

"It is time for us to go now my children. Come now, we must leave here".
The old man looked back, his silent, sad thoughts expanded through the infinite darkness.

"Remember us my son". Without bitterness he cried: "Love us and remember".

The cylinder spun slowly in the silence, and the dying stars watched.

II

Suddenly he was aware of his existence. He tried to push out a projection of consciousness but sensed nothing around him. In terror he realised his hopelessness: he existed but could not move; could sense nothing around him. He was an isolated awareness, an existence in nothing. The paradoxical impossibility of this flashed and exploded in his mind and terror overwhelmed him.

III

The cylinder, almost imperceptibly, began to slow in its spinning. Finally it came to rest. Slowly, very slowly, its ebon blackness turned to greyness.

IV

Still he could not move, but by projecting energies around him he confirmed a change. With relief he sensed some fundamental essence, an energy. He could feel the force — Light, and the light was becoming more intense, stronger and stronger.

V

The universe moved in agonizing slowness around the still cylinder, now shimmering with a dazzling, fulgent brilliance. Suddenly a confused burst of radiance streamed in circling prominences from the cylinder. This auroral spectrum of energies formed into a sphere and expanded, glorying in whiteness to an infinite distance. Swirling with a pearly light the energies bonded there and faded rapidly to an opaque, cavernous black. The cylinder was now at the centre of the vast sphere of energies, and as it waited, its white light dimmed and it finally became transparent.

VI

He had felt a light but now it was gone. How long had it lasted? He found quite suddenly that he was able to move. His eyes opened stiffly. Black. Lifting his arms he realized that he was entombed; a surface curved all around him and absorbed his energy-streams. Without reason fear mounted once again and he screamed louder and louder, clamouring in his tomb. Exhausted, he stood trembling.

He heard an indistinct merging of tones, sounds which swirled and formed into a voice. Frozen with terror and exhaustion he blurted a pitiful string of childlike syllables. The voice began.

"I am the guardian. You will listen to me and try to understand. I have very little time left in which to explain.

VII

"The origin of your race is lost in innumerable eternities. It began on a small system in a minor galaxy, developed, gained knowledge, wisdom and power, became omniscient. The race of Man searched the universe for traces of life. It discovered that the universe was dead, and had always been dead.

"Man travelled from galaxy to galaxy, struggling to create life. Each attempt was stillborn. Your race realized that life cannot be created in this universe, that life is an inexplicable accident, that the creation of man was a random chance. Neither man nor mighty power can create life in this continuum. Your race, its elders, were wise enough to see that existence in this empty universe was without point.

"Unnumbered aeons ago, yet only a little time compared to the total existence of your race, which in its turn was only a scratch on the fathomless age of the universe itself, the mentors resigned themselves to the fact that existence in an empty universe was futile. They placed us here and discontinued their existence.

"The old one who placed us here was the last of the elders. Your brothers died with him. With total knowledge they knew that time would come to an end. What will follow they could not even guess. I was put here to watch over you until the end of time. Outside the sphere, time and space itself is disintegrating, crumbling. The laws of this universe will soon no longer apply. Being at the centre of this universe you will pass into whatever follows. You have been given the chance to create, you have been given the task. But there is no more time".

The voice changed, immeasurably old now.

"You are the last man my son. Our hope and favour rests on you alone. Remember us, my son."

The valediction faded to nothing as the transparent cylinder dissolved. The last man stood alone and afraid in the darkness.

VIII

Still he did not understand. Still he was confused; how could he exist in the next universe, so different that he could not hope to comprehend it. He did not want his task, his power. Reaching out, his senses struck a surface — The Sphere. The Sphere was diffusing, becoming clear, dissipating. He could not think. He sensed a dark, heavy light pressing in on the weakening sphere. His mind was in chaos, and there was no Time to think.

IX

The neutralized sphere shattered under the force. A fearsome irruption as masses of dead stars swirled and spiralled in seething concentrations to the centre. Crushing neutrons swarmed, converged towards him in a frenzied vortex, a centripetal force pulling, heaving and pushing their reduced matter in eccentric courses, bearing faster and faster inwards, a vast conflux, writhing at a speed beyond light and time. Clangorous reverberations shifted and wrenched space itself into a vortical, tempestuous compression. Paralyzed, the last man stood. He had the choice. His mind, his very soul torn, wrenched apart by an unyielding force. Thoughts and energies, frenzied and confused, reeled about him. Some memory thrust itself into his tormented mind. In agony and pain, defeated he cried out, tears drilled back into his eyes, his voice wheeled and distorted, "I am..." The tortured light binding now, the last man called on a God that he knew could not exist. "Forgive Me," he screamed out, "We cannot stand...oppose you. Save me."

His Body and consciousness were twisted apart, torn and smashed as the infinite pressure pushed inwards. The glorious universe pulled and strained in on itself, inverted, crushing mass on infinite mass, smaller and smaller into the terminal nothing.

X

The Last Man died with his universe. By chance he had been Man.
By choice he could have been God.

Box of tricks

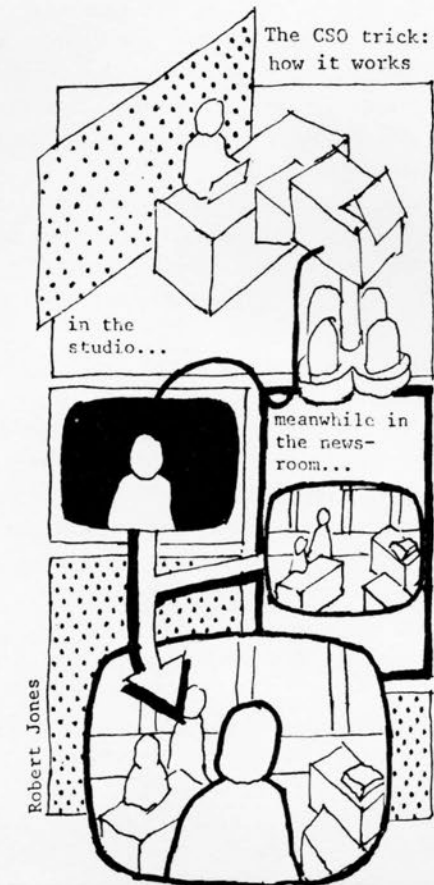
Groucho Marx said: "Television is called a medium because it isn't very good or very bad, just medium." There is much truth in this, of course, but good television programmes do get made from time to time, and television — the youngest artform — has great undeveloped potential.

Television is really two different mediums combined. First, there is ordinary cine film, known when it's made for television as telecine, shortened (for some reason) to TK. Then there is real television, made by electronic television cameras. TK is used for documentaries, news reports, and exterior sequences in plays. The electronic system is used for all programmes originated in television studios.

Of course, each system has its own advantages and difficulties. Cine film produces a subtler image, atmospheric and often very beautiful. The current vogue for hazy soft-focus romantic photography reached its zenith in Peter Hall's film 'Akenfield', and is also much in evidence in the more upmarket commercials. Some television plays are made entirely on location with TK — for example, 'Wessex Tales' — and clever cameramen, like Brian Tufano, can use TK to produce extremely evocative images. TK documentaries tend to be less interesting stylistically, but an exception is 'The Ascent of Man', directed by Mick Jackson and Adrian Malone, the most visually inventive documentary series ever.

The most important characteristic of what I call real television is that it produces instant pictures, unlike cine film, where you have to wait for the film to be developed before you can see the pictures you've taken. So electronic television is used for all live programmes, and it can also be recorded on to videotape (which is just like the tape in a tape-recorder, only wider) and broadcast later. Interior sequences of most plays are made on videotape.

A big advantage of the electronic system is that a large number of tricks and effects are available. Pictures can be distorted, the colours altered, and other weird things can



happen. The most widely-used trick is called colour separation overlay. For example, it was used until recently on the BBC-1 Nine O'clock News. In the studio, the newsreader sits in front of a piece of scenery painted blue. The camera pointing at him is adjusted so that it doesn't receive blue light: so the background of the picture of the newsreader is completely blank. Meanwhile, another camera is looking at a general view of the BBC News newsroom, and the picture from this camera is overlaid on the first picture. Of course, this picture only shows through the blank parts of the original image, so you end up with a picture that tricks you into thinking the newsreader is actually in the newsroom. This technique has hundreds of other applications: for example, you could have a camera looking at the Tardis against a blue background, overlay a picture of stars, and so you get, as if by magic, the Tardis floating through space. There is an easy way to spot when colour separation is being used. Look closely at the object in the foreground, for example the Tardis or Kenneth Kendall. If there is a

thin blue outline around it, then the background is being overlaid by colour separation overlay. Other techniques only available with electronic television include computer-produced captions, of which the most advanced system is ITN's VT30 machine, which produces a wide variety of visual displays (do you remember it on the referendum results programme?)

So those are the two mediums available to television directors. The trouble is that they shouldn't really be mixed in one programme. If, in a play, you have an interior sequence made on VT, then the character goes outside and you see an exterior sequence shot on cine film, the two don't match: it is visually most unsatisfactory. But most directors are content not to bother with this, because the alternative, taking VT cameras out for location sequences, is more expensive and more fuss. There are honourable exceptions — for example 'Upstairs, Downstairs' — and occasionally it is decided to ensure stylistic unity by shooting exterior sequences indoors, in the studio. The problem here is that this never looks realistic: but then why should television always be naturalistic. Theatre plays are rarely naturalistic any more, and once you break through the barrier of naturalism, you have hundreds of possibilities for experiment and innovation ahead of you. So any attempt to stick to VT right through a play deserves our praise, even if, as in the case of 'Churchill's People', the programme itself is so boring that we don't actually watch it.

Two of the best programmes made recently were Jon Scofield's production of Trevor Nunn's RSC 'Antony and Cleopatra', and James MacTaggart's adaptation of 'Alice through the Looking Glass'. Both were made entirely on VT, and the latter used the colour separation technique to make the original Tenniel illustrations come alive, move and talk. These two programmes have scratched the surface of the exciting possibilities open to television directors: I hope that more extensive mining will soon begin.

Robert Jones

Great Frauds of our Time:
Number one in the series

If all the poems in the world
Were put into a bowl, and swirled
Around and round inside the pot –
You'd feel like T.S. Eliot. (Sorry).

For this is how he wrote his verse,
And, (though there's really nothing worse)
The critics always will applaud
This greatest literary FRAUD!

His writings are an endless quote
Of stuff that other people wrote.
And I am not so very sure
He's not deliberately obscure.

I talked to Shakespeare yesterday (honestly)
And this is what he had to say,
"Gerontion" is very fine –
Considering most of it is mine!"

His reputation shatters when
We know the source of "Hollow Men".
This was copied word for word
From Joseph Conrad (so I've heard).

This Great Pretender would be lynched
If Dante found out what he'd pinched.
"Marina"'s taken line for line
From "La Comedie Divine". (It does scan somehow)

Has anybody ever dared
(They're probably too scared)
To work out how much Faber earns
From the pen of Thomas Stearns?

And why did Faber print so much
Of poems bearing Eliot's touch?
The answer's very clear to me –
He was the Editor, you see.

Michael Sergeant U6R

And cold steel glinted on tramline,
Spear glinted in plate-glass display,
The king has returned with the legendary band.
As he promised he would that day.

Cold Steel flashed against cold steel,
As machine head, string and stick tensed.
And the spear, risen from dark unknown cave,
Cool as emerald at human expense.

And then Arthur passed between the waiting crowds silent
The sky now already reddening in the East,
And the children were crying in barricaded churches,
With the doctors, poets and priests.

The ancient hero and dark misty figure
Played amazing guitar against cast-iron doors.
The smoke flowed away and yet away
And the noise grew more and yet more.

The stars were no longer visible
And the clouds had encircled the weakening moon.
And, oh, how bitterly cold it was,
As the knights sang their sacred tune.

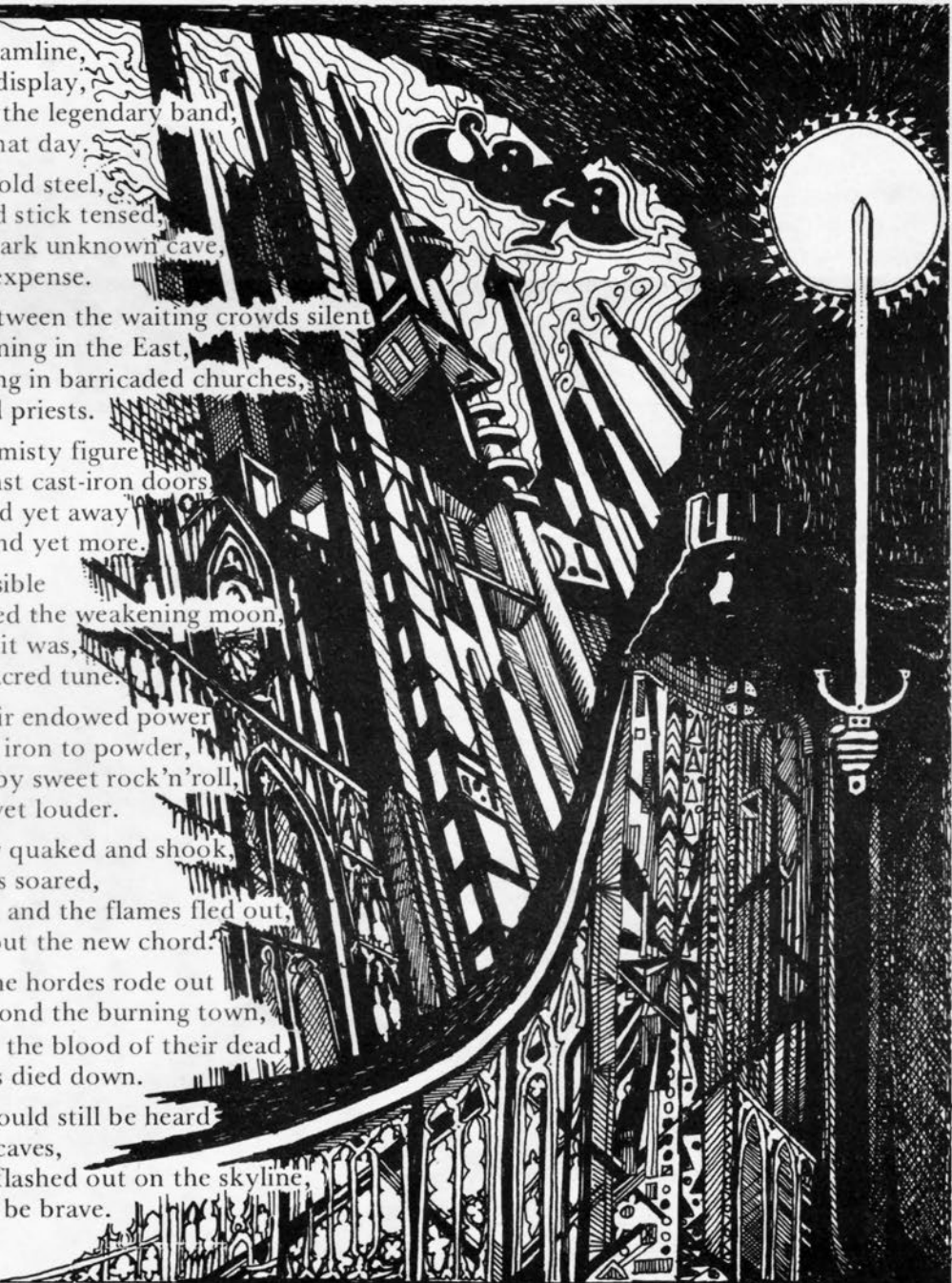
And wattle upon wattle of their endowed power
Crushed stones to dust and iron to powder,
And the spirits were lifted by sweet rock'n'roll,
And the king led them on yet louder.

O the very vault of the sky quaked and shook,
As higher the ethereal notes soared,
Then the doors burst down and the flames fled out,
As the knights hammered out the new chord.

The horses screamed and the hordes rode out
Into the misty stillness beyond the burning town,
And the rivers ran red with the blood of their dead.
And then slowly the flames died down.

Yet the beating of drums could still be heard
In the arches of legendary caves,
And the emerald of doom flashed out on the skyline,
Telling all the musicians to be brave.

Charles Stephens L6T



w
 ord
 triangles
 are not a new
 idea, but despite the
 lack of interest in them,
 it is surprising the people
 who will read them right to the end

Graham Read 1T

To travel hopefully is better than to arrive

I would like to have a magic car,
 Which could take me to paradise and the lands afar,
 Away from the reality of hard old life,
 From the bore and the strain and the moments of strife.

But however lovely these thoughts may seem,
 Alas! I'm afraid it's only a dream,
 For survival means living with world competition,
 Its evil ways, deeds, of selfish ambition.

I sit in the classroom and let my thoughts drift away,
 Suddenly there's a loud voice to my dismay,
 "Oi! you, over there are you paying attention,
 By golly you'd better or you'll be in detention."

"Who me sir, oh yes sir, oh yes sir," said I,
 (I was beginning to stutter and feeling so shy)
 "Then, boy, to prove you've been doing no sin,
 Start reading to me from your 'Huckleberry Finn'."

"Er one plus one plus two equals four."
 Suddenly I was stopped by a bellowing roar,
 His eyes looked at me with a despising stare.
 "Good gracious boy is that a maths book you've got there?"

He shouted at me for my misdeed,
 His voice bellowing out, I taking no heed.
 The loud voice was beginning to hurt my eardrums,
 I sat and thought quietly "Oh blimey, oh crumbs!"

My teacher was now getting into a fit,
 "For such a bad crime I will put you in dit."
 Ah well, oh dear! that's life I suppose,
 Why it is like this nobody knows.

But I'll STILL keep on dreaming of my magic car,
 Which will take me to paradise and the lands afar.
 For it's all in the mind, which knows no restriction,
 Creating its own world of truth, fact or fiction.

Marcus Caulkett 2T

What are words worth?

I wandered lonely through the quad,
 My bosom heaved with heavy sighs,
 For all at once I'd seen a squad,
 A host of dark-blue prefect's ties;
 Beside the pond, beneath the trees,
 Scraping and grovelling on their knees.

Continuous as the stars that shine
 And twinkling in the Old School Hall,
 They stretched in never-ending line,
 Triumphant in their long, hard crawl.
 Three dozen saw I, stout and true,
 Wearing each the tie of blue.

Non-prefects are scum; but they
 Out-do the sparkling waves in glee,
 A poem seems the only way
 To vent my seething jealousy.
 But let nobody read me wrong –
 I love to see my friends get on.

Ful oft, when on my couch I lie,
 I close my mind to social strife.
 They flash upon my inward eye,
 The joys of normal sixth-form life.
 For then my heart it fills with glee –
 At least I'll pass the G.C.E.

Anonymous

Feeling spare

Criticism of an accepted institution is never easy, but to criticize the discotheque is to have yourself labelled as antisocial, to be doomed to the inexorable mockery of the dinner table, to be cast from the Prefects' room, that lively retreat, buzzing with intellectual chatter about K.W.'s latest or the merits of "soul" and "heavy". Oh, the shame! But despair not: "speak your truth quietly and clearly", says the poster on my bedroom wall. I shall, though condemned in my exile to never-ending lunch hours of 1r's witticisms outside in the cold, I shall!!

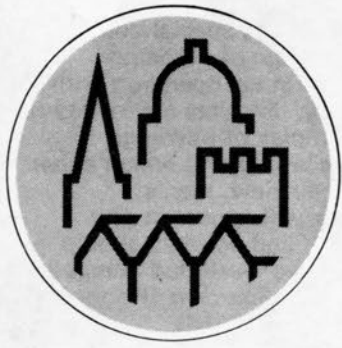
It is really my fault that I am unable, while sober, to throw myself into wild convulsions at the sound of the "Who-d'you-say-it-was", and then struggle to convince myself that such jerking is enjoyable? Okay, so you don't have to throw yourself into convulsions, you just move your body in time with the music. Those who can dance fail to see that their "moving-in-time-with-the-music" conforms to acceptable stylised patterns (acceptable to the "freaky" or "soul" persuasions of my age group). On the other hand, when I perform admissible shuffles across the floor trying to give an impression of an inner euphoria, I just feel spare. The remedy is sold in pints and the glass has the function of occupying at least one of my hands, thus rendering dancing virtually impossible, until its drug enables me grudgingly to convulse. Am I alone in this dilemma or do the other people who wander from the bar to the gents' all have weak bladders?

There is a solution for us misfits. Stay at home; but we are just as eager to mix with the opposite sex, and attractive girls just don't go to square dances any more. Perhaps the folk concert, which is becoming a more regular occurrence, will be our saviour. Who knows? Oh, well, I have said my piece, here's hoping I won't have to endure my exile alone.

John Price U6R



Beauty and the bulldozer



This year, 1975, is European Architectural Heritage Year. It is a year when Europe is to attempt to halt the rapid disappearance and disfigurement of our Architectural heritage.

Throughout Europe there are many evil factors at work, all intent on removing what should remain for generations yet to come.

Already far too many buildings of great value, of architectural interest and merit have vanished under the deceptive term of 'improvement'.

Nowadays there are people anxious to gnaw away at our past who rejoice under the dubious title of 'planners' who are under the very wrong impression that change, and all the destruction that is inevitably involved, is synonymous with improvement, that the clearance of old buildings with their inherent ideas and ideals is desirable, and that a building's lack of ability to adapt to modern purposes, despite its pleasing and pleasant appearance, demands its demolition.

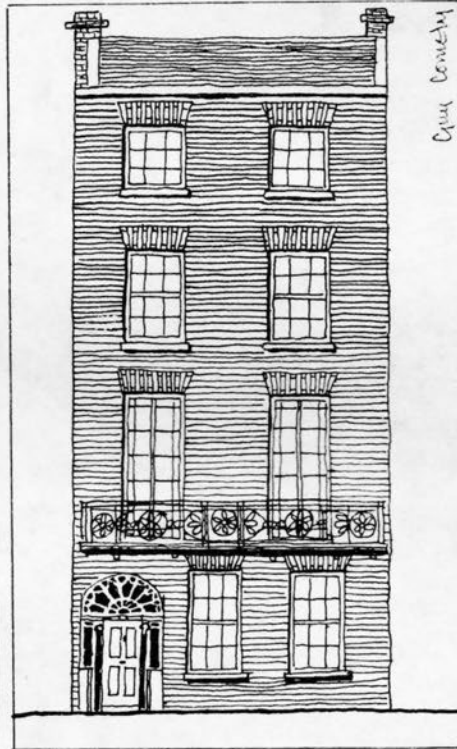
If a building has become redundant then it must be swept away and replaced by a serviceable block-type box structure, unpleasant to look at and often entirely out of context with surrounding buildings. These concrete extravaganzas are out of scale with people and people's needs although they replace the previously existing buildings because they are said to be more efficient.

Is efficiency a desirable element when our environment is being ravaged and devastated?

Ancient buildings may require great care and attention that a modern building may not, but the standard of building in our office blocks, high-rise blocks of flats and such structures is often low and with the use of pre-stressed concrete and all its

inherent problems we are indeed creating great difficulties for future generations.

Not only are they being denied the pleasure of the old buildings once there, but demolition will prove extremely difficult when these modern buildings become redundant



as they inevitably will. Surely it is better to adapt existing structures to our requirements.

‘It is indeed almost beyond credibility that Gloucester once closely resembled York, as a medieval city.’

Complete city and town centres, once possessing charm and great visual interest, have been disfigured by the 'need' for huge chain stores, multi-storey car parks, wide roads, and many other such supposed necessities. One can not deny that often old areas of a city or town do, through disuse, become decrepit and and derelict but invariably to renovate and rejuvenate such areas to serve new purposes can be achieved at much less cost than rebuilding.

We only have to walk round cities such as York and Chester and then around Gloucester and Exeter to appreciate the difference in appearance. It is indeed almost beyond credibility that Gloucester once closely resembled York, as a medieval city.

Great country houses and estates, with their beautiful gardens and grounds, have been literally wiped off the map because they were difficult to find a use for, or difficult to maintain in a good condition. If buildings can not yield a profit or serve a purpose they are discarded. It is surely time that their architectural value and their visual contribution to the landscape were appreciated. Should disuse lead to demolition?

The modern world is far too often a world that rejects things that have temporarily lost their use when they could easily be reabsorbed to accommodate a new function. The value of an enjoyable environment, in which people can find satisfaction and contentment, must be placed above the striving for materialistic gains on which our whole society is founded.

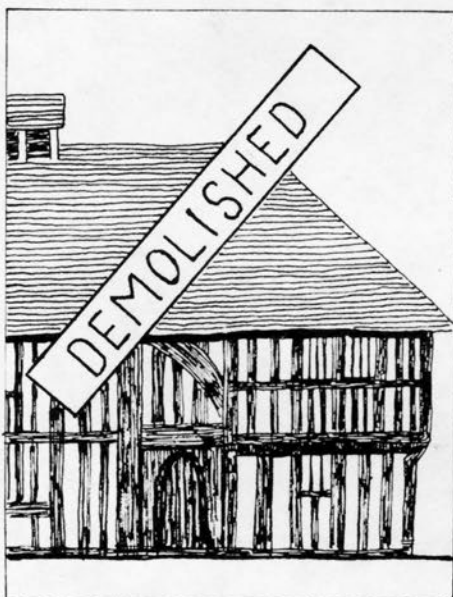
However, the maintenance of aged buildings is expensive as there are numerous problems to be combatted. The complex difficulties caused by such problems as erosion, decay, and instability are often caused by environmental difficulties that we should be striving to correct, such as noise and atmospheric pollution.

Intricately detailed facades are eaten into and their delicate elaborations are lost due to the bad erosion. Stone has to be replaced and frequently eroded parts recut as is taking place in Canterbury Cathedral Cloisters this year. This is, however, an incredibly expensive operation.

Noise pollution often shakes the very foundations of the buildings invariably causing cracking and other such structural problems difficult and expensive to correct. Repair operations must be under-

taken, however, despite their cost, and often there is very little time in which to act especially when such enemies of buildings are involved as dry rot, wet rot, death watch beetle and the many other such destructive structural diseases. We do not want to experience such happenings as are occurring in Italy where the economic situation is so bad that they can not afford to preserve many of their architectural wonders and such treasures as the previously well preserved city of Pompeii are being irreparably ruined. Pompeii has been engulfed by weeds, eroded severely by the action of the weather, and partially destroyed by tourists due to the lack of any supervision at the site. The weeds and weather have ruined many of the murals, and many tourists ravage the remains because they feel the need to remove some of the stone to their homes as souvenirs.

One can foresee this situation occurring in this country if the economic situation worsens and the



government finds it necessary to inflict further cuts on public expenditure.

It can not, however, be denied that as an ever expanding society, we must have a certain number of new buildings. For far too long now buildings have been designed with almost no thought as to how it will compare visually with its surrounds.

An office block may, in its preliminary stages, appear to be an outstanding design but when finally



built looks completely and utterly out of place.

Another two disasters, even more tragic in some ways because they are so unnecessary affect many buildings of value — these are (i) badly undertaken renovation and (ii) inconsiderate alterations. Incorrect and inaccurate renovation is far worse than no renovation at all and unsympathetic alterations involving the ripping out of walls and such things does irreparable harm, as can easily be observed when entering many once beautiful churches that the Victorians renovated. Although the Victorians did themselves build many churches of great architectural interest, they ruined many ancient ones.

“We must create a “human” environment.”

There must be an attempt to design with reference to buildings’ visual relationships to one another. There must be interconnecting and similar themes on nearby buildings creating perhaps in addition a certain amount of contrast but essentially an inter-relationship and a visual harmony.

In this respect we must create a ‘human’ environment. Far too many vast spaces and expanses of concrete are constructed when the feeling should be one of intimacy with small squares conducive to discussion and friendly-sized streets where the

pedestrians and road traffic can co-exist in comfort in a combination of old and new.

There will inevitably be many buildings of value lost through demolition despite the valuable work of the National Trust, Department of the Environment, and the many other organisations who attempt to preserve our architectural heritage. These losses will be prompted by supposed necessity and they must be replaced by suitably well designed modern buildings. Far too frequently those old properties remaining are dwarfed by huge, gigantic structures.

However, we can not judge what will, in the future, be thought of our architectural creations — as Sir John Betjeman says, “It is impossible to judge the present — we are of it!” Undoubtedly, there are good modern buildings that heighten the quality of our environment and enhance surrounding aged structures but they form a minority.

We must strive to conserve all buildings of interest even though they may demand renovation and, in consequence, large amounts of money. To replace them would cost more and even when demolition is carried out the modern building taking the previous buildings place must add to a visual harmony rather than detract from it.

As trustees of this country’s architectural heritage we must ensure that it remains for future generations. It is surely not our place to deny them either their heritage or a pleasant, livable environment.

Basil Comely L6R



Welsh Slate

Hack-hewn from your strata,
Multi-facet and displaced,
Some crystalline cheddar
For your Welsh hewers;
Under the hill.

Your dulled sides have felt
The fleshy enemy.
The fleshy enemy
Cut you dead
So that they might not.

Your dead eyes have seen
Blackened ancestors,
Bloodied and rasping,
Fall to you;
So that you might fall to them.

Graeme Bowers U6R

Requiem for a worn out frame

She lay silent moored to the buoys,
Paintwork once so elegant.
Even in wartime camouflage,
Now flaking and rustily patchy.

The great heart that once pulsed so heartily,
The chief engineer's pride and joy,
Mute, never again to drive her,
At top speed, greyhound-like through
the water.

The twin guns on which so many men served,
And at serving which some died,
Were now canvas shrouded, voices stilled.

Leslie Pegler 3T

From "We cannot choose"

Ticking.
Ticking.
Perpetual clicking.
Time passing by which no-one can stop,
Flowing in a current of a single drop.
We're drowning
We're doomed,
We are bound to lose,
Because time is against us
So we can't choose.

David Green 4S

Simple Song

You know it's
Very hard
To write
A simple song
That'll roll along
Until you know
That you have
Written down
Exactly how it is
Or maybe how it was
And was it real
Or was it
Right or Wrong
Good or Bad
And all the good times
That you had
Was it worth the pain?
Would you try again?
Or would it make you feel
Too sad
To carry on
With your simple song?

Gareth Cox L6S

FILMS

Michael
Sergeant



Reed takes on Hazel, with Richard (remember the Beatles?) Starkey as the Pope. The motorcycle stunts were arranged by Jack ("Hector's House") Scruby, and add a touch of class to this follow-up to "Warren Peace".

TUESDAY

The Whip

Redford and Newman continue their partnership, this time as Princess Anne and Mark Phillips. Filmed entirely on location at Burghley, with revamped Glen Miller tunes as backing. The "rubbing down" sequence is as good as anything Mellini did. Can't wait to see Redford and Newman as Henry VIII and Wolsey.

WEDNESDAY

When the Cat's Away

Another enigmatic title for the latest James Bond classic, which, of course, doesn't have any bearing on the action. As down-to-earth and commonplace as ever, this latest James Bond classic has only forty-eight high speed mid-air collisions. (Someone must be cutting Warner Bros' budget.) Found Robert Dougal a superb successor to Connery and Bond as 007.

SATURDAY

Gigantic Holocaust

Stuart ("Piledriver") McHouston's vivid screenplay, faithful to John ("Savage Sunday") Newson's blockbuster bestseller about gigantic, worldwide carnage is as wonderfully tense and superb as anything Mellini did. A 747 packed with orphans ploughs into a four billion ton supertanker, which pollutes the coast of Africa, smashes into Manhattan in the rushhour and sets fire to the whole of New York. Sobering to think it could happen here.

Steaming Tarmac

Mell Glook's hilarious new spoof of the roadmender's life. Stan ("Gravel") Perkins excels in his best role yet, and the hot brazier sequence is as good as anything Mellini did. Penetratingly lensed by Waldo ("Limestone Block") McFee

SUNDAY

Kung Fu Fury

The latest Disney offering, just in time for Easter. Colourfully brutal as ever, with a magical bloodbath sequence, this is better than anything Mellini did. Could have been dubbed better though, there are some parts where the soundtrack fits the lip movements. Still, a good oater.

MONDAY

Watership Down

Ken Russell ventures into bunnyland with an all-star cast. Oliver

FRIDAY

Clap-trap

Superb "Butch" McGuinness take-off of pseudo-critical film buffs who don't know what they're talking about. Beautifully lensed by Waldo ("Granite Chip") McPhee, the namedropping sequence is as good as anything Mellini ("Porcupine") or Sam ("Half-past-one at the Ritz") Simmons ever did. Reminiscent of Tim ("Lady Killer") Hutchins...or was it Rick ("Telegraph") Walters?... Jock P. Stringe?...



Feeling very Europe-conscious, we decided to talk with the school's two language assistants, and find out what they think about England.

Wilfried Posch comes from Innsbruck in Austria, and the year he spent at Rich's was his first visit to England. He clearly remembers his first impression of England as he landed from the cross-channel ferry at Dover: relief at having arrived at last after feeling very seasick on a long stormy crossing!

For Marguerite Bonneau, it wasn't her first visit to England — but it was the first time she'd brought her car. She says there are more motorways in England than in France, the narrow, winding roads are narrower and more winding over here — and it was her first encounter with the English phenomenon of roundabouts. Marguerite comes from Nantes in the Loire valley, a city almost three times as big as Gloucester. On her previous visits to England, she'd stayed mostly in London, so Gloucester made a pleasant change from the Big City: you only get to know the real England outside the capital, she feels.

Both of them are glad they got appointed to Rich's, and agree that school seems to play a larger part in the lives of those involved with it here than it does on the continent. Marguerite says pupils work much harder in France (they start at eight in the morning and don't finish until five) but the English system has the advantage that people don't feel so worn out at the end of the day that they have to rush home straight away. The only after-school activity in Austria, according to Wilfried, is detention "which is international". Marguerite thinks a lot is demanded of English teachers — teaching one or more subjects, supervision, and sport. They agree there is a much greater feeling of belonging at Rich's than at schools they knew on the continent: Wilfried says he has become more attached to this school in one year than he did to his grammar school in Austria in eight years.

There are three things people on the continent think of when they talk about England: rain, tea and queuing. This stereotyped image, they feel, is perfectly true. The English, they've found, really are more polite and easy-going. German people

regard life as working, says Wilfried, but the English tend to regard it as something to enjoy. Perhaps this explains why the English are so fond of their weekends. The idea of the weekend still hasn't really caught on on the continent. And the English stay at home more and watch more television (this is partly because there is more broadcast, and the programmes are better, than in France and Austria).

Marguerite and Wilfried were both fairly familiar with English television programmes already, because many BBC and IBA programmes are shown on the continent. Such typically English serials as the Avengers, the Forsyte Saga and the Onedin Line are very popular abroad. Wilfried feels that people really are interested in the English way of life (or way of life in the past). It's significant that very few French, German or Austrian programmes are shown in England — the English aren't particularly interested in their fellow Europeans. On the continent, we regard England as a part of Europe, they say: you, however, don't. There is something left of the old spirit of splendid isolation, says Wilfried: the English prefer to be their own masters. Opposition to the common market in England, they agree, is more emotional than economic.

The French, according to Marguerite, get just as worked up about politics as the English, though the Austrians are more sober. Both feel that their system of having a president rather than a monarch is fairer and more democratic. But Marguerite points out that, though the French prefer not to have a monarch, they eagerly read the scandals that the French press invent about the British royal family. Wilfried says that when the Queen visited Innsbruck, she attracted far larger crowds than a similar visit from a politically far more important figure, like President Ford, would. Wilfried's mother was coming over to England the week after we spoke with him, and the first thing she wanted to see was the Queen.

A subject of vital importance is food, both Marguerite and Wilfried, predictably, dislike English food: they object to the monotony of having meat-potatoes-and-gravy every day. But they are most impressed by the huge range of confectionary, biscuits, cakes and pastries available in England. And Marguerite is glad the English are beginning to drink more wine. Both love English tea, hate English instant coffee.

The ultimate question: would they like to live here permanently? Yes, if I could find a good job, says Wilfried: "I never felt sorry about coming here." Marguerite is thinking of visiting England again in a few months' time. Will she come and live here? "I'll tell you next year."



N. Harris
'53

Letter from university

The Sunday papers would have us believe that all our universities are composed of several thousand idle socialists who spend our money on cigarettes and beer, their time in bed (with any number) and their weekends in wrecking the vice-chancellor's study or going to the local demo. I think we can discount that view immediately.

My first impression of Nottingham was that even on the first day it was alive, throbbing with energy. First of all, there is simply so much to do or go to – there is a society catering for every kind of need or interest, every kind of entertainment is available; I emerged physically, financially and mentally exhausted after my first week. But a university is composed of people, and I know that never again in your life can you come into contact with such a microcosm of humanity in such an

‘I’ve even chatted with an
Epi-phenomenologist’

intensive atmosphere. If you do have a desire to meet people, then at university the sky's the limit – become a student and see the world. I've met students from every kind of background, from different countries, of every kind of religion or philosophy (I've even chatted with an Epi-phenomenologist) and with every kind of interest and character. The experience which can be gained at university is infinite, but I don't want this message to appear to be too cold and calculating, which is a point I'll come onto later.

These fundamental aspects may seem to you to be pretty obvious looking at them objectively, but I have found that the majority of students fail to recognise their existence or make much of them when in the midst of them.

What has particularly struck me is the fact that most students don't really know why they came here or what they are doing here. At school, university seems the next and final step in your education if you are clever enough to get in, but then when they are here many people suddenly realise that friends back home are already earning £50 per week, and that a

degree won't be a real guarantee of a better job anyway. “Perhaps I would have done better to have got a job and learnt about life in general, instead of hiding myself away from the world doing a very specialised course.” University can seem pretty pointless if you regard it like that.

I would agree that we all come to university to receive education, but usually in a much wider sense, not a concept that is limited to inside the Department. This leads me on to one of my general themes, a feeling about life today which has been growing stronger through experience at Nottingham. There is a dangerous tendency to see life rather like a glorified chest-of-drawers. We receive Education in the classroom or lecture-theatre, and we receive Experience by going away on our own for a year. At University there is also a sense in which we only have Fun when the bar's open, and that we only receive Learning from each other and Friendship with each other through intellectual discussion. Let me give an example. One night I was drinking coffee with five or six of the lads in my block, and I was saying that after two terms it was ridiculous that I still didn't know any of them nor could I count

‘A lack of communication, usually
drowned by the stereo’

any of them as real friends, basically because of a lack of communication, usually drowned by the stereo. The immediate reaction was, “Okay let's have a discussion; what do you think of Abortion/Education/Socialism/Man's Future/ the Third World? I believe . . .” And so for the next two hours we acted out “having a discussion”, which was only useful as an intellectual exercise, devoid of any real meaning. At the end I knew that Chris believed that man has been indoctrinated with capitalism through education, but I still didn't know Chris as a person – merely as a vehicle for an idea I could have read in any book.

I said earlier that this chest-of-drawers attitude is dangerous, for it completely devalues the everyday things in life, and makes much of what is simple and ordinary, meaningless.

Meeting people deteriorates into the attitude of a friend who once said, "I will only speak to people if I feel they can teach me something." Meals are no longer occasions when we can all meet together for a chat but are merely regular opportunities for the intake of energy to keep us moving; and "mere" staying alive, or rather times when you are not absorbing Education, Fun, Learning, Experience, means nothing — or, as a friend once said, "reality's boring." Cynicism is the dominating characteristic in many students.

The many students I have met and talked with have convinced me that we are all gradually losing the ability to relate to one another, or what I, as a Christian, call sharing. By sharing,

“The main problem at universities is loneliness”

I don't mean lending each other money or records, or buying pints of beer for each other—it's rather revealing yourself as a person, with all your problems, desires, weaknesses, strengths, frustrations and memories, and receiving likewise from the person to whom you're talking. It has become very apparent that the main problem at universities is loneliness — I once heard a story of a desk-top which had scrawled on it, "why am I so lonely when there are 2000 people here?" If you do go to university, you are very likely to experience at some time this deep inner loneliness, which does not arise from a lack of contact, but a lack of sharing.

This problem is one of looking at a human being and seeing there a certain amount of knowledge of varying kinds or certain useful contacts. This does happen at university, and we should prevent its emergence at schools, but it's an idea which is gradually taking a firmer hold there, even at Rich's. While I was there, the audio-visual processes of learning came into their own, which no doubt will slowly evolve into the language labs, where the imperfect person of the master is replaced by the cold efficiency of the machine, regarding a pupil as an empty space to be filled by knowledge. I don't want a generation to grow up who can speak French as perfectly as a com-

puterised Frenchman, but have no idea how to establish human relationships, how to relate to one another. When I look back, I know my most valuable and enjoyable lessons were those in which the real personality of the master, with all his prejudices, feelings and unique characteristics, overshadowed the subject he was teaching. Moreover, my most enjoyable years were those in which I came to know the staff as people, not as teachers.

As I have said before, this same cynical and one-way attitude towards people is well-established at University, and every student encounters it, whether he realises it or not. You may well be lucky, and find yourself very quickly in a small clique where opportunities for sharing are very good, or you may find yourself in a small Hall, as I am, where the pressure of conformity is very strong and small cliques just do not exist. You would be surprised at the extent to which some people in my Hall "act" nearly all the time from a fear of being different.

It may seem that I'm being hypocritical here. After all, at the beginning I said that the diversity and variety of students and their life

“Talking to people must be more than superficial”

presented great opportunities for learning and experience, but I want to stress that talking to people must be more than superficial if a very cold, selfish cynicism is not going to arise. I also feel that you will both benefit more in a less intellectual sense if you do get more deeply involved with someone, sharing each other's problems. The search for the inner self, or for truth, which so many students are after, can be found right on their own doorstep, if they would only look down.

One final word of advice: if you ever do get the feeling that you have not made any real, lasting friendships, that people are only interested in you for their own ends, and do not want to be burdened by your real problems, try finding out what makes your Christian friends tick or go to one of their meetings. You won't regret it.

Andrew Dalton

Sport



Rugby

First XV

Played 14 — Won 12 — Lost 2 —
Points for 225 Points against 100

It is evident from this record that a very successful season was enjoyed by the First XV. This was achieved by dedication and the devoted attitude of its captain Chris Carter. Without 'Froggy' to weld the side into a unit, it would have been, as so many other potentially excellent school sides have been, moderate to good, but not brilliant. This school has had many talented rugby players but many fail to give their best to the school sides because the whole team is not integrated, properly trained and well captained. This

year we were fortunate to have such a good captain as Chris. The County U19 group also recognised his ability by choosing him to captain Gloucestershire. This year's First XV played together for one another not as individuals. Success was based on the team spirit which Chris helped to create. It is difficult to praise individuals above the rest. The whole team had plenty of ability and enthusiasm. Therefore it is better to mention games in which the team played its best.

The game against Marling was the one in which the backs found self-confidence. They used their full

repertoire of moves which had previously only come off in practice. Now they reaped tangible rewards in the match situation. The marvellous 'Double Dummy' move with which Nigel Carter scored a magnificent try was executed with speed and precision, leaving the opposition staring in disbelief, we couldn't believe it either. If our pack had only reached their sublime standard this would have been a massacre.

The two best elements of a very experienced pack were the scrummaging and the loose play of the back row. In the Royal Agricultural College game, their whole front row of hefty farmers was lifted off the ground repeatedly. One joker on the line told the now docile, well-tamed RAC pack that they needed a visit to the AI man to put some sp... nerve back in them. This match looked like becoming a farce when a certain fly half who shall be nameless told one of the opposition to 'go chew a wurzel'.

Probably the best overall performance occurred in two twenty-minute spells in the game against Cheltenham Grammar. Only two breathtaking tries by one of their ex-county wing forwards made the scoreline look respectable and not the massacre it was.

The two games we lost are worthy of a mention. In the Bishop Wordsworth game due to a mechanical breakdown only twelve of the original team got to Salisbury. Chris Carter who was recovering from an injury was kitted out and played for fifteen minutes until he got concussed and was taken to hospital. Later in the second half one of our spectators found some kit and made his debut. Such was the strength and determination of our mini pack that we could consistently win the ball against the head whilst conceding at least four stones per man. It was no surprise that we lost only by twelve points to twenty-four though.

The other game which was lost was

Swimming

After a slow start to the year the Swimming Club had a large influx of first formers who have given it enthusiastic support. So far this year the club has had two galas and was undefeated in both. The first of these victories, against Saintbridge, was a particularly good one as they had beaten us the previous year. The scoring in that fixture was: School 101 points, Saintbridge 93. In the away fixture at Brockworth the school won by 111 points to 91. This victory is also note-worthy — mostly because the team was weakened by absentees on the day.

Since these galas there has been a high regular attendance to the morning training sessions which take place every Wednesday and Friday at 8.00 a.m. There has been a marked improvement in the standard of swimming since the beginning of the year. Return fixtures against Brockworth and Saintbridge will have already been played by the time this is published. I would like to thank all members for their enthusiasm and hope that the success they deserve will come their way.
Vincent Bloye-Higgins U6S

Lifesaving

The Lifesaving Club had a successful period during the Summer Term of 1974. Our best achievement came when we entered two teams for the Delapena Open Water Competition at Ullenwood Manor, hoping to improve on 1973's last place.

The Competition took the form of a staged incident in a lake, and the eleven teams competing received marks for their speed, success and general approach in tackling the incident.

The School "A" Team won the schools' section to gain a shield and were runners up overall to the Police Team. The team consisted of P.D. Parker, P.J. Taylor, P.R. Everson and V.J. Bloye-Higgins. The "B" Team also did well and came third in the school's section and sixth overall.

In the National Schools and Individual Lifesaving championships, Roberts and Stephens were runners up in the schools' section and went on to represent Gloucestershire at the National Quarter Qualifier at Neath. In the individual P.D. Parker came third, P.R. Everson seventh and V.J. Bloye-Higgins ninth.

The Club continues to take examinations and at the end of 1974 boys had gained 47 awards, 25 of which were Bronze Medallion or higher and including 3 teachers' certificates.

This report cannot be concluded without some mention of P.D. Parker who served the Club throughout his school career. We thank him for all his years of work and service to the Club.

Ross Everson U6R

against St. Brendans. Every member of the Rich's side played above himself. 300% effort was the order of the day. At one stage the fists started flying, both packs stood and fought for three or four minutes. Thus St. Brendans were reminded that they were playing a Rich's side brought up in the old tradition.

Wally Champion

Regular team members

A.C. Poulton
J.W. Thompson
G.C. Sanchez
D.T. Woodward
S.T. Finch
D.B. Cameron
C.D.A. Carter
N.J. Carter
M.C. Jones
G.W.J. Beamish
D. Jones
P.R. Everson

P.J. Brown
A. Lawrence
G.S. Poole
P.P. Montanaro
R.W. Champion

Occasional members

H.K.G. Harris
P.G. Craddock
R.J. Short (injured)
A.M. Jones
J. Barnes (injured)
P.J. Gorman
C.A. Smith

Second XV

Played 6 — Won 4 — Drawn 0 —
Lost 2 Points for 109 Points
against 60

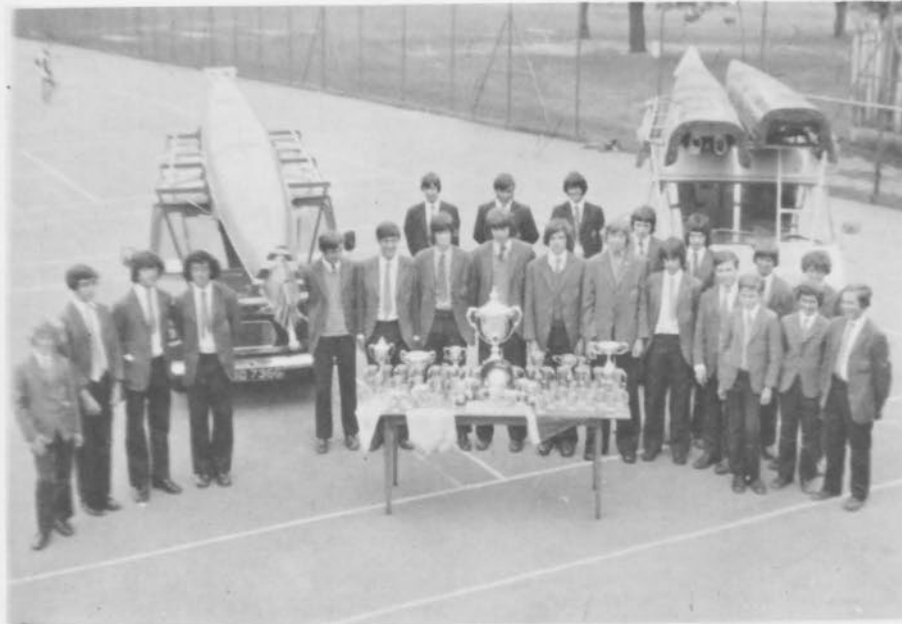
The Second Fifteen, under the inspiring captaincy of Ian Simmons, had a fine season, which opened with an easy win against Culverhay (48-0).

This was followed by hard-earned victories over QEH (26-4), Beachencliff (16-4) and Cheltenham Grammar (15-4). Against Marling the team played well and were unlucky to lose by the narrow margin of six points to four.

Unfortunately towards the end of the season changes were forced upon the team due to injuries and players' being called upon to play for the Firsts. This was reflected in the last match of the season when we were well beaten by St. Brendans.

Of the many fifth formers who played for the side, three deserve special mention for their sustained effort throughout the season: Peter Craddock and Malcolm Turner of the front row and John Mellon at number eight.

Rowing



Following its tremendous successes of the late 1960's the Rowing Club has struggled through lean periods of late.

To the credit of all involved, perseverance has paid off, and the season 1974-75 has seen a breakthrough again in terms of enthusiasm, membership and most important of all, racing results.

The main lesson learned has been that one cannot forever rest on the laurels earned by predecessors and that the only way to any future success is to realise that it has to be earned in terms of hard work, careful thought and complete dedication.

The composite experiment of last season could be retrospectively analysed as a form of escapism from the stark reality that we had in 1974 very few oarsmen of any calibre.

To correct this deficiency, new novice blood was injected into the club in September, together with an immediate promotion of all fourth-formers into the senior training squad.

Very basic technique work was the backbone of the Autumn term following a brief flirtation with the Boston Marathon and the Norris Cup, strengthened in the background by the day by day grind of weight-training and running.

Immediate results were not obvious, but it became clear by the beginning of the Spring "Head" season that great latent ability was present.

Success in local competitions was for the first time completely ignored and a self-confidence building pro-



gramme instigated by entering the most senior events we could find, being beaten out of sight by the best in the country and then sitting back and analysing our faults.

To the credit of all members, especially a greatly matured fourth-form squad, the willingness to accept self-criticism was forever present, and with this obvious, the sky was the limit.

At this point in training and competition, every so often things would "click" and very surprising results emerged. The fourth over-all at Exeter and the fastest Novice crew in the Reading Head were peaks in the weekly waves of the microcycle. The necessary, expected troughs accompanying were the results in the Schools and Tideway Heads.

The overall upward slope of the performance graph continued however, and one felt that should the temptation to lower one's standards of competition be followed, immediate results could be obtained.

Following the Spring effort peak in the microcycle, an Easter period of hard but relaxing work in sculling boats provided the trough, and the

build-up to the Summer peak ensued.

Already at this time we had in mind the fact that some seniors would be leaving at the end of the summer, and their replacements in the 5th form novices were well and truly blooded by giving them the same competition as their seniors.

At the lower end, third formers had completed their basic sculling watermanship period and were slowly being introduced to racing boats.

Interval training at times on the canal approached suicidal levels as first year coxes were introduced and put through their first hair-raising experiences.

It is said by all serious athletes that, compared with their training programmes, actual competition is relatively simple and short-lived. This we found in our first events when both first and second crews reached their final at Evesham. The Peak/trough progression continued with 3ft losses to eventual winners at Wallingford and in the Junior Ball Cup, while in a borrowed boat at Gloucester we sought out and destroyed the Crypt 4th form myth by

a complicated path through the repechage system, going on to comfortably win the event.

As a final fling before examinations, the senior crew took the Ball Cup, at which time the report goes to press.

Thus School Rowing has turned the corner and with plans for the future already put into operation, we seem well on the way to old glories.

All members would do well to continually bear in mind however that the moment they stop to bask in the sunshine, the danger begins. It is heartening to think that at the time that this report is being written, the senior crew is on the canal in a training boat attempting to eradicate faults that made them 3 metres slower than their opposition over a 1000 metre course.

The Club thanks Julian Popple, David Carr, Roland Whitney, Steve Mace and Mark Ashman for their loyalty over the years, and wishes them well.

G.H.M. W.R.S.

School Crews

	1st	2nd
Bow	D. Carr	R. Chappell
2	J. Popple	P. Jackson
3	R. Whitney	H. Price
Stoke	G. Barber	M. Bennett
Cox	P. Alington	P. Green
	3rd	
	S. Mace	
	N. Harris	
	G. Gambling	
	M. Ashman	
	A. Mowbray	
	T. Alington	

Cross Country

This season's senior team was made up of a number of individual and committed runners who for school fixtures, effectively joined forces to work together as one strong team. The enthusiasm and success of such outstanding figures as M. Salter, R. Barselotti, M. Evans, B. Noonan and N. Gaunt is undoubtedly due, in some degree, to the example and inspiration of Basil Martynuik, who, in a period of just one year succeeded in rising from lethargic obscurity to the rank of national class athlete.

Our hopes and expectations for this year's season, with the promise of such a team as this, were very high and indeed were soon realised in our first major event of the year, Cardiff's Cantonian relays. We were outright winners in all three age-groups and came very close to defeating and embarrassing a guest-team from the formidable Cardiff A.C.

As is usual, we were again forced to look far afield in order to locate realistic competition for our teams. Our most important successes for both 'A' and 'B' teams were recorded against St. Brendan's, Birmingham V Ways, Marling, Beechep Cliff and S.T.R.S. Old Boys; although we lost narrowly to our rivals, A.A.C. Beachley and King Henry VIII of Coventry, B. Martynuik was the individual winner of all three races concerned.

Unfortunately, because of illness and problems of personal loyalty among team members with the local athletic club, two major relay events had to be abandoned. Later in the season, Martynuik, suffering from recurrent bronchitis was forced to hang up his shoes, although only temporarily. Nevertheless, unprecedented successes in relay races have been achieved at A.A.C. Beachley (5th) Cardiff (1st) St. Brendan's (7th) and Whitefriars' School (1st) where there were creditable performances by Martynuik, Salter and Evans. We also owe much to the consistency of D. Macmanus, an outstanding member of the intermediate team, who helped us out on several occasions.

In District, County and National School trials the success rate was again unusually high with several runners obtaining good placings in the National Championships.

The season ended with House Cross Country in which the winning order was Westgate (36 pts), Eastgate (40 pts), Northgate (56 pts) and Southgate (87 pts).

With the promise of an even stronger senior squad we are again confident that our hopes and expectations for next year's season will be realised, if not, indeed exceeded.

Other results

1973-74

- U13 beat Whitefriars 22-99
- U12 beat Marling 31-52
- U13 beat Marling 19-38
- U12 beat Cheltenham Grammar and King Edwards, Stourbridge 27-65-127
- U13 beat Cheltenham Grammar and King Edwards, Stourbridge 15-18-25

1974-75

- U13 beat Marling 30-53
- U13 B beat Marling B 119-153
- U15 beat Marling 21-89 (B team 88)
- U13 beat Cheltenham Grammar 29-82 (B team 72)
- U15 beat Cheltenham Grammar 16-62 (B team 59)

Captain: Basil Martynuik

Secretary: Paul Govan

Junior Cross Country

The Junior Cross Country club has been thriving once again, being unbeaten in both of the North Gloucestershire leagues, the representation of the county Championships was kept high and the Cantonian and Whitefriars relays were won.

In the North Gloucestershire League the Under 13 team won all four races from 16 other teams, the 'B' team were a creditable 4th, 'C' team 10th and 'D' team 12th.

The Under 15 team also won the four races beating 8 teams, the 'B' team were 4th and 'C' team 7th. The best individual performances overall were Howells (3rd) and Fletcher (5th) in the U.13 and



Salter (2nd), Evans (4th) and Gaunt (5th) in the U.15.

These teams were presented with the trophy and medals.

In the City Trials Bryans, Yeatman, Price D., Etheridge, Williams A., Baldwin, Morgan, Salter and Heath qualified for the County Championships at Fairford in the minors. Of these Yeatman (6th), Bryans (7th) and Baldwin (8th) fared best.

In the Juniors - Macmanus, Baker, Nichols, Howells, Wikenden, Clegg and Bennett J., represented Gloucester, Nichols (7th) and Baker (13th) were selected for the County Squad.

Martynuik, Salter, Barselotti, Gaunt, Evans, Dix and Noonan represented the Intermediates: Martynuik was 3rd and Barselotti 13th, these were selected for the County Squad. Martynuik ran in the South West and National Championships.

In the Whitefriars Road Relay we had two successful teams: the U.14 team (Howells, Price, Bennett G., Baldwin) won the bronze with the 'B' team 7th.

The U.17 team (Barselotti, M. Evans, Salter, Martynuik) won the Whitefriars plate and gold medals with the 'B' team in 5th. Martynuik set a new course record of 10 mins. 53 secs.

So far this season our two teams have won the Cantonian Relays, two fixtures and have provided the bulk of the City teams.

The Junior team (Price, Yeatman, Bryans, Baldwin) won gold medals with the 'B' team (Baker, Mays, Gardiner, Heath) in 5th.

The Intermediates (Nichols, Green, Weston, Macmanus) won the gold medals also.

In the district trials Baker, Gardiner, Townley, Watson, Bond, Smith J., Weston and Bennett qualified in the Minors.

Price, Fletcher, Howells, Baldwin and Yeatman qualified for the Juniors and Macmanus, Salter, Evans, Gaunt, Dix, Nichols, Rose, Weston, and Green in the Intermediates.

If there is anyone who has survived that struggle through the lists of successes they must realise that it is not achieved as easily as it might seem and credit is due to every runner and especially Mr. Bates for making our success so beautifully monotonous.

David Green 4S



Volleyball

1974/75 proved to be yet another very successful season for the ever increasing Volleyball Club. The season began under the captaincy of M. C. Jones, who led the team to a tremendous victory over Denmark Road School. Due to other sporting commitments, the Volleyball Club was not able to play any more games for a short while. However, the LVI renewed the interest in the Volleyball Club, and entered a tournament at Beaufort School, under the inspiring captaincy of N. Carter, only to be narrowly defeated by arch-rivals Saintbridge in the semi-final, caused mainly by the loss of the agile skills of G. Poole.

David Woodward provided the wit and P. Montanaro the colour for the club. It is hoped that the 75/76 season will be as full as this one has been and that we shall enjoy many successes.

Croquet



The Chess Team this year entered two knock out competitions, the Sunday Times National Schools Knock Out and the Gloucester and District Schools Knock Out. After a convincing 6-0 win against George Ward School, Melksham in Round 1 of the former, we were knocked out on a technicality (after drawing 3-3) by Marling in Round 2. In the Gloucester and District schools knock out we have reached the final and success seems probable.

In Division 3 of the North Gloucestershire League we had our best season ever. After winning the Northern Section of the League, we were narrowly beaten (3½-2½) by Stroud in the Section winners play off for the Division 3 title. Therefore in effect we finished 2nd out of 13 teams with many other Senior Clubs, the Crypt School and Wycliffe College below us.

Summarising our results:

Played 16 Won 10 Drawn 3 Lost 3

Although the season has been very successful, the most encouraging aspect of it has been the vast improvement in our younger players, a good sign for coming years. It is hoped that next year we shall be able to run a second team to give match experience to younger players, especially first formers.

House Chess this year was fought out with a great competitive spirit and although Northgate won, all Houses should be congratulated on their interest and support shown

Achievements:

R.A. Hill has played for the County (Seniors) on two occasions and has won both games. G. Anthony (15) won the Major Tournament at a Chess Training Event in Bristol and is almost certainly the most promising Junior in the County.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. R.L. Fowler for his keen support and organisation and also Mr. L.C. Huddleston, our chauffeur to distant away matches.

Andrew Hill

People have some very odd ideas about croquet — perhaps as a result of too much Lewis Carroll. We don't play it with flamingoes, nor do we play the sort of croquet that used to be played on vicarage lawns on hot summer afternoons before tea, where you were allowed to cheat and get quite vicious. In fact, real croquet is a perfectly serious game in which players need to be skilled both in playing the shots and in working out the tactics. The combination of physical and mental skills involved makes it one of the most interesting of outdoor games.

The club at the moment is the largest it's ever been: many of the younger boys who joined last Easter are already quite good at the game. A grant from the Parents' Association, together with the revenue from membership fees, has enabled us to buy some new equipment, and we've also hired hoops, balls and mallets from the Croquet Association. We have two courts permanently marked out — and I should like to thank the groundsman for mowing them for us every week.

So this has been a season of expansion. As I write this, we're planning a club tournament and a visit to see the experts play at Cheltenham Croquet Club. In the future, we'd like to organise matches with other croquet-playing schools, and we hope that more and more people at Rich's will take up this fascinating game.

Robert Jones U6R



Chess

Athletics

Senior Captain: B. Martynuik

Junior Captain: D. MacManus

The season opened appropriately with the School Sports held in May. The fine weather provided ideal conditions for what turned out to be a keenly competitive and enjoyable afternoon and no less than five Junior and one Senior track records were broken. Eastgate and Westgate tied a very close House Competition.

From the School Sports results a Junior athletics team was selected to represent the school in a match against Saintbridge, Newent, Chosen Hill, Hucclecote and Cirencester Schools, and nineteen first places were gained in the ensuing events. Stephen Bond (1T) set new School records in the 1500 metres (5 min 12.6 s) and the 800 metres (2 min 34.8 s), whilst the Second Year relay team established a new record of 55.1 s for the 4 x 100m relay.

Spurred on by this success the same team entered the District Trials to select the team to represent Gloucester at the County Championships and nineteen boys were selected to represent the City. B. Martynuik set a new Senior School record in the 1500m of 4min 12.1 s (National Grade 1) whilst R. Baldwin (2R) set new records in both the 400m and 800m of 61.9 s and 2 min 23 s respectively. In the 1500m D. Price (2R) also set a new record of 5 min.

Training continued in préparation for the County Championships to be held in the Forest of Dean and several runners were rewarded by good personal performances, in particular, M. Cheesman (3S) who was second in the 100m final in 11.9 s and won the 200m final in 24.3 s, a new School and County record and within the National Qualifying Standard. B. Martynuik won the 5000m in 14 min 56 s whilst I. Fletcher (3T) won the 800m and set a new School record in the 400m of 58.0 s. M. Salter won the 1500m and I. Howells (3T), D. MacManus (4T), P. Collins (5R), D. Barber (63) and G. Poole (L6) were awarded County Certificates for finishing in the first three places in their event.

From these results, M. Cheesman, I. Howells, I. Fletcher, M. Salter and B. Martynuik were selected to represent Gloucestershire at the S.W. County Championships at Yeovil and the Midland Counties Event at Warley where, although the competition was stiffer, each runner equalled or bettered his personal best. From these performances, M. Cheesman and B. Martynuik have been selected to represent Gloucestershire at the All-England Track and Field Championships to be held in Durham.

Altogether, it has been a season in which the standard of track running, in particular, has improved, especially in the Junior part of the School. This in no small way reflects the commitment and dedication to regular training by those who have taken part; and without which, success never comes easily.

J.N.B.

Colours 1975

Junior: M. Cheesman, I. Fletcher, I. Howells,
D. MacManus, G. Winstanley, B. Nichols.
Senior: B. Martynuik, G. Poole, D. Barber.

New school records 1975

First Year

400 metres: J.S.B. Baker (1S) 64.0 s
800 metres: S. Bond (1T) 2 min 37.4 s
1500 metres: S. Bond (1T) 5 min 12.6 s
4 x 100 metres relay: W. Price (2T), A. Daymond (2S),
P. Davis (2S), M. Bryans (2S) 55.1 s

Second Year

400 metres: D. Price (2R) 61.9 s
800 metres: R.A. Baldwin (2R) 2 min 23.8 s
1500 metres: D. Price (2R) 5 min 0.4 s

Third Year

200 metres: M. Cheesman (3S) 24.3 s
400 metres: I. Fletcher (3T) 58.0 s
800 metres: I. Fletcher (3T) 2 min 13.8 s
1500 metres: I. Howells (3T) 4 min 40 s

Open

1500 metres: B. Martynuik (L6R) 4 min 12.1 s
5000 metres: B. Martynuik (L6R) 14 min 46 s

Cricket

First XI

Played 13 — Won 4 — Drawn 4 —
Lost 4 — Abandoned 1

After losing six members of last year's successful First XI, this year was concentrated mainly on rebuilding the side. The season was quite successful considering the inexperience of the team, with only three of last year's XI playing regularly.

The season began with an exciting draw at Prince Henry's, Evesham and with an 8-wicket victory against King's, Gloucester, the highlight of both these games being the medium-fast swing bowling of C. Rees.

The second victory of the season was achieved at Westwoods Grammar School, where, chasing 103, the school won with only minutes to spare thanks to quick scoring by Hill (46) and Rees (26 n.o.). The next two games produced draws at Cheltenham G.S. and against Newent. The batting failed against Rendcomb College when Poulton (30) was the main contributor to a total of 93, Rendcomb reaching 95 for 2.

After this thrashing, Whitecross, Lydney, were defeated by eight wickets and Tewkesbury by ten wickets. Poulton (70 n.o.) and Hill (52 n.o.) scored 125 to win in the largest First XI opening stand for many years. The biggest disappointment of the season came when, after bowling out Chosen Hill for 58 (Sergeant 4-25) the school were skittled out for 55.

Touring sides bring rain to Rich's! This year Aldridge Grammar School came to play an all day game, but only a handful of overs were possible before rain stopped all further play for the day.

The three final games of the season were all against tough opposition. Dean Close won by 8 wickets, despite stubborn batting by Poulton. The Richians won by 9 wickets, despite 40 from M. Jones and 31 from Poulton (Burns taking 6 wickets again — this time against us). Finally the team struggled to a wet draw at Crypt.

A.C. Poulton represented Gloucestershire in the U/19 XI.

1975 Season

At the time of writing there are still

four games to be played. The score so far is:

Played 8 — Won 0 — Lost 1 —
Drawn 7

The season so far has been characterised by a succession of drawn games although the team has shown such improvement recently that we confidently expect at least one victory by the end of the season. The first game at King's ended in a low scoring draw, neither side displaying sufficient capacity to win out. At Marling, the school batting first failed dismally, being put out for 76. However, tight fielding and fine bowling kept Marling pinned down, but eventually the lack of runs told, the game being lost by 2 wickets. In this match, a robust 25 from S. Staite gave the school total some degree of respectability. Against Westwoods, indifferent batting resulted in a rather frail total of 73, but a fine spell of bowling by M. Sergeant (6-22) reduced Westwoods to a paltry 49-9 at the

close. At Newent a synthetic pitch proved to be totally unsuited to run making and a very low scoring draw ensued. G. Parker made a resilient 32 runs here. Against Rendcomb the team at least fulfilled its potential compiling a total of 118-3 dec. (A. Poulton 46 n.o.). The Rendcomb reply was 53 for 7. Against Whitecross School, Lydney, chasing 105 to win, time ran out for the school when victory seemed certain at 90-6. 11 runs were required off the last over, but in the chase 2 wickets were lost and only 3 runs realised and the score stood at 95-8 at the close (A. Poulton 48 n.o.). Rather negative battling by Tewkesbury resulted in the school being left nearly 50 minutes to score 105 runs. Although the reply was a creditable 75-3 (M. Jones 35) a draw was inevitable. The game at Chosen Hill proved a very close contest. In reply to a declared total of 94-6 the school made 83-5.

Three players deserve special men-



tion for their efforts this year. J. Penry-Williams' wicket-keeping has improved vastly and in the last four games he has excelled with some seven stumpings while at the time conceding only five byes. M. Sergeant has developed into a fine fast medium paced bowler with the ability to make the ball lift viciously off the pitch to the detriment of many batsmen. Newcomer S. Preston is developing into a very fine off-spinner displaying remarkable control for his age.

Thanks to Mr. Tavener for his keen interest in the First XI this season.

Alistair Poulton

Second XI

In 1974, the team played four games in all, drawing three and losing one, though the results do the team injustice, for it was a keen side ably led by captain Ian Simmons.

The first game against Prince Henry's ended in a draw. Batting against a score of 107-9, with Staite and Parker both taking four wickets, the school finished at 96-8 with the same two scoring a fifty partnership.

Time was against us against both Westwoods and Cheltenham. Batting against a Westwoods score of 114, the school scored 112-9 with a fine innings from Short of 62 not out. The school scored 75 against Cheltenham (including Everson 27 not out) but Cheltenham scraped through with 46-9. The school lost the last game against a superior Dean Close side (due to illnesses) who scored 144-8. The school managed 90, losing on the last ball of the game, despite a fine innings from Sanchez, playing his first game for several years.

This season the second XI have had what might be termed a small fixture list having played only three games with one to play. Our record: Won 1 v Lydney, Drawn 1 v Marling and Lost 1 v Westwoods with Dean Close to play.

The first game at home to Marling was drawn. With 128 for 5 wickets they declared and but for fine batting performances from Parker (42 not out) and Bunce (24) we would not have limped to 81 for 8 at close of play.

Our second game was one in which our luck deserted us. Westwoods struggled to 79 all out with numerous fielding errors but Pegler bowled

well to take 6 wickets and Parker 3 wickets. Our batting was as bad as our fielding and with an hour to go we were 35 for 9 when Allen joined Craddock (wicket keeper extraordinary!!) and together they almost saved the day pushing the score to 66 before Craddock was out with 3 minutes of play left.

Our third game was our best performance. Having made 128 for 8 we declared with fine batting performances from Egan (50 not out), Bunce (21) and Everson, captain, a golden duck. Lydney could not have known what to expect as they struggled to 39 all out with Adkins bowling magnificently to take 7 wickets for 16 runs, ably assisted by Pegler (2 for 11 runs) and Stephens (1 for 8 runs). Finally our thanks go to Mr. Barrington for umpiring our games this season.

Gloucester Richians Cricket Club

Captain's Report: 1974 season.

Once again I am pleased to announce that the cricket club enjoyed yet another successful season in both league and friendly fixtures. The success of this season is most gratifying considering the 1973 season was the worst in the club's seven year history and therefore shows the club spirit — how everyone has got down to the job in hand in proving that last season's failure was only a minor lapse.

Statistically, the record shows that of 37 matches played 18 were won, 11 lost, 7 drawn, 1 abandoned and only 5 cancelled. In the league the club finished 4th in Division 4 with a total of 132 pts. and this position could have been even better except for an indifferent start and a slight lapse in the last fortnight of the league programme which probably cost the club the runners-up position. However, the highlight of the league was that the club's wicket-keeper Malcolm Gabb won the Ronson's Wicket Keeping Award — a victory that was achieved by a margin of 7 victims from his nearest rival.

In the annual match against the school, the old boys recorded one of their rare victories, mainly through the efforts of Burns's bowling and a fine opening partnership between Merrett and Hurcum.

This season also saw the club playing hosts for the first time to a visiting touring side from London and although the club lost, the game was thoroughly enjoyed by everybody and it seems that this game will now become a permanent fixture in the club's playing calendar.

On the performance side the club is now blessed with a number of fine batsmen and bowlers. A total of eight batsmen scored 250 runs or more with Trevor Hurcum in his customary position of leading run maker with 543 runs although Barry Hook had the best average at 29.1. During the season two more batting records were broken one of which was a 105 unfinished partnership between Hook and Gabb.

With the addition of Andy Burns (64 wickets) to help Jerry Base (74 wickets), the club was given a formidable opening attack which was well supported by Hurcum, Halford and Poulton.

In the field Gabb took a record number of victims although the fielding at times ranged from brilliant to mediocre, but this is a problem which the side has to put right itself.

Finally, as the club used 28 players during the season it seems that at long last it has got over the problem of having such a small playing squad to choose from.

UNDER 15 REPORT

This year the club entered an under 15 side which was very successful winning 7 out of their 8 matches finishing second to Cheltenham G.S. With the experience gained from these matches the school can look forward to a very fine side in the years to come. Barnes topped the batting average with 29.3 and Salter heading the bowling with 19 wickets at an average of 4.4. I must thank Andy Hill whose help as secretary and general organisation of the U.15 made a good impression on all the teams that we played.

	P.	W.	L.	Pts.
Cheltenham	8	8	0	16
Gloucester Richians	8	7	1	14
Kingsholm	8	6	2	12
Longlevens	8	4	4	8
Down Hatherley	8	3	5	6
Tewkesbury Acads.	7	3	4	6
Widden Old Boys	8	3	5	6
Frocester	7	1	6	2
Staverton	8	0	8	0

Angling



The club has had one of the most successful seasons for many years. The main activity has been a series of matches on the canal with points being awarded for the first five places. At first attendance was extremely good, reaching at one stage thirty-five; but as the colder weather came and boys became more and more disillusioned by poor fishing this levelled off to about twenty. By using a points system over a number of matches it was possible to reward consistency rather than an occasional big weight. The first six at the end of the season were: 1. S. Langley 20 pts; 2. N. Anderson 19 pts; 3. S. Long 16 pts; 4. I. Simmons 12 pts; 5. M. Hazard 9 pts; 6. A. Young 8 pts. A shield was awarded to S. Langley by the Head in May.

In October we had a trip in the school bus to Lechlade on the Thames. Most people managed to catch something which was an

excellent achievement considering many were fishing the Thames for the first time. "Nobby" Anderson really stole the honours though by landing a superb 4lb chub which he thought at first was a submerged tree stump! The club would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Spear for driving the bus and making the day so enjoyable.

In March we challenged the Crypt Angling Club to a competition on the canal. Unfortunately on a cold and windy day we were outclassed by an extremely experienced and competent Crypt side, the final result being, Crypt 57 pts, Rich's nil.

Finally the club would like to express its thanks to Ian Simmons, who left in January, for all the work he has done for the club and also for his generosity in donating the shield awarded for the "competition series"

Stewart Long U6T

Tennis



The 1974 season was, in terms of results, the most successful yet with the First VI being undefeated. There were several commendable results including wins over Marling and Dean Close. In 1974, there were fixtures for the first time with Wycliffe College and a team from Wotton L.T.C., both of which the school won 6-3. Also for the first time ever the First VI avoided defeat at Cheltenham College by obtaining a draw.

The regular players were Thompson, Pigott (Captain), Mellon, Booth, Dix and Bergman; Dalton and Dee also played.

The Junior VI were also unbeaten, playing very well to obtain wins over Cheltenham College and Dean Close.

In the Gloucestershire Schoolboys doubles competition Thompson and Pigott were unbeaten semi-finalists. In the Junior Section Mellon and Dix lost in three sets in the final to Clifton College and thus were runners-up in the country.

In the Senior Tennis Tournament Thompson beat Mellon, and was a deserving winner, handling the very difficult conditions superbly. The Junior Tennis Tournament was won by Mellon who beat Jodrell. Both Thompson and Mellon won their respective tournaments for the third time.

The present season has been equally successful, and perhaps even more so in the light of several new fixtures and consequent tougher

opposition. Although final results have been much closer than last year, determined play by the team, this year including Thompson (Captain), Mellon, Dix, Dwight, Jodrell, Montanaro and Pashley, earned the First VI well-deserved victories. Wins over Marling and Dean Close were once again recorded and a new fixture with Rendcomb College, Cirencester, provided a fairly easy 4-0 victory for the First VI. Especial attention, however, must be drawn to the defeat of Cheltenham College for the first time ever by a Rich's Senior team, 5-4.

The Junior VI have, unfortunately, only had to play in two matches this season which resulted in a win over Dean Close and a defeat by Cheltenham College. However, they are looking forward to their final fixture against Rendcomb College in July.

Once again both Senior and Junior first pairs have reached the semi-finals of the Gloucestershire Schoolboys Doubles Competition and hopes are high in both events.

With the prospect of a good match against Wycliffe College and an exciting finish to the School tennis tournament, the tennis season is by no means over. Tennis is gaining popularity in the school and I think that the recent high standard of play is here to remain for many years to come.

This year, Mellon was awarded colours.
John Mellon
Jim Thompson

Bowls

Because the number of people wanting to join the Bowls Club in the last few sessions has risen considerably, the membership of the Club has had to be limited to 80 boys from the fourth, fifth and sixth years.

In our annual game last season against the parents we only just lost in a well fought match.

Northgate won the House Bowls after a very closely fought game against Eastgate who came second. Southgate finished third and Westgate came last.

There is one Fixture in this season against the parents on June 28th.

Christopher Pegler U6T

Badminton

Captain: Andrew Hill Juniors: Mark Stephens
Secretary: John Sweet

The season proved successful in that the senior team went unbeaten, winning the County League cup again, but it was disappointing that several schools were unable to fulfil commitments, resulting in the number of games actually played being rather small. The highlight of the season perhaps was the convincing victory at Dean Close School. We will be losing the services and expertise of four of our senior players, Andy Hill, John Sweet, Rob Short and Chris Pegler next season, but Trevor Selby and and Geoff Parker will be back to lead a reconstructed Senior team.

The Juniors had a more interesting season, with some good close-fought matches particularly against Oxtalls School, who eventually beat us to it in the County Junior League. Mark Stephens and John Bunce had a very successful time, for as well as the high standards they set in school matches, they also won two Open Schools Tournaments. Chris Collins and Martin Brewster continue to improve and their thoughtful playing indicates a maturity which marks them out as first class players in the future. The third pair position was shared by Nick Hopson and David Glik, and Keith Franklin and Ashley Fuller. The latter pair improved throughout the season and should be a formidable combination next year.
F.H.

Bridge

Now two years old, the bridge club continues to flourish. The initial high membership has been maintained, and with an influx from the present fourth form this figure of 35 could rise much higher still. We have taken part in several events in the last year, not as many as was hoped for but there seems to be a lack of local competition. The highlight was the Daily Mail School's Cup, at Cheltenham.

A practice for that event took place in November and thanks to Mr. Burrow we were able to take three teams over for the duplicate competition. Our "A" team came second, the "B" team sixth and the "C" team eleventh out of 14 entrants. A very good effort. Yet for the actual event in January, we were only allowed one team, and with much tougher competition from Wales and the Midlands our original "A" team, consisting of P.J. Brown, C.G. Parker, R.M. Pragnell and S.D. Allen, only managed sixth place out of an entry of 15. Next year we hope to improve on this.

We have had a match against Cheltenham Grammar School, which we drew, and the proposed match against Cheltenham Ladies College had to be called off. We have also had two duplicate evenings, for pairs, at which both pairs of our "A" team recorded victories. There are many vastly improved members now in the club, and hence we can furnish a strong "B" team.

All in all then we have had another successful and interesting year, and thanks must go to all the hard work put in by our Captain Phil Brown and our treasurer Rob Pragnell, to make the club run so efficiently.

Stephen Allen - L6R

Old Richians

DEATHS

We regret to record the deaths of the following Old Richians:-

Mr. F.J. Freeman ("Freddie") at the age of 90. Mr. Freeman, prior to his retirement from the Staff, was Master in charge of the Physics Department, alternated as Senior Master, and was Housemaster of Eastgate. He is remembered for his long and loyal service (he taught from 1911 to 1948, except for a period of absence in the First World War), and his very strict discipline. On his retirement he was presented with a bicycle, on which he made his exit from the Hall.

Mr. Norman Shelley, retired headmaster of Churchdown School. Mr. Shelley was a vice-president of the Old Richians Association and one-time President. In his younger days Norman was a fine swimmer and led the Association swimming team at water-polo against the School in the School Galas held in the old Swimming Baths at Barton Street.

Mr. Sidney Walter Thurston at Newent at the age of 82. After leaving Rich's, Mr. Thurston was apprenticed in architecture with the late Mr. H.W. Dancy. After serving in the R.E.S. during the First World War, he married in 1919 and, in 1922, emigrated to Australia, where he farmed for several years before returning to his profession as architect. He served during the Second World War with the Royal Australian Engineers, reaching the rank of Major. After the war he became chief architect of the South Australian Housing Trust, where he was engaged in large building projects, including the new town of Elizabeth. With his wife, Doris, he returned in 1969 to live in Newent.

Mr. Claude Raymond Clift, aged 83, a former Association president.

Mr. Harold Clark, aged 56, an Old Richian.

and of a friend -

Mrs. Rose M. Dancy at the age of 90. Mrs. Dancy's whole life centred around charitable works in the City. The local associations for the blind and for the deaf and dumb knew her as an indefatigable worker on their behalf. During her lifetime, however, we of the School knew her as a great friend. Many Old Richians were the recipients of prizes due to her generosity.

WHERE THEY ARE

The following notes on Old Richians are not as long as usual. This is due to two factors.

One of them is the Editor's fault and he apologises most sincerely to any of you who sent in details and now find they are not included. I had twelve very early ones and, remembering the usual last-minute rush, I thought it would be a good idea to get these prepared for the printers. I typed them out and tucked them away very carefully in an envelope, together with the originals.

This proved to be completely wrong as later, absolutely out of character, I decided to have a clear out of all the "stuff" relating to previous years. Yes, you are quite right - out also went my early dozen for this year, with no way of knowing who was included.

Please accept my apologies and don't give up hope - send the details along again and we'll get them in the next issue.

The second reason for the short-fall in the Notes must rest fairly and squarely on your own shoulders. You are all shy, or hiding, or something ...!

Too late now but do please let us have more for next time. You may think your life humdrum and your whereabouts uninteresting but, believe me, your contemporaries don't think so.

Anyway, having crawled for my own shortcomings and kicked out at yours, let's get on with it . . .

ANDERSON, A.B., is taking a course in Business Studies at Bristol Polytechnic.

ANDERSON, Kevin G., is teaching Modern Languages at Eastbourne Grammar School.

AUBREY, Steve, who at one time was our very successful Social Secretary, is now a fully qualified Chartered Surveyor (A.R.I.C.S.). He has moved back into Private Practice with Gerald Eve & Co., who have an address in Savile Row, London W.1. - but Steve didn't mention whether he is now wearing "city gent's uniform" complete with bowler, rolled umbrella, briefcase and tightly rolled newspaper (the right one, of course!). He is not yet married - so we have an eligible young bachelor swimming around looking for the right bait, ladies. Joking (?) apart, Steve, we miss you but offer our best wishes for success.

BARNES, R.T.H., gained the Harkness Scholarship, St. Andrews University, reading Astronomy.

BARRY, Alan (1967-1970), is assistant manager of Debenham's Food Hall in Bristol.

BARRY, David (1967-1969), is at Queen Elizabeth College, London University, carrying out medical research for his Ph.D., investigating the children's disease Cystic Fibrosis. David's time at Sir Thomas Rich's was spent in the 6th form.

BOLTON, D.J., is studying Politics and Government at City of London Polytechnic.

BOOTH, David, is reading Medicine at Bristol University. With the number of Old Richians who are doctors we shall soon be able to start our own Health Service! Good luck, David.

BRYANT, Mark, starts work in Birmingham in August after having spent a year touring the World via U.S.A., the Pacific Islands, Australia and India.

BRYSON, P., is taking a course in Business Studies at Trent Polytechnic.

CALVER, John, is working as a Solicitor in Bournemouth (Lacey & Co.)

CHANCE, M.S., is taking a course at North Gloucestershire Technical College in Computer/Business Studies.

COOK, R.A., is at Edinburgh University reading Astrophysics.

CLUTTERBUCK, R.G., gained 2:1 in Part 1 Law at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

COMBS, John, has been appointed to the Staff of Wycliffe College Junior School to teach Science and Geography.

DALTON, A., is studying History at Nottingham University.

DAVIDSON, C.P., is at St. Chad's College, Durham, reading Mathematics.

DEE, A.S., has a place at Birmingham University studying Chemical Engineering.

DYKE, Neil, is working in the Personnel Department of the Southern Electricity Board in Maidenhead.

EDWARDS, C.O., is at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, reading Law.

EDWARDS, M.A., is studying Civil Engineering at City University.

GASTON, D.H., is studying Mathematics at Nottingham University.

GELLIFFE, Charles (1962-1969), is a teacher (Environmental Science) at a special school in Shropshire. He is married with two children.

GOBLE, M.L., is at Reading University studying Botany/Zoology.

GRAHAM, R. John (1945-1952), married with three children, is partner in the local firm of Estate Agents, R.E. Graham & Son.

GREIG, R.I., is at the University of East Anglia reading Modern Languages.

HARDING, S.J., is studying Politics at Warwick University.

HARRIS, Gordon. At 29, Gordon was in August 1974 appointed to the board of Neumo, Ltd. a firm which builds filling machines and pumping equipment. On leaving Rich's he served an engineering apprenticeship with Dowty at Gloucester and Cheltenham. Gordon joined Neumo eight years ago as a sales engineer. He was subsequently appointed technical sales manager and then general sales and marketing manager. Now, as marketing director, he is responsible for the company's product development and sales strategy world-wide.

HARRISON, P.M., is studying Education at Southlands College.

HEDGES, D.S., is studying Music at Collingwood College, Durham.

HEMING, Ian Robin (left 1966). Gained B.Ed 1970, Bede College, Durham. Then in 1971 obtained M.Sc. at Southbank Polytechnic. Went to Bradford 1971-1974 where he gained his Ph.D. for research into thermoelectric generators. Married in 1970 and has a daughter. Now teaching in Cheltenham College Physics dept.

HODDER, Gerald P., (1943-1947). Lives in Chipping Sodbury and is a Police Inspector with Gloucestershire Constabulary, promoted from Sergeant in July 1973. Married, he has two sons. Gerald is a founder committee member of his local swimming club at Southwold. He regularly bumps into Dr. Dennis B. Powell, who was at Rich's at the same time.

HOLFORD, T.C., gained 2:1 in Part 1A Veterinary Science at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

HOLMES, Peter (left approx. 1948) has been appointed to be a member of the Business Education Council, a new National body set up to re-organise and standardise business education throughout the country.

HOOK, Gordon, is head of the P.E. Department at Brighton, Hove and Sussex Grammar School. He was Liberal candidate for Lewes in the October General Election.

HOOK, John, is teaching English at Colfe's Grammar School, Lee.

HUNT, Brian, is teaching English and History at Haileybury Preparatory School, Windsor.

IRVINE, P.J., gained his 2nd Class Honours in Part 1 Geography at St. Peter's College, Oxford. In his spare time he made Captain of Cross-country in the University and has gained his Blue. Congratulations, P.J.

JEEVES, A.J., gained a place at Liverpool University to read English/Latin.

JOHNSON, R.C., is attending a course in Education at Ripon College.

JONES, Anthony Thomas (1942-1947) served in the Royal Air Force until 1956 when he joined A.V. Roe & Co. Ltd. as test pilot. Went to Australia with the company in 1957 flying in South Australia out over Woomera rocket range. Became chief flying instructor for Royal Aero Club of South Australia 1959 until 1960 when he joined the Dept. of Civil Aviation. He is now Superintendent (Flying Unit), Operational Planning and Services Branch, of the Australian Department of Transport (Air) at Melbourne. His contemporaries include Dennis Powell, Ron Artus, John Lewis, Peter Birt and Peter Holmes. He wishes to be remembered to all of them and to the many others who knew him.

KEARSEY, William, is working as a Consultant Engineer for the extension to the Liverpool Underground Railway.

KEARSEY, R.J., is at Sheffield University studying Civil Engineering.

KING, A.J., is reading Botany at Nottingham University.

KING, Andrew (1960-1968) has left Teaching for the time being. He is Management Services Officer with Nairn Floors Ltd. He is married and now lives in Lancaster.

LAPINGTON, Simon, is Park Warden in charge of a Snowdonia Information Centre.

LEGG, Barry, is working as an Accountant with Courtaulds in Manchester.

LEGG, I.P., is taking Education at Rolle College, Exmouth.

LEWIS, F.P., is reading Biochemical Engineering at University College, London.

LONG, A.R.K., is at Hull University studying Geography/Economics.

LONG, G.K.R., is at Rolle College, Exmouth, studying Education.

MADDOCKS, Charles. Personal message, not to be read by anyone else. I am sorry, Charles, but yours was included with the material I mentioned at the beginning. However, it was nice to see you and Mrs. Maddocks at the Dinner and I hope you met many people you knew. Please let me have the information again - I will look after it carefully next time. (By the way, for the benefit of those nosey readers who have got this far, Charles came completely out of his way to my home to drop in the material I later lost. It was unfortunate that the Sunday morning he called was the very rare one that I decided I could stay in bed. (Stop laughing, sadists!) Never mind, Charles didn't seem to mind catching me in my unshaven, bleary-eyed state).

MICHAEL, Robert J., is teaching Modern Languages at Wolverhampton Grammar School.

MOUNTJOY, Andrew, is working in Leeds for Wallace Arnold, Ltd.

NEININGER, Dr. Patrick D.R. (1958-1965). We learn that Pat, who is the son of our Hon. Treasurer, Ray, is completing his second year in a General Practitioner Training Scheme. He is married, has a daughter Sally who is almost 2 years old, and lives in Bury, Lanc. (which has now been swallowed by Greater Manchester). If all goes well he will start in a Bury health centre in August 1975. (Our very best wishes, Pat, for a happy and successful career).

NICHOLLS, G.S., is at Lanchester Polytechnic studying Civil Engineering.

NICHOLS, P.C., is at Keele University taking a combined course in American Studies and Politics.

PARKER, P.D. Awarded Exhibition, Selwyn College, Cambridge, reading Modern Languages.

PEARCE, R.A., gained 2nd Class Hons. (Bachelor of Civil Law) at Oxford University (Pembroke College).

PEARSON, Jeremy, has been appointed Keeper of Art (Ceramics) at the Plymouth Art Gallery and Museum.

PEMBERTON, Deric M., is working in the Cheltenham Depot of the National Bus Company.

POWELL, Dr. Dennis B., lives at Staple Hill, Bristol. He is an Honorary Member of the Staple Hill Police Club.

REES, C., is studying Education at Worcester College.

ROBBINS, Alan, is Captain of Boats at Aberdeen University. He gained a half-Blue at Rowing, and has rowed at Henley.

ROBERTS, A.K., gained a 2nd Class Honours B.Sc. (Engineering) at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham.

ROBERTS, M.M., is at Nottingham University reading Civil Engineering.

ROBINSON, Christopher, has been appointed Head of Geography at Aylesbury Grammar School.

ROWNEY, I.D., is studying American History at Keele University.

SCOTT, Thomas Edward (1947-1954) is Assistant Development Engineer (Bogies and Running Gear), British Railways Board, at the Railway Technical Centre, Derby.

SERGEANT, P.S., has been appointed English Master at Loughborough Grammar School. His brother

SERGEANT, Richard, has a teaching post at Whitefriars, Cheltenham.

SIMPSON, John, is working in the Ticket Office of Gloucester (Eastgate) Station.

TERRY, David, whose first teaching post was at Sir Thomas Rich's was, after being head of a comprehensive school on Merseyside, appointed at the age of 39 to be Headmaster of the Headlands Senior High School, Swindon. This school has about 950 students aged from 14 to 18 plus, with about 250 of them in the sixth form. We don't like to say too much about it but Mr. Terry is an Old Cryptian!

OLD RICHIANs

VALE, David, was married to Deborah Finch in Gloucester Cathedral in April 1975.

VINER, Alan, is an Assistant Music Master at The Howard School, Welwyn Garden City.

WALLINGTON, Mrs. Renee, is now teaching at Handsworth Grammar School.

WATKINS, Alan O., left journalism with the Citizen in Gloucester to become P.R.O. for National Travel. Based in Cheltenham, his "parish" covers the South West from Aberystwyth to Lands End. His Dad

WATKINS, Frank, on the reorganisation of the Army Cadet Force in Gloucestershire was promoted Major and given command of a new Area covering Gloucester and the Forest of Dean. Frank's other son

WATKINS, Malcolm, having added the Diploma of Museum Studies from Leicester University to his Archaeology Degree from Cardiff University, took up the post of Archaeological Assistant at Gloucester Museum. His touchable for the blind was featured on television.

WATKINS, K.J. (Jack) left his post in the Department of Business Studies at Cinderford College of Further Education to teach Commercial subjects at the Beaufort Comprehensive School, Gloucester.

WHELAN, James, R., is leaving his Accountant's post in Cheshire and is going to Padgate College of Education.

WHITEHOUSE, Peter, gained 2nd Class Honours at Middlesborough Polytechnic and is now on a Probationers' Course at Newcastle Polytechnic.

WOOD, R.C., is studying Architecture at the North Gloucestershire Technical College.

WYATT, Martin, has gained his M.B. and B.Sc. at Bristol University and is now at the Southmead Training Hospital in Bristol.

WYNN, David Ian (1959-1966). Left teaching of P.E. in a Sussex secondary school to join the Royal Air Force in January 1972. Holds the rank of Flying Officer. He served in RAF stations in Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire until January 1975, when he was posted in Lyneham, Wilts. David has represented the RAF at rugby. In August 1973 he married a W.R.A.F. Officer who is W.R.A.F. athletics champion and Combined Services representative. Meanwhile, brother

WYNN, Keith G. (1963-1970), qualified at Trinity College, Carmarthen (regret actual qualification not known - Ed). After a short stay as a Youth Centre Warden at Wooten Bassett, became Youth Tutor at Chiltern Edge School and Community Education Centre. Lives at Goring-on-Thames, but plays rugby and cricket at Henley-on-Thames. Meanwhile, brother

WYNN, Paul A. (1965-1973). After leaving school Paul spent six months in Switzerland on a summer working holiday. Now in his second year at Exeter University, reading Law. Spare time activities include squash and rowing for Exeter University. When news last seeped through his plans for 1975 included spending his summer vacation in Australia!!

