



1666

**THE  
RICHIAN  
1977**





1666

SIR THOMAS RICH'S, GLOUCESTER  
School Magazine, September 1977

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## EDITOR'S REPORT

I feel that this year things have moved along successfully in all fields, a view amply shown up by the Society and Sports reports. Also we had a pleasant Speech Day with the Bishop of Gloucester and his wife as our guests, two resounding Founder's Day Services, a well-attended and useful careers meeting as well as many field courses, visits and exchanges.

At a time when purses are rather empty, activities seem to have kept going with a remarkable amount of success. We have even managed, smoothly and with little fuss to acquire a shining new minibus. We

owe a lot of this continuing activity not only to the masters in charge but also to groups like the Parents Association and the Old Richians who have organised many events, dances and lectures to help the school.

We regretfully say good-bye to Mr. J. D. Meale and Mr. R. T. Moore who are both leaving this Summer. Theirs have been familiar faces for many years. In return we say hello to Michael Bevan from Ross-on-Wye, another man from the Forest of Dean, who is coming to teach games. In the Easter term, when Mr. Rangeley was in Cambridge on a Schoolmasters' Scholarship, we were pleased to welcome Mrs. Price and Mr. Goodman who came to teach music. Finally, Mr. Bradford has unfortunately been ill. We all wish him well.

## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

This has again been a difficult year. It started with 100 stalwarts attending the AGM and afterwards we were entertained with a most interesting talk by Mr. A. S. Pilbeam on "Geography Local Studies". Why not make a special effort to come to the next AGM and give your comments or suggestions for the future?





The support from first year parents at the Sherry Party was most encouraging, especially regarding the number of covenants signed, but the attendance for a fascinating evening with Arthur Negus was disappointing. The P.A. Dance in February was again a striking success but we must not take for granted the efforts put into this by Ken Morris and his wife, John Baker and his wife and their willing band of helpers.

The need for funds to support the wide range of activities, which so enrich the life of the school, was greater than ever and the committee felt it was necessary to again arrange the Rugby Draw as the support for other events has been falling off. We are most grateful to all those who sold tickets and would point out that with the prizes offered they were attractive to people not connected with the school, providing a source of income outside the parents. Any other ideas?

A Barn Dance was also tried as a new venture and was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended but the support was less than expected.

What of the future? Under the 1976 Education Act, Local Authorities have to submit plans to reorganise secondary education on comprehensive lines which again puts the future of Sir Thomas Rich's, as we know it, in doubt. One meeting was held to present the possible alternatives to parents but at the time of going to press the form of the proposals from the Education Committee is not known. We have strongly pressed for the involvement of parents in the plans for their children's education and will try to contact you (if necessary through the Citizen) if this opportunity occurs.

In the meanwhile we can only express our appreciation to the staff for the time and dedication which they give to teaching our children and to so many other activities which together make up "Education" in Sir Thomas Rich's — and hope that it can continue in the future.

**D.S. Bruce**

## CHORAL MUSIC

At the beginning of the new school year both the Choir and the Choral Society were knuckling down to a lot of necessary learning.

The Choir, now comparatively young, having only one Upper Sixth member, led every Wednesday morning assembly with either an anthem or an introit. At the same time they were preparing for the Carol Services rapidly looming up.

The Choral Society had their work cut out in preparing Vivaldi's extremely enjoyable "Gloria" which was enthusiastically performed at the beginning of December in conjunction with the School Orchestra who professionally opened the evening with solo and full orchestral performances. Special mention must be made of Andrew Bruce, Paul Bruce and Hugo Ashby whose performances of the solo sections in the "Gloria" were given with complete confidence and remarkable finesse considering their age and relative inexperience.

Soon after, the annual Carol Services took place with two distinct changes from former years. The order of the two services was changed, with the Longlevens service, on the 13th, preceding the St. John's, on the 14th. Owing to the early finish of the Christmas Term it was considered theologically wrong to have a traditional Christmas Carol Service during Advent so a special service of carols and lessons for Advent was compiled which, among others, included the old favourite "Gabriel's Message" and a popular twentieth century carol "Out of Your Sleep".

The Lent Term saw school music progress quietly mainly due to the absence of Mr. Rangeley who was having a well deserved rest away from teaching and school life. The Choir, obviously missing his driving enthusiasm, produced seven anthems for the Wednesday assembly. I would like to thank Mr. Fowler and Roger Yeomans for their contributions as pianists and Mr. Moss and Mr. Huddleston for their support, especially when voices of authority were needed. The Madrigal Group rehearsed in earnest during the last six weeks of the term preparing a recital at St. Aldate's Church later on this Summer Term.

I would like to thank Mr. Rangeley, on behalf of the Choir and Choral Society, for all the hard work and time he has put in over the last year. Looking forward to the future, plans are being discussed for celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Choir in some special way. After lengthy discussion it has been decided that, as the Choir has been following the same routine for nearly twenty years, it is time that new ideas and music should be brought in, especially as the potential of the Choir looks very good indeed, mainly owing to the youth of the lower parts.

**Kevin Ball L6R**

# Gloria...in excelsis

The name of Vivaldi is nowadays synonymous with the "Four Seasons" and it often comes as a surprise to audiences that some of the Italian composer's large scale choral works carry the same tuneful, characteristically baroque, stamp. His "Gloria", a setting in twelve sections of a mass, is an exciting work, right from the driving rhythms of the opening bars, with trumpet and oboe, through the delightful solos and duets, to the powerful fugal last movement.

At first sight the work often comes as light relief to choirs lost in the contrapuntal intricacies of Bach and the dynamic range of Verdi, but the "Gloria's" simplicity is a subtle trap for the over confident; intonation — that difficult skill of keeping all parts of the choir in tune not only with their individual line but with the other lines as well — is of supreme importance. Only with great practice can choirs learn the trick of sharpening here flattening there to good effect. It is therefore a great credit to Michael Rangeley that the Choral Society could do so well in relatively few rehearsals for the December concert, learning quickly, performing well and certainly producing some well-balanced musical effects of expression and even some dynamic effects, although total power may have been lacking.

In fact it is sad that over 100 boys cannot make more noise — they normally need no prompting — but even the small orchestra was loud enough to drown certain sections. A pity, but the acoustics of the school hall are notoriously unforgiving.

Andrew Bruce and Hugo Ashby sang their solos with confidence in spite of confusing tactics from the orchestra. Paul Bruce sounded his most serious and earnestly sombre for his alto solos — long melodic lines stretched his musical interpretation rather than his lung capacity.

The Choral Society could learn simple lessons from these confident choristers — with enough confidence even difficult works can be tackled in a professional manner. Vivaldi's "Gloria" needs the professional treatment just as much as Bach's B-Minor mass or



"The Messiah". To treat it as less is to do it a disservice.

The "Gloria" was the major work in a most entertaining evening of music. The School orchestra played pieces by Delibes and Handel and although "Le Roi S'Amuse" showed good ensemble the piece by Handel showed again that he is not so easy as he sounds! The orchestra owed its assured rhythms to Roger Yeomans whose energetic work at the keyboard kept all together — when will they walk without a stick? Roger played two Chopin Mazurkas later — both very well — and furthermore he accompanied many soloists in their performances.

Julian Baker offered a bright and cheerful trumpet for Purcell; Sean Sherlock may have surprised purists with his horn for his famous Mozart Rondo; Piers Alington's brave attempt proved again that Saint-Saëns and cellos don't mix without hours of practice; woodwind was ably represented by Andrew Bruce, who gave, surprisingly, a new look to a melody Borodin **must** have written for Hollywood and Jeremy Hawkins excelled in the low register for a quiet Pastoral by Howard Ferguson. Strings, not to be outdone, nearly stole the whole evening. Duncan Jodrell — working hard in the orchestra too — performed a long, hauntingly beautiful, line of melody by Edmund Rubbra — to my mind the most evocative and most rewarding piece of the whole evening. It was by no means easy but Duncan tackled it with determination and thankfully with a real sense of music. Perhaps Nicholas Shackleton lacked just that demonstration to start his Beethoven piece but, after shy delays, when he got under way he proved himself a violinist of great promise at present intent on hiding his light under a bushel. Yet, like the Choral Society, once in action, things improved. Both Nicholas and the Choral Society need to get over their starting problems: less choke and more air!

I.S.C.



# Salut Rambouillet

Assessments cannot be made on a cold March morning when snow lightens the steady fall of drizzle. Still less can they be made with a splitting headache and the prospect of some 16 hours of travel ahead of you and on arriving at Calais to find the boat dangerously overcrowded, a huge queue for the next one — bound for Dover and not Folkestone! — and eventually missing the coach from Victoria home, you feel far more likely to abandon any hope for next year's group and start planning an exchange with Brockworth. Yet that is not to allow for the stunning resilience of the pupils involved in the exchange; the mentality which induces them to make souvenirs of little waterproof paper bags — so much in evidence during the rough Channel crossing — is to be admired though not necessarily encouraged.

Of course they enjoyed themselves. Once initial fears had been conquered, once they realised that communication was possible in spite of a very sketchy knowledge of the French language, once it was clear that frogs and snails were not regular fare for breakfast they could all settle to a busy weekend at home with the families. To judge from the Monday morning exchange of stories, weekends were spent travelling to Paris, playing cards to 3 a.m., drinking litres of coca-cola and chewing gum. Make no mistake, however, the weekends were very important within the whole scheme of the exchange, as the English families discovered when a few weeks later it was their turn to receive a young guest. When it comes to explaining ordinary events in the household or visiting local villages and places of interest a new dimension of understanding is necessary.

During the week it was a question for all groups — four groups comprising some 30 pupils and three teachers — of school. In France it was possible to share in



**THE FIRST FRENCH GROUP'S ENCOUNTER WITH GLOUCESTER'S MAYOR AT THE GUILDHALL.**

lessons in the classrooms, but the teachers were able to take advantage of the enormous size of the vast school complex; if not lessons then sport or swimming or special talks preparing groups for visits to Paris, Versailles, Chartres or indeed London, Bath and Dodington. There was never a dull moment. Even lunchtime held the promise of untold delights or surprise. The schools impressed the visitors in different ways; the French marvelled at school uniform, the silence in assembly and Saturday morning assembly; for the English jeans, smoking, 8.30 starts to lessons and the sheer size of the Lycée had an equal effect.

It is reassuring to note that at this stage we have no major accidents to relate, no sudden missing persons, no worrying encounters with authority. To be sure the behaviour exhibited by all the boys and girls was excellent.

In return for this the pupils can be grateful for the tolerant patience shown by the other French and English teachers who had to put up with interruptions, delays in lessons

and taking classes for journeying teachers. More especially they should thank Mrs. Sleeman and Mrs. Auster of Colwell School, then Messrs. Saluveer, a good source of experience of earlier years' exchanges, Spear, for his indefatigable map-drawing and Tickner, for his financial wizardry. Last, and by no means least, the parents who helped so much by understanding the problems and trying their best to make things easier for us.

The weather could have been better; we have learnt much about minor arrangements (it was never easy to transport the girls from our school to Colwell, with the level-crossing always against us!); visits can have a different emphasis next year.

Assessment? It was a success. We can look forward to next year's exchange with the certainty of a warm welcome in France and the expectation of an encouraging response from families in Gloucester. As for my headache it had gone by the time I arrived home.

**I.S.C.**



# DRACOMANIA



In China it is the Year of the Snake. In Britain it is 1977 but at Rich's every year is the Year of the Dragon. The latest symptom of Dracomania, which is endemic at Rich's, was the performing of "The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew" on February 17th, 18th and 19th. The play, written by Robert Bolt for children of all ages, is about the triumph of good over evil.

The play opens at the court of the Duke (Ian Fletcher). The knights responsible for regulating the kingdom's dragon population cannot agree on an agenda for the dragon hunting season. The majority wants to play games and have tea-parties. The minority, Sir Oblong Fitz Oblong (Craig Pearce), is in favour of hunting dragons.

As a compromise Oblong is sent on a one-man crusade to the Bolligrew Islands to rid them of Baron Bolligrew (Christopher Roberts) and the Dragon. Bolligrew and the Dragon are the local mafia and spend most of their time terrorising the peasantry. The end of the first act sees Oblong crossing the Bolligrew Straits in a ship (boat) which moves independently of its sails and its passengers.

Once ashore Oblong immediately sets about his mission to restore justice to the Island's population. Squire Blackheart (Richard Kilyan), Bolligrew's eloquent henchman, makes several attempts to dispose of Oblong without success. In desperation Bolligrew seeks the help of Dr. Moloch (Stuart Douglas) a wizard from Oxford University. They devise a plan to send

Oblong to the Dragon for afternoon tea — as a tasty morsel for the Dragon. The Dragon is something of a gourmet and much prefers to eat good people. Apparently bad people have a most unpleasant taste.

Oblong is put under a spell by Moloch so that he will visit the Dragon unarmed. However even the best laid plans go wrong and this one does. Moloch, enticed into the (Dragon's) cave by the sound of money being counted, is eaten with little relish by the Dragon. Just in time the spell is broken by Magpie (Mark Simmons) and Obidiah who have done some research work into Moloch's book of spells. With that Oblong and Bolligrew sally forth into the cave and finish off the Dragon.

Bolligrew is very impressed by his first taste of dragon hunting. The play ends with him setting off for better hunting grounds and Oblong's mission completed.

Before I finish I must say that the play has left me with some delightful memories. Among them: Oblong in a suit of armour a few sizes too big for him; Bolligrew's rotund figure doing cartwheels; Blackheart's verbosity; the Church in kit form which was built in record time; the Bolligrew ferry which threatened to throw its passengers into the sea; the Bolligrew Band which provided a marvellous festive air; and finally the Dragon which resembled the rear end of a train disappearing down a dark tunnel.

**R.L.T.**





# The Lakes

Last August saw another Lower School walking trip in the Lake District.

Although this area is renowned for its bad weather we were fortunate in that throughout our twelve days' stay the conditions were most favourable. In fact the worst weather we experienced was on Lingmoor Fell when it drizzled which made it hard going, especially with full packs. In contrast with this, the walk on Pillar provided perfect walking conditions.

The first afternoon's walk (on Lingmoor Fell) proved to be one of the hardest since it finished with an arduous ascent to the hostel . . . Most of the party had not visited this hostel (High Close) before. At Keswick one of our noble members went down with the 'dreaded lergy' and this trend unfortunately continued throughout the holiday. Keswick has now got a new Warden since Mr. Harrison has retired to Kendal.

From Buttermere Hostel we walked the beautiful Red Pike Ridge.

It was on this walk that a certain member of the party attempted to swim in an anonymous tarn on Haystacks. Much to his surprise and disgust, it was only one foot deep.

While at Buttermere we walked the Newlands Horseshoe. On this walk we were invaded by a swarm of flying ants on Hindscarth. The weather was very oppressive on this day and in order to cool down effectively, several people wallowed in the reedy Dale Head tarn.

Our last hostel we stayed at was the impressive Wasdale Hall. On our first evening there, some members, led by Mr. Moss, went swimming in Wastwater, which was ice cold. The most memorable thing at Wasdale was the infamous Dore Head Scree, but our rapid descent was not helped by three terrified strangers getting in the way of the moving scree.

Despite being unable to climb Scafell on the last day, the holiday was enjoyed immensely by all. After all, the Lake District is a splendid place to 'get away from it all'.

Here is the holiday's programme of walks:

Day 1—Lingmoor  
Day 3—Bow Fell  
Day 5—Great End  
Day 7—Red Pike  
Day 9—Yewbarrow

Day 2—The Langdales  
Day 4—Great Gable  
Day 6—Grasmoor  
Day 8—Cat Bells  
Day 10—Pillar

Andrew Daymond and Donald Healey 4S

KDM

# REPORTS



## YOUNG ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

YOC LEADER: Simon Ward 5S  
ASSISTANT: Ian Henderson 5S

Although overall membership is down on last year, activities arranged in this school year have been well-supported. Two trips were held in the Christmas holidays, and the cold weather at that time seemed to boost both the numbers and variety of birds seen. At Frampton gravel pits, over twenty different species were recorded, including a juvenile Cormorant, which caused some confusion among the party owing to its Penguin-like appearance. The second trip, to Witcombe and Dowdeswell reservoirs, was also successful, with a wide range of common species, including large numbers of Redwing and Fieldfare, being seen.

A greater number of indoor meetings have been held this year, including the showing of a film (from the ITV series "Survival") about wildfowl. In addition to this, a competition was arranged in March for the keener members, and proved a stiff test of ability to identify not only birds but also their eggs and song. Tim Jones (1S) came first, defeating a number of more established members by a huge margin. A similar event is planned for next year.

It remains for me to thank Mr. Cooper for driving on our trips and for providing his Land Rover on occasions when the school bus (which seems to have an aversion to birdwatchers) refused to start.

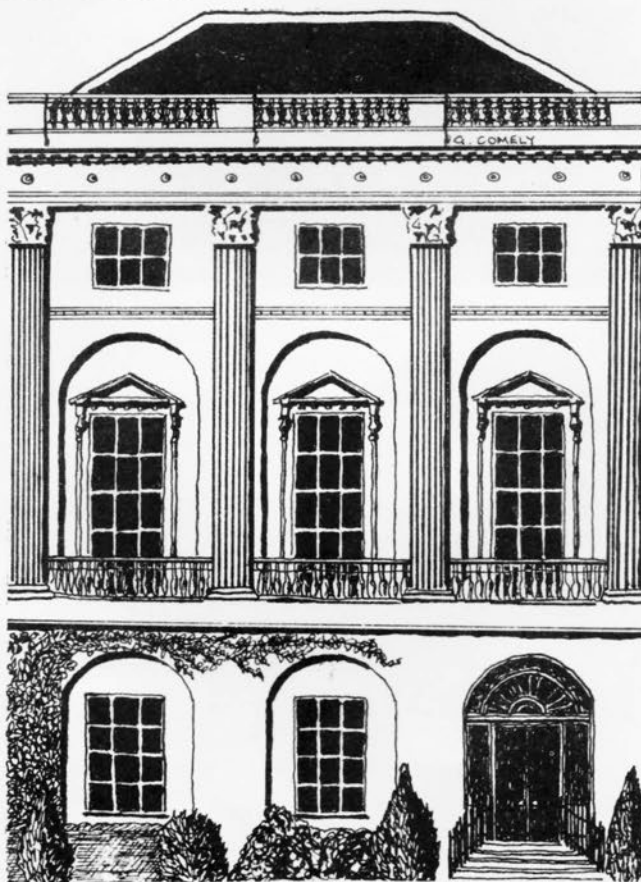
Simon Ward 5S

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CHAIRMAN: Peter Jones U6T  
SECRETARY: Hugh Watson U6R

This year the Historical Society has not only thrilled to the sight of boys pitting their wits against the masters, a devastating proof of the high level of teaching as the boys raced to a glorious victory, no hint of bias on the question master's part either, courageously waded axle-deep through swirling flood water at Shugborough, unexpectedly stumbled upon Charles 2's hiding place at Boscobel and stretched to the limit the mental forces of the First Form but also has planned to help the Jubilee Appeal, to hear the harrowing story of the distinguished former secretary's adventures in deepest London on Jubilee Day and finally will be off to the Border Marches braving Welsh Nationalists both outside and inside the minibus; which all goes to prove that, thanks to LCH, DFM, GB, and Miss Townsend, the Historical Society is more of a way of life than a school club.

Peter Jones U6T





## THE FILM SOCIETY

"How to steal a diamond in four uneasy lessons."  
"Bullitt"  
"A funny thing happened on the way to the forum."  
"Diamonds are forever"  
"The four musketeers"  
"Breakheart pass"

Stars' night at the STRS Film Society Annual Awards For Entertainment Evening 1977.

Among the assembled throng, most of whom were either wrestling with their fur stoles or constantly avoiding low-flying diamond-encrusted blob earrings, were all the famous names who had made appearances in the films shown during Autumn 1976 and Spring 1977. With the bar making a record profit, those spotted were: Robert Redford, Steve McQueen, Oliver Reed, Michael York, Frank Finlay, Christopher Lee, Sean Connery, Charles Bronson, Buster Keaton (Buster Keaton??), Raquel Welch (!!), Faye Dunaway, and Jill St. John (!!!!!). All of these had obviously made the effort to come on account of the fact that an award presented by the STRS FS is the ultimate prize in the Film Industry.

To present the prizes — a solid lead replica of "The Sound of Music" — we were honoured to have that bastion of British Films, Mr. J. Winstanley, who greeted the packed house in his traditional way with a quote from Horace which everyone laughed at but no-one understood. He summarised the films and promptly set about selling tickets for next year's Senior School Film Society, which it is hoped many in the upper school will support.

The only disappointment was "A funny thing . . .", a musical starring Michael Crawford — need I say more! Well, I will: the sound quality was appalling and the songs even worse.

Awards went to Jill St. John (!!!!!), Buster Keaton (for being Buster Keaton), "One flew over STRS" and Bronson's hoss in "Breakheart Pass".

Ken Russell has agreed to shoot "War and Peace" for next year, set in Aldershot and featuring the entire population of the world, while Polanski has agreed to do things with the first and second formers which makes "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" look like The Adventures of Parsley.

With yet more epics lined up for next year, we would like to thank Mr. Winstanley for his help and voice, and everyone who supported the society, hoping that they will do the same in the 1977-78 season.





ARON - KEEPER OF  
THE COSMIC LOG -  
IS OLD - AS OLD  
AS THE UNIVERSE.



GREETINGS  
GREAT KEEPER!  
I HAVE MOST  
WONDERFUL NEWS!



WELL LAD, SPEAK UP. WHAT IS IT?  
A NEW PLANET HAS REACHED  
MATURITY. IT'S MOST  
ASTONISHING - SUCH RAPID  
ATTAINMENT!



THE PLANET IS THE SMALL  
ONE IN QUADRANT 37.

YES I KNOW THE  
ONE. I WILL RECORD  
THE NAME IN THE  
MOST COMMON  
NATIVE TONGUE...



SO THEY HAVE ACHIEVED THERMONUCLEAR  
POWER... SOON THEIR SHIPS WILL  
PENETRATE DEEP SPACE - THEY  
WILL JOIN THE GALACTIC FEDERATION.

NO...



THEY HAVE NOT REACHED SPACE?  
THEN WHERE DO THEY CARRY  
OUT THEIR TESTS?

- IN THEIR  
ATMOSPHERE.



WHAT!



ARON SLOWLY  
SAT DOWN. HE  
CALMLY OPENED  
THE BOOK...

HE WAS NO FOOL.  
HE WAS AS WISE  
AS HE WAS OLD -  
HE COULD SEE THE  
INEVITABLE AS  
WELL AS ANY.



Silly  
Asses!

Based upon the story  
by Isaac Asimov.....  
Artists: R. BOWERS, I. WEBLEY.  
Inker: J. BARNES.

(INSPIRED OWING TO ENGLISH FOR SCIENTISTS)

© 1974.



## THE JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Steven Evans 4S  
SECRETARY: Paul Bruce 4S

This year the Junior Debating Society has considered several motions, ranging from epic mysteries such as "This house believes that the Burmuda Triangle phenomenon is fact not fiction" and "This house believes that God was an extraterrestrial visitor", to such sensible topics as "This house believes that the present House of Lords should have more power" which, though closely contested, was eventually carried by the Chairman's casting vote.

Sometimes the standard of debate fell below that expected but there were many good speeches, in particular in the debate on the House of Lords. At times attendances, too, were disappointing; however we hope for greater things in the future.

Finally many thanks to Glyn George, who not only supervised these debates but made several interesting and highly professional contributions of his own.

**Paul Bruce 4S**

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## THE DEBATING SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Mr. I. S. Cutting  
CHAIRMAN: Glyn George U6T  
SECRETARY: Peter Jones U6T

"Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen. I think I can safely say that the Debating Society has had a very busy year. A new star in the shape of Mr. Cutting, whom we would like to thank for all his infectious enthusiasm, twinkled in the Debating firmament and warmed many half dead minds into life . . ." Too wordy? Glance up at crowd. Dumbfounded, gawping. Press on . . . "We have held numerous debates including . . ." crumbs, what have we had? Panic stricken glance at audience. Total blank in brain. Glance at Longlevens through the window on left. What's on television tonight? Must be blushing violently. Got it . . . "a joint debate with the Astronomical Society, a discussion of devolution, the American Way of Life . . ." bored audience's chatter filters through. Finish off. End with a joke or a quote from Milton. Would impress lower Sixth . . . "I hope that the Society will thrive and new members will catch de bait and come along next year . . ." Finished. Half-hearted applause. Retreat in confusion.

**Peter Jones U6T**

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## THE STAMP CLUB

PRESIDENT: Mr. J. Y. Cooper

The Stamp Club was re-formed this year, this time under the presidency of Mr. Cooper.

The activities were very varied. There were two film shows of great interest to all, and approval and swap nights. A competition was also run. This was won by a very colourful entry from Brian Egles L6R. The Stamp Club also ran a First Day Cover service. We must thank Mr. Cooper for this.

The Stamp Club did not operate in the summer term, as it was decided that stamp collecting was not a summer activity. However, the First Day Cover service continued.

**Mark Simmons 3S**



PRESIDENT: Mr. G. Barrington  
CHAIRMAN: A. John Woodward 4S

The year 1976-1977 has been the best year yet for the Junior Electronics Club, with at least thirty regular members.

There were two main events last year, the first being the two trips to Gloucester Telephone Exchange in Longsmith Street. The first trip, accompanied by Mr. Tickner, went very successfully, and the parts of the old exchange were explained to us in very great detail, including the recently installed computer analysing centre. Every detail of present day telephones was explained to us with great accuracy, and we all enjoyed the first trip round the exchange, the soothing coolness of the cable room being welcome, after the searing heat of the mid-July sun.

The second trip to the exchange, accompanied by Mr. Barrington, went as smoothly as the first one. The party were taken round the new part of the exchange, the latest electronic telephone handling equipment being explained to us again in great detail. We were taken to the power room to see how the power was generated to make the exchange operational and also what happened if there was a power-cut!

The last main event of the year was the "Project 77". I started to prepare the project and I bought a lot of circuit diagrams and hunted through them, to see which one would be suitable for the club-members to manufacture. Having picked out a suitable project, I hunted round all the electrical supply shops in Gloucester to find the lowest price possible for the equipment required. Months later, the final price was fixed, after a lot of sleepless nights! The project was announced, names taken, and the parts ordered. After lots of soldering, sweating and swearing, Project '77 was not only launched, but completed, bringing a satisfactory end to 1976-77.

The Club would like to thank Mr. Barrington and Mr. Tickner for their outstanding contributions, not forgetting Jeremy Tapscott (4S) for his painstaking but artistic illustrations.

**A. John Woodward 4S**



## THE RAILWAY SOCIETY

David Pegler U6T  
Andrew Price 5T

The society has continued to cater for the needs of the railway enthusiasts in the school over the past year. Since the departure of Paul Fillis the organisation of the year's events has been shared by Andy Price, 'Bopper' Everson, Steve Preddy who left earlier this year, and myself.

Making a determined effort to combat the ever increasing cost of rail travel we made arrangements for a visit to London by Mr. Peddy's coach. Unfortunately this was not an outstanding success although sufficient locos were seen to dispel thoughts of a riot on the way home!

In order to prevent a revolution we reverted to visits by rail of which two were made in the year. The first of these was made to the British Rail workshops at Crewe and Derby and was fairly successful despite a determined effort by a so-called guide at Derby who seemed intent on preventing half the party from seeing anything during our visit.

The second and final visit was the biggest Railway Society undertaking for a number of years and involved leaving the city at 02.10 a.m. to reach Newcastle and return within the day. Visits were made to Diesel depots at Darlington, Thornaby and Gateshead and despite the early start everyone had to agree that for £6.30 it had all been worth while.

The usual twice monthly meetings were held in the Lecture Theatre on Wednesdays when the younger members of the society gave a series of talks and, what seemed to be the most popular, slide shows. Unfortunately the society's future is unsure with most senior members leaving this July but I sincerely hope it will continue to flourish in years to come.

David Pegler U6T

## THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Mr. B. McBurnie  
CHAIRMAN: David Wilton U6T  
SECRETARY: Glyn George U6S  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Robin Bewley 3S  
Mark Warwicker L6R

I am pleased to say that the Astronomical Society has seen very much increased activity and attendances since the report in the previous edition of "The Richian".

The first event occurred on 11th October 1976 with a highly unusual joint meeting, thought to be the first ever, between us and the fine gentlemen of the Debating Society, when various theories of the universe were debated. This unique and unprecedented event attracted an attentive audience of three to four dozen.

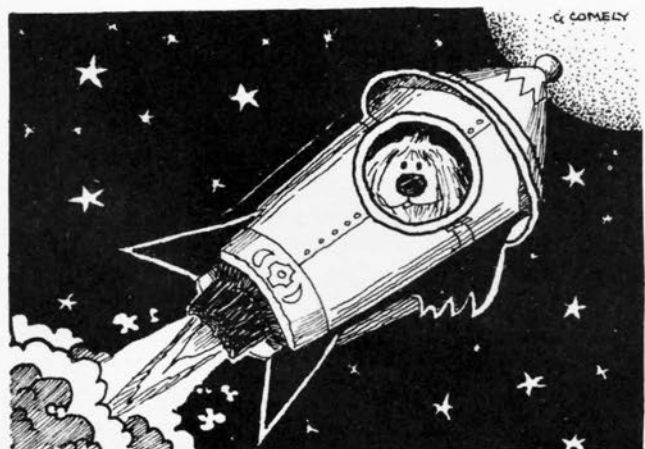
In December came our best attendance of all, well over 150, spread over three sessions. This was for a film show, one of the two films shown being in colour. (And the black and white film was considered to be of excellent quality). The society realised a good profit despite an admission fee of only 2p.

The third event was a talk of a general nature entitled 'The Scale of the Universe' delivered by the secretary of the society.

Exactly a month later came an excellent talk on "Signals in Space" delivered by the school's resident expert on electronics, Mr. T. W. Morgan.

Turning now to the future we hope for continued interest in the society. One of the last events to be held under the current leadership will probably be a quiz on astronomical topics.

Glyn George U6S



### THE SCHOOL VENTURE SCOUT UNIT

The period from 1976 to 1977 has been an active one for the school venture scout unit. Skiing featured strongly on the programme: the unit took advantage of the excellent facilities offered at Gloucester's dry ski slope together with skiing on real snow in the Black Mountains and on Painswick Beacon. The unit maintained its established tradition of competing in (and subsequently winning) marathon hikes. The Cotswold Marathon and the Black Mountains Expedition were both contested and won, the former for the fourth consecutive time. Rock climbing trips were made to our usual haunts on Cleeve Hill and in the Forest of Dean, together with the Idwal Slabs in North Wales. The unit was fortunate in acquiring the help of Mr. John Davies, who recently joined the

school maths department, on these occasions.

The 1976 summer activities included two service projects. The first project was running an adventure camp for young Gloucestershire scouts on a small isolated island, called Gometra, in the Western Isles of Scotland. The second project involved the construction of paths and fences in Snowdonia for the National Trust.

Numerous other hikes, canoeing competitions and sporting activities must go unmentioned owing to lack of space. However room must be found to thank our leaders Mr. Henderson and Mr. Spear to whom we are indebted. Let's hope that the unit continues to prosper in the years to come because it provides a valuable experience for those who are lucky enough to join in.

**Mark T. Evans U6T (Secretary)**

### AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY.

IT WAS QUITE EXCITING WHEN THE TELEPRINTER BEGAN TO PRINT OUT MESSAGES. TASS REALLY DOES TRANSMIT LONG ARTICLES ABOUT COMBINE-HARVESTERS, AND THE ITALIAN FOOTBALL RESULTS HAVE TO BE SEEN TO BE BELIEVED! AS A RESULT OF THIS PROJECT GARETH WILLIAMS IS NOW AN EXPERT ON THE BEHAVIOUR OF PHASE-LOCKED LOOPS, AND DAVID WILTON IS PRETTY HOT ON ELECTRONIC SWITCHES.

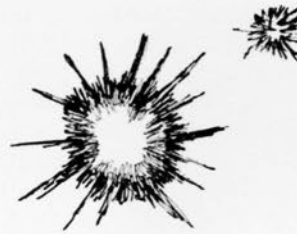
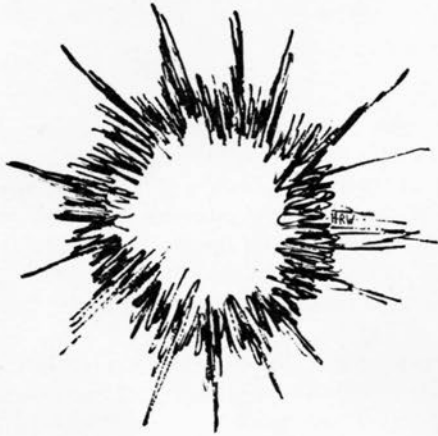
WE CAN ALSO REPORT A 100% INCREASE IN THE PRODUCTION OF TWO-TRANSISTOR RADIOS. THIS YEAR'S MODEL IS A CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED DESIGN INSOFAR THAT IT ACTUALLY WORKS.

VARIOUS OTHER PROJECTS ARE UNDER WAY OR IN THE PLANNING STAGE, SO STAY TUNED FOR NEXT YEAR'S NEWS!





# CONTRIBUTIONS



14.....18

i can't remember if i cried  
When i heard that tommy had died,  
It seemed to be the end of me as well.  
And though we had to carry on,  
i knew that we were doing wrong  
In helping to re-fuel this living hell.  
Although i tried to kill the past,  
i could not flee the battle's cast,  
Performing for The Generals on their clouds.  
And when we saw what we were for  
we could not flee that futile war,  
But cheap words from high places screamed us down.

One man went to the graveyard,  
But two came running back.  
And i swear i saw confusion in my eyes.

When i'd arrived at Stygian field  
It seemed to me my fate was sealed,  
Aiming for survival amidst the noise.  
And when i tried to puzzle why  
Blindness affected Leaders High,  
i could not help but feel that we were toys.  
A mind is scarred and shellfire-bruised,  
A brain is totally confused  
And sent into a world that's spinning round.  
And even now i'm split in two  
Because my brain is black and blue,  
Potential fear concealed in ev'ry sound.

One man went to the graveyard,  
But two came running back.  
And i swear i saw confusion in my eyes . . . . .



**Tim Curtis L6R**



# The Final Frontier

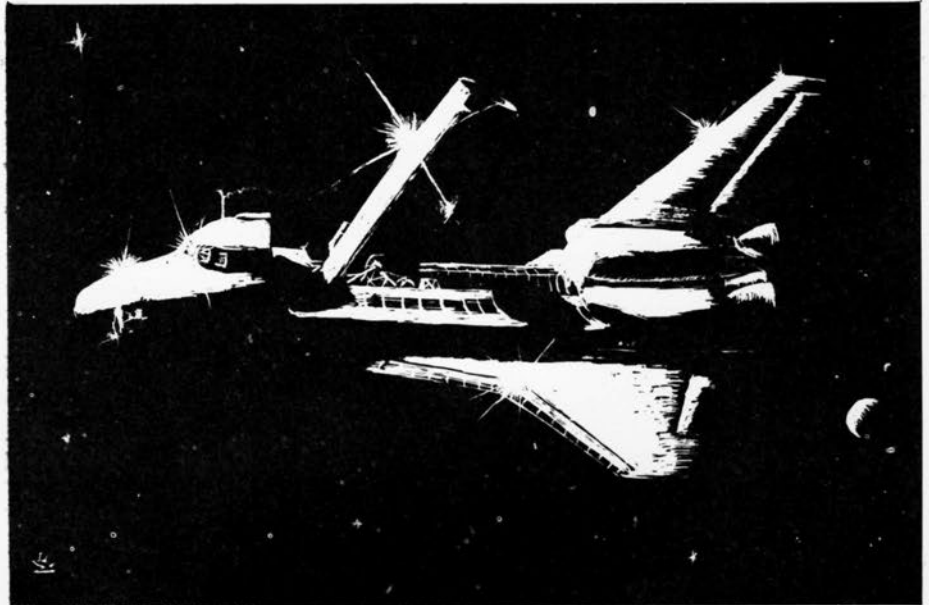
## SHUTTLE IN ORBIT:

"Space the final frontier, these are the voyages of the U.S.S. Enterprise . . ."

Those familiar words hold more truth than you might think — By 1980 a revolutionary type of spacecraft should be making regular missions into space.

This machine is the Space Shuttle, unlike any previous craft put into space, it is reusable — taking off vertically, perched upon 2 boosters and a strap-on fuel tank, it can stay in orbit with 8 people on board for up to 30 days, launching satellites or conducting experiments, returning to earth in a long unpowered glide to land on a conventional airstrip. The only component of the system lost is the strap-on fuel tank (after separation the boosters return to earth by parachute).

The first shuttle, named after the STAR TREK ship, is now being test flown ready for missions such as that depicted here — where N.A.S.A.'s "Enterprise" carries a large telescope into orbit in its spacious cargo bay (60' x 15').



## PIONEER 11:

"... to boldly go where no man has gone before!"

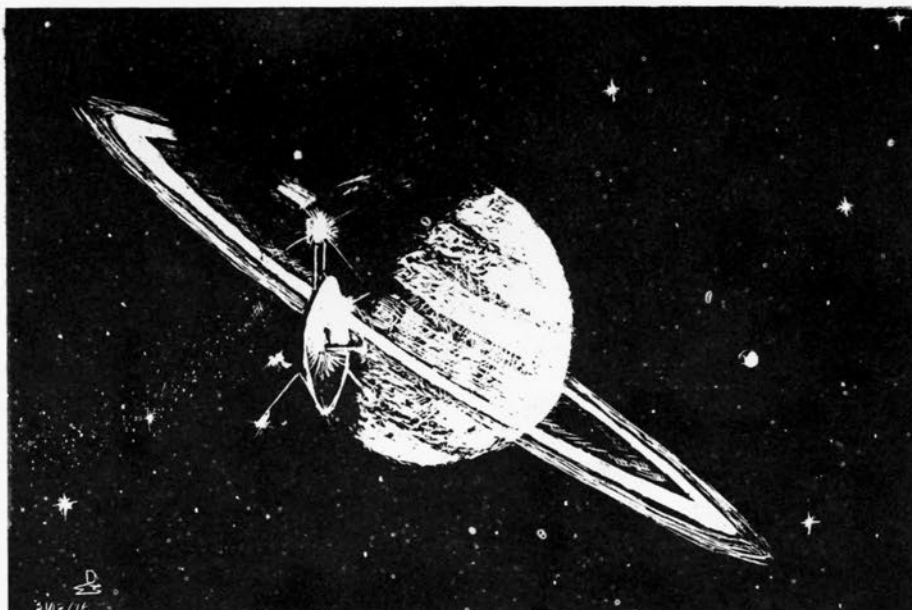
In the past ten years, man has learnt more about the planets than in the previous ten thousand years. The planets of the inner solar system (except Venus) and their

satellites have been comprehensively mapped; robot spacecraft have landed on Mars and man has walked on the moon.

Before 1972, no probe had been sent beyond the asteroid belt (between Jupiter and Mars) to explore the outer solar system. On March 3 1972 however, PIONEER 10 was launched from Cape Kennedy. It was a mission of firsts — PIONEER 10 was the first probe to penetrate the asteroid belt; in November 1973 it became the first probe to fly past Jupiter; as you read this PIONEER 10 is rushing at 32,000 miles per hour (another record) away from the sun, it will be the first man-made object to leave the solar system in ten years time.

While PIONEER 10 was blazing the trail out towards the stars, PIONEER 11, launched a year after its sister ship, was approaching the asteroid belt. Having travelled 630 million miles to a Jupiter encounter, PIONEER 11 was rerouted for the ringed planet Saturn, which it will reach in late 1979.

David Wilton U6T



## CHINAMEN

englishman  
with english mind  
he say  
mao is dead

but

chinamen  
with chinese minds  
all say  
paper tigers

chinese velly crever

David Green L6S

## CLASSIFICATION

wehaveto  
conformto  
thenormbe  
ordinaryb  
ethesamed  
onotmoveb  
EBIGIFYOU  
AREBIGBUT  
otherwise  
dontbebig  
followthe  
paththati  
sinfronto  
fyouandke  
epgoingun  
tilyouare  
stoppedso  
metimesif  
eellikeat  
routinasa  
rdinetina  
ndiwantto break out and be me.

David Green L6S

## I

They want to put me in an asylum.  
They think it would be 'beneficial'  
for me to spend a few weeks at a  
'Residential Care Centre'  
where the nurses will be friendly.  
And help me on with my slippers.  
And ask me if I've washed today.  
And check my rubber sheets to see if I've behaved myself.  
The walls will be grey, except, the Recreation Room  
which will be a washy green and scrawled on  
In restrained wax crayon.  
In the mornings I will visit doctors who  
Will ask me if I think the weather is nice,  
For the time of year and if I stammer  
When talking to Mother.  
In the afternoons I will make grotesque wicker baskets.  
Thousands of them to be left on windowsills.  
They'll never hold flower pots, they're too distorted.

## II

Welcome to the Asylum  
"Welcome to Ampstone House"  
Says the fat lady in efficient, clean, blue,  
Whom I must call Mrs. Turner.  
"We like to think of you as residents,  
Isn't that right, Mr. Davies?"  
Mr. Davies is asleep in a wheelchair.  
Mr. Davies is old,  
And terrifyingly pathetic.  
"This will be your room"  
The walls are grey.  
"This is the Recreation Room"  
The walls are a washy green.  
The nurses are friendly.  
They help me on with my slippers.  
They check the rubber sheets.

I have mis-behaved myself  
"Never mind, it doesn't really matter."  
Not anymore.

To-morrow morning I must visit my doctor,  
In the afternoon it will be recreation time.

My mind has split into grotesque fragments.  
Thousands of them, to be left on windowsills.  
They'll never hold any of your thoughts.

Alan Jewell L6T

## THE HAND THAT FEEDS

"... and of course, in a theoretically equal society, the position held by the fusion engineers—fusioners as they are known—was unacceptable."

"How did the situation come about?" inquired the other man.

For a few moments the first speaker contemplated thoughtfully the hard black emptiness outside. Then he turned to face his companion and replied:

"Can't you imagine the sheer power of controlling a Starship such as this, of being the only person who could hope to operate the fusion plant, its very heart and soul? By comparison, the captain is unimportant. In port, too, the fusioners' prestige and influence went far; the fusioners' association had great influence in the political sphere. They were special and they knew it. Their training cost vast amounts and included numerous phenomenally expensive training flights. Because of their influence our actions against them were restricted. So we struck at the weak point — training.

"In the face of great opposition we first reduced and then stopped the training flights and the total budget was cut by 40%. At first the fusioners fought these changes. But they worked; when the first group of new students graduated from F.T.C. we had a new generation of fusioners who knew their true status in our modern society."

He produced and lit a nicotine-free cigar, then leant back in his chair and puffed in a satisfied manner.

Unexpectedly a tall dark man, who had been sitting silently nearby, looked up and said dryly:

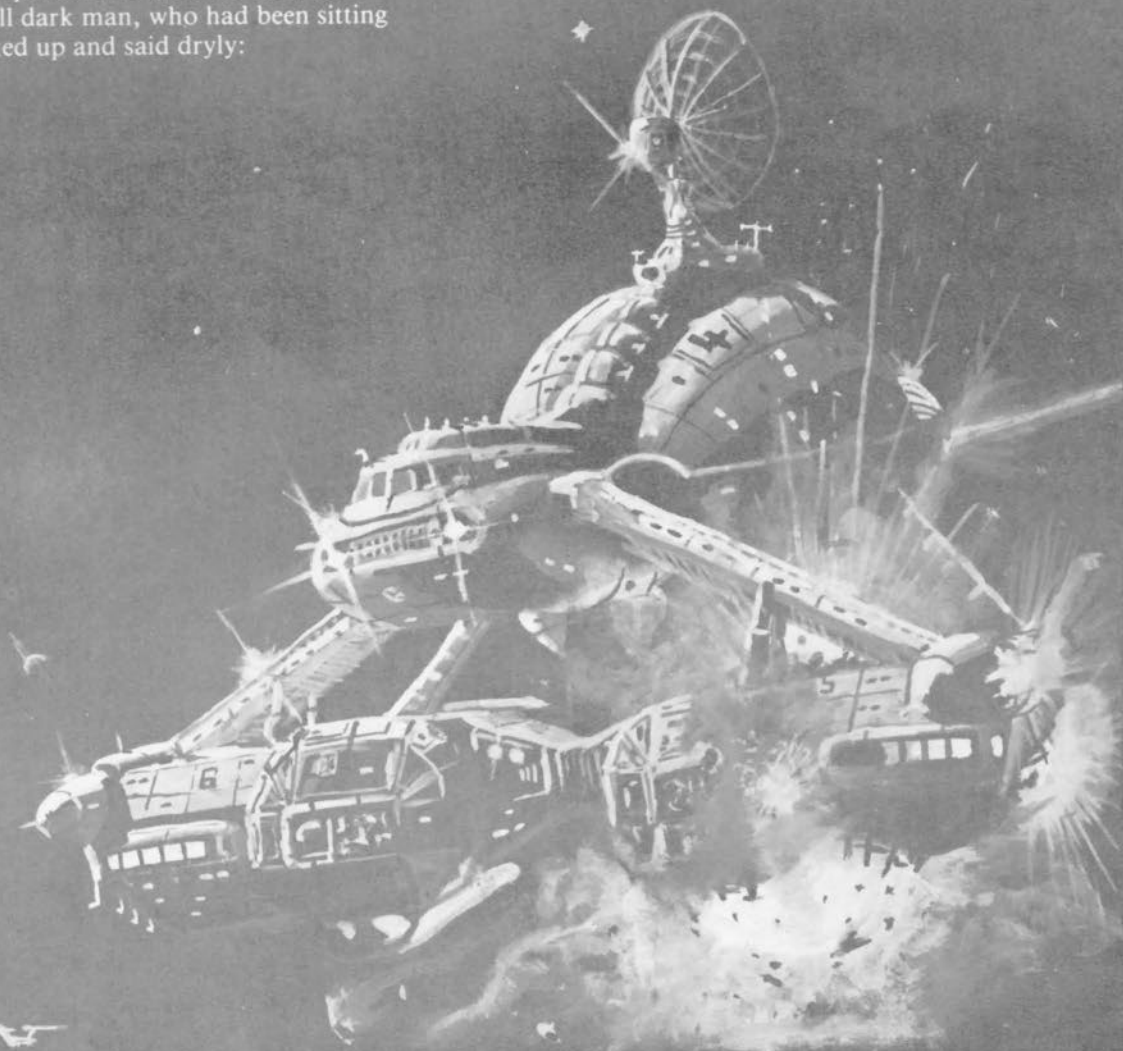
"Very laudable. However there is a minor problem. In lowering the budget you reduced the standards drastically. Nowadays perhaps 60% of a fleet of ships will be non-operational by reason of incompetent fusioners. Earth relies heavily on interplanetary trade using freighters powered by fusion engines, run by fusioners — and, my friend, you have killed fusionering."

"Rubbish," exploded the first man angrily. "Fusionering is as healthy as ever. The numbers of graduates are increasing, training schools are . . ."

In that instant the ship blazed into incandescent glory. The splendour slowly died away leaving only a tenuous cloud of radioactive dust drifting slowly outwards to be lost in the infinite emptiness of space . . .

Paul Bruce 4S

O. WILTON 



# Rambouillet

## VUE PERSONELLE

Quand on arrive au Lycée de Rambouillet on remarque immédiatement qu'il y a beaucoup de différences en ce lycée et le nôtre à Gloucester. En entrant dans la cour on est frappé par les couleurs variées des vêtements montrant que les jeunes ne sont pas obligés de porter un uniforme scolaire car il n'existe aucune restriction sur les vêtements. On constate tout de suite que c'est un lycée mixte et que les élèves fument souvent pendant les récréations.

En se promenant dans le lycée on se rend compte qu'il est beaucoup plus grand que le nôtre mais aussi que la nouvelle "liberté" des jeunes se reflète dans les fenêtres cassées et les murs couverts de graffiti ou même dans les mégots qu'on laisse tomber un peu partout les élèves sont également libres en ce qui concerne l'heure d'arrivée au lycée car il n'y a pas d'assemblée alors on arrive simplement lorsqu'on a cours. Si on a une heure sans classe on peut descendre en ville jouer au "flipper" dans un café quelconque.

On s'étonne peut-être de constater que les élèves apprennent et préparent les examens mais en fait l'atmosphère du lycée encourage ceux qui sont prêts à travailler, surtout sur le plan "équipement" car le lycée est riche en salles de classe, centres de documentation, terrains de sports et centres pour la formation technique. Somme toute il y a beaucoup de différences entre les deux lycées mais elles ne nuisent pas du tout au fait que nous sommes bien amusés à Rambouillet.

Mark Salter





The journey to Rambouillet was long but I enjoyed it. When we entered Rambouillet I couldn't think what I would say when I met the family I was going to stay with. In time that moment came. My partner's name was read out and then mine. The family took me out of the school and then we went on to their house. At the house I had something to eat and then went to bed.

On Saturday and Sunday the family took me out to nearby places but towards the end of the week-end I got a bit tired. On Monday morning (my first day at school) I met all my friends, and some boys from Rambouillet, who I had got to know, saw me and said hello. First we went into a lesson with the French people. After break we went to see a film on wild horses. By this time I was getting to like the French trip very much better than in the beginning when I was scared stiff.

On Tuesday we had a lecture on Paris, then on Wednesday we set off for Paris. The journey was long but very interesting. In Paris, we went first to the Eiffel Tower or "La Tour Eiffel". Then we set off for Notre Dame where we had our lunch and went round Notre Dame Cathedral. Afterwards we all made our way back to the coach and travelled home. Thursday we had a lecture on Versailles and on Friday we went there. We went round Versailles Château and then the gardens before having our dinner. After walking round the boundary of the château we had to make our way back to Versailles. Saturday morning we visited the local market. After the market visit we were with our families for the rest of the weekend. The family took me to see Rambouillet for the last time that holiday and on the Sunday night they took me out to a restaurant.

Monday morning came and I had to leave Rambouillet for Gloucester. My French holiday was over.

Peter Dale 2T

#### Specialités----

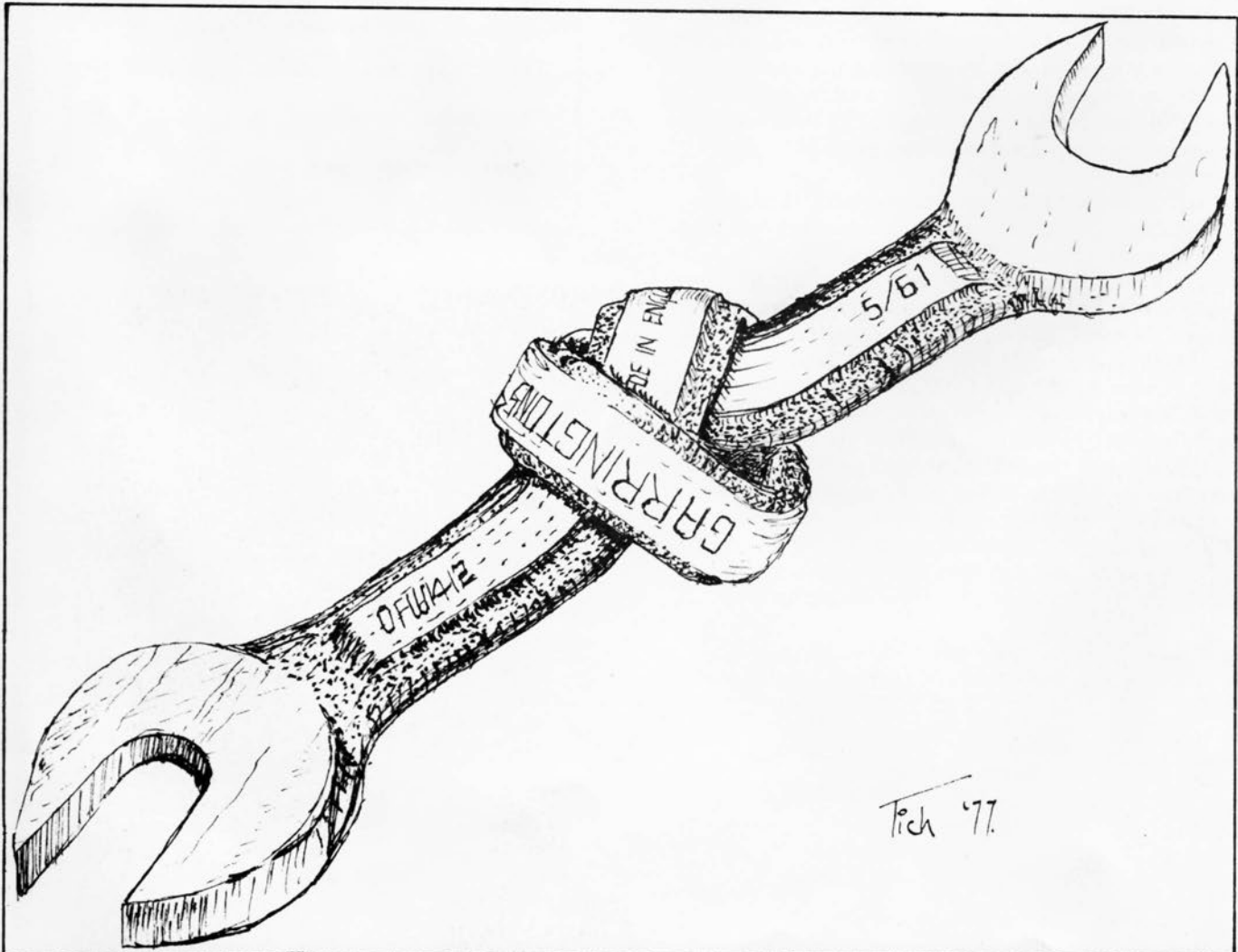
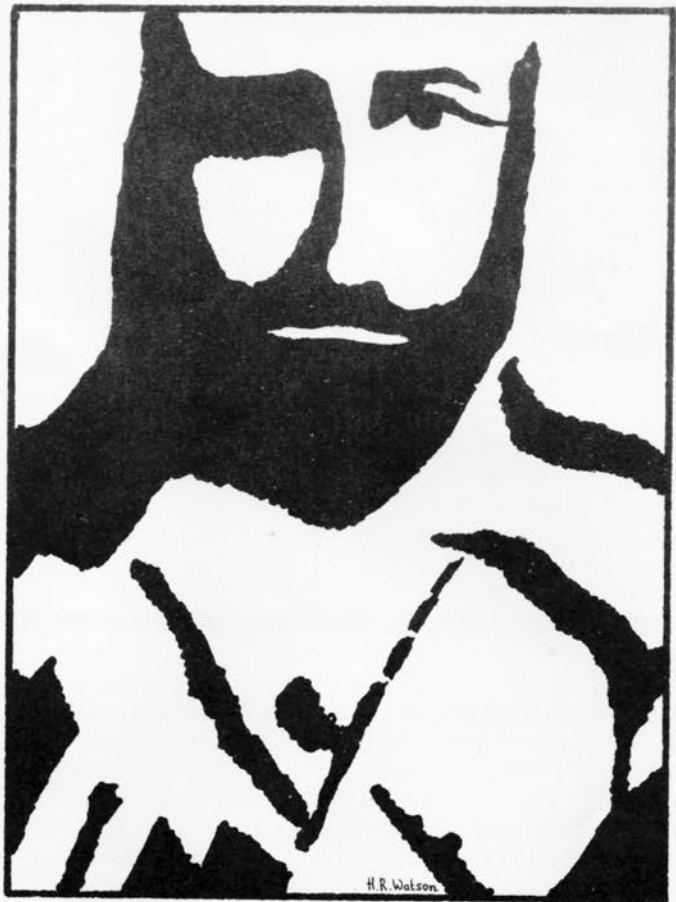
Quenelles de brochet sce. Nantua...	9,00
Escargots Bourgogne la dz.....	8,50
½ dz.....	4,50
Super poulet frit.....	7,00
Escalope aux morilles.....	18,00
Petit salé aux lentilles.....	9,80
Choucroute garnie.....	9,80
Steak Tartare garni.....	7,00



## AND I'M TOLD

You tell me what I cannot see,  
 Pretending you're security  
 Against the things which I might find  
 Will soon corrupt my childlike mind.  
 And point to things I failed to see  
 When watching plays on BBC,  
 And twist the truth till it is changed  
 And dismiss love as filthy games.  
 You publicise the things you hate  
 In naming channel, time and date.  
 Why do you think I need a guard?  
 Will my mind end up badly scarred?  
 I don't pretend I'm evil-free  
 But what I see is up to me.  
 Why don't you give us back the choice  
 And put away your rusty voice.  
 Don't eat your food 'cause you'll end in a box,  
 Don't run too fast, don't sip your beer,  
 "We are not killjoys — just watching your health."  
 You're only trying to help me grow old.  
 "Keep Out", "Go Home", "Don't Ask Questions",  
 "Accept bewilderment blindly",  
 "Keep on the pavement", "... off the grass",  
 "You, boy, don't hang in the doorway",  
 "Can't use this kiosk before six",  
 "Didn't you see the sign back there? —  
 The one on the wall painted white  
 Right next to the octagon clock."

**Tim Curtis L6R**



## ELEGY FOR NOBBY

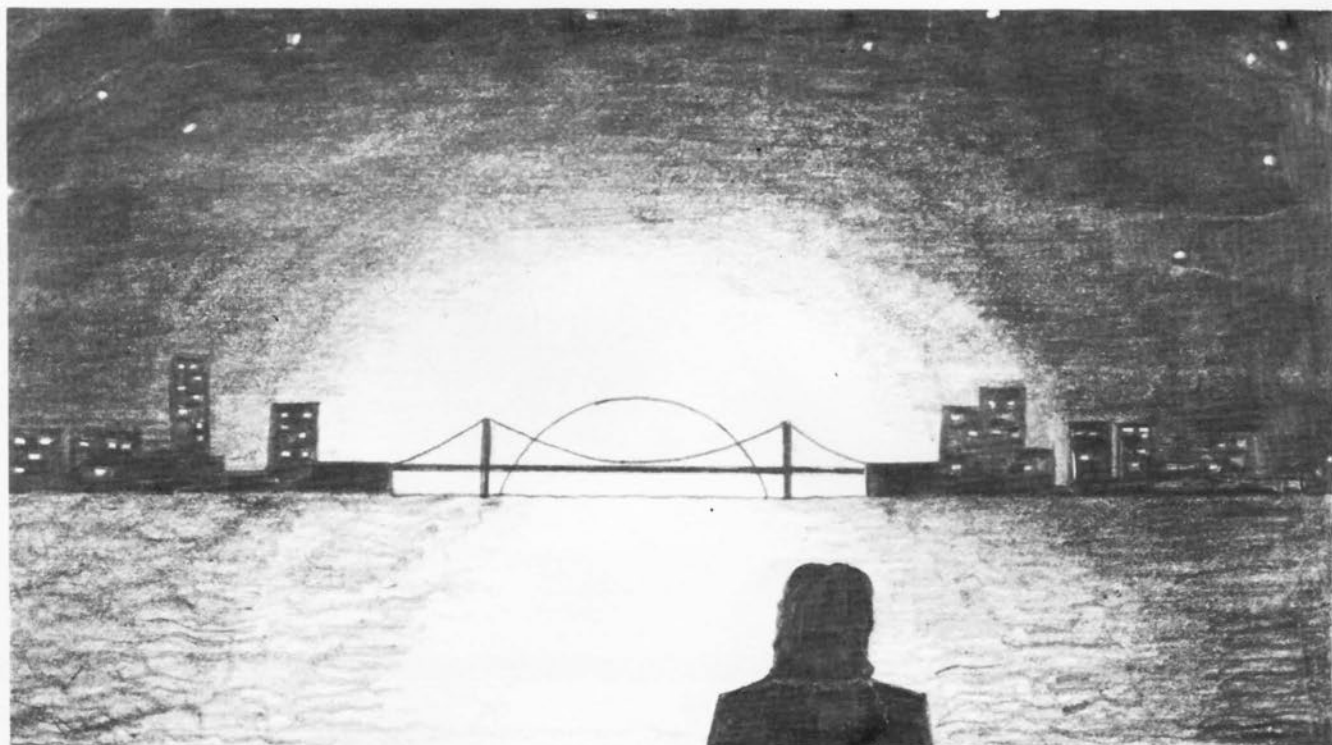
If his mother wept for Plato,  
If his mother wept for Descartes,  
Or Kant, Socrates, Schlegel or Aristotle,  
Then, O Bacchus, weep for Nobby.  
For that famous disciple of your kind of poetry  
Lies on the raised funeral pyre —  
Stoned.  
How, with drooping wings, he ascended  
Is anybody's guess.  
His voice was shaken by a belch.  
They say that Venus was not as disturbed by Nobby's death  
As when a wild boar ruined her boyfriend's chances.  
Beer is called the sacred drink of the gods,  
There are even some convinced of its divine powers . . .  
And they're damn right.  
Cruel morning desecrates the illusion.  
Even Clarence, at the day of his death,  
Plunged into a barrel of malmsey.  
Live piously — yet you will die despite your piety,  
So why not get blotto now?  
Put your trust in P.A. and yet, look . . .  
Nobby's out cold.  
He who occupies the heights of the Teddy turned his face.  
There are some who say he could not stop laughing.  
Ethel, coming down, said, "You lived when I knew you."  
To her Edna, his wife, replied  
"Why is my gain a grief to you?  
It was me he kicked nightly after his trip down the pub."  
Norbert lies in the Valley of Donningtons,  
Where the bars are open all day  
And all the booze is free.  
If only even a ghost survives,  
You've increased the numbers of Hell, O elegant Norbert,  
But you had a good time doing it, didn't ya?

Arthur Ovid

## JUST THINK

Just think if the whole world was one country.  
No wars, and no hate.  
Just think if there was no need for money  
no greed, and no hunger.  
Just think if this were to be true.  
'Impossible' you say.  
But is it?

Idealist





# The Great Debate

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**With the great debate on education raging around us we went along to find out the headmaster's views on the subject.**

We started by discussing the general trends in education today. Mr. Heap considered that the general trend towards comprehensive education would continue though possibly slowed up by lack of money. "The future of reorganisation is bound up with the apparent wish of the Department of Education and Science to consider reorganisation in terms of 16 to 19 reorganisation." The decline in birthrate will mean that there will be a cut back in the number of secondary schools. Sixth Form Colleges are very much in the news at the moment and the headmaster stated their merits and drawbacks. Firstly you can get all those who want to do sixth form work into one institution and there you can offer pupils a wider range of subjects. Subjects which attract only one or two pupils in one school can be studied by a larger group, a "viable unit", at a college. As yet however no one has costed the sixth form college system for its economic pros and cons. Its disadvantages are that you must have large 11 to 16 schools in order to offer a wide range of subjects for the colleges to build on.

You would also decapitate existing schools which have been geared to having a sixth form. In 11 to 19 schools you go into a sixth form you already know which is often, though not always, an advantage. A sixth form course of two years is very short and it would be hard for a teacher or tutor to get to know a pupil well in that time. Any change is expensive and it is doubtful if any change can be done efficiently at the moment. Mr. Heap also expressed the fear that the colleges would get the lion's share of the money going, rather depriving the lower schools. He doubted if the middle schools would attract the graduate teachers as the great attraction for staff in the 11 to 19 through schools is that they have a balanced teaching programme, working with both the sixth form and younger boys. The Unions for secondary school teachers are against Sixth Form

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Colleges. "The City is ideally suited to defeat all forms of reorganisation except the 11 to 16 and 16 to 19 age group system", the headmaster said. There would not be enough money to finance purpose built schools for the 11 to 19 range and it would be necessary to link two or three schools together on separate sites which would be far from ideal. The selection would be done through geographical catchment areas or by feeding from specific primary schools. It would be impossible to abolish all forms of selection altogether, he considered. The very large two thousand strong comprehensive schools would not get the county's approval, Mr. Heap felt sure; their deficiencies have become too obvious. The working party on the future of education in the city voted that the status quo plus improvements were preferable to any change yet proposed. Mr. Heap has been working on various committees dealing with the problems and he warned that all we had discussed was only the tip of the iceberg. He felt that obviously many improvements were still needed in the field of education but it had improved out of all recognition in recent years. We went on to discuss the teachers' training college off Estcourt Road. Everyone had rather assumed, the headmaster felt, that when the college closes it will be used as a sixth form college. However he expressed his doubts about this. Firstly it belongs to the Institute of Higher Education who might want to retain it. Also its position on one side of Gloucester was really not very suitable. Finally it would mean the closure of other secondary schools whose facilities as a sixth form college might be better. Incidentally this year boys from the sixth form have been able to use the training college library, a pleasant and useful development though it seems doubtful if there is a possibility of the experiment spreading to other fields.

Recently there has been much talk of opening school facilities to the public. We asked Mr. Heap if this could happen at Rich's. He felt that

there were many difficulties involved. It would mean extra cleaning staff and caretakers and the question would arise over who was responsible for the school. At the moment the headmaster is responsible but he could not take responsibility for the school all the time. Also, especially if the facilities were badly used, there would be the danger that interest in using them within the school would lessen. The outside public would gain a little but the school might lose a lot, Mr. Heap thought. Anyway, he added, the facilities are used heavily now. The playing fields are used to the full, they need the holidays to recover, outside groups use the swimming pool and the boys play on the tennis courts up to nine o'clock at night; the school does not close at ten past four.

Perhaps, Mr. Heap felt, there are one or two areas where he would like to see some changes in the school. Although many boys do put a lot into the school the headmaster would feel happier if some of the other boys had a greater commitment to the school; if, as he put it, they would come to school with a greater feeling of what they could put in, rather than what they could get out, they would gain much more themselves and so would the school. He also declared that he was a strong believer in parents taking a keen interest in what their sons were doing at school and he hoped that the steps he was taking to help this along would prove successful.

Finally we asked him about the situation as it stands at the moment. The headmaster explained that the Secretary of State for Education, Mrs. Shirley Williams, had asked for a plan to end selection in the area to be sent to her for approval and one will be sent by the local education authority. She might or she might not accept it. It is doubtful if Gloucestershire County Council will want to implement a plan they have not necessarily approved. The headmaster finished; "we have got through from 1666 to 1977, let's hope we can safely get to 1999."

**"THIS POEM HAS NO AUDIENCE"**

(And probably doesn't deserve one.—Ed.)

There's mechanical gas, where there used to be air,  
And chemical waste where rivers once flowed.  
The answer doesn't blow in the wind any more, which  
isn't what the man said,  
And anyway who'd listen if it did.  
(Poems don't rhyme any more either, don't have beauty,  
devoid of shape.—Ed.)

Oh, by the way —  
This poem's been written before,  
By people better than me. (Right on—Ed.)  
People don't listen any more,  
Eyes are opaque, sometimes don't see.  
And I can't write what I wanted to say,  
And I don't always feel this way. —

But you know there's still trees, windy days by the sea,  
And strawberry creams with the tennis.  
And my speech is still free, I can still act like me,  
Without any fear of the prison  
Where the walls are all red, and you hate what you said,  
And comfort is way off in the distance. (Perhaps it does—Ed.)  
And that's something. (I was right first time—Ed.)

Well, world, y'know, all I really want to do,  
Is maybe be friends with you.  
Which is what the man said.

Written and edited by Gareth Cox, late of this parish



**TEMPLES LIKE DEAD CROWS**

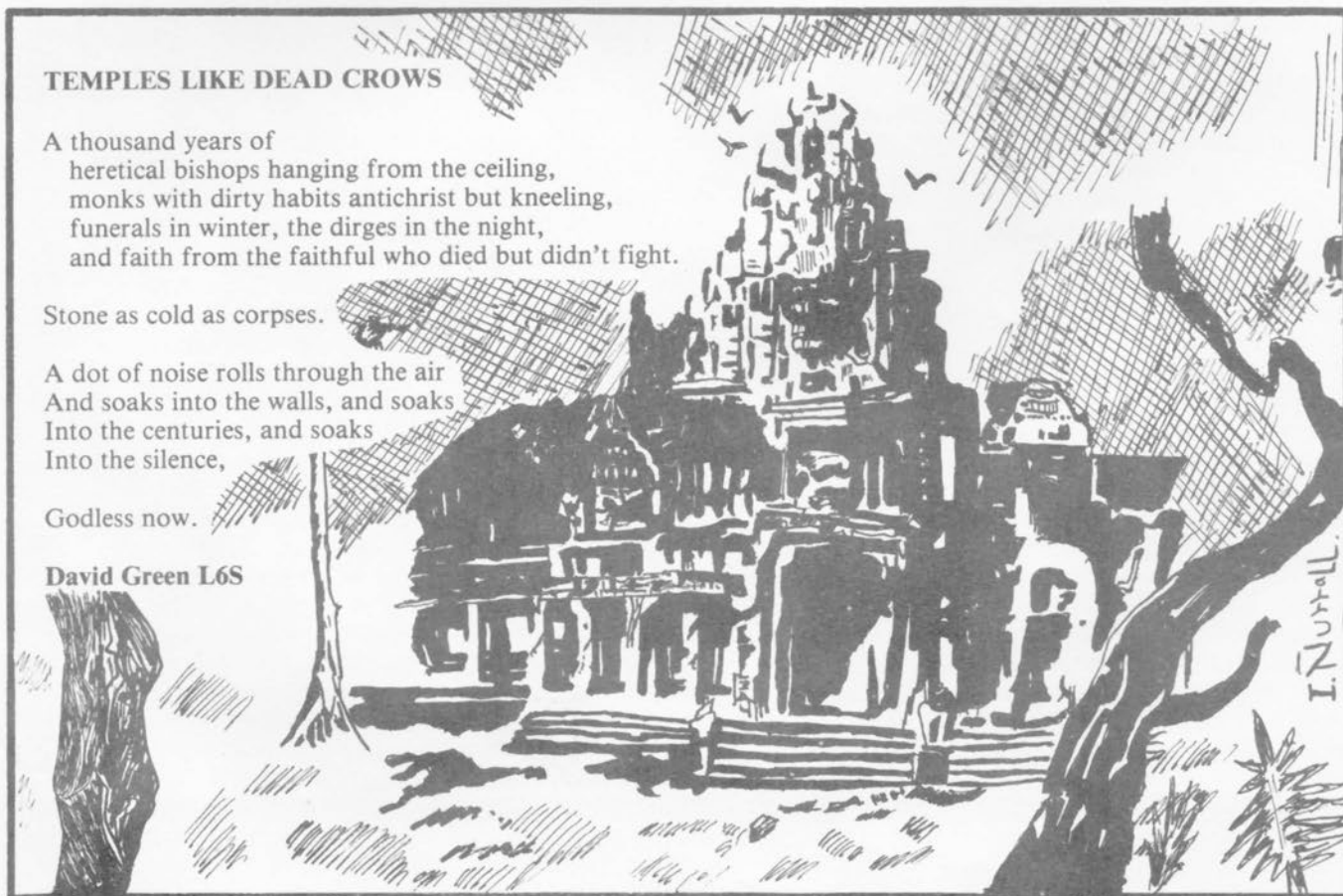
A thousand years of  
heretical bishops hanging from the ceiling,  
monks with dirty habits antichrist but kneeling,  
funerals in winter, the dirges in the night,  
and faith from the faithful who died but didn't fight.

Stone as cold as corpses.

A dot of noise rolls through the air  
And soaks into the walls, and soaks  
Into the centuries, and soaks  
Into the silence,

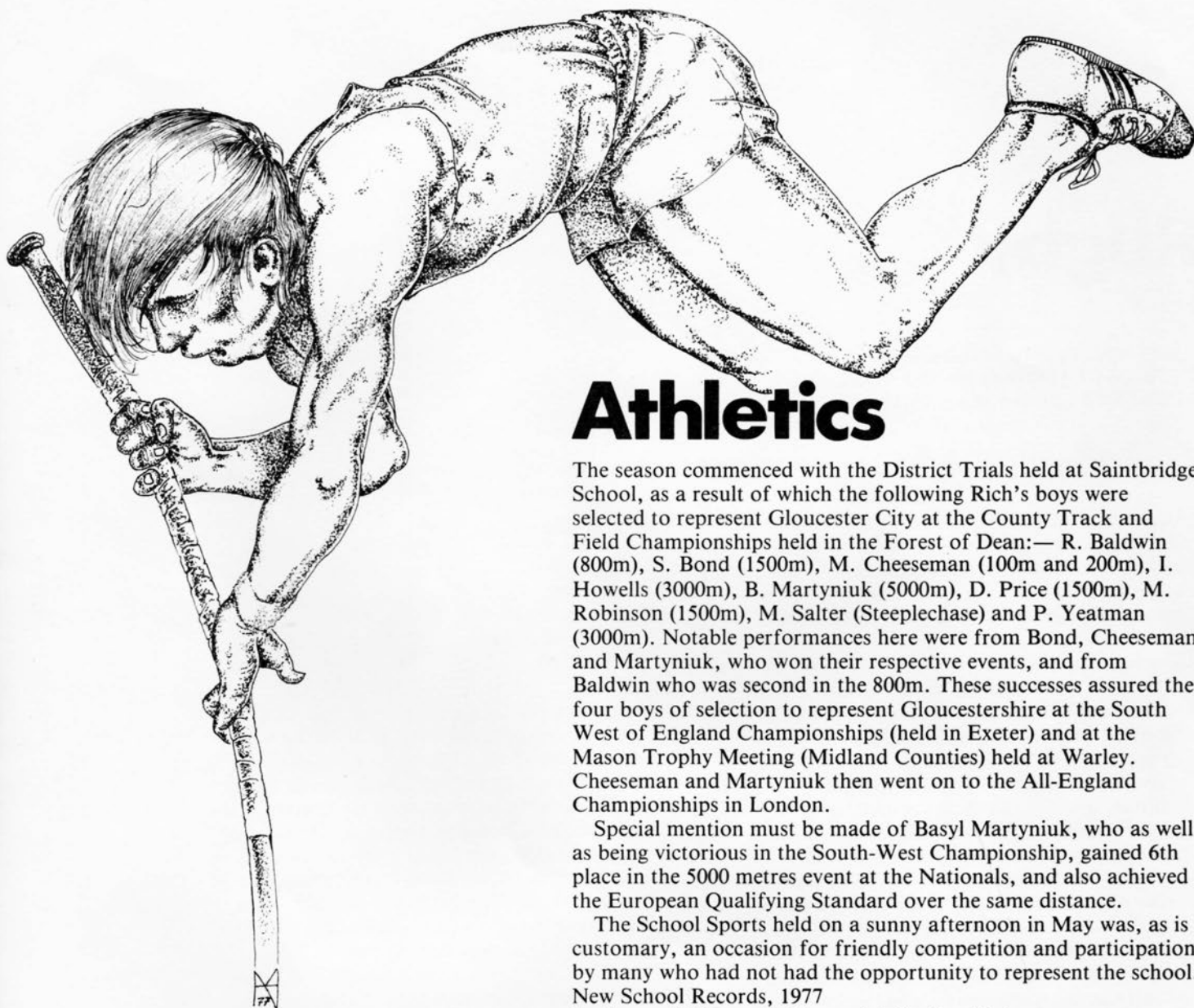
Godless now.

David Green L6S





# SPORT



## Athletics

The season commenced with the District Trials held at Saintbridge School, as a result of which the following Rich's boys were selected to represent Gloucester City at the County Track and Field Championships held in the Forest of Dean:— R. Baldwin (800m), S. Bond (1500m), M. Cheeseman (100m and 200m), I. Howells (3000m), B. Martyniuk (5000m), D. Price (1500m), M. Robinson (1500m), M. Salter (Steeplechase) and P. Yeatman (3000m). Notable performances here were from Bond, Cheeseman and Martyniuk, who won their respective events, and from Baldwin who was second in the 800m. These successes assured the four boys of selection to represent Gloucestershire at the South West of England Championships (held in Exeter) and at the Mason Trophy Meeting (Midland Counties) held at Warley. Cheeseman and Martyniuk then went on to the All-England Championships in London.

Special mention must be made of Basyll Martyniuk, who as well as being victorious in the South-West Championship, gained 6th place in the 5000 metres event at the Nationals, and also achieved the European Qualifying Standard over the same distance.

The School Sports held on a sunny afternoon in May was, as is customary, an occasion for friendly competition and participation by many who had not had the opportunity to represent the school. New School Records, 1977

Senior: 1500m — B. Martyniuk 3 mins. 58.6 secs.  
5000m — B. Martyniuk 15 mins. 10.0 secs.  
4th year: 800m — R. Baldwin 2 mins. 5.4 secs.  
3rd year: 1500m — S. Bond 4 mins. 27.0 secs.  
Shot — D. Powell 36ft. 3ins.

**M.S.R.**

## Bowls

Enthusiasm and interest in bowls has not decreased, shown by the fact that the majority of members are playing bowls for the first time. In order to maintain this interest, a singles tournament and a pairs tournament were arranged and both of these are now well under way and it is hoped that these will be completed by the end of term. In addition, the House Bowls Tournament has yet to be arranged, and also the annual match against the parents in which I am sure the school will do well.

**Simon R. Davis U6R**

# Rugby

## First XV

**CAPTAIN:** Patrick Montanaro  
**VICE-CAPTAIN:** Stephen Baker L6T  
**SECRETARY:** Clive Smith U6T

P	W	D	L	F	A
11	7	1	3	170	58

The prospect of building a XV around only five old 'colours' provided little hope for a successful season. Veterans Patch Montanaro and Nigel Carter, returning for their fourth season, were the only representatives from the Third Year Sixth which had supplied such a steady flow of players during past years.

Any early fears were quite unfounded, however, and a team spirit emerged from an interesting blend of enthusiasm and experience that kept the side unbeaten until after Christmas.

Clive Smith and Paul Collins propped effectively and I thank them for putting up with my wild looking style for as long as they did. Chris Pashley and Clive Bishop, both total newcomers to the second row, are certainly worthy of praise — Chris for his speed and agility around the field and Clive for his line-out prowess. The remainder of the pack comprised Roy Simpson, Andy Rose and John Mellon who knitted together to form a formidable new back unit. John and Andy often cleaned up messy 'ball' and Roy often did the dirty work too . . .

On the all too few occasions when the 'threes' clicked they proved themselves to be unequalled by any other school side with the exception of Christ's College, Brecon. Steve Baker maintained his reputation as an excellent scrum half and Nigel Carter played with all his usual flair, scoring half the total points. Hard-tackling Phil Gabb and the versatile Mark Calver moved well on the wings while Russell Ellis and Kevin Ball formed a talented mid-field. Malcolm Hazard completed an adventurous three-quarter line.

It appears that there are going to be as few 'regulars' returning next season as there were this season but who knows? Nige may be back again!

**Patrick Montanaro**

## First Team Squad

C. A. Smith  
 P. P. Montanaro  
 P. V. Collins  
 C. A. Bishop  
 C. C. R. Pashley  
 A. J. Rose  
 R. A. Simpson  
 J. Mellon  
 S. J. W. Baker

N. J. Carter  
 M. W. Calver  
 R. Ellis  
 K. C. Ball  
 P. M. Gabb  
 M. J. Hazard  
 M. Turner  
 K. M. Morris  
 D. R. Barnard  
 R. E. Day  
 G. J. Winstanley  
 D. Pegler

## Second XV

P	W	D	L
7	3	0	4

Only seven matches were played this season owing to cancellations as a result of the mixed weather conditions of drought and flooding. Thus everyone lacked match experience which was best illustrated when we were beaten by the well drilled St. Brendan's team.

Unfortunately the backs were inconsistent through changes due mainly to injuries. The strength of the team lay in the forwards who could be relied upon consistently to win the ball against the head and in the loose.

**Robert Day 6(3) (Captain)**

## Colts XV

P	W	L	F	A
8	4	4	78	64

The Colts Fifteen, under the inspiring captaincy of Paul Calver, had a fine season which opened with an easy win against Chosen Hill (28-0). The second victory (16-8) was not come by so easily. After we had secured a seemingly comfortable lead in the first half, Culverhay came back at us with two tries and continued the heavy pressure right up to full time. The games against Marling and Kings were won 15-0 and 13-0 respectively. The 'try of the season' must go to Pat Strutt when he scored against Marling. He hared off with the ball firmly tucked under his arm and,

# Basketball

with only the full-back in the opposite half to beat; with a side step that Gerald Davies would have been proud of, left him grovelling on the floor to run on and put the ball down for his first, and only, try of the season. The Kings' game was a bit of a farce. After a delayed start we played a game that was not too demanding and, had the conditions been right, I feel sure we could have put on last year's 52-0 display.

The games that were lost included the St. Brendans match, in which we were well beaten, and the Beechen Cliff match where the savage tackling of Jim Byrne was missed due to injury. The Cheltenham Grammar and Crypt games were even but no matter how we fought the extra few points needed for victory just would not come.

May I just mention the team spirit which was always present and even higher than any season before, I would like to give thanks to the Captain, Paul Calver, who played a big part in making the team what it was.

**P. Davis**

## OLD RICHIANNS

1st XV	P 25	W 16	L 8	D 1
2nd XV	P 27	W 12	L 12	D 3
3rd XV	P 22	W 5	L 15	D 2

The drought provided early frustration for a season that was poor in terms of success on the field, as compared with the previous year's high standards.

Charles Rogers was Club Captain and was ably assisted by 1st XV team members Richard Hardwicke, John Coombes and Barrie Price. Although the Boxing Day Encounter with Old Cryptians was lost, we gained revenge in another hard fought match later in the year. Other notable victories included Tredworth, Saintsbridge and Bath Spartans.

This year's Easter Tour was enjoyed at North Devon and another success was the Club's Annual Dinner and Dance at Cheltenham where Mike Burton was the principal guest.

Administration is looked after by a small committee in which Clive Walford as Secretary and Ken Haines as Fixture Secretary figure prominently. Our thanks again to Mr. Yates and Mr. Griffiths for their continued support.

**K. D. Ray**

### **CAPTAIN: Duncan Jodrell U6T**

This year saw the re-entry of Rich's into the North Gloucestershire League.

Apart from the driving skills of Messrs. McBurnie and Winstanley the team was managed by sixth formers with no experience of competitive basketball and unfortunately this was reflected in match results.

It was almost as if a pit pony dared to race alongside thoroughbreds in the first few matches, however following a few knowledgeable hints from masters from other schools, the standard of our play noticeably improved and although a win was still not forthcoming the scores began to look respectable (28-32 v Newent; 24-28 v Oxstalls). I think it should be noted that in both these matches the squad was weakened by sickness and injury.

Then on a memorable day in March the team travelled to Newent at full strength for the first time in months and gained both revenge and its first win, cruising to victory by 28 points to 6.

Perhaps next season with a nucleus of experienced players, results will be appreciably better and I hope that the new captain David Glik will receive the same support as I have from the team.

As an incentive to next year's fifth and sixth formers I should like to mention that perhaps our most enjoyable fixture was a netball match played against Denmark Road High School. (A basketball match will also have taken place by the time this magazine is published). The honours in the netball were shared evenly, our 'B' team cancelling out the 'A' team's defeat.

These fixtures are rewarding in that they provide an escape from the cut-throat competition of league basketball.

Since colours are not awarded for basketball, I should like to take this opportunity to thank Neville Gaunt for the help he has given me throughout the year.

**Duncan Jodrell U6T**



# Squash

**CAPTAIN:** Duncan Jodrell U6T  
**SECRETARY:** Hugh Watson U6R  
**TREASURER:** Stephen Fisher U6R

The club's first season of competitive squash opened with defeats at the hands of more experienced teams from Cheltenham College, King's and Saintbridge. Undeterred, we went on to win three of our five remaining matches in the autumn term with the result that we came equal second to Saintbridge in our regional division of the Junior County League. Results in the lent term were similar, losing the first few matches but finishing strongly. The team, led by Duncan Jodrell, relied heavily on David Glik and Jonathan May at numbers one and two, the remaining two places in the team being filled by ten different players at various times.

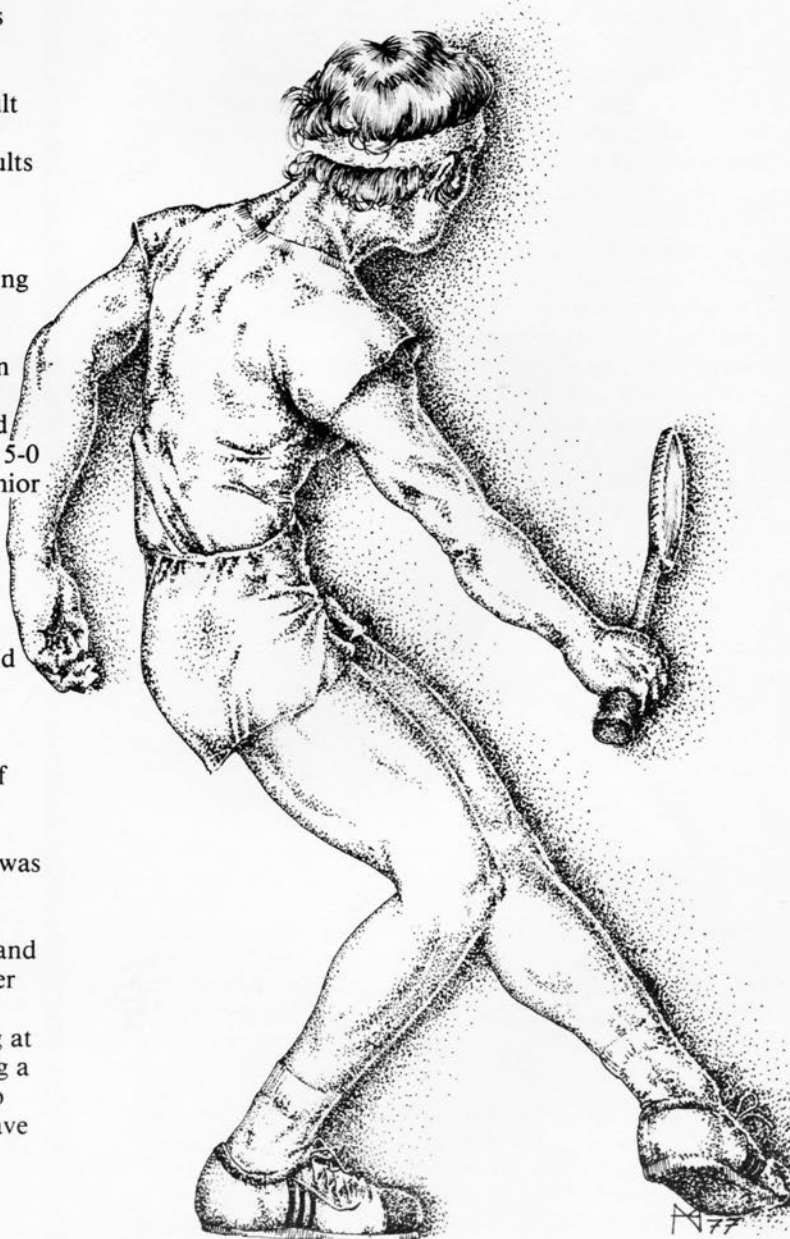
In response to the enthusiasm shown for squash in the lower school, several under 14 matches were arranged. After losing the first match against Stroud Squash Club, the team, led by Tim Smith, recorded 5-0 victories over Saintbridge and King's. We held a Junior Tournament in which Tim Smith defeated Robin Bewley in the final, and a corresponding Plate Competition which was won by Mark Peachey who defeated Nicholas Shackleton in their final.

A club league operated in the lent term for the seniors and this was consistently dominated by David Glik. The Senior Squash Tournament was won by Duncan Jodrell who defeated Ross Perriam in an exciting final.

In open events there might be more to report on if there had been a greater willingness to participate. However, three players did enter the Junior County Trials and all acquitted themselves well. Gary Lane was runner-up in the under 16 section of the County Novices Tournament, and Hugh Watson and Tim Smith were members of the winning team in the Grand "Join-the-Team" Tournament held at the Gloucester Country Club.

With only one member of this year's team leaving at the end of the year, next season shows signs of being a more successful one in every way. It only remains to thank all those inside and outside the school who have helped with the running of the club this year.

**Hugh Watson U6R**



# Football

Two five-a-side tournaments were held this year. One was open to the whole school and the other was a separate junior tournament.

The Senior Tournament attracted thirty teams. The majority of these were from the fifth and sixth forms, but there were several entries from the lower school competing for the junior prize of a football.

The first round saw most of the senior teams drawn against each other and the juniors likewise. While this inevitably reduced the number of junior teams in the second round, it ensured the survival of some. Unfortunately none of these won through to the quarter-finals. It was decided, therefore, that the junior prize should be awarded to one of the two remaining first form teams — 1S or 1R. At the time of writing this game has not been played.

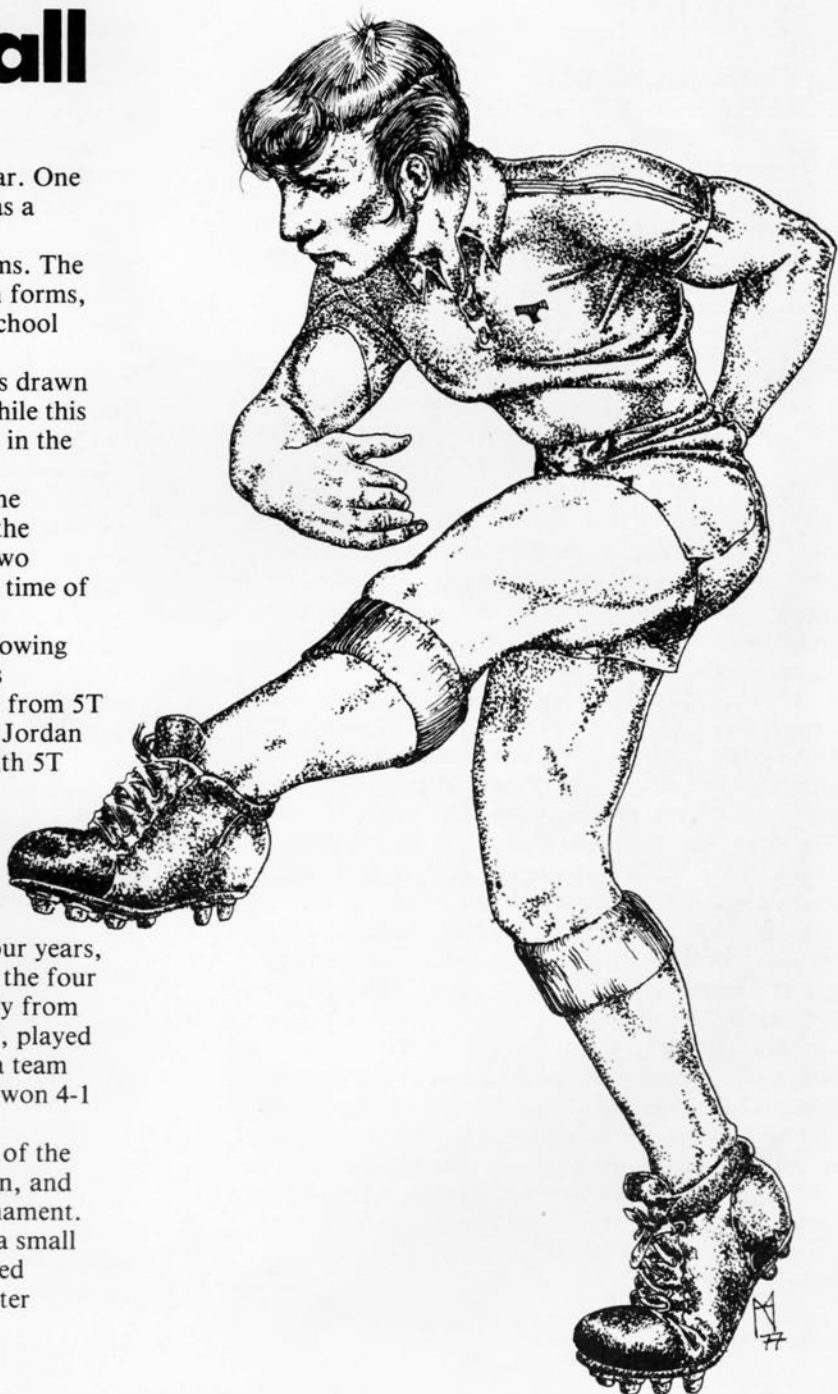
The competition progressed rapidly and following some very good football, two fifth form teams eventually reached the final. These were teams from 5T and 5R, captained by Paul Stone and Andrew Jordan respectively. The final was keenly contested with 5T running out eventual winners by 6 goals to 2.

The Junior Tournament, open to the first four years, attracted sixteen entries spread evenly through the four years. The standard of play was high, especially from the younger teams, who, although outmatched, played enthusiastically. The tournament was won by a team from 3S, captained by Nicholas Poulton, who won 4-1 in the final.

The organisation and most of the refereeing of the Senior Tournament was done by Simon Weston, and Ian Fletcher did the same for the Junior Tournament.

Football was initiated as a games option by a small group of the lower sixth, this winter, who played regularly throughout the season at the Gloucester Leisure Centre.

Simon Weston L6R



# Cross Country

**CAPTAIN: Mark Dix U6S**  
**SECRETARY: Neville Gaunt U6T**

The Senior Cross Country Club had one of their best ever seasons, once more excelling themselves in relays. Three good wins came at the Haberdashers Aske's 6 stage relay, the Millfield 4 lap road relay and at the Clifton College Trophy Race. However, a fine 2nd place behind St. Bede's, Bradford, in the Sutton Coldfield 4 lap road relay probably was a better performance than any of these. The team also gained 2nd place for the 2nd year running in the Chepstow Army Apprentices' College 6 leg cross country relay. They were just taken by Marlborough College on the last lap. Three School teams were entered for the Oxford Tortoises Relay, the 'A' team managing 4th place. A 5th placing in the King Henry VIII School (Coventry) Relay was the best result ever gained by the School in this event, which is reckoned as the top schools' relay in the country.

Basyl Martyniuk was the School's outstanding performer, gaining individual awards for the fastest times in each of the above races, while juniors Robert Baldwin and Stephen Bond established themselves in the Senior Team for these events. Their performances were invaluable in gaining these fine results.

As usual the District Trials held at Rich's were dominated by School runners, who took 8 of the first 10 positions. All these competitors were selected to represent Gloucester in the County Championships with the following runners then qualifying for the County Team: Basyl Martyniuk (2nd), Mark Salter (5th), Mark Dix (6th), Andrew Martyniuk (7th) and Brian Nichols (8th).

In spite of gaining selection, many of the runners were unable to run for Gloucestershire in the South West and National Championships. However, in the Nationals, Basyl Martyniuk ran exceptionally well to finish 22nd with Mark Dix and Andrew Martyniuk also competing, while in the South West's Mark Dix ran well to finish 31st, followed home by Brian Nichols (50th).

**Mark Salter U6T**

## JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY

The season for the Junior Cross Country Club got off to a fairly slow start. With the Cantonian Relays cancelled owing to the drought, the U15 and U13 teams were unable to defend their titles. However, the Juniors were kept busy with friendly fixtures against Chosen Hill, Marling and Whitefriars, which were all won by the School. The annual runs against St. Brendan's College and Marlborough provided some stronger competition, and a defeat for the U13's.

Nicholas Shackleton and Keith Sacklyn have emerged as the top two first year runners with the rest of the pack evenly matched. Graham Abbott, who joined the second year in September, has also made a strong contribution.

One of the busiest times of the season was in March, when the U14's had to run two races in four days. The first of these was the Haberdashers Aske's Annual Race, in which 108 runners took part. A Rich's team victory came easily here, due to the high placings of the first four runners, Bond (2nd), Weston (4th), Smith (10th), and Abbott (20th). More difficult than anticipated was the St. Nicholas (Northwood) Trophy Race three days later. The U14's won it last year, but this year with a much larger field of 242, they failed to do the double and could only manage 8th place.

Several School runners represented the Gloucester District at the County Championships at Fairford. In the Minors, Barbour came 11th, and MacManus 26th. Juniors age group runners were Bond, who won the Championship, Weston (2nd), and Smith (6th). Both Bond and Weston went on to represent Gloucestershire in the South West, and All England Championships. More success came in the Intermediate Boys Championship, which Robert Baldwin won, ably supported by Yeatman (4th), Robinson (5th), Howells (6th), and Price (8th). Of these, Baldwin and Yeatman went on to compete in the All England Championships.

North Gloucestershire League fixtures concluded the season. Both U13's and U15's won the team titles again, and several Rich's runners finished well up in the individual placings. Sired was 4th, and Sacklyn 6th in the U13. The first four U15 placings were occupied by Baldwin, Bond, Yeatman and Price respectively, with Weston 6th and Smith 9th.

**David Price 4R**

Too numerous to list are the many boys not mentioned above who have trained regularly throughout the season, and have represented the School in 'B' and 'C' teams. All due credit must go the these too.

**M.S.R. and E.T.**





A77

# Chess

**PRESIDENT: Mr. R. L. Fowler**

**CAPTAIN: Peter Bruce L6S**

**SECRETARY: Ross Perriam L6S**

The school team had a season of mixed fortunes. In the North Gloucestershire League the team moved up a division to Division 2 after winning Division 3 last year, but were unfortunate in winning only two games and drawing one. Most of the other teams were adult ones but special mention must be made of Gareth Anthony 3S who played well on board 1 to beat some very good players.

In the Gloucestershire Schools knockout, the school team, which regularly consists of Gareth Anthony, Ross Perriam, Peter Bruce, Paul Jennings and Kevin Richardson with David Brown or Paul Everson playing on board 6, reached the final by defeating Cheltenham G.S. 5—1. The final, against Bristol Cathedral School, was won after a very close match.

We were again successful in winning our zone of the Sunday Times National Schools Knockout by defeating Hereford Cathedral School, who fielded three county players, by 4—2 in a tense match. The previous three rounds had been won 6—0, 5—1, 6—0. However, in the next round we lost to Millfield when not playing up to our usual standard.

In the Gloucester and District Schools Knockout a 2nd team quickly strode to the final where we defeated Whitefriars 4½—½.

A Junior team consisting of 1st and 2nd formers was put in the Gloucester and District Schools League, in order to gain experience. They did well to win 3 and draw 1 out of 6 matches against other schools' 1st teams.

The enthusiasm in the lower school has been very good but this is not matched in the upper school, unfortunately. A league tournament was held for the Juniors and, after two terms, this was won by J. Gardner 2S in a three-way play off. The school chess tournament final, between Gareth Anthony and Peter Bruce, has yet to be played. The house chess tournament was won by Southgate.

Seven players entered the North Gloucestershire Schools' Chess Congress where Christopher Riley (1S) came 3rd equal in the U13 section and K. Richardson 3S came equal 1st in the U15 section.

Our thanks must go to Mr. Fowler for his keen support and interest and to Mr. Tucker for driving us to distant away matches.

**Peter Bruce L6S**

# Badminton

Total Matches —	P	W	L
	20	18	2

**CAPTAIN: Mark Stephens U6S**

**JUNIORS: Christopher Collins 5T**

The senior team had a successful season being defeated in only one of its matches. This was by Beaufort School who emerged as our only rival in our quest to retain the County League title for the fourth consecutive season. The 5-4 defeat by Beaufort was avenged in the home fixture by the convincing victory of 9 games to nil. The remaining league matches resulted in comparatively easy victories. This season we played only one friendly match which was against Ashleworth B.C. and although the visitors ran out winners it proved a valuable experience for our team. Senior colours were awarded to Mark Stephens and Ian Palmer.

The Junior team continued their success in their league remaining unbeaten throughout the season and retaining the County Junior Cup. Christopher Collins and Martin Brewster completed their last season with the juniors in which they remained unbeaten for their second successive season and leave many promising youngsters, all of whom have already played either in some of the league or friendly matches, to contest next season's League title.

The highlight of the season came when a team consisting of Chris Collins, Martin and Nigel Brewster and Paul Stone represented the County in the National Top Schools Tournament. We beat a Wiltshire school 7-0 to reach the regional semi final although the result of this match was a foregone conclusion as the team from Gordano School, Bristol contained two members of the All England Junior Squad. Several members of the Badminton club obtained their Hearts of Oak Bronze Award and we would like to thank Mrs. Eleanor Collins for her time and effort spent in coaching us and thanks also to Mr. Henderson and his faithful "bus" for transport throughout the season.

**Martin Brewster 5S**

# Table Tennis

**ORGANISERS: Richard Tomes 4T**  
**Paul Venn 3R**

The newly formed Table Tennis Club, only re-opened in November 1976, was an immediate success, reaching its full complement of twenty four third and fourth year members within the first week. The club meets at lunchtimes and after school and we have been able to buy some much-needed new equipment. Some exciting tournaments have been held and in the coming months we are hoping to organise some inter-class and inter-school competitions.

**Richard Tomes 4T**

# Cricket

**CAPTAIN:** Stephen Preston U6T

## **First XI**

Despite early difficulties in forming the ideal eleven the season was on the whole enjoyable and although wins were scarce defeats were not too many.

The team held their opponents to a draw in the majority of matches, although it must be admitted that more than once luck was on our side — that's cricket!

Gary Jones emerged as the most consistent performer with the bat and on two occasions bettered fifty. David Brown and Tim Curtis toiled manfully and shared most of the bowling and wickets.

We can however look forward to a more successful season next year as we shall have a nucleus of "old timers" still with us and some promising "youngsters" coming up.

## **Second XI**

If we consider results the main aim of a season, the second eleven was as successful as any of the five teams. Under the leadership of Anthony Wakefield, and after losing some of their regular players to the first eleven, they deserve praise for their enthusiasm and efforts.

## **Under 15 XI**

This team under Martin Howell's captaincy showed supreme optimism and enthusiasm not always borne out by the subsequent result. It is from this group of players however that we look for our future First Eleven and I feel sure we shall not be disappointed.

## **Under 14 XI**

The Under-Fourteens added to the conviction that our lower teams often seem to do better than the upper age groups. Poulton was undoubtedly the outstanding player, scoring ninety-four on one occasion and proving very useful with the ball. Ball, the captain, scored a powerful fifty-seven towards the end of the season and Anthony proved that he can be a very successful bowler by just being consistent with length and direction.

## **Under 13 XI**

1977 was quite a successful season, the majority of games played were won. Griffiths, as captain, was well supported by all members of the team and he himself did well as the main bowling success. Brewster headed the batting with some reliable performances.

## **Results**

	P	W	L	D
First XI	8	1	2	5
Under 15 XI	7	2	2	3
Under 14 XI	4	3	0	1
Under 13 XI	5	3	1	1

**Andrew Williams L6**

# Croquet

**PRESIDENT:** Mr. M. W. Rangeley

**SECRETARY:** Hugh Watson U6R

**TREASURER:** Duncan Barnes 5S

As usual this report is being written before the end of the season, so I will begin by summarising the events of last year. Two club ladders were operated — one for the more proficient players and one for beginners — the former being dominated by Mr. Rangeley and Duncan Barnes. A tournament was held for players in the lower school and this was won by Peter Hamand and Peter Westlake. A set of hoops was purchased with the aid of a grant from the Parents Association making the club self-sufficient in equipment. This leaves us free to buy more mallets with members' subscriptions.

Once again this year we have two lawns marked out, one full size. The weather has not, unfortunately, been quite as good as last summer's, but interest has been sufficiently high for an American-style tournament to be held in which players enter individually and are drawn in pairs. Several players used the facilities at Cheltenham Croquet Club last year and it is hoped that this will be repeated.

**Hugh Watson U6R**

# Angling

**PRESIDENT:** Stephen Langley L6T

**SECRETARY:** Leslie Pegler 5T

This club is open to any member of the school but the majority of the members come from the Fifth Form.

After last year's disappointment in reaching the final of the Schools' National only to be disqualified, the club hoped to reach the final again this year. But, with the weather taking a hand in the first round match, against a school from Tewkesbury, this had to be finished late in the season on the canal at Hardwicke and victory went to the visitors (they caught two, we caught one!)

Trips are usually to the Thames at Lechlade where fishing is very good.

Meetings are announced in assembly.

**Leslie Pegler 5T**



# Rowing

Our report begins 12 months ago, in the summer of 1976.

Following scathing comments in last year's magazine, senior members redeemed themselves by virtually giving up their Easter Holiday to train daily.

Work of this intensity could not go unrewarded, and the annual West Country visit to the Dart Head raised the school's position to 5th in the open club section, hard on the heels of the international content of Poplar, Blackwall and District. The U-18 trophy was retained without difficulty.

The Ball Cup at Hereford produced the best results ever, the School taking both Senior and Junior titles from over 30 entries.

The J-15 four of A. Passey, P. Cambridge, A. Whitehead and B. Emerson, N. Dowding, cox, won the Prosser Cup at Hereford Schools Regatta.

A J-15 composite with Priory School, Shrewsbury was formed for the Cheltenham College Eights Regatta. Following half an hour practice, the crew recorded remarkably fast times in its heats and only the disadvantage of an infinitely slower outside lane prevented a remarkable result.

Sculling interrupted fours racing, and J-15 novice Adrian Whitehead was introduced to single seat boats. Inevitable defeat by Crypt in the final of the Frith Cup followed, but potential showed through to be

exploited later in the year.

Examinations and the inevitable end of term wind-down ensued, and competition was suspended for the summer.

The Rowing Club summer camp was again held at Dartmouth in Regatta Week. Medals from participation in cross-country were added to the second places gained from two finals in the six-lane rowing events.

The autumn programme omitted the Boston Marathon this year, the previous year's record safely in our pockets.



The Gloucester Schools Norris Challenge Cup, reduced to a match with Crypt, was held early in the autumn term.

With the result depending on the aggregate times of 3 races, the J-15's did well to limit their larger opponents to a few seconds' victory.

The J-16's won easily and handed on a handsome time margin to the seniors.

The series of boat breakages which occurred all the way down the course is well remembered by seniors, and victory again went to Crypt.

Winter training for most members consisted of the usual out-of-the-boat gym and road work, but for Adrian Whitehead and Piers Alington the experiment of sculling head races provided an interesting variation.

Alington competed in the school's home converted boat and gained some worthy places, but pride of place went to Whitehead, with first attempt wins in open competition at Hereford, Worcester and Monmouth and creditable seconds at Gloucester and Saltford.

Selection for the eight followed, the reward being open competition throughout the spring.

Selection completed, the introduction of new techniques began, and great improvement was noticed. Encouraged by the possibility of spring success, only Christmas interrupted holiday work, and spring term started with a crew ready and fit to race.

Pre-competition fixtures were successful against local clubs, and early in February, the first journey of the season was made to the windswept waters of Bristol Floating Harbour for the Bristol and Severn Head.

Both crew and coaches were

surprised at the ease with which victory was obtained, and further success was earned at Gloucester a week later.

Improvement over previous seasons' performances was becoming more obvious with the successes of the eight over public school neighbours, and this was climaxed by a first-ever open schools success at Exeter, usually dominated by Monkton, Bryanston and Canford.

The overall third position earned here was probably the peak of the spring cycle, the best result ever gained in the school's ten years of visits to Exeter.

Prospects for the Schools Head Eights appeared good, but at this point the inevitable peak/trough influence in any macrocycle exerted itself and our Tideway visits proved disastrous.

In the Schools race, the poor performance of our eight was made ever more bitter by the fact that we had anticipated tide and wind conditions, only to be forced to row in the worst water by a combination of overtaking circumstances. The few seconds lost cost us the dozen or so places that we were hoping for to put us among the top twenty public school eights.

An even more bizarre series of events dogged us in the open Tideway event. The anticipation of a tussle with the National Squad, Oxford University and the best 350 eights from this country and 25 from the continent led us to carefully plan tactics and courses on the Mortlake to Putney Championship reach.

So intense was our preparation that we omitted to report our presence to the organisers on the day of the race! We raced exactly as planned, rowed a perfect course

and were disqualified for not having taken part!

Recriminations, protests and apologies eventually led to a final position of 116th being granted, our best ever in the recent years of extremely high quality.

A two day trip to Devon to contest the eight mile course of the Bideford Head turned out to be an unforeseen adventure.

A crew consisting of Alan Passey, Mark Bennett, Adrian Whitehead, and Piers Alington took advantage of homework done on the plotting of estuary channels and sandbanks. Working their way through the field they found themselves in the embarrassing position of leading the race in the middle of the Torridge Estuary. To our short-lived elation, nearest rivals Exeter sank in a squall. We followed, as did six other leading crews, and the race turned into chaos. Our boat broke up and the crew was rescued by lifeboat.

We later salvaged the remains at Appledore, but the shell was a write off.

Following events such as these, regatta racing seemed mundane. Two weeks of sprint training took us to Evesham, where a Junior U-18 crew brought home a valuable haul of unredeemable pewterware for our first trophy of the 1977 season.

We go to press following a further visit to the sea, where the Junior U-18 trophy from Dartmouth was retained for the third year in succession. Members: G. Barber (Capt.), N. Harris, M. Bennett, P. Alington, H. Price, R. Chappell, A. Whitehead, P. Cambridge, A. Passey, A. J. Price, A. Williams, M. Caulkett, N. Dowding (Cox), P. Green (Cox), N. Cummings (Cox).

# Tennis

## 1st VI

**CAPTAIN: John Mellon U6S**

**TREASURER: Peter Bruce L6S**

P	W	L	D
14	9	3	2

After only a mediocre season last year it was hoped that this season would be a successful one and indeed it has been — despite the fact that the third pair has been constantly changed throughout the season.

The season began with convincing wins against St. Paul's College 3rd VI, and against Wycliffe College in the Glanville Cup. The team then played exceptionally well to defeat a strong St. Paul's College 2nd VI 5-4. In the match against Rendcomb College a second IV achieved a comfortable 4-0 win.

Our only defeat in a full 1st VI match was against a very strong Magdalen College team when we were beaten 8½-½. In this match certain team members allowed themselves to be overawed by the opposition and subsequently did not play to their full potential. Even so the result was not a true reflection of play since Glik and Mellon were only narrowly beaten in two of their matches by 7-6, and 7-5 — after leading in both.

In the second round of the Glanville Cup, the 1st VI beat Bournemouth 2-1, and were defeated by a similar margin by both Fareham and Penarth.

Later comfortable wins were recorded against Dean Close and Marling, and a good draw was achieved against Wotton L.T.C.

In the Home Counties Tournament played at Oxford the school entered two teams consisting of Glik and Mellon, and Fuller and Dix. Glik and Mellon beat Carmel College II, Oxford and Magdalen College II to reach the semi-finals, where they lost to a strong Magdalen College I team. Fuller and Dix also reached the semi-finals after beating Carmel College I and Richard Hale II team but were then defeated by Richard Hale 'firsts'. This was a good performance against strong opposition.

With the season drawing to a close the school has comfortably beaten a Cheltenham College team, and also drawn with Wycliffe College. The latter fixture should have resulted in another win, however complacency in all quarters after a good season proved costly.

One fixture against Solihull G.S. remains to be played.

The strength of our fixture list continues to grow and I hope that the success of the team will also continue.

Team members this year have been John Mellon, David Glik, Mark Dix, Ashley Fuller, Duncan Jodwell, Chris Pashley, Peter Bruce, Simon Weston and Ross Perriam.

## U-16 VI

**CAPTAIN: Jonathan May 5S**

P	W	L	D
5	4	0	1

This season the U16 team, led by May have been very strong but unfortunately has only played 5 matches. The season began with wins against Dean Close and Rendcomb College and the team played very well to achieve a draw against Magdalen College.

Excellent wins have also been recorded against both Cheltenham and Wycliffe Colleges.

Henderson and Willis deserve special mention having played consistently well all season.

Team members this year have been J. May, Willis, R. Matthews, S. Harris, I. Henderson, H. Fuller and T. Smith.

**John Mellon U6S**



# OLD RICHIANs

## DEATHS

COOMBS, Percy, died in January at the age of 79. Former School caretaker, Mr. Coombs will be remembered by many Old Richians.

SIMPSON, John (1965-1972). Killed in a car accident in Yugoslavia in October 1976. Some still in School and many young Old Richians will remember with great pleasure John's delightfully bizarre "Henry" stories. He enlivened many a Railway Club journey with them. He will also be remembered for his valuable part in the organisation of the Railway Club. To John's parents, sister and nieces we offer our deepest sympathy. They and many more will miss his jovial presence, cheerful company, and off-beat humour.

SIVELL, John William, of Manor Farm, Longford, where he had lived all his life. He was a member of Gloucester RDC for 27 years, his service being recognised following local government reorganisation when he was made an honorary alderman of the new Tewkesbury Borough Council. He was chairman of Longford Parish Council for more than a quarter of a century, vicar's warden at Twigworth Parish Church for many years, a member of the parochial church council, governor of Twigworth School and, for about three years, on the governing body of Chosen Hill School. A past vice-president of The Three Counties Show, he was vice-chairman of the Milk Marketing Board's cattle breeding centre at Longford for about seventeen years, and was at one time chairman of the NFU's Gloucester branch.

SMITH, Albert Arthur, of 59 Oxstalls Lane, Longlevens, Gloucester, died April 1977. Joined J. Reynolds & Co. at 16 years of age. Studied and worked his way through the mill and became mill manager, completing nearly 54 years in the same mill. Father of another Old Richian, Ronald, he would have retired in June 1977 on the closure of J. Reynolds' mill at Gloucester.

SMITH, James, of Conigree Court, aged 74. At School distinguished himself as a hockey player and long distance runner. He was elected to Newent RDC in 1942, and was chairman for 24 years until the abolition of the council in 1974 under the local government reorganisation. He was a founder member of Newent Hockey Club and its president in later years. A former chairman of the Newent branch of the National Farmers Union, Mr. Smith also represented the district on the County Executive Committee and was a member of the SW Regional Egg Board.

Sincere sympathy to all relatives in their bereavements.

## WEDDING

WATKINS, Malcolm James, to Miss Olwen Edwards BDS, at Rhos-on-Sea, North Wales, 10th July, 1976. Belated but sincere congratulations.

## OLD BOYS REUNION DINNER

11th December 1976—held in the School Hall

Present:

**Top Table:** President, Mr. and Mrs. I. Williams; Headmaster, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Heap; Senior Vice-President Mr. and Mrs. D. Billingham; Guest Speakers, Mr. Ralf Fox, Mr. Derek Lang and his wife, Mr. J. A. Stocks.

**Old Boys:** Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Leach, Mr. D. Norris and Guest, Mr. and Mrs. V. G. Mundy, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Maddox, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. K. Rigby, Mr. M. C. Sykes, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Mills, Revd. and Mrs. T. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Leah, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Claridge, Mr. P. D. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Porter, Mr. P. M. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. G. O. Romans, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Cecil, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. J. Hyett, Mr. S. W. Smith, Mr. N. Hedges, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dean, Mr. and Mrs. E. Gick, Mr. and Mrs. D. Wynne, Mr. and Mrs. K. Morris, Mr. R. Guest, Mr. A. Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Hobbs, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Crockford, Mr. and Mrs. A. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hook, Mr. and Mrs. R. Blair, Mr. M. B. Bryant and Guest, Mr. H. J. Hyett, Mr. R. Champion, Mr. D. P. Roe, Mr. S. R. Kear, Mr. A. Poulton, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Withers, Mr. and Mrs. K. Jones, Wing Cmdr and Mrs. J. W. Vick, D.F.C., Mr. and Mrs. P. Day, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Holbrook, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wall, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Romans, Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Watkins, Mr. S. Jones, Mr. S. Martyniuk, Mr. and Mrs. D. Collins, Mr. P. Irvine.

**Present Staff:** Mrs. B. Irvine, School Secretary; Mr. and Mrs. J. Y. Cooper, Mr. J. Bloxham, Mr. L. Huddleston, Mr. A. Pilbeam, Mr. W. Spear and Guest; apologies from Mr. and Mrs. J. Winstanley—sick list, Mr. C. Dudley—sick list.

**Past Staff:** Miss D. Townsend, Past School Secretary, Mr. A. Walker, Mr. A. Johnston, Mr. A. Hird. Apologies from Mr. C. Dudley—family illness.

**6th Form:** B. Martyniuk, Prefect, R. Day, Observer, G. A. Campbell, Observer, P. P. Martenaro, School Captain, S. D. Allen, Observer.

The dinner was attended by 110 guests from such places as Whitby, Camberley, Beaconsfield, Darlington, Birmingham, Nottingham, Reading, Bodmin, Thorpe, Newcastle, and Barnet.

## WE DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU ARE!

Our poor old Honorary Treasurer is trying desperately to bring his records up to date—so many of you have moved that we are losing touch. Will all Old Richians please let either the Secretary or the Treasurer have a note as soon as possible of their present address.

If, at some time in the future, you join our growing army of nomads please then let us have your change of address as a matter of priority—otherwise you may quite easily join the large number of Old Richians who complain they never hear from the Association. At today's postal rates it is breaking our Treasurer's heart as well as his pocket-book to receive back envelopes marked "Not known" or "Gone away".

Please help yourselves by helping us. You can write to either of them c/o the School.

## GENERAL

AUBREY, Stephen, one-time Social Secretary, is with Shell U.K. Ltd. When we last heard he was greatly involved in music in London in his spare time. He was singing with the New Philharmonic Chorus. Last December, they had a special engagement at the Festival Hall taking part in a charity carol concert with, amongst others, Vera Lynn, Yootha Joyce, The King's Singers and Geoff Love.

BARNES, Richard T. H. (1967-1974), is still having a wonderful time at the University of St. Andrews, in his penultimate year of a B.Sc. Honours Course in Applied Mathematics and Astronomy. In his previous two years he won Class Medals in 1st year Astronomy and Physics, and 2nd year Applied Maths and Physics.

BENFIELD, Arthur O. — was elected to Gloucestershire County Council in May 1977 as an independent in the Stonehouse division. Arthur joined Helipecs Ltd. in 1936, and in 1973 was appointed Managing Director. Before moving in 1961 to Stonehouse he held numerous offices in the British Legion, including the Chairmanship of the No. 3 (Gloucester) Group. He is a founder member of the Gloucestershire Engineering Training Group, and was a member of Barnwood Parish Council from 1955 to 1961.

BERRY, M. D., is at Cardiff University reading Geography and Economics.

BOWEN, C. F., was top apprentice 1976 at Williams and James, Ltd.

BROWN, P. J., is studying Engineering at Brunel University.

BUNCE, S. A., is studying Education at Canley College, Coventry.

BUTLING, S., obtained his Ph.D. (Engineering) at Imperial College, London.

CAMERON, D. B., is reading Modern Languages at The Queen's College, Oxford.

CARTER, C. D. A., is at Loughborough College, studying Geography.

CARVALHO, M., is studying Psychology at Manchester Polytechnic.

CHAMPION, R. W., is reading Horticulture at Reading University.

CHARLESWORTH, B., is at Bath University studying Mechanical Engineering.

CLUTTERBUCK, R. G., received a Half Blue for the Pentathlon, Cambridge University v. Oxford University. We also congratulate him on his appointment to a lectureship in Law at Sussex University; and for finishing 5th on 'Cadet' at 20 to 1 in the Novices' Hurdle at Wetherby on Easter Monday.

DALTON, A., was granted a University Exhibition (History) at Nottingham University.

DAY, R. E., is at North Staffordshire Polytechnic studying Geography.

DRAPER, Derek, is a Chartered Accountant with Kingscott Dix & Co., and is in charge of their Cinderford and Lydney branches. His brother . . .

DRAPER, Gerald H., is Manager at the Newent branch of Barclays Bank, Ltd.

DYKE, Neil, has advised that his latest address is 19 Elliott Rise, North Ascot, Berks.

EGAN, S. J., is studying Banking and Finance at Loughborough University.

EVERSON, P. R., at Borough Road College, London, is taking a combined course in P.E. and Education.

FILLIS, P. G., is at Portsmouth Polytechnic studying Engineering.

GOATMAN, C., is now over 90 and living in Cheltenham.

In a letter written on his behalf by Mrs. Goatman he says that he is completely blind for reading and writing, and has to rely on his good wife for both. We are truly sorry to hear this, Mr. Goatman, but wish you many more years of what is, we hope, otherwise good health.

GODDARD, T. M., was awarded the Aston University Institute of Electrical Engineers Prize 1976.

GOVAN, P. A., is at St. John's College, Cambridge, reading Modern Languages.

GUEST, R., is at Liverpool University, reading Archaeology.

HANCOX, A. E., master in English and Classics from 1929-1962, wrote from his home at Petersfield, Hants., just before Christmas 1976. It will surprise some to learn that he is an Octogenarian. He asked that his best wishes could be conveyed to all those Old Richians "who may still remember me". On behalf of the hundreds who **do** remember you with affection, Cocker, we reciprocate—and wish you good health for many years to come.

HUGHES, K. R., was last year awarded an Exhibition at St. Catherine's College, Oxford (Geography).

IRVINE, P. J., was awarded his full Blue as Captain of Oxford University Cross Country Club 1975/1976.

JONES, D., is studying Pharmacology at Portsmouth Polytechnic.

JONES, R. P., is reading Philosophy at Selwyn College, Cambridge.

KEAR, S. R., is studying Biology at Exeter University.

KIMBERLEY, P. C. S., is taking a Pharmacy course at Brighton Polytechnic.

LONG, D. M., is studying Chemical Engineering at Loughborough University.

LONG, G. J. K. (1967-1974) is at Rolle College, Exmouth studying drama, returning to Gloucester this summer, after a production in the Minack Theatre, Cornwall, to direct a rock opera in the 250th Three Choirs Festival.

LONG, A. R. K. (1967-1974) is at Hull University reading Geography and Economics.

MADDOX, C. H., is a director of Maddox, Hill Ltd., Consultant Engineers of Reading. The firm is mainly interested in all forms of mechanical handling plant, with additional work done on an aluminium smelter and lead/zinc mining concentrators. As a part-time hobby, Charles teaches judo to boys and beginners (men).

NEWBURY, Nolan T. F. (1953-1958), has been 2nd Deputy Headmaster since September 1976 at Windsor Boys' School, Hamm, BFPO 103, Germany. From 1967 to 1972 he was head of the mathematics de-

partment at Strathallan School, Perth. He then went to Nepal with the British Council as housemaster and head of maths to help set up a new English type boarding school. He found it a very exciting job involving travelling to the remotest areas and including nearly 1,000 miles on foot. On returning in 1974, he went to Lochaber High School as a principal teacher of guidance.

He played rugby until he first went abroad, and represented the North & Midlands District of Scotland between 1967 and 1970. After his return in 1974 he kept fit by "trotting up Ben Nevis"! (I've walked it—he must be mad!)

Married for nearly twelve years and has two daughters aged 9 and 6.

Nolan's brother, Don, is teaching in Wiltshire after a spell in Bermuda. He still plays cricket.

Nolan is very keen to trace Tony Huskisson who went to work for Dowty's in plastics, and Alan Dixon.

PARKER, C. G., is at Manchester University, studying Civil Engineering.

PATERSON, A. M., also at Manchester is taking a combined course in Computer Studies and Mathematics.

PARTRIDGE, M. J., is reading Law at Birmingham University.

PEGLER, C. J., is at Middlesex Polytechnic studying Geography.

PEGLER, P. J., is reading Botany and Zoology at Bristol University.

PENRY-WILLIAMS, J. T., is studying Mathematics at Cardiff University.

POULTON, A. C., is studying Geography at St. Peter's College, Oxford.

PRAGNELL, R. M., is at Nottingham University reading Geography.

PRICE, J. S., is at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, reading Modern Languages.

PROUDFOOT, J., is studying History at Bristol Polytechnic.

RICKARDS, S. M., is attending a course in Urban Planning at the North Glos. Technical College.

ROBINSON, W/Cmdr. B. W. U., was at S.T.R.S. from September 1953 to October 1955 and still remembers the school (and Eastgate House in particular) with much affection and nostalgia. He is presently at the Ministry of Defence, London. His older brother left the school in 1951 for the R.A.F. College, Cranwell, and is currently commanding the Empire Test Pilots School at Boscombe Down.



SELBY, T., is at Bristol Polytechnic for a course in Business Studies.

SERGEANT, M. W., is attending a course in Education at Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln.

SIMMONS, P., was awarded an Open Scholarship in Geography at Oxford University.

SKINNER, J. A., reading Physics at Imperial College, London.

SMITH, R. R., is at Reading University studying Physiology and Biology.

STAITE, S. A., is studying Geography at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford.

STEPHENS, C. R., obtained an Ernest Cook Travel Scholarship.

STUART, T. D., is studying Commerce at Birmingham University.

THWAITES, R. N., is at Aberystwyth University studying Geography.

VALE, David J., left Thames Polytechnic, Hammersmith, during the summer of 1976 with a B.Sc. in Estate Management, which is fully exempting from the examinations of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. He started work during the August with Grimley & Sons—a firm of Chartered Surveyors with offices in Trafalgar Square.

VEALE, Peter, former Headmaster, has a new address—19 David Road, Paignton, Devon TQ3 2QE. His telephone number is still Paignton 558928.

WALLACE, R. M., is studying Estate Management at the Polytechnic of Wales.

WARD, I. R., was last year awarded an exhibition at Emmanuel College, Cambridge (Law).

WASHBOURNE, John F. (1936-41) is Managing Director of the Belvoir Engineering Co. Ltd., Grantham, Lincs. After leaving Rich's, John joined the Gloucester firm of W. S. Barron & Son Ltd., moving from there to Richard Sizer Ltd. of Hull, where he became assistant to the Managing Director. He settled in Lincolnshire eleven years later.

He has always been on the engineering side of the Animal Feed industry and his Company designs and builds dehydrating plants and small feed mills. John is personally particularly interested in the recycling of waste products.

Two years ago he was accepted by the University of Nottingham as a part-time post-grad to read for a higher degree in Agricultural Engineering, and he is now in the third year of his four year course.

In 1976 he was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to travel for six weeks in Canada and the United States, studying the extraction of protein from legumes, brassicas and agricultural wastes.

Altogether he visited seven universities and three U.S. Department of Agriculture Research Centres, and the places he visited read like a gazetteer! One word explained his feelings on his return home—exhausted!

John is often on the Continent for his firm—mainly France, Germany and Holland. Over recent years, however, he has also worked in India, Malaysia, Japan and Cuba.

When he lived in Yorkshire he played rugby for Hull and East Riding, retiring "gracefully (or gratefully) at 35".

WEBLEY, Colin, is deputy Headmaster of a Shool at Gainsborough. After leaving S.T.R.S., Colin went to St. Paul's College, Cheltenham, and completed a B.A. Open University degree course in two years. He then took a Maths Foundation course, and courses on Personality and Learning, Language and Learning, and Reading Developments. He is now hoping to read for an honours degree in Social Psychology. He says he took the courses mainly out of interest and to broaden his knowledge.

WILLIAMS, R. F., is studying Applied Biology at Bristol Polytechnic.

WOODWARD, D. W., is studying Civil Engineering at Leeds Polytechnic.

Other letters have been received from:—

W. H. R. HUDD (Gloucester)  
Norman LYES (Bournemouth)  
Graham NICHOLLS (Barnwood)  
Mrs. I. R. SINKINSON (Stroud)  
Alan SPEED (Gateshead)  
Michael SYKES (Thorpe, Surrey)  
Rev. Michael WHITCOMBE (Halifax).



