

Editors' Report

This year's magazine sees the end of an era as next year there will be a new staff editor's style and possibly format. For those interested in format, it's still black on white but the artwork has taken on an Art Nouveau flavour (yes, we've gone up-market!). Seriously, Mr. Haynes does think up new and original ways of presenting this magazine long before anyone else becomes involved. This does not mean, however, that our creativity is denied. He carefully manipulates us so that he's always right!

There being such a large editorial group this year, the arduous task of processing material was swiftly carried through in a shorter time than usual. But, unfortunately, after the surfeit of last year's contributions, this year's were somewhat sparcer. We have, however, endeavoured to select the best, despite the fact that the result might be criticised.

The work on the magazine, despite the heartaches and sleepless nights thinking which report will complement which, has, once again, been successfully completed on time. As Editors we would like to thank Mr. Haynes on behalf of all those interested readers for the past eight years, for his organisation and production of this magazine which is more of a 'coffee-table-piece' rather than a mere school magazine. We must also pay tribute to Robert Portwood whose artwork appears throughout this edition. It has been said before, and will almost certainly be said again, but we hope you will enjoy this publication.

The Editors

Staff Editor's Report

My leaving this year has caused me many problems concerning the magazine. It is hoped that my successor will become the staff adviser, but he will require help, as I did when I began production eight years ago. It has been my policy to use boys in the sixth form, thus providing continuity for two years. My exception has been to use Richard Harris, who from the second form has been an invaluable help. You will remember that Richard, virtually unaided by his seniors, devised the very original green and yellow glossy covered magazine. Unfortunately, with the pressures of 'A' levels upon him, I can not feel obliged to call upon his wealth of experience this year. I wish him every success with his exams and for his future. As a result. I have decided to train a new team so that they might help whoever succeeds me.

From the fifth form I have four excellent young men: Ian Poole, Andrew and James Methven and Nigel May. They learned very quickly and carried through the task of reading and re-writing legible copies for the printers in one evening. This, I feel, must be a record. I am delighted by their enthusiasm, for, believe me, this task is very arduous. I hope you will like the Art Nouveau style of presentation this year. It has been an ambition of mine to do it and I am delighted with Robert Portwood's reproduction of drawings.

Over the years I have been fortunate to work with boys who saw the magazine as not just another academic task but who, through their originality and creativity, saw it as a work of art comparable with any media publication. In this, my final 'Richian', I should therefore like to thank all concerned over those years. My special gratitude, however, goes to Dave Green, Simon Calver, Tim Sergeant, Richard Harris and Richard Bowers. These boys have been a credit to me and to the school. I hope, D.V. that 'The Richian' will flourish for many years to come and that my successor will enjoy producing it as much as I have.

Parents' **Association**

After many years of service on the committee, Douglas Bruce retired from the post of chairman in September. A presentation, in the form of a donation to the Library Fund, has been made to mark his long involvement with the Association and support for the school.

In October a very successful First Year Parents Evening was held at which over £500 was covenanted to aid the school. The Annual Dance maintained the usual high standard of food, music and dancing and was thoroughly enjoyed by all those who attended. Our grateful thanks go to everyone who worked so hard to organise these events and to ensure that they were so successful.

In addition to the normal financial support given to clubs and societies in the school, the Association is helping to fund the project to replace the stage lighting with an improved and modernised system. Some £2000 has been allocated to this end.

In view of the falling numbers of pupils entering secondary education and the consequent pressure on the existing system, the committee has decided, albeit reluctantly, to support the current proposals to make Sir Thomas Rich's the sixth form college for the city. In their view this plan offers the best future for the school. Whatever the final decision, the Association will continue to support the school, raise funds and have a good time whilst doing so.

C.L. Eva

G.E.H.

School Captain

This year has seen the celebration of an important anniversary - twenty one years of Sir Thomas Rich's existence on the Elmleaze site. It was therefore fitting that the first major event of the school's year, Speech Day, should see the return of Mr. Worall, a former Headmaster, who was responsible for the preliminary planning of the present school buildings. His speech gave great encouragement to all the boys present to contrive to maintain the school's fine tradition for good education. competitiveness in sport and to develop extra-curricular activities.

December saw the production of 'Pygmalion' which was performed by a joint cast of members from this and Colwell school. Our thanks must go to the actors for all the effort they put in, which, together with Mr. Matthews' directing, made the production a success.

The Choir, as usual, gave fine performances at the Christmas carol services and the Madrigal group's performance by candlelight in the school library was once again enjoyed by all present.

During the Christmas holidays, some sixth formers joined with other city grammar school sixth forms in collecting signatures for a petition to keep a grammar school presence in the city. The final decision now rests with the Secretary of State for Education. Let us hope our efforts in this field are rewarded.

Once again, the boys of the school have tried to think of others less fortunate than themselves. As well as the twice a term collections. which have supported both local and national charities and the Raid the Larder Scheme, again efficiently organised by the lower sixth, the choir gave a recital in the Cathedral during the Lent Term to raise money for the famine in Africa appeal. The evening was a great success, raising £425. My thanks though must go to everyone involved in this most important part of the school's life, especially to those who donated so generously.

On the sports scene, Rich's, once again, did well in all levels of rugby, but especially in the junior teams. This year has also seen a successful cross-country season and the further development of the minor sports, such as basketball and canoeing.

The main event of the summer term was the twenty-first celebration of the move of S.T.R.S. from Barton Street to Oakleaze. This saw a repeat of the assembly service held on the day of the move in 1964. In the evening a dinner was attended by some of the Old Richians who were at the school in 1964. A cricket match was also arranged between the school first eleven and a team of Old Richians from the 1964 period. The main event for the present school boys was the organising of a day of excursions which saw boys visiting places as far apart as London, York and Bath. May I, on behalf of the boys of the school, thank the Junior Old Richians for the mementoes which they gave us to

commemorate the occasion.

Finally, I thank all those boys, staff, parents and Old Richians who have helped over the past year to further the school's reputation and let us hope that those who have the final power in deciding the school's future recognise the very valuable contribution S.T.R.S. makes to our city.

C. Mayo.

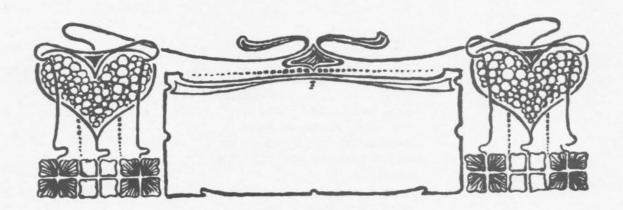
Arrivals



We welcome Mr. Roger Lockey from Saintbridge, who replaces "TAV" as Head of Art. He trained at Leeds Polytechnic and graduated with a BA (Hons) in Fine Arts, and also at Brighton where he obtained an Art Teacher's Diploma. Not only is he well qualified, but his energy and enthusiasm is already evident, not only in the art department, but also in cross country and the staff sporting events.

We wish him a long and happy stay at Rich's.

A.J.P.



This school extends a welcome to physicist Kevin Wells. A native of Oxford, Mr. Wells attended King Alfred's Grammar School, Wantage. He obtain B.Sc. (Hons) at Leeds University. Already heavily involved in extracurricular pursuits, he is in charge of the basketball club. He competes in local league soccer and rugby, volleyball and basketball, and was until his arrival at Rich's a regular competitor in the Lincolnshire County Basketball League. We wish him a lengthy and happy stay at Rich's.

G.H.M.





As if to underline her presence for five years as the sole full-time lady member of staff, Sarah White leaves us in a year when we welcome several ladies into our midst. With cheeky charm Sarah has dealt with the elderly attentions of "Seduceacor" in the Staff Room, integrating perfectly into the life of the school, bringing hope to timid and frail first year fledglings, drilling reluctant roughs in the fifth year in the run up to G.C.E., and-very bravely – C.S.E.

French – with some German – has led Sarah into the hothouse of exchanges with Rambouillet and, of course, La Couronne but her music put her on the stage to do battle with eager Yeomen – or into the gym where dangerous discos lurked.

We shall all miss her very much, not only because of her positive, constant and generous nature but also, and quite simply, because she has been, and will continue to be, a dear friend. We wish her well in her exciting future as she joins her husband now working in Germany.

I.S.C.

Alan Foster came to Sir Thomas Rich's six years ago from Kingshill School, Cirencester. Before entering the teaching profession he gained industrial experience as an engineer with the Western Region of British Rail.

Besides teaching mathematics throughout the school, Alan has assisted with the introduction of Computer Studies into the curriculum and boys will miss his skill and enthusiasm in both of these fields.

The cross-country team has also benefitted from his guidance and, on games afternoons, he has often led from the front and been first up the hill. He was, for two years, Manager of the Gloucestershire Schools cross-country team.

We wish Alan well in his new post as an advisory teacher with the local authority.

B. McB.







Mr. Riley joined the School from Marling in January, 1976. Many boys will remember him with stop watch in hand at the end of the cross-country course or in the geography room explaining the finer points of urban models or glacial erosion. But he was more than chronometric man or geographical man. His singing added quality to the alternative choir in Assembly, his field work programmes at Durham, Bangor, Norwich and Aberyswyth were most informative and thoroughly prepared, and he was always prepared to help boys in and out of the classroom. We are most grateful to him for his support over nine years. In seeking the First Geographer of Genesis 1:31, he leaves us to train for the Anglican Ministry and we wish him and his family every happiness in this demanding vocation. A.S.P.

The ink of Mr. Riley's 'obituary' had barely dried when Mr. Aston informed us that he too had an opportunity to train for the Christian Ministry and with a young family of pre-school age it was a good time for him to take it.

He came to us three years ago with a Bristol degree in geography/geology and has worked with commitment and energy – for which we are most grateful. We shall remember him for his love of the adventurous outdoor life, for his evangelistic zeal and for his clarity of purpose. He hopes to return to Gloucester at the end of his training in Vancouver and we look forward to renewing friendship with him then.

A.S.P.





George Haynes came to the English department in 1977 at very short notice after the death of Frank Bradford had brought to an end a threefold partnership that had lasted eighteen years. It was a hard act to follow, but George, then a novice, very quickly established a rapport with the department and a vigorous and energetic, but caring regime with his classes. Many boys will remember how his enthusiasm for Lawrence and Hardy in particular led to minibus tours of the countrysides depicted in the books; many more will remember the farranging theatre trips. He gave much of his own time to Oxbridge teaching, to house-mastering, to both school and department libraries, and to the society and Societies of boys. Perhaps the highlights of his time at Rich's were the culinary occasions - not many English teachers can boast of a catering qualification; the explosive production of "Pyramus and Thisbe" which won us the County Drama award; the fascinating lecture production of "Waiting for Godot"; and last, but by no means least, the sequence of lively "Richians" fostered by him over the years with much pride and hard work. We wish him well at Ratcliffe College; Rich's will miss him. L.C.H.

Drama

PYGMALION

The original Pygmalion fell in love with his own creation. She was only a statue, but Venus brought her to life for him. Henry Higgins's Eliza was human all the time. He did not fall in love with her, though he did come to miss her organizing his appointments and finding his slippers.

Shaw's satire on human folly and pretence launches itself from phonetics to tilt at the class system, middle-class morality, male chauvinism and much else. Those who come out best are those truest to themselves.

The play is sophisticated; it needs a range of precise accents and the complicated body language of various social situations of three generations ago; some of the audience will know the play well; others will think they know it from "My Fair Lady": you have a difficult candidate for a school play.

So, not surprisingly, there were faults: lines with misplaced emphasis, accents adrift, a little masking and a tendency to line up across the stage. But, overall, it worked. The cast knew what the play was about and conveyed it to their audience with clear words, even crisp.

The minor roles produced some memorable cameoes. Nepommuck is a curiously unconvincing caricature and Mark Broadhead did well to give him some life and humour, in spite of a Hungarian accent which swung from Cardiff to Calcutta.

Mrs. Pearce (Sarah Morton) had a remarkably commanding presence – just the woman to keep Higgins in order, a task which his own mother (Janet Mockett) had abandoned as hopeless.

Mrs. Eynsford-Hill and Clara (Claire Dodding and Carole White) gave the right impression of genteel, impoverished and peevish conventionality. Andrew Methven portrayed Freddy's chinless wondrousness yet avoided making him totally unacceptable as a possible future husband for Eliza. Mark Barton brought out Doolittle's robust independence while able to fit into any social milieu as long as it wasn't middle class, of whose morality he was the victim.

Toby Rackliff made a dapper foil for Higgins and showed Col. Pickering's natural kindness and



gallant good manners which first gave Eliza her new self-respect.

Eliza's part demands great stamina, versatility and emotion; she has frequent changes of voice, manner and persona, yet must retain a core of herself. She admires Higgins, is fascinated by him, hates him; she interacts with all other significant characters. It is the measure of Vicky Evans's success that she made this task appear effortless.

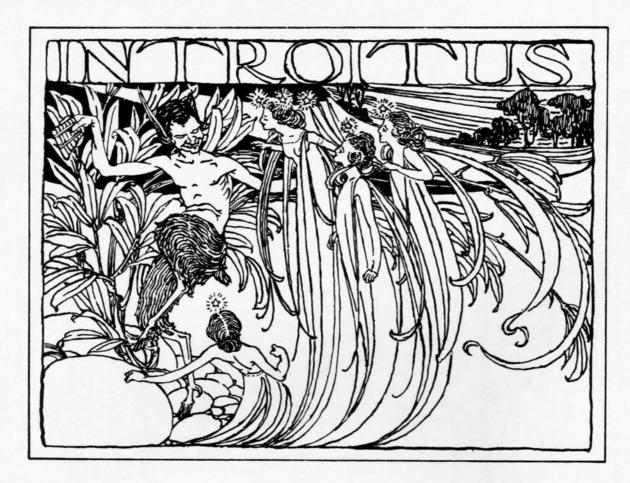
Darren Short had at his command a wellobserved range of stances and gestures, pace and tone of speech. Consequently his Higgins was a coiled spring of scholarly energy, totally singleminded in his pursuit of phonetics, loftily unconcerned with social niceties, or, until Act V, with Eliza as a human being.

Roger Lockey's set, including a fascinating convex "mirror" created just the right background for the action; the lighting, makeup and stage management were proved good by their unobtrusiveness. Ron Matthews can be satisfied with this, his first production at Rich's.

D.F.M.



Music



Ever since the tour in 1984 the Choir has managed to maintain a very high standard of singing. There were fears that with an intake of only sixty first formers in September we would have difficulties finding enough singers of adequate quality. However, both myself and Mr. Rangeley were amazed at the standard and this year's first form are undoubtedly one of the best that the Choir has had in many years.

It has become a policy that we should sing anthems in assembly as often as possible and this year we have sung many contrasting works, covering a period of about two hundred years. During the Michaelmas Term the Choir attempted two demanding anthems for Harvest and Remembrance, but the culmination of this term was, as usual, the two carol services. Again. much of the music was very demanding and the two services were of a standard not heard for several years. Christmas by Candlelight was, as ever, one of the most popular evenings, but undoubtedly the greatest pleasure was given when the Madrigal Group and readers performed the concert again to help raise money for the Sue Ryder Home at Leckhampton.

It was after Christmas that the choir numbers rose to seventy; with such numbers and high

standards the possibility of performing a concert in the Cathedral became a reality and a programme was drawn up containing some of the most exciting and challenging music that the Choir has ever sung. Several instrumental items were included, a brass quartet (John Chilman, Stephen Voysey, David Allen and Laurence Townly) and a solo cello played by Mark Broadhead.

Instrumental music has not played such a large part in school life as it has done in past years, the only thriving group being the Brass Ensemble. This decline in instrumental groups has largely been a result of the increasing time that has had to be spent with the Choir. However, this has definitely paid its dividends and we have managed to maintain a high standard of singing throughout the year.

In the not too distant future Gilbert and Sullivan enthusiasts can look forward to a production of the "Mikado", due to be performed in December. Hopefully, having such a wide variety of choral music available will ensure that the Choir continues to function for many years to come, even under reorganization!

S. Voysey UVIS

Reports



VENTURE SCOUTS

During the past year the school unit has continued to function in its usual fashion, although there have been a few changes in emphasis and of course, personnel.

In contrast to the traditional annual northerly drift in the summer to the wilds of Norway, or at least the distant reaches of Scotland! we changed direction this year and headed for Northern Spain to explore the mountainous regions of Cantabria and Asturias in what proved to be a very successful expedition.

Nearer to home we continue our regular visits to North Wales where hill walking is interspersed with work for the National Trust and activities such as climbing, canoeing and caving are still pursued.

We have become regular competitors in a local bed race, winning the Youth Section in 1984, and by taking part in events like this, the unit has raised several hundred pounds for charity over the past few years.

1984 saw the production of the fiftieth edition of the unit's magazine 'Venture 44', a publication which as well as being read by present members, goes out to seventy ex-members.

We were well served last year by the senior members whose leadership, loyalty and initiative were responsible for the success of the unit. During the course of the year eight of them received their Queen's Scout Award – Brian Symcox, Richard Kerswell, Paddy Smith, Yosha Cowmeadow, Dave Wilson, Jon Wright, Brian Herbert and Simon Hawkins.

F.H.





THE NATURALIST SOCIETY

A current membership of around 140 speaks volumes for the continuity of interest at all age levels throughout the school. This year, instead of the usual October half-term expedition to some far off part of the U.K., some of the society's members spent a week of their summer holidays walking the Cotswold Way returning, I hasten to say, by mini-bus each night. We must thank all those members of staff who were willing to retrieve the weary walkers at the end of each day.

Once into term time though, it was another busy year for the society with numerous trips to the familiar destinations such as Slimbridge, Witcombe reservoirs and Gloucester Museum to name but a few. This year the society also organised two coach trips for members and their parents. These visits to the London National History and Science Museum and the Museum of Wales at St. Fagans were both a great success and enjoyed by all.

A special word of thanks must go to the officers of the society for their help over the past year and of course we are all indebted to J.Y.C. who brings together young and old alike with his enjoyment and understanding of natural history. Long may his boots keep walking with the Society even when his more formal teaching duties are handed on to others.

C. Mayo

RADIO CONTROLLED CAR CLUB

Our Club caters for boys who have radio controlled cars, or have an interest in them. We have races on the tennis courts, and occasionally in the Gymnasium, every Wednesday after school.

We have a wide range of different cars, although the majority of them are made by the same company. The prices of the cars range from sixty pounds to well over one hundred pounds.

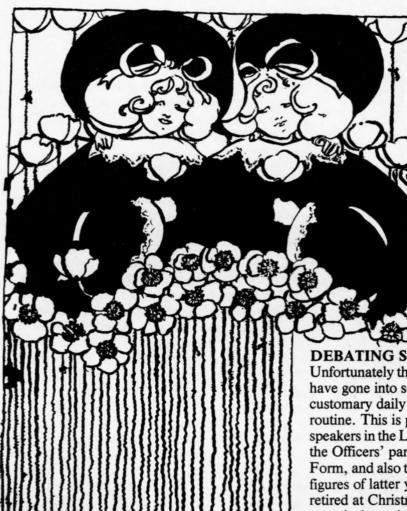
We have a racing league. In the future we hope to award prizes to those members who win the most races. There is no membership fee, as we feel we would have no use for the money.

At the meetings, beginners are shown how to build and care for their cars, as well as being taught different racing techniques.

New members are always welcome.

D. Fee

S. Gough



JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

The Junior Debating Society has been trying to put on debates, such as "Any Questions" and other topics of a political nature, thoughout the year. Unfortunately, owing to lack of support, the majority of these debates were cancelled. The main aims of the Junior Debating Society are to improve the interests of people in the lower school (Fourth Form and below) in the art of public speaking, and to prepare people who wish to speak in the House Public Speaking Competition for this event. The Society will be organising debates in the near future on topics such as Nuclear Weapons, Education, the Miners Strike and as usual "Any Questions". The debates are held in the Lecture Theatre and are open to all members of the School, but speakers have to be in the lower school. Once again, the Society wishes to thank its President, Mr. Cutting, for his invaluable help in the organisation of the debates.

A. Foster IVS

DEBATING SOCIETY

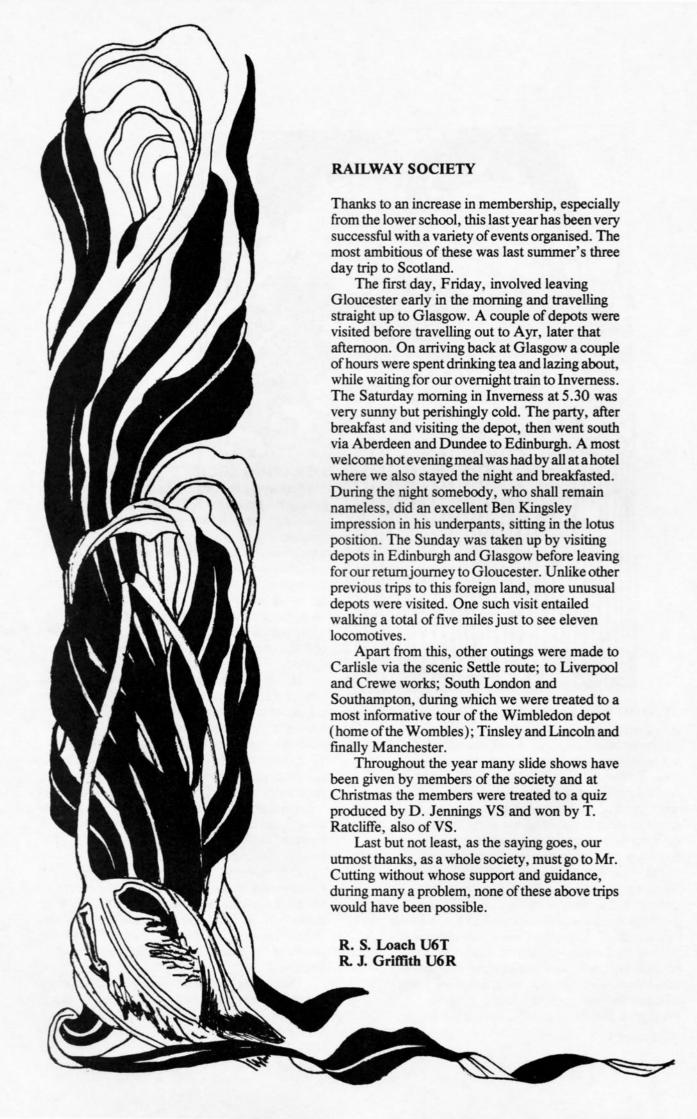
Unfortunately the Society has recently seemed to have gone into semi-retirement from the customary daily hustle and bustle of Rich's routine. This is partly due to the lack of willing speakers in the Lower School and a reluctance on the Officers' part to rely entirely on the Fifth Form, and also the fact that one of the pioneering figures of latter years, Avi Chaudhuri, himself retired at Christmas. The effort of Avi over his years in the society is considerable, and the wealth of enthusiasm he brought to his speeches is sorely missed.

However, the Miners' Strike provided good scope for discussion in the winter of 1984, and the subject debated was the Bishop of Durham's apparent 'interference' in the dispute. Andrew Methyen supported the Bishop, Mark Barton went along with the Government in criticizing his actions, but James Foster went all out to promote the miners' cause. The audience was divided on the issue, which veered towards the actual strike as opposed to the actual motion. Support, however, went in favour of the miners, though outside the situation was different.

December also saw the annual Rotary Club Competition in Barnwood, which saw a strong school team come third to the eventual winners, Ribston Hall. The topic of our team's entry was Public Speaking itself but the judges thought the nature of the speech a little radical and chose elsewhere.

One hopes that, with a little more support form the junior half of the school, the Debating Society will pick up and flourish in the future.

D. Short LVIR



Arjstian Union

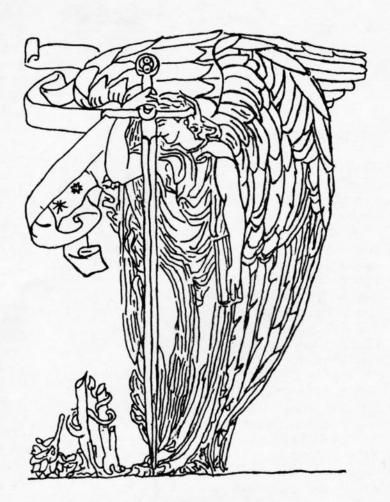
The Christian Union has continued its successful weekly meetings for all Christians in the school, but attendance is mainly from the sixth form. The programme for meetings includes Bible studies and discussions of religious current affairs. Videos have been shown and several joint meetings held with the Christian Union of Denmark Road School.

The Christian Union organized a rock concert by the local Christian band Spirit Level at Christmas, using the school hall. We have also maintained our strong link with the Gloucester Schools' Christian Union which holds meetings every month and gives the opportunity for Christians from all schools to meet together. Well known speakers have been asked to speak at these meetings and other activities organized include a fancy dress Christmas party and an ice skating trip.

For the future we have hopes for an exciting Junior Christian Union as well as developing links with other Christian Unions.

The leadership of the Christian Union has now been handed over to David Winson and Richard Humphries; I pray that they will continue to maintain the Christian Witness of the Union in the school.

I. R. Lyne U6R A. J. Manley U6R





FRENCH EXCHANGE

First of all, we would like to thank all the members of staff concerned who made the trip possible, and we would also like to thank the Mayor of Couronne and our French hosts for their hospitality.

By half past eight on Monday the 20th May, everyone was on Gloucester station waiting for the train. This is a change from previous years and this later train enabled most of us to spend a few more minutes in bed! The train set off at around nine o'clock and that was just the start of a long day. At London we boarded the underground for Charing Cross and there we passed a leisurely hour waiting for the train to Dover.

That day the Channel crossing was calm. We went by hovercraft and this was many people's first time abroad. When we reached Boulogne, our two-and-a-half hour journey to Paris began. At Paris we got on to the Metro and then onto the train to Angouleme. Unlike the others, this journey was done mostly in the dark and so we missed the spectacular views of the French

countryside. But, at last, we reached Angouleme, matched up with our partners and very soon we dispersed in various directions and the station was again peaceful.

Tuesday had a torturous start: school at around half-past eight; that gave us about four hours sleep. We were given a refreshing cup of tea, taken on a whistle-stop tour of the school and then let loose in the playground. At half-past eleven lunch was ready. It was a very welcome meal and compared favourably with our own-school lunches. During the afternoon, the whole group, except Mr. Cutting who was ill, walked into La Couronne where we were officially welcomed by the Mayor. After the reception, we wandered around La Couronne before returning home.

There was another eight-thirty start on the Wednesday. Two coaches took us to La Rochelle The trip was surprisingly long but this was compensated for by the beautiful scenery. Along the way we travelled through the Charente grape country; everywhere we looked was vines. At La Rochelle we went sight-seeing around the town and then lunched in a park from where we could see the town's three famous towers. The town itself is delightful, full of history, and, as the sun shone, the whole group spent a pleasant afternoon in this ancient port town.

Thursday took us on an afternoon tour of Angouleme but first we were given talks by the French teachers about the Cathedral, the paper mill at Fleurac and about Cognac – the areas we were to visit the following day. At Angouleme, we visited the Town Hall. There we visited a conference room, then made our way up a spiral staircase, through the dungeons and up to the top of the tower. From there we got a superb panoramic view of Angouleme.

Finally, at the weekend, the French families made our stay most memorable, taking people to such extravagant places as Paris and the Pyrenees. We all enjoyed ourselves like the French do, ate like the French do and, above all, we hope, now that we speak like the French do.

M. Foster 2 S

GÖTTINGEN EXCHANGE

The journey got off to a good start because the trains were on time. However we had two hours to wait at London's Victoria Station because we caught an earlier train from Swindon. The five hour boat journey was tiring but we met some English speaking Germans with whom we continued our journey.

After Oostende there was a long train journey through Belgium into Germany. Eventually, however, after twenty-two hours with very little sleep,, we wre at Göttingen, in the hands of our German exchange families.

The German school was having its Easter holiday in our first week there, this left plenty of time for organised and private trips with the school or the family. These private trips included excursions to the Springs, to Hannover, to Kassel and one boy was even taken to Cologne for the weekend. But there was plenty of time to get to know Göttingen.

Göttingen is much larger than Gloucester. It is a very clean city unlike our own. The architecture is fascinating and very beautiful. There are many wood carvings on the timbered buildings. Being a University town it is very much designed for the young person. There is plenty to do, plenty of cinemas, swimming pools and sports facilities. It is not a town where you can get bored. There are a few department stores which provide excellent shopping. All the people in the town and the shop assistants are very friendly and helpful. The design of the city centre is very well co-ordinated. The pedestrian zone is a car-free area where you can stroll around the shops without having to dodge cars as you cross the roads. This also means that there is less noise and pollution in the town centre. We all agreed that we would like to live in Göttingen.

One of the trips organised was to the top of the Harz Mountains. Compared to the weather in England the snow and the cold on the mountains were many times worse. On the way down the slippery tracks we got lost and had to find our own way back to the coach and wait for Mr. Slinger to arrive.



Another organised tour took us to the border and to Duderstadt where the guide was very factual but difficult to understand since he had left us his false teeth at home.

The remaining four days were spent at the German school. The Otto Hahn Gymnasium is a large grammar, mixed school, situated about half a kilometer from the centre of Göttingen. We went to several lessons with our partners, which were enjoyed by all. The atmosphere in the classroom was so relaxed that it was a complete contrast to what we are use to at Rich's. Though we enjoyed school life, it didn't stop us learning German which we found, much to our surprise, had improved greatly. The differences between the two schools are too many to mention; all we can say is that our four days there were memorable.

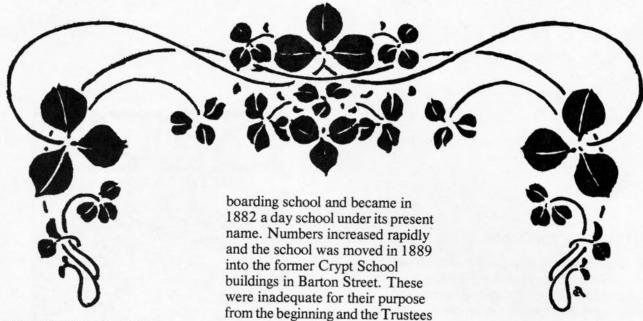
The journey back allowed less time for stopping since it was completed in only twenty-four hours.

All that remains is to thank Mr. Slinger and Miss Howells for their excellent organisation and our German hosts for their marvellous hospitality.

M. Eva 4S

J. Haines 4 S

A. Tidmarsh 4 S



THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOVE TO ELMBRIDGE

How to be remembered after death? For Sir Thomas Rich, baronet, born in Gloucester, but making his money and name in trade in London, the answer was to found a 'hospital' for the education of prospective apprentices and provide for premiums to be paid to honest masters when the boys moved on to their apprenticeships. In his will he left his house in Eastgate Street for the boarding school and endowed it generously, leaving £6,000 to buy property to provide the income to run it.

Within eleven months of his death the school of twenty four boy, who wore Blue Coat uniforms, was operating in Eastgate Street, where it was to remain until 1889, though in 1807 the old house and neighbouring property was replaced by a handsome new building (this is where the Guildhall now stands).

Educational standards remained low for a long time, but they improved slowly in the second half of the nineteenth century before the school ceased to be a Blue Coat

boarding school and became in 1882 a day school under its present name. Numbers increased rapidly and the school was moved in 1889 into the former Crypt School buildings in Barton Street. These were inadequate for their purpose from the beginning and the Trustees were always reluctant to spend the necessary money to improve and enlarge them. So, for the next seventy-five years the school was to develop and establish its reputation as a grammar school in these cramped premises. But the very difficulties of the site helped to engender a spirit of determination and comradeship, fostered by successive heads and dedicated staff, that gave the school the character and standing it enjoyed in the city.

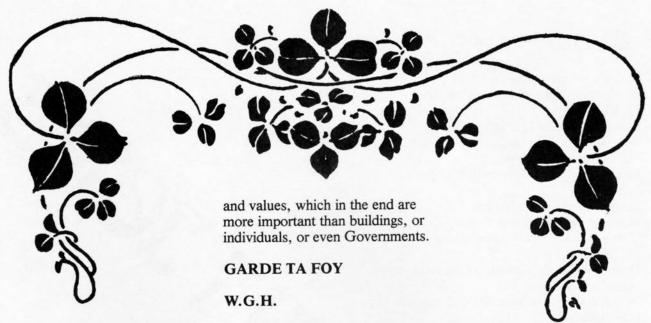
After many incissitudes a great change was to come about. New attitudes to education, new emphasis on improved standards even the need for an inner ring road to pass through the existing buildings! - finally led the Department of Education to give permission for a new building on the Elmbridge site, which had been used for school games for a number of years. For the first time since 1807 the school was to occupy truly new buildings and the move to these was successful and smoothly made on May 14th, 1964; a tribute to the hard-work and cooperation of all involved. For those who had worked and studied in Barton Street the transformation was remarkable. even if some weaknesses, both in design and construction, soon became obvious. But only those who lived through the move can truly appreciate how great an event this was in the school's history.

21 YEARS 1964 - 1985

1985 is a significant year in the History of Sir Thomas Rich's because it marks the 21st anniversary of the move from the Old Barton School to the brand new School at Oakleaze.

Perhaps we should reflect on these 21 years. The main worry in 1964 must have been whether the old values would survive the shock of a move, – the boys certainly would.

The twenty one years have seen a steady rise in academic standards, a greater concern for the less able boy socially and academically. The Number of boys going on to University and College has increased, and their successes have been a cause of price to us at school, be it first class honours, an Oxbridge blue, or Captain of University Sport. Music and Drama has gone from strength to strength, and new activities have proliferated, helped obviously by better facilities, and the games fields on our doorstep. Success has bred success and each year has seen county and national honours won ranging from Rowing, Chess, Squash, Rugby, Cross-Country



and Public Speaking, and many others. Most importantly the number of boys actively participating in something worthwhile and constructive has grown.

However, it is easy to make comparisons which show that today's results are better than those of yesterday. We can say in 1985 that things are better than the last 21 years, but only because each year has looked back to the year before as a yardstick against which to measure success and as a firm foundation on which to base improvement.

At twelve Speech Days I have looked back with pride at our corporate achievements and looked forward to better them.

The School has sustained many changes in its 319 years and not a few in the last 21. It can flourish as always in the next 21 years and longer, providing that the spirit evident over the last 21 years is maintained. This needs the greatest efforts on the part of all of us, especially the boys at present in school, and those to come. It needs also, some of the staff who now serve the school to be appointed to the new Sixth Form College to ensure continuity of pride, tradition

As events turned out, there was a certain unplanned continuity about it all. As we began by holding again the inaugural Assembly service, first held on 14 May, 1964, the Rev. Robert Jennings focussed very sharply upon the vagaries of life at Barton Street and the move to what a contemporary sixth former, writing in "The Richian", described as the 'brand-new' stigma of the buildings at Elmbridge. The wellattended dinner on the same evening attracted a fascinating cross-section of the Class of '64, even from as far afield as Belgium; there were messages of goodwill from Australia, South Africa, Canada and Germany and a witty account by Bob Nind of his most formative years as a junoir member of staff. Yet somewhat surprisingly perhaps, the emphasis throughout the evening was very largely on the present rather than the past. Here was no maudlin reminiscence, no suffocating nostalgia, but a living microcosm of what the School stood for then and still stands for today. At the Founder's Day Service in the Cathedral on the next day, Mr. J. A. Stocks in his address gave a most fitting historical perspective to the celebrations. Adjuring us to 'look to the rock from which you were hewn', he directed our thoughts firmly in the direction of a future as full of uncertainty as at any time in the past fifty years.

There were, of course, the other events: trees were planted, plaques were mounted, there was an exhibition of Barton Street at different periods in its history. There was an eminently forgettable cricket match in which a Select XI of '64 vintage struggled to achieve respectability in the face of an almost indecent total by the School, until mercifully the heavens opened and sent both teams and spectators gratefully scurrying for shelter. There were also the excursions: the artistically inclined headed for London, despite threats of a strike on the Underground, to explore St. Paul's and the National Gallery; those more interested in the Vikings and in old trains journeyed north to York; and the rest went to Alton Towers. Each in different measure contributed to the folklore of the School.

And when the week was over, there was a sense of continuity: this had been a significant pause in the history of the School, a pause to look back and be grateful for past achievement, a pause to take stock and be mindful of present needs, and a pause to look forward and be hopeful for renewed opportunities.

J.P.W.

THE TRAMP

A solitary figure lying on an old park bench, Smothered in last weeks newspapers. He looks old But no-one knows his age And no-one really cares, His face is soft and grey, Long straggly hair dangles in clumps from his head He has no cares and worries

He has no cares and worries
He just wonders around
On an infinite journey to no-where
His life is empty
He has no-one but dreams of his hazy past
He is an individual,

Which society has forgotten and cast out He is isolated,

Trapped in a world of fantasies and dreams.





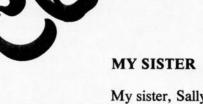
This is a poem, For you lot out there, Who love heavy metal, But don't get your share.

We don't want Funk, Nor Electro or the Blues, Give us some Quo! Now that would be news.

Let's see some Saxon, Iron Maiden or Queen! Some AC DC, Would not go unseen!

Or even Ozzy, That madman in black, They don't get a mention, Oh, alas, and alack!

D. Wyatt 2 T



My sister, Sally, is strange,
Her taste in music is stranger,
She likes anything from "Motorhead",
to "Away in a manger".
She stays in her room,
For hours after hours,
Listening to the man,
Who likes to sing with flowers,
Coming out of his pocket and flying
through the air,
She likes anyone with black spikey
hair,
She really is strange,
I'd leave her alone,
Especially when she,
Is talking on the 'phone.

N. Eaketts 4 S





The stage was shrouded in darkness and silence as six thousand impatient heavy metal fans awaited their leather clad heroes. A lone guitar was sounded at ear-piercing volume, the lights flooded the stage revealing four men dressed in leather trousers and studded jackets and six thousand faces turned towards the stage as if called by some unknown force.

Dry ice poured out from the stage like water gushing over a dam. The noise pounded the ear drums of the audience to well over the threshold of pain as they practised that old heavy metal ritual of head banging.

The heads were shaking in time with the general rhythm of the noise, shaking the very floor itself. Each song they played was exactly the same. Even if the words were different, they were unfathomable at such a loud volume. The rhythm was exactly the same all the time, made worse by the constant screeching sound of distorted guitars. Each song ended with a howl of feedback and a drum roll that was almost as long as the song itself. The end of each song was marked by screams and shouts from the mindless, alcohol-ridden audience begging for more. The screams were deafening but completely drowned out when the music began again.

Two sets of speakers either side of the stage towered above the audience like tower-block flats above a city, shadowed by the blinding light that fell upon the group. Behind the group were even more speakers: about twenty of them, each being square boxes of about six feet. In front of these was a platform on which the drummer sat diminished by the size of the surrounding drum kit

The singer announced the last song to the now deafened audience. The song went on for four minutes but seemed like an hour. At the end an ear-splitting roar was let loose from the audience as the sweat drenched musicians walked off the now dimly lit stage. The crowds thinned gradually until the hall was empty. The piles of empty beer cans and smashed bottles were all that was left as a reminder of the evening which left many with a ringing in their ears that would last a week.

The noise was over, the lights hung on their towers faintly glowing. The only sound was the faint hum of the stage heater droning on. The place was now in complete darkness and a peaceful silence totally contrasted with the violent noise that had not long gone.

R. Harris 5 S





GRAN

All the time she's groaning, Every minute moaning, "Oh, my feet, Oh, my back", She's a hypochondriac.

When she puts things down, You'll always see her frown, Because everything she'll lose, From her glasses to her shoes.

If you mention Tory, You'll be very sorry, Because on and on she'll grunt, About the government.

She doesn't much like walking, But she's always talking, And you'll often see me snoring, Because what she says is so boring.

Her house is like Fort Knox, Because everything she locks, Not even a little mouse, Could get into her house.

She does the Bingo in the Sun, As yet she hasn't won, But she's convinced she'll win the money, And she isn't being funny.

D. Tandy 4S

THE LONER

Alone a figure sits, maybe just another swig before bed.

The taste of fine blended malt creeps down his throat.

The Times, Telegraph and Observer keep him warm through those nights of crispy, biting frost that lingers in the air.

He wears clothes discarded by Gypsies, but who cares?

He's free, that's the main thing. These few words give him comfort.

He has his own orchestra, as the birds swoop and sing to him.

Mother nature give him a wash now and then, he wishes she didn't

But just tell me who cares?

L. Davies 4 T

NUCLEAR RAID

I do not believe my ears, They're fighting a war? There is so little time to do so much. For a moment I stand. not knowing what to do. Then rush around collecting the items I feel necessary. My Body is taking over my mind. I pick up things I do not want. I rush to the shelter and Huddle inside. There is a man outside banging on the wall, but we cannot re-open the door - He must die We realise how much we have forgotten to bring We wait for the missiles with intense curiosity.

Adam Trigg 4 T



WHO SUFFERS?

Society hates him,
Yet he has done nothing
For non-existant reasons.

Eye on his suffering.

But he does not care.
He pays not tax,
He lives for himself.

Adam Trigg 4 T

AMOUSE LOOKS AT THE HUMAN RACE

I wish I liked the human race,
I wish I liked its stupid face,
I wish I knew what makes it stay,
By television sets all day.
And why it stares without a dream
at figures prancing on a screen.
And why it queues in rain and squal.
To watch its fellows kick a ball.
I wish I knew what makes it need,
To race around the world at speed,
And why it signs an endless petition
And why it signs an endless petition
against deadly toys like nuclear fission.
Its antics really make me sick
I wish I knew what makes it tick.

R. Mowbray 4R



SPORT

Rugby

Representative Honours U/18: R. Harris: Gloucestershire v Gwent, Somerset, Cornwall, Yorkshire.

South/South West of England trial. R. Harris, S. Elkins, S. Brazington, A. Brindley – North Gloucestershire.

U/16: B. Ravenhill, S. Anderson, L. Rosser – Gloucester City Schools.

SENIOR

P WDL F A First XV 10 5 1 4 121 100 Second XV 6 4 1 1 58 37

The first XV had a satisfactory season against a strong fixture list. The pack, although small, secured reasonable possession and were able to disrupt clean possession by opponents, R. Harris and N. Street were outstanding both in attack and defence and caused opponents many problems and S. Elkins was formidable in the front row. First XV colours awarded to: N. Street, A. Brindley, S. Elkins, L. Chapman. (S. Brazington, R. Harris were awarded colours last season.)
First XXX colours awarded to:—

First XXX colours awarded to:— C. Haines, P. Ireland, S. Griffin, C. Preston, R. Prosser, D. Fisher. The second XV's season was sadly disrupted by several cancellations by schools who were unable to raise XV's. In the matches played an above-average sized pack was able to provide good possession for the backs. The backrow of Gardner (captain), Hoyes and Gillott were much in evidence both in attack and defence, no more so than in the excellent 14–12 win over a strong Hereford Cathedral XV.

The only defeat was a narrow 0–4

The only defeat was a narrow 0 – 4 loss against Marling.
Colours awarded to K. Adcock, G. Thompson, S. Gillott, M. Hoyes, A. Richings, S. Gardner, B. Ravenhill, N. Huggins and R. Grimwood.



COLTS XV

P W D L F A 17 9 0 8 255 155

This has been a rather varied season for the Colts. They played well against good opposition and badly against weaker opposition, and it was this inconsistency that led to the overall pattern of results, and many games were lost which should have been won.

In general there has been an overall improvement helped by a positive attitude in training and a strong commitment by the squad. Colours: Carlile, Gallager, Page-Jones, Clyde, Smith A., Smith R., Burrows, Holder, Taylor M.

UXIV

This season has been another successful one for the team, seeing them win fifteen of their nineteen games with one drawn. Overall the team amassed 492 points with only 131 in reply. Each member of the squad played his part and performed well when called upon, resulting in good team displays. The forwards, in particular the hooker, Nash and No. 8, Wright, were very solid and were well backed up by some good running from the backs. With a little more aggression in their tackling the team can look forward to another good season next year.

P W D L F A
19 15 1 3 492 131

The entire squad of sixteen players was awarded colours in recognition of only a handful of defeats over a three year period as UXII, UXIII and UXIV. The squad was: Thomas, Nash P.L., Lyne, Gladwell, Jones, Chant, Mitchell, Jones-Griffith, Nash P., Roberts (captain), Selwyn-Reeves, Freckleton, Wheeler, Ross, Sargent and Wright.

U XIII

P W L F A 17 13 4 521 91

Although the weather disrupted the end of the season and important fixtures with Monmouth, Belmont Abbey and Wycliffe were lost, the XV still played seventeen matches and enjoyed a most successful season.

A strong pack, particularly in rucks and mauls where Wyatt, Henderson, James, Cadle, Forte and Page-Jones were outstanding, ensured a good supply of ball. Halfbacks, Parsons and Walden, used possession intelligently for the backs, and Bowman and Townsend ran strongly.

Several excellent wins were recorded with perhaps the victories against Beechencliff (30 – 12) and Hereford Cathedral School (26 – 14) particularly memorable.

U XII

P W L F A 3 1 2 22 38

As the U/12 play most of their fixtures in the Lent Term, their programme was severely disrupted by the adverse weather conditions with only three games being played.

The team development and progress has been slow and much hardwork has to be done by both boys and staff if this XV is to be successful. This squad initially appeared to have little idea of either a team game or the commitment involved. However, as the year progressed, the performances of players such as Carter, Jones, Robinson, Fullman, Gettings, Tanner, Hiatt and Nield suggested hope for the future.

SENIOR

With the same team available as at the end of last season, the combination of previous experience and established team spirit certainly reflected in the team's results this season.

The season started with a new fixture, the Marling Relay, where the pre-season training paid off, with the Team finishing fourth. After a creditable home win against the Army Apprentices, the Team competed in three relays within the space of ten days. The Millfield Relay produced a fine performance from the 'A' Team, taking third team medals. After the rather disappointing Abingdon Relay, where the 'A' Team finished eleventh (though the 'B' Team did well to finish forty-eighth out of over eighty teams competing), the School bounced back producing a fine performance to finish third in the Beachley Relay.

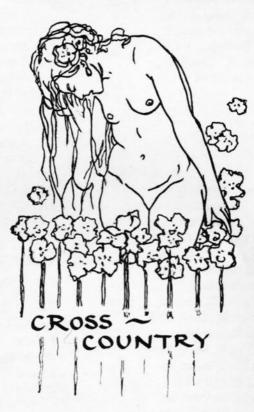
After a comfortable win against Monmouth, where the School has five runners in the top seven, the Team ran in a triangular fixture against King Henry VIII and Loughborough Grammar Schools. Here they came second, losing to King Henry VIII. Next came the Sutton Coldfield Relay, where both teams did well in a stronger than normal field, the 'A' Team finishing thirteenth and the 'B' twenty-ninth.

There was no let-up in the training over the Christmas Holiday, and this contributed to an excellent performance in the always competitive national event, the Coventry Relay, where the School finished seventeenth out of a very strong field of over forty teams. The next event on the fixture list was a race against Worcester Royal Grammar School and Queen Mary's Walsall, which was held over a slippery, snowy, course; the School was placed second.

The final two fixtures of the season were both relays, the first being the annual Oxford Tortoises Relay, organised by the University Athletic Club. Once again, the team did well, finishing fourth and narrowly missing the third team

medals. The 'B' Team was sixteenth and the fourth 'B' Team home. Finally, the former Lucton Village Relay, now organised by Worcester Royal Grammar, saw the Team work its way through the field to finish third, with Mayo clocking the fastest lap of the afternoon.

As the results show, it was a very successful season, and great credit must go to all the team members for their dedication and consistency in training, and their contribution to a fine team spirit,



whatever the result.

We are all indebted to Messrs. Riley and Foster for organising and transporting us to the various events. At the end of the season, we said farewell to Mr. Riley. His enthusiasm and commitment, which has been responsible for many of the successes of the Teams over the last nine years, will be sorely missed. My thanks on behalf of all the team members, past and present, go to him for setting many of us off on our future running careers. We owe him a great deal. Thank you.

C. Mayo (Captain)

JUNIOR

Although it is becoming increasingly difficult to arrange friendly matches for juniors, the U13's and U15's did, as usual, compete in the English Schools Cup Competition and the North Gloucestershire League, and the U13's in the Millfield Road Relay.

The U15's were placed second, and the U13's fourth in the first round of the English Schools Cup. In the North Gloucestershire League, illness and injury prevented the possibility of victory for the U15's, and they had to be content with second place. D. Morgan (fifth individual) and K. Murgatroyd (eighth) put in a consistently good performance. Third position for the U13's was quite creditable, considering the inexperience of many of the runners. K. Mason (sixth individual) and S. Bethell (eighth) were the cornerstones of this team.

REPRESENTATION

School representation in the Gloucestershire County Team was the highest for years, and on some occasions Rich's runners made up almost half of the Senior County Team. The following represented Gloucestershire on up to five occasions during the season: Senior: G. Bircher, S. Grieve, R. Heathfield, C. Mayo, G. Reed, C. Taudevin; U17: A. Foster; U15: K. Murgatroyd.

County runners represent only the top of the pyramid. Credit must also go to those who (in addition to the above) represented the Gloucester District, namely:
Senior – J. Lovell; Intermediate – J. Daly, A. Smith, D. Tandy; Junior – S. Marcer, K. Mason; Minor – R. Robinson, C. Stone, M. Weygang.

At Senior level, this season has seen a degree of commitment and a team spirit not matched for many years. Much of the credit for this must go to the exemplary influence of this year's captain, Chris Mayo.

M.S.R.



P W I A Team 8 6 2 Old Colour A. C. Smith 1 st Division Schools League

P W L
B Team 8 5 3
Colours P. Anthony,
S. Clutterbuck, M.N. Venn
3rd Division Schools League

The season was successful. Both teams performed well throughout. The 'A' team, mostly last year's 'B' team, was not as strong as previous years. They did surprisingly well, losing only the two matches against Cheltenham College. The 'B' team, consisting mainly of inexperienced fifth formers, won the majority of

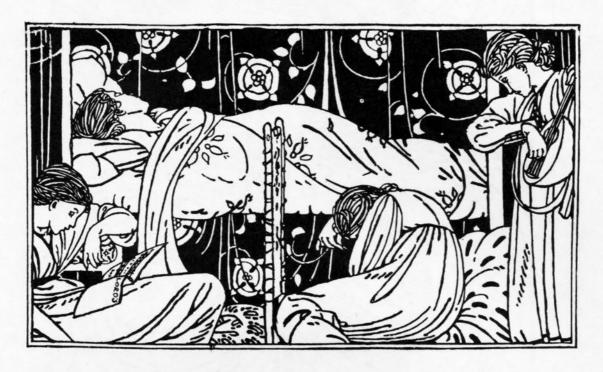
Squash

their matches. Next season might be a successful one as most team members will be returning. We would like to thank parents and staff for help in transporting teams to away fixtures and those who marked the matches. On behalf of all the players we would like to thank Mr Heap for his coaching, carrying and coaxing throughout the season.

P. Anthony - Captain
S. Clutterbuck - Secretary

A season more successful than anticipated sums up 1984/85. Alex Smith (Number 7) was the outstanding player winning seven out of eight matches. All other team members showed improvement, especially Phil Anthony who, had he been more experienced, would have won matches narrowly lost. If team members wish to attain the standard shown by the best school players, they must play more than twice a week and that should be all players' aim for in 1985/86. I would like to thank Phil Anthony (Captain), Stephen Clutterbuck (Secretary) and Mark Venn (Treasurer) for their efficient work during the season.

H. M. PRESIDENT



CRICKET

	P	W	D	L	C
1 st X1	6	2	2	22	1
U 15	4	2	0	2	3
U14	3	2	0	1	3
U 13	1	0	0	1	4
U12	0	0	0	0	4

The large entry of fixtures in the cancelled column is a testimony to a very wet June and another summer of industrial action.

In the fixtures played there have been very few good batting peformances. If batsmen constantly practice and play on poor wickets with variable bounce then they learn to get out of the way rather than into line with the ball; bat and pad together. Rich's wickets, in common with most other state school wickets in Gloucestershire, are of that ilk. Davies 54 v Longlevens (U15) and Huggins 76 v Old Boys (1 st XI) had the only half-centuries so far this season. The U14's score of 12 all out against King's reflected the batting faults mentioned above.

Bowling performances have been much better than batting. With spinners operating in the U12 through to the U15 squads we have had plenty of variety and are producing wicket keepers like Nash (U14) who can "stand-up" and stump batsmen. Hales (U14) and Tapp (U14) are

spinners who have each had 3 wickets in a match this season.

A host of seam bowlers have also managed 3 wicket matches: Brindley (1 st XI), Gardner (1 st XI) Brazington (1 st XI), Grimwood (1 st XI), Emery (U15), Burrows (U15), Moss (U14) and Thomas (U14). The best bowling performance, however, was Davies (U15) with 5 for 6 vesus Kings. Walden (U13) generates a lot of pace and should get many wickets next season.

It would be encouraging to think that the good seam bowling performances are a result of accurate line and length. This has been true of Burrows (U15) and Moss (U14). Bowlers bowling on bad pitches get wickets from the pitch as well their bowling. This was clearly demonstrated when the U15 team played a limited overs match versus Newent on an artificial wicket. With a consistant bounce our U15's had no trouble in reaching 111 for 4. Newent passed this total for the loss of only two wickets, with three overs to spare.

This was the result of poor seam bowling. Our bowlers were used to getting wickets with short pitched deliveries that shoot up. At Newent this type was belted for four.

M.J.B.



We started what was to be a good year by coming equal first in the Summer League, a competition in which we were playing adult opposition. Our next victory was in the Gloucester Schools Cup, in which we beat Saintbridge School 6-0 in the final.

At present, we seem likely to win the Schools League, as we have won all six matches played. In the Times National Competition, we were zone winners, after a closely fought final against Millfield School, in which two crucial games were sent off for adjudication. Happily, the results were in our favour, and we now have to play Neath College to get through to the last sixteen.

We have also had a good season in division five of the North Gloucestershire League. Having gained seven wins and one draw from eight matches, we are now one point clear of the nearest opposition with two games in hand.

I am glad to say that we have fielded a large number of people in the school team, including several members of the first and second years. Some of the regular team members were M. Tanner, J. Stone, G. Barnes and R. Davies. A special mention, however, must be made about S. Clarke who has played in every match on board one and has a score of twenty-four points from twenty-seven league and knockout games played for the school.

I would also like to thank Mr. Davies for all his invaluable help over the year.

M. Campbell U6S



CANOEING

This year we have again been hampered by the closure of the school pool, which has severely reduced opportunities for training and building confidence. However, one encouraging event was the 25 mile River Wye relay race in which the Junior team excelled themselves. The team, comprising of: S. Devine, C. Godding, N. Page-Jones, J. Meager, L. Sparey, paddled the course in 4 hours 2 minutes and came 4th out of 12 teams from all over the country.

More use has been made this year of the River Severn at Maisemore Weir, where sizeable shoots of fast flowing water occur. Beginners meanwhile, start on the slower flowing River Avon just North of Tewkesbury. For most advanced paddlers, visits to Symonds Yat on the River Wye still give the best canoeing in the area.

J.W.R.A.

Old Richians

President: Senior Vice President: Andrew Bishop

Secretary: Treasurer: Past Presidents: Dennis Collins David Billingham

Andrew Bishop Frank Watkins Jack Dean

"Sir Thomas Rich's School and that that it implies"

For over thirty years I have listened to a variety of proposals of that toast - none were more important to me than when I had the pleasure of listening to not only my good friend, Ken Morris, but also former Headmasters, Mr Stocks and Mr Worrall, at the Annual Reunion Dinners.

I have two regrets - first, that my own Headmaster, Mr Veale, was unable to be present and, secondly, that more Old Richians were not present to listen to words that came from the heart about the past, present and future of education in Gloucester and at Sir Thomas Rich's in particular.

The lack of backing to the Association is to me a bitter regret and leaves me with a frustrating end to my two years as President. For me there are two questions - how do you make an Old Richian spring into action? and whither goes the Association? They are obviously linked. If I sound despondent so be it but I believe that NOW is the time to lift ourselves and meet the challenge of change.

The very successful Elmbridge Club is with us, rugby well established, skittles on the way and cricket now revived. The basis for actions is available.

September 1986 may well see the last 11+ pupil entering the doors of Sir Thomas Rich's - the premises are planned to become a County College for 16 - 19 years old. Let's make sure that at least the name of Sir Thomas Rich is preserved. Therefore the reason for action and involvement

By the time you read this message the School will have celebrated 21 years at Oakleaze-let's make sure Sir Thomas Rich remains there- and that a strong Old Richians Association goes from strength to strength.

My thanks to all who have supported me, particularly David Billingham who has had to put up with my constant worrying telephone calls.

From all of you I ask only one favour - please support next year's President, Andrew Bishop. Youth (or nearly!) will be at the helm.

Remember that one word - action. Start by coming to the A.G.M. in September.

See you there - best wishes.

DENNIS COLLINS.





CLUB AND SOCIETIES

A meeting as held in February 1985 to discuss new ideas for condition to those clubs we already have.

Listed below are a few of them and the name of the contact

- in liaison with the Club at School-Bowls

liaison officer is Norman Hedges,

3 Liddington Road, Longlevens, Gloucester. (Tel. 29836)

Badminton - formation of a club to meet weekly

in the school gym. Co-ordinator-Dennis Collins, 21 High View, Hempsted,

Gloucester. (Tel. 33175) President discussed with the Head **Tennis** the possibility of use of school

courts.

Squash contact Andrew Bishop, 98 Oxstalls

Lane, Gloucester. (Tel. 22473)

Players welcomed - contact Phil Cricket

possibilities of a tournament are Five-a-side Football -

being investigated - contact Avi

Chaudhuri.

Cross Country Andrew Bishop talked to Phil Hoddy

or Dave Price about an annual run

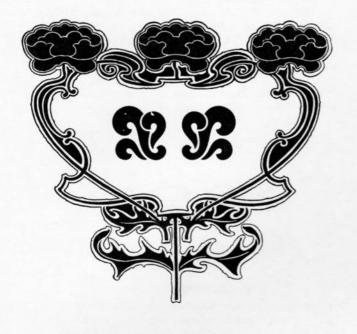
against the school.

and, for the learned,

- Avi Chaudhuri discussed with Ian Debating

> Cutting the idea of an Annual Debate with School- in this day and age we should not be short of topics!

That's a start - if you are interested in taking part in any of the above, or have any new ideas, telephone the appropriate contact man or ring Dennis Collins.



OLD RICHIANS RUGBY CLUB

Results for Season 1983/84

1st XV P34 W18 L16 Pts For 435 Pts Agst 424 2nd XV P33 W23 L 7 D3 Pts For 624 Pts Agst 323 3rd XV P26 W21 L 4 D1 Pts For 544 Pts Agst 191

Andy Miles has taken over Club Captaincy for Season 1984/85 and the 1st XV continues to represent a youngish side with much potential, most of his team have experienced 1st XV local rugby for a few years now and it should not be long before we become a force to be reckoned with. Key 1st XV players include Jimmy Byrne, Demi Prystajectyj, Jerry Lane, John Fletcher, Bob Wheeler and Nick Freckleton. Some significant results this season have been wins against Newent, North Bristol, Cheltenham United and a draw against Gloucester Old Boys.

Regrettably the Boxing Day encounter against Old Cryptians for the Mike Longney Memorial Trophy was lost.

Andy has received good support from 2nd and 3rd XV Captains Nigel Card and Glen Jones and 1984 saw the emergence of a 4th XV which has played regularly under the hem of the evergreen Eric Turner. We have been fortunate to be coached by Old Richian and Gloucester United Captain Paul Wood and have been pleased to see member John Etheridge become established at the Gloucester Club.

Mini Rugby for 8 – 12 year olds has become a feature thanks to Dave Carter and his energetic committee and Dave

has also seen a Ladies Rugby team emerge.

Clive Walford and Allan Brindley have been responsible for the formation of a Colts XV comprised primarily of the School 2nd XV and this represents a very significant step in establishing strong connections with school rugby, an area in which we have been very lapse in past years. When we can also report that a Veterans team, for over 35 year olds has represented the Club, it can be seen that Rugby with Old

Richians covers a broad spectrum these days – altogether not an unhealthy condition, and if sustained, bodes well for the future.

Appreciation must be made of the efforts of Club Chairman, Richard Hardwicke, and his committee where Tony and Rob Wheeler never stop working. Also thanks for Mr Jones the School Caretaker and the groundsman, and, not least, to the Headmaster Mr Heap whose encouragement and support for our activities we very much welcomed.

K D Ray Club President

THE ELMBRIDGE CLUB

As I write, this Sports and Social Club, built by the Rugby Club and adjacent to the school will have been in operation for 15 months and much has been achieved in that time.

The Club's excellent facilities and changing rooms have given impetus to the strengthening of the Rugby Club as mentioned above. The reformation of the Cricket Club owes much to availability of these premises and a ladies Netball team has prospered. The Club is used by our Parent Body, including the Young Richians Section and we applaud the efforts of our Association President Dennis Collins in his quest to see other Clubs and Societies formed under the Old Richians banner, with the Elmbridge Club as their base.

The long term success of the Club, particularly in overcoming the financial challenge with ever increasing costs depends upon support and usage especially by Old Richians still based in Gloucester. To those and all associated with our school my message is – please visit the Elmbridge Club, you will like what you see and hopefully become members and enjoy the facilities and social attractions that the Club can offer.

K D Ray Chairman

OLD RICHIANS CRICKET CLUB

It is particularly pleasing to report that after 15 years absence our Cricket Club was reformed in March 1984.

Dave Cassall was appointed Club Captain and joint fixture Secretaries Paul Drinkwater and Phillip Brown worked wonders to organise some 13 fixtures for the 1984 season. Most of the games were midweek matches and it was encouraging to receive so much support from Rich's schoolboys and a credit to all concerned particularly Dave Cassall that 7 of the games resulted in victories. In the Club's first season the encouragement from Mr Heap, the Headmaster, the help and support from Sportsmaster Mike Bevan and financial backing from our Association were vital.

With facilities of The Elmbridge Club at their disposal the Club seems well placed to succeed and newly elected Club Captain Phillip Gabb and fixture Secretary John Huckfield can look forward with confidence and promise to a successful 1985 season when it is hoped to include weekend fixtures and to partake in Cup Matches. Well done and congratulations to all concerned.

K D RAY CHAIRMAN



JUNIOR SECTION

Chairman: David Q. Hook

Staff Liaison: Mr. John P. Winstanley

Minutes Secretary: Martin J. Cole

Social Secretaries: Duncan Sargent, Ian Henderson and

Avirup Chaudhuri

Committee: Paul Drinkwater, Jeffrey Lyne, Neil

Wall, and Paul Weston

School Reps: Upper Sixth: C. N. Mayo,

R. A. Harris

Lower Sixth: G. L. Dalby,

D. M. Williams
Fifth: G. J. Leeds,
I. R. Poole



Last year was the most successful since the Junior Section was reformed in September 1980.

For the first time the Section has a committee comprising of Old Richians living in the City as opposed to Old Richians away at College which has enabled us to expand our activities. In the past the Section concentrated its efforts primarily on the time during the college holidays when the majority of our members and potential members were home in Gloucester. Last year for the first time we were also active during term time with something taking place almost every other week.

During the last twelve months our membership has for the first time increased to over 100 – the new members coming predominantly, but not exclusively, from last year's leavers.

Successful discos have once again been held in the Cambridge Suite and, for the first time, in the Elmbridge Club. These discos are still our main source of income but this year, unfortunately, they have proved less profitable than in the past. More Old Richians have been attending the discos, however, which is an encouraging sign. Our success lies with the hard work of the School Reps and our new Social Services responsible for Discos, Duncan Sargent.

A new venture in 1985 has been the holding of monthly lunches at various venues in the City – normally during a Friday lunchtime. Organised by Avi Chaudhuri, these lunches provide an opportunity for members to meet socially on a regular basis and it is hoped that more members will take advantage of this chance to get to know other Old Richians.

Perhaps the most important new development this year has been the formation of a skittles team captained by Ian Henderson. At first sight this may not seem too earth shattering but, as with the monthly lunches, it provides a chance for Old Richians to meet regularly and to do something different. If the future of the Old Richians Association lies in ancillary sections then the Junior Section has been quick off the mark with this end in mind.

Those who care about "Sir Thomas Rich's and all that it implies" will be as concerned as I am about both the present treatment of the School and its proposed "Future". Our School is under attack from all sides and needs the moral and financial support of a strong Old Boys Association as never before. I, therefore, urge all Old Richians to support their Association, to get involved, and to encourage others to do likewise – Tomorrow may be too late.

D. Q. HOOK



An Interesting Letter

The following is a letter received from Bevan Meeres of 12, High Marryats, Grove Road, Barton-on-Sea, New Milton, Hants. It was found to be so interesting and raised so many questions that it was felt that it ought to be printed in its entirety.

"One evening my telephone range and an unfamiliar voice asked if I were the Bevan Meeres who once lived in Gloucester and went to Rich's. The caller then introduced himself as Eric Morse who, during the war years at School, was one of my great chums.

"Eric, who is now a quality engineer with Aero-Space Dynamics, happened to be working in my area on a special assignment, so we arranged to meet, after an absence of about forty years. Over a 'pub' lunch we talked continuously about our schooldays and memories came flooding back. Names once familiar and largely forgotten over the few decades now came clearly to mind – Welch, Smart, Court, Michael Smith, Chard, Stone, Etheridge, Limbird, Hunt, Watkins, Chamberlain, Stocken – just to mention a few. Ursula Hancock's name was also mentioned. I remember her as one of my favourites of the time. Does anyone know her whereabouts?

"Eric and I are now in telephone contact and we plan to meet again shortly and talk once more about people and places and the possibility of a grand reunion of wartime students and staff.

"After national service, Teachers' Training College and University, I taught in North America, Bermuda and this country until three years ago when I was forced to take medical retirement from my college post after a serious spine operation, the result of a lifetime of sport and, no doubt, exacerbated by parachuting, during service as Liaison Officer with the R.M.R."

Bevan also raised the question of the possibility of reintroducing the blue and yellow striped blazer as "Stripes appear to be returning to men's fashion".



BRUCE, Rob(1977 – 84) spent a year training with British
Aerospace in Bristol and is now reading Engineering
Science at Mondalan College, Oxford

Science at Magdalen College, Oxford.

CARTER, Dave (1958–63). Recently appointed Director of F E Winnen Limited, the Floor and Furnishing people in Cheltenham – Congratulations! Dave lives locally – is married with one son and is the driving force behind Old Richians Mini Rugby Club. One of the prominent referees in the Glos Rugby Referees Society, Dave now has his share of first class matches in England being a Grade B1 referee.

COLE, Martin J. (1977 – 84) has left Lloyds Bank to work at the Regional Head Office of the Post Office in Bristol.

DARBY, Andrew (1974 – 80). After nearly a year working on research into Silicon Nitride and other industrial ceramics at the British Ceramic Research Association in Stoke-on-Trent, he was offered in June 1984 a job with Alcan Laboratories at Banbury. Naturally he accepted and says he is "having a very satisfying and enjoyable time" there. His research work is now in liquid – liquid mixing, turbulence, and solidification – not surprisingly in particular respect to aluminium.

He plays football in the Hellennic League and, at the right season, cricket for a village – Great and Little Tew. Summer 1984 saw him receive an award for taking all ten wickets in an innings at Worcester College, Oxford, ending the season with an average of 10.5.

(Congratulations, Andy)

FUGLER, Paul (1965 – 73) has been back in Gloucester for just over three years. He says that he is "still trying to complete a Ph.D. thesis on early Tudor Church music (now in its 6th year)". He hopes to finally have it out of the way by this Summer. (We sincerely hope that this is so. What a mammoth task – and proof of what the Duke of Edinburgh called "stickability".)

Paul teaches piano in Oxstalls Lane and is pleased that his pupils include a number of boys from Rich's. He also does "odd bits of freelance musicological work" and last year was involved in a major project researching and editing all the plainsong, spoken text and ceremonial for a special Requiem Mass held in Portsmouth Cathedral for those lost in the "Mary Rose" in 1545.

In March of this year he was busy editing plainsong for Kings College, Cambridge, for their Founder's Obit

He is Secretary of the South West Early Music Forum and feels he is definitely in no danger of becoming

bored or having nothing to do!

All this and completion of a thesis, too!

HAWKINGS, Jeremy J. ("J.J.") (1972 – 79) read Civil Engineering at Imperial College, University of London, and graduated in 1982 with Second-class Honours. Since leaving College Jeremy has been employed by Binnie and Partners, a firm of International consulting engineers based in Westminster. The firm is primarily concerned with the design of dams, reservoirs, tunnels, water treatment plants and irrigation schemes mainly for overseas clients. The firm also carried out feasibility studies for the proposed Severn Barrage.

Jeremy is at present working at Iver, Bucks, where his firm is supervising the construction of a water tunnel from a water treatment works to the reservoirs near Heathrow Airport. He says working underground is

certainly a novel experience.

Married 18 months ago to Katie (also from Gloucester) J.J. lives in Hampton, Middx. While the best work opportunities seem to be in London they both miss Gloucestershire and its many charms and say that they will ultimately be looking to move back. In the meantime Jeremy sends his regards to anyone of his era who remembers him.

HOOK, David Q.(1972–80) on leaving School spent a year working for the local firm of Auctioneers, L. F. Heyden, before going to Leicester Polytechnic where he obtained T.E.C. Diploma in Estate Management. After spending a year in Southampton studying for the final examinations of the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers, he has now returned to Gloucester and is working in the Estates Division of the County Property Services Department. David assures us that, despite working in local government, the spirit of Free Enterprise is alive and well – a fact many Old Richians will know only too well if they have purchased any of the "Richiana" the Junior Section has produced under his Chairmanship.

LANE, Brian (1944 – 1950) was, as far as he knows, the first S.T.R.S. Engish Schools 19-Group Rugby Cap (as hooker) and is a former Gloucester, Bath, RAF and Civil Service player. Has spent over 30 years in the Inland Revenue and is presently District Inspector of Taxes in Oxford I District, where former Richians Mike Longstaff (another Gloucester RFC forward) and Phil Hatherall were also working until they obtained repatri-

ation to Cheltenham.

Currently trying to launch an Oxford Branch of the Old Richians with Brian Nash – anyone interested should telephone Oxford 54868 and perhaps a get-

together could be arranged.

LYCETT, Grantley (1968 – 72), obtained a B.Sc. in Biological Sciences at Leicester University, where he remained until the end of 1979 and successfully completed research for a Ph.D. in Genetics. The subject of his thesis was "The Control of Chromosome Replication in Escherichia Coli" which is quite a title to start with. In 1979, Grantley was married to Christine Dodd, a fellow undergraduate who had also remained to research for a Ph.D. in Microbiology. In 1980 bride and groom moved to Durham, where Grantley obtained a post-doctoral research post at Durham University and his wife subsequently obtained a similar appointment at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

After spending some years in Durham determining the D.N.A. sequences of the genes encoding the major seed proteins of peas, Grantley became Lecturer in Plant Molecular Biology at the University of Nottingham School of Agriculture at Sutton Bonington under the

"New Blood" scheme.

Now that he feels he is within easier reach of Gloucester he hopes to renew contacts with former friends and with the School. Although they are scattered all over the country, he has remained in contact with Brian Hunt, Dave Ralph and Rob Close, but hopes to increase the number.

MAYO, David E. (1945–1950) is a chartered civil engineer working for Gloucester City Council with responsibilities

for a wide range of municipal works.

His elder son, Peter, an Old Richian of course, obtained a First Class Honours Degree in Mathematics at Nottingham University in 1984 and is now studying for an M.Sc. Degree in Operational Research at Lancaster University.

His other son, Christopher, is the current School Captain at Rich's and takes "A" levels in the sciences

this year.

David wonders whether his daughter, Susan, may yet become a fourth Richian in the family, if secondary schools re-organization changes affect "A" level studies in due course.

MELLON, John. Secretary of The Elmbridge Club and a keen member of the Rugby Club since leaving school. John is single and a solicitor with Brand, Mellon and Co, a local Practice he helped to form in 1984.

MOGER, Dave (1975 – 81) lives in Eastbourne where he is an Insurance Broker for Investment Matters, Ltd. In his spare time he is "offensive tackle" for the Eastbourne Crusaders American Football Club. Is there, perhaps, some link between this fact and insurance?

NASH, Brian (1945 – 1950), has fond memories of the S.T.R.S. Cricket and old form-mates (Graham Dix, "Polly" Evans, the Harris boys, Cliff Frowen and Bobby Etheridge, later to find fame with Bristol City F.C. AND Glos. C.C.C.)

After various moves in Local Government Service is now the Chief Auditor to Oxford City Council.

Lives at Abingdon and the joint founder member with Brian Lane of an infant Oxford Branch – please telephone Abingdon 21028 to boost the numbers from 2!

ORGAN, Cliff. A continuing correspondence between NGARUWAHIA in New Zealand and Gloucester brings more information of life for this Old Richian and his family in his adopted land. In September he wrote that he had just finished using an open fire and that his polyanthus plants were flowering, tulips ready to burst into colour and peach trees in blossom. By December the weather had become "quite hot (74 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit)".

From his letters it appears that N.Z. has similar trouble to G.B. (in 1984 perhaps even worse than ours).

Due partly to devaluation, the New Zealand dollar dropped considerably and prices of land and houses rocketed.

A friend of Cliff's bought a Honda Accord for 21,000 dollars. Within a few weeks the price was 23,000 dollars – which, without knowing the exchange value of the dollar, still means an increase of almost ten per cent. Benzine (petrol) was increasing in price. The country was "plagued by industrial strife and everything is rising in price". (Sounds so familiar, doesn't it? Thank you, Cliff, this information makes us all feel a little happier with our "lot".)

Cliff and his family are all well and he sends his regards to all Richians – past and present.

- OWEN, Richard (1955 61). A key figure in the Rugby Club and Elmbridge Club, is Managing Director of MB Owen Limited, the family's Electrical Company. Married, lives at Upton-St-Leonards with three children.
- PEACHEY, Chris (1977 84) is at Manchester University studying Latin. He is also taking a part-time course in Window Dressing at a local store. If he mixes the two subjects we shall find some local store pricing its wares in denarii.
- RAMSTEDT, Chris. Returned to Gloucester in 1984 following a spell working in South Africa. Chris is a Chartered Accountant, now with Deloitte Haskins and Sells in Gloucester and no doubt under the wing of partners and notable Old Richians Nigel Halls and John Harris. Chris is a loyal Richian rugby player and Treasurer of the Elmbridge Club. Married, and March saw the birth of a son Congratulations.

RAY, Keith (1953–59). Being President of the Rugby Club, Chairman of both The Elmbridge Club and of the recently formed Cricket Club, the Old Richian connection features prominently in Keith's life. In between he is Manager of Stonehouse branch of Lloyds Bank, lives at Minchinhampton, is married with three children.

SARGENT, Duncan (1977 – 84) is now on the permanent staff of the National Westminster Bank in Westgate Street, Gloucester.

STONE, Gerry(1950-55). With fellow Old Richian Tony Wheeler, is Director of JWS Limited a building company which they formed 15 years ago. Gerry is the leading light in the Rugby Club, he was the brains behind the formation and building of the excellent Elmbridge Club. Still exerts his influence on the Rugby field, not as a player but as referee – is a keen member of the Glos Referees Society.

TOLEMAN, Paul (1959 – 64). Has been a prominent member of Rugby Club for 20 years including a spell with the Gloucester Club. Still a regular player and active organiser at the Elmbridge Club. Is Regional Sales Manager with John Carr Group. Is married with 2 children.

WALFORD, Clive (1960 – 65). Another key figure in the Rugby Club and Elmbridge Club set-up, Clive has been associated with Richian Rugby for 20 years including a spell in first class Rugby with the Gloucester Club. Still a regular player. He is currently Manager of the Gloucester branch of Stroud Building Society, is married with 1 son.

WATKINS, Keith (1972 – 1977). Over the past few years Keith has been studying hard. He left Polytechnic in 1982 with a first-class honours degree (BA) in finance and accountancy. He then joined a multi-national firm of Chartered Accountants in Birmingham on a training contract. In 1983 he completed Part I of his studies and was placed 10th in the Order of Merit. In 1984 he completed his exams and moved up to 4th place in the Order of Merit winning the Subject Prize (1st place) in Auditing – there were over 3,300 candidates. Whilst doing all this he even found time to get married!

WESTLAKE, Peter (1974 – 81) is a final year student for his Business Studies degree at Middlesex Business School, Middlesex Polytechnic, Hendon. Peter was married in September 1984 (I was mobilised on that date in 1939 and look what happened after that.') to Miss Jo-Anne Evans of Bridgend, South Wales, in Ogmore-by-Sea. He is currently a stalwart in defence with an unbeaten College Soccer team. Hopes to join the police force in St. Albans, Hertfordshire, in July.

WHEELER, Robert (1964–69). Rob is legal assistant with Cheltenham Borough Council. Lives locally, has been associated with the Rugby Club for 20 years and is a regular 1 st XV player. He and his wife Dawn are tireless workers for the Rugby Club and Elmbridge Club.

WHEELER, Tony (1953 – 59). Along with fellow Old Richian Gerry Stone is the other half of J W S Limited, a prominent building Company now well established with 15 years background. He is a key figure in the Rugby Club and Elmbridge Club and despite having passed the big FOUR-O is still a regular player. Married with 4 sons with the eldest following in dad's footsteps at Rich's.

WHITE, Steve (1977 – 84), is taking an Artificer Apprentice's course at H.M.S. Collingwood, which is situated at Fareham in Hants.

WISE, Peter (1975 – 82) doing a Modern Language course at Southampton University, is in the middle of a year off (sorry, abroad) in Saarburg, West Germany, which by all accounts is "klein aber schoen" (small, I understand, but the rest is completely foreign). He still manages to pop back to the Old Country occasionally, and if possible to be present at an Old Richians quiz or skittle match.

WYNN, Flt. Lt. David (1958 – 64) and family are now in BELIZE where they have been since January. The weather has enabled them to visit Mexico, Guatemala border, and to make jungle trips and visit the many adjacent small islands and "cays". Naturally, swimming and deep sea fishing are the main recreational pursuits for the family, although David has already tasted the delights of "tropical rugby" in leading the R.A.F. to victory over the Army. As a result of this, he has been appointed captain and coach to the Combined Forces team to take on the Royal Navy.

WYNN, Keith (1963 – 69) had an addition to family last March of twins (boy and girl). Nothing to do with that happy fact surely but he has since moved from Royston (Herts) to Newton Abbott as Youth Officer at the Dyron Centre. He spends much time organising and taking part in Adventure expeditions on Dartmoor and was, at the time of writing, organising a trip to Germany.

WYNN, Paul (1965 – 72). After working in Egypt and Sudan for three years followed by two years at Twickenham, Paul is now his Company's Area Marketing Manager. He is based in France at Rouen and his territory extends from Finland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark to the Middle East including the Gulf States. On his travels it must be quite a problem deciding whether to pack a fur coat or just shirt and shorts!!