



92

Richian

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*Front Cover:*

**Alfred Earwaker**

reputed to be the oldest living Richian, aged 95,  
with Richard Fouracre, Form 8T

# THE RICHIAN 1992



## SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

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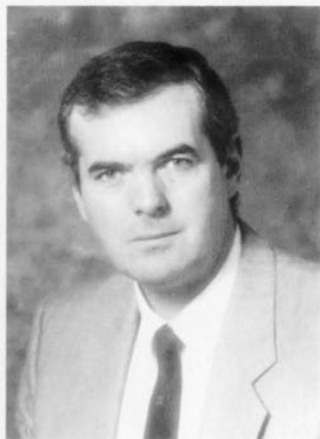
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## HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE



It would be difficult to encapsulate all the outstanding moments, joys, trials and tribulations of another outstanding school year at Rich's into a brief introduction such as this. Once again, there have been many good team and individual sporting performances with more boys than ever gaining representative honours for county and country. A heavy programme of sports, fixtures, clubs and societies, flourishing drama and music evenings has not detracted from pupils' solid academic achievements and the school continues to lead the way in Gloucestershire, both in examination results and through a number of new curriculum initiatives. On the facilities side, the programme of classroom refurbishment continues, the swimming pool structure is now completed and a new computer room installed. This year has seen a drawing together of the various groups which grew out of the school. The Old Richians' Rugby Club are working more closely with us, while the Old Richians' Association held their largest reunion dinner since the Tercentenary and our Parents' Association worked tirelessly in support of the school. Staff farewells and welcomes are covered in this magazine.

We have been lucky in this period of rapid change in our education system to have retained an experienced and committed staff. Incidents large and small remain in the memory, but the Carol Services and Founder's Day in the Cathedral never fails to move those who attend and share something of the spirit of Sir Thomas Rich's. The Guildhall reception, Young Enterprise, E.E.C. language and commercial pilot scheme mark our contribution to the world of business locally and in Europe. This partnership has brought us both closer ties with industry and sponsorship of many activities and projects here.

We aim to provide a happy community which fosters sound academic learning, a strong loyalty and a caring corporate sense. Through the principles of discipline, responsibility and endeavour learned here, our young men and women will leave Rich's well prepared to make their mark in the world.

I hope you enjoy reading about this year of school, as much as we have enjoyed the privilege of living and working through it.

*Mr A Jarvis (Headmaster)*



## EDITORIAL

This year I undertook the challenge of producing the school magazine for the first time. I had thought that it would be relatively easy and would not take an enormous amount of time. This was to be a serious miscalculation on my behalf. I now have tremendous sympathy and admiration for previous editors. Unlike my predecessors, not only have I been editor, but due to budgetary cuts I have undertaken the major task of 'desk top publishing' the entire publication - no mean feat I may say!

Upon reviewing old editions, you realise the high standards that one has to try and emulate. I have endeavoured to produce a high quality magazine, covering as many events, features and news items as possible, which I hope all readers will enjoy. Although it has been a battle at times to ensure its publication, I must say that it has been very enjoyable in many ways. As editor, you realise that Rich's is not only an institution of high academic standards, but a thriving and immensely busy establishment.

The magazine attempts to supply much more news about Old Richians, as I know that many former pupils are keen to learn about what their fellow peers have accomplished over the years, since leaving Rich's.

I would like to make a personal thanks to staff, Old Richians and pupils, too numerous to mention, who have contributed articles for this magazine and helped generally in its production. A special thanks must go to my long suffering wife, Anne, whose computer knowledge and assistance have been invaluable, as were the many hours she sacrificed proof reading all the articles!

Finally, I hope that you will enjoy this year's magazine and if you have any comments to make about it, please do not hesitate to write to me at the school.

*Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)*



## SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Another school year completed! 1992 has been a successful blend of the old and new. All aspects of the school's life have flourished and everyone has worked hard to ensure all the events were well supported.

As usual the first major event on the school calendar was Speech Day. This year the proceedings were conducted in a new form, with staff members reporting to parents and guests about various activities that had taken place during the previous academic year. The guest speaker was Dr Brian Smith, Master of St.Catherine's College, Oxford, a favourite college for Oxbridge Richians. The evening was the first of many highlights during the school year.

The Carol Services at Christmas were extremely enjoyable and as always, provided a fitting end to a long autumn term, which also involved many sporting highlights.

There were also highlights in the field of drama, including "The Family" and "Everyman", a morality play from the middle ages by an anonymous author. It is still relevant today and the performance was thought to be very provocative.

Another grand event was the 'Guildhall Civic Reception'. This was kindly hosted for the school by the Sheriff of Gloucester. It was an opportunity for Rich's to thank many people, organisations and friends of Rich's, who had kindly helped the school through 'Young Enterprise', work experience, fund raising, sponsorship and the many other activities.

The ever increasing demand for seats at the 'Founders Day' service in Gloucester Cathedral led to five hundred parents and Old Richians being present, along with some very distinguished guests. This included an old Richian, who was a Bishop and gave the address. The service was particularly memorable for the Captain of the school, who had to read the lesson.

Probably one of the best sights for many this year has been the progress of the renovation work on the swimming pool. Thanks to the fund raising efforts of pupils, staff and parents, it looks as though pupils could be back to swimming lessons by the autumn term.

Finally, we would like to thank all the prefects and the observers, Sharon, Jon and Simon, for their hard work and for re-arranging their hectic sixth form life at short notice.

Best wishes to everyone next year!

*Robert Bielby & Emily Bolton*

## THE RETIREMENT OF MRS IRVINE



Mrs Irvine joined the School as Secretary in September, 1973, although her links with us were first made as a parent. In 1987, with the introduction of Local Management of Schools and computer accountancy, she became the School's first Bursar.

Throughout her time at Rich's, she took great pride in her work, which was always meticulously thorough. Whenever there was a query about finance or a request for information about a boy, there would be an appropriate little red book or a file, giving the precise details.

We cannot measure how much we benefited from her discrete and firm handling of school affairs, but the large and representative gathering of governors, staff, former staff and friends of the school at her farewell was clear evidence of genuine appreciation. We wish her a happy retirement, with enjoyable travel to exotic places and retained success on the tennis courts.

*Mr A Pilbeam*



## THE RETIREMENT OF MRS RUBY POOLE



Mrs Ruby Poole has left Sir Thomas Rich's after thirteen years' service. During her time at Rich's she has seen many changes. For instance, when she first started, the kitchen had to provide over four hundred meals and in those days the lunch involved two courses. Often, boys would queue to take second or even third 'helpings'.

Many senior staff will remember that the kitchen also provided a waitress service to all teaching staff who had school meals. Those days have long disappeared and like the present pupils, staff find themselves queuing up for their daily meals. The contents of the meals have also changed, with 'fast food' being the speciality of the day.

Mrs Poole has lost count of how many boys have come to the kitchen asking for ice from the fridge to help keep swellings down, gained from bruising activities on the games field.

It is with great sadness that Mrs Poole leaves Rich's, especially as there are now only a few kitchen staff still working.

We, at Rich's, wish Ruby a happy and prosperous retirement.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## RICH'S WELCOMES MRS BARNES, HEAD OF ENGLISH

The school welcomes Pamela Barnes as Head of English. Her qualifications include a B.A. in English and Philosophy gained at Manchester University. After graduating Mrs Barnes went onto a post graduate teaching training course at Cambridge. This was followed by spells at Stroud High School and St. Peter's School.

Prior to her arrival at Rich's, Mrs Barnes instigated her own literature workshops. She made an immediate impact on school life at Rich's. A sense of humour, an effervescent personality, always laced with her now famous dialects, has endeared "Madame" to the junior forms.

Hurricanes have created less impact than Mrs Barnes who has already revolutionised the school library in the School. The Sixth Formers have generated a new found respect for their subject and themselves. Already, uncompromising standards have been set in tutorials and workshops.

Performances of 'The Family' and 'Everyman' have fronted numerous trips and internal productions, involving most pupils.

It is clear to all that the 'English at Sir Thomas Rich's' motif on the window of Room 11 clearly represents qualities of pride, standards, dedication and future intent.

English is here to stay!

*Mr G Middleton*



**RICH'S WELCOMES  
MR R M BYRNE-BURNS,  
BURSAR**



Rich's welcomes Mr R.M. Byrne-Burns as the new school Bursar. Bob, as he is known to staff, was appointed to Rich's in January of 1992, replacing Mrs Irvine, who retired at the end of the Michaelmas term.

He takes over the role of Bursar, at a time when schools have obtained enormous responsibility and power for the management of their own financial affairs. Since arriving at Rich's, Bob has undertaken his role as Bursar with great efficiency and pride. He has already made many friends at Rich's with his friendly and approachable manner.

He left school in 1959 and worked for four years as an articled clerk in a firm of chartered accountants in the city of London. Bob left this firm to join the R.A.F. in 1963 and was commissioned in the administrative branch in 1964.

Bob has accumulated a vast amount of knowledge and work experience since leaving school and this has been enhanced by the attainment of a BSc and HNC in computer Studies, which he obtained at GLOSCAT.

All Richians welcome Bob and hope that he has a happy and pleasant time at the school.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

**RICH'S WELCOMES  
MRS SPILSBURY,  
ENGLISH TEACHER**

Mrs Jane Spilsbury joined the Sir Thomas Rich's English Department in September, 1991, as a part-time teacher. She and Mr Middleton have shared a job, communicating by notes in a very efficient manner and ensuring that those taught by them have been coaxed, goaded and stimulated into producing worthwhile work!

Mrs Spilsbury does another job as well which is almost full-time: she looks after, educates, coaxes and brings up two lively children, Ben aged 4 and Hannah, 2. Before coming to Rich's, she worked for eight years at Frankly Community High School, which was very different, she says, from this school.

Mrs Spilsbury moved to the area when her husband took up a post in Gloucester and they now live in Highnam. Her hobbies include tennis, gardening and of course, dancing.

We all wish her a pleasant stay at Rich's.

*Mrs P Barnes*





*Music*

*English*



## MUSIC

Following the success of the Summer Concert 1991, music at Sir Thomas Rich's School has continued to flourish. The Christmas term saw another fine 'Christmas by Candlelight' evening in the Library given by the Madrigal group, Mr Moss and two other readers from the sixth form. Despite a certain dimness of candlelight behind the tenors in the first half, the brightness of such carols as 'Sunny Bank' and the 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' provided ample compensation in the second.

The same spirited singing was evident at the two annual carol services at St. John's, Northgate and Holy Trinity, Longlevens, particularly at the latter, where the Choir presented each carol with appropriate interpretation and commendable polish. Some members of the Choir gave up their time in the Christmas holiday to entertain residents of Bohanam House and visiting an old people's home for seasonal singing, whilst another group sang carols at Asda Superstore to raise money for local charities. It is pleasing to see the commitment in school time extending to such worthy activities in many pupils' free time.



## DRAMA AND MUSIC WORKSHOP

In the Spring term, a disappointingly small audience enjoyed the chance to listen to a concert given by some of the many able musicians in the lower school. A varied programme contrasted a jazz piano solo played by Joseph Hitchings, 'Inter-City Stomp' with a tranquil fluted solo played by Christopher Collins, 'to a Wild Rose' amongst many others. Mr Nigel Taylor, our County Brass teacher, who kindly attended the concert presented some of his pupils in a variety of first class ensembles whilst the string players were splendidly represented by Timothy Poole and Mark Green, who performed 'Scherzo & Trio' from Dvorak's 'Sonatine' and the First Movement from Sonata in D by D. Purcell respectively. The concert concluded with four swinging songs from the Pop Cantata 'Holy Moses' by Chris Hazell.

The Choir continues to lead assemblies with a variety of anthems and introits, such as Wesley's 'Wash me Thoroughly' and Attwoods, 'Turn thy Face from my Sins', while the Madrigal Group, Brass Group, Orchestra and a variety of soloists in conjunction with the choir all performed in this year's Summer Concert. On the Chamber side, I have been privileged and have enjoyed playing in the school's string Quartet this year.

On the subject of instrumental music it is pleasing to see an increase in the number of Year 7 boys either continuing or taking up lessons this year. Some of these were lucky enough to visit the brass and woodwind factory at Edgware, home of Boosey & Hawkes, last February. Choral members of Year 7 were also privileged to have the chance to sing with the Choir in the Cathedral at the annual Founder's Day Service on May 7th. Another splendid occasion was highlighted by the choir's rousing anthem from Haydn's 'Creation', 'The Heavens are Telling'.

The year concluded with the Choir singing for charity at Twigworth Church on the 7th June and there were music/drama workshops in July given by members of the Guildhall School of Music.

There is much more music to make next year and the success of it depends on the continuing enthusiasm and commitment of everyone in the school.

*Mr J Thompson*

Last July, Rich's pupils experienced a drama and music workshop for two days, as part of the 'Cheltenham Literary Festival'. The aim was to promote and encourage drama workshops in schools.

The activities were designed to develop certain skills, such as team work, as well as develop the powers of imagination and creativity among those participating. Ultimately, the aim at the end of the two days was to produce some type of theatrical performance.

Those taking part started off with 'ice-breaking' sessions, such as clapping and singing strange African songs and simple exercises to improve rhythm and timing. Next, came some musicians who produced an improvised piece of music, based on the use of the flute, guitar and 'digeridoo'. While they played, we had to sit silently and write down as many ideas that came into our minds. These ideas were explored and discussed among the group members. This led to basic themes that would form the basis for the production at the end of the two days.

We also devoted time on one of the days to making up and practising 'haiku' poems - a very strict Japanese form of poetry, where actors have to act out a single action from each line of the poem.

After the first day, the group seem to have many different ideas for the final production, but it all seemed to be in pieces, with no logical flow or overall cohesion. Most of the group felt that it would be impossible to actually stage a whole production on the following day.

Yet, when we appeared in the music room on the second day, all the individual pieces of work seem to come together. Our powers of imagination and creativity seem to unite and gradually one could see the concept of a performance actually becoming a certain reality.

Eventually, the performance was ready, with fledgeling musicians, poets, artists, narrators, actors and directors, all intermingling with great anxiety at their prospects in front of an eager audience. It was a success, not only in terms of staging a theatrical production, but also for all the wonderful experiences gained in the workshop sessions.

*Jenny Langsbury (L6S)*





## STREET THEATRE

In May, the Year 9 undertook a daunting acting project, "Street Theatre", in aid of The Samaritans. The group performed their script in front of the general public in the city centre at Eastgate.

In total, five sketches were directed and performed by the pupils themselves. During rehearsals, many practical problems were encountered, but the enthusiasm of the group ensured that these were overcome. The project was attacked in a fearless and confident manner.

The sketches tackled controversial themes. For instance, Daniel Smith, Ben Gamble and John Hiniton performed a sketch dealing with alcoholism and drug abuse.

Other themes covered included Wyn Edwards portrayal of domestic violence in daily marriage, while Daniel Rose directed a sketch involving the loneliness experienced by an O.A.P.

Matthew Smith provided a light hearted interlude in which a schoolmaster was mercilessly caricatured. Matthew would not reveal who he based his sketch upon!

The final sketch involved the topical theme of 'House repossession' and the trauma that this brings to many people's lives.

The aim of the sketches was to highlight the essential work of the Samaritans and the many daily problems that they have to deal with in our society. The efforts of the group and others in the Gloucester area were well worth-while, with the Samaritans raising over one thousand pounds.

*D Smith (9R)*



## YEAR 9 DRAMA WORKSHOP

### ". . . . DIVERSITY OF SOUNDS, ALL HORRIBLE"



In the Spring term, Year 9 received their baptism into the delights of the great bard, William Shakespeare. As you all know, his works were written to be performed and entertain. The great bard's work demanded that every 'nook and cranny' of the school should become a workshop. No wonder Mr Gallagher received a cultural shock when he walked into his gym to find that it was the key setting for the third year's workshop on Shakespeare's play, "The Tempest".

"Self-recorded gales, shipwrecks, sidestiches, spirits and sorcery told every classroom that 'The Tempest' held sway".

The gym's ropes, benches, wall bars and bucks were transformed and manipulated as props and stage scenes for the third year's work. Every pupil played a part. Acting ability blossomed. Pupils scripted an abridged version for performances to

Year 7. All year 9 competed for a 'Shakespeare Prize', each pupil performing a learned excerpt of his choice.

All of this hard work eventually culminated with a day's participation with the professional cast of 'The Orchard Theatre', which is the south-west's leading touring company.

Long will the memory of John Hinton's 'Caliban' and Julian Walker's 'Ariel', completely impromptu solo performances remain. The professionals were taken aback to the extent that they suggested a Rich's exchange for that evening's performance.

All in all, it was a wild, but worthwhile and wonderful five weeks, which Year 9 thoroughly deserved!

*Tim Poole (9R)*



### ENGLISH TRIP 'OH BOY!'

In February of this year, the English Department moved its stage to Bristol, where the Lower School visited the musical 'Buddy', recently arrived from a London success.

Although many parents of current Richians had not themselves been born during the teething years of Rock 'n' Roll, we are assured by current members of staff who were teenagers themselves in the 'fifties', that plot authenticity was spot on in this production.

Stars were few in those radio and record player days, but those that reached the recording studio held an immortal stage. We were treated to a feast of Buddy Holly classics as 'the Crickets' burst to international stardom.

The developing plot adhered faithfully to its well known climax as Ritchie Valens and 'The Big Bopper' played their part. The tragic ending was sensitively dealt with before a riotous finale had the audience on its feet in a tumult of nostalgia.

Generations spanned a foot tapping audience and as they hurried home, one could detect that they would make bulk orders for horn-rimmed spectacles!

*Mr G Middleton*





## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AND CHOIR VISIT TO ST. MATTHEW'S, TWIGWORTH

In early June, members of the Choir and English Department were guests at St. Matthew's Church, Twigworth. The event was the inaugural service in the church's 150th anniversary appeal.

The choir led the congregation and provided a rendition of 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring'. 'Turn thy Face from my Sins' was sung by soloist John Vallender and the choir finished with 'Wash me Thoroughly'.

Gloucestershire poet and musician, Ivor Gurney, is buried at Twigworth and the third year read a selection of poetry, letters and writings from the Gurney collection.

Tim Poole gave the narration, while Simon Bennett, Christopher Cooke, Wesley Mortimer, Jeremy Sargeant and Ben Rod were lesson readers.

*Ben Rod (9R)*



### MR G MIDDLETON



A special mention must go to Mr G Middleton, who has devoted so much time and energy in helping Mrs Barnes successfully rejuvenate the English Department this year.

*Mr P Lloyd*



## DEBATING SOCIETY CO-EDUCATION IN YEARS 7-11: THE ARGUMENT AGAINST!

The recent examination results clearly demonstrate the outstanding successes achieved by a single, sex schools. Such schools allow more pupils of both sexes to achieve their full academic potential. Girls far from being excluded from certain 'masculine' orientated subjects are allowed to develop their talents at the computer terminal, science laboratory and technology workshop, without crowds of enthusiastic boys pushing them aside. Studies have actually shown that in co-educational schools, this happens with girls being unfairly discriminated against from selfish boys.

However, the main arguments of the co-educationalists rest not from academic performance, but upon concerns about personal development and the unnatural environment that exists in single sex schools. Yet, I feel that their argument is questionable and should be challenged.

Is it so unnatural for boys and girls to associate separately in the Junior School playground? Young people of different sexes obviously mature in different ways and at different rates. Thus, during their school career they have different needs at different times. Such needs can be best dealt with in a single sex school environment. It is my view that it is more unnatural to force individuals from each sex to work together within the school environment, especially in the adolescent years, when girls usually are maturing at a faster rate than boys. If individuals wish to mix with the opposite sex, there are numerous opportunities to do so out of school hours, in the evenings at the local youth club and other informal gatherings.

Young people should not be deprived of succeeding in their exams, as mixed schools have the problem that often individuals from each sex distract each other and this can lead to a loss of interest in academic work, with the subsequent failure of exams. Also, mixed schools can lead to the danger that they become merely 'social clubs', where personal education is lost at the expense of time wasted by individuals being more interested in the opposite sex. I feel that relationships with the opposite sex are very important, but I feel that the personal achievement of the individual in educational terms is accomplished more satisfactorily in a single sex school. Thus, I am totally against co-educational schools.

If you have any strong views on this subject, please send your ideas to the Editor of the Richian.

*Louis Delwiche (L6T)*



## A REVIEW OF A MORALITY PLAY - "EVERYMAN"

Death is inevitable and the need to live a good life is the theme of this late 15th Century morality play. The ideas, cruelty and misery involved in this play are aspects of life still found today and are as obvious now as they were to the writer when the play was first written.

The performance was at 'The Holy Trinity Church', by a group from Years 10 and 11, plus members from the sixth form. Songs were written to accompany the play and improvisation was used to illustrate some of the ideas found in the play. This mixture proved to be inventive and effective.

'Everyman', played by Jon Stabler accurately portrayed the frail weaknesses of all humans. In the play, Everyman faces a final account of his life from 'Death', played by the imposing Chris Atine. He prepares for his day of judgement, with 'God' played by Jon Allen. Everyman, knowing his past life is about to end, tries to find some of his worldly companions to support his case on his last journey to death. All refuse and reject him leaving 'Everyman' to face his death totally isolated.

'Good Deeds', played by Rob Fee, agrees to accompany Everyman to his afterlife. Good Deeds however is greatly effected by Everyman's sins. However, Good Deeds offers the assistance of his brother 'Knowledge', who attempts to show Everyman why life is so important and should be treated with respect. Knowledge also tries to make Everyman confess his sins and repent them in order to gain forgiveness.

Once completed, Good Deeds accompanies Everyman as he moves into the 'after life'. Everyman feels lonely and isolated. He is on his last journey and calls for help from four of life's main qualities. These qualities being, 'Strength' (Russ Kenedy), 'Five-Wits' (Jo Puckey), 'Beauty' (Jenny Lansbury) and 'Discretion' (Alison Burford).

Everyman, confident of his salvation, hopes that the 'Four Qualities' will save him, but at the brink of entry to his grave, they all desert him. He is totally dismayed and blind to the reasons why nobody will help him at this time of crisis.

Knowledge leaves him also and Everyman descends into the grave, still confident that he will receive eternal salvation by God. Everyman is dead and in the play he walks away from his grave to face God, accompanied by his friend, 'Good Deeds' to join all the other repentant souls in Heaven. Here he is saved!

The 'Improvisers' were Salim Uka and Rajinder Sood, who provided some contemporary issues to raise the consciences of the audiences.

The music was performed by Andrew Stratford, the lighting was organised by Mr Middleton and the cast was supported by Mrs Spilsbury. Mrs Barnes, the play's Director, was nervous before the performance, but the cast performed in a positive and professional manner.

Without doubt, Everyman was a thought provoking play, which left you analysing your conscience and your past deeds.

*L Saysell (10T)*



## MEMORIES OF YOU (AN ESSAY)

"Daddy, Daddy! Wake up, wake up!".

I opened my eyes, to find Claire, still half asleep, towering over me.

"Claire, let me sleep, I'm still tired from .....", I said.

"You remember! To see, to see.....Father Christmas", said Claire, all excited.

"You know you have to be a good girl to get all your wishes and as your bedroom is a big mess...." and with that she fled back into her bedroom saying,

"...I'm just going to clear up my room".

Downstairs, as I was drinking my coffee, Claire came bouncing down the stairs.

"Careful! Claire you might hurt yourself!", I said.

"Let's go, come on let's go!", she said impatiently, as she tugged at my arm.

"While I get the car out, you wait outside. But don't walk onto the road, it's dangerous, you may get knocked over."

Driving in the car, I wondered what she wanted this year for Christmas. Unable to maintain my curiosity, I asked her,

"So, what are you going to ask for from Father Christmas?"

"I'm not going to tell you", She said abruptly.

"Why ever not?", I asked.

"Because if I do, then I won't get what I want."

"Oh! ", I said mockingly.

Walking along the busy pavement, I remembered how I also never told my father what I wanted. Claire, who was skipping along the way, joyfully singing a carol, suddenly, said,

"Look Daddy, It's the talking doll I want for Christmas", she said, pointing at a shop window across the road.

"Oh, so that's what you want for Christmas then."

"No, no. But I would like to have a look at it though."

With that she let go of my hand and darted into the middle of the road.

"Claire! Look out!, No! No! Claire!, I shouted.

Brakes screeched and the car swerved. The screams could be heard for miles. In the ambulance, I held her small hand tightly, as the echoes of her screams rang through my head. She was bleeding badly from her head, to which a nurse was attending. The incident kept flashing through my mind, like a bad dream creeping up on me again. That one careless moment when....., when it all happened. She lay there motionless, almost lifeless. There were no tears running down her cheeks, she was a bleeding plastic dummy.

The vehicle pulled up outside the main doors of the hospital and the doors flung open. Nurses and doctors crowded round Claire, taking her swiftly into the hospital. I immediately followed, only to be stopped by a nurse, who said,

"I'm sorry, but you can't go in there, but if you would like to come with me...."

She led me through corridors and doors towards an interview room. Inside the nurse said,

"Don't worry, I'll telephone her, she should be here soon."

I sat inside the room thinking of the time of the accident again and again. I kept thinking,

"It's my fault, I should have been looking after her. I shouldn't have let go of her hand. Oh God!, It's all my fault!"

I broke into a frenzy of tears.

After a short while, the door flung open and Glenda came in. There were no words exchanged between us, but we simply embraced each other. Then, through the door, a man wearing a white cloak came in.

"Doctor, is there any news?", I asked.

"Yes, Claire was fairly lucky, nothing broken and only a few minor cuts. But she's in a coma!"

Glenda immediately began to weep and I put my arm around her, in an effort to comfort her. Before the doctor had left, I asked him if I could see my Claire.

As I walked through the door, the bleeps of the machinery were the only sound in the room. I walked over to her side and held her hand. She lay there almost lifeless, it seemed the jumping spirit that was once inside her was gone.

Sitting in her bedroom brought back handfuls of memories. Like the time she tried to help me paint her bedroom, there was more paint on me than on the walls! This made me laugh, yet when I saw her favourite teddy, "Dumpy", sitting in the corner of the room, I remembered how she used to play with it. I took hold of the teddy and held it in my arms crying for my baby. The thoughts of the accident kept on running through my mind, when the clock downstairs chimed midnight.

"Merry Christmas Claire", I said to myself, wishing I could say it to her in person. Then I heard a faint sound of the phone ringing and dashed downstairs to answer it. When I picked it up, a calm voice on the other side said,

"Mr Collins, your daughter has come out of her coma". After these words my heart began to pound again as happiness filled my heart. I rushed upstairs to tell Glenda the good news and then grabbed the keys and headed for the door. But before I reached the door, I thought I should take one of Claire's presents. After doing so, I rushed out of the door.

In the car I kept on thinking to myself, she'll be all right now, everything's going to be just fine. Soon, I reached the hospital. My heart was pounding, I was nervous, but didn't know exactly why.

As I walked through the door, the warm air embraced me. I gently shut the door, noticing that Claire was fast asleep. The monitors were still bleeping, which brought back memories of when Claire was in a coma. I sat down beside her and held her hand. Her hands were soft and warm, just how they had always been. Her eyes flickered and opened, then looked straight at me. I tried to put on a smile for Claire, but found it hard to hide my true emotions of relief and joy. I felt so much out of place, almost as if we were strangers or as if something between us was missing.

"Merry Christmas love", I said, trying to hold back the tears. She turned her head and faced the window.

"Come on love, don't be like that, there's nothing we can do. But I've brought you one of your presents".

There was still no reaction, she simply lay on the bed, facing the window.

"Don't you want to see what's inside?"

She still didn't move. A lump came to my throat. I was so afraid of what could happen. Did she trust me anymore? Did she know who I was? These questions disturbed me greatly, until, she slowly began to turn her head and face me again. I picked up the parcel and presented it to her. At first, she just stared at it, then slowly took the parcel into her hands. As she did, she softly said,

"Thank you Daddy!". These words were a great comfort to me and rid my heart of all my worries. Then she opened the parcel.

*Salim Uka (11R)*



## "LET HIM HAVE IT!" (AN ESSAY)

"You can't blame me, I was just an onlooker, an innocent bystander, doing my duty to report what I saw and what I saw was a criminal offence taking place. I can't be blamed for what happened after; I was just the witness.....but sometimes, I wish I wasn't, hadn't been there!"

I was out walking, I often go out to walk at night. It's a refreshing feeling, no one around, dimly lit streets, gazing up at the stars and admiring their hypnotic beauty. Then one night as I stared upward, I noticed a group of stars disappearing and reappearing above the roof of "Barlow and Parkers", the wholesale confectioners. I looked harder at this strange phenomenon, screwing up my eyes and pushing my head forward. I could just pick out the outline of a person and then another.

I couldn't understand. What was happening? Who were they? Then, as the outlines became clearer, I understood what was going on and I, being a lawful and responsible person, decided to take the appropriate action and summon the authorities. I telephoned the police from the phone box, opposite the wholesalers and they came pretty quickly. The two criminals were still on the roof.

I remained glued to my post by the telephone booth and watched as a multitude of policemen emerged from cars and on foot to tackle these offenders. I felt safe. Everything would be fine now. It was just a matter of time before the two burglars on the roof would be escorted down to the ground and then onto the police station. All I had to do was wait.

I felt that there was no danger and I decided to take a closer look. As I approached the scene, I could tell that the two hooligans were not much more than children, one of about fifteen and the other slightly older, about eighteen.

As I watched, the elder of the two began his descent toward the ground into the awaiting arms of a plain-clothed policeman. The other seemed hesitant and was reluctant to come down. I continued to watch, as the police tried to coax him down using their smooth talking and persuasion. Then, suddenly, the youth on the roof reached into his jacket pocket and pulled out what seemed to be a revolver. "A mere toy", I thought to myself, "just a replica model. After all, he's only a child".

He held up the gun in both hands and straightened his arms in front of him. I think I saw him close one eye as he took aim on the unsuspecting police officer and then a shot rang out.

It was a spine-chilling sound, but what had been worse, was the blood-curdling cry which echoed from the policeman as he fell to the ground. He was dead. It was murder. I had witnessed a murder!

I was horrified at what had happened, disgusted at the boy and terrified by the gun. The police responded instantly and swarmed around the roof top assassin, like flies around a bad smell. They had him. He didn't resist. Not surprising really, he was facing an inimical force.

As soon as the tumult had died down, I went over to someone who seemed to have some authority and identified myself as the informant. I gave my name and address, as well as my account of what I saw and heard. I was duly thanked and then carefully moved on with the promise that they would be in touch.

I went home to my bed, but I could not get to sleep that night. I lay awake going over in my mind. I couldn't help thinking that if I hadn't called the police, that maybe, just maybe, that poor police officer would still be alive today.

They never did get in touch. I thought it was strange. I thought myself as a key witness, but then again, with all those trained eyes and ears of the police force, who needs a mere civilian's point of view?

Five weeks after the murder, the trial was held. It lasted two and a half days and I sat through every minute of it. I listened intently to what was said from my seat in the gallery. I had never been in court before and it was deeply disappointing. It was not at all glamorous as one might have expected and I was disappointed in the way in which the trial was held. Obviously, a serious crime had been committed and someone simply had to be punished for it. The crime here was murder and the likely penalty would be death by hanging. The problem was, the person who actually pulled the trigger, Christopher Craig, was only sixteen and could not be sentenced to death, but his accomplice, Derek Bentley, was nineteen years old. Yet, there was something special about this nineteen year old. He was an epileptic, with an I.Q. of sixty-six and a mental age of eleven. However, Lord Chief Justice Goddard took no account of Derek Bentley's psychological condition and he now faced the death penalty.

But why? As I recall, he came down of his own free will and handed himself over to the police. He didn't even have a gun! Bentley was being accused of having incited the murder by shouting the words, "Let him have it Chris!", words that I did not hear and in my opinion were never said by Bentley. I was there and I saw and heard everything. I should have been testifying, giving my evidence, instead I heard policemen telling their official stories and quoting Derek Bentley of having said, "let him have it, Chris!".

Even if he had said it, perhaps he meant for Christopher Craig to surrender the gun and not open fire, so it couldn't be enough to convict the man.

Craig's lawyer attempted to bring in manslaughter, but Goddard always prevented this. I watched the

bored expression on his face and I was disgusted to see him continuously dozing off. I was also very annoyed with the way he would continuously interrupt the proceedings, he seemed to have the outcome of this trial mapped out in advance and wanted to influence the jury's verdict.

The jury was sent out to deliberate, I noted them as being an all male, middle aged jury. I prayed that this would not affect the verdict, but you can't help wondering what the presence of a woman or a young man may have done upon the other members of the jury.

The jury came back and returned a verdict of guilty, but recommended mercy for Bentley. Goddard ignored this recommendation and sentenced Bentley to death. That was it, I couldn't take it anymore. The whole trial was a shambles as it was and now this!

I stormed out of the court. I wanted no more to do with any of it. I couldn't understand how it could have happened. Bentley didn't do anything and yet he was going to be hung, while the real murderer was to be sentenced to ten years in prison.

I still feel that I am partly to blame for the death of this young man. If I had just kept my nose out of what was not my business, none of this would have ever happened, but instead, I had to be the hero. I just had to go and call the police. I could have just walked away and shouted at the boys to scare them off, but no, I just had to interfere and I wish I hadn't!



*Raj Sood (10T)*





## MATCH THE QUOTATIONS

1. "Is not this something more than fantasy".
2. "Never make a defence or apology before being accused".
3. "Man shall not live by bread alone".
4. "A land fit for heroes to live in".
5. "The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time".
6. "A smattering of everything and a knowledge of nothing".
7. "I came, I saw, I conquered".
8. "Still have I found, where tyranny prevails, that virtue languishes and pleasure fails".
9. "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration".
10. "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life".
11. "He that is without sin among you, let him cast a stone".
12. "I have put my genius into my life, I have put only my talent into my work".
13. "A thing of beauty is a joy forever".
14. "One small step for Mankind".
15. "You've never had it so good".
16. "Neither be a borrower nor a lender be".
17. "I'd die for my country, but I wouldn't let my country die for me".
18. "The ballot is stronger than the bullet".
19. "But, soft! what light at yonder window breaks".
20. "The lady's not for turning".

Please find the answers on page 15.



## THE CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL POETRY COMPETITION

In May of this year, I went along to the the Cheltenham Festival and participated in a poetry competition. I had to recite part of a poem and the one I selected was by Ian Serraillier, entitled, "The Raft". I also recited another poem, "It was a long time ago". In my age group, there were one hundred and one entries and I was lucky to be the overall winner. Entrants came from all over the Midlands and the standards were very high.

The competition was divided up into two classes / divisions and in my section I gained 91 marks. I had to wait to see if I had won the competition for my age group, but luckily enough for me, the winner of the other class scored one less point than myself, scoring 90 points and so I had won the title.

On receiving the trophy, one of the judges commented that I had been awarded with one of the highest marks out of any of the age groups taking part in the competition for the reciting of verse. This was very pleasing to hear and I hope to take part in next year's competition. Below is the poem which I read at the festival.



*Alistair Bone (7S)*

### An extract from the poem, "THE RAFT", by Ian Serraillier

Plunge with me now through the cloud - if you dare -  
And with an eagle eye pin-point  
One flake of foam darker than the rest.  
That's the raft, d'you see it? - tiny, frail  
As a rose petal blown on a Stormy lake.  
Drop closer now. Hover over the wave  
Till you feel the sting of salt. It's not so frail  
As it looks, that raft. Nine logs of balsa wood  
Lashed side to side, pointed  
With splashboards at the prow;  
For mast two mangrove stems tied at the top;  
A bamboo yard with four-corner sail painted  
With Kon-Tiki's bearded face, Kon-Tiki son of the Sun;  
Behind him the cane cabin, plaited with reed  
And tiled with banana leaf, a ramshackle tool-shed thing  
That creaks in every wind. This was their home  
For a hundred days, this wooden tray, this balsa platter,  
This cork steamroller snubbing the cheeky wave,  
Now riding the mountain crest, now swamped  
And swallowed, a sieve to each falling sea.



## POEMS

### FEAR

"Crash!" The plate shattered on the floor  
 My father appeared at the door  
 "Wait till your mother gets home", he said  
 I aimlessly amble away to bed  
 I lay there wondering what she would do  
 I worried so much, I needed the loo.  
 There I lay staring at the ceiling  
 Inside I felt an awful feeling  
 I looked at the price with great astound  
 The broken plate cost twenty five pound!  
 I sheepishly snuggled into my bed  
 and pulled the covers over my head  
 From then I entered a dream world  
 Dreaming of what she would do when she heard.  
 Would she make me pay for the plate?  
 I began to pray, that she would be late.  
 She couldn't make me pay? I thought  
 It wasn't my fault, an accident!  
 What would she do when she got home?  
 She'd rant and rage, her mouth would foam.  
 It wasn't worth running away.  
 I said to myself, "I'd have to pay".  
 I began to shiver at the thought  
 Of the deceased plate, which had been bought  
 Many, many years ago,  
 by a friend my mum used to know.  
 Would she "ground" me, not let me out?  
 Make me tidy up the house?  
 Not allow me to watch T.V.?  
 She might even try to do all these.  
 I found that I had began to sweat.  
 In doing so, making my clothes all wet.  
 I got up to dry them in the bathroom.  
 But then I heard the dreaded "Vroom!"  
 Into bed, I did dive,  
 As headlights travelled up the drive .....

*Paul Dawson (11T)*

### GUY FAWKES

Guy Fawkes, a weird sort of a fella',  
 Undemeath Parliament, deep in the cellar  
 Near by, the threat of explosion  
 Powder an' water erosion  
 Occasions that cannot be missed,  
 "What's in the Cellar?", the angry King hissed  
 Down marched the guards ready to fight,  
 Enter the cellar, Oh, what a sight!  
 Ready, just waiting for one little spark.  
 Powder to explode, lightening in the dark  
 Lurching and scrambling, Guy Fawkes tries to run,  
 Only to find he's stopped by a gun  
 The traitor is found, tortured and hung.

*Thomas Hinton (8T)*

### THIS IS THE KEY

This is the key to my house.  
 Enter quietly, enter silently.  
 My parents must not be aroused.  
 After my coming in this late at night.  
 My head is hurting, throbbing aloud,  
 Oh boy, gee whiz, what a party!  
 Up the stairs please, not a sound.  
 Aaargh! a squeak, a grinding sound  
 On the bed, I lie flat out,  
 Then I notice my sprained knee.  
 I was dancing, prancing wildly around,  
 With no thought of standard safety.  
 I fell over, collapsed, went down,  
 Landed on my leg, heavily.  
 The room starts to blacken and spin around.  
 Oh boy, gee whiz, that was a party!

*Ian Gardiner (8S)*



### ANSWERS TO 'MATCH THE QUOTATIONS' (page 14 refers)

1. Shakespeare's Hamlet.
2. Charles I of England.
3. Jesus.
4. David Lloyd George.
5. Thomas Jefferson.
6. Charles Dickens.
7. Julius Caesar.
8. William Wordsworth.
9. Thomas Edison.
10. Samuel Johnson.
11. Jesus.
12. Oscar Wilde.
13. John Keats.
14. Neil Armstrong.
15. Harold Macmillan.
16. William Shakespeare.
17. Neil Kinnock.
18. Abraham Lincoln.
19. Romeo.
20. Margaret Thatcher.



# Humanities



# Geology



# Ecology



## YEAR 8 HISTORY TRIP

### 'THE COMMANDERY' WORCESTER

In the Autumn term the whole of year eight visited 'The Commandery', Worcester, as part of their studies on the English Civil War. As you may know, the English Civil War was about the struggle between Charles I and the Parliamentary forces, led by Oliver Cromwell. Charles refused to allow Parliament to have more power, while the Parliamentarians demanded greater democracy.

During the Civil War, Worcester became an important headquarters for the 'Royalists'. The Commandery was originally a hospital built and set up by Saint Walstan in 1095. The building came into the possession of the Wylde family, who during the fifteenth century converted it from a hospital to their family home. They were able to purchase the property when Henry VIII 'dissolved the monasteries' at a cost of approximately £75.

Charles II had the support of the Wylde family throughout the civil war and so he was able to use it as his headquarters, just before the battle of Worcester. He used it because it was positioned near the hill fort and he could survey the area stretching across the river Severn. Charles II would have most likely planned the battle of Worcester in 1651 from the Commandery. The battle was Charles II's last attempt to overthrow the Parliamentarians and took place two years after his father's execution, (Charles I), in 1649.

On the 23rd August, 1651, Charles II entered Worcester with an army, many of whom were Scottish and had marched over 300 miles from Sterling in Scotland, taking three weeks. At that time, Worcester had a population of 7,000 and many of the locals were sick of the civil war as it had constantly

disrupted their lives, with soldiers using the city merely to restock their supplies, rest and generally exploit the local community. It is interesting to note that the population of Worcester is now about 57,000.

The actual visit was very interesting and informative, as we not only learned about the Civil war and the battle of Worcester, but also about how a wealthy family, such as the Wylde's, actually lived. We also had an 'arms lecture', in which muskets were fired.

When walking around the Commandery, you can see that the actual building is furnished in the style of the 17th century. There are no carpets, just merely highly polished wooden floors, with all the furniture made out of wood and you cannot see the use of any type of synthetic material. The crockery on display is made out of clay or pewter and one would describe the living conditions as basic, compared to our living standards today.

The actual building is mainly constructed out of timber, with 'wattle and Dorb' walls covering the brickwork and painted with 'white-wash'. Many of the rooms had weapons dating back to the period and there were information boards with diagrams, pictures and other details explaining the course of the Civil war.

What also added to the atmosphere of the place was the full scale models of key characters connected with the Civil war and more specifically the Wylde family. They were computer controlled and would deliver speeches and enactments connected with the events that were taking place at the time. One of the best scenes was the 'trial of Charles I', which was not only informative, but visually created the atmosphere and tension that must have been present at the time. At the end of the trial, you were asked to make a decision on whether Charles I should be executed or not! Being rather a blood-thirsty lot, most of us voted for his execution.



The 'Arms Room' was very interesting and one of the guides explained how to load a cannon correctly. The room contained various weapons and models, such as pikemen and musketeers. One of the best aspects of this room, was that you were actually allowed to touch and handle many of the weapons on display.

As we moved through the buildings, we not only learned about the Civil war, but many of the rooms set out scenes describing the events leading up to the battle of Worcester. In the last room, we saw a film, which actually reenacted the battle and again helped you to understand what it must have been like to be there at the time.

Overall, I found the museum generally good and a worthwhile experience. Yet, most of us agreed that the best part was the demonstration of the musket firing.

*A Degge / J Adams / G Hughes (Year 8)*



## **OPERATING DIFFICULTIES IN THE BIRMINGHAM AREA: AN 'A' LEVEL GEOGRAPHY PROJECT**

With the government now committed to the privatisation of British Rail and the recent publication of the Passenger's Charter, British Rail has been in the media spotlight more than ever.

The Passenger Charter, British Rail's answer to John Major's Citizen Charter is designed to protect customers from a low quality rail service. Out of all the factors that could be used to define a quality service, such as 'quality', 'speed', 'cleanliness' and frequency, etc., the most important is probably that of 'punctuality'. This study set out to identify the reasons behind train delays and related them to local railway issues.

The first task undertaken was rather large and this involved the collection of data on 'late running trains'. This was achieved on five, rather cold Wednesday afternoons in January and early February; much to the surprise of local rail enthusiasts, who found it rather strange that someone would want to write down train departure times rather than train numbers!

Most data collection was carried out at Birmingham, New Street Station, which is a well known railway bottleneck, but surveys were also carried out at Gloucester on a smaller scale.

With the data recorded on over 1,000 train services, the school computers allowed the quick calculation of 'Pearson Correlation Coefficients', between 'minutes late' and various factors that would possibly delay trains.

Of the two main groups of services at New Street, Intercity and local trains, the Intercity services proved to be most affected by the geographical factors of their route. These factors included, distance travelled, number of stops and route mileage. The local services were affected more by the type of train used. For example, 'sliding door' trains were more punctual because quicker passenger loading can be achieved more quickly with such doors. Similar factors were found to operate on Gloucester train services.

An important factor affecting Birmingham's local services, was that the services being delayed by late running Intercity services on their approaches to New Street Station. Intercity have recently announced plans to build a new 'out of town' station in Birmingham, in order to assist in solving this problem.

However, the results would indicate that local services would benefit from this plan. The Intercity services would not, as their delays are caused by their geographical route characteristics.

Thus, these plans may not bring the service improvements claimed by British Rail. They may merely make the interchange between local and Intercity trains difficult and more time consuming.

*Malcolm Beard (U6R)*



## **GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP TO EXETER**

The field trip was started with a somewhat arduous tour of the village of Dartmoor, taking the scenic route. After an afternoon of touring round and getting bogged down behind coach loads of tourists, we were glad to return to the Exeter University.

As the week progressed we did extensive work in the area around Exeter each morning, beginning at half past seven, with Rob Easen singing, 'Lonely Days, Lonely Nights, where would I be without my women?'. As you may have guessed, by the end of the week we could remember it word for word.

Our accommodation at the University was basic, but it catered for all our needs and the food was good. That is if there was any left after John Gipson and the newcomers had not got to it first! We were

certainly in need of a good meal to prepare us for a hard day mapping land use around Torquay and Paignton. This proves more difficult, especially when local attractions appear more appealing!

At the end of the week, we did some final work in Exeter city centre and prepared to depart. The week in general was informative and enjoyable. We must thank Mr Smallwood for his hard work in putting together a delightful week's entertainment.

*Duncan Willoughby (U6T)*



## GEOLOGY FIELDWORK

To the ordinary member of the public, Crickley Hill, Leckhampton Hock Cliff, the Forest of Dean, are places for picnics or walking the dog, but to the G.C.S.E. student at Rich's these sites mean .....

Geology fieldwork trips conjure up images of weird fanatics clad in anoraks, tank tops and wellies, rambling around the countryside, looking at seemingly identical pieces of rock. To be honest, this is not far from the truth, apart from the anoraks .....

"Wellingtons are an essential part of fieldtrips, as they all seem to involve walking over the most revolting mud ....."

"Geology field trips are good for two things: missing school and I can't think of another ....."

"They are good for helping you in your G.C.S.E. and other good things are smashing up rocks, running down slopes and jumping in mud ....."

Another important aspect of them is the application of Murphy's law, which states that if anything can go wrong, it does. For example, the cloud cover is always such that it is necessary to use a flash for photography, but you've left it in the van. Also, it is normal for the important features on the site to be buried under a forest of vegetation, which the council should have cleared the week before!

The bad things are:

"Long walks, bad weather, drawing field sketches, getting wet and dirty, more bad weather and then even more depressing weather ....."

"Some people don't like heights, so they have to stop at the bottom of some of the steep slopes ....."

"If you are not careful, you could fall in the river like ....."

"Actually, field trips are quite good. It's better than being stuck in a classroom all day ....."

"Most people think that all it is about, is looking at a lot of old rocks. It is! ....."

"Why do we always go in the old mini-bus? ....."

"You still say you learnt something when the teacher asks you and really you say you would love to go again ....." It's all great fun, really! ....."

"In conclusion, field geology is very interesting ....."?

Thanks to Ben King, 11T, for some positive comments and also some sundry members of Year 10 Science, Set 3, for the rest of the input.

*Mr F Henderson*



## SIXTH FORM ECOLOGY FIELD COURSE

Fourteen members of the Lower Sixth attended a three day residential field course in Ecology, at the Wilderness Centre for Environmental Education, during the 20th - 22nd May, of this year. The course was organised by Mr T. Roach, the Director of the Wilderness Centre, in consultation with Mr S. Morgan and had a strong conservation bias to help meet the demands of the "A"-level Biology, Investigative Assignment, Conservation Option". We were very fortunate this visit could be arranged as this was the only course organised by the Wilderness for Students in Secondary Education this year.

A variety of sampling methods, techniques, methods of analysis and conservation issues were examined during the three days, with studies extending into the evenings. After work, students had the opportunity to consider the suitability of topics for investigation and the design of investigative assignments. Also, they had time to relax for a few hours, before going to bed, ready for the next day's programme.

Overall, the visit was a great success and of great value. Parents may be interested to note that all students demonstrated proficiency in helping with washing-up and making beds!

*Mr S Morgan*





# Residential Visits



## FRENCH TRIP - 1992 YEAR 8

Taking the current Year 8 on the annual working week in France posed a major problem this year. In previous years the two form entry of forty boys to the school had been very manageable. However, Year 8 is a three form entry, meaning that to confine the trip to a maximum of forty boys would almost certainly have led to disappointments. Therefore, I decided on the basic principle that no boy who wanted to go on the visit should be turned down.

With fifty-seven takers from the Year, within two days of parents receiving the initial introduction letter, I confess to certain anxieties, but fortunately, "School Tours" were able to offer us a seventy seater Euro-doubledecker and from that moment the show was on the road.

In the end, three boys from Year 9 joined the group, making a total of sixty, with six accompanying staff.

The purpose of the week is to give pupils first hand experiences of France and the French language and we believe that by the Summer term of their second year of French, they have sufficient language skills to achieve many communicative tasks in the target language.

Of course, business is mixed with pleasure and pupils have ample opportunity to relax with their friends, play games, shop and generally enjoy a few days away from formal lessons.

We left Gloucester at 5.00 am, Monday morning, for a re-routed coach trip to Dover, eventually reaching our destination in Southern Normandy at 7.00 pm that evening.

To enable us to manage sixty pupils more easily, the party split into two separate groups of thirty, staying at two different centres. This proved very successful and my own feelings were that the boys worked better this year than ever before.

Over the course of the next three days, they prepared questionnaires for visits to various parts of town, wrote up a daily diary in French, collected information about different aspects of the town and in groups of no more than five, were given many opportunities to practise their French in places, such as shops, railway stations, post offices, cafes, hotels, etc. We also visited the Bayeux tapestry and the Normandy museum of cheese in Dives-sur-mer, where they had a chance to sample three excellent regional cheeses, one of which was extremely strong and met with various comments, mostly relating to old socks.

The food at the two centres was excellent and, on the whole, the boys were very appreciative. Indeed, the proprietress of the "Sweet Home" (such a typical French name!), told me that she had never known a group of pupils eat so much bread. Our daily picnics were also of an extremely high standard.

There were a few minus points, such as the length of the journey, forced upon us by strikes on the Newhaven - Dieppe ferry service, but apart from this, the trip was successful.

I would like to formally thank my five colleagues, Pam Joshua, Sarah White, David Slinger, Brian McBurnie and Mike Swann, for their tireless, positive support throughout the whole trip and also the Headmaster and colleagues left back at school, for their support of the visit and tolerance of the daily disruption that such ventures inevitably cause.

Finally, thanks and congratulations must go to the boys whose behaviour was impeccable, without ever losing their sense of enjoyment. It was a pleasure to be in their company and we are already beginning to plan next year's campaign. I have so far resisted requests to go to Euro-Disney and there is no truth in rumours of a soccer tour to Paris.

Mr B L North



## THE 1992 - YEAR 10 GERMAN EXCHANGE TRIP



The exchange trip this year was a terrific success. It combined the chance to have some fun in a European country, with the opportunity to become fluent in a foreign language. Everyone enjoyed themselves and certainly learned a great deal.

Eight boys from Rich's participated this year. We joined two coach loads of Gloucestershire pupils travelling to Germany for the exchange. We worked in conjunction with seven Denmark Road girls, who had arranged an exchange with some pupils from Otto-Mahn Gymnasium, Gottingen.

On the day of the departure we boarded the bus at 7.30 am. This was much too early for most of us, but we were rewarded with the spacious back seat. We travelled from Gloucester to Dover and then over to Calais by ferry. From Calais, we again boarded the coach and set off for Germany. The journey was long and strenuous, lasting eighteen hours. It was all rather uneventful, so, to liven things up and release a little tension, we started to evoke some entertainment. Suddenly, the coach came alive to the strained tunes of the Righteous Brothers, Madness and Bryan Adams. Another favourite of ours was "Swing low, Sweet Chariot", but we soon found that some people became a little bored with the same songs repeated over and over again!

Arrival in Gottingen was an unnerving experience and as the coach pulled up, the fear and anxiety about staying with a new family, in a different country, with a difficult foreign language, soon became apparent. There was slight panic as we realised there was no turning back. All our confidence in speaking the German language had disappeared. We decided that we certainly did not know enough to be able to survive for two whole weeks.

We stepped off the coach onto German soil and were cordially greeted by our hosts. We were taken to our

respective homes, some of which were as far as 20km away from the city centre.

They made sure we felt welcome. Most of us had our own rooms and some even had a whole floor to ourselves with everything we needed. I was particularly pleased to find a bowl of fruit and German sweets waiting for me in my room, with a neat hand written note reading, "Welcome to our house!" I thought this was a terrific gesture on their part.

The weather in Germany was much like our own here in England, it was both wet and sunny in the two weeks while we were there. Fortunately, the weather did not limit our activities. Our hosts kept us busy the whole time and I cannot remember a single day when I was left idle.

A number of us went on bicycle rides with our hosts. Now this might not seem like much fun, but when you remember that the Germans drive on the right hand side, you can imagine the difficulties - the left hand turn suddenly became a difficult trick to master!

The "Easter Fires" were quite an experience too! These were huge bonfires set up in each individual village which roared through the night. Everyone gathered around to watch the spectacle eating their "Wursts" and drinking their beer. If you looked carefully, you could see the bonfire in the next village glittering in the distance.

Trips to, and beyond, the old east-west border proved very interesting. The difference in surroundings was amazing. The buildings were in a much poorer condition and the most common car was surprisingly, the "Trabant", affectionately known as "Trabbies".

School was very interesting too. I experienced my first Russian lesson - very interesting, but never again though!

Other activities included trips to town, to parties, to caves, to the town hall, to the cinema, the toboggan run, ice rink, to a confirmation service, bread museum and to several areas with beautiful scenery. Clearly, an action packed fortnight!

In summary, the German Exchange was brilliant! We all made new friends and had a great time. I picked up some great memories that I want to keep for life. At the same time, we somehow managed to pick up a huge amount of German vocabulary and acquire an almost authentic German accent. To any budding German speakers in the school, I can only recommend participating in the exchange. You would be mad not to take the opportunity!

*Raj Sood (10T)*



## A PUPIL'S IMPRESSION OF GERMANY

As the clock neared 3 o'clock a slightly tired and nervous boy from Sir Thomas Rich's began to think about the German leg of the 1992 exchange trip. After an eighteen hour coach journey, we rounded the corner into Göttingen's bus station. Ahead, we could see a huge crowd of German families. Up to this point, I had not really thought much about the two weeks ahead of me, but with the crowd in sight, the nerves evoked a million questions in my mind. What would my family be like? What on earth will happen to me? What lies ahead?

Upon meeting my partner, the nerves began to disappear and soon I was asleep in a comfortable bed. The next day, I got a taste of the German environment. I noticed the differences in the architectural design of the buildings and also a distinct difference in the standard of living that the Germans seem to experience, as indicated by the size of their houses. Judging from what I observed, I deduced that the Germans seem to be better off compared to most English people.

As for the town, I obtained the impression that the Germans took greater care in the appearance of their streets and buildings, as they all look unbelievably clean. It was very evident, that as you walked around the streets there was hardly any litter and one did not notice a damage or vandalism anywhere. There were rubbish bins everywhere, but unlike this country, people actually seem to use them for the purpose that they were intended for! This was rather a simple, but striking contrast to that of the streets of most of our towns. I got the impression, that the Germans seem to be more aware and conscious of their environment. It makes you realise how untidy and uncaring the majority of British people are about their environment.

I also seemed to feel that the quality of the air in Germany seemed to be better. I know that it may seem rather silly, but this could have been because of the altitude or in fact, there is less pollution. Another reason may have been the fact that the town centre had a large 'pedestrian precinct' and the fumes from cars were obviously eliminated from this area.

The other main contrast I noticed while in Germany was based around the behaviour of the German family that I stayed with, particularly their mannerisms. This behaviour obviously stemmed from their culture and way of life. It was little things that I really noticed, such as when the Germans cut their potatoes with a fork and not with a knife. They approached their meals in a different way, with the table always neatly laid, well presented and generally, meal times were more friendly and conducive to conversation. This contrasts to most meal times in England, which always seem to be rushed! The actual food was different in many ways, as they tended to be a lot 'lighter', with less vegetables eaten. Yet, to combat this, we generally ate four times a day, with breakfast, lunch, coffee

and cake in the afternoon and finally, an evening meal. I preferred this daily itinerary, as there was less time to wait between meals and less opportunity to fill yourself with 'junk food'!

While I wandered around the town and came across other Germans, I got the impression that the Germans were a little 'blunt' and do not apologise or bother with trivial conversation like we do. They tend to say what they mean and want, dispensing with any trivialities that us English seem to be preoccupied with. However, having said that, upon getting to know many Germans, I did find that they were friendly and I made many friends while I was over there. They seemed keen to make us feel welcome and were always willing to help us.

The family I was staying with were always keen to include me in their conversations as much as possible. They were also keen to learn about England and seemed genuinely interested in what this country was like. I found many of the Germans desperately wanted me to visit East Germany and this was one of the highlights of the trip. I found it very interesting and the contrast between the two regions, West and East, was very striking.

As you cross the old border, you can see the 'watch towers' dotted about the landscape. The first thing I noticed was that there were large open expanses of farming land, unlike this country where you seem to have many fields. The reason for these very large and open expanses of farming land, was that under the Communist regime, all farming land was formed into 'Collectives', with different farms 'pooled' into a large, centrally controlled one.

When we passed through towns, I noticed the drab, dirty and unrenovated buildings. Many seem to have broken windows, cracks down the walls and dirty stains over them. I visited one town called 'Heiligenstadt' (Holy Town). The streets were unclean and the air seemed to be polluted. Yet, there were signs that people were starting to care for their town, with some houses being renovated and cleaned up. The town did have a beautiful pedestrian zone and this, combined with the old houses did create some character in the town. The East did leave me with the impression that it had been neglected and I would not like to live there. One noticed that the 'standard of living' was much lower, but in some ways, it did have character and I would like to visit it again, to see if unification will make any difference to the towns.

Well, that just about sums up my impressions of Germany and I would highly recommend it to anyone, as I had a great time. The people and the country were well worth a visit. I intend to return some day!

*Phil Brown (10R)*





## THE LOWER SIXTH ENGLISH TRIP TO YORKSHIRE AND BRONTE COUNTRY

I could not believe that anybody would be happy to release twelve hyperactive seventeen year olds into such a beautiful renovated barn, (our accommodation for the weekend).

There were rapid routine arguments about the bedrooms and who was going to use the bath, which suspiciously resembled the Barton pool; a flurry of unpacking which involved everybody tipping their clothes onto the floor to mark their territory and a stampede downstairs to stick fingers into every cake tin and package in the kitchen. Once this had been successfully achieved, the dirty dozen felt relatively relaxed and at home and ready to dive deep into the depths of the whirlpool of Emily's mind.

It is no wonder the Brontes wanted to write. Standing out on the the moors is the most inspiring atmosphere to be in. One lung of air and you want to write every piece of poetry you have ever known. Although on the spur of the moment, I am sure they were not restricted to:

"Er.... Tiger, Tiger, burning bright....er...Fair daffodils, we weep to see....no....um.....can I compare thee to a summer's day ?.....Oh forget it !"

I now know what Emily means by her vivid descriptions of the wild moors. They certainly are breath-taking. No wonder it seems as if her whole soul was completely governed by them. They reach out and smother you in a feeling of complete freedom and you won't know whether to laugh or cry.

Unfortunately, merely players of the world's stage, we had our exits as well as our entrances and with heavy hearts and forced humour we left our humble mansion. Sans food, sans adrenaline, sans spirits, sans everything!

So the not so dirty dozen, (due to a lightening dash across the Barton bath), returned to the 'Wuthering Heights' of Gloucestershire, accompanied by toneless "Sing a long with Sid Vicious" type melodies and the obvious cry of:

"Emily never did an essay on 'Much Ado About Nothing' and look where she got!"

Members of the closely knitted group grudgingly departed to their respective homes thinking everything was over, but all was not lost .....

Somewhere in the memories and ghosts of Yorkshire, along with the silent Emily and the spirits of Heathcliff and Cathy, appears a small blue van. A 'Richmobile' to be exact, filled with twelve sponges, soaked through and dripping with knowledge about the Brontes. All have only one thing more to say to the rolling Yorkshire Moors:

"We haven't finished with you yet ! We will be back for more!"

Alex Martin (L6S)



### SKI TRIP 1992 - SERRE CHEVALIER

#### PUPILS' COMMENTS:

##### The coach journey

Friday night at a quarter past seven, people are arriving and getting ready to leave. Eight o'clock and we are still waiting. Suddenly a dubious looking coach rounds the corner and we go to meet it. We will be on this coach for almost a whole day.

As soon as we boarded Trev's coach, (a West Ham supporter), we knew it was going to be a long journey. The whole rear of the coach was occupied by a bunch from a little known school in Blandford.

Food, bad jokes and disgusting smells seemed to help pass the time. Mr Gallagher and Mr Lockey were oblivious to all this as they sat engrossed in their U2, George Formby and old 50's / 60's music. When not plugged in they were snoring, so they were no problem.



## The skiing



The skiing was absolutely brilliant - far better than last year. No patches of grass at all where we were skiing.

Ploughing through snowdrifts is great fun, but it does help if you can see where you are going.

In the middle of the week the weather turned from sunny to overcast and it even snowed on my birthday!

After the blizzard, the snow remained powdery. This is the best possible condition, but if your skis come off it's really frustrating trying to get them back on when they sink deeper into the snow.

Thursday and early skiing time: beautiful snow and sunshine meant excellent skiing. It was a perfect day, I would recommend it to anyone.

As our group ventured down the Olympic black run, we hit deep snow and suddenly we saw Jim Newman go over a bank. Some of us stopped to see him buried in a snow drift. Two minutes later, he hit a jump and went over again, coming out of a cloud of snow like the abominable snowman.



## The hotel



Our hotel - nice look, nice clientele, but small rooms. It was a case of, 'Here's the cupboard, now where's the bedroom?'

The rooms were all over the place. Some had baths, some showers. Certain rooms even had the luxury of a loo. My room was invaded morning and night for the whole week by people looking for the only decent shower and loo virtually anywhere.

The second day of skiing ended with the return of blackcurrants on the menu for the third successive evening meal.

### Apres-ski

During the week we had several arranged activities like 'walking into a hall with strange sounds emitting from it and sitting against a wall. Yes, the inter-hotel disco!

The evening's entertainment included ten-pin bowling, swimming, ice skating and touring the old town of Briançon. All of this was organised and paid for by the staff.

But for the presence of Timothy George Tomlinson Esq, the 1992 Ski Trip to Serre Chevalier would have been normal.

All in all, even if you aren't a particularly sporty fellow, go on the ski trip if you have a chance. You'll love it!

*Mr R J Locky*



## YEAR 7: RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

In September, 1991, we went to Stratford-upon-Avon, for a three day residential trip. Our form piled into the two mini buses and we set off on our adventure. The ride was bumpy, but spirits were high as we looked forward to our stay. We lodged at a youth hostel two miles outside Stratford, in a pretty village called Alveston.

When we arrived at the youth hostel, we had a quick look around the grounds and then Mr Morgan and Mr Kelly led the way down the road to Stratford. We took with us some sports equipment, taking turns to carry it. The road to Stratford seemed to go on for ever, but what made it interesting was the massive houses on either side of the road. Mr Morgan's group forged ahead, as Mr Kelly's group took a more leisurely pace.

At last, we reached Stratford and a park area called the 'Recreation ground' by the river. On this we played various games, such as football and cricket. Then we had lunch by the riverbank, watching the boats go by and a man fishing.

After lunch, we went to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and had a tour around the back of the stage. While we were wondering around, we saw fake blood used in the plays and lots of bits of scenery. We even went onto the main stage of the theatre. During part of the tour we went to an area which told you about the history of the Stratford theatre and Shakespeare. Here, we tried on different costumes, with Mr Kelly taking some photographs of our improved appearance.

Then it was back to the youth hostel, with a two and half mile walk. When we got to the hostel, Mr Kelly allocated us our rooms. We unpacked our belongings, went to the lounge to play some games and then trooped off to have our supper. After supper, the evening's entertainment consisted of board games and at 9.30 pm we went to bed.



On day two of the trip, we had breakfast and after this we had a 'Treasure Trail' around the village of Alveston. We were set off in pairs and were timed, with the winners not only producing the fastest time, but answering all the set questions and riddles.

After a rest, we walked into Stratford and caught a special tourist bus. It was an open top double decker bus and most of us went on the top deck to get a good view. On the bus we had a guide, who provided us with information.

As soon as the bus set off, we could feel the strong wind blowing into our faces. We visited various old parts of Stratford and some of Shakespeare's houses. Usually, we stopped briefly at each of the main tourist spots, with lots of American tourists hopping on or off the bus. Then, the bus took us out of Stratford and to a village five miles away, called Wilmcote, where Mary Arden, a relative of Shakespeare, was supposed to have lived. The ride was very rough and bumpy, with tree branches nearly taking our heads off as we roared through the Warwickshire countryside.

After a ten minute stop outside the house, we set off back to Stratford, looking at more historic buildings and we eventually arrived back to where we had started. The guide found it amusing when she found out that one of our pupils was called 'Macbeth', but we could not understand why this was so funny.

When we got off the bus we went to the brass rubbing centre by the river, which was not far away and was quite enjoyable. The ladies in charge of the centre held a competition to see who had produced the best brass rubbing. The winners were Chris Oxley and Mark Vallendar and they received a pencil case, rubber and ruler.

Near the brass rubbing centre, is the leisure centre where we all had a swim and played around on various floats. After a hectic day's activity, we went back to the youth hostel by mini bus, while some others walked the long distance.

On the final day of the trip we first of all packed our bags and then went for a jog, which seemed to last for an hour. When we returned, we went into Stratford and visited the 'Butterfly Farm'. It was really good and very hot! We saw many different insects, including some poisonous spiders.

After the visit to the butterfly farm we collected our gear from the hostel, bought the last remaining sweets from the tuck shop and set off back to Gloucester.

*A Miah / G Pocock / S Davis / A Bevan / M Ragan  
(7R)*





# NewsFlash!

## SPECIAL NOTICE!

### Features

## Newsletter

#### THE SIR THOMAS RICH'S MOCK GENERAL ELECTION

This year, as in previous General Elections, the school held a mock election, with Sir Thomas Rich's as the constituency. In 1987, the Tories had gained a 40% majority and the school looked to be a safe seat for them.

However, things were stirring. When on Wednesday 4th March, 1992, the school election was announced in assembly and polling day was set for the 8th April, 1992, (who are Mr Slinger's contacts?) various candidates quickly decided to stand. For instance, we saw the birth of the 'New Socialist Party', a left wing party, with a candidate basing his political ideas on the old Labour Party, but interestingly, one of this candidate's policies was the retention of Grammar schools.

The debate about whether such a new party should be allowed to field a candidate was hotly contested and went to a high authority within the constituency. In our democratic country, it was decided that such a party would not be allowed to contest the constituency and that the only candidates allowed to enter the election would have to come from the main national parties.

By the Friday deadline for nominations, after the announcement of the election, the following candidates had been proposed;

Louis Delwiche - Liberal Democrat  
Ben Fletcher - Conservative  
Paul Kingsbury - Labour

Soon afterwards canvassing started and inevitably the famous opinion polls started to be published, from very reliable and accurate data collected around the

school. The following results took into account a + or - 3% margin of error and whether those polled thought politicians were complete liars or not!

#### CARRIED OUT BY SUPPORTERS OF THE RESPECTIVE PARTIES

	Cons.	Lab.	Lib.	Undecided
Conservative supporters	34%	16%	22%	28%
Labour supporters	11%	61%	11%	17%
Liberal Democrat supporters	16%	16%	40%	28%

These results, although different and somewhat biased were quite an interesting reflection of public opinion within the school, causing controversy amongst rival supporters.

Soon afterwards, Ben Fletcher started his poster campaign, with an attack upon Labour's policies and also some rather personalised campaigning against the Liberal Democrat candidate, Louis Delwiche. The Tory management campaign team also mounted a high profile campaign promoting their performance and record leading up to the election. This led to the Liberal Democrats launching their campaign with posters appearing all around the school, focussing on the Government's recent budget and tax issues. Judging by the reaction the posters initiated, it seems that Rich's has a proportion of voters who come from high wage earning families, with the 20 pence tax band appealing to many of them!

The Labour party had still not moved into the campaign arena. Thoughts that their challenge might run to nothing were soon dispelled, when the twenty strong campaign team met to discuss tactics. Was the delay due to confidence?

In the following week, Ben Fletcher held his official lunch time campaign launch and this was soon countered by the Liberal Democrats, when I was privileged to introduce Louis Delwiche as the official candidate. It was heard through the jungle line, that the Labour Party did not intend to declare their candidate, as they were bound to win the seat, but by the following week the nerves had affected them and they duly held their first meeting.

The campaign trail soon boiled over, when their first 'head to head' confrontation between two of the rival candidates was held, in a well attended 'Any Questions?' session in the hall. The questions were based upon topical issues, such as the N.H.S, education, local government, taxation and the current recession. There were obviously contentious questions, designed to damage the credibility of respective party candidates. One question was whether Tory policy conflicted with Christianity?, while another focused in upon the last Labour Government's record on the economy. All the weaknesses of each respective party were exploited by a very 'cut throat' audience, who displayed no respect for personalities!

The poster campaigns continued and there were more debates between candidates and their party management teams. This led to more heated arguments, critical comment, accusations and general

'mud throwing', but amongst all the controversy, there was often some excellent debating from the respective candidates. The parties debated other topical issues, such as proportional representation, Europe and specific policies outlined by each candidate.

The penultimate week of the campaign clashed with the Sixth Form work experience and many sceptical commentators quietly hinted that this resulted in only one Tory voter left in the school, but this was a rather harsh statement to formally publish! Yet, during this week Education was again the focus of attention, with the Labour Party declining to attend. Ben Fletcher stoutly defended the Tory policy on education and one of the key issues raised was that of the role of Grammar Schools. The debate suffered a little, with only one view being formally represented, but Ben was quizzed extensively from a small, but knowledgeable audience, who felt it was a key area which would determine the outcome of who would win the seat.

In the last week of the election, party supporters and campaign management teams started to issue badges and stickers. The Liberal Democrats wore rosettes and other promotional material to draw attention to all voters.

The climax to the campaign came when the whole school gathered in the hall to hear the three candidates deliver their last speeches before the polling stations opened the following day. All three candidates defended their party's respective policies and attacked the weaknesses of their fellow rivals.



From left to right, the candidates:  
Paul Kingsbury (Labour), Ben Fletcher (Conservative), Louis Delwiche (Liberal Democrats)

The audience and the party faithful responded in a controlled, but enthusiastic manner, with banner waving and applause at key stages, an integral part of the proceedings. Paul Kingsbury pleaded that the voters should "Vote for Change!", while Louis Delwiche attacked the negative "two party" political system that had corrupted British Politics for so long. Ben Fletcher hammered home the Tory party's recent record and attacked the "open cheque book" policies of the Labour party. This debate was a tremendous climax to the many weeks of campaigning that had been undertaken by the respective parties. With the speeches over, the electorate went home to mull over the choices and to elect a new member for the Sir Thomas Rich's constituency.

Before I proceed to the polling day and results, I must publicly thank Mr Slinger for organising the election, the candidates and the party faithful for the clean campaign which was conducted in the weeks of electioneering. Also, a special thanks to those who turned up for the debates and generated such an electric and sometimes, emotive atmosphere, which helped to create interest in the campaign.

On the morning of Wednesday, 8th April, 1992, after last minute dawn canvassing in and around school, the electorate proceeded to their form rooms to receive their voting slips and cast their ballot papers. At 1.30 p.m. a large crowd gathered around the statue of the "Blue Coat Boy" to hear Mr Slinger, the 'Returning Officer', announce the result. By this stage, Paul Kingsbury thought that he would finish third, while Ben Fletcher was confident and Louis Delwiche was "hopeful". Mr Slinger walked out and a hush fell on the expectant crowd. The result was announced as follows:

Louis Delwiche	Liberal Democrat	184 votes
Ben Fletcher	Conservative	136 votes
Paul Kingsbury	Labour	67 votes
Spoiled papers		13

The result was a tremendous swing of 26.5% towards the Liberal Democrats and Louis Delwiche. If these results had been repeated nationwide, then Paddy Ashdown would have been at No. 10 with an overall majority. Ben Fletcher described the result as "very good....since we beat Labour and our party machine was a little weak in this seat". Paul Kingsbury was disappointed with his personal standing, but pleased with the strong 'anti-Tory' vote in the constituency. In victory, Louis Delwiche described his victory as "a fantastic result and a clear vote for positive change!"

*Adrian McBurnie (11R)*

## YOUNG ENTERPRISE: "ECSTASY CLOTHING"

The company began in high spirits with everyone really enthusiastic and keen to make the business a profitable success. However, as time went on it became apparent that the company was not going to be prosperous. This was due to a lack of motivation and effort within the group. Meetings were held at Whitbread Flowers brewery on a regular basis and often the team merely went through the motions, without setting itself strict deadlines, nor making positive decisions about the company's future.

After Christmas, there was a reshuffle of directors and the key positions that they held. This injected greater enthusiasm into the team for a short time at least.

The company eventually closed down and in its operational period only sold eight T-shirts. The overall opinion of the group, was that it could have worked harder to make the venture successful.

Yet the experience did provide some valuable lessons to the group and members are happy to give advice to next year's groups, based upon the lessons learned from their failures. Hopefully, they will be far more successful than our company.

*Nick Cambridge (L6T)  
Sales Director*



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE: "REPLENOGIZER"

The year started with the team trying to select a product to make and market. By the end of the year nobody in the school would have failed to have heard about the innovative "non-rechargeable battery charger", called the 'Replenogizer'.

For four months, our product sold remarkably well, with sales high and profits looking good. However, at the end of January, Young Enterprise, in their inimitable wisdom halted production on the grounds that their insurance did not cover any risks or accidents which may occur from a person using our product. As a result, production ceased, sales hit rock bottom and gradually, the company moved towards bankruptcy.

Although a famous company that sells "copper coloured top batteries" supported us with money, we could not survive. We now feel that 'Young Enterprise' should provide compensation to all of



our loyal shareholders who have lost money investing in our Company, through no fault of their own.

Our advisors were from the M.E.B. and they proved very helpful and useful throughout the year. At monthly intervals, we had board meetings at the M.E.B. to discuss our future plans and review the previous months' activities. We would like to thank Mr Terry Webb, Mr Brian Cole and the staff at the M.E.B. for all their kind help.

In May, the team made a presentation at the Young Enterprise Presentation Evening and Mr Hodgkinson commented that the team's display was excellent. Out of the best sixteen companies in the county, we were ranked one of the top five to go forward to the next stage of the competition, which was staged at Nuclear Electric. This was a great experience, for we had to present our company, in terms of our work, performance and record to-date, to top local businessmen and other young entrepreneurs. We like to think that we did this professionally.

Mr Hodgkinson felt that we certainly made a good impression on those who were present and he actually stated that our performance over the year was excellent.

So at the end of year, what have we learned? Well, we gained a lot from our experience in running a company, we met a lot of important businessmen and the project helped us to decide on our future career choices. At the end of the project we all passed the exams, with some of us actually receiving distinctions, which is very satisfying after all our hard work.

Finally, the team would like to thank Mr Hodgkinson for all his time, effort and hard work on our venture.

*John Jeffries (U6R)*  
*Executive Finance Director*



## EUROPEAN STUDIES

Our Young Enterprise Companies have helped to pilot the European Studies "Language In Trade" programme at Rich's this year. We are one of the schools in Gloucestershire representing England in the pilot. Students across Europe communicated via fax machines, electronic mail and surface mail in order to research European issues affecting them.

In the case of our companies, they had to look into the issues relating to the sale of their goods in France, Denmark and Ireland.

Having been invited onto the pilot late this academic year, time limitations have been a severe constraint.

The exercise has however, enabled us to plan to introduce European Studies as a full part of the Lower Sixth General Studies programme from September 1992, working in conjunction with Young Enterprise. Those taking part will therefore be able to take the A.E.B. certificate in Contemporary European Studies in May of 1993.

*Mr I Hodgkinson*



## CROSSFIRE

"I am the only one left", said Elijah to God, in 1 Kings 19, amidst mounting frustration and fear as he watched his fellow countrymen, one by one, reject the God whom he was so committed to following. He was soon corrected however, as he was informed by God of the existence of 7,000 like-minded people of whom he was not aware.

It is estimated that about 15% of pupils at Rich's have some sort of interest in Christianity and perhaps half of these would profess to be committed Christians. Although there has been a "Christian Union" running in the school for many years, its attendance has reflected nothing like this figure. This group has very much been geared towards the Senior end of the school.

It became apparent in the Summer of 1991 that there were many Christians in the lower school, but also that virtually none of them were aware of the existence of any of the others! So in order to fill an obvious gap, Crossfire was set up in September 1991.

Pupils from years 7 to 9 have been getting together weekly to pray for one another and for the school and to discuss various issues. Such topics as, "What is a Christian?", "The origins of the Bible" and "A Biblical view of relationships", have been explored.

In addition, various events have occurred outside school, including two joint meetings with Denmark Road High School. It is hoped to expand this aspect of Crossfire in the coming year.

The on-going objective of this group will continue to be to encourage and consolidate the unity of Christians in the school and new members are always welcome.

*Mr G Cappi*



## TEENAGE HEROES AND HEROINES

This article is about the heroes and heroines that some of the staff at Rich's had in their younger days. We all have somebody who we admire or once wished we could be like and teachers are no exception. The staff were provided with a questionnaire on the subject and here are some of the replies which I received. I hope that everybody will find them interesting and insightful!

I start with Mr Smallwood, who I assumed would select famous Athletes, due to his great interest in running and his altitude training up Chosen Hill. Yet I was surprised with his reply, but his reasons soon provided ample explanation.

Selection - George Best / Sally James (Famous presenter in the 1970's on a T.V. series, "Tiswas").

Mr Smallwood explained that he selected George Best for his dazzling soccer skills, even though he was a bit of a rebel. The explanation of Sally James was not so clear, but upon making enquiries, I discovered that she was, shall I say, rather attractive? "Tiswas" was a children's T.V. programme on Saturday mornings, which was revolutionary for its time and eccentric to say the least!

The next reply I looked at was Mr Lockey's and he was the only teacher to select one of his friends as a hero. His selection also revealed his love of Tottenham Hotspur F.C. and a rock group which was famous in the 1970's.

Selection - Pat Jennings, Martin Chivers, the pop group "Yes" and his friend Neil Ollis.

Mr Lockey selected Pat Jennings and Martin Chivers because of their stunning soccer skills. Chivers was a prolific goal scorer, while Jennings in his prime was reputed to be one of the best goal-keepers in the world.

"Yes" was a 'pretentious' rock band of the 1970's, who produced 'concept' albums, such as "Tales from Topographical Oceans". Neil Ollis was an excellent soccer player and had a reputation for attracting many girls.

I turn my attention to the editor of the "Richian", Mr Lloyd, who like Mr Smallwood has a reputation for trying to kill himself on the school cross-country course. His selections were not really surprising, due to the personal profile that appeared in the 'In-house' rag magazine, "Rich-T".

Selection - Emil Zatopek, Dave Bedford, the rock band Led Zeppelin and Sharon Davies.

He selected Emil Zatopek because he was a long-distance runner, who in the 1952 Olympics won three gold medals in seven days. This was no mean feat, as they were won in three gruelling events, the 5,000, 10,000 metres and to top this, the Marathon.

Dave Bedford was another top athlete, who had an 'anti-establishment' reputation, but still broke records, including the world 10,000 metres. Bedford was famous for his long-distance training methods, often clocking up 150 miles plus a week. Mr Lloyd said he's pleased just to survive a training run!

Led Zeppelin was a famous rock band of the late 1960's, early seventies, with Jimmy Page, a brilliant lead guitarist, notorious for his live stage performances.

I now turn my attention to Mr Hodgkinson's reply, which was the most comprehensive of all the staff replies and I enjoyed reading. It contained a few areas which I expected, but there were selections which came as a bit of a surprise.

Selection - Phil Lynott, Sally James (who is this Sally James?) Cheryl Baker, David Duckham and Edward Heath.

He selected Phil Lynott because he was the leader of the greatest live rock band ever, according to Mr Hodgkinson and inspired him to form a band along with some of his school mates. Thin Lizzy's music encouraged the band to write similar types of music.

Mr Hodgkinson's selection of Sally James and Cheryl Baker was honestly explained as due to "lust!". He selected Dave Duckham because he was a truly brilliant english rugby player of the 1970's. His last choice was Edward Heath, whom he admired for his practical approach to various political events and policy making, as well as for the fact that he was an "European Idealist".

Next, Mr Pilbeam who selected Dennis Compton. This man was a truly all round sportsman and a hero in his day to many people. He played top-class football for Arsenal and was also a fantastic cricketer for England, being an excellent batsman and spin-bowler.

I received many more replies from the staff and here is a summary of some of them.

Mr Hale selected two cricketers, Ken Barrington and John Edrich. Mr S Morgan chose Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space and Jacques Cousteau, who promotes the conservation of sea life around the world's oceans.

It is evident that our staff had heroes and heroines whom they admired when they were at school, just as we do today. It just shows you that we all have role models, who inspire and motivate us to become interested in various activities which stay with us for the rest of our lives.

Paul Shaw (10T)







## WESTGATE HOUSE

Another year ends, the scores are added up and Westgate just miss out on the Cock House trophy by a point and a half! If only those boys had remembered the field events one June lunch time, if only that catch in the match against Southgate had been held, if only.....

This year has been a special one for me, as it is my last as housemaster - age and weariness succumb to youth and vigour, as Mr Lloyd takes the reins for the next few years. So now is a time for reflection and reminiscence. First however, a thank you to all who have kept the red flag flying over the past few years and especially the past twelve months. Particular thanks to Steve Mitten, house Captain for the first part of the year, before he left for a career in the services and his admirable and hard working successor, Andrew Prouse.

Rather than a blow by blow analysis of our successes and lapses over one year, I crave indulgence to look back over 41 years to my first introduction to the house system at Rich's when my association with Westgate commenced. In those far off days, when the sun shone all the summer, Gloucestershire won county cricket matches and it always snowed on Christmas day, things were very different. Each house was divided into groups and once a week you spent a period with your group master together with other boys of all ages. You stayed in the same group throughout your school career with a master who showed an avuncular interest in your academic and personal development. It was a friendly and easy going arrangement which seemed to encourage continuity and loyalty to house and school, qualities which I think have always been key features of life at Rich's.

Then there was the Cock House Party. I attended my first one in 1951. We competed in all house events to win the trophy and attend that party. The house party was always held at Christmas time in the school hall. There would be a great feast followed by wild games, a film, (Abbot and Costello or Laurel and Hardy), and the "prefects play". The play was a special event, often with elaborate scenery and costumes and witty script, in which the staff were gently, but effectively lampooned. One thing that I have particularly regretted over the past few years has been the gradual deterioration and eventual abandonment of both party and play.

The past is another country and seen through rose tinted spectacles. Perhaps the distant past of the house system is a land of milk and honey compared with the immediate past which resembles more a state in depression. The low level of intake to the school over recent years has made it difficult to get viable teams for some of the house sporting competitions. A two stream entry makes fifteen a side rugby impossible and a couple of years ago in the school sports there were nine fourth formers in Westgate available only. General apathy crept in amongst boys who felt no real loyalty to their houses and the increasing workload on

teachers meant that some put house business low on their list of priorities. Events were poorly supported or cancelled and many people, myself included, felt that it was time to radically revise or scrap the whole lot. However, through the dark days there were always a few people at all levels in Westgate (and naturally in other houses), who were willing to take part, to organise and to care. Over the past two years, with increasing numbers and a new air of optimism abroad in the land, the gloom has started to evaporate.

I wish Mr Lloyd, all the best with his task and feel that I hand over a house on the brink of success - which with encouragement and commitment can be achieved next year. It won't be another 1951, but at least I hope that a few of our lads and lasses may be able to say with pride in years to come, "Yes, I was at Rich's and I was in Westgate House".

*Mr F Henderson*



## BRITISH TELECOM QUIZ COMPETITION

This year three pupils from different years were entered for the "British Telecom Quiz Competition", run in conjunction with "Radio Gloucestershire". The team were Chris Mace (8T), Rajinder Sood (10T) and Kevin Hatchard (7S). We had to visit various schools for various matches and gradually we progressed to the final. The quiz comprised of various rounds, starting with general knowledge, then a music round, followed by sections on current affairs and local knowledge, to name but a few. There was a timed round, where we had to answer as many questions as possible.

The venue for the first round was at Heywood School, Cinderford, where our opponents were Beaufort and St. Peter's High School. It was a good night for Rich's, leading from start to finish. The final scores were Beaufort 40 points, St. Peter's 45 points and Sir Thomas Rich's 49 points.

It was now onto the semi-final stage, against Katherine Lady Berkeley School and Churchdown School. We had to beat Deer Park School, Cirencester, who had produced a score of 31 points in the first semi-final, if we were to reach the final. This was tough, but even though Katherine Lady Berkeley School scored 45 points, we managed to score 33 points and so win a place in the final. Churchdown had scored 24 points.

We were through to the final by two points, as highest scoring losing semi-finalists. It was now time to visit Beaufort School for the 'Grand Final'!

We were up against Newent and Katherine Lady Berkeley. We were in first place after three rounds, but could not maintain the lead. We finished third, but it was a close final. The winner was Newent School, scoring 36 points, while Rich's managed 29 points.

However, we obtained £250 and a plaque for the school. For ourselves, we gained some British Telecom and Radio Gloucestershire free gifts. If the competition runs next year, I will definitely want to try to represent the school team again!

*Kevin Hatchard (7S)*



## YEAR 7 ACTIVITIES

Soon after their arrival at Rich's, the new year 7 forms spent three days at Stratford-upon-Avon Youth Hostel. The days are organised essentially so that the youngsters can get to know each other. This is important, when you realise that the pupils in Year 7 come from thirty-two different primary schools and this trip is essential to help them settle into life at Rich's.

Whilst at Stratford, they enjoyed brass rubbing, visits to a butterfly farm and the Royal Shakespeare Theatre. They also took a ride on a open top bus around the town, went swimming and played soccer at the Leisure Centre. Other activities included a treasure trail, games on the Recreation ground and lots of lovely walking.



In November, Mr McBurnie held an indoor cricket competition, contested over two Saturday mornings by five Year 7 teams. This proved a good introduction to the traditional Rich's lunchtime pastime.

Also organised was a table tennis competition. Victor in the singles competition was Matthew Dill (7S), with the doubles won by Steven Davis (7R) and Christopher West (7S). During the Autumn term, Mr Lloyd organised a basketball competition.

In January and February, two groups of boys undertook the now popular exploration of Clearwell Caves. The usual fears, "I'm not going down there" and "I can't do it, I know I can't", soon changed to "I thought I'd be able to do that". It was mucky, dirty, dark, but exhilarating.

Mr Lloyd organised a 5-a-side soccer competition, with matches contested at lunch times. Many stars emerged in this competition, such as James Cox and Dean Barnard.

In April we were able to try out the new indoor 'Go-Karting Centre' in Gloucester. It was quite expensive, but very exciting. There were nineteen boys zooming around through a series of heats at speeds of about forty m.p.h., aware that one crash would lead to automatic withdrawal. The eventual winner was Kester Knight (7S), who like Nigel Mansell, drove with skill and composure. His prize was a bottle of 'Schloer', which may have lacked the spraying power of a magnum of champagne, but tasted better!

Those pupils who have experienced the Year 7 activities programme have thoroughly enjoyed new and exciting challenges.

*Mr I L Kellie*





## THE UNSEEN ARMY

At the end of each day during the academic year, the school is invaded! The entry is almost unnoticed, the effect is considerable and dramatic. A female task force minesweeps the day's battlefield.

One sees floors swept and polished, litter that should not have been dropped removed and chairs and tables rearranged in almost regimental order. This 'mobile cleaning machine' moves magnificently through the building in an efficient, systematic and clinical manner.

Our cleaning ladies are many things to many people, angels, devils, spoilsports, saviours. Yet, the definition and stance you take depends upon how they affect your activity around the school. Without doubt, Rich's would be a poorer and very different place without these hard working people.

If it was not for our cleaning ladies, Staff and pupils would have to work in unclean classrooms, use filthy toilets, walk around dirty corridors and this would without question affect our lives. A clean, healthy and pleasant working environment is produced with the assistance of our cleaning staff.

In many schools, the privatisation of school cleaning has produced many difficulties. It has resulted in cuts, redundancies and reduced cleaning hours. Yet, in our school, to a great extent we have retained a first class service, mainly due to a very loyal and hard working group of cleaning ladies.

It is often said that people employed at Rich's are never really fully appreciated until they leave and work somewhere else. This comment may be true and could be applied throughout the whole spectrum, including our cleaning staff.

If any pupils have talked to some of our cleaners, you will realise that many deserve long service awards. For instance, Mrs Dora Powell has served at Rich's for twenty five years and has seen three headmasters

take charge of Rich's. Mrs Powell is the one who 'growls' when you try to walk through the Hall after she has polished it! Good for Dora!

The lady working alongside Dora is Mrs Nancy Simmons, who has been here a mere twenty years. Over the years Nancy has seen many changes at Rich's, some for the good, others not. In her time, she has seen many staff come and go at Rich's. If you do talk to Nancy, you will find that she is a minefield of knowledge when it comes to Rich's recent history.

Mrs Gwen Witts is currently 'Cleaning Supervisor', with seventeen years' service. She ought to be invited to contest school debates, as she has yet to take in an argument and lose!

Mrs Iris Dee (top floor) has ten years' experience and Mrs Val Matthews has worked for nine years service. So you can see that these people are loyal and proud of the work they do! Other cleaning staff include Mrs Porter, Mrs Dodsworth, Mrs Quinn, Miss Jayne, Miss Read and Mrs Wilson, who all help to make up a winning team for you!

First impressions are very important and if a school appears clean, tidy and smart, then visitors will take a positive view of the school. Your cleaners face a constant barrage of changing contracts, but ultimately they try to provide the best service for you. They deserve the full support and backing of the staff and pupils of Sir Thomas Rich's. At least let us offer a cheerful 'thank you!' as they clean the litter and mess that we leave around the school every day. So when you see a piece of litter, think of the cleaners and help to make their job easier by picking it up and placing it in a bin. Better still, when you pass a cleaner thank her personally for all the hard work that she does for you.

Many thanks again Cleaning Ladies, from all Richians.

*A Quinn / G Middleton*



## THE DREADED SCHOOL REPORT

We have all feared at some stage in our lives the dreaded School report and the repercussions that a bad report has at home, when our parents find out the truth about our yearly progress. For many teachers, the writing of reports is one of the most tedious and boring administrative chores that they have to endure, especially with the recent onset of the additional burdens of National Curriculum.

Yet with the onset of National Curriculum, teachers now have to be more specific about the comments they write on pupils' reports and the days when they could use wonderful, flowing and descriptive phrases will soon be over, to be replaced by prescribed Government terminology.

In light of this, I felt that it would be a good idea to preserve some of these famous report quotations for future generations and to decipher the real meaning behind the terminology used by teachers in their report writing.

So here we go!

Phrase	Real meaning
"This boy works very well."	- Thank goodness somebody does in the form!
"Homework shows maturity"	- His parents do it for him.
"An informative member of the form"	- The boy is a 'tell-tale' and class informant.
"Unexpected, but pleasing exam result"	- He cheated, but I don't know how exactly!
"His use of French vocabulary is extensive"	- The boy swears a lot around the School.
"He is a disruptive influence in class"	- In other words, a juvenile delinquent.
"A keen participant in class activities"	- The boy's a thorough nuisance!
"More attention is needed with his writing"	- This pupil is totally illiterate.
"Tries hard, but is not really academic"	- He'll make a good prop-forward.
"X is a keen member of the Collectors Club"	- The boy has been caught stealing.
"Y shows great maturity for his age"	- This pupil has discovered girls.
"Z is a philosophical pupil"	- He is always day - dreaming.
"He has tremendous potential"	- The boy's bone-idle and lazy.
"His oral work is excellent"	- This lad is a 'big-mouth'.
"He enjoys all forms of literature"	- Caught with unsolicited reading material.

Finally, if you have any quotations on your report, past or present, which you feel deserve attention and need careful deciphering, then simply jot them down on a piece of paper and send them to the editor of the "Richian Magazine".

*Ian Goodchild (10R)*



## MY FIRST YEAR AT RICH'S BY TRISTAN MEREDITH

Mr Lloyd approached me and asked whether I would write an article for the school magazine reflecting on my first year at Sir Thomas Rich's School. Of course when a teacher requests you to do something, you generally agree and get on with the job. So, here is my article reviewing my first year experiences.

As with most first years, I started life at Rich's with great trepidation. I did not know what to expect at Rich's and my anxiety was made worse by the fact that I was coming to Rich's knowing nobody at all. Each day I had to travel from the forest by car or bus to the strange city of Gloucester!

What I found difficult to cope with initially was the fact that I had left a school where I was considered to be a senior pupil, to one where I was a mere junior. Looking around at the other pupils from the various years, I felt like a 'dwarf' and the school seemed huge to me.

Generally, things were made easier for most of us first years, by the fact that we had visited the school on an "Introduction day", where I found out that my form teacher for the coming year would be Mr Swann and I was to join 7T.

On my first day, I arrived at Rich's, with my blazer almost down to my shins and reported to room 7, my new form room. Most of the first day was involved with general administration tasks.

Before we had even time to settle down at Rich's, we were off for a three day visit to the historic town of Stratford-Upon-Avon. We had a great time here, with activities such as brass rubbing, swimming, visiting the theatre and a tour on a double decker bus being arranged for us all.

Mr Kellie, the Deputy Head, arranged various activities during the year, especially designed to cater for the interests of the first year. These ranged from sports events to expeditions down caves. Out of all of these activities, I think I enjoyed the caving trip at Clearwell Caves.

On this trip, we travelled about two miles down the main shaft and the temperatures contrasted greatly to those on the surface, with temperatures really hot. During this journey we had to crawl and wade through narrow passages, often with dirty and muddy water half way up our legs. At regular intervals, you came across sharp drops, sometimes as much as two hundred feet! It was these experiences that I shall always remember and I am still trying to persuade my parents to take the plunge!

During our first year, we also had a chance to try out the various clubs which are held at lunch-times and I found it hard to select one, as most of us in Year 7 were spoilt for choice. One club I enjoyed was the 'Debating Club', which always generated a good

atmosphere and of course plenty of controversy. It is quite daunting to stand up in front of a packed audience and express your views.

Believe it or not, I actually found time to do some work! It was quite hard at times and we were regularly assessed in most subjects and of course there was always the summer exams to look forward to and worry over.

Over the year, I have enjoyed learning new languages, such as Latin, German and French. In all the subjects I have taken this year, I have encountered new and challenging ideas and I hope to build upon what I have learned in Year 7 for future years.

As for the homework, it was initially quite a shock to the system, but after a while I soon became organised and ploughed into it each night.

One special moment in my first year, was when my great uncle, who is in his ninety-fifth year, came to visit the school which he once was proud to be a member of many decades ago. He was keen to see how Rich's had changed from his days at the old school in the centre of town.

All in all, I have had a good year at Rich's and I look forward to Year 8, but not with so much trepidation this time!



*Tristan Meredith (7T)*





## AN INTERVIEW WITH MR GALLAGHER

In 1980, a young, keen and talented Mr I. J. Gallagher, arrived at Sir Thomas Rich's fresh from St. Pauls College, Cheltenham. There he had become qualified in Physical Education and Mathematics. Now twelve years on, I managed to tear him away from his classes to find out some of his views and interests.

In 1987, he was made Head of P.E., inheriting the department from Bob Hanney. Mr Gallagher, a member of Northgate (I thought that was important to mention!), has always been busy since arriving at Rich's, with fixtures to arrange, matches to referee, teams to ferry around and of course, lots of lunch time practices to take, all on top of his normal classroom duties relating to the teaching of mathematics.

I first of all asked him about his views and comments on sport in schools in the 1990's. He feels that sport is an important part of any school, especially a grammar school, where it has strong traditional roots. It was his view that sport provided another avenue by which a pupil could display personal talents, obtain great satisfaction and gain considerable individual achievement. He felt it was his job to try and maximise the potential of all pupils in the area of sport and provide them with as many recreational opportunities as possible.

Mr Gallagher feels that Rich's has a good sporting reputation and that the facilities are adequate, although like any sports teacher, he would always welcome more, but he realises the constraints that often face schools in this area. Generally, Mr Gallagher is pleased with the majority of pupils in the school, who are prepared to turn out for the school in all weathers and he is impressed that when certain teams are struggling, they often still show great commitment and enthusiasm. Obviously, as in every walk of life, there are individuals who are hard to motivate, but this is more than compensated by those who display great loyalty to the school.

During his time as a P.E. teacher, Mr Gallagher has seen a change of attitude generally among the pupils towards sport and school life as a whole. He feels that many individuals would often prefer to earn money or play on their computers for hours, rather than support sports teams in or out of school. This he feels is a little disappointing, but he is realistic about the causes and realises that young people have so many opportunities and interests, that often sport becomes a low priority for them. Yet, he feels that this could be dangerous to our society in the long-term, due to the increasing levels of heart related diseases among all ages.

Mr Gallagher stated that he was grateful to those members of staff who devote many hours of their time to helping school teams, such as Mr North, Mr Hodgkinson and Mr Lockey. He felt that Rich's sport was lucky to have such committed teachers and he would like more staff to become involved, but he realises this is difficult, due to the increasing workload now faced by all teachers.

His reaction to soccer being reintroduced at Rich's is favourable and he is pleased with this year's results, which have certainly set high standards for future years. Hopefully, this will encourage more staff to become involved in extra-curricular sport at Rich's.

Mr Gallagher's response to those who feel that P.E. is rather a waste of time, is that he feels sport is not only good for your health and general well being, but it is a medium by which you can socialise with people from different backgrounds. It can make you think positively about yourself and generate a lot of personal enjoyment.

He is pleased that it has become part of the National Curriculum and feels that it plays a vital contribution to the school in general. To many people, sport is an integral part of their life and Mr Gallagher feels that the local community would be the real loser if sport at Rich's was allowed to fade. Mr Gallagher is a strong believer that everybody should have a go at some form of sport, whatever their standard or ability.



If he had the opportunity, Mr Gallagher would like to teach some other sporting activities and make them an integral part of the P.E. programme, but time, resources and staffing restrict this idea. Yet, he welcomes the future re-opening of the swimming pool, which he feels will offer more scope and pleasure to all pupils at Rich's.

Most of us pupils see Mr Gallagher just as a sports teacher, but he has many outside interests. As many of you know he has coached at Old Richians Rugby Club and before a few injuries stopped him playing, he used to be a regular at Gordon League. Yet, in recent years he has become interested in volleyball and yes! soccer (sorry Bob!). Another interest which is flourishing with Mr Gallagher, is golf, but he would not reveal his handicap to me! Generally, Mr Gallagher enjoys having a go at any new sport and learning new skills.

A surprise to me was that when he was asked what he would like to be, rather than a teacher, his reply was:

"A professional footballer."

Yet, after a bit, he realised that this was only a dream and came up with a more realistic answer. This being - a game warden!

Less hectic pastimes of Mr Gallagher include walking his dog, gardening, reading and watching sport. He likes to go out for a meal, preferable to a chinese or french restaurant. His musical interests include light rock and classical music. Generally, he tries to go to France for his holidays because he likes their way of life, which seems much slower and also because french is the only other language he can speak to an acceptable level! His main ambition is to go on a ski trip without any pupils!

*Phil Brown (10R)*

This season the Junior team enjoyed a highly successful season, achieving far better results than any other recent teams. This was not just due to a few talented individuals, but because the team possessed great strength in depth. The team displayed tremendous commitment, spirit and determination to the sport, which was rewarded with some fine results.

The main successes came in the North Gloucester cross-country League, in which Kieran Stewart achieved second place overall in the 'Individual competition', closely followed by Austin Degge in third place.

However, the Junior team won this competition, winning two out of the three race events. They were a clear 80 points ahead of their nearest rivals, Royal Grammar School Worcester.

This league victory was on the cards from as early as September 1991, when in their first match against Cheltenham Junior College, the team won by over fifty points. One must mention a few members of the team, who appear to be excellent prospects. We have already mentioned Kieran Stewart, but other individuals who display excellent potential include Luke Hemming, Stuart Parsons, Mark Gilmore and David Nichols from Year 7. Other comfortable wins included victories over Royal Worcester Grammar School and Monmouth School.

In March, two teams entered the Cheltenham College Junior Spring Relays. The teams had high hopes of achieving good results. For the majority of the race, the team was in close contention for first place, out of the twenty or more teams entered. Yet, despite tremendous efforts from the 'tail end' team runners, (James Adams, Stuart Parsons and Mark Gilmore), the "A" team narrowly lost out on first place to Cheltenham Junior College.

Yet, despite this disappointment, the "B" team made amends, by finishing in 5th place overall, but first out of all the "B" teams that entered.

Fastest laps of the day were recorded, with Kieran Stewart producing the 3rd fastest time and Austin Degge the 4th fastest time in the "A" race. In the "B" races, Ryan Newport produced the fastest lap of the day, with Jody Bevan and Jonathan Berry producing the 4th and 5th fastest times of the day.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Lloyd for his commitment and enthusiasm.

*Austin Degge (8S)*





## 1ST XV RUGBY

I remember walking off the school pitch back in 1990 and my captain telling me that I had played my last game of rugby for Rich's first XV.

I believe it was fate that led me back to the school team, well you need an excuse for bad 'A' level grades - don't you? I was given the role of captain and now surely I was in charge..... ?

On average, I was two years older and two feet shorter than the fourteen other players. I knew it was going to be hard, maybe I should have studied harder.

The day of the first match arrived and on a somewhat strange pitch, with one half mown and the other like a jungle, I won the toss and had to choose whether to play uphill or downhill - not usually a choice that is offered. The team was outstanding and was victorious by some outrageous number of points. The referee stated the score at 56-10 - we thought it was 70-10, but who's going to argue with a student who failed his maths 'A' level ?

The second match followed a week later and proved a touch more difficult. It was our first match on home territory. After a confident start and seven points on the board, we relaxed and allowed Chosen Hill to fight back. Little did we know at this point in time that this was going to be a regular occurrence.

Of course my experience along with the team's, only let them score six points, just to make a game of it! So consequently, we walked off the pitch a very relieved team, after a second victory of 7-6.

Before our third match was due, training was needed, but this was not on the list of our priorities. Fitness and commitment were lacking and therefore the majority of the team could not last the full 80 minutes of a competitive match.

Our match that followed was against Marling school, from Stroud. It was again a home match, but I was playing the game from a different position. Who was I to argue! I was only the captain. We lost 20-15, although we were leading 15-4 during the game, but let them back to a victory they did not really deserve.

The following match was against St. Peter's School and brought a victory of 9-3. Although, I was still 'lost', in terms of size, at 'fly-half', I was happy with my performance.

On the coach back to Rich's, Mr Gallagher told us what 'he' thought of the quality of play, which did not amount to much! He ordered a training session during half-term. Once again however, the same old faces turned up and the same old faces let us down again.

Our next game was against Newent school and I was back to my original position of scrum half, but this time I was substituted. We won 24-6, but our score should have been much greater. We again lacked concentration and our level of effort let us down.

The game against Worcester held hope for the future. We were losing with a little time left, but actually came back to win 16-14. It was the first performance where we looked liked 'one unit' and this was well overdue.

In the game against the Kings School, we experienced our dirtiest encounter, with fists and boots flying everywhere - not a usual sight, I hasten to add! Yet despite this, we managed to produce a win, 12-4.

At last things were looking up on the pitch, but off it, the lack of effort persisted!

Our next fixture was against arch-rivals Crypt, who were apparently the side to beat this year. Unfortunately, we did not beat them, even though we were ahead at half time. We were in with a good chance, but fitness and effort foiled us again, allowing them to close the score. The final score being, 31-13.

Our best performance turned out to be neither a win or a loss. Against Rendcombe College, we showed great spirit to come back against a much stronger side. Thanks must go to Nick Cambridge's boots, which worked wonders on some difficult kicks and holding the score at 25-25.

The 4th of December brought the last game. It was against Bournside, at home. Against a good side it was one of our worst games and I felt awful walking off the pitch with the knowledge that I had lost my last game for Rich's. 21-6 was the final result.

Generally, to sum up at last, we had a good side and we should have had better results. As all the players know, there was a basic lack of training which led to poor fitness.

Congratulations to those who earned their colours, which are awarded for a good contribution to school rugby. Now after eight years of Rich's rugby, I am pleased to say that I have been proud to be captain of the first XV, following the long list of captains found on the gym board. I am sure that they would not have me back again, not even if my 'A' level results are as bad as last year. That reminds me - I must go and do my homework!

*T Jones (Captain)*



## COLTS XV RUGBY

The team has never been a truly successful one and we never really looked forward to yet another season of defeats. Last year we watched as the points were piled onto us and our scores were few and far between. We won just one game last season and understandably, we did not have much faith in ourselves.

The season opened with a tough match against Whitecross and we played well against a much bigger side. The game ended with defeat, but there was no reason to hang our heads in shame, since the score margin was just two points and we had several chances to win.

From then on, the team went from strength to strength, under the careful and at times strict management of Mr Gallagher. We learned new penalty moves and practised the line-outs over and over again. The team suddenly became enthusiastic and for once there were people wishing to change their games' option from cross-country to rugby - not vice-versa.

One of these new comers was Luke Haines. He was to be the biggest left winger to grace our team and he was to prove a valuable asset in our opening games. In fact, he scored four tries in his first four games and one of these was a great 'break away try' against the team we most dreaded playing - Chosen Hill. They out-sized us overall, but we did not give in and even though we lost in the end, there was nothing to be ashamed of. "Next time!" we said, "Next time!"

The training continued and the squad got bigger. We were now working together every Tuesday and Thursday, with a number of us having extra training at the "Old Richians" on Wednesdays and Sundays.

At last, we started to win! We beat St Peters and then Churchdown, where I recall Paul Shaw, our hooker, had a great game. His line out throws were rarely faulted and his striking in the scrum was superb. I remember how annoyed the Churchdown hooker would get when Paul would win the ball against the head.

King's was a good team and they had to play well to beat us. Then, we faced Saintbridge - not an especially skilful team, but they were certainly hard! We beat them easily in the end, through good play on our part. We moved on to beat Archway, but a big Beaufort side defeated us in a good game. The season closed with a home win against St. Edwards.

All through the season, several players were outstanding and were a delight to watch. Darren Hanks, (full-back), improved through the season and scored five tries. I had a good season and scored six tries, but top scorer was Neil Bennett with eight tries.

It is not just the top try scores that deserve a mention. Dave Battin was by far the best tackler in the team.

His courage knew no bounds and he would take down the biggest men with the slightest of ease.

Scrummaging and line-outs were important factors in our game and Paul Shaw's hooking was excellent. There was also a great link between Paul and Ben Hansford in the line-out. Ben dominated the line in every game, but it helps if you are six foot three!

The final player who deserves praise is Rhodri Williams. He played at prop forward this season, but he has certainly not enjoyed it, since he prefers to play at wing forward. He is quick around the field and is always in the thick of the action, which are highly unusual qualities for a prop!

I do not know what to pin our successes on, but it is probably the "expert" coaching of Mr Gallagher, but then again, it's probably those ten press ups, followed by ten sit ups, followed by ten press ups, followed by ten sit ups..... and so on!

*R Sood (Colts XV Captain)*



## UNDER 14'S RUGBY

To say that this season has been difficult would be an understatement, as the playing record reveals. The team played twelve matches, won one and unfortunately, lost eleven games.

Heavy defeats were sustained in most matches and most often the cause was a remarkable difference in size and physical maturity between the Rich's players and their opponents.

Throughout the season though, the side maintained an excellent team spirit with full commitment to training and matches. Performances notably improved as the season progressed and the team was able to inflict a heavy defeat on Churchdown School.

As physical differences even out, this team will begin to win matches regularly, if it continues to work hard.

The following players received colours for outstanding effort, skill and determination in difficult circumstances.

S Bennett, M Burdett, T Harris, B Mitchell  
R Saunders (Captain)

*Mr I Hodgkinson*



## UNDER 13'S RUGBY

The Under 13's produced a fine season, with eight wins, one draw and three defeats. This was mainly due to the tremendous enthusiasm that they displayed, not only in matches, but in training.

Under the captaincy of Michael Stevens, the team always displayed a positive attitude and approached their matches in a determined and well disciplined fashion. In training, they were prepared to work hard and when they found situations difficult, they possessed the character to persevere.

The team's record was a collective effort, but one must mention James Adams, whose penetrating runs were an inspiration to his team. Tom Radcliffe was always solid and reliable at full back and this generated confidence throughout the team. Jeremy Lia-Hung was tremendous on the wing and one recalls the match against Chosen Hill, in which Rich's played some very attractive fifteen man rugby, with Jeremy crossing the line on more than one occasion. One must also mention James Harley, playing as 'hooker'. He was the smallest member in the team, but he had the biggest heart, displaying no mercy for the opposition, who experienced more than once, his devastating tackling.

Often the team found themselves in difficult matches, but it was pleasing to see that they never gave up and on many occasions came from behind to win. The forwards often found themselves against larger opposition, but this did not deter them and they competed well in many hard physical encounters.

If the team is to improve next season, then the forwards will have to be more assertive in loose play situations. If they can achieve this and allow their talented backs to work, then many teams will find it hard to stop them.

*Mr P Lloyd*



## UNDER 13'S SOCCER

Played 7 matches:  
Won 7

In their first year of competition, the Under 13 team dominated local school's soccer. They did this by winning the District championship and the County Cup final. Throughout their matches, they remained undefeated and won all games relatively comfortably.

The backbone of the team was made up of some good players, many of whom have represented "Gloucester and Forest". These players possessed not only natural enthusiasm for the game, but flair

and skill, to make the team a formidable force. However, the team was a well balanced one, with all key positions occupied by players who all contributed in their own way, to make the side strong in all departments.

At the start of the season, the team moulded well together, even though members were not used to playing with each other. Some players were forced to play in unusual positions for them, but they quickly adapted. Such was the standard, that when the team did play badly, such as against Seven Vale and St Peter's, they still won by a clear two or three goals.

A key factor to the team's success was that their standard of football was very high, with an accurate passing game being the focal point of the team's play.

The team won the league, beating comfortably Newent, Severn Vale, St Peter's, Beaufort and Saintbridge. In the semi-finals of the cup competition they defeated Brockworth in terrible weather conditions which did not suit their flowing style of football and after being behind as well.

The biggest game the team played was of course the County Cup Final against Marling Grammar school. The team dominated this match from start to finish, with total possession football and Jody Bevan destroying the Marling defence. Yet, they could not quite finish, except when Steve Badham chipped the goalkeeper from outside the penalty area to take the lead. Everyone battled hard, but after giving away a soft goal, the teams went in at half time on equal terms.

At the start of the second half Marling gained a penalty and went ahead against the run of play. This only made Rich's step up a further gear and for the rest of the match, it was all 'one-way' traffic to the Marling penalty area. The whole team was really fired up and Steve Badham drilled a magnificent left foot shot into the top left hand corner of the Marling net from about twenty five metres out. Steve Badham then made it a hat-trick and Marling were really on the rack. Eventually, they could not sustain the pressure and Jody Bevan and Tom Radcliffe added two more goals to make the final score 5-2 to Rich's.

Next season will be a real test and even harder than this one, for we will be the team to beat and we will have to work even harder, if we are to retain our titles. Sir Thomas Rich's not only has a reputation as a good rugby school, but one which also has high standards of soccer as well!

*Andrew Bourne (8T)*





The Under 13's Soccer Team - Gloucester City and County Champions 1991-92



The Under 12's Soccer Team - Gloucester City and County Champions 1991-92



Senior Cross-country Team - West Mercia League Champions 1991-92



Junior Cross-country Team - North Gloucestershire League Champions 1991-92



## UNDER 12'S SOCCER

It was a historic decision, after over forty years, to re-introduce soccer back into the school, particularly as many believe it to be the national game. Indeed, along with the rock n' roll, soccer is one of only two broad cultural movements in the 20th century breaking down distance and reaching out to the whole of the world, even Pavarotti met Gazza and Springsteen was live at Villa Park!

The team who would kick the first representative soccer ball for the school would be the Under 12's side. On a grey Saturday morning in February, away to Oxstalls, the "lads" went into action and how they did go into action! , Oxstalls 0 - Rich's 10.

Over the season we had our nervous moments, including a dramatic win at Cleeve, ending in a penalty shoot-out, but we never left our desire to play wide, open expansive football and to press forwards to put the opposition on the rack! At Saintbridge, we were 1-0 winners in a very tight and close game, which we won, to take the City School's League and allowed us to concentrate on the County Cup.

The semi-final had been built up as a real challenge for us, against Archway, a side of some repute. On the day, when every move we had ever practised or talked about, worked, we simply blew the opposition away, with the score 8-0 at half-time and at the final whistle, the result was 12-1 to Rich's.

In the final, we again met Saintbridge, but this time the team played more convincingly, taking a 3-0 nil lead, before the opposition pulled it back to a 3-2 in the dying seconds of the game.

Well, it was quite unbelievable and the team took the trophy on a lap of honour. Their success was due to several factors. Key players were at times outstanding, such as James Cox, a tremendous inspiration both with his skill and work rate in the middle of the park. Shayne Bradley had the ability to destroy defences and regularly did, while Daniel Hart played with great authority and confidence at the back. Above all, the team played well as a unit.

A special thanks must go to the "supporters club", parents, whose help and encouragement were such a strength to the team. One must mention the tremendous help from Richard Nichols for all his help and hard work.

*Mr B L North*

## 1ST XI CRICKET

Unfortunately, due to a late Easter and the loss of the Upper 6th and the 5th Form boys for summer examinations, the cricket season for the 1st XI was very short. The normal four matches were reduced to two, with Crypt and Chosen Hill schools not running teams at this age level.

On a positive side, Robert Bielby took responsibility for the team and managed to bring the best from the players in the short space of time available. The team itself showed potential especially with the addition of four Year 10 boys. However, the lack of practice did highlight some weaknesses in technique, which will only be overcome with time and effort.

### MATCH REPORTS - RICH'S Vrs. MARLING

Marling batted first and moved comfortably to 78 without loss and looked to be heading for a large total. This was not to be, as the school bowled tightly throughout and restricted Marling to 153 for 6. Nick Cambridge achieved 4 for 31 runs.

In reply, the school was soon in trouble, losing three quick wickets. This effectively put victory beyond the school and so the remaining batsmen played for a draw. In a close finish, Michael Palmer and Neil Bennett held out to leave the school on 89 for 9. Match Drawn.

### MATCH REPORTS - RICH'S Vrs. KINGS

After winning the toss, the school opted to bat and once again was soon in trouble on a good wicket at 15 for 5. However, a sixth wicket partnership of 95 between Bielby and Hansford (65 runs), enabled the school to declare shortly after tea for 147 for 8.

In reply, Kings batted well and looked as though the target was well within reach. However, the school tightened up their bowling and in the field. This effectively put a 'clamp' on the game. Kings finished at 100 for the loss of one wicket. Match Drawn.

Although a rather disappointing short season, it is hoped that future 1st XI's will display greater promise and will have a more extensive fixture list at this level. This season, Ben Hansford, Phil Brown, Jason Brown and Neil Bennett of Year 10 played in the matches and turned in some very creditable performances to help team Captain, Robert Bielby.

*Mr I J Gallagher*



## UNDER 15'S CRICKET

The season began with unfinished business, with the county final of the Lord Tavener's competition. The school was a narrow loser in a closely contested and high scoring match on Cheltenham College's 1st XI square. Always slightly behind the required run rate, after the College had made 180 for 9 off 40 overs, Ben Hansford built up a solid innings of real maturity, starting with caution, then, as the runs went on the board, attacking the bowling to score his maiden century, (115 not out) and taking the school to 174 for 7 at the close. Having got so close, it was bitterly disappointing, but they could certainly hold their heads high.

We went to Rencomb College as well, for a rematch of last year's semi-final, but this year Rencomb were never in the hunt and gave the duller and slowest batting display I can remember, crawling to 85 all out off an unbelievable 46 overs. Fortunately, the school had other ideas and brought the afternoon to a close with six overs and six wickets to spare.

Against Pates, the scoreboard 'snailed' its way to 96 all out, from 40 overs, although this time we had won the toss and fielded. Yet again our batting proved easily up to the task and the school won by 9 wickets, with four overs remaining.

The other three matches were drawn and in all three we batted first, making large totals, but not having quite enough time to bowl the opposition out. It was pleasing for us to be more than a match for some very good schools on these occasions, but frustrating not to win. The fact is that declarations that are only five minutes too late, can, and did, make all the difference, both in the time left to bowl sides out and significantly, in the opposition's willingness to chase runs, rather than shut up shop for a draw.

I must end by saying that I have greatly enjoyed my three years with this team. Obviously, success has tasted very good, but more importantly, they have always conducted themselves properly, both on and off the field. Their obvious natural ability combined with a competitive spirit on the field has brought just rewards. Ben Hansford has captained them very well, quite apart from his own consistently high performances as a player and the members of the team have supported each other throughout. Many thanks to all the squad and best wishes for the next three years of senior school cricket!

*Mr B L North*

## UNDER 14'S CRICKET

Played 8 matches:

Won 2      Drawn 4      Lost 2

With the upgrading of the fixture list, the team knew that all the matches would be difficult. The team was fully aware of its strengths and limitations, particularly in the batting area of its game. Yet, the season's results were quite satisfactory, especially after their disastrous start against Marling, which would have have dented the confidence of most teams. The team displayed tremendous character and determination to put things right in the remaining matches. Although the opposition was often stronger, all the team members tried hard and this produced an excellent team spirit.

Under the excellent captaincy of Richard Saunders, the team was exceptionally well disciplined and drilled. The major strengths of the team revolved around their tenacious fielding, particularly from Jeremy Sargeant and Duncan McBurnie, who produced some outstanding performances. This was aided by tight bowling from Richard Saunders, James Newman, Simon Bennett and Matthew Gough. It was these areas that restricted the opposition in many matches and helped to compensate for the team's batting deficiencies.

Although batting was a problem for the team, the middle order and 'tail enders' batted intelligently on many occasions to ensure that a draw was accomplished. One must mention Tom Harris, who is not the most talented batsman, but was a tremendous calming influence, batting competently and with great resilience, to ensure that the team defied the opposition. Other stalwart batting performances came from Meurig Edwards, Duncan McBurnie and Ben Mitchell.

Team members must now build upon this season's foundation and if they are to improve, they must dedicate many hours to winter nets to work upon their batting. If they are prepared to sacrifice the time in order to improve upon this area, then this, combined with their excellent attitude in other areas of the game, will hopefully guarantee good results next season.

If Colours were rewarded solely for attitude, commitment and enthusiasm, then the whole team would receive them. Yet Colours should be awarded not only for the aforementioned factors, but also for evidence of technical expertise and mastery of the game's basic skills. Many of the potential candidates produced batting performances during the season which did not really justify the receipt of Colours.

*Mr P D Lloyd*



## UNDER 13'S CRICKET

Played 4 matches:

Won 1      Drawn 2      Lost 1

The Under 13's enjoyed a reasonably successful season, playing four Saturday fixtures, all against good opposition. The dropping of the rapid twenty over matches against weak teams obviously affects results adversely, but the games which are played tend to be of a much higher quality.

Despite being led by Tom Radcliffe, the Under 13's proved that they are by no means a one-man team and there were useful contributions by several players in all matches, except for the lost match at King's School. There are a number of useful seam bowlers who can all bowl accurately, as well as the variety offered by Mark Aplin's leg spin.

The batting still can look a little frail at times and this is the area which will need attention next year, if they are to turn drawn matches into winning ones. The most satisfying progress this year was made by Jody Bevan, who produced some fine innings when they were needed. Terry Knappett also had a good season behind the stumps.

*Mr R Lockey*



## UNDER 12'S CRICKET

Played 3 matches:

Won 2      Drawn 1      Lost 0  
(2 matches cancelled)

The Year 7 team has shown great commitment this season, with a positive approach in both practice and matches. In the three games played, the team has shown that in all areas, batting, bowling and fielding, there is the basis for success, with many players showing a good aptitude for the game. Unfortunately, two matches were cancelled due to bad weather and a pitch being unavailable.

### Rich vrs. Kings

Captain M. Wright won the toss and elected to bat. The school were all out for 104, with M. Dill scoring 42 and C. Trout 15. In reply, Kings were 78 all out, with D. Nichols taking 3 wickets for 15 runs. Rich's won by 26 runs.

### Richs vrs. Crypt

Crypt were 61 all out, with D. Nichols again taking 3 wickets for 15, while S. Bradley took 4 for 12. In reply, the school scored 64 for 3. Both S. Bradley and I. Henry were 17 not out. The school won by 7 wickets.

### Rich's vrs Pates

Captain D. Nichols won the toss and elected to bat. The school were 62 for 8 and declared on this total. In reply, Pates scored 43 for 7 wickets and the match was drawn.

*I J Gallagher*



## TABLE TENNIS

The 1991/92 season saw the first ever table tennis teams represent the school. Four teams joined the fifth division of the Gloucester Table Tennis Association League. We had no idea beforehand what standards to expect, but we were the only school teams and we were pitched against table tennis clubs.

The "A" team was well organised by Malcolm Beard and they won about half their matches. The stars of this team were Stephen Dorman and Kevin Howie, who each won most of their games. The team finished in eighth position.

The "B" team was our most successful team, finishing fourth. They won most of their matches and played well throughout the season, even against the strongest teams. The team was usually represented by James Newman, Kristian Topping and Tim Preece, with occasional assistance from James Wood.

The "C" team found most matches hard going. However, Matthew Meecham was a comparative novice at the start of the season, but improved rapidly and has become one of the top players in the school.

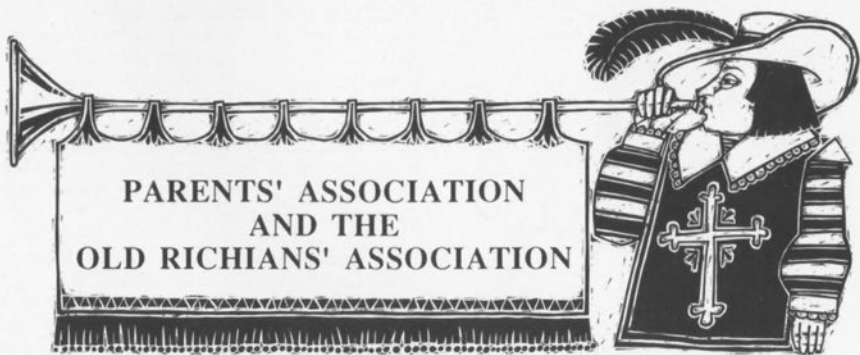
The "D" team composed of boys from year 8, found most of the opposition too strong. To their credit, the boys always fought valiantly and never lost their enthusiasm.

A mention must be made of parents, without whom transport to all matches would not have been possible. Thank you.

In summary, table tennis has made a valuable contribution to the range of extra-curricular activities available to pupils.

*Mr I Kellie*





## PARENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT

Farewells were said to two long serving members of the Committee, namely Dave Gettings and Mike Parry. We shall all miss Dave as for a number of years he has, as Chairman, kept us all in order. Under his guidance the Parents' Association has prospered and he was instrumental in getting the uniform committee up and running and which of course is now providing us with a very good source of revenue for the General Funds. Fortunately, Dave has not been lost to the school as he is of course still serving as a Governor.

Derek Saunders, ably supported by Ken Shaw (Vice Chairman), has now settled into the position as Chairman of the Parents' Association and I am sure he is well known to most of you by now, as he does spend an enormous amount of his time at the school. In view of Ken Shaw's many duties, Colin Bennett took over as the fourth year representative and Michael Fry came in for the first year. Also, co-opted onto the committee was Mrs Jean Wilton, Mrs Rose King, Mrs Ann Lyne and Munawar Hussein.

Many activities were organised by Ken Shaw, some of which were better supported than others. However, by far the most popular event organised is the 'Quiz Night', which is always well supported.

During 1990/91 the Association contributed well over £9,000 for various projects and school activities, with further monies still being held in reserve for the swimming pool appeal fund. Once again our income increased from the covenants and our thanks go to Don Lyne who runs this very efficiently.

As regards the four Grammar Schools' skittles evening, we have still not yet been successful in winning the trophy, so if any parents reading this fancy their chances, please give me a ring. The meeting is held twice a year, in October and April.

Finally, the usual plea, please could we have more parents supporting the Parents' Association, particularly in attending the various functions which

are organised throughout the year. Their support of course means a healthy association which in turn benefits the school.

*Mr D W Finch  
Secretary, Parents' Association*



## AN INTERVIEW WITH KEN SHAW OF THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Ken Shaw is the Vice President and Social Secretary of the Parents' Association. He is a Parent Governor and is also the Vice President of the Mini / Junior Rugby Sections of Old Richians Rugby Club. He was educated at the 'William Morris Technical School' found in Inner London. His memories are of a very strict, co-educational school, with very few sports facilities and a school appearing rather old and ancient. The school was roughly the same size as Sir Thomas Rich's.

Upon leaving school at sixteen, Ken went to study Economics and Management before working for various retailing organisations, such as Sainsbury's. Ken is now forty three years of age and holds the position of "Leading Fireman" at R.A.F. Quedgely. His association and Sir Thomas Rich's is very strong and all pupils at Rich's recognise Ken as one of the main men behind the driving force to reopen the Swimming Pool.

Ken believes that Sir Thomas Rich's is an excellent school, with a fine reputation in the area. He feels that Rich's offers plenty of opportunities for all of its pupils to obtain a good education and start in life. One aspect of the school that Ken likes is the good working relationship between the boys and the staff. The school, in his opinion, offers a conducive



working environment and this, combined with its great traditions, enhances the education of all its pupils.

To improve the school even more, Ken would like to see the pupils take more responsibility in and around the school. This will raise standards even higher in his opinion and make the working relationship between the staff and boys even stronger. It would also make school life even more comfortable, pleasant and enjoyable for all concerned.

It is the view of Ken Shaw that life at Rich's should be about community spirit, with staff, pupils and parents combining to provide as many opportunities as possible for all concerned. Yet, he feels that this can only materialise with co-operation, enthusiasm and commitment from all those parties.

The role of Social Secretary, is Ken's favourite responsibility. Although it entails a tremendous amount of time and commitment, there is great satisfaction when a school event is successful.

Ken believes that the Parents' Association has to run in unison with the Headmaster, his staff and the pupils. With schools now having greater responsibility over the management of their own funds, the role and work of the Parents' Association has increased greatly. The Association helps to generate more funds into the school, all of which benefit the pupils with extra resources, facilities and opportunities.

In the past the Parents' Association has provided funds for the school to help in a whole spectrum of activities, from resources for the P.E. department to the purchase of the new 'sound system' found in the hall. Ken would like to see all parents becoming involved in the Association, which in the long run would help the school improve even more. One of the aims of the Parents' Association is to try and cater for all the needs of the pupils. He feels that such an aim is realistic and with the hard work of all parents, many improvements to the school can be achieved.

Ken feels that parents can help the school by donating money, supporting social events, offering any valuable skills that they feel may benefit the school, introducing friends to the Association and offering their time on projects, such as the swimming pool. It is his feeling, that if all the parents united and helped the school in whatever way they could, then there would be no limits to what could be achieved, with the pupils ultimately benefiting.

The Parents' Association has many plans for the future, with the full restoration of the swimming pool being one of the major priorities. They hope to upgrade the facilities of the school, but this can only be accomplished by the full support of parents, staff and pupils.

He sees his role with the school of uniting all the interested parties together, in order to accomplish the aims and plans of the Parents' Association. He wants to create an environment and atmosphere, whereby all parents want to become involved in the school. Ken wants to make all the activities and events staged by the school to be appealing and cater for everyone's interests.

It is this 'sense of community' which Ken perceives as being the crucial factor as to whether the Parents' Association and its aims are successfully accomplished. The events organised by the Association have included quiz nights, barn dances, discos, musical evenings and many more! These events have been well attended by parents and not only do they enjoy them, there is the knowledge that they are indirectly helping their son or daughter receive a higher standard of education from the money raised by such events.

When reviewing the events that the Parents' Association have staged, Ken has not really a favourite one, although, the 'London to Paris Pancake Race' was enjoyable, because it was novel and provided a lot of pleasure to many people.

It is evident, that when interviewing Ken Shaw, one realises the tremendous amount of work that he and his colleagues of the Parents' Association dedicate to the school on behalf of the pupils. It is evident that the Association has great plans for the future of the school and these can be quickly accomplished with the support of parents, pupils and friends. In the short term, Ken and the Association would like to see more parents become involved in the school and the social activities arranged for their benefit. With such support and co-operation the aims of the association will be fulfilled and this will ultimately benefit the pupils of Sir Thomas Rich's School.

*Paul Shaw (10T)*





## THE SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL PROJECT

The swimming pool was originally built in 1966, with funds raised during the 'Tercentary appeal'. The late Mr E J Pritchard decided in 1964 to give back the "£16,000 of what God Gave" to the school to mark its 300th Anniversary.

The target was reached and even exceeded by more than £6,000, thanks to the generosity of parents, friends and the efforts of staff and pupils alike. It was their enthusiasm, hard work and commitment to the project, which enabled many future boys to enjoy the benefits of having a swimming pool on the school's grounds.

When the pool was built, design favoured 'flat roofs' and unfortunately it did not take account of the problem of water vapour being retained in its physical composition. This made the roof design a defective fault, which was to have disastrous consequences for many young Richians, as they lost the opportunity to learn to swim, as it became unsafe to use the pool, due to the possibility of the roof collapsing. Over the years, the roof was 'attacked' by a combination of water vapour and other chemical components, that gradually 'ate' away at the structure.

As a result of this design defect, the pool was left dormant for several years, until in 1988 'rumblings' were heard about the school undertaking a major project to restore the pool back to its former glory.

Yet by 1990 the appeal was in motion and fund raising activities were in full swing. The project was launched, with plans and aims produced by a committed and hard working team of individuals who saw the swimming pool as a challenge. Many hours have been devoted to the pool by a 'hard core' of individuals who have undertaken tasks to clear the pool of debris, re-tile the pool itself, painting, help with bricklaying and many other building tasks. If it was not for their efforts, the pool would not have reached the stage it is now in and everybody in the school would not now be on the verge of using it this coming autumn.

In the spring of this year, the roof was completely replaced and in the summer months, work has been continuing inside to refurbish the interior and prepare for the official opening. As usual, the Parents' Association and the school in general has been working hard to raise funds to continue to raise money and to ensure that the project is successfully completed. The events have included 'Race Nights', discos, barn dances, quiz evenings and the summer fayre.

When the pool is completed, it is hoped that local junior schools will utilise the facilities as well as our own pupils. It is hoped that the pool will not only involve swimming lessons, but life saving courses, swimming galas, canoeing and water polo. The

swimming lessons will become an integral part of the physical education programme and provide the opportunity to ensure that no pupil leaves Rich's without having learned to swim.

In the past year and half, the swimming pool has been regenerated by a dedicated and loyal nucleus of determined individuals who have 'Kept Faith' with the belief that it would be restored for the benefit of all Richians. We as a school, must thank these people for their efforts and realise that they have provided us with an opportunity that may never have materialised, if it had not been for their strength of character and conviction to see this project through to the end.

*Andrew Cheshire (10T)*



## OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION: PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1991-92

When in September 1991 our Committee did me the honour of asking me to be President of the Association, I resolved above all, with the invaluable help of our splendid team of officers, to do two things: to increase the membership and to organise a reunion of Old Richians who had attended the school during the past seven decades. It was a pleasure to learn that in this current year far more new members have joined the Association than in any year within living memory and to report that the magnificent Buffet Evening held at the school on April 4th turned out to be a most worthwhile and an unforgettable occasion.

Doubtless you will be aware that in the 1960's, Old Richians contributed most generously to the Tercentenary Appeal by helping to raise "sixteen thousand pounds" - and more - towards the erection of the school swimming pool. Our sincere thanks are due to all who have responded magnanimously to the current appeal launched to restructure the building and refurbish the pool.

During the year, the Association donated £4,600 to this new project and further provided an interest free loan of £5,500. We were able to accomplish this in part thanks to the generous legacy of £8,000 bequeathed by the will of Miss Winifred Freeman to be used "in such worthy causes as shall be at the discretion of the Committee of the Association" the gift being given in memory of her late father, Freddie 'Tich' Freeman, who spent many happy years as Head of the Physics Department at the school. As further phases to add fitness training and additional changing facilities to the pool are also envisaged, please support David Mayo and David

Hook, members of the Appeal Committee in their efforts to raise funds for the project: additional donations and covenants, of course will be exceedingly welcome.

On Saturday, 22nd February, I spent a very pleasant day at Bracknell, Berkshire, representing the Association and renewing acquaintances with long-standing friends in the Old Richian's Rugby Football Club who were playing in the quarter finals of the Provincial Insurance Cup. A wonderful achievement in having got so far in the competition. Short extracts from the match were subsequently shown on T.V. South. Our thanks are due to the President of the club, Keith Ray, who for well over thirty years has worked tirelessly to create an enterprising and thriving club.

I feel that a special word of thanks is due to David Hook who has been Chairman of the Junior Section of the Association for well over ten years and who is also a member of the school governing body. Many successful events such as discos, skittle matches, pool competitions, an annual Christmas quiz, a pentanque tournament, excursions, jet skiing, ice skating and, of course, parties, have been arranged from time to time by his committee. David also edits "Newline" mailed to all members of the Association each term. During the Summer Term he talked about the Association's aims and functions to the Sixth Form, all of whom are Associate Members and whom we shall be delighted to see at future events.

One of the most gratifying features of the past year is the remarkable spirit of renewal and revival I have sensed in the Association. Our aims are to foster fellowship among Old Richians and to forge links between all former pupils and the school, second to none in the County, in terms of quality and performance, so that in the words of the official school history, "boys passing through Tommy's, might there be trained, enriched and inspired for life". If you are not yet a member we extend a warm invitation to you to join us. Come to the next A.G.M. and tell us what you would like done! In any case we hope to see you at the 1993 Annual Dinner at the school on the 3rd April.

Finally, we are most grateful to Alan Pilbeam whose invaluable role it is to act as liaison officer between the school and the Association and, of course, to the Headmaster for his enthusiastic support and constant encouragement.

Garde ta foy!

*Stanley Jones (President)*



## OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION

### ANNUAL REUNION BUFFET EVENING

Old Richians and their ladies, present and former members of staff and representatives from the Sixth Form, attended a splendid reunion buffet held at the school on Saturday, 4th April. Except for the memorable 1966 Tercentenary Celebrations, it was undoubtedly the most enterprising event that had taken place in the long history of the Association. The school hall was packed to capacity and many Richians who booked late were disappointed that they could not be accommodated.

At the reception at 7.15 pm, a large and impressive array of photographs, documents and memorabilia concerning the history of the school and the Association were on display in the library, including a former Headmaster's cane and "Black Books". The swimming pool to which many Old Richians had contributed and which was undergoing renovation was also on view.

After the high class buffet provided by professional caterers, the President read apologies from Mr W J Veale, Paignton (Headmaster 1932-57); Mr Ralph Fox, Gloucester (Head of French, 1932-60); and Mr John Meale, Tewkesbury (Head of Geography and Geology 1943-64). The traditional toast "Sir Thomas Rich's and all that it implies" was proposed by Dr Philip Nicholas, a pupil at the school from 1940 to 1947, and the son of Mr J R Nicholas, Senior English Master and Deputy Headmaster, 1924-59. Dr Nicholas recalled what Sir Thomas Rich by his personal initiative and from his private resources had given to the school 'in faith' in 1666. All who had benefited in so many ways from their education at Rich's should thus not be just 'keeping the faith', but also daily 'spreading the faith' in enriching the communities they serve. The Headmaster, Mr Tony Jarvis, in response to the toast reported on the thriving nature of the school which was reflected in a proposed larger intake - a four form entry and an enlarged "mixed" sixth form. Recent Government educational initiatives had enabled the staff to introduce new and imaginative changes to the school curriculum of the highest order.

Earlier in the day nostalgic memories were evoked when Old Richians assembled in Barton Street to tour the interior of the former school premises vacated in 1964, and to view the plaque unveiled in May 1991 on the School House commemorating the site's association with Rich's from 1889 to 1964.

School years as far back as 1918, right up to the present day were represented by those attending the function. Among the eminent "luminaries" revisiting the school were professors and lecturers from a host of universities including the ex-Rector of Malta

University, a former R.A.F. pilot, a Brigadier-General, a T.V. Film Editor, a writer of children's books, a former English Rugby Union International, a celebrated philatelist, eminent police officers - retired, the Departmental Manager of the Severn Valley Railway, clergymen, magistrates, industrialists, general practitioners, a survivor of a U-boat attack, research chemists, the Editor of the British Journal of Medical Psychology, the Headmaster of Epsom Public School and Headmasters of various secondary, primary and maladjusted schools for boys, Rugby Football Referees, an Association Football Administrator, a Director of Gloucester Market Auctioneers and ex-Mayor of Gloucester City and an ex-civil servant from the "corridors of power" in Whitehall. Some had travelled a great distance to support the event, but we were especially delighted to see Mr Ralph Villiers, son of Gustave Villiers (English Master 1932-47 and afterwards Headmaster of Hatherley Road School, where some of those present, were once members of his staff) and General Director of the Cellotex, South Africa, who had come all the way from Mexico.

During the course of the evening a presentation was made to Mr John Harris in recognition of his long and distinguished service as Honorary Auditor to the Association for well over thirty years. In conclusion, the President expressed thanks to the Committee and in particular to Mr David Mayo and Mr Andrew Bishop, who had worked tirelessly to make the event such an outstanding success.

*Stanley Jones (President)*



## OLD RICHIAN'S' ASSOCIATION, JUNIOR SECTION:

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The past year has seen a considerable increase in the activities of the Old Richians' Association and these have been enthusiastically supported by the Junior Section.

The Annual Dinner in April was without doubt the most successful that I have ever attended and the Junior Section members should be inspired by the efforts of President of the Association, Stanley Jones, to organise a larger Junior Section contingent for next year.

Despite a few organisational problems, the Section has run a number of successful discos at the 'Top Clue Club', in aid of the Pool Appeal and ran a number of stalls at the School Fayre in July.

The variety of our social events has increased with the annual Christmas quiz, quarterly meals, jet skiing, a well attended skittles evening versus the Sixth Form and a highly creditable second place (by one point!) for our team in the hotly contested Parents' Association Quiz Night last March.

I am very grateful for the support given to the Junior Section during the year by the headmaster, staff and particularly, by the increasing number of senior pupils. This support has not yet been reflected in spectacular membership growth, but there are a number of very promising signs. For both the school and the Association, the coming year promises to be very rewarding and I believe we can look to the future with considerable optimism.

*David Hook (Chairman)*



## AN INTERVIEW WITH THE OLDEST RICHIAN?

On the 30th June, 1992, the school was privileged to receive a visit from Alfred Earwaker, who at almost 95 years of age, is perhaps the oldest member of the school community. Alfred was born in Tuffley on the 16th September, 1898 and won a County Scholarship from Tartan Road School to come to Sir Thomas Rich's around 1909. He spent three years at the school, before starting work for W Sisson and Co Engineers in 1912. He joined the armed forces at the outbreak of the Great War (when he was only 15). He served with the 5th Army at Ypres and fought at the Somme. He was finally demobbed in 1919. Following a lengthy service with the Post Office Telecommunications, he began his well earned retirement in 1962, the year of the first Beatles hit! He now lives in Boston, Lincolnshire.

Alfred was thrilled to be able to come back to have a good look at the present school. We wish him many more good years of happy retirement. Come again soon!

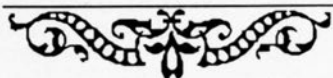
*Mr S Smallwood*



# OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION

## 1991 - 1992

President :	Stanley T Jones
Secretary :	David G Billingham
Treasurer :	Andrew K Bishop
Membership Secretary :	David Q Hook



## OBITUARIES

**BABINGTON, John G C** died aged 81 on the 24th March, 1992. Old Richians will recall that he taught Physics at Rich's in 1972. During the war he was involved in disarming unexploded bombs and this earned him the George Cross in 1940 and in 1943 he obtained the O.B.E..

He had read Physics at St Catherines College, Cambridge and after the war he returned to education as Assistant Education Officer in Hertfordshire, becoming Headmaster of Diss Grammar School in 1947. In 1951 he became the Headmaster of the Royal Hospital School at Holbrook. He then became Headmaster at Ashlyn's School, Berkhamsted in 1955. Then, with twenty-five years in charge, he left the school to retire, only to come out of retirement to teach Physics at Rich's in 1972.

**H J HYETT** (1917 - 1921) - {Contribution written by Grahame Hyett (1943 - 49) Son of Jim}

He died peacefully at home on Saturday 9th November, 1991, after visiting his wife Eileen's grave at Amberley that afternoon. Although christened, Harold James, he was always known as Jim.

After leaving Rich's, Jim joined his father in the family building and decorating business, Hyett Brothers at 91 Westgate Street.

His father was a keen Kingsholm supporter and encouraged him to play for Gloucester Old Boys. He later played for the Cherry and Whites in the Premier side between 1927 - 1934. The legendary Tom Voyce was one of his contemporaries. Later, Jim was a regular player with Gloucester 1st and 2nd elevens at the SPA, playing with Wally Hammond, Tom Goddard, Charlie Barnett to name but a few. He always had great stories to tell about such characters, he often liked to mention the time he

played rugby against a services side when a certain Douglas Bader was running wing. Jim always loved participating in sport, rather than being a spectator, playing golf to a high standard and in the last years a keen bowls player. When son Grahame entered Rich's in 1944, Jim was encouraged to become an active Old Richian, by who other, than Ted Veale. He went on to become President between 1952-55, when the famous Fleece Dinners were introduced.

## KENT A J

We record with regret the death of A J Kent, Maidenhead, early in December, 1991. Tony was an efficient and very popular School Captain from 1943 - 1944. Rising to the rank of sergeant in 181 Sir Thomas Rich's Air Training Corps, he was appointed Senior N.C.O.. He was an extremely able science pupil and on leaving school, went to London University. From 1947 he worked in the plastics industry in Colchester. He used to recall proudly the fact that at that time he often travelled to work on the same bus and dined with a young Oxford chemistry graduate, who sent him her sample mixes of plastic material for laboratory testing. Her name was then Margaret Hilda Roberts - our future Prime Minister. From the early fifties to his retirement, Tony was a loyal member of the well-known confectionery firm, Mars of Slough.

**MARTIN Alf** - {Contribution written by Jack Dean (1926 -31)}

It is with very much regret that we record the passing of Alfred Martin on the 8th October, 1991. Alf joined Rich's in Barton Street in 1923 and took part in many school activities including the Army Cadets under Patsy Davies.

On leaving school, he went into the ironmongery business with Parsons in Eastgate Street. He continued his connection with ironmongery working next at the Co-operative Stores and then at Critchley's of Brimscombe, the hardware manufacturers. For many years he was Secretary of the local Ironmongers' Association. At the outbreak of war he joined the Royal Air Force and played an active part in the Burma Campaign. He was awarded both the Burma and Africa Stars. After demob, he went first to Smart's the printers in Northgate Street and then in 1952 to Priestley's Studios, where he stayed for twenty-five years, retiring as Finance Director in 1977.

Alf was President of the Old Richians' Association in 1968/69 and Joint Secretary with Rowe Gabb when David Billingham (Secretary) became President in 1979. He was always a very keen and active Old Richian and was Master of Ceremonies and Toastmaster at every Association Dinner from 1970 to 1990. He was present at Speech Day on October 1st, 1991, his last public appearance.

## **PORTER Alfred, PHELPS Alexander**

We regret to record the death during 1991 of two Old Richians, Alfred Porter and Alexander Phelps. Alf Porter died in July aged 83. A much respected member of the committee for many years, readers will remember him in his professional life when he was on the staff of Norville's the Opticians. Alex Phelps died suddenly in September at the age of 62. After graduating in chemistry at Bristol University, he joined what we now know as the Dowty Group and became a director of the company. He was particularly prominent in the development of their internationally famous bonded seals.



## **OLD RICHIANs - 90th BIRTHDAYS**

On a happier note we offer congratulations and best wishes to W J (Peter) Veale (Headmaster 1936 - 57) and John D Meale (who taught Geography until 1964), both of whom celebrate their 90th birthdays in the course of 1992.



## **NEWS OF OLD RICHIANs**

Many of the details which follow relate to Old Richians of circa the 1940's era who were among those attending the highly successful Buffet Dinner in April this year.

**ADDCOCK Kevin R** (1980 - 1985) For two years was a 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Marines. Currently is working as a Security Consultant with an international company. Kevin is single and is a Martial Arts Instructor in his spare time.

**ALDOUS Graham A** (1936 - 42). From 1956 until his retirement in 1984, Graham was a lecturer in physics at the City University. He now lives in Chislehurst. A keen football player and referee in his earlier years, he now spends much of his time in administration as Divisional Chief Assessor for the Kent Football Association.

**ALDOUS K G** (1936) Started work in the laboratory at Gloucester Farmers and between 1943-46 was a Radar Mechanic in the Fleet Air Arm. Between 1946-1949 went to the North of Scotland College of Agriculture. His first job after the war was as an Analyst at M.M.B. Creamery, Norwich, then he became a Director of Bovril Ltd., responsible for their Milk Division, which included

Ambrosia. He now works as a consultant in the food industry and also is a part owner of two small local companies, one making resistance welding machines and the other, magnetic instruments. His father and three brothers were all at Rich's.

**BAXTER George** (1924 - 33). Now retired after a varied career in the teaching profession. He was Head of Farnham Grammar School, before becoming a tutor in the Department of Educational Studies in the University of Surrey. He numbers among his ex-pupils Chris Bonnington, Roger Bannister and international conductor, Jeffrey Tate. Sadly, recently widowed, he still remains active in a number of local organizations, including membership of Farnham Town Council.

**BENNETT John** (1971 - 1978) has worked for the Midland Bank since leaving Rich's. He is currently working in Taunton as Deputy Area Securities Manager for Somerset & Wessex. John is married to Margaret and they have a young son, Nicholas. He continues to be a keen sportsman, playing bowls in the Somerset league and badminton/squash, as well as being a member of a skittles team. John still regularly attends matches at Kingsholm to support Gloucester.

**BIRCHNELL John A** (1943 - 51). A medical graduate of Edinburgh, John worked first in neurology and neurosurgery, but then moved into research in psychiatry. A Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, he is senior lecturer in psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry in London. He also edits the British Journal of Medical Psychology.

**BLAKE Robert** - has just been awarded a degree in Physics, with Astrophysics by the University of Manchester.

**BOLTON David J** (1967 - 74). After studying politics and government at the City of London Polytechnic, David qualified as a solicitor and now manages a practice in the capital. He was one of the contestants in "Mastermind" in April 1991, taking Gloucester Cathedral as his specialist subject.

**BRAZZINGTON S J** - Currently working in Taunton in a local practice of Solicitors and was last heard to be marrying Amanda in May of 1992.

**BRINLEY A R** - Training to be an Accountant and is based in Cardiff and hopes to have completed training by 1991/1992.

**BRINT Stanley G** (1929 -37) entered the Civil Service and, as he says, spent some thirty years wandering round the "corridors of power" in Whitehall, before settling in as Head of the Ministry Defence Training Development Unit. Since retirement, he has joined a small team charged with the task of "reviewing" government documents before publication under the 30 year rule. Should make some interesting reading!



**BROWN R A S** - Graduated from Coventry Polytechnic and is now working as a Town Planner with Derby City Council.

**CARR Gair J** (1977 - 1984) Works as a Pearl Financial Adviser for over three years on a self-employed basis and plays rugby/cricket for Old Richians.

**CHAMBERLIN David** (1938 - 1946) On leaving school, David did two years' National Service, with spells in Singapore and Malaya. After gaining a degree in Modern Languages at Cambridge, he was ordained a priest in Wakefield Cathedral in 1955. He served in two parishes at Mirfield and then was sent to South Africa, where he was deported in 1970 by the Government under John Vorster. David was instituted at All Hallows, Bristol in 1986, where he still serves.

**CHEESEMAN Miles R** (1972 - 79). After gaining his PhD at Cambridge, he has been doing further research in the field of Chemistry at the University of East Anglia in Norwich.

**CHILMAN John D** He is a Chartered Accountant with Price Waterhouse, Bristol. His is not married and is still involved in music, mainly the trumpet, organ and singing. John plays the church organ and in 1990 attempted to stand for the General Synod.

**COLES Russell** (1981 - 1989) Joined the RAF in 1990 and in 1991 'Passed Out' of the RAF Police School. He was posted to RAF Watisham, in Suffolk.

**COOK John B** (1951 - 58) and **IRVINE PETER**, Headmaster and Head of Geography, respectively at Epsom College, appeared in a photograph which reached the school showing them accompanying the Queen during her recent visit to the college. Doubtless, Her Majesty appreciated her good fortune in having two Old Richians as her guides.

**COPELAND L E (Peter)** (1927 - 29). Older readers may remember him in the now vanished pharmacy of Ward and Woodman in Eastgate Street, where he worked until 1943. He then joined the Great Western Railway and continued with its successors until he retired in 1977 from the staff of the Divisional Manager in Bristol. He writes that he still has many memories of his brief time at Rich's.

**CURTIS Timothy** (1971 - 78) writes in response to editorial musing last year as to who may be the oldest living Richian. His grandfather Victor, is clearly a strong contender, having been born on 19th June 1897. Tim adds that his father (1942 - 47), grandfather (1908 - 13) and great-grandfather, (1880 - 84), all attended the school. A splendid record. This year's musing - are there any more families of four (+ ?) generations of Old Richians among our readers?

**DAVIES G** - Now a Corporal based in Scotland and working in the RAF.

**DAWKINS Nick** (1969 - 1973) lives in Cheltenham and is married with two children. Since 1974, Nick has been a police officer, initially in uniform and then the CID/Drug squad'. Then he was seconded to the Criminal Intelligence Service. As a result, he has little spare time for outside interests.

**DEAN Jack** - (1926 - 1931) A veteran of the siege in WW2, tells us that he will be taking part in the celebrations in Malta in the presence of the Queen to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the resistance put up by the George Cross Island against overwhelming odds.

**DOWDING Bruce** (1972 - 1978) Graduated in Business Studies, with Honours in Personnel Management at the Polytechnic of Wales in 1982. Bruce then ran his own business for two years in Wales, but then returned to Gloucester in 1984 and since then has worked in Personnel Management roles at Dowty Rotol, GUS Transport Ltd, and Securities Technology PLC. Since 1990, has worked as Group Personnel Manager for J R Crompton Ltd, specialist paper manufacturers.

**DYSON NICHOLAS** (1972 - 1979) After gaining First Class Honours in Genetics at York University and a PhD in Molecular Biology at Manchester University, Nicholas became engaged in Post-Doctoral Research at Amersham International and at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. He is a member of the Massachusetts Medical School. Nicholas was married to Carol in 1983 and has three children, Laura, Naomi and Olivia. He is a hardened supporter of the New York Mets!

**ELLARD A C (Tony)** (1948 - 54) is brief and to the point when he tells us that he is still working in the education department of Shire Hall and consequently continues to have contact with quite a few past and present members of the school.

**ELLIS Gareth D** (1979 - 1986) Briefly at Leicester Polytechnic on a business studies courses, but in 1987 worked as an auditor for the Post Office in Cheltenham, Bristol and Gloucester. In 1991 started a degree in Public Administration course at Manchester Polytechnic.

**EVANS Richard** - has just been awarded a First Class Honours Degree in Physics by the University of Manchester.

**FRAPE Andrew R** (1978 - 86). One of a number of Old Richians who work at G.C.H.Q., where he says he is slowly moving up the managerial ladder. Presumably some way to go before he becomes 'Chief Spy' at what the media likes to call the 'Cheltenham Spy base'. Meanwhile, he tells us that he has become engaged to Helen who also works there.

**GABB Rowe** (1923 - 27) spent most of his working life as a sales executive in building materials. Took up rugby refereeing in 1936 and officiated at most first class grounds in the UK. He was the referee at the 1948 County Championship Final and tells us that he is the only Gloucestershire referee ever to be in charge of a championship final, although another Old Richian (guess who?) did referee a final, but lived in Devon (and still does). Still a cricket umpire, Rowe thinks that in his 81st year, the present season will have to be his last. A former President of the Association, he is proud of his continued links with the school, via his grandson, who is a pupil and his daughter who is School Secretary.

**GARDNER Ian G** (1954 - 59) has moved from Hucclecote solicitors, Dee and Griffin, on his appointment as General Manager designate of the Original Holloway Society, based in Eastgate Street.

**GARDNER S A** - Soon to complete his degree in Architecture at Brighton Polytechnic and has been offered a job in a practice in Cheltenham.

**GEORGE Glyn** (1971 - 77) continues to enjoy teaching maths in the Faculty of Engineering at the Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada. He tells us that anyone with access to international electronic mail can contact him on : ggeorge@engr.engr.mun.ca. - sounds simple (or is it?)

**GIBSON (formerly Soo) James** (1965 - 69). Has worked as Catering Manager at the Royal Festival Hall, the Royal Albert hall and also for one of the hotels in the Trust House Forte group. He is now Commercial Development Manager of an N.H.S. Trust Hospital in North London.

**GREEN J S** - Married to Lucy in October 1989 and has completed his Masters degree in Mechanical Engineering at Nottingham University. He has been working for Rolls Royce in Derby.

**GRIEVE S D** - Married Debbie in September, 1988 and is still working for Eagle Star, but has recently moved to their Bristol Office.

**GRIFFITH Dave** (1973 - 1980) Works at G.C.H.Q. as an Executive Officer and has been married for eight years, with two children in the family. Soccer and music are his main interests.

**GRIFFITHS R J** - Studying a PhD at Salford University.

**GRIMWOOD** - Gave up his job in Gloucester and is now completing a degree in Environmental Science at Plymouth Polytechnic and has spent some time in the U.S.A..

**HALL Leslie A** (1938 - 43) Joined Auctioneers, Pearce Pope, as a result of the firm's phone call to Headmaster "Ted" Veale, seeking a likely lad as a junior. ("Careers" were clearly uncomplicated by red tape in those days.) At present, Director of Gloucester Market Auctioneers selling some 2,000 - 3,000 sheep every week. Has a small farm at Epney. Treasurer of Longney Church and President of Gloucestershire and North Avon Young Farmers. Active in promoting the Rural Youth Movement, a noted livestock judge and committee delegate of the Association of British Livestock Auctioneers.

**HARDING Brian** (1934 - 39) Served in the R.A.F. (Radar) during the war and from 1948, he worked for the DHSS. He retired from the Civil Service in 1985, but still lives in Gloucester. His son Steve was at Rich's from 1967 - 1973.

**HARDING John** (1940 - 46) brother of Brian. After Teacher Training at Loughborough College and National Service, John was appointed to Hatherley Road School, where Mr Gustave Villiers was Headmaster. He then spent a year at St Paul's College, Cheltenham, in order to take his Diploma in Physical Education, after which he taught in Lincoln and Bermuda. Since retiring in 1985 to Stratford-on-Avon, John has been "doing bed and breakfast". In his spare time he plays golf and is involved in amateur dramatics.

**HARRIS R** - Involved in Accountancy and works for Cork Gully Insolvency Practitioners, which is based in Reading.

**HARRISON Adrian** (1977 - 1984) Entered a career in Agriculture, working on a farm upon leaving Rich's, then spending three years at Harper Adams Agricultural College, Newport, Shropshire and then a further three years at the University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. Here, he obtained a degree in Agricultural Biochemistry & Nutrition. Adrian then went onto Cambridge University to take a postgraduate course.

**HAWKER F J** (1942 - 48) Worked in the Pathology Laboratory of Cheltenham General Hospital and then in 1955 moved north to Sunderland Technical College, where he lectured in Chemistry until 1979, when he changed to computing (found it more interesting, he says). Now semi-retired, much of his time is taken up as a magistrate, with church work and as chairman of his local bowls club.

**HAYTER M A** - currently living in Loughborough, working for Leicestershire County Libraries as a Librarian/Computer Applications and is married to Rebecca.

**HEATHFIELD R J** - married to Debbie and now has a baby boy called Benjamin. Currently working at British Aerospace, Kingston-Upon-Thames.

**HEWLETT John** (1936 - 42 ) Has lived in Wellington, Somerset since 1979. Still interested in Sir Thomas Rich's though, he says he has lost contact with many of his contemporaries.

**HILL Gordon J** ( 1982 - 1987) Works for Dowty Fuel Systems as a Design Engineer. Gordon enjoys various outdoor activities.

**HOBBS David** (1963 -67) works as a Senior Planner for Worcester City Council and is married with three children. He is actively involved in Tewkesbury Baptist Church and is Chairman of the local Youth Leaders Council, covering all youth groups in the area.

**HOLMES Peter** (1942 - 50) Since retiring as Assistant Director of Bristol Polytechnic, Peter has been engaged as an Education and Training Consultant, which involves travel in Africa, Malaysia and Hong Kong. He is also a Project Manager for a world bank funded programme of management development in Nigeria.

**HOLT Terry** (1957 - 1963) On leaving school studied at Gloucestershire College of Art, then the Royal College of Art, London, where he obtained a M.A. in Fine Art. Terry is a lecturer in the Department of Graphic Design at the Gwent College of Higher Education, Newport. He has many exhibitions of his paintings and had commissions for his work for books and record covers. He has worked on many private collections, including Andrew Lloyd-Webber, Mike Oldfield, to name but a few.

**HOSSLE T** - Having completed his Geography Degree, trained to become a pilot in the R.A.F. and was last heard to be serving in the Gulf.

**HUCKFIELD Stephen D** (1976 - 1981) Works as a Motor/Instrument Control Electrician and has just finished a two year contract with BNFL, working on the "Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant Project" at Sellafield Nuclear Station. Since leaving school, Stephen has become qualified mainly in electrical engineering, obtaining a J.I.B. Electrical Contracting Industry Apprenticeship Diploma, an O.N.C. Electrical Engineering qualification and also his BTEC (HNC) Industrial Communication. He is single, playing cricket for some local sides and follows Manchester United FC. Stephen has travelled to North Africa, Canada and New York State.

**HURLEY Christopher M** (1980 - 1988) He is in his final year at Leicester University, reading archaeology and he intends to undertake a post-graduate course. Christopher is engaged to be married. Currently he is learning to read Latin and his interests include history, music and board games.

**JACKSON G** (1980 - 1987) Lives in Plymouth and since leaving school has obtained a First Class Honours Degree in Architecture. He spent one year in London on a

project supported by Prince Charles and is now working on his Diploma in Architecture.

**JACKSON Rolf H** - Works in London in his own specialist clothing shop in Campden Town. He completed a HND in Hotel Management and worked at the Hilton in London in the Junior Management Team and a hotel north of Newcastle.

**JENKINS brothers John** (1967 - 72) and **Eric** (1967 - 74). John is Signalling Section Manager for the Bristol Signal Box of British Rail covering some 150 route miles. He is also a Special Constable with the Avon and Somerset Constabulary and lives at Winscombe near Weston Super Mare. Eric started as an apprentice with Smiths Industries and then joined the Merchant Navy as an Electronic Officer. He is currently involved with power stations in the Falkland Islands and lives several thousands of miles away from his home in Glasgow. Presumably he is not a commuter.

**JOHNSON Nick** (1964 - 72) is an Accountant and holds the position of Financial Director at Dowty Seals Ltd. He is married with three children and lives in Malvern Wells.

**JONES Anthony** (1967 - 1975) Upon leaving Rich's, he obtained a BioChemistry degree at Birmingham University. Medical training was then undertaken at Cardiff up to 1983. Anthony is now a GP in Maidstone. He helps run a Christian Consultancy Service in the town and is soon to be married.

**JONES Gary** (1976 - 1981) Works for British Telecom as a technical officer. He is married with two children and plays cricket for Dowty Arle Court. Gary is an active train enthusiast, plays skittles and is currently half way through a HNC course.

**JONES Martin** (1966 - 1973) is presently a PE Teacher at a high school in Luton. Since leaving Rich's he has had several jobs in the Gloucester area and then went to Bedford College as a mature student where he studied for a BA (Hons) degree in Sports Studies. He then went onto a PGCE course at the same college, before embarking on a career in teaching. Martin adds that he eventually followed the advice of Mr Hanney and Mr Joseph and decided to take up a sport that involves an oval ball.

**JONES Michael J** (1967 - 1972) Since leaving Rich's Michael was in various jobs, until nine years ago, when he set up his own company in Gloucester. He is married with two children and while his company takes up most of his time, he still plays rugby and golf.

**JOSEPH Roland** (1958 - 65) is a General Practitioner at Pool, near Camborne and is also a Consultant Clinician at Redruth Hospital. He is married with four children.

**KELLY David** (1963 -1968) lives in Taunton and is married with three sons. He works as a Telecommunications Engineer, in connection with the 'National Grid'. David gained an HND in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and his main hobby is computers.

**KERSHAW Edward** (1961 - 66) now lives in Gloucester and is learning to become a Driving Instructor. Between 1970 - 79 he was a Chief Medical Technician, specializing in 'Health Physics' for the Royal Navy, related to Submarines. Since leaving Rich's he has travelled to at least thirty-three countries.

**LEWIS John** (1943 - 50) After leaving Oxford with a PhD John joined Reckitt and Coleman Pharmaceuticals and became their Research Director in 1976. He has now returned to the West Country as a visiting professor in organic chemistry and is in charge of a psychopharmacology research programme in the Medical School of Bristol University. His interest continues in rugby and cricket.

**LOACH R S** - A fully-fledged Doctor doing 70+ hours a week at some hospital down South!

**LONG Derek A** holds a professorship at Bradford University and is currently engaged on a busy lecturing schedule in France.

**LOWE Christopher D** (1978 - 86) After studying at Huddersfield Polytechnic, he is now working with an accountancy firm in Leeds.

**LYNE I R** - Completed one year of a Chemistry degree at Oxford University. Then graduated three years later in Philosophy/Theology. Now studying at Warwick University in Continental Philosophy and hopes to study Social Law at Bristol University.

**MANLEY R N** - Married to Claire in July, 1989 and still works for the company which he joined after leaving school, which is involved in repairing kidney machines and other hospital equipment.

**MANN Alan** (1981 - 1988) Graduated from Bath University with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering. He now works for British Aerospace, Airbus Division, at Filton. Alan is in the 'high-speed wing design group'. His interests are painting, cartoons and while at University, he was involved in the Christian Union, as well as the radio.

**MARTYNIUK Basył** (1969-1977) In 1981 he graduated from Birmingham University with a degree in Russian. By the end of 1989, Basył had obtained a MA in Applied Linguistics from the University of Illinois, USA. He is married to Linda and now lives in Chicago, Illinois. Basył now works as an Education Specialist (training) for 'Motorola Cellular Infrastructure Group'. His main hobby is coaching young athletes and he helps

to organize marathons, including the Chicago marathon. He also continues to search for good rugby matches in the States.

**MASCIE-TAYLOR, brothers Brian** (1958 - 65) and **Christopher (Nick)** (1960 - 67). Brian is a consultant Physician at St James' University Hospital in Leeds (the real-life Jimmy's of the TV series). His work involves several research projects. Meanwhile, younger brother Nick is a Fellow of Churchill College Cambridge and Head of the Department of Biological Anthropology. His research work into the disease schistosomiasis takes him to Third World countries including Sudan, Zimbabwe and Bangladesh, while lecturing and international conference work will take him this year to the United States, Germany and China. He also edits the Journal of Biosocial Science. In his spare time, he plays a vigorous game of squash and he keeps a racket permanently in Khartoum.

**MATTHEWS M** (1961 - 66) works as a Director and Co-owner of a printing company that employs eighteen people. He is married with one son and is Vice Chairman of the local parish council at Brockworth.

**MAYO Christopher** (1978 - 1985) After leaving Rich's, he went to study Mathematics at Nottingham University, graduating in 1988 with a First Class Honours Degree. During his time at university he continued his interest in athletics and particularly cross-country. He competed for British Universities and was captain of his team. After leaving university, Christopher joined a firm of Consulting Actuaries, R Watson & Sons. He has been training to become an Actuary and he still runs for a local club, 'Herne Hill Harriers', who are based in South London.

**MEACHAM Ronald J** (1940 - 48). After teaching in schools for children of service personnel in Germany and Hong Kong, Ron is at present Headmaster of Zouch Primary School, Tidworth (Wiltshire), another largely 'service' school. His wife is the sister of Malcolm Page (please see later in this section).

**MEREDITH Myears** (1965 -1972) works as a 'Reference Librarian' at 'Valence Library', Dagenham. His main hobby involves writing fiction, mainly thrillers and fantasy novels.

**MILES C G** - Took a year off having completed his degree in Microbiology at Kent University. Now working at the National Institute for Medical Research.

**MILES Colin** (1978-1985) He left Rich's for the University of Kent, Canterbury, where he obtained his degree in Microbiology. Following this, he then worked as a stonemason and roof tiler. Then, Colin worked his way around the world. Currently, he is a molecular Biologist at the National Institute for Medical Research and is hopefully soon going to embark upon his PhD.

**MILLER D** (1970 - 76) joined G.C.H.Q. on the electronics technical support staff and served on Ascension Island and Hong Kong. Married his wife, Imelda from the Philippines and they returned to the UK in 1986.

**MILLS Peter** (1983 - 1988) is now training to be a Chartered Accountant, after obtaining a Business Communications (Accounting) degree.

**MORROT A** - Left school and went to work for Johnson Office Equipment in Gloucester. Now completing a Computer Science Degree at Brighton Polytechnic.

**MOSELEY C R** - Having being injured quite badly while attempting an Army Assault course, he is now working in London as a Surgeon. Apparently, Chris dissects deceased human body parts, ready for transplant for other operations.

**MOSELEY Jonathan** (1976 - 1983) Graduated from Southampton University in Chemistry. He then worked as a Research Chemist for a pharmaceutical company, studying neurological disorders. Jonathan is currently at Jesus College, Cambridge, studying for his PhD in Bio-Organic Chemistry and in 1990 married his wife Angela.

**MOSS Patrick** (1982 - 1989) Left Rich's to take a degree course in Business Studies with French, at Edinburgh University and he has just finished a year in Eastern France as part of his course. Patrick continues to have interests in chess, playing in the 1990 Scottish Lightening Chess Championships, being Captain for the University team through a successful season.

**NEURAUTER Peter** (1972 -79) left school and obtained a degree in Psychology/Biology at Manchester Polytechnic and then went on to take a post graduate course in Leisure Management. His present position is as a Development Officer for the South West region, working for the National Coaching Foundation. He is based at Bristol University. Previously, he was a manager at Avon Ski Centre, Bristol and "Profiles Ski Centre", Orpington, (1987 - 1991). Prior to these positions, Peter was a Development Officer for the British Sports Association. He was appointed a Director of the BSAD and British Paralympic Association. Peter has been married to Alison for six years and lives in Bath.

**NEWMAN Anthony W** (1977 - 1983) He obtained a First Class Honours Degree in Applied Physics at Coventry Polytechnic in 1988. At present he is at the same polytechnic engaged in studies for his PhD, working as a Research Assistant.

**NICHOLS Philip** (1967 - 1974) After leaving Rich's he obtained a degree in Politics and American Studies at Keele University. Then, after graduating, Philip took a

year off to travel and work. Then he worked for British Telecom and is now a 'Business Care Manager' in the Personal Communications Marketing Division in London. He is married and has two children. At present, Philip is studying for his MBA.

**NIELD Anthony C** - Has just been awarded a Honours Degree in Physics at the University of Durham.

**O'LEARY J F** - Having left the Navy, he is now working for a company based in Cheltenham, working as an Electrical Engineer.

**PAGE Malcolm B** (1937 - 1944) Resigned from the Army in 1978 with the rank of Brigadier, his last appointment being Garrison Commander, Bicester. He then entered the world of computing, working initially for ICL and later with another large company as UK Customer Service Manager (Engineering) and then as Corporate Purchasing Manager. Lives at Henley on Thames, where he is active in a number of local organizations and is in contact with individuals from his army days.

**PAGE-JONES Nigel** (1981-1988) He is on the verge of completing his fourth year at Liverpool University, studying French and Maths. Nigel spent his third year in Quebec, Canada as an English Assistant. After graduating from Liverpool, he hopes to travel to Japan and become an English Assistant in this country.

**PARTRIDGE Michael J** (1968 - 75) worked for a while practising law in Hong Kong. Now back in the U.K. he lives in Epsom from where he commutes to Solicitors, Nabarro and Natheson in Mayfair.

**PASSEY Alan** (1972 - 79) Son of John, whose "potted biography" appeared in last year's magazine, Alan is now teaching at Worcester Royal Grammar School, an establishment which over the years has had quite a few Old Richians on its staff.

**PEGLER Harvey** (1982 - 1989) Now living in Harringay, London, Harvey is at Heythrop College, University of London and is just completing his first year, studying Philosophy. He plays chess, pool and is President of the Union. He tells us that his grades have been excellent so far and he still has ambitions to be a professor. Harvey finds the cultural capital enjoyable and he is meeting many interesting people, many of whom he finds enlightening.

**PEGLER Leslie** (1972 -77) served in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers for five years and was a member of the Army Modern Pentathlon squad. Now a Police Officer stationed at Evesham, as an advanced driver specializing in local response work. Still a keen footballer, he also cheerfully runs up Chosen Hill on occasions to relive his school cross-country days.



**PERKS Anthony M** (1944 - 50) Tony divides his life between Canada, the United States and the U.K., being as occasion demands, Professor of Zoology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology in the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Faculty Research Scholar in the University of Florida College of Medicine and a home owner not far from the school in Gloucester. He tells us that his current research is on the endocrinology of the foetus and the adaptation of foetal lungs at birth.

**PERRINS Richard** (1974 - 1979) Since leaving school, he worked for HM Customs and Excise as a Clerical Assistant in Gloucester. Richard has gradually progressed through the grades and is currently a Senior Officer. On various occasions his work has taken him to the South West, mainly on drug enforcement work, but his present work is involved in VAT investigation. Richard is keen on karate and enjoys squash, running and cycling, but his main interest at the moment has been D.I.Y. on his house.

**PHILBY R H C** (1932 - 38) Joined J M Collett on leaving school and retired 49 years later as their Distribution Manager. In retirement, he is an honorary member of the Freight Transport Association, upon whose council he served for many years. He still lives in Gloucester.

**PITT Monty** (1941 - 46) Recently retired after 45 years with Gloucestershire County Council in the education department. Still does a small amount of consultancy work.

**POOLE Stephen F** (1972 - 1979) Works as an Analyst/Programmer for Dowty Aerospace Propellers at Staverton. On leaving school Stephen obtained a National Diploma in Mathematics, Statistics and Computing at Gloscat. He is unmarried, with interests in aviation and photography.

**POWELL Darryl** (1975 - 1982) Graduated from Sheffield Polytechnic in Business Studies and then returned to Gloucestershire to work as a Civil Servant at G.C.H.Q.. He is married with one child, has interests in tennis and soccer. At present, he is studying at Moorlands Bible College, with the aim of working abroad as a missionary in a Third World country.

**PRICE Adrian J** - He owns a business distributing car components. Adrian is Vice-President of Gloucester Rowing Club and since learning to row at Rich's has competed at Henley Royal five times as well as various international regattas.

**PRICE Andy** (1972 - 1977) Upon leaving Rich's Andy went to work at Dowty's on a Commercial Apprenticeship. He is currently Senior Commercial Administrator at Dowty Aerospace. Andy has been married for three years and has retired from playing soccer due to injury, but still plays cricket, being captain of the Gloucester Civil Service Club.

**PRICE M S** (1973 - 1978) Works as a H.G.V. driver, has been married for eight years, with two children and still lives in Gloucester.

**PROSSER R J** - After leaving school he took a job with a local insurance firm, but is now working as a Policeman.

**REED G J** - Working at Lloyd's bank in Eastgate Street and lives in Churchdown.

**REYNOLDS K J** (1970 - 1975) He joined the army straight from school, entering the Royal Corps. of Signals. In the army, he became a Technical Accountant and is currently ranked Sergeant. He has served in Cyprus with the U.N. and various bases in Europe. More recently, he served in the Gulf. He has recently retired from playing rugby, but while in the army, he has played for the Army South West District and the British Army in Cyprus. He is married and has three children.

**RIDDICK Steven K** (1973 - 1980) He is an Audit Manager and Chartered Accountant with Arthur Anderson & Co and is just about to start a three year secondment in Lagos, Nigeria. This is his second overseas assignment, the first having been in Sydney, Australia in 1988. Steven is single and still shows an interest in sport, although it mainly revolves around spectating.

**RIGBY** brothers Frank (1941 - 48) and Norman (1942 - 49). Frank studied at Loughborough and Nottingham University and became a schoolmaster. Several posts in schools for maladjusted children followed. Now retired from his last headship in Yorkshire, he continues his interest in rugby, craftwork and narrowboating. Norman followed a broadly similar path, St Pauls College, Cheltenham, then teaching in schools in Croydon and Gloucester. His next move was to management of special schools for maladjusted children, likewise gravitating to a headship in Yorkshire, where he lives in retirement.

**RILEY Martin S** is now Vicar of Barnwood. Many readers will remember Martin as a Geography Master (and cross-country enthusiast) at the school until he resigned in 1985 to enter the priesthood.

**ROBINSON John A** (1942 -50) Entered the R.A.F. College, Cranwell and trained as a pilot flying Canberras and Vulcans. Later qualified as a test pilot. Subsequently he went onto the posts of Staff Officer at the Ministry of Defence at the rank of Wing Commander, and Chief Instructor at the Empire Test Pilot's School. On retirement from the R.A.F. he became Chief Test Pilot for British Aerospace at Woodford. On his next retirement in 1991, he took up a job as APT Simulator Instructor. Robby, as his contemporaries will remember him, lives with his family in Macclesfield.

**ROSE Brian** (1942 - 47) A Quality Assurance Engineer with the Dowty Group, his work carries him throughout Europe, Canada and the U.S.A. In his younger days a rugby referee and a District Assistant Commissioner for the Scouts, he still sings with Churchdown Male Voice Choir and is their Honorary Secretary.

**ROWE Michael E** (1940 - 47) A member of the West Midlands Police Force, he retired in 1982 as Superintendent and Deputy Divisional Commander based in Dudley. At present he is Security Manager of Birmingham University. A keen steam railway enthusiast, in his spare time he is a Departmental Manager of the Severn Valley Railway and a trustee of the Birmingham Railway Museum. He is also a member of the Transport Users' Advisory Council.

**SALTER Wayne** (1973 - 1981) is working as at the 'German Space Operation Centre', just outside Munich, as a Consultant. He is married to a French girl, from a village called Xertiguy. He plays squash regularly and enjoys cricket. After leaving Rich's he completed an Engineering Science Degree at Oxford University. At present, he is trying to master French and perfect his German.

**SMITH David** (1975 - 1980) He is currently a Technical Sales Engineer with 'Heenan Drives Limited', Worcester. David has to cover East Anglia, London and the South-East, with his work. He is Chairman of his local Social Club and he is a member of the local M&B Darts League. After leaving Rich's, he spent three years in the Royal Navy and was on a Technical Engineering course.

**SMITH Ian R** (1974 - 81) This year's Captain of Gloucester Rugby Club, Ian deserves our congratulations on achieving international honours by playing for Scotland in the Five Nations Championship.

**SMITH J A (Jack)** (1967 - 1970) He is married with one daughter and works as Branch Manager at Lloyds Bank in Bristol. Jack has been an ex-captain of Old Richians RFC, but has now retired from the game, due to injury. At present, he is Governor at St George's Comprehensive School, in Bristol.

**SPARKES Nigel J** (1968 - 1973) joined the RAF upon leaving school and then after over twelve years' service, left to become a self-employed Photographic Technician. Nigel is involved in soccer, particularly the youth section, at Longlevens FC and he also takes an active interest in Gloucester Rugby Club.

**SPEED Alan W E** taught German and French at Rich's until 1966, when he left to become Deputy Head of Redditch High School. In 1969, he was appointed Headmaster of Saltwell Senior High School, Gateshead. Now retired, he has returned to the Gloucester area.

**SPILLER Michael** (1955 - 62) lives at Thornbury and works as a Human Resource Director in industry. In his spare time he plays squash and coaches rugby. He is also a Licensed Anglican Lay Reader.

**SPIRES Timothy S** (1977 - 1984) He is a Technical Advisor and Architectural Consultant in building design specification. He is working for an American subsidiary in London. After Rich's Timothy went to Plymouth Polytechnic. He continues his interest in various sports, such as rowing, where this year he competed in the Olympic trials in the sculling event. In previous years, he has rowed at the National Championships and in 1991 reached the quarter-finals at Henley Royal Regatta. He now aims to win a place in the National Squad for next season.

**STAITE Simon** (1968 - 1975) Lives in London and works as a Solicitor. Upon leaving Rich's he went to Oxford, then qualified as a solicitor and since then has worked in the city. He is married with one child and enjoys golf, walking and sailing.

**STREET N H** - Before completing his architecture degree at Birmingham Polytechnic, he took a year out to travel the Far East.

**SYKES Michael** (1954 - 59) now lives in Wootton Under Edge and is in charge of Public Relations for Renishaw PLC. He tells us that his milkman is another Old Richian - one K Legg (1952 - 60).

**TAYLOR C** - Working for the NatWest bank and is based in Swindon. Still a keen Derby County supporter.

**THOMAS Michael A** (1980 - 86) His twin interests, the 'media' and sport, led him to leave his job and join BBC Radio Gloucestershire. He next moved as a freelance sports reporter to Radio Wyvern, Severn Sound and more recently to BBC Radio 5. He tells us he met fellow Old Richian, Rob Sharpe, when covering Nigel Mansell's Grand Prix victory at Silverstone and he also helped cover England's Grand Slam victory at Twickenham.

**TRIGG ADAM R** (1980 - 1988) After leaving Rich's, he went to Bristol Polytechnic to study Quantity Surveying and is currently in his sandwich year, working in Telford and London.

**TYLER Alan** (1948 - 54) After graduating at University College Cardiff, Alan took a PhD in Prehistoric Roman Mining for Metals. A spell as Field Archaeologist for Shropshire was followed by a post in the Ironbridge Gorge Museum and he later became Manager of the Castlefield Project with the Manchester Archaeological Unit. Since 1986, he has been Museum Curator in the London Borough of Bromley.

**VALLENDER S J** - Recently completed his training as a Policeman and lives in Gloucester.

**VILLIERS**, brothers Alan (1939 - 46) and Ralph (1940 - 47), sons of Gustave (Gus) (English master at Rich's circa 1930 - 47) met in Gloucester recently for the first time in 43 years. Alan spent his working life in the textile industry in Australia and in his spare time he was a gliding instructor. Ralph went to the U.S.A. in 1964 to do research and later set up his own company in Mexico City, where he is still surviving, as he says, the notorious smog of a teeming city of 19 million, perched at an altitude of 7000 feet. He plays cricket for Mexico City - the M.C.C.C., not to be confused with the more familiar and roughly similar set of initials. In addition to their meeting in Gloucester, the brothers have met in Australia, Mexico and the U.S.A. and were hoping to attend the Buffet Dinner together in April, but only Ralph could manage it.

**VOYSEY S** - Graduated from Cambridge University in Music and is now working in Manchester in Orchestral Management.

**WADE Roy N** (1964 - 1969) is a self-employed Mortgage Consultant and Insurance Broker, and is in partnership. Since 1974, he has worked in the insurance industry and he has a daughter who attends Newent School. His main sporting interest is snooker.

**WALWYN-JAMES D H** (1939 - 46) Graduating from Oxford, he moved on to take a doctorate in mechanical engineering at Cranfield Institute of Technology, followed by further studies in polymer science and plastics technology in London. After posts at the RAF Colleges at Henlow and Cranwell, then a job at Newcastle Polytechnic and the Fire Service College, he was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Malta. A former member of various national and international educational bodies, he now lives in retirement in Northumberland.

**WILDERSPIN Simon** ( 1979 - 1985) His occupation is as an Electrical Technician NCO in the RAF and Simon is currently working on Tornado aircraft, handling fault rectification tasks. He is married with a daughter.

**WILLIAMS Russell** - Since leaving school, Russell has been in the Police force and is now working as a Detective Constable. He lives and works in Dursley, being married since 1987. He still enjoys travelling the world, plays soccer for a local side and continues to fish.

**WILSON David J** ( 1977 - 1984) Graduated from Portsmouth Polytechnic in 1987 with a BSc Honours degree in Geology. Currently working for Wardell Armstrong - Consulting Mining Engineers, in Newcastle-Under-Lyme, as a geologist. David is a Fellow of the Geological Society, since 1988 and a member of the Midlands Geotechnical Society. He is an active rugby player for Trentham RFC and is single.

**WORTH Allan** (1941 - 46 ) trained as an Industrial Chemist with Permal. Now lives in Sutton Coldfield and commutes to Telford as Export Sales Manager of the British Polymer Training Association.

**WRIGHT Anthony J** (1942 - 49) After teaching for a number of years, followed by the posts of Head of Schools in the Isles of Scilly and then at Port Isaac, he decided in 1984 to enter full-time Anglican ministry and is now vicar of Perranporth. He tells us that his parish may well be the oldest in England, since tradition has it that St Piran brought Celtic Christianity to these shores many years before St Augustine.

The Editor wishes to apologise  
for any omissions from this  
section, which will hopefully be  
included in next year's  
magazine.

If you have any news about  
Old Richians, please do not  
hesitate to send details  
to the Editor  
c/o Sir Thomas Rich's School.







**Stanley T. Jones**

*President of the Old Richians Association 1991 - 1992*





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