



1994

30 YEARS AT OAKLEAZE

# Year 7 1993 - 1994



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# THE RICHIAN 1994



## SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

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## HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE

The academic year began on a high note, with good examination results and the outstanding OFSTED report, published by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools in September of 1993. Both were just rewards for the hard work and commitment of all in our school community.

That excellent start to the year was maintained and this magazine once again records a full and successful programme of activities involving everyone from our youngest pupil to the oldest living Richian.

With the indoor swimming pool in use again and the new library and Sixth Form facilities about to be completed, along with the final technology areas, offices and Old Richians foyer, we have buildings now to match the high quality of all that takes place here.

Facilities of course are only part of what makes a good school, what matters most are the people in it. This year, as in the past, we have been fortunate not just in the quality of our staff, but in the way in which the pupils and especially the Prefects and Sixth Form students, have contributed so much to the life and day to day running of the school.

It has been a privilege for me to play a part in the life and development of this foundation, particularly at a time when we moved from a period of great uncertainty to our present secure position as an expanding school, taking pupils from across the city and county. To my thanks, as Headmaster, to all of you I have had the pleasure of working with must be added, my gratitude as a parent. I have personal experience in that latter role that Sir Thomas Rich's school provides a fine education. We will, as a family, take with us fond memories of our time in Gloucester and look forward to hearing of the many future achievements of Richians. Long may the school flourish!

Garde ta foy!



*Mr A Jarvis (Headmaster 1990-1994)*

## ACTING HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE - MR I L KELLIE



I am looking forward to an exciting year of continued development and progress. Rich's is in excellent shape, with further growth in pupil numbers and additional buildings, due to open in September, followed soon after by the completion of more classrooms and a new library. Five new teachers join us this year. We are already planning in preparation for further expansion next year.

I am honoured to have been asked to lead the school this year. Rich's has deservedly established a reputation as the leading academic institution in the area and, after six years as Deputy Headmaster, I have a firm commitment to maintaining the highest standards.

Rich's is growing because it is successful. However, through this time of growth, I am aware that some things should not change, aspects of Rich's which make it a very special school. What creates its calm, but purposeful atmosphere? What is responsible for the pride felt by the staff, pupils, parents and Old Richians? One could select: quality of teaching by dedicated and well qualified staff; a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and societies; success in work and sport; effective discipline in which pupils show courtesy and respect; an expectation of high standards of behaviour and appearance; good communication with parents - you could probably add more qualities which you admire about Rich's. Such things will not change. I look forward to the coming year.

Garde ta foy!

*Mr I L Kellie*

## EDITORIAL

This is my third year as Editor of the school magazine and the publication of the 1994 edition seems to have come round very quickly. As usual, the school has been a hive of activity, with musical concerts, sporting excellence, academic success and many other extra-curricular events taking place for the enjoyment of all concerned.

It is with great sadness that this year, the Headmaster announced his departure to St Olave's, Orpington. During his four years at Rich's, the school has seen many new innovations and successful changes. Mr Jarvis' influence on the school, has left Rich's in a stronger and healthy position than for many decades. He leaves a school which has had an excellent OFSTED report, where demand for places are over subscribed, new progressive building projects are under way and the reputation of Rich's as a leading grammar school, has been greatly enhanced by his dynamic leadership. The whole school bids him farewell and best wishes for the future.

Alas, time stops for no man and this year's publication of 'The Richian' covers many of the regular features. I must make a personal thanks to Stanley Jones, President of the Old Richians Association, for his invaluable assistance and my wife, who has helped to produce the magazine, in between giving feeds to our baby son, Owen. A difficult feat, as any mother would tell you!

This year I have been very fortunate in receiving numerous articles and consequently, I apologize to any individuals whose reports have not been published. In an attempt to broaden the appeal of the magazine and promote aspects of school life that tend not to obtain maximum publicity, I have decided this year to highlight certain activities at Rich's which deserve a higher profile. Rich's being rather traditional, makes this decision a little contentious and risky, but "nothing ventured, nothing gained!"

I would have liked to have included more photographs, but unfortunately costs prohibit this and the incorporation of colour would make the magazine unviable. Interestingly, my appeal for suggestions on how the magazine could be improved have never materialized from anyone! I can only assume that I must be producing a faultless magazine, but if this was true, I would be rather surprised!

Anyway, I hope you find the magazine worthy of a few hours of your time and who knows, you may even be inspired to write an article for next year's magazine!

*Mr P Lloyd (Editor)*

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## THE SCHOOL YEAR IN BRIEF

### AUTUMN

The new academic year started with the publication of the OFSTED report in September, which praised the high standards of learning and achievement at the school, the excellent atmosphere and working environment found at Rich's.

In October, the school held another successful 'Open Evening' for prospective Year 7 pupils and the numbers on roll looked set to rise once more, with over-subscription now being the major problem for Rich's. Mrs D Phillips retired as a member of the Governors, to be replaced by Mr J Goodwin and Miss J Wilton was elected Chairman of Governors.

Extra-curricular activities were thriving, with all the new Year 7 taking a residential trip to Stratford-upon-Avon for three days, Westgate making their now annual trip to 'Alton Towers', then an ice-skating trip in November. Meanwhile Year 8 visited Worcester Commandery, the Railway Society went to visit the new 'Eurotunnel' and the English department organized numerous theatre trips. The school had visitors from Sochi, near the Black Sea and Mr Hodgkinson made a return visit during the half-term break.

By half-term, the school swimming pool was in use for the benefit of all the pupils. The 'Foundation for Sports and Arts' agreed to £70,000 worth of funding to build new changing facilities to be connected to the pool and used by the local community. The First XV were well on their way to an excellent season, eventually winning nine out of ten matches. The rest of the school teams also battled well each week, to produce healthy records, particularly the Under 13's.

All through the autumn term rehearsals were undertaken in preparation for the December performances of Offenbach's operetta, 'Orpheus in the Underworld' and the hard work paid off, with the production being a huge success. The month of December was a busy one for musical performances, for a joint charity concert with Cleeve and Churchdown schools was held at Cheltenham Town Hall, sponsored by Whitbread Flowers brewery.

Meanwhile, the Parents' Association were busy raising money, with workshops on cake decorating and glass engraving, as well as a talk from staff of the 'Body Shop', in Gloucester. Another successful 'Quiz night' was held, raising money for the school, particularly for provision of new library books. The Sixth Form raised money for 'LEPRA' and organized the 'Raid the Larder Scheme'. Traditionally, the autumn term finished with two successful Christmas Carol concerts.

## SPRING

It was with sadness that in the spring term, the Headmaster announced that he would be leaving at the end of the Summer term, to take up a new post at Olave's School, Orpington.

Good news was received by many of the Sixth Form, who had obtained offers for university, six of which would hopefully be going to Oxford. A successful 'String Instrumental Concert' was held in the hall, while the Venture Scouts, raised £300 for the Chamwell School canal boat trip, in a sponsored pool match at 'Laurentian Life Social Club'.

Mrs Barnes and a Year 10 English group made a visit to the Bremen, for the 'International Shakespeare Festival' and performed their version of 'Hamlet'. Mrs Arnold went to 'Safeways' as part of the 'CBI Teacher Placement Scheme', while Miss McCalla went to Whitbreads.

The soccer season flourished at Rich's, with the Under 14's unbeaten in all of their matches, with the team winning the County Cup Final against Balcarras, Cheltenham. A Junior cross-country team nearly won the 'Cheltenham Junior Relays', while in turn an Intermediate team nearly won the 'Worcester Spring Relays', both finishing second.

It was also announced as part of the school's 'Development Plan', there would be major building work starting with the rebuilding of one wing of the school to provide extensive music facilities, English rooms and a Sixth Form area. Also, the PE changing rooms were to be modernized and new changing facilities, incorporating a new sports pavilion would be built adjacent to the swimming pool.

## SUMMER

The Summer term brought the Cricket season. The Under 14's won their way to the final of the Lord Taverners district final, with the match scheduled against Cheltenham College at the start of next season. Sports Day went smoothly, despite the weather, with Northgate winning after a few controversial decisions by certain judges!

The main news of the term was that the Governors interviewed candidates for the post of Headmaster and decided that a successor would not be appointed until further interviews in the following spring of 1995. It was announced that Mr I Kellie would take on the role of 'Acting Headmaster'.

As usual the French trip was undertaken and it was to prove a memorable experience for all those who participated. In contrast, the Göttingen German exchange proved to be more successful. Mr Alan Preece announced that he would be leaving to take up a post at St Benedicts, Cheltenham.

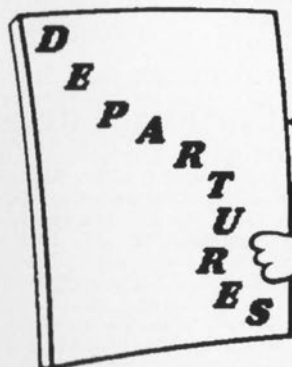
On the arts side, Mrs Barnes' production of Oscar Wilde's, 'The Importance of Being Earnest' was a great success, while Mr Thompson's concert brought the musical year to a climax. The History department went to the 'Chedworth, Roman Villa' and 'The Black Country Museum'. Mrs Spilsbury organized a successful trip to see 'Blood Brothers' at the 'Phoenix Theatre', London. Meanwhile the Geography department were busy with numerous field trips around the county and to Bridgnorth, as well as a Sixth Form course based around the Exmouth area.

The term brought the school exams, which had to contend with the builders noisily constructing the extensions and bringing much amusement by their general comments, which could be heard by all the pupils, wallowing in the heat, as they tackled their exam papers.

In July, the foyer 'Display Cabinet' was formally opened by Stanley Jones and Jan Brown, in memory of the late Rowe Gabb and Alf Martin, former Presidents of the Old Richians' Association. The Sixth Form Induction week was a great success, particularly the 'Challenge to Industry Conference'. Numerous awards were won by the school in the field of business, design and Technology. Two pupils in Year Ten won prizes at national level for their 'Creative Writing', on 'Hamlet'. The 'Cock House' trophy drew to a climax, with the final result depending on the outcome of the cricket competition. For the first time in living memory, the competition ended in a tie, between Westgate and Eastgate, both on 47 points.

A relatively short, but action packed term drew to an end, with the Headmaster, bidding the school farewell.

*Mr P Lloyd*



## DEPARTURE OF ALAN PREECE

Alan Preece leaves Rich's this summer to take up a post as Head of Technology at St Benedicts R C School, in Cheltenham.

As Head of Craft, Design and Technology, Alan has seen some dramatic changes over the past eight years, most notably in the introduction of National Curriculum Technology, with its increasingly demanding requirements. Despite these changes, Alan still found time to give practical help to a wide range of people, in the model club, with stage sets and props for school productions, and particularly in the Sixth Form link with Chamwell school.

We thank him for his willing help and his cheerfulness and wish him well in his new appointment.

*Mr R Lockey*





## DEPARTURE OF ELIZABETH TROUSDALE

Elizabeth Trousdale came to Rich's in September, 1992, as a 'Special Support Assistant'. Her role was to assist me, James Tween, to tackle the whole school curriculum, by copying down work off the blackboard, enlarging worksheets, checking measurements and helping me to read music. Elizabeth was always willing to help and offer assistance to many other members of the notorious form, 8B. This was much appreciated by many of the staff and made her popular with many people.

Over last few years, Elizabeth has undertaken an 'Open University' course and last year, she graduated with a BA (Hons), in various arts subjects, such as music, history, art and literature.

Her new job is as a 'District Nursing Sister' in Gloucester. She will be providing nursing care, advice, information and education to patients and carers. The main aim of her work is to assist and help patients, so that they can remain in their own homes. This will enable them to remain as independent as possible. This in turn will hopefully improve their quality of life, their well-being and general comfort.

The school, particularly, 8B and myself will of course miss her presence, but in our fond farewell, we wish her best wishes in her new job and for the future. Many thanks Elizabeth!

*J Tween (8B)*



## ARRIVAL OF PHILIP VAUGHAN-SMITH

Philip Vaughan-Smith grew up in North London before graduating in Modern History from Oriel College, Oxford. He trained as a teacher at Nottingham University and is looking forward to teaching History, lower school Religious Education and Sixth Form General Studies. He enjoyed two summers, working with young people on an American camp in Maryland, USA.

His interests are varied, including photography, walking and European travel. To help in the last of these activities, Philip is making strenuous efforts to learn Italian. Philip remains a loyal supporter of Watford Football Club. He hopes to become involved in various extra-curricular activities undertaken by the school, particularly in the summer, when he can apply some of his Cricket coaching skills. We all wish him the best of luck in his first year at Rich's!

*Mr G Barrington*

## ARRIVAL OF PAUL SMITH

Many of you will remember an article in last year's magazine which focussed on Paul Smith, an ex-pupil of the school, who had returned to Rich's for a third year teaching practice. One year later, Rich's welcomes Paul onto the staff. Paul has graduated from Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education, (St Marys/St Pauls), where he has studied for his BEd, specializing in Physical Education and PSHE. He left Rich's in 1988 as a pupil, went to work at GCHQ for a short while, before entering teacher training. Paul has been back to Rich's on a number of occasions for teaching practice.

He will be teaching English, Geography, PSHE and his first love, Games. No doubt, Rugby at the school and at Old Richians will benefit from Paul's input. With Paul's knowledge and experience of Rich's, I am sure that he will have a good year and we all wish him a successful year.

*Mr P Lloyd*

Left to right:  
Mr Philip Vaughan-Smith,  
Mr Paul Smith.





# DRAMA PRODUCTIONS



## ORPHEUS - MYTHOLOGICAL MAYHEM

When I joined the sixth form in September, I arranged an audition for Orpheus and was delighted when I was told that I had one of the leading roles. Although I had performed in large roles in the past, I was worried about the standard of the rest of the cast and was anxious to prove myself to them. I joined the cast full of stars to find that the standard was every bit as high as I had expected.

Rehearsals began and before long I had got to know the rest of the cast. Staying behind after hours and trekking into school at some unearthly hour on a Sunday morning, was not as bad as I thought. Well, we all got on really well and never a cross word was spoken! Actually, thunder bolts were often hurled as the ruler of the elements, Mrs Barnes, arrived to find that the stage had still not been set up and people were still not ready to start.

Despite the few minor disputes, a lot of laughs were had, even if they were at the efforts of some totally uncoordinated person dancing the 'Minuet'. Although we laughed at each other at times and questioned whether the production would be good enough, the support that was shared amongst the cast, more than made up for any doubtful thoughts.

All the hard work finally paid off when the performances came together and with a lot of help from Mr Thompson, who frantically waved his arms here, there and everywhere, we even managed to sing in time with the music. We also remembered all the words, although some extra lines were slipped into the proceedings.

The audiences certainly enjoyed themselves with no shortage of Dads and children flocking to take their places amongst the revelling gods on the stage for the famous 'Can-Can'.

One particular spectator will, I am sure, stay in our minds: our very own Mr Moss, who was by no means backwards when coming forwards, to prove to me, the cast and the rest of the audience that he really did have the "cheekiest grin in Gloucester".

Backstage, the atmosphere was buzzing, with cries of "Well done!, excellently interpreted", "Well delivered" and other little quips, such as "lovely, darlings!".

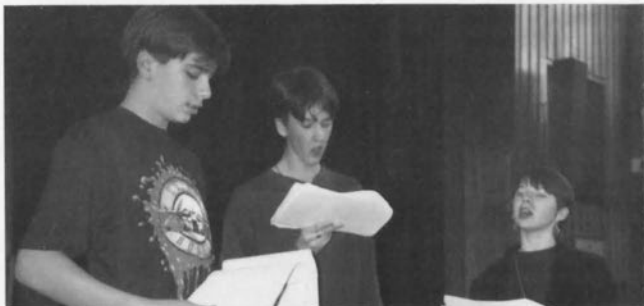
It was an excellent atmosphere throughout the three nights and the cast all became close friends.

Can I say on behalf of everyone that we had a great time. "Oh yes, I certainly Can-Can!"

Leighton Hazell (6T)



Rehearsal time for  
M Smith, L Hazell  
& R Hopkins (left  
to right)



## ORPHEUS IN THE UNDERWORLD



Beforehand, for a long time, the producer directed and did a million other things unsung, the cast and musicians rehearsed, choreographers devised and imparted movement, the programme was designed and tickets sold, licence obtained, costumes created, scenery built and painted, props found or made, lighting set up, and probably other things I haven't thought of.

On the nights, the ushers shepherded, the barstaff served, the audience settled. The conductor entered, the orchestra played and the music bubbled forth; stage management opened the curtains, organized the props, dragoned the chorus, changed the scenes, caused sulphurous fumes to rise from Hades; the lively cast acted, sang and danced; the set shone brilliantly; the lighting crew lit. The whole thing fizzed merrily along.

It was 'Orpheus in the Underworld', by Offenbach, a charming piece of nonsense depicting an everyday story of Olympian and other mythological folk.

The lovely Eurydice (Sarah White) is pursued, by no means against her will, by Pluto (Matthew Smith). But he is not all she meets in the cornfield; bitten by a snake (a rubber snake), she 'dies' and goes down to Hades to be with Pluto. Her husband Orpheus (Jon Stabler), a kind of hippy peripatetic string teacher who doesn't like her any more, is delighted, but his bossy mother Calliope (Sarah Afzal) makes him complain to Jupiter (Leighton Hazell). They are taken to Olympus by Icarus (Keiran Stewart), the pilot of a very underpowered balloon.

The gods on Olympus are bored and barely under the control of Jupiter and Juno (Rowena Hopkins). When Mercury (Greg Browning) reports Eurydice's abduction by a god, all especially Juno, naturally suspect Jupiter. For once he is not guilty, but after a god to god talk with Pluto about how delicious Eurydice is, he intends to become guilty!

The gods all go to Hades for a holiday, where Eurydice, neglected by Pluto and bored by the company of the jailer, Styx (Simon Fitch), naturally rather wet, being a river-god, is cheered up by Bacchus (Salim Uka), naturally rather intoxicating, being the wine god. Styx locks her up, but Cupid (James Cook) magically releases her and Jupiter woos her. However, Orpheus and Calliope's arrival puts a stop to this, and Eurydice must follow Orpheus back up to earth. Cupid suggests to Jupiter the 'no look back' agreement to give Orpheus a way out. Struck in the nether regions, he turns: she must stay. But she rejects both Pluto and Jupiter in favour of Bacchus, and a jolly party ensues where they all can dance the can-can.

The operetta was a delightful entertainment, well sung and acted. Matthew Smith skilfully portrayed the cheerfully evil womaniser, who trailed the strong impression of hooded eyelids and a whiff of brimstone. Leighton Hazell's languid high camp style and sinuously passionate posturings made a brilliant foil both to Rowena's sophisticated range of moods, from smouldering huffiness to amused and flirtatious tolerance, and to Sarah's soigne aloofness. Jonathan Stabler was raffishly comic and played his own fiddle. All these soloists had a very well developed stage presence and a remarkable rapport with their audience.

The lesser gods gave some very amusing cameo performances; Venus (Lydia Hopkins), Diana (Sam Wilcox), Mars (Julian Walker) and Vulcan (Tom Hinton) all behaved as befitted their specialities: sultrily manipulative, hearty and huntin', pugnacious and truculent, and the jolly but rejected artisan, Greg Browning did a lovely pastiche of the telephone advert. Chaos (Ben Rod) was, well, chaotic. His role, like Icarus's was developed by Pam Barnes, who wrote other topical and witty additional material for the piece.

The chorus arranged and grouped themselves decoratively and meaningfully, and moved and danced well. They and some very funny moments such as when they were 'playing' their 'violins'. All the time

they were on stage, they were acting. This is to their director's credit as well as their own. Such easy-seeming activity is not achieved without much thoughtful training.

The orchestra under their able and vigorous director, James Thompson, played the intricate, varied and by no means easy music accurately and with zest. The soloists' arias, recitatives, duets and ensembles were well sung, as were the chorus' songs.

Visually too, the backstage gave pleasure. The Van Gogh sky (signed!) by Roger Lockey and his team for Acts I and II complemented the nymphs' and shepherds' pastoral shades and the stronger colours of the gods' dress. Hades in Act III by contrast gave a sophisticated fin-de-siecle Parisian atmosphere. There was humour also in the costumes and props, Iscarus's flying helmet and goggles, Jupiter's thunderbolt wand (it worked too!), Styx's keys and green hair, Mars's helmet and gear.

Pam Barnes the producer/stage director, James Thompson the musical director, and all the many others who contributed to this successful production worked a miracle, the sort that takes vision, flair, energy, dogged determination to surmount all obstacles, and much, much more time than most people realize. Congratulations!

*Mr D F Moss*



## THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

The audience gathered expectantly for the 'Sir Thomas Rich's Drawing Room Players' to perform Oscar Wilde's famous play, 'The Importance of Being Earnest'. My copy of the play, describes it as "A Trivial Comedy for Serious People". This production by Mrs Barnes' theatre company was anything but trivial. The performances, scenery, costumes and general ambience during the evening's entertainment were of a very high standard. The whole cast must be congratulated upon providing the audience with a very amusing and enjoyable evening's entertainment.

Wine and other refreshments had been served beforehand to guarantee a relaxed and congenial atmosphere. Everyone settled into their seats, the lights went down and the performance began. Immediately the tone was set, with farce, joviality, frivolity and witticism transcending from the players to an audience who were in a state of intoxicated euphoria, mainly due to Mrs Barnes' carefully planned pre-performance refreshments.

The set was simple, but effective and the cast marvellous. The farce was performed to precision, with Leighton Hazell bringing to life the bumbling Alogemon Moncrieff, while Salim Uka refused to be upstaged, ensuring that his character John Worthing would not be out-manoeuvred by Alogemon's devious activities. Romance, flirtation and unfrequented love were the hallmarks of these two rogues. Their relationship as rivals, competitors and protagonists was often thwart with insults, with Algernon accusing Jack as the most "advanced Bunburyists" that he had ever known.

Madame, alias Mrs Barnes, was wonderful as Lady Bracknell. She conveyed the pomposity, snobbery, deportment and aloofness of her character with grace and ease. Many in the audience murmured that she was type-cast in her role, but such remarks are considered to be scandalous and totally unfounded or even justified!

Mr Moss as the Reverend Canon Chausuble added spiritual inspiration to the production, while Rowena Hopkins as Cecily Cardew and Catherine Rayne as Gwendolen Fairfax; brought grace and charm to the proceedings. In all, it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening. One hopes Mrs Barnes' Drawing Room Players will return.

*Mr P Lloyd*





# ENGLISH

## NAMES AND FACES



Truth is often distorted by bigotry, since it is nearly always easier to amend the facts than to alter your prejudices. I believe that a man's spiritual aspirations and achievements related to himself, his society and his fellow men, are unaffected by the colour of his skin. The convictions of an Australian aborigine can be identical both in strength and orientation to those of a blonde-haired, blue-eyed Germanic Aryan.

Most people today, who have been exposed to the available information, believe, rightly or wrongly, that the world is spherical and not flat. These people have based their interpretation, not on the creations of pre-Columbus artists, but on irrefutable physical evidence, that does not suffer from the emotions, subjectivity and prejudice that almost universally plagues human thoughts and thus actions.

If we went back in time, we would find that the frequency of inter-racial marriages decreases. For example, if we were to go back seven hundred years, we would almost certainly not find people fitting a physically Hispanic stereotype in China, nor Aryans in Palestine.

We would not expect a cat with black parents and grandparents to be white. Similarly, therefore, a woman who is descended from black-haired, dark-skinned parents, grandparents and great grandparents will also be black-haired and dark-skinned. These would be the characteristics of her children, no matter whom she marries. This fact is not altered by her son's cultural significance to other societies, nor by the depictions of him by the artists of other

civilizations. So if he was born in Palestine, of a Palestinian parent, he would be black, especially if he were born on the twenty-fifth day of December, in the first century AD. The fact that his image, since his death, has been distorted by the light of ignorance emanating from the mutually dependent stars of prejudice and hatred, has no bearing upon this.

Christianity has had a rate of growth probably unparalleled in the history of human existence. This faith has on the whole not been spread by middle eastern priests, but European zealots, whose mental picture of their master was affected, to a greater or lesser extent, by their own prejudices about the inferiority of other races. To have at the centre of your religion a man whose colour fits the stereotype of sub-human man would be absurd. Therefore, it was merely a matter of altering those unsuitable characteristics to suit your own bigotry and so accuracy was neither an obstacle, nor a consideration.

Since its initial expansion, Christianity has expanded much more effectively by oppression, than by reason. Today, there is a far greater proportion of Christians amongst the indigenous peoples of the Americas, than those of the Pacific rim. This is undeniably related to the way in which a peaceful religion tried to expand in these respective regions. The Jesuits, who were just as enthusiastic, as those who followed in the paths of Columbus, that went east to spread the message by argument and persuasion, ultimately failed completely.

However, in the post-Columbus Americas, having annihilated the pre-existing physical structures and beliefs that embody culture, Christianity mercilessly used coercion to force the indigenous peoples into the plantations and their







eyes on the 'Good Book'. Moral considerations aside, these methods were totally successful. The fact that today, most Hispanic Americans believe that Jesus was white is irrelevant, if the tortured, disorientated Americans had been told that Jesus was a mushroom, their belief in a fungal messiah would have been absolute. However, this still does not change the fact that Jesus was a man.

If we assume that God is omnipotent and omniscient, would it not have been a major public relations blunder to introduce to his people, a messiah who was so starkly different in appearance to his black-haired, dark-skinned followers? Jesus, in common with the most successful demagogues, tried to portray, with both his actions and attire, the greatest similarity to his people. However, this facade would have been obliterated if his facial pigmentation did not match his subjects.

Let us examine another monotheistic religion, with a charismatic figure head. Mohammed is perceived almost universally as a black man. He was born into a society whose racial constitution was not too dissimilar to that of first century Palestine. However, I have absolutely no doubt that had Islam expanded, geographically, vertically, instead of horizontally, we could today enter western shrines to be greeted by depictions of a white prophet and his deeds would be portrayed today in films by actors, such as Robert Powell. This has not happened because, since Islam was spread by black followers, the image of a black figure head was suitable.

I feel that the weight of evidence is overwhelming for all but the most bigoted. Therefore, I must conclude that Jesus Christ was black. Your own opinion is your own prerogative.

*D Bhagwati (6S)*



## READING VISIT TO LONGLEVENS INFANTS

On Monday, 18th, July, 1994, members of 8R walked a short distance from Rich's, to venture into Longlevens Infant School. The aim of the visit was to read stories that we had compiled ourselves to children of a younger generation. This was harder than we had expected, as you have to consider a lot about the way young children view and perceive the world. Also, you have to consider what topics, themes and ideas would appeal to young children. To attract and keep the attention of young children, when five minutes seems an eternity to them, is very difficult. It was a useful experience, for not only did we have to devise stories, but we had to read them to an audience that we had never seen before and this would be helpful in our future GCSE studies.

As soon as we entered the school, we were surrounded by curious, intrigued and inquisitive young children. The memories flooded back as we entered the buildings, with pictures on the walls, paintings hanging from the ceilings and miniature furniture all around. It seemed like decades ago, that we were once in such rooms.

We were greeted by Mr Howard, the Headmaster and then split into groups, ready to be allocated different sets of children. Soon we were sitting down surrounded by about ten children of about five years of age. They stared at us with big, bright and wide eyes, not murmuring a word, as if they had not seen teenagers before in their lives. Some of the lads in the form did not read to small groups, but to whole classes, which must have been a daunting experience.

Before long, the atmosphere was more relaxed, as we read our story books, which had been specially prepared for the visit. They all sat there, most in a fixed pose and afterwards we asked them some questions on what we had read to them. The answers did not always seem to relate to the story that we had just read them, but they seemed to enjoy our company. We gave them some sweets as a special treat and this made the trip worthwhile, for their little faces just beamed with smiles of appreciation as we handed them out. It was then time to get back to the harsh realities of the world and more work at Rich's.

*B Stone, T Jacobs & D Hine (8R)*



## THE WHITBREAD POSTER COMPETITION

In December, Whitbread brewery sponsored the 'Flowers Christmas Concert' at Cheltenham Town Hall, in aid of the Gloucestershire Community Foundation. The festival concert involved many school choirs in Gloucestershire, including Rich's.

As part of their sponsorship for the event, Whitbread organized an art competition to advertise the event and for the concert's programme. Mr Thompson, our music teacher, asked our form, 7T and the rest of the first year to design the front cover of the concert programme. I decided to draw something traditional, which would generate a Christmas atmosphere and would be instantly recognised by people. Thus, I decided to draw some holly with berries, which I thought was simple, but effective.

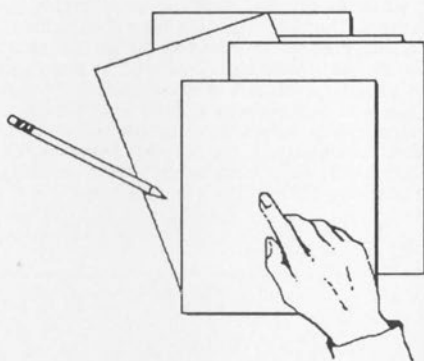
When Mr Lockey told me that I had won the competition I was surprised to say the least, as it is the first time that I have won anything really major. Naturally, I was quite proud of myself and when I went to the concert to receive my award, I was really nervous. By winning this event I am now encouraged to enter more competitions and I am already looking!



R Ellis (7T)

## POETRY WORKSHOP

Last autumn, under the guidance of Mrs Barnes, members of year nine participated in a poetry workshop, held in the library. The activities were directed by a Mr Peters, who was very humorous, amusing and somewhat eccentric.



The proceedings started with various group activities, in which some pupils were a little reluctant at first, but once they saw the funny side of things, they relaxed and enjoyed the morning's work. We then sat in a circle and selected a theme for a group poem, which was 'bullying'. It was selected because it was a nationwide problem and had been in the media spotlight. Initially, the group talked about 'human' bullying, with Mr Peters reading one of his own poems on the subject.

Then the discussion drifted to other forms of bullying, such as man's abuse of the environment. For instance, we compared bullying to the continued pounding of the waves against seashore rocks and how trees are physically battered by the wind. Ideas such as, 'the rocks being beaten up' or 'seashore pebbles being crushed underfoot' were aired as comparisons to people bullying each other. As this proceeded, jokes were exchanged, often 'black comedy jokes', highlighting man's general folly in the world. Yet, the whole event was enjoyable, mixing fun with the discussion of some serious issues.

Eventually, we all had to 'brainstorm' our ideas about bullying on paper and then formed back into a circle, upon which various volunteers and victims read out their poems on bullying. This was followed by few more of Mr Peters' poems, which eventually ended a very enjoyable session.

Year 9 Pupils

## POET'S POTHOLE



### THE SUN BLESSED FIELD

The golden sun blessed fields of corn swayed in the wind  
With in its dark deep depths  
lay two lovers by each other's sides  
One had golden yellow silk like hair  
Covering an innate beauty that masked her face  
Her eyes were green, not of envy  
But green with joy, love and beauty  
Her body was one that you could only dream of  
Her silky smooth skin covered  
With an ornate flower patterned dress  
She had lips covered in baby pink lipstick  
There she lay beside her lover  
Starring deep, deep in her lover's eyes  
In there, she saw a passion, a vitality  
A readiness to go on feeling for life  
Both lovers stood up as graceful as  
The night turns into day  
In each others arms they kissed  
Now both share the same passions for life  
And reasons for going on.

*L Quainton (10R)*

### IMAGINATION

Moratorium, morale day.  
Full, blinding sun.  
Sweltering, black heat.  
Windows glaring windows.  
Unsympathetic fallacy.  
Entering earmark;  
Circling compassion;  
Embarrassing, emphatic empathy.  
Joyous, punctuating remembrance.  
Sympathetic magic.

*D Frodin (10T)*

## SOUND AT NIGHT

The Phantom's here already,  
I can hear him walking about.  
He's tapping the walls with his  
Bony fingers, trying to find the door.

He's left the house in a hurry,  
The dogs are going wild.  
A car door slams.  
With a screech of tyres he drives off.  
Or has he?

He's back. I can hear his cloak  
dragging along the hall. Getting closer.  
I can hear him breathing. Smelling  
the air with small snorts. He's opened  
my door.....

His dark shape is edging closer.  
A howl. Was it him? No. Too quiet.  
More footsteps. Another howl. This  
time louder. His friend?

*D Bower (7S)*

## KNIGHT-MARE

Tall dark black man,  
Riding through the night.  
All that dare to get in his way,  
Will be no more,  
Sucked into his ugly darkness.  
Galloping into children's minds,  
Plaguering them with torturing torments.  
None can escape his fearful cry,  
his cry of anger, hatred and capture.  
Appearing through the dark rolling puffs of cotton,  
Onwards, onwards through the dark,  
Through the tunnel and into the mist.  
All he hears are cries of fear,  
Trapped in his unpleasing world.  
Compelled to travel every night,  
Scaring children with all his fright.  
Heaving with pain of what he does,  
He cannot escape.  
Taking his anger on helpless creatures,  
Passing his burden,  
From person to person.  
The pain gets deeper with nowhere to turn,  
Deeper and deeper,  
More pain to bear.  
He runs away as fast as he can,  
But his curse keeps up.  
With too much to bear,  
He.....  
.....Strikes!

*G Clark (9T)*

## THE DISORGANIZED DISC

Dismally, I hit the disc,  
It disconnected a workman from a wall,  
It disembodied a flower, sitting on a ball,  
Discouraged a duck, when the duck ducked,  
Disabled a dog, Disconcerted the devil,  
Distorted a tortoise and the  
Teacher that taught us,

Discarded a pack, dropped on its back,  
Disadvantaged a golfer, dismantled a ball,  
Discoloured a driver, disagreed with his car,  
Discharged a battery, discovered a current,  
Dispersed a nurse, disorientated her patience,  
Disturbed a district, disposed of a ditch,  
Dissolved in a puddle,  
The Disc's had his chips!

*R Haines (7S)*

### OBSERVERS

Masons of a mystery;  
their rare smiles,  
eyes fixed ahead,  
and gold-braided cloaks  
all said so.

Men towering over boys -  
one had a moustache.  
A different breed:  
they preserved their dignity.

A Corps Elite,  
never capricious  
They ruled  
without rods  
our patched backstreet ways.

Sons of men  
who rose on platforms,  
wore suits,  
drove cars,  
were models beyond.

Years later, blazoned,  
setting my examples,  
seeing through their eyes,  
I could not don  
their flapping gowns -

no more than  
I could fly.  
Shrouds,  
billowing phantoms  
of all I should avoid.

*David Ashbee, Old Richian  
(1956 -53), Head of English at  
Rednock School, Dursley.*

### THE FILM SHOW

The siren wails,  
as the ambulance appears.

Running straight through you,  
then you're lying in the sand.

People run towards you,  
a Killer Whale appears.

A gun fires out to sea,  
and you're running in a race.

You dive for the finish line,  
but you end up in a lake.

A Golden Eagle swoops down,  
catching you in its fork-like talons.

Then the claws open wide,  
dropping you through the air.

You land in the centre of,  
the battle of the Somme.

Crawling in the trench,  
as an earthquake hits the area.

Suddenly you're back in your bed,  
with your mother calling your name.

Wake up David,  
Wake up, Wake up.....

*D Bower (7S)*

### GRAND-DAD

When I was little, Grand-Dad was always there, for me.  
When I went to tea he made jelly, just for me.

In winter when it snowed he was cold, but he made snowmen,  
Only for me.

On a cold spring day, he sat for hours, collecting train numbers, with me.

One summer, when he was eighty, he rode my skate board,  
just like me.

When autumn came his pockets bulged with conkers, collected for me.

Now he's gone, but I'll never forget what he meant, To me.

*T Andrews (10S)*





## THE MUSICAL YEAR AT RICH'S

After a series of some very rewarding musical events during the past three years, I have to say I was particularly satisfied, indeed proud, of Rich's musicians this year.

A heavy schedule faced many in the Autumn term, with 'Orpheus in the Underworld', (three nights), 'Christmas by Candlelight', the two annual carol services and for the first time, a joint venture with Churchdown and Cleeve schools in the 'Whitbread Flowers Christmas Concert', held at Cheltenham Town Hall. The latter, despite the understandable tiredness of some who had undertaken all four events, proved to be pleasantly contrasting, light relief and a chance to hear top class brass playing by the Flowers Band.

The Spring Term featured some excellent solo and ensemble performances by instrumentalists across the school in a concert held in February. For some, like Adrian McBurnie and Matthew Bolton, it was an instrumental finale to their school career, whilst being an overture for Year 7 participants, such as Jonathan Phillips and Tom Plant.

However, probably the highlight for many was the splendid performance of Haydn's 'Creation' in May, in which the school choir joined with an extended school orchestra and three professional soloists, Susan Black, (Soprano), Michael Power (Tenor) and Brian Pursey (Bass). It is a long time since the heady days of the former Choral Society, but hopefully the wonderful music created by singer and player that night will ensure its resurrection.

One final concert, largely to air the various talents of budding guitarists and saxophonists in the school as well as the wind band was held in July.

In these rather tense days of ever increasing instrumental tuition costs, it is gratifying that many are still taking up the opportunity to learn a skill which they may enjoy for life. Hopefully, music can and will remain open to all, not just those who can afford it.

*Mr J Thompson*

## SPRING MUSIC CONCERT

Towards the end of February, the school held its annual spring concert. High praise must go to all who took part. There were many good comments made about the concert and we personally thought everyone was excellent. The highlights of the concert included John Stabler on the cello, John Meecham on the French horn and Matthew Bolton on the piano.



There was also a varied selection of other instruments, all playing solos, including horns, some trombones, a clarinet, an euphonium and some trumpets. The school wind band headed and footed the concert, with lively performances of, 'The Billygoat stomp', and 'In the Mood'. Mr Slinger bravely got up and performed a piece.



Thanks must go to the soloists and of course, to all the hard work that Mr Thompson provided, in order to make it a very entertaining evening.

*M Mundy/J Glendenning (8S)*



## CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT



In a candlelit library, a full audience watched and listened as a small group sang an unaccompanied carol.

After a year's lapse, 'Christmas by Candlelight', had returned to Rich's.

At 7.30 pm, on Saturday, 11th December, 1993, an

observant eye might have noted a procession of feet winding their way up the school drive. Inside, seasonal refreshments, mulled wine and mince pies were being served. An aura of expectancy started to settle on the assembled company, as the hour of eight drew near. Seated in the library, they waited.

From outside, a lone melody was heard, 'How far is it to Bethlehem?'

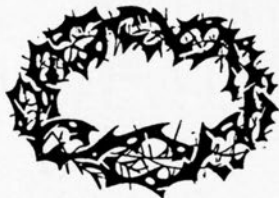
As the voices took up the strain, the 'Madrigal Group' proceeded into the library. This West Country Carol was followed by a lively arrangement of, 'The Zither Carol' and then, 'The Lute Book, Lullaby'. The magical feeling was continued with a rendition of the perennial favourite, 'Away in a Manger'.

Mr Moss and Tom Hinton then took centre stage, with 'Christmas is Coming!', a series of readings for advent. The described advent traditions, of sport, feasting and drinking, of mischief making and of carol singing. They included an extract from Thomas Hardy's novel, "Under the Greenwood Tree", in which the village choir call to sing to the new schoolteacher. This did not fail to delight the audience, some of whom may have been able to relate with 'Old Dewy' and 'Old William'. So it was to much applause that the readers sat down.



The Madrigal Group then sang, 'The Coventry Carol', to the original 1591 tune and continued with the rousing, 'When Christ was born on Christmas Day'. In Harold Darke's arrangement of 'In the Bleak Midwinter', Rowena Hopkins and Adrian McBurnie took the soprano and tenor solos respectively. Finally, before the interval, the Waites carol, 'Past Three O'clock', was performed.

After the buffet supper in the hall, the gathering reassembled in the library and witnessed an innovation to the usual format. Four parents of Rich's pupils, all members of the 'Barnwood Handbell Group', treated the audience to a varied programme. This included bell ringing, a medley of carols and a light-hearted talk about the art of handbell ringing. This all went down well with the audience.



Mr Moss and Tom Hinton then returned and delivered poems and readings for Christmas. There can be no doubt that the highlight of these readings was, 'Old Sam's Christmas Pudding', by Stanley Holloway and also an extract from, 'A Child's Christmas in Wales', by Dylan Thomas, in which Mrs Prothers discovers a fire in her kitchen on Christmas Eve.

The Madrigal Group then rose for their final selection of carols. After the 'Old Basque Carol' and the 'The Angel Gabriel', they performed a simple, but delightful 'New Year Carol', by Benjamin Britten. 'I Saw Three Ships' followed, before the lively local favourite of 'The Gloucestershire Wassail'. As the "piece de resistance", they performed the traditional 'Twelve Days of Christmas', in a less traditional way, by standing up whilst singing and bobbing down in the rest periods, much to the amusement of all who were present. Thus, a wonderful evening drew to a close. Many thanks to Mr Thompson for his hard work, planning and general organization, ensuring that the event ran smoothly. Also, one must acknowledge the many hours of rehearsing by the Madrigal Group - it was certainly worth it!



A McBurnie (6R)



# BUSINESS STUDIES AND TECHNOLOGY



## THE YOUNG ENTERPRISE TRIP TO DUBLIN

In March of this year, an opportunity arose for two members of 'The Young Enterprise' company, 'Laughing Stock', to take part in a 'Language Industry Trade Conference' in Dublin. The company members, who went were Simon Jones, (Managing Director) and myself, Sarah Afzal, (Company Secretary), accompanied by Mrs Grocott. We went with the aim to try and set up links with other schools, either in Britain or Europe, who were also following similar 'Young Enterprise' courses. The intention was for trade links to be developed between ourselves and other companies. We wanted to widen our market potential for our product, which was 'T-shirts' and in return be able to offer our local market a wider choice of goods and products from other schools.

Particular emphasis was placed on developing links with those schools outside Britain, such as in the Republic of Ireland, France and Spain. This was to enable the members of the Company to not only link their 'Young Enterprise' studies with other countries, but to also develop skills learned on our 'European Studies' course. It also enabled us to put theory into practice, the theory being about various strategies and techniques on building closer business ties with European countries. Also, learning about trade regulations, transportation problems and other issues related to the European Economic Community. All this classroom theory was transferred into practice during the conference week.

The chance to meet perspective European traders came on the second day of our stay. The morning was devoted to presentations, revolving around the progress of your particular company. We had to talk about our product, the structure of the company, how it evolved and the general evolution of the business. This activity was successful and productive, as we not only managed to exhibit our

products and advertise the business in general, but we also had the opportunity to view the various other business enterprises represented at the conference and learn about the various problems that they had encountered. We were also able to learn about their differing approaches to running a business and the various strategies and management techniques that they employed.

A great deal of hard work went into making the conference a success, both on the part of the schools displaying their products, but also the organizers of the conference, ensuring that it ran smoothly and it was informative for all participants. The weekend was soundly rounded off by the conference dinner and entertainment, provided by two local traditional Irish dancers. Overall, it was a very useful experience.

*S Afzal (L6T)*

## THE CREST AWARDS

This award scheme has been devised to encourage 'creativity' in the field of 'Science and Technology'. The scheme has three levels of awards, Bronze, Silver and Gold. The Year 11 GCSE Design Group had to undertake some project work as part of their course and this was submitted to the panel of judges on the Crest Award for assessment. The actual assessment is based on the student's ability to design and ultimately, manufacture a selected product, which could be sold on the open market. The level awarded, depends upon the student's level of skill, design innovation and the quality of the manufactured product. The net result was that we obtained nineteen silver and five Bronze awards.

*Mr A Preece*

## FOOD TECHNOLOGY

At the start of the academic year, pupils in years 7 and 8 started to undertake a programme of study under the banner of 'Food Technology'. The course was devised and implemented by Mrs Arnold of the Biology department.

It now forms an essential part of the National Curriculum Design and Technology course. This course has other components, such as electronics, pneumatics, business studies, art, design and craft manufacturing. All these areas, along with Food Technology, comprise to provide Rich's students with the skills that are now essential in a world that is demanding innovative, skilled and technologically minded individuals to ensure that our economy prospers in the next century. The modules are designed to provide a firm theoretical basis, from which creative and imaginative practical skills can be channelled into the 'real world' of business, manufacturing and commerce. All these skills are now being demanded by the business world and central Government.

The module which has been implemented by Mrs Arnold, comprises nutrition, health, hygiene, food design, chemical composition of foods, the processing of foods in bulk and basic culinary skills. Many of these areas are integrated to form strong links with business studies, science and other subjects.

The reaction of the pupils to the introduction of Food Technology into the curriculum has been very positive. Many older pupils have actually expressed sadness that they did not have the opportunity to study such a subject.

The current course has forged strong links with business organizations within Gloucester. Pupils have undertaken visits to Wall's ice cream factory to study mass food production, industrial hygiene, food packaging and storage procedures of food products. There have been visits to supermarkets, such as Safeways and County Stores. With such visits, pupils have researched into storage

procedures, shop design, product display and the shelf life of various foods. The pupils have also visited the 'Gloscat catering department' to learn about food preparation. There have been trips to farms to investigate primary food sources and their production. All these visits have been in conjunction with the other Design and Technology based modules and they have helped to make the course viable, despite the restriction of resources and facilities in the school. With these visits, strong links have been formed. For instance, the Co-Operative Wholesale Society Limited, of Down Ampney have been most helpful with farm visits and Boots have supplied materials, to resource and equip the module.

The pupils have designed their own food products. For instance, Year 7 have been testing various aspects of 'yoghurt' and have devised new flavours, as well as redesigning the current packaging of yoghurt cartons. While in Year 8, they have analyzed the nutritional values of various types of meals. All of this has been to generate greater awareness of food, in terms of health, processing, design, marketing and composition. The results of the pupils' work is already bearing fruit, for Mrs Arnold and Mrs Grocott have had success, with Year 7 winning the 'Toyota Award' for their 'Food Business Project' on yoghurt production.

The future looks bright for Food Technology, already a short course is being considered as part of the 6th Form studies package. The pupils have been very positive and as Food Technology is an optional unit in the GCSE 'Design and Technology', it is quite possible that many pupils will hopefully be undertaking a public examination in the subject. Mrs Arnold should be congratulated on implementing the course. Conditions have been difficult as the module has been undertaken without any real facilities or even the luxury of a Food Technology room.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

Year 7 Pupils undertaking food research for their course.



## TEACHER PLACEMENT AT THE SAFEWAY STORE, ABBEYDALE

The Education Business Partnership assists teachers to gain experience of Business and Industry through placements in local businesses. One of these schemes is run nationwide, by Safeway, the supermarket store group. They encourage teachers to spend a week in one of their stores, experiencing all areas of the business.

During the week of the 7-11th February, 1994, many teachers all around the country were gaining experience in the food retail trade for the first time and investigating how various organizations operate.

I went to our local Safeways at Abbeydale, where we already have contacts, to find out more about the processes of storing, displaying and selling food products in a large store. I was following up work on store hygiene which I had been undertaking with Year 8 pupils.

I spent the week shadowing and working with the department managers and their staff in five departments. The staff were friendly and helpful, managing despite their busy work schedules to find time to explain, as well as demonstrate various aspects of their work to me. I was surprised at the shift patterns of the staff, many of them came in to work at five in the morning, to start the process of checking stock, filling shelves, labeling and ordering.

The goods were delivered at two in the morning and unloaded by the night staff, who also moved the food into the chillers. The next shift put out the stock into the store. Safeway is very careful about checking the 'sell by date' on its stock, not only on the shelves, but also in the cold storage areas. They have to check the stock at least once a day. Food that is going out of date is often reduced early to give people a chance to buy it.

In the bakery, I found that they started work at four in the morning and that they were usually finished by eight am. So I had to be in the store at six to see them at work. Here, I watched loaves, doughnuts and other cakes being produced. The store makes fifteen different types of loaf, ten different sorts of roll and three types of doughnut, as well as many other types of cakes and buns.

During my time, I learned how to wrap and price bread products, make pizzas, serve customers, fill shelves, order dairy and greengrocery products on the computer and many other retail skills.

On the last day, all the Safeway Placement teachers in Gloucestershire went to the new superstore in Tewkesbury to discuss their experiences and to work out projects suitable for possible school use. Overall, this was a useful and rewarding week, but I do not think that I will be changing jobs.

*Mrs J Arnold*

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## THE ROTARY 'YOUNG INVENTOR OF THE YEAR' AWARD

This is a national competition organized by the Rotary Club of Britain and which starts at a local level and progressively moves to regional and national stages. At the local level, three Rotary clubs are involved within the Gloucester area - Gloucester, Gloucester North and Gloucester Severn. All secondary schools within Gloucester City and its boundaries could enter. Rich's was allocated to the 'Gloucester - Severn Rotary Club' area.

We decided to enter eight of our Year 11 GCSE projects and I am glad to report that we did very well. All the pupils displayed their projects and manufactured products to the panel of judges. The designs varied, with a storage device for personal stereo headphones, toys, a miniature tape winding mechanism and other innovative products.

Each of the three Rotary Clubs are allowed to award prizes and Richard Sutton, who submitted a project about a security system for a car stereo, won the first prize of fifty pounds in the Gloucester-Severn area. His project will now be submitted to the 'District stage' of the competition in October of this year and the winners of this will go on to compete at a national level.

Across the three Rotary Club areas, three hundred pounds is awarded to the school which achieves the best results overall from all of their project entries. We were the winners and this is the second time that this has taken place in the four years that the scheme has been operating.

*Mr A Preece*



## YEAR 10 DESIGN AND BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

Miss McCalla's Year 10 Design and Technology, with Business GCSE groups, were involved in a project in which they had to undertake design work on behalf of Whitbread Brewery, Gloucester. The scheme is part of the brewery's 'Whitbread in the Community Programme', aimed at forging closer partnership links between schools, such as Rich's and Whitbread.

The groups were given the problem of devising methods to attract more customers to one of Whitbread's local public houses, 'The Royal William', which is situated on the A46, between Cranham and Painswick. The pub has a traditional image, with a strong local clientele and loyal customers. Of course, in these times of recession, all business enterprises are trying to devise new methods of increasing trade. We had the task of tackling this problem and we were able to approach it from two different ways.

Miss McCalla waded through about twenty-five projects and selected four of the best, one of which was to be presented at a meeting, involving other schools and educational representatives to some of the business managers in the city. Our project was selected and we were pleased to receive some top grades, which went towards our 'GCSE Design and Technology' course.

Andrew Bourne, Tom Hinton, Andrew Hodge and myself were selected to present our solutions and outline the changes that we would make to the 'Royal William'. We attended the meeting one lunch-time. Four other schools who had produced projects on other establishments, such as 'Pizza Hut' and other business outlets were also present. Our presentation went smoothly and we were rewarded with a good lunch! The managers were impressed at the quality and professionalism of the work that we had produced and presented.



Firstly, we could think of 'physical changes' to the public house that would assist and encourage customers to return. Alternatively, we could produce some sort of 'Promotional Strategy' to raise public awareness and subsequently increase trade.

Before we attempted the task, we had to visit the pub to survey its facilities and look at the lay-out of the buildings. On our visit, we had a guided tour and had a good chat with the publican. Soon the group identified some key issues and areas of the pub that could be improved. Based on our observations, we mapped out our solutions and submitted our project for assessment.

However, we did not dwell too much on our award and success, because we had to rush back to school to sit a two hour Biology exam!

I think everyone appreciated our work and the manager of the 'Royal William' promised to consider some of our recommendations. The project was worthwhile, for it was not just theory, but had a relevant and practical component to it, with a realistic business scenario, that many organizations have to undertake, in order to boost trade. It's a pity that we were not able to sample some of the brews during our visits to the pub!

*M Gilmore (10S)*

## VISIT OF RUSSIANS TO RICH'S

In October, 1993, a group of twelve Russian Educationists visited Gloucestershire, three of whom were assigned to Rich's, under the guidance of Ian Hodgkinson. The Russian delegates were from Sochi, situated on Russia's Black Sea coast. They were Tatyana Talanova, Director of Sochi's INSET Institute, Valery Tishkovsky, a Principal and Yelena Garmeryan, who was a teacher of economics.

Their visit was part of a Business Education initiative, to encourage the development of business links into Russian schools. They were visiting Gloucester schools to see how we implement schemes, such as 'Young Enterprise' or the 'European Studies Programme', as well as how local business organizations play an integral part in schools that run business studies courses. They were also interested in teaching methods and the resources available for young students. The exchange programme was funded by many sources, including the British Council and the Department of Employment.

Sochi is well known in Russia for taking on board new educational ideas and putting them to the test, so it was quite natural for a group to visit our

school, in order to gain new ideas about the implementation of business education into schools. This is now obviously vital for Russia, as they develop a new economic system and introduce the concept of the 'free market'.

During their stay, our Russian guests made visits to Whitbread brewery, Safeways, the MEB headquarters in Barnwood, as well as participating in various social events, such as a skittles evening in a traditional English pub. Some of the Russian party actually made visits to 'McDonalds' and 'Pizza Hut'. Yet, there was a serious side to such visits, with the principles of business and enterprise initiatives not lost on our Russian guests. They also attended various meetings and forums during the week based on business education in schools.

One of the highlights of the visit was the amazement and astonishment of the three Russians when they visited a British supermarket. The whole week's activities were a great success and Ian Hodgkinson was pleased with the positive response he received from his guests. His return visit to Sochi was just as interesting and eventful!

*Mr P Lloyd*

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## THE CHALLENGE OF INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

In July, 'The Industrial Society and the Gloucester Education and Business Partnership', brought its 'Challenge of Industry' conference to our 'Sixth Form Induction Programme'. This was the third year that this event has taken place and this year, twelve advisers from local business and community organizations came along to make the event highly successful.

The new Sixth Formers, plus pupils from Denmark Road, were placed into teams and had to undertake various management and 'team-building' exercises. These included producing a model 'Gas Platform',

with the use of restricted resources, time constraints and strict cost budgets. The ultimate test for all the platforms, was whether they could withstand the weight of a household brick. Much to the relief of all, the winning model was able to withstand the weight during a long photo session for the Richian magazine.

Once again, the event proved to be very worthwhile, providing the students with valuable insights into teamwork, leadership, management and industry. It also helped any new arrivals at Rich's integrate more smoothly with their new colleagues.

*Mr I Hodgkinson*



Some participants of the Challenge of Industry Conference



## WORK EXPERIENCE AT GLOUCESTER LEISURE CENTRE

You can imagine how distraught I was to learn that I would be undertaking my work experiences at Gloucester Leisure Centre. I mean, working on the pool-side, pampering to the needs of young ladies in the health and fitness studio and helping to ensure that the various aerobic classes went with a swing! What more could a young man want on work experience? No stuffy offices, a break from the tedious routine of school and the chance to get physical!

Thus, on the Monday morning, I was ready for a week of intensive action, ready to don my trunks and willing to rescue any young female, especially if they needed mouth to mouth resuscitation.

Yet, initially I was a little disappointed, because I was allocated not the pool-side, nor the health studio, but various labouring jobs. I suppose all future 'Bay-Watch' superstars have to start somewhere on the long road to the sun, the sandy beach and the Californian surf.

My role was basically to assist the centre's 'Recreation Officer', with a typical day involving the taxing duty of erecting Badminton nets, preparing the children's play area and lifting chairs from one spot to another. In the afternoon, I would have a change of scenery, with various pool-side duties, which unfortunately did not result in any brave heroics, but mainly consisted working on the key exchange counter.

Later on in the week, I assisted the girls in the reception area and I did eventually get into the fitness studio. Other activities involved working with the swimming coaches and the highlight of the week was when one of the staff had to deal with two Irish women who decided to inflict physical violence upon each other.

Overall the week was certainly an interesting and enlightening experience, but I do not really feel that it is a career that I would like to pursue, particularly as it lacks any real financial gratification!

*M Dearlove (6T)*

## WORK EXPERIENCE AT AN ACCOUNTANTS

"So, where would you like to go for your work experience then?"

"Well, I've always been interested in the law, so a solicitors would be fine".

"Right, an accountancy firm it is then!"

That's pretty much what happened to me, so I can hardly say that I was looking forward to a week's work experience with stuffy old men in pin-strip suits, surrounded by books full of meaningless numbers!

Yet, I persevered with the allocated choice and decided to enter into it with an open mind and enthusiasm. I turned up at nine o'clock sharp on a March, Monday morning, armed with a calculator and a pen. I expected to meet the stereotyped image of accountants, but was very surprised with the reality of the situation, especially as I found two young women on the premises, who were full of wit and good humour. Also, the firm had a number of Old Richians, who naturally enquired about the school,

They were all very welcoming and extremely helpful, completely destroying any preconceptions

that I may have had about accountants. I was assigned all sorts of interesting and taxing jobs. Of course, I had careful guidance at all times. The jobs were supposed to be easy, but some proved to be very difficult, especially when things did not work out correctly. The problems provided me with some interesting challenges and it was actually quite fun at times.

The working atmosphere in the office was excellent. There was a fine balance between hard work and lots of humour. This I believe is where the real work experience exists, finding out what the real adult world of work is like. I enjoyed my week at 'Day and Company, Chartered Accountants' and this was mainly due to the people that I worked with. They treated me well, meaning that they actually made tea for me, instead of the usual customary format, so often associated with work experience. Above all, they made me realize that accountancy is not at all boring, stuffy and tedious. The firm provided me with a real insight into a new career option and I am now seriously contemplating it for the future. Many thanks to all those at 'Day & Co', for making my work experience very worthwhile!

*R Sood (6T)*



From left to right: Julia Chapman, Gary Bennett and Rich's student, Rajinder Sood

## WORK EXPERIENCE AT 'THE CITIZEN'

To say they are busy at 'The Citizen', is an understatement, they are infinitely busy! News just doesn't stop coming and lunch is a sandwich or burger grabbed whenever there's a spare minute. When I entered the newsroom of 'The Citizen' on that first fateful day of work experience, the scene that befell my eyes was one of panic. I was shown to a desk and left on my own whilst around me journalists typed feverishly in a desperate bid to reach the next heart-stopping deadline. The heat died down a little after this had passed, but work continued regardless.

My first assignment was to pick up some news-worthy stories from Gloucester Magistrate's court, with my colleague, Stephen Tate. We heard how one man had bit his girlfriend on the nose! Various other cases passed before my eyes, but we soon realized that nothing much more was going to come up. We returned post-haste to the office where I wrote up my story. From this, I learnt a very important lesson in journalism, get all the facts and get them right!

Tuesday saw me writing up press releases, small pieces of information worthy of a paragraph in the paper. Wednesday was more exciting. I was sent out to ask innocent passers-by, whether they thought the name of Cromwell Street should be changed. It was interesting to learn that everyone I interviewed said it should not. What do you think?

On Friday, I went out with a photographer. A man was letting strangers chop pieces of his beard off for charity. You may have seen his photo in the paper, holding a pair of shears over his beard and looking distinctly psychotic!

My week at 'The Citizen' was very inspiring. Although everyone was too busy to give me much to do, what I saw gave me inspiration enough to realize that journalism is the field of work I want to pursue. Thanks must go to all the people who worked with me and were so friendly and helpful. There will always be news to report and one day maybe, I'll be the one doing the reporting!

*D Bevis (6T)*



Photograph courtesy of the Citizen.  
Daniel Bevis standing with one of the Citizen news team.



## WORK EXPERIENCE AT A FIRM OF SOLICITORS

I spent my week's work experience at a firm of solicitors, 'Madge, Lloyd and Gibson', which many of you will know, is situated in Brunswick Road, Gloucester.

When I arrived I was very nervous, mainly because I did not know, nor had I ever met any of the people that I was going to work with for the week. However, this fear was quickly overcome, as I met the partners and all the other people involved in running the firm.

Luckily, there was a number of former Richians working in the firm. One of them had just finished University and was in the first year of undertaking his articles. He was a great help to me, explaining many aspects of law, outlining current practices and offering me advice about a career in the profession. He also took me to the three local courts. The Magistrates Court, where generally I heard cases relating to various minor misdemeanours, then the County Court, which dealt mainly with areas such as divorce and finally, the Crown Court, which handles the really

important cases, often involving murders, fraud and other serious crimes.

During my work experience I was really lucky to gain an insight into many areas of a thriving law firm. I was not just restricted to filing, sorting papers out and making cups of tea. Quite the opposite, I sat in on partners' interviews with clients, I undertook research into various technical points and generally experienced many different facets of work that a law firm deals with on a daily basis.

The week was very enjoyable and a real insight into a career that I am seriously thinking about for the future. I must thank the solicitors in the firm for their great help and enthusiasm, particularly as they were so busy. For me, work experience was very useful, for I was lucky enough to undertake varied, interesting and insightful tasks. There is now a natural attraction for me to become a solicitor and even possibly, a barrister one day!

*P Shaw (6C)*



From left to right: Simon Bassett, Paul Shaw (student), Helen Day and Lytham Chapman

# SCHOOL VISITS



## THEATRE TRIP TO SEE HAMLET - LONDON

At long last I had discovered how useful fathers could be! Upon the orders of Mrs Barnes, we were all to dress up smartly to go to see 'Hamlet' in London. It just so happened that my dad had a very smart blazer which, quite by coincidence fitted me rather well. So, I decided that I would borrow it for the day. Feeling rather apprehensive about being slightly overdressed, I departed for school on that Thursday morning. The weather was quite bright and the sun was shining, but despite this, I put on my overcoat to ensure that I would not be noticed by those less well dressed on the school bus. On arriving at school, I quickly mingled with others dressed in their smart designer clothes. After admiring each other's taste, or lack of it in some cases, we went to registration.

At ten o'clock, we boarded the coach for London, with the boredom of the journey being relieved by the playing of computer games, reading and general gossip. We arrived in Covent Garden at about two o'clock and we were given some time to look around a few shops, before meeting at the 'Donmar Warehouse Theatre'.

We were given our tickets and eagerly went inside to take up our seats. The design of the theatre was quite strange, with the audience being seated

almost on top of a sloping stage. This had certain advantages and disadvantages. On the positive side we could hear and see everything in great detail, as well as feeling the tremendous atmosphere that was being transmitted from the performers on stage. However, we were subject to frequent 'sprayings', due to the very close proximity of the cast when enunciating their words. Thank goodness for handkerchiefs!

When the cast were not involved in the actions on stage, they often stood around the fringes of the stage, which at times blocked our view of the proceedings. However, I thought the theatre was an original and interesting design.

The actual performance was excellent, as were the costumes, cleverly using a mixture of traditional and modern designs. A couple of famous people were spotted in the programme, with 'Hamlet' being played by Alan Cumming and 'Gertrude' played by Eleanor Bron. Overall, it was a thoroughly enjoyable day out for all those who went and also was very beneficial in our classroom studies of the play 'Hamlet'.

C Wilkinson (10T)

## 'THEATRE TRIP TO JULIUS CAESAR'

On a cold November morning, pupils from years 9 and 10 set off on a trip to the Festival Theatre, Malvern to take part in a 'workshop' and watch a production of 'Julius Caesar'. When we arrived, Mrs Stanley, the organiser of the trip, directed us to the auditorium and along with a large number of other schools we participated in a workshop. The session was taken by four members of the cast. During this workshop session, some of the key themes found in the play were raised and modern day comparisons were identified. Also, the cast members talked about how certain characters found in the play could be possibly played. For instance, it was suggested by one member of the audience, that Caesar could be played in the form of a modern day Mrs Thatcher, while Cassius could be played in the form of a Michael Helstine figure and Brutus could be based upon John Major. All these modern comparisons seem to go down well with the lively audience.

Other aspects of the play which were discussed, included how the play could be presented, either set in a traditional Roman setting, or updated to resemble a south American military regime. At one point, the lighting director talked about the various techniques that could be applied to generate different forms of mood and atmosphere to accompany the actors on stage.

The workshop finished upon a comical note, with the team performing the murder scene in a satirical and humorous fashion. Without question, 'over-acting' was the order of the day, along with the collapsing of scenery and the fatal stabbings

being completely bungled. Somehow, I feel this interpretation was not really what the great bard had intended his audience to witness!

After the lunch time break, we all resumed our seats in the circle and settled down for the performance. During the first part of the production of 'Julius Caesar', events seem to take a long time to unwind and at times, in certain quarters, the attention of the audience drifted. The cast were all dressed in modern costumes, which seemed to date back to the 1930's.

Just before the interval, the play came alive, or ended on a dead note, as the case may be, with the murder of Caesar. The familiar "Et tu, Bruti!" had regained the attention of the blood-thirsty audience. Many individuals who had not studied the play before, wondered what could possibly follow the interval, especially as the dirty deed on Caesar had been completed.

This was soon made apparent, as "revenge" became the order of the day. Mark Anthony stirred up the citizens of Rome and made his accusations. This resulted in chaos, more murder and greater conspiracy. For the rest of the play, the loyal Mark Anthony was hunted down, until the final battle scene, in which the murderers of Caesar paid for their evil actions. With this, stability returned to Rome, but to many in the audience, it had been a long and at times, laborious journey.

*T Meredith (9T)*



Year 10 pupils with Miss Gorby and Mrs Stanley outside the Festival Theatre, Malvern.

## THEATRE TRIP TO SEE 'RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET'



Mrs Spilsbury was late for the trip, the group photograph was a shambles and everyone was wondering if Mr Lloyd possesses more than one jacket? We boarded the coach, on a cloudy April evening and set off for the Bristol Hippodrome, ready to enter into the spirit of, 'Return to the Forbidden Planet'. We were graced by other eminent persons, including Mr and Mrs Burns, Mrs Stanley, the return visit of Mr Middleton and importantly, Mrs Sinclair, Lewis' mother!

Arriving in good time, we headed for our seats, after most of us had purchased our programmes and before we knew it, various actors appeared amongst us, giving us detailed instructions of what to do if the space ship should encounter any sort of danger. The rules and regulations given to the audience were very specific, including the waving of hands and the bellowing of strange sounds. Anyone who accidentally walked into the theatre at this precise moment, would have wondered what exactly was going on, with hundreds of people, including teachers I may add, acting as if they had been suddenly classified as lunatics.

Then came the surprise, with the journey to the 'Forbidden Planet'. Noise, sounds, flashing lights, explosions echoed around the theatre as we moved off the launch pad. The actors were really multi-talented, not only making the fantasy journey realistic, but entertaining us with lively songs, brilliant stunts and wonderful musical items. All of the actors took a turn at not just playing one musical instrument, but three or more, from drums, to guitars and they could all sing - I mean really sing!

The script was excellent, with Shakespeare's, 'The Tempest', forming the basis to the plot, but updated with science-fiction being the order of the day. There were lots of jokes, satire was the norm and every other line was designed to make the audience laugh. Many famous quotes from Shakespearean plays were dragged into the play, stretching the great bard's literary fame to the limit. The musical items included hard rock, rock n'roll and jazz. The whole production was a musical trip through the 1950's, 60's and 70's, with nostalgia very evident, but yet the music had everyone jumping up and down, except Mr Lloyd, but he was actually seen to be tapping his feet! While musicians played, actors sang and danced, jumping around the stage with boundless energy.

Praise was rife from young and old alike. The encore was great and the audience continued to demand more, with the cast bowing to public demand. Without doubt, the trip was brilliant and this was confirmed with the many positive comments that raced around the coach on the way back to Gloucester. These included comments such as, "Brilliant", "Worth every penny", "Out of this World". This was the universal feeling, with many of the staff very enthusiastic and unable to stop talking about what they had seen. Without doubt, Mrs Spilsbury had taken us all to a smashing performance. Many thanks must go to her for all the hard work that she had undertaken on our behalf. Which one have you organized next Mrs S?

*B Ballard (IIT)*



## THEATRE TRIP - 'BLOOD BROTHERS'

Back in the Spring, Mrs Spilsbury frantically rushed around the Year 11 English groups, promoting a trip to London in the July of this year to see the production of 'Blood Brothers'. With exams looming many of us were not sure, but Mrs Spilsbury reassured us that the production was well after our exams and would be a nice way to end our school year at Rich's. Well, many of us were persuaded, paid our money, completed our exams and before we knew it we were boarding the coach one bright morning in July.

The journey was long, but the spirits were high as we approached central London, without too much stress I may add, despite the heavy traffic. The driver dropped us off at Covent Garden and we had a couple of hours to explore the market, watch some 'street theatre' and have a relaxing lunch.

We all gathered once more and gradually snaked our way through the back streets of London, successfully guided by yours truly! We eventually reached the Phoenix Theatre in good time and before long we were seated with other teenagers from all around the country. The curtains opened and the performance started. The musical is set in the back-streets of Liverpool and revolves around a young mother, who after bearing twin boys is abandoned by a rogue of a husband and forced to fend for herself. In short, she allows one of the twins to be adopted by a rich woman in a secret pact, but the twins' lives become strangely inter-woven with each other, despite the different lifestyles that they lead. The musical highlights the cruel world, with one of the twins leading a successful life, while the other struggles against social injustice and inequality.

Eventually, the mother's deceit, lies and conspiracy are exposed, resulting in terrible consequences for the twins and all those closely connected to them. The tension and the excitement of the musical ultimately finishes in a dramatic scene, where both brothers are lying dead on stage from gunshot wounds. It seems that destiny has played a cruel hand, in that they were born on the same day and fate ensured that they died on the same day.

The plot was full of twists and turns, unpredictable events and had a great climax. All through the production, the audience had the opportunity to listen to the profound and ironic words of the 'Narrator', played by Carl Wayne, who once was the lead singer with the band, 'The Move'. Other key celebrities in the cast, included Stephanie Lawrence, who was 'Pearl' in 'Starlight Express', until 1986 and who now played the sad figure of Mrs Johnstone.

I felt the production was a little slow to get going, but with songs such as 'Marilyn Monroe', sung by Stephanie Lawrence and the quality of the plot, it soon became absorbing to watch. The theme of

the musical was sad, yet in a brutal way, realistic, highlighting the hardships that many people have to endure in order to survive from day to day. If you like a musical, which is sad, full of morals, has lots of superstition, as well as a 'tear-jerker' of an ending, then 'Blood Brothers' is well worth watching. Take a trip to the Phoenix, as the production is a long-running success. Thanks to Mrs Spilsbury, Rich's very own entertainments co-ordinator for a smashing day out!

*B Ballard (11T)*



## YEAR 7 NATURE IN ART TRIP

For the 'Nature in Art' trip, some of us were asked to collect materials to use for collages. For me, this entailed a frantic hunt for odds and ends the night before the trip! On the day, we had form period as usual, but soon afterwards, we went to the hall for a quick briefing. The whole of Year 7 would visit the centre, two forms on separate days. The groups were not only accompanied by the teachers, but also by some parents who had asked to come on the trip.

After the briefing, we boarded the double decker bus and we were off to Twigworth. It was only a quick ten minute trip and after a short walk, we arrived at the centre. We entered to see lots of different animal sculptures, many of which were made out of old horseshoes, chains and other bits of machinery. The visit was split into two parts, with half the group first of all producing a collage, while the other half tackled a quiz.

For the collages, we were asked to produce one on an individual basis, but it had to be an animal, bird, fish or insect. I decided to make a collage of a dragonfly. Apart from using the bits and pieces that I had brought with me, we were able to use other materials available, such as wool, tissue and coloured paper.

With the quiz, you had to go round the centre, looking at the exhibition on show, looking for clues. After completing the worksheet, you could then go and look at the artist in residence and see the work produced, as well as purchase goodies in the shop. The artist had lots of her work on display, mainly on the theme of nature of course. After completing our collages we quickly tidied up and were soon back on the bus, heading back to Rich's. The day had been a success, both interesting and informative in many ways.

*T Plant (7R)*



## HAMLET TRIP TO BREMEN: A PUPIL'S DIARY



To take part in the 'Hamlet Festival', in Bremen, the school had to first of all qualify at a regional basis. The nationwide competition had been organized by 'The Globe Theatre Project', which was instigating a language festival in celebration of the great bard's work, 'Hamlet'. We were invited to take part in a local festival at St Peter's High School and our brief was simple. Each school had to devise a dramatic performance, exploring a selected theme found in the play. Our group, guided by Mrs Barnes, decided to focus in on the theme of 'madness'. We devised a script exploring this topic area and identified scenes from the play which supported our viewpoint. Then, with careful direction from 'Madame', we formulated our dramatic performance. The work produced would help us in our Year 10, GCSE English Literature studies, especially as we were studying Hamlet as one of our selected texts.

After many rehearsals, the day of judgment came and to our delight, we were selected to represent the county at the 'Hamlet International Festival', in Bremen, Germany. The festival would host schools from Poland, Denmark, Germany and Britain. There would be other schools from Britain performing at the festival, from Colchester, Coventry and Guildford.

One March evening, we set off from Rich's destined for Germany. On the way to Dover, we were joined by students from Chester and Guildford. Soon we were crossing the channel and back on board a coach, to eventually arrive in Bremen twenty hours later. We all marched off to

McDonalds for a quick bite to eat and despite a large anti-nazi campaign, we made it to the 'Theatre am Leiplatz', home to the 'Bremen Shakespeare Company'. Here, we changed into some posh clothes and watched a German production of "Zwei Herren Aus Verona", (Two Gentlemen of Verona). Though I could not understand a word of German I managed to follow it quite well.

After the performance, we were picked up by our host families, who were very hospitable. The next day was the most eventful. I struggled out of bed at 8.30 am, freshened up, had breakfast and was soon boarding a tram, so that I could get to the theatre by 10.00 am, only to find that I had missed the first production. Yet, I was able to see the other ten productions performed by other schools. There seemed to be two distinct categories of productions, humorous and serious. I naturally preferred the humorous performances, though I was unsure whether they were the most moving. We were due to perform our version fifth and it all went according to plan, with only a few minor problems with lines. I think that our production was good, but the most memorable and funny play to me was a comedy. This particularly production was performed in the form of a lecture, with three professors, who performed the roles of narrators. They primarily looked at other Shakespearean essays, which tried to explain why Hamlet was mad and generally reviewed them. However, they came up with a new theory, which was that Hamlet went mad because he had to learn English as a foreign

language. This was all supported by the script that they had produced and was hilariously funny and so convincing that it could have been true!

Our play on the other hand was a serious production, looking at the various elements of madness found in Hamlet. It was based around actors moving to the centre of the stage, where four psychiatrists analyzed the behaviour of the central characters found in the play. The arrangement was in a large semi-circle, the audience looking into it. Parts of the play were enacted in the centre of this semi-circle, while some excellent performances were delivered from the cast. The female parts were of course a little hard to do, but despite being a predominantly male school, the parts of Ophelia and the Queen were executed very sensitively.

We had a short talk with one of the actors from the theatre about different performances of Hamlet and acting in general. After this, it was a quick tour around Bremen, looking at the sites and diving into the local shops. It was then back to the theatre by 6.30 pm, where we were given dinner and then we went off to the local discotheque. After a relatively late night, it was then back to the house of our hosts and some welcome sleep.

On the final day of our brief visit, we were allowed a lie in and at 11.00 am we went to the cinema, where we sat down ready to listen to a lecture by Professor Taureck, which was all about, 'The lack of future in Hamlet'. I found it a little complicated and rather hard to follow. Following the lecture there was a silent movie based on Hamlet and it was extremely funny, although I am not sure it that was the real intention. During the movie, a lady of 83, Kathe Von Tricht, played through the whole hour and half of the film, to a very high standard I may add!

After the film, we had a little bit more free time, to grab some lunch, but before I knew it, I was boarding the coach and we were heading back to Gloucester. Once again, we all endured an intensive coach journey, with a break on the ferry, a change over of buses in London and then our eventual arrival back home in Gloucester. The whirl-wind three day trip to Bremen was over, an experience to remember and treasure for many years to come. Many thanks to Mrs Barnes and all those who had made the trip superb.

Many months later, in July, we heard some great news for the school. We had submitted some creative writing based on 'Hamlet' to the 'Globe Theatre Project'. Chris Wilkinson was awarded a special commendation and Chris Lewis fared even better by winning First Prize in this prestigious national competition. Overall, a great year for us and the great bard!

*T Hinton (10T)*

## THE RUSSIAN CONNECTION

Early in 1993, the school was invited to join a Gloucestershire Local Education Authority project, aimed at developing education/industry links in the Russian school curriculum. The project was funded by the British Council and Department of Employment, as part of a British commitment to forge closer ties with the newly created Russian state.

The team of eight teachers and LEA officers spent some weekends in briefing and preparation. Each of the four English schools involved were to take a slightly different approach to the project, reflecting their specialist expertise and experience. In Rich's case, the objective was to establish an enterprise programme between Russian and English student companies, based on the principles of the European Studies Language, Industry and Trade project, which the school had piloted in Western Europe two years earlier. This earlier project had informed students of the many opportunities that had arisen from the Single European Market agreement of 1992, with the dismantling of many trade barriers within the European Economic Community. Subsequently, it was considered a natural extension to examine the trade issues that now affected both Russia and the UK, especially at a time when capitalism was just developing in the former Soviet Union.

At the start of October, a delegation of Russian teachers, principals and education officers visited Gloucestershire to see how education and industry works together. It was the first visit to the west for most of them and it had a great impact upon them. A similar experience was to occur for their English counterparts a few weeks later. Our group flew into Moscow, where we had just enough time to visit 'Red Square' on a sunny, clear, but very cold day. Then it was aboard another flight down to 'Sochi', on the Black sea coast.

Our week was very hectic, but successful, with our time spent in schools, developing the project. The education officers ran seminars discussing how links and projects were set up between education establishments and various business enterprises. Our Russian hosts were initially sceptical at first, but once they realized the potential gains that could develop from such links, they became enthusiastic. One of the major problems the Russians have, is their perception of business, which is often associated with rather illegal and corrupt practices, run by unscrupulous people. Despite the economic theories being embraced by many people, the practical implementation has been a much tougher proposition. One finds that business lessons are of a high standard, but often have little affinity with the real demands of the local business environment that exists outside the school buildings.

Even if trade barriers and communications prove to be too strong for any goods to change hands between our student companies, the people in our project will have closely examined and studied many aspects relating to international business trade. I will always remember the remarkable hospitality that the group received, as well as the beauty of the Caucasian mountains and the Black sea coast.

Our trip finished with a trip back to the blizzards of Moscow. It was a fascinating week, particularly the experience of witnessing the people wrestling with tremendous change. They love the variety and quantity of consumer goods experienced in

the western shops, but they hate the inflation and the depravity that it can bring to certain quarters of society. It is evident that change will be slow and painful. I hope that the project will help in some small way in the transformation process that the Russians are having to endure, by helping young people become equipped with the right skills to enable them to succeed and produce a modern capitalist economy. I was certainly impressed at the speed in which new ideas are being assimilated into the teaching programme of many Russian schools.

*Mr I M Hodgkinson*

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## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A BLACK COUNTRY MINER- (WRITTEN AFTER A VISIT TO THE BLACK COUNTRY MUSEUM)

I knew that my peace could not last for long. I could almost feel the sound of the hooter from the mine signalling that it was time for us workers to be getting up from our cold beds. I lay there, all cosy and warm, not wanting to go down to that cold, dark and dangerous place, deep underground. I was just glad that our house was not standing above one of the network of mine shafts that tended to cause subsidence in the area. Jack Sutton, who lived two villages down the road from us had to work in a deep shaft and to get to the coal he had to go down in a metal bucket, that was usually used to haul the coal up to the surface. Last month, there was flood in one of the shafts in his mine, straight after a sudden downpour of rain and three men were drowned through no fault of their own - poor blokes! It could have been any of us, it was just their misfortune to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

I could hear my father in the kitchen grumbling about his back. He had hurt it in an accident, when the roof caved in one day and that was the end of his mining career. They gave him the boot, because he was no use anymore and four hungry mouths to feed as well! So I had to go out to work as soon as I could and of course that was down the mine. They call it the 'Black Country' because the landscape appears just to be black with coal slag and for most of the year you cannot see further than your nose because of the thick black smoke bellowing from all the factory chimneys in the area.

Everyday, I get up, never knowing what daylight is like in the winter, put on my smelly, dirty and black clothes, then grab some breakfast, before setting off to the mine. At the moment, all I do all day is work the ventilation door and if I fall a sleep on the job, I get a good beating from the boss. I open and close these doors to allow the

carts to come through and if I don't do my job probably, then the mine will soon fill up with choke damp and other dangerous gases.

My only real friend in the village is Charlie, who works in the same mine as me. I guess he's about the same age as me, but it's hard to tell when you are living on the bread-line. Our job can make you grow twisted and stunted, just like Charlie. Today, they are planning to blast a new shaft and once the men start working on it, we will busy.

Most mornings, as we arrive at the shaft, we see the late shift emerging; the firemen wrapped up in their damp cloths and holding their long poles ahead of them. Their job is very dangerous and life expectancy is pretty short.

Charlie and I enter the shaft, which gradually slopes down into the bowels of the earth, at first gently, then more steeply. In many parts, you have to stoop or your head gets knocked off. The roof is supported by thick wooden beams and at some points, where a new face is being dug out, piles of coal block your path.

I know my work spot, as the roof is particularly low here and for hours I squat down, all crouched up, waiting to hear the sound of the coal cart coming up the tunnel towards me. I open the shaft door, nearly hitting my head against the roof and feeling the gust of air against my face. My day goes very slowly, usually starting at six and not finishing until the evening, when I come to the surface to be greeted by the pitch black of the winter dusk. Then it's home, for a quick wash down, supper and a good night's rest. This is the daily routine and it's the same yet again tomorrow!

*S Aldrich (9T)*

## HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU!

In true Geographical fashion, let us define what we mean by a Sixth Form Geography Field Trip. The four and a half day trip, staying at Exeter was, I quote;

'a study of the Devon area in order to practice Geographical methods needed for 'A' level projects and University use'.

The important question is, 'Did the visit fulfil the aim? Well, yes and no'. However, a far more important question is, 'Was the trip a good laugh.....? Yes, it definitely was!'

The journey down was unfortunately by the school mini-buses. Mr Smallwood took command of our 'sardine tin', while Mr Cippi attempted to drive the other. We arrived at Exeter University and went through the fairly mundane procedure of finding rooms and unpacking. During the trip down, all our minds had been working overtime on how we could possibly make the strict rules set out to all of us back at school, more flexible and accommodating.

We were soon on our way again, but this time we headed for the coast and Dawlish. Things were pretty quiet on the minibus, everyone acting in an orderly fashion. However, the introduction of playing cards and 'Queens - Greatest Hits', were an omen of what was to come. We arrived at Dawlish, feeling tired, but extremely excited at the prospect of mapping land-use. The group soon cheered up when Russell Stevens hopped off the other bus in a T-shirt, Bermuda shorts, sun glasses and the rest, making him look like a true Brit abroad! Suddenly for him, the temperature plummeted, the wind blew and it rained a lot, resulting in our friend Rus being soaked to the skin.

While dodging the raindrops, we mapped the land-use in Dawlish and via a rickety old fishing boat, (same builders as the school minibus), hopped over to Exmouth to undertake the same task. The purpose of the exercise was to discover how the two resorts differed. Dawlish was a seaside resort, thriving on English tourists. Thus, it has a small crazy golf complex, an excuse for a beach, amusement arcades, gift shops and some swans. All

the cultural entertainments that one can expect from an up market English resort.

Exmouth however actually had some 'proper shops', with the town's major focus being the fishing harbour and rumours were told to us of distant days when smuggling was the norm. While Russell had been drying out he quickly copied all the data he had missed from Mike Palmer's notes, while he was away surveying some local shops. We eventually returned back to base and the comforts of home life. I believe the quality of any accommodation is based on three factors. Firstly,

the basic facilities, which in our case revolved around old and drafty rooms; secondly, the quality of the cuisine and thirdly, how much fun you have in the evenings. Well, the 'Hope Hall Complex' was not too bad, with the TV room and pool table keeping us occupied most of the time, although at times there were instances of heated debate about whose turn it was to use these two vital facilities. The food was good, although the packed lunches caused us chronic digestive problems. For example, the quiche was dishonestly reminiscent of cold pizza and the Cornish pasties were filled with mashed potatoes. We did not like them first time round and the second time we saw them, we thought the Geologists back home may like to examine them. The fun on the trip was mainly contained to after

nine o'clock, which was the time we were dismissed by the aforementioned slave drivers, messers Smallwood and Cippi.

After dinner, some of us played cards, with the females in the group being taught how to play certain trivial games, although one member persistently tried to cheat, but Sam Wilcox generally lost more than she gained - justice!

Returning to the the main purpose of the trip - geography, the second day was spent studying coastal landforms. We first went to Dawlish Warren and then an area dominated by sand, which encloses a lake that is slowly being eroded by over enthusiastic skimmers. The final site was a ruined coastal village called, Hallsands, which was destroyed when the removal of the shingle by



developers from the sea floor undermined the village.

By now, entertainment in the minibus had reached desperate levels. Not content on betting on how many times the minibus would break down to allow traffic to pass, we finally had the singsong of all singsongs. The famous Dempsey/Palmer duet started proceedings with Queen's, 'Bohemian Rhapsody', but it degenerated into a free for all, with Mr Smallwood allegedly being heard to sing Status Quo's, 'In the Army now'.

The third day fortunately eliminated any minibus travel. The first exercise was noting down the type of shops found in the local area. Most rushed off to diligently map their own area, while other members focussed their attention on the main sports and music shops. The second task was to question members of the public on how far away they thought certain shops were. Us, shy, retiring students nervously approached the oncoming shoppers, only to be trampled in the rush towards Tesco's. After gaining some confidence, the majority of people sampled changed from being sympathetic shoppers to teenage girls. This became an effective exercise, with additional questions being asked in the line of duty, such as, 'Can I have your address and telephone number?' It was apparently reported to the leaders of the trip, that the female members undertaking this particular task, positioned themselves outside a local house of ill repute.

As we returned early to the University, we were allowed a couple of hours' free time. Mr Smallwood donned his running shoes and Great Britain vest, setting out for a quick half marathon. Not wanting to outshine Mr Smallwood, I decided against joining him for a 'short jog' and went to find the swimming pool. I changed into shorts, got a pass, walked two miles across the campus, over a hill, only to find it was closed. So, I did the next best thing and went back to the hall for a bath, followed by an exhausting game of pool.

The penultimate day of our 'study of the Devon area', was one which we were not really looking forward to. The long journey on to the top of Dartmoor took us from the sunshine coast into a misty and murky world, reminiscent of a scene from Shakespeare's, 'Macbeth'. The object of this trip was to contrast two tors - large masses of rock on the top of a hill, in order to discover how they were formed. A lot of sketching was undertaken, but we were no closer to the truth, only a lot colder and more wet. It was a good job Russell was wearing his waterproofs. After visiting a tourist village called, Widdicombe, which sells cups of tea at £10, we returned to the university.

Many of us were tired from the late nights and early morning starts and even Mr Cappi's, "It Bites" T-shirt, did not make us laugh anymore. We trooped onto the bus for the final day's visit to

the River Avon dam. Mr Smallwood in his wisdom, told us not to wear wellies for this trip. We marched for what seemed about five miles along the lake and stream to find a suitable sampling site. Unfortunately, there was no path and our walk took us through deep bogland and things went from bad to worse, as when we reached the site, we discovered that we would have to swim after all that Mr Smallwood had told us. By the way, we are still trying desperately to obtain compensation from our beloved leader. In order to carry out the set task, two members of each group were forced to wade into the freezing stream, with ruler and tape in hand, while the lucky ones remained on the bank taking notes. Many of the unfortunate soles in the water seem to undertake some form of baptism, dragging themselves out of the stream and looking like soggy chips.

After this paddling excursion, it was back to Exeter to pick up our belongings and return to glorious Gloucester. Most of us were exhausted, but we did manage a few smiles on our faces.

*M Dempsey (6T)*

## THEATRE TRIP TO 'CATS'

As part of English studies, members of Years 8 and 9 went to see the musical 'Cats', at the Bristol Hippodrome in October, 1993. Last year, we went to see 'Scrooge', but for some pupils it was a new experience. We set off, under the careful guidance of the English department and were soon taking our seats in the theatre.

The production was very entertaining, with the scenery, lighting and other technical effects, all contributing to enhance the performers' work on stage. We found the dance routines amazing, with the timing, synchronization and 'cat-like' mannerisms of the dancers being really authentic. The movements, sounds and actions of the actors, in their imitation of cats was very creative and original, adding to the atmosphere of the production. Their acting skills were assisted by some interesting and creative costume designs, all combining to set the scene of the musical. The music of course added to the suspense, tension and excitement of the production. At one point, smoke engulfed one part of the stage and smothered David Clifford, who was totally lost from view for a few minutes. All over and around the stage there were secret entrances, from which cats crawled out off.

Many of our fellow peers thought the production was excellent and our thanks must go to Mrs Barnes, Mrs Spilsbury and Mrs Stanley for arranging the outing.

*D Reffell & A Croney (8B)*







### JOHN DRAKE - 30 YEARS AT RICH'S

In January of this year, John Drake, Senior Laboratory Technician celebrated thirty years of service at Rich's. He came to the present site of the school in January 1964, to help set up the laboratories, before any pupils or staff arrived, prior to the official opening in the May of 1964.

Before starting at the new site, John had worked at the Barton Street site for five months, along with the only other survivor of the old school still on the current Rich's staff, Alan Pilbeam. John remembers the old school well, which was rather old fashioned, with spilt sites and a little archaic.

Originally, John had left school and had worked at Cirencester Agricultural College, then he undertook his national service, eventually followed by a job at "Permalin" in Gloucester, which specialized in reinforced plastic products. The job for Rich's came up in the "Citizen" newspaper and John applied, with the rest of the story being ancient history.

Until recently, John had not really seen many changes, in relation to staff and the school buildings. Yet, upon reflection he has served with a number of colleagues, such as Geoff Sheard, Idris Williams, John Bloxham and John Babbington, to name but a few. He also told me that he has actually witnessed four Headmasters in his time at Rich's. John feels that the past five to ten years seem to have disappeared rapidly.

He remembers many incidents and events in those thirty years and any new Richian, or new member of staff requiring a quick history of Rich's in the last three decades, only has to talk to John.

We congratulate John on his loyalty and commitment to Rich's. Everyone who knows John, I am sure, would like to wish him lots of luck for many years to come!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## BRITISH RAIL SAFETY TALK

Over the course of the winter, Mr Gordon Jones, from the Gloucester depot of British Rail came to the school to give pupils from years seven and eight a talk on the dangers of playing on or near railway lines. The aim of the talk was obviously to prevent any Rich's pupils from trespassing on the railways, as well as the prevention of fatal injuries.

During the talk, Mr Jones provided his young audience with some rather 'hard-hitting' facts about the dangers and perils of playing on the railways. We were told of various accidents that had occurred on the railways involving children of all ages, which had resulted in death or horrific injuries. Such accidents involved children falling onto live electric overhead cables, being knocked down by trains at over eighty miles per hour or being involved in platform accidents as trains arrived at stations.

He told the pupils of some of the horrific incidents that drivers had experienced, such as hooligans

throwing bricks from bridges at the cabin of the driver, resulting in a disfigured face and children placing boulders or concrete posts across lines. He informed the various groups, that the problems of trespassing on the railways had become so serious, that British Railways now had a definite policy of prosecuting anyone found caught trespassing on the railways.

The pupils saw a safety video, which outlined some stark statistics about the number of fatal injuries on the railways. It also provided interviews with British Railway Staff, relaying some of the terrible accidents that they had witnessed in their careers, such as the driver who could see a child ahead on the line, but was travelling at such a speed, that he was unable to stop the train and subsequently killed the victim. Many questions were asked at the end and Mr Jones hoped that the message had got across to the pupils of Rich's.

*Mr P Lloyd*



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## CHESS REPORT

Overall, forty players have represented the school teams and the club has been bursting during lunch-time. The season started with the traditional Marlwood tournament, in which the team achieved a respectable placing in a field boasting the best school teams in the whole of Britain. In 'The Times National Knock-out' competition, the school recorded convincing wins against Churchdown and a strong Belmont Abbey side, but was narrowly beaten by Monmouth School. The junior sides have continued to prosper with the Under 14's competing in a 'quickplay' tournament in Birmingham. In the local junior league, the 'B' team won division two and the 'A' team narrowly failed to win division one.

In the North Gloucestershire adult league, the school entered three teams. The new division five side acquitted themselves well and allowed experience to be gained for fourteen different

players. The division four team, which had been promoted from division five last season, almost managed to repeat their feat, finishing in a noteworthy second position. The division two side fought valiantly against some of the strongest clubs and players in the county. The team produced the best final placing by the school for ten years.

At an individual level, Chris Poole and Richard Clark won the Under 15 and Under 12 sections respectively of the North Gloucestershire Schools Congress. Adrian McBurnie, Tim Poole and David Freeman, joined them to play at 'County Junior level'. Senior colours went to Adam Koller for his general performances over the past seven years and Junior colours went to Chris Poole and Chris Wilkinson.

*D Freeman & A McBurnie (6R)*



## THREE DECADES OF 'THE RICHIAN'

### A REVIEW OF 1964 - 30 YEARS AGO

This was the first edition of the school magazine to be produced by the pupils and reflected a new era in the school's history. For on May 14th, 1964, the school opened its doors on the new Oakleaze site, moving from the old buildings in Barton Street. The guest at the first speech day in the new buildings was Sir Maurice Bowra, Warden of Wadham College, Oxford and the Headmaster on this historic occasion was Mr Veale, who reported a 74% pass rate for GCE Advanced Level, over a range of fifteen subjects. The school had achieved its highest pass rate at GCE Ordinary Level, with over three hundred passes.

During this year John Meale retired after twenty years of loyal service at Rich's. He would be remembered for his commitment to Geography teaching in the school, his participation in 181 Squadron of the Air Training Corps and the role he performed as staff representative in the Old Richians' Association.

In the August of 1964, Mr John Cooper and Mr Howard Smith had taken twenty-six boys for a tour of Switzerland. Meanwhile, the Railway Society had undertaken a tour of various depots in London. While the Historical Society had been active, with visits to Bristol docks, film shows and various talks ranging from the Warsaw Ghetto to Local Pottery.

An important event, was the opening of the swimming pool on October, 3rd, 1964. The initial plan had only been for the construction of a cricket pavilion, but the 'Tercentenary Appeal' had grown, resulting in the building of the pool. The headmaster, Mr Veale, along with distinguished guests officially opened the pool and it was followed by a rugby match involving Don White, T W Price, L Williams and F Sykes, to name but a few.

In this year, the school held a mock general election, with the Liberal candidate, a Mr Shepherd winning the 'Sir Thomas Rich's constituency'. That year, Northgate won the Cock House trophy, while the Cricket First XI only won one match out of a total of thirteen matches played. The school rowing club flourished, with a certain Ralph Tucker sadly leaving at the end of the summer, after a distinguished career with the club. The Venture Scouts were active as ever, with a summer trip to the Lake District, with a certain 'Senior', called Frank Henderson, often taking charge of route walks across the fells. Arrangements were being made for a 'Middle School' trip to Paris in the following year.

As ever, music was prominent in the school, with the choral society preparing in late autumn for a production of the 'Messiah', by Handel. The Madrigal Group were busy supplying choral evening song at Painswick and Quedgeley, while the choir was involved in the school's Shakespeare Festival.

The opening of the new school site in 1964, guaranteed a busy time at Rich's for the next thirty years!

### A REVIEW OF 1974 - 20 YEARS AGO

Mr Gordon Heap has been the new head of Rich's for approximately a year. Throughout the nation 'comprehensive education' was in vogue and grammar schools, such as Rich's, were on the defence. Miss Doris Townsend, the school secretary left after twenty-three years' service, to be replaced by Mrs Bettie Irvine. Another member of staff to leave in this year was Mr E Cothey, to be replaced in his first spell at Rich's, by Mr R L Fowler, now in 1994, Head of Mathematics, twenty years later.

'The Mikado', by Gilbert & Sullivan and produced by our very own Donald Moss, with Michael Rangeley conducting the orchestra, was the operatic venture of the year, with Denmark Road and Ribson Hall also involved. The major choral production was Haydn's 'Creation' and the prefects produced a play called, "Heap Big Trouble"

At the annual speech day, the guest speaker was a Mrs Sally Oppenheim. Other guests to visit the school during the year included Chris Bonnington, Captain Sir Ranulph Fiennes and the BBC cricket commentator, Peter West.

As usual, fund raising was essential, with preparation for the 'Bus Fete' well in hand. There were trips by various clubs and societies, home and abroad, which included an Easter trip to Venice. Many societies were flourishing, ranging from the 'Astronomical Society' to the 'Contract Bridge club'. The first XV won nine of their thirteen matches, while the first Cricket XI won eight of their twelve matches. Other prominent sports at the time included Michael Rangeley's Croquet club, the Lifesaving club, which competed in the national lifesaving championships and the Rowing club, which continued to be strong, under the direction of Mr Spear and Mr Middleton. This year, saw a combined Crypt/Rich's eight winning at Worcester Schools Regatta.

The year can best be summed up by the editor of the 1974 Richian, D E Lowe, who commented on the "enormous range of activities covered by the school" and how the relationship of the staff and pupils was very co-operative.

## A REVIEW OF 1984 - 10 YEARS AGO

This year saw a number of staff departures, many of who had been at the school over twenty years. These members included, Linden Huddleston, John Tavener, Allan Broome, John Burrow and Mr Jeffries. Meanwhile, 'The Richian' reported on the arrival of Ron Matthews to take over as Head of English. The school performed its annual production, which in 1984 was Gilbert and Sullivan's, 'Yeomen of the Guard', with Donald Moss and Michael Rangeley being the producers. The Old Richians Rugby Club's new clubhouse at Elmbridge had just been officially opened at the start of the new year by the Headmaster, Gordon Heap. The school once again won the local Rotary Club Public Speaking Competition.

As usual, the various clubs and societies were in full flow, with the 'Aircraft Society' visiting Cosford Aerospace Museum, while the 'Naturalists Society', under the guidance of John Cooper, went to Arran. A French trip comprising eighty-six pupils went to 'La Couronne', near Angoulême. The Railway Society, under Mr Cutting and Mr Preece went on a three day tour of the North-east, which included the 'Settle-Carlisle' line.

After a long absence of several years, 'Christmas by Candlelight' returned and there was a 'House Music competition'. In the Lent term, preparations were made for a 25th Anniversary Tour by the choir, with various performances at selected locations in Dorset and it also marked the end of twenty-five years of Linden Huddleston singing with the choir. The choir also performed at the 'Sue Ryder Home' for the terminally ill.

On the sports side, the first XV played thirteen matches and won six, while the Under 16's won the Gloucester District Cup Competition, beating Brockworth in the final. The school also hosted an Under 13's 'Sevens Tournament'. Chris Mayo and Adam Foster had qualified to run at the National Schools Cross-Country Championships in Croydon. Also at this time, Tennis in the school was very strong, with some good results against schools such as Cheltenham College and a match arranged at Magdalen College, Oxford. The Squash team had a good season, with six wins out of nine. Yet another 'action packed' year!

*Mr P Lloyd*

## THE 1994 FARADAY LECTURE

In February, many schools around the country converged on the Faraday lecture. The lecture started with the words, "anyone, anywhere, any time - the magic of communications". The lectures were founded in 1924, to commemorate the life and work of Michael Faraday. The lecture first discussed the pioneering work of Faraday in the field of electricity and electromagnetism. His work has laid the foundation for many of today's technological advances.

His ideas were first used in work relating to the electric telegraph, via the development work of Charles Wheatstone and William Cooke in England, but then later patented by Samuel Morse in the USA, in about 1837. It was a major achievement, as coded letters were communicated reliably and conveniently over copper cables at close to the speed of light.

The lecture then went on to the development of the telephone. The telephone was quicker and more reliable. It has the same principle as the fax machine. The lecture also discussed many topics, from the automatic exchange to the virtual reality for the future.

Faraday's experiments can be considered to be the fundamental building blocks for many of the developments that have taken place in the telecommunication industry. His experiments have influenced developments in such areas as televoting, computer interconnection, alarms, navigation, paging and many other technological forms of communication.

As you can see, today's world would be completely different, if it were not for Faraday's initial work and experimentation. The lecture also demonstrated the applications of telecommunications for the future. Since electronic chips and cables need very little raw material, costs will continue to decline, allowing mass communication worldwide to be the norm. One optical fibre can carry many optical signals, each transmitting thousands of telephone or video circuits.

The lecture conveyed the information across in many ways. For example, a giant screen linked to a computer helped produce some excellent visual displays for the audience. The whole lecture was very modern and outlined some of the possible future developments in telecommunications that we can all expect to see in the next few decades. We all found the lecture interesting and learned a great deal from it, particularly about the rapid pace that modern technology is being developed.

*C Poole (10T)*



## "SILVER LEVEL" CYCLE TRAINING

For many years, Mr. Kellie, Rich's Deputy Head, in conjunction with the Gloucestershire Road Safety Unit, has helped to set up the "Silver Level" Cycle Training course at the school. The course is usually run in the Summer term, with Year 8 pupils being selected for the training. This award is of course about road safety skills for young cyclists, but it is much more advanced than the "Cycling Proficiency Scheme" that many of you will remember from your junior school days.

At the end of the course we were tested, with the course instructors monitoring our safety skills on the road and also testing us on our knowledge of the Highway Code.

We had a twenty question written test paper on road safety. In the practical test we had to negotiate junctions in the correct manner, manoeuvre past parked cars and cross traffic light junctions. Emphasis was placed on signalling correctly, observation of potential hazards ahead and being able to manoeuvre in the correct manner. Of course, the week was not just about obtaining an award, but aimed to turn us into safety conscious cyclists and make our lives much safer on roads that seem to be very dangerous these days.



Our bikes were checked to see that they were in good working order and would not contribute to an accident. The bulk of the course was on the roads, with various skills and manoeuvres having to be negotiated. The instructors trained us to correctly negotiate junctions, overtake parked vehicles and warn other road users of our intentions as cyclists with the use of clear hand signals. A lot of it may sound simply common sense, but we were told of the increasing number

of cyclists in the county, who have been involved in dangerous road accidents, particularly from schools, often resulting in serious or fatal accidents. We were told that on average, two hundred cyclists are injured each year on Gloucestershire's roads, with many of them not living to tell the tale. The roads are becoming ever more congested, with heavy goods vehicles.

Our thanks must go to the instructors, Mrs Pritchard, Mr. Hodgson, Mr. Andrew and the examiner Mr. Dolmans.

Hopefully, Rich's will produce safer cyclists.

*A Croney & M Rowley (8B)*

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## THE DEBATING SOCIETY

This has been a year of mixed fortunes for the society. At the start of October, the first debate was held on the motion that the BBC should undertake a programme of privatisation. A large audience came down heavily on the side of Mark Dempsey and Ajinka Bhonsle against the proposers, Hilary Osborne and Matthew Windridge.

A month later, the Upper Sixth took on a Lower School team, consisting of Oliver Scarff and the Meredith brothers, for a game of "Call my Bluff". Many imaginative words and potential definitions were given, as the Upper Sixth side of Adrian McBurnie, Hilary Osborne and Salim Uka, turned out as triumphant winners.

Perhaps the most memorable event of the year was the performance of a 'Swahili Male Virility Dance', by the Upper Sixth! I am not sure what this had to do with the topic at the time, but it certainly created a stir amongst the audience, who found it amusing.

We then had a successful joint debate with the girls from Denmark Road, with the core subject revolving on whether Rich's and Denmark Road should amalgamate. John Hinton was a member of the team proposing the motion, which narrowly beat off opposition led by Adrian McBurnie.

The next debate was tied, after Simon Jones, Raj Sood, Daniel Tiffney and John Hinton all



delivered creditable speeches about whether the influence of 'Pop culture on Society', was a good or detrimental. The final event of the term was 'Just a Minute', organized by Michael Bourne.

In the spring term, just one event took place, as nearly all the society's effort was concentrated on an 'Any Questions' evening, in which prominent local speakers were invited. Sadly, this had to be cancelled, due to lack of support from the school. In the one debate which did take place, Adrian McBurnie and Raj Sood narrowly defended the English School System

against the ideas of Leighton Hazell and Oliver Scarff's proposals of adopting the German system.

The final event of the year was the 'House Public Speaking Competition'. In the Junior competition a Northgate side, weakened by last minute illness, produced a well argued and smooth performance on the subject of 'Theme Parks', finishing behind the pre-tournament favourites, Eastgate. However, the competition was won on by Westgate, led by Kester Knight, over Southgate, but only on a 'count-back'. William Naylor's Southgate team was obviously disappointed, especially after producing an excellent presentation on the theme of 'Sweets provided free on the NHS'. Yet, Kester Knight's team seem to have a wider appeal, when they argued that 'School Homework should be abolished'. Some accused them of pampering to the audience!

In the Senior Event, Samantha Wilcox of Eastgate discussed certain habits of selected creatures, with her team finishing fourth. The competition was of a very high standard, with Adrian McBurnie's Westgate team finishing third, after producing a speech about the different types of characters found in the teaching profession. Southgate, led by Andrew Tiffney produced a speech about, 'The decline in Morality', but the eventual winners were Northgate, in which Chris Wilkinson produced an outstanding speech. His theme was about how the city of Gloucester should defend itself against the criticism levelled at it by a famous newspaper journalist - names not mentioned - who has had strong ties with a newspaper called the 'Sunday Times'.

As usual, many thanks go to the Society's President, Mr David Slinger, for his continued help in running the various events.

*A McBurnie (6R)*

## THE SWIMMING POOL

On October, 3rd, 1964 the then Headmaster, Mr Veale, officially opened the new school Swimming pool.

Unfortunately, by the late 1970's, early 1980's, problems started to arise. The pool had been designed and built with a 'flat roof', with the roof's physical composition, mainly made up of material based around compressed wood chippings. The roof absorbed the water and chemical vapours from the pool, resulting in erosion and ultimately, rendering the pool unsafe.

For many years after the closure, great debate went on about what should happen to the pool, whether it should be refurbished or demolished. Then in the early 1990's, under the new headship of Tony Jarvis and the tremendous enthusiasm of Ken Shaw and Graham Middleton, the 'Restoration Project' was launched. The Parents' Association ploughed all of its efforts into fund raising events, with many volunteers assisting in the clearing out of debris and helping in the renovation of the pool. The 'Pool Committee' canvassed and lobbied various national bodies to obtain grants and donations. Gradually, the money was raised and with it building work started, with the pool gradually emerging back to its former glory. By the spring of 1992 the roof was replaced, thanks to the generous help and assistance of an 'interest-free' loan from the Old Richians' Association. This enabled work to be undertaken during the summer months of that year, with the interior gradually refurbished.

By early 1993, the pool was on the verge of completion, with only one factor preventing its re-opening. The Headmaster and the 'Pool Committee' had to decide on a suitable heating/filtration system. There were various options and to obtain the best one extra funds needed to be generated. Thus, during the spring and Summer of 1993 more fund raising went on, combined with further lobbying of sports foundations to generate the extra income.

Finally, during the first half of the 1993/94 academic year, the heating/filtration system was installed. Just before half term, some of the staff dipped their toes into the water and started to swim in the school swimming pool for the first time, for many years. After the autumn half-term break, swimming lessons were officially started.

By September, 1994, it looks as if new changing rooms will be completed, allowing external groups to hire the pool facilities. Yet, we must not forget the hard work of the 'Pool Committee', particularly the many hours that Graham Middleton and Ken Shaw devoted in ensuring that a 'vision' back in 1990 became a reality.

*Mr P Lloyd*



# SPORTS

## TABLE-TENNIS AT RICH'S

Every week, after school, ping-pong enthusiasts flock to the gym to find it full of table-tennis tables. Without doubt, table-tennis at Rich's is exceptionally popular and is growing all the time. The sport was introduced a few years by Mr Kellie, Rich's Deputy Head. The club was not restricted to an elite few, but anyone with an interest could have a go, from Year 7, right up to the Sixth Form. Mr Swann and Mr Smallwood, along with Mr Kellie, fulfil the boys' enthusiastic appetite for table-tennis during many after school sessions.

Two years ago, Mr Kellie entered a number of teams for the Gloucester Table-Tennis League. The league is dominated by adult teams and Rich's are officially the only school team participating. Our sides mainly play in the lower divisions, but with time, progress will hopefully be made and promotion may gradually be accomplished. This year, the 'A' team played in Division 5, producing some excellent wins and finishing in a creditable mid-table position. The 'B' team had a highly successful season, to finish near the top of Division 6, while the 'C' team found life hard in Division 6, but all the players displayed considerable improvement.

A group of players took part in the County Schools Table Tennis Championships. In each of the age groups, a Rich's pupil achieved third place; Simon Kellie at U13, Aaron Mortimer at U16 and Mark Stafford at U19. The competition was strong, but these players must be congratulated on their efforts.

This year, for the first time, Mr Kellie organized a House Table-Tennis competition. The competition was naturally divided up into a Senior and Junior competition. Two Sixth Formers, Salim Uka and Paul Critchard, had the tricky task of organizing and officiating many of the matches. Matches were close, others rather one sided, depending upon the expertise of the players you came up against. After four months of competition, the inaugural House Table-Tennis competition drew to a close, with Westgate proving to be worthy winners.

Without doubt, Table-Tennis is not just a passing fad at Rich's. Pupils continue to flock to the gym, with the popularity of the sport and the chance to humiliate any teacher who dares to pick up a bat, stronger than ever.

*S Kellie (7T)/Mr P Lloyd*



## FENCING CLUB



Over the past few years, the popularity of fencing in the school has grown considerably. It is a sport that involves a high level of 'hand-eye' co-ordination, as well as speed and tactical awareness. Thus, it was these qualities that attracted us to the Fencing course that ran for a number of weeks in the autumn term. It was very rewarding to take up a new sport from scratch and gradually become relatively competent as the weeks passed. It was very technical, but exciting, especially during a duel. It takes great skill, quick reaction and judgment to compete well. We were attracted to the course as it is obviously different from many of the sports offered at Rich's and it has a certain 'novelty' element to it.

In a competition, scoring is judged by electronic sensors, linked to the foil and various key areas of the fencer's body. When contact is made, lights are triggered, resulting in the possibility of points being scored. Generally, beginners use a foil and attempt to strike specific parts of their opponents' bodies, thus scoring points. We found the foil to be light-weight, flexible and relatively easy to handle. The target area is restricted to the upper torso.

Another type of sword used in fencing, is the 'Epee', which is a slightly shorter weapon than the foil, yet it is even more flexible. When in competition using this sword, the target areas are not just restricted to the torso, but include the groin, feet and arms.

The last type of sword used in fencing, is the 'Sabre', which is much heavier, longer and stronger than the other two types. When using this type of sword, it requires a greater degree of control and skill. In competition, when using the sword, all areas of the body are generally on target, with thrusting and slicing movements.

As with any sport, there are set movements, which have to be mastered if one is to gain success in competition. We found that fencing was not just a question of waving a foil around in an aggressive and wild way. You had to think carefully, manoeuvre yourself with great agility and attempt to execute basic foil movements, in order to successfully score points. This of course takes a lot of practice, patience and commitment.

Overall, we would recommend the course to any member of the school. We did not have to supply any of the equipment and the only requirement to follow the course, is lots of enthusiasm. So if it runs again in the coming autumn term, have a go!

*A Pearce/B Vaquas (10R)*



## BADMINTON CLUB - YEAR 7

Since the start of the school year, the Badminton club has flourished under the guidance of Miss Gorby and Mr Henderson. All pupils, whatever their standard or ability have had the opportunity to play and improve upon their basic skills. Coaching tips have been relayed to individuals and during games, skills have improved dramatically for most of us.

Miss Gorby took charge of the Monday sessions, while Mr Henderson organized the Friday club. The fact that two sessions operated highlights the popularity and success of the club. Without doubt some good players have emerged with lots of potential and we had a match against Cheltenham Junior College, which we lost, but we still gained valuable experience.

Badminton at Rich's is a little difficult to operate at times for a number of reasons. We have to adapt the gym to have two courts operating and this subsequently means only a limited number can play at any one time. Also, the ceiling is rather low and this obviously impedes play at times, particularly when your trying to lob your opponent. Despite these physical limitations, we did improve and above all, we had competitive matches and lots of fun. Many thanks to Miss Gorby and Mr Henderson for their hard work and patience!



*A Degan & S Tipper (7R)*



Participants of the 'Annual Christmas Cracker' indoor match.

## INDOOR CRICKET REVIEW

This season Gareth Cappi became in charge of the Indoor Cricket league. His impact and influence upon the league was immense. From a bystander's point of view, the league has never been so well organized and administered as this year. Anyone who has passed the PE notice boards will bear this point out, as each week in-depth statistical data on the results of matches has been posted up for all to see. In addition to this, a detailed rule book has been published, desk-top published fixture programmes and all manner of administrative information, combining to produce a smooth running league.

Not only has the organization and administration of the league changed, but also many of the rules - for the better! Gareth Cappi and the members of his 'think-tank', dwelled for many hours during the summer, in an attempt to improve the quality of the game. Up until this season, the main emphasis of play had focussed purely on the accumulation of large sums of runs. As a result, many felt that all the winning team had to do was just 'slog out' and run, with many tactical elements found in the outdoor version completely lost.

As a result, a review was desperately needed, so that credit could be awarded for various tactical decisions and other aspects of the game, not just scoring lots of runs! Thus, a lot of adjustments and new rules were introduced. Many thought that the system would encourage lots of draws, particularly when a side knew they could not reach the target set by the team batting first. Yet, Mr Cappi informed me that in reality there had only been a minority of matches ending this way. The new system will be further revised based upon the experiences of this year.

It is hoped, that this 'new enlightenment' that has recently been displayed this season will transfer to the outdoor version and our teams in the summer will reflect this new technical approach to the game of cricket.

*Mr P Lloyd*





## BASKETBALL CLUB



Since the first year, we and many other students have wanted to start a Basketball club. So, when Miss McCalla announced that a club would be set up, the response from the Year 9 pupils was enthusiastic. Miss made sure that she took an active part in the sessions, providing demonstrations, supplying coaching tips and helping us develop our own individual techniques.

The sessions were well planned, with individual component skills practiced, such as rebounding, lay-ups, set shots and simple team plays. Naturally, we always finished with a match, often very competitive, but all good fun.

One Wednesday, we were surprised and pleased to have the company of Rodney Wilson of the 'Bristol Renegades' take a coaching session. This was novel and brilliant, with Rodney supplying us with some expert coaching.

We did not have any matches with other schools, but next year, once we have reached a certain standard, then Miss McCalla will hopefully arrange a few fixtures. The Wednesday sessions have been a great success. We have improved upon basic skills, grasped some of the more technical rules and above all, enjoyed ourselves. We would all like to thank Miss McCalla for taking the time and trouble to take the sessions, particularly when nobody else seemed to want to know. Thanks Miss!

*S Davis & G Pocock (9R)*



## JUNIOR CROSS-COUNTRY

The Junior section of the school is outstanding and the Rich's has tremendous potential in the coming years, but it will have to be encouraged. With pupils such as Ross Hemming, Marcus Rayer, Simon Kellie, George Kirby and George Powell, as well as many more on the fringes, the school has a nucleus for some exciting teams which could compete very comfortably with many of the independent schools in the Midlands. This was proved at the Cheltenham Junior Relays, when out of the twenty-six schools competing, mainly from the private sector, Rich's came home in second position, just ten seconds behind the winners.

Many of the above pupils also proved themselves in the various cross country trials, with Rich's dominating the local junior district trials. A number of the pupils went to the inter-district and county trials, not only for Rich's, but also for Gloucester AC. This winter potential was later transferred to the track season, in local matches, where Rich's tended to dominate the junior middle-distance races. Overall, prospects are very bright and cross-country could thrive once more at Rich's.

*Mr P Lloyd*



Part of the successful Junior Cross-Country team.

## INTERMEDIATE CROSS-COUNTRY

There were three races this season. At Marling, in late February, our team was not at full strength, but this did not deter us from achieving some good finishing positions. The overall result left us in second place, slightly behind RGS, Worcester by three points.

Next, at Old Hills, Callow End, RGS, Worcester's home course, we took our revenge. I managed to come second and many of the Rich's team felt that they could have performed even better in the muddy conditions if they had worn spikes. The best run of the day came from David Nichols, who put in a stirring performance to finish in fourth place. The victory over RGS, Worcester was by the margin of six points.

The final event was the climax to the cross-country season, with the Spring Relays and we returned to Old Hills, Callow End, along with a Senior team. In the Intermediate event, Rich's lead from the start, but unfortunately we could not maintain our lead and came second, losing to Shrewsbury School by a mere 400 metres. One must mention, R Morris, from Crypt school, who managed to produce the fastest lap of the day. At the end, we were all pretty sick, for we knew that we had come so close.

Let's hope that the members who will be classified as Seniors next year, will improve and will take the 'West Mercia Cross-Country League'.

*K Stewart (10T)*

## SENIOR CROSS-COUNTRY

This season was unfortunately a relatively poor one, even though prospects at the start appeared promising, but this was soon to fade. Yet, even though the results were not particularly good, the team did display lots of spirit and character.

This year, the team was supported by Bryan Simpson, an Old Richian, who qualified for the age group for the last time and also, Robert Morris, a pupil from Crypt, who was allowed to run for Rich's. At times their services were greatly appreciated, particularly when I, as captain, was trying desperately to organize a team.

One must mention Andrew Jenkins, not because he was the best runner, but because he was a loyal and committed member of the team. Kieran Stewart must also be mentioned, for he represented the team, despite only being an 'Intermediate'.

I myself had a pleasing season, finishing in third place twice and fifth in the final race. Next year, I hope to improve upon this record and with the strong 'Intermediates' joining the team, I feel that the West Mercia League title could be a strong possibility.

Finally, one must mention Rowena Hopkins and Jo Baker for taking part in the races. In many ways, they displayed greater levels of fitness than many of their fellow male peers in the school. Hopefully, they will inspire more girls to participate and we may even see a full team. I must thank Mr Smallwood for his time and effort. Hopefully, we can produce lots of wins next season.

*S Simpson (6H)*



Stuart Simpson powers up Old Hills, Callow End.

## A MARATHON GUIDE FOR ASPIRING (PERSPIRING) ATHLETES

"The first thing to remember", The AAAF handbook said, "is that the marathon is a VERY long way!"

The training for the London Marathon is very hard. All through the dark winter months, the mileage needs to be accumulated at a steady rate, with around forty miles being clocked up per week. This usually entails about five to six miles of running per day, with a more serious effort taking place on Sundays.

Three and half months, three pairs of trainers and nearly eight hundred training miles later, I was on the start line at Blackheath, ready to face, what most still regard as the ultimate test of fitness and endurance. The event is unique, where else would you find Eamon Martin in the same race as a group of superannuated Christmas fairies with yellow tutus and matching collection buckets?

After the start, the images tend to crowd in upon you. Wren architecture and calypso street bands, the starkness of the Docklands and the unremitting pounding of thousands of human feet, all blur the senses as you endeavour to survive the course. The wall of faces with eyes focussed on the colourful human river contrasting with the harsh lines of Canary Wharf; all of these and many others, have made indelible marks on my memory.

My race plan was simple - an even seven and a half minute mile pace throughout, right up to the finish, so that I would cover the course in three hours and fifteen minutes. Everything ran according to the schedule, until twenty-two miles, when the stitch really did stitch me up at Tower Bridge! I eventually crossed the line in three hours and

thirty-eight minutes, some twenty-three minutes late and on the heels of a six foot tall spotty dog!

What I have achieved, apart from a few blisters, a lot of fatigue and the feeling that my legs do not belong to me anymore? Well, I have achieved a personal goal and helped Cancer Research in the process. Many thanks to all those who supported me and helped raise money for a worthy cause. I feel privileged to have been part of one of the world's most famous mass participation athletic events. My advice? Try it for yourself, but perhaps only once!



*Mr S Smallwood*

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## SOCCER - SHAYNE BRADLEY

The signing of 'Associated Schoolboy Forms' for a Premier Football club, must be most soccer mad schoolboys' dream. For me, this dream has fortunately come true, as on my fourteenth birthday, I signed for Southampton Football Club.

When I reflect over the last few years, I remember that it all started when I joined Robinswood Juniors at the tender age of nine. Since then, I have remained loyal to this team and have played right up to under 14 level.

Over the past three years, I been to a number of league clubs for trials and this has been a good experience. Some of the clubs have been Coventry City, Aston Villa, Leeds United, Swindon Town and Luton Town. Among these clubs, Luton offered me schoolboy forms, but I decided to sign for Southampton instead.

At the moment, I am attending the 'Southampton School of Excellence', which is based at Bath and I attend this once a week. The 'Associated Schoolboy Forms' that I have signed will last for two years, until I am sixteen.

When my two year period is completed at Southampton, the club will select the best youth players on their books, based on whether they show premiership football potential. If I am one of the lucky ones, then the club will offer me 'Youth Training Scheme Forms', which lasts for two years. This will be a crucial time, as I will have to show that I really have the talent to make a top class soccer player. They then may offer me a contract. The next few years will be a real challenge for me.

*S Bradley (9S)*

## SOCCER - JODY BEVAN

I was selected to play for Walsall Football Club while I was playing for my local club, Longlevens, when we were actually playing a Walsall Under 14's side team. Most Thursday nights, my dad would drive me up the M5 to Walsall, where we would have our training session on a new, synthetic pitch, next to the club's new stadium. The session would last for about two hours. Since I have been going to Walsall, the team has improved, in terms of results.

If I was to give any advice to anybody who wanted to become a professional soccer player, it would be that you have to be really dedicated and persistent. At times, things go badly and you do have disappointments, such as when I had trials with Swindon Town. This setback has made me more determined and as a player more aggressive whilst playing.

My ambition is to become a professional footballer, but I must concentrate on my studies at school.

*J Bevan (10S)*

## SOCCER - TOM RADCLIFFE

I was noticed about eighteen months ago by the Swindon Town Youth Development Officer, whilst playing for Rich's against Marling, in the Under 13's County Schools Final. I was invited to go for trials at Swindon, during May 1992. I was then invited to join the 'Swindon Town Centre of Excellence' for the 1992/93 season.

So, once a week for a year, I travelled down to Swindon and joined their under fourteen squad. Towards the end of that season, I played a few games for the Under 15 Swindon Town Youth Team.

Then, in the August, of 1993, I attended an assessment week, with boys from schools of soccer excellence based in the south of England. At the end of the week, along with twenty-two other lads, I was selected to play for Swindon Town in the 1993/94 season. After further assessments during this season, I became one of only six plays who were asked to sign 'Associate Schoolboy Forms' for the club.

*T Radcliffe (10R)*

## GLoucester RFC VISIT RICH'S

In February, the school had the honour and privilege of receiving a visit from Barrie Corless, Technical Coaching Director, of Gloucester Rugby Club and four First XV squad players for a 'Coaching Clinic'. The session started in the main hall, where there was a general introduction by Barrie Corless on the role of the club within the local Gloucester community. Barrie also provided the boys with an insight of what it is like these days to play top flight rugby, including a typical training week down at Kingsholm.

The general talk was then followed by a 'Question and Answer' session, where the boys were able to ask penetrating questions and gain valuable tips. Next came the practical session, with Barrie and the guest players undertaking various drills. Naturally, enthusiasm, effort and full commitment were in plentiful supply during the session. Simple, but effective tips were passed on and the boys definitely benefited from the session. Hopefully, this event will become an integral part of the Rich's rugby calendar. Many thanks to Barrie Corless and the Gloucester players for taking time out to visit Rich's!

*Mr P Lloyd*

Barrie Corless (far right) together with some of the Gloucester players and Rich's Rugby pupils.



## RUGBY REVIEW

### 1st XV

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
9	8	1	0

The 1st XV won nine of their ten matches, with the forwards particularly dominant. Often they produced excellent driving play, which enabled them to take control of their matches. The outstanding performances of this team came against Chosen Hill (21-12), Crypt (23-8) and Worcester VI Form College, (22-7). The only defeat came against Kings, who deserved their 15-11 win. Overall, the team's performances were very positive.

### Colours

Already Awarded:      New colours:

K Snow	J Newman
J Pegler	L Tyreman
	S Giles
	P Greenwood

*Mr I J Gallagher*

### 2nd XV

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
8	5	0	3

The 2nd XV opened the season strongly with wins against Churchdown and Chosen Hill, but then lost to Beaufort 22-21 in a disappointing game. The team returned to their winning ways against Marling and then lost in a hastily arranged fixture against Dean Close. Throughout the season there was an excellent team spirit and a positive attitude.

### Colours

B Hansford	R Saunders
S Bennett	P Ellicott
J Sargeant	T Harris

*Mr M R Swann*



### COLTS XV

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
10	2	8	0

This was a very disappointing season for the Colts, despite the loss of some key players being taken into account. Although the team was committed, they were not disciplined enough to play as a unit and so many opportunities were lost and their true abilities did not show through.

### Colours

No Full Colours Awarded.

*Mr I J Gallagher*

### UNDER 14 XV

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
10	7	1	2

This was an excellent season for the Under 14's. They produced an uncompromising, driving style of play, which often resulted in the opposition retreating and allowed lots of space for some fine running movements. The squad also possessed great strength in depth and was full of confidence.

### Colours

G Pocock
J Cox
T Green

*Mr I M Hodgkinson*

### UNDER 13 XV

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
11	10	1	0

This was a highly successful season for the Under 13's. They played with great conviction and aggression. In many matches the opposition had problems containing the Rich's pack. One must mention the victories against Marling and St Peter's, teams which the Under 13's had lost to last year. The squad possessed great strength in depth, with the backs tackling well and always willing to attack the opposition. The team has lots of potential and enthusiasm.

*Mr P Lloyd*



## 1ST XV - CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Being the Captain of the First XV has always been a great aspiration for me. Thus, when I was notified that I was to be captain for the 1993 season, I was honoured and keen to take up the position. I was initially nervous before the first match, which was against Churchdown. However, this did not deter or hinder the team at all, because to the surprise of Mr Gallagher, the team hammered Churchdown 48-5 and this victory was to be the springboard for a very successful season.

Next came Chosen Hill, which was a much closer game than the score of 21-12 actually indicates. This close match ensured the team worked harder in training and there was a lot of determination not to allow our next opponents, Marling, any chance of snatching a win. The school winning the match by 25-3. The following week brought an away fixture at St Peter's and in atrocious conditions, the team produced a win, but by the closest of margins, 7-8. In the last game, before the autumn half-term, St Edwards were soundly beaten, by 38-7.

Refreshed from our mid-season break, the team came up against a very tough clash, Worcester 6th Form College. The team capitalized on any errors the opposition made, ensuring that Rich's had a reasonable half-time lead, that Worcester were unable to overhaul in the second half, leaving the final result to be 22-7.

Our defeat at the hands of Kings last season due to a number of silly mistakes, made the team focus on this match in particular. Despite the players showing great character and spirit, right up to the final whistle, we lost the match 15-11. In the following week, yet another derby match materialized, with Crypt being our opponents. We ran out winners, 15-7.

Yet, the excitement of the season was not over, for in our final match we came up against the Royal Forest of Dean College. It was neck and neck, with the College coming back strongly in the second half to take the lead. In the dying minutes, Neil Bennett from a penalty made sure we won by 13-12. The season was over and all Richians can feel proud of a good record, winning nine out of ten matches. I wish my successor and his team every success next season.

*K Snow (6H)*



## SOCCER REVIEW



### UNDER 15 XI

The team won all of their matches with the exception of one, which was against Brockworth. Often the side was able to control matches for long periods and were very capable of playing very attractive football. They proved a credit to the school in their attitude on and off the field.

*Mr R Lockey*

### UNDER 14 XI

After finishing the season as league champions, the team then went on to beat Balcarras, Cheltenham in the final of the County Cup, winning in extra time by four goals to three. This rounded off, a very successful season for the team.

*Mr I J Gallagher*

### UNDER 13 IX

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
8	4	2	2

This season was much better, mainly due to lots of preseason training and plenty of team spirit. Our results were not outstanding, but we played to a competent level, despite mainly having a team of Rugby players. To our credit we won four matches, drew two and only lost two. Next season, I expect the team to progress even further!

*G Whittington (8R)*

## CRICKET REVIEW

### FIRST XI

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
6	3	1	2

Under the captaincy of Ben Hansford, the school was a strong outfit, with a positive approach. With fixtures against Dean Close, Rendcomb and other stronger sides, the team played six, won three, drew two and lost only one. Ben Hansford represented Gloucestershire County 2nd XI and Gloucestershire Under 19's, while Richard Saunders represented Gloucestershire at Under 16 level.

*Mr I J Gallagher*

### SECOND XI

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
4	0	1	3

The season ended in three draws, one defeat and no wins. Yet, there were some encouraging highlights to the season, such as the consistent bowling of Matthew Gough and the ability of the team to bat resolutely when things were tough.

*Mr T Fearn*

### UNDER 15 XI

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
5	2	1	2

This team did not reach the heights of last season's success. The key bonus in a very 'average' season, was the fact that Tom Radcliffe played for Gloucestershire Under 15's.

*Mr R Lockey*

From left to right:  
Will Radcliffe,  
Tom Radcliffe,  
Ben Hansford and  
Richard Saunders  
(players who gained  
representative  
honours).



### UNDER 14 XI

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
11	7	3	1

Without question, this side has grown in confidence and competence over the season, losing only three matches, but winning seven and drawing one. The team has reached the district final of the National Lord Taverners competition and will play Cheltenham College next season.

*Mr B North & Mr G Cippi*

### UNDER 13 XI

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
5	4	0	1

The Under 13's have had a very disruptive season, with many of their opponents electing to cancel. The team produced an unbeaten record, playing five matches, winning four and drawing one. Rakesh Patel was outstanding and was selected for the Gloucester & City Under 13 side.

*Mr P Lloyd*

### UNDER 12 XI

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
8	6	0	2

The squad played eight matches, winning six, losing none and drawing two. One must congratulate William Radcliffe, who followed in his brother's footsteps and represented the County at Under 12 level.

*Mr I J Gallagher*



### 'BODY SHOP TALK'

One late October evening, representatives of Gloucester 'Body Shop' came to the school to demonstrate various items from their product range and provide a talk on the environmental work undertaken by the organization worldwide. I was once more present, with camera in hand, wife in the other, to record this event for the magazine.

The 'talk' involved a slide show, focussing in upon various projects sponsored by Body Shop in locations, such as South America. The emphasis of the projects was to encourage conservation and promote environmental issues throughout the industrialized world. Thus, the audience was informed how the organization works with remote tribes in South America in the production of various goods and primary substances, for use in Body Shop products, without the destruction or industrial manipulation of the natural environment.

The staff informed the audience, that one of the main philosophies of Body Shop when dealing with third world countries, is 'trade, not aid', so that local communities can be self-sufficient and build up their local economy, without destroying their natural resources.

After the talk and slide show, parents and friends were treated to a 'make-up' demonstration, with tips on how to make the most of one's natural facial features and which type of make-up to use. On display were various products and promotional lines, which my wife and other women fully tested! A good evening was had by all and it was pleasing to know that some organizations are prepared to sacrifice some of their profit margin in the interest of the environment.

*Mr P Lloyd*



Manageress and Deputy Manageress apply the Body Shop treatment.

## QUIZ EVENING

'Madame' Barnes  
with her 'Barnes  
Brigade' team.



This highly successful event is now an integral part of the many functions organized by the Parents Association. Behind the popularity of the Quiz evening, has been the hard work and dedication of Ken Shaw and Ian Hodgkinson. Already, nine quiz evenings have been completed, since the first one around five years ago. During this time, the revenue from this event has reached over four thousand pounds and this has been channelled back into the school. Every pupil in the school has felt the benefit from the revenue raised from the quiz evenings. The funds have been directed to various projects around the school, resulting in improved facilities and equipment that enhance the daily educational experience of Rich's pupils.

Thus, on a cold autumn evening, I entered a packed school hall, with parents, teachers, pupils and friends of the school all in mortal combat with each other. The atmosphere was jovial, humorous, but intense rivalry could be detected, as the Quizmaster, Ken Shaw relayed questions over the microphone on topics ranging from sport to more academic disciplines. There was a 'caption competition' and Ken Shaw at regular intervals would read out some rather strange answers and requests.

As I walked between the tightly packed tables, taking photographs for the magazine, I could see that many of the teams were dressed in fancy dress, keen to play their jokers. All the teams were adequately supplied with food and drink to see them well through the four hour event. Upon talking to Mr Hodgkinson, who was keeping a tabs on the scores, there were over fifty teams, with roughly three to four hundred people in the hall. This was obviously a mark of how successful this annual event has become and also the tremendous

organizational skills of Messers Shaw and Hodgkinson.

All the teams entered into the party atmosphere, with bizarre names denoting their allegiance. Thus, we had Mr Lockey's '8R Army', 'The Mad Hatters', 'The Barnes Brigade' and 'The Boffins', to name but a few of the teams. Many veterans of these quiz nights had shrewdly selected their teams, ensuring that members spanned many generations and possessed specialist interests. Such attributes were found in Frank Henderson's team, 'Miles Behind', but this name was very misleading, as they were the eventual winners on the night. One must mention, Mr Lockey's '8R Army', which as the name suggests, consisted mainly of year eight pupils, who came fifth overall, but won the junior event. This was a notable achievement, taking into account that many teams consisted of mainly adults.

The event raised around £670 and the bulk was to be contributed to the school library fund. One must not forget to thank all those individuals who helped in the efficient running of the event. These include those pupils from years eight and nine who acted as 'runners', collecting all the answers. Then there were the Sixth Formers who acted as judges, the various members of the Parents' Association who supplied food and beverages to the teams, as well as Mr Steve Morgan, who assisted Mr Hodgkinson. What struck me about this event, was the display of school unity that the quiz night seemed to generate. Here was an event, in which pupils, staff, friends and parents all united to support their local school, raising funds to make everybody's life at Rich's that little bit better.

*Mr P Lloyd*

## CAKE DECORATING EVENING

With Christmas fast approaching, it seemed natural that Ken Shaw and the Parents' Association should arrange a Christmas cake decorating demonstration in late November. Once again, I was there, with camera in hand, but I was grateful to Ken Shaw when my film suddenly ran out and he stepped in with his camera to save the day.

The demonstration by Mr Lyne was excellent, with simple but effective tips on the best way to decorate your Christmas cake. Even I learned something about the correct way to ice a cake!

As usual, the main winners were the pupils of Rich's, with the funds raised during the evening being devoted to this year's projects, of supplying the library with new books and generating money towards the eventual purchase of a new mini-bus. If it were not for such events, which need the support of all parents, then the quality and standard of education for many young Richians, would be drastically reduced. Thanks once more to the hard work of the Parents' Association.

*Mr P Lloyd*



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## GLASS ENGRAVING DISPLAY

In November, Mr Glyn Phillips of Gloucester was invited by the Parents' Association to provide a talk and demonstration on 'Glass Engraving'. Mr Phillips had been an architect for most of his life, but upon taking early retirement, he found that there was a demand for glass engraving in the local Gloucester area. So, what was initially a hobby, that developed from an interest in 'Calligraphy', turned into a small business.

The audience was informed of the various techniques and tips used in glass engraving and then had the opportunity to have a go themselves. Thus, parents, friends and some Rich's pupils had a trial, but not on the best crystal that was on display. The evening was informal, yet informative and was another event which raised money for various projects in the school.

*Mr P Lloyd*

Mr Glynn Phillips  
assists  
Robert Haines, 7S.







# OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION

## OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION: PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1993-94

President:  
Past President:  
Secretary:  
Treasurer:  
Chairman Junior  
Section &  
Membership  
Secretary:

Stanley Jones  
David Mayo  
David Billingham  
Andrew Bishop

David Hook

When members of the Association were kind enough to elect me as their President on the 16th September, 1991 - fifty years to the day on which I first entered the portals of Sir Thomas Rich's - I much looked forward to the two traditional years' service in office. At the time, little did I anticipate that I would be reappointed for a third year - a great honour indeed. However, now that my term of duty is over, I must thank sincerely all who have given me their warm and loyal support, which has been very much appreciated.

A pleasing development of the past three years has undoubtedly been the wealth of news and correspondence received from Old Richians, which has increased immensely, a fact that augurs well for the future health of the Association. We hear from Richians in the USA, Canada, South America, the Continent of Europe, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. As we now possess nearly 1,000 names, addresses and phone numbers, we hope that even more will write about careers, interests, and families for the news section in 'The Richian'. This information has greatly enhanced the quality and scope of the Old Richians' contribution to the school magazine, which this year is by far the largest in the long history of the publication. My grateful thanks are due to everyone who has written and particularly to those who have sent valuable photographs, documents and memorabilia to the school archives.



The Old Richians' Association Committee.

From left to right: David Mayo, Bill Hook, Alan Pilbeam, Tony Jarvis, Stanley Jones, Andrew Bishop, Jack Dean, David Billingham and David Hook.

Another gratifying feature of the past few years is the growing contact between the School and the Association, which has led the Headmaster to consider plans for a scheme to encourage membership of the Association to be linked to school days. The generous support of Old Richians to the Swimming School Fund and the donation of £4,600 and the interest free loan of £5,500 provided by the Association, of course, allowed the vital initial work for the reconstruction of the Pool to go ahead. With the Swimming Pool fully operational, it was very pleasing to see as President, additional funds raised for the refurbishment of the School Foyer and that we by far exceeded our target of £1,500. The beautifully redecorated Foyer, with modern ceiling lighting and smart blue carpet now provides a fitting entrance to Sir Thomas Rich's. The framed oil portrait of our Founder has been re-hung and a magnificent modern cabinet dedicated to the memory of two faithful Past Presidents, who had rendered great service to the Association, the late Alf Martin of Priestley's Studios and the late Rowe Gabb, a well-known sportsman and referee, now stands in the Foyer and houses Old Richians' memorabilia and displays high quality school work.

Having revived a former tradition of holding an Oxford University Dinner for Richians, who are at present at that fine centre of learning, we are already planning for the Spring of next year, when we expect to organize a combined Oxford and Cambridge Universities Dinner. In October, at least ten Old Richians will be studying at Oxford and there are several on the Cambridge staff. We hope to hire one of the excellent banqueting rooms at Christ Church, in which case it should be possible to transport the Cambridge guests from that City by mini-bus.

Two very sad duties that I was called upon to perform during this year on behalf of the Association, were to attend the funerals of Ralph Fox, French Master (1932-1967) and John Meale, Geography Master (1944-64), both of whom are remembered with great affection by hosts of former students. It was indeed highly appropriate that Old Richians officiated at both funeral services, the Reverend Canon Peter Jeffries (1938-44), who knew Ralph well, and the Reverend John Evans (1948-56), whom John taught Geography.

It is good to know that both the Old Richians' Rugby Football Club and the Old Richians' Cricket Club are flourishing. Thanks to Keith Ray, Rugby, and Michael Wilkes, Cricket, who represent their respective clubs on the Committee of the Association. My grateful thanks are due to all Members of the Committee for their hard work during the past three years, without whose help my task would have proved impossible, but in particular, David Mayo, Past President; Andrew Bishop, Treasurer; and David Hook, Membership

Secretary, who in no small measure have contributed to the success of the Association. Once again, we are indebted to Alan Pilbeam, who acts as liaison between the School and the Association, for his loyal support and constant assistance. We are, of course, very sad that Tony Jarvis is leaving us but our best wishes go with him as he takes up his new post. We shall all miss his wise counsel, his enthusiasm and his encouragement, which has helped to engender a renewed interest in the Association's affairs.

Those of you who have visited St Andrew's Church, Sonning, near Reading, recently will know that a heavy, wooden partition obscures the massive stone and marble monument of our Founder, beneath the tower. Consequently, Malcolm Page and I have had a meeting with the vicar to discuss tentative plans to relocate the monument, giving it a proper sense of space and making it accessible to more general appreciation. It is likely that both the Parochial Church Council and English Heritage will be involved and it might be possible for the Association to give token financial support. If any developments occur, we shall of course keep you informed.

During the past few months, alas, the old school buildings in Barton Street have been demolished. A large blue and white sign now stands on the site entitled, "Old Sir Thomas Rich's Car Park!" Nevertheless, School House, a protected building, still remains to provide a link with the past and bearing the commemorative plaque which records its special place in the history of the School. However, as I hand over the Presidential Torch to David Hook, the Association, which has been experiencing a spirit of revival recently, has a great future. We extend a warm invitation for new members to join us. Please write to me: 17 Fern Close, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 5QU. Our aims are to foster fellowship among Old Richians and to forge links between all former pupils and the School, which is rapidly becoming one of the best in the country and which in words culled from a school magazine in the 1930's is "imbued with the great tradition of loyalty, service, civic spirit, humanity and culture of our Founder." It is hoped that "all of us who respect true education and who love this old school will encourage it to still greater endeavour and to a still more full and distinguished position in our life."

It is encouraging to learn that many Old Richians and guests regard the third Buffet Evening, held in the School Hall in March, as the best yet. The next similar annual function is scheduled for Saturday, 8th April, 1995. We hope to see all of you and your guests there. We promise you a really marvellous evening!

Garde à Foy!

*Stanley T Jones (President of the Old Richians' Association)*

From left to right:  
Stanley Jones (President of  
the Old Richians' Association),  
Jan Brown (daughter of the late  
Rowe Gabb), Mr Tony Jarvis  
(Headmaster) and Jan Wilton  
(Chairman of Governors).



## THE OLD RICHIANs' ANNUAL DINNER

Old Richians, former pupils of Sir Thomas Rich's School, their ladies, members of the staff, ex-staff and school observers, were present at yet another splendid reunion at the school, in Oakleaze, on Saturday, 26th March, 1994.

The school years, as far back as 1924, right up to the present day were represented by those attending the function. Mr Ralph Villiers and Mr Alan Villiers, sons of Gustave Villiers, (English Master 1932-47 and Headmaster of Hatherley Road School, from 1947), were present, the former, the General Director of Cellotex, SA, having travelled from Mexico City, and the latter, a gliding instructor, who had flown all the way from Melbourne, Australia. Dr P O Nicholas, son of Mr J R Nicholas, Senior English Master, 1922-57 and Mr G H Beckingham, son of George Beckingham, conductor of the Sir Thomas Rich's 181 Squadron Air Training Corps Band, 1943-50, also joined other Old Richians for the occasion.

At the reception at 7 pm, a large and impressive collection of documents and memorabilia concerning the history of the school and the Old Richians' Association, were on display, including a former headmaster's cane and "Black Books". An interesting array of photographs taken by Miss Winifred Thompson, Art Mistress 1914-57, were also on view. Mr Albert Miles, Worthing, 98 years old and who had last visited Gloucester in September, 1993 to play bowls against Barnwood,

had lent his school report for the Summer term, 1910 and his testimonial on leaving Rich's to the exhibition. Old Richians were also able to view the swimming pool, now properly functioning, to which they had contributed.

At 7.30 pm, members and guests assembled in the enlarged and modernized school Foyer, refurbished with donations from Old Richians, in order to witness the ceremonial opening by Mr Stanley Jones, the President of the Association. To commemorate this event, the Headmaster kindly allowed the erection of a brass wall plaque, bearing the inscription, "This Foyer was refurbished with donations from the Old Richians' Association and formally opened by the President on the 26th March, 1994."

Those present sat down at 8 pm, to a high class knife and fork buffet, provided by professional caterers. Later, the President read an apology from Mr W J Veale, Paignton, Headmaster, 1936-57. After Mr Jones had welcomed the Chairman of the school Governors, Miss J Wilton, the toast "Sir Thomas Rich's School and all that it implies", was proposed in a witty and entertaining speech by Mr Donald Moss, English and Classics Master, who has taught at the school since 1968. The Headmaster, Mr A Jarvis, replied, reviewing the excellent standing and progress of Rich's, by far the best in its long history. Miss Wilton and Mr Jarvis then, on behalf of the Governors and the School,

From left to right: Jan Wilton (Chairman of Governors), Mrs Moss, Mr D Moss (guest speaker), Stanley Jones (President of the Old Richians' Association) and Mr Tony Jarvis (Headmaster).



generously presented the President with a fine hand-painted heraldic shield, bearing the school crest in recognition of his three years' service.

At the end of the evening, a ruby wedding card and a bouquet of flowers were given to Gordon and Eileen King, who were celebrating their fortieth wedding anniversary that same weekend. Sincere thanks went to all Committee Members, who had worked tirelessly to make the event such a

success and particularly to Dennis Collins, who once again acted so splendidly as Master of Ceremonies, to Eleanor Collins, who donated the magnificent floral baskets, which adorned the top table and to Philip Day for designing the seating plan and name cards for the tables in such a professional way.

*Stanley T Jones (President of the Old Richians' Association)*

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## 181 SIR THOMAS RICH'S AIR TRAINING CORPS

Between the two world wars the School ran a highly successful Army Cadet Corps, commanded by one of the masters, Captain Frank 'Patsy' Davies. At the outbreak of war in September, 1939, the Headmaster, Mr W J Veale, reasoned that the Royal Air Force, which was growing in importance, was most likely to attract boys with initiative and enterprise and thus the 181 Air Defence Cadet Corps was formed under the command of F/Lt W J Veale. F/O A W Hancox was appointed Adjutant and other members of the school staff became instructors: F/O G A Salomon, P/O C R Fawshaw; (and later, F/O A T Sinkinson, F/O E T Hiron, P/O K I Harris and P/O J D Meale).

Within the first few months visits were already being paid to local A A Batteries, Searchlight and Barrage Balloon units and cadets were receiving instruction - with the aid of films - in the theory of flight and were involved in practical work on aero engines at an RAF station, "somewhere in Gloucestershire". Twenty NCO's and Senior Cadets had a memorable experience of flights in a Lockheed Hudson plane. Moreover, for his contribution to the war effort, a prize for one of the best plots on the school allotments, Denmark Road, was awarded to Cadet W B Williams.

In February, 1941, the ADCC in keeping with all other units in Britain, changed its name to the

"181 Air Training Corps". By this time a City Flight, besides the School and the Old Boys' Flight had been formed and thus full squadron strength had been reached. Its real value to the nation was now unquestioned, for this virile squadron was already sending cadets to the RAF and the Fleet Air Arm in increasing numbers. NCO's and Cadets were examined on aero engines in a room in the school, for which was soon to be well equipped. The School Cadets met the Old Boys' Flight on the miniature rifle range winning comfortably by a margin of fourteen points. In June 1941, the squadron gave two gymnastic and physical training displays and a demonstration, with an Aldis Lamp at Kingsholm Rugby Football Ground, was inspected by Wing Commander W Dickson, and it was deemed that "the lads had put up a smart show".

From time to time, the whole squadron had an opportunity to visit RAF units. Cadets spent three Sundays at a local RAF Station, attending lectures on Parachutes, Bomb-aiming, Anti-gas, Air Frames, Navigation and the Link Trainer. Visits were also paid to Observer Corps HQ, where valuable experience was gained in the detection and recognition of aircraft. In August, 1941, thirty-six cadets spent five days at camp, at a West of England RAF Station, where they engaged in PT, visited the Guard Room, practised Wireless Telegraphy and Armoury, received instruction on machine guns and had practice on the range. But the "high spot" of the camp was flying and thanks to the efforts of F/O G A Salomon, all cadets were in the air for periods varying from one and half to three hours. The Ansons and Rapides covered a large area of the country and cadets had a first rate opportunity of improving their navigation skills. Cadets had recently played a prominent role in the "Mock Invasion", which strengthened liaison with the Home Guard, but unfortunately, at this camp, Cpl A R Jacques, who took his place in a Rapide crew engaged in dive-bombing operations against ground defences, aimed his flour bag (as a bomb) so accurately that a direct hit was obtained on a member of the Home Guard!

A remarkable number of cadets passed the Proficiency Test, which involved a number of subjects, but the Morse Test, at four wpm, seemed to be the stumbling block. Moreover, it appeared "most extraordinary", that a high proportion of the squadron fought shy of PT. Nevertheless, as a result of the RAF Trade Test Examination, the Air Commodore, Commandant ATC, congratulated the Squadron on "the excellent percentages of Proficiency Stars secured."

Regular church parades were held at the Cathedral and Northgate Methodist Church. June 1942 saw the Inspection by His Grace the Duke of Beaufort, the ceremony being followed by a Drumhead Service and March Past. A major Inspection in the

next year was by the Secretary of State for Air, the Rt Hon. Sir Archibald Sinclair.

The supreme importance of physical fitness was stressed and NCO's and Cadets were encouraged to engage in as much sport as possible. The Squadron played football, against the Cirencester, Stroud and Cheltenham Squadrons. Fencing, Swimming, Cross-Country, Cricket, but not Boxing, were popular.

The shooting team in spite of lending their captain to the police still beat them. At an Inter-Squadron Relay, at Cheltenham, a very exciting race was won by just eight seconds. '181' was represented by J F Hutton, J H Manning, R L Parsons and P F Kiddle. The running of Kiddle was a revelation, he was ten yards 'to the bad' on taking over the baton and yet within 100 yards, he had overtaken the first man and went on increasing his lead to the tape. Social life was by no means neglected. The social and dance organized by F/O A T Sinkinson in the School hall which became a monthly feature, was such an unqualified success, that it was transferred to the Guildhall. Miss Hale, the School Secretary ran the canteen, where the cadets were attracted by "the good wholesome food, pleasing company and music", and also perhaps by the fact that "smoking was allowed!"

In 1943, the '181 Squadron Brass Band' was formed, under the direction of the Bandmaster, W/O G Beckingham. Twenty-four instruments were available and soon the band was playing in public, on church parades and giving 'straight' concerts, its performance: "surprising in view of the short time it has been functioning". Later in the same year, the band played at Belle Vue, Manchester and in November, 1944, provided the music at the 'Inspection of the Gloucestershire County and North Somerset Cadets', at Bristol, by the Chief Commandant, Air Marshal Sir Leslie Gossage.

Towards the end of 1944, it was becoming increasingly obvious that in future, fewer ATC cadets would be required for service in the RAF, particularly as air-crew. However, as it was clear that all would be called up for a period in a branch of the Armed Services, even when the war had ended, experience in '181' was by no means wasted. Many of the ATC subjects proved useful and cadets had learned what discipline entailed. The record of the Squadron since its formation had been one for which every member had every reason to feel proud. In 1945, F/Lt W J Veale relinquished command and handed over the torch to F/O G A Salomon. The Squadron was delighted to learn that in recognition for his services, His Majesty, King George VI graciously awarded the MBE to F/Lt W J Veale.

*Stanley T Jones (President of the Old Richians' Association)*



## THE OLD RICHIAN'S' OXONIANS DINNER

It has been a tradition for Richians at Oxford and Cambridge Universities to meet up for a dinner. The last one was a few years ago and so the current crop of Richians at Oxford decided to invite the President of the Old Richians' Association up to that city for a small tour of the "dreaming spires" followed by a meal. Stanley Jones duly arrived on the 3rd March, 1994.

After a tour of Christ Church and Magdalen College, the guests, Louis Delwiche, Luke Fitch, Nick Carter and Robert Bielby assembled at 'The Mitre', in High Street. An excellent evening was enjoyed by all discussing, amongst other things, the school (past and present), life at Oxford, our plans after graduating and how best to entertain the large group of Richians starting at the university in the coming October. After such a pleasant evening it is hoped that the dinner will again become a regular event in the calendar. Next year we may even invite some members of staff along!

*Robert Bielby (1985-92)*



The Oxford University Dinner.  
From left to right: Luke Fitch, Stanley Jones,  
Louis Delwiche, Nick Carter, Robert Bielby.

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### STANLEY T JONES - RICHIAN - (1941-1948) PRESIDENT OF THE OLD RICHIAN'S' ASSOCIATION 1991-1994

When you begin to delve into the background of a man who has for over fifty years been a prominent figure in the life of one school, you realize how much school and the teaching profession have been his life.

"Salvete IIIB" in Michaelmas Term, 1941, included one S T Jones - later his renown as a cross-country runner becomes evident and in this and many academic activities, he gained house points for Eastgate. It was in the later years at school that his talents fully shone, as a keen founder of the School Council, as an Observer and as Secretary and a leading speaker in the Debating Society, voicing his opinion on history's future view on the Nuremberg proceedings and support for progressive nationalisation. Perhaps, he could now return to voice his views on progressive privatisation.

From School, he went straight into the forces, with a two year National Service stint in the Royal Engineers, spent mainly in the British Occupation Zone in Southern Austria.

At the University of London, during teacher training, his running talents on "the wind swept tracts of Putney Heath and Wimbledon" became well known, but by no means second were his musical successes, joining his then compatriot and past Old Richian President, John Passey, in the choruses of a production of Purcell's, "Dido and Aeneas".

Yet, what better claim to fame can there be than to have been a vital part of England's 1967 win in that 'Wogan inspired' international event, the 'Eurovision Song Contest'. Yes - this man is the man who taught Sandie Shaw. (Note: For younger Richian readers, speak to one of the more elderly members of your teaching staff to gain knowledge of this famous singer.)

This highlight of his career took place during sixteen years of teaching in London and the South East, but also perhaps was the reason for a brief respite, to enhance his BA Degree in English and History, at the University of London, studying for an Academic Diploma in



Educational Psychology, no doubt helpful at a later stage in dealing with the Old Richians' Committee.

In 1969, after becoming Deputy Head and Acting Head of a large Primary School in Kent, he moved to the oldest Teacher Training Institute in the British Commonwealth, Borough Road College, (London University), Isleworth, as Lecturer in Education Psychology and Curriculum Studies.

Here again, Stanley seemed to possess the aptitude to further the careers of famous people - rugby stars Steven Fenwick (Welsh Captain), Elgan and Clive Rees; Olympic Athletes, Alan Pascoe and Alan Lerwell; and Superstar Brian Hooper, were amongst his students. After obtaining an MA in 'Developmental Psychology', 1976 saw him appointed as Principal Lecturer and Head of the Bachelor of Education Primary Teacher Training Course, at the newly formed West London Institute of Higher Education.

You may think this is a very full career, but for over twenty years, Stanley has been an Open University Tutor, (specializing in the psychology of women, he is rumoured to claim), and Counsellor.

Yet, the picture is not complete, without listing his other activities - Vice Chairman of Governors of his local Primary School, Foundation Governor of the Junior School, former Chairman of his Community Association, Adult Education Management Committee, Church Committee and not forgetting his hobbies, gardening, DIY, reading and music.

During all this hectic career, the school has never been far from his thoughts - in 1966 he organized the first Old Richians' Dinner in London - the year of the Tercentenary celebrations and many dinners followed in the years when he has been the Old Richians' London Representative, he contributed material to the official "History of Sir Thomas Rich's" and in 1991, the Old Richians' Committee felt the full impact of his enthusiasm, his organizational ability and his psychology, as he rekindled the Association into more life than it has known for many years - Old Richians from South America to South Devon attended Dinners that will be remembered for a very long time - Old Richians were cajoled into raising money to revamp the School Reception Area and the Association is now fully part of School life - long may it continue and long Stanley may you be a part of it.

*Article written by Dennis Collins (1941-48)*

## THE OLD RICHIAN'S' CRICKET CLUB REPORT

The Old Richians' Cricket Club are celebrating their tenth Anniversary this season. Formed back in 1984, by the Old Boys of the school, the club for the first two seasons played mainly mid-week games and the occasional Sunday friendly on the school square. By 1986, wanting more competitive fixtures, the Old Richians' joined the 'Cheltenham and Gloucester Saturday League' and the 'Citizen Mid-week League'. By this time the club had moved pitches to Sandyleaze, behind their home, the Elmbridge Club.

The 1988 season saw the Old Richians reach their first landmark, by finishing runners-up in the 'Cheltenham and Gloucester, Division 3 League' and they were also awarded 'The Rissington Cup'. The following season saw more success for the club, when they were crowned champions of the 'Cheltenham and Gloucester, Division 2 League'. By this time, Old Richians were building up quite a reputation for themselves and two years later, they were runners up in the 'Cheltenham and Gloucester, Division 1 League'. By achieving this, they had beaten the Redmarley record of reaching the Premier League of the C&G in the shortest space of time.

The 1994 season has promised to be the most successful yet for the Old Richians. The club finds itself in a very healthy position of now having over thirty players. The response now means the club can comfortably run two Saturday sides, a mid-week side and a Sunday friendly XI. The First Team, captained for the second season by Martin Burrows, still comprise many of the players, who took the club through the divisions, plus some

old and new faces. They have had a tremendous start to the season, winning eight out of eight and are now currently top of the C & G Premier League. The newly formed second team are led by ex-first team captain, Phil Gabb and play in the C & G Division 4. The side is made up of new young recruits, plus a few more experienced players. Names to watch out for in the future are all rounders Glyn Collins and Ben Slatter. There are bowlers, such as Rich Hudson and Steve Cresswell. The second team have had an enjoyable first season so far, winning five out of their eight matches.

Again, the Mid-week side is captained by Martyn Tyreman and the Sunday XI by Gair Carr. The teams comprise a mixture of First and Second Team players', plus other occasional players. Both sides, have had mixed fortunes this season, with the Mid-week side winning three out of their nine matches, while the Sunday XI have won one out of two fixtures played.

It can be said, the Old Richians' Cricket Club has had a very successful last ten years and now have laid the first foundation stones for an even better next ten years. To continue this success, the club still needs an influx of young players each season. It does not matter if you are a batsman, a bowler or just enjoy playing cricket, we would like to see you. Old Richians use the school facilities, with net sessions usually every Tuesday at 6.30 pm during the summer season.

*Steve Huckfield - (1976-81) (ORCC Press Officer)*

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## THE OLD RICHIAN'S' RUGBY CLUB REPORT

The 1993/94 Rugby season proved a tough one for the Old Richians. After several seasons of promotion through the leagues to Gloucester Division One, Richians were unable to do more than consolidate their position in the middle of the table. This was a result of losing many of the good youngsters that had come through the mini/junior section, primarily to the new Gloucester Under 21 squad, that started up this season.

Undoubtedly, however, the jewel in the Richians' crown has to be the mini and junior section, running teams through from Under 9's to Colts

and they have been widely recognized as one of the best set ups in the country, as well as further afield. This was demonstrated by our Under 15's, beating Clifton in the final of the County Cup, witnessed by a large band of Richian Seniors.

It is with the help of these youngsters, as well as some of the returning Under 21's, added to a few good experienced players, that have indicated an interest in playing for the club next year, that could well see the club go onto better things next season.

*Mr P Strutt (Club Captain)*

Do you recognize any of these pupils?  
If so, please let the Editor know - Mr P D Lloyd, c/o Sir Thomas Rich's School.



## NEWS OF OLD RICHIANs

### OBITUARIES

**ARNOLD William H J (1931-38)** It is with sadness that we announce the death of William Arnold. He was born on the 21st June, 1920, at Down Hatherley and before coming to Sir Thomas Rich's, attended Norton Church of England School. On leaving Barton Street, Bill began training as an accountant, but early in the war his training was interrupted when he was called up for the RAF, working on radar. He served in the North African and Italian campaigns. On demobilization, he joined Duart-Smith, Baker and Price, accountants in Kings Square. Bill then became Company Accountant and Company Secretary for Norman Brothers, the Printers, in Cheltenham, but when the firm was taken over and the business transferred to London, where Bill was offered a job, as a true Gloucesterian, he turned it down having no wish to leave the county he loved. He was then appointed Company Accountant to Hough and Whitmore, the Vauxhall main distributors in London Road, Gloucester, until Skippers assumed the management at which time Bill left to form his own accountancy business with Ben Hough in the early 1970's, in Eastgate Street. Until his death, he continued to manage his business, Arnold and Company, with the help of his eldest son, John, who succeeded him. Soon after the end of the war, he met Lorna, an Australian, who came over from Queensland as a child to settle with her family in Torquay, where they were married. For most of their lives, they lived in Churchdown, where John, now aged forty-six and Geoff, age thirty-eight, their two sons, were born. Although Bill thoroughly enjoyed his work, he had many interests - playing both the piano and the organ, gardening, photography and coldwater and tropical fish. Bill Arnold was a true English gentleman, who always had time for his family, friends and business associates and was of course, a loyal and dedicated Richian, proud of his school.

**FOX Ralph George (1906-1994)** The death, earlier this year, of Ralph Fox in his eightieth year, removes one of the last links with the Rich's of the thirties. Born in Oxfordshire, he studied at Exeter College, Oxford and in 1929 took up teaching. After three years in Penarth, he joined the staff at Rich's in 1932, thus beginning an association which formally closed with his retirement in 1967. His academic love and concern was the French language, though German was a close second.

For many of my generation, he began as a legend - quite unseen until his demobilization in 1946, but already famous for his erudition, his general affability and his involvement with the then quite fascinating pre-war School Journeys to the continent. Indeed, it was there that he spent much of his army service, to which he rarely referred, though the SOE would undoubtedly have benefited from his skills and inventiveness. One tale did leak out. In Rome, ahead of the liberating armies, his unit was able to commandeer the best of hotels. Time-serving waiters and porters flocked around his little vanguard, anxious to please and to carry luggage wherever bidden. In an effort to prevent his luggage disappearing aloft to some palatial suite, Ralph (no expert in Italian, but his inventive self), uttered the funereal valediction "Requiescat in Pace" - and the attendant flunkies stayed their hand!

To Rich's he returned, enthusiastic, kindly and encouraging. Those of us whose French improved thereby, (after a series of wartime depredations) look back with affection on his qualities as a person and as a teacher. He set high standards, could not abide the shoddy, showed good taste in a wide variety of activities - in drama, in literature, in the culinary arts and in a range of scholarship. He guarded his bachelorhood vigilantly and loved the School to the end. His last days were peaceful and in them he spoke more than once of the wonderful life that had been his. We salute the memory of a scholar and a gentleman.

*Written by John R Passey (1941 - 1948)*

**HOOK Robert Edward (1923-30)** It was with great sadness that we heard of the death on the 12th July, of Bob Hook. While at school, he proved to be an outstanding athlete. He held the high jump record at five feet and ran 120 yards in thirteen and one-fifth seconds. After leaving Rich's, he succeeded in sprinting 100 yards in ten seconds, a remarkable achievement in his day. Bob had a trial as wing three-quarter for the England Rugby Team and after the war he was exceptionally proud actually to see his younger brother, Bill, play fullback for his country. After his own playing days were over he was appointed to the International Panel of Rugby Referees, which brought him the honour of serving at county final matches. He worked first at the Shire Hall and then moved to Devon and at the outbreak of war in 1939, when he was called up for the RAF. Invalided out of the services in 1942, F/O R E Hook was appointed an officer of the 181 Squadron (Sir Thomas Rich's) Air Training Corps, for which he was instrumental in raising the standard of the Athletics Team to such a high degree that the NCO's and Cadets won several cups. He also trained the ATC Drill Squad, which became the best in the South-West



Command. Having returned to the Shire Hall to work, Bob shortly after the war took up the post of County Youth Advisor for Dorset and Wiltshire and in 1952 he was made County Youth Advisor for Devon, an appointment he loved and which he held until his retirement in the late 1960's. He adored choral music and owned a host of records and cassettes and he would think nothing of travelling long distances to hear his favourite, the 'Treorchy Male Voice Choir'. A frequent visitor to Twickenham and Cardiff Arms Park, he would, it is said, cheerfully have banned the singing of 'Bread of Heaven' on the grounds that it gave the Welsh fifteen, at the very least, a six point advantage! In the autumn of his life, Bob spent many a happy hour salmon fishing on the banks of the River Exe, that flowed near his home village of Thorverton. To his two daughters, two sons, grandchildren, Bill, Gordon, John and David, we extend our deepest sympathy. Bob was devoted to his family and dedicated to working with young people, on whom he had a tremendous influence. He was a fine Christian gentleman, loyal to his school, whose epitaph could well be "In life he knew how well to play the game."

**SMITH Sidney Wilfred** (1920-25) died on Sunday, 3rd July, after a church service at Lonsdale Methodist Church, Gloucester, which he had attended since he was a small boy. He was eighty-five years old. Sidney went to the Sunday School, was a member of the Young Mens' Class and Tennis Club Secretary. For many years he was Sunday School Superintendent and Boys' Club Leader. When the Longlevens' Youth Club was first formed, he was invited to serve on the management committee. Later, he was appointed Secretary and then elected President of the Gloucester and District Sunday Schools Union. Many generations of young people were influenced by his example and the high standards he set. All the church offices which he held, were carried out with great dedication and considerable distinction. He rose to be the Chairman of Joseph Griggs, the Timber Merchants. Sidney became a Gloucester City Councillor in 1973 and served on both the Governing Body of the City Schools and the Education Committee. In 1978, he was delighted at the honour of being installed as Mayor of Gloucester. He was a keen Rotarian and had been President of his club and was an active supporter of Friends of Robinswood Hill on to which his home backed. Michael, his son, attended Sir Thomas Rich's from 1950-55 and both daughters, Margaret and Janet, went to Ribston Hall. He enjoyed gardening and with his wife, Mildred, whom he married in 1938, he loved walking in the English countryside. Always a most loyal and faithful Old Richian, who had great affection for his school, Sidney was a past President of the Association, an office which he cherished.

*Written by John A Bell (1940-43)*

**WILLIAMS Peter Earle** (1940-46) died in Torquay on 30th January, after a short illness. While at school, Peter was a member of Southgate House, made a fine contribution to the success of the Athletics Team and was in both the First XI Cricket Team and the First XI Association Football Team. He was a medium pace opening bowler, a sound batsman and an excellent slip field. As a centre forward, he was a decided opportunist with exceptional ball control and a powerful kick. He left school in 1945 to become a projectionist at the Empire Cinema, but in a few weeks returned to Rich's and remained until the end of the academic year. During his National Service in Germany, Peter was privileged to be selected to represent the Army at Association Football and played in the well known Berlin Olympic Stadium. At St Paul's College, Cheltenham, where he trained for teaching, he took Physical Education and Craft as his main subjects. Throughout his professional career, he served in Devon, Torrington, Bideford, as Head of Bradworthy Primary School, north of Holsworthy, and finally as a most successful and highly respected Head of Highweek Primary School, Newton Abbot. Peter was a hardworking member of the Torquay Lions and was about to become President, an honour to which he was eagerly looking forward. He loved caravanning in England and was a most efficient Secretary of the Torquay Caravan Club. To the end, he retained his great enthusiasm for sport: he umpired cricket matches and was well regarded as a soccer referee at league level. Peter was a most lively and warm-hearted companion, whom it always was a great pleasure to meet. He leaves a widow, Joyce, three daughters and a son, and four grandchildren.

**MEALE John Donald** - former member of staff died on Monday, 11th April, 1994, aged 92. The funeral was held at Corse Church. He was born on the 26th January, 1902. At Rich's he taught Geography and Geology and was Head of Department from September 1944 to December 1964. He was educated at Lowestoft Secondary School and Hamond's School, Norfolk. Between 1920 and 1923, he studied at University College, Reading. In 1922, he gained a Board of Education Certificate and in October of 1923, a BSc (London) 2nd Class Hons Degree. John taught in Norfolk, Stockton-on-Tees, Middlesbrough, Barnsley (Holgate Grammar School), and the City of Sheffield Grammar School, before he came to Rich's. Many pupils will have been taught by John and he will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him.

## OLDEST LIVING RICHIAN

**ALBERT EDWARD MILES** (1908-10), Worthing, born 13th February, 1896, in Cheltenham, is as far as we know the oldest living Richian. He lived in Wellington Street, near the old British School, where he was first educated and where he gained a 'Co-operative Scholarship' to Sir Thomas Rich's in Barton Street. He entered the school in 1908, shortly after Mr E F Price, "a perfect gentleman", became Headmaster. On the Staff were Henry Benfield, (Geography, Scripture and Arithmetic), Alfred Watts, (Algebra and Geometry), Frank Farmer, (English, including Dictation and English History), Leonard Squire, (French), H G Sherwood, (General Science), Frank Davies, (Freehand Drawing, Design - Brush work, Model Drawing, Shorthand and Book-keeping), and R H Saunders, (Workshop). Forms 3A and 4A were Latin Scholars, while 3B and 4B took commercial subjects, after which were the Fifth and Sixth Forms, if the boys stayed on. For school uniform, they had special school caps and jackets. Homework consisted of three subjects each evening, one half hour each. As the Co-op did not renew his scholarship, Albert was forced to leave at the end of the 4th Form, as his grandparents could not afford to pay. In 1910, he joined the staff of the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Company, starting each day at 6 am and working forty-eight hours a week for just five shillings. Albert enlisted in the Army Ordnance Corps in August, 1914 and served in England, Ireland and then France in 1915 and 1916, with the 36th Ulster Division on the HQ staff. He was his able to borrow a bicycle to visit the Gloucesters in the next sector before his own division was decimated in the first Somme attack on the 1st July, 1916. He was transferred to Ypres, but was invalided from France in October that same year. On demobilization, Albert was transferred to Wagon Repairs Ltd, with whom he worked at Cardiff, Chesterfield and Gloucester, until his retirement at sixty-seven years of age. Always active at sport, Albert played cricket, football, tennis and bowls and was an enthusiastic angler. Since his retirement in 1963, he has played bowls with Barnwood and Gloucester City Clubs. At the age of eighty-four, Albert gained his Gloucestershire County Bowls (Colts) Badge for the outdoor game and was awarded his full indoor badge at eighty-nine. He was made a Life member of Worthing Pavilion Bowling Club on his ninety-fifth birthday and is still playing at the age of ninety-eight! Fond of singing, Albert was once a member of the church choirs at St Stephen's, St Catherine's, St Paul's and St Luke's. He was a member of Gloucester Choral Society from 1923 to 1980 and also the Gloucester Madrigal Singers. He sang in the Three Choirs Festival from 1945 to 1969. With the Cotswold Singers, he performed in three broadcasts, one from Highnam Court. Always a very loyal Richian, while at school Albert was First Form Editor when the 'Plutonian Magazine' began in 1909 and on leaving school, he immediately joined the Old Richians' Association and for many years he was a dedicated committee member.

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## NEWS UPDATE ON OLD RICHIANs

**ALDOUS Kenneth G** (1931-36) Truro, left Rich's to start work as a laboratory assistant for C W S Ltd, Quay Street, Gloucester, with no qualifications, much to the displeasure of his father, a design engineer, who consequently had a penalty to pay the School. He subsequently worked in most C W S creameries in England and Wales. He left C W S Creamery in 1941 to work in a chemical factory and joined the Royal Navy in 1943 and met his wife, Joyce, whilst training to be a Radar Mechanic in the Fleet Air Arm. They were married in 1945. After the war, he returned to the milk industry, via Thames Ditton and the MMB creamery at Norwich, where he worked as an analyst. He also worked on a farm milking sixty Friesian cows. In 1950, he became dairy manager in Exeter and was transferred to the Bovril Group in 1959, when he was appointed a Director. Since 1972, he has been self-employed, as a consultant in the food industry and he is part owner of a company making magnetic instruments and of another producing resistance welding machines. At Rich's, also were his father and three brothers - J A Aldous (1938-43), Maisemore, G A L Aldous (1938-43), Chislehurst, School Football Captain and Captain of Westgate House, a former referee and lecturer in Physics at the City University and E R Aldous (1938-46), Malton, Yorkshire.

**ARTUS Ronald** (1943-50) former Chairman of the City Capital Markets Committee, has been appointed to the Bank of England's new Financial Law Panel, which has been created to help keep financial law in line with financial practice and vice versa. On leaving school, Ron gained a first class honours' degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Magdalen College, Oxford. He is a Commander of the Order of the British Empire, and is now bi-located in London and Dublin, the former for business and the latter for gardening.

**ASHBEE David W** (1956-63) on leaving school went to Goldsmiths' College, London University, to read English. He has spent his life teaching and for some time has held the post of Head of English at Rednock School, Dursley. He still plays Badminton and enjoys watching Gloucester Rugby Football Club. An accomplished poet, he was delighted to have one of his compositions included in the 1993 "Oxford Book of Garden Verse". David's daughter is at present reading English and French at Reading University.

**ASTON Kenneth J D** (1957-63) of Sutton Coldfield, left Rich's to take up a four year indentured apprenticeship in industrial chemistry with the Permali Group in Bristol Road, Gloucester. He continued employment with Permali until 1977, holding a number of supervisory and management positions, mostly in the technical area. Whilst there, he continued his education through part-time day release and evening classes at Gloucester Technical College, gaining qualifications, with a HNC in Chemistry and also the Diploma in Industrial Management, which eventually entitled him to corporate membership of the Institute of Works Managers, (now the Institute of Management). In 1977, Ken moved to the West Midlands to take up a post with Tufnol Industrial Plastics in Perry Bar, Birmingham. He is still with Tufnol, having held a number of management positions culminating in an appointment to the Board of Directors as Production Director in 1988. Ken's interests are gardening and golf and he is a DIY enthusiast.

**BAXTER Graham N** (1943-48) runs his own business, 'Leisurelines', from 20 Cotteswold Road. He supplies schools, public authorities, companies and clubs with acrylic and wool jumpers, T-shirts, ties scarves, baseball caps, rugby and football shirts, as well as badges and pennants. He assures us that all his goods are British and that he provides a free design service. Samples can be loaned for inspection!

**BENNETT Gary** (1984-91) is studying for a BA Financial Services Degree at the University of Humber. In September of 1994 he will be in his final year and after graduation, he hopes to find work in London. In his third year, Gary has been on placement at the Gloucester firm of accountants, 'Day & Co.'.

**BENNETT John** (1971-78) is currently Branch Manager of the Midland Bank Plc in Winscombe, Avon and is an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Bankers. John is married to Margaret and has two children, Nicholas, aged three and Jack who is one year old. His hobbies are reading, listening to music and walking. He is also very interested in sport - rugby, cricket and bowls.

**BUBB Stanley G** (1924-28) kindly agreed to print for the school archives three hundred negatives of films taken by Miss Winifred Thompson, Art Mistress 1914-57. A retired Pharmaceutical Chemist, he is at present the Honorary Treasurer of the Royal Pharmaceutical Association and President of Parkstone and Poole's District Chamber of Trade.

**BURROWS Martin** (1980-85) married Dawn Dewick in May, at Holy Trinity Church, Longlevens.

**CARTER Julian** (1984-1991) has just graduated from University of London, gaining a 2.1 in Geography.

**CATCHPOLE Matthew** (1985-1990) became one of the last recruits into the 1st Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment in March of 1994, prior to the regiment's amalgamation into the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment.

**CHAMBERLIAN David** (1938-1946) whose brothers **Otto** (1939-47) and **James**, (1941-1951), Royston, Lancs, and **John** (1943-53), Redmarley, Gloucestershire, also attended Rich's, has now retired as Rector of All Hallows, Easton, Bristol and is living in Wells, Somerset. After serving as an army officer in Singapore and Malaya, David studied Modern Languages at Cambridge University and then worked in the British Embassy in Vienna. He was ordained a priest in 1955. As he was deported from South Africa by John Vorster's Government in 1970, he is, of course, delighted to know that this year the universal franchise has been implemented in such a peaceful way in South Africa.

**CHAMBERLIAN Otto** (1939-1947) Eye, Suffolk, has retired as a Farm Bailiff of an Approved School. He enjoys travelling to the continent each year, with his wife in a camper van.

**CHITTY John** (1978-1983) is currently working as a 'Lay Worker', with the Methodist Church in Gibraltar, but will be returning to England to begin training for the 'Ordained Ministry', at Wesley College, Bristol, in the Autumn.

**COX Daryll** (1967-72) left school to join the army until 1977, when he became a Financial Consultant. In 1983, he formed his own company, Estate Agents, Property Managers and Financial Consultants, which can be found at 64, Eastgate Street. Daryll's son, James, is currently at Rich's and he has four brothers-in-law, the Madigans, who also previously attended the school. Moreover, his nephew, Richard Tuck, is a member of the Sixth Form and his uncle, the late David Bailey, went to the old school buildings in Barton Street. Daryll claims an interest in all sporting activities.

**CROWLEY Leo M DR.** (1952-59) is the Executive President of America Healthcare Innovations Unlimited in Louisville, Kentucky, USA. He is a Diplomat of the American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review Physicians.

**CURTIS Tim** (1971-1978) has asked us to point out that he did not supply the details about him mentioned in last year's magazine and that some of the details are inaccurate. The Editor would like to formerly apologize for any embarrassment or inconvenience that this may have caused Mr Curtis.

**DEAN Nigel** (1961-1966) has been producing coverage for ITV of the 'Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race'. From the fourteen yachts sailing round the globe in 1993-94, he has been receiving the 'on-board' pictures they have been sending back to England via a BT satellite system. Nigel was formerly the Associate Sports Producer for TV South. He lives in Southampton.

**DORE Robert Edward Frederick REV.** (1940-1947) has recently retired to Ledbury, after spending many years as Rector of Dunster, Carhampton and Withycombe with Rodhuish, Somerset. On leaving school, Bob gained his B Com. Degree at Birmingham University and studied for the priesthood at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford. He served in the dioceses of Gloucester, Hereford and Bath and Wells. In the 1970's, he was Rural Dean in Bridgnorth, Shropshire and from 1975-1982, he was Prebendary of Hereford Cathedral.

**DUNFORD Colin F** (1948-1954) a solicitor in private practice in Gloucester, is Secretary of the City Rotary Club. He is married with two sons and a daughter and is blessed with two grandchildren. Colin is interested in many sports, but particularly rugby, cricket and skittles. Since 1970, he has been Secretary of the Longlevens Rugby Football Club.

**ETHERIDGE Michael** (1986-1993) is currently working for the Methodist Church in Gibraltar.

**EVANS John Griffiths REV.** (1948-1956) has been the Headmaster of Corse School, Gloucestershire, since 1970 and is also the Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Hartpurty with Corse and Staunton. John entered the priesthood after taking the Gloucester Theology Course in 1976.

**FORD Robert E** (1952-1957) is a Sales and Marketing Director for 'Multican U K', in Cheltenham, involved in writing technical publications. He is very interested in History and Sport, particularly bowls. Robert has two sons, who are 17 and 19 years old.

**GETTINGS Andrew** (1984-1991) Andrew has obtained a First Class Degree in Mechanical Engineering, at Nottingham University, where he also captained his Hall at Rugby and played Chess for the University Second Team. After a holiday, he takes up a post with Nuclear Electric, at their Research Unit, at Berkeley. He looks forward to a return to Gloucester Chess Club.

**GETTINGS Richard D** (1977-1984) having completed his tour of duty with the Royal Hong Kong Police and with no long term future after 1997, Richard returned to the United Kingdom, via a holiday in Asia and South Africa. He has since joined the South Yorkshire Police and completed his training at the North East Police School in Durham, with a passing out parade last July. He is stationed at Mexborough, living with his wife Christine, in Doncaster and they expect their first baby in January.

**HAINES Christopher** (1979-86) married Natalie Chapman on the 26th March, 1994 at St James's Church, Tredworth.

**HARRIS Kim** (1965-73) for the last eighteen years has been involved in the computer industry. He started his own company in 1981, which developed and merged with an American Company from Texas in 1989. Kim was European Managing Director of the company, until another takeover by a Californian company in July, 1992. At that time, he was appointed as European Technical Director of the new organization. In February, 1993, he left and started his own company again - Entrix Computing Limited, which specializes in electronic mail communications and network integration. During the last year he has also taken the opportunity to learn to fly and he is now an active member of a flying club,

based at Peterborough. Kim has been married to Jo, since 1975 and they have a son, Tom, who is just over four years old.

**HARDING John H** (1940-46) while at School was a member of the Athletics Team, Cross Country Team and the First Rugby XV. He recalls that F/O Bob Hook and F/Lt Veale trained the Air Training Corps Athletics Team to a remarkably high standard and won the County Team title. John won the U18 Cross-Country race at Bristol. As he came third in the South West 880 yards contest, he was chosen for the relay at the White City, London. John was also a drummer in the ATC Brass Band. He has recently moved to Eastbourne.

**HEAD John A** (1944-53) was one of the last entrants to the old Junior School towards the end of the war years, when fees were still payable. He has now retired as a member of the Gloucestershire Constabulary, stationed at Cirencester. John, who has just become a grandfather, is now employed by Eagle Star Insurance, at Cheltenham.

**HEAP Gordon** (1973-89) Former Headmaster of Rich's, is to be congratulated on persuading his son to enter the matrimonial arena in September of 1993 and for becoming a grandfather of twins. Gordon's daughter gave birth to a boy and girl, which we have it on good authority mirror mother and her twin brother! As she lives in Cologne, Gordon enjoys travelling to Germany to take up his family responsibilities. Although no longer a trustee of Gloucester United Charities Board, his work has been richly rewarded in view of the fact that in the six months after investment started in April, 1993, book profits were made of over £35,000!

**HEDGES Norman V** (1934-40) while at school was a member of both the First XI Soccer and First XI Cricket Teams. His unquestionable claim to fame is that when the George Dixon Grammar School, Birmingham, was evacuated to Sir Thomas Rich's, at the beginning of the war, he played against them in the first school game of rugby since the introduction of soccer in the early part of the century. From 1941 to 1946, Norman saw war service as a Warrant Officer Navigator in the Royal Air Force Bomber Command, flying Halifax special duty aircraft in 192 Squadron, Foulsham, Norfolk. On entering civvy street, he began working for the Gloucestershire County Council and was eventually appointed Senior Valuer, in the Property Services Department, a post from which he retired in 1984. Norman is a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. He has a wife, Olive, a daughter, Christine and two grandsons, Thomas aged five and Matthew, aged three. In his younger days, Norman played rugby, cricket, badminton and skittles, but now he is reduced to watching these sports and suffering the old injuries incurred! He is, of course, a regular attender at Kingsholm.

**HOOK David Q** (1972-80) is a Senior Surveyor and Valuer with Gloucester City Council and is currently Senior Steward at Lonsdale Road, Methodist Church.

**HUDDLESTONE Linden**, Cheltenham, a member of the school staff, 1959-84. After eight years as Vice-Chairman of the 'Cheltenham in Bloom Committee', he has now become a Trustee of the Painswick Rococo Garden Restoration and a Council Member of the Gloucestershire Gardens and Landscape Trust.

**JEFFRIES Peter George Charles Reverend Canon** (1938-44) studied for the ministry at Queen's College, Birmingham in the 1950's. After serving at Slad, Tuffley, and Clearwell, he was appointed Rector of the Ampneys, with Driffield and Poulton, from 1969. Peter was Rural Dean of Fairford, from 1986-1993 and is an Honorary Canon of Gloucester Cathedral. He has now retired to Ledbury.

**JERRARD David** (1977-83) having left the 'rat-race' in London and the high pressure world of selling Californian wine, David went to the States for a year initially travelling widely, but ended up in California. Without the famous 'Green Card' he was unable to stay in the USA, so returned to Gloucester and is now living in Bristol, where on the 3rd, December, 1993, he married his long standing (long suffering?) girlfriend, Marion. David and Marion plan to return to the States and we wish them all the best for their future.

**JORDAN Frank** (1945-51) Sheffield, was Swimming Captain and Northgate House captain in 1951. He was also a prominent member of both the First Rugby XV and Cricket XI. Frank also gained a prize for elocution. He is at present, Manager for Prosper and Mulder Ltd, Doncaster, Yorkshire, a firm dealing in animal by-products.



**JODRELL Duncan** (1970-77) has now moved from the Institute of Cancer Research, Surrey and is now residing North of the Border. He has been appointed Senior Registrar in Medical Oncology and a Lecturer at the University of Glasgow. His pastimes include hill waking and malt whiskies!

**MAGRATH Peter** (1980's) is studying Computers at Bath University and in September 1994 he will be taking a year out to gain work experience abroad, with one of the major computer companies.

**MEECHAM Michael** (1956-62) is Stock Clerk with Whitbread Beer Company, at the Gloucester Distribution Centre and has now completed twenty-eight years of service. His hobbies include watching Gloucester Rugby Club and playing skittles and crib. Michael has for a long time had a deep interest in steam railways.

**MORGAN David J** (1956-63) Guildford, Surrey, has been a 'Whitehall Mandarin' for the last twenty years and for the past eleven years has been looking after the proceeds of our taxation in Her Majesty's Treasury. He is very interested in environmental issues and enjoys travelling to "off-beat" places, having recently visited Hong Kong and China.

**MORGAN Michael** (1960-67) was interested to learn of Barry Legg's political career and in talking to the MP for Basingstoke, he mentioned the common connection of Rich's. On leaving Rich's, Michael did an Applied Language Studies Course at the former Ealing Technical College, until 1972, which included spending time at Gernersheim in West Germany and Madrid. In 1972, he started working for the Prudential Assurance Company on the International Department at Holborn Bars, London. He has lived in Ilford, Watford, (where a certain Graham Taylor was making a name for himself), and St Albans. When his job moved to Reading in 1987, he followed. Michael is now a Business Processing Manager, running a section which deals with life assurance business in Scotland. He married Sue on the 16th February, 1985 and has two daughters, Catherine, who will be nine in November and Julia, aged six. Michael is currently Vice-Chairman of Chineham Parish Council and Chairman of the Chineham Branch, Basingstoke, Conservative Association.

**MORRIS Ken** (1943-49) is to be congratulated on receiving an MBE from the Queen for over fifty years of service to the Scouting movement. Ken is a former Chairman of the School Governors and is Managing Director of 'Kingsdale Morris Business Equipment Ltd'.

**MOSELEY Jonathan D** (1976-83) has spent the last three years at Jesus College, Cambridge, reading for a PhD. Congratulations to Jonathan who gained this award in March and thus adds his name to a long list of academic luminaries educated at Sir Thomas Rich's. He is now back with the pharmaceutical company Merck, Sharpe and Dohme, engaged in research and development.

**MOSELEY Christopher** (1978-85) his brother, following graduation in Biological Sciences, (Microbiology) spent some two years as part of the heart transplant team at the Royal Brompton National Heart and Lung Hospital, as homografter technician. However, he has now returned to a cloistered scholarly life, studying law at the University of the West of England.

**MOSELEY Dudley** (1945-50), their father has now retired after nearly forty years in the aircraft industry, the last twenty-five being at Dowty Fuel Systems, Cheltenham. He is still involved with the tennis scene as County Secretary of the Gloucestershire Lawn Tennis Association and represents Gloucestershire on the Council of the Lawn Tennis Association. Only emergency phone calls please during Wimbledon fortnight!

**NASH Brian** (1945-50) at Easter time travelled with the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir to Atlanta, Georgia, USA, to sing in a festival of one thousand voices. As he has just retired as Senior Assistant to the City Treasurer, Oxford, he has had time to enjoy more golf and is striving hard to reduce his handicap.

**NICHOLAS Philip** (1940-47) retired from full-time medical work, is spending his time singing, playing the piano, attending and giving lectures and engaging in Citizens' Advice Bureau work in Kettering and Wellingborough. Having gained much of his gardening experience in Denmark Road allotments in the 1939-45 war years, Philip is looking after no less than three gardens, but says that the truth some days is that he finds "the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak!" In his friendly, quiet village of Orlingbury, "the curfew tolls the knell of parting day" or six bells peal at least one day a week. During the 150th Anniversary of the parish church one extra bell has been added, the organ refurbished and a new village hall opened, costing in total £139,000. All the village people have been generous and pulled together, Philip says, and it is in the same 'Faith' as Sir Thomas Rich's.

**NEININGER PATRICK D R** (1958-65) is a General Practitioner in Bury, Lancashire. He "will be fund-holding from April Fool's day, 1994" He is a DIY enthusiast and a member of the Rotary Club. As Paul has four daughters, the eldest, Sally, at Newham College, Cambridge and Jennifer, the youngest, who has just entered Bury Grammar School, unlike more affluent, celebrated Richians, he complains that he "can't afford to travel!"

**PAGE Malcolm** (1937-44) Brigadier, retired from Siemens Nisedorf in November, 1992, but keeps busy as Chairman of the Anglo Samali Society and Editor of their journal. He is also Chairman of the Inter Non-Government Organization Committee in Somalia Forum, (INCS FORUM). Malcolm visited Somalia in June, 1992 and enjoyed a holiday this year in Moscow and St Petersburg.

**PAGE-Jones Nigel** (1981-88) After completing an MSc in 'Pure Maths' at Liverpool University, Nigel has been involved in an Evangelical Christian training programme in Liverpool. Next year, he will help lead the course and eventually wants a 'church-plant' in "unchurched" areas/countries.

**PAGE-Jones Richard** (1983-88) worked in aviation and general insurance, before accepting a post as manager of a local post office. Richard has also been studying for 'A' levels and next year, hopes to study 'Music Technology' at Kidderminster College.

**PASSEY John R** (1941-48) a School Captain, Westgate House Captain and Chairman of the School Council, was awarded his B D Degree by London University. After Teacher Training at Westminster College, he taught at Saintbridge School and lectured at GLOSCAT. A Director of the Teachers' Building Society, he is still much involved as a Methodist Local Preacher. This year he has visited Zimbabwe, Lyons and Amsterdam. His daughter is taking a degree in 'Rocks'.

**PERKS Anthony M Professor** (1943-50) is the head of the Department of Zoology, the University of British Columbia, Vancouver and is a Research Scholar of the University of Florida College of Medicine. He has several scholarly publications to his credit and has received a host of academic awards - BA (Hons), MA (Cambridge), MA (Oxford), PhD, DSc (St Andrews), FRS Med. (London). The University is involved in developing effective preventative and therapeutic measures for several pressing problems in human reproduction, including infertility, congenital birth defects and premature delivery. Through his work on fish and frogs, Tony has uncovered certain influences on the foetal lungs, all potentially important to the problems of Respiratory Distress Syndrome, a condition in which fluid remains in the lungs after birth, the cause of many neonatal deaths.

**PHILLIPS Gordon** (1956-63) regrets that he never seems to get to any Old Richians' events, for life appears too busy. He is working for Avon County Council, as Music Curriculum Support Teacher and is the Director of the Bath Society of Young Musicians, at the Saturday Music Centre. In the summer of 1993, he visited Minsk and in 1992, Brunswick and Magdeburg. He is still driving his 1932 Austin Seven Two-seater.

**PHILLIPS Patrick** (1974-81) recently has moved back to Gloucester from West Drayton, Middlesex and is now working in Yate, as Deputy Manager for 'Bibby Distribution Services', running a 30,000 square feet warehouse and a fleet of vehicles delivering to customers in the South West and South Wales. Patrick has two daughters aged five and seven.

**POOLE Ian R** (1982-87) a most loyal and dedicated member of the Old Richians' Association Committee. He has been working as a Civil Servant at GCHQ, Cheltenham for two years and in his spare time engages in hockey for 'Lansdown', golf and cricket.

**POWELL Dennis B** (1946-50) while at school was School Captain, Eastgate House Captain, Cricket Captain, "a successful opening bat, a good fielder and a useful change bowler" and a member of the First Rugby XV. He read Science at Bristol University and eventually gained his PhD. Dennis has finally retired from a life in industry, having undertaken consultancy work for the past four years. He still follows Gloucestershire County Cricket and can be seen regularly at Bristol and Gloucester Rugby Football Club grounds.

**PRICE Matthew** (1984-91) has just graduated with a 2.1 in Geography, from London University and rumour has it, that he may be deciding on a career in the teaching profession, but this has to be confirmed.

**PRICE Peter** (1955-60) who in spite of moving to South Wales to finish his education at Cardiff High School and the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, is and always has been, a most

loyal Old Richian. Peter took up a position with Gloucester City Council in 1964, but moved to Havant Borough Council in 1970, where he is now Senior Engineer in charge of Waste Management, Recycling and CCT contracts. He has played rugby for Cardiff HSOB, Cardiff and Glamorgan Wanderers. In 1967-68, Peter captained the Old Richians' Rugby Football Club and for three years, 1972-75, he captained the Havant Rugby Club, until a serious pelvic injury forced him into premature retirement. He is a qualified RFU Coach and has coached Hampshire Colts, Under 23's and Havant. Peter is now Vice-President of Havant, who in 1993-94, were in National Division 3, in the company of Coventry, Rosslyn Park and Richmond. Peter has kept in touch with the Old Richians' Rugby Club, who have enjoyed several tours to the Havant and the Portsmouth areas, and has been in contact with Bruce Carr, Brian Smith, Rhys Rawlings, Peter Ireland, David Dorn, Tony Wheeler, Leo Crowley, Ian Click and Keith Ray. He has been married to Meg for twenty-six years, who is Head of PE at Ditcham Park School, Petersfield and they have two daughters, Rachel, a nurse at Southampton General Hospital and Rebecca, who graduated last year from Bournemouth University, where she is doing a sabbatical year as Vice-President, (Student Affairs).

**RACKCLIFF Toby** (1980-87) having graduated with a BA in German and French Studies at the University of Reading, in 1991, has spent the past three years working as an English teacher in the city of Graz, in Southern Austria. "A ludicrously well paid, part-time post at Graz University, teaching Marketing", has not only allowed him to engage in a fair bit of skiing, but has also helped to satisfy his desire to travel, with recent trips to Croatia, Poland and the former Soviet Republic of Lithuania. Congratulations to Toby, who in January, 1993, became engaged to Lucy. He has now returned to Britain and is commencing an MSc course in Transportation Planning and Policy at the University of Newcastle in October, 1994.

**RALPH David** (1964-71) of Ringwood, Hampshire, is Principal Environmental Health Officer for Eastleigh Borough Council. He has a profound interest in computers and keeps himself fit by his involvement in volleyball, squash and windsurfing. David has a son aged twelve and a daughter aged fourteen.

**RIDDICK Steve** (1973-80) has recently been made a National Partner in the United Kingdom practice of 'Arthur Andersen and Co.', Chartered Accountants. He continues to work on secondment in Lagos, Nigeria.

**SCOTT T E** (1947-54) Littleover, Derby, decided to retire early in 1990 from British Rail, after a working life in Mechanical Engineering, mainly in connection with the testing and development of railway vehicles. Ted says that he has not changed much from the description given by Mr Veale, in a testimonial dated 30th August, 1954; "He is physically heavy, but blessed with a sense of humour." He is now enjoying exploring the Derbyshire Dales, with a local Rambling club, trying gently to modify the "heavy" parts of his frame. In his role as Publicity Officer for the Derby Branch of the 'Alzheimer Disease Society', he is battling with the local County Council, the National Health Service and the Media. He is finding the changes from his former employment stimulating and challenging, but most refreshing.

**SHELLSWELL Brian B** (1942-50) began his career in Fletchers's Sports Shop in Kings Square, after which he entered the RAF for National Service, spending some time in Germany. He returned to 'civvy street', bookselling for the SPCK shop in Westgate Street. In 1958, for the same organization, he went to Barbados to man the shops there. Later, he found himself in South Africa. Back in England, Brian worked in York and the Head Office of SPCK and he is now manager of the Bristol shop. He has three daughters.

**SHELLSWELL Derek T** (1942-47) his brother, still involves himself in some electrical work in Gloucester. Their father, Harry Shellswell, was the coal merchant, who supplied fuel to the former school buildings in Barton Street.

**SHENTON Ernest - formerly SCHNECK** (1941-43) writes: "I have happy memories of Mr Veale, who supplied the fairness and kind support that I, a refugee both from Vienna and London, needed at that time. I won a junior state scholarship and spent 1943-49 at St Marylebone Grammar School in London. I was both Junior and Senior Victor Ludorum. After school, I served for two years in the RAF. As I was always interested in photography, I joined a small family business called Dixon Studios in 1951. There was then one shop and a staff of five. I spent thirty years there, before resigning my directorship of a company that then had national coverage, a staff of three thousand and a branch in Gloucester! As I wanted to be my own boss, I set about pioneering mini-labs, (small stand-alone film processing units) in high street positions. Eventually, I built up a chain of thirty in the Home Counties.

These were eventually sold and I am now semi-retired. I am now looking at the Open University's French programme! My wife and I have a house in rolling farming country in Provence. Hence, better French would satisfy both a hobby and a need. My sister, Ilse, also lives in London. I have four children. One is an actress, who has not forgiven me, saying that the name, "Schneck", would have been so much more dramatic!"

**SHORT John** (1967-72) after five years' employment with Barclay's Life, this year became a Personal Financial Manager with College Green Associates. He is married with two children, the eldest, David, having started at Rich's last September. John is a member of the Institute of Management Services and is currently studying for membership of the Life Insurance Association. Although, he has retired from playing rugby, he is still actively involved with Longlevens Rugby Football Club, of which he is a past chairman. His sporting interests nowadays consists of the occasional game of golf and watching his sons compete at football.

**SMITH Cecil** (1937-42) has now retired near to Ledbury. Apart from two and half years National Service in the Royal Navy and the Fleet Air Arm, Cecil spent the whole of his career in printing. For five of these years, he served as works manager on a local newspaper on the Isle of Wight and for another six, he looked after the printing department of the Royal National Institute for the Blind, in Islington. Cecil married Margaret in 1950 and they have no less than five children and fifteen grandchildren. Their eldest son, Michael was at Rich's, 1962-69 and a grandson who started at the school in September of 1993.

**SMITH Eric T L** (1939-46) of Bristol, having retired is involved in sailing, gliding and videography. He is interested in designing and building sailing craft and is currently concerned with a 27 feet beam catamaran, which is occupying far too much of his time! Eric is also a proud grandfather of three.

**SNELL Paul** (1984-91) who is studying at St Catherines College, Oxford, received in November, 1993 the 'Gibbs Prize for Modern History'.

**SPEED Alan** (1959-66) - Staff - writes, "The rumour of my migration is confirmed as fact! I have now left Spa Road and reside in Denmark Road. I shall be happy to contribute to the work of the Old Richians Committee, despite my long years of 'missionary work' in the North East."

**SWERINGEN Dirk**, previously Lowe, (1967-72) is an Artist/Photographer in Gloucester.

**SYKES Michael** (1954-59), a former Secretary of the Association, was for some twenty years associated with the Sony Corporation and lived in Surrey. Early in the 1980's, he became a Freelance Journalist, Writer and Broadcaster on matters Electronic. Since 1984, he has been in charge of Advertising and Public Relations for Renishaw PLC, Wotton-under-Edge. He is a proud father of two, Jessamy and Robin and is married to Glenys. Having 'survived the recession', Michael is now 'heavily' into Family History and has become something of an expert in Genealogy.

**TAYLOR A A Dr** (1941-48) now retired from dentistry in Calgary, Canada, while at School, was a Prefect, Northgate House Captain, Athletics Captain and was a hard working forward in the First Rugby XV, "equally good in both the tight and the loose and invariably up with the play". He writes: "Believe it or not, I have recently awakened to relive a game which we won 5-3 against Marling. I was called for going off-side. On the resulting place kick, the ball hit the upright and we escaped with the narrow victory". Tony recently spent a holiday in Hawaii and San Francisco. He has a condo in Kailua-Kona on the Big Island (the one with volcanoes) and makes an annual visit to the sun and surf. Tony has four sons; one of them, Robin, works for Nabisco foods in Toronto and has a BA in Maths and a Masters in both Economics and Business Administration. Tony adds: "He probably counts the cornflakes in each box before they are shipped."

**VINER Alan J** (1962-70) after reading for an Honours Degree in Music at Reading University, 1970-1973, took a post graduate course in Education at St Luke's College, Exeter. He further studied with John Sanders at Gloucester Cathedral, gaining an Associate of the Royal College of Music Performance Diploma for the organ in 1976. Alan is now working in Shrewsbury, as a private teacher of the piano, organ and the theory of music, with large numbers of pupils. He is also steadily composing and in 1993 saw the first publication of both choral and organ pieces. Kevin Mayhew Ltd who publish accessible and attractive music for both listeners and performers hope to receive further compositions from him in 1994. We warmly congratulate Alan in that one of his two part pieces received its first performance in St Philip's Church, Norbury, Croydon, by the boys' section of the choir, more popularly

known as the group "Angel Voices", who have had their own series on TV, during the summer months of the past two years, firstly with Alan Titchmarsh and latterly with Dame Thora Hird.

**WARD Stephen** (1984-91) has just graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge with a 2.1 in Mathematics.

**WATKINS Paul A** (1960-67) formerly Director of Mobbs of Gloucester is now Managing Director of Gloucester Sony Centre, Northgate Street. His chief hobby appears to be fatherhood, for Paul is the proud possessor of no less than four daughters, the oldest being twenty-one years of age and the youngest, two; and in the summer of last year he was happy to announce that his wife had presented him with a son, James. He says, "All this keeps me young and out of mischief!"

**WASLEY DAVID** (1974-79) is a sergeant in the Gloucestershire Constabulary. In March of 1994, David received a 'Commendation' from Tony Butler, the force's Chief Constable, for his work in a blackmail case at Gloucester Crown Court.

**WILLIAMS Tom N** (1939-45) Melbourne, Australia, while at Rich's was School Captain, Northgate House Captain, Cricket Captain and Vice-Captain of Association Football. After reading Science at Wadham College, Oxford, Tom worked for Kodak Films. He writes, "The gruesome details of Cromwell Street have hit the Australian media! Having been pretty fit for many years, I didn't know what had hit me when I went into hospital, but I am glad to say that my recovery powers rose to the occasion and I now feel well again. My replacement hip is excellent, but unfortunately, it hasn't improved my golf, which I was hoping would be one of the side effects! It is good to learn that the School and the Association are still flourishing. The School has come a long way since our era and one wonders what Freddie Freeman and 'Ike' Williams would have made of Laboratory Technicians? I was interested to learn that Soccer has been re-introduced into the curriculum. When Eddie Pritchard joined the School, he together with Ted Veal were very keen to bring in Rugby at the expense of soccer in 1945. The democratic process was obviously not as great in those days as they had to wait for boys like Peter Kiddle, myself and several other soccer stalwarts to leave Tommies before they could do so! The ironic part as far as I was concerned was that at Wadham College, they could not raise a soccer side and I was forced to take up Rugby which I much preferred anyway. I hope that the Oxford Dinner went well, for Peter Veale took Derek Long, (Jesus College), and me to lunch there in the 1940's to celebrate his marriage to Gweneth. I think he is a wonderful person who had a great influence on my life."

**WINSTANLEY John** Former Deputy Headmaster - was in France with his family in March and thus was extremely disappointed to miss the Buffet Evening. He writes: "I had a welcome visit earlier in the year from Frank Henderson, who was trudging up May Hill in dreadful weather in the interests of geological cartography. It was nice to have an up-date on how well the school is doing. The attitude of the LEA seems to have changed somewhat since my day! They seem to be much more generously inclined towards STR's now that so many schools have opted out."

**WISE Peter** (1975-82) is currently working as 'Technical Support Manager' for 'Micronetics Consulting Gm6H', in Neu-Isenburg, just outside Frankfurt. He travels widely throughout Germany and Switzerland and enjoys playing volleyball and walking in his spare time.

**WORTH Guy** (1984-91) has just graduated from Salford with a Third in Electronic Engineering.

**YEATMAN Paul** (1973-80) is a 'Detective Sergeant', with Gloucestershire Constabulary. In March, 1994, Paul was presented with a 'Commendation' by the Chief Constable for his work in investigating the complex 'Christopher How Fraud Trial'. The investigations involved researching companies in England, France and Panama. A total of thirty-one bank accounts and a mass of other documents had to be analyzed for evidence.

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The Editor would like to formerly thank Stanley T Jones, President of the Old Richians' Association for all his hard work and commitment to this magazine. He has ensured that the Old Richians are well represented and his kind assistance in the compilation of this section of the magazine has been gratefully appreciated.

Many thanks Stanley!

Mr Peter Lloyd (Editor)



## NOTES

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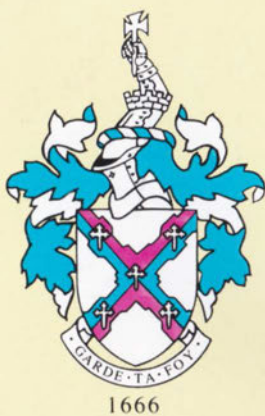
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