 **THE**  
**RICHMAN**

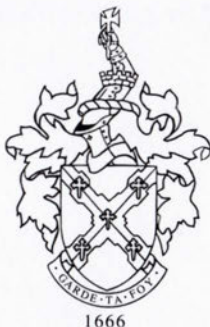
**1995**



**RICH'S HEADMASTER, IAN KELLIE AND 'BLUE-COAT BOY', JAMES COOK, 10R, WELCOME HRH, 'THE PRINCESS ROYAL' OUTSIDE THE ENTRANCE OF THE REFURBISHED SWIMMING POOL.**



# THE RICHIAN 1995



## SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

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## HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE

This has been an eventful year for me personally, as well as for the school. After seven months as 'Acting Headmaster', I was delighted to be offered the substantive post. I look forward to helping to take Sir Thomas Rich's to further success. These are exciting times, as we enjoy record popularity, outstanding examination results and considerable building development.

The 1994-95 school year started with the publication of GCSE and 'A' level results. In the Government's official "Performance Tables", we achieved the best results of all local authority and grant maintained schools in the South West. Well done to all the Year 11 and Upper Sixth students and their teachers. We also started the year with new classrooms, where the old library had been, new Music Practice Rooms and a new Sixth Form Common Room. The 'Blue Coat Library' opened in November, new entrance gates were erected in March and the tuck shop moved to a new location. All of this was just the start! Over a million pounds' worth of new building will enhance the school site over the coming year. This will enable us to cope with additional numbers, as we grow from 614 towards 750 pupils.

The re-built swimming pool was officially opened by HRH, The Princess Royal, on the 16th March, 1995. Many distinguished guests shared in making this piece of Rich's history.

The quantity and quality of music and dance have been notably high this year. Each term has seen a concert and drama production, all well received by their audiences. Our first ever 'Arts Week', which engaged Year 8, in March, was a tremendous success. It is good to see such excellence in the Expressive Arts at Rich's. The commitment of teachers and pupils alike, has been admirable.

In sport, we confidently expect school team victories, defeats are rare! In particular, the larger Year groups provide the Under 14's, 13's and 12's with greater depth and this makes them often too strong for the opposition. A highlight of the sporting year, was the selection of Shayne Bradley for the England Under 15 soccer team, a magnificent achievement - our first soccer international!

Those were my highlights from the past year; a year of success, excitement and excellence. We look forward to further growth, in numbers and achievements.

Garde ta foy!

*Mr I L Kellie*



*Second from the left, Headmaster, Mr I Kellie, with guests at the annual Speech Day, September, 1994*

## EDITORIAL

Over the course of the year, I received many positive comments regarding last year's edition. I hope that you will all find the 1995 edition equally interesting and absorbing. Once more I have tried to incorporate the traditional articles, but also featured new areas relating to school life at Rich's.

It was with great sadness, that the school received news of the sudden death of Stanley T Jones. His tremendous help with the Old Richians' section in this magazine and previous editions, will not be forgotten.

My wife has again ensured that hopefully, all errors in the draft copy have been eradicated and this has guaranteed the production of a magazine that is of a high standard. I would also like to thank Jamie Smith for all his artwork and the wonderful front-cover he designed.



I started to produce the current edition last October, to guarantee that I had a summer holiday. This was too optimistic, as usual, the school terms were so packed with events, that good intentions were soon lost. Yet, another sign of a school that is buzzing with action. May I plea for all contributions to be in as early as possible.

The school moves from strength to strength, as illustrated through many of the articles. New buildings, increased numbers on roll, outstanding academic success and sporting excellence, ensures that Rich's is one of the top state schools in the country. This magazine is a testimony of the energy and enthusiasm of daily life at Rich's.

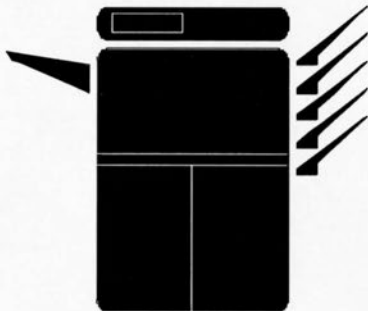
As usual, I am willing to hear your views and opinions, so please do not hesitate to contact me to air your opinions.



May I make a personal thanks to all those who have made a contribution to the magazine. A magazine cannot be produced, unless it is supported by the staff and pupils. In the course of producing this magazine, I have reviewed many editions of 'The Richian' since 1964 and it seems that this plea for help and assistance has been a persistent cry over the years.

I hope that you once again find the magazine worthy of your time. The sign of a good school, is not just academic excellence, but also the maintenance of thriving, dynamic and vibrant extra-curricular activities. Rich's moves from strength to strength in all areas. Prospects for the future continue to appear very bright!

The magazine is designed to be an historical record of the school year, but is also a memento for every pupil. I hope that every current member of the school will one day look back at their 1995 'Richian' and pronounce it a vintage year.



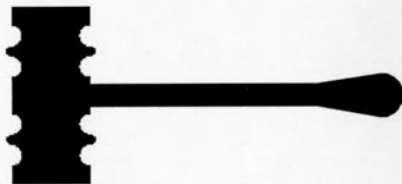
Mr P D Lloyd

## AN INTERVIEW WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS

Over the past decade, the role and duties of Governors across the country has changed dramatically. With the introduction of the 'Local Management of Schools' initiative some years ago and more recently, with the government policy of 'Grant Maintained' schools, Governors have found their workload and responsibilities have escalated beyond belief. Rich's is still under local authority control, but the financial management of the school and policy decision making lies with the Governors. With all this responsibility I decided to interview the Chairman of Governors to find out the role and function of governors at Rich's, as well as ask the question, "Why do people want to become Governors?"

Miss Jan Wilton, became Chairman of Governors at Rich's six years ago, after Mr Ken Morris stepped down. Miss Wilton has been a Governor for nineteen years and has strong connections with the school. Both her grandfathers went to Rich's, plus three cousins and also her brother. Thus there is a strong family association with the school.

Our Chairman is a strong supporter of Grammar schools and remembers well the various campaigns to save Rich's when it was threatened with reorganisation. At such times, Miss Wilton was an active member lobbying and petitioning in order to save the school. Without doubt, I realized that Miss Wilton was very proud of Sir Thomas Rich's.



She told me that there were many facets of the school that ensured that it was the best school in the city. These included the exam results, which were second to none, the friendly and good natured atmosphere, as well as the adherence to discipline.

As an experienced governor, Miss Wilton explained how the role and function of Governors had changed dramatically. Of course, there were still many traditional functions to perform, but without question, the internal handling of finances, had placed a tremendous amount of responsibility upon the shoulders of all the Governors.



I was told that the school was still responsible to the 'Local Education Authority', but Shire Hall now played more of a 'consultative role' in the running of the school's affairs.

The public perception of the Chairman of Governors and her colleagues is usually related to annual events, such as 'Founders' Day' or 'Speech Day'. It was evident from my interview, that a lot of hard work takes place behind the scenes. As a Governor, Miss Wilton told me that a lot of time is



spent reviewing government publications relating to education. From experience, this can be daunting, but when you have to review all facets of education, then it must be awesome. Often, Miss Wilton has to respond to the Department of Education over various matters relating to policies, which and this often involves writing letters.

In addition to all of this, meetings have to be attended to discuss school matters, ranging from allocation of funds for various projects to the appointment of staff. Also, reports from various sub-committees have to be discussed and decisions made over issues. Time is also devoted to meeting representatives from County Hall or visitors to the school on business or upon a social basis. One should note, that all this time devoted to the school, is in addition to a full day's work for 'Nuclear Electric', which involves frequently travelling around the country.

In February 1994, Miss Wilton and the then Head, Mr Tony Jarvis were invited to the House of Commons to provide evidence to a 'Select Committee' on education, which was reviewing the funding of schools. So, one can see that a lot of time is devoted to the life of the school by the Chairman of Governors and her board, much of which is not seen by parents, staff and pupils. On top of this, the Governors have to deal with some harsh financial decisions and in conjunction with the school bursar, control the school's funds, which were once mainly controlled by Shire Hall. Thus, staffing levels have to be decided upon, contracts reviewed and assessed, funds distributed, as well as many other important decisions.

Miss Wilton told me that she has seen some marvellous developments in the last five years. She has been pleased to see all the recent developments, such as the swimming pool, the new library and the general upgrading of facilities in the school.

She told me that Rich's had to be progressive and look forward to the next century, but at the same time retain many of its traditions. In her view, the balance could be maintained and she looked forward to further developments.

In her view, she felt it was a wise decision by all those concerned to retain Rich's under local authority control and not opt out to 'Grant Maintained Status'. This has benefited the school, for the local authority has invested in Rich's, with money awarded for new building projects. Miss Wilton was concerned about what future changes may take place and this may affect the status of 'Grant Maintained Schools', thus she was pleased that Rich's had remained loyal to the LEA. She was aware, however, that the matter requires regular review. As Chairman of Governors, the role at times can be difficult, such as when candidates are interviewed for jobs and have to be turned down or harsh financial decisions have to be made. Yet, there are many enjoyable moments, such as events like 'Christmas by Candlelight', 'Founders Day', or news of excellent exam results.

For the future, Miss Wilton wants Rich's to remain loyal to its traditional roots, but she wants the school to continue on the road to further improvement, in terms of facilities and resourcing. In her eyes, the last five years have seen dramatic changes in the school's fortune, mainly due to the hard work and commitment of many individuals associated with Sir Thomas Rich's. It is her belief, that the school will continue to move from strength to strength and go on to even better things. My interview with Miss Wilton revealed that there are many hard working people associated with Rich's, all of whom have a common goal - to see the school thrive and be successful! Many thanks Miss Wilton for an enlightening interview.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

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## **AN INTERVIEW WITH THE HEADMASTER, MR I L KELLIE**

We asked our new Headmaster to answer some questions, but first he told us a little about his background.

Mr Kellie was educated at the 'Queen Elizabeth Grammar School', in Hexham, Northumberland. He gained a BSc degree in Chemistry, at Durham University, then trained to be a teacher at St John's College, York. He gained a 'Masters degree in Education' at Bristol University. He started teaching at St Bees School, an independent boys' boarding school in Cumbria. He moved to Cotham Grammar School, in Bristol, then to Ashton Park School, also in Bristol. He has been a Head of Year, Head of Science and Senior Teacher, before becoming Deputy Headmaster at Rich's in 1988.

***How does Gloucester compare to other parts of the country in which you have lived?***

I like Gloucester very much. It is large enough to offer good facilities for shopping, sport and entertainment, but not so large to be plagued by traffic or travel problems. Nor does Gloucester suffer from heavy industry and the surrounding villages and countryside are very attractive and accessible.

***What makes Sir Thomas Rich's distinctive?***

One could suggest specific factors, such as traditions, pride, high quality teaching, commitment of pupils and staff, extra clubs and sports - all excellent at Rich's. However, the overall atmosphere and ethos of

the school are a result of an intricate web of many influences. Sir Thomas Rich's has retained what is good and positive, whilst developing and progressing in areas which have benefited pupils. The eleven year old, who joins our Year 7 goes on to leave our Sixth Form, having gained an excellent education in the fullest sense.

***What developments do you foresee for Rich's over the next few years?***

Pupil numbers will grow and we shall have additional buildings in the form of a new quadrangle. Examination results, already excellent, will show further improvement. Sports teams will go from strength to strength. As the school develops, it is important that we do not lose the essential and distinctive character of Rich's. We shall limit the growth of the school to about 750 pupils, in order to ensure that we do not become too large and impersonal and so that we do continue to know the pupils.

***Do you think Grammar Schools are an anachronism when most schools are now comprehensive?***

It can never be right to sacrifice excellence for ideology. If parents prefer comprehensive schools for their children, there are good comprehensives in and around Gloucester. However, we offer an academic school in which youngsters who will benefit from being taught with others in a similar aptitude can learn in a hard-working atmosphere in which expectations of achievement and behaviour are high. We are right for everyone, but we achieve demonstrable outstanding success. Before changing what is working, I would need to be convinced that any alteration would be an improvement and, in the case of Sir Thomas Rich's, that would be very difficult to do!

***Would you like to see the school become mixed sex?***

I have real doubts about whether this would benefit the school. At present, our boys can work through to GCSE's without any distraction in lessons, without any embarrassment or need to show off. Yet, we retain a mixed feel to the school, with significant numbers of female teaching and support staff and a mixed Sixth Form. In practical terms, if Years 7-11 were to become mixed, we would either have to double in size or halve the numbers of boys we admit, both of which have strong arguments against.

***Year 9 Pupils***

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## **THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN - 'THE END OF AN ERA AT RICH'S'**

When I first came to Tommies, I thought that the bottom had fallen out of my world. There I was, a short first year, wearing an over-sized blazer in a world of people that were much bigger than me. Gone were the days of being at the top of the school; I was back to being a mere sprigg! Under the careful guidance of my first form teacher, one Mr P D Lloyd, (I wonder what happened to him?), I settled in and eventually made some great friends. Time went by quickly and over the next two years I managed to grow into (and out of) my blazer. I was playing a lot of rugby and having a go at everything, athletics, tennis, basketball, hockey, cricket .....chess! I decided to stick to rugby and kept up a bit of basketball. Eventually, I was made captain of the rugby team under Mr "Hulk" Hodgkinson and this office was followed by the office of basketball captain, under.....um..... a Mr P D Lloyd, (now that name rings a bell!) School life became brilliant, no worries, no cares, a bit of homework now and again - piece of cake! But then came GCSE's and suddenly it was all work and no play, but it was worth it in the end. During this time, who was there to guide me through my fifth form? None other than the ever present Mr Lloyd!

The Sixth form was the next stop and with it, came the scourge of my life; 'A' levels (and girls) - not that girls are a part of my scourge, they just came at the same time (phew!) 'A' levels seem to be what it was all about: I've never had to tackle anything quite so demanding in all my life - all eighteen years of it! Yet at the same time, the sixth form has provided me with the most enjoyable school years of my life. I really feel a part of the place and it's sad to think that I'll have to leave. I never thought that I would say that, but I have made so many great friends and grown up with good people. My greatest honour at Sir Thomas Rich's was to have been made Captain of School in my last year here. It has meant many new responsibilities and a lot of hard work, but I would not have changed the job for anything. My only hope is that I've served the school well. During my time, I have seen pupils, teachers, headmasters and even buildings come and go, but I still feel that at the end of the day, it's my school. It only remains for me to thank the staff, the Vice-Captain of School, Phil Brown and my loyal team of Observers and Prefects, who have made my school captaincy a breeze! Despite all of the changes during my time at Rich's, some things still stay the same; everyone still seems bigger than me and I'm still writing essays for a certain teacher called Mr P D Lloyd!

Garde ta foy!

*R Sood (School Captain 1994-95)*

## THE SCHOOL YEAR IN BRIEF

### AUTUMN TERM 1994

The new academic year started with Mr Kellie taking control as Headmaster. The exam results had been excellent, both at 'A' level and GCSE. Rich's was placed as the best Grammar school in Gloucester according to the official Government league tables. Speech Day was soon upon us and the school welcomed the return visit of Baroness Sally Oppenheim-Barnes. Once again, the school was packed with the J4 'Open Evening' in October. Just after half-term, Mr Hodgkinson announced that he would be leaving Rich's at the end of the academic year. During the term, many of the new buildings came into operation, with the new changing rooms for the swimming pool being used, as well as the new library, which was named, 'The Blue Coat Library'. It was announced that Rich's had been awarded £632,000 for new buildings and initial planning had started. Mr David Hook became the new President of the 'Old Richians' Association', taking over from Stanley Jones.

Year 7 went on the traditional Stratford induction trip, while theatre visits organised by Mrs Spilsbury were made to see 'Buddy' in Bristol and 'An Inspector Calls' in London. Mrs Barnes worked almost to exhaustion, as she successfully staged the hit musical, 'Guys and Dolls'. The school was visited by various artists, such as Bertel Martin the poet and the 'Tilt Theatre Company'. In November the school went wild with the visit of 'Panther', from the TV series, 'Gladiators'. Granada Television came to the school to film Adrain Pye at work, as he had successfully won through several auditions to be selected to appear in the ITV show, 'Stars in Your Eyes'.

On the sports front, Shayne Bradley of Year 10 successfully made it to the last twenty of the England schoolboy soccer squad. The Under 13's produced the best record of the season, winning ten of their twelve matches and only losing one, while the First XV had a mixed season, with eight wins and four defeats. In Cross-country, Stuart Simpson won the overall individual prize in the West Mercia X-country league. Eastgate won the Junior House Rugby, while Westgate won the Senior.

The 'Parents' Association' successfully raised £1500 from their 'Christmas Fayre', while the ever popular 'Quiz Evening' ensured that the hall was packed out and over £600 was raised. Other events organised by the 'Parents Association' included a 'Microwave demonstration' by the MEB and a visit by the 'Body Shop'. The term ended with the traditional Christmas carol services and 'Christmas by Candlelight'.

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### SPRING TERM 1995

The big event of the term, indeed of the year, was the visit of Her Royal Highness, the Princess Royal in March, to officially open the refurbished swimming pool. To match this event, the Governors formally announced the appointment of Mr Ian Kellie as Rich's new Headmaster. It was announced that work would start in July on a 'multi-purpose' Hall and new classrooms, with over a million being spent on the project, as well as a new quad area on the side of the school.

Soccer fixtures officially returned to the Sixth Form, with the First's only losing one of their six matches, while the Second's played five and again, only lost one fixture. Meanwhile, the school was delighted to see Shayne Bradley play for the England Under 15's squad, while Stuart Simpson produced the fastest senior time in the Worcester Spring Relays.

Another success story in a busy term, was the 'Year 8 Arts Festival', in which a week in March was devoted to drama, art, music and other skills organized by the 'Expressive Arts Faculty'. Guest artists were invited in to take workshops and the week culminated with a wonderful performance based on the theme of 'The Creation'. The week was sponsored by 'Lloyds Bank' and was so successful, it was decided that it would become an annual affair. Also, upon an artistic theme, Mr Moss staged a gripping production of J B Priestley's famous play, 'An Inspector Calls' to an enthralled audience.

Meanwhile, another successful 'Quiz Evening' was organized by Mr Hodgkinson and Mr Shaw, with £640 being taken on the night. Also, three teams from Rich's reached the 'Lloyds Bank Quiz Competition', with third spot, being the best position achieved. Members of the Sixth Form spent four days in Wales on a 'Leadership Course'. The Year 7 Rugby team won all of their five matches, while in Chess, they continued to battle in the local North Gloucestershire League.

Trips were extensive as usual, with the Geography department travelling to the Forest of Dean, while the French department arranged for three members of the lower Sixth to visit Lannion in Brittany. A group of Year 11 and Sixth Formers went to the Coliseum Theatre to watch 'Madam Butterfly'. Year 7 went caving, played five-a-side soccer and went bowling. Another 'action-packed' term had been completed!



*Above, some of the 'Year 8' pupils who were involved in the wonderful production of Shakespeare's, 'A Midsummer's Night Dream', produced and directed by the hard-working, Mrs Pamela Barnes.*

### SUMMER TERM 1995

The annual Founder's Day service was held in the Cathedral, with an address from ex-Rich's teacher, Martin Riley. Pupils were heavily involved in examinations, with SAT's, GCSE's, 'A' levels and the end of year school exams. The school won the BT School's quiz and picked up £500. Trips were numerous and were organized across the curriculum. Demand for places at Rich's was overwhelming and it was announced that the following year would see a five form Year 7 intake. To accommodate this growth, over one million pounds worth of building investment by the LEA was to start, including a new quadrangle, ten classrooms, a multi-purpose hall and various alterations to existing areas of the school.

Mrs Barnes at the end of term motivated Year 8 to put on a wonderful and highly successful adaptation of 'A Midsummer's Night Dream', which was received very well by all those who attended. As usual, the PE department were 'over-active', with various activities on-going throughout the summer term. The First XI Cricket team beat a 'touring, development XI', from Newington College, Australia. Ben Hansford, Will Radcliffe and Richard Saunders all obtained various representative honours for the school. The majority of the cricket teams indicated the growing strength of the game in the school. Unfortunately, the term was 'blighted' by the very sad news of the sudden death of former President of the Old Richians, Stanley Jones. He was a very committed Old Richian, who inspired many former pupils to take an active interest in their school and his loss was and will be, a great blow to the school.

The Cock House was comfortably won by Eastgate. Music was evident, with a performance of Britten's, 'St Nicholas' and a sponsored 'Music Day' was organized, to raise funds for a pair of 'professional pedal timpani'. The school choir provided a successful concert at St Catherine's and Mr Thompson also arranged an instrumental concert. The 'Young Enterprise' companies attended an award ceremony organized by various county business assessors. The traditional, "The Challenge of Industry" week was arranged, as part of the new Lower Sixth, 'Induction Programme' and was once again, very successful. Mr Gallagher and Mr Smallwood announced that they would be taking over Northgate and Southgate Houses respectively. The end of term inevitably saw the departure of various staff, including Mr Hodgkinson, Ms Gorby, Mr Quinn, Mrs Smith, Mr Cappi, Mr P Smith and Mr Moss - all would be missed in the coming years! The end of the school year soon came and all started to prepare for the Summer holidays. All the staff felt that it had been a very busy year. It was now time for a well deserved rest!

*Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)*





# ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES



## ARRIVAL OF MRS C ROBERTS

Mrs Clare Roberts has a First Class Honours from the University of Western Australia and a M.Phil from Oxford. Until recently, she was teaching GCSE English at Gloscat College of Further Education and helping on her trout farm.

Clare tells us that she has written two novels, four "Tales from Shakespeare", a teenage novel and four short stories for twelve year olds, but not, as yet, been published.

She was born in Manchester and went to a Grammar school there and then on to college, where she studied drama, art, craft and education. Clare taught in a Secondary Modern school, in Cheshire, married a doctor and then emigrated to Australia. At the University of Western Australia, Clare obtained a First Class Honours Degree in English, after four years of full-time study. She returned to Somerville College, Oxford, where she

was accepted for a two year post-graduate course on "Shakespeare and his Contemporaries". Clare wrote a thesis on 'John Webster' and 'Jacobean Drama'. With a Master of Philosophy qualification, she found a teaching post at Chipping Norton Comprehensive School and after one year, Clare was made 'Deputy Head' of the Middle School. Then after three years, Clare applied for a post at Taunton School.

Her interests include, gardening and she has been converting one and half acres of farm land into a garden. She also works upon her house, which was built on the farm.

As with all our new staff, we wish Clare, a happy and enjoyable time at Rich's. No doubt, Mrs Barnes will welcome you to the English team.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

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## ARRIVAL OF MRS E STANLEY

Mrs Elizabeth Stanley has joined the English department and has a BA from Oxford and a PGCE from Durham University. Until recently, she was teaching at Stroud High School.

Elizabeth was born in London, in November, before the 'Clean Air Act' was passed, with a label, "This month's special offer - free bronchitis". Other people love to smoke fifty a day to get a cough like hers. Elizabeth regards herself as an 'inner city child', having grown up in New Cross, which is famous for 'Underground Stations', Millwall supporters and the actor who played 'Dracula'. Elizabeth would like to make it clear, that she does not support Millwall, does not drink blood, provided she is supplied with regular offerings of homework.

Elizabeth is married with three children and has two dogs, called 'Black and Decker'. We wish her well at Rich's!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## DEPARTURE OF MR I M HODGKINSON

Ian Hodgkinson ended his fruitful association with the school this summer, when he left to concentrate on a 'home-based' career, which offered him flexible hours and unlimited coffee breaks. During his time at Rich's, Ian has built up the Economics and Business Studies departments from virtually nothing, into two of the most popular and successful subjects in the Sixth Form curriculum. Latterly, he has combined this with his responsibility for the Technology faculty, which likewise had to be developed from humble origins. Central to the success of both these areas has been Ian's ability to forge links with outside agencies, such as local businesses and educational bodies, which has brought in valuable expertise and extra funding to the school that has been greatly appreciated.

Most notable amongst his achievements is the link with Sochi in Russia, setting up an exchange of ideas and giving him insights into Russian cuisine! The school is also grateful to Ian for his contribution to rugby over the years and he will be remembered by many pupils for this enthusiasm and individual approach to refereeing.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Ian will be remembered by colleagues for his warmth, friendship and seemingly inexhaustible good humour, which made him a pleasure to work with and a valued companion.

*Mr R Lockey*



*Jan Smith  
and  
Ian Hodgkinson*

## DEPARTURE OF MRS J SMITH

Mrs Jan Smith leaves Rich's to take up her studies at 'Ruskin College', Oxford, where she will be following a 'Foundation Course', specializing in 19th Century English Literature, which then could lead to a full-time three year degree course. Jan was our 'Administrative Assistant' and one of the many 'unsung heroines', belonging to the support staff. Her sense of humour, good nature and willingness to help anyone, will be greatly missed. Often, Jan was placed under great pressure, meeting photocopying deadlines, dealing with first aid cases and coping with machinery that often broke down. Yet, despite all of this and the frequent ringing of the telephone, Jan would come up smiling.

Staff requests were always abundant, particularly from the English and Biology departments, but Jan would always cope, even when the ship was sinking! No doubt, the pace of studying will come as a great shock to Jan, especially after working in the 'mad-house'. A warm and sad farewell is given to Jan - we wish her lots of luck. Who knows, Jan may come back to Rich's in a few years to take up a teaching post!

*Mr P D Lloyd*



*From left to right, Mr D Readstone, Mrs Austin and Mr W McCormick*

### ARRIVAL OF MR D READSTONE

Mr Dennis Readstone came to Rich's on a part-time basis, in October of 1993, helping Alan Quinn with various duties around the Rich's campus. For twenty-eight years, Dennis worked for 'Gloucestershire County Council', but was made redundant from 'Gloucester Contracting', the Council's direct labour organization in 1992, where he was a 'Plant Utilization Officer'.

In April, 1992, he set up his own business, 'Alpine Contracts', which is involved in 'Ground and Site maintenance'. The business also involves his son and daughter. Dennis will be working with Jock McCormick, our new Caretaker,

Since 1967, Dennis has been part of the 'Gloucestershire Army Cadet Force' and is a 'Training Officer' for the 'Battalion Headquarters'. Recently, Dennis took on a new role as 'Company Commander' and is based at the Stroud, Headquarters. Dennis has already become a popular member of the staff at Rich's and we wish him a successful stay at the school.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

### ARRIVAL OF MRS AUSTIN

Mrs Austin has joined our support staff as 'Administrative Assistant', taking over the hard working and popular Jan Smith, who is by now studying hard.

Mrs Austin studied 'Graphic Design' at GLOSCAT, and worked for a long time in the publishing industry for various companies in the Gloucester and South West region. Her roles included Sales and running a 'Print Shop / works'.

Her hobbies obviously include 'Graphic Design', but Mrs Austin is also interested in dress / toy making, tennis and horse-riding. No doubt she will be busy at Rich's, but we hope that all the staff and pupils will ensure her time with us, is a pleasant one.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

### ARRIVAL OF MR W MCCORMICK

Mr Walter (Jock) McCormick joins Rich's, replacing Alan Quinn, as the School Caretaker. He previously worked at the 'National Star Centre', Ullenwood for six and half years.

Previously, Jock worked in the construction industry, for 'Downmac Concrete', working on major building projects, such as the public stands at Arsenal, Derby County and Cheltenham race course.

Jock has various interests and he is a National Coach in the sport of 'Billards and Snooker'.

We wish Jock the best of luck and lots of support from pupils of Rich's!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## DEPARTURE OF MR D MOSS

Mr Moss joined the staff in January, 1968. In 1973 he became Head of Classics and his department then consisted of the Headmaster, Deputy Headmaster and Mr R T Moore, formerly Classics master of Manchester Grammar School. Few departments could have had such authority and power!

Over the years, the constraints of Government policy and changes in educational fashion, have reduced the impact of the classics in secondary schools, but the HMI report on the school in 1993, notes that pupils at all levels receive an outstandingly broad education through the classics. It describes the very high quality of experience that pupils enjoy in Latin and this is very true. How could it be otherwise with a schoolmaster who can produce plays of the standard of the recent performance of 'An Inspector Calls' and who edited 'The Richian' for many years. Also, a man who can take the bass solo in a choral work, who holds the audience's attention in his reading of Dylan Thomas at 'Christmas by Candlelight' and who can teach architecture to the Sixth Form, English Literature to the junior forms and even share the leadership of an 'A' level Geography field course. Mr Moss even ventured on a 'History Society' trip to Rome.

The school societies have benefited from the warm and humane interest of Mr Moss, many a conversation in the Common Room has been achieved by his wit and wisdom, many a school report has been illuminated by his apt phrase and penetrating comment.

We gladly pay tribute to a long and really varied contributor to school life. The school is grateful that this will continue on a part-time basis. Mr Moore celebrated his eightieth birthday here. Now there's a challenge for a classicist!

*Mr A Pilbeam*



*Mr Gareth Cappi*

*Mr Donald Moss*

## DEPARTURE OF MR G CAPPI

Gareth Cappi came to Sir Thomas Rich's to teach physics in September, 1990, having read 'Natural Sciences', at Cambridge. Three years later, upon the retirement of Mr Carew-Jones, he was promoted to become Head of Physics.

Mr Cappi will be remembered, not only as an excellent teacher, who obtained first rate examination results, but also as an enthusiastic indoor cricketer. Having learnt the game here at Rich's, he later gave unstintingly of his time in running the Indoor Cricket Club. Many will remember him for constantly revising the laws, in a bid to make the game tactically more interesting for those participating.

Whilst bedecked in a 'Panama' hat, he frequently gave up his time to umpire 'proper' cricket matches in the Summer term. Several school productions benefited from his knowledge of sound and lighting, with the music department on occasions, calling upon his skills with the drum kit. Mr Cappi has now deservedly gained further promotion and he leaves with our best wishes for the future. In September, he will be starting his new job, at Kimbolton School, in Cambridgeshire.

*Mr B McBurnie*



### ARRIVAL OF MR A PASSEY

Mr A Passey has taken over as Head of Physics, replacing Mr Cappi. He is a former pupil at the school and until recently, had been teaching at Royal Grammar School, Worcester.

He is married, with a young boy and is interested in music and sport.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

### ARRIVAL OF MR B NICHOLAS

Mr Bill Nicholas joins the staff after recently completing his PGCE course at Bath University, where he also gained his B.Engineering degree.

He has played rugby for England Universities and is in the Bath 2nd XI. Bill will be teaching Science and Games at Rich's.

*Mr I Gallagher*

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### ARRIVAL OF MR C GLADWELL

Last September, after many visits as a 'Supply Teacher', the school welcomed Chris Gladwell onto the staff. Chris could always be easily identified in the computer room, with his 'blue-tank top'. He taught maths for several years in a strong department, including 'Chase High School, Malvern'. For a number of years, Chris taught alongside me, eventually taking time off to help set up a private school and act as church pastor.

Chris will be in charge of Religious Education at Rich's, as well as teaching some maths and will help with Computer studies. We look forward to tapping into his broad experience and utilizing his expertise in the fields of maths and RE.

*Mr R L Fowler*

*Four of the new 'Fab Five' soak up the atmosphere in the 'quad'.*



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### ARRIVAL OF MR G T NORTON

Mr Geoffrey Norton will be teaching Economics and Geography. He was born in Liverpool in 1960. He has a BA in Geography from Swansea University and gained his PGCE from Bristol University in 1994. Mr Norton is also a qualified Chartered Accountant, working in finance from 1983 to 1993. Before joining the staff at Rich's, he had been teaching at Lakers School, Coleford. His main interests are mountain walking and soccer.

*Mr I Hodgkinson*

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### ARRIVAL OF MR WATSON

Mr Watson joins the Rich's staff, taking over the role of Head of Business Studies and Technology. He comes to us from arch rivals, Pates Grammar, Cheltenham.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## DEPARTURE OF MR P D SMITH

Paul Smith, an old pupil of Rich's, leaves the school, after one year, in which he has taught Geography, English and Games.

Without doubt, Paul will be greatly missed, particularly on the games side. His contribution to PE and Games at Rich's has been incalculable over the last year and one wonders how the department will cope without his expertise. Paul will be remembered for his excellent coaching of last year's Under 14's, who played some tremendous Rugby. As a PE specialist, he has helped Joe Gallagher and myself, to raise standards in the department and his expertise will be hard to replace this coming year!

Paul intends to stay in the area and will continue to have close ties with the school, playing for 'Old Richians'. We wish him the best of luck for the future, but no doubt we will see him at the school on a regular basis!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

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## DEPARTURE OF Ms M R GORBY

Marguerite Gorby came to Rich's in 1993 to teach English, Games and General Studies. It is with great sadness, that Marguerite leaves Rich's to return home to her native Eire and the city of Dublin.

While at Rich's, Marguerite was a teacher to be admired. She was totally committed to whatever she did, whether it be teaching games, pushing students to higher standards in English or helping Mrs Barnes on the drama front. One respected Marguerite for her firm, but friendly rapport with the pupils, her ability to obtain the best out of her students and the very professional approach she displayed in all areas of school life. On the games front, she made excellent contributions to tennis, hockey and soccer. As a PE specialist, Marguerite helped to raise the standards of the department and her disciplined approach, ensured that all the pupils she encountered, were taught to a very high standard.

Mrs Barnes and the English Department will miss Marguerite greatly. Her GCSE and SAT's results were excellent and her contribution to 'A' level English will be sorely missed. Marguerite would always be helping behind the scenes in the various drama productions, often an 'unsung heroine', that ensured that the show ran smoothly. One thing is certain, Marguerite will not miss the drive from Ross, which she often dreaded in the winter months. We will miss her, particularly in the English department and on the games' field. All at Rich's wish her luck for the future.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## DEPARTURE OF MR A QUINN

Mr and Mrs Alan Quinn left Rich's in May, of this year. Alan was the Caretaker at Rich's for a number of years and took over in 1989 from Glyn Jones. He was a popular member of the school, with staff and pupils alike. His duties and commitment to the school did not just revolve around caretaking. Alan often became involved in numerous activities, such as the Venture Scouts, the Year 7 Activities programme, potholing expeditions and many other events.

Often, Alan would drop anything he was doing, to help pupils or staff, frequently bailing them out of various problems. He will be remembered for his sense of humour, willingness and commitment to the school. Alan leaves Rich's take up a post with a 'Swimming Pool Systems Company'. We wish him all the best for the future and thank him for his loyal service to the school - he will be greatly missed!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

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*Mr and Mrs Alan Quinn - all at Rich's bid them both a sad farewell!*



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## ARRIVAL OF MR A SMITH

Andrew Smith joined the 'Design and Technology Faculty' in September, 1994, after the departure of Alan Preece. His previous years of teaching experience, allowed Andrew to quickly make a contribution to the planning and development of technology throughout the school.

As well as teaching Technology, Andrew has his work cut out teaching Information Technology, running a Year 9 Technology project and making use of his practical skills by constructing props for the school productions, as well as 'Royal Visits'.

One of Andrew's many plans, is to introduce 'A' level 'Design Technology' into the school. We wish him success and happiness.

*Ms B McCalla*



# ARTS AND DRAMA



## 'GUYS AND DOLLS' - A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE

Fantastic Mrs Barnes! Your production was a great success and enjoyed by not only those who came to see it, but all those who participated in the show. It was a truly wonderful school production, with pupils, staff, mothers, guests, daughters and husbands all involved to ensure a star-studded cast.

Those who came to see it and applaud Mrs Barnes on the final night, could not possibly comprehend the number of hours devoted in staging the production. Preparations had started well before the summer holidays and rehearsals embarked upon at the start of the autumn term. Evenings and weekends were all sacrificed by Mrs Barnes and her devoted cast.

Songs were rehearsed to perfection, lines practised until they could be delivered with ease and dance routines choreographed until aesthetic excellence was accomplished. Yet it must be said that certain staff members of the PE department were outstepped by their younger pupils. One member of the 'Crap Shooters' appeared to have two left feet and found the younger shooters desperately trying to put him right. Often, Abigail Farr, the dance tutor, would display a look of despair as she watched this 'remedial' performance on stage. Yet, it must be said it did add a little bit of comic relief.

In contrast, the 'Hot Box Dancers' were excellent. One will not forget the 'hop, skip and jump' of Mrs Spilsbury, as she left the stage on the last night, nor Mrs Stanley's embarrassment, as Mr North on the first night attempted to put her off!

Yet, both members of staff and the girls who they performed with, highlighted how grace, charm and fun through dance can be brought to a male stronghold like Rich's and be a huge success, particularly with the boys. Many of the lads who participated thoroughly enjoyed all of the dance routines, thanks to Abigail Farr's enthusiasm. The many stars of the show placed heart and soul into their parts. They had gambled all through the term to ensure brilliant performances. These stars did not need to worry, for salvation was always at hand in the form of Mrs Barnes, who guided their souls to memorable performances.

Sky Masterson, played by Adrian Pye, was shown the error of his ways by Sarah Brown, alias Lindsay Sweet in a truly Christian manner. While, Nathan Detroit was excellently portrayed by Leighton Hazel, who struggled and fought against taking any sort of marriage vows with guest star, Annie McCallum, who played Miss Adelaide. Yet eventually, Nathan Detroit obtained enough



spiritual inspiration to take the plunge and the musical finished with both couples starting on the road to marital bliss. By this time, Sky had revoked his dark past and repented all of his sinful ways, thanks to Sarah and the inspiration of the mission band.

Other memorable performances came from 'Nicely-Nicely Johnson', played by Julian Walker. One remembers the tremendous song he sang near the end, with 'Sit down, Sit down, you're rocking the boat' ringing around the hall. One must also mention 'Big Jule', performed by Dan Bramall, with his gruff American accent and his boast of lots of arrests, but no convictions!

The production had everything, wit, romance, fun and was guaranteed to bring a smile to the faces of everyone. The songs were performed with great enthusiasm, particularly by the boys who formed the various chorus groups, such as in the 'Mission scene'. Mrs Barnes had certainly gambled on this production, but all the hard work paid off. Thanks and praise must also be credited to Mr Thompson and the many musicians who ensured that the songs were a hit. I am not sure whether the souls of the audience had been saved at the end, but they sure had been entertained! I believe next year promises to be even more spectacular.

Mr P D Lloyd

*Watch out folks!  
This crew look  
mean and evil.*

*Some of the  
notorious  
'Crap-Shooters',  
looking for  
trouble and  
a piece of  
the action.*



## 'GUYS AND DOLLS' - A CAST MEMBER'S PERSPECTIVE

Great! Just great! One year after a right regal role in 'Orpheus in the Underworld', look how I wind up, broke in a sewer with a fiancée that is most difficult to unload. Gamblers are everywhere, I got a crazy cop breathing down my neck just waiting to see me and an army of kids I didn't even know I had. Who'd wanna do a school musical?

Well I did and so did a team of over a hundred people who signed up for 'Guys and Dolls'. The all new, all singing (and this year, all dancing) cast were good, but I still thought we'd need 'Lady luck' to give a little help. When I turned up for the first rehearsal, I felt awful. Our accents were dicey and a number of the cast had just joined the

school, so we all felt uneasy. We soon forgot that there were a few members we hadn't seen before and a few that are usually seen at the front of a grammar school classroom, not shooting crap and dancing in seedy night clubs. When we began to concentrate on the game, we saw we had the makings of a great show. Everything started going just nicely, nicely.

Then we rehearsed with the orchestra. They could do it, the cast could do it..... we couldn't do it together. I was laying no bets on how it would turn out. The heat was on and this was when the so far fairly tranquil rehearsals, in which the chorus hadn't been shouted at (too much) changed. That right broad, Mrs Barnes



*Annie McCallum and Leighton Hazell*

was starting to panic! I knew it was my last show at Rich's and I worried how it would be remembered, but everyone pulled together with extra rehearsals all round. The dress rehearsal came and we proved to ourselves that we could do it - well in bits at least, although the first night was the first straight run through. Lots of people got their red carnations, some larger than others and they bought their tickets to watch us in action. We were all on stage (some of us slightly late - Sorry Madame!), the atmosphere was buzzing and we were all relieved to find that we knew our lines - although some were added in to fill a few gaps! (thanks). The songs were belted out with a lot of S-O-U-L and the orchestra was great.

There were also a few invisible additions, who desperately held up flats throughout whole scenes. The jokes were well timed and the audience was rolling about. Mr Thompson nearly fell off his stand with laughter and he already knew the script. The show literally went off with a bang and everyone was rightly pleased. The cast became good friends who were deeply committed to each other - a great note for me to finish on. It ain't rockin the boat to say it was an excellent performance from all those involved.

*L Hazell (6T)*

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## MACBETH WORKSHOP

Last December, members of 'The Tilt Theatre' came to Rich's to present a drama workshop to pupils in Year 11, many of whom were studying the text for their GCSE English Literature studies. There were three members of the company: Sue Colverd, who had previously served with the Royal Shakespeare Company, The National and the Actors Touring Company; the other two members were Jo Bousfield and Greig Bank. At the time of their visit, the members were currently involved in Shakespeare's, 'A Midsummers Night Dream' and were also involved in a play called, 'The High Windows', which was about sexual abuse.

The workshop focused mainly on the relationship between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth. Yet, many other areas were explored and discussed, such as the interpretation of the text, how scenes could be played, the use of imagery and importantly, how the actors could bring the written word alive through their physical actions on stage. The two characters were discussed in detail, with attention focused on their motives, desires, and ambitions, as well as the behaviour that resulted from these thoughts.

Sue Colverd ran through various key scenes with her two colleagues. The workshop was conducted in the format of a director rehearsing with her actors. It was plainly clear to the audience, that the possibilities and options in bringing Shakespeare's text alive were boundless. All that was needed was lots of imagination, a clear understanding of the text and the ability to affiliate with the feelings and emotions of the central characters. The workshop also discussed how a Director may attempt to portray a central character in the play, in a particular way. The imagery conjured up in scenes was also examined. Ideas on how atmosphere, emotions and images could be conveyed to the audience by simple symbolic and visual aids were discussed. For instance, a large red silk sheet was used to symbolize blood flowing and when draped over Macbeth, it represented dripping blood after he had murdered King Duncan. When used as a rippling backdrop, it highlighted the turbulent and disturbed state of mind that Macbeth was enduring as he contemplated whether he should murder Duncan.

The workshop was not 'heavy', but quite the opposite, with humour and fun often present. It ensured that the audience obtained a positive experience of Shakespeare. Importantly, it brought their studies alive, offering new perspectives on the text. With imagination, a little bit of creativity and an open mind, the actors had guaranteed that the young audience went away with lots of new ideas on how they should interpret Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. Thanks to 'The Tilt Company' for a dramatic morning.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## YEAR 8 - ARTS WEEK



One week, towards the end of the Spring Term, the usual repetition of the school time-table was cast aside for everyone in Year 8, to be replaced by an 'Arts Week', which consisted of a range of art activities, led by a host of visiting artists. This could have been a recipe for disaster and chaos, with over a hundred boys searching for the right room at the right time. Thankfully, this nightmare remained unrealized.

The first two days were organized on a rota basis, with each of the four forms experiencing a number of 'taster' sessions, in preparation for more specialized activities later. This took the form of movement sessions in the gym with Mrs Spilsbury, drama exercises in the hall with the 'Tilt Theatre Company', music and instrument making with Mr Thompson, textile printing with Davinder Rihal, indian ink work with Simon Packard and sculpture in the Forest of Dean, with Julian Davies of 'Arts Access'.

After this series of activities, the staff involved met to divide the boys into six groups, who were then allocated an activity which they followed through until Friday, which culminated in an exhibition and performance on the final afternoon.

Other visiting artists joined the venture at this One week, towards the end of the Spring Term, the usual repetition of the school time-table was cast aside for everyone in Year 8, to be replaced by an 'Arts Week', which consisted of a range of art activities, led by a host of visiting artists. This could have been a recipe for disaster and chaos, with over a hundred boys searching for the right room at the right time. Thankfully, this nightmare remained unrealized.

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Other visiting artists joined the venture at this stage, including Ben Baddoo, a local percussionist, Alex Cameron, a songwriter and two members of a musical group from London, called, 'Akasae'. Alex, as well as being an internationally renowned song-writer, had also organized the 'Notting Hill Carnival' for five years, so a school Arts week was small-scale for him!



*Visiting songwriter, Alex Cameron, in full flow, as he co-ordinates a 'workshop' in the gym.*

In order to maintain some links between the six groups, a general theme of 'The Creation' had been agreed and this soon developed into an investigation of the 'Four Elements': Earth, Air, Fire and Water. Each group worked on their ideas separately and then collaborated from time to time, to make sure that the final performance gelled together. Mrs Barnes also had a major role in the unification of the work, as she moved around each area, supervising and refining, encouraging and cajoling.

It became apparent as the week progressed, that the single biggest factor in the smooth running of the week was the attitude of the pupils. They showed engagement, interest and effort and it was evident that each group had a pride in their work, confident that their section would not be a weak link in the final performance. As Thursday and Friday morning advanced, the percussionists, musicians, dancers and performers polished their individual contributions and the hall was prepared, with the necessary lighting and stage areas, while another group completed the visual backdrops and display areas. One side of the hall was decorated with a huge black and white figure, fifteen feet high, based on a Spanish Baroque figure of 'Our Lady'. This had been made by putting together hundreds of smaller ink paintings, representing images of the creation, such as birds, animals, fish, fruit, flowers and vegetables.

Opposite this, hung from the stage ceiling, acting as a backdrop, were eight lengths of paper on which had been painted a huge sinuous snake, depicted eating its tail, as a symbol of the circle of life. On Friday afternoon, proceedings began with the presentation of a cheque for £20 to James Matthews from Lloyds Bank, as the winner of a draw made from all the pupils who had opened a bank account during the week. Lloyd's had been the main sponsors of the Arts Week and were largely responsible for it going ahead. Following this, there was a slight delay for the large audience, made up of parents, relatives and most of Year 7, as 'Severn Sound' commandeered some of the performers for a live broadcast on the radio.

Once the performance started, the audience was treated to a wonderful spectacle of drama, music, sound, lights and visual effects, which was a tribute to the hard work of both pupils and staff. This all combined to provide a fitting end to a memorable week for all concerned.

*Mr R Lockey*



*Sue Colverd, of 'The Tilt Theatre', helps to direct Year 8 pupils, during a drama workshop, which formed one of the many 'Expressive Arts' activities, that were held during the 'Year 8 Arts Festival Week'. The week culminated in a performance, drawing on upon all the artistic areas, that the pupils had experienced. The theme of the performance was 'The Creation', with emphasis on the four elements, Water, Earth, Air and Fire. The week was a great success, with a large audience attending the Friday afternoon session. Thanks must go to Mr Lockey for co-ordinating the week's activities.*

## 'AN INSPECTOR CALLS' - A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE

In April, Mr Donald Moss produced and directed his final drama production at Rich's, after a long and memorable association dating back to 1966. The selected play was J B Priestley's, 'An Inspector Calls' and the small cast was excellent in their interpretation of it. The play is set around a prosperous Edwardian family, with the head of the family, Mr Birling, a successful 'self-made' business man, who owns a thriving factory in the town of Brumley. At the start of the play, the family has just finished dinner and is celebrating the engagement of Shelia Birling to Gerald Croft, who is the son of Sir George and Lady Croft. This is a memorable occasion for the Mr Birling, as the forthcoming marriage will unite the two rival families together and ensure further growth of the business. Also at the party is Mrs Birling, Sybil, who is active in local charity work. The son, Eric, is boisterous and despite his education, is rather prone to misbehaviour and heavy drinking. The occasion is a happy one, until there is a knock at the door and an Inspector Goole arrives to question the family in relation to the suicide of a young girl, Eva Smith, earlier that night. Gradually, as the play progresses, it is revealed that all the family, through their selfish behaviour are all somehow linked to the girl's death. The repercussions of this are devastating upon the family. Priestley's play has many social, ethical and moral messages, that still seem very relevant in the 1990's.

Mr Moss's cast was superb in its interpretation of the play, particularly when one considers that many of the audience had studied the play for their GCSE English course and would quickly detect any faults. The set was simple, but very effective and generated an atmosphere of wealth and prosperity. Similarly, the costumes appeared authentic and denoted the status of the Birlings, compared to the plain Inspector. As for the cast, they were excellent in all respects. Mrs Sybil Birling, portrayed by Adele Twinn, was particularly strong, displaying signs of superiority over her family and a cold hearted approach to the girl's death. She came across as a woman who was rather 'snobbish', somewhat arrogant and in a hypocritical sense, 'self-righteous'. In contrast, Shelia Birling, played by Rachel Vicary, conveyed the sweet, innocent, but selfish daughter to perfection. The audience could easily detect the change in her character as the play progressed, from a thoughtless, spoilt girl to the caring, sensitive and emotional young woman. Matthew Smith played Arthur Birling with great gusto, so much so, that one instantaneously took a dislike to the head of the Birling family. As you watched, you became increasingly agitated at the man's obliviousness and arrogant nature. Matthew had the character of Mr Birling down to a fine art. He appeared to be a pompous, self-centred and uncaring man, who was only interested in the prospects of a knighthood. Tom Harris' interpretation of Eric, as the 'rebel' of the family, rather immature and one who despised his parents, was in a strange way, light relief to some of the other stuffy members of the cast. At times, Tom added wit, humour and often a ruthless hatred for his father, which was most effective. Gerald Croft, played by John Hinton, played the 'well-bred' young man in a calm and controlled manner. John was most impressive in the way he challenged the Inspector and in the manner in which he convinced the audience that his involvement with the dead girl was somehow socially acceptable. Finally, Martin Burdett as Inspector Goole was exceptional. Martin ensured that the Inspector was mysterious, unflinching purposeful and was able to expose the Birlings with great skill. The way he manipulated the family on stage, left the audience with an awkward, reflective and uneasy feeling.

Without question, the production was absorbing and the actors unfolded the plot with great skill, leaving the audience intrigued about what was to happen next. There was no doubt that the social message of the play was strongly conveyed to all who had gathered. It left all who had witnessed the evening's proceedings, a little more wiser and reflective. To this end, Priestley and Mr Moss's interpretation of the play, had been most successful. Many thanks to the cast for an informative, entertaining and absorbing evening - you were splendid and should be heartily congratulated on your fine performances! In conclusion, one must praise Mr Moss and all involved in the production, for their efforts in staging a wonderful evening's entertainment. It must be noted, that Mr Moss has proved that school drama productions can be staged in a quiet, calm, controlled and methodical manner. No drama, hysterics, chaos, or people running wild in panic surfaced during the rehearsals leading up to the grand performance. This is a credit to all those involved and to Mr Moss's skills as a Director and Producer.

Rich's must thank Mr Moss for all those productions that he has been associated with in the past thirty years. His presence will be greatly missed in the coming years and drama at Rich's will be poorer without Mr Moss's influence. I am sure all who have been associated with Mr Moss in any school productions or who have had the pleasure of his company as a Latin teacher, will wish him a long and happy retirement. No doubt, many of us will see Donald at future events being staged at Rich's.

*Mr P D Lloyd*



## 'AN INSPECTOR CALLS'- A CAST MEMBER'S PERSPECTIVE



*Left, Mr Birling, (Matthew Smith), Centre, Edna the maid, (Lindsay Brown) and right, Shelia Birling, (Rachel Vicary).*

At 7.30 pm precisely, on the evening of the 6th April, the curtains drew back, signalling the commencement of our interpretation of J B Priestley's play, 'An Inspector Calls'. The whole project had begun months earlier in the winter term, with auditions, which resulted in several people who had never appeared in any school production, myself included, being given parts. However, despite our inexperience as thespians, the whole cast was confident of performing well, as we all knew the play in detail, having studied it in our English GCSE course.

It had been decided that as we were nearing the end of our time at Rich's, the cast would be made up of lower Sixth formers. Yet, it also turned out to be the case that the majority of those helping out behind the scenes, such as the stage crew, also came mainly from the lower Sixth. The fact that the majority of those involved in the production came from the same year, helped to create a 'family experience' and greatly assisted in the preparation of the play. We found that even after a few rehearsals, those members of the cast who had not been at Rich's that long, soon felt at ease and fitted in well.

As time went on and the performance date loomed over us, we remained unconcerned, in fact, we became more relaxed, to the extent that many rehearsals degenerated into uncontrollable bouts of hysterical laughter. This was in part to

Mr J B Priestley himself, who in keeping with the era that the play was set in, came up with some real gems, such as, "Heady the Buffs" and the all time classic, "I'm afraid not", or should that be, "I'm a frayed knot! (?)". It was also due to those innocent, unobtrusive pieces of furniture, known as props. First, it was the port decanter and glasses. The decanter was reluctant to pour out the port (ribenna) measures. All too often, there would be floods of ribenna across the entire table. Then, there were the chairs, selected for their period elegance, not their rigidity. I found this out during the 'trailer' advertising the play in front of the school assembly, for when I delivered Mr Priestley's words, I was upstaged by a loud and sharp crack. To my surprise, I found that the seat of my chair had become detached from the rest of the structure. I thought that this was a bad omen at the time, but fortunately that was to the end of any problems that I may have encountered. At the time, I reflected on the fact that the incident could have been a lot worse, as it in fact had been for Adele Twinn a few weeks before. For Adele was sitting on a much older chair and it collapsed into a heap beneath her, causing the rest of the cast to erupt into hysterical laughter.

During rehearsals, it was clear to see that this was to be one of the finest productions, ever to grace the stage at Rich's - honestly! As time went on, it was also plain to see, that the casting had been

excellent, with all of us being startling suited to our roles. Rachel Vicary played the attractive and energetic Shelia Birling, John Hinton played the enthusiastic, but pompous Gerald Croft, while Adele Twinn performed the superior and hypocritical, Mrs Birling. I was Eric Birling, the drunken layabout, who only regained consciousness, in order to father illegitimate children - what can I say? This apart, the stars of the show were the obnoxious Mr Birling and the undaunting, Inspector Goole, played by Matt Smith and Martin Burdett, respectively. Their performances really set up the play, with Matt Smith's bumbling Mr Birling played to perfection. In turn, Martin Burdett's portrayal of Inspector Goole was excellent, ensuring that he came across as cool, calm and calculating.

*Left, Eric, (Tom Harris) and Right, Inspector Goole (Martin Burdett), confront each other over the mysterious death of Eva Smith. Did Eric have anything to do with Eva's suicide?*



I feel though, and I know my fellow cast members will agree with me, that the real star of the show was an extremely anxious looking man, who remained in the wings, unseen throughout the play, kept company, only by his pocket torch and a crumpled script. He remained at his post, religiously throughout the whole performance. I mean of course, Mr Moss, who was our producer, editor, director, prompter and basically, 'worrier supreme!' Right from day one, Mr Moss was there, holding the auditions, arranging rehearsals, coaxing and cajoling us, as well as organizing all of the props, the majority of which were supplied by himself and the cast members!

The performance had a special significance, in that it was probably Mr Moss' last production at the school, before his retirement. Having heard and seen some of Mr Moss' previous skills as a director, I would like to believe that he was ending on a high and that this particular production was his best. Of course, this is a totally unbiased view.

After two gruelling hours, the combination of what must have been days of rehearsals, was over, to our great relief, but also there was great sadness. I know that all those involved, will greatly miss the comradeship and high spirits, that were always prevalent during our long, but enjoyable hours together as a cast.

The curtain closing, was by no means the end of the evening's entertainment, as after the performance, when the bows had been taken and a presentation made to Mr Moss, many of the audience had a late supper, which was prepared to a very standard by Mr Quinn, the school caretaker. Finally, the evening drew to a close and we were left to reflect upon what had been a very enjoyable experience for us all. We all wondered, whether any of us would ever have the energy to undertake such a venture again.

*T Harris (6S)*



# CREATIVE WRITING

## WAR - WHO NEEDS IT?

It was Christmas and really quiet, just like a mouse. If only it was quiet and peaceful in the world. Another Christmas gone and the world is full of wars. Africa has its own civil and territorial wars, the former Yugoslavia is in a mess and there are now more sources of conflict in the world than ever before. Northern Ireland is on the verge of peace, but how long will it last? It seems that there is conflict and racial tension in many societies. So why all the blood and tears? To answer this, one has to look at the issue from two angles, the victims and the protagonists. Since the arrival of the human race, there has been a need for mankind to fight in order to survive. Cain and Able fought for their father's reputation and power. David had to fight for the freedom of the Israelites. Moses risked his life from the perils of the Egyptians. Adam and Eve even had their arguments over whether they should eat an apple or not? It seems that man possesses a simple primeval drive or instinct to fight. In our modern world, we still seem to feel that the only way to solve any conflict is to fight. There are some people who constantly do not want war, the pacifists and other religious groups. Disputes often lead to conflict and unfortunately, innocent people get caught up in the crossfire. Often these conflicts can be compared to arguments that young children have over toys. They are often petty, insignificant and revolve around certain political parties wanting to impose their will over others, usually weaker individuals. It is often only weak governments who want conflict. Maybe I am being too simplistic, but in a technological age, one would think that we could solve problems without reverting to War. Maybe, as children we are conditioned to be aggressive?

G Clark (10T)

## THE NIGHTMARE

It was morning, the air was cold and it was snowing outside. I got out of bed, ran onto the landing and opened the door to my parents bedroom. Empty and no one was to be seen. Downstairs I went, searching and looking in every room, but still nobody was around. As I was starting to give up hope, the house appeared to become very cold. Slowly, the staircase disappeared and a large cobra snake replaced it. The cobra leapt forward and I jumped to one side to avoid it. I ran to the back door, but as I did so, the house seemed to become a vast, dark, deep void of emptiness, filled only with grey smoke. The snake had gone, but my heart was still pounding with fear. As I calmed down, I realised where I was and I could see a tree trunk with my initials carved in it. I was up a tree and as I twisted on one of the trunks I faced my old house. Suddenly I started to feel warmer. Looking below, I saw a fire engulfing the tree. The fire started to go out of control and I could hear a crackling noise. I leapt out of the tree, twisting my ankle in the process. Then I crawled to safety to a nearby wall. As I sat down and recovered, I tried to make sense of the bizarre events that had taken place, but soon fell asleep. Soon I woke up and slowly stood up to find that I was in my old back garden. Everything appeared wild and barren. I walked a little and heard a rumbling noise. My spine tingled as I suddenly saw a lion staring at me. It then leaped for me and I started to run with sheer terror. I then tripped and fell down a black hole. My fall seemed timeless, but I then landed with a thump. Dazed, confused and sweating, I opened my eyes to see the edge of my bed. All was quiet, and normal. What had happened to me?

D Tipper (10S)

## A QUICK DETECTIVE STORY - 'CROCODILE TEARS'



Dr Winters stepped out of his car and analysed the surrounding vicinity. A mass of emergency vehicles were huddled around what appeared to be fragments of wreckage from a car. Looking backwards, Winters noticed a large piece of the hedge was missing, presumably where the car had careered off the road. With this section of the hedge missing, it was now easy to see the quiet road winding up through the hills and over the brow of a large hill. It was here that the road disappeared from

sight. On the peak of the hill, a small farm was situated. It was positioned just to the right of the road, which gave Winters the impression they could have heard or seen the accident.

Dr Winters approached Chief Constable Newton, who was diligently examining the wreckage. "Have you got any idea of what has happened?", Winters asked. "Not really", the Chief replied. "It looks as if the driver lost control of his car and crashed through the hedge and could not stop before the car was thrown over the rock face. Most of the car is lying one hundred feet beneath us in a tangled heap. It's a pity really, another fatal traffic accident on this road."

"Has anyone looked at the fatality yet?", Winters quietly asked.

"There is not much to see", Newton remarked. "During the impact glass was strewn everywhere and the body must have been ejected from the wreckage, as it's lying in a mangled heap, with limbs, bone and flesh everywhere. I don't think you'll find anything special, but if you want to take a look, then -"

"I will later", Winters quietly added, "but has anyone questioned the occupants of the farm for evidence?" "Not yet", the Chief confessed. "Well, I'll go and talk to the owner straight away then".

A few minutes later Dr Winters was outside the farmhouse. The door was answered by a stout dark-haired, middle aged man, known as Robert Williams. He invited Winters inside. The room was furnished with a large stove on the far side of the room, with a table and chairs pre-occupying the centre. The stone floor gave an air of nostalgia and the atmosphere of a cosy farmhouse kitchen.

Winters sat down and decided to break the silence. "Mr Williams did you see a red sports car pass here earlier today?"

Williams sat down grasping his hot beverage. "Why yes, he came here earlier this afternoon driving a red Porsche, I think. The owner's name is Tony Donn and he owns a business on the old trading estate, Why?"

"This afternoon, Mr Donn's car veered off the road, half a mile away and plunged over a hundred foot drop to meet an abrupt end". This was relayed in a cold and methodical manner by Winters. Williams gave a sudden gasp, before his head sank into his crossed arms. "Why was he here today Mr Williams?"

"Oh, it was just some minor disagreement we had", he sobbed. "He's accused me of stealing money from his business and is taking me to court over the matter. This morning he went to his solicitor to organise a prosecution against me. I didn't take any money, you know that, don't you!", he pleaded.

"And what happened when he came here?", Winters asked. "Well, there is not much to say really, I'm not surprised he killed himself!"



"Mr Williams, a man has just died out there and whether it's murder, suicide or just an accident, let's save the verdict to the judge and the police. Right, tell me more about this morning". Williams continued.

"Anyway, he obviously disagreed with my version of the story, because he started to yell at me and tell me what his solicitor was going to do to me. He stormed out of the farm and drove away like a maniac. On the roads around here, you have got to take extra care, as they are so narrow. He frightened me to death. Just on top of the ridge over there, on up from the farm, there was a horsebox coming in the opposite direction. Suddenly I saw the car break, veer to the left, with the sound of screeching tyres as loud as a bell. I was looking out of the front window and I then saw the car plunge down the ridge".

Winters suddenly thought of the mangled heap of bones and flesh, the sole remnants of Mr Donn. "Was he wearing his seatbelt when he left the farm?" "Yes I think he was", Williams replied in an unsure manner. Winters continued in a keen and enthusiastic voice, "And you did not see him being hurled out of the car as it plunged down the ridge?"

"No, like I said, he left in a hurry and veered off the road to avoid the horsebox."

Dr Winters then left the house and proceeded to the scene of destruction and carnage. By now the mutilated remains of Donn had been removed and the accident area cordoned off from the public. He examined the car's interior, or what was left of it. The roof had been crushed and most of the interior was smashed or missing. It had a thick viscous coating of blood and most of the interior was all mangled up. He then looked at the black leather bucket seats in the car and in particular the driver's side. Winters touched the seat, which was stained with a thick coating of blood, that had already clotted. He looked up through the open front of the car and then turned round. Looking over his shoulder, he could see the winding road above.

"So what do you think?", said Winters as Chief Constable Newton approached the car.

"Well, it looks like just another statistic, one more careless driver who has wasted his life".

Winters grinned and smirked. "Not half as careless as his murder!"

The Chief look bewildered and stunned. To him it was just another traffic accident that was the norm during the festive season.

Winters went onto explain to the Chief how he had

come to his startling deduction. When he had talked to Williams, the farmer had told Winters that Donn had his seatbelt on when he left the farm. As a result, if was true, the car would have plunged over the ridge and Donn would not have had a chance to jump for it, as it would have happened so fast. Consequently, he would have been crushed in the car and not thrown out as it first appeared.

The Chief looked confused and wanted to know how Donn had ended up fifty metres from where the car came to eventually rest. Winters continued and explained to the Chief that Williams had murdered Donn as he sat in his car at the farmhouse by stabbing him. Williams had to get rid of the body and make it look like an accident. So he pushed the body into the passengers seat, drove the car to the edge of the ridge, placed Donn back into the driver's seat and then heaved the car over the top. Yet, he made one mistake. He forgot to put Donn's seatbelt back on and subsequently the body was thrown out of the car as it plunged down the ridge. Another clue, was that blood from Donn's stab wounds had clotted and dried not only on the driver's seat, but also the passenger's seat. Williams had bungled the operation and would nowface the charge of murder!

*T Meredith (10T)*



## POETRY WORKSHOP

As part of the 'W H Smith Schools' Festival', in conjunction with the 'Daily Telegraph - Cheltenham Festival of Literature', the school was lucky enough to have the visit of poet, Bertel Martin. The sponsors, 'W H Smiths', helped to organise a schools' programme, in which they provided practical support for teachers of English Literature, music and the performing arts. Luckily for Rich's, Mrs Stanley was on the ball and with lots of hard work she managed to arrange Bertel Martin to come to Rich's.

Consequently, Bertel Martin came to Rich's to recite his poetry, talk about how he writes his poetry, as well as provide some information about his background. Bertel is a well respected poet, performer and educator.

He runs workshops on poetry throughout the South West of England, encouraging young people to develop their talents within the realms of the arts. According to the festival publicity, Bertel Martin encourages young people to find their own voices, expressing thoughts and feelings through poetry.

The visit was highly successful and popular, not only amongst pupils in Year 7, but also pupils from some of the local junior schools, who were invited specially for the event, making up an audience of over two hundred pupils.

Between reciting some of his poems, Bertel explained to his young audience how he actually

wrote his poetry. Much of his inspiration came from personal experiences, observation and events that had impressed him. He told us that he had hundreds of simple ideas and thoughts scribbled down on bits of paper. He tended to simply play around with words and juggle with language. A lot of inspiration came from his cultural background and experiences as he grew up in Bristol. He explained to the audience that he did not set out to be a famous poet, but simply one day started to write ideas down on paper.

Without question, Bertel's performance was enjoyed by all of the audience. He demonstrated that poetry can be approached in an appealing and attractive manner. Bertel also illustrated quite clearly, that poetry is not a complicated and elitist area of literature. It can be quite accessible and uncomplicated if approached and taught in the correct way. To the English department, he made the writing of poetry complete simplicity. It was evident, that poetry to Bertel was all about fun, accessibility and importantly, expressing your personal feelings.

To me, he clearly highlighted the fact that poetry has not got to be pretentious or deeply serious. It can be amusing and yet, still provide a clear message.

Many thanks Mrs Stanley for arranging a superb morning, that was fun and informative.

*Mr P D Lloyd*



*Top of picture, left to right, Mrs J Spilsbury, Poet - Bertel Martin and Mrs C Stanley, with some of the Year 7 pupils, who formed part of the large audience.*



## TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES - DO WE NEED THEM?

The technocratic era entices us to lose the restrictive and materialistic values of an industrial age. It allows us to embrace the impetus of a new technological epoch for the expansion of humanity. Since time began, man has manipulated and developed technology to suit his own needs. The question is now whether these advances are necessity or merely just down to opulence? Technology has boomed, with inventions such as the motor car, revolutionising transportation and also the autonomy of the human race. Yet, it has drawbacks, as we are now questioning the 'social cost' of this invention. People are rightly concerned about the cost of car pollution on our environment and our health. Cars are incessantly polluting the atmosphere, with their exhaust fumes and accidents often result in fatalities. We have become very dependent on our cars. Today, our laboratories are devoted to experimentation and research development in all areas of our lives. Scientists are making discoveries all the time, revolutionising modern life.



Many developments have played an important role in our social and economic welfare. Yet, as stated before, there have been costs, not just on an individual basis, but also on a global front. Many superpowers, in their quest for technological advancement have manipulated the natural resources of less developed nations of the world. Yet, it is interesting to note, that during the 'Industrial Revolution' in this country, social division was also evident, with 'technocrats' manipulating their workforces in order to gain wealth and power. Many governments over the decades have found it hard to cope with the various social problems that technological developments have brought. Thus, many nations have experienced social unrest and turmoil, resulting in governments with various ideological principles that can be considered extreme. This was very evident in Russia, with the development of the communist state. It is very evident that many technological developments have materialised out of conflict. This was evident in the last century, with the European powers competing intensely for various colonial territories. Governments invested large sums of money to improve their technological superiority over their rivals and subsequently the 'arms race' started. It is still evident today, with the superpowers devising even more sophisticated weapons of destruction. New discoveries have increased the scope for even more developments, ie. the chemical industry.

We often do not realize the impact that technological innovations have on our daily lives. The many things that we take for granted, would be considered unbelievable by our predecessors. Many new products and services that are invented or made today, are often merely for our own personal consumption. Recently, the greatest innovation and impact on our world, has been the computer. Computers are now so common and are natural extensions of our daily lives, that life without them, would seem unbearable. They are used extensively, in all walks of life, from design to the control of production levels in factories. Without them, the world economy could be seriously destroyed, especially when you see how essential they are in the millions of transactions that take place on the world's money markets. Nobody knows what the future holds for mankind, but it seems likely that most occupations will involve specialist 'technocrats'. The hunger for technology is still present in our society. One prominent area of research is 'genetic engineering'. This area of research is already having an effect on our world, improving crop yields, identifying inherited genetic defects and helping to cure various terminal diseases. Of course there is opposition to this, especially from religious groups, who debate the moral and ethical issues that surround genetic engineering. Research is being undertaken in many areas, such as in the nuclear power industry, the environment and in the field of communications. Science continues to play a dominant role in all our lives and each day brings a new invention, improving the quality of our lives. The question that faces the modern world, is whether the Earth can sustain the human race and if not, what will mankind have to do in order to survive? Man in centuries to come may have to explore the far reaches of space and one wonders whether the technology will be available to colonize the outer reaches of the solar system. Technology has accounted for some great advances in the development of civilization and it has certainly been responsible for some terrible developments. Man's drive for technological knowledge will always be a dynamic force for the human race.

*C Poole (11T)*

## YEAR 8 POETRY

### SCHOOL

Going to school, it can be a pain  
 Doing work, it can be a strain  
 As soon as you get out pens, pencils and things,  
 You write the first word, then the bell rings  
 And all the homework, oh, what a disaster  
 How can you explain to your headmaster  
 That the homework was too hard for you,  
 Whilst all the other children whizzed through  
 Then there's the tests, "please god help me!"  
 So you start to study all day and all night,  
 But then the results come to give you a fright  
 19 in Biology, 17 in Maths,  
 All of your marks are pretty "naff"  
 Then there's the teachers, "Oh no, not him again!"  
 Some teachers are minor, but most are main,  
 "This work is rubbish, do it again"  
 Then you hear the bell to go home.  
 Hop on a bus, now you're free to roam  
 School is out and the earth is yours for a while,  
 Plan against a teacher who put you in exile  
 10.30 and you climb in bed  
 And think of tomorrow and further dread  
 When the alarm clock rings,  
 And you have to get together all your things  
 Hop on the bus and drive away,  
 To a place you dread, night and day  
 You sit down and start to moan,  
 "Will this school ever leave me alone?"

J Knapman (8B)

### DEATH - A Man and his work

It's the end of the day.  
 And death is not impressive,  
 but socially acceptable.  
  
 He's not at all desirable, yet women  
 fly all over him.  
 He's not a killer, it's his job,  
 but he doesn't like the mob  
 who call themselves dead.  
  
 The poor bloke's miserable,  
 but doesn't give the game away.  
 Whenever he goes dancing,  
 he always brings one back!  
  
 Why did you come here in the dead of  
 night?  
 You saw a vision and heard a voice.  
 You had no choice, you had to come  
 But where is .....What was that?  
  
 There I don't see you  
 This is the forbidden land,  
 Where no human foot has dared tread  
 for time out of mind. There!  
 You saw it again. But then no more.

S Collins (8B)

### I HATE WASHING THE DISHES

*I'm distraught,  
 I'm distressed.  
 It's disastrous,  
 It's disappointing.  
 I'm washing the dishes.*

*Life seems distant, dismal, discouraging  
 and disgusting.  
 I'm disconsolate when I wash the dishes.*

*You want to be discharged, but with disgust and to your  
 dismay,  
 You're disallowed to stop  
 from washing the dishes.  
 They spell disaster, disgrace and disfigurement  
 If you disconfirm the dishes.*

*So you mop the dishes, drop the dishes.  
 But distantly you see disequilibrium.  
 At last I discard the dishes  
 I hate washing the dishes  
 So we got a dishwasher to wash the dishes  
 HORRAY!*

M Walker (8B)

### BLIND DATE

I disembarked,  
 With my distrust  
 I didn't want to disappoint.  
 I was dishonest  
 And dissembling,  
 Not discreet.

Disappointed,  
 She displayed  
 Disgust, disdain,  
 Dissatisfaction.  
 Dismissing me,  
 She disappeared  
 Into the disco.

Disillusioned,  
 Sad, dismayed,  
 I turned away,  
 Disconsolate,  
 To contemplate  
 The result  
 Of my blind date.

P Camp (8B)

## A DISCUSSION ESSAY - THE PRICE OF PETROL

One of the major sources of pollution are cars and lorries on our roads today. The 'Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution' is trying to encourage people to use public transport, but are the existing services adequate? Is it possible to live without the car? For those who find the car essential, would they be able to afford the extra cost of petrol? These are some of the questions which need to be addressed and whether some of the proposals put forward are plausible and realistic?

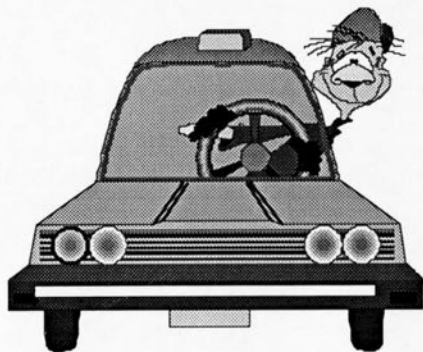
There will be about thirty million cars on Britain's roads by the year 2000. Just over a quarter of the journeys made by these cars will be under two miles, so cars must not be used unnecessarily if pollution is to be reduced. The arguments against the motor car appear to be very strong. Cars and lorries produce a lot of pollution, with just over half of all the nitrogen oxide emissions coming from motor vehicles. These emissions contribute to acid rain and also the 'greenhouse effect'. Almost ninety percent of the highly poisonous carbon monoxide emissions and over forty percent of smoke pollution comes from motor vehicles. Road transport is also another major source of carbon dioxide gas emission, which we all know contributes to global warming. Other impacts of the car include noise pollution, disruption to community life, destruction of greenbelt areas through road construction and the increase in the number of cases of children suffering with asthma.

Catalytic converters can reduce the pollutants, except carbon dioxide from car exhausts, though these are less effective over short journeys. Interestingly, it is ten percent of the oldest vehicles on the roads that cause half the total amount of pollution. Recently, concern has been expressed at the contents and possible harmful effects that 'super unleaded' petrol can give off in emissions. For most people, it is hard, despite the congested roads to contemplate life without the car. Many agree that we should all use the car less, but we all expect others to do just that and not ourselves. Cars seem to be essential in a modern economy. Access to a car can make life easier, improve communications and guarantee rapid transportation of goods and services. For those living in isolated rural areas, the car is essential and the quality of life would be greatly diminished without the aid of the car. Excise duty and VAT already account for three quarters of the price of a litre of petrol. Even at today's prices, this is a significant amount and any increases in the cost of petrol would have a significant effect on most household budgets. Faced with price increases, it seems that the people who can least afford it will suffer and those in rural areas would feel that they were being unfairly discriminated against. Many companies would find their

transportation costs increasing and would simply pass on the additional costs to the consumers by pushing up the prices of their goods. Companies would argue against any petrol rises, stating that it would make industry less competitive.

In support of the car, one must bear in mind that the motor industry directly employs 850,000 workers in car plants, component factories and garages. Cars generate extra income for the government in the form of taxes, with £23 billion from fuel taxes, vehicle excise and VAT. The Government still has a major policy of investing in road construction and development, although, some schemes are now under review. Many people believe that by building more roads, our traffic problems will just escalate and cause increased congestion. Of the £3 billion a year spent on road programmes, critics argue that at least two thirds of this could have been spent on improving public transport, cycleways and footpaths. This would still leave enough money for the construction of essential town by-passes. So what is the solution to our transport problems? Many believe that investment in an efficient commuter transport system is critical. It has also been argued that an 'Integrated Transport Policy' has to be produced by the government, encouraging light railways, cyclepaths in inner-city areas. Realistic, comfortable and reliable alternatives to the car have to be sought.

In conclusion, there is no alternative form of transport that can rival the car in terms of convenience at the present time. On the other hand, something has to be done about the road transportation system in this country and the environmental pollution that it causes. At present, it seems that Government policy will not solve the problem and people will not stop using their cars, until there is a practical alternative.



*J Marriott (11R)*

# A PROFILE OF THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



## SCHOOL MUSIC

Music at Sir Thomas Rich's represents one of the major activities undertaken by pupils. At curricular level, it is a 'National Curriculum' core subject and is thus studied compulsorily from Year 7 to 9. At Key Stage 4, pupils can opt to do GCSE (MEG) and then 'A' level (London). Due to changes to the option sets and a generally higher profile being attached to the subject, numbers of pupils opting for music is increasing yearly. GCSE music indeed presents a most approachable option for a pupil who has any musical interest. There is a myth that you have to be an exceptional pianist or singer, or excel at composing in order to take it on. The truth is that **any** ability is welcomed by the Board and a flexible weighting system allows your particular strength to be recognized in assessment. Two-thirds of the syllabus comprises of coursework.

At an extra-curricular level, music crosses more boundaries than most other activities in the school. Choir, Madrigal Group, Orchestra, Wind Band, String Group, Musical productions and Instrumental lessons, combine staff, parents, and friends with boys and girls from all academic, social, racial and age groups. It is a subject which can be experienced and enjoyed at any level or ability.

*Mr J Thompson*

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## CLASS LESSONS

Class music is no longer a case of, "listen to this piece of music by Beethoven and then write a summary of the composer's life". It is perhaps now a case of, "listen to an example of Blues, look at a twelve-bar chord progression, learn to play it on your keyboard while your partner improvises over it and then after two to four weeks' practice, perform it to the class, after which the recording is assessed".

Listening, composing and performing is the triangular mainstay of 'National Curriculum Music' and forms the basis of not only the GCSE course, but classroom music at infant, senior and secondary levels. Music is fun. The emphasis on practical music making has opened the doors to the whole range of electronic music technology, from basic keyboard to highly sophisticated computer software, to say nothing of the long awaited western official recognition of ethnic or world music.

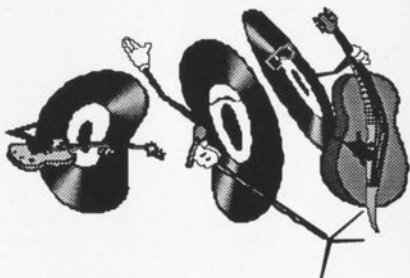
*Mr J Thompson*

## CLASS MUSIC

Pupils are encouraged to approach music with an open mind and to take part in all aspects of music-making from singing to playing, to listening to composing, to performing and to recording. Skills learnt at school or at home or at other centres can be used creatively in the classroom and vice-versa. Curricular and extra-curricular music are really extensions of each other. They complement and re-inforce one another. In fact, class music is really only the timetabled division of a daily on-going process of music-making at school.

Before school, at break, lunch-times and after school, there are always pupils listening, playing or rehearsing, whether with a teacher or with friends. The music room thus provides a place of study, relaxation and communication, which admittedly is often very noisy, but also stimulating and productive.

*Mr J Thompson*



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## THE SCHOOL CHOIR

The choir provides about fifty selected pupils a chance to enjoy a variety of stimulating and challenging music. The high standard achieved by the choir is due to commitment and self-discipline, apart from an essential degree of enthusiasm. The choir's obligations to the school at official functions, such as 'Founder's Day', 'Speech Day', as well as the two annual Carol Services and leading the school assemblies, commands a certain pressure. This is always met with confidence and which in turn attracts the high profile given to the group.

The most exciting venture that the choir, plus a few other individuals in the school are beginning to embark upon each Summer Term, is a 'Choral Society' repertoire. So far they have performed 'Carmina Burana' in 1993 and last year, 1994, Haydn's, 'The Creation'. This year, the 'Choral Society' performed, 'St. Nicholas'. The performances of the past three years by the society have proved to be popular, successful and very well received by all who came to listen.

*Mr J Thompson*



*Mr J Thompson undertakes the traditional Friday afternoon 'Choir' rehearsal in the school Hall*

## THE ORCHESTRA

The Orchestra is the basic instrumental group in the school. Pupils are entitled to join as soon as they feel confident to read music. This inevitably leads to a wide range of activities in the group. Music is therefore selected carefully to accommodate a level of technical demand which can be coped with by the least advanced players, whilst providing a stimulating and motivating attraction to the most proficient. It is not an easy task!

The Orchestra functions to introduce instrumentalists to ensemble playing, for which their instruments were intended, to perform regular concerts; firstly as an orchestra and secondly as a 'band', for various musical productions. Rehearsals are sadly rather short and only once a week, but the commitment, results and enjoyment are very good.

*Mr J Thompson*

## THE MADRIGAL GROUP

The rather obscure sounding gathering, actually comprises the cream of the school's singers. Initially, as the name implies, to sing only 16th century, four part songs, known as 'Madrigals'.

The eighteen strong group now enjoys quite a large repertoire, ranging from Bennett, (16th century madrigalist), to Barbershop.

Apart from occasional summer concerts and outside venue appearances, the group looks forward to preparing the now almost annual, 'Christmas by Candlelight', during the Autumn term, in which twelve to sixteen carols are learnt in the space of about nine or ten weeks.

Rehearsals are often informal, but the learning demanded of the group is high.

*Mr J Thompson*



*Mr J Thompson, hard at work with part of Rich's 'School Orchestra' during one of the many lunch-time practise sessions that he takes in preparation for an evening concert.*

## THE WIND BAND

The Wind Band caters for brass, woodwind and percussion players. It was formed a year ago, growing out of the old 'Brass Group' and is in fact becoming an exciting development. The advent of the saxophone, has certainly created an impact, both in terms of tone, colour and is very dynamic - indeed, the number of saxophonists have had to be limited! Musically, the group is still finding its feet, as an ensemble, but is currently responding extremely well to some excellent new music.

*Mr J Thompson*



## INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS



*In recent years, 'Instrumental Lessons' have flourished at Rich's. This has been assisted by the new music rooms. Above we see three Year 8 pupils receiving expert violin tuition. Pupils can obtain tuition in a variety of instruments, from the Drums to the Oboe.*

At one time, instrumental lessons were regarded as a luxury and definitely extra-curricular. Gradually, however, the awareness has grown of the need for something rather more practical in music education, than the passive listening and dictating of notes!

With the GCSE syllabus, we have seen the musical experiences of our pupils broaden. The music syllabus has ensured that instrumental tuition in schools runs in conjunction with the performing side of the course. This change was wanted for some years and now helps pupils to participate fully in a wide range of musical activities.

Thus, it is at Rich's, as in most schools, we have a thriving programme of instrumental tuition, involving nine visiting teachers and nearly one hundred pupils. Some pupils receive private tuition out of school. Pupils entering school in Year 7, or in any year, if desired, may choose to play any orchestral instrument, in addition to Piano, Classical or Electric guitar, Percussion, Drum Kit and Saxophone. Lessons occur at varying times during the day, between 8.30 and 5.30, and apart from certain fixed lesson times for 'A' level pupils and staff, all are subject to weekly rotation. Every effort is made to ensure that the pupils' academic work is not compromised unduly.

All pupils receiving lessons pay a termly fee of between approximately £40 and £80, depending on the instrument and the length of term. Bursaries are available.

Pupils are encouraged, indeed, expected, to join one of the school's music groups and also possibly one of the many County bands or orchestras. In this way, a pupil's development is greatly enhanced and a significant degree of extra reward and enjoyment of playing the instrument is achieved.

*Mr J Thompson*

## SAVE-A-SOUL SAXOPHONE

In September, 1993, I started saxophone lessons, after school, every Tuesday. As a novice, I, like many others had been under the impression that the saxophone was a sleek, airy and deep 'Jazzy blues' instrument. Yet for the complete beginner, it sounds as bad as a novice learning to play the violin. You would never believe that a bottom 'C' or 'B' could sound so high and when you split an 'A', well then it's time to "call the glazier in" for repairs.

Initially, once you have mastered blowing the sax, you're landed with the problem of learning which key does what exactly. As you cannot really see what you are doing exactly, one has to end up playing in front of a mirror in order to learn. Basically, whatever you're working on, notes, keys or scales, it's all down to practice. "Practice makes perfect!", as the saying goes. I know this sounds corny and personally, I didn't think much of it, but to be quite honest, it is really true, however boring it may seem.

The point when practice started to become enjoyable and not a chore, was in December, 1994. I was asked to do a cabaret on Christmas Eve at an old people's home where I work in my spare time. I got really worried about this date in my diary and I put in some real hard work on notes and mastering the reed, (process by which the reed is vibrated and stopped by the tongue to form notes).

Well it all suddenly clicked and I seemed to master the art of reading notes and tonguing. From then on, I could not put down the saxophone and the cabaret was a great success, although playing after a few sherries and mince pies can be a little tricky.



*D Wright (11S) gets to grips with his Saxophone.*



Now my parents no longer have to nag me into practising, as I really do enjoy it. After about eight months of playing, I joined the school 'Wind Band' and so far have participated in one concert. The practice for this can be a bit tedious, as being a tenor saxophonist, I usually get fixed up with the bass line, but there are enjoyable moments, like when Mr Thompson shouts at people, as long as it is not you of course!

Overall, I am really glad I started to play the saxophone and I know that now I am over the hardest part of the learning process, I will not give the instrument up. All I can say to anyone who may want to start playing the saxophone is, "Practice makes perfect and I've done it, so anyone can do it!"

*D Wright (11S)*

## PLAYING THE OBOE

I began playing the Oboe in my first year at the school, after being encouraged to take up a second instrument by my parents. I could already play the piano. I chose to play the Oboe because I wished to play a woodwind instrument, but did not want to play the Flute or the Clarinet, as I knew countless people who could play these instruments. To me the Oboe was different and unique.

I have been playing now for five years and have enjoyed this most of the time. At first, I found it hard, as the 'embouchure' is very difficult to get familiar with, but after mastering this, I actually began to enjoy playing the instrument. I especially enjoyed playing in a group, because after a little practice, you begin to see how everything fits into place and sounds really good. Playing in a large group is also good, because often, if you make mistakes, these can be disguised by the others. There are a few negative aspects in playing the Oboe. For instance, to master the instrument, you really do have to practise a great deal and at times the scales become a little tedious.

Some people do not appreciate the sound the Oboe makes. For example, a close friend told me that the Oboe sounded like a duck, but this is a typical comment from a Flautist! However, I would say that the sound of an Oboe, that is well played, can be very pleasant and much better than many other instruments, but I am not being biased of course. I would recommend playing it to anyone, especially individuals who want to be different and stand out in an orchestra! So why not have a go, you may surprise yourself.

*M Gilmore (11S)*



## THE ELECTRIC GUITAR

I have been learning to play the electric guitar for just over a year now. During that time, I have progressed from having absolutely no musical knowledge or talent, to having a good understanding of music, although my knowledge is still generally basic.

Gradually, I have become more experienced in grasping certain basic areas of music, such as composition, methods of better chord structure and performing on a solo basis.



It gives me a great feeling and a sense of accomplishment to be able to produce a sound pleasing to the ears. Well, pleasing to me anyway, even if no-one else thinks so! I can now appreciate why a piece of music is structured and I am not beginning to play around with a few sounds myself, even though they may be a little simplistic. Of course, I have a lot to learn, but I see this as a challenge and it keeps me motivated to plug away at the electric guitar.

*D Bevis (6T)*

## THE CELLO

I started to play the Cello when I was at Primary school and I soon started to enjoy my lessons. My interest and love for the instrument is still present, as I am able to play harder pieces. In particular, I enjoy playing by myself, but I feel quite happy to join in with others.

At Rich's there are lots of opportunities to play. We have the orchestra, practising regularly each week. Then there is the 'String group', which incorporates the violins, violas, cellos and the double bass. So, overall there is plenty of scope to practise and perform.

*M Ward (7B)*

## THE DRUMS

I have had drum tuition every Wednesday, after school, for some time now. Our drum teacher, Mr Watson generally comes to teach around a dozen pupils at Rich's, but there are quite a few people in school who like to play the drums. You cannot fail to hear them during the break times and even before school starts sometimes!

The school has a five piece drum kit and some of us will be taking drum exams in the very near future. I am also fortunate to have a drum kit set up in my bedroom at home. Luckily, my neighbours have not got the Environmental Health Department around to monitor how many decibels I bang out during a practice session.

My drum kit is about three years old and I bought it when I won a competition. Playing the drums is a favourite past time and I also enjoy visiting the theatre. You may not believe it, but when I play the drums, I find it very therapeutic and relaxing, especially after a hard day in the classroom!

*A Year 9 pupil*



## THE MADRIGAL GROUP

Who are they? Well they are an exclusive group of members of the choir, who are invited to sing, mainly for personal fun and enjoyment. Yes, that's right, for fun! We sing, not surprisingly, songs called 'Madrigals', as well as some other types of music. For instance, such as 'Barber Shop Quartet' music.

The main event of our year is 'Christmas by Candlelight', where we perform less traditional and well known carols. During the interval we get a chance to savour some excellent snippets of food from the buffet! This year, the mince pies were excellent. Well, that's about it, but if you really want to experience the talent of the Madrigal group, then I suggest you either join the choir or come along to our Christmas event.

*G Grimsley (10T)*

## THE EUPHONIUM



*John Glendenning (9S), receives expert tuition on the Euphonium. As a Rich's pupil, John is certainly more than capable of blowing a lot of 'hot air', in order to play the instrument*

I play the Euphonium and generally I really enjoy it, although at certain times, practice can be a little demoralizing. The instrument allows me to play in the school Wind Band and I have had the opportunity to play a solo piece on one occasion in a school concert. This is of course very satisfying and rewarding, particularly after the long hours of practice.

As well as the Euphonium, I play the violin in the orchestra and sing in the choir. So you can definitely say that my talents are musically orientated. Subsequently, I live a pretty hectic life at Rich's, but it's all good fun!

*J Glendenning (9S)*

## BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S - "ST NICHOLAS" PERFORMANCE

In May, of this year, the school Choir sang "Saint Nicholas" and "Rejoice in the Lord Always", to a large audience, who filled Saint Catherine's Church. This event, launched the appeal to raise funds to purchase a pair of professional pedal timpani.

The rehearsals for this event had taken place for months and finally, the choir, nervously assembled for the big night. We started with "Rejoice in the Lord Always", by Henry Purcell, with solos from John Glendenning, Joseph Hitchings and Matthew Smith. "Rejoice in the Lord Always" is also known as the "Bell Anthem", because the opening, sounds like church bells ringing up and down the scale. The piece marks the tercentenary of Purcell's death.

"St Nicholas", was written in 1948 by Benjamin Britten for the performance at the 'Centenary Celebrations at Lancing College, Sussex'. It was written for a tenor soloist, a four part main choir, an orchestra, an organ and a girls' choir. To obtain a girls' choir, we "borrowed" the 'Ribston Hall School Choir' and their conductor, Carolyn Ford. Hopefully, we will sing with them again in the future.

The overall performance was a great success and there were many positive comments from parents, guests and staff on how good they thought it all was. There was only one moment when it looked as if things were not going to plan. This was in the fifth movement, (Nicholas comes to Myra and is selected as Bishop). The tenors and basses came in too fast, with the trebles and altos becoming a little confused. Even Mr Thompson and the orchestra looked a little anxious and bewildered! Luckily, we soon pulled it back together and the rest of the performance went without any problems.

The tenor soloist, Mr Robert Forbes, was really excellent and he complemented the choir really well, with his voice. We would like to thank various people, for their kind help and for singing with us. It was good to see so many staff joining in, such as Mrs Spilsbury, Mr Moss and Mr Henderson, to name but a few. We would also like to thank Angela Godwin (treble) and Julia Ribbons (alto) for singing with us. Of course, we must not forget the orchestra, who were wonderful and helped to make the performance such a success. Finally, one must mention all the hard work and effort that Mr Thompson put into this venture. We all agreed at the end, that it had really been worth all the effort.

*J Glendenning (9S) / R Haworth (9T)*

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*Above, the 'Central Band of the RAF', came to Rich's in February, to play an instrumental concert.*

# FEATURES



## THE ROYAL VISIT

On Thursday, the 16th March, 1995, Rich's was privileged to receive an official visit by the Princess Royal, who became the first royal to visit the school in its three hundred and thirty years' history. The Princess was at the school, to officially open the swimming pool, which had recently been refurbished at a cost of £250,000. Princess Anne was at the school for about an hour. Many local dignitaries and guests gathered to welcome the Princess Royal and Mr Kellie, the Headmaster, guided her on a tour around the school. The Princess first went to the swimming pool, where she observed a swimming lesson, undertaken by Mr Lloyd, which involved some stroke development, life-saving and gala races. Mr Gallagher was close at hand to answer questions. Without doubt, the presence of the Princess Royal was a tremendous tribute to all those Governors, pupils, parents, teachers, Old Richians and friends of the school, who had all helped to guarantee the refurbishment of the pool.

After the visit to the swimming pool, the Princess Royal then went to tour other areas of the school. Princess Anne went into Mr Smallwood's geography lesson, where students were studying data collected from a recent field trip, in conjunction with the floods that had recently beset the Severn area. Then, it was onto the English department to observe Miss Gorby's lesson and to review the new 'Blue-coat' library, near the quad.

Finally, in a hall filled to capacity, with pupils, staff, governors, honoured guests, Old Richians and friends of the school, the Princess was formerly welcomed to the whole school by Mr Kellie and school Captain, Raj Sood. Princess Anne then unveiled a commemorative plaque and signed the visitors book, before leaving for another engagement in Cheltenham.

All those involved in the preparation of the visit felt that the whole event was a great success and ran very smoothly. One of the proudest moments was felt by Year 9 pupil, James Cook, who dressed in the traditional 17th century school uniform of a dark blue gown and yellow stockings, presented the Princess with a posy when she arrived outside the swimming pool entrance. The headmaster, Mr Kellie, told the assembled press that he felt the visit was a great success and that he was very pleased, that the Princess Royal had made time to come and visit the school in action. Without doubt, it was one of the best and most rewarding moments in the school's history. It was also a great tribute to all those individuals involved in the project, particularly, when one considers that Rich's could so easily have lost the pool.

Without doubt, the Governors, Headmaster and particularly the PE Department, feel that the pool is a tremendous asset to the school and will ensure that it is utilized to the maximum. Without question, pupils present and in the future, will benefit from its use. Let us all hope, that we do not forget the hard work and help given by all those people who made it all possible! To all concerned, the visit of the Princess Royal was a great success and a testament, that Sir Thomas Rich's continues to be a tremendous school. The day will not be forgotten, not just by those who were lucky enough to personally greet the Princess Royal, but also, all those who witnessed the Princess unveiling the plaque. The whole event will be a key point in Rich's history, when future generations of Richians look back on the school's moments of glory.

*Mr P D Lloyd*



## UP, UP AND AWAY



*Mr D Slinger and Mr T Morgan, (far left), with Year pupils and representatives from 'Lloyd's Bank', (centre) crowd around the air balloon's burners, to keep warm on a cold winter's day.  
The event was a great success!*

We all thought that a hot air balloon was just a nylon bag filled with hot air! Well you may think the authors of this article are full of hot air, but this report is here to prove you wrong. One morning, in January of this year, 'Lloyd's Bank' came to show off their sponsored hot air balloon and give us a lecture on how it worked exactly. Well that's what 'The Citizen' newspaper basically reported.

Anyway, for all you folks out there, who have won £7 million on the 'National Lottery', then you may feel like splashing out on a hot air balloon for a treat in the summer - they only cost roughly £10,000. Of course, this would not have been possible two hundred and twelve years ago, because the first balloon flight was in 1783, by two French brothers. Yet, Mr Lloyd looking in the 'Guinness Book of Records' tells us that the earliest recorded ascent was by a model hot-air balloon, invented by Father Bartolomeu de Gusmao, in 1709. Does anyone know the truth?

The balloon consists of a wicker basket, a burner, which runs off propane gas and an envelope, which is a canopy filled with the gas. Usually the basket is made of wicker and cane, as it is light, durable and sturdy. The tanks which contain the propane gas are thirty centimeters in diameter and eighty centimeters in height. These tanks supply the stainless steel burner, which consists of three valves and when fully open, release a flame which could toast a piece of bread four to five metres away.

You may wonder how the basket is connected to the envelope. It is by four rods made out of nylon, but they are not bolted on. There are two lengths of wire from one side of the basket to the other, which are then connected to the balloon by metal clips. The envelope is made from nylon, which is obviously very strong and durable to cope with the strong winds. Any damage to the envelope must obviously be repaired before any ascent. To fly an air balloon, you must have a 'Pilot's Licence'. The mid section of the balloon has a device, called the 'Parachute', which is used when descending and is operated by a pulley. When fully blown up, the envelope contains a mass of two to three tonnes of hot air.

After the lecture, we went outside, where the balloon was inflated and the burners demonstrated. The local newspaper came to take some photographs and we all watched as the pilot demonstrated the power of the burners. The heat was intense and it took quite a few of the crew to ensure that the balloon was correctly inflated. Due to the poor weather, we did not see any launch and no doubt, even if it did take off, I suspect none of us would have been allowed to a ride. Anyway, it was interesting and we will think twice when we see balloons floating in the summer skies over Gloucester. Who knows, some kind-hearted parents may splash out on their wonderful sons and pay for a flight?

*L Cook/B Meredith/D Cowley (8S)*

## FOUR DECADES OF 'THE RICHIAN'

### 1955

The school was to be found at the Barton Street site. Eastgate were the 'Cock House' winners for 1954-55. There was a school swimming gala, while athletes competed in events that included the hammer and pole vault at the annual sports day event. The First XV won 7, lost 3 and drew 2. Eastgate won the school 'rugger' trophy, while Northgate won House chess. The school had many thriving clubs and societies, that included the 'Philatelic Society', the 'Radio Group' and a 'Geography & Travel Club'.

The year also saw the traditional 'House Drama' competition. Westgate performed 'The Invisible Duke', while the winners, Northgate performed a play called, 'The King Decides'.

School journeys included trips to 'Towyn', Holland and Belgium. Meanwhile, the School Council decided that advertisements should be placed in 'The Richian'. They also decided that special seating should be placed in the dining room for the 5th Form and the garden path should be widened. A fund was opened to provide seating for pupils at the Elmbridge fields where the school's sports were played. GCE 'O' level was the main exam of the day.

### 1975

The magazine was now being produced on a yearly basis, instead of the traditional two editions per year. Mr Donald Moss was the 'Editorial Consultant' for the magazine and the school captain at the time was a student by the name of J W Thompson. The magazine reported that the average GCE 'O' level pass rate per boy was 5.5, while at 'A' level it was 2.5. 'Twelfth Night' was the main school production and the 'Tercentenary Committee' was finally wound up. The swimming pool was well in use, with early morning swimmers allowed to use the facilities. The 'Parents Association' provided a new mini-bus.

Mr Geoff Barrington arrived to join the History Department and Mr Ralph Tucker joined the Physics department. A very famous and respected member of staff retired this year, Mr Eddie Pritchard, who had joined the staff in July of 1943. The First XV won 12 and lost 2, while the First XI played 13, winning 4 and losing 4 matches. During this year, rowing was thriving at the school. The school had a croquet club, lifesaving club and volleyball was popular. The House drama competition was won by Northgate, while the Madrigal Group toured Hastings and St Leonards. Other trips included the Lake District, Rambouillet and destinations closer to home.

### 1965

Mr Alan Pilbeam became Head of Geography on the retirement of Mr Meale. Also, Mr Graham Middleton joined the staff, to teach physics and quickly helped to develop rowing at the school.

The school had been at the new Elmbridge site for less than a year, with the first drama production being 'Bartholomew Fair', produced by Mr Huddleston. The school performed Handel's 'Messiah', under the control of Mr Michael Rangeley. The model of the 'Blue Coat Boy' now found on the stage was paid for by the 'Parents' Association'. The Old Richians' Rugby Club had won thirteen of their twenty-nine matches.

This year saw even more varied clubs and societies, including a 'German Film Club', 'The Peacock Club' and a 'Historical Society', which included a bicycle excursion to Deerpark to see a Saxon church.

Trips included a party visiting Switzerland, an Easter trip to Paris, while the Railway Society went to a locomotive works at Swindon. The President of the Old Richians' Association was Bill Hook and plans for the Tercentenary were already under way. The school was thriving on the new Elmbridge site.

### 1985

The year saw the arrival of a very young Mr Roger Lockey from Saintbridge School and Mrs Sarah White was about to leave Rich's. The school drama production was 'Pygmalion', produced by Mr Ron Matthews, while Southgate won the House Drama Competition. The Madrigal Group performed at the Sue Ryder Home and the Venture Scouts went on a trip to Northern Spain.

The 1985 edition reported on the Gottingen exchange, lead by Mr David Slinger. This year's French exchange trip was at La Couronne. The school was celebrating its 21st birthday, having moved to the Elmbridge site in 1964. There was a successful cricket match, played between the First XI and Richians from 1964. On the sporting side, the First XV won five of their ten matches, while the First XI only won two of their six matches. Meanwhile cross-country was thriving, as was squash. The school had a canoeing club, but it was hampered by the swimming pool being closed, just over twenty years since its official opening. It would take just under ten years to get it back in use! The Headmaster was Mr Gordon Heap. The school was threatened with plans to turn it into a Sixth Form College. This was to be a long running saga that was never to materialize!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## BUILDING DEVELOPMENTS AT RICH'S

Over the past few years at Rich's there have been some radical changes in terms of the new buildings and various refurbishment projects. The money for these improvements has come from various sources, such as the local authority, Gloucester United Charities, the Foundation of sport and the Arts, as well as our own fund raising events. One of the most important improvements has been the re-opening of the swimming pool and this facility has been further improved with the building of additional changing rooms and a new cricket pavilion. Such assets have already proved to be a great success, not only for pupils of the school, but also external groups, ensuring that the local community benefits as well. The swimming pool has without doubt provided an extra dimension to the PE curriculum and ensured a lot of pleasure from all who use it.

Within the main building, as reported in last year's magazine, the foyer has been refurbished and a wonderful display cabinet erected. This has ensured that visitors to the school are welcomed into a pleasant and conducive environment. The school must thank the Old Richians' Association for making this possible, through their generous donation. Another recent development has been the refurbishment and redesign of the kitchen/dining room. This was a necessity with the increase in numbers to the school and this area has become a 'multi-purpose' facility. It functions not only as a dining room, but a private study area, as well a lecture and meeting room. Without doubt, the most drastic change to the fabric of the school buildings has been the development of the area near the 'quad' and around the old library. The school can now boast a superb new library, new English and Maths rooms. In addition to this, the old Sixth Form common room has been extended and refurbished, with kitchen facilities, private study facilities and areas for informal gatherings. This has enhanced and upgraded school life for the Sixth Form, particularly as before, facilities were rather spartan for them. They now relax, study and entertain themselves in a pleasant environment. These improvements were long overdue and the new facilities clearly indicate the value that the staff place on sixth form life at Rich's.

In the short term, the school has seen an increase in the number of 'Eliot classrooms', but it is hoped that they will be eventually replaced by more substantial buildings. Yet, the school now has a new 'Food Technology' room, found in one of the Eliots, near the Dutch Barn. Inside, facilities are excellent, with washing machines, cookers, microwaves and other modern appliances. Such resources have assisted the 'Design and Technology' department to successfully implement important components of their curriculum. Another long overdue improvement was the building of a new 'Venture Scout' hut, near the tennis courts. The building was completed in the spring of 1993 and replaced the decaying and unsafe buildings near the barn. As with many of these new facilities at Rich's, staff and pupils alike have found working and socializing in such facilities very conducive. It is amazing how new facilities can increase motivation, interest and create a pleasant working atmosphere for all. Other changes over the past few years, have included the redevelopment of the old Sixth Form common room, near the front gates, into a well resourced technology room. The old 'lecture theatre' on the second storey has been converted into a new laboratory, while other facilities have included additional office and administrative rooms. The school entrance is now blessed with two decorative gates, bearing Rich's coats of arms. Finally, it appears that in the next year or two, the school will have a new multi-purpose hall, ten new classrooms, and soon, a new laboratory, as well as a second specialist computer room, all costing around one million pounds.

Mr P D Lloyd

*The Headmaster, Ian Kellie, second from the left, stands proudly outside the new school gates, just one of the many new features that Rich's can now boast about!*

*With the Headmaster, are all those individuals who contributed to the design, construction and erection of the new gates.*



## A REVIEW OF CLUBS AND SOCIETIES OF THE PAST

If one scans the school magazines over the past thirty years, you will notice the vast array of clubs and societies that have operated within the school. They often operated due to the enthusiasm of particular masters or pupils, others pampered to trends, but one senses that many functioned due to the fact that the school for lots of young Richians' was the focal point of their social life. We now live in an era, where young people are spoilt for choice when it comes to leisure activities. Many years ago, such choice was not available and the school provided the only feasible option for many young Richians to pursue any leisure and social activities. The school was the focus for trips, social gatherings, entertainment and the pursuit of specialist interests.

Before the age of videos, the seventies witnessed the 'Film Society', regularly showing films on a Friday Night, such as the 'French Connection' and 'The Hound of the Baskervilles'. At one time, Rich's had a 'Croquet Club', which was very popular, organised by music teacher, Michael Rangeley, with two lawns in operation and oversubscribed tournaments operating in the summers. Back in the earlier seventies one could be a member of the 'PSV Club', which ran trips to 'Bristol Omnibus Company', the 'Birmingham Corporation Bus Depot' and various commercial motor museums.

There were some unusual clubs and societies, such as the 'Peacock Club', which was an exclusive club in which philosophical discussion and debate was the focus of attention. In the late seventies, earlier eighties, one could be a member of 'The Literary Society', attending poetry evenings, discussion workshops, listening to guest speakers and visits to theatres. Another active club was the 'Historical Society', which frequently went to museums, archaeological sites and operated evening slides shows/lectures. For outdoor types, one could undertake rambles in the early seventies, with excursions to the Lake District and walks closer to home, such as Cooper's Hill, Haresfield Beacon and the Forest of Dean. When the swimming pool was in service, during the sixties and seventies, one could be a member of the 'Life-Saving Club', which ran Bronze medallion and personal survival courses. The pool was used by a 'Swimming Club' and a 'Canoe Club', which ran expeditions down the Wye, Avon and Severn over various years.

The less energetic could involve themselves in clubs such as the 'Backgammon Club' which in the early eighties ran leagues and played local teams. A 'Bridge Club' frequently entered players in the 'Daily Mail Schools Competition' in the 1970's, while other pupils leisurely sat by the banks of the Avon, Severn and Gloucester canal, representing the 'Angling Club', which seem to thrive on and off during the 70's.

Many pleasant weekends were experienced by keen cyclists, with the 'Cycling Club' touring around the lanes of Gloucestershire. Time-trials and cycling skill tests were often organised for the benefit of many in the 1970's. For the more scientific minded pupil, the school was spoilt for choice.

One could join the 'Astronomical Society', which organised lectures on themes such as, 'Signals in Space', 'The Scale of the Universe', 'The Apollo Missions' and frequently contested debates with the 'Debating Society' in the late 1960's. Other science orientated groups included the 'Young Ornithologists', a club run by the famous John Cooper, who with another club, 'The Naturalists' Society', frequently went on trips all over the country. Talks were organised on subjects such as 'Birds of the Arctic', 'Flora and Fauna in the Forest of Dean' and 'Butterflies of the World'. Local guest speakers were invited in and the club made frequent visits to 'Slimbridge'.

In the early 1980's a 'Young Friends of the Earth' club operated, which made visits to 'Nuclear Power stations' and undertook conservation work, particularly in 'Lassington Wood'. In connection with conservation, 1972 saw a 'Wildlife Preservation Society' and 'Wildfowl Society' in operation. For the more practically minded, over the years, Rich's has seen various modelling clubs, such as the 'Aero-modelling club' running in 1969, the 'Model Railway Club' still active as recent as 1987.

In the late seventies, the 'Electronics Club' was in lightening form, manufacturing circuit boards, building 'electroscopes' and making visits to 'Gloucester Telephone Exchange'. In a similar vein, an 'Amateur Radio Society' was popular also in the seventies, taking exams related to the subject, building transmitters and proudly showing off the club's 'teleprinter' in 1977.

Another popular society was the 'Aircraft Society', which like many clubs in the school during the 60's and 70's organised slide shows, visited museums and went to various displays. In 1976, the society went to the 'Biggin Hill Air Show' and over the years there were visits to RAF Cosford and Hendon respectively.

One could review many other clubs that have functioned in the past, such as the 'Art Club', the 'Remove Sport Society', the 'Geographical Society' and one must not forget the 'Tiddlywinks Society'. All have their place in 'Richian' history and have provided a valuable service. Many clubs and societies have come and gone over the years. Such clubs have often relied on the good will of people!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## WHY PSHE? WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT? - A PERSONAL VIEW

Personal, Social and Health Education is concerned with learning about oneself and others. It allows a young person to explore not only what makes him or her a person, but what makes them and others the persons they are. It is about personal discovery and appreciation of what each of us has to offer.

Here at Sir Thomas Rich's our programme of study in the PSHE department is concerned with supporting colleagues in other areas of the curriculum. There are obvious links in some of our work with the RE and English departments.

We look at the 'appropriateness of behaviour' in our relationships with each other, alongside the practical steps of dealing with bullying, victimization and peer pressure in life. As in other study areas, learning styles, study skills and time management are considered. We examine decision making and try to foster a more creative approach to dealing with the problems of life. Time is allowed for young people to reflect on what they have already learnt from experiences in life and to transfer these skills to coping with future transitions. There is opportunity to deal with such topics as money management, personal safety and consideration of personal strengths and weaknesses, encouraging the development of self-esteem.

Our health education work alongside biology, in for example, sex education and personal relationships and the abuse of drugs, including tobacco and alcohol, is designed to encourage young people to "think and learn about aspects of respect for personal health and learning to care for themselves".



In many aspects of our work, there is regular input from the 'Police Schools Involvement Unit' and our local officers, PC Pittaway and PC Richards. Their contribution is most appropriate and appreciated. The PSHE department has supported the development of sex education, drug and bullying policies in the school. Ideally, PSHE provision should be cross curricular. Here at Sir Thomas Rich's in our subject areas and extra curricular activities, we have always endeavoured to teach in ways that enhance the acquisition of such personal skills and positive attitudes. The pressure in recent years to concentrate on mainstream National Curriculum subjects has meant that PSHE could so easily have become marginalised. There is no provision in the National Curriculum for PSHE as such, but good schools give it high priority and many are prepared as we do to make some room in the timetable. The new post-Dearing 'freeing up' of the curriculum should make it easier.

Curriculum time, free from the pressures of traditional subjects, in which we can support such personal development, learning about self and others, is of value. It is of course concerned with long term influence and understanding and may not be seen as offering immediate measurable returns. We need to continue to provide this opportunity as part of the 'enrichment' we are expected to offer all our students. It brings rewards other than certification, helping to prepare young people for adulthood, so that they can make a valid contribution towards society in a responsible way. By developing positive attitudes and lifeskills, our young students will hopefully be able to live full, confident, healthy, happy lives in the company of others.

*Mr I R Bowie (Head of PSHE)*



## "TO RUSSIA...WITH EDUCATION"

Gloucestershire's network of Education Business Partnerships (EBP's) continues to expand. For instance, the most recent 'Challenge of Industry Conference' was held in Russia. The event was part of a visit by Gloucestershire EBP's and teachers to Sochi in Russia, including Rich's Ian Hodgkinson. Their mission was to present a case for industry partnerships and to share the 'British Experience'.

There are six 'Education Business Partnerships' in the county, funded by Gloucestershire Training and Enterprise Council. Between them, they embrace most of the primary, secondary and further education establishments in the county. They are prime movers in securing firm links between education and industry. This facet of education has strongly grown in recent years, particularly at Rich's, where Ian Hodgkinson has ensured close links with the local business community.

They deliver activities, such as the 'Challenge of Industry', an opportunity for business people to go into schools like Rich's and work with students on team building and leadership projects. However, for the teachers and pupils of Sochi, the concept of industrial partnerships with education, is completely new.

Janet Hembry, the Gloucester EBP co-ordinator, feels that there is a hunger for education and new opportunities in Russia. They are eager for new ideas and determined to adapt them around their own restrictions.

In Russia, there is a legacy of rigid teaching methods and underfunding, which means that Russian schools need to change and adopt to a more modern approach. Sochi is a popular Russian health resort and the town is famous for its



*Left, Ian Hodgkinson, who left Rich's this Summer. Ian will be greatly missed at the school. He started the 'Business Studies Department' from scratch, building it up to one which was very popular with students and exceptionally successful.*

*It was Ian who introduced the 'Young Enterprise' scheme to Rich's. Over the years, Ian has generated some excellent links with the local business community and forged close ties with Gloucester - Training Enterprise Council'.*

*One must not forget Ian's development of the 'European Studies' course at Rich's. Again, another success story!*

*Good luck Ian in the future - you will be greatly missed at Rich's!*



pioneering approach to education. For instance, English is being taught in primary schools, to children as young as four. Janet Hemby found that the teachers were poorly paid, but displayed tremendous enthusiasm to improving the education of the next generation of Russians.

Many students work hard and see education as a route into the job market, which in Russia, is fiercely competitive.

When the 'Challenge of Industry Conference' was set up in the Sochi school, it was a huge success. Janet Hemby found that the students demonstrated a level of interpersonal and presentation skills, which would leave a lot of our own students standing. They were very serious and competitive.

Also on the visit, the Gloucestershire Team worked with Russian teachers to assess the core skills demonstrated by students during the conference. Skills such as leadership, communication and teamwork were measured against standards found in the 'General National Vocation Qualification' (GNVQ) core skills. The Russian teachers found this completely new and were not used to measuring student performance in terms of personal skills, rather than purely academic achievement.

The whole experience was an eye-opener for all those involved. The Gloucestershire team found the Russians extremely receptive to the new ideas they received. Overall, it is evident that the Russians in Sochi are improving their education system, particularly as they are having to change against the constraints of finance and decades of fixed practice.

*Ms J Hemby (Gloucester EBP)*

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## THE 44th VENTURE SCOUT UNIT

For the past twenty-eight years, one of the fringe activities in the school has been the Venture Scout Unit. It started off as an appendage to the school scout troop, but when that closed twenty-five years ago, it was decided to let the senior section run on for a bit longer, and it is still running. To many in the school, the Venture scouts are the people who run the tuck shop, but to those who take the plunge and join, they soon find there is a lot more to it. Many who have joined have learned many skills, including rock climbing, canoeing, caving, orienteering, and for the less active, darts and pool!

Expeditions and community service have always featured in the programme. For many years, groups went up to North Wales, to build walls, surface footpaths, dig ditches and erect fences in the Snowdonia National Park. More recently, trips to Norway have taken place, with some time spent working at centres for deprived children. There has been time for walking and cycling through the grandeur of the mountains and glaciers of the fjord country. Only last year, a group was in Scotland, working at a newly developing children's centre and still having time to see dolphins and ospreys - but not the Loch Ness monster!

Little specialities have developed at times. For five successive years, teams from the Unit have won the gruelling thirty-six mile Cotswold marathon night hike. For three years the Unit won the Black mountain hike, a weekend event in South Wales. In recent years, bed racing has been in fashion and the Unit has often entered the popular Stonehouse ten mile bed race, with the record time smashed year after year by 'Blue Streak' and the 'Yellow Peril'.

As times have changed, so have the sorts of activities, but the people who have gained most are



those who have put in the most, whether it be digging a garden for an elderly person, trying D.I.Y. skills on the now sadly departed wooden scout hut, playing in a five-a-side soccer tournament, or backpacking over the remote lava fields of Iceland. Many ex-members look back at their time in the Unit as one of the highlights of their school career. Indeed, nearly a hundred of the two hundred and eighty who have passed through the Unit since 1968 are regularly kept informed about the present state of affairs by the magazine, 'Venture 44'. The Unit is small, but it is a valuable part of the life at Sir Thomas Rich's School.

*Mr F Henderson*

## PANTHER LEAPS INTO RICH'S



*Some of Rich's lads were lucky enough to get the opportunity to purr...! their way around television celebrity, 'Panther', from the hit ITV show, 'Gladiators'. Panther came to promote 'BET school meals'.*

In the Autumn term, last November, television celebrity, Panther, from Central's 'Gladiators' show paid Rich's a quick visit. The school went wild with excitement and adulation, even the 6th Form came out of the woodwork to take a look at Panther in the flesh. According to 'The Citizen' newspaper, Rich's students lapped it all up, as she prowled around. The heavy mob, Messrs Hanney, Smallwood and Pilbeam, had to act as 'bouncers' to control the crowds, as they crushed towards Panther to gain an autograph from their favourite star. Meanwhile, Mr Lloyd representing the healthy side of the PE department, had the stressful job of taking close range photographs of the superstar.

The purpose of her visit to the school was to raise awareness of healthy eating, on behalf of the school's caterers, BET, who sponsored the event as part of a national initiative called, 'National School Meals Week'. Panther was supposed to provide a brief lecture on healthy eating, but due to the stir that she caused and the demand from the pupils to meet her, this idea went out of the window.

Without doubt, Panther enjoyed the adulation and attention, despite being practically mobbed by the boys. Ben Mitchell from the Sixth Form, Peter Snow, Alastair Smyllie and Mark Hardcastle from Year 7, were the real winners on the day. For after classes had resumed, they had to accompany Panther to the bowls green for photographs, which were to be printed in the local newspapers. At this point, Panther stripped off her tracksuit to reveal her rippling muscles and tight leotard. Despite the cold weather and the fact that the boys had to pose with 'King Edward' potatoes, stuck on folks for the photographs, spirits were high. Panther pouted her lips and purred with satisfaction as the local media scrambled to get photographs.

The visit was short and before we knew it, Panther leaped back into her car, to be sped away by her personal body guard to another public appointment. Without doubt, it was a day to remember, not just for the pupils of Rich's, but for the staff who had acquired quite an experience in crowd control. It left the PE Department wondering if they would create the same type of impact if they walked into Denmark Road!

Mr P D Lloyd

## AN INTERVIEW WITH HERR REINHOLD WINKLER

Herr Reinhold Winkler was in charge of this year's contingent from our exchange school in Gottingen, Germany. I, Meurig Edwards, was asked if I would conduct an interview with Herr Winkler, to find out his views about Britain and various points about Rich's. Many thanks to Herr Winkler. So, here it is!

**Is this your first visit to Britain?**

No, I lived in London for three years, but that was some thirty years ago. I used to teach in a boys' Comprehensive school.

**What subjects do you teach?**

I teach English and German to pupils of all ages, ranging from 5 to 13, at the Otto-Hahn - Gymnasium school, back home in Germany.

**There are a lot of differences between the English and German Education systems. Could you explain a little bit about the German system?**

There are three main types of school. There is the "Gymnasium", which equates to a Grammar school. Then there is the "Realschule", which is roughly equivalent to a technical grammar school. Finally, there is the "Hauptschule", which literally means the "main school" and is roughly equivalent to a secondary modern in this country.

In Germany, there is no school in the afternoon. School begins at 7.50am and finishes at 1.05pm. Within this time, there are six, forty-five minute lessons, with a five minute break between each period. There are also two longer breaks of fifteen minutes each. The teaching is mainly concentrated in one classroom, with the exception of science and language lessons, for which pupils may go to various laboratories.

Pupils remain in one group from Year 7, right the way to Year 11. This gives German pupils a good sense of the 'school family' ethos. They are very proud of the "Klassengemeinschaft" - this is the solidarity that exists between pupils in one form. The word literally means, "Class Community". The idea of pupils staying in one form for most of their school years, helps to give pupils a very good sense of identity with each other.



*From left to right, Herr Reinhold Winkler, Meurig Edwards (6H) and German teacher, David Slinger*

### What do you think of assembly at Rich's?

I think it is a good way of expressing the feeling of belonging to a school. I think it is very formal and I am surprised at the good discipline of the pupils when they come into the hall. In German schools, there is no such thing as 'assemblies'. The only significant meeting for the whole school is when the Upper Sixth are dismissed at the end of the school year.

### How does the opportunity to participate in sport at Rich's compare with the Otto-Hahn-Gymnasium? Do you have any clubs or societies in your school?

As school is only in the mornings, there is not much time for any clubs or societies. Social activities take place outside of school, in local sports clubs or societies. However, we do have quite a successful 'Handball team', which practises after school. German pupils regard schools as a place to work and a place to meet friends. Schools in Germany are not considered to be places where pupils participate in social activities.

### Do you have 'Sports Day' or any other competitions like that?

We have a sports day, where the teachers and the pupils get into teams and play each other. It is only for fun, but we also have a 'fun day', called, "Schulfest". This is where there is no school for a day and each class prepares an exhibition or organizes games etc. Parents are invited into the school and the money goes towards school funds.

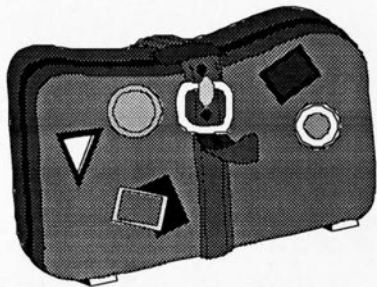
### What is your impression of Rich's?

I am quite interested with the amount of fieldwork and project work undertaken by the pupils. I think this is a good thing. One of the reasons we do not do so much coursework in German schools, is because it clutters up the timetable. I do have doubts afternoon lessons and the stress pupils feel.

### What strikes you most about the differences between Rich's and Otto-Hahn?

There is no uniform in German schools and this is obviously the most immediate difference. Also, we do not have a 'Prefect System', although we do have school councils, where parents and pupils can express their concerns various issues. In each form, a "Klassensprecher", a class speaker, is elected to represent each form. Also, in Germany, pupils have to repeat a year, if their work does not come up to standard. Twice a year, parents are given a report, which outlines a pupil's progress. This results from staff meetings, where the progress of pupils is discussed and those who are not up to standard, are asked to repeat the year. Generally, the teachers vote on such issues.

M Edwards (6H)



## THE GERMAN EXPERIENCE

A two week, uninterrupted German lesson! Could this be endured? What had I let myself in for? Then there was the 'human factor' - my partner for the duration. I could not imagine I had anything in common with him, except that, allowing for his six inch vertical hair cut, we were about the same size. Earlier experiences with a German boasting a similar hair style, had been a little unnerving. This exchange partner turned out to be quite different. Beneath that hair style, was a badminton playing, music loving scout.

As for the school, how different the 'Otto-Hahn Grammar School' was from Rich's. How can the pupils achieve such high standards, particularly in spoken English, in such an informal and, to the casual observer, disorganized learning environment? I still do not know the answer! Does the secret lie in the way they seem to target quality output, rather than quantity? While we were in Göttingen, we were disconcerted by the rather threatening undercurrent of 'Neo-Nazi' and 'Anti-Nazi' street demonstrations and general action. There was tension in the air, in the 'Innenstadt', focused on the issue of immigration.

The mixture of school, outings, social events and family life proved to be an excellent way to experience the language and the country. We were particularly impressed by the apparently unforced friendliness between the generations which characterized family life and from which we could perhaps learn something of this value in our society. Our thanks must go in particular, to Mr Fearn and Mr Davies. The former showed a sense of humour, highlighting that he must have clearly been influenced by Mr Cappi over the last year. It was much appreciated and helped us to enjoy a really good 'German Exchange'.

M Brown (10S), T Meredith & O Scarff (10T),

# THE GREAT OUTDOORS!



## CUTTY SARK TALL SHIPS RACE - AN INTERVIEW WITH WENDY MACARTHUR

**Why did you apply to participate in the Tall Ships Race?**

It sounded exciting and challenging, a lifetime experience.

**What did you have to do to go?**

I was selected through an entry form, in which I had to give an explanation of why I would like to go. I then went on to have an interview. I was required to raise £250 of the £1,000 fee. The rest of which was coming from a HAWTEC grant. This I did with various sponsored events.

**Did you have to have a special training?**

No, but we were advised to learn a few knots.

**Where did the crew meet?**

The people of many race crews assembled at Heathrow and flew to Oporto, but it was not until we were on the ship that we met our eventual shipmates.

**What was the Ship like?**

It was a Tall Ship with three main masts, each having numerous sails. The accommodation was very cramped and claustrophobic, especially when I was in my bed. My head lay just by the meal table, which meant that I had to sleep, while others who were on 'Watch duty' were having their meals. This was obviously noisy and in rough weather, it made my location a little susceptible to accidents. My bunk had chains to hold me in and only just allowed room for me to turn over. My wardrobe was a box below the bed that was shared with two others. Meals were taken in the room on wooden tables with benches attached. To take your food to the table meant negotiating vertical steps from the gallery to the table, while balancing your food in one hand. Toilets were both unsavoury and small, as well as having to be pumped. However, there were some good points as we did have hot showers available.

**Were you sea sick?**

No, but most people were. At times we had very rough weather and many poor souls had to harness themselves to the sides and hang over, first making sure the wind was in the right direction.

**What work did you have to do?**

Every aspect of seamanship was covered. The crew were split into three watches in four hour rotating shifts through the day and night. With luck you got four hours sleep a day, but this was not always so, as the crew is permanently on call should the ship require sails to be put up or stowed, dependant on the prevailing weather. That aside, the duties for each watch included lookout, scribe, messenger, helmsperson or just handling the sails. On top of your watch duties, you were expected to work in the galley and scrub the decks. There was also a 'Happy Hour' every day, but don't get the wrong idea, as this meant you were given a certain part of the ship to clean for an hour.

**What did you see on lookout?**

I saw many dolphins and a baby killer whale when I was on watch. There were several waterspouts spotted (waterspouts are like a tornado rising from the sea) and one caused a certain alarm, as we believed it was going to hit us. A keen eye had to be kept out for other ships, but when things got really tiring, I must admit I saw a few Z's while hanging from a rail in my harness.



*Above, Wendy Macarthur takes 'time-out' from the rigorous duties of life on board a 'Tall Ship'.*

**Where did you go?**

We joined the race at Oporto, Portugal and crossed the Bay of Biscay to St Malo in France. We were ten days at sea, without a break and in the Bay of Biscay, we were battered and becalmed for days on end. The race was a major event for both towns and was heralded with processions, fun events, as well as local and national television, plus newspaper coverage.

**Who else was in the race?**

Crews from many different nationalities took part, which meant that the parties that they held, were truly international events.

**Where did your crew finish and what did you get from the race?**

The all girls' crew of forty-nine trainees finished first in their class, beating similar ships, crewed by boys, but the finish was tight.

I experienced tiredness as I have never known before and seemed to be functioning on 'auto-pilot', especially during the long time spent in the Bay of Biscay. The comradeship was brilliant and by the end of the trip everyone worked as one and made new friends. It was truly a 'once in a life time' experience and I would love to do it again, given the opportunity.

*Mr K Shaw*



## GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP TO THE ISLE OF ARRAN

Every trip always starts the same way. Someone is always late, someone forgets something and somebody's mother does not leave until the last possible moment. This year's Sixth Form Geography Field trip was no exception. Andrew Jenkins first caught the train in time, thinking he had to be at school, not Gloucester train station. Matt Gough did not take a coat, which was a big mistake, as the area we were going to in Britain, is the coldest and often very wet; and Adele, along with Michael's mothers even had to follow us over to the platform to say goodbye. Apart from that, we got off smoothly, without any hitch.

With stories abounding about the terrible weather and atrocious conditions, we became more and more apprehensive. The stories flew around, about how Arran was the coldest, wettest place and the fact that it has thirty-five thousand sheep and only four and half thousand inhabitants. It is true and Arran does hold the record for the least amount of sunlight hours per year. The weather lived up to all expectations, until day three, when the sun came out we all hit the local beach. The food was fine and the centre we stayed at was modern. We were pleased to note that it was well constructed and would withstand all the bad weather! Numerous messages were sprawled around our beds and walls, with encouraging notes about the food and other useful tips - all of which made us feel welcome and at home. Make no mistake, sergeant 'G I' Smallwood worked us like troops and our basic training was formidable. His regime started at 8.30am in the morning and did not finish until 9.00 pm in the morning. This punishing schedule of heavy exercise and drill was enforced by our 'Aidy' our friendly guide, who possessed two purple legs! He soon gave us an A-Z guide to Arran. Even he proved to be infallible, as on his first trip, he even tried to buy a jumper on Arran.

Just about all of our physical Geography topic were covered, from 'Site evaluation' to 'Soil Listing'. Lastly, we covered 'hydrology', but found throwing the water more entertaining than actually studying it! 'Captain Cappi' did not get wet, but the 'Sarge' definitely came off the worse for wear. Superman Smallwood, who indulged in his little fantasies - often ran up the nearest mountain. Not to be outdone, Captain Cappi would jog up a nearby hill. A couple of adventurous Sixth Formers climbed up a few mountains, but most sensible members of the party simply watched and admired the scenery. The night life was pretty good, although the nearest public house was out of bounds, but a merry time was still had by all! Alex and Ben enjoyed lots of social interaction most nights, while the entire Sixth Form male members of the group, did wonders for race relations with the 'Essex Girls'!

Of course, we all had a great time on the trip, apart from the people who turned green at the food - poor old Marc! However, we did work, well most of the time and we did accomplish a great deal. Most of our case studies are invaluable, especially for our project work. We would recommend this trip to anyone, even those who are not exactly fit or even really adventurous.

*A Twinn & J Hinton (6T)*



*Our 'budding' Sixth Formers off on yet another ramble in the wild mountains of Arran.*

## YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP TO DORSET

In May, the 'Year 10 Geography GCSE Set' left Gloucester for the Dorset Coast. We were studying 'Coastal Processes' in our lessons and now we were about to place theory into practice, as part of our coursework. Our set trekked to the beach first, carrying articles like 'Pantometers', which are basically four pieces of wood and a protractor nailed together, tape measures and red and white poles, like surveyors use. The path to the beach, wound over cliffs to a set of steep steps that eventually led to the beach. The stairs replaced an eroded path and some steps had disappeared, making the descent steeper in parts.

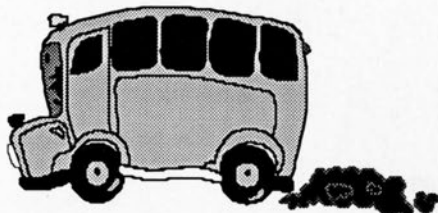


Upon reaching the beach, we had our lunch first, then divided into small groups of four. Along a line from the cliff to the beach, we were to measure the slope with the pantometers and also pebble sizes along the beach, at regular intervals. Of course, nobody had thought of bringing a ruler with them to complete this last task. Our group blindly chose the widest section of beach we could find and set to work. As we set about the task, we were cajoled and assisted by the various teachers and Sixth Formers that were looking after us.

The equipment was left on the beach for the next group to pick up and use, while we climbed the eroding staircase again to the top of the cliff. We then sat about and sketched the landscape features that we observed. Of course, that high up and near the coast, most of us soon lost our coursework sheets over the edge of the cliff and this common, due to the particularly sneaky wind that day.

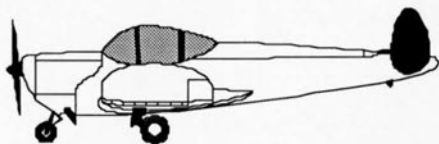
Walking back to the village of Lulworth, we noted down the erosion factors on the paths and the impact of tourism in the area. This was very evident, particularly as we noted a massive caravan park. On the walk back we sketched, 'Durdle Door', a massive arch made out of coastal rocks, 'Lulworth Cove', which was a large sheltered cove and 'Stair Hole', another distinctive natural feature of the area.

Once we had completed most of the tasks of the day, we were let loose on 'Lulworth Cove', where we measured the impact of tourism on the village. This involved noting features like shops and Tourist Information Centres, as well as the various activities specially catering for tourists. We did not really see any local people from Lulworth Cove, just sightseers. Afterwards, we met up with other groups, exchanged notes, found out who had fallen into the sea and then boarded the coach back home. The day was eventful, but on the way back, it suddenly occurred to us, that we would have to spend hours on interpreting the information we had collected that day. What a way to spoil a pleasant day out!



*J Ibbotson (10T)*

## 'FLYING HIGH'



I have always wanted to fly aircraft for a living, so when I obtained a job in a newsagents, I decided to obtain my 'Private Pilots Licence' (PPL). Two years later, with thirty hours of flying time, I went solo, two weeks after my seventeenth birthday. After a few more solo hours flying circuits around Staverton Airport, I flew further afield. I hope, within the next few months to gain my full licence, which will enable me to take passengers.

To obtain a 'Private Pilots Licence', there are several requirements. Firstly, you have to be aged at least fourteen before flying hours can be counted towards a flying licence and you have to be seventeen before flying solo. There is a minimum total of forty-five hours before you can sit the flight tests, which are needed to obtain the 'Private Pilots Licence'. Before the licence is authorized, five written test papers have to be successfully completed. These include, aviation law, navigation, meteorology, human factors and a technical examination about the design and workings of the aircraft. In addition, a radio-telephony oral examination needs to be successfully completed. This allows you to use the aircraft to ground radio. Finally, a 'Class 3 Medical' is necessary. This tests basic fitness, including eyesight and hearing. The last hurdle to gaining a pilot's licence are two practical flight tests. One tests the basic flying skills and the second, navigation.

Flying is an expensive hobby! Obviously, prices vary depending upon the flying club, but a rough guide is about £70 per hour. Landing fees, £5 each time you touch down, add considerably to this cost, particularly when training circuits mean you have to touch down at least five times per lesson! An estimated total cost to gain a 'Private Pilots Licence', is £4,000, taking into account books, equipment and flight tests.

Once you have decided that you would like to learn to fly, the first step would be to have a trial lesson. This usually lasts about half an hour and costs about £50 (a good birthday present!). This will familiarize you with the basic aircraft controls and introduces you to the sensation of flying light aircraft.

Whilst it is an expensive hobby, the satisfaction from being in charge of an aircraft is second to none. There is a sense of freedom when you are in the air. Often, you do not want to return to ground, particularly on days when the visibility is good and you can see all around you for miles! I have always wanted to fly aircraft for a living, so when I obtained a job in a newsagents, I decided to obtain my 'Private Pilot's Licence' (PPL). Two years later, with thirty hours of flying time, I went solo, two weeks after my seventeenth birthday. After a few more solo hours flying circuits around Staverton Airport, I flew further afield. I hope, within the next few months to gain my full licence, which will enable me to take passengers.

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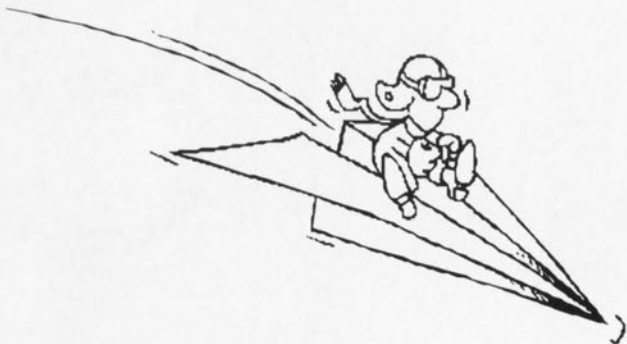


My first solo flight was nerve-racking, but having taken off, the feeling was one of pure exhilaration. Many people have asked if I was nervous. Although, during the pre-flight checks, I cannot deny I felt apprehensive, once taxiing onto the runway, I had so much to think about, that my training took over and I had to concentrate on the task in hand. As I prepared to line up for my first solo landing and descended towards the runway, past Chosen Hill and over the 'Golden Valley by-pass', my nerves returned, as I worked for a gentle touchdown. I could briefly see drivers from the road waving to me as I glided over their cars. Whether this was a form of greeting or fear, I will never know!

As I landed, the control tower congratulated me on my first solo flight and on reaching the ramp, my instructor came to meet me and shook my hand. This was followed by the presentation of a certificate. The memory of my first solo flight will remain with me always and has spurred me on to pursue a career in aviation. I frequently get asked questions about my hobby and I will attempt to answer some of these. Firstly, parachutes are not worn when flying.

These may be appropriate in war time, when the aircraft may plummet to the earth, but in peacetime, a 'Cessna aircraft', is an unlikely target for enemy attention! Besides, space in the aircraft is pretty limited and would not allow for the wearing of a parachute. So, you ask, what happens if the engine stops? The aircraft can glide without engines and can be brought to land safely in a suitable field! In fact, emergency landing in such circumstances, is part of the training syllabus. Finally, I am often asked how I pay for my flying time. This has been achieved by working and donations from parents and relatives, especially at birthday and Christmas times.

*Below, Thomas Hill-Tout undertakes a few 'pre-flight checks', before taking-off for another lesson over Gloucestershire.*



I hope this article has sparked your interest. I am only too willing to explain or bore, as the case may be, to anyone interested, about the various aspects of my hobby. If you feel you would like further insight or feel inspired to go flying, then feel free to come and ask me questions. I can thoroughly recommend flying!

*T Hill-Tout (6R)*

## YEAR 9 GEOGRAPHY / HISTORY FIELD TRIP

Well all of Year 9 had the opportunity this summer of participating in the 'Geography / History Field Trip' to Bridgnorth, Shropshire and the 'Black Country Museum'. Registration at school proceeded as usual and we then all rushed down to board the coaches, ready to race up the M5 to our respective destinations.

Bridgnorth is a small market town, which lies by the River Severn, well upstream from Gloucester. The visit to Bridgnorth formed the 'Geography' side of the trip. Our aim was to investigate the development of the town over the centuries, looking at obvious landmarks and various other features, which would provide us with clues. We then had to take this evidence and map out various landmarks and key sites, attempting to provide dates of when buildings were erected along one of five routes assigned to us by our teachers.

We discovered that the town gradually expanded outwards over the centuries, from the centre, near the riverside. Naturally, as one moved away from the centre, one noted that the age of the buildings gradually decreased and the architecture became more modern. After investigating various buildings, including various retailers, where lunch and a few snacks were purchased, we all met at Bridgnorth Castle, which was conveniently located on top of a large hill, overlooking the town.

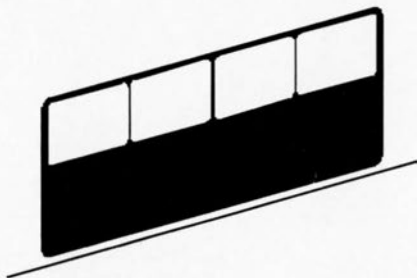
Once we had gathered together, we discussed our research that we had collected and compared notes. On the way down from the castle, we asked a few locals about the transport links in and around the town. We also obtained information about various other points relating to living in the town. One thing was for sure, Bridgnorth is so old, that it cannot really cope with the modern car and like many towns, it is very congested at times.

The party then boarded the coach and we were herded off to the 'Black Country Museum', where we were met by Mr Barrington and Mr Vaughan-Smith. We split into two groups and were taken around the museum by guides, who were very informative and friendly. We first of all went to see a massive replica of the world's first steam engine, which had been lovingly restored. We were asked questions on how it worked and of course 9B and 9R scored six out of six, while the other two forms lowered the reputation of Rich's considerably, with their lack of knowledge.

We then went down a coal mine and on our tour, we soon realized how bad conditions were for the miners who once had to work down them for little reward or thanks. After we reappeared back into the real world and daylight, we visited various specialist shops, that once thrived in the 'Black Country' over a hundred years ago. We also went into some miners' houses, which again recreated the lifestyle of families over a hundred years ago. All around the museum, the guides and people who helped run the museum, would be found dressed in period costume. They were always friendly and often provided useful information about various items, such as tools, buildings, their jobs etc.

After the tour of the reconstructed miners village, we were allowed to have a roam around a reconstructed 'Victorian Fairground'. We naturally let off a little steam and indulged ourselves in some candy floss and toffee apples. We also had a chance to drink some authentic "old fashioned" lemonade. The day was interesting and a lot of fun. Of course, we worked very hard, taking notes and finding out information - honest!

*J Glendenning (9S) & R Haworth (9R)*



# STAFF CARICATURES



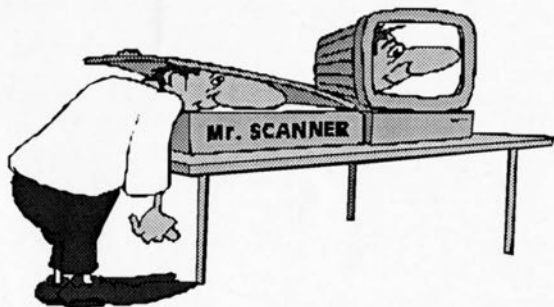








# MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS



## 'BRITISH PETROLEUM CHALLENGE TO YOUTH COMPETITION'

By time this magazine reaches you, the 'Design and Technology Department' at Rich's will have hopefully entered the 'British Petroleum Challenge to Youth Competition' and as part of the school's entry, a 'single-seater hovercraft' will be under construction. The craft will be powered by either a 250cc engine, (Yamaha RD250LC) or by a 250cc marine engine. (Rotax or Robin). Mr Smith, Head of the department will be organizing the venture and his experience will play an important part in the school's success, for he has been involved in building craft of a similar nature at his two previous schools and has successfully competing in five events.

The competition sponsored by 'British Petroleum', consists of a weekends camping at Standford Hall, in Lutterworth. On the first day, the craft are involved in timed runs around a simple obstacle course, to prove their ability to drive the hovercraft safely and in a controlled fashion. On the second day, timed races are completed on an oval course. Four craft race against each other, with the four fastest craft qualifying for the grand final at the end of the day. Both sections of the competition are held over a land and water course. This project will take a year to complete, with the actual race competition taking place in July, 1996. To be competitive, the team will need to use new parts for the hovercraft and will have to purchase a fibreglass hull. This will help to cut down the time it takes to construct the hovercraft, allowing the team members more time to practice for the races.

It is hoped, that through sponsorship, the cost of the craft will be met and so we subsequently aim to raise £2,000 to cover our overheads. We hope to raise the money through donations, either £200 -£500 at a time. If possible, we may obtain the full amount from one company. If you feel that you are able to contribute either on an individual basis or through your company, then please do not hesitate to contact me at the school or via your son / daughter. I would like to involve as many parents as possible in the actual building of the hovercraft and it would be most useful, if I could draw upon the talent and expertise that must exist among various parents and friends of the school. During the construction process, we will need expertise in the following areas, welding, engine tuning, glass fibre construction and also sewing the 'skirt sections'.

We would also appreciate any donations in terms of raw materials, such as metal square section tubing and marine plywood. Any other offers of raw materials to help in the construction of the hovercraft, will be gratefully received. It is envisaged, that we will hopefully draw upon the willingness and help of parents, pupils, friends and local companies, during the course of the year. Hopefully, with the help of these interest groups, Rich's will turn this vision into reality and we will be successful at Standford Hall in next year's competition.

*Mr A Smith*

## HOUSE PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

Entertainment value seems to be regarded as the prerequisite of success, judging by the results of this year's competition. The main speakers of the winning teams in both junior and senior competitions abandoned caution and set about presenting their speeches as performances rather than talks or lectures.

In the junior event, William Naylor of Southgate took on the character of a crusty old teacher, worthy of ancient editions of 'Boys Own'. In his address, he berated the audience for falling standards and showed a great faith in the use of the cane, which he brandished with gusto. Despite being verbally abused along with the rest of the audience, the judges awarded the winning marks to Southgate for their lively presentation. In contrast, the Northgate team chose a 'serious' topic, conservation of natural habitats. Their relatively low score resulted not from the choice of subject so much, as the brevity of their treatment of it. In future, teams need to be more conscious of the time factor in their preparation. Another observation made by the judges, was that some speeches were delivered too much in the style of readings from text books and next year's this needs to be heeded.

There was little danger of the senior competition being over-serious in content or delivery. The tone was quickly set in a lively and witty presentation by the Southgate team, interspersed with numerous references to the characteristics and shortcomings of various fellow pupils: a guarantee of audience response, which, fortunately for Southgate, never threatened to get out of control. Southgate's main speaker, Adele Twinn, gave a most colourful description of her experiences with various driving examiners, not all of whom it seemed concentrated exclusively on improving her driving skills. Westgate offered a relatively straight presentation, free from oratorical flourishes, on the dangers of advertising. Ben Hansford is to be congratulated for stepping in at the last moment to deliver the main speech in the absence of the original speaker.

In a continuing tradition of totally 'Whacky' talks, Northgate risked all in an exercise of lunatic inventiveness, revolving round the threat posed by the Severn Boar (sic). This fearsome beast was even illustrated for us on an OHP, showing that it towered above one of the largest mammals known to Rich's, Mr M Swann. The audience and judges dearly enjoyed this Monty Pythonesque humour, with the result that Northgate emerged as clear winners. A notable speech of an entirely different sort was delivered by Rajinder Sood for Eastgate. This was about violence in sport and included a not altogether spontaneous demonstration of feeling from two lager louts in the audience. Interestingly, the judges did not accord this presentation with as high marks as some of the more serious-minded members of the audience felt it merited.

Generally, the Pubic Speaking Competition was well received by the audiences, although a tendency to an over boisterous response needs to be resisted. The writer trusts that the trend towards role playing presentations will not discourage speeches of a less frivolous variety. For while there is certainly a place for pure entertainment in public speaking, there is also a place for enlightening and genuinely stirring oratory. One must praise all the students who participated in both, Junior and Senior competitions. It is not easy to stand up in front of your fellow peers and orate to a high standard. I hope that next year's competition is as every bit as good as the one we experienced this year.

**Overall Positions: 1st Southgate, 2nd Northgate  
Eastgate (equal), 4th Westgate**

*Mr D J Slinger*



*Above, the winning 'Senior Southgate Public Speaking Team', proudly show off the trophy*

## TEMPORA MUTNATUR (1)

Your editor kindly invited me to write about some of the changes I have seen since joining Rich's in the late 1960's. The poem of the title compares the present unfavourably with the past. Many people are tempted on looking back, to think that then it was the 'good old days', which were good and now it is 'nowadays', which is bad. This is not true. Some change is bad, in fact quite a lot of it is, but some is real progress. I do not want to be a 'laudator temporis acti' (2), like John Owen. Let me just tell you the changes and you, the reader, can make up your mind.

When I arrived, there was a swimming pool, which had a huge window, but no integral showers and changing rooms. This design, unintentionally doomed it to only a few more years of useful life. It was rumoured that Mr Hanney would encourage Year One pupils to swim by throwing them in the deep end. Bicycles could be kept, mainly unlocked in open racks, where the Elliots now stand, without getting 'nicked'. The uniform was much the same as now, except that a few hardy (or foolhardy) Year 7 boys still wore caps and short trousers.

New clubs and societies have appeared and some have gone. Then, there was a model railway club, a PSV club, (Public Service Vehicles - it studied and spotted buses). There were regular youth hostelling visits to the Lake District, open to Years 2 and 3. There was no school minibus. The first one was an H-registered (1970) Transit, with fifteen seats and the school crest on the doors, in full colour, painted by the Art master. After that, there was a history society, whose main activity was to visit historic sites, mostly country houses and gardens in the minibus on a Saturday. Rowing was then a major sport and achieved famous victories, including twice winning the Boston Marathon.

There were no computers, even calculators were looked on with suspicion and 'Craft, Design and Technology', was just woodwork, an area of ill-fitting joints. A room was allocated to metalwork, but it was not equipped. the curriculum did not include Economics, Business Studies or Classical Civilisation. There was no National Curriculum and there were no 'Baker Days' or 'Inset', as it is currently known.

In the late 1960's, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays, school went on till 4.10. These were eight-period days, five in the morning and three in the afternoon; the other two days had seven. All periods were of forty minutes. The lunch hour began earlier and was longer. Years 7 and 11 were called Years 1 and 5. On the first day of term, school did not start for the staff until 9.15 am and for the boys (there were no girl students and only one woman teacher) it was 10.30 am. Quite often school would end early on a Friday afternoon. A note to tell us this would be brought that same afternoon. As there were no school buses and the boys generally made their own way home, such sudden changes did not create a problem.

There was a school assembly every day, taken by the Headmaster, except when there were House Assemblies. Most of the boys came from the City of Gloucester, which was its own education authority. This authority allowed schools two 'occasional days' as holidays chosen by the staff. One of them was always a Monday, in late November / early December for Christmas shopping.

Each classroom then incorporated a podium, plinth or dais, that is a little raised platform on which the teacher had his or her desk was situated. From this, the teacher surveyed the class, which sat in rows of wooden desks facing the front and paying attention (supposedly) and dispensed knowledge. The school was smaller then. Each Year had about ninety boys, in three forms known as 'A', 'B' and 'C', by ability. 'A' was the cleverest (allegedly). There were fewer in the Sixth Form and there were about 460 pupils altogether. The Headmaster occasionally used the cane.

During my time at Rich's there have been five headmasters, with very different styles of leadership and management. There have also been quite a few staff changes, though much less than in most schools over the same period. What has not changed, except in detail, is the annual crop of hardy perennials (my metaphor is drawn from plants), namely the pupils. They continue to be the old mixture of the studious, feckless, eager, clever, dozy, calm, jumpy, sporting, lively, lethargic, etc., but on the whole, the present batch is as good as ever, perhaps better, and gives me optimism for the future.

(1) *The times they are a-changing: epigram by John Owen, 1560-1622*

(2) *A praiser of time.*

Mr D Moss



## BRITISH TELECOM CHALLENGE QUIZ

For Rich's, the hunt for the 'BT Challenge Quiz' title nearly did not begin. Initially, we were scheduled to play our first round match against Churchdown and Chosen Hill in May of this year. Unfortunately, this coincided with 'Founders' Day' and I feared that this would not obtain the chance to reach my third final in succession. However, after lengthy negotiation with James Turner, the Quiz's co-ordinator, the tie was rearranged. As a result, we were due to face Cotswold School and Cheltenham, Kingshill. However, on the night, the Cotswold team was a man short and this tie was changed again.

Finally, the team, consisting of Gareth Aubrey, Stephen Penrose and myself, Kevin Hatchard, took on Winchcombe and Cheltenham, Kingshill. All early nerves anybody had, soon disappeared and the team produced a good all round performance to finish clear winners, with a record 57 points, more than the other two teams put

together. The team displayed great speed and knowledge on the buzzer in all six rounds.

The semi-finals against Crypt and Cirencester, Kingshill, was a very different story. Having participated in seven previous programmes on BBC Gloucestershire, on which the quiz is broadcast, one would think that I would be cool, calm and collected. Not so! I was more nervous than ever before and our poor start reflected this.

However, gradually, we gained momentum, producing an exciting display of musical knowledge in 'Round 5' and showing speed once more on the buzzer round, to beat a very 'average' Cirencester side, but an excellent Crypt side. We beat Cirencester by over ten points, but only beat Crypt by two points to gain a place in the grand final. Once again, I had reached another British Telecom quiz final and hopefully, my experience would help us to another win.



*Above, representatives of 'Lloyds Bank', Gloucester, were kept busy during the 'Year 8 -Arts Festival Week', opening new accounts for many young 'Richians'. Lloyd's Bank were very generous to Rich's, helping to sponsor the 'Arts Festival'. Their support and financial help, was greatly appreciated.*

By reaching the final, we had already secured £250 for the school. We were obviously nervous at the start, but we were excellent in the initial rounds, against Newent and Tewkesbury schools. We established a substantial lead over the first three rounds. We held onto this lead in the next two rounds and entered the final round with a ten point advantage.

There was an amusing moment, when a particular question was asked,

"Who had an affair with King Arthur's wife, Guinevere?"

The Tewkesbury Captain, a good friend of mine, buzzed quickly and provided the following answer,

"Sir Arthur!" The crowd laughed and I buzzed in, to provide the correct answer and collect two easy points, by saying, "Sir Lancelot".

After a tense battle, we won the title by a clear fifteen points. I was very proud of my team and when I lifted the trophy for Rich's, I recalled that this was the second time in recent times that we had won the competition for the school, plus £500 for the school. Unfortunately, I cannot enter next year's competition, which is very disappointing. However, I am sure that the team next year, of which Gareth Aubrey will be a member, will defend the title and tradition of Rich's in this competition really well. Finally, may I just thank Mr Vaughan-Smith for all of his support and help during the competition.

*K Hatchard (10S)*

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## LLOYD'S BANK QUIZ

Small pieces of useless information lurk in the unlit recesses of the subconscious, like odd socks and lost biros on the legendary 'space behind the radiator'. These pieces of trivia lie silently in darkness, until the advent of the one event in which they can be used. Cryptic clues abounded in the 'Lloyd's Bank Schools' Quiz; answers amiably returned to questioners by John Hinton, Daniel Cook, Christopher Mace and Kevin Hatchard.

Although the school managed to get three teams through to the finals, only 'Generation Why?', (Gratuitously plagiarised from 'The Independent' comic strip), managed to stand the pace of the posers and riddles. We wisely played our 'Joker' during the humanities subjects, pitched at 'A' level standard and wisely, because we did not wish to incur the wrath of Mr Vaughan-Smith, by professing to have more knowledge on the subjects of sport, finance, general knowledge, music or television, than of his own specialist

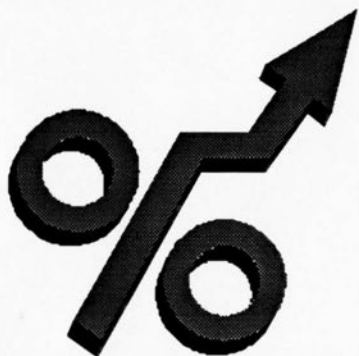
subject, history. Luckily, in playing the 'joker', the gamble paid off and our points advantage gained early in the evening allowed us to stay a the forefront of the encroaching teams.

However, other teams started to match our performance, so unfortunately, 'Generation Why?' slipped into third place, taking the bronze, £5 in a 'Headway Account' and a 35mm compact camera. The school performed admirably, with the other two teams also gaining high positions. [Yes, we know that we did not win and that two wrongs don't make a right, but as long as two (W)rights still make an aeroplane next year, then we should stand a very good chance of taking the gold metal position].

Finally, thanks go to Lloyds Bank and Mr Vaughan-Smith for organizing the quiz and the teams that participated from the school.

*K Hatchard (10S)*

## YOUNG ENTERPRISE / EUROPEAN STUDIES



This has been a busy, but very successful year. Fifteen students were involved, formed into two companies, 'Stress-Less', who packaged and sold boxer shorts; and 'Lasting Impressions', who manufactured and sold jewellery.

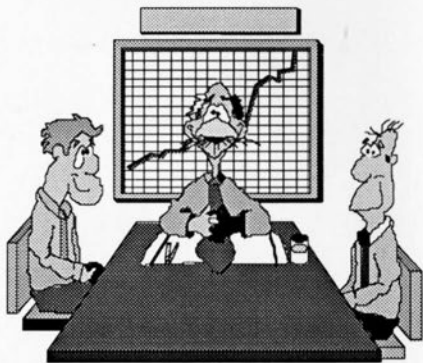
At the time of printing, profit figures were not available for the companies, but sound dividends were expected. The year has been very profitable in other regards, with six students obtaining 'Distinctions' in their 'Young Enterprise' exams.

This was a real achievement, as in the previous five years, that the school has been running this course, only one person had obtained a distinction. Daniel Cook, Marc Fowler, Laura James, Lucy Mann, Lindsay Sweet and Adele Twinn, all received book tokens from 'Spirax Sarco' in recognition of their achievement.

Daniel Cook and John Vallender received the 'Gloucestershire Citizen Award' for the 'Best Director's Report' for some outstanding marketing work. The company, 'Lasting Impressions', with their jewellery products, won third place in the County's 'Best Product Design Award'.

Managing Directors, Julian Walker and Adele Twinn, deserve much credit for their leadership over the period. They have been expertly advised during this time, by Terry Webb and Dennis Webster of the MEB, along with Muir Robertson and Jacqui Pearson of Eagle Star.

There has been some outstanding coursework completed on the 'European Studies' course. Of special note, were the individual and group work assignments of Laura James and Lucy Mann, together with Naomi Woodhouse, who produced an excellent comparative study of the problems of young people in rural communities, such as the Forest of Dean and likewise, in Germany.



Also, a video on different cultures in Gloucestershire and across Europe, won much acclaim at a 'European Studies Teachers' Conference'. The video was produced by Dan Cook, John Vallender, Lindsay Sweet and Adele Twinn.

This long list of achievements, indicates how much effort has been put into these two courses by all those who participated. There has been a great willingness to do well and everyone deserves to feel proud of an excellent year's work.

*Mr I M Hodgkinson*

## YOUNG RICHIAN'S TRIVIA QUIZ

The questions below are designed to test the knowledge of the pupils currently at Rich's, to see if they really do know their school and staff, past and present. The answers to the questions can be found on page 65.

1. Which teacher is the longest serving member on the current staff at Rich's?

2. Where did the large stone, that the 'Bluecoat Boy' in the quad stands on, come from?

3. Name three members of staff who were once pupils at the school.

4. Which member of staff is the only teacher to have taught at the old 'Barton Street' school and also at the current Oakleaze site?

5. When was the school swimming pool first opened? 1966, 1964, 1965, 1975 or 1971

6. Before the school was built on the Oakleaze site, what was the land used for?

7. Which member of staff, who is not a teacher, has been at Rich's for over thirty years?

8. Which House has won the 'Cock House Trophy' the most since 1936?

9. Rowing was the most successful school sport in the late 1960's, early 1970's, True or False?

10. Once Rich's possessed a very popular and thriving Croquet Club, True or False?

11. The 'Elmbridge Club', home of the 'Old Richians' Rugby Club was built in which year? 1964, 1971, 1982 or 1967

12. The major sport played by pupils before the World War Two was Soccer, not Rugby? True or False?

13. In which year did the school's 'Tercentenary Celebrations' take place?

14. A current member of staff was not only a pupil at Rich's, but a former School Captain. Name that teacher.

15. In the middle 1980's, the local authority had plans to turn Rich's into a Sixth Form College. True or False?

16. Name four Headmaster's who have held the post at Rich's in the last eight years.

17. The bell hanging on the outside gym wall, is a relic from the old Barton street school site. True or False?

18. Which school is older, Rich's or Crypt?

19. The first real school magazine produced was not called, 'The Richian', but 'The Plutonian'. True or False?

20. Apart from the Barton Street school and our current location, name another site where the school was once to be found and what is this building now called?

21. Arch rivals Crypt were the first to use the buildings at the old Barton street site, before Rich's took them over in 1889. True or False?

22. What does 'Garde Ta Foy' mean and what foreign language does it originate from?

23. Name the only member of the present staff who has a MEd qualification, (Master of Education).

24. Who is the current Chairman of Governors at Sir Thomas Rich's?

25. In the gym, a board names the 'Captains of Boats'. What sport does this board refer to?

26. What is the name of the magazine that the Venture Scouts produce annually?

27. Which science teacher used to be a member of staff at Crypt, before coming to Rich's?

28. Name the city centre church, where one of the Christmas carol services takes place?

29. Lunch time clubs at Rich's once included Bridge, Blackgammon, War-gaming and a folk music society. True or False?

30. In what year was competitive soccer re-introduced to Rich's? 1990, 1991 or 1989.

**HOW DID YOU GET ON?  
ANSWERS ON PAGE 65**

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## POPULAR PHRASES



Below you will find various popular phrases frequently used by your hard working staff. Simply try to guess which teacher constantly comes out with these gems during your lesson.

"You will address me as Madame, I have not being a Miss for many years now!"

"Right lads, the pressure is really on now, you've only got thirteen weeks to complete this assignment."

"What time is it?, I'm desperate for my ice-bun."

"Guess what? You've got an essay! 200 words by Monday please."

"Run to the posts and back, then do 50 sit-ups, 50 press-ups and then do it all again. Now!!!!"

"Are you with me? Do you understand that? Come on, talk to me!"

"I remember when I was a lad, we used to go down to the local chippy for lunch, have fish and chips with mushy peas, washed down with a fanta."

"I want you to empathise with me. In a nutshell, what I am trying to say is ....."

"Young man, I don't think you should be doing that."

"I am afraid you have just earned a black spot."

"OK, you've served your porridge. Now try to keep your noses clean."

"Err....Err....Err....Err...."

"I managed to get through years of rugby without doing that, so can you!"

"Thanks very much for that, but you're wrong."

"Essay!"

"This is fun!"

"Remember, 1995, exams, in the Gym!"

"This book is utter garbage."

"No, It's not fair!"

"Tone, texture, colour, feeling and depth"

"Pwoblem?"

"Eh, young man!"

"As God said to Moses, keep taking the tablets"

"That's right dear" - "Hello darlings" - "Yes petal?"

"Come on lads!"

"Look here! The balls are in your court."

"Right, I'm sorry, but the goal posts have been moved and you'll have to do this now."

"What do you say boys?"

"As God said to Moses, keep taking the tablets."

"Colon, next line, one....."

"There's no need to wet yourself!"

"A knowledgeable and coherent response."

"When I took my GCE 'O' levels, we weren't even allowed to take the text books into the exam - you lot have it easy!"

"Settle yourselves down!"

*(Year 9 & 11 Pupils)*



## YOUNG RICHIAN'S TRIVIA QUIZ - ANSWERS

Here are the answers to the 'Trivia Quiz' on Page 63. How did you get on?

### ANSWERS:

- 1 Mr A Pilbeam
- 2 Lybrook Viaduct, carrying the railway line to Cinderford and eventually connecting with the main Ross to Monmouth line.
- 3 Mr Henderson, Mr Thompson and Mr Passey
- 4 Mr A Pilbeam
- 5 1966
- 6 It was used as Rich's sports ground, with pupils from Barton Street coming up for 'games' afternoons.
- 7 Mr J Drake
- 8 Eastgate with 20 wins, Westgate 14, Southgate 13, Northgate 12
- 9 True - Rowing was very successful in the 1960's and 1970's
- 10 True - organized and run by Music teacher, Mr M Rangeley.
- 11 1971
- 12 True
- 13 1966 - school founded in 1666
- 14 Mr J Thompson - school captain in 197
- 15 True - over the years, Rich's has been part of numerous LEA re-organization plans.
- 16 Mr G Heap, Mr J Holdaway, Mr A Jarvis and Mr I Kellie.
- 17 True - moved from the old school in Barton Street, up to the new Oakleaze site in 1964
- 18 Unfortunately, Crypt - founded in 1539
- 19 'The Plutonian'
- 20 'The Guildhall', almost opposite the Eastgate shopping centre - It is used for city social functions and a focal point for arts and exhibitions.
- 21 True
- 22 'Keep Faith' - originates from old French
- 23 Mrs J Spilsbury - English Department
- 24 Ms J Wilton
- 25 Rowing
- 26 'Venture 44'
- 27 Mr I Bowie - Biology Department
- 28 St John's, Northgate Street or Holy Trinity, Longlevens.
- 29 True - Rich's had many unique clubs and societies.
- 30 1989 - The Under 12's & 13's both won the City and County Cups in that year.





# SPORTS SCENE



## RUGBY - FIRST XV

Played 12 Won 8 Lost 4  
Points For 269 Against 166

As can be seen from the above results, the 1st XV, under the captaincy of Neil Bennett, had a good season. The team has many good players and they played with a good spirit. However, they did not really commit themselves to training and so did not improve on an individual basis or as a team, during the course of the season. As coach, I found this attitude and approach very frustrating, particularly as the team had plenty of potential and to see this unfulfilled, due to a lack of hard work was very disappointing. Hopefully, they will learn from this, as I feel that success in sport can only be achieved by lots of dedication and hard work. Overall, I feel many players had lots to offer, but unfortunately, this did not always materialize.

*Mr I J Gallagher*



## RUGBY - SECOND XV

Played 10 Won 4 Lost 6  
Points For 155 Against 169

The Second XV was a young side, with many players from Year 11, but they played with enthusiasm and trained hard. As they were unlikely to win much line-out ball, they opted to play a fast running and kicking game. At times this proved to be very successful. Often, they held their own against bigger sides and a few First XV's.

Defensively, their best performance was against a much bigger Chase 1st XV and defeats against St Peters and Beaufort were the result of the team's inability to keep the ball away from the larger opposition forwards. Injury, cup football and a desire to give as many players as possible match experience, led to thirty-one players representing the Second XV over the course of the season.

*Mr M R Swann*

## RUGBY - COLTS XV

Played 10 Won 4 Lost 6  
Points For 145 Against 227

This was a frustrating season for the Colts, who could be excused for thinking that the only sides willing to play them were those who thought they could beat them comfortably. No less than four fixtures were cancelled by opponents for reasons other than weather and the mediocre playing record above could have looked very different if fixtures had been honoured.

There were frustrations on the field as well. Injuries and representative call-ups meant that the side was rarely settled, although this did allow a number of good players to come into the side who might normally not have been selected. The key problem was that the team always seemed to allow the opposition to dictate the pace of the game. Often, the side played well against good opposition and less well against weak opponents. A number of the defeats were by very narrow margins.

Despite all of this, the Colts did play some fine, fifteen man rugby on many occasions. In the final game of the season against St Edwards, they produced an excellent display. Many of the team members will provide a boost to the senior squad when they join it next year.

*Mr I Hodgkinson*

## RUGBY - UNDER 14'S

Played 10 Won 8 Drawn 1 Lost 1  
Points For 418 Against 23

*(Record excludes one cup match against Crypt, which the Under 14's lost 22 points to 7 points).*

This was yet another excellent year for the team, only losing one official fixture all season against a powerful and committed Marling side, (10 points to 5). The side displayed lots of enthusiasm to run the ball at all times and often scored tries by running the ball from deep in their own half of the field. The forwards and backs linked well together, with the former guaranteed to win 'good ball', mainly due to displays of excellent rucking.

Many matches were won with ease, with only twenty-three points conceded, while the team accumulated a massive 418 points. In many fixtures, the opposition could simply not contain Rich's. Games would end with the opposition dejected and demoralized, due to the fact that the Under 14's had inflicted heavy defeats upon them.

Many thanks to the members of the squad who put themselves out for training and match days. It seemed that many of the games were played in appalling conditions.

*Mr P Smith*



*The successful Under 14's Rugby Squad, who had a fine season - thanks to Mr P Smith's coaching!*

## RUGBY - UNDER 13'S



*The successful Under 13's Rugby Squad, who possess plenty of potential and have a bright future.*

Played 12 Won 10 Drawn 1 Lost 1

Points For 349 Against 51

This was an excellent season for the Under 13's as the record above indicates. They proved to be the best XV in the school, with only one defeat. Their success can be attributed to a number of factors. The team was highly motivated, enthusiastic and very committed to training. Another major reason was the fact that there was tremendous strength in depth. Many players found that their places were not safe and competition was intense to obtain a first team spot.

In many games, the opposition could not cope with Rich's, with most matches being totally dominated from the start. As the season progressed, the forwards became technically more competent and this combined with the flair of the backs, guaranteed some fine fifteen man rugby. Marcus Rayer as captain and Daniel Cowley as 'pack leader' were an inspiration to their fellow peers and ensured that the team spirit was always high. Yet, all the players must be congratulated on their attitude and determination throughout the season. Many teams were simply crushed by Rich's, with games often embarrassingly 'one-sided'. The Under 13's were often too 'hot to handle', with most teams constantly on the 'back-foot'.

Consequently, the future looks bright for this team and I feel that this is the best side I have had the pleasure of taking for a long time. They still need to gain experience and become technically more competent in their respective roles, but as long as they can retain their enthusiasm, then further success is easily obtainable.

Finally, I would like to thank all those parents who turned out each Saturday, in all weathers to support the team. I am sure that they witnessed some wonderful rugby at times. I am particularly grateful to Mr Rayer for his technical assistance and support. All I can say to the Under 13's, is good luck and let's hope we will be reading about a 100% record next season.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## RUGBY - A TEAM TO REMEMBER - UNDER 13'S 1987-1988 SEASON

Played 10 Won 9 Drawn 1 Lost 0

Points For 188 Against 39

Over the Christmas holidays, I was sorting through my attic, when I came across a picture of the Under 13's from the 1987-1988 season. Memories came flooding back and I thought I would write an article about this team. I took charge of this team in my second year at Rich's and looking at the picture I immediately drew comparisons with this year's successful Under 13's, led by Marcus Rayer. The two sides were similar, in that they both possessed comparable attributes. Each team had key individual players who possessed skill, flare and natural rugby talent.

Also, the sides had players who displayed sheer aggression and were prepared to take on the opposition, whatever the size or reputation. Another important comparison between the two sides, was the fact that they both possessed players who could be considered natural athletes. Individuals, who could take on any sport and perform at a high degree - in short, 'all-rounders'. These factors led both teams to success in their respective seasons and I feel the present Under 13's are destined for more success in the near future.

*The successful Under 13's Rugby Squad, of 1987/88 season. Many of whom still play competitive rugby, some for 'Old Richians'.*



As a PE teacher you find that outstanding teams crop up over the course of the years and you remember them for various achievements. I will always remember this team, not only for their unbeaten record that year, but for the various characters in the side and the mark they left on Rich's as they progressed through the school. The team that year had such a good season, that Bob Hanney decided that they should have an unofficial fixture away against Monmouth. This was a great match, because in the first five minutes, Scott Tyreman ran almost the full length of the pitch to score the opening try. The match was very close and after leading at half time, Monmouth eventually scored and with the conversion won the game. I remember leaving bitterly disappointed, but that's sport for you!

It was evident after that season that the side would be successful as they progressed through the school. At Colts level, they won all of their ten matches in the 1989/90 season. A year later, at Under 16 level, the side won the City Cup at Kingsholm and the majority of the side was already established in the school's Second XV. Those who stayed onto the Sixth Form, naturally progressed into the First XV and in the 1991-92 season, Nick Cambridge had established himself as the regular goal-kicker, Panji Grainger had been tempted out of retirement by Mr Gallagher to dominate the line-outs and Nick James at full-back was saving the team from some embarrassing moments.

As any sports teacher will tell, time goes by and when you look at a photograph of a great team, you wonder what became of all the talent and skill. The Captain of the Under 13's was Mike Bilous, an aggressive forward, who led by example and who is now playing 'tight-head prop' for the Old Richians' First XV. Jon Freckleton played 'stand-off' in the 1987-88 season, adding flare to the team. He is now

the Old Richians' regular scrum-half. I remember Michael Etheridge who was a fine 'hooker' and maintained this job right up to First XV level. Then there was Panji Grainger, who had already established himself as a natural athlete and added pace and skill to the team. As many of you know, he later went onto basketball fame, representing England. Another good player in the Under 13 side, was Nick Cambridge, who played No.8 and produced many tries from well drilled back-row moves. He is currently training to enter the Recreational and Leisure industry. David Room played as flanker that year and now plays for in the thirds. One wonders what happened to some of the other players and whether they are still playing competitive rugby.

For various reasons, fate or luck, teams seem to come round every five years or so in a particular sport and excel. This was evident with the recent soccer successes that the school experienced. Yet, what made the Rugby 13's of the 1987-89 season a little different from their present contemporaries, is the fact that there was only about sixty boys in the year. This year, there was approximately one and twenty boys in the year. Any PE teacher will tell you that the more numbers in a year, the better the chances of obtaining a first class side. Subsequently, the 87/88 side was outstanding considering the pool of players that could be possibly selected. It also confirms my view, that the present Under 13's, with their strength in depth should really excel in the coming years and better their predecessors' record. Time will tell!

Anyway, enough of my nostalgia, but I am sure if you ask Mr Hanney or Mr Gallagher to recall some of the great Richian teams that they have coached over the years, they would quickly rekindle some of their distant memories.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

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## SOCCER - SHAYNE BRADLEY

### "AN ENGLAND DREAM FINALLY FULFILLED"

In last year's edition of 'The Richian', we reported on the success of Shayne Bradley, who had signed for premiership soccer club, Southampton, on 'Associated Schoolboy Forms'. Well Shayne's success has continued further and after undergoing several months of trials, he was selected in January of this year for the England Under 15's soccer squad.

As part of the squad of sixteen players, Shayne was guaranteed to play in specific internationals. Subsequently, in the spring of this year, Shayne played against Wales and Belgium. To top this, he was then selected to play against Brazil, at Wembley. Shayne clinched his place in the England squad, when he scored two goals in the final trial, as the team demolished a Sheffield Wednesday Youth side 5-0. In other trial matches Shayne had already demonstrated his tremendous potential, scoring a number of goals. For Southampton, Shayne has already played many matches, such as against Glasgow Rangers and Leeds United.

This is a tremendous achievement for Shayne, particularly when he reflects upon his early soccer years. Shayne originally started out with Robinswood Juniors at the tender age of nine. He has always been encouraged by his father, who like Shayne, is a life-long Spurs fan and had him kicking a ball around before he had even started school. Soon Shayne was representing 'Gloucester and Forest' Under 12's and 13's. Then after various trials with premiership clubs, such as Coventry City and Aston Villa, he signed for Southampton in December of 1993.

Shayne initially did have reservations about coming to Rich's, because of its very strong rugby traditions, but this was soon forgotten when soccer was re-introduced during his first year. At this time, the Year 7 team that Shayne was a member of, won the County Cup. Outside of school, Shayne always had plenty of opportunities to demonstrate his fantastic skills in various representative matches.

Many of the staff at Rich's who have watched Shayne's progress in recent years, cannot but admire his tremendous attitude and personality. Some lads may have allowed the success to go to their heads and become rather over confident. Not Shayne, for he has continued to be a very pleasant, hard working and polite lad, as I can testify in his English lessons!

This year's Southampton Under 15 squad have had quite a bit of pressure, for the 1993-94 squad won all of their eight international matches.

We all wish Shayne further success in the future and it is very interesting to note that a current England star, Alan Shearer, really started to gain media attention when he played for Southampton. Who knows, Shayne could be following in his footsteps - let's hope so!

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## INDOOR SOCCER

This year's 'Indoor Soccer competition' was organized very fairly by three very respectable and honourable members of the Upper Sixth. Unfortunately, they were accused of 'rigging' the competition, due to the fact, that in the draw, certain teams were placed in certain groups.

However, the names of teams varied considerably, from the boring 'Staff' team to the more bizarre, such as 'Zwyzclubb United'. The ageing staff team once again possessed total belief that they would continue their five year unbeaten run. Indeed, if the competition had been decided by sheer confidence alone, then the staff would have won the competition easily.



*The finalists of the 1994/5 'Indoor Soccer Competition', 'Well Aadvarks' and 'Bad Boys Incorporated'.*



As the group matches were played, the stronger teams became obvious, as did the weaker teams. A special mention should go to 'No Fear FC', who lost all four games, conceding a massive forty-four goals and scoring just eight.

The knockout stages followed the group stage, with fixtures being fairly drawn out of a hat. Still however, the process was accused of being fixed. At this point, a mention should go to all the players of 'Well Aadvarks'. Despite having possibly the best team and being present at all the fixture draws, they continually complained about the fairness of the whole competition.

These knockout stages separated further, the 'boys from the girls', with the fifth form teams meeting their match against the more experienced 'dirties' from the Sixth Form and of course the outstanding staff team, complete with customized 'Zimmer frames' to help improve their mobility around the pitch.

Congratulations should go, unfortunately, to the 'Well Aadvarks' team for winning the final, beating 'Bad Boys Incorporated', 11 - 1. A further mention should go to Craig Garbutt, who easily took the award for the player to have the worst disciplinary record.

*M Edwards (6B)*



## SOCCER - 1ST XI

Played 6 Won 3 Lost 1 Drawn 2

After many decades, First team soccer fixtures returned to the Sixth Form. The premier season was very encouraging, particularly as the team had never had the opportunity to play together, lower down in the school. With entry in the Under 19 County cup, the side played two early fixtures, winning against Cotswold School, but then sadly losing to Bournside in a closely contested match.

This was followed by two frustrating draws against St Edwards and Marling. Then the side picked themselves up and had two easy wins over Churchdown and Chosen Hill. This unfortunately ended the season, with the last few fixtures cancelled due to poor weather and unreliable opponents.

The season will be remembered by those who represented the team for the strong team spirit and the huge variety of soccer skills that graced many matches. The side copied the attitude of the 1st XV Rugby players, by not really being totally committed to training, often taking a softer option, like going on holiday or working? The team had a real mixture of talent, but this added to the character of the side and ensured that First XI soccer at Rich's will have a unique reputation that will be its trademark for years to come!

One must praise all of the players who represented the side. For instance, there was Ben Mitchell, who possessed everything that a real professional should have in the game. Ben had a big head, dubious recollections of the games and erm.....!, plenty of female admirers, as well as ability. It is a real shame that all of this was spoilt by Ben's persistent obsession with 'The Arsenal'.

Then there was Martin 'Blue head Bag' Ostle, who was seen deploying a vast array of goalkeeping techniques, including the famous 'Ostle camouflage trick', in which he would dress completely in green, disguised as a blade of grass, in order to creep up on unsuspecting strikers.

Other characters in the side, included Nigel 'No friends' Edwards. Nigel, or Michael to his relatives, claimed to be the Ryan Giggs of the side. He also tried to promote the idea that he possessed Andy Cole's speed and Eric 'Sardine' Cantona's finesse? We all felt that he had the footballing sense of 'Scooby Doo'! A close rival to Nigel was Phil 'Billy' Edwards, who was the real one with all the talent in the Edwards household. Billy told me often, that his skills had been finally tuned over many seasons, as a result of a lot of practice, usually in solitude.

One must mention Jason 'Dullard' Brown, who was the real speed freak of the side. He was like a panther in front of goal, with glancing headers, bicycle kicks and his speed was often a major factor when formulating pre-match game plans. Yet, unfortunately, we often had to tell Jason which direction he was playing in before kick off and for which team.

Neil 'cockney rebel' Bennett was a solid player, but all too often, his attendance was erratic, but when he did play, he was very influential. One compares Neil with Liverpool's Sammy Lee in his prime, as he was always hardworking and a real threat to the opposition.

In defence we had Richard Saunders, who had been released by the second's on a free transfer after some rather strange goalkeeping exploits. For our team, Richard produced death defying tackles, bone crunching shoulder barges and he will never be forgotten for his persistent moaning. Meanwhile, there was James 'The Model' Paterson, whose looks were inversely proportional to his soccer skills. We all agreed that James is a **really** good footballer - honest!

Finally, one must mention that soccer genius, Simon Jones. He was a true tactician, a born leader and his soccer skills were a delight to watch. One will always remember how he led by example, never causing referees trouble or upsetting the opposition. Simon was a credit to the school and his side, with a fine and distinguished disciplinary record.

One must end this review by mentioning, 'The Management', Mr Lloyd and Mr Smallwood. Many thanks for your efforts and inspiring half time team talks. It is claimed that Mr Lloyd tried to model the side on Coventry City and we all know how good they are!

*S Jones (6B)*

## SOCCKER - 2ND XI

### Played 5 Won 1 Lost 1 Drawn 3

In the first season of senior soccer for many years, the seconds equipped themselves very well. Yet, I felt as captain, that the team had the 'rough end of the stick'. This was due to the fact, that often we were not able to field the same time in any of the fixtures. This was due to the First team stealing all of our best players, the usual series of injuries and various other school commitments. Consequently, this made the season hard and often I found myself having to motivate the team into action, which was very hard at times.

However, even with these problems, the team still was able to perform to a high standard at times. The season started at St Edwards, Cheltenham. The match was played on a very wet and heavy pitch. Within minutes we were one nil down, but this seemed to spark us into action and we soon got our act together. The team started to 'roll' and the final score reflected our superiority, with a 10-3 victory.

In the following match, the defence was weakened by certain players being lost to the First team, such as Tom Harris. Yet, we still managed to pull off a draw, although we felt that we deserved to win the match. This was then followed by another draw at Bouraside. This match was played on their artificial surface and must have been the only game to be played in the whole of Gloucestershire that day. The weather conditions were terrible, with driving, torrential rain and vicious wind. Both sides were punished for very sloppy defensive work and the score fluctuated, until it finished in a draw at 4-4.



The last game of the season was against Chosen Hill and was best forgotten. Our opposition thoroughly deserved their victory. It was not so much that they were the better soccer players. The heavy 7-2 defeat, was mainly due to our lack of interest, commitment and spirit. We simply allowed ourselves to be 'turned over' and be 'thumped!' This was a rather disappointing performance and best forgotten.

Next season, the Second team will have to work on various areas, if they are to make any progress. They have what I term, 'the Tottenham Hotspur problem'. The side was good in attack, but all too often, the midfield would find themselves caught up front, rendering the defence helpless. Hopefully, the team will be allowed to keep the same squad, without the First team being allowed to take key players.

I was asked to focus on some of the key players of the season for this report. This proved to be difficult, as some of these individuals ended up playing in the First team. For instance, Richard Saunders was outstanding in goal, but then played in defence for the First team. Therefore, to be honest, it would be unfair of me to select any specific individuals, particularly as most players did not play in all five of the fixtures. However, I can say that everyone who did play for the Second team deserves lots of credit, particularly as so often is the case, all the credit and glory often revolves around the First XI's in most schools. So thanks very much to all those Second team players!

*S Simpson (6H)*

## SOCCKER ROUND-UP

As already reported, the highlight of the soccer season was the news that Shayne Bradley (10s), had gained selection for the England Under 15 squad. Other representative honours included Alex Diett and Mark Hardcastle, who represented Gloucester Under 12's. James Cox and David Nichols played for a combined Avon, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire Under 15 team. The school can boast a number of individuals who are currently connected with professional sides. James Cox is with Luton Town, Tom Radcliffe is with Swindon Town and Jody Bevan trains at Walsall. The Under 16 team beat St Peter's and Marling in the County Cup, but unfortunately lost to a strong Central Technology College side, in the semi-finals.

*Simon Jones, 1st XI Captain, receives the 'Best Team of the Season Award' from David Gettings.*



	P	W	D	L
U12	3	2	1	-
U13	4	1	-	3
U14	3	1	1	1
U15	3	-	1	2
2nd XI	5	1	3	1
1st XI	6	3	2	1

The rest of the sides had to face lots of disruption, due to the weather and this was very frustrating for the players. Consequently, the bulk of the fixtures was lost, but the Under 12's produced an unbeaten record and appear to have lots of talent. As already reported, the real success of the season was the re-introduction of soccer at sixth form level, with both the First and Second teams producing encouraging performances. Due to local administrative problems, the City league matches did not materialize, but hopefully they will resume and Rich's teams will have a full fixture list next year.

*Mr P D Lloyd*

## BASKETBALL

The Year 10 basketball squad has grown and developed greatly over the last term, displaying style and excellent team skills. Recently, they played their first match against Crypt, where they were able to at last, test and demonstrate their abilities. The half-term break brought another visit from 'Renegades' player,



Rodney Wilson, who gave them professional tips on playing against a taller team. The challenges we faced in the match against Crypt, was that our opponents had played in many matches before and were on average, a great deal taller. Yet, we met them with eagerness and excitement. Our defensive play was strong and we kept a close score throughout, only to be beaten by two points; with the final score, 40:38.

Thanks to all those who took part, the squad, the spectators offering their support and those who never got the chance to play. Hopefully, there will be more chances to bounce back in the coming terms!

*Ms B McCalla*

## CROSS-COUNTRY

The Seniors had a mixed season, coming third out of six competing teams in the West Mercia league. This rather 'average' performance was mainly due to the persistent problem of a lack of strength in depth. Yet, the high note of the league, was Stuart Simpson's overall victory, as individual winner in the series of races. Stuart has performed outstandingly this season and has progressed considerably. This was reflected when he represented Gloucester City, the County and the South-West, as well as racing at the Nationals. He was a fine captain and will be greatly missed next season.

The Junior side once again second in the Cheltenham Junior relays. This was very disappointing, as the side led all the stages, only to lose the event in the last stage by ten metres. Excellent times and performances were recorded by Alex Diett, Marcus Rayer and James Thomas.



On the 'home front', Northgate won the Senior cup, while Eastgate narrowly edged out Westgate, to win the Junior trophy.

Senior colours were awarded to Kieran Stuart, Stuart Parsons and Jonathan Berry. School Junior colours were awarded to Ross Hemming, who has consistently ran well for the school and is still unbeaten in any of his house cross-country races. Many of these boys ran for the City and the County.

Next season, cross-country at Rich's will receive greater attention and input. There is a healthy interest in the sport and this must be nurtured! Finally, Mr Smallwood and Mr Lloyd, would like to thank all those who have represented the school.

*Mr P D Lloyd*



*Stuart Simpson - West Mercia League Champion.*

## TABLE TENNIS

This year, two teams representing Rich's have competed in Division Five of the 'North Gloucestershire League'. They have found the season hard going, against rather strong opposition. Unfortunately, some of our stronger players could not play in all of the matches, but those who stepped in to replace them, performed creditably.

The 'B' team finished second from bottom in the league, but one must mention David Kettle, who played particularly well during the season. The 'A' team performed better, with Matthew Dill and his father producing some good performances. Next season, we hope to do much better and if we can gain a few more players, prospects could improve. Meanwhile, the 'C' team played in Division Six of the 'North Gloucestershire League'. At times the team produced some excellent results and by the end of the season, the team finished mid-table.

All through the school year, pupils have had the opportunity to play socially and the sport remains as popular as ever, although during spells of hot weather, attendances fall a little. With luck, next season will hopefully be better!

*S Morritt (11S) / D McBurnie (6R)*

## CHESS



The year has seen another excellent season for the school chess team. The first major event was the annual 'Marlwood School Tournament', held in October and lasting a whole weekend. As always the tournament attracted the best teams in Britain and Ireland. This year teams from Denmark and Germany also entered. An inexperienced Rich's team produced some respectable performances, to eventually finish twenty-third, out of the thirty-six teams taking part.

Meanwhile, in the North Gloucestershire League, the Rich's teams were well equipped for the season's matches. The Division Four and Division Five teams both produced creditable performances to finish in mid-table respectively. The Division Three team fought hard for promotion, but unfortunately, they just missed out by the closest of margins.

In the 'Musketeers Junior Chess League', the Rich's teams consisted of less experienced players. Yet, this was in no way a disadvantage, for the teams performed extremely well to win both Divisions One and Two.

At an individual level, Leigh Workman won his section of the 'West of England Championships', while Danny Bhagawati finished third in the Under 12' section. Danny also came second in the 'North Gloucestershire Secondary Schools Chess Congress', at Under 13 level. Meanwhile, Tim Poole was equal third in the equivalent Under 18 section.

On a representative level, Duncan McBurnie, Chris Wilkinson, Leigh Workman, Chris and Tim Poole, all played at 'County Junior Level'. Tim Poole also played for the 'County Adults Team'. Senior Colours were awarded to Tim Poole and Duncan McBurnie, while Junior Colours went to James Ibbotson and Leigh Workman.

Once again, Rich's can be very proud of its Chess teams. The sport continues to thrive at the school with many pupils from all years battling it out during lunch time sessions. On behalf of everyone who plays chess at Rich's, may I thank Mr Fowler and Mr Swann for giving up their time to ensure that chess at Rich's remains one of the most popular and success sports in the school.

*D McBurnie (6R)*

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## CRICKET 1ST XI

Played 6 Won 3 Lost 0 Drawn 3

This has been a very good season for the 1st XI squad, under the captaincy of Ben Hansford, who was selected for the South-West Under 19 XI. Despite only one team being picked from the full 1st XI, all the boys who played for the team produced good performances. In total, twenty-two boys represented the 1st XI.

The team never looked like losing any of their matches and played some very good cricket. In particular, one recalls the match against Worcester VI College, who were bowled all out by Rich's for just fifty-three runs, with Richard Saunders taking seven wickets for just nine runs. Another good match was against Newington College, of Sydney, a touring side from Australia, who were a 'development XI'. This touring party of young cricketers were unable to cope with the pace and ability of the full XI, with Bennett taking four wickets for twenty-two runs, which helped restrict Newington to just 146 runs, all out. In reply, we all watched a captain's innings, with Ben Hansford making 59 runs, not out and helped Rich's to a winning total of 150 runs for the loss of only three wickets and so the side comfortably won by seven wickets.

Against Dean Close, in a forty over match, a team of Lower VI and Year 11 pupils battled against a good side, who had not previously been beaten in the season. Dean Close batted first and raced to 83 for one, off fifteen overs, with some excellent, aggressive batting. However, tighter bowling followed, with Simon Bennett and Tom Radcliffe, who helped to restrict Dean Close to 160 runs, for 6, off their forty overs. In reply, the school moved to 161 runs, for the loss of only three wickets, with Tom Radcliffe riding his luck, to finish 78 runs not out and so the team won the match by seven wickets. The school recorded three good draws against Marling, Kings and Rencomb. Colours went to Phil Brown, Jason Brown, Simon Bennett, Richard Saunders and Tom Radcliffe.

*Mr I J Gallagher*

## CRICKET 2ND XI

Played 3 Won 0 Lost 0 Drawn 3

This was a short season for the 2nd XI, with only three matches played and all three drawn. Yet, compared to last year's 2nd XI, the general performance and standard of cricket, was far better, with some solid innings from the top order batsmen.

*Mr T R Fearn*

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## CRICKET COLTS XI

Played 6 Won 0 Lost 5 Drawn 1

After the remarkable feats of last season, the Under 15's came back to earth with a "wimper", rather than a "bang!". The season began with an anticipated, if honourable defeat in the Lord's Taverner's County Final, against an outstanding Cheltenham College XI.

Sadly, with the sole exception of a fairly reasonable draw against Rencomb College, all the other matches were also lost, often handsomely. The bowling has greatly improved, with Michael Wright, in particular producing some good performances, but this is rather in vain, particularly when a side cannot really score runs with the bat. Rarely, did the side have anyone who displayed any real grit and the concentration to put together a strong innings. All too often, 'Extras', were the top score.

Shayne Bradley, tried to lead from the front, as ever and is to be congratulated for his efforts, with bat and ball. Yet, alas, as captain, he was all too often having to defend small totals. A rather disappointing season! Colours were awarded to Shayne Bradley, David Nichols and Michael Wright.

*Mr B L North & C Cappi*

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## CRICKET UNDER 14'S

Played 8 Won 3 Lost 3 Drawn 2

Both defeats came in limited over matches, where close results went against the team in the final over of each match. In the longer fixtures, the batting performances were most encouraging, with the side rarely looking in danger of being bowled out, with the exception of the game against Dean Close, where the last wicket pair held out for a long period to avoid defeat. In the drawn matches, it was usually the inconsistency of the fielding or bowling, which did not allow the side to go on to win.

When the team did perform well, in all areas, they looked a very competent side, gaining handsome victories against Rencomb and Kings. Colours went to R Patel, S Patel, S Handley and F Patel.

*Mr R Lockey*

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## CRICKET UNDER 13'S

Played 7 Won 5 Lost 1 Drawn 1

This has been another successful season for the Under 13 squad, under the captaincy of Chris Rann. They have remained unbeaten in all of their fixtures since the opening game of the season, against Rencomb, which they narrowly lost. They have consistently produced good cricket and have always been committed to training and this enthusiasm has provided the team with a good foundation from which to work and hopefully will continue next season. Good performances came against Kings and Pates, with many individuals contributing towards the team's success. Mayes and Creber have formed a steady opening pair, with good support from the middle-order batsmen, in the form of Rann, Lewis and Tipper.

The bowling performances have been slightly more varied, but Will Radcliffe and Kevin Ablett have been instrumental in the key games, limiting the run rate and taking crucial wickets in tight situations. When this is coupled with sound fielding performances, the year's success can be attributed to a strong team, which has depth and high calibre. Many of the team received 'Merit Awards', but we must mention Will Radcliffe, who was selected to play for the County Under 13 XI.

*Mr P Smith*





*At the end of the Summer Term, David Lawrence, (centre-top), former pace-bowler for England, came to Rich's to present 'Colours and Merit Awards' to the school's best cricketers.*

## CRICKET UNDER 12'S

Played 5 Won 3 Lost 1 Drawn 1

The Under 12's are an excellent team and in the coming years, I have no doubt that they will be picking up some trophies. When they reflect on their season, they will feel that it should have been five straight victories. Alex Dielt is without question the best wicket-keeper the school has seen for a number of years. Both he and Clive Stuart-Smith ensured that the side was very professional and the opposition was often in no doubt, that they were up against a formidable side.

One must recall the match against Chosen Hill, when Andy Trout and Mark Hardcastle, smashed the opposition bowling apart. Another pleasing performance came against a very competent Marling side, who possessed three County players, but were no match for a Rich's side that were determined to win. The one defeat came against Kings and Rich's allowed the match to slip away with some poor fielding, which allowed the home side to gain the initiative. On a very hot afternoon, against a weak Pates side, Rich's was in total control, but could not seem to dismiss the tail-end batsmen, with the game ending in a disappointing draw. Next season, one hopes, that with a little more experience, these two missed chances will not be allowed to get away and the Under 12's will produce a 100% record, which they are more than capable of achieving.

The team has a lot of strength in depth and to become a real force in the coming years, the lower order batsmen will have to improve their skills, ready to take on stronger sides. This means that lots of winter nets are required, so that next season, the side produces strength in depth. Overall, this has been a good season for the Under 12's and I thank my two joint captains, Clive Stuart-Smith and Alex Dielt, for their excellent organization and ability to motivate their team. Often, it has been a pleasure to watch the side in action and I really feel that Rich's has a side here, that will produce some first class results in the coming years. What they really need, is some first rate opposition. Merit awards went to Alex Dielt, Clive Stuart-Smith, John McCellan, Mark Hardcastle and Robert Sherwood.

Finally, I would like to personally thank the many parents who came to watch and support the side. It was very pleasing to see such keen interest from parents and it was much appreciated - many thanks!

*Mr P D Lloyd*



# *PARENTS' ASSOCIATION*

## THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION REVIEW

The Parents Association had another very successful year and has been able to provide the school with a lot of much needed equipment. Once again, the two quiz evenings were well supported and provided new names to go on the winners trophy. The Christmas Fayre was a huge success and a great deal of thanks should go to the small group that worked so hard to put the event on and the support of the parents and friends who attended. These events provided substantial funds to enable the Parents' Association to provide the school mini buses and the massive expenditure that new legislation is demanding for them. Stage lighting, hymn books, TV's, videos, the list is endless, but there is more to the Parents' Association than just making money and spending it.

The Parents' Association provides a social culture within the school with talks. We had talks on millinery, microwave cooking and one from the 'Body Shop'. Trips have also been organized to the theatre and there have been many social events, such as a successful barn dance, as well as the traditional quiz evenings. Others are always being planned and the Association prides itself on helping at many events run for the benefit of the pupils, such as the disco evenings.

This is a valuable part of the structure of a successful and thriving school, but it could all too easily fade away before its value is recognized. It would then be very difficult to generate such a force to perform a similar role again from scratch!

There are many ways everyone can help, but it needs YOU, the parents of boys at the school, to put yourself forward and actually become involved. Parents are needed to support events, to help out and even to take the 'bull by the horns' and organize an event or be part of a group in helping to stage one. It is very easy to sit back and allow others, but that is the 'dinosaur approach' and will eventually lead to failure. Not everyone can help financially, but many who could assist the school through our 'covenant system' have not come forward. Please help your sons and daughters to get the best out of their school days and make them the best days of their lives. We do not want to get into a situation where the school has to beg to all the parents, before it can supply all those additional items that makes school life so much better for the students.

Help the school, but be prepared to make lots of new friends and enjoy yourself!

Mr K Shaw

## THE MEB MICROWAVE COOKERY DEMONSTRATION

On a mild November evening Parents and friends of Sir Rich's School assembled in the new Food Technology room to listen to a lecture on the advantages of microwave cookery. This was yet another successful event organized by the Parents' Association, designed not only to raise money for the school, but to provide a fun and informative evening. Just over thirty people turned up for the talk and demonstration, with Ken Shaw close at hand to sample any free tasters. Unfortunately, due to 'Food Hygiene' regulations, many of the samples produced could not be consumed by the audience.

The event was run by representatives of the Midlands Electricity Board. Caroline Eaton and Clare Edwards during the day work as 'Home Energy Advisors', providing advice to customers on the most efficient ways to utilize electricity in the home. They also provide information on various electrical products and provide 'after sales' customer care. The school was very fortunate to have the ladies' visit, as for various reasons, the demonstrations may soon be discontinued.

The two ladies have provided many cookery demonstrations to interested groups in the Gloucestershire/Avon region. Usually, they

provide their demonstration to organisations who are trying to raise funds for special causes and charities. Consequently, the school was lucky to have their services for the night.

The lecture not only concentrated upon recipes, but also on the technical points of how microwave ovens work and the different types available from the MEB. The experts also demonstrated how people can use their microwaves to the best advantage, with tips and recommendations provided to the audience. Discussion was held on the biological principles of microwave cooking and the advantages over the conventional oven.

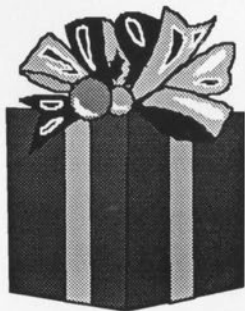
After the background information and general demonstration of operating microwaves, it was time for the serious part of the evening. The two ladies demonstrated various recipes highlighting the ease and simplicity of microwave cooking. The versatility and diversity of these modern domestic appliances were clearly highlighted. It was evident, that even men could operate the appliances and the possibility of the male species being able to go beyond of the realms of boiling an egg appear highly feasible.

*Mr P D Lloyd*



*Ken Shaw, (centre) with the MEB 'Microwave Cookery Demonstration Team'*

## THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE



On a wet Saturday morning in December, the Parents' Association produced a net profit of £1,362.35 for the school's funds with the organisation of a Christmas fayre. The event was well supported, despite the poor weather and a variety of stalls were busy selling goods in the main hall. Many pupils, as well as parents, worked tremendously hard to set up the event, with stalls ranging from the usual 'bric-a-bac' to computer games. Once again, such events will have helped fund various projects around the school, such as resourcing the new library or buying new equipment.

Mr P D Lloyd



*Above, Mr Fry raises some valuable funds for the school, via the popular 'Tombola stall'.*



*Left, Mr Ken Shaw, presents Ian Hodgkinson, right, with a glass decanter, bidding him farewell and thanks, for all his hard work for the Rich's 'Parents' Association'.*

*Ian was one of the main organizers of the popular 'Quiz Evenings', which over the years has raised hundreds of pounds for the school.*

## HATS.....THE FINISHING TOUCH

*Alex Stanbrook, (centre), with two of Rich's parents, trying on the variety of hats that were on display during the millinery talk that took place at the school last winter.*



In February, Alex Stanbrook came to the school to present a 'millinery talk and display'. As many of you will know, Alex Stanbrook runs a successful business, based in Worcester Street, Gloucester. Alex's talk was very informative, amusing and entertaining. It was a mixture of practical tips, historical data, human psychology and amusing personal recollections. We were told that hats have been around for about two thousand years and initially had a dual purpose. Often, they were used to display rank and status in society, as well as serving some practical purpose. Alex told us of the practical purpose of hats, stating that sixty percent of the body's heat is lost through the head. Consequently, hats and the material that they are made out of, are designed to retain heat in the winter, but allow heat loss during hot periods. In terms of human psychology, believe it or not, hats can have a profound affect upon the way people behave and react to you, particularly from males. For instance, veils on hats conjure up mystique, while particular hats can effect the natural curvature of a woman, making a woman taller, broader and dominant. Of course, different styles of hats can produce different reactions, with flamboyant hats attracting attention, while other hats can denote position, authority and assertiveness. The effect a hat has, depends upon the style, design, material and additions, but also, the physique of the woman who wears the hat. Another important factor that a woman has to consider when wearing a hat is her complexion and natural facial features. Alex told the women in the audience that when selecting a hat they should take into consideration their height, jaw line, hips and complexion.

We were informed that the industry originally could be divided into two distinct sections, the 'Hatters' who made the basic hat and then the 'Milliners', who trimmed and finished the hat off. They were called 'Milliners', because they originally came from Millan, Italy. The design of hats through the centuries has depended upon various factors. In the last war, hats were not very flamboyant and generally were small, due to the shortage of material available. In Victorian times, hats did not possess that much bird plumage, due to the fact that the RSPB started during this period and campaigned against the import of birds, used by the millinery industry for their feathers. Alex told the audience that the industry is currently thriving, due to the popularity of hats increasing, particularly from young women. It was not just fashion houses that had increased the popularity in wearing hats, but television period productions, such as 'The House of Eliot' and certain television commercials had increased sales. One hat worn in a television commercial, featuring a certain car, is currently very popular and is now called the 'Divorce Hat'. The audience was able to try on a variety of hats and the talk was a great success. Thanks Alex, we certainly take our hats off to you!

*Mr P D Lloyd*



# THE OLD RICHIAN'S SECTION

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT - DAVID HOOK

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

Many of the main events of the year are reported in greater detail, elsewhere in this magazine. From an 'Old Richians' perspective, this is mainly thanks to the late, Stanley Jones.

In my speech to the 'Annual Dinner', in April, I paid tribute to my predecessor as 'President', saying that his would be an extremely hard act to follow. Yet, Stanley was 'Membership Secretary', co-ordinator of information for 'The Richian' magazine and a roving 'Old Richian Ambassador' and it seemed at the time, that he was far from retiring. It was therefore, with great shock and regret, that I learnt that he had died from a heart attack. Numerous tributes to Stanley appear elsewhere, but no 'President's Report' would be complete without recording that in the last five years, nobody did more for the Association than Stanley and in many ways, we will miss him greatly.

A report of the 'Annual Dinner' appears later on in this section of the magazine, but I would like to add my thanks to Mark Robinson, David Baldwin, Duncan Sargent, Chris Mayo and Ian Poole, for co-ordinating invitations to their respective year groups. Thanks to Rob Bielby, for all his hard work for the highly successful, 'Oxbridge Dinner'.

With effect from the 1st July, 1995, the annual subscription for the Association, was raised to £10, as the previous figure, no longer covered the running costs. To date, nearly seventy-five percent of members have returned new 'Bankers Order Forms' to Andrew Bishop, the Association's Treasurer. Your continuing membership and support, is vital for the Association and the School. If you have not yet renewed your subscription or would like to join for the first time, I urge you to do so now, by using the form, found at the end of this magazine.

I am very pleased to confirm, that 'Old Richian', Peter Green, a distinguished artist of international repute, has agreed to present the school with a painting of the 'Quad', showing the 'Blue Coat Statue' and the 'Blue Coat Library'. It is hoped that we will be able to offer a limited edition print of Peter's painting and more details will be available shortly.

Having said that Stanley is irreplaceable, the 'Association Committee', is in need of new blood and new ideas. Meetings are held approximately five times a year and if you would like more information, then please contact me. As the school, moves from strength to strength, the Association will continue to support it in every way possible. We need your help to make this possible.

Garde ta Foy!

David Q Hook (President)



## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR -

### A TRIBUTE TO THE 'LATE' STANLEY T JONES

The Editor of 'The Richian' would like to express his deepest sorrow at the very sad death of Stanley Jones. This section of the magazine would not have been possible, if it had not been for Stanley's tremendous efforts. One cannot recall the many hours that Stanley must have devoted to this section of the magazine. Many will not comprehend how time consuming it must have been for Stanley to collect information, sort it out and then meticulously type it up, finally sending it to me. Often, he would ring me up to see how things were going and to let me know of the latest article he was working on for the magazine. It was a thankless task and many will not realize how much time Stanley devoted to this task. He always believed that the 'Old Richians' Association' should not have a separate magazine, but that any information about former pupils should be incorporated into the mainstream school magazine. During his time as President of the 'Old Richians', he ensured that the Association was very well represented in 'The Richian'. Without doubt, his contributions to the magazine helped to raise the profile, popularity and success of the Association. Often, I would receive many positive and favourable comments, via letters, telephone calls and through 'third' parties about the magazine. As far as I was concerned, all this was due to Stanley's hard work and dedication to the magazine and to his school - Rich's. Without doubt, I will struggle to match Stanley next year in collecting information relating to any 'Old Richians'. He made life very easy for me! While Stanley was alive, I always knew that the 'Old Richians' section of the magazine was in safe hands and I did not really have to worry about obtaining contributions. Stanley would always come up with the goods, on time, well up to standard and this guaranteed that the magazine would be a success. As you read this section, bare in mind, that it was only possible due to Stanley's dedication and efforts. One thing is certain, I will sincerely miss Stanley's help, his friendly nature and his generosity!

*Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)*

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*Above, part of the 'Old Richians' Committee. - (second from the left), Mr J A Stocks, (Headmaster 1961-73); (third from the right), the late Stanley T Jones.  
Picture taken in March, 1995, on the visit of 'HRH, Princess Royal'.*

## PRESIDENT'S TRIBUTE TO THE 'LATE' STANLEY T JONES

Stanley had for many years performed considerable service for the 'Old Richians' Association', not least as 'honorary London Secretary', when in September, 1991, he was elected 'President'.

From the beginning, Stanley's drive, vigour, and enthusiasm, were contagious and the three dinners during his Presidency, were among the most successful in the Association's history.

Also, during his time, Association membership increased considerably, as did its connections and support with the school.

Stanley was a very warm, outgoing person, interested in all things connected with Rich's. I will miss his good humour, his laugh, his support and encouragement. Stanley possessed a real presence.

A number of 'Old Richians' attended Stanley's funeral in Frimley on the 3rd July, 1995, including, Rich's present Headmaster, Mr Ian

Kellie, as well as two former headmasters, Tony Jarvis and Tony Stocks.

A memorial service was held at St John's, Northgate, in Gloucester on the 21st July, 1995. At the service, Old Richians were joined by members of Stanley's family and friends from Frimley. The school choir sang an anthem and the address was shared by Dennis Collins, Alan Sunman, a contemporary from Westminster College and Alan Pilbeam.

Stanley was a great man, a good friend to Rich's and Richians. As my father said,

"We often say people are irreplaceable, but in Stanley's case, it was true."

As Stanley's friend and minister in Frimley said,

"A light has gone out in all our lives."

*David Hook*  
(President of the Old Richians' Association)

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## MEMORIES OF THE 'LATE' STANLEY T JONES FROM J A BELL

As a boy, I lived in Linden Road, Gloucester and so did Stan, with his parents, Mr and Mrs Goronwy Jones, as well as Stan's sister, Esme. We went to the same Sunday School and Youth Club - at Wesley Hall, in nearby Seymour Road. We went to the same Primary School and were in the same 'Air Training Corps Squadron' - 181 (STR's) and although Stan was three years younger than I was, I got to know him well.

As his splendid school and college records show, he was a clever and dedicated student. He later went on to take external degrees. Yet, his serious side was always tempered with a fine sense of fun. His whole-hearted laughter was a tonic. We kept in touch when he was in the army. I have a photograph of Stan in his 'Summer Khaki-drill uniform', taken in Austria and, as ever, a large grin on his face.

When he went to live in Orgpinton, and later Frimley, he was characteristically hospitable to us as a family and he was always a welcome guest at our home.

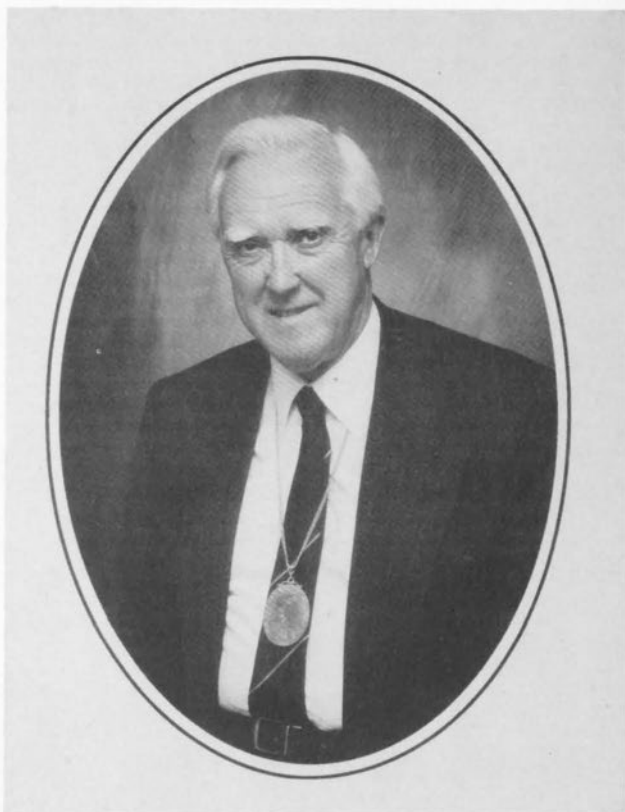
His work in schools led to his entering teacher training at 'Borough Road College of Education', which later became part of the 'West London Institute of Higher Education'. He always spoke enthusiastically of his work there and for the 'Open University'. Not surprisingly, the piece he contributed to the recently published history of 'Calton Road, (Gloucester) Schools', had a very perceptive edge to it.

The arrival of his annual duplicated Christmas letter, with manuscript additions, was a welcome event. There would be news of his activities, not least foreign travel, which revealed an exceedingly busy and involved life.

I shall miss this friend of many years' standing and I am glad to be able to pay tribute to his sterling worth.

*Mr J A Bell*

## THE 'LATE' STANLEY T JONES



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### DENNIS COLLINS REMEMBERS STANLEY T JONES

On a bleak September day in 1941, 'Class IIIb' gathered under the masterly eye of Bill Tully.

Amongst those boys was one who was destined to shine in the life of the school for fifty years - that boy was Stanley T Jones.

I remember him as a great "mate" - anxious to be involved - to give his all, whether, he was talented in any particular direction or not.

In a class where it was a difficult task to break the stranglehold at exam time, on the first three places by our talented trio of academics, he persevered to produce a plethora of points in participation, in

endless activities for, I am sorry to say, Eastgate, (I am a Southgate man!).

His later years at school, saw his talents come to the fore, as a keen founder of the 'School Council', as an 'Observer' and as 'Secretary' and leading speaker of the 'Debating Society'.

He was a democrat at heart, a man never to be forgotten by his contemporaries, as seen by the gathering that surrounded him at his 'President's Dinner', fifty years after he first entered the door of "Tommies".

*Dennis Collins*

## DAVID QUENTIN HOOK (1972 - 1980)

### PRESIDENT OF THE OLD RICHIAN'S ASSOCIATION

It was with great acclamation that David Hook was elected President of the Association on the 9th September, 1994, particularly as he is a member of the great Hook dynasty. Someone has said that the Hook's are to Rich's, what the Kennedy's are to Washington. His father, Bill, (1931-1940), his uncle Bob (1921-1930), and his two brothers, Gordon (1957-1965) and John (1963-1970), all attended the school. His election was indeed a unique occasion, because not only is he the youngest President in the long history of the Association, but also in view of the fact that Bill held this important office at the time of the 'Tercentenary Celebrations' and it is the first time that both father and son have worn the silver medallion and chain.

David was born in Elmbridge Road and like his brothers, went to Elmbridge Infant and Junior schools. In his younger days, it is reliably reported, he was a great 'Goons' fan. At an early age, he became interested in politics and his teenage bedroom was decorated with posters of famous politicians and the Royal families of Europe. He had an early involvement in Lonsdale Methodist Church, which has been a life-long commitment. For the last few years, he has been Senior Steward there and is much involved in the administration of the church. Indeed, his loyalty and hard work there is in many ways parallel to his involvement with the 'Old Richians'.



*Centre - President of the 'Old Richians' Association', David Hook. Left, Mr and Mrs J Cooper. Right, Mrs Kellie and Headmaster, Mr I Kellie.  
Picture taken at the 'Old Richians' Association' Annual Dinner.*

At Sir Thomas Rich's School, his academic interests were heavily Arts orientated. However, his real contribution to school life, was probably the enthusiastic part he took in debating, drama and many other clubs. He loved his time at Rich's, energetically supporting Northgate House and displayed early promise as an 'organizer'. He became 'Vice-School Captain' in the 'Third Year Sixth' and showed a certain reluctance to leave.

After leaving Rich's, David spent a year working in Gloucester, for Hayden's, the local auctioneers and estate agents. He found that he enjoyed the work enormously and perhaps, as a result, went to Leicester Polytechnic in 1981, to study 'Estate Management'. Although, he joined in college life wholeheartedly, he frequently returned to Gloucester at weekends and worked hard for the Junior section of the Old Richians, enthusiastically

recruiting new members from amongst the then, school leavers.

He completed his studies with a year at Southampton, where he qualified as a 'Valuer', with the 'Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers'. He then returned to Gloucester and has worked in local government ever since - first for the county and then for the city in their 'Secretary and solicitors department', 'Estates and Valuation Section'.

In his leisure hours, David enjoys swimming, the theatre and the cinema. He has organized several quizzes, where his knowledge of the film world seems to be extraordinarily impressive. He is a great traveller and his holidays are often voyages of exploration, sometimes tracking down distant relatives, (he has an enormous sense of 'family') and sometimes visiting exotic new locations. He has journeyed far and wide in Europe, the Americas, Eastern Europe and beyond. Subsequently, he is always willing to provide an entertaining and informative show from his thousands of slides of places, as diverse as the Cotswold Way or the Kremlin, Naples or New Orleans, Prague or Princetown.

David loves his native city, to which he is committed and would not wish to work anywhere else. He is extremely patriotic and rumour has it that he is soon to erect a flagpole, so that he can hoist the Union Jack outside his home in Kingsholm Square. He is, in fact, the proud possessor of a collection of autographed photographs and pictures of every European Royal.

David has been Chairman of the Junior Section of the Old Richians' since 1980 and for many years was 'Membership Secretary of the Association'. Together with Baroness Oppenheim, former Member of Parliament for Gloucester, David for the last decade has been involved in the 'Save Our Grammar Schools' movement. He is a good friend to all and is most kind and loyal. He has a wonderful generosity of spirit and gives unstintingly of his time and energy for friends, family, and, of course, to the Old Richians' Association, for which no-one has done more! We wish him well during his 'Presidency'.

*Compiled from contributions  
by Gordon and John Hook*

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## OLD RICHIAN'S INDOOR CRICKET TOUR

At the end of the Easter term, an Old Richians' Indoor Cricket team made a tour of Sir Thomas Rich's School. The tour party consisted of several of the best indoor cricket players from the past three years and was due to play some exhibition matches. In addition, the side was to play in a 'triangular tournament' involving the staff and captains of the teams found in the school winter league.

All through the tour, the team played positive and attacking cricket, producing some exciting matches. The standard of fielding was noteworthy, with John Jeffries particularly outstanding, taking several good catches. In the opening match, the side put together a creditable performance against an 'Invitation VI', obtaining the upper hand in a closely drawn match. Paul Critchard spear-headed the bowling, whilst Rob Bielby, Dave Freeman, Paul Gamston and captain Adrian McBurnie, all made useful contributions with the bat.

The second match was against the staff. Paul Critchard and Dave Freeman got the first innings off to a good start, but a batting collapse, combined with a lack of real penetration in the bowling, allowed the staff to take the game seemingly out of the hands of the Old Richians' side. However, the side rose to the challenge of chasing a very hard target. After another good opening partnership, the Old Richians' side once again collapsed and so defeat looked imminent with the last wicket pair of Rob Bielby and Adrian McBurnie requiring over fifty runs to win. In the end, six runs was needed off the last ball, but this was too much to expect and the match was consequently drawn. The Old Richians' then overpowered a 'President's VI', winning by an innings. Rob Bielby, Paul Critchard, Dave Freeman and John Jeffries all completed respectable performances, whilst Philip Brown provided the main resistance from the 'Presidents' VI'.

The last tournament match was against a strong 'Captains' side'. The Old Richians' team put in an excellent effort in the field and dismissed the 'Captains' VI' cheaply in both innings. Victory was nonetheless never going to be easy against an impressive bowling line-up led by Ben Hansford, but Rob Bielby, Dave Freeman and Dave Vizard guided the Old Richians' side to an unexpected win. The team subsequently finished top to the table and won the tournament. The final match of the tour was against a combined side. In a very low scoring match, the Old Richians' had to battle hard for the wickets, against a side determined to defend and who only scored runs slowly. However, no Old Richians' batsmen got set in either innings and consequently, the side lost the match. This was a slightly disappointing end to what was otherwise, a successful and enjoyable tour.

*Mr A McBurnie*

## THE OLD RICHIANs' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER

At the school on Saturday, 8th April, 1995, from 6 pm onwards, Old Richians, their ladies, members of staff, ex-staff and school observers gathered for yet another 'Grand Reunion Dinner'. This time, the years from 1926 to the present day were represented. It is always a joy to welcome so many members who have been educated on the Barton Street site and who feel that Rich's at Elmbridge is still their school. For the first time, an exceedingly large contingent of Old Richians from the 1960's to the 1980's attended, some not having visited Sir Thomas Rich's School since they had left. The Association therefore wishes to thank all who wrote to their contemporaries and encouraged them to attend in such large numbers.

Members and guests were able to view the newly refurbished swimming pool and adjacent changing rooms, the new classrooms, the impressive and newly erected school gates, each bearing a colourful coat of arms, as well as stroll around the new 'Blue Coat Library'. Here they were able to view yet another splendid array of photographs, documents and memorabilia. One particularly interesting feature was a collection of school caps, reports, art work, photographs and exercise books of the 1920's, presented to the school by the late Harold Priday. Also, Dennis Hands (1931-1938), son of 'Bronc', who was French Master from 1911 to 1945, had lent a fascinating host of photographs of the boys and staff, who were at Rich's in the 1920's to the 1940's in the time of his father. Carousels of transparencies of events which took place on the Elmbridge site were also to be seen.

At 8 pm those present were summoned to the table ready to receive the President, Mr David Hook, and his guests. We sat down to a fine high class knife and fork buffet. After the meal and the loyal toast, the President read a letter of greetings from Mr W J Veale, Paignton, (Headmaster 1936-57) and presented apologies from Mr J A Stocks, Gloucester (Headmaster 1961-73), from Mr W G Heap, now living near Preston (Headmaster 1973-89) and Mr A Jarvis (Headmaster 1990-94), recently appointed to St Olave's school, Orpington, Kent.

During his introduction to our guest speaker, Mr John Cooper, (Biology Master, 1955-86), the President regretted that he perhaps could in no way claim to be Rich's most successful Biology student, because in the practical 'O' level examination he took, he had unfortunately identified the bones of a rabbit, as a chicken. Nevertheless, he was delighted that Mr Cooper had accepted his invitation to be present. The toast to "Sir Thomas Rich's School and all that it implies", was proposed by our chief guest after a highly amusing speech. As a true professional, Mr Cooper produced an enormous bag containing a



*Above, Guest Speaker - Mr J Cooper*

collection of visual aids, including a board rubber, a Union Jack, part of a bunsen burner and a Mars bar, which he extracted one by one humorously explaining their significance to his long, devoted and entertaining career, both at "Winnie Mandela House" and at the present site.

We were delighted that the newly appointed Headmaster, Mr Ian Kellie, who had already served Rich's with distinction from 1988 to the present day, agreed to reply, informing us of the excellent progress which Rich's had recently made and of the standards achieved which were the highest in the school history.

It was particularly good to see once again the oldest member of the Association, who had booked for the function, Jack Dean (1926-31) and who has loyally served on the Committee for no less than sixty-two years. Sincere thanks are due yet again to Philip Day for producing the artistic seating plan; to Dennis Collins for acting as Master of Ceremonies; to Ian Poole, who was instrumental in selling tickets; to Philip Brown and the Venture Scouts for running the bar; as well as to Andrew Bishop and David Hook, who spent countless hours organizing the event. We hope to see a packed hall of Old Richians' on the occasion of a similar event in 1996, on Saturday, 30th March. Book the date now!

*(The Late) Mr Stanley T Jones*



## THE OLD RICHIAN'S' OXBRIDGE DINNER

In the Spring of 1994, we arranged an informal Oxford University Dinner at one of the city's most ancient inns, 'The Mitre', in the High Street. This year, we invited Richians from both of our oldest universities to a gathering and thus resurrected the 'Old Richians' Oxbridge Dinner. This time, on the 1st March, 1995, we met in style, within the hallowed walls of Christ Church, founded by Cardinal Wolsey and almost universally considered the most majestic college in Oxford. It certainly possesses the largest quadrangle.

We assembled in the grand 'Mckenna Banqueting Room' and sat down to a sumptuous four-course meal. After this repast, the President, David Hook, rose to propose the 'Loyal Toast' and made a short speech fitting the occasion and warmly welcoming all to the event. So enjoyable was the occasion, that when at 9.05 pm precisely, the 'Great Tom Bell' rang forth from the famous 'Wren cupola-topped tower', everyone remained in their seats. The sound of the bell is traditionally said to be a reminder that all undergraduates should be back in their quarters and in their beds!

Our guest speaker, Alan Pilbeam, recalled his personal impressions of Oxford and described the newly-erected and refurbished buildings in Elmbridge. He also outlined the proposed extensions to the school beginning in the autumn. We were all delighted to learn that Rich's is now the best it has been in its long and distinguished history.

Those present were: Robert Bielby, Christ Church; Mark Butler, Mansfield; Nick Carter, St Catherine's; Louis Delwiche, Magdalen; Luke Fitch, St Catherine's; Adam Koller, Christ Church; Adrian McBurnie, University; Michael Palmer, St Catherine's; James Methven, Brasenose; Andrew Methven, Trinity College; David Hook, President, Old Richians'; Alan Pilbeam, Deputy Headmaster, St Catherine's and Stanley Jones, Ex-President, Old Richians'. Dr D J Rogers, Department of Zoology, Christ Church sent his apologies. Our grateful thanks are due to Robert Bielby for organizing the event. We sincerely hope that more Richians from Cambridge will feel able to join us next year in a college in what Arnold memorably described as "that sweet city with her dreaming spires", so that the dinner will henceforth become an annual event.

*(The Late) Mr Stanley T Jones*

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*Above, the 'Old Richians', who gathered for the 'Oxbridge Dinner' at Christ Church College, Oxford.*

## THE OLD RICHIAN'S RFC



*Above, the 'Old Richians', RFC, that played in the 'Tercentenary Celebrations' match of 1966, against a team that contained many 'International' rugby players.*

The club was born in 1950 and in the early years of its existence, just one team, based at Sir Thomas Rich's School, played twenty-five games each season. Today, forty-five years later, the club produces four senior sides. It was entirely appropriate, that the club's founding Chairman, was Mr W J Veale, a rugby loving Headmaster and who is currently enjoying retirement in Paignton. In the late 1950's, it was the Club Captain, Gerry Stone and Graham Prosser, who kept the club together and engineered its initial expansion. It was principally Gerry's charismatic and larger than life personality, both on and off the field, that will be remembered, as he steered the club through the 1970's and 1980's. Once he became Chairman, it was his determination and vision, that brought about the creation in 1983 of the marvellous 'Elmbridge Clubhouse'. These facilities are the envy of many visiting clubs.

During the 1960's, membership expanded rapidly, thanks to Frank Jordon, whose dynamic leadership and influence provided the catalyst for this growth. He also helped to nurture the 'Old Boys' style and culture of 'free-flowing' rugby, for which the club is still often associated with today. Another natural leader in the 1960's, whose magnetic personality and fun loving, yet caring approach to life was much appreciated, was Mike Longney, whose brother, Maurice, donated the

'Horns' that are played for each Boxing Day, against arch-rivals, 'Old Cryptians'. Rowe Gabb, who was President and Chairman, covering a fifteen year period in the 1960's and 1970's, and who worked unceasingly for the club, will be remembered for his highly disciplined and structured approach.

All organizations need dedicated people, who are willing to give their time and energies in the best interest of others, without expectation of praise or benefit. Nick Freckleton, a former and highly successful Club Captain, has been a marvellous and loyal member for over thirty years. The club is indeed most fortunate to have had the services of Robert Wheeler, as Treasurer of both the Rugby and Elmbridge clubs, while his brother, Tony, a Trustee of the Elmbridge club, has contributed considerably to its existence and success over the years. Fellow Elmbridge club Trustee, Richard Owen, has provided valuable expertise and commitment to the club over the last thirty years. It is the loyalty of such people, that has ensured that Old Richians has survived and prospered. A warm invitation is extended to all Richians, to join this celebrated and flourishing club, especially those leaving school.

*Mr K Ray (1953 - 1959) President of the Old Richians' Rugby Football Club*

## OLD RICHIAN'S RFC RUGBY REPORT

As coach of the Senior Old Richians' Rugby Football Club, assisted by the very capable Clive Walford, the season turned out to be a mixture of pleasure and frustration. We started 'pre-season' training in July, with the intention of playing an open and expansive fifteen man style of rugby. The numbers at training were good, with up to forty-five training all the way up to Christmas. The fruits of this effort were an attractive, exciting style, with a lot of tries, which in turn led to many wins against good opposition. Yet unfortunately, all was not rosy, as there were games which were lost and really, upon reflection, should have been won.

However, we seemed to have turned the corner, with all players now showing much more confidence and belief in each other. With a young squad, the future looks full of promise. The main problems with the squad, mainly arose after Christmas and the New Year. Training numbers started to drop due to bad weather and this led to the teamwork becoming inconsistent. This, in turn, led to some poor results, but this was to be expected. This difficult patch went on right through until March. The problems were not helped when the side lost two league points, due to one of the players being unregistered, even though he has played for the club for fifteen years! This led to the club being in the relegation zone of

'Gloucester Division One'. Yet, we finished the season with some good wins, away at Bream and at home to Barton Hill. This ensured that we finished mid-table and left us wondering what might have been! Our final league results were:

**PLAYED 12 WON 6 DRAWN 0 LOST 6**

**FOR 232 AGAINST 207**

**(LEAGUE POINTS - 10)**

With the Captain, Demi Priestjesky, leaving the club, and indeed the country, to start a new life in Canada, the club now needs a new driving force to fill the gap and to keep the momentum going. A change of approach is needed for next year and if the club is serious about league success, the players must commit themselves to hard pre-season training to overcome the problems of last year. They can still be a friendly, social club, but league Rugby makes greater demands from all the club to help support the First XV.

From a personal point of view, it is good to see many 'actual' Old Richians' in the club, many of whom suffered me at school and are still willing to put up with me in their leisure time. To all the club, I give my thanks for their support, but I also offer a warning, that next season, I will want more!

*Mr I J Gallagher*



*Above, the 'International XV', that played in the 'Tercentenary Celebrations' match of 1966, against a 'Old Richians', RFC - (If you know any of the team, let the Editor know!)*

## NEWS OF OLD RICHIAN'S'

### OBITUARIES

**DIXON Brian David** (1953-60), the youngest of three brothers who attended Sir Thomas Rich's, died suddenly of a heart attack on Thursday, 27th October, 1994. He was Rugby Captain and Captain of Athletics. After leaving school, he studied at Loughborough College and then went on to teach. Brian will be remembered at Rich's as a red-headed teenager, always with a ready-made smile and a sense of fun and mischief and full of enthusiasm for life. If one had a problem to discuss or a disappointment to share, he was always ready to help and he bore his own disappointments and frustrations with great stoicism and forbearance. Brian was a superb sportsman, who was always at the front and was prepared to have a go. He was a joy to have in one's team, due to his enthusiasm and competitiveness. In fact, he was a competitor in every sphere of everyday life - he hated losing - and often surpassed the achievements of those several years his senior. His exuberance and daring was infectious and in several rugby matches his driving-on and vocal support to other team-mates, led them to win. On the school sports field, Brian was an outstanding athlete. He was a Silver Medal Schools' All-England champion on two occasions and Junior AAA's champion. He was certainly born into the wrong era, in particular with regard to the pole-vault. Had the modern technology of carbon-fibre poles been around, due to his wonderful gymnastic ability, he surely would have become an international athlete of some renown. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Sandra, brothers Mervyn (1948-53) and Alan (1950-58), his nephews, nieces and many friends. Brian made a deep and lasting impression on all who met him. His untimely death at such an early age, is such a very sad loss.

Written by John Dangerfield (1954-59) and Paul Ounsworth (1952-58)

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**David Joseph, Sports master (1945-81) writes;** "Brian Dixon was one of those who made teaching seem so worthwhile and I shall always treasure those fond memories of him. It is impossible to write about Brian, without providing a brief history of Pole Vaulting in the school;

The event was introduced into the school in 1955 and, at the annual sports day that year, it was won by the late Sam Weller, with a height of 8 feet, 3 inches. Not long afterwards, Sam, who was to become the first Richian to clear 10 feet, went on to win the Gloucestershire AAA Junior title, with a height of 9 feet, 3 inches, beating another Richian, P D Sharpe into second place, by a couple of inches. For many years to come, Rich's became the dominant school in the County for pole vaulting and no-one contributed more to this success, than Brian.

It must have been the intense competition between P D Sharpe and Sam Weller, fortified by the annual visits the school used to have to the AAA's championships at the 'White City', that prompted Brian to tackle the pole vault. Brian proved to be a natural and he went on to compete regularly at the South West of England and the English Schools Championships.

Brian was fortunate in that, just a year his junior, Richard Butt, (who emigrated to Canada on leaving school), appeared on the scene. He was equally competent and the two would train together after school three times a week and frequently during school holidays. They matched each other for heights and they would invariably end their training by placing the bar three inches higher than they had ever cleared before and then looking at it for fifteen minutes. That way, they came to appreciate that their new target would not look so formidable in competition. In due course, both came to clear 11 feet, 9 inches, many times in practice, but the 12 foot barrier eluded them. Brian came to clear this height after leaving school, but whether Richard Butt did so, we do not know, as we lost touch with him.

By today's standards, the heights attained by vaulters in the 1950's and 1960's might appear modest. In those days, there was a time when the British record, held by Rex Porter of Cheltenham's, St Paul's College, stood at a mere thirteen feet. It should be remembered however, that athletes in those days used poles of bamboo, steel or aluminium and, since the catapult qualities of these implements were virtually non-existent and the vaulters had to land on their feet if they were to escape injury, the technique was different. There were no fast and springy approaches to the vault. Cinder run ups varied in texture and firmness and grass run ups could be slippery in damp conditions.

Brian mastered the technique so well that he came to be regarded as the best technician in the County and was in constant

demand as a demonstration in coaching sessions. Pole vaulting requires speed, strength, suppleness and courage. Brian had to work on his speed, but he had all the other qualities in abundance, and, by sheer force of character and example, he influenced all aspiring athletes in the school. He was the automatic choice for the captaincy of athletics and also of rugby.

When Brian retired from active athletics, low and behold, he was on our television screens. A casting director, someone had obviously recognized that his natural good looks and good presence provided the necessary requirements for selling commercial products.

**Written by David Joseph, Sports master (1945-81)**

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**GREEN Ronald A (1928-32)** We regret to announce the death of Ron, at Teignmouth, on the 2nd March, 1995. Born in 1916, he attended Rich's at the time when Mr H F Rogers-Tillstone was Headmaster. On leaving Rich's, he went straight into the grocery business with 'L H Fearis and Co', starting at their branch in Barton Street and then Eastgate Street. He was then appointed to their new establishment, 'The Bride', in Exeter, which was destroyed in the Exeter City Blitz and after the cessation of hostilities, was never reinstated. Ron served in the Royal Air Force, during the war, reaching the rank of sergeant and was mentioned in 'Despatches' in 1944. On demobilisation, he started his own business in Exeter and was married there in 1947. Subsequently, he moved to various places in Devon, as sub-postmaster, including Newton Abbot and Torquay. Sadly, his wife died twelve years ago, after which he moved to Torquay. Ron was a staunch and loyal supporter of the Old Richians' Association and he came to dinners and reunions as often as he could. To his younger brother, Ken, also an Old Richian, we extend our deepest sympathy.

**Written by Jack W Dean (1926-31)**

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**STANLEY T JONES, President of the 'Old Richians' Association (1991-1994) -**

**A tribute to Stanley from Alan Pilbeam, Deputy Headmaster.**

I would like to write a few words about Stanley and what he meant to Rich's. He was a marvellous friend to the school. Stanley had three special qualities that made their impact on us at Tommies. First, he was a great encourager. How many times did we hear him say, "Well done" to various boys and members of staff around the school on his frequent visits. He always spoke with warmth and sincerity. You always knew, that what he said, he meant it. Many times he stood in the foyer and said to me, "You must be very proud of the school and the way it is going from strength to strength". I remember a don who helped me in my studies and would often make me feel that what I was studying was really worthwhile. That gift of making people feel that what they are doing is worthwhile, is rare and I felt that Stanley possessed this quality. On his visits to the school, he really made people feel that what they were doing for the school was very worthwhile. He was a great encourager!

The second quality that Stanley possessed, was that he was very generous. Generous with his time. When there was an 'Old Richians' committee meeting in the evening, he would arrive at school in the morning, sift through old school magazines, records and photographs, looking for information about some 'Old Richian', on whom he was writing an article about and which would form the basis of a host of letters when he got back home. These letters would be sent all around the world and the replies he obtained, would often come back to the school, with news, information and ideas for Stanley to work upon. He would then have lunch with some boys, talk to staff and tour his school. Last March, we had a dinner for 'Oxford Old Richians' at Christchurch. Although he was not responsible for the arrangements, he wrote three letters to me to make sure that every little detail was covered. In that splendid setting, in the company of 'Richian Undergraduates', he was in his element. Inevitably, at one point in the evening, out came his pocket camera, to capture the memory and recall the event for the school magazine.

Stanley was generous with his money too. Early on in his 'Presidency', he came to a morning assembly at the school and noticed that the 'Observers' gowns were rather worn and faded. Stanley did not think it was appropriate for an 'Observer' to wear such a poor garment and after the assembly, he said, "order another set of gowns and send me the

invoice - it can mark my term of office as President of the Old Richians". He was very generous.

Then there was the energy and the drive. The determination to get things done. He was not easily deflected. He moved the 'Annual Reunion Dinner', back into the school hall, where it belonged and packed it with more than two hundred Old Richians. This brought him much pleasure and he decided that each 'Presidency' of the 'Old Richians' Association' should be marked by a project, that would benefit the school. So he set in motion, the appeal that led to the refurbishment of the school foyer. New lighting, new carpets, curtains and chairs were provided. The area enhanced by the magnificent 'display cabinet' in memory of Rowe Gabb and Alf Martin. Stanley formerly opened the new foyer in March, 1994 and a plaque records this proud moment. Stanley also helped with the school magazine, 'The Richian', packing it with interesting information about old boys he had collected, checking data and spending many hours typing it up for the Editor. He kept committee meetings 'sharply focussed' on the agenda. He would sit down and make notes with his pencil on key points and issues, writing down who agreed or disagreed with what issue. No famous anecdotes were allowed - everything was crisp, precise and 'business-like'. One of his latest interests was the removal of the 'Sir Thomas Rich's Monument', from its hidden position, under the tower of 'Sonning Church', to a more fitting and conspicuous site. One felt that if anyone was going to move 'Sir Thomas Rich', it was Stanley Jones.

Soon after the news of his sudden death reached the school, Bill Hook rang me. We talked a little about who could possibly replace such a man as Stanley, but we could not think of anyone. Bill said to me, "We often say people are irreplaceable, but in Stanley's case, this was very true".

Stanley was a man of energy, enthusiasm and of generous spirit, who valued all that is good, who valued 'Tommies'. We thank God for him.

Written by Alan Pilbeam

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#### **STANLEY T JONES, President of the 'Old Richians' Association (1991-1994) -**

##### **A tribute to Stanley from Robert Bielby, 'A Junior Old Richian'.**

Stanley Jones was one of the great characters of our school and Association. He was a tireless ambassador for both and spent much of his time travelling to visit 'Old Richians'. He had a very special talent for meeting people and exciting interest in the 'Old Richians', with his infectious enthusiasm.

His travels brought him to Oxford twice, in March, 1994 and again, in 1995, for the 'Oxbridge Dinners'. It was a nice change for Stanley not to be worrying about the organization of events, as he always seemed a bundle of nerves at the 'Annual Dinner!' He was relaxed and very much in his element and we all enjoyed his company on both evenings. He had a wonderful sense of humour and a seemingly inexhaustible supply of 'after dinner stories!' He was particularly delighted that 'Old Richians', up at Oxford were meeting together again, after a lapse of some years. His genuine interest in our lives at University, (including our slightly less academic activities!), always came across, so clearly and he often wrote to many of us, urging that we "try to do at least some work!"

He was a reminder of the constant links that there are between 'Old Richians', the School and the Association, regardless of which generation we came from. It is impossible to sum up Stanley in words or to express all that he meant to so many of us. Combined in Stanley, was everything that is good about Rich's. We shall miss him greatly and remember him fondly at our future dinners.

Written by Robert Bielby

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#### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

The Editor would like to thank all those individuals who have contributed reports and tributes on various 'Old Richians'. If any reader has news of any former 'Old Richians', please do not hesitate to contact me at the school - many thanks!

*Mr P D Lloyd (Editor)*



## NEWS UPDATE ON OLD RICHIAN'S

*(The Editor would like to inform all readers that all the information about the following 'Old Richians' has been written in good faith and based purely on the details supplied to him from various sources).*

**ALDOUS Graham A L** (1937-43) Chiselhurst, Kent. He was Westgate House Captain and Captain of Football at the time of D G Burley, J F Hutton, E W Greenaway, J Sharland, W B and T N Williams. After studying at University College, London, which was evacuated to Bangor, he served in the Royal Navy in radar. Until his retirement in 1984, Graham was a lecturer in Physics at the City University. Still very keen on Soccer, he retired as a soccer administrator this year. Some time ago, he had the opportunity to visit Betty Kent, widow of **Tony Kent** (1937-1944) and School Captain. He reports, that Betty, her children and grandchildren are coping well. Graham's father and three brothers, **K G Aldous** (1931-1936) Truro, **E R Aldous** (1938-1946) Malton, Yorkshire, and **J A Aldous** (1938-1943) Maisemore, all went to Rich's.

**AMOS David** (1972-77) Gloucester, is a 'Plastics Fabricator'. He likes fishing, is a DIY fanatic and spends a lot of spare time with family. He has four children.

**ANDERSON Keith N** (1955-63) London, is a freelance 'Management Consultant'.

**ANDERSON Kevin G** (1960-68) brother of Keith, teaches Modern Languages and European Studies at the Old Grammar School, Lewes, Sussex.

**BAILEY George A** (1932-37) after leaving school undertook an 'Engineering Apprenticeship' as a student with 'W Sisson and Company', Gloucester. He was called up in 1942, and joined the 'Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers' and served in the United Kingdom and India until 1948. On demobilisation, George entered the emerging 'Atomic Energy Project', as a founder member at Windscale, now known as Sellafield. In 1953, after the first plutonium was produced, he followed it to the 'Atomic Weapons Research Establishment' at Aldermaston and Woolwich and finally took part in the process and construction of the weapon. The next logical step seemed to be a move to the 'Ordnance Factories' and he was given 'ROF Cardiff' and later he became 'Director of ROF Burghfield', East Sussex. George finds his life is one long and busy holiday, with much time spent looking at the parts of this country he has never had time to visit and many other interesting parts of the world.

**BASSETT Simon** (1979-86) on leaving school went to the University of Coventry and then the Law school in Bristol. He now works for 'Madge, Lloyd and Gibson', Brunswick Road, Gloucester and expects to qualify as a solicitor at the end of October. Simon has recently joined the Old Richians' Association Committee, to which he is making a sterling contribution.

**BAYNHAM Roger** (1972-79) graduated with a Higher National Diploma in Business Studies at Plymouth Polytechnic. He travels from Chalford to Swindon, where he is currently 'Managing Director of a Plastic Recycling Company'. Roger is married with a son, Lancelot, born in September, 1994.

**BEAMISH Gareth W J** (1968-75) Weybridge, Surrey, an 'Oil Exploration Geophysicist', studied at both Kingston Polytechnic and Imperial College, London. He recently returned to the United Kingdom, after working in the Republic of South Africa and the United States of America. Gareth, who is married with one son, is interested in hiking and sailing, as well as enjoying travelling.

**BIELBY Robert C** (1985-92) has just obtained a 2:1 in Biology from Christ Church, Oxford. He recently attended the memorial service of Stanley Jones, where he told the Editor that intended to continue his studies and move on to his 'Doctorate'. Robert came into contact with Stanley while he was at Rich's and at the annual 'Oxbridge Dinners', which Stanley Jones helped to organize.

**BIRCHNELL John A Dr** (1943-51) Dulwich, Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. On leaving school, he studied medicine at Edinburgh University. He has just relinquished the editorship of the 'British Journal of

Medical Psychology' and now is 'Assistant Editor'. John is still engaged in some research and clinical work at the 'Institute of Psychiatry', London University. In his spare time, he involves himself in painting, inspired of course, by Art lessons taken fifty years ago by Winnie Thompson.

**BROWN Andrew J** (1973-76) has this year been attending a teacher training course at the University of the West of England, Bristol, in order to become a qualified teacher in 'Design and Technology' at secondary school level.

**BRETTELL Simon** (1976-82) is currently serving as an 'Air Electronics Operator' in the Royal Air Force at Kinloss, Morayshire, Scotland. He is married with one child, born in May.

**BUBB Stanley** (1923-27) on leaving Rich's took up an apprenticeship and qualified as a 'Pharmaceutical Chemist' in 1933. He managed branches of 'Boots' in Bristol, Keynsham and Oxford. Stanley set up his own business in Reading in 1941 and later expanded it to four shops in Reading, and one in Bournemouth. After the sale of the Reading business, he expanded his trade in Bournemouth and still has two shops left there. For nine years he was the representative of Southern England on the 'National Pharmacists Association' and he is currently Treasurer of the 'Rural Pharmacists Association'. He has been President of 'Bournemouth Chamber of Trade' and also of 'Parkstone Chamber of Trade', and at present he is the 'President of Poole Chamber of Trade'. Stanley's wife, Olive Mable (nee Hunt), a 'State Registered Nurse', sadly died in 1989. His son, Christopher George, is the 'National Trust Gardener' at Stourhead, Wiltshire.

**CANNOCK RICHARD** (1985-92) has just obtained a 2:1 in Economics, from Manchester University. Since graduating, Richard has visited Rich's on a number of occasions, meeting up with his former economics master, Mr Ian Hodgkinson.

**CARTER Christopher D A** (1968-76) is still teaching at Royal Grammar School, Worcester. Congratulations to Chris, who recently has been promoted to Deputy Head of the Sixth Form. He writes: "David Hook has done a marvellous job increasing the membership and developing the profile of the Old Richians' Association."

**CARTER NICK E A** (1985-92) a former School Captain, has just obtained a 2:1 in Geography, from St Catherine's, Oxford. Rumour has it, that Nick is in a successful pop group and may in fact be the lead singer. Hopefully, he can verify this fact and possibly send in a photograph of the group!

**CLICK Julian** (1964-71) attended Durham and Nottingham Universities after leaving school and trained as a 'Probation Officer'. Now married with daughters aged 14 and 12, he is living in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. Julian is at present the 'Director of Social Services' with Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council, managing all the operational services. In his spare time, he is 'Company Secretary' of a charity that runs a local swimming pool, which closed in 1991. Like Rich's he obtained a grant from the 'Foundation for Sport and the Arts' and re-opened the pool for the public. Now, against all predictions, he has run it successfully for three years, with 120,000 swimmers a year! Julian is also a parent-governor at the local school that his daughters attend. He is even finding time to trace the family tree - "not too difficult with a name like Click".

**COLE Alan Jack** (1921-27) Bognor Regis, is the youngest of four brothers all of whom attended Rich's - Roy, Don, Dick (now sadly deceased) and himself. He served in local government for Gloucestershire County Council and Essex County Council and the 'National Health Service', as 'Group Secretary' to hospitals in Essex and Hertfordshire from 1949 to 1971. At the latter date, he retired as a 'Chartered Secretary'. Jack's interests include travel, caravanning, the countryside (for he is still much of a 'country bumpkin') woodcarving and, of course, his family.

**COOK John B Dr** (1951-58) After graduating in Physics and Mathematics from Kings' College London, John lectured in 'Biophysics' at Guy's Hospital Medical School. He then decided on a career as a schoolmaster and was successively 'Senior Science Master' at Haileybury College in Hertfordshire, Headmaster of Christ College, Brecon for ten years and then Headmaster of Epsom College in Surrey for a further decade. For the last three years, he has been 'Director' of the 'Inner Cities Young Peoples' Project'. From September, 1995, John will be principal of the 'King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Foundation of Saint Catherine's' - the 'Student Conference Centre' at 'Cumberland Lodge' in Windsor Great Park. He is married to Vivien and they have three children. Old Richians' who find themselves in Windsor Great Park are invited to visit them at Cumberland Lodge. In April, John spent three weeks in North America, when he planned to see **John Miles** (1951-58), who lives in New York. He is also in touch with **W H R Hudd** (1951-58), Gloucester.

**COOK Peter A** (1954-61) the brother of John, went to teacher training at Brighton. Peter taught at Dulwich College Preparatory School in London, where he met his wife, Ruth. They moved to Bridgwater in Somerset, where Peter has been considerably involved in church affairs. He is now Senior Teacher and Head of the Mathematics Department at Heathfield Community School, in Taunton. Peter and Ruth have a daughter and son, both of whom are currently university students.

**DAVIES Richard** (1984-91) was awarded a First Class Honours Degree in Mathematics at Nottingham University. Congratulations Richard on this fine achievement!

**DAVIS John M** (1946-52) began his journalist career on 'The Citizen'. This was interrupted by a spell with the select band of 'National Servicemen', who became RAF aircrew. Later John progressed in the world of newspapers, radio and TV in the Midlands and the North, before entering public relations with 'Hawker Siddeley Aviation', (Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft and Gloster Aircraft Companies). Then he took up executive role with multinationals and a leading London consultancy before he established his own public relations consultancy firm in Hull in 1972 - "where stirring times have included steering the British fishing industry through two Cod Wars and the long battle with Europe over the 'Common Fisheries policy.' John says that in recent years the only real contact he has with any Old Richians, since attending the 1966 London Tercentenary Dinner, has been with **John Lewis (1943-1950)**, who was a 'Research and Design Director' for 'Reckitt and Colman' in Hull and who has now moved to Bristol. His son, Chris worked for John for a while. It has become legendary that in view of the fact that John completed his 'School Certificate English Examination' well before the end of scheduled time and at the foot of his paper, he wrote a poem encouraging the 'Cambridge Examiner' to mark his efforts in a favourable light. He passed, of course, with flying colours!

**DANGERFIELD John** (1954-59) Southampton. He spent twenty-five years in the Police Force in Gloucestershire and Hampshire. On leaving the force he worked for the construction company, 'Costains'. At present, John is involved in a smaller business, involved in 'Industrial relations and safety', for which he travels from London to Scotland.

**DAY Philip E** (1944-49) retired in August, 1995, from the 'Gloucestershire County Council Planning Department', after forty-two years service. Philip joined the County Council at sixteen on leaving school, working above 'Timothy Whites' in Westgate Street. After two years 'National Service', in Hong Kong, with the Royal Artillery, in the '173 Locating Battery', where he was a "Flasher!", Philip returned to England and after a brief spell with 'Hertfordshire County Council', returned to his native city. Married to Christine, who managed to escape from 'Shire Hall', a few years before him, Philip has one son, Robert, who also attended Rich's. Philip is no longer a member of the 'Association's Committee', but still does stirring work in numerous ways, including producing the 'dinner tickets' and the headings for 'Newsline'. We wish him a long and very happy retirement.

**DEAN Jack** (1926-32) joined the Old Richians' Committee in 1933 and is still serving! He spent forty-five years at 'Mitchells' of Gloucester, broken only by six years service in the Royal Air Force from 1940 to 1946. Jack was in Malta when it lay helpless early in the war, as its inhabitants awaited an offensive onslaught from Italy, a mere hundred miles away. The island's only defences were three obsolete Gloucester Gladiator fighter aircraft, a small garrison and an abundance of determination. He was awarded the 'Commemoration Medal' by the Malta Government in 1993. As a member of the 'George Cross Island Association', he visited Malta in April of this year, for the annual reunion. Jack is Chairman of the 'Arcadians Sports and Social Club'. He was, of course, the President of the Old Richians' Association from 1979-1981.

**DEAN Nigel** (1961-66) after eleven years in ITV, he has moved to 'Sky Sports', as producer of Rugby Union. He is responsible for the outside broadcast of live programmes, featuring the 'Courage League', which is presented by Stuart Barnes at weekends. He is also responsible for the weekday 'Rugby Club Show', hosted by Jamie Salmon. He is absolutely delighted, of course, when on occasions he is assigned to Kingsholm to cover the television broadcast of the match.

**DIXON William Alan** (1950-58) was School Captain, Rugby Football Captain and Captain of Athletics. On leaving Rich's he read English at Leeds University and then went to Loughborough College. His first teaching appointment was in Belfast Methodist College, where **Mr A S Worrall**, (Headmaster of Sir Thomas Rich's from 1957 to 1961), was Principal. Four years later, Alan obtained a post in Hong Kong, where he was married. On returning to the United Kingdom, he taught in Bristol, first at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, a 'Blue Coat School' and for a while

refereed a few rugby matches between the school and Rich's. He then taught in a comprehensive school, which proved to be a "baptism of fire!". He is now head of English at 'Wolverley High School, Kidderminster'. Alan has two sons: Neil, the eldest, is travelling in Europe, and Alistair, who is a 'Research Student' at Cambridge University. His interests are squash, cricket, mountain walking and visiting the theatre.

**DIXON Mervyn** (1948-53) Alan's brother, who once played rugby for the 'Old Richians' RFC, has moved from Cophorne, Sussex, to South London. Mervyn and his wife, Val, now run the 'Conservative Club' in Sutton. They often spend their holidays in sunny Portugal, where they have an apartment.

**DORMAN** (1985-92) has just graduated with a 2:1 from Portsmouth, where he studied Geography.

**DREW Richard** (1977-84) B Sc (Hons) and an 'Associate Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers' is working with 'John Laing International'. He has spent some time in Beirut and Syria and has recently returned from Vietnam. Richard is interested in photography and travel. He is keeping fit and enjoys "brushing up on French and German".

**ETHERIDGE Michael** (1986-93) returned to Gloucester, after working for the 'Methodist Church', in Gibraltar. In September, 1995, he will be starting a degree in Theology at Nottingham University.

**EVANS John G Rev** (1948-55) is Headmaster of Staunton and Corse Church of England School and 'Priest-in-charge' of Hartpury with Corse and Staunton. Belle and John Meale (Geography and Geology Master 1944-64) were John's parishioners for many years, and both are now buried in the churchyard at Corse. He is proud to report that his three acres of garden which he created and has carefully cultivated over the past ten years at his home at Gadfield Elm House, Staunton, is open to the public from time to time! John has three daughters, one of whom is married to the son of an Old Richian, Tim Humphries (1946-51), whose family farmed at Sandhurst, and he also has two grandchildren.

**FRAPE Andy R** (1979-84) has been a 'Civil Servant' at GCHQ, (Oakley), Cheltenham since leaving school. He has now obtained an 'A' level at technical college in Human Biology! Recently, Andy has been looking for something new to study and has applied for a course in the 'Open University'. He has joined the Old Richians' Swimming Club at the school pool on Friday evenings and claims that this affords him the only proper exercise since leaving Rich's!

**FITCH Luke** (1986-93) Luke is a Mathematics undergraduate at St Catherine's College, Oxford University. He enjoys playing chess for the college team and still continues to "blow the trumpet" - in the orchestra, of course! His younger brother, Simon, is currently studying for his GCSE's, at Rich's naturally. Luke still manages to travel home regularly in order to cheer on the 'Cherry and Whites' at Kingsholm.

**GEORGE Glyn Dr** (1971-77) After obtaining a B Sc in Mathematics from Southampton and a PhD in astronomy from the University of Wales (Cardiff), Glyn entered a teaching career in 1983. Until 1986 he taught at the North East Surrey College of Technology. In his final year, he earned a 'Certificate in Education' and he served as a governor of two high schools in the London Borough of Sutton. From 1986 to 1988, he was an assistant professor of mathematics at the University of Bahrain. The State of Bahrain, is a group of mostly desert islands in the Arabian (Persian) Gulf. Since 1988, Glyn has taught mathematics to engineering students at the 'Memorial University of Newfoundland', gaining tenure in 1994. Barely fourteen months after the arrival in St John's (the capital of the Canadian province of Newfoundland), he won a contested election to become a member of the 'Avalon Consolidated School Board' and has been its elected Secretary since 1990. The school board administers twenty-six schools with a total enrolment of over ten thousand in the Northeast corner of the 'Avalon Peninsula', in and around the cities of St John's and Mount Pearl. Glyn would like to hear from any Richians, Old or New, who set foot in Newfoundland. He can be contacted at:

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**GREEN Peter R** (1972-79) , Hampton Wick, Surrey, a former 'Chief Officer' in the Merchant Navy, has over half a million miles of world wide seagoing experience, during which time he visited over eighty-five countries. He also worked in the 'Shipping Industry' in London - in Marine Claims, Marine Operations and as a 'Corporate Analyst'. Warm congratulations to Peter, who in 1985 received the 'Royal Humane Society Bravery Award' for a sea rescue, off the Bahamas. He is now a freelance 'Marine Artist' and his first hand knowledge of vessels, ranging from production yachts, modern ocean racers and traditional coastal sailing craft to square-riggers, bulk carriers and supertankers. This enables him to produce works that not only have considerable aesthetic appeal, but also technical accuracy and realism. Peter's growing list of clients includes, yachtsmen, master mariners, senior shipping executives and major companies. He is at present undertaking an important commission for five paintings for 'Shell International Shipping'. He has exhibited at the 'Royal Society of Marine Artists Exhibition' at the 'Mall Gallery', in London and in January, 1994, his painting of the world's largest ship, the "Jahre Viking", was awarded second place in the 'Transport Trust Award', at Sotheby's in London. In his spare time, Peter engages in ski-ing, gliding and, of course, sailing. On 'Young Island', St Vincent and Genadines, he married Anne, in 1992. Peter recently returned to Rich's to undertake a painting of the school, to celebrate the million pound extension project, which has included the new 'Blue Coat Library'. His painting of Rich's will be a fine celebration of a school that is thriving and it is hoped that prints of the painting will be available to all Old Richians, but details will be announced later, when the painting is complete.

**GLIK David** (1971-78) graduated with a 2:1 Degree in 'Business Administration' from Aston University. After working with 'Marks and Spencer', 'J Sainsbury', David spent eight years in marketing roles at 'Nestle', including four years in Australia. He recently joined the 'Coco-Cola' company as a marketing manager. He has been married to Laura for nine years. David who lives in Tunbridge Wells, is a golf fanatic and devotes much of his time annually, getting himself fit for the 'London Marathon'.

**HARRIS Terence R Rev** (1946-52) He is 'Secretary of the Methodist Philatelic Society' and organised the 'Philatelic Club' at Rich's in the early fifties. He described the interest as the "hobby of the Kings", but reasoned that "to be a philatelist, you need not be a king in a millionaire": in fact he became a highly successful Methodist minister. After several years serving a church in Plympton, Devon, he moved in August to Sidmouth for the final five years of his ministry. Having been twice to the 'Holy Land', Terry hopes in future to lead tours there himself. He is at present, struggling to learn one of the subjects we did not have at the Old School, namely Hebrew and reports that "some of the sounds are a bit like the cry of a camel that I encountered on the outskirts of Jerusalem." He has upgraded his computer to a '486' and has an undoubted enthusiast, is in danger of spending more time with it than with his wife, Julia, to whom he has been happily married for thirty-one years. Their daughter, Rachel, is teaching at Slough and their son, James, has recently completed a fourth year at Newcastle, reading for a B A (Hons) Degree in 'Fine Art'. Terry wishes all Richians, "Shalom".

**HAINES Nicholas M** (1985-92) obtained a BA (Hons) in Accounting, from Liverpool University this year. He will shortly be taking up a post with the local firm, 'Hazelwoods Accountants'.

**HEATH Stephen** (1973-80) Gloucester, is an 'Auditor' by profession. He likes football and playing skittles and is married with two children, both girls.

**Hitchings E I J** (1985-92) has just graduated with a 2:2 from Liverpool, where he studied Biology.

**HOGBEN Easton** (1973-79) Hempsted, is a licensee at the George Inn, Cambridge, Gloucestershire. He also owns, "The Friar Tuck's", at Quedgeley and the "The Apple Tree", at Minsterworth. Easton, who is a golf enthusiast, is married to Alison and they have three children, aged seven, five and three years. He formerly ran "The Three Horse Shoes", Frampton and the "The Pilot Inn", Hardwicke.

**HOSKIN David William Rev** (1960-68) on leaving Rich's gained a B Sc Degree at Durham University and then studied at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford. He has been curate of Bridlington Priory, Yorkshire; Rodbourne Cheney, Bristol; and Bebington, Cheshire. In 1982 he was appointed rector of a church in Scarborough and since 1988, David has been vicar of Beverley, St Mary, North Humberside.

**HYETT Gary** (1967-74) Gloucester, is a sailing enthusiast and member of the 'Royal Yachting Association'. He also likes mountain walking and is keen on personal computing. Gary is a manager of Lloyds Bank PLC and specializes



in business banking. He has three children and the oldest, Darren, following in his father's footsteps started at Rich's in September.

**JACKSON A** (1965-73) is a Director of a small 'Fastener / Engineering' company in Gloucester. Upon leaving Rich's, he became a technician for 'Severn Trent Water Authority', working for them for about ten years, before becoming self-employed. He married his wife, Sandra in 1977. They have two children, Danielle (14) and Damian, who is currently in Year 8 at Rich's. Andy tells us that his business is expanding and he employs five people. From 1974 to 1984, he raced 'Side-Cars', with some success and competed up to 'international' level for several years.

**JAMES M J** (1985-92) has just graduated with a 2:1 from Bristol, where he studied Biochemistry.

**JERRARD David** (1977-83) returned to the USA in 1994, settling initially in Maryland and working for the 'World Bank', in Washington DC. In February, he and his wife, entertained the President - unfortunately, David Hook, rather than Bill Clinton. David has now planned a move to California and is currently living in Vallejo.

**JONES Gareth A** (1972-77) lives at Ilmington, Warwickshire and is a 'Sales Manager and Computer Consultant'. He is a golf fanatic and has two children, Tobias, aged five and Charles, aged eighteen months.

**KEELING Brian** (1960-65) is in business telecommunications and data communications. He is Chairman of the 'Churchdown 41 Club' and is a Trustee of the 'Churchdown Community Association'. He is a cycling enthusiast and enjoys travelling "all over the place". Brian's wife, Louise, teaches locally at Longlevens Opportunity Centre. They have two daughters, one who has just completed her course at Cardiff University and the other, who is studying at Kings College, London.

**KING Michael Charles Rev** (1946-53) A former School Captain, who gained a B A Degree from Worcester College, Oxford, in 1956 and became an MA in 1960. He was appointed to churches at Hampstead; Thorpe; Norfolk; Queensbury; London and Stanmore St Lawrence between 1962 and 1990. From 1969 to 1990, he was also the 'Education Secretary' of the 'Bible Reading Fellowship'. He is at present the rector of a church in Norwich.

**KOLLER Adam** (1987-94) is an Engineering student at Christ Church, Oxford University. He is interested in soccer, tennis, computers and motor sport.

**LIA-HUNG Julian** (1981-87) after leaving Rich's he went on to complete a 'Combined Honours Course in French and Business Administration' at Aston University. Upon graduation in 1991, he went to Japan on a teaching exchange programme with the intention of returning after one year. He is still there! After a brief stint as a trainee at the Tokyo branch of a British law firm, ('Linklaters and Paines'), he is currently working as a "Product Manager" within 'Unisys Corporation, Japan', a USA information technology firm. Julian writes: "Nevertheless, I have not turned Japanese yet! I hope to go to the United States this year to study for a 'Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree'. It is also possible that I shall return to the United Kingdom to study law. Whatever the case, a return to 'Anglo-Saxon' civilization is on the cards. My experience at Rich's has stood me in good stead, in and outside the United Kingdom. I wish I had realized as a pupil what I realize now - that it is an excellent school that takes a deep interest in each boy's (and now girl's) development. I would love to hear from any former students or staff who remember me."

**LIDSTONE Keith** (1947-52) was recently involved in supplying and erecting the impressive new school gates, that welcomes visitors to school upon their arrival.

**MACDONALD Richard** (1963-68) works for 'Gloucester Building Consultancy Ltd'. His ties with Rich's are still very close, as he has recently been involved in drawing up the initial plans for a major £280,000 building project at the school, which will include new classrooms and other essential facilities for an expanding school.

**MADDUX Charles H** (1935-39) Tilehurst, Reading, spent the first year at Rich's under the then Headmaster, Mr H F Rogers-Tillstone - "never to be forgotten!" He was one of Rotol's first apprentices and completed as a 'Mechanical Design Draughtsman'. After a varied career covering everything from chicken coops to guided missiles and having worked in the United Kingdom, the USA and Saudi Arabia, his last position was as a 'Senior Mechanical Engineer'. He was 'mechanical handling' for the 'Ralph M Parsons Corporation', one of the world's largest consultants. After the



decline of the petrochemical industry in the 1980's, he reverted back to draughting prepared building drawings, an occupation which is still proceeding well. A non-sportsman at school, Charles later became a 'Second Kyu' at Judo and taught this for over twenty-five years, ceasing some two years ago. He is married and has three children and five grandchildren and all is well!

**MATTHEWS Roger** (1975-79) Cheltenham, is a photographer and is a 'Licentiate of the British Institution of Professional Photographers'. As a recreation, he plays tennis and he has a great interest in antiques. Roger is married and has a three year old son.

**MAYO David E** (1945-50) having some ability in Maths and Art at Rich's, he left to become a trainee draughtsman on twelve months probation in the 'Surveyors Department', of Gloucester City Council. Now, after an interesting career of over forty-four years in 'Municipal Engineering', all of which have been in his native city, he has recently retired as 'Head of District Council Engineering Service' in the 'City Planning and Technical Services Department', as it is now augustly called. After two years National Service in the Royal Artillery Survey Units, in the United Kingdom and in Germany, David subsequently qualified as a 'Chartered Municipal Engineer' and later also became a 'Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers', the 'Institution of Highways and Transportation' and the 'Institution of Lighting Engineers'. He says: "I have worked for the Council underground, in very many ways on or near the ground and I have been in the air in connection with works at Staverton (now Gloucestershire) Airport. In recent years, I have also been 'on the air' occasionally. I have always enjoyed the considerable variety in the works I have dealt with and I count it a privilege and a pleasure hopefully, to have been of service to the City and my fellow Gloucesterians". David and his wife Pat (ex-Ribston Hall), have been happily married for over thirty-five years. Their two sons, Peter and Christopher, both went to Rich's and their daughter, Susan, went to the High School for Girls, Denmark Road. The proud parents report that all three have subsequently obtained university degrees. David hopes that retirement will give him more time to enjoy his garden, to visit and photograph picturesque Gloucestershire villages and to improve his watercolour painting.

**MAYO Christopher N** (1978-85) a qualified 'Actuary', who lives in Redhill, Surrey and works for the international practice of, 'R Watson and Sons, Consulting Actuaries'. He continues to run competitively and is currently, President of 'Herne Hill Harriers'. Christopher enjoys foreign travel - but holidays only! He recently went on various exploits to Egypt, Malawi, Guatemala and Belize.

**MERRETT D A** (1990-92) has just graduated from Birmingham, with a 2:1 in Financial Management.

**MERRETT J** (1990-92) has just graduated from Bristol, with a 2:2 in Economics and Accountancy.

**METHVEN Andrew** (1980-87) A Captain in the Life Guards and has seen service for the 'United Nations' in the former Yugoslavia, near Sarajevo and is now on exercise in Canada for the rest of 1995.

**METHVEN James** (1980-87) took early retirement from the post of 'Head of English and Drama' at 'Flying Hall School', in Yorkshire. He then went back to Oxford, to research and obtain for his M.Phil, studying 'Victorian English', researching 'Doctors and Vivisection' in the 1860's onwards. He has been appointed 'Dean', for the coming year.

**MONGER DENNIS Rev** (1937-41) Longtown, Hereford. After leaving school, he worked in the Treasurer's Department at the Shire Hall, until conscripted into the 'Welsh Coalfield' as a 'Bevin Boy' in 1944. He has the unique distinction of being the only Richian directed into the mining industry to help the war effort, instead of into the Armed Services. In 1947, he entered the University School of Theology in Cardiff and gained a 'Diploma in Theology'. He was ordained in to the 'Baptist Ministry' in 1951 and was inducted to a pastorate in 'Magor', near Newport, Gwent. In 1957, Dennis moved to Monmouth, where for twenty-six years he looked after a group of churches. During that time, his ministry developed along ecumenical lines, with the oversight of a 'Moravian Church' (the oldest of churches in the Reformed Tradition, established in 1457) at Brockweir, Gloucestershire, in the Wye Valley. In 1975, he was consecrated as a 'Presbyter' in the Moravian Church (with Baptist approval!) and also served in an Anglican Team Ministry. Dennis writes: "The inspiration for all this, I believe came from the wonderful 'Founder's Day Service' in St Michael's on the Cross in December, 1938, when I sang in the choir led by Frank Davies and the Rt Rev. John Hodson, Bishop of Tewkesbury, who preached on the theme of 'Loyalty'. I remember Mr A E Hancox on the organ and I always recall the occasion every time I read or sing 'Psalm 96'. I gladly attended the 'Annual Dinner' this year, which revived many happy memories, but inevitably I missed many faces and kept thinking about the old Eastgate Street buildings, while admiring

the present ones. I retired four years ago, but still do occasional duty in churches by invitation on a 'free range' basis across denominational barriers. Rich's taught me the values of breadth of vision, tolerance and a constant search for understanding. My activities are now limited as my wife, Dorothy, whom I met in Gloucester, while in the Sixth Form, needs care and attention, but my main interests are the study of 'Biblical Languages' and 'Social History'.

**MORSE Eric D** (1942-47) while at school was a front row forward of ideal build and was a member of the First XV. He also played the cornet in the 181 Squadron Air Training Corps Band, in which Jackie Watkins, Leslie Millington, John Etheridge and Stanley Jones were also instrumentalists. Before he retired from the Bristol Aircraft Company, Eirc, a 'Quality Engineer', "played" with materials that were eventually used in the construction of 'Concorde' and he was also involved with various missile systems and a space telescope. He is still extremely interested in music, watches rugby and plays skittles. He travels as much as possible and likes in particular, Spain, Holland, France and America. Eric, who lives at Pilning, near Bristol, has two daughters and two grandsons.

**MORTIMER R E** (1972-77) Gloucester, is a 'Building Proprietor', at 'Glevum Construction'. He lists his interests as vintage cars and, in fact, anything old and 'British'.

**MOULSDALE John L** (1939-44) went to the Gloucester Art School at the same time as Dan Speck, but decided not on an art career, but took up a post as town planner, working for the Gloucester City Council for thirty-five years, twenty-nine of which were as 'Assistant City Planning Officer', working often in close contact with David Mayo. John retired in 1984. He writes: "You may be interested to know that my family has been associated with Sir Thomas Rich's School over quite a long time span. My father joined Rich's from the National School, London Road, in 1915. (He was taught Art by Winifred Thompson as well!) Some time after leaving, I again became actively involved with Rich's, when the first of my three sons, Nick, became a Richian in 1969. James, known as Jay, joined Rich's in 1973, thus overlapping with Nicholas. My youngest son, Anthony, joined in 1977, leaving in 1983. As you see the family connections have lasted for no less than sixty-eight years! My father died in 1991, aged 88 and apart from myself, only Jay continues to live in Gloucester. Although, he and his wife have not yet started a family, it could well be that if they manage to produce a male heir, a young Mouldsale could probably be at the school in 2015, to complete the Mouldsale's centenary anniversary connections with Tommy's".

**NEWMAN Anthony William** (1977-82) in 1988 achieved a B Sc (Hons) Degree in 'Applied Physics' at Coventry Polytechnic, now Coventry University. He is to be warmly congratulated on being awarded by the same university in 1994, for obtaining his 'Degree of Doctor of Philosophy', for 'A study of the Flow Field in Engines Prior to Ignition'.

**NICHOLAS Philip O Dr** (1940-47) School Captain in 1947 and son of Mr Jr Nicholas, Senior English Master and Deputy Headmaster from 1924 to 1959. He was disappointed at not being able to attend the Annual Dinner this year. He was entertaining friends and taking them to see the wonderful views of 'Orlbury', Northamptonshire, as "a host of golden daffodils" were displaying their glory out on the village green, along the verges and in the gardens. He says: "If William Wordsworth could only see them, he would be inspired to write another poem!"

**O'NEIL Sean** (1972-77) writes: "It is true that I am working in the acting profession, but I am not too sure whether it is 'big-time'. I worked in and around Gloucester for a number of years and further afield when I toured with the 'Irish Theatre' throughout the country. I then trained at the 'Bristol Old Vic Theatre School' and I also have a tremendous interest in 'Community Arts', where I believe that everyone should have access to participate in the arts. I have been based in Dublin since the end of last years and I am currently working on my first production. I will shortly be opening with Arthur Miller's classic play, 'The Crucible', at the 'National Theatre, the Abbey'. It is a wonderful company and really promises to be extremely good. I have a tremendous affinity for Irish theatre - and this a marvellous opportunity."

**OUNSWORTH Paul E** (1952-58) on leaving Rich's entered an apprenticeship at 'Rotol' and then joined the Police Force. Afterwards, he worked in the security industry. At present he has a post at Gloucester City Council, with one of his duties being to visit Rich's once a year to talk to the Sixth Form about animal welfare and responsible pet ownership. Paul has a daughter who is a bank manager and a son who is an engineer.

**OWEN Richard A** (1955-60) is the 'Managing Director of 'M B Owen Ltd, Electrical Contractors', in Gloucester. He is 'Vice-Chairman of Gloucester Athletic Club' and 'Chairman of Gloucestershire Amateur Athletics Association'.

He is a qualified 'Middle Distance Coach, Timekeeper and Field Judge'. Richard is an occasional golfer. He says: "With **Gerry Stone (1953-1959)**, who is sadly deceased, I was mainly responsible for the 'Elmbridge Club' being built. An awful lot of time and effort was put into it, but well worth it". Richard has two daughters, Kim aged 22 years, studying for a 'B Sc Degree in Sports Sciences' at Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education and Nicola, eighteen years old, who is reading for a 'B A Degree in Sports Science' at Wolverhampton University and one son, Gareth, sixteen years of age, who has been studying for his GCSE's this year at Rich's. He has been married to Anita, (nee Curtis) for twenty-seven years and who is a former pupil at Ribston Hall. Richard played rugby for the Old Richians for twenty-five years, which should surely constitute some kind of a record, before following the interests of his daughters, mainly in Athletics and Netball, in which they both represented the County in both sports. Nicola went on to represent the 'Midland Counties' in Athletics and was also selected for the Welsh Squad.

**PAGE Malcolm B (Brigadier)** (1937-44) Henley-on-Thames, having "at least 80%, the other 20% being still with the computer industry", his main activities have been connected with Somaliland and Somalia as 'Chairman of the Anglo-Somali Society', the 'Inter NGO Forum on Somalia' and the 'Henley Borama Friendship Association'. The Society has recently developed the 'Somaliland Scouts Association' and branches have now been set up in Hargesia, Burad and Borama. The 'Overseas Development Administration' has made a grant available recently to enable the branches to play a part in the resettlement of 'Clan militias'. Malcolm writes: "This year, of course, the local British Legion has been gearing up to mark the fiftieth Anniversaries of V E and V J days. I was a lance corporal in the 'Gordon Highlanders' Regimental Police' on V E day and did fourteen hours on duty! On V J day, I was on a troopship in the Red Sea, en route to India".

**PAGE Mike** (1980-88) works for DuPont (ex-ICI Fibres) in Brockworth and has been married since July, 1993. He writes: "I am still attempting to play football and bowls, although I am not getting any better at them. I am also an armchair Motor Racer - just like Nigel Mansell! I am also a mad 'Pompey Fan' - well, someone has to be!"

**PALMER Mike** (1986-93 ?) has just been appointed Captain of Oxford University Badminton Club. Many of you will remember that Mike was an exceptionally good badminton player and while at Rich's played for England. Mike has already played for Oxford and obtained his 'Blue' - all at Rich's wish him well and congratulate him on his fine achievement!

**PERKS Professor Anthony Manning** (1943-51) was School Captain from 1950 to 1951, before going to Christ's College, Cambridge, to read 'Natural Sciences'. Since then, he has collected a galaxy of degrees and awards from Oxford, Cambridge, St Andrews and London Universities. For some time, Tony has been Head of the Departments of Zoology and Obstetrics and Gynecology, at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver and has been a 'Research Scholar' at the University of Florida College of Medicine. Congratulations, Tony, on your more recent election to the New York, 'Academy of Sciences' and your appointment as the first 'Donald Henry Barron Lecturer' in Obstetrics and Gynecology, at the University of Florida College of Medicine. He lists his hobbies and interests as, "my work, history, wine, women and song - and possibly - but very unlikely - the inheritance of an Earldom!"

**PRIEST Nicholas** (1972-80) a qualified 'Chartered Accountant', is the Director and Proprietor of the 'Bailey Newspaper Group', Gloucester. He is married with two sons and lives in Slimbridge.

**PROUD N J** (1985-92) who was a member of the School Choir, while at Rich's, has just graduated from Manchester, with a 2:1 in Accountancy.

**PURCELL David** (1945-49) Cheltenham, spent most of his working life - from 1965 to 1994 in 'Further Education'. Before retiring, he held the post of 'Director of Finance' at Gloucester College of Arts and Technology'. David married Rosemary Stephens, daughter of a well-known Gloucester rugby player, the late Jack Stephens. They have two daughters, Helen, who was a teacher before producing their first grandchild, Jack and Juliet, a Secretary with GLOSCAT. David is an excellent baritone soloist, who has been in popular demand in the area and founded Gloucester opera, which flourished from 1956 to 1993. His other interests are Shakespeare and delving into family history. In fact, he has successfully traced his family on both his father's and mother's side back to the seventeenth century!

**PURSER Dr Jim R** (1941-42) Chiseldon, Wiltshire, came to Rich's from Christ's Hospital, Horsham, where he had always played rugby and at first was disappointed at having to play soccer. However, he enjoyed playing in the

school team, captained by Graham Aldous and which included both T N and W B Williams. Jim left school in December, 1942 to join the armed forces through a six months university pre-entry course arranged for him by the Headmaster, Mr W J Veale. Belfast University had accepted him for a war-time course in explosives and ballistics, with the assurance that he would be offered a place after the war, although he had little difficulty in requesting a change to the medical faculty. His war service was spent as a paratrooper with the 6th Airborne Division on operation in North-West Europe. Besides his career as a medical practitioner, he became a church organist. He is married with two children, his son being a navigator in an RAF aircrew and his daughter a nurse in an operating theatre. Jim writes: "I found Mr Veale a really wonderful man, kindly, sympathetic and always giving encouragement in his own quiet 'down to earth' way. I wonder what happened to W J Embling, a contemporary, who was a brilliant artist, who used to draw some wonderful cartoons of 'ride-a-bike' like Williams, the Chemistry Master, who was small in stature, but who rode a very large bike?"

**PURSER Patrick** (1941-45) Jim's brother, left school at the end of the Lower Fifth to join the famous training ship, HMS Conway. From there in 1949 he went to Dartmouth and served for twenty years in the Royal Navy, both as a submariner and in General Service. In 1968, he took early retirement in order to qualify as a schoolmaster. Patrick taught for seven years at a village primary school near Yeovil in Somerset and then for fourteen years at the 'Indefatigable Boys' boarding school on Anglesey. Although he retired in 1991, he is the hard-working editor of the school magazine, 'The Inde', and has recently produced the issue which marks the 130th Anniversary of the ship's establishment on the Mersey and the 50th Anniversary of its move to the Isle of Anglesey. His only 'claim to fame' at Rich's was playing a part in the Dramatic Society's, 'Dear Octopus' - and fainting during morning assembly! Patrick writes; "The school during the war-time was short-staffed and I am sure now that many of them were working under great strain. Mr Hancox, the Latin Master, a kind, caring man, I remember perhaps, owing to the fact that his daughter, Ursula, who later attended Denmark Road High School, went with me to the same Kindergarten school! I well recall the days when we 'shared' Rich's with George Dixon's, who were evacuated from Birmingham and who used to parade every Sunday to Christ Church, where my father was vicar. How different was our attitude towards teachers in those days. Mr Veale was God!"

**RAY Keith D** (1953-59) Ross-on-Wye, President of the Old Richians' Rugby Club is 'Senior Manager', with Lloyds Bank, looking after a group of branches in the Forest of Dean. We are indebted to Keith, who for so many years has been heavily involved with Old Richians' Rugby freely and loyally, giving his time to the sport and the welfare of the 'Elmbridge Club House' facilities, of which we are very proud.

**RAWCLIFFE Rt. Rev. Derek** (1929-39) entered Rich's at the time when the School had a 'Junior Department'. From 1938 to 1939, he was School Captain, after which he went to Leeds University to read English and was awarded a First Class Honours Degree. Derek then studied at a Theological College and was ordained. He spent a great deal of his life in Melanesia as a school-teacher / clergyman and became Archdeacon and Bishop. On returning to the United Kingdom, he was appointed Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway. Now retired, Derek lives in Bardsey, Yorkshire, and is assisting in the Diocese of Ripon and helping especially at St Aidan's, Leeds. He is currently Chairman of the British Region of International Ecumenical Fellowship. Derek has "lots of other interests", but tells us that he "has been doing things like Spanish TV"

**RICE Brian** (1941-46) His grandfather was educated at the 'Old Blue Coat Hospital, in Eastgate Street' in the 1880's. Since leaving school, Brian has obtained a B Sc (Soc) Degree and has been awarded a 'Diploma in Social Studies' and a 'Diploma in Municipal Administration'. He was 'Deputy Director of Social Services' for Leicestershire from 1980 to 1988. He now lives in Gloucester and is a 'Magistrate'.

**RICE Douglas** (1937-42) Gloucester and the brother of Brian, has finally returned to take charge of the family transport company and he is the fifth generation to do so, since the family moved to Gloucester. Although, he now regards himself as semi-retired, he divides his time between business, family, cruising and renovating his 1935 Austin car.

**RICHARDS TINA A** (1990's) We were told in November of last year, that Tina obtained a 2:1, BEd Educational Studies (Primary), with Art, from the University of Reading.

**RILEY Robert** (1972-77) has gained a B Sc Degree in 'Mechanical Engineering' and is an 'Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Mechanical Engineers'. He is also a member of the 'Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply'. As 'Contracts Officer' with Nuclear Electric in Gloucester, he is dealing with large engineering contracts for 'Heysham

Power Station' and consequently, spends much of his time travelling north to Lancashire. Robert is married with two daughters, aged seven and five.

**ROBBINS Alan** (1964-72) after leaving Rich's went to Aberdeen University, where he was awarded a 'B Sc Degree in Forestry'. He now lives in Crieff, Scotland, where he is a Director of 'Robbins Timber Services Ltd'. Alan enjoys 'off-road' driving in his Land Rover. He is married with three children.

**ROBINSON John A** (1942-50) joined the Royal Air Force on leaving school and went to RAF College, Cranwell. He left the service in 1977, with the rank of 'Wing Commander', as 'Commanding Officer of the Empire Test Pilots School' and then joined 'British Aerospace', Woodford. He retired from here as 'Chief Test Pilot' in 1987. 'Robbie' next flew 'Vanguards' with 'Air Bridge' until 1991. At present, he is a 'Simulator Instructor' on 'Avros', at Woodford, Cheshire. Happily married to Tricia, he has a daughter, Keri, born in 1956, a son, Simon, born in 1959 and four grandchildren. His interests are writing, cars and, of course, flying.

**ROSE Brian** (1942-47) although retired from full-time employment, he is looking into the possibility of entering into the field of 'Consultancy' on his own account. He is still the 'Secretary of the Churchdown Male Voice Choir' and is currently involved in a full concert programme, including a visit this year by a choir from California, USA and a tour to the Channel Islands.

**ROWE Michael Edward** (1940-46) Dudley. On leaving Rich's, he joined the 'Regular Army' in the 'King's Royal Hussars' - "tanks, not horses!" In 1952, he once again entered civilian life and served for thirty years in the Hertfordshire Constabulary and West Midlands Police, in both uniform and CID departments, across the ranks, up to Superintendent. From 1982 to 1993, Michael was 'Security Manager for Birmingham University'. On retirement two years ago, he took up voluntary work with the 'Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Family Association' as a 'Caseworker and Debt Collector'. Michael is a B A Graduate of the 'Open University' and is a 'Member of the Institute of Management'. In 1948, he married Mary (nee Little - ex-Ribston Hall). All their children have grown up and they have seven grandchildren.

**SAYSELL Luke** (1987-92) Luke visited Rich's just before Christmas last year, where he informed us that he has recently spent some time in Hong Kong, working in the music business as a 'Disc Jockey'. He recently returned home, but hoped to go back out to Hong Kong.

**SHORT John H** (1967-72) has now started his own business called, 'Sovereign Financial Services', Gloucester, specializing in personal and corporate financial planning.

**SKELTON P** (1985-92) is to be congratulated on obtaining a 'First Class' Honours degree in Physics, with Astrophysics from Leeds University. He has also been awarded 'The Stoner Prize for Achievement' from Leeds University. This is a tremendous achievement and Phillip can be very proud of his performance.

**SMITH Ian** (1974-79) The famous Gloucester Rugby Club and Scotland openside flanker and the captain of Gloucester from 1991 to 1994, was delighted to be selected as a member of Scotland's World Cup Squad, for this year's tournament in South Africa. Many of us witnessed him following out record breaking Gavin Hastings onto the pitch to face the Ivory Coast. Ian has already won ten caps for Scotland before the World Cup started and qualified to play for his country through his paternal grandparents. His father, Dick, turned out for Gloucester's First Team on 533 occasions. Ian made his international debut against England at Murryfield in January, 1992 and has recently been the 'Cherry and White's main standard bearer on the international scene. He has made well over three hundred first team appearances and has scored forty-nine tries. As a boy, he played, of course, for Rich's and the Gloucestershire Schools and Gloucestershire Colts and had a trial for England at Under 19 level. Ian was first chosen for Gloucester in 1982. Since then, he has toured with the England 'B' team, played for the Anglo-Scots, Scotland 'A' and Scotland 'B' teams, captaining the latter and was Vice-Captain of Scotland on their tour of Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa in the summer of 1993. He has also had the privilege of playing for the Barbarians on a number of occasions and has captained them. By occupation, Ian is a 'Civil Engineering Technician', working for 'Sir William Halcrow'. He is married to Karen and they have two sons, Samuel and Matthew.

**SMITH Paddy** (1977-84) after gaining a 2:1 Degree in Mathematics at Southampton University, he then qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1990. He worked in Southampton, from 1987 until 1991, but then moved to Bristol. From 1994, he has been involved with an agricultural company. Paddy was married in 1992 and was presented with a son, Andrew Jack, in June, 1994. At present, he lives at Ross-on-Wye.



**SPIRES Timothy** (1977-84) Barnes, London, who after gaining a B Sc Combined Honours Degree in 'Applied Geology, with Geography', at Plymouth Polytechnic, now Plymouth University, worked on the Stock Market, during 'the crash'. He has travelled in the USA and has been a 'Consultant-Materials / Civil Engineer and Geotechnics / Geophysics'. For the last five years, he has acted as an 'Architectural Consultant' in design, both large and small, but predominately commercial buildings in the United Kingdom, Europe and sometimes, worldwide. Having more recently spent several years sailing, canoeing and mountaineering, from 1990, Tim's interests have focussed on rowing and sculling. Currently, he is a National Champion of Great Britain, in rowing, being a member of a four. In 1993 and 1994, he was a National Silver Medalist, as part of a quadruple sculling four. Since 1991, Tim has competed at the 'Henley Royal Regatta' and has been awarded several international medals, the most recent being as the 'B' finalist winner at the 'Paris International', in which the top European National crews took part. Congratulations to Tim, who was selected for the 'pre-Olympic' squad in 1992 and has been under consideration for the recent Commonwealth Games.

**STEVENS Terry K** (1955-62) After leaving school, was awarded a B A Degree in Chemistry at Bath University. He now lives in Hordean, Hants and is a 'Senior Teacher and Head of Sixth Form Music'. He has gained 'England International Honours at Pentanque'. Terry has been married for thirty-one years and is blessed with two children and two grandsons. He would like to organise a reunion of the 'School First Fifteen of 1960-1962, including Rees Rawlings, Leo Crowley, Terry Roberts, Brian Smith, Micky Spiller, Alan Pontin, Peter Price, John Davis, Geoff Dew, John Clark, Brian Peachey and any other members of that team. Well, then, we hope to see you all at the Old Richians' Dinner in March, 1996!

**STONE Paul** (1972-77) Gloucester, is a 'Die Maker', (Aluminium Extrusions). He is fond of angling and is a member of 'Glevum Angling Club'. Paul is married with four boys, the eldest which is in Year 10 at Rich's.

**STREET Guy B** (-) is working as a 'Chartered Accountant' with Ernest and Young in Frankfurt, Germany.

**STILWELL Nick J** (1964-70) B Sc, M I C E, M I H T, is both a 'Chartered Engineer' and a 'European Engineer'. He lives in Alton, Hampshire, but started up a partnership - 'Stilwell Bell in Safety, Traffic and Highway Engineering' - in Frimley, by providing an external consultancy to Surrey Health Borough Council. Nick likes walking, travel, rowing and motor sports. Amongst his interests, he lists, "lunch with Nigel Mansell". He is married with three step-sons. For a year he lived in South Africa and has a four-year old South African daughter. Nick's brother, Kim, attended Rich's from 1968 to 1975. His grandfather donated the 'Stilwell Bowl'.

**SYKES Michael** (1954-59) Wotton-Under-Edge, is a former Secretary of the Old Richians' Association. He writes: "Renishaw PLC keeps me busy. My wife, Glenys is now a full-time Town Clerk, rather than it being a mornings only job. Jessamy, will commence at Katherine, Lady Berkeley's School, here in September, so our holidays will have to be taken during the school breaks in the future. Sidmouth will probably be our Summer excursion and Dunster our Autumn break. The Sykes family are seeking larger premises here in the Costwold hinterland of Wotton-Under-Edge and so we live in hope of winning the National Lottery! I am finding family history research quite addictive. I have traced a family link to former Old Richians' President, George L Preedy and his family. I shall be pleased to hear from any contemporary pupil who remembers him!"

**TANNER Jonathan** - As you may have read in the local press over the Summer, Jonathan, aged 31, has recently become a Doctor of Philosophy. After leaving Rich's, he went to Reading University, where he gained his BSc and MSc degrees. He studied for his doctorate, while working for the 'Overseas Development Agency' in Ethiopia, the Gambia and Indonesia.

**TAYLOR Anthony A 'Tom'** (1941-48) Calgary. He is a 'Dental Surgeon' and last year, "just to keep his brain in shape", forsook his annual pilgrimage to Hawaii and enrolled onto a 'Medical Acupuncture' course at the University of Alberta, together with many young Chinese students, who "venerate the elderly". He has also taken courses in TV repair and has obtained his amateur radio licence - 'VE6AGF' - and so is anticipating a call from Richian radio buffs. Tom writes: "After a succession of harsh winters and cold wet summers, last summer was idyllic. Though we have extremes of temperature, it rarely stays bitterly cold for very long. The 'Chinook Wind' - a very dry Pacific wind, having lost its moisture as it crosses over the 'Rockies' can raise temperatures from -30C to +20C in a couple of hours. However, it gives me great pleasure to see that Rich's goes from strength to strength. As the 'progressive' educators have taken the 'Canadian School System' to the lowest common denominator and we have the Universities introducing remedial reading and writing courses for 'Freshmen', it is so good to know that Sir Thomas Rich's has taken the high road. The school achievements are impressive, the staff appears 'top notch' and extra-curricular activities indicate a vibrant community. I am very proud of the school!"



**THOMPSON Richard** (1972-77) Gloucester, is a 'Production Manager'. His chief hobby is angling. Richard, rumour has it, is about to be married.

**TOTTERDELL Gordon** (1956-58) He is a 'Veterinary Surgeon'. After leaving Rich's, he was awarded his 'Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine Degree', from London University and is now a member of the 'Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons'. Several years ago, Gordon emigrated to Canada, but returned to England and now lives in Whiteshill, Stroud. He enjoys cycling and he has three children, James aged seven, Henry, aged six years and Charlotte, who is four.

**VILLIERS Alan B** (1940-47) Airport West, Australia, son of Gustave Villiers, English master at Rich's from 1932 to 1947. He has spent his working life in the textile industry, 'Down Under'. He writes: "Last year's Old Richians' Dinner, was a most enjoyable occasion. It was great to meet everyone again after all these years, but it was a pity that the night went so quickly. After leaving Gloucester, Ralph and I went via Frankfurt to Istanbul, where we had a short stay in that marvellous old city and where we had a great time, apart from some excitement caused by the Kurds, throwing bombs around! I returned home via Hong Kong and spent a couple of days shopping, but found it had become expensive for us Australians. Getting home meant having to catch up with all my jobs as Treasurer and Senior 'Flying Instructor of the Gliding Club' and Treasurer of the 'Model Aircraft Association'. Alan, of course, developed his great love of gliding during school days when cadets from Rich's '181 Squadron Air Training Corps', of which his father, after the war, was 'Commanding Officer', regularly visited the 'Yate Airfield', near Bristol.

**VILLIERS Ralph F** (1940-47) brother of Alan, is a Director of his own business in Mexico City and is thinking that this year he really will "hang up his hat and retire". However, although still working, he has found time to visit the United Kingdom, where he went to London and Edingburgh. He has also visited Paris, the French Riviera, Geneva, the Austrian Tyrol, the Italian Alps, New Jersey, Wisconsin and Montreal! Clearly, Ralph is concerned with the political situation in Mexico. He is worried that the conflict in the south of that country could expand and feels that after the years of neglect and lack of democracy, there has to be a radical change in the methods of government. With some nostalgia, he remembers that during the 'Cambridge School Certificate', we were told to write our name and examination number on our question papers, so that they could be collected in and returned at a later date. We were told that some school exam papers may be returned rather late, due to 'enemy action!'. He also recalls the day when we were running round the cross country course, when a German aircraft flew overhead. He writes: "Most of us ducked for shelter in hedgerows. Meanwhile an anti-aircraft gun began firing at it from nearby Chosen Hill. Others took unfair advantage of us less braver souls and continued running. Of course, George Chipperfield did not have to contend with this type of problem - he was already home - at the Kingsholm Football Ground!"

**VINER Alan** (1962-70) Shrewsbury, while at school was Northgate House Captain. He left Rich's to read Music and German at Reading University and from 1973 to 1974 studied at St Luke's College, Exeter. Alan gained a B A (Hons) Degree and was awarded a PGCE and also is an 'Associate of the Royal College of Music'. At present, he is teaching music as a private tutor and is composing. He is also in demand as an 'Accompanist'. His main interests are reading and hill-walking. "It was nice to see you again at the 'Annual Dinner', Alan and to learn that you are keeping in good health".

**WAIT Peter E** (1937-43) on leaving Rich's attended the Gloucester Art School. He is at present the Vice-Chairman of the Bromley Arts Council Executive, Kent. He writes: "Retirement has proved to be the most exciting job to date, (although I was very happy in teaching). I am still painting a great deal, writing short stories and even having poetry published. A few years ago, I joined with a friend to enter the music world (he the composer, not me!) and create library music. It is very exciting and extremely rewarding."

**WATKINS Alan O** (1958-64) who regrets himself as "a member of the shrinking Verteran's Brigade of Barton Street", marvels at the modern changing room facilities at the refurbished school swimming pool and recalls, "those frozen concrete changing rooms" on the old site. He remembers with a certain nostalgia, "those halcyon days of Featherstones' lardy cakes and clambering over by old bus on sports days at Elmbridge". After ten years in Gloucester journalism and TV appearances on "That was the Week That Was", (memories of which will certainly sort out the Old Richians), Alan found himself in Public Transport Public Relations. During his time with 'National Bus', he created the 'National Express' name, conceived the 'Rapide' product and edited eight 'house' papers. Following the privatisation of National Express, he felt that "public service" had given away to "Private Success" and consequently, left the coach operation. After a year's sabbatical in the wilds of Worcestershire, Alan became 'Public Relations Officer' in 1991 for

Gillingham Borough Council, Kent. At present, (E G Smith please note!), he is learning Japanese with about the same level of success with which he studied French! Not yet being sent to Japan, Alan has been 'slivovits-sampling' with Romanian politicians, clambering aboard the 'Golden Hinde', planning emergencies in remotest Yorkshire, and closing down one of England's leading 'Tourist Information Centres'. He has been married for more than twenty years and has two sons, both of whom, "look set to show up his weaknesses in academia".

**WELLS Brian** (1940-47) School Captain and Westgate House Captain. Soon after leaving Rich's, joined the Gloucestershire Regiment at Robinswood Camp for his National Service. On being transferred to the Dorset Regiment, he was posted first to Northern Ireland and then joined the occupation forces in the British zone of Austria. After teacher training at Saltley College, Birmingham, Brian returned to Gloucester and taught in various schools and was eventually appointed Headteacher at Hempsted Primary School, from which he retired in 1988. In his leisure time, he has taken up painting and pastel work. He reminds us that on the visit to London, in April 1947, after the war, he was one of the party in Downing Street, who met the then Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee.

**WESTLAKE Andrew Stephen Rev** (1973-81) read for a B A Degree at Bristol University and was also awarded a B A Degree from Southampton University. He has been 'Assistant Minister' at Brighton Road Church, Horsham, since 1990.

**WILLIAMS Andrew** (1973-80) was commissioned into the Gloucestershire Regiment, now the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment, following the award of a Geography Degree at Saint David's University College, Lampeter. Having attended the rank of major, he has been currently attending an Army Command and Staff Course for two years at Shrivenham, Wiltshire.

**WILLIAMS Tom N** (1939-45) Melbourne, Australia, now retired from Kodak films. While at Rich's he was School Captain, Cricket Captain, Vice-Captain of Football and Northgate House Captain. On leaving school, he studied at Wadham College, Oxford. We are all delighted, Tom, that your hip operation appears to have been extremely successful and that you have been down on the greens hitting golf balls about. He writes: "I recently had a letter from Mr Veale. He really is a remarkable man. I fully agree with Patrick Purser's comments, (I remember his brother Jim quite well) that Mr Veale was 'God' in our days and as far as I am concerned he still is! I hope that the food at Christ Church for the 'Oxbridge Dinner' was up to expectations. It must have improved over the 'fare' that we were offered in the immediate 'post-war years' - not that I remember much about those as we used to eat out quite a bit in the British restaurants! Ah, happy days - I would not have missed my time there for anything! We hope to visit the United Kingdom again, in 1996 and so we sincerely hope to meet everybody then."

**WILLIAMS W Bernard** (1939-44) Gloucester, Tom's brother, was School Vice-Captain, Football Captain and Northgate House Captain. He was also at one time a wing-threequarter for the 'Cherry and Whites' at a time when Sid Dangerfield played on the other wing and the great Willie Jones, 'the Prince of the Boot' was outside half. He still retains his great love of sport, but his spectator role is now mainly confined to TV, although he occasionally watches Matson Rugby Football Club in action. Bernard and Shelia are blessed with three grandchildren, all boys which he says, "keep me on my toes".

**WISE Peter** (1975-82) is at present working as a 'System Programmer' for 'MEDOS GmbH' in Hanau, Germany. His flat is in Neu-Isenburg and is conveniently located to offer hospitality to the increasing number of Old Richians' visiting Frankfurt on business.

**WRIGHT Anthony J** (1942-49) has retired as a headteacher of schools in Tresco, the Isles of Scilly and Port Isaac, Cornwall. He became a parish priest in 1984 and is now vicar of Perranporth in one of the oldest parishes in England, if not the oldest. Legend has it that St Piran, Patron saint of 'tinnars', sailed to Cornwall from Ireland, landed on the beach in the 6th century and founded a monastic settlement there.

**YEATMAN Paul** (1973-80) gained a 'Higher Diploma in Medical Laboratory Subjects', at Bristol and is now a Police Officer. He lives in Gloucester, enjoys football and running. Paul is married with two children, both boys.

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## **THE 'OLD RICHIAN'S' ASSOCIATION'**

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**JOIN THE ASSOCIATION -  
SIMPLY USE THE FORM,  
FOUND ON PAGE 111  
AND RETURN IT TO THE  
HON. TREASURER - ANDREW K BISHOP**

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**ALTERNATIVELY, IF YOU ARE IN CONTACT  
WITH ANY FORMER 'RICHIAN'S'  
AND YOU THINK THAT THEY MAY LIKE TO JOIN  
THE ASSOCIATION, THEN SIMPLY CUT OUT  
THE FORM ON PAGE 111 AND SUPPLY THEM  
WITH IT. - MANY THANKS!**

## THE 'OLD RICHIAN'S' ASSOCIATION'

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To ..... Bank PLC

Branch Address .....

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Date ..... 19.....

Please cancel all previous 'Bankers Orders' in favour of the 'Old Richians' Association' and in future make the payments detailed below, debiting my / our account:

Bank and Branch to which payment is to be made: Lloyds Bank PLC

Account to be credited: 'Old Richians' Association'  
Number 1 Account

Account Number of Payee: 0519145

Amount: £10.00 (Ten Pounds)

Date of Payments: 1st July each month for .... years  
(maximum four years)

Date of first payment: .....

Payments are to continue until you receive further notice in writing from me / any one of the joint account holders.

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Account Number: .....

Member's Name: .....

Address: .....

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Years at Sir Thomas Rich's School:

From ..... to .....

Signature. ....

## NOTES

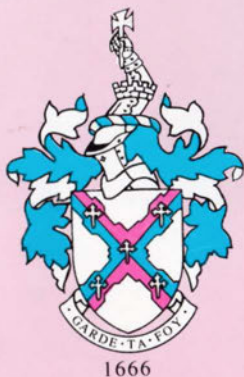
## NOTES



## NOTES



'BLUE-COAT BOY', JAMES COOK, 10R, PREPARES FOR THE MOMENT WHEN HE WILL WELCOME HRH, 'THE PRINCESS ROYAL' TO 'SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL'.



## **SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL**

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